THE Millennium Commission will be meeting this month to consider the Leicester National Space Science Centre proposal.

Hopes for Leicester’s multi-million pound Millennium bid are flying high - literally out of this world. Whatever the outcome, the logo for the NSSC has already been in orbit, it has been revealed. Astronaut Dr Jeff Hoffman, who is an honorary advisor on the project, flew the patch with the logo aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia exactly a year ago.

Dr Hoffman, who spent three years at the University as a researcher, is a frequent visitor to the city. Last month he spoke of his excitement at plans for the N SSC, commenting that it would provide inspiration to people.

His views were echoed by astronaut Helen Sharman during her recent visit to the University, and a number of other leading scientists are supporters of the bid. They include astronomer and broadcaster, Dr Patrick Moore, and Astronomer Royal, Sir Martin Rees.

The NSSC, a joint proposal by the City Council, Leicester University and numerous other partners, is proposed for a site in Abbey Meadows, Leicester. It will house an exhibition centre, Challenger Centre, Millennium

FRIDAY 14 February was a special day for lovers - of good comedy - as it saw the gala performance of Joe Orton’s hilarious farce, What the Butler Saw. Guest of honour was Orton’s sister, Leonie Barnett, (pictured, seated) who was joined by representatives from the county museum service, the University Library, the English Department and other keen fans of Orton.

The production by LUT was well received and the Leicester Mercury stated “the cast’s impeccable timing and the play’s savage wit kept the audience on its toes...get tickets if you can”. Earlier in the day, Mrs Barnett brought some of the infamous Edna Welthorpe letters to show to members of the Orton Papers Appeal team and the media took this chance to interview her, gaining valuable publicity for the £80,000 appeal.

At the end of the evening, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin White presented Mrs Barnett with a bouquet and thanked her for giving the University the chance to secure the papers for future study.
WOMEN who want to get back on track for work or study after a break are once again able to get help from a free University course. Thanks to a grant from Leicester City Council, the Women Making Choices course is running this month. As in previous years it is being held at Vaughan College, in St Nicholas Circle. Students also attend the University’s main campus to access one of the fully equipped computer labs.

The course is designed for women aged 25 and over, who live in Leicester, and who have been out of paid employment for the past six months or more. The women may be contemplating either a return to work; wanting to build confidence and improve skills; searching for a new career direction, or wishing to review particular strengths and options.

Those who attend learn about job search skills, preparing a CV, interview skills, basic information technology and a range of other subjects. The City Council funding also allows the students assistance with travel and child care costs.

NSSC LOGO TAKEN INTO SPACE

Dome and Research Centre. Project Manager, Mr Nigel Siesage said: “Our plans are now very well developed. The Centre will be full of imaginative and exciting features which will be unique in the UK; and it has the backing of a carefully researched business plan to confirm its long-term viability. Naturally we are confident that the Millennium Commission will recognise this and give us their backing.”

Chief Executive of Leicester Promotions, Mr Peter Cottingham, added: “This bid has generated an unprecedented level of cooperation between the public and private sectors. We now have good links to the local communities who will benefit from this major project. The National Space Science Centre is the biggest round two Millennium project in the East Midlands. It would also form the largest tourist attraction within the region providing significant economic benefits.”

Visitors will be able to see the model of the proposed NSSC at the Jubilee Open Day on March 15. Story on Dr Hoffman’s visit and more pictures, see pages 8 and 9.
PRESS CONTACTS
CONFERENCE SUCCESS

THE University is expanding its communications network following the successful first conference of the newly established Press Contacts. Spearheaded by Press and Alumni Relations, University Press Contacts are members of staff who assist the Press Office and the media in ensuring that the University expertise on a variety of subjects is quickly accessible.

The contacts also make submissions to the Bulletin, ensuring their departments have a high profile in the University. Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Asa Blakeley, welcomed the 50 Press Contacts who attended, stressing the importance of the media in raising the profile of the University.

Talks were also given by Ather Mirza, Director of Press and Alumni Relations, Peter Allen, Development Manager, Jane Pearson, International PRO, Barbara Whiteman, Press and Marketing Assistant, and Clare Somerby from BBC Radio Leicester. Information packs were also provided.

The induction session was supported by the Staff Development Unit. Articles by Press Contacts are featured in the new Out and About section of Bulletin on page 12. A list of the University Press Contacts will appear in the Experts Guide for the Media.

PRO FESSOR APPOINTED
PARLIAMENTARY ADVISOR

THE director of Leicester University's School of Social Work, Professor Jane Aldgate, has been appointed Advisor to the Parliamentary Select Committee on health in its work relating to children looked after by local authorities.

Professor Aldgate, pictured right, has undertaken major studies on such children, covering the factors influencing their discharge from the care system, emphasizing contact between parents and the children; foster home breakdown; reviews of the children in care; the educational progress of children in long term foster care, and the use of short term accommodation under the Children Act 1989. She has published extensively works based on looking after children, including children in need, and early investigative processes in child sexual abuse cases which provide a broad context from which to understand the needs of children.

FUNDING COUNCIL GRANT ANNOUNCEMENTS 1997/98

THE recurrent grants for the University of Leicester from both HEFCE and TTA have been announced. In cash terms, HEFCE "T" grant has increased by £398,795 (1.9%) and "R" grant has reduced by £101,165 (-1.0%) giving an overall cash increase on Formula Recurrent Grant of £297,630 (1.0%).

The non-consolidated addition to core grant has increased by £87,612 to £306,204. The total non-earmarked HEFCE grant is £31,818,467, representing an overall increase of 1.2% over the previous year.

A deduction of £693,325 has been made from the HEFCE recurrent grant to take account of the reduced employer contribution to the Universities Superannuation Scheme. The cost saving to the University arising from this reduction is about £900,000 so there is a net benefit of about £200,000.

The increase in funds from the TTA reflects a combination of additional funding for an increase of four places to 393 in 1997/98 and the first stage of a switch to a standard national price tariff for funding. The switch to a national price tariff for funding is to be phased over four years and has been capped at 5% for 1997/98. If the switch had been made fully in 1997/98 the University would have received a further £49,374 of grant.

The Strategic Planning Committee will make an initial assessment of the implications of the grant announcements at its meeting on 18 March.
RESEARCHERS from the University are involved in a unique trial project comparing a Hospital at Home (HAH) scheme with ward admissions. HAH is a service that provides active treatment in the patient’s home, always for a limited time, of a condition that otherwise would require in-patient care. The Leicester HAH scheme, funded by Leicestershire Health, is a Fosse Health Trust pilot project which began in January 1994 and provides for two categories of patients:

- Acute care (hospital avoidance)
- Terminal care (patient in last 14 days of life)

Research fellow in the Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care, Hilda Parker, said: “There is little published research which aims to evaluate the effectiveness of such schemes compared to hospital admission and no UK studies that have used a randomised design. In November 1995 the Department embarked on a randomized controlled trial to compare acute admissions managed in the local HAH to care in one of the three Leicester acute hospitals. The aim of the study is to compare the process, outcome and cost effectiveness of care in patients with acute conditions managed in HAH with those admitted to hospital. The study is funded by a NWT R&D grant and is the only UK trial of its kind.”

Ms Parker added: “Individuals who are in need of acute nursing care are referred to HAH by their GP. After a home assessment by the HAH team to determine suitability, a patient is randomly allocated to care in HAH or Hospital Ward. Patients who consent to the research are interviewed by researchers on three occasions: 3 days after admission, at discharge and 3 months after admission. Interviews include questions about functional status, morale and satisfaction with the respective services. Patients who receive HAH for terminal illness are not included in the trial as it was considered unethical to randomly allocate care to dying patients.”

To date 166 patients have been randomised. The trial is due to complete recruitment at the end of May 1997. Continuation of the Leicester HAH scheme is dependent on findings from the study which should be available by August 1997.

Members of the research team are Hilda Parker (Research Fellow), Alison Wynn (Research Associate), Andrew Wilson, (Senior Lecturer in General Practice).

RESEARCH being carried out by staff in the Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care is set to provide results of benefit to the whole country. A thousand patients in Leicestershire will be asked to fill in diaries describing their health care during the next few months. The University project is the first of its kind in Britain.

Ten GPs in Leicestershire have agreed to distribute diaries to patients who have begun GP and hospital treatment. The Leicestershire results will be compared with diaries filled in by a smaller number of patients in other counties.

The project, which has taken nearly two years to get to this point, is being run by the Eli Lilly National Clinical Audit Centre in the Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care at Leicester General Hospital. Research associate Ms Carolyn Preston said: “We felt there had been research into GP services and out-patient satisfaction, but there was no evaluation of the whole process. Because we wanted to assess what was important to patients rather than doctors we started off with small groups of patients with a wide range of experiences. It took a long time and they were very helpful.

“Over the months, we talked to more and more people including medical staff and quality advisers, and refined the diary to its current, final stage.”

Diaries will be sent out over the next few weeks to 1,000 patients. Hospitals and GPs involved will receive feedback, although patient identity will not be revealed.

The project was funded with £87,000 from the NHS Research and Development Programme.
LITERACY SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN

It is estimated that between four and six per cent of the population entering primary schools have specific learning difficulties, i.e. Dyslexia. All those involved with a child’s educational development, whether it be at the primary or secondary level, are concerned as to how they can recognise the problems and to develop successful strategies to enable pupils to overcome their difficulties.

A conference at the University of Leicester’s School of Education, in the Fraser Noble Hall, on Sharing Good Practice on March 8th brought together researchers from all over the country, Educational Needs together with teachers, governors, parents and experts with an international reputation in the fields of Literacy and Special Educational Needs and the imperative for developing effective home-school-community links.

The role of specialist teachers, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists.

The issues tackled included:
- How class teachers can recognise pupils’ special needs in literacy and teach them in ways they learn best.
- Supporting parents of dyslexic children.
- The roles of specialist teachers, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists.
- Recent research.
- Special Educational Needs and the imperative for developing effective home-school community links.

The programme was built around three principal speakers and two workshop sessions. The principal speakers were Professor Sheila Wolfendale, Sue Palmer and Gavin Reid.

The conference was the sixth such successful event planned and organised under the general title of Sharing Good Practice in a unique collaboration between the Continuing Professional Development Office at the School of Education and the Leicestershire Dyslexia Association, UK Reading Association and Aubrey Hart Associates.

BIRMINGHAM FLYERS FLY HIGH

THE Management Centre has been involved in two important recent graduations from in-company flexible learning programmes.

Birmingham Airport’s first group of Diploma and Certificate students - 18 in all - have completed a highly successful tutor-supported programme. This culminated in a ceremony at the University, attended by Brian Summers, Chief Executive of Birmingham Airport, who spoke warmly in support of the project management of RDI, Amber Valley Borough Council and N.E. Derbyshire District Council students gained their in-house Diploma in Management at the Town Hall, Ripley. Angela Sparham, Training and Development Manager at Amber Valley Borough Council, who was the driving force behind the project at the Council, remarked “We are very pleased with the outcome of the course and the achievement of our students. Working in partnership has been a key success factor within the programme and we have high hopes for further programmes and linking up with other local authorities”. These outcomes illustrate an increasing in-company trend to more flexible programmes of development which harness good, well developed material with strong academic and training support. As Brian Summers said “It’s tough and demanding, but it does say something about the people who have the commitment to see it through”.

