

Leicester Graduates' Review



SUMMER 2003

BA Festival of Science

University of Leicester Theatre

Bethnal Green to Bangkok

Sir David Attenborough

Voyages of Self-Discovery

A Rumble in the Jungle

At Home in the Antarctic

Homecoming 2003



University of
Leicester

GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION



***Ever wondered what happened to old friends?
Where are they and what are they doing?***



***Homecoming
Saturday, 21 June 2003***

Want to meet up with old friends, have a great day out and enjoy the campus in summer? Why not book now by using the enclosed registration form for the 2003 Homecoming?

If you have lost touch with members of your department or friends from your university days, we can help. We are not able to give out addresses without permission but we are happy to forward mail or get in touch with former friends on your behalf.

So that we can keep you up-to-date on events and new services, or perhaps forward a letter or news to a friend, we would like to know your current address, and e-mail.

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**University of
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GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION

Welcome

Welcome to the 2003 issue of the Leicester Graduates' Review.

The University of Leicester is entering an exciting period, in the fullest meaning of the word: *fascinating, exciting, remarkable*.

Each of these terms applies to the changes happening on campus, as the University grows and develops. In the opening article, the Vice-Chancellor gives us an insight into plans for the University's future and the proposed changes to the physical shape of the campus over the next 30 years. Construction cranes at the site of the new Biomedical building in Lancaster Road are just one symbol of the major expansion of Leicester's physical and intellectual resources.

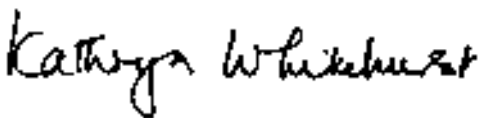
When we went to press last year, we were mid-way through a year of celebrations marking the University's 80th anniversary year. The year ended on a high with three royal visits and the hugely successful BA Festival of Science, held in Leicester for the fourth time since 1907. In addition to a new crop of students, the campus was buzzing with more than 9,000 visitors attending the 5-day Festival.

In autumn a new era began for Medicine when Alan Milburn, MP, officially opened Leicester Warwick Medical Schools. In our *In Person* section, Professor Sir Peter Bell, Foundation Professor of Surgery, reflects on his 30-year career since the beginnings of the University of Leicester Medical School in 1973 and describes the changes that have taken place in surgery over the years.

Travelling is broadening, so they say, and as always we bring you news of your fellow graduates. The common thread to their features is a desire to travel, acquire new skills and experiences and take on new challenges – whether it is training for a medical assignment in Antarctica, honing language skills in Guiana, learning to sail or teaching drama in Thailand.

The organisers of *Homecoming* hope a lot of you will soon be travelling. If you're coming back to Leicester, you'll not only be able to see old friends, but choose from a mix of social and academic activities on offer throughout the day.

It has been a terrific year and we hope many of you will join us on 21 June. Stay in touch!



Kathryn J. Whitehurst
(BA Combined Studies, 1970)

Credits

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The opinions expressed in the features are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views held by the University.

From the Vice-Chancellor

Dear Leicester Graduates,

► I am delighted to have this opportunity to write the first of a series of regular articles in your magazine. We now have over 65,000 graduates of the University. We are very proud of you and I am always delighted to hear of your achievements. Equally I know many of you look forward to hearing about the achievements of the University and the challenges and opportunities that are available; especially in a year marked by the publication of the Government's White Paper on Higher Education which I am sure will have a far reaching influence on universities including Leicester.

Many of you remark that the physical shape of our campus has changed little over the years. We believe this is a formative period for the University when we need to provide an appropriate infrastructure for the work of staff and students. We engaged the architects Shephard, Epstein, Hunter to assist us in establishing a Development Plan. The task has been to plan boldly and to think about the appropriate shape of the University over the next thirty years. Our Development Plan envisages some £300 million worth of capital development over the next thirty years. Already we have started by re-conceptualizing the academic site with developments on north campus (previously the satellite campus in Salisbury Road, Regent Road and other adjacent streets), the central campus in University Road and the south campus (Freemens Common and Nixon Court). This year we have engaged in over £60 million worth of building with the development of a Bio-medical building in Lancaster Road, a Mathematical Modelling Centre and the refurbishment of laboratory facilities for Chemistry and Archaeology. On our Oadby estate we intend to promote the concept of a student village and to redevelop the halls. We are currently planning to rebuild Villiers Hall with 600 en-suite study bedrooms based around a design of grand pavilions.

This will provide Leicester students with state-of-the-art facilities.

This is essential for Leicester to maintain its place as one of the UK's top 20 institutions (a place it now holds in the media league tables created by *The Financial Times* and the *Sunday Times*). However, we need to continually develop and enhance our performance in research, teaching and learning.

This year we are delighted that the Department of Genetics has won the Queen's Anniversary Award for Higher and Further Education. This award has been given to twenty institutions. Our entry was associated with research and teaching; the discovery of DNA genetic finger printing techniques that has transformed criminal investigation, research on the genetic effects of radiation following the Chernobyl disaster and the effects of genetic makeup on health and illness. However, our entry also focussed on the department's role in teaching as well as research as it is essential to train future generations of researchers and students and to make a significant contribution to the public understanding of science. Our winning entry therefore exhibited many of the fundamental contributions made by the department at Leicester.

In the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise 84% of our staff had their work graded at national and international levels; several staff have won significant prizes and fellowships in their research field and the research grant and contract income has improved significantly. Indeed, in the year ending 2001 we raised £33 million in research grants and contracts while in 2002

this has risen to £46 million – a figure that puts Leicester in the top 10 institutions in the UK for the generation of research income for each full-time equivalent member of staff.

Similarly, Leicester holds a leading position on the provision of teaching and learning. In the last three years 18 departments have had their teaching quality judged as excellent against national standards, the proportion of first and upper second class honours degrees awarded to our students has increased and the University has been placed in the top 5 institutions in the UK for student retention.

These achievements all contribute to our fundamental belief that high quality research and high quality teaching are essential. Indeed, we believe that the research – teaching – learning relationship is unique to a university and distinguishes it from other educational institutions. On this matter we take issue with the White Paper that suggests the two are separate.

But universities also need to engage in broadening access and widening participation so that students drawn from different sections of society can participate in our success. Certainly, Leicester meets and exceeds its benchmarks in these areas with high levels of student recruitment (88% from state schools). Indeed, it is our policy to take the very best students into our programmes regardless of their education and social background. We recruit large numbers of students internationally, nationally and locally. We also contribute to education and the economy in our locality with the development of our Colleges-University of

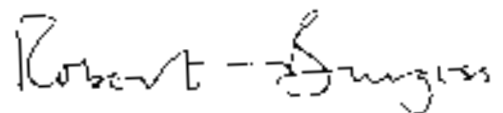
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Leicester Network that brings together 14 institutions through our Institute of Lifelong Learning which offers certificates, diplomas, continuing professional development and Foundation Degrees. We have been delighted to develop the new Foundation Degree and were among those institutions invited by government to establish prototype programmes in educational studies for classroom teaching assistants and security and risk management. It is these programmes that are to be joined by a new Foundation Degree in Health and Illness in April. Certainly, we are constantly developing new programmes. This autumn will see the launch of over sixty joint honours degrees in the Arts and Social Sciences that will be available instead of the 'Combined Studies' programmes with which many of you will be familiar (although this programme will still be available to those students who do not want a specifically named degree).


Many of these new initiatives contribute to developing Leicester as a dynamic University in the 21st Century. In the last year we achieved a £3.5 million surplus (the first time a surplus had been achieved in seven years). We need to continue to develop in this way by establishing links with research foundations and major donors who will help us to develop the University. If you have ideas about who we should contact for contributions that can be made I shall be delighted to hear from you. Together we can build upon the strengths of the University of Leicester.

With best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,



**Professor Robert Burgess,
Vice-Chancellor**



Plans were laid for the development of the University over the next 30 years. (Above) Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Burgess at the site of the new £20m Biomedical Sciences building; (right) a 3D rendering of the future campus developments.

Rare books

► Rare books dating back to the 15th Century are now accessible online, thanks to a recent University of Leicester Library project.

Some of the books that are now available online include a unique collection of approximately 300 Bibles dating from the 15th to 20th centuries, and a near perfect copy of the Nuremberg Chronicle, by Hartmann Schedel.

The Rare Books Collection is housed in a secure Special Collections Room, and can be viewed by appointment in the Special Collections Reading Room.



Degree double for Bishop and daughter

► Both the Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Rev'd Tim Stevens and his 24-year old daughter, Rachel, received degrees from the University of Leicester in February. The Bishop was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters and Rachel received her MSc in Social Research. Rachel's dissertation was about Race Relations in Leicester.

How to climb your family tree

► In response to the huge surge of interest in family history, the University of Leicester is breaking new ground in the city and county by offering people the means to help them find their ancestors. A block of six double-sessions devoted to *Skills in Family History* is to be the linking theme of the forthcoming two-year Certificate Course in Local History at Vaughan College, part of the University's Institute of Lifelong Learning.

Students will gain the know-how to pick up traces of their ancestors in a wide range of sources, beginning with civil, church and chapel registers of births, deaths and marriages, and moving on to probate records, including wills and inventories. Census records will also be explored, as well as military and colonial records.

University of Leicester, an 'outstanding performer', says *Financial Times*

► The *Sunday Times University Guide*, published on September 15, 2002, places Leicester as one of the top three places to study in the Midlands and 17th in terms of English universities.

The *Sunday Times* states "A low dropout rate and an unbroken four-year run of subjects rated excellent for teaching quality have lifted Leicester further into the top 20 of our league table." Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Burgess said: "The fact that we have risen further in the *Sunday Times* league table is a testament to the hard work put in by colleagues. This is a terrific result for the University and it is heartening to see that the *Sunday Times* has identified Leicester as an institution 'challenging for the top 10'. This is not simply an aspiration – it is our ambition." The profile highlights the excellence of genetics and space research at Leicester and comments on the fast-track medical degree and foundation degrees.

Any Questions? returns to Leicester

► The popular BBC Radio 4 panel programme *Any Questions?* paid a return visit to the University on 22 November. The panel included: Robin Cook, MP; Susan Kramer a business and financial consultant; Alex Salmond of the Scottish National Party and Kenneth Clarke, MP. *Any Questions?* was chaired by Jonathan Dimbleby and is heard by around 1.5 million people each week. The programme first came to the University in 1997 when it broadcast to a full house in the Fraser Noble Hall.

Royal award for Genetics achievements

► The University of Leicester has been selected as a winner of the Queen's Anniversary Prize, the second time in less than a decade that it has achieved this distinction. The University is to be honoured by Her Majesty The Queen for its world-renowned achievements in Genetics – the only 5-star rated Genetics Department in the UK (Research Assessment Exercise 2001).

Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Burgess said: "This is a terrific achievement for the University of Leicester and speaks volumes for the strength and depth of Genetics at Leicester. We have recently launched an Institute of Genetics, which brings together more than 250 researchers from across the University with the Department of Genetics at its centre. It is a marvellous achievement for the University which has won the Queen's Anniversary Prize twice in the five rounds of the award."

