

c n t a c t



The magazine of the University of Dundee • October 2013



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from the principal...

The start of a new academic year is a busy but exciting time and I hope that as many of you as possible have shared the genuine sense of opportunity and optimism felt around the University during the variety of welcome week events. I was very pleased to meet some of our newest students at the annual welcome event in the Caird Hall. Their experiences as students at the University will be some of the most influential in their lives.

This, of course, places a certain responsibility on those of us who have a role in ensuring that those experiences are the very best possible. Recognising the power of higher education to influence and transform lives and the responsibility that this places on universities is at the very heart of the University Vision and drives our ambition to become Scotland's leading university.

It is now a year since the University restated its enduring values in terms of the Vision and the Transforming Lives agenda and I think that the collective progress we have made during that time is extremely encouraging. There are many examples of this progress and in future columns I will continue to highlight the wide range of positive developments and the many success stories in all parts of the University, in every College and School, across the campus and beyond.

The results from the 2013 National student Survey are a good example of where progress has been made – 10 subjects now have a place in the UK top 10 and 19 out of 30 subjects have a satisfaction score of over 90%. There is much to celebrate in these results but also much to motivate even more effort. Overall the University dropped back slightly from our best ever performance in 2012 but it was encouraging to note that DUSA has once again been rated as the best in Scotland. It is clear that to reach our goal of being Scotland's leading University there will need to be continuous improvement and the start of each new academic year will be a time to take stock of our performance, warts and all, and strengthen our resolve to tackle our weaknesses.

Nothing shows the scale of our aspirations and ambitions more clearly than our excellence-driven success in securing competitively-won research funding. This reached record levels for the second year running -approaching £130 million in the past year and is particularly pleasing given the very tight economic context. I was also encouraged, but not surprised, at the extent of truly world class research that has been assessed during our preparations for the Research Excellence Framework and I think that we have good reasons to be optimistic about the strength of our submission to the REF in 2014.

In the context of its other spending decisions the spending review recently announced at Holyrood demonstrates continuing strong support for higher education by the Scottish Government. What it means however is that funding will remain quite flat and decline somewhat in real terms in the medium term. In my role as Convener of Universities Scotland I will continue to make the case for investment – less the UK falls even further behind the OECD average for the percentage of GDP spent on higher education. A range of international league tables show clearly that while UK higher education is just about maintaining its levels of investment and reputation our competitors are investing more and improving faster. Sustained public investment is essential to maintain the competitiveness of Scottish higher education and its leverage in the marketplace as the economy moves out of recession.

It is clear that the University will have to cope with the challenges of turbulence and uncertainty in the coming months but I firmly believe that there is cause for optimism. With a growing realisation of our shared ambition for the University, we can and must construct our own success and make the most of every opportunity for improvement and enhancement, consistent with our values and our aspirations, in the year ahead.

Professor Pete Downes • Principal and Vice-Chancellor

For more news from the Principal read his blog at <http://blog.dundee.ac.uk/principal>



Royal Medal honour for Professor Ferguson

Michael Ferguson, Regius Professor and Dean of Research in the College of Life Sciences, was presented with the Royal Medal in Edinburgh in August in recognition of his work in drug discovery to combat parasites and for his leadership of a "world-class" team of scientists.

The medal represents the pinnacle of the awards made by the Royal Society of Edinburgh and was presented by the Duke of Edinburgh on his first official engagement since June.

"It was a great honour to receive an RSE Royal Medal, and I am extremely grateful to all my colleagues and collaborators for making this possible" said Professor Ferguson. "It was a particular pleasure to meet the Duke of Edinburgh again, who remembered visiting Dundee to open our Post-Genomics labs in 2002. He was looking very well and his presence and wit made for a very special event."

Professor Ferguson was one of three Royal Medal winners announced this year. The others, who also received their awards at the RSE in August were Sir John Cadogan, Inaugural President of the Learned Society of Wales, for his outstanding contribution to organic chemistry and the impact of his work with the UK Research Councils and industry, and Sir Ian Wood, Chairman of John Wood Group PLC for his outstanding contribution to business and commerce in Scotland, his public service and philanthropy.

When the Royal Medal winners were announced back in March two more academics from the University were also named as recipients of RSE awards.

Professor Peter Davies, of the School of Engineering, Physics and Mathematics, was awarded the Lord Kelvin Medal for his work in fluid mechanics while Professor Caroline Wilkinson, of the Centre for Anatomy and Human Identification, was given the Senior Prize in the RSE Public Engagement Prizes, supported by the James Weir Foundation.

RSE President, Sir John Arbuthnott, said, "Through these awards we are recognising outstanding individuals at points in their lives from those showing great potential at early stages of their career to those who have reached the pinnacle of their discipline and are regarded as such on an international basis. The process of deciding upon these awards provides an opportunity for the RSE and hopefully the research community at home and internationally to learn more about the outstanding and innovative work that is being undertaken in Scotland."

"Since the inception of the RSE our core founding principle has been the 'Advancement of Learning and Useful Knowledge'. This programme of awards remains absolutely true to this principle."

The awards ceremony in the summer attracted significant media attention as the Duke of Edinburgh returned to his official duties following a period of illness. As a result Professor Ferguson and the University were featured not just in the news and education sections of the media but also in the more glamorous surroundings of celebrity glossy magazine Hello!

Help world-leading research with GoSHARE



Every day in Tayside around 7000 samples of blood are discarded after use. Now researchers are asking the public to let them use that blood to boost world-leading research into diseases such as cancer, diabetes and asthma.

The GoSHARE project launched by the University, in partnership with NHS Tayside, is pioneering an easy way for people to help the fight against disease. It only takes one minute to sign up to GoSHARE but the benefits may be felt for generations to come, say researchers.

People can sign up at www.goshare.org.uk or complete FREEPOST brochures that will be widely distributed throughout Tayside including GP surgeries and pharmacies.

“Every day people are giving blood samples for testing at their doctor or in hospital but from each sample there is some blood left over,” said Colin Palmer, Professor of Pharmacogenomics within the School of Medicine.

“What we are asking people in Tayside is that they give us permission to use this blood for research. Over the past 15 years around 10% of the Tayside population (40,000 people) have signed up to genetic studies and this has resulted directly in major discoveries of genetic variants for eczema, asthma, diabetes and heart disease amongst others.

“All people need to do is register online or give us written permission. It literally takes a minute and they do not need to do anything else – there is no need for a special sample of blood to be taken and they do not need to make a visit to their doctor. All the samples which we are given access to will be made anonymous using a barcode system.

Dr Ellie Dow, Consultant in the Department of Blood Sciences at NHS Tayside, said, “Recent investment in cutting edge laboratory automation in Tayside has allowed us to not only provide a top quality clinical service, but also allows us to make best use of blood from clinical tests for research. This will greatly accelerate the pace of medical research in the future, but we need the permission from everybody in Tayside to make this work.”

The use of ‘spare’ blood is resourceful and unique, and is made possible only by the close collaboration between the University and NHS Tayside, as well as the installation of new technologies which allow the quick and effective tracking of blood samples

GoSHARE is being launched only in Tayside but is a sister study to the wider Scottish Health Research Register (SHARE), a nationwide project to develop a research register of people aged 16 and over, living in Scotland, who are interested in helping with medical research. SHARE is a partnership between the NHS in Scotland, the Scottish Government and Universities in Scotland.

£1.9M to combat Parkinson’s disease

A scientist at the Medical Research Council Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit (MRC-PPU) at the University has been awarded almost £1.9M from the Wellcome Trust to investigate the causes of Parkinson’s disease.

Dr Miratul Muqit has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship in Clinical Science to undertake research over the next 5 years that may lead to new ideas on how to diagnose and treat the disorder. Parkinson’s is an increasingly common disorder that leads to progressive brain degeneration.

Dr Muqit, Programme Leader at the MRC Unit and Consultant Neurologist at Ninewells Hospital, said, “Coming up with treatments for Parkinson’s has been a major challenge largely due to a lack of understanding on the causes of the disease. Recent genetic breakthroughs have now given us a roadmap on where to start to unravel the disease.”

He will investigate the role of two genes, PINK1 and Parkin, which are mutated in patients with inherited forms of Parkinson’s. These genes act together to remove damaged proteins from cells and this forms an important defence mechanism for the brain.

Professor Dario Alessi, Director of the MRC Unit, added, “I am delighted that Miratul has been able to secure this highly sought after fellowship to pursue his valuable research into better understanding the molecular causes of Parkinson’s. Miratul is on the cusp of making some tremendous breakthroughs in the area of PINK1 and Parkin biology that could lead to new ideas about how to better treat and diagnose Parkinson’s in the future. He is currently the only Clinician in Scotland to hold a Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship in Clinical Science. The University’s MRC Unit is privileged to be able to host Miratul’s research laboratory.”

Dr Muqit’s award follows the news last month that the Medical Research Council has awarded the MRC-PPU £24million to continue its work over the next five years. The funding will allow the unit to expand and recruit a number of new researchers to Dundee. It will also allow the integration into the MRC-PPU of the Scottish Institute of Cell Signalling, which was established at Dundee in 2008 following support of £10m from the Scottish Government.

The MRC-PPU already supports 162 staff from 25 countries.

£2.5M MRC Award for Cancer Researcher



Dr Victoria Cowling, a researcher in the College of Life Sciences, has been awarded a prestigious Medical Research Council Senior Non-Clinical Fellowship to continue her ground breaking research on how mutations in cancer genes can result in tumours forming.

The Fellowship will provide Dr Cowling, who is based in the Medical Research Council Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit (MRC-PPU), with £2.5million over seven years to build upon the discoveries that her research group has made over the last five years.

Dr Cowling made a major molecular discovery about how genes are regulated and how mutations in cancer genes promote unrestrained cell growth which can result in tumour formation.

Dr Cowling’s research has revealed a completely unexpected and critical role of a chemical structure within cells called the ‘mRNA methyl cap’.

She has shown that the mRNA methyl cap operates as a master integrator of cellular signals which drives protein production in the cell.

This research has revealed a new fundamental biological process relevant to understanding how all cells regulate cell growth. Research in this area has taken on added urgency as her results suggest that mutations in several genes that cause cancer may exert their influence through methyl cap formation and function.

Dr Cowling now plans to build upon her initial discoveries to investigate how mutations in genes that drive cancers impact on the machinery that controls the methyl cap.

“A major goal is to exploit this knowledge to develop new approaches and technology to devise future anti-cancer drugs,” said Dr Cowling. “The aim of our research is to counteract cancer-causing genes by targeting the machinery controlling the mRNA methyl cap.”

Scientists scoop research paper of the year award

Scientists in the School of Medicine are celebrating after winning an award for the best research paper of the year for 2012.