AWARDS CEREMONY

MERIT: At the Department of Adult Education’s certificate and diploma presentation were (l-r) back row Professor Asa Blakeley, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Adult Education and the Leicestershire Dyslexia Association, UK Reading Association and Aubrey Hart Associates.

SOME 200 students, guests and tutors attended an awards ceremony at the University on 6 February. Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Asa Blakeley presented certificates at the Department of Adult Education’s Certificate and Diploma presentation ceremony in the Fraser Noble Hall.

Guest speaker was Mr Alan Tuckett, Director of the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (England and Wales). On Friday 28 February, the Department of Adult Education held an awards ceremony for its Northampton students, which was attended by Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin White and guest speaker Mr Roy Atkinson, Director of Education and Libraries for Northamptonshire.

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THE University is holding a two-day Conference, Science and the Investigation of Serious Crime, on 16-17 April at the University Conference Centre, Stamford Hall, Leicester. This Conference, organised by the University’s Professional Development Unit, will address questions such as “Is the criminal justice system making the most of scientific expertise?” and “What is the level of understanding between experts and the police who direct and manage investigations?”

Topics under scrutiny include Forensic Accountancy and Establishing a Motive, Managing DNA Evidence and the National Database, and Establishing Time, Place, Cause and Method: Pathology and Zoology.

Experts in the fields of Psychology, Geography, Geology, Archaeology, Biochemistry will be among those making contributions to this event. Scientific Expertise and Criminal Justice and Paedophile Investigations are two of the four plenary sessions planned.

The aim of the Conference is to encourage an awareness and possible use of available expertise, and it aims to break down the cultural barriers between scientists and police officers to ensure greater understanding and cooperation. It is designed to address the needs of Senior Investigating Officers, Police Scientific Managers and Forensic Scientists.

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MORE SPACE FOR CONTINUING EXCELLENCE

NEW teaching facilities will allow the Department of Museum Studies to continue its outstanding work without the obstacle of being divided between two sites.

On 4 February, the Department of Museum Studies celebrated the opening of its new building. The Department has taken over 103 Princess Road East, and extensive building works took place throughout the summer to integrate 103 and 105 Princess Road East.

Formerly the Department was split into two sites, the other being at Upper New Walk. The new building offers better continuity for students and staff and has provided new lecture rooms, seminar rooms, work room and computer laboratory.

The Department’s Director, Dr Eileen Hooper-Greenhill, welcomed Vice-Chancellor Dr Kenneth Edwards and Sally Booth, Head of Museums & Galleries at the Department of National Heritage.

The official opening of the building by Dr Edwards was followed by a tour with students and guests able to view all areas of the building. All of the Department’s wide range of publications were on show with a display given by the University Bookshop.

The Department caters for 80 full-time students and 60 part-time students from many parts of this country and overseas, preparing them for all aspects of work in museums. The Department is the largest Museum Studies Department in the world and the leading academic centre and is recognised worldwide for the quality and range of its professional training and research.

OFFICIAL OPENING: Vice-Chancellor Dr Kenneth Edwards opened the new building of the Department of Museum Studies. Pictured l-r (back): Dr Kenneth Edwards, Mark Taylor, Barbara Woroncow and Chris Newbery. 1-r (front): Dr Eileen Hooper-Greenhill, Sally Booth and Professor Susan Pearce.

KENNETH EDWARDS; BARBARA WORONCOW; PROFESSOR SUSAN PEARCE; MARK TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION; MARK TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM TRAINING INSTITUTE;

LIFE ON MARS TALK

THE scientist who stunned the world with news that life existed on Mars recently visited the University to speak about his discovery.

Professor Colin Pillinger of the Earth Sciences Department of the Open University gave a talk to almost 200 teenagers studying for GCSE and A-levels at a special Space Research Centre lecture.

The lecture is part of a programme of activities marking the University’s Jubilee Year and the city’s bid for a National Space Science Centre.

The younger’s heard from Professor Pillinger, a Fellow of the Royal Society and one of the country’s leading experts on micro meteorites and their origin, how he concluded that certain meteorites found in the Antarctic actually came from Mars.

“He identified a group of fossil-like fragments which indicated a rudimentary Martian life form which had landed in a meteorite shower in the Antarctic,” explained Alan Wells, director of the University’s Space Research Centre.

HAT-TRICK OF SUCCESSES FOR OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

FOR the third time in the past five years, a member of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has been awarded the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Harold Malkin Prize.

This prize is awarded to a member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) who, in the opinion of the assessors, undertakes the best original work whilst holding a Registrar or Senior Registrar post in a hospital in the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland. The award is made annually as a result of the generosity of the late Mr Harold Malkin FRCS.

This year the award has been made to Dr Justin Konje, lecturer, for his publication Human Fetal Kidney Morphometry during Gestation and the Relationship between Weight, Kidney Morphometry and Plasma Active Renin Concentration at Birth published in Clinical Science.

This paper described an investigation of kidney growth and development throughout pregnancy in normally grown and restricted growth fetuses. Dr Konje and his collaborators Dr S C Bell (Reader), Professor D J Taylor (Head of Department) and Mr R de Chazal (Consultant) in Obstetrics and Gynaecology found that babies who failed to grow optimally in utero had kidneys that were not only small but also abnormally formed - “sausage shaped”.

In addition these babies had abnormal levels of renin, a hormone secreted by the kidneys, which plays an important role in the control of blood pressure. The importance of these novel findings is that maldevelopment of the fetal kidney may be one of the mechanisms whereby babies who are small at birth are primed to develop adult disease particularly hypertension and cardiovascular disease (The Barker Hypothesis).

In recognition of this work Dr Konje has also been awarded the RCOG/ETHICON Travel Award, to visit Professor B Brenner’s renal laboratory at Harvard University, USA.

The Harold Malkin Prize was awarded to Mr Aidan Halligan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, in 1993 for his paper on folic acid metabolism in pregnancy, published in the Lancet. In 1996 the award was made to Dr Andrew Shennan, Research Fellow, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology for his investigations, in collaboration with Mr Halligan and Professor Taylor, of the use of the Korotkoff Phase IV sound to measure diastolic blood pressure during pregnancy, also published in the Lancet.
Leicester University
CATERING SERVICES

Presents a Calendar of Events:

March 17th St. Patrick’s Day
April 23rd St. George’s Day
May 19th Norwegian Day
June 2nd Italian Day

Watch out for more details
LEICESTER’S bid to create a new National Space Science Centre (NSSC) in the city received a boost with the return visit of NASA astronaut and former University researcher, Dr Jeff Hoffman.

The Centre will provide a modern visitor centre with displays, original materials and hands-on activities which celebrate the exciting achievements and potential of space exploration and space science. It will be designed to appeal to all age ranges.

Final plans for the NSSC joint bid to the Millennium Commission by the University, city and county were delivered to the Commission in October 1996. A decision is expected this month.

Dr Hoffman, who has taken a close interest in the National Space Science Centre project, spent two days with his former colleagues in the Physics and Astronomy Department amidst an action-packed programme of lectures and meetings.

Lucky UCAS applicants for the University Physics degree had the opportunity to take tea with the astronaut after attending his afternoon lecture on Monday 3 February, entitled ‘Space Exploration at the Cross Roads’, which also included in its audience school groups visiting the University. The following day Dr Hoffman addressed staff and students in his old Department on ‘Tethers in Space: Past and Present’, before appearing in the evening as guest speaker at a dinner for those involved in the NSSC Millennium project.

Dr Brin Cooke, of the Physics and Astronomy Department, said, “We think of Jeff as being part of the department,” adding that his visits are an excellent way for new students to learn about how space technology is put into action.

Dr Hoffman’s first space mission was with the shuttle Discovery in 1985, when he was thrown in at

MISSION: Dr Hoffman signals directions to ESA astronaut Claude Nicollier, as the latter controls the Remote Manipulator System arm during the third of five space walks on the Hubble Space Telescope servicing mission.

SOUTH: Dr Brin Cooke, left, and Dr Hoffman examine the model of the proposed NSSC.

INTERNATIONAL TALKS AT UNIVERSITY WIN PRAISE

INTERNATIONAL talks may be something for hard-boiled negotiators, but the participants in the Centre for the Study of Diplomacy workshop in International Negotiation Techniques experienced that they can be quite emotional as well.

Thirty-one delegates from 15 countries participated in the two-day workshop by Paul Meerts of the Netherlands Institute of International Relations “Clingendael”, a professional trainer who has worked with both academics and practitioners in diplomatic academies and foreign ministries all over the world.

The workshop was organised by Jan Meldsen and Denise Martin, Executive Director and Administrator of the Centre for the Study of Diplomacy, and attracted junior diplomats as well as postgraduates from five British universities. They were introduced to the tactics, skills and styles in bilateral and multilateral negotiation. Most participants emphasised the combination of theory and practice as one of the main strengths of the workshop. As Emmanuel Soulanticas from Greece said, “an experience one can never gain by reading books only.”

Each negotiator was assigned a role of representative in the UN Security Council and experienced the problems involved in international crisis decision-making. André Base from the foreign ministry of Senegal pointed out that the workshop served as an opportunity to involve postgraduates and junior diplomats like himself “actively and fully in the negotiation process, thus allowing them to have a lucid and practical approach to international politics.” In early 1998 the simulation workshop will be repeated in an expanded three-day format with lectures by international experts on multilateral diplomacy.

IT’S GOOD TO TALK: Paul Meerts, right, with participants from Japan and Madagascar during a break at the workshop.

FLYING VISIT BY NASA

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IT’S GOOD TO TALK: Paul Meerts, right, with participants from Japan and Madagascar during a break at the workshop.
the deep end and had to make the first shuttle-linked space walk to try and rescue a malfunctioning satellite.

Since then he has made several more space flights, and was involved in December 1993 in the shuttle Endeavour, sent to carry out repairs on the Hubble telescope, 367 miles above the Earth. His last mission was in February 1996, when he was involved in the Tethered Satellite System.

He enjoys his space missions and considers them well worth all the intensive training and waiting which goes into their preparation. “It’s just you and the universe. It’s very exciting, you really get a feeling of space,” he said.

His connections with Leicester extend beyond the purely professional, since he met his wife, Barbara, here and their first son was born in the city.

Speaking about the University, he said “My time in Leicester was very rich and successful. The work done here is still at the top. X-ray Astronomy in Leicester is of world renown.”

Adding his voice in support of the NSSC bid, he said: “Space exploration is something that can be tremendously stimulating, particularly to young people as they grow up. It can inspire them and hopefully egg them on to study a little harder in school.

“I think people have the right to learn what it is that’s going on in space exploration and this is an effective way to make it happen.”

Dr Hoffman said Leicester’s central location was ideal for the proposed centre and the planned Challenger Center would be the first of its kind outside America. It’s a great way to put students right into the feeling of being part of the space flight.”

Dr Hoffman will also donate some of his personal belongings from his four space shuttle flights as part of the NSSC displays.

ONBOARD SCENE: Dr Hoffman displays tools used in the five space walks on STS-61. Hoffman was one of four space walkers making use of the variegated gear
CONFERENCE TACKLES KEY ISSUES FACING EUROPE

TOP-LEVEL international talks took place in Leicester focusing on key issues ranging from combating drug addiction to organised crime and problems of immigration.