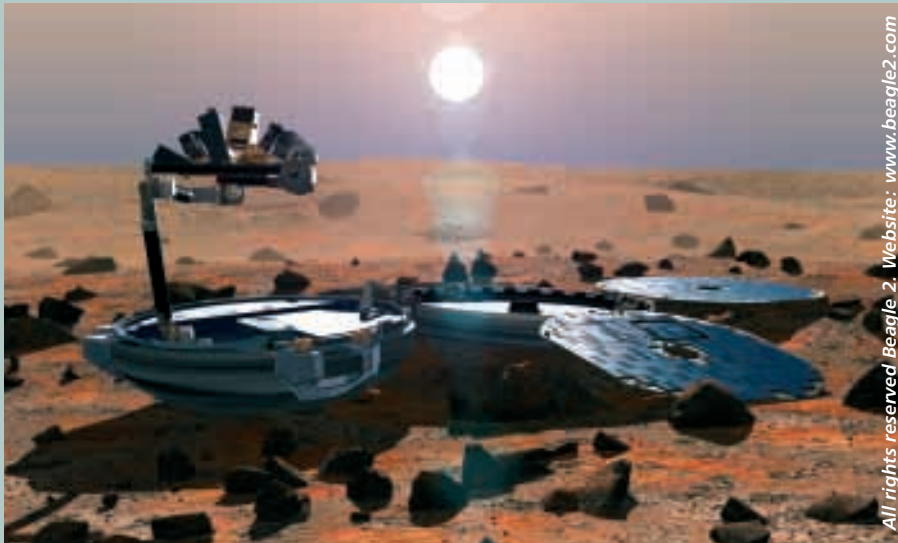


THE QUEEN'S
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES
2002



Woman in control

► The first female Professor of Engineering at the University gave her inaugural lecture entitled "Control – Magic or Mirage?" in January. Professor Sarah Spurgeon focussed on what it is like to be a woman in the male dominated world of control engineering – an area in which she is able to apply her traditional background in mathematics to solving real world problems. She is a rare breed: in Engineering and Technology, women in the UK hold only two and a half per cent of professorships.



Ready to dig the dirt on Mars

► The University has successfully completed construction and test of the flight Model PAW, the “eyes and hand” of the Beagle 2 Mars lander. The Beagle 2 project aims to send a UK-led lander to Mars in December 2003 as part of the European Space Agency’s Mars Express Mission, due for launch at the end of May 2003.

The robotic lander, controlled remotely from Earth, will sample the soil, rocks and atmosphere of Mars in its search for signs of past and present life. In addition it will examine the detailed geology and environment of the landing site (Isidis Planitia). The Beagle 2 probe is named after *HMS Beagle*, the ship in which Charles Darwin sailed.

End of an era in Physics and Astronomy

► Two hundred and fifteen years of service to the University of Leicester were marked in September, when the Department of Physics and Astronomy celebrated the achievements of seven members of its academic staff who were either retiring or changing roles.

The seven staff are: Professor Ken Pounds (42 years service), Professor of Space Physics, and former Head of Department, who will stay on in a research capacity; Professor John Beeby (30 years service), Professor of Theoretical Physics; Professor Ted Davis (22 years service), Professor of Experimental Physics; Professor David Llewellyn-Jones (9 years service), Professor of Earth Observation Science; Dr Brin Cooke (40 years service), Senior Lecturer; Dr Ted Thomas (35 years service), Lecturer; Dr Emyr Evans (37 years service), Sub-Dean, Faculty of Science.

Speaking of the Department’s achievements, Professor Ken Pounds said: “As the most fundamental of the sciences it is essential for any leading university to teach and research in Physics. Combining with Astronomy, as we did in 1986, increased the breadth of our work and strengthened our student base. Leicester now has one of the top 10 Departments of Physics in the UK.”



Alan Milburn MP opens Medical Schools

► In October 2002, Alan Milburn, MP, Secretary of State for Health, officially opened Leicester Warwick Medical Schools – set to become one of the largest medical schools in the UK.

By educating more than 656 undergraduate and postgraduate students each year by 2004 the innovative partnership between two leading universities, Leicester and Warwick, promises to help modernise the health service, cut waiting lists and significantly enhance the standard of health care available to patients in Coventry, Warwickshire and Leicestershire. The Medical Schools will eventually qualify 164 doctors each year, and many new graduates will take up posts in the Midlands’ hospitals, clinics, surgeries and laboratories.

A growing tribute

► In September 2002, the University of Leicester Harold Martin Botanic Garden received a donation of trees and shrubs in memory of the late Bennett Professor, Peter Sylvester-Bradley and his wife Joan Sylvester-Bradley, who died earlier in the year.

Professor Sylvester-Bradley, described as “a charismatic and inspirational scientist” was the first Professor of Geology at the University. His wife, who shared his love of fossils, was also passionate about gardening. Many of the donated species represented plants that were formerly present in north-western Europe, but which became extinct after the onset of the ice-ages about 1.5 million years ago.



Figure of Eight

► Graduates who were at the University in the 1970s will remember Henry Moore’s “Figure of 8” that stood in front of the Fielding Johnson building. Dr Mohamed Ramady, BA Social Sciences, 1972 reminds us of it in this photo with his son Faisal in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia where the statue is currently on loan.

Sir Peter Bell – life and works

Knighted in 2002 for services to surgery, Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, President of the Surgical Research Society, Founder and President of the European Society for Vascular Surgery, Editor of the European Journal of Vascular Surgery, President of the Vascular Surgical Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Professor Sir Peter Bell, FRCS, MD, has been at the University of Leicester Medical School since its beginning in 1973, when he came as Foundation Professor of Surgery at the young age of 34. Below he writes about the course his life has taken and how surgery has changed over the years.

► My life started off in India, where my father was posted in the army. When Independence came in 1948 we moved to Sheffield. I must have missed a lot of the education syllabus, because I didn't pass the 11 Plus, and went to Marlcliffe, one of the secondary modern schools in the district which fortunately did O Levels.

It was a very good mixed school, the boys and girls all learned cookery and woodwork, so as well as getting nine O Levels I also learned to cook, and make furniture and have been doing both ever since.

I had always wanted to do surgery, so I went on to High Storrs Grammar School to get A and S Levels. In spite of an offer from Cambridge, I decided to go to Sheffield University and stay in the city where I had many good friends. It was a decision I never regretted and still keep in touch with those friends today.

You have to have a role model

Towards the end of the medical course in Sheffield most of the students had, in a variety of ways, arranged their house jobs. I was too naive or too busy having a good time to realise that one had to do this and about six months before the exams I realised I was about the only person who didn't have a house job arranged. Only two posts had not been allocated, one was surgical and belonged to the Professor of Surgery. He usually gave this to the person in the year getting the best marks in surgery. This being the case I stopped having a good time, read a lot, got a distinction in surgery and got that job. I graduated with honours in 1961.

You have to have a role model and



Professor Andrew Kaye – later Sir Andrew – was a very good role model for me. He was an excellent surgeon, a nice person and appropriately authoritarian and supportive.

In 1963, when I had passed the FRCS, I followed him to Glasgow, where I began to take an interest in transplantation and vascular surgery. At that time it was a new research area, with good opportunities for a young surgeon. I started the vascular and transplantation services in Glasgow, before receiving a Medical Research Council scholarship in 1967 to spend a year in America working with Tom Starzl on liver transplantation.

The challenge attracted me... our only equipment was a kettle

The post in the new Leicester Medical School was advertised in 1973. Compared with Glasgow it was deprived of resources. However, the challenge attracted me. The University took a risk in appointing such a young professor and offered me the job.

At first I worked in a semi-detached house at the Leicester General Hospital, which I shared with the late Professor John Swales, Foundation Professor of Medicine.

Our only equipment was a kettle and we built the department up from that, with lots of good people helping along the way.

The most important thing is to bring on the next generation

The key to success was picking the right people to help and teaching them what I knew. The most important thing one can do is to bring on the next generation. As a department I am proud that we have blossomed and produced so many professors – some of them were initially only doing research to further their career.

My research has mainly been in transplantation and vascular surgery, embracing most aspects of both in the laboratory and the ward. As clinical researchers we are here to improve the quality of health care and take laboratory discoveries to the patient to improve their situation, so-called translational research. Patients do trust their doctors and we mustn't let them down. Research must be ethical and patients must know what is happening before they take part.

Medical education in this country has evolved

Looking back over the years, medical education in this country has evolved, with a lot more emphasis on communication, which is a good thing. However, I worry that there is not enough priority given to knowledge and treatment. I also think the Government's Research Assessment Exercise is a disaster. In medicine it has encouraged molecular work with a few spin-offs for patients and has led to a dearth of academics. I fear there will be a price to pay for this in the long term and



The new Leicester Medical School was deprived of resources... however, the challenge attracted me. Our only equipment was a kettle and we built the department up from that.

clinical research will suffer even further.

An international reputation

Here at Leicester I think we have been going in the right direction. However, because of the RAE, pressure is being exerted to change towards laboratory dominated research departments. Again I think this will be regretted in the future. We have an international reputation in vascular surgery and transplantation and have expanded the professorial base in

surgery. Because of this we have visitors from all parts of the world and I hope the changes that are mooted will not alter this.

I was pleased that the Knighthood was for services to surgery, because it pays tribute to all the people who work here in Leicester. It is rare for provincial hospitals to be recognised in this way and so it is good for the Medical School and the Hospitals here.

My family is very important to me. I have a very supportive wife who gave up

her own career so that I could make the most of mine. We have three children, who all left Leicester and then came back, so we see our six grandchildren frequently.

Retirement plans include Disneyland

I retire in September 2003 and my retirement projects revolve around my grandchildren, but I also plan to continue some medical legal work, oil painting, learning the clarinet, improving my cooking and carpentry skills, travelling for pleasure where I've previously travelled for work purposes. This would seem to be enough to keep me occupied for another lifetime.

I've already booked the first retirement project. I'm taking all my grandchildren to Disneyland in Florida next year.

Continued on next page...

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Surgery then and now

Professor Sir Peter Bell discusses the troubled inception of the Leicester Medical School, advances in surgical practice, and the future of medical research.

► When I came to Leicester in January 1974 the country was in the grip of a financial crisis. Harold Wilson had made his famous comment about the pound in your pocket following devaluation and the international monetary fund had visited us with strict rules about our economy.

The medical school at Leicester was the third of three new schools that the Government had financed. Southampton and Nottingham preceded us. The school here was almost cancelled because of the financial crisis but because the buildings were advanced it was allowed to continue in a reduced form. Ever since that time Leicester has been a smaller school than its two predecessors and has produced medical students on fewer resources.

Pioneering medical courses

The intake of students was 50 in 1975 and they were exposed to a new curriculum which contained for the first time a general practice option called *Man in Society*. At that time we had one of the first Chairs in general practice in the country occupied by Marshal Marinker, which became a standard for other medical schools to follow.

In the last six months of the curriculum students were allowed to choose a subject and play the part of a shadow house doctor, another novelty which other schools have now followed. At that time surgery was very general, specialisation didn't really exist and administration was minimal with one hospital secretary looking after the entire Infirmary.

In 1979 Mrs Thatcher came to power and the 80s saw many changes. Although the teaching and curriculum remained unchanged and we produced many good doctors, hospital structure changed and Trusts were established



breaking up the Leicester Hospitals into three separate entities.

The first human islet transplantations for diabetes

Surgical specialisation became established with specialities such as urology, colorectal surgery and vascular surgery together with transplantation. Leicester performed the first human islet transplantations for diabetes and a high profile vascular service became a reality. At this time we also moved from a small department at the General Hospital to the Clinical Sciences Building at the Infirmary.