The academics led by Professor Bruce Guthrie, head of the Quality, Safety and Informatics Research Group and colleagues at the University of Glasgow won the award from the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) for a research paper published in The Lancet last year.

The study is part of an ongoing national programme of research established by the Scottish School of Primary Care and led by Professor Stewart Mercer at the University of Glasgow.

The research paper, entitled ‘*Epidemiology of multimorbidity and implications for health care, research and medical education: a cross-sectional study*’ mapped out how many people have two or more medical conditions in Scotland, based on a large, nationally representative sample of 1.75 million patients in general practice. Almost a quarter of patients had two or more conditions, and therefore had multimorbidity.

Although the prevalence of multimorbidity increased substantially with age there were more people with multimorbidity in the whole population under the age of 65 than over 65.

Importantly, people living in the most deprived areas developed multimorbidity 10–15 years earlier than people living in the most affluent, with socioeconomic deprivation particularly associated with the presence of combined physical and mental health disorders.

For most chronic conditions, patients with only that condition, and no other, were a minority.

The findings challenge the single-disease approach that typifies most healthcare systems, and highlight the high burden of multimorbidity, especially in deprived areas.

The study authors were Professor Guthrie, Dr Karen Barnett and Dr Michael Norbury from Dundee and Professors Stewart Mercer, Sally Wyke and from Glasgow.

Dr Richard Horton, the Editor of the Lancet, said, “Rarely do we receive a research paper whose implications span clinical practice, public health, medical education, and research. The superb work by Karen Barnett et al is one such paper.

“Their important findings signal not only the particularly challenging social and pathological conditions in Scotland. They also point to a future medical practice worldwide that demands a recommitment to integrated, high-quality, comprehensive, and continuous care. That is, the very best of general practice.”

The award by the RCGP gives recognition to an individual or group of researchers who have undertaken and published an exceptional piece of research relating to general practice or primary care. The paper won top prize in the primary care category and top prize overall.



Rare Peto photographs on display

A behind-the-scenes photograph of actors Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton at the beginning of their love affair in 1963 and jazz legend Louis Armstrong in his dressing room in a kilt in 1956 are among 130,000 rarely seen portraits from The Peto Collection at the University of Dundee.

50 iconic photographs by the late Michael Peto will go on display at the National Portrait Gallery in London and the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center thanks to a unique collaboration between the two institutions and the University Archives.

Michael Peto was born in Hungary in 1907. He fled to London just before World War II was declared in 1939, and took up photography. Ten years later his work was first published in The Observer. Peto went to become a regular contributor alongside other celebrated photojournalists including Jane Bown, Peter Keen and David Sim.

Following Peto's death in 1970, his archive of 130,000 original negatives and vintage prints was donated by his family to the University of Dundee.

Ten portraits have specially selected for display at the National Portrait Gallery including Samuel Beckett photographed in his Paris apartment in 1961, Jennie Lee near the Houses of Parliament in 1965, Paul McCartney with The Beatles during the making of the Richard Lester directed film Help!, and a young Ian McKellen in the Prospect Theatre production of Richard II in 1969. The prints have been gifted to the NPG to place Peto in the national collection alongside the important photographers of the 20th century.

At the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts over 40 of Peto's photographs of stars from film, television, theatre, music, opera and ballet in the 1950s and 1960s will be exhibited in the USA for the first time including Maggie Smith, Felicity Kendal, Alan Bennett, Virginia McKenna, Noel Coward and Terence Rattigan, Vanessa Redgrave, John Lennon, Joan Sutherland, Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, Rudolf Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn.

An exhibition featuring world leaders and political figures from The Peto Collection will take place at The Scottish Parliament in 2014.

Michael Peto Photographs: Mandela to McCartney

Room 32, 17 September 2013-31 May 2014, National Portrait Gallery, London

Admission Free

Michael Peto Photographs: Staged in Britain

1 October 2013-4 January 2014, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B Cullman Center, 40 Lincoln Plaza, New York

Admission free

www.dundee.ac.uk/petocollection

Image © University of Dundee Michael Peto Collection

Academics stand up for their research at Fringe



Five mirth-making University academics took their stand-up skills to the world's biggest comedy festival in the summer when they appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe.

The researchers performed at the legendary Assembly Rooms in George Street as part of the 'Bright Club at the Fringe' events which saw academics from across the UK represent fields from Art to Zoology.

Professor Trevor Harley (pictured), from the School of Psychology, was the first of the Dundee contingent to take to the stage. His well-received set saw him recount the trials and tribulations of being a psychologist and how his resolution to live forever has been defeated due to boredom.

"It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience, which I would definitely do again," he said. "I think I was funny. So funny in fact that I made myself smile, and anyone who knows me will tell you that I never smile. I am sure the Edinburgh Comedy Award nomination is in the post and am now awaiting offers for my own television show."

Other Dundee performers included Dr Rachel Menzies and Dr Karen Petrie from the School of Computing, Dr Ariel Bergmann from the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy and Dr Michelle Lim from the Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science.

The Bright Club movement was established by scholars whose thirst for knowledge led them to hypothesise what might happen if research and comedy were mixed and left to ferment in front of an audience.

The gigs set out to dispel the stereotype of the stuffy academic with fresh and inventive stand-up that both entertains and enlightens. Part funded by the Scottish Government's Talking Science grant scheme, academic researchers from all fields and backgrounds take to the stage to perform short stand-up comedy routines about their work.

For more information please visit www.BrightClubDundee.org

Survey shows DUSA still country's best union



Dundee University Students' Association has once again been rated the top performing students' union in Scotland in this year's annual National Student Survey. Students from 132 institutions across the UK were asked if they were satisfied with the students' union, association or guild at their institution.

DUSA was the only Scottish union to feature in the UK top ten, with its closest rival Glasgow University Union coming in 23rd place. Tayside's unions performed well in this year's survey, with Abertay and St Andrews both also featuring in Scotland's top five.

"Everyone here at DUSA is of course incredibly proud of this achievement," said Iain MacKinnon, President of Dundee University Students' Association, "It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved."

"A lot of people might see student unions as solely a place for students to enjoy their evenings whilst at university, but here in DUSA we offer so much more. We are responsible for supporting and funding over 100 student societies whose numbers continue to grow and grow, three great media outlets whose content has improved immensely over recent years as well as running various student welfare campaigns throughout the year. We work closely with the University whenever we can, and through our excellent student representation structure the University is able to respond to feedback from students whenever an issue arises."

Dundee University Students' Association has consistently topped the National Student Survey results for Scotland for a number of years now. This continues a trend which can be mirrored in similar results in the Which? University survey, the International Student Barometer, the Best Bar None Award and the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey.

Concrete future for wave power?



Researchers from the University’s Concrete Technology Unit are to work with Pelamis Wave Power Ltd, one of the world’s leading wave energy companies, on a study that aims to reduce the costs of wave energy generators and make them more efficient.

Professor Rod Jones and Dr Moray Newlands from the Concrete Technology Unit have won a £250,000 grant from the Technology Strategy Board’s Knowledge Transfer Partnership scheme to work with Pelamis on the three-year project.

The project will consider the use of concrete as a primary material for the energy developer’s machines, the tubes of which are currently made from steel. Steel accounts for almost half of the 1350-tonne weight required for optimal submergence of the generator and the rest is mostly made up of sand ballast.

“The incorporation of concrete into wave energy devices appears commercially and technically attractive, but we have to develop and test the concrete to make it possible,” said Professor Jones.

“With this project we are looking to develop concretes which will have the required stiffness and strength whilst being able to undergo extreme wave loading conditions. These concretes will also be highly durable against chemical attack from seawater and other forms of deterioration as well as being environmentally friendly. The work will also examine the cost implications of building in concrete as well as the production and manufacturing processes required.”

Jon Benzie, Structural Engineer at Pelamis Wave Power, said “Using concrete to manufacture the tubes of Pelamis machines, in conjunction with steel fabrications, could significantly reduce the cost of energy for future wave farms. This cost reduction is vital for our industry to reach commercialisation and begin harnessing the phenomenal wave power potential around the UK and further afield. “

The project will allow the appointment of two new full-time posts.

The Concrete Technology Unit at Dundee is a world-class research centre which has links to industry around the world. It has a broad research base covering concrete science, environment, technology and construction; durability, repair and maintenance strategies; recycling/reuse of materials and sustainability issues; novel construction applications; and risk assessment and whole life cost analysis. Funding for research is widely based, coming from research councils, government and industry.

Minister views award-winning work at PAMIS



Minister for Children and Young People Aileen Campbell MSP has visited the University-based charity PAMIS to see the work being carried out on behalf of people with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and their families.

Ms Campbell met with PAMIS staff, service users and their families and carers at University House. Staff outlined the work they have been carrying out over the past 21 years as well as current campaigns and successes during a presentation to the Minister, who also met young people with PMLD and their families in order to better understand the challenges they face and the support they receive from PAMIS.

Ms Campbell said, “PAMIS place children and families at the heart of their work and take into account their views on issues that affect them. It was great to meet the families and professionals and hear more about their work to make things better for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and their families.”

Founded 21 years ago, PAMIS is the only organisation in Scotland that works solely with people with profound and multiple learning disabilities and their families. It gives direct practical and emotional support to family carers, as well as working closely with professionals and paid carers. Its programmes range from improving access to good quality healthcare to enabling participation in the life of the community, particularly through involvement in leisure activities. PAMIS also conducts research which is directly relevant to the needs of people with PMLD and their families.

Improving community access has been a particular focus of PAMIS’ work. The ‘Changing Places, Changing Lives’ campaign was begun in 2006. This has led to the installation of fully accessible toilets throughout Scotland and the UK and has recently extended to Germany. Their availability enables people with PMLD and their families to participate in the life of the community with dignity and at no risk to their health. The aim is to establish 100 such toilets throughout Scotland by 2015. The number in England now well over 500.

Prestigious science award for student doctor

A final year medical student from the University has received a Young Scientist Award at a prestigious medical conference in recognition of her outstanding work on the impact of antibiotic resistance worldwide and its implications for pneumonia patients.

The European Respiratory Society made the award to Catriona Rother (24) at their annual congress in Barcelona, the world’s largest conference of its kind. Catriona’s research, which she presented at the congress, has been accepted for publication in the leading infectious diseases journal ‘Clinical Infectious Diseases’.

The study was supervised by Dundee’s Dr James Chalmers and performed in collaboration with Professor Santiago Ewig, Professor of Internal Medicine in Bochum, Germany and a leading international expert on pneumonia and antibiotic resistance.

“Catriona carried out this research as a 4th year medical student, and it is an extraordinary achievement for an undergraduate to undertake a study of such importance,” said Dr Chalmers. “It is equally extraordinary for a student to receive an award of this stature.

“Antibiotic resistance is one of the UK’s top priorities for research and preventing the development of antibiotic resistance is a worldwide priority. I believe this study will have major implications for policy makers and guideline writers internationally.”