Asylum, justice and European co-operation were other primary concerns of the international conference held by Leicester University’s Centre for European Politics and Institutions on February 7 and 8.

The conference, in the Town Hall, was entitled Justice and Home Affairs in the European Union: Meeting the Challenge of Reform. It examined the performance and the needs of reform of what experts call the “Third Pillar” of the European Union, i.e., the co-operation of the EU Member States in the areas of justice and home affairs.

Professor Jörg Monar, Director of the University Centre for Politics and Institutions, said: “This co-operation at the EU level deals with many issues of primary concern to the citizens of Europe, such as internal security, the combat against drug addiction and organised crime and the problems of immigration.

“It is within the domain of the “Third Pillar” that the European Union will have to face some of the biggest challenges of its further development: the challenge of the ever increasing problems of immigration and asylum and the fight against organised crime.”

“The conference participants discussed the progress made at the EU level as well as the persisting weaknesses with the aim of making concrete proposals for improving EU co-operation in these areas.”

Professor Monar said the conference brought together senior officials from the EU institutions and ministries of the interior of several Member States as well as a number of distinguished academic experts from various EU countries, such as Professors H. Alibronner (Konstanz) and N. Assimacopoulos (Milan).

Speakers came from the Council of Ministers of the EU, the European Commission, the Home Office, the German Ministry of the Interior, Scotland Yard, the European Institute of Public Administration (Maastricht), the College of Europe (Bruges) and major European Universities such as Hamburg, Lausanne and Amsterdam.

The keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Adrian Fortescue, the responsible Director-General of the European Commission, currently involved in the inter-governmental negotiations on the reform of the “Third Pillar”.

The conference was supported by a grant from the European Commission and by Leicester City Council which kindly provided the venue, the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

THE JUBILEE YEAR PROGRAMME - SECOND SEASON

(Reviewed by Claire Hooper and Stephen Lakelin, BA English students on work experience with Press and Alumni Relations)

FOLLOWING on the success of the first half of the Jubilee Year programme, the second season promises to be even more exciting. As well as the highlight of the celebrations - the Open Day - there are a number of other events.

On a cultural note, there is a rich variety of world music to suit most tastes. Among others, the University’s African-Caribbean choir will be performing Gospel/Jazz with Yamanu on 13 March; there is also a chance to see The Burning Bush, a programme of early and traditional Jewish world music.

Lovers of classical music will be tempted by attractive performances. The Helix Ensemble play Albini, Ireland and Rutter on 15 March, Trio Favori give a period instrumental performance of classical Trios, with Susan Alexander-Max on forte piano; and the University’s Singers join with the Leicester Male Voice Choir for a special performance on 30 April.

For a change of pace, don’t miss the Leicester University Theatre production of Alan Bennett’s Forty Years On, which includes participation by local schools.

The Jubilee Year second season programme, from February 1 - September 30, programme also offers an unmissable chance to attend many celebrity lectures. Space enthusiasts can go Exploring the Planets with Dr Patrick Moore, continue probing the mysteries of the universe with Professor Heather Couper’s exploration of Black Holes, and really find themselves Getting to the Heart of the Galaxies with Professor Martin Ward.

To bring one back down to earth, Sir David Attenborough is revealing The Secret Life of Plants in his Botanic Garden Lecture.

What would you do if you were a millionaire? David H. Hempleman-Adams decided to be a polar explorer, and is here to share his experiences. Also, on the theme of discovery, Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys, the pioneer of genetic fingerprinting, discusses his field of science in Antarctica to Chemobyl, and more discoveries are explored when Professor Grez Vermes discusses underwater experiences in his lecture The Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

And finally, for those who prefer more energetic activities, the Jubilee Bike Ride provides an opportunity to experience some of the beautiful surrounding countryside and scenery on a hopefully sunny day in June!

• For details of Jubilee Year events on Open Day, turn to the Open Day feature on p16-17.
As an entrepreneurial University, the University of Leicester seeks continually to work with business and industry, in both the private and public sector. Commerce and industry have benefited, and are benefiting, from a variety of University services, including collaborative basic research, contract research, consultancy, product development, management courses, use of facilities, industrial training, language services, in-house courses, distance learning, European courses and professional development.

This new section of the Bulletin is designed to help keep University staff informed of new and exciting commercial developments occurring throughout the University. Members of staff are invited to submit articles that they believe may be of interest to their colleagues.

The Business Bulletin column will be compiled by LUCENT, Leicester University Centre for ENTerprise. LUCENT was established in January 1988 to help external organisations benefit from the expertise of the University’s staff and technical resources. Partners range from business and industrial collaborators and voluntary organisations to government departments on a regional, national and international basis. LUCENT is currently involved in many activities where it is promoting the University’s resources and expertise. The objective of these activities is to develop contacts with local, national and international industry and generate future business for the University.

One example of LUCENT’s promotional activities is the production of a University business magazine in conjunction with Press and Alumni Relations. Last month saw the print and distribution of the first issue of this magazine, aimed at primarily regional but also national and international business and industry. The magazine includes many examples of how business and industry can work with the University and also demonstrates the value to these organisations of doing just that. Similarly, there are views of the added value of long-term relationships with the University, from industrial perspectives.

The magazine also contains:
- reports by the Vice-Chancellor as well as former Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Ponter
- details of the Queen’s Anniversary Prize and the work of Physics and Astronomy Department
- articles on the student impact in the city.
- the N56 Millennium bid;
- workplace learning and careers profiles of University companies and examples of collaborative work with business and industry.

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So far the response that we have had from University departments has encouraged us to believe that this magazine will be the first edition of what will become an annual publication. It is hoped that the cost of future issues could be totally covered by advertising and other contributions from University departments.

Additional copies of Business Interface can be obtained from Mrs Kate Murray, Business Development Officer, LUCENT on tel. ext. 2696 or email: lucent1@le.ac.uk. Similarly, please send any contributions to the Business Bulletin, for future issues of the Bulletin, to Kate.
OUT AND ABOUT

In this new section of Bulletin, Press Contacts from across the University submit items for inclusion. You too can ensure your department is featured in the Bulletin. Please contact Barbara Whiteman on ext 2676 for an information pack.

BOTANY
Sir David Attenborough will be giving the 25th Annual Botanic Garden Lecture on Wednesday 23rd April at 8.00 pm at the De Montfort Hall. Tickets for the lecture will be on sale from the Booking Office at De Montfort Hall in March. Prices £3 (£1 for students) and £15 (no concessionary rate for students). The proceeds will go to a fund for a new display greenhouse at the Botanic Garden. There will be a limited number of £15 tickets available and these will include seats in the Centre Circle followed by a Reception in the Garden Suite at which David Attenborough will be present. The lecture is entitled Revealing the Private Life of Plants and Sir David will accompany his lecture with slides and video clips from the making of his fascinating television series.

In the afternoon of the 23rd April Sir David will open the Attenborough Arboretum. A full programme of activities has been arranged.

Carol Webster

THE CHAPLAINCY
The sound of firecrackers from nearby Chinese New Year celebrations greeted Frank Field, the Labour MP from Birkenhead, as he rose to give the annual Chaplaincy Lecture. This year the lecture was given in Leicester Cathedral, itself celebrating a double anniversary, to complement the University’s own double jubilee.

Speaking to an audience of the University chaplains (past and present), the Lord Lieutenant, the Bishop of Leicester, Vice-Chancellor and numerous students and other people, he apologised in advance for being partisan in the run up to the General Election.

His chosen topic, Welfare, New Labour Markets & Fiscal Reform, gave rise to a well argued speech covering a gamut of social issues including unemployment and benefits. Treating a line carefully between New Labour policy and personal views, the audience was treated with insight on the topic of loans and graduate taxes. Dr Gilbert Jessup, one of the founding fathers of the UK competence based qualifications system, as the keynote speaker at its next conference Competence - Facilitating Lifetime Learning and Development on April 24th in the Charles Wilson Building. His paper, Establishing a Learning Society, looks beyond narrow issues of participation in the current education and training system to broader concepts and the establishment of a culture of learning.

This theme is developed from a different perspective by speakers from the University of Exeter who claim a culture shift to empowerment through the use of NVQs for staff and students. Both these papers have direct relevance to academics and administrators alike in view of current trends in higher education.

Further details from Cheryl Gagin, Centre for Labour Market Studies, Ext. 5907, e.mail cg20@le.ac.uk

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Linda Jones

Successful Teaching Visit
Staff from the Centre for Labour Market Studies have recently returned from the year’s first teaching visits to Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong. During the trip, the team were able to meet many of the course members of staff in the Department of Financial Policy and Analysis, Warsaw. To this end Professor Charemza conducted a series of lectures and seminars to retrain the civil servants in modern econometric techniques, and these civil servants also visited Leicester, where seminars and consultations were offered to them by other senior members of the Economics Department. Professor Charemza built a large econometric model and gave help to the members of the Polish civil service in constructing a series of small models on money demand, labour markets, etc.

Mr. Krzyztof, Director of the Department of Financial Policy and Analysis at the Ministry of Finance, and Dr. Bohdan Klos, the Co-ordinator of the Project and Head of the Research Team, lated closely with Professor Charemza. The project was sponsored by the Commission of European Communities and a draft final report Rebuilding tools for Quantitative Economic Analysis has now been produced.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
Two events have recently taken place in the Department. During morning coffee on Shrove Tuesday, 13 February, staff and postgraduates in the Geography Department held a Pancake Party which raised £30.00 for Save the Children Fund. On Friday 7 March at 5.00 pm we held a “Red Nose, Red Wine Tasting Competition” in aid of Comic Relief.

Jane Welfens

ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT
Budgetary Advice for Poland
The Ministry of Finance in Poland engaged the help of Professor Wojciech Charemza of the Economics Department to construct models to be used for forecasting the economic performance of the Polish economy under different budgetary scenarios. A central part of the project was to improve the general econometric and macroeconomic knowledge of the UNIVERSITY submit items for inclusion. You too can ensure your department is featured in the Bulletin. Please contact Barbara Whiteman on ext 2676 for an information pack.
members from the October 1996 intake for the first time.

Topical issues were investigated - the role of culture in shaping behaviours was on the agenda in Malaysia (culture is an issue addressed throughout the MSc) - and in Hong Kong a guest speaker from the Department of Management at Hong Kong Polytechnic University presented a paper arguing that women and men have unequal opportunities in employment in that area.

Staff were all extremely well looked after, and were grateful for the kind hospitality shown to them. To obtain feedback, follow-up questionnaires will be distributed in March to all course members in the markets visited. A further visit is planned to take place in July.

SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES
In conjunction with Le Group de recherches et d'études sur le Canada français, the School of Modern Languages hosted a third one-day conference on Quebec on 1 February. Nearly fifty students from Leicester and other universities, together with a good sprinkling of Canadianists and Quebec specialists, attended the conference which featured papers on literary, political and historical aspects of Quebec given by Dr Guy Snell (Liverpool University), Dr Bill Lawton ( Hull University), Dr Colin Coates (Edinburgh University), and Dr Rosemary Chapman (Nottingham University). Also present were Vivien Hughes from the Canadian High Commission, which generously funded the event, and Claude Girard and Emmanuel Kattan from the Délégation générale du Québec. The day was rounded off by a showing of Jean-Claude Chaput's second feature film Lesolo, surely one of the most exquisite of the batch of memorable films that has come out of Quebec in recent years.