In the third decade Mrs Thatcher's research assessment exercise began to have some detrimental effects on the University research profile which have since been addressed and improved. Several Chairs in surgery were established including transplantation, cardiac surgery, towards the end of the decade urology, to add to those of orthopaedics and vascular surgery. The reputation of the vascular and transplant service became

international and the medical student curriculum changed in line with the GMC recommendations.

Finally the liaison with Warwick has formed the Leicester Warwick Medical Schools. Also, in this decade surgery changed to keyhole surgery with a trend towards less invasive operations becoming established.

Leicester looking to a strong future

What of the future? University research will continue to get stronger, the curriculum will change and the course become shorter. We will also choose future doctors from a variety of backgrounds not just science. As for surgery, specialisation will increase and surgeons will do fewer operations, probably better, with smaller and smaller incisions and shorter stays in hospital.

Over the last three decades the University of Leicester and the Medical School have progressed from frail beginnings to a strong institution with an excellent future.



(Top row and main) The Earl and Countess of Wessex; (bottom row) Prince Michael of Kent.
(Below) The Duke of Kent.

University hosts three royal visits

► Three visits from members of the Royal Family to the University of Leicester in the space of a month was a magnificent finale to a year of celebrations for the University's 80th anniversary.

Their Royal Highnesses The Earl and Countess of Wessex visited the University of Leicester's Richard Attenborough Centre during September, where they met members of staff and students before viewing an exhibition of some of the art produced in the Centre.

They also listened to a drumming workshop and watched a short dance programme. They chatted to artists in the art studio and admired an exhibition of paintings and sculpture.

Dr Eleanor Hartley, Director of the Richard Attenborough Centre, said: "We are delighted that the Earl and Countess of Wessex expressed an interest in our work, and we were very pleased that students and staff were able to meet them."

His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent also visited the University of Leicester's Scarman Centre during September.

The Scarman Centre's international

reputation in the academic study of business crime is what attracted Prince Michael of Kent to make the visit. He himself plays a prominent and supportive role in the security world as the British Secretary of the Industry Association.

Professor Martin Gill, former Director of the Scarman Centre noted that: "The Prince has been a big supporter of the security world, especially abroad, and we are delighted by the interest he has shown in our work. Security issues are at the forefront of public and business concern since September 11th, it is important we find new ways of dealing with new and old security problems."

During October **His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent** also visited the University of Leicester Departments of Engineering and Genetics.

Professor Ian Postlethwaite, Head of the Department of Engineering, said: "This has been an excellent year for the Department of Engineering with several important achievements in research. It will be a pleasure to show His Royal Highness some of our activities and for him to open our new laboratories."

Dr Annette Cashmore, Head of the Department of Genetics, said: "The Department of Genetics continues to be at the forefront of research and this year there have been some major new developments both in our research and teaching programmes. His Royal Highness will be meeting with staff and students and seeing some of these developments."





The BA Festival of Science

► This was the fourth time that the BA has held its annual conference in Leicester, the previous years being 1907, 1933 and 1972. It was also the biggest event of its type ever to be held at the University, and its resounding success will be remembered for many years to come.

The statistics of the event are impressive in themselves. A total of some 4,283 delegates attended the main part of the Festival and a further 4,555 youngsters, teachers and presenters participated in the 228 events that constituted the British Association of Young Scientists (BAYS) programme, making a final tally of almost 9,000 visitors to the campus during the five days. All 16 Subject Sections of the BA contributed to the main programme, which included over 400 lectures and a host of workshops, films, panel sessions and informal meetings.

The BAYS Programme

Over 1,000 children were decanted from

One of the highlights of the University's 80th anniversary celebrations was the British Association for the Advancement of Science's (BA) Festival of Science held at Leicester between 9–13 September 2002.

coaches on each of the four BAYS days, from as far away as Sheffield and Boston in Lincolnshire. Fortunately, the weather was kind – in spite of a torrential downpour during the opening Degree Congregation – so that the campus took on a Brueghelesque feel, with knots of youngsters munching picnics; testing bicarbonate of soda rockets; and flying cardboard aeroplanes in the bright sunshine.

A whole host of messy, noisy but hugely enjoyable and enthralling activities took place. Formal demonstration lectures including 'Exploding custard', attracted audiences of over 300 a time, while smaller workshops, such as 'Meccano modelling', 'Magnificent materials', and 'How do volcanoes work?' were designed for groups

of 12 and 18 youngsters. In addition, approximately 1,500 16–19 year-old students registered to attend lectures and seminars within the main BA programme.

One of the highlights of the BAYS programme was a stunning display on the ecology of birds of prey – 'Eagle Heights'. Eight different species, including an American Bald Eagle, with a 2-metre wingspan, flew freely around the Queen's Hall, often only a few centimetres above the heads of the spellbound audiences. As one teacher remarked "It was so good the children forgot to misbehave!"

The main programme

President of the BA, Sir Howard Newby, Chief Executive of the Higher Education

Funding Council and a noted social scientist, opened the Festival.

Throughout the Festival audiences listened, questioned and discussed and the media filed copy and broadcast their interviews. All week broadsheets and popular press were full of intriguing headlines, – ‘Lie-detector tests on paedophiles “unreliable”’, ‘Wild plants flourish in growing economy’, ‘Tower blocks and Indian monsoon cast cloud over weather’, ‘Would ewe believe it, sheep can remember!’, ‘Ancestor was deft but very forgetful’ and ‘Chickens’ stock rises on intelligence tests’.

Some significant Leicester-based stories that appeared in the press included:

Professor Mike Barer of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology signalled the beginning of the pay-off in genetic technology for the control of infectious diseases with a new rapid test for tuberculosis, used during the 2001 outbreak of tuberculosis among 300 pupils at Crown Hills Community College in Leicester. The outbreak spread so widely because it took 10 months for a boy of 14, thought to have asthma, to be correctly diagnosed using the traditional tubercular skin test.

Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys’ views on DNA typing the entire UK population to fight crime, resulted in a flurry of press stories. He outlined how heritable mutations, until recently only detectable when they cause disease, can now be identified by completely different approaches, such as analysing single human sperm. He also told how these new mutation-monitoring systems could be used to investigate the genetic consequences of environmental agents on the frequency of heritable mutations in humans – in particular in people exposed to radiation, such as the fallout from the Chernobyl disaster.

Leicester Psychologist, Lorraine Sheridan, produced a ‘typology’ of stalkers which also caused significant press interest. She classified stalkers into four categories, which had helped investigators understand the motivations behind stalking.

Research by Professor David Rowbotham and his colleagues in the University’s

Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Management demonstrated that disease characteristics and biomechanical demands at work are less important in long-term absence from work and unemployment due to pain than psychosocial factors.

Leicester Archaeologists Professors Graeme Barker and David Mattingly examined the quality of life in the desert – and produced evidence of good living in ancient Rome’s distant quarries.

The media is particularly addicted to sex and Professor Siveter and colleagues from the Department of Geology told delegates that sex was first recognised in the fossil record in rocks more than 500 million years old, testimony that the fun and games began a long, long time ago!

Benefits & conclusion

The Festival attracted a number of distinguished visitors to the campus, including: Lord Sainsbury, Minister for Science and Technology, a major sponsor of the BA; the Right Honourable Patricia

One of the highlights was a stunning display on the ecology of birds of prey. As one teacher remarked, “It was so good the children forgot to misbehave!”

Hewitt, MP, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry; Baroness Catherine Ashton, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Early Years and School Standards; Professor David King, the Government’s Chief Scientific Advisor; Lord Habgood, the Former Archbishop of York; and Sir David Attenborough was ‘in conversation’ with John Snow, the TV presenter. In addition, a special Congregation was held, at which the President of the BA (2001-02), Sir Howard Newby, received an Honorary DLitt, and Peter Briggs, the retiring Chief Executive of the BA (1990-2002) received an Honorary DSc. In his response, Sir Howard said: “This Vice-Chancellor is leading this University into a new era of excellence, it is a University on the move on all fronts – it is a University I am sure that will continue to develop in the future.”

By hosting the Festival we have undoubtedly raised the profile of the



University of Leicester both nationally and internationally. We are also confident that we have sown positive seeds in the minds of the thousands of BAYS students, which should bear abundant fruit in terms of undergraduate recruitment for many years to come.

Judging by the host of letters we have received, the Festival was a resounding success. We fielded a magnificent Leicester team who gave more than 100 per cent throughout. Although extremely hard work, it was hugely rewarding and great fun! As Mick, one of the porters in the Bennett Building remarked: “You were right, last week was great. Are we doing it again next year?” “Maybe in 2030”, was the reply.

*Professor John Holloway, OBE,
Chair of the Local Organising Committee*

*Dr Johnathan Young,
Local Organising Secretary*



► The Attenborough Theatre is no more.

After some 30 years of hosting the work of Leicester University Theatre (LUT), the home of student theatre (otherwise affectionately known to the University Estates Office as “LG2”) was closed, restructured, and re-opened as a 150-seater film viewing facility for the new degree course in Film Studies and the Visual Arts.

In March 2002, LUT – with a characteristic combination of aplomb and disregard for taste/sense of occasion – said farewell to its old home with a rousing production of David Mamet’s *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*.

Conscious of the value of student theatre in the University community and beyond, however, the University proceeded to invest £180,000 in refurbishing the Queen’s Hall (Percy Gee Building) as a new theatre venue, and LUT opened the new theatre on 7th November 2002 with a gala production of *Henry V*, attended by an invited audience of local bigwigs (and a few aging LUT veterans, who were reluctantly persuaded to leave their big wigs and toupees at home).

End of a thEatra

After thirty years, the LUT said farewell to its home in the Attenborough building and stepped back onto centre stage in the Queen’s Hall. Theatre Manager Dr Roger Scoppie reflects on past successes and new opportunities.



LUT was initially, and understandably, unreceptive to the notion of relocation from the scene of its former triumphs (and – let’s be frank – the odd flop as well). But the experience of working in the new Queen’s Hall, and the warm response of the audience did much to persuade doubters that the new theatre offered fresh opportunities for revitalising University drama.

Those of us who, in previous incarnations, had been involved in shows in the Queen’s Hall before, could remember that it had previously been used very successfully as a theatre venue. My own first experience of treading the boards at the University took place under the wing of

the Choral Society, which, in the 1970s, used to stage an annual Gilbert & Sullivan production in the Queen's Hall under the direction of David Hughes (Law) and David Johnson (History) – shows that were put together in 10 days after the Summer exams: a production timetable which present LUT members find difficult to credit. I myself had directed G&S productions in-the-round in the Queen's Hall, and knew that – given the right facilities – it offered a far greater flexibility of performance/audience space than the Attenborough. The latter, with its low-level pros-arch and small fixed-rake auditorium, was ideally suited to intimate, “studio” style productions – but other forms of theatre were difficult or impossible.

With a view to realising the potential of the Queen's Hall as a theatre, the University has installed a new lighting frame, 10 by 12 metres, suspended from the ceiling of the main body of the hall on an electronic winch. This can be used either to light the pros arch stage from the auditorium, or – with lanterns attached on all four sides of the frame and pointing in and down – to light an area on the floor of the Hall for performances in-the-round, or traverse, or thrusting from the main stage. The stage itself has been fitted with new lighting bars, the tab curtains have been replaced (Oxford blue rather than Artery red) and a new Technical Box has been built below the balcony stage right, from which the technical crew operates the sound and light for the production.