Pneumonia is the most common infection leading to death in Scottish hospitals and one of the UK’s leading causes of death. Overuse of antibiotics for mild infections drives the development of antibiotic resistance and Scotland has led a campaign over recent years to limit the overuse of antibiotics.

The Dundee study investigated whether patients with pneumonia were at risk of infection from antibiotic-resistant bacteria such as MRSA that do not respond to penicillin and other antibiotics used to treat pneumonia. Reports from the United States and Asia had suggested that more than 20 per cent of pneumonia patients may be harbouring these “superbugs” and were dying because of inadequate antibiotic treatment.

Catriona studied data from over 16,000 patients worldwide and examined the risk of antibiotic resistant pathogens and death from antibiotic resistant bugs in patients deemed to be at risk of antibiotic resistant bacteria, such as patients making frequent trips to hospital, the elderly and patients from nursing homes.

She found evidence that antibiotic resistance was increasing dramatically in some parts of the world such as Asia and the United States but that data from the UK and Europe still showed a very low frequency of MRSA and antibiotic resistant bacteria.

This suggests measures to limit overuse of antibiotics in the UK are working.

New book celebrates poetic city



Recently appointed Dundee Makar W N Herbert and University librarian Andy Jackson have joined forces to edit a new anthology of poetry about the city and its surrounding area.

Whaleback City spans six centuries of poetry about Dundee and its hinterland and includes poems about the city, its river, its history, people and character.

It includes poems from many past writers-in-residence at the University including Colette Bryce, Sean O’Brien and Anne Stevenson and from poetry luminaries past and present such as Sir Walter Scott, William McGonagall, Joseph Lee, Douglas Dunn, Don Paterson, John Burnside and W N Herbert himself.

Former University staff are also featured in the new volume with works by Geoff Dutton, David Dick and Stan Smith.

W N Herbert, a native Dundonian and Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Newcastle, is the author of many collections of poetry including Cabaret McGonagall, Bad Shaman Blues and the ground-breaking 2013 collection Omnesia. He has been recently appointed to the new post of Dundee Makar.

Andy Jackson, a medical librarian, has published a collection of poetry entitled The Assassination Museum and is the editor of Split Screen, an anthology of poems inspired by film & television.

Whaleback City is first anthology to capture the broad sweep of Dundee poetry over the ages. Its publication coincides with Dundee’s City of Culture bid.

Both W N Herbert and Andy Jackson will be reading selections from book as part of the Dundee Literary Festival on Sunday October 27th as one of the lunchtime sessions. The book is available from Dundee University Press, Waterstones and the University bookshop, priced £9.99.

Team Rat celebrate South Georgia success

Tony Martin, Professor of Animal Conservation at the University, has successfully led the largest ever rodent eradication project to protect the vital seabird sanctuary of South Georgia.

Professor Martin headed up a 25-strong international team engaged in the latest stage of a bid to rid the isolated island of millions of invasive rats and mice, which threaten the survival of one of the world's most important seabird sanctuaries.

'Team Rat' aimed to thinly spread nearly 200 tonnes of bait pellets from three helicopters across the target area to reach rodent territory from sea level to mountain-top.

Despite battling the worst weather seen in the rugged, glacial landscape in the sub-Antarctic for a decade, they managed to bait 580km² over the course of 600 flying hours and more than 1,000 individual flights. This means that 70 per cent of the rat-infested areas of South Georgia are now baited, five times larger than any other rodent eradication area.

Professor Martin is Director of the University's Centre for Remote Environments and is seconded to the South Georgia Heritage Trust (SGHT), which is also based in Dundee. He is one of the world's leading experts in whale and dolphin behaviour, and has carried out marine mammal research from the Arctic to the tropics. He has been a UK delegate to the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission since 1979.

"I am delighted that we successfully completed Phase 2 of this internationally important conservation project," he said. "We battled against the odds with the weather, our biggest enemy, but through great teamwork and planning we managed to meet our target.

"To clear this magnificent island of rodents accidentally introduced by humans has been an ambition of mine for over a decade and I am thrilled we are well on the way to securing this important seabird habitat for future generations."

Team Rat team consisted of four pilots, two engineers, three chefs, two doctors and field staff with expertise ranging from GPS and data management, to meteorology, polar logistics and an intimate knowledge of South Georgia and its wildlife.

After arriving on South Georgia in February they began laying bait depots, flying 800 loads of fuel, bait, equipment and food from the helideck of the British Antarctic Survey's logistics ship RRS Ernest Shackleton to fourteen separate forward operating bases, working in a clockwise direction around the coast.

Aerial baiting began in March. GPS tracking systems were used to keep an accurate record of bait coverage. Within days the first three depots had been exhausted of bait. Hand-baiting of the four huge abandoned whaling stations at Husvik, Stromness, Leith and Prince Olav also took place and by April the team had spread exactly 70 per cent of the bait deposited ashore in February from the Shackleton.

The final area to be baited – the Northwest Zone – was the largest and most challenging. Flying at 1,500 feet and without a door so they could clearly see the bait drop below, the pilots endured temperatures of -14C. Conditions were so poor that equipment froze solid, and powdery snow threatened to halt the operation.

One final push was made on May 18th and Team Rat's baiting target of 580km² was met.

Professor Martin added that the team had also worked hard to leave no trace of their four month presence on "this magical island."

"Our campsites were scrupulously restored to their original condition," he said. "Most of the bait pellets we spread have gone, their job done, and very few will remain by the time the winter snows have melted away and the island's wildlife gathers anew for the next breeding season

"The only evidence of our being here, we hope, will be that over most of South Georgia the chicks of pipits and pintails, petrels and prions, shags and storm-petrels will no longer suffer an early and ghastly death when a rat or mouse comes to call."

The SGHT is now fundraising for the final season of work on this ambitious £7.5million project. To date, SGHT and its US counterpart Friends of South Georgia Island (FOSGI) have raised some £5million towards completing the eradication project.

Over the next 12 months, both organisations will work hard to secure the £2.5million required to complete the project in early 2015, when the remaining 300 rodent-infested square kilometres of South Georgia will be baited. A further £500,000 will be required for monitoring to check that no rats or mice remain on the island.

Howard Pearce, Chairman of the Trustees, said, "The success of Team Rat in completing the baiting of the huge Phase 2 area has just been phenomenal. Moreover, we now have the results of two years of monitoring the trial phase from 2011, and we are delighted that not a single sign of rodent has been seen in the trial area.

"This news increases our confidence in the success of our baiting strategy as we move forward into fundraising for the final phase which we hope to complete in 2015.

"The Trust would like to express its deep appreciation to the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and to the British Antarctic Survey. Without the assistance received in various ways from these two bodies it would not have been possible for the Trust to carry out this work."

For more information on the project and the South Georgia Heritage Trust visit the website at: www.sght.org

New lung cancer study hopes for earlier diagnosis



A new study designed to aid the early detection of lung cancer has been launched in Dundee and Glasgow. The Early CDT-Lung Test (ECLS) study is being led by Professor Frank Sullivan, Head of Population Health Sciences at the University's School of Medicine.

It aims to recruit 10,000 volunteers in Dundee and Glasgow over the next year to assess the effectiveness of a blood test designed to detect early stage lung cancer.

"Lung cancer is the most common cause of cancer-related death worldwide," explained Professor Sullivan. "And it is a particular problem in Scotland. We have the poorest levels of lung cancer survival in Europe.

"GPs don't see people early enough. By the time someone has symptoms which have forced them to see their GP the cancer is usually well advanced and the two-year survival rate by then is only about 10 %. This hasn't really changed over the years. There is also a high level of co-morbidity and some of the more aggressive treatments can't be used because of that. It all means people die earlier. But if we were able to diagnose it at an earlier stage it could be very curable."

"There is evidence that annual CT scanning can reduce lung cancer deaths by 20% but this is a very costly method and the false positive rate is quite high which can cause great anxiety in patients. The Early CDT test we are using in the ECLS study is much more specific in predicting lung cancer at a very early stage.

"It is a blood test designed to detect antibodies in the blood. They are a patient's immune response to antigens produced by solid-tumour cells.

"Because the antibodies are produced at a lower level by healthy individuals the test allows doctors to identify patients with higher levels and who are at increased risk of lung cancer or who are already in the early stages of the disease.

"It is a potentially very important study. If it works it will help us detect lung cancer earlier and will ultimately save lives. If you look back 30 years the childhood leukaemia survival rates were terrible. Now although it is still a serious illness far more children survive. We are hoping the same can happen with lung cancer.

"If cancer is detected early enough treatments can be less aggressive. If the tumour is large then the whole lung may have to be removed with all the health consequences that brings. If the tumour is just pinhead sized then it may mean only a small lobule of lung has to be removed. Also the earlier the tumour is found the less likely it is to have spread."

Professor Sullivan pointed to the success of the bowel cancer screening service, which originated in Dundee, as an example of what could be achieved and of the importance of carrying out large-scale randomised trials for preventive measures.

"There is an obvious analogy with bowel cancer," he said. "That started with trials to test the effectiveness of screening, then it was rolled out to different parts of the country and eventually became a nationwide screening service.

"Cancer screening programmes should be based on high quality evidence that they reduce cancer specific mortality and that the overall balance between potential benefits and harms is favourable. Trials can provide that evidence."



With so many volunteers to recruit over the coming year Professor Sullivan and his colleagues are using the University's renowned health informatics capability to help facilitate the process.

"We can access most GP practices in Scotland through the primary care network," he said. "We will be using that ability to seek GP records in Tayside and Glasgow. We can go into the records, run a search to identify eligible patients and GPs can write out to them and invite them in to their local health centre or clinical research centre for a blood test.

"We also use the informatics capability here to follow people up throughout the study and we will be following people up in this study for ten years. Half of the people who take part will have the test and half will have normal care.

"Dundee is the ideal place to carry out the research because of the capability we have here."

"We want to find lung cancer early so we can treat it more effectively."



He added that he and his fellow researchers are hoping to recruit people aged between 50 and 75 who are at risk of lung cancer. Half of the people who take part will have the test and half will have normal care.

"We are looking for people within that age group who have a family history of lung cancer or who smoke or have ever smoked. Lung cancer is also linked to deprivation so we are looking to recruit predominantly within the lowest quintile of deprivation in NHS Tayside and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

"That is the most difficult group to get to take part in a study but we know that about 40% of people within the target group would participate if asked in the right way.

"There are also benefits to taking part. If anyone has lung cancer it may be detected earlier and participants will also be contributing to scientific research on the subject which could help future generations."

He also acknowledged that the link between smoking and lung cancer may make it more difficult to recruit but stressed the importance of early diagnosis.

"Lung cancer is stigmatised in a way that other cancers are not. If someone finds a breast lump or a mole they tend to go to their GP at an early stage but with lung cancer symptoms it is different. Patients who smoke tend to hold off until the symptoms force them to go. By that time the cancer is likely to be advanced.

"There is a view that because of the association with smoking, people who smoke are not as deserving of treatment. That is not the case. We want to find it early so we can treat it more effectively."

The ECLS study has received £2m of funding from the Chief Medical Officer, NHS Scotland and Oncimmune.

Dr Livingstone, I presume? From Dundee to Malawi



The famous question asked by the explorer Stanley when he met the Scottish missionary in Africa is known to most of us. When I was a boy my grandfather took me to the Livingstone Museum in Blantyre and I remember a painting of the great man lying prostrate while a huge lion pounced on him, jaws open. I never expected to be following in his footsteps many years later on a trip to the still-largely undiscovered, though safer, land of Malawi.

The University of Dundee has been part of the Scottish presence in Malawi for many years, contributing medical and scientific knowledge and a host of enthusiastic doctors and nurses. Our new knowledge export fits the changing times for the region. From Mozambique in the south to Somalia in the north, foreign investors are rushing into East Africa to seek rights to develop oil, gas and other minerals. Malawi's prospects for gemstones, gold, uranium and so-called strategic minerals – the 'rare earths' used in manufacturing and IT – have brought companies from China, Japan and Australia knocking on the country's door. One of the 10 poorest countries on the planet, Malawi suddenly has the chance to diversify away from dependence on agriculture, so vulnerable to fickle rains, and develop new sources of income for its 15 million people. But also faces challenges to ensure that the Malawian people benefit from this windfall.

“As a University we have a strong commitment to a ‘transformation agenda’, using knowledge to change people’s lives.”

The country's newly established Ministry of Mines approached Dundee's Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP) to ask for help designing laws and policies that will help the country to welcome investment but safeguard the people's interests in these new industries.

This is absolutely vital. There are too many tales relating to other countries in Africa having bad experiences in managing their resources in a sustainable way. Malawi has been reaching out to Scotland for knowledge it can share in and apply to avoid the negative effects, sometimes called the 'resource curse'.

Dundee has built an international reputation for our expertise in law and policy on mining, attracting students from Chile to Mongolia to our graduate programme. CEPMLP is the only institution in the UK (and one of very few in the world) with a distinct programme on mining law, policy and management and one which has grown steadily over a period of around 20 years.

We have advised the Government of South Africa on its mining laws and were recently asked to assist a Central Asian country by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, based in London. So we are ideally placed to provide assistance to Malawi.

While investors are impatient to start exploring in Malawi, the Government needs to build up its capacity to monitor them, to protect the interests of its citizens, to look after local communities whose lives are affected, and to teach the necessary skills to a new generation of students.

As a University we have a strong commitment to a 'transformation agenda', using knowledge to change people's lives for the better. The partnership we are building with the Malawi Government started with President Joyce Banda's visit to Scotland last March. President Banda sketched out a remarkable vision of hope that the minerals industry in Malawi could help her people to rise from poverty, and the country could move away from aid to become an independent economic success story.

In July we travelled to the Malawian capital Lilongwe to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding on Areas of Cooperation while the Dundee mining team submitted their initial suggestions on what the mining law could look like. Thanks to the UK's Department for International Development and the Scottish Government, we have been able to start the process of cooperation in mining governance and support for growth.

For people whose lives offer few opportunities to escape poverty, low life expectancy and high rates of infant mortality, the prospect of sudden wealth from natural resource development is exhilarating. Managing public expectations is going to be a challenge for Malawi as it is for so many countries now joining the 'resource club'. One of the conditions for success is to promote transparency in the design of laws for natural resource governance. By sharing our knowledge in this area with a country that has for generations held a special place in Scotland's heart, we can help Malawi meet these challenges and build a sustainable future.

Professor Peter Cameron FRSE is the Director of CEPMLP at the University of Dundee.

Prestigious medical conference opts for Dundee



The 2014 International Congress on Photodynamic Applications (ICPA) is to be held in Dundee next May. The inaugural four day conference will bring industry leaders together to discuss the social, medico-political and economic challenges that affect photodynamic medicine across Europe.

Professor Sam Eljamel, researcher at the University and consultant neurosurgeon, who was instrumental in bringing the conference to the city said, "The International Congress on Photodynamic Applications will be held in Dundee to celebrate decades of research and clinical experience across several areas.

"We aim to fight cancer wherever it raises its head in the human body, from skin to lung, mouth, urinary system, head and neck, brain, bile duct and other cancers. Dundee and Angus has gained a national and international reputation in photodynamic applications through research and clinical experience gained at Ninewells Hospital & Medical School over the last few decades.

"It's a great time to celebrate the achievements of the Scottish Photo Dynamic Therapy centre. Experts from around the world will be coming to Dundee next May to present their ground breaking research, discoveries and experiences. The congress will be hosted under the banner "Photodynamic applications from the lab to the clinic".

Karen Tocher, Business Tourism Manager at Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau added, "Dundee prides itself on its medical research and to have such a prominent medical body attracted to our Scottish city over any other in Europe affirms that we are leading the way. We are extremely proud to be hosting the first ICPA Congress and hope it will encourage other industries to make Dundee and Angus their destination of choice."

"For delegates visiting for the congress, we have completely remodelled the Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau website to allow for easy, concise event planning, with a specific focus on enhancing our delegates experience. The new website also offers a wealth of information for those looking to plan a conference, ensuring that no matter what the requirements, all organiser's needs are met."

With 400 delegates gathering in Dundee it is estimated that the conference will generate around £700,000 for the local economy.

Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau is a dedicated service offering advice and guidance into organising conferences. Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau can help with every stage of conference planning, from bid development to planning a conference and conducting a post conference evaluation. More about Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau can be found at www.conventiondundeeandangus.co.uk or by calling 01382 434318.

SIPR takes leading role in reducing crime

The Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR), based at the University, will be playing a leading role in efforts to reduce crime across the UK after being selected as a partner in a successful £3.28 M bid to run the UK's Centre for What Works in Crime Reduction.

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council in partnership with the College of Policing the aim of the centre is to ensure the police service has access to the best evidence regarding which interventions are most effective in reducing crime. It is part of a world-leading network of centres providing robust, comprehensive evidence to guide public spending decisions.

Other partners include the Institute of Education, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the universities of Birkbeck, Cardiff, Surrey and Southampton. It will be led by University College London.

Professor Nick Fyfe, Director of SIPR, will be working with colleagues at Southampton University, to lead a project focused on developing police officers' knowledge of effective crime reduction interventions via the creation of a new professional development programme to be piloted at the Scottish Police College.

"This initiative to ensure that the police have access to up-to-date research knowledge of what works to reduce crime has the potential to be a real game changer in terms embedding evidence-based practice in policing," he said.

"The work Dundee will be centrally involved in is also clearly aligned with the university's mission around transforming lives as it will focus on how we apply knowledge to reducing the risks of victimisation among vulnerable populations."

Chair of the College of Policing, Professor Shirley Pearce said: "This initiative will significantly strengthen links between the academic sector, the Police Service and their crime reduction partners.

"By developing the skill base of practitioners in relation to their understanding, appraisal and use of evidence they will be able to make more informed decisions when implementing crime reduction interventions.

The work began in the autumn and will run for three years.

GREAT WAR DUNDEE

REMEMBERING A CITY AT WAR



Dundee's remarkable contribution to the war effort in World War One is being commemorated in a major collaborative project to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War in 1914.

Chaired by senior history lecturer Dr Billy Kenefick, the Great War Dundee Commemorative Project 2014 to 2019 (GWD), aims to honour the sacrifice paid by so many of the city's sons and their families, and, by recovering the forgotten stories of life on

the home front, leave a lasting legacy for future generations of Dundonians.

"The city's contribution to the war effort was significant," explained Dr Kenefick. "Dundee gave an astonishing 63% of its eligible men to the armed forces and with a casualty rate of 15% was double that of Glasgow and one of the highest of any British city."

"In the Battle of Loos, on 25 September 1915 - which has since been described as Scotland's Somme - the 4th Black Watch, known locally as 'Dundee's Own', lost 55 % of its men in one night and nineteen of its twenty officers were killed. There was barely a street, a house or a tenement in Dundee that wasn't affected. It had an enormous impact on the city and on the whole of Scotland."

Dr Kenefick added that Dundee also raised substantial sums of money to aid the war effort, including £8 million in war savings and in 1918, £4.5 million towards a government's tank campaign: "one of the highest contributions of any city in Britain."

"Dundee was also a leading centre for war resistance", he said. "The same city where Edwin Scrymgeour stood against Winston Churchill on a pacifist ticket in the ministerial by-election of 1917, and in the same year in which the Independent Labour Party (ILP) newspaper Forward proudly declared that Dundee "was fair hotchin' wi conchies"" (Conscientious Objectors to war). So opinion was somewhat divided."

GWD, which launched this summer, is a partnership of museums, archives, libraries, businesses and historical trusts and societies, and together with Dundee City Council and staff at the University, aim to provide "a citywide range of events to bring together the Dundee community and raise awareness of its involvement in the war."

It was one of the first World War One community commemoration projects to begin planning events in advance of next year's centenary, and for Dr Kenefick and his colleagues, it was important to give the city its own distinctive voice.

"There will be lots of other projects taking place throughout Scotland to mark the anniversary but we feel that Dundee is big enough and its contribution to the war effort significant enough to tell its own story," he said.



Image, courtesy of DC Thomson, Dundee, shows 4th (City of Dundee) battalion Black Watch departing Dundee.



Dundee is big enough and its contribution significant enough to tell its own story.

GWD had submitted a Heritage Lottery funding bid to engage the services of a full-time project manager to co-ordinate a varied programme of events and activities over the whole commemoration period. Although the bid was unsuccessful, the good works continues.

Next year's official GWD launch on 4 August will include street theatre events, a Great War commemoration road show and the opening of a time capsule (only discovered last year) by Dundee's Lord Provost. Beyond that various events have been planned including an 'Engage Dundee' school conference involving some 350 pupils and teachers in October, 2014, and a special concert at the Caird Hall on 25 September 2015 to mark the centenary of the Battle of Loos.

Dr Kenefick and his colleagues, who last month on the anniversary of the Battle of Loos, held an open day in the city's Central Library to raise awareness of the project, are also busy collating an online roll of honour with a photograph and biography of every local serviceman who died in the Great War.

Plans are also being made to honour the students who died on active service during the Great War before having the chance to graduate from the University.

"As a partnership, and an official Imperial War Museum First World War centenary partner", he said, "we now have a unique opportunity to allow present generations to trace the footsteps of their forebears through stories, documents, photographs, artefacts and memorabilia to ensure Tayside and Fife's contribution to the Great War is never forgotten."

"It is the legacy which is the most important thing," he said.

The university project team, which includes history lecturer Dr Derek Patrick, Museum Curator Matthew Jarron, Archivist Caroline Brown, Keith Williams from English, Jodi-Anne George from English and the JOOT Theatre Company, and Tracey McKenna and Edwin Janssen from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, are also hoping that other members of the University community will get involved.

"We have a PhD student who is looking at the war through the eyes of children. But there are so many areas of potential research across the whole university," said Dr Kenefick.

"We'd like to know what happened to women in Dundee - often referred to as the 'women's town'. Then there are the medical advances as a result of the Great War, new developments in nursing practise, or the impact the Defence of the Realm Act or the Military Service Act on the system of law. We're hoping researchers; staff and students may want to get involved and set up projects of their own and thus generate new areas of expertise. We would love to hear from anyone in the University interested in getting involved or carrying out their own research."

To find out more about Great War Dundee visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GreatWarDundee

THE BEST WRITERS IN THE WORLD, IN DUNDEE

DUNDEE LITERARY FESTIVAL 23-28 OCTOBER 2013



Star studded festival with a literary heart

A scintillating mix of celebrity superstars, sporting heroes and literary giants will be headlining this year's Dundee Literary Festival which runs from 23 to 27 October at the Bonar Hall.

Olympic champion rower Katherine Grainger, businessman and Dragon's Den regular Duncan Bannatyne and crime writing legend William McIlvanney will be sharing the spotlight with acclaimed translator, poet and editor Michael Hulse and award-winning novelists Maggie O'Farrell, Patrick Ness and Alan Spence.

Two of Britain's top young writers Jenni Fagan and Sarah Hall, who were recently included in Granta's top 20 best young British Novelists list, will also be appearing as will acclaimed local writer AL Kennedy.

"We have some very big, very popular names this year so the festival does have a very populist feel but we have retained its literary, academic heart," explained Festival Director Anna Day.

"We are also very strong on Scottish writers and there's lots of debut fiction too including the winner of this year's Dundee International Book prize who will be revealed during the festival.

"And we have some wonderful non-fiction from a wide range of writers. We have adventurers, knitters, bakers, historians, a football manager and an Olympic gold medal winning rower."

Anna added that as always the Festival will feature a one day Comic Conference on the final day, events for children, the popular "poem and a piece" lunchtime slot and collaborations with Dundee Science Festival.

"Dundee will be buzzing with a host of literary talent, poets, musicians, explorers, journalists, crime-writers and children's authors," she said. "As the city bids to become UK City of Culture in 2017 we are looking forward to welcoming so much talent from so many fields to the Literary Festival.

"It grows year on year and while we have a very loyal audience it's always great to see lots of new faces too."

The Festival kicks off on Wednesday 23 October when Creative Director Professor Kirsty Gunn leads a panel to discuss the importance of nation and culture as part of the University's Five Million Questions initiative in the lead up to the Independence referendum.



FICTION **POETRY** **NON-FICTION**
WORKSHOPS **COMICS**
SPORTS **BUSINESS** **CHILDREN** **CRIME**

Forty varied events follow over the next four days including workshops in theatre studies and writing family histories on Thursday 24 October. Scotland's constitutional future will once again be considered when journalist and broadcaster Lesley Riddoch looks at the way Scots identify themselves. Those looking for adventure will also be in for a treat on the Thursday with talks by Kari Herbert on the women behind famed polar explorers and James Adair on his record-breaking row across the Indian Ocean.

Friday 25 October sees a panel of debut authors discuss the road to publication, a double helping of crime-fiction with Quentin Jardine and Douglas Skelton and later Denise Mina and Doug Johnstone, talks by Alan Spence and AL Kennedy, some historical fiction and music with Vic Galloway and the Pictish Trail.

Children's author Debi Gilori gets the festival weekend underway on Saturday 26 October with some storytelling while award-winning author James Robertson reads from The Gruffalo's Wean, the follow-up to the bestselling Gruffalo in Scots. Jackie Holt and Ruth Bailey, authors of Knit Your Own Scotland, will be hosting a knitting workshop and John Thwaite, winner of the Great British Bake Off will be sharing his mouth-watering recipes.

Later the same day Maggie O'Farrell, William McIlvanney and Alan Spence will be discussing their work, there will be more historical fiction and Richard Moore, Hugh MacDonald and Katherine Grainger will be serving up a healthy dose of sport.

The final day of the festival - Sunday 27 October - opens with award-winning author and illustrator John Fardell offering a behind-the-scenes look at his children's books while Patrick Ness will be discussing his latest book for young adults and Dragon's Den star Duncan Bannatyne will be discussing his memoirs. There's more poetry, history and sport, the Comics Conference and a look at the banking crisis.

Throughout this year's festival, for the first time, there will be a festival hub in the Bonar Hall complete with craft fair and a travelling tearoom.

Festival tickets are available online at www.literarydundee.co.uk, by calling 01382 384413 or emailing literarydundee@gmail.com, from the 6th floor of the University Tower Building and from Waterstones, the Overgate Shopping Centre ticket booth and DCA.

Dundee book prize winner announced this month



The winner of this year's Dundee International Book prize will be announced during the University's Literary Festival this month.

More than 350 entries from across the globe were submitted for the competition which offers the winner a publishing deal with Cargo Publishing and £10,000 – the largest cash prize for unpublished work in the UK.

The all-star judging panel – comprising Brian Cox, Lorraine Kelly, Norman Foster, Clare Alexander and A L Kennedy – will choose the winner from three finalists.

They are Jeff Hayden, a former soldier turned wild animal preserve manager, Colette Victor, a community worker in an ex-mining community in Belgium, and Nicola White a Dublin-born former Leverhulme Writer in Residence.

The top title will be named as the ninth winner of the Book Prize, organised by the University of Dundee's Literary Dundee initiative, and Dundee City Council's 'One City, Many Discoveries' campaign.

Peggy Hughes, of Literary Dundee, said, "We're really excited by the final three in this fantastic year for the Dundee International Book Prize. We had a huge number of strong entries and the very happy task of narrowing things down to just three.

"Jeff, Colette and Nicola have really grabbed us with their assured and compelling debuts. We can't wait to see which one our judges pick to take this year's title."

An eBook containing all 12 shortlisted entries can be downloaded free from <http://amzn.to/1dIH2IO> Paper copies can be obtained from Literary Dundee, 6th Floor, Tower Building, University of Dundee.

Eighth award nomination for first book

A debut book written by a historian from the University has enjoyed a remarkable run of success after being nominated for eight book awards.

Dr Zoe Colley, a lecturer on American History, had her first book, *Ain't Scared of Your Jail: Arrest, Imprisonment, and the Civil Rights Movement*, published in 2012 to great acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic.

The book is the first to follow civil rights activists inside jails and prisons in the southern states of the USA to explore their treatment and different responses to mass arrest and imprisonment.

Nominations have been received for awards from groups such as the Organization of American History and the American Historical Association as well as for the prestigious Lillian Smith Book Award by the Southern Regional Council.

This award commemorates Smith's work against racial discrimination in the South during the 1950s and 1960s and is awarded to books of "outstanding creative achievements, worthy of recognition because of their literary merit, moral vision, and honest representation of the South, its people, problems, and promises."

Dr Colley said she was delighted with the book's positive response and hoped it would help further her research into post-1945 US history.

"It is quite unusual to be nominated for so many awards for a first book so I am absolutely thrilled," she said. "The book grew from the research I did for my doctoral thesis so I worked on it for several years. I have visited the Southern states and spoken to several activists who were part of the movement and who encountered oppressive and brutal treatment in jail.

"They continue to suffer to this day, not just physically and mentally as a result of the treatment they received, but because the criminal records they acquired has held them back in obtaining jobs and mortgages."

Dr Colley focuses on the shift in philosophical and strategic responses of civil rights protestors from seeing jail as something to be avoided to seeing it as a way to further the cause. Imprisonment became a way to expose the evils of segregation, and highlighted to the rest of American society the injustice of southern racism.

Big Music takes top book prize in New Zealand



Kirsty Gunn, Professor of Creative Writing at the University and Creative Director of the Dundee Literary Festival, has been awarded the Top Book prize in the 2013 New Zealand Post Book Awards for her novel 'The Big Music'.

The book tells the story of John Sutherland who is dying, and at the same time creating a musical composition that will define his life. This is the first time since 2009 that a fiction entry has won the top book award.

Chief Judge John Campbell said, "'The Big Music' is a wonderful literary achievement, in a year where finalists went the extra distance for their books."

Professor Gunn, who was born in New Zealand, said, "The strong links between Scotland and New Zealand span centuries and the fact I have awarded a prize like this in Auckland for my Highland novel set in Sutherland may be seen as another small connection made between the countries.

"I am delighted that my book has been recognised in this way – that critics, readers, bookshops support 'The Big Music', a work of fiction that challenges our whole idea of what a novel is. That means a great deal to me."

Professor Gunn is Convenor for the University's Creative Writing Programme, which includes both undergraduate and postgraduate courses. More information about 'The Big Music' can be found on www.kirsty-gunn.com



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Developing Independent Learning in Science

Dr Liz Lakin
Open University Press

Aimed at teachers, student teachers and other educators, this new book outlines strategies and techniques that allow youngsters to learn independently as they study science subjects.

By encouraging pupils in the 7-12 age bracket to take

greater responsibility for their own learning, teachers can help them to become both creative in their thinking and critical in their understanding. Dr Lakin describes a progression away from dependency on the classroom teacher, whose role changes to that of facilitator.

Drawing on practice-based research, Dr Lakin introduces the skills and processes associated with independent learning through established strategies such as active learning techniques, problem solving activities and peer-assessment.

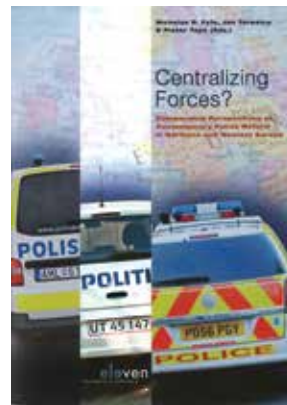
Each chapter presents tried and tested ideas, strategies and activities for the development of skills such as application, synthesis, evaluation and reflection to use with pupils across the dependency spectrum. Several relate to the higher levels of attainment and the effectiveness of teacher/pupil feedback and the role of homework form a significant focus for the book.

Dr Lakin said, "There is increasingly a problem with a shortage of people choosing to study science subjects beyond the age where it is compulsory for them to do so. If we make science more accessible to them then their understanding and enjoyment will increase and they will be more likely to continue with these subjects."

"At the same time, enabling them to think independently and critically from an early age will bring children enormous benefits no matter what they choose to go on and do with their lives. I have aimed to provide a guide to practical ideas and activities that teachers can introduce to encourage independent learning in primary school children; a skill set they can then develop further and take with them into all aspects of their learning."

'Developing Independent Learning in Science' is published by Open University Press. An eBook version will follow later this year.

Dr Liz Lakin is Senior Lecturer in Education with the College of Arts and Social Sciences.



Centralizing Forces?

Nicholas R. Fyfe, Jan Terpstra & Peter Tops (Eds.)

Eleven International Publishing

Police organizations in several Northern and Western European countries including Scotland have recently witnessed fundamental reforms to their structures as well as to their relationships with governments.

In this new book *Centralizing Forces?*, edited by Nick Fyfe, Professor of Human geography at Dundee and Professors Jan Terpstra and Pieter Tops from the Netherlands, researchers reveal intriguing similarities and differences in police reform in a number of European countries including France, Denmark, Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, England and Wales and Scotland.

The chapters examine the nature and dimensions of police reform and the importance of the political, cultural, social and economic contexts in which reform is happening. Despite some significant similarities in the reform process, the book also illustrates that there are important differences in the backgrounds, nature and consequences of police reform and highlights that police reform is strongly context dependent, not only in its underling drivers and motives, but also in its cultural meaning and the resulting problems and challenges.

The cumulative product of these insights is evidence of how police reform is strongly linked to changing views about the role of the police in contemporary society, the shifting balance of power relations between key actors, and on political assumptions about the preferred relationships between the public police and national governments.

This book therefore provides critical insights into police reform in different national contexts and a snapshot of a dynamic European policing landscape in which the contours of the relationships between police organizations, governments and citizens are being redrawn.

Nicholas R. Fyfe is Director of the Scottish Institute for Policing Research, Professor of Human Geography, at the University of Dundee, and a Fellow of the Scottish Police College.

Jan Terpstra is professor of criminology at the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice of the University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

Pieter Tops is Member of the Executive Board of the Police Academy of the Netherlands and Professor of Public Administration, Faculty of Law, University of Tilburg, The Netherlands.



A Long Way From Eden

Nethergate Writers

The work of the University's Centre for Environmental and Climate Change and Human Resilience (CECHR) provided the inspiration for this the seventh collection of work from Nethergate Writers, a group made up of students from two Continuing Education creative writing classes tutored by Esther Read.

Featuring 26 writers, the new book includes a range of styles and approaches including farce, satire, problem solving, drama and celebrations of the richness of the environment.

The writers were inspired to put pen to paper following a talk by Professor John Rowan, Director of CECHR, the cross-disciplinary initiative between the University and the James Hutton Institute which aims to promote more sustainable and equitable food, water, energy and health futures.

"Professor Rowan gave a presentation to both groups on the sorts of challenges facing a world where a rising human population has to decide how best to secure sustainable and equitable food, water, and energy," explained Esther. "There are big questions implicit in all of this, but one of the ways that fiction can contribute to the debate is by addressing these big issues at a human level."

Professor Rowan described the anthology as a "wonderful and stimulation collection which resolutely defies convention and pigeon-holing."

The book's cover was created by local photographer Rikki O'Neill, and features the work of artist Jean Duncan, who is currently undertaking a residency with CECHR.

The writers will be signing copies of the book in the Dundee branch of Waterstones on Saturday, 12th October from 10am to 4pm. There will be a further opportunity to hear the group read in the Dundee Central Library on November 27th. Places for this free event can be booked by emailing central.library@leisureandculturedundee.com

More information about Nethergate Writers can be found at <http://nethergatewriters.webplus.net>

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MASTERS°

DJCAD Masters Degree Show 2013

Students from five Masters programmes at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design exhibited their year's work in August in the annual Masters Show.

Exhibits from Animation & Visualisation, Art & Humanities, Fine Art, Forensic Art and Medical Art were all on display.

Jeanette Paul, Acting Dean of DJCAD, said, "Creativity, imagination and innovation are the key characteristics required of postgraduates as they create stimulating work informed by the intelligent research they carry out.

"The end result is a series of thought-provoking exhibits that demonstrate how our students have built on their undergraduate learning to develop their work to a new level or in a different direction. They only have 12 months to complete their Masters, and so must work extremely hard throughout the year."



Artist tunnels into Dundee's past for Masters Show



An exploration of Dundee's largely forgotten Law Tunnel by Deirdre Robertson, a Masters of Fine Art student at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, could help bring about its reopening as a tourist attraction.

Deirdre's work, one of the highlights of this year's Masters Show in August, has been included as a "project in development" in the first round of Dundee's UK City of Culture bid.

"This all started when I was having coffee with my mother and her friend and they started talking about how there used to be a tunnel that went through the Law," explained Deirdre. "This seemed like news to me and so I started doing some research and found out all about it, and about the work of Patrick Geddes.

"Then, when speaking to my older cousins I found that I had known about the tunnel as a child and, in fact, we used to go looking for it up the Law. The fact I had known about the Law Tunnel but had forgotten about it seemed representative of the city itself so I have tried to raise awareness and see if this part of our heritage can play a role in our future."

Deirdre's extensive research into the history of the tunnel, which was originally built in 1831 as a railway tunnel, provided the focus for her exhibit at the Masters Show. The main installation paid homage to the botanist Sir Patrick Geddes, a pioneer of the Green movement and modern day town planning. In 1907, Geddes drew up plans for the tunnel as a fernery, along with elaborate plans for the surrounding area, to be called Law Park Way.

References to Geddes are found throughout Deirdre's work, which also featured an animation, a living fern wall, a mushroom ladder, three large panels of archival images, a poem by Don Paterson, a catalogue detailing the tunnel's history, and soft cushions printed with maps and images of the Law and surrounding area.

The show launched the start of a three-stage project about the tunnel which aims to obtain archival footage to incorporate within a new heritage walk, review the feasibility of opening the tunnel temporarily for a one-off access and performance event, and explore whether it can be re-opened permanently as a tourist attraction.

Deirdre began her Master of Fine Art course at DJCAD in 2010 before taking a two-year break when she was headhunted for the role of Chief Operating Officer at the Tate. A former board member at Dundee Contemporary Arts and current board member at Craft Scotland, she returned to her home city to complete her postgraduate degree last year.

court news

Discussions at the April and June meetings of Court focussed on the Post-16 Education (Scotland) Bill, the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance and collaborative partnerships.

Vision

The April meeting of Court saw the last in the series of vision presentations from senior officers across the University, with Professor Stephen Decent (Vice-Principal and Head of the College of Art, Science & Engineering) outlining his College's future plans and recent initiatives.

In his regular report to Court in June, the Principal reviewed progress toward the vision one year on, highlighting examples such as the Offshore Renewables Institute, the Crop Security Alliance for Scotland, and co-ordination of the Scottish e-Health Research Centre (now known as the Farr Institute) as examples where the University could already claim to be Scotland's leading university. The Court also discussed the progress of the V&A at Dundee project and its on-going relationship with the University.

Governance

At both the April and June meetings of the Court discussions continued to focus on the Scottish Government's Post-16 Education (Scotland) Bill and the development of a Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. The Court noted proposed amendments to the Bill in areas where it had previously expressed concern, and provided feedback to the consultation on the draft Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. The latter was published on 18 July 2013 and is available from www.scottishuniversitygovernance.ac.uk. The Court was supportive of the implementation of the Code in its most progressive interpretation, but remained alert to the possibility of legislation in addition to the Code.

At its meeting in June the Court undertook its annual review of effectiveness and the Chair also reported to the Court on the Principal's annual Objective Setting & Review (OSaR) meeting.

Finance and the Budget

As usual, the June meeting saw the Court formally approve the proposed budget for the coming year (2013-14) along with the financial forecasts for submission to the Funding Council. Discussions focussed on progress toward the 6% investment target and in-year investments.

Annual Reports

The June meeting, as usual, received annual reports from the Dundee University Students' Association (DUSA) and the Sports Union. The Sports Union President, Mr Andrew Smart, highlighted a 23% increase in membership of the Sports Union and its affiliated clubs as well as the sporting achievements of individuals and clubs within the Sports Union. Court members praised the role of the Sports Union in the overall student experience at the University of Dundee. The President of DUSA outlined the major achievements and significant events occurring throughout 2012/13, setting out the role of DUSA representation on University Committees, the success of fundraising activities, and the role of DUSA in student advice and welfare. He also highlighted appointments to the DUSA board of trustees and discussions which took place at the DUSA Annual General Meeting.

Comings and Goings

Court paid tribute to six of its members for whom the June meeting would be their last. Dr Angela Roger (Senate representative), Mr Iain Kennedy (DUSA President), Ms Julie McGovern (independent student representative), Emeritus Professor Ann Burchell (Graduates' Council Assessor), Dr Howard Marriage (lay member) and Dr Janet Lowe (lay member) had all reached the end of their terms of office as Court members, and the Chair thanked them for their contributions to the Court.

The Court welcomed Dr Sam Crouch (Senate representative), Mr Iain MacKinnon (DUSA President), Ms Marija Tasevska (independent student representative), Dr William Boyd (Graduates' Council Assessor), Mr Ronald Bowie (lay member) and Mr Denis Taylor (lay member) to the Court, effective from 1 August 2013. Further information on Court members can be found at www.dundee.ac.uk/academic/court/crt-mem.htm

The Court also noted the appointment of Professor Sue Black as Deputy Principal for Public Engagement.

Contact

The next edition of Contact will be published in December. The copy deadline for that edition is Monday 28 October. Submissions should be sent to h.mcnelly@dundee.ac.uk by that date.

appointments



Professor David Horn

Chair of Parasite Molecular Biology

Professor David Horn has worked on the molecular and cell biology of the African trypanosome, *Trypanosoma brucei*, for twenty years, first as a post-doc with Professor George Cross at The Rockefeller University in New York and then as an

independent investigator at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine from 1997.

Professor Horn's team developed high-throughput RNA interference (RNAi) library screening for exploitation of *T. brucei* genome sequence data. He will exploit the power of this approach to decode the genetic basis of fundamental aspects of *T. brucei* biology and pathogenesis.

The key goals are to characterize the machineries that underpin drug action and resistance and survival within the mammalian host, including antigenic variation and evasion from other host defences.

The studies promise major advances in our understanding of key virulence mechanisms and should aid the development of improved chemotherapies.



Professor John Baldacchino

Chair of Education

Professor John Baldacchino specializes in art, philosophy and education. He comes to Dundee from Falmouth University where he was Professor of Arts Pedagogy and served as Associate Dean of Teaching & Learning and as Associate Dean for

Graduate Studies.

Prior to Falmouth, he was Associate Professor of Art & Art Education at Columbia University's Teachers College, New York; Reader in Critical Theory at Gray's School of Art, The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen; and Lecturer of Arts Education at the University of Warwick.

He is the sole author of six books, including *Education Beyond Education. Self and the Imaginary in Maxine Greene's Philosophy* (2009); *Makings of the Sea: Journey, Doubt and Nostalgia* (2010), and *Art's Way Out: Exit Pedagogy and the Cultural Condition* (2012).

Four new volumes are forthcoming. He just completed *John Dewey: Liberty and the Pedagogy of Disposition* (as sole author) and *Democracy Without Confession* (co-authored with Kenneth Wain), while two co-edited volumes, on Wain's philosophy and on arts education in the Mediterranean, will be published this autumn.



Professor Matthias Klaes

Dean of the Business School

Professor Matthias Klaes has been appointed Chair of History and Philosophy of Economics. He has an academic background in communications engineering, business economics and technology management. He gained his

PhD from the University of Edinburgh in 1999. After a post-doc at Erasmus University Rotterdam and lectureships at Keele and Stirling (Reader from 2004), he returned to Keele as Professor of Commerce in 2005 where he assumed a number of line positions including inaugural Head of Keele Management School.

He is an internationally recognised expert in economic methodology and the history of economic thought, with an applied interest in social studies of finance. His research has attracted several Prizes, including the Joseph Dorfman Best Dissertation Award of the US-based History of Economics Society, and the History of Economic Analysis Award of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought.

He is founder and one of the conveners of the Scottish Centre for Economic Methodology (SCEME), was Managing Editor of the Journal of Economic Methodology for five years, and has held offices in a number of learned societies including the Research Methodology Special Interest Group of the British Academy of Management, and the Executive Committee of the International Network for Economic Method.



Professor Mark Robson

Chair in English and Theatre Studies

Professor Mark Robson joined the School of Humanities as Chair in English and Theatre Studies in August. He was previously at the University of Nottingham, and has held posts at Manchester and Leeds.

In 2011-12, he was a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh.

He has published widely in areas of English and Comparative literature, critical and cultural theory, visual culture and film.

He is also a playwright, and is currently on attachment to the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh as one of the Traverse Fifty, chosen from an international competition celebrating the theatre's anniversary.



Professor Deborah Peel

Chair in Architecture & Planning

Professor Deborah Peel comes to Dundee from the University of Ulster where she was Professor of Planning Research and Scholarship in the School of the Built Environment.

She previously held academic posts at the University of Liverpool (2006-8) and University of Westminster (1998-2003). During 2003-2008 she was based in Town and Regional Planning at the University of Dundee.

Professor Peel is a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and Editor of the inter-disciplinary *Journal for Education in the Built Environment*.

In addition to her community outreach and scholarly pedagogical interests in skills development, cross-professional working, and social learning, Professor Peel's research focuses on aspects of spatial governance and regulation in terrestrial and marine environments, social-ecological resilience, civil engagement and civic leadership in neighbourhood regeneration, the built heritage, and placemaking and management.

Her immediate research plans involve comparative studies of community planning, cross border territorial cohesion on the island of Ireland, and investigating new models of urban management and development. Professor Peel believes that this particular chair will provide a timely opportunity to shape emerging interdisciplinary research agendas in the built environment and to influence and impact architecture and place policy design and implementation in Scotland.

Trio of new appointments for history

Three new appointments have been made to the University's history programme, broadening its research and teaching range.

Jim Livesey, former Head of History at Sussex University, joins Dundee as Professor of Global History. Professor Livesey has research expertise in transnational, and in particular, transatlantic relations. His extensive knowledge of global history will help inform current and future research and teaching programmes at the University.

Also joining the History department at Dundee are Graeme Morton, who will be taking up the post of Professor of Modern History, and senior lecturer Dr Annie Tindley.

Professor David Finkelstein, Dean of the University's School of Humanities, welcomed the academics to Dundee saying, "These appointments represent the start of an exciting new chapter for our History programme.

"They each bring new expertise and fresh ideas that will help us to tailor ever more innovative courses and produce research outputs by working alongside the other talented researchers we have within the School of Humanities and other areas of the University."

Dr Tindley is an expert in the history of the Scottish Highlands and has worked closely with scientists in the past to study the ethnography of these areas to see how they fit with existing historical perspectives. She joins Dundee from Glasgow Caledonian University.

Professor Morton is renowned for his research into Scottish nationalism and the Scottish Diaspora. He has previously collaborated with the Scottish Government on matters of diasporic culture and identity and will move to Dundee from the University of Guelph in Canada, where he led the Centre for Scottish Studies as the first privately endowed Chair of Scottish Studies in North America.

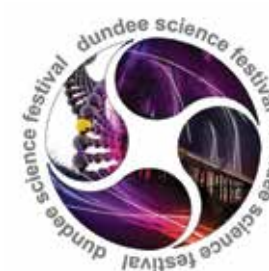
With funding from a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant, Professor Morton is currently examining extreme weather and patterns of migration from Scotland during the period 1770 to 1988.

Professor Livesey was recently awarded a two-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship for his "Thinking at World's Edge" project, which explores Irish intellectual history in global contexts. His work will contribute to a series of international workshops to take place at Dundee to help define new research agendas in global history.

The University is in the first rank of History Departments in Scotland achieving one of the highest scores in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise. The quality of teaching has also been commended in internal and external reviews.



Countdown to Dundee Science Festival!



The fourth Dundee Science Festival gets under way next month with a packed programme of events designed to celebrate Dundee's status as a city of science and innovation.

The festival, which will run from Saturday 2 until Sunday 17 November 2013, once again has

a strong input from the University including a collaboration with Dundee Literary Festival, an opportunity to take a technological look at embroidery with the "Digital Sewing Bee" at the School of Computing and a chance to explore marine science at the D'Arcy Thompson Zoology Museum.

A new event this year, Café Science revisited, will see popular topics and speakers returning to discuss updates on their research.

More than 14,000 visitors joined in the fun and fascination last year and organisers are hoping this year's programme, with topics covering physics, computing, engineering, psychology and astronomy, will be even more popular

Alexandra Forrest, Festivals and Community Engagement Manager said, "We have been absolutely astounded by the level of interest from those wishing to get involved in this year's Dundee Science Festival.

"We're really impressed by the passion and ingenuity expressed by those seeking to run events, with proposals which fuse science with dance, theatre, comedy, heritage and art. Not only do they reflect the diversity of research being conducted here in Dundee, but the exciting and inspirational ways that science affects our daily lives.

"Our team is now hard at work refining the programme which promises to entertain, educate and enthuse people of all ages and abilities.

"As in previous years, the University is a major partner in Dundee Science Festival and we are delighted to be working with them to showcase some of the ingenious research and innovation which ticks away within their departments and schools."

Dundee Science Festival is supported by the Scottish Government, EventScotland and Dundee City Council. Other supporters include Medical Research Council, Skills Development Scotland, and The Gannochy Trust.

For more information on Dundee Science Festival, and to book events, visit www.dundeesciencefestival.org.

Alternatively, you can contact the Dundee Science Festival team via email dundeesciencefestival@dundeesciencecentre.org.uk or telephone 01382 228800.



From the Archives...

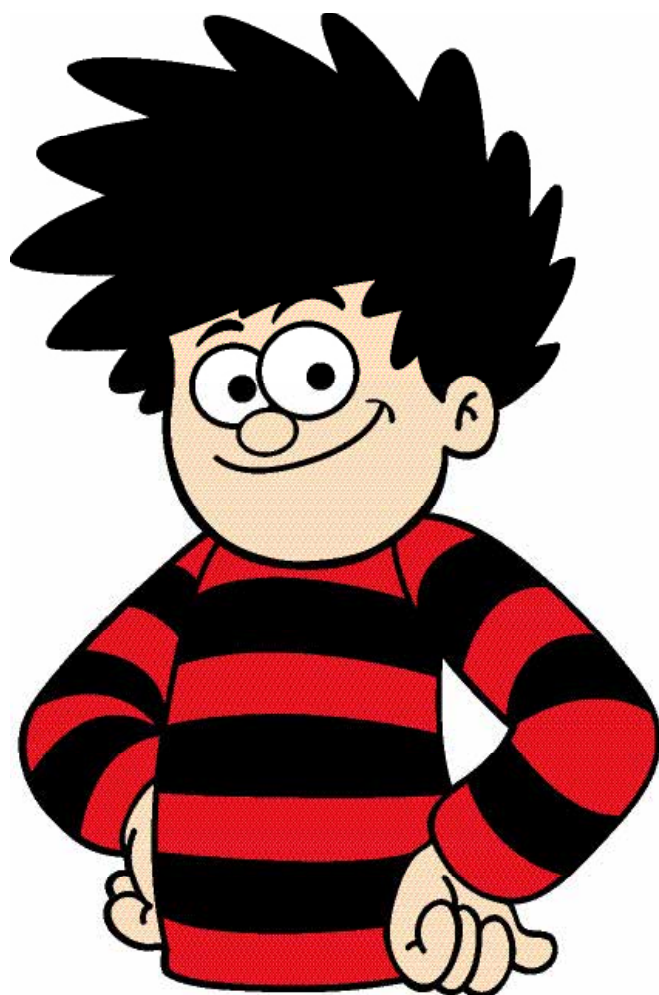
Ninewells Cancer Campaign Archive to be Preserved

Archive Services have recently taken custody of the Ninewells Cancer Campaign Archive. NCC was established in 1991 to 'Help Dennis Beat the Menace'. The charity raises funds to support the world-leading research being carried out at Ninewells Hospital and Dundee Medical School and to provide improved care for cancer patients. To date the Campaign has raised over £17 million. For more information about the campaign visit www.ncc-dundee.org.uk

The archives are vital in ensuring that information about the Campaign is preserved. The records document the history of the campaign, the decisions made and its achievements. They are a tribute to those who have worked for the campaign and those who the campaign has helped. As such they form something close to a corporate memory of the charity, as well as continuing to provide the NCC with information to inform current and future decisions.

Included in the collection are minutes, financial material, information about fundraising events and appeals, and correspondence. Large cut-outs of Dennis the Menace, badges, fliers, newsletters, posters and publications such as Patsy the Punk Fairy, a children's book, make up the rest of the material.

Archive Services are delighted to be contributing to the work of the Campaign by preserving their archives and making them available to researchers now and in the future. The collection complements other archives relating to the Medical School, to NHS Tayside (including most of the hospitals and asylums in the area) and to prominent researchers, doctors and surgeons. For more information see www.dundee.ac.uk/archives or email archives@dundee.ac.uk.



Students gather at first Fulbright Summer Institute



During two and a half weeks in July the University hosted, in partnership with the University of Strathclyde, the first Fulbright-Scotland Summer Institute. Nine students from universities in the United States were selected competitively to spend five weeks in Dundee and Glasgow for an intensive programme of lectures, seminars and cultural visits on the theme 'Scotland: Culture, Identity and Innovation'.

Organised by the Centre for Archive and Information Studies and Forman & Partners, the students studied aspects of Scotland as diverse as forensic anthropology, Robert Burns and McGonagall, Seventeenth Century Scottish history & palaeography and comic and theatre studies.

The First Minister, Alex Salmond hosted receptions for the students while the US Consul also welcomed the students to the Consulate during which the Principal provided a welcome address. The programme will continue for the next two years.



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when you're in, why not chat to our staff about membership deals for you and the whole family. we've got lots of different options to choose from.

www.dundee.ac.uk/ise



New talks for autumn

This Autumn brings a busy schedule of talks, discussions and lectures with the start of a new series of Café Science, Café Science Extra and Dundee Arts Café as well as the launch of Engage Dundee Evenings, a new evening lecture series aimed at highlighting the work going on in the College of Art and Social Sciences.

Topics coming up for discussion include beached whales, World War One commemorations in Dundee and the work of social reform pioneer Mary Lily Walker.

This month Café Science Dundee will look at the development of Scotland's bowel cancer screening programme with Professor Bob Steele, the man responsible for making it happen. Professor Steele, Head of Cancer Research and Professor of Surgery in the School of Medicine will be discussing the development of the programme on 28 October in Chambers Coffee House in South Tay Street.

Also in October (17th) Professor Rob Duck will discuss how railways changed Dundee's waterfront as part of the Engage Dundee Evenings lecture series. The series will continue in November (14th) with Dr Billy Kenefick and Dr Derek Patrick as they discuss their work on Dundee and the Great War.

All Engage Dundee Evenings lectures take place from 5.30 to 7pm in Lecture Theatre 1 of the Dalhousie Building and will be followed by a drinks reception.

Dundee graduate and author Eddie Small will continue the Dundee Arts Café programme in November (5th) with a talk about Mary Lily Walker, one of the University's first graduates who transformed lives across the city by introducing social and healthcare reform throughout late-Victorian Dundee

The following month Dr Sandra Wilson, from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, will look at biometric data in a talk on 3 December. All Dundee Arts Café talks take place at 6pm at The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum.

The work of up and coming scientists and researchers from Dundee, St Andrews, Abertay, the James Hutton Institute and Dundee Science Centre will be under the spotlight at the Café Science Extra series which continues next month.

On 13th November Dr Stacy DeRuiter, from St Andrews University, will discuss her research on what happens to whales when they are exposed to sonar sounds.

All Café Science Extra talks take place in Dundee Science Centre in Greenmarket and begin at 6pm.

A full list of talks in the new series of Café Science Dundee and Café Science Extra Dundee talks is available at www.cafesciencedundee.co.uk

A list of Dundee Arts Café talks can be found at www.dundeeartscafe.co.uk



Dundee Arts Café
Relax & discuss the arts, over coffee



Making an IMPACT

More than 400 artists, academics, and other practitioners from 31 countries gathered at the University for the world's largest and most prestigious printmaking conference last month.

The 8th biennial International Multidisciplinary Printmaking Conference (IMPACT 8) was taking place in Scotland for the first time. Conference delegates, world leaders in their field, debated the latest research and developments in printmaking while also joining thousands of visitors at the 40+ exhibitions, workshops, performances and other events organised around the conference.

IMPACT 8 also anchored the inaugural Print Festival Scotland (PFS), which took place in Dundee and at satellite venues across the country.

The conference was organised by Professor Elaine Shemilt and Dr Paul Harrison from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design (DJCAD), who have presented regularly at the conference series since the inaugural IMPACT event in Bristol 14 years ago.

"It is an honour for Dundee to host this prestigious conference, and it brings to the city a significant cultural and financial boost," said Professor Shemilt

"This is the first time this conference has been held in Scotland. Although the conference is hosted by the University and Dundee Contemporary Arts, we wanted to work with other arts organisations to make it a national celebration of Scotland's past, present and future contribution to print.

"This gave birth to Print Festival Scotland, and the thrilling series of events covering commercial and digital printing, historical aspects of printmaking, avant garde print practices and contemporary research. We also explored how new technology brings new ideas, opportunities and challenges.

Since the first IMPACT conference was hosted by University of West England, Bristol in 1999, the events have been held in seven countries and across three continents. What began as a "one-off" event has become a biennial feature in the printmaking calendar, bringing together hundreds of delegates from around the world.

The Conference celebrates the international diversity of the printmaking discipline from its roots in industrial communication through traditional, fine art based processes, to the current cutting-edge technology and theoretical debates.

The diversity and quality of print and printmaking practices in Dundee, both currently and historically made it an ideal location for attracting the world's leaders in this field.

Dr Harrison added, "The fact we were chosen to host IMPACT 8 is recognition of the work going on in Dundee, and our position internationally in the field of printmaking. It is a very prestigious conference and we wanted to show why Dundee is worthy of hosting such an event, and how world-leading work is taking place here.

"Scotland itself has a proud tradition of public access to printmaking, and we wanted to build on this when we hosted IMPACT 8 and Print Festival Scotland."

Sectarianism under the spotlight



Award-winning historian Professor Tom Devine OBE, FRSE, Hon MRSA, FBA will explore the contentious issue of sectarianism in Scotland next month at this year's Margaret Harris lecture on religion.

Professor Devine, who holds a personal senior research

chair in history at the University of Edinburgh and is Director of the Scottish Centre of Diaspora Studies, will be presenting the talk, *Sectarianism- A Scottish Problem?*, at the Dalhousie Building on 27 November.

Tickets for the event, which begins at 6pm, are free but must be booked in advance. They are available by phoning 01382 385108 or 385564, emailing events@dundee.ac.uk or visiting www.dundee.ac.uk/tickets

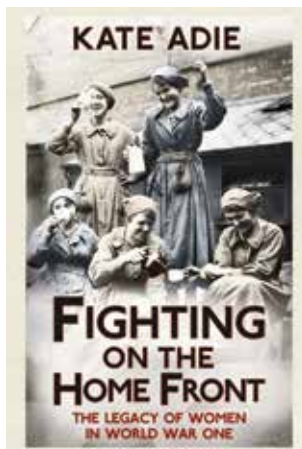
Professor Devine has won a number of prestigious awards including the Senior Hume Brown Prize in Scottish History, the Saltire Prize for Scottish Historical Research and the Royal Society of Edinburgh/ Beltane Senior Prize for Excellence in Public Engagement.

In 2001 he was awarded the Royal Gold Medal by the Queen and in 2005 was made an OBE in the New Year's Honours List for services to Scottish history.

He is also the author and editor of numerous books and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the British Academy and an Honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy.

The Margaret Harris lecture on religion has been an annual University event since 1965. Past lecturers have included many eminent names from the field of religion and philosophy including His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Rabbi Julia Neuberger, Arun Gandhi, Sir Jonathon Porritt and Terry Waite.

Dundee Christmas Lecture to welcome Kate Adie



"An Evening With Kate Adie" on 30 November will be chaired by Professor Sue Black, the University's Deputy Principal for Public Engagement.

The lecture will be followed by a civic reception and book signing of Kate's new book *Fighting on the Home Front: The Legacy of Women in World War One*.

A former chief news correspondent with BBC News, Kate Adie reported on some of the biggest news stories around the world including the Iranian Embassy Siege, the Tiananmen Square protests and the Gulf War.

She has won a clutch of awards and honorary degrees including three RTS awards, the Bafta Richard Dimbleby Award, and the Broadcasting Press Guild's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Broadcasting. She was awarded an OBE in 1993.

The event is free but ticketed and is expected to be very popular and overflow theatres may be used. Seating in the main lecture theatre will be allocated on a first come, first served basis on the night.

Tickets are available by emailing events@dundee.ac.uk or from the online store at www.buyat.dundee.ac.uk

Journalist and broadcaster Kate Adie, best known for her reports from war zones throughout the world, will be discussing her career at the annual Dundee Christmas Lecture at the University's Dalhousie Building next month.



what's on...

15 October

Bright Club

7.30pm

Braes, Perth Road

Research and comedy collide at the latest Bright Club offering. Tickets cost £5.50. Shows tend to sell out in advance so book early. For more information visit www.brightclubdundee.org



17 October

Engage Dundee: Dundee and the Tay: How Railways Changed the Waterfront

5.30pm to 7pm

Lecture Theatre 1, Dalhousie Building

The impact of mid-nineteenth century railway construction brought economic prosperity to Dundee but also havoc and devastation along the shores of the Tay. This talk explores how ruthless railway companies changed Dundee's waterfront for ever. For more information email Pam Lawrence on p.k.z.lawrence@dundee.ac.uk or phone 01382 381184



28 October

Café Science: National Screening for Bowel Cancer – Idea to Reality

7pm to 8pm

Chambers Coffee House & Restaurant, 34 South Tay Street

Professor Bob Steele will discuss the creation of the National Bowel Cancer screening programme. For more information contact Jon Urch on 386669 or via email at cafescience@dundee.ac.uk



5 November

Dundee Arts Café:

Mary Lily Walker – From Science to Society

6pm to 7pm

To mark the centenary of Mary Lily Walker's death author Eddie Small will explore how Dundee's "Forgotten Heroine" brought about improvements in the treatment and conditions of mothers and young children. For more information contact Jon Urch on 386669 or via email at dundeeartscafe@dundee.ac.uk



6 November

AHRI Lecture: The Peace Process in Colombia

6pm

D'Arcy Thompson Lecture Theatre, Tower Building

The Colombian Ambassador H.E Mauricio Rodriguez Munera will be visiting the University to discuss the peace process in Colombia. For more information contact the School of Humanities on 01382 388927



12 November

Bright Club

7.30pm

Braes, Perth Road

Research and comedy collide at the latest Bright Club offering. Tickets cost £5.50. Shows tend to sell out in advance so book early. For more information visit www.brightclubdundee.org



13 November

Café Science Extra: Beached Whales – Is Human Noise Responsible?

6pm to 7pm

Infusion Coffee Shop, Dundee Science Centre

Dr Stacy DeRuiter from the University of St. Andrews will discuss her research following whales using sound and movement-recording tags and what happens if they are exposed to sonar sounds.



14 November

Engage Dundee: Dundee and the Great War: perspectives on a city at war

5.30pm to 7pm

Dr Billy Kenefick and Dr Derek Patrick offer a flavour of some of the untold stories of a city at war including the prominent position of the Dundee press. To attend please email cassoffice@dundee.ac.uk



25 November

Café Science: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind: Could Keeping Active Improve Mental Ability and Exam Results?

7pm to 8pm

Chambers Coffee House & Restaurant, 34 South Tay St.

Josephine Booth (School of Psychology) will discuss contemporary research into mental ability and physical activity. For more information visit the website at www.cafesciencedundee.co.uk



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