This was the last conference to be organised by Christopher Rolfe as Convenor of GRECF - after ten years he is passing the mantle on to Dr Ines Molinaro of Cambridge University - and in thanking him for what she described as a 'most rewarding event', Vivien Hughes also paid tribute to the invaluable contribution he has made to Quebec Studies throughout the UK during that period.

PSYCHOLOGY
Dr David Hargreaves is taking up various invitations to lecture on the applications of Psychology to music education whilst on sabbatical leave during the current semester.

In January he conducted seminars at the Universities of Tasmania, New South Wales (Sydney) and Western Australia (Perth); in March he will be lecturing at the Universities of British Columbia (Vancouver), Kansas, Michigan (East Lansing) and presenting a paper at the American Education Research Association’s annual conference in Chicago, Illinois. He will also be speaking at conferences in the Universities of Cyprus and Uppsala, Sweden in May and June.

A Qualitative Methods group has been set up in the Department of Psychology. The group meets fortnightly on Tuesday lunchtimes for sessions ranging from talks about research which has used qualitative methods, training sessions and discussions on particular topics, and data sessions where people can bring along data for an informal group discussion. The group is open to staff and postgraduates with an interest in qualitative methods. For further information please contact Zazie Todd, x2165, e.mail ztl@le.

STUDENT LEARNING CENTRE
The Student Learning Centre has produced a range of free study guides for use by students. Each guide focuses on a specific study skills area and offers clearly presented information and guidance.

There are currently eleven titles in the range, with two more titles due out this semester. The guides give students the opportunity to review their current approach to a study skills area and to incorporate innovative ideas into their own methods. Current titles include: Planning a Powerful Presentation; Making the Most of Lectures; and Improving your Reading Skills.

The guides are on display in the Student Learning Centre in College House and are freely available for students to select. The guides are also available to staff for use in departments, in camera-ready or disk format. For details contact Maria Lorenzini, Ext 5011.

STUDY SUPPORT CENTRE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
Better Communications - for hard of hearing students, staff and visitors

As anyone who is hard of hearing will know, a group discussion, meeting or seminar is a particularly frustrating situation; speech comes from several directions and usually too fast to locate in time to lip-read the message.

A new response to this problem is the recent installation of a 'state of the art' infra-red loop system in seminar room 526, New Building. Seating up to 30 people, this pleasant room is available through the central booking system.

The quality of sound received by the user is very good. One recent student user reported that she had enjoyed her seminars for the first time, through being able to follow the discussion and even hear the beginnings and ending of words; she commented that she left feeling elated, and all that was different was the room!

This facility was funded by Convocation and central University funds. Users need to wear a compatible neck loop or head set - for further information contact the Study Support Centre (5002), Central Booking (5248) or AVS (2919).

Rita Benford


GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY AND DEDICATION

To mark the University’s jubilee, undergraduate Caroline Gee recalls her family’s involvement with Leicester University in its early days...

W hat’s in a name? Very little, you may think. But when it comes to Harry Simpson Gee, it was a difference that counted. For his family, he was H.S. Gee, Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the Governors of Leicestershire Infirmary and Unicorn of Leicester Technical Schools (now De Montfort University). At home, when they saw him, they said that it was a typical Victorian father, stern, powerful and dominating. He managed to keep his sons on the path of the correct and respectable life by transporting their luggage to and from the 20 miles home from Oakham School, whilst a carriage, dressed in a finery and bearing an emblazoned carriage, whisked them across the University campus to the notice boards bearing the names of various academic buildings. They were there to see whether, like graduate Cecil Gee, they might get a glance at the notice boards bearing the names of various academic buildings.

The Gee children on holiday at Scarborough in 1878 (left to right) Percy, Cecil, Poppy (later Mrs Shirley Toller), H. Simpson Gee, Ernest Gee (standing centre, left to right) Percy Gee, Cecil Gee.

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IMPSON Gee was also Chairman of the Leicestershire Banking Co., and when it merged to become the Midland Bank (the sponsors of Jubilee Year), he was one of its first Directors. His other business interests included the ownership of Bagworth Colliery, Richard Hornby & Sons of Grantham, and Chairman of Leicester Horse Tramway Co. Because of the latter, on the wedding day of his daughter Poppy to Dr Astley Clarke, the drivers and conductors of all the city horse trams wore white rosettes and celebrated a great Leicester occasion. His concern for others saw H.S. Gee as Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the Governors of Leicestershire Infirmary and Director of Leicester Technical Schools (now De Montfort University). At home he was, it seems, a typical Victorian father, stern, powerful and dominating. Obelising his sons to walk the 20 miles home from Oakham School, whilst a carriage transported their luggage, and when they were adult, riding in an embellished carriage, whilst they walked to Stead’s office in the town. When he died in 1942, the largest single bequest in his will, an endowment of £20,000, to Leicester University College (now the University), enabled this expanding establishment to set up its new Science Department.

The University College prospectus of 1926/7 listed his son, Ernest Gee, on its Music Advisory Committee; and he was as well qualified for this. After reading Classics at Christ Church, Oxford, where Stephen Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll, was one of his tutors, he pursued various business interests, but, in addition, he immersed himself in the musical activities of Leicester, being in 1920 a founder member and Treasurer of the Leicester Competitive Music Festival and composer and pianist of considerable ability. At home, Granville House (now Leicester Sound Radio), which was close to the University was ‘open house’ at festival time and his extreme generosity financed the musical studies of many talented youngsters, some of whom later achieved renown. His marriage to Astley Clarke’s sister, Hilda, linked two prestigious local families.

His brother, Percy Gee CBE, Chairman of Stead & Simpson, High Sheriff of the County, JP, Lay Canon of the Cathedral and supporter of many charities and organisations, made a substantial bequest in his will, an endowment of £10,000 to Leicester University. His generosity financed the musical studies of many talented youngsters, some of whom later achieved renown. His marriage to Astley Clarke’s sister, Hilda, linked two prestigious local families.

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His brother, Percy Gee CBE, Chairman of Stead & Simpson, High Sheriff of the Council and Senior Pro-Chancellor, receiving a Hon LL.D in 1958. His energy, vitality, charm - I remember a twinkle always in his eye - and urging his students to contribute significantly to the early success of the College. His personal gifts to the University totalled some £30,000 and his home on the corner of Ratcliffe and Elms Road is now the Mary Gee hall of residence. Mary was his second wife, but he had been in love with her from youth. However, her family, being of clerical professional status, did not allow her to marry into ‘trade’ (albeit it was the wealthiest ‘trade’ family in town!) and it was only after the death of his first wife that they married - both eventually dying within a few weeks of each other in their nineties.

HAVING survived military service in the Boer War, Percy’s brother, Cecil, in addition to being a Director of Stead and Simpson, a Lay Canon, High Sheriff of both Leicestershire and Rutland, supporter of many charities and active and excellent sportsman, found time also to give assistance to the University College. He was a member of its Council, Hon. Treasurer and a regular financial benefactor.

His sister Poppy’s marriage to Dr Astley Clarke was thus the second of two Gee/Clarke unions. It was Astley who first proposed the idea of a university for Leicester in 1912 and was instrumental in its foundation. Educated at Granville and Caius College, Cambridge and at Guy’s Hospital, London, he joined his father (who was later shot by a revengeful mentally deranged patient, whom he had committed to a lunatic asylum) as general practitioner in a busy...
LIFE-LONG LEARNING IS A MATTER OF DEGREES FOR ALFONSO

AGE is no barrier to higher education for one of the University's most unusual PhD students.

South African-born Alfonso Burgers is to submit his thesis this summer to the School of Archaeological Studies after completing it in just over three years...at the age of 75.

Mr Burgers is no newcomer to mature studyship. When he was 72 he received a BA in Classics from the University of Cape Town, following his retirement as a civil engineer. He also has a degree in maths. He served with the South African forces in Italy during the Second World War.

For the past three years, Mr Burgers has been happy to live in the University's student accommodation in Putney Road along with much younger students. He has only been able to afford to go back home to Cape Town once, on Christmas 1995.

Mr Burgers inspiration comes in part from knowing someone who by training was a lawyer and began his later life academic career at the age of 80. "At 80 he was a BA student and completed a diploma on African Studies at the age of 89. He then turned his interest to the History of Art where his studies kept his enviable intellect stimulated until he died at 93," explained Mr Burgers with admiration.

It was during a visit to an academic friend at Oxford that the suggestion was made to meet Dr Lin Foxhall, who teaches Ancient History at Leicester University. Dr Foxhall thought the ideal person to help Mr Burgers was Dr David Mattingly, a Roman specialist in the School of Archaeological Studies.

After a talk with Dr Mattingly an offer to study for a doctorate was made to Mr Burgers, and thanks to a scholarship from South Africa's Council of Scientific Development, work on the unique thesis began.

"He really is a remarkable man," said supervisor Dr Mattingly. "His subject is a very interesting one and the data he has provided will be very useful for any scholars of Roman water sites. Very little work has been done on the topic."

With the drop in the value of the Rand, Mr Burgers has found that he has had to live a very frugal student life. Not surprisingly, his amazing academic determination and physical fitness are envied by many a third his age...and his modesty and discipline have made him a popular figure around the campus.
THE OUTLOOK’S FINE FOR JUBILEE OPEN DAY

OPEN Day is the highlight of Jubilee Year, showing the University to thousands of visitors. Barbara Whiteman provides a taste of what’s on offer...

O is for OPPORTUNITIES... Out and about, star gazer at one of the shows in the Planetarium, or take advantage of the guided tours. Centre for Mechanisms of Human Toxicity, Richard Attenborough Centre for Disability and the Arts, and English Local History are all well worth visiting. The Chaplaincy (in its home at the Gatehouse) has Tradcraft on display. The main star on the day appears in the New Building - Professor Malcolm Bradbury (writer of The History Man) gives a Celebrity Lecture. Hurry along to the Information Desk in the Fielding Johnson Building for tickets - they will be popular. Malcolm Bradbury was a student in the University’s English Department, which offers several attractive events - one an insight into Emily Bronte’s Love Poetry.

P is for PRESENTATIONS... Radiology offers (for the less squeamish amongst us) multimedia presentations on the “visible brain” and the “visible heart”. Law shows its less serious side, with video and live sketches on legal humour (with true and apocryphal tales), and Chemistry assures you that the subject is fun in a demonstration lecture. Geography presents a Virtual Reality Flight over Britain (a chance to participate in advanced up-to-date technology), and The World through a Mouse (not warm and furry, but inanimate and plastic). The IT theme continues with the Management Centre’s Business Uses of the Internet and, for some aggressive job seekers in Medicine & Therapeutics, try a demonstration lecture. Geography presents a Virtual Reality Flight over Britain (a chance to participate in advanced up-to-date technology), and The World through a Mouse (not warm and furry, but inanimate and plastic). The IT theme continues with the Management Centre’s Business Uses of the Internet and, for some aggressive job seekers in Medicine & Therapeutics, try out the latest computer-aided learning tutorials for historians in Urban History, or, for the real high-flyers, try your hand at space instrumentation, lasers and holograms in Astronomy. ‘Hands-on’ in Museum Studies involves feeling their Mystery Object! The ultimate must surely be an intriguingly titled ‘hands-on’ workshop in Economics, Be your own Chancellor! Exhibitions for those who prefer a quieter, less stressful and more contemplative approach are Then and Now at Marc Fitch House, home of English Local History, and Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee, displayed by History. The Scarman Centre tops up its exhibitions on public order issues with video presentations.