Although the main stage looks larger than the Attenborough Theatre stage, this is a visual effect of the higher pros arch – the performing area is roughly the same (the wings are noticeably smaller). Nevertheless, the higher stage roof and the larger auditorium (capacity is at least twice that of the Attenborough) meant that the stage lights from the old theatre couldn't be re-deployed to the Queen's Hall. So the University has re-equipped LUT with 50 new lights (for the techies among you, a mix of Fresnels, Pars, and 36° Profiles). As it happens, the suppliers checked out the old Attenborough lights and declared that only seven items in the 30-year-old stock were re-usable – raising interesting questions about how long University theatre facilities would

have survived into the new millennium without the incentive and resources which the Queen's Hall move prompted.

With its larger auditorium – and located, as it is, at the Student Union's main entrance and thoroughfare – the new venue gives an opportunity for theatre events to assume a much higher profile within the University community. LUT itself has been ambitious to promote wider awareness of University theatre in recent years: taking part in festivals at Edinburgh and Vilnius (Lithuania), and the Shakespeare Marathon (in which LUT performed all Shakespeare plays, round the clock, non-stop, over five days in May 2000). The move to the Queen's Hall unquestionably entails new problems – storage areas in the Percy Gee Building are difficult to come by and hotly contested, and LUT has to compete for Queen's Hall bookings after decades of having a night-shrouded Attenborough Theatre to itself.

But one resource that LUT has never been short of is motivation, and I am confident that it will adapt itself to its new surroundings and will test and prove its new theatre with innovative and imaginative productions, ensuring a continuance of its own role as an essential and highly-valued player in the University community.

Two final points: reading this account of the move to the Queen's Hall may prompt memories of your own involvement in theatre at the University, either with LUT,

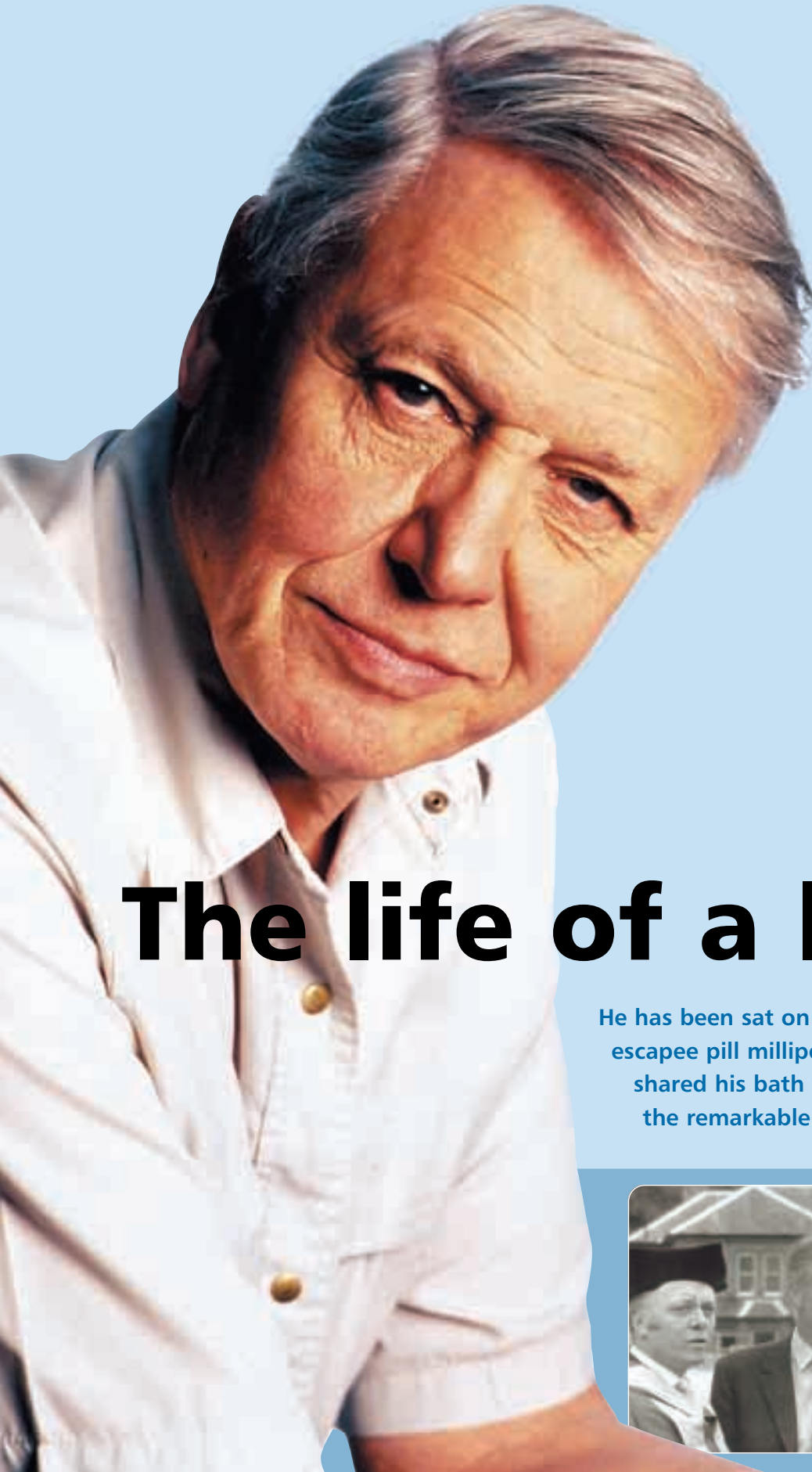
the Choral Society G&S productions, the Revue and Theatre Society (RATS), or some other performing society. I have it in mind to collect recollections and records of productions over the years and to put together a history of Theatre at the University for (no doubt, limited) publication. This would give future students (who often tend to have only a three-year window on the subject) some sense of the tradition in which they are participating and, hopefully, enhancing. May I take this opportunity to invite readers of this piece to e-mail me at spr@leicester.ac.uk or write to me, care of the Graduate Relations Office, if they feel they might be able to contribute any material to this project (albeit only a list of plays performed when they were at Leicester – record archives are not a common feature of student theatre, at least not at the institutional level).

Finally, I cannot end without gratefully recording the contribution made by Professor Will Light, Pro-Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for accommodation, who played an enormous part in ensuring that – although leaving their familiar and well-loved stage in the Attenborough – students would have, in the Queen's Hall, a theatre to be proud of and which would more than fulfil their needs and expectations. Sadly and shockingly, Will died only a month after attending the opening night of the new Queen's Hall theatre. With his departure, we have lost a good friend.

One resource that LUT has never been short of is motivation.



(Main, left) *Henry V* was the first production staged in Queen's Hall as LUT's new home; (inset, left) *Little Shop of Horrors*; (inset, above) *Stepping Out*



► A household name to generations of television viewers after more than 50 years of broadcasting, Sir David Attenborough came to Leicester in February to deliver the annual Graduates' Association Lecture *Discovery and the Camera* at Leicester's De Montfort Hall before an audience of students, graduates and the Leicester public.

Sir David is no stranger to Leicester. His father was Frederick Attenborough, Principal of what was then the University College, between 1932-1950. During those years David grew up at College House with his two brothers, one of whom is Lord (Richard) Attenborough, film actor and director. His early interest in science blossomed during his boyhood, when he spent much of his spare time searching for fossils around Leicestershire.

Sir David met his wife of 47 years, Jane, on campus, where they were both students at Leicester. Jane studied dietetics and household sciences, while David went on to take a degree in natural sciences at Cambridge.

He has been delighting the public ever since his broadcasting career began in 1952, when he joined the BBC Television Talks Department at Alexandra Palace.

The life of a legend

He has been sat on by Elsa the lioness, chased 100 escapee pill millipedes round hotel corridors, and shared his bath with armadillos. A glimpse into the remarkable life of Sir David Attenborough.



Two years later he finally managed to persuade his bosses that he could film outside the studio, and indicated the direction he was moving in with the launch of *Zoo Quest*, a series which ran for ten years and took him around the world in his search for animals.

When he was not spending days – sometimes weeks – on long distance flights in uncomfortable (and by today's standards) primitive aircraft, his activities included political broadcasts, archaeological quizzes, short stories, gardening and religious programmes.

In 1965 he became Controller of BBC2, steering the channel through the advent of colour television in Britain. For the launch of this technological advance he employed no less than Picasso to design a logo and Stravinsky to compose the music (though Stravinsky died soon after and his commission was not completed).

Sir David's reign as Controller saw the introduction of programmes that have entered the nation's folklore, including Peter Cook and Dudley Moore's *Not Only... But Also*, *The Likely Lads*, *Call My Bluff*, and *Horizon*.

Four years later, in 1969, he became Director of Programmes, taking editorial responsibility for both BBC Television networks, but his great love has always been programme-making, and in 1973 he resigned to take that up once more.

Since then, as programme-maker, writer and presenter, he has brought the world into our homes, from Antarctica to the African plains and the deepest oceans, accumulating a long list of titles that are

familiar to most households throughout the country. They include: the 13-part series *Life on Earth* (1979), *The Living Planet* (1984), *The Trials of Life* (1990), *Life in the Freezer* (1993), *The Private Life of Plants* (1995), *Attenborough in Paradise* (1996), *The Life of Birds* (1998), *The Blue Planet* (2001), and, most recently, *The Life of Mammals* (2002). In 1997 he narrated the award-winning *The Wildlife Specials*, marking 40 years of the BBC Natural History Unit.

Knighted in 1985, Sir David Attenborough has received a number of prestigious awards, including Fellowship of the Royal Society, and has served as a Trustee of the British Museum, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and as President of the Royal Society for Nature Conservation.

As Controller of BBC2, for the launch of colour television he employed no less than Picasso to design a logo and Stravinsky to compose the music.

He has also been honoured in the place of his childhood. The City of Leicester granted him and Lord Attenborough the Freedom of the City in 1989 and the University of Leicester awarded them the honorary degrees of Doctor of Letters in 1970 – an indication of their pride in his success and their gratitude for the way in which he still shares his experiences with his former home in events like February's Graduates' Association lecture.

Leicester Graduates' Association Lecture



► Sir David Attenborough delivered the 2003 Leicester Graduates' Association lecture on 13 February at De Montfort Hall.

The lecture entitled 'Discovery and the Camera', was a combination of Sir David's own recollections interspersed with video footage of some of his work over the past fifty years of natural history film-making. The footage demonstrated how new imaging techniques have helped scientists to observe and understand hitherto unnoticed behaviour with the aid of modern cameras and use of fibre optics and infra-red lighting.

Sir David's passionate performance generated an equally enthusiastic response from a packed auditorium of 1600 people. The evening concluded with three cheers and a warm ovation.

- Graduates will have an opportunity to view the Lecture at the annual Homecoming on 21 June 2003.
- A full transcript is also available on: <http://www.le.ac.uk/press/ebulletin>



Pictures from left to right: Lord Richard and Sir David on the occasion of their honorary degrees; on location; presenting one of his many successful BBC TV series; at the University Arboretum; College House, now home to the EDSC.



