UNIVERSITY LINKS TO QUEEN’S JUBILEE HONOURS

Professor of Surgery receives a knighthood

Professor Peter Bell, Department of Surgery, receives the highest award for a commoner in the Queen’s Jubilee Honours – a knighthood for services to surgery. He was appointed to the post of Professor of Surgery in 1974. His research interests are in the field of basic and clinical vascular surgery. He also has an interest in transplantation. Presently the majority of his work is in vascular surgery – both peripheral vascular and carotid surgery. "I am very pleased to receive this honour which I regard as a reflection of all the hard work done by many people in Leicester, in the University and the health service who have helped to make this possible", said Professor Bell.

He graduated from Glasgow with an MB, ChB with Honours and Distinction in Surgery in 1961. His other postgraduate qualifications are Primary FRCS (Glasgow), FRCS (England), MD (Sheffield), FRCS (Glasgow).

He is currently Vice President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, a member of Cases Committee, Medical Defence Union, and Treasurer of the European Surgical Society. Previous posts to date include former President of the European Society for Vascular Surgery, Chairman of the Society of Academic Surgeons, President of the Vascular Surgical Society for Great Britain and Ireland, and President of Leicester Medical Society.

He has published numerous papers in vascular surgery and transplantation and has served as Editor of the European Journal of Vascular Surgery. He is a member of several societies, among them the International Transplantation Society (past secretary), The American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the British Society of Immunology and Transplantation (past Committee member), the British Transplantation Society, the European Surgical Association, and the Academy of Medical Sciences.

On Tuesday, June 25, as part of the University’s 80th anniversary celebrations, Professor Bell gave a public lecture on Surgery Then and Now, outlining the highlights of the Medical School since he first came to Leicester as Foundation Professor of Surgery.

The Leicester Medical School has seen many changes over the decades, not least the increasing specialisation in surgery, including transplantation, cardiac surgery, urology, orthopaedics and vascular surgery. Over the last few years more changes have led to minimally invasive – or keyhole – surgery. Leicester’s reputation in vascular and transplant surgery has long been internationally acclaimed.

Professor Bell’s predictions for the future include the increase of surgical specialisation, with fewer operations, and smaller incisions, involving shorter stays in hospital.

University’s Pro-Chancellor receives a knighthood

Dr Tom McKillop, Chief Executive of AstraZeneca plc, Pro-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, and Member of the University’s Council since 1998 receives a knighthood for services to the pharmaceutical industry. Dr McKillop received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Leicester in July 2000.
UNIVERSITY LINKS TO QUEEN’S JUBILEE HONOURS (continued)

Order of the British Empire for former Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Professor Jack Spence, academic adviser, Royal College of Defence Studies, a former University of Leicester Professor of Politics, and a Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1981 to 1985, receives an OBE for services to the Ministry.

Professor Spence was Director of Studies at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) from 1991-97. In July 2001 the University conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. “I am delighted to receive an honorary degree from the University of Leicester where I spent 18 very happy years”, commented Professor Spence at the time.

Honorary Graduate and Lecturer receive MBEs

Well-known personality Molly Badham, Director of Twycross Zoo, Leicestershire, receives an MBE for services to the conservation of endangered species.

Twycross Zoo, which opened in 1963, was co-founded by Molly Badham. Initially a comparatively modest collection, it is now a major British zoo and attracts 400,000 visitors a year. She received the honorary degree of Master of Science from this University in 1982.

Ms Jackie Beere, who has lectured part-time at the University of Leicester, also gains an MBE. Her award is for research into improving motivation in the classroom. As well as lecturing, she has travelled all over the country giving workshops and seminars on her specialist subject. Ms Beere has also written a book aimed at helping students learn how to learn.

Graduate receives Queen’s Police Medal

University of Leicester graduate David Lindley, Deputy Chief Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary, receives the Queen’s Police Medal.

One of two Leicestershire police officers to receive this honour, he graduated in Biological Sciences in 1974.

• Queen’s Birthday Honours were among staff distinctions reported to Senate in July.

Eight honorary degree ceremonies in 2003 – nominations invited

During the Autumn term the Honorary Degrees Board will consider nominations for the award of Honorary Degrees in the academic year 2002/2003. Members of the University are, therefore, invited to make nominations.

The Board will wish to have evidence that the nominee has a distinguished record in his/her field and has made a significant contribution locally, nationally or internationally.

Nominations must be made in writing and should include the nominee’s full name, title and address and be accompanied by a supporting statement and a brief CV, if it is available. Nominations should be sent, in confidence, to the Vice-Chancellor by Tuesday, October 22, 2002.

• Ceremonies will be held on the afternoons of February 12 and 13, 2003 and July 9, 10, and 11, 2003.

Honorary degrees to be awarded at ceremony during BA Festival at Leicester

Receiving honorary degrees from the University of Leicester at a special honours-only degree congregation on the afternoon of Monday, September 9 are:

• Dr Peter Briggs, Chief Executive of the British Association (Doctor of Science)
• Sir Howard Newby, President of the British Association (Doctor of Letters)

This degree ceremony will be followed immediately by the British Association Presidential Address.
Staff Distinctions

June 2002
Academic Staff Distinctions:

- Mr Simon Britton (Estates and Buildings) has been elected to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Association of University Directors of Estates.
- Professor Gordon Campbell (English) has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate (Doctor Honoris Causa Universitatis Bucarestensis) by the University of Bucharest.
- Professor Mike Clarke (Epidemiology and Public Health) has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.
- Professor Robin Fraser (General Practice and Primary Health Care) has become the first person to be made an Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians (HKCFP) and has been invited to deliver the Dr Sun Yat Sen Oration.
- Mr Michael Gilmore (Academic Office) has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate (Doctor Honoris Causa Universitatis Gregoriana, Rome, for his thesis on the subject-predicate relation as understood similarly and diversely by St Thomas Aquinas and Peter Strawson.
- Professor William D Grant (Microbiology and Immunology) has been appointed to the judging panel for the Ian Allan Railway Heritage Awards.
- Mr Michael Kirk (University Library) has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Library Association.
- Mr Dominic Malcolm (Centre for Research into Sport and Society, Sociology) has been elected Convener of the British Sociological Association’s Sociology of Sport Study Group.
- Professor Nilesh Samani (Surgery) has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.
- Professor Arnold Schwartz (Microbiology and Immunology) has been appointed to the judging panel for the Ian Allan Railway Heritage Awards.
- Professor Andrew King (Law) has been appointed as a Queen’s Counsel and was sworn in on 10 April 2002.
- Professor David Taylor (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) has been appointed to serve as a Non-Executive Director of the University of Leicester.
- Professor Richard Trembath (Division of Medical Genetics, Medicine) has been appointed to the MRC Advisory Board and elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.
- Professor Peter Williams and Dr Priamrose Freestone (Microbiology and Immunology), together with colleagues in the City Hospital, Nottingham and the Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation in the USA, have been awarded the 10th Medical Research Foundation in the USA, have been awarded the 10th annual Joseph Sussman Memorial Award at the joint North American Societies for Surgical Infection meeting held recently in Madrid. (The award was for research into the colonization of catheters by Staphylococcus epidermidis and was made for the first time by a unanimous decision of the judges and for research by non-clinicians.)
- Professor Alison Yarrington (History of Art) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. The AVS Video Production Unit has also been awarded two prizes by the Society for Screen-based Learning for the video made for Leicester’s HEFCE-funded 2001 Widening Participation Summer School (2nd place Highly Commended for Best Camera work and 1st Place in the Best Editing category).

Student Distinctions:

- Mr James Bartram (MSc Marketing) has received a Student of the Year award from the Chartered Institute of Marketing.
- Professor Andrew King (Physics and Astronomy) has won a Royal Society Wolfson Merit Award.
- Professor Marilyn Palmer (Archaeology and Ancient History) has been appointed Chairman of the Industrial Archaeology Advisory Panel of the National Trust. She has also been appointed to the judging panel for the Ian Allan Railway Heritage Awards.

July 2002
Academic Staff Distinctions:

- Professor Dick Aldridge (Geology) has been invited to be President of the International Palaeontological Association.
- Professor Andrew Colman (Psychology) has been awarded a prize for his publication of A Premier Award for the video Understanding Domestic Abuse, at the Annual Learning on Screen Production Awards. The Unit has also been awarded two prizes by the Society for Screen-based Learning for the video made for Leicester’s HEFCE-funded 2001 Widening Participation Summer School (2nd place Highly Commended for Best Camera work and 1st Place in the Best Editing category).

Other distinctions:

- The Sports and Recreation Service has been awarded Investors in People status.
- As reported to Senate.
The Reverend Amos Kasibante has been appointed Anglican Chaplain in the University's Chaplaincy as from July 1, 2002.

The Reverend Amos Kasibante is a well-travelled man, originating from Uganda where most of his extended family live. As a tutor at the Bishop Tucker College in Uganda, he was exposed to many different ethnic groups as the school also took students from Rwanda, Burundi and Sudan.

In Britain for the last ten years, he has held positions in London and Birmingham, most recently in Cardiff where he was Vice-Principal of St Michael’s Theological College, and Associate Lecturer in Theology and Ethics at Cardiff University.

He graduated from Trinity College and Ridley Hall, Cambridge in 1983 where he stayed to complete a Master's Degree in 1987. He next studied for the Master of Sacred Theology (STM) Degree at Yale University Divinity School in New Haven, USA, where he was also achieved a Diploma in Anglican Studies. His philosophy of never ceasing to learn is reflected in his current part-time studies for a doctorate at the University of Birmingham.

Amos is excited about his new post, and is looking forward to working and discovering the diverse life and activities of the Chaplaincy, the Churches and the University. He and his wife, Sonia, are hoping to make many new friends here.

Amos Kasibante

Janet Graham, Principal Assistant Registrar and Director of Admissions and Student Recruitment Office, pictured at her farewell reception on May 15, which was attended by friends and colleagues. Janet is now Director of Admissions at the University of Cambridge.

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Golden share of TLS reviews

- Peter Graves, Senior Lecturer in German in the School of Modern Languages, achieved a significant milestone in June when his fiftieth contribution to The Times Literary Supplement was published – a review of three recent German novels.

- His links with the TLS started in the mid-1980s after he sent in a speculative piece on a newly-published collection of German short stories. “They seemed to like it”, he says, “and since then have kept coming back for more”.

- Although he has also written on German history and politics, most of his reviews are of new prose and poetry, and he also advises on books that might be worth discussing in TLS’s pages. “As a researcher on contemporary German Literature, I see it also as part of my task to try to shape its reception in this country and the rest of the English-speaking world, and there’s no more influential journal for doing that than The Times Literary Supplement. And writing for it, of course, can also be quite prestigious.”

- He is now preparing his fifty-first contribution, due to appear in the Frankfurter Book Fair edition of the TLS in October.

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From higher degree to honorary degree

- A psychologist who graduated from the University of Leicester with a PhD in 1967 has this summer been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by Aberdeen University for his contribution to the understanding of human error.

- Professor James Reason received the award during a graduation ceremony at Marischal College.

- After studying at the universities of Manchester and Leicester, he joined the Royal Airforce Institute of Aviation. From the late 70s he has been committed to applying his expertise to real world problems and he is universally renowned for his research at the University of Manchester. His Leicester dissertation was entitled The Study of Individual Differences in Perceptual and Decision-Making Behaviour.
Obituaries

The University has learnt, with regret, of the death of the following:

Mr John Doe
Mr Doe joined the University of Leicester School of Education as a Lecturer in Primary Education in September 1966. He was appointed Tutor-in-Charge at the University Centre in Northampton from its inception in 1967. In 1975 he was promoted to a Senior Lectureship, and retired in 1984. The family has requested that any donations in memory of him should be made directly to the NSPCC.