N is for NATURE... Garden lovers can venture into Greek gardens in Archaeology, or delve more deeply - Geology awaits a cup of tea from your garden - they will be pleased to subject this to element analysis. The wider scene of ridge and furrow is under investigation in Adult Education. But the more energetic lover of nature can tramp round the Botanic Gardens and Greenhouses, complete with guide, or complete with brolly, and try Geography’s rain-making facility demonstration - preferably after the Botanic Gardens visit!

D is for DISPLAYS... “You’ve never had it so good” (a good slogan for the best Open Day ever?) is the title of Economic and Social History’s display. Genetics searches for Adam and Eve, but Medicine and Therapeutics and Cell Physiology and Pharmacology go one step further by exploring affairs of the heart. University robes (see what you would wear if you were Chancellor!) and an exhibition on the history of the University share the Council Room, and a student recruitment display is also in the Fielding Johnson Building. The most lively display of the day must surely be Archaeology’s Ermine Street Guard (real live Roman warriors in full costume and equipment!) parading outside the Attenborough Building (weather/Geography permitting - see Nature).

A is for ACTIVITIES... Cerebral activities in this section - probably a welcome change from the physical activity. For starters, Your Mind - The Final Frontier (College House) claims to be a “fun and effective way to increase your memory power and organisational skills to Warp Factor 9” (worthy of inclusion in a staff induction programme). Powered by this session, try to win English’s Literary Knowledge Prize Quiz... or the Politics quiz... the History quiz... the Mass Media quiz... the Library quiz - or compete with Mathematics staff in a staff induction programme. Powered by this session, try to win English’s Literary Knowledge Prize Quiz... or the Politics quiz... the History quiz... the Mass Media quiz... the Library quiz - or compete with Mathematics staff in Countdown (no less). Quite a marathon for quiz fanatic Armchair football fans however can sit in Sociology to hear about the tradition and change in English football or learn about drugs and sport. Into Thai cuisine? - go for Thai cuisine, offered with other languages by the Language Services Unit.

Y is for YES!... Yes, there is plenty to keep children amused! Do-it-yourself humour; a children’s joke competition has been organised by English (together with a limerick competition). Archaeology will let them participate in Roman beard games and mosaic making. History of Art tests their knowledge in an art quiz, and Chemistry is running a balloon race (biodegradable balloons OF COURSE). Campus orienteering, organised by Sports and Recreation, may occupy the more active family.
members (also for inclusion in staff induction programmes)! When they’re exhausted from playing Gladiators, two to ten can be left with qualified carers in a Creche organised by Welfare Services when it’s the adult’s turn to play games, or participate in Psychiatry’s computerised program on how children feel about their families and friends. A children’s activity - match the picture to the job - can be found in College House.

Families of Leicester graduates will no doubt take advantage of these activities, while their parents catch up on all the gossip in the Framland House. Debates, demonstrations, a mass of mini-lectures (and more substantial lectures), question-and-answer sessions on wide-ranging subjects (women’s health, television, DNA sequencing, even neighbour...and much more) music, a service - you name it, it’s there in the programme!

Time and energy still to spare? Orthopaedic Surgery’s challenge, Can you put your socks on without bending over? may convince you that you have reached saturation point. Don’t worry though - refreshment facilities are at hand - scattered liberally both on and off campus.

Wheelchair users have not been forgotten - car parking has been reserved and access maps will be available.

Don’t miss this ‘red-letter’ day!

Malcolm Bradbury on Literature and Place.

One of the highlights of the day will be the Celebrity Lecture by Professor Robin White, Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

In 1994, we used the catch phrase “A Day of Discovery” to attract visitors to the University. This year, we are describing it as “The A to Z of Learning that’s Loads of Fun.”

What goes on in the University is of interest to thousands of people, and it is a tribute to the efforts of University staff that we can open up the campus to members of the public and present our work in a way which speaks to all from primary-age schoolchildren to experts in the field. The goodwill generated merits the time and effort involved in mounting Open Days. We know how valuable our teaching and research is, but we fail if we cannot communicate that value to members of the public.

This Open Day will feature some old favourites. The “Chemistry is Fun” lecture, the Planetarium Shows and other presentations popular on previous Open Days appear alongside many new events. One of the highlights of the day will be the Celebrity Lecture by Malcolm Bradbury on Literature and Place.

Visitors need not miss the Rugby International, which will be shown on a large-screen television in the Redfern Bar! Student guides in distinctive sweatshirts will be on hand to provide directions and information for our visitors.

Our ambition is to make this Open Day the biggest and best ever. Let’s hope that, as in the past, the gods are kind to us and deliver a fine day.

Malcolm Bradbury
WHILE trying to look for a theme for this month’s Artstop, I realised that March is not a particularly exciting month, but some readers who may absently-mindedly forget Mother’s Day on 9 March could be grateful for a chance to make amends by trawling this month’s varied and stimulating arts and entertainment line-up for a suitable treat.

Beginning on campus, on 14 March, Leicester University Theatre makes its contribution to Comic Relief. The Attenborough Theatre awaits contributions, and the night promises to be “packed full of original and classic comic material and sketches”. Admission is only 50 pence, plus any donations you wish to make to this worthwhile cause.

On 15 March, violinist Roger Coull joins the Helix Ensemble in the University’s Open Day Concert, featuring pieces by Shostakovich and Schubert, among others. On 21 March, local girl Joanne Lunne, former BBC choirmaid-of-the-year, invites you to share her final-year recital. Just down the road, De Montfort Hall also offers a plethora of distractions, from the Herb Miller Orchestra and Singers, with a Glen Miller tribute on 18 March, to Ben Elton (appearing on 20 March) to 1996 Chef-of-the-Year Gary Rhodes preparing some of his spectacular dishes on 25 March. On a more musical note, indie pop band James are playing the Hall on 23 March, and Gladys Knight (without her pips!) on the 24th.

Continuing the musical theme, the Phoenix Arts Centre presents Swar - Percussion on 8 March - a programme of Indian classical music on string instruments (sarov, dilruba, santoor, tabla and tarpana) featuring distinguished and highly-talented musicians. If 70s rock music is more your style, you’ll be pleased to hear the Haymarket Theatre is once again the temporary home of Hot Stuff, the musical phenomenon of the 70s, which will be rockin’ the Theatre for four weeks from 20 March to 19 April - miss it... miss it!

Further afield, a trip to Northampton could include a visit to Derrington Theatre, which presents the Belgian National Orchestra, as part of its Great International Classics Season on 16 March, with music by Berlioz, Mendelssohn and Wagner (the same concert can be seen the day before at De Montfort Hall!)

At the Birmingham Hippodrome this month, Lily Savage headlines in Prisoner Cell Block H: The Musical. Based on the cult 80s TV show, it has been described as “a cross between the Rocky Horror Show and Victoria Wood’s Acorn Antiques”. Showing for one week only, Lily Savage fans should book soon to avoid disappointment. Also at the Hippodrome, the award-winning Blood Brothers is showing from 24 March to 12 April - a must for all Musical lovers.

Finally, the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry offers both the Roald Dahl classic The Witches (18-22 March), and Alan Bennett’s Forty Years On (starring Tony Robinson of Blackadder fame). Those readers still desperately looking for a late Mother’s Day treat and unable to find anything here might try the Students’ Union Travel Shop on campus, which, besides making travel bookings, has brochures giving details of events in and around Leicester... failing that, a week’s holiday in Benidorm could literally be a last resort!
LIFE’S rich tapestry encompassing aspects of human endeavour from the cradle to the grave is reflected in recent press coverage of research, events and people.

The Birmingham Post reported the findings of David Hargreaves in the Psychology Department - that parents prefer to choose familiar names for their new-born children. As the use of newly-popular names snowballs, other names go out of fashion. “Names can say a lot about us”, says Dr Hargreaves. “If someone is called Susan, Linda or Judith, they were probably born in the 1950s”.

Fears about the essentials of human sustenance formed the basis of a talk by David Shuker of the University’s Toxicology Unit. His theme to an audience at Leicester Adult Education College, as reported in the Leicester Mercury, was that the food we eat may be far and away the largest source of exposure to chemicals that people encounter in their lives. Food for thought, indeed!

As if that were not enough, we are again threatened with a shortage of water. Paul Herrington of the Economics Department, who advises the Department of the Environment on water demand, sounds dire warnings in Sunday Business.

You might think it would be enough to drive us all to drink, but perhaps surprisingly students have opposed plans for a new pub on a site in Putney Road. Justin Hemsley, the Students’ Union President, told the Leicester Mercury “Students realise they are here to study and get a good degree. You don’t want to have fun if you don’t want it”. Is this music to the ears of those of us who are lecturers?

Contemporary dance opportunities for all are now available at the Richard Attenborough Centre, and the Leicester Mercury ran a piece encouraging people to telephone for details. Classes are being run for people with and without disabilities at all levels from beginners to professional.

If, despite such relaxations, you still find you are too edgy to rest at night, help is at hand. Body Bulletin Health reports research findings by David Stretch showing that the main components of lavender oil have a slightly sedative effect. The recommended approach is to burn essential oil in a bedside diffuser, but do take care! Remember the fire and safety regulations, and make sure you have appropriate permissions if you are living in University accommodation.

With much of the population having been confined to bed for a few days by flu, the Sunday Mirror asked Karl Nicholson, consultant in infectious diseases and chairman of the Health Department’s advisory committee on influenza to offer advice. He repeated the now familiar words: “Keep warm, take paracetamol and have warm drinks.”

Meanwhile the University’s Archaeological Services Unit has conducted a dig at the corner of York Road and Oxford Street. Along with human burial plots, they revealed another grave, featured in the Leicester Mercury, containing the bones of a Roman dog. But life goes on, and soon new student accommodation will be built on the site.
STAFF DISTINCTIONS

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

Professor J Aldgate (Social Work) has been appointed as adviser to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Health.

Professor Brock (History) has been appointed to join the Editorial Board for the Journal of Physics D: Applied Physics for an initial period of two years from 1 January 1997.

Dr J Fothergill (Engineering) has been invited; (a) to become a member of the EPSRC Electrical Engineering College for three years from 1 January 1997; (b) to join the Editorial Board for the Journal of Physics D: Applied Physics for an initial period of two years from January 1997.

Dr H Biejski (Engineering) has been invited to become a member of the EPSRC Electrical Engineering College for three years from 1 January 1997.

Dr J Gough (English) has been awarded the degree of PhD by this University.

Dr J Konje (Osteobiosis and Gynaecology) has been awarded a prize by the Royal College of Osteobiotics and Gynaecologists offered for the best research carried out by a clinical lecturer for his paper on human foetal kidney morphometry. He was also awarded a potter prize of 1750 at the British Medical Ultrasonic Society meeting held in Edinburgh in December 1996.