Sculpture

Perhaps it's our climate, but although Britain has no shortage of botanic gardens, it is surprisingly rare to find sculpture on public display among their herbaceous borders and shrubberies. This year, however, the University of Leicester took the first step towards what is hoped to be a series of sculpture exhibitions in the future.

► For the summer months of July, August and September, the 16 acres of the Harold Martin Botanic Gardens in Oadby became home to 32 sculptures by artists both from the East Midlands region and those whose work is known as far afield as Italy, France, Spain, Austria, Belgium, Holland, Japan, Germany and the US.

Much planning between sculptors, gardeners and members of the Estates Office went into the exhibition called *Sculpture in the Garden*, directed by Professor Bill Forster, former head of Adult Education, now called the Leicester

Institute of Lifelong Learning. In the fortnight running up to the exhibition they were spotted striding purposefully round the lawns and flower beds armed with notebooks, pens and tape measures, squinting critically at different sites and trying to imagine their suitability for the proposed works of art.

It was no mean feat. Sculptures do not exist in a vacuum and the carefully landscaped gardens themselves became part of the display, while Gudrun Nielsen's *Echo* was specially designed for the herb garden. On a more practical note,



in the Garden

winching, hoisting and moving around objects weighing up to one ton had to be planned carefully.

Instrumental in setting up the exhibition was Dr Helaine Blumenfeld, herself a sculptor of international fame, whose *Souls* has been gracing the lawns in front of the Fielding Johnson Building since 1990, and who received the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in July. Two of her sculptures were among those on display.

From conception to execution the exhibition was mounted at very short notice, and Dr Blumenfeld was delighted at

how quickly such a prestigious display had been set up, with the minimum of trouble and maximum co-operation from University Staff.

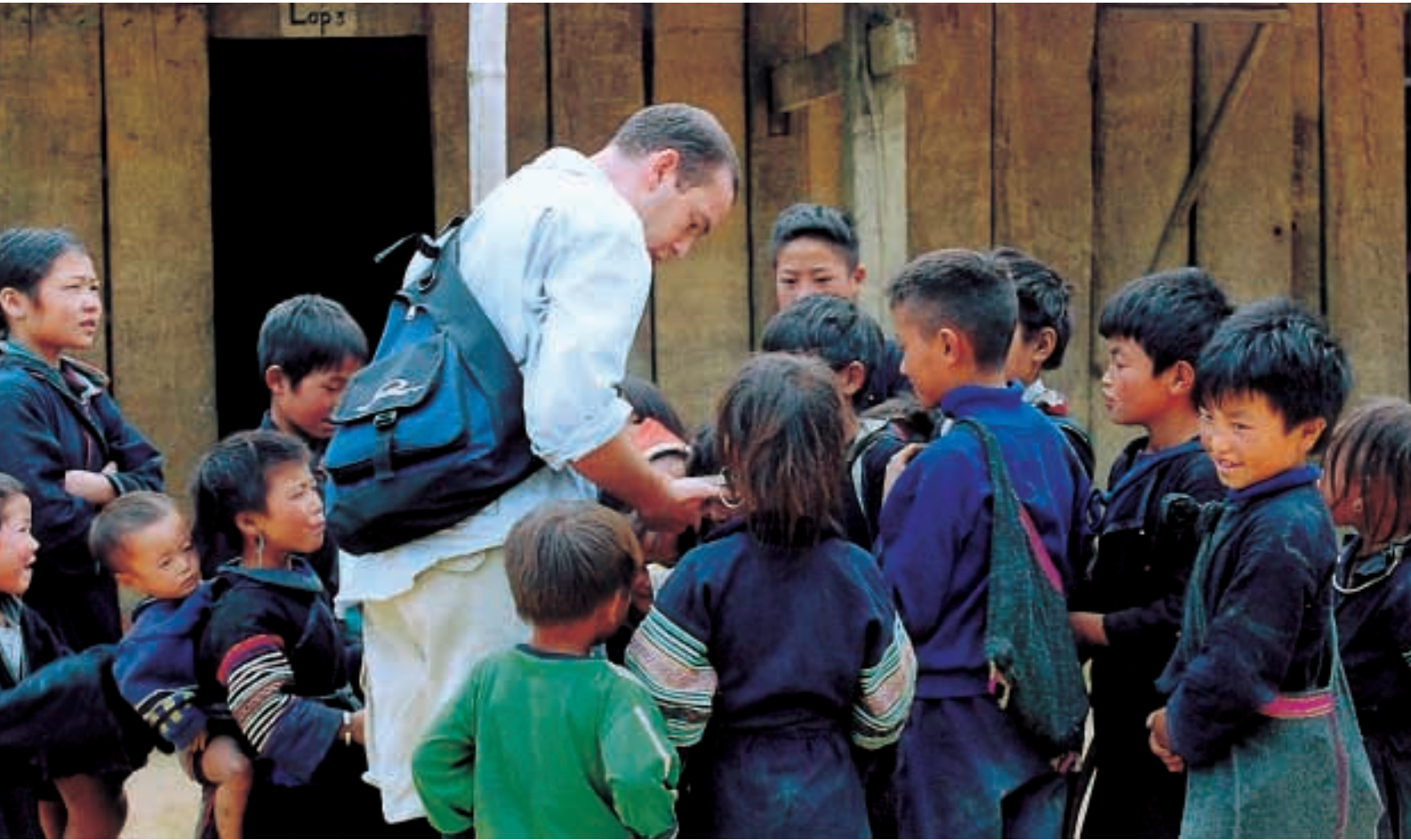
Particularly keen that contemporary art should not become too remote from ordinary people, she would like to see more exhibitions like *Sculpture in the Garden*, appealing to adults, families and school parties alike.

Dr Blumenfeld said: "I have seen the University become increasingly committed to the Arts. I was thrilled with the establishment of the Richard Attenborough

Centre for Disability and the Arts and for the many fine exhibits and concerts that have taken place there since then.

"*Sculpture in the Garden* will be the first step towards developing a 'Sculpture Trail' on the University campus. I feel honoured and privileged to be part of what I see as a recognition of the profoundly important role art plays in our day-to-day lives."

- *Sculpture in the Garden* can be seen on the web: <http://www.edsys.net/sculpture>
- The 2003 exhibition will be on display between 5 July and 20 September.



► From East London to Thailand is one big culture shock.

Having taught in a comprehensive in Bethnal Green for five years I had become a little jaded in my teaching, perhaps even complacent. Friends were marrying off or moving away from the area and there was a sense of transition of which I was not a part. An advertisement in the *Times Educational Supplement* in February of 2001 changed all of that.

I came to the school in Bangkok primarily as a Drama teacher. Although they had put on productions before, they had not had any timetabled drama lessons and it was my role to start these up.

Culture shock no.1: Thai children don't really do drama.

My first exercise was a getting-to-know-you game. Shake hands, make eye contact and state your name. This took three weeks to perfect as the children would not touch anyone of the opposite sex or even say

Drama in Thailand

As the first Drama teacher at the Harrow International School in Thailand, Severin Herbert (BA English 1995) describes how he was tempted from Bethnal Green to Bangkok.

their name above a whisper that even the speaker could not hear.

Frustrated I would grab pupils and make them bond hands together, play physical theatre games or jump off the stage into a cradle of arms.

Culture Shock no.2: Thai parents don't understand why the two sexes have to touch each other at all.

Letters of angst from parents. This was not going well and by Christmas I was ready to admit defeat.

Culture Shock no.3: teachers are one of the most respected professions in South East Asia.

Flowers, cakes, ties, invitations to stay in resorts in Thailand all poured onto my desk from the same parents who had complained. Apparently their kids were going home and saying that they loved drama!

Culture Shock no.4: travelling without boring your friends.

You accumulate an endless list of stories and photos which no one really appreciates unless they have seen the same things as

It is your individual response to sights and scenes which makes travelling unique.

you. As friends back home whip, apparently unmoved, through photo albums of what you have visited you learn that it is your individual response to sights and scenes which makes travelling unique.

Photos catch a stasis with which friends, understandably, cannot empathise.

They blanch at the photos of torture in museums in Cambodia and Vietnam. They can whistle at the grandeur of the giant gorge walks in China or feign disgust at the pictures of a snake being prepared for a meal.

But they weren't there for the old man who cried as he told his story of life under the Khmer Rouge. They can't hear the tranquillity of the Chinese temples in Beijing. They weren't part of the mountain tribe children who gathered round and listened to a strange, hairy white man (me) tell them a fairy story complete with gestures and sounds in a language they didn't understand, but laughed at.

All of that is yours and it's like having a great secret. You want to share it with everyone but, frankly, also enjoy the power you have because no one else knows it.

University allows us the opportunity to gain a professional qualification which then allows us to take jobs in a world of many cultures. Living abroad is tough but it is becoming an ever more rewarding experience for me and, hopefully, for the people I meet and teach.

Looking ahead, my long term plans are not fixed and I'm not planning on returning to the UK for a good few years. I may well move to another South East Asian country, but not to teach in an international school. I'm exploring the possibility of working with street kids in Saigon, or teaching English in night schools in China, Cambodia or Vietnam.

Long term, I will probably stay in teaching, or work with kids or young adults, but I will take a year out in about 18 months to do some of the things I outlined above. I might well come back to teach in East London again – when I've decided that it's time to grow up and settle down.

Rugby Derby



University of Leicester v De Montfort University Varsity Rugby Match – 3 May 2002

► The University of Leicester 1st XV Men's Rugby Union team clinched a thrilling last minute win against their De Montfort rivals in 2002.

For the first time ever, the game was played at Welford Road, home of the Leicester Tigers. Over 4000 people attended, making it one of the biggest spectator sporting events in Leicestershire during 2002. Held in celebration of the Universities 80th Anniversary, the game was the best supported event of the year.

Leading 9-0 at half time, the scores were levelled by De Montfort with just minutes to go. The 4000+ strong crowd then saw a back line move from the University of Leicester result in a kick forward and the Leicester winger win the foot race to ground the ball behind the De Montfort try line. The crowd erupted and cheered to the echo of the Leicester team as they defended their lead in the dying seconds, and ended the match with a 16-9 victory. A truly thrilling match, with hard hits and no quarter asked or given, yet played with a tremendous spirit throughout.

The event was organised by the University of Leicester Sports & Recreation Service, the two rugby clubs and Jim Overend from the Leicester Tigers.

Pre-match entertainment featured a Tug-of-War between the two Universities with De Montfort running out winners in both the men and women's events. The half time 'boat-race' also went De Montfort's way.

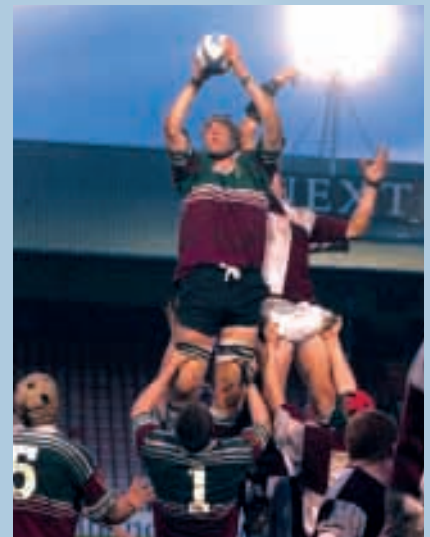
It was a great night for spectators, the rain held off, cheerleaders led the singing and when the rugby palled just for a moment, 3 streakers had their 15 seconds of fame. The De Montfort mascot – a big green

crocodile – entertained the crowd with his playful antics and got covered in more than his fair share of water!