Professor Stephen J Gould
Stephen Jay Gould, Professor of Geology and Zoology at Harvard University and an honorary graduate of the University of Leicester, died on Monday, May 20 at his home in New York City.

Professor Gould was a world-renowned scientist who brought evolutionary theory and paleontology to a broad public audience. He was a prolific writer, known for his engaging, often witty style, evident in his columns in Natural History magazine, as well as collections of essays. His book, The Mismeasure of Man, a study of intelligence testing, won the National Book Critics Award in 1982. Later books included Dinosaur in a Haystack and Rocks of Ages: Science and Religion in the Fullness of Life.

As well as championing the teaching of evolutionary science in school curricula, he was also known for his participation in public debates with creation scientists and for his disagreements with other evolutionary theorists. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from this University in 1995.

Dr Jeremy Bray
Dr Jeremy Bray, a former Labour MP and Junior Minister in the Ministries of Technology and Power in the Harold Wilson governments, died at his home in Cambridge on June 3, 2002, aged 64. Dr Bray joined the University in October 1965 as a Research Fellow in the Department of History, and, in 1967, he was appointed to a temporary Lectureship in the History of Science. He left in 1968 to take up a post at the University of Aberdeen. In 1975 he was appointed a Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and Director of the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine.

Dr French achieved an international reputation through his mastery of the intellectual history of pre-modern medicine. He was a prolific and wide-ranging author, in all writing eight major books and a large number of articles. He edited numerous books and gave encouragement to young continental historians just starting on their careers.

The practical projects he undertook emphasised his view that there was more to life than academia. He was an expert on cider and had at one time constructed a water mill on the Dee. The planting of a cider orchard was among his several practical achievements, and his book, The History of Virtues of Cyder, is a valuable reference for anyone embarking on cider-making.

His last book, Medicine Before Science, had been completed and accepted for publication by Cambridge University Press just a few days before his death. It will be published later this year.

He leaves a wife, Anne, and three children.

Mrs Barbara Roberts
Barbara Roberts, who retired from her University post in 1987, died on Monday, June 17.

Mrs Roberts joined the University as a Senior Clerk in the Faculty of the Social Sciences Office in March 1977. In July 1978 she was appointed to an additional part-time post in the Department of Archaeology, and in October 1980 she was promoted to the grade of Principal Clerk. She retired in 1987.

Her funeral took place in Loughborough on June 25. Donations in her memory may be made to the Cancer Care Project, made payable to Alpine House Surgery – who cared for her throughout her illness – and sent c/o H Towell, Funeral Directors, 5 Danvers Road, Mountsorrel, Leicestershire LE12 7JG.

Professor Peter J Armour
Professor Peter Armour, previously a Lecturer in the Department of Italian at the University of Leicester from October 1972 until he resigned in September 1979 to take up a post at Bedford College, University of London, died on the evening of Tuesday, June 18, aged 61.

Peter’s years in Leicester were very happy ones, characterised by a broad range of activities which brought him many and lasting friendships. Peter assisted in the establishment of the BA Single Honours in Italian and the three-language Modern Language Studies degree, and helped to develop the participation of Italian in Combined Arts and as a supplementary subject.

Though his specialist area was Dante, he also lectured on a wide range of other topics and authors from medieval lyric poetry through Renaissance Florence to nineteenth and twentieth century prose fiction, as well as sharing in language teaching and taking a full share of departmental administration.

He was a regular and active contributor to the Adult Education programme at Vaughan College, lecturing on Dante’s Divine Comedy and also on Galileo.

The quality of Professor Armour’s doctoral thesis – completed in 1980 – was recognised by its subsequent publication by Oxford University Press, soon afterwards (The Door of Purgatory: A study of multiple symbolism in Dante’s ‘Purgatorio’, 1983). The Purgatorio continued to be one of the main focuses of Peter’s research, especially in his second monograph on the last section of the second cantica – Dante’s ‘Griffin and the History of the World. A study of the Earthly Paradise (Oxford, 1989).’

Alongside his research on Dante, Peter also worked on Michelangelo and in particular the interpretation of Michelangelo’s statue of Moses, designed for the tomb of Pope Julius II. This was the subject of his inaugural lecture, and of several publications which it was his intention to gather together in a single volume, but it was also a topic that proved very popular with lay audiences, with its combination of clear and lucid scholarship, well chosen illustration and accessible presentation.

His five years at Bedford College in Regent’s Park, working for his old professor, Gianni Aquilecchia, were followed by five years at University College, before his appointment as Professor of Italian at Royal Holloway. After seven years as Head of Department and a further six as senior professor, Peter was looking forward to early retirement and the opportunity to devote himself full-time to his research. Sadly the cancer, first diagnosed early in 2001, returned this spring and proved incurable. Peter had an international reputation as a Dante scholar and was in demand all over the world as visiting lecturer and conference speaker. He was a popular speaker at meetings of the Dante Alighieri Society – one of his last public engagements was to return to Leicester in mid-April to lecture to members. Although already very weak from cancer, he refused to let down his faithful fan club.

Peter was easy to get on with and made friends readily with people of all ages and backgrounds. He enjoyed socialising in the senior common room and was a regular there in his days at Leicester, enjoying the company of colleagues of many different disciplines. Unfailingly kind and modest about his own achievements, but always ready to promote others, Peter was a wonderful colleague; he will be deeply missed in the world of Italian studies.

Jane Everson

* A full obituary on Professor Peter Armour, together with details of how to make a donation in his memory, appears in eBulletin at http://www.le.ac.uk/press/ebulletin/people/obituaryarmour.html.
THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RURAL SYSTEMS: Geographical Interpretations

Ian Bowler, Christopher Bryant and Christopher Cocklin (editors)
Available through the Bookshop

- Economy, society and environment comprise the three main dimensions of sustainable development but too often they are considered separately. This research monograph, by comparison, examines the interaction of the three dimensions in the context of rural systems, embracing a wide range of topics that includes globalisation and regulation in sustainable food production, the development of sustainable rural communities, and sustainable rural-urban interaction.

The fourteen chapters are written by an international team of geographers drawn from the International Geographical Union’s Commission on The Sustainability of Rural Systems. Together they summarise the basis of unsustainable rural development, the remedial policies being pursued, and evaluations of the policies. Rather than deal with generalisations, the analyses are illustrated by detailed case studies drawn from a variety of rural systems in developed countries.

The book shows how sustainable development is a social construction that varies both temporally and spatially. In particular there is an examination of the variation between and within national cultures in how human values and needs change with progress in socio-economic development, how authority, the political system and bureaucracies are perceived, and how individuals are valued. The authors link different cultural environments to the planning and management of sustainable development, including the management of adequate public input and involvement in the development process.

- Dr Bowler is a Professor in the Department of Geography. Drs Bryant and Cocklin are Professors of Geography in the Universities of Montreal and Monash respectively.

PUGIN-LAND: A W M Pugin, Lord Shrewsbury, and the Gothic Revival in Staffordshire

Michael Fisher
Michael J Fisher (publishing), March 2002, £14.95 (paperback), ISBN 0-9526855-3-1
Available through the Bookshop

- Michael Fisher’s love affair with Pugin began when he was a history undergraduate at the University of Leicester. Here he discovered Mount St Bernard Abbey, one of the early fruits of Pugin’s association with his life-long patron the Earl of Shrewsbury, and Grace Dieu, former home of the Catholic Ambrose Phillipps de Lisle. Returning to his native Staffordshire he explored afresh the remarkable number of buildings, both religious and secular, situated in a small enclave in the north of the county which was labelled by Pevsner Pugin-Land.

A commission to survey Pugin’s buildings at Alton Towers, the Shrewsbury family seat, resulted in a definitive account of its history in 1999. Now the author has set this ‘Gothic wonderland’ in the wider context of the Pugin/Shrewsbury contribution to the surrounding area. No less than thirteen of Pugin’s buildings exist within that part of North Staffordshire, and their history and characteristics are lovingly recounted. The jewel in the crown is the Catholic church of St Giles, Cheadle, Pugin’s textbook church, built according to the true principles of Christian architecture.

It was the only Pugin project outside nearby Alton not to be starved of money, and it became the flagship church for the new Spring dawning upon England’s Catholics.

A central chapter discusses the pivotal role of Lord Shrewsbury. But both Pugin and Shrewsbury died in 1852, and this book marks the 150th anniversary of that loss so keenly felt by contemporaries. It was left to their descendants to carry forward the torch of the Gothic Revival. Fisher surveys their contribution, especially that of Pugin’s eldest son, Edward, and there is also a chapter examining Pugin’s influence upon local Anglican church building, such as George Gilbert Scott’s St Mary’s, Stafford, and Bodley’s masterpiece at Hoar Cross. This extends to include even some prominent local Nonconformist churches, and in that wider context of the Gothic Revival, links with other local crafts such as encaustic tile-maker Minton and the traditional Staffordshire silk and embroidery designers. Pugin is once more in fashion, and this volume adds considerably to our appreciation of the apostle of nineteenth-century Gothic.

David Johnson

- Staffordshire-born priest and historian Michael Fisher is a University of Leicester graduate (BA History, 1964). He was secretary of the University’s History Society and Digby Hall Junior Common Room. After graduation, he went on to complete a PGCE course at Leicester. He is a former research scholar at the University of Keele. Author of several books on historical and architectural themes, his book, Alton Towers: A Gothic Wonderland, was reviewed in the Bulletin in November 1999.

‘Staffordshire …boasts what is arguably the finest array of Pugin buildings in the country.’

MICHAEL FISHER
IDENTITY OF ENGLAND

Robert Colls
Available through the Bookshop

Who are the English? Where did they come from? Where are they going?

Sixty years ago, George Orwell recognised the common culture and togetherness of the English people. No one can be so sure today. Since 1945 there has been a revolution in almost every aspect of national life – probably the most rapid and complete revolution in our modern history. Common knowledge of national history is weak but popular interest in the future of Englishness has never been so strong. In this fascinating new book, Robert Colls explores Englishness as an old and powerful idea, and points the way to future possibilities for twenty-first century England. This is a history of who they were, written from the perspective of the twenty-first century. It begins by considering how the English state identified an English nation which, from very early days, seems to have seen itself as not simply the creature of state or king. It considers also how in modern times the English nation survived shattering revolutions in technology, urban living, and global conflict, while at the same time retaining a softer, more human vision of themselves as a people in touch with their nature and their land. They claimed that there was more to living in England than work and wages, more to running a vast empire than just exploiting it. For all its faults and inequalities, they identified with their state. For all their shortcomings they were confident of their place in history.

As little as forty years ago, these ideas were not much in doubt. Though vague and often contradictory, they held together as the English people held together – as a whole. Indeed, ‘Englishness’ was hardly recognised as a subject for analysis, except perhaps in a rather ironic and self-mocking vein. But now ‘the national question’ is back and history is at the top of the agenda. From a rich store of historical memory and possibility, Robert Colls connects the identity of England in the past with the changing and uncertain identity of England today.

Dr Colls is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economic and Social History at the University of Leicester. He has written and co-edited several books on British history, including most recently Newcastle Upon Tyne, A Modern History (2001).

‘The English stand now in need of a new sense of identity and belonging – a reassessment of who they are.’

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