Dr C O'Cofford (Anatomy) has been appointed Secretary of the Company of Anatomists.

Dr S K Spurgeon (Engineering) has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications.


OBITUARIES

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

SHEILA REID

Former Assistant Librarian, died 16 January 1997

Sheila Reid (nee Griffiths), an Assistant Librarian in the University Library during the 1960s and again the early 1970s, died on 16 January after a long illness. She was appointed to this post in 1960, and ran the serials operation and acted as Subject Librarian for Engineering. Her highly competent management of the serials collection was a key part of the Library's development. Having married an Australian librarian, Bruce Reid, who had joined the Leicester staff, Sheila went with him to Australia in 1967. On their return, she again worked in the University Library (this time in the School of Education Branch Library, under the late Dr Winifred Higson) until 1974.

GWENDA BEND

University Library

DR ROBINDRA KUMAR BISWAS

Former Lecturer in English, died 12 February 1997

Born in 1935, Robin Biss as was brought up in Calcutta in an English-speaking Bengali family. He was proud of his Bengali heritage, particularly Rabindranath Tagore. His prodigious gifts were evident at school and the University of Calcutta, where he took a Master's degree. Having taught briefly at Sarampore Baptist College, he came to England as a Bengal Chamber of Commerce Scholar in 1961. He decided to take an English BA before embarking on the research degree for which he was already qualified, and went to the University of Leeds to do so, where he remained while working on his doctoral thesis on Arthur Hugh Clough.

He was resident at Sadler Hall, where the then Warden was Bryan Wilson, the distinguished sociologist of religion, and Leicester graduate. Also at Sadler was James Hiddleston, now Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. Michael Milligate, editor and biographer of Hardy, was in the English Department. These were among the most valued and lasting friendships in Robin's life. When Michael Milligate was appointed Chairman of English at York University in Toronto, he offered Robin a job, although his thesis was still incomplete. Before flying out to Canada, Robin married Bronwen Evans. Their daughter Maia was born in Toronto.

In 1970-71, he was appointed to a Visiting Fellowship at All Souls, where Bryan Wilson was now a Fellow. Other Visiting Fellows during this intellectually and socially highly successful year were Arthur Humphreys and Philip Larkin. At Oxford the Biswases also met John Bayley and Iris Murdoch.

They returned briefly to Canada, and Robin was appointed to a Lectureship at Leicester in 1972.

Sadly things soon started to go wrong. A substantial body of research material on the anthropologist Palgrave was lost in the move from Toronto to his health caused serious concern. Retirement in 1986 on grounds of ill-health was inevitable, though it was agreed that he should continue teaching part-time indefinitely. However, by 1992, this too ceased. Robin was a demanding friend, but he had a talent for friendship. Last Christmas he received a card from the former secretary at Sadler, whom he had not seen in over thirty years. Letters and visits from former pupils now well into middle age were not uncommon. Throughout his life, he kept in touch with an astonishing range of people, including Clough's grand-niece, Miss Kitty Duff, whom he had visited only briefly once. He had loyal friends, too, among colleagues (notably in the French and the former Classics Department) as well as outside the University. To visit him in recent years was to be beguiled with odd titbits from The Times, and news (as well as gossip) from Leicester and around the world - from his family in the United States, his friends in Canada and Oxford, and former members of the University.

In retirement, he retained a deeply meditated attachment to his subject. To hear him read the anglo-classical cadences of Clough's great poem, Amours de Voyage, was to be in touch with a major critical gift. He was a fierce defender of Larkin's reputation, particularly against reductive readings of his correspondence. He also made a point of getting to know younger members of the English Department who arrived after he had given up teaching, and who, in coming under his spell, are a promise that the high critical principles and their fastidious communication to students, which were the notes of his professional life, will continue at Leicester well into the future.
AGRICULTURAL CHANGE IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
by Dr I R Bowler (Department of Geography)
Cambridge University Press, 1996, £8.95
Available from the Bookshop

The history of agriculture is one of continual change. By focusing on change, the developmental path of agriculture and the various ‘turning points’ in its evolution are revealed. It now appears that agriculture is currently passing through one such ‘turning point’ and a lively debate about the role of agriculture in the economy and society is in progress. This book provides a geographical perspective on the present debate over agriculture, including aspects of farming systems, state intervention, food marketing and trade, and the problematic relationship between modern farming and the environment.

PRINCIPLES OF MOLECULAR VIROLOGY
by Dr A J Cann (Department of Microbiology & Immunology)
Available from the Bookshop

This textbook provides an essential introduction to modern virology. Focusing on a molecular approach, it presents the principles of virology in a clear and concise manner that gives students of biology or medicine a broad, comprehensive understanding of the subject. The text explores and explains the fundamental aspects of virology, including the structure of virus particles and virus genomes, virus replication, control of gene expression, virus pathogenesis (including AIDS), and a detailed and up-to-date discussion of prion diseases.

RESEARCH

GRANTS FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES

ANAESTHESIA
Prof G Smith
Comparisons of morphine & pethidine administered by patient controlled analgesia for postoperative pain relief in patients undergoing large bowel anastomosis.
Surgey on the bowel is riskier than many other forms of surgery and it carries an appreciable number of complications, one of which is breakdown of the union formed when two pieces of bowel are sewn together after removal of diseased sections such as those contained in cancer. There is some evidence to suggest that the breakdown of this union may be effected by the type of drug given for pain relief during and after operation. This present study aims to compare the breakdown rate between two commonly used analgesics, namely morphine and pethidine.
Fortunately, the overall breakdown rate is relatively small and therefore the only practical way of investigating this problem is by means of a large investigation involving more than one centre. The present study is being undertaken with the University of Nottingham in Leicester, the Co-ordinators of the study are Professor G Smith of the Department of Anaesthesia and Mr Michael Thomas, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon at Leicester General Hospital. It will be necessary to survey all patients undergoing large bowel surgery at all three hospitals in Leicester in order to obtain adequate numbers of patients for the Leicester part of the study. We hope to be able to demonstrate that there will be no difference in the complication rate with either morphine or pethidine and this will have considerable practical importance as the single major form of analgesia provided after surgery in the majority of hospitals in the United Kingdom comprises morphine administered by patient controlled analgesia systems and it is concern about this technique which has promoted the present investigation.
£ 31,372 Association of Anaesthetists of GB & Ireland

ARCHAEOLOGY
Dr I Foskett
Ringing in the Millennium
£ 1, 000 Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

BIOCHEMISTRY
Prof R C Liddington
Crystallographic studies of the von Willebrand Factor A-domains
Von Willebrand Factor (VWF) is a protein found in human plasma that plays a central role in blood clotting by providing a molecular bridge between platelets and blood vessel wall lining of vascular injury. Genetic abnormalities in VWF lead to von Willebrand disease, the most common congenital bleeding disorder. VWF is a large protein (2050 amino acids) organised into four types of repeated domains (A-D), each with distinct functions. The aim of this project is to determine atomic resolution crystal structures of the A-domains. This information will lead to an increased understanding of the molecular mechanisms of homeostasis and thrombosis, and will be used in the development of new drugs and improved therapeutic strategies.
£ 130, 332 MRC

BOTANY
Prof J Draper
Genetic engineering of controllable salicylate synthesis and systemic immunity in plants.
£ 139, 414 BBSRC
Dr M R Grant
£ 174, 860 BBSRC

CHEMISTRY
Dr S Akhavan
Synthesis of useful chiral (including acids and B-Lactams) ring opening ansatore trough aziridines.
£ 49, 221 EPSRC
Dr P S Monks
Measurement of J(oid) on an airborne platform
The photolysis of ozone initiates much of the free radical chemistry integral to the balance of trace gases in the stratosphere. The rate at which this process occurs is one of the key photolytic parameters in tropospheric chemistry. As part of the project an instrument for the measurement of this photolytic rate parameter is to be built. The instrument will be deployed on a meteorological research flight’s C-130 Hercules.
£ 17, 255 NERC

CHILD HEALTH
Dr C O’Callaghan
DPI Spacer Study (Phase II)
Leicester
This project involves the evaluation of drug delivery for asthma in our Aerosol Drug Delivery Laboratory. This will involve analysis of aerosol particle size and the amount of drug contained in particles likely to reach the respiratory tract of patients.
£ 20, 000 RL Laboratories PLC
Evaluations are sustainable over time for learning gains we identified in earlier Project 2: Sustainability of Gains is an earlier evaluation. Used to provide insights into the identification of models of use will be development of teachers. The impact of ILS on the professional environment, with particular reference and learning support agent in an ILS investigate the tutor role as a manager work into the curriculum. We will strategies and structures developed at Curriculum seeks to investigate the value of Integrated Learning Systems for phase of the national investigation of the We have been contracted to complete Integrated Learning Systems £147,282 NHS Executive - South Leicester, but conducted jointly with a was useful. The project will be based in to determine whether the intervention children, quality of life of the family, and the economic, impact of the children’s health on the family and health service will be evaluated in order to determine whether the intervention was useful. The project will be based in Leicester, but connected jointly with a group from Manchester. £147,282 NHS Executive - South Thames.

EDUCATION

Dr J Underwood Integrated Learning systems evaluation phase 3 We have been contracted to complete two projects in this, the third and final phase of the national investigation of the value of Integrated Learning Systems for the development of basic mathematics and numeracy skills. Project 1: Embedding ILs in the Curriculum seeks to investigate the strategies and structures developed in class and school level for integrating ILs work into the curriculum. We will investigate the tutor role as a manager and learning support agent in an ILs environment, with particular reference to system feedback and we will assess the impact of ILs on the professional development of teachers. The identification of models of use will be used to provide insights into the learning outcomes we identified in our earlier evaluations. Project 2: Sustainability of ILs is designed to establish whether the learning gains we identified in earlier evaluations are sustainable over time for pupils who are no longer using the system. Many of the pupils from Phase 1 are entering GCSE or A level this year. We believe comparison of within-ILS performance and ILs to Control group performance on these external measures of performance would prove invaluable. Essentially, we are asking whether the differential gains identified in Phase 2 are still visible three years after the start of the intervention. Further significance of these results would come from the fact that these public examinations assess a wider range of numeracy and literacy skills than was possible in the Phase 1 and 2 evaluations. These analyses would illuminate the two critical questions of length and breadth of impact of the intervention strategy. £30,937 (supp) NCFE.

EPIDEMIOLOGY & PUBLIC HEALTH

Mr T Raymond MSc Training Award £6,603 NHS Executive - Trent Dr J Botha Health care Epidemiology This grant is intended to support and develop the work done in the Department which relates to the analysis and use of health service information collected during contact; patients have with health services. Examples of projects which are continuing in this area are: analysis of the reasons for admissions to hospital in people with diabetes; a set of collaborative studies under the auspices of the European Union investigating the geographical variation in the occurrence of childhood diabetes; its clinical presentation and mortality trends as well as a new study doing similar investigations for insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus occurring in adulthood; an investigation into possible inequities (between sexes and/or ethnic groups) in referral of patients to cardiology services; monitoring of ethics group data collected in hospitals, again to assess whether minor by ethnic needs are met. A common element to all these studies is record linkage to enable investigation to be made of patients’ pathways of care. £47,521 (supp) Leicester Health Authority.