The crowd was a good mix of students and staff from both universities and they witnessed an excellent match. A local band played in the bar afterwards as the players of both sides enjoyed a glass of after match refreshments.

The 2003 match is to take place on Friday, 9 May, with kick off at 7pm and the bar open from 5pm. Pre-match entertainment will be a Tug-of-War competition.

- Tickets are available at £3 in advance or £5 on the gate. £1 from every ticket sold will go back into Rugby at the University and another £1 donated to charity. To order tickets contact Matthew Weir, Rugby Union Student Liaison Officer, at (0116) 271 9144 or e-mail: MW80@le.ac.uk.



Antarctic Experience

Dr Jennifer Dean (MB ChB, 1996) fulfilled a long-time ambition when she became the medical officer on one of the British bases in Antarctica. She describes the fulfilment of an eighteen-month dream on Rothera.



► For years it had been my dream to go to Antarctica as the medical officer on one of the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) research stations. It was not uncommon to be told that I was mad, but nothing could persuade me to think otherwise. Imagine my joy, when sitting in the jumpseat in the cockpit of the de Havilland Dash-7, I touched down on the runway at Rothera Research Station; the base that was to be my home for the next 18 months. It was everything I had hoped for, if not more.

Rothera is the largest of 5 British bases in the British Antarctic Territory, situated on a promontory on Adelaide Island within the Antarctic Circle about halfway down the Antarctic Peninsula. The base consists of a handful of buildings, a runway and hangar for the Air Unit of 4 Twin Otters and the Dash-7 aircraft; and a wharf used by the two BAS ships, the *RRS James Clark Ross* and the *RRS Ernest Shackleton*. There are up to 120 people on base during the summer, including management, scientists, field general assistants, a whole range of support staff and two medical officers. Our winter lasted from March until October and during this time there were only 21 of us on base with me as the only medical officer.

Our presence in this stunning, pristine environment is to support scientific research answering big questions about global climate, earth's history and sub-atmospheric science, such as the ozone hole and effects of ultra-violet light. The air unit from Rothera supports field parties of glaciologists and geologists in the summer, and throughout the year marine biologists brave the cold waters, sometimes diving through a hole in the sea ice, to undertake various research programmes on life in these waters.



The mean monthly summer temperatures are -1°C to $+2^{\circ}\text{C}$ and there is 24-hour daylight for the most part of it, whereas our mean winter temperatures were between -5°C to -10°C and as low as -20°C . This was a mild winter, although the wind blew and blew creating huge snowdrifts right up to the roofs.

As the medical officer for the base, my work started 6 months before leaving the UK. The British Antarctic Survey Medical Unit (BASMU) is based at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth and it was there that three of us going to different bases received training in a whole range of areas including A&E, anaesthetics, various medical and surgical specialties, physiotherapy, dentistry, X-rays, laboratory investigations, diving medicine and occupational health, to name a few. After all, for the best part of the year, I was going to be the only form of health care, or as someone told us "the best surgeon for hundreds of miles".

Because the bases are so remote, it is important for everyone, particularly those over-wintering, to be fit and healthy, and all undergo medical screening in the UK. I spent a lot of time teaching advanced first aid to base members who would be my helpers in a medical emergency as well as potentially having to treat me should anything happen to me!

It was a unique working environment, where I had to prepare myself for anything and everything at any time, yet balancing it with the fact that because everyone was well, I could see as few as four patients in a month! We did end up having a very eventful winter as it turned out, but thankfully not involving any casualties. On the windiest day of the winter (gusting up to 80 knots), we could do very little but watch as the Bonner Laboratory building burned to the ground from an electrical fault, despite everyone having worked through the night to minimise the damage.



The purpose of our presence in this stunning, pristine environment is to support scientific research.

Another significant event was the medical evacuation of the doctor at the South Pole who had become ill in April. A Twin Otter aircraft flown by Canadian pilots made the historic flight, landing at the South Pole in the pitch darkness at below -60°C having come from our base where a reserve Twin Otter was standing by.

During the quiet times when there was little medical work and no news-breaking events happening, I was still kept busy by a variety of jobs assigned to me on my ever-growing list of acquired skills. During the summer I ran the post office and shop which sold a range of souvenir t-shirts etc. With little custom in the winter, I became in charge of waste management and

ensured that all waste was disposed of correctly; either baled and packaged or crushed and sealed in drums for removal by ship in the summer. It seemed to include all the messy jobs about base that no one else rushed to claim for themselves. The base is generally re-supplied once a year by ship, so a major task is the stocktaking and ordering of goods for the following season. As you can imagine, it is not easy to 'nip down to the shops' to get something that you've forgotten, so it's important to get it right and this seemed to be another task that came my way not only for medical supplies, but also the toiletries and stationery etc.

As well as having the most amazing

scenery, there was also a variety of wildlife to be seen on a walk around the rocky point on which the base is situated. A small group of us would make this 45 minute walk almost daily in order to count the numbers and types of wildlife as well as make any relevant observations. The highlight for me was the birth of seal pups from two different species (Weddell and Crabeater) almost next to each other allowing us to note the differences in how they were brought up. Then of course there were the penguins, birds and even whales.

All too soon, the dream came to an end. In March 2002 we waved goodbye to the twenty remaining winterers as our ship, the *RRS Ernest Shackleton*, pulled away from the wharf. For the next two months I was the ship's doctor; yet another new experience which allowed me time to adjust for the return home.

• Information about the British Antarctic Survey is available at: www.antarctica.co.uk

The University Bookshop

Summer Special Offers

The University Bookshop and the Graduate Relations Office are pleased to offer graduates the following books for the summer season at special prices. All the titles are due for publication in spring 2003. These books are available either from the Bookshop in person or post free to your home*.

If you wish to purchase any of these titles you can place an order in a number of ways: by mail, telephone, fax or e-mail to The University Bookshop at University Road, Leicester LE1 7RD. Tel: (0116) 252 2000, fax: (0116) 252 5029, e-mail: bookshop@le.ac.uk

The summer selection below can also be viewed on the Graduate Relations web site at: www.le.ac.uk/alumni. It is hoped that a further selection of titles will be available in autumn 2003.

Penelope Lively

The Photograph

A suspenseful tale of what can happen when you look too closely into the past. Searching through a little-used cupboard at home, TV history man Glyn Peters chances upon a photograph he has never seen. Taken in high summer, many years before, it shows his wife holding hands with another man. His mind fills with questions. Who was the man? Who took the photograph? Had his wife planned for him to find out?

Publisher's Price £14.99

Bookshop Offer Price £12.99

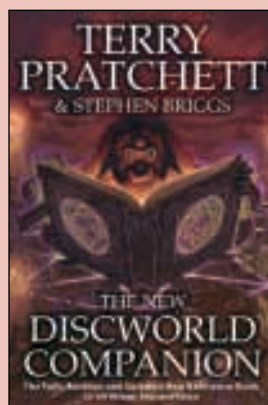
Annie Proulx

That Old Ace in the Hole

This book tells the story of Bob Dollar, the newly-hired hog site scout for Global Pork Rind, afflicted by the tendency to believe in his own daydreams. He ends up in Woolybucket, a town whose idiosyncratic inhabitants have ridden out all manner of booms and busts in panhandle country. Needless to say, they have no intention of making it easy for Bob either. Along the way, Proulx serves up a rich mix of history, landscape and quixotic Texan life in this novel about chasing dreams in a corporate world.

Publisher's Price £17.99

Bookshop Offer Price £15.99



Terry Pratchett

New Discworld Companion

The *Discworld Companion* contains everything you need to know about the Discworld. This edition, the first major revision since *Hogfather* was published (1997), covers the eight Discworld novels from *Jingo* onwards and is both funny and useful: an invaluable compendium of all things Discworldy.

Publisher's Price £12.99

Bookshop Offer Price £10.99

Graham Swift

The Light of Day

The *Light of Day* achieves an extraordinary intensity and unbearable suspense. It tells the story of Sarah, a prison inmate visited fortnightly by George, the private eye she has hired to observe the final stage of her husband's affair. While tender

and humorous in its depictions of life's surfaces, it explores the depths and extremities of what lies within us and how, for better or worse, it's never too late to discover what these are.

Publisher's Price £16.99

Bookshop Offer Price £14.99



Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell

Muddle Earth

Where would you find a perfumed bog filled with pink stinky hogs and exploding gas frogs? A place that's home to a Wizard with only one spell, an ogre who cries a lot and a very sarcastic budgie? Welcome to Muddle Earth. Joe Jefferson, an ordinary schoolboy from ordinary Earth, is about to find his life changed forever.

Publisher's Price £12.99

Bookshop Offer Price £10.99

Vivek Wagle

Europe on a Shoe String

This 3rd edition of the guide is

packed with trip-extending, money-saving tips on the best European adventures. It offers independent advice on where to eat and sleep, a full-colour highlights and itineraries section for trip planning, a language chapter full of common phrases and 160 maps.

Publisher's Price £14.99

Bookshop Offer Price £12.99



Margaret Forster

Diary of an Ordinary Woman

Presented as the 'edited' journal of a real-life woman who was born in 1901 and died in 1995, this is fiction where every word rings true. Millie starts her diary at the age of 13, on the eve of the Great War. With vividness and a touching clear-sightedness she records her brother's injury, her father's death, family bankruptcy and her struggle to become a teacher. She has lovers and secret lovers, ambition and conviction. Here is quintessential twentieth-century woman brilliantly seen in close-up.

Publisher's Price £16.99

Bookshop Offer Price £14.99

Nicci French

Land of the Living

Abbie Devereaux wakes in the dark. She is hooded, bound at her hands and feet. She doesn't know where she is or how she got there. A man she never sees feeds her and talks to her. He promises to keep her alive for now, but says he will kill her – like the others.

Publisher's Price £16.99

Bookshop Offer Price £14.99

Brian McFarlane

Encyclopaedia of British Film

Published in association with the British Film Institute this invaluable reference guide is the definitive companion to the British film industry. It is lavishly illustrated with over 140 black and white photos from their incomparable film archive, many of which are published here for the first time.

Publisher's Price £25.00

Bookshop Offer Price £22.50

Tom Bower

Broken Dreams

Greedy, vain and ambitious personalities dominate English football. This book is a superbly incisive account of how self-interested individuals, adopting questionable and predatory business methods, are exploiting the sport of football to earn billions of pounds and huge glory. Focusing on key figures, famous chairmen and managers, Bower exposes the money, politics, and the vicious battles behind the beautiful game.

Publisher's Price £17.99

Bookshop Offer Price £15.99



Ian Spence

RHS Garden Plants and Flowers

An essential plant-by-plant guide to what to grow in your garden, this lavishly illustrated A-Z guide is an easy-to-use, inspirational encyclopaedia of tried-and-tested ornamental plants for the garden. Ian Spence's expert advice ensures good results.