GENERAL PRACTICE

Dr G Grimshaw The evaluation of guidelines on suspected heart failure for Echocardiography. £46,466 NHS Executive North Thames.

GENETICS

Dr C P Kyriacou Structural and functional analysis of two clock proteins in drosophila. The 24 hour biological clock is a ubiquitous feature of nearly all organisms that live on the surface of this planet. They are extremely important for medicine, agriculture, industry and pharmaceuticals: Understanding the molecular nature of the clock is a major challenge. We have been working on two proteins in Drosophila: PER and TIM which interact to generate the 24 hour rhythm in the fruit fly. These grants will allow us to examine in detail the two proteins of the structural level and this work will be done in collaboration with a laboratory in Germany and two others in Poland and Lecce in Italy. £187,603 CEC.

Dr C P Kyriacou Molecular analysis of circadian temperature compensation in Drosophila. One of the features of clocks is that they are clocks and not thermometers, and they maintain their period of 24 hours irrespective of temperature changes. They are said to be temperature compensated and this is a mysterious phenomenon because biochemical reactions generally double their rate with an increase of 10°C. We have generated some mutations which disrupt the temperature compensation of the clock, and this second grant will help us to understand the molecular and biochemical nature of the clock’s temperature compensation system. £160,836 BBSRC.

HISTORY OF ART/ARCHAEOLOGY

Dr P G Lindsey Interactive guide for visitors: Phase 2 £5,000 Henry Moore Foundation.

MEDICINE & THERAPEUTICS

Prof. R D K Camp Dr A Vakonyi T cell receptor gene expression in parotiditis Further studies Parotitis is a common and sometimes serious skin disorder for which new, effective and safe forms of treatment are needed. This grant provides support for our attempts to clarify the role of T lymphocytes, a sub-population of blood cells, as therapeutic targets in this disease. £9,000 Parotitis Association.

Dr A Gerlachk Prof. D D de Bono Quantifying locally delivered drugs in vivo. It has become increasingly important to try and deliver drug to the site of action in a controlled manner. This project will investigate in detail the biochemistry of CO23 leakage. Characterisation of this event will, we...
OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY
Mr F Ali-Azrani
Randomised double-blind study of the efficacy of Frusemide in combination with Estradiol in comparison with Famotidine in the prevention of postmenopausal bone loss.
£ 223, 200 HOECHST Marion Roussel Ltd.

Prof. D J Taylor
Drug provision
£ 32, 600 (supp) NHS Executive via University of Dundee

Prof. D J Taylor
Drug provision
£ 20, 600 (supp) NHS Executive

Prof. D J Taylor
Drug provision
£ 10, 600 (supp) NHS Executive North West

ONCOLOGY
Prof. W Stewart
Marinazid in patients with small cell lung cancer following response to first-line chemotherapy.
£ 40, 000 British Biotech Pharmaceuticals

Audit of colorectal cancer
£ 18, 000 Leicester Health

Phase 3 study of capcitabine in colorectal cancer - SO14796
£ 25, 000 Roche Products Ltd.

Epstein Alfa study in cancer patients receiving platinum-based chemotherapy.
£ 11, 400 JANSSEN-CILAG Ltd.

Marinazid as a maintenance therapy in patients with inoperable gastric adenocarcinoma
£ 16, 000 British Biotech Pharmaceuticals

PATHOLOGY/CMHT
Prof. J Lunec
Lipid Research Fund
£ 6, 000 Glenside Lipid Clinic Research Fund

Dr J A Shaw
Molecular studies of skin pathology. This funding is to initiate molecular genetic studies of the development of two common skin cancers malignant melanoma and basal cell carcinoma. A collection of ‘early’ tumour DNA samples covering a range of stages of disease development will be established. Molecular screening of candidate genes and chromosomal regions, found to be abnormal in advanced tumours, will test the hypothesis that key genetic aberrations, of importance to tumour development, can be detected in these early lesions. £ 1, 000 Leicester Dermatology Trust Fund

Mutator induced mutations in early breast cancer
Breast cancer is still a major health problem. There is a need for studies of the development in breast cancers and a need to identify criteria that define women who are at risk. We have previously shown that some aggressive breast cancers display DNA instability might be an early sensitive marker of aggressive diseases. This funding will enable analysis of a larger group of cases and screening of known candidate genes for inactivating mutations which could account for this phenomenon.
£ 5, 831 Glenside Hospital Research Committee

Dr R A Walker
The expression & significance of epidermal growth factor receptor in non-malignant breast and breast carcinomas.
Growth factors and hormones are necessary for the regulation of growth for a normal breast, and act through receptors present in the cells. Differences are found in the expression of these receptors in breast cancer; knowledge about the different receptors can help in planning treatment, particularly in response to hormone therapy. In order to understand which cells in the normal breast that the cancer develops from, and how this can help determining what will be the most appropriate treatment, this study will study the different receptors in relation to the type of cell. In preliminary studies we have already shown that there are differences in different receptors between normal breast and breast cancer. We will be concentrating on epidermal growth factor receptor, which binds to and is activated by epidermal growth factor, which stimulates growth. Using modern biochemical techniques we will localise the site of expression of the receptor, and analyse the nature of the cells which are expressing it, using specific markers. We will be using similar techniques to study breast cancers, particularly ones in which there is data on response to different forms of therapy. Although much is known about different receptors in breast, there is still only limited knowledge about how breast cancers develop, and this study will contribute to our understanding of this aspect of the disease, as well as the therapy.
£ 4, 796 Glenside Hospital Resources Committee

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY
Dr K C Herbert
Validation of biomarkers used to evaluate the extent of free radical damage to DNA in humans. If oxygen species are key mediators of oxidative stress in vivo and are thought to be involved in the development of a number of chronic diseases prevalent in an ageing UK population. In order to protect against inappropriately high levels of oxidative stress, supplementation of diets with antioxidant vitamins (in particular vitamin C & E) has been suggested. However, optimal dietary requirements have yet to be determined. One way of investigating this is ‘healthy’ individuals measure the amount of oxidative damage present in blood cells from human volunteers before, during and after taking the vitamin. DNA base products are widely used as markers of oxidative damage in cells. Although several methods for their measurement exist there is considerable disagreement between them. The aim of this project is to provide synthetic standards for use in comparing these methods within and between laboratories both in the UK and internationally.
£ 223, 041 MAFF

Mr A Wells
A principal problem in the training of all health care professionals is the inherent conflict between the service needs of teaching hospital and the educational needs of the students. In professions such as nursing problems associated with achieving the necessary integration of theory and practice have been recognised for many years, and concern has been voiced that student nurses may not be adequately prepared for the reality of clinical practice. The development of the Learning Practitioner Initiative has been one attempt to reduce “the perceived gap between service and education”. Previous work has demonstrated the usefulness of the Quality Delivery process (QDP) in providing a framework for determining critical performance variables in training. It is proposed that in attempts to evaluate the impact of Nurse Practitioner prototypes the QDP Framework could again assist efforts directed toward evaluating the relevant tasks associated with this role, assessing the degree of success achieved in terms of meeting desired outcomes. The impact of nursing staff on patient care. £ 57,334 PHRC

PSYCHOLOGY (CLINICAL)
Dr C McCreary
Evaluation of the impact of nursing lecturer - Practitioner posts on the interface between service and education in the Trent Region. A principal problem in the training of all health care professionals is the inherent conflict between the service needs of teaching hospital and the educational needs of the students. In professions such as nursing problems associated with achieving the necessary integration of theory and practice have been recognised for many years, and concern has been voiced that student nurses may not be adequately prepared for the reality of clinical practice. The development of the Learning Practitioner Initiative has been one attempt to reduce “the perceived gap between service and education”. Previous work has demonstrated the usefulness of the Quality Delivery process (QDP) in providing a framework for determining critical performance variables in training. It is proposed that in attempts to evaluate the impact of Nurse Practitioner prototypes the QDP Framework could again assist efforts directed toward evaluating the relevant tasks associated with this role, assessing the degree of success achieved in terms of meeting desired outcomes. The impact of nursing staff on patient care. £ 57,334 PHRC

PSYCHIATRY
Prof. A Bricelj
Child Mental Health Sverdlov. Sverdlov is a large industrial town to the east of the Ural in Russia. Until
**NOTICES**

Prof. P R Bell
Mr M M Thompson
Mr A R N Taylor

**SURGERY/PATHOLOGY**

£254,508  Janssen Research

patients.

Double-blind evaluation of risperidone vs haloperidol on long term morbidity of early psychotic patients.

£ 42,888  ODA via Healthprom

Russia.

consultation and support for change in Government to provide the necessary funding for the modernisation of Services and programmes.

Professor A R Nicol, Professor of Child Psychiatry at Leicester University has been approached by the British Government to provide the necessary consultation and support for change in Russia.

For this reason the British Government have funded a number of projects in this area of personal finance.  Dr L Jones, to whom application should be made as soon as possible.

Further information may be obtained from the Warden of Beaumont Hall, Dr Richard Mobbs, to whom application should be made as soon as possible.

**RESEARCH**

The role of matrix metalloproteinases in mediating carotid plaque morphology.

Stroke is the third most common cause of death in the UK and costs the NHS about 5 billion per annum.  One of the commonest single causes of stroke is a narrowing in the carotid arteries in the neck.  However, there is clear evidence that many people can have a narrowing and have no symptoms but others can get rapid progression of the stenosis with catastrophic results.  To date no one has been able to understand why one plaque behaves differently to another.

The study proposed by the applicants will evaluate the role of a sequence of enzymes known as matrix metalloproteinases.  These enzymes can control the structure of arterial walls and preliminary evidence suggests that they may mediate acute changes.  If this were demonstrated to be the case then it might be possible to modify plaque progression by the administration of enzyme inhibitors.

£ 45, 873  Stroke Association.

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**SURGERY**

Prof. P Bell

Clinical research fellow/resident medical officer

£27,308  BUPA Hospital

**KPMG**

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**SMALL ADS**

FOR SALE

C reg Toyota Hiace Van, 14 seater Departmental Vehicle
Genuine low mileage (35,000), good condition
£2,000 ono

Contact Jim Roberts, Museum Studies Department, Ext 3961 or Barbara Lloyd, Ext 3963.

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF COMMON ROOM ASSOCIATION**

Day Trip to Chester - Thursday 27 March
Coach from Mayor’s Walk at 8.30 am and from Chester at 6.00 pm.

Two coaches have been booked for this trip.

Cost: Members £5  Guests £7  (supplied £2 per head)

This is the 40th jubilee of the DSCR and some events throughout the year are subsidised for members from the Association’s funds.  This is reflected in the members’ price for this trip.

Book now with Gillian Farrows (Education 3676) and pay John Ashworth (Psychology) by 13 March (cheques to DSCR Association).

**HALLS OF RESIDENCE**

VACANCIES FOR SUB-WARDENSHIPS 1997-98

Sub-Wardenships are an excellent opportunity for staff and postgraduate students to contribute to the welfare and pastoral services of the University’s Accommodation System.  Applications from members of the academic and academic-related staff and from postgraduate students are particularly welcome.

There will be vacancies for male and female Sub-Warden at the start of the next academic year.  Sub-Warden positions are advertised for a full academic year.  The roles of Sub-Warden are to contribute to the welfare and pastoral services of the Students’ Union and to contribute to the running of the accommodation system.  Sub-Wardens receive board and comfortable lodgings at substantially reduced rates, in return for undertaking certain pastoral and other duties in Hall.

Applications from members of the academic and academic-related staff and from postgraduate students are particularly welcome.

Further information may be obtained from the Warden of Beaumont Hall, Dr Richard Mobbs, to whom application should be made as soon as possible.

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**HALLS OF RESIDENCE**

VACANCIES FOR SUB-WARDENSHIPS 1997-98

Sub-Wardenships are an excellent opportunity for staff and postgraduate students to contribute to the welfare and pastoral services of the University’s Accommodation System and to gain further rewards and experiences offered by such a system.  As suggested in the AOB feature most Sub-Wardens enjoy this role and their interactions with undergraduate students.

Further information may be obtained from the Warden of Beaumont Hall, Dr Richard Mobbs, to whom application should be made as soon as possible.

**SMALL ADS**

FOR SALE

C reg Toyota Hiace Van, 14 seater Departmental Vehicle
Genuine low mileage (35,000), good condition
£2,000 ono

Contact Jim Roberts, Museum Studies Department, Ext 3961 or Barbara Lloyd, Ext 3963.

**VIENNA CITY CENTRE**

Exclusive luxury flat for two or three, to let on weekly basis, August and September.  Bookings still open.

Call 0116 230 3099 (evenings)
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

EVENTS ARE ALSO LISTED ON CWIS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 12 -

THURSDAY MARCH 13 -
Department of Cell Physiology and Pharmacology Seminar. Endothelial Cell Tyrosine Kinase Signalling Pathways in Angiogenesis. Dr Nick Brindle, Department of Surgery. 4.00 pm Room 333, Medical Sciences Building

THURSDAY MARCH 13 -
38th Annual Bennett Lecture: Lacustrine Records and Climate Change. Professor Judith McKenzie, Geological Institute, Zurich. 4.15 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, Bennett Building.

THURSDAY MARCH 13 -
Department of History Jubilee Public Lecture: Teaching and Researching the Holocaust Fifty Years On. Professor Aubrey Newman, Honorary Associate Director, The Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust Studies. 5.15 pm Lecture Theatre 1, New Building.

THURSDAY MARCH 13 -
Celebrity Event: An Evening with Janet Suzman. 7.30 pm. Richard Attenborough Centre.

THURSDAY MARCH 13 -
38th Annual Bennett Lecture: Lacustrine Records and Climate Change. Professor Judith McKenzie, Geological Institute, Zurich. 4.15 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, Bennett Building.

FRIDAY MARCH 14 -
National Science Week (SET 97). For further details telephone 0116 252 2674.

FRIDAY MARCH 14 -

SATURDAY MARCH 15 -
UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH -

IRONSIDES RAY & VIALS
LEGAL ADVICE BUREAU

FREE INITIAL ADVICE is available on any area of Law. Estimates are available for Conveyancing, Probate, Personal Injury, Matrimonial and other Legal matters.

WHEN: Every Tuesday between 12-2 pm

WHERE: The Gimson Committee Room, Ground Floor, Fielding Johnson Building

HOW: For an appointment telephone (0116) 2523334

In emergencies call Ironsides Ray & Vials direct on Leicester 2515253.

EYE SPY
A new competition!
Our intrepid photographer from the University’s Central Photographic Unit, combing the campus for new angles on the University, has taken this teaser. If you can identify where it is, you are close to snapping up a £10 book token! Please send your answers to Barbara Whiteman, Press & Alumni Relations, by Thursday 20 March. A draw will be held to determine the competition winner. Normal competition rules apply.
NOTICES

CARDS INTO CASH FOR LRI

Over forty members of the University raised the impressive amount of £369.50 over the Christmas period towards the Leicester Royal Infirmary Macmillan Green Ribbon Appeal. This sum represented donations instead of sending cards during the season of goodwill, and brings to over £1,000 the total raised by this method for various charities during the past three years. Mr Keith Julian, Registrar and Secretary, said: “Members of the University were delighted to support this very worthwhile cause. The University has a very close relationship with the Leicester Royal Infirmary and, indeed, other teaching hospitals in Leicester, where teaching and research advances help to enhance the quality of medical provision in the county”.

The following is a complete list of those who sent Christmas greetings in lieu of cards to colleagues and gave donations to this year’s Appeal:

Joan Alexander, Cashier’s Office
Colin Atkinson, MIS
Ailin Batchelor, Cashier’s Office
Susie Beagley, Registrar’s Office
Asa Blakeley, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Simon Britton, Estates & Buildings
Margaret Bruce, Finance Office
Viv Burgess, Information Services
Michael Corrin, Academic Office
Liz Davies, Registrar’s Office
Keith Davis, Research Office
Anne Garrick, Research Office
Sue Ingle, Conference Office
Keith Julian, Registrar’s Office
Kathy Williams, Academic Office
Robin White, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
John Hopkins, Safety Office
Sue Ingle, Conference Office
Gary Hague, Finance Office
John Hopkins, Safety Office
Sally Hurnman Cook, Vice-Chancellor’s Office
Joan Marriott, Finance Office
Martin Wright, Finance Office
Ather Mirza, Press and Alumni Relations
Dilshad Patel, Cashier’s Office
Vivienne Paul, Registrar’s Office
Tony Pearson, International Office
Pam Polin, Academic Office
Ann Robertson, Safety Office
Louise Salmon, Higher Degrees Office
John Scott, Safety Office
Violet Seagoe, Registrar’s Office
Clare Taylor, Welfare Office
Jacky Wetzig, Academic Office
Janet Whelan, Higher Degrees Office
Cheryl White, Accommodation Office
Robin White, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Penny Williams, Higher Degrees Office
Tim Wragg, Residential & Catering Service
Martin Wright, Finance Office

SEND IN YOUR STORIES

Just in case you’ve missed the message on page 2, this is another request for contributions. Stories, particularly with photos, are very welcome. If you are unsure about sending in a piece for whatever reason and want to talk about it first, ring Ather Mirza on 3335.
FREE PARK AND RIDE
A free Open Day Park & Ride service runs directly between Oadby Race Course (off the roundabout where the A6 Leicester - Market Harborough road meets the A563 Outer Ring Road) and the Main Campus (Mayors Walk) every fifteen minutes between 8.00am and 6.00pm.

CAR PARKING

...FOR STAFF
Members of staff should be aware that parking will not be available on Freeman's Common car park or at the Maurice Stock Medical Sciences Building. Arrangements have been made with the owners of the Gas Board car park to allow access for up to 120 cars displaying University permits and driven by members of University staff.

Alternatively it is hoped that members of staff will use the FREE PARK AND RIDE buses from Oadby Race Course direct to Mayors Walk. These will be Midland Fox buses, and bus stops at Oadby Race Course and Mayors Walk will be clearly marked.

Limited parking will be available on the main campus for members of staff who arrive prior to 9.00am. It is hoped that these places will only be used by staff who will leave their cars parked on campus all day.

...FOR THE PUBLIC
Free parking is available for cars and coaches on the perimeter road in Victoria Park, entering from Granville Road/Regent Road. Cars may also be parked in the car parks at Regent College (entrance in Lancaster Road) and at Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College (using University entrance 1 on University Road). Visitors - especially those from the south side of Leicester - are asked to use the Park & Ride service, if possible.

Disabled parking (for orange badge holders) is available on the Main Campus, via entrance 2 on University Road. Limited parking is available for disabled users of the Richard Attenborough Centre adjacent to the building on Lancaster Road.

FIRST AID
Volunteers from St John Ambulance are in attendance throughout the day if you require emergency first aid treatment. They are in the Quiet Room on Level 1 of the New Building.

DISABLED VISITORS
Many of the main buildings are easily accessible by wheelchair users. A campus map showing the locations of lifts, ramps and disabled toilets is available from the Fielding Johnson information desk, or can be obtained in advance of Open Day from the Study Support Centre for Students with Special Needs (telephone: 0116 252 5002). Car parking arrangements are detailed above.

An infra-red loop system for the hearing-impaired is installed in New Building lecture theatres LT1 and LT3, and headsets are available for loan during the day. There are also some radio microphones for loan. This equipment is issued only on security of a signed receipt and credit card details. Please notify us of your requirements by Thursday 13 March. It is not possible to borrow equipment on Open Day without such prior notice. Contact the Study Support Centre (telephone: 0116 252 5002).

A Quiet Room on Level 1 of the New Building is available for those whose disability means that a rest away from the hustle and bustle is needed.

INFORMATION ON THE DAY
Information desks will be situated on the ground floor of the Charles Wilson Building and in the foyer of the Fielding Johnson Building. Look out also for computer terminals in many of the main buildings with an interactive up-to-date display of all the events.
Bulletin competitions are open to all readers except those involved in its production. Entries on photocopied paper please.

Only one entry per person.

WORDSEARCH COMPETITION
(Prize, a £25 Marks and Spencer gift voucher, donated by Zurich Municipal Insurance Company)
Ten words are hidden in this jumble of letters, all with some association to motor insurance. Send entries to Julie Franks, LUSU Marketing Office, no later than noon on Monday 20 March.

ZURICH COVER BUILDINGS PRIZE-DRAW
MUNICIPAL BENEFITS MOTOR QUOTE

WINNER OF LAST MONTH’S WORDSEARCH COMPETITION:
John Wall, LUSU

PRIZE CROSSWORD 12 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.

Clues Across
1. Part of car chassis over wheel (4)
2. The male’s an excessively crested bird (8)
3. Spokesman for the clan about Frenchman’s one (7)
4. She’s change for them (5)
5. Fifty in return for nothing (3)
6. Some person endures some coercion (6)
7. Unrecorded turns to wickedness (4)
8. Back-up runs to respond to a stroke (4)
9. May fasten the harness (4)
10. An inclination to be dishonest (4)
11. Grooms’ ‘nobody’, to some extent! (4)
12. Near perfect thought (4)
13. Cowardly shout with pain (6)
14. Last wish for tearaway (8)
15. Which Archer carried for a big fiddle? (7)
16. Message: spread’s allowed to return! (8)
17. Dispatch no one to the island (4)

Clues Down
1. Some wanted a television to go before (8)
2. Niobe was one source of proclamation (5)
3. A sign of topless ladies! (4)
4. He’d laws reformulated: ‘Keep Left’ to ‘...Right’ (6)
5. Perhaps silent energy of stretching (7)
6. Closed up a gate taking steer around state (4)
7. Kiss, said to transport the public (4)
8. Occupant of rather larger nest! (4)
9. Occupant of rather larger nest! (4)
10. Designation of a bell (5)
11. Sound measure: cook leaves campanile (3)
12. Exotic rag on – in this garment! (6)
13. Request that’s sure to give delight (4)
14. Stretch the horses (4)
15. Type of port (4)
16. Fugitive saw to taking passage! (8)
17. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
18. Type of port (4)
19. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
20. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
21. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
22. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
23. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
24. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
25. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
26. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
27. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
28. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
29. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
30. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
31. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
32. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)
33. Will addition fool firm Liberal? (7)

PRIZE CROSSWORD 11 SOLUTION

Across
31. Entertainment.

Down

WINNER OF PRIZE CROSSWORD NO. 11:
Linda Duncan, Estates and Buildings