Publisher's Price £19.99

Bookshop Offer Price £17.50

Daniel Dennett

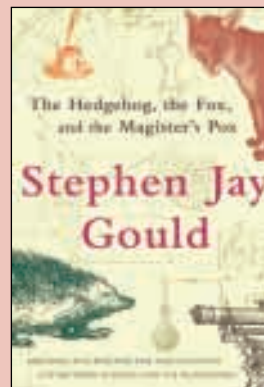
Freedom Evolves

Is freedom just an illusion? This powerfully argued work shows how the traditional opposition between free will and determinism is misconceived. The standard puzzles about free will, Dennett argues, distract us from the real threats to freedom that arise from our increasing

knowledge of how brains – and societies – work. The natural sciences are an important ally in our quest to preserve and extend our freedom, not the threat that they are widely perceived to be. Dennett traces the growth of freedom on our planet by way of an evolutionary perspective.

Publisher's Price £20.00

Bookshop Offer Price £17.50



Stephen Jay Gould

The Hedgehog, the Fox and the Magister's Pox

This book explores the centuries-old conflict between science and the humanities to delve into burning scientific issues of the past and present. Throughout this book, Gould uses a metaphor

drawn from Erasmus and a more obscure 16th century scholar named Konrad Gesner of the hedgehog – who goes after one thing at a measured pace, systematically investigating all; the fox – skilled at many things, intuitive and fast; and the magister's pox – a censure from the Catholic Church involved in Galileo's downfall: a metaphor which illustrates the different ways of responding to knowledge – from a scientific, humanistic and fearful way.

Publisher's Price £18.99

Bookshop Offer Price £16.99

Andrew Collins

Where did it all go right?

"They tucked him up, his mum and dad". Collins kept a diary from the age of five and excerpts from it run throughout the book. It is this detail which makes his story so amazing. The author delves back into his first eighteen years in search of something that might have left him deeply and irreparably damaged. Collins aims to bring a little hope to all those out there living with the emotional after-effects of a really nice childhood.

Publisher's Price £9.99

Bookshop Offer Price £7.99

Painting presented to the University



▶ A painting entitled "Giverny" was commissioned by the Leicester Graduates' Association to celebrate the University's 80th Anniversary Year. At a presentation to the University on November 2002, the Vice-Chancellor thanked members of the

Association for the work by Sheffield artist Martin Decent and described it as "a splendid addition to the Library (that) will be admired by generations of students."

Further examples of the artist's work can be viewed at: www.martindecent.co.uk

Library fees for Alumni

▶ With effect from 1 August 2002, the University Library introduced charges for graduates for borrowing rights at a rate of 50% of the full cost, which is currently £30. Reference only membership remains free. Graduates who contributed to the Library Development Appeal in 1990-93 still have free life membership. The Appeal raised money to build the Library Store on Putney Road.



Rivers and Rockets

After gaining his doctorate at Cranfield University, Mark Ayre (MPhys 1997) accepted a placement at the European Spaceport in Guiana. He shares his experiences and vividly describes the rumble in the jungle as Ariane 513 takes off from the launch pad.

► It is 8:00pm, and I am standing at the viewing site Agami, one of five designated positions for viewing launches. Around me are several hundred other people who are shuffling forward to get into a good position. 5km away, viewed across a swath of jungle, Ariane 513 sits glinting on the launch pad. A large projector screen next to me is showing images from the mission control room at the technical centre of the launch complex, and over the speaker system I can hear a man speaking in French “trois, deux, un... allumage...”

The main engine on Ariane 5 actually ignites 7 seconds before lift-off. This allows the engineers to monitor that it is functioning correctly before committing to ignition of the two solid fuel boosters. These boosters provide over 90% of the total thrust at lift-off. They ignite, and it is quite simply like a small sun appearing on the horizon, before beginning an apparently lazy, and silent, ascent into the sky. At 5km the noise hits around 15 seconds after the light. It is a frighteningly loud rumble, the sound of an object with a mass of around 1,000 tonnes on the launch pad being pushed into the sky on a column of fire. It reminds me that whilst launching objects into space is a tremendously complex and precise activity, in the end it is really the controlled application of brute explosive force on a very large scale.

April 16th 2002 saw me stepping off a plane in French Guiana to complete an internship for CNES (the French National Space Agency) at the ‘Centre Spatial Guyanais’, Europe’s Spaceport and the location from where the Ariane series of rockets is launched. Of the remnants of the colonial era, French Guiana was chosen chiefly because it is virtually equatorial, has an empty downrange (the Atlantic Ocean) and is free of geological activity.

The original inhabitants of French

Guiana were Carib and Arawak Amerindians. By the mid-17th Century, the Dutch, British and French had all established colonies in the region, and by 1817 the French had consolidated their hold on this section of Guiana. Slaves brought from Africa worked the sugar plantations, though many succumbed to tropical diseases and the hostility of the local Indians. The plantations’ output never matched that of other French Caribbean colonies, and after the abolition of slavery in 1848, the local industry virtually collapsed.

Today, French Guiana is home to not only the most successful commercial launch system in the world, but a mixture of races including Afro-Caribbeans, Chinese, Indians and Amerindians. Only the coastal areas are developed, and travelling inland invariably makes use of the many rivers. The standard of living ranges from the opulence of the engineers from mainland Europe in their beachfront houses, to the subsistence level of Maroons (descendants of escaped slaves) who scrape out an existence in the jungle-covered interior. The social divisions are obvious, and the mixture of high technology, tropical climate,

It is quite simply like a small sun appearing on the horizon.

colonial/penal history and latin/caribbean influence is certainly a heady and disorientating one.

The launch complex itself exists as a microcosm within this wider context, and is a model of progressive high technology and organisation. Ariane currently holds around 50% of the global launch market, making Arianespace (which markets the launcher) easily the most successful commercial launch service provider. However, the whole industry is suffering from a glut of over-capacity caused by the unexpected collapse

of the satellite construction companies such as Iridium and ICO, as well as continuing reliability problems.

My particular project involved writing a piece of software that modelled the reliability of the Ariane launch base as a whole. This involved considering not only catastrophic failures of the vehicle in ascent (the first Ariane 5 blew up due to faulty software), but also the performance of the various systems, which contribute to the launch. The work was challenging, and compounded by the fact that it was in French (I spoke only very basic French before arriving). The launch base is ostensibly European but, in reality, is overwhelmingly French. The British are hardly represented there at all.

But it was not all work. Virtually every weekend, the interns would get together and holiday in some part of Guiana. We took boat trips up several of the rivers into the jungle, meeting Venezuelan gold prospectors on huge mud sifting barges, Maroon villagers who had settled into the jungle and native Amerindians who had lived there for thousands of years. As you would expect the

fauna in the forest was incredible, and we were lucky enough to see Anaconda, monkeys, sloths, giant spiders, a hundred types of frog, and on one heart-stopping occasion, a Jaguar. On the coastal areas we watched giant turtles weighing 800kg lay eggs in the sand, and took trips to see rare estuary birds such as the Red Ibis.

For me the highlight of our trips was visiting ‘les Iles de Salut’, a cluster of three Islands that were home to the high security settlement of the penal system in Guiana. It was here that Alfred Dreyfus was wrongly



imprisoned for treason, and it was from here that Henri 'Papillon' Charrière made his final successful escape from the French authorities. Despite their high security, these breezy and mosquito-free islands were regarded by the convicts and their warders as a haven from the disease-ridden mainland. I could understand why: with coconut strewn beaches leading down to crystal clear blue waters, the islands were an object lesson in paradise.

Back at work, I finished my piece of software within schedule, and as I was leaving Guiana it was being integrated into the suite of tools the department uses to monitor safety and reliability at the launch site. A few days before I left, flight 513 of Ariane 5 was scheduled to carry two telecommunications satellites into geosynchronous orbit – the last of six launches I had witnessed whilst there.

As I watched Ariane 513 diminish until it looked like just another star tracking slowly across the sky, I still recall being amazed by the nature of the launch industry and by the amount and complexity of work that goes into each launch. Each one lasts months, involves the efforts of thousands of people, draws upon knowledge formed over hundreds of years from Newton through Tsiolkovsky, Goddard, Oberth, Braun, and culminates in one half-hour or so of nail-biting anxiety as the launcher ascends towards its goal.

To me it represents one of the pinnacles of human achievement. The ability to take risks, to co-operate on a huge scale in pursuit of a common goal, and overcome our physical limitations. It is the purest example of our species' ability to assert itself and manipulate its environment, a supreme affirmation of our current ability and future potential. To be able to experience this, as well as contribute in some small way, especially in an environment like French Guiana, was for me what psychologists term a 'peak experience'. It is something I will always remember.

Tall Ships

Looking for a new challenge and new skills, Sarah Brown (BA Economics and Economic History 2001) took to the sea. She quickly learned the ropes – literally – as a member of a sailing ship crewed by a mix of able-bodied and disabled people. It did not take long to find her sea legs.



► It was late January 2002 when I decided that I needed a new challenge in my life – something that would combine travel with working and allow me to gain new skills. Naturally the only way for me to do this was to commit myself to 28 days at sea as a crewmember on three tall ships. Until now, my experience of the sea stretched to the cross-channel Dover to Calais ferries, and even that experience ended some 10 years ago. I selected three voyages, one with the Jubilee Sailing Trust and two with the Sail Training Association, and started the long and tiring process of seeking sponsorship to pay for my berth fees.

London to Amsterdam

Eventually 29 April arrived and I set off to join the *Tenacious* at West India Dock in London. The *Tenacious* is the world's second largest square-rigged sailing ship that can be crewed by able-bodied and physically disabled people together. This is made possible by wide, flat decks, an audio compass, bright-track radar screens and similar aids, as well as through the "buddy" system whereby every physically disabled crewmember is paired with an able-bodied crewmember. The *Tenacious* is owned and operated by the Jubilee Sailing Trust. Over the following 8 days we sailed to Amsterdam and back in the cold winds of the North Sea. I was very glad of thermals and foul weather gear!

Gibraltar to Malta

After 11 days on dry land I set off for Gibraltar to sail with the Sail Training Association. I was looking forward to some warm weather sailing and was not disappointed. With more emphasis on training I quickly learned the ropes – literally – and settled into the more



I had the most fantastic experience, saw some wonderful sights and met many great people on these three voyages.

cramped confines of the *Stavros S Niarchos*. Over 12 days we travelled over 1,000 nautical miles to Malta with the wind directly against us. We headed along the Spanish coast in the direction of Ibiza where, having made good time, we stayed for 24 hours and sampled the nightlife. By the time we left Malta the wind had become more favourable and it was off with the motors and out with the sails at last.

Gothenburg to Leith

I allowed myself 7 days rest before flying out to Gothenburg to join the *Prince William*. The city was hosting the final Volvo Ocean Race stopover and we were here to watch the re-start as the boats headed out for the final 250 miles of their round-the-world race. The spectacle was amazing – only 8

competitors, but spectator boats of all shapes and sizes as far as the eye could see. We took an early stop in Denmark before taking a rather indirect route across to Leith, which brought us south-east along the Danish coast, north towards Norway, south-east again through the oilrigs and finally into the mist of the Firth of Forth.

Over the three voyages I worked around the clock in either a one-in-three or one-in-four watch system. I soon became accustomed to a disturbed sleeping pattern and to being awake at unusual hours. In fact, I loved being on the bridge under the dark sky – on a clear night the stars were amazing. On other early-morning starts we watched the sunrise over the sea and sometimes we just got wet!



24 May 2002: A Night to remember

When Red Watch emerged onto the deck at 23:50 we saw lightning off the stern in the distance, but heard no thunder. Although I was not officially on duty, I wanted to see this and headed off to the Bridge.

Throughout the first hour it became clear that the electrical storm was travelling faster than we were and was catching us up. At 01:00 I took the helm and ten minutes later it was action stations as we scrambled into our oilskins and waited for the rain.

The *Royal and T Gallant* sails were handed quickly in case of high winds as the rain began to fall. The lightning was spectacular; both sheet lightning and fork

lightning travelling between the clouds. We came through the rain by 02:00 but the lightning remained in the distance again until the end of our watch at 04:00. After an eventful and tiring watch I was happy to see my pipecot!

After breakfast we had an all-hands-on-deck to re-set the sails that were handed last night. By the end of this it was time for lunch as Red Watch are back on the bridge at 12:30 until 16:00! No rest for the wicked.

We have a hard 24 hours today, as it is time for another 4 hours on watch from 20:00 to midnight. The sea is still very lumpy and we are constantly thrown around. A clattering sound often emerges

from the galley and mess room. We achieve a 30 degree heel to port and a bizarre choice of song appears on the airwaves – “The Road to Hell” and we wonder if someone is trying to tell us something...

I had the most fantastic experience, saw some wonderful sights and met many great people on these three voyages.

Portsmouth to La Coruna

Following a recommendation to sail as Deck Hand with the Sail Training Association, in October 2002 I sailed from Portsmouth to La Coruna, crossing the notorious Bay of Biscay. With nearly continuous south-west winds we were only able to sail for 32 miles and unfortunately were forced to motor for the remaining distance. We experienced Force 8 winds at some point everyday and a rough sea with high swell. It wasn't a voyage for the fainthearted! It wasn't all bad news though, after four nights at sea the end was in sight as we spotted the Spanish coast. We all knew that we had three nights in port to unwind.

It is early November as I write this and over the winter I will be spending ten weeks on the *Prince William* helping with daysails from the south coast of England. In the summer I am hoping to island-hop the Azores with the *Stavros S Niarchos* and to spend at least another two months sailing in Northern European waters.

- I would like to thank my main sponsors – STA Anglia, STA London, STA Chilterns, Maldon District Council and their Department of Economic Development – for their help and support. For information about the Jubilee Sailing Trust and the Sail Training Association visit their websites at <http://www.jst.org.uk> and <http://www.sta.org.uk>



Mountaineering Club

► Plans are already in place for a residential weekend reunion of the Mountaineering Club from 17-19 October. Hospitality begins on Friday night at the Shap Wells Hotel near the Lake District. Walks and activities are organised for Saturday, which culminates in a formal dinner on Saturday night. For full details of this activity-packed weekend, please contact John Penniford at tel (01895) 442 116 or e-mail: john.penniford@cgey.com

Social Studies tradition

► Building on a tradition of 30 years, Social Studies graduates who first met in 1953, are planning to meet up at this year's Homecoming on 21 June to celebrate their 50 year anniversary. Spearheading the reunion are Sylvia (Dellow) White and Anne (Sykes) Klar. If you have lost touch with the group and would like to renew old acquaintances you can do so through the Graduate Relations Office at tel (0116) 252 2195.

Med School class of '83

► In response to an invitation from Dr Michael Burke, twenty-nine graduates and friends from the class of Medicine 1983 will celebrate their 20 year reunion on 22 March at the Belmont Hotel. Organiser Dr Michael "Spike" Burke is a member of the band *Red Square* that will provide the musical entertainment at this black tie event.

Leicester 2002 Homecoming

► Every summer several hundred Leicester graduates flock back to the University for the *Homecoming* and 2002 was no exception. Graduates from every Faculty and decade from the 1950s to 2000 – took part in a packed programme of events. Graduates were able to select their own programme from a diverse range of sixteen mini-lectures on topics, as varied as psychological profiling to obscenity and art and violence in sport to biorhythms, that reflected the enormous range of courses the University has to offer.



There was also ample opportunity throughout the day to relax and renew old friendships over a drink or at a music recital. Noticeable was the number of "groups" of graduates that had remained friends during the intervening years, who had come not only from the UK, but also from as far away as Nigeria, Canada and New Zealand.



An afternoon "taster" trip to the National Space Centre (left) proved very popular with its interactive displays, walk-through simulations of space travel and a visit to the planetarium. The evening dinner at Beaumont Hall brought back nostalgic memories for many former students.

Homecoming: 21 June 2003

Graduates, friends and families attending the summer *Homecoming* will be able to explore a bustling open campus at its finest. There will be no shortage of activities for you to choose from. Beaumont Hall is available for overnight accommodation. Please register on the enclosed booking form.

London Reunion at Trinity House

► Graduates attending the 2002 Reunion from the Greater London area met on 30 October in the City of London at Trinity House, the headquarters of the Trinity House Lighthouse Association. This spectacular building offered graduates views of the Tower of London and Tower Bridge, together with a wealth of nautical artefacts, paintings, sculptures and silverware. The occasion was well attended by a cross section of graduates and members of the family programme.



Anita Linsell, representing the Leicester Graduates' Association, informed members that a painting had been commissioned and donated to the University to celebrate the 80th Anniversary Year (see page 25). Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Burgess thanked the membership on behalf of the University and described the many successes and highlights of this landmark year.



Friendships lasting over 50 years

► A group of graduates – all from different disciplines – who first met at College Hall in 1951 celebrated their 50 year reunion in 2001 and enjoyed themselves so much they decided to do it all again the following year on 27 July 2002. Joining the organiser Joan (Mason) Hodges (BA Combined Arts 1954) at the Belmont Hotel, were Annette (Wynne) Cheesman, Pat Corrigan, Kathleen (Davies) Griffin, Rachael (Pursehouse) Hampton, Joy (Stockdale) Mottershead and Rubina Curtis. Any College Hall graduates who would like to join future reunions of the group are asked to contact the Graduate Relations Office at tel (0116) 252 2195.



A group of 1950s graduates at the Belmont Hotel, clockwise from top: Joan (Mason) Hodges, Kathleen (Davies) Griffin, Rachel (Pursehouse) Hampton, Joy (Stockdale) Mottershead, Pat Corsigan, Annette (Wynne) Cheeseman.

Annual Reunion in Cyprus

► A reception will be held on 14 March 2003 at the Cleopatra Hotel in Nicosia for graduates and the families of current undergraduate students. This annual event provides an opportunity to meet with staff from the University, who are attending the British Council Education Fair in Nicosia, and to hear about the latest developments at Leicester.

The Education Fair, held over three days between 13-15 March, aims to recruit new students for full-time and distance learning courses at the University. International Officer, Pat Baxter, will host the reception, along with Mr Peter Cumper, Law Admissions Tutor, Professor Panicos Demetriades, Economics and Dr Fanis Mamuneas, Reader in Economics.



Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

► Graduates in the Midlands have been invited to an informal reception and buffet in the Round Room of the Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery at 7:00pm on Wednesday, 2 April 2003. Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery has one of the finest collections of art, history and science in the UK. Graduates will have the opportunity to view the famous Pre-Raphaelite collection and take an optional guided tour of the adjoining Lord Mayor's Parlour and Council Chamber. Details of the event are available from the Graduate Relations web-site: www.le.ac.uk/alumni.

Annual meeting of the Graduates' Association

► In addition to the programme of events planned for the Homecoming, the Annual General Meeting of the Graduates' Association will be held at 4.30pm on 21 June 2003.

Would you like to help run the Graduates' Association and take part in University business?

The Standing Committee of the Graduates' Association is the channel of communication between the University and its graduate members. It also offers advice and support on the graduate relations programme. Members take an active part in helping to arrange and host events.

The Committee meets four or five times per year. All its members are also members of the University's Court and the Chairman has the right to serve on the University Council.

The Chairmanship is currently vacant following the resignation of Dr Bernard Kingston on 14 February 2003, and three further places on the Committee will fall vacant in September. The elections will take place at the AGM on 21 June 2003. All Leicester graduates, and other members of Convocation as defined in the Statutes, are eligible to stand. Membership is for 3 years (from 1 October) in the first instance. Travel expenses are available for attendance at committee meetings.

If you are interested in serving on the Committee, your nomination must be received by the Graduate Relations Office by Friday 23 May 2003. Please contact the Office if you would like more information, or visit the web site: www.le.ac.uk/alumni

King's College graduates celebrate

► Following on the success of the last residential weekend reunion in April 2001, the organising committee, spearheaded by Audrey (Weston) Cooper and Audrey (Robinson) Simons, has planned another reunion at Beaumont Hall on 29-30 March. All former students at the College before 1957 are invited and partners are also welcome. One of the significant features of this weekend – and previous reunions – will be a display of photographs and memorabilia from former students, assembled by graduate Ron Kinns.

Graduate Office

The UK's leading provider of taught postgraduate degrees

The University has over 10,000 registered postgraduate students studying for either a research degree or for a masters degree. As the country's leading provider of taught postgraduate programmes, there is a wide range of full-time and part-time courses available on campus. We also offer the following courses by distance learning:

School of Archaeological Studies

MA ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE
Commences: October; February; May
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES IN
ARCHAEOLOGY
Commences: January; June

School of Psychology

MSc/DIPLOMA FORENSIC AND
LEGAL PSYCHOLOGY
MSc APPLIED FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
MSc/DIPLOMA PSYCHOLOGY OF WORK
MSc OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA/MSc
ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF SEX
OFFENDERS
Commences: October

Centre for Labour Market Studies

MSc TRAINING
MSc TRAINING AND HRM
MSc TRAINING AND PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT
DIPLOMA IN HUMAN RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
DIPLOMA IN TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT
CERTIFICATE IN TRAINING PRACTICE
Commences: April; October

Centre for

Mass Communication Research

MA MASS COMMUNICATIONS
Commences: April; October

Centre for

Research into Sport and Society

MSc SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT
Various commencement dates

Centre for

Educational Leadership and Management

MBA (EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT)
MSc EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
MA LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING
Various commencement dates

School of Education

MA APPLIED LINGUISTICS AND TESOL
MA PRIMARY EDUCATION
Commences: September; March

Law

LLM/MA EUROPEAN UNION
(COMMERCIAL/EMPLOYMENT) LAW
Commences: October

LLM/MA LAW AND EMPLOYMENT
RELATIONS

Commences: September
LLM/MA/CERTIFICATE
SOCIAL WELFARE LAW
Commences: September; January

Management Centre

MBA
MBA (Sports Management)
MSc FINANCE

MSc MARKETING

CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT
CERTIFICATE/POSTGRADUATE
DIPLOMA/MA IN CO-OPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
Commences: October; January; April; July

Department of Museum Studies

MA/MSc MUSEUM STUDIES
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN
MUSEUM STUDIES
Commences: October; April

Scarman Centre

MSc COMMUNITY SAFETY
MSc CRIMINAL JUSTICE
MSc EMERGENCY PLANNING
MANAGEMENT
MSc FORENSIC INVESTIGATION
MSc HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT
MSc POLICE LEADERSHIP AND
MANAGEMENT
MSc POLICING AND PUBLIC ORDER
STUDIES
MSc RISK, CRISIS AND DISASTER
MANAGEMENT
MSc SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT
MSc SECURITY MANAGEMENT
CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA SECURITY
MANAGEMENT
Commences: September; March

For further information about the University and all its courses please contact:

Emma Griffin, Graduate Office, University of Leicester,
University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, UK.

Fax: +44 (0) 116 252 2200

Email: distancelearning@le.ac.uk

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



University of Leicester

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES