

University of
St Andrews

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The StAndard

Staff Magazine, Issue 18, June 2010



Out of St Andrews

Ten years and going strong
On the track of a giant scorpion
Opening the doors to Medicine
Scotland's first university

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Cover picture: Malawian children

Credit: Stuart Armstrong

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Welcome



Welcome to the eighteenth issue of *The StAndard* - Happy Birthday to us!

It doesn't seem so long ago that we started publication of the University's first staff magazine, yet here we are six years on with a magazine that couldn't exist without your invaluable contributions and support.

So many staff have put themselves in the hot seat, shared their favourite memories and revealed what keeps them in this tiny corner of Fife. Academics have explained why their research is important; students have shared their successes and Special Collections have delved into their treasures to answer your probing historical questions. Last but not least, we have said goodbye to some very familiar faces and hello to many new ones.

This, our eighteenth issue, is no different. With an in-depth obituary, Professor Stephen Halliwell pays tribute to our former Chancellor Sir Kenneth Dover, who sadly passed away in March. Our front cover for once takes us out of St Andrews, paying tribute to the work that many of our colleagues are undertaking in Malawi. Turn to pages 8 and 42 for their stories. While this may be our coming of age issue, 2010 is also a significant year for the University's own part-time evening degree programme, now in its tenth year - read all about its continued success on pages 6-7. Also celebrating a ten year milestone is outgoing Director of StAnza, Brian Johnstone, while the 150th anniversary of the birth of D'arcy Wentworth Thompson is detailed in our collections profile. And finally.. while the sun is trying to shine, this issue's Guess Where? feature takes a trip to the beach.

Giant scorpions, mysterious missing letters, sneak previews and the latest staff awards.. there's never a shortage of tales to share.

However, this will be last issue of *The StAndard* until 2011. The pressing need for the University to be able to trade rather than cut its way out of the financial challenges facing the HE sector mean that the Press Office must devote all of its time for the foreseeable future. to gaining positive press coverage for key activities in Research and Teaching, Student Recruitment and Development.

We hope *The Standard* will be out of hibernation and back with you next year.

Meantime, turn over the page and enjoy the read - from new colleagues to old favourites, you know the drill by now.

In the hot seat (of learning)



Pam with her son Michael in Barcelona

NAME: Pam Cranston

POSITION: Photographic Research and Preservation Officer, Special Collections Department, University Library

LAST GOOD BOOK – *That Old Ace in the Hole* by Annie Proulx. A quirky, poetic and somewhat elegiac novel. Hilarious and by turns disturbing, the story centres on the effects of large scale hog farming on the drought torn Texas Panhandle. The main protagonist, an aimless and naïve city guy named Bob Dollar, makes a wild bid for freedom, heading out west to work undercover as a property scout for Global Pork Rind, who are greedily buying up old ranches to expand their vast factory farm empire. Great book.

FIRST RECORD BOUGHT – Dave Brubeck's *Take Five*. I was deeply into jazz for a very short time. Then it was the Blues, with Muddy Waters, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Nina Simone *et al*. The Beatles and David Bowie extended my interest in rock and funkier music styles.

TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION – Barcelona. Beautiful city. I had a great Christmas break there with my two sons. We walked miles, took cable-cars and trains up hills, walked down again, visited Gaudi's fabulous buildings and the extraordinary Sagrada Familia. Christmas lunch was a picnic beneath orange trees in a garden of the old fortress up on Montjuic, we drank Spanish wine and phoned home to tell everyone about the glorious view and weather we were enjoying - a nice surprise for my daughter, who was snowbound in Meaux!

HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY – Holidays and weekend breaks at my grandfather's caravan on a farm in Nantwich, Cheshire. The farmer was lovely, as was his gypsy house-keeper, Amy, who was very country-wise and had a real gypsy caravan in the same field as ours. She also had pretty palomino ponies, which were a bit wild so we were not allowed too near, but she let us guide the bull by his nose-ring - my father nearly had a fit when he heard about that. We used to gather wild berries for jam, and collected eggs from the hen house, crawling inside to get them. We also collected hairy caterpillars although we were not meant to as they gave me a terrible rash, but we still did.

IDEAL MEAL – As a vegetarian, I am very easy to please as long as the meal actually has vegetables in it or with it, which can be quite difficult eating out. I detest vegetarian 'options' that basically mean take it or leave it. I tend to aim for ethnic cooking, curries or noodles are a special favourite.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION – I had a Morgan car. Bought for £100 and sold it not long after for not much more. My second worst regret!

CHILDHOOD AMBITION – When I was very little I wanted to be a cowgirl. I was four or five when my mother took me to the Liverpool Playhouse to see the famous American cowboy film actor, Roy Rogers, his wife Dale Evans and their beautiful, extremely clever, horse Trigger. I had wanted so much to wear my (no doubt tatty) cowgirl outfit but was not allowed to. Toward the end of the show, all the kids were invited to join in a cap-gun salute and I couldn't. I went off the idea of being a cowgirl after that, and became a dolly nurse instead.

FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT – Younger Hall. Great venue for concerts.

FIRST LOVE – Elvis Presley! I had my room plastered with pictures of him, mostly cut from fan magazines, until that fatal day I returned from a school trip to find it had been refurbished in blue rose wallpaper. What a nightmare: my entire collection had been trashed and my personal shrine to Elvis turned into 'Heartbreak Hotel'. So I started to cover the walls with Beatles posters ...

ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM – *Shakespeare in Love*. The plot may be ridiculous but it is so well acted and has some brilliant allusions and wonderful costumes and sets too. My son is a prop-maker and scenic artist, so we are really into that kind of thing.

CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO – KD Lang's *Hymns of the 49th Parallel* album. Such a beautiful voice. I saw her in concert last year, a truly sensational singer. Inspirational.

THE PERFECT WEEKEND – Out with friends or family to the theatre, a concert or gig and dining out at a favourite restaurant; or enjoying long lazy lunches in the garden, with the Dreel burn tinkling along below. Lovely.



Arianna gets up close and personal with her favourite MUSA exhibit

NAME: Arianna Carlini

POSITION: Visitor Services Assistant, MUSA

LAST GOOD BOOK – *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. It made me feeling a child again and dreaming about a magical world.

FIRST RECORD BOUGHT – *Wild Boys* by Duran Duran. I loved their look and Simon LeBon was really cute. The songs were not so good, but at the time I thought they were amazing!

TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION – Australia. I love the contrast between the big cities and the deserted areas. The blue of the sea is the most beautiful thing I can think of when talking about holiday destinations...

HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY – When I first had a little kitten in my garden. I remember I used to spend ages watching it sleeping and being fed by its mum.

IDEAL MEAL – Seafood. I was born in a town with a culinary tradition and most of our recipes are based on seafood, so every time I have it, it reminds me of home.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION – A pair of earrings my husband gave me when we got together. They are not something that I would have bought for myself (I hope he won't read this!), but he was a student at the time, with no money so it was a very nice gesture.

CHILDHOOD AMBITION – I wanted to be an archaeologist, travel to south America and discover unknown civilisations. I managed to become an archaeologist, but I didn't fulfill my ambitions...

FAVOURITE LOCAL (St Andrews) **HAUNT** – I love browsing in the charity shops. I am always amazed at the bargains and the little treasures you can find there

FIRST LOVE (not necessarily a person!) – My Barbie dolls. I had many of them and I used to spend all my free time playing with them and making up stories.

ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM – *Dirty Dancing*. Despite the fact someone could argue that it is not a cornerstone in cinema history, I really like the songs and the dancers are amazing!

CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO – *The Best of Frank Sinatra*. His voice is wonderful and my three years old son loves him too so we listen to this record in the car every day.

THE PERFECT WEEKEND – Spa treatments, fizzy wine and a nice dinner with my husband. This is really a dream treat for me.

Would you like to put yourself or a colleague in the hot seat?
Email us at magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk with your suggestions.

On the starting block

In this issue, we welcome Sukhi Bains, Patrick Degg and Geoff Morris to their new posts.

Sukhi Bains **Equality & Diversity Officer** **Human Resources**

Kent-born Sukhi joined us in October 2009 having spent seven years leading on equalities and continuous diversity improvement initiatives within the largest shire council in England.

Having undertaken undergraduate studies in London and a postgraduate degree in Wales, Sukhi trained in the public sector in London and the Southeast, leading on European-funded education projects. Sukhi has also worked freelance, guiding the private and public sector across England and Wales on equalities improvement.



Coming to a new position at the University, and an area he has a 'natural love for', Sukhi is aware of the 'huge tasks' ahead. He said, "I am thriving on the challenges in aligning the University effectively with equalities legislation, especially with the new Single Equality Duty on all higher education institutions later this year. As a result I am action planning for many positive changes within the institution through internal partnership working with Heads of Schools and Unit Managers to enhance the quality brand of this historic institution."

Noting that his first impressions of the University is that it is 'a progressive one', Sukhi believes that 'the staff here have a professional passion to be the best in what they do, which adds value to the University brand'.

"I am a believer that a constant positive working environment results in positive business outcomes, and it is this type of positivity which will make the University a fair and equal place to research, study and work," he said.

Patrick Degg **Director of Development** **Development**

Patrick, who joined the University in January, was educated at Cambridge and began his career in finance with HSBC. He built his career in structured and leveraged finance, from Milan to Hong Kong, and has held senior posts with ING Bank, BNP Paribas and HSBC. He holds a number of awards, including Best Arranger of LBO Financing and Asia-Pacific Leveraged Deal of the Year from Euroweek Asia, and Best Leveraged Financing from FinanceAsia.

Explaining his decision to move from the world of banking into the voluntary giving and higher education sector, Patrick said, "I'd been an investment banker for nearly 18 years and was coming to a time in my career, and my life, when I was considering doing something else. I started



thinking, on a personal level, about how I succeeded in my career. If I look all the way back, it simply started with my being given opportunities at school and at university.

"I realised that I had been the beneficiary of a number of scholarships and bursaries and that without them I wouldn't have had the quality of education that really was the basis for success in my chosen career. That is when I started thinking that I could take my fundraising skills from banking and put them to use for a worthwhile cause. Excellence in education and facilitating access to education is something I firmly believe in."

With the 600th Anniversary approaching, this is an exciting time for the Development Department. For Patrick and the team it represents an opportunity to strengthen the University's community and secure the future of St Andrews as a world-leading university, but he is keen to stress that this will be a collective enterprise, stating "I look forward to working with all our academic community and staff towards the University's seventh century of academic excellence and intellectual curiosity".

Geoff Morris **Director of Special Projects** **Development**

Walsall-born Geoff joined the University in March as Director of Special Projects within the Development Department, with main responsibilities including the delivery of the 600th anniversary programme and the cultivation of corporate sponsorship opportunities. Before then Geoff was Head of 800th Anniversary Celebrations at the University of Cambridge. The celebrations for the 800th Anniversary were designed to complement a £1billion fundraising campaign currently being undertaken by the University of Cambridge and Colleges.

Before joining Cambridge, Geoff was Chief Executive of the national children's charity, Wooden Spoon. He presided over 6 years of record growth - tripling net income, doubling membership and moving Wooden Spoon into the top 3% of the Charity Sector.

His early career, following a degree in economics, saw him take on roles at the National Economic Development Council, Islington Council and a management consultancy, HRD International. Geoff moved into the charity sector following the Ethiopian famine of the mid-1980's when he worked as a volunteer on Live Aid and initiated Fashion Aid in direct response to the famine crisis.

Geoff was attracted to St Andrews by the opportunities for imagination and experimentation an anniversary affords, and the chance to put into practice many of the ideas he had developed through his experiences at Cambridge. Geoff said, "The tasks ahead are a challenge, especially in the short term in relation to the 600th Anniversary and I like a challenge. By definition, anniversaries of such magnitude are milestones that give the opportunity for fresh thinking. An anniversary motivates people to reflect on their own work and where they see it progressing in the future. It will be important to get right the balance between celebration and academic achievement. It was a privilege to be entrusted with the



running of the 800th Anniversary in Cambridge and I can now look forward to bringing the benefit of that experience to St Andrews."

Geoff is particularly keen to explore new ways that the University can develop enduring and mutually beneficial relationships with the private sector.

Reflecting on his first impressions of life in St Andrews, he said, "People at all levels have been welcoming, friendly, interested and encouraging. What more can one ask?"

Ten years and going strong

Ten years ago, St Andrews was one of the first universities in Scotland to launch a part-time evening degree, aimed at mature students who had – for one reason or another – missed out on higher education the first time around.

Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government, the steely determination of senior Continuing Education staff Alex Rougvie and Ian Hunter, and the support of the University, the innovative course was given the green light, paving the way for 74 students who have graduated by studying at a pace that suited their busy lifestyles.

Although the Universities of Dundee and Stirling launched similar degrees at the same time (Stirling has since closed down its programme), St Andrews remains the most successful, now with around 170 students on its books.

Run by Nicky Haxell, who came on board just in time to recruit the first set of students, the programme has gone from strength to strength, with fourteen students (over half of them University staff) due to graduate in its tenth anniversary year.

Catching up with Nicky, who initially arrived in St Andrews 26 years ago on a French lectureship, in the run-up to graduation, The StAndard learned that, despite the initial challenges, the programme has been nothing short of ‘an honour’ to work on.

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Some of the current university staff studying for the part time degree

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“I was only given a six-month contract initially, because the University wasn’t sure whether it was going to work out or not, so I had to make sure it was viable from year one!” Nicky remembers. “Alex and Ian did all the initial legwork, taking some three years to get the Schools involved; it was my job to come in and recruit the first batch of students – it was terrifying!”

She need not have worried. After doing the rounds of local colleges and adult career centres, the day the first advert in the local paper appeared, Nicky received some twenty phone calls from prospective students.

“It’s a bit like having a party,” said Nicky. “You put out the invites, but you don’t know how many people are going to come.. it could be a hundred, it could be none. I wouldn’t have been surprised either way, although of course Alex and Ian had done all the relevant market research.”

Happily, the first year attracted a healthy 35 students, with the first of them graduating in front of an emotional Nicky in 2004.

"We knew and they knew that they were guinea pigs, but it was a very exciting first year and we all got to know each other very well," Nicky explained, describing herself as 'recruitment officer, formal adviser, general trouble shooter and cheerleader'!

Describing that first graduation of six students as 'really quite emotional', Nicky remembers that the academic community was quietly surprised at the success of the programme.

"They weren't really sure what to expect, but I think many of them were pleasantly surprised, particularly the English lecturer who was met with a round of applause after his first lecture! But really, we're bringing a different type of student to the University, people who have already lived their lives and so don't take anything for granted," she explained.

"I think the programme is such a success because of the range of subjects we offer, from the arts and sciences to divinity to Information Technology."

Founding subjects English and IT were chosen because they were 'good basics to study', but now students can choose from up to thirty different modules. Today, almost all of the academic Schools are on board (with IT, Art History and History being the most popular), with Nicky's greatest wish being to offer new students subjects within all Schools. In fact, 2011 looks to be a promising year with the aim of getting Maths and possibly Social Anthropology and Music on board; Nicky reckons she may hit the 200 student mark at the same time. Most importantly, discussions are currently underway which may lead to the conferring of a BSc General Sciences degree, rather than the General MA – in recognition of the strength of the sciences on the programme.

Given the flexibility to go at their own pace, students (who must be over 21) can take up to nine years to graduate, though most complete within four to five years.

Not content with studying, working and juggling family commitments, during their time on the Evening Degree, Nicky's students have married, changed jobs, overcome illness and given birth to well over twenty babies. Over the last ten years, students from a diverse range of backgrounds have arrived to undertake the Evening Degree – among them three sets of husband-and-wife students (some bravely taking the same subjects!). At 82, Elma Cheetham will probably go down in history as our oldest student, graduating with an MA General degree in 2005.

Students' occupations have included car salesman, electrician, mental health nurse, social worker, chef, cleaner, police officer, butcher, and even a retired professor. Due to the favourable rates for existing University staff, some 27 have already graduated over the six ceremonies.

Many graduates have successfully gone onto their chosen career paths in teaching (both primary and secondary school), community education and further study, with one going on to undertake a PhD.

And they are a cosmopolitan bunch too – although recruited from the local area, students on the part-time degree come from a range of countries including Canada, Romania, Poland, the Netherlands France, Germany, Hungary and Spain.. with some brave souls commuting regularly from Glasgow, Edinburgh and the North.

Although Evening Degree students face more obstacles than most, with the ever-present issue of finance (part-time students pay tuition fees), as well as family commitments, jobs and illness to cope with, they still manage.

Nicky commented, "The students have a really good self-support network – they are all here for the same reasons despite coming from different backgrounds; they look out for one another."

Acknowledging the support of College Gate, the Deans of Arts over the past ten years, the academic schools who were on board at the beginning, and units such as Registry and Finance who have 'bended and amended' to accommodate the differing needs of evening students, Nicky believes that she could take double the amount of students, with seventy new arrivals already on the books from last September.

She said, "Once the first thirty students were in, I was always confident we would get more through the doors. The University is very committed to the programme, which has only increased over the years, and it has always worked well. The students are all really nice people, it's been an honour to get to know them all, and they've always been of a high enough calibre to study here – and we offer them just what they need at this stage of their lives."

Gayle Cook

A special reception will be held in October for current students and all Evening Degree graduates, to mark the programme's tenth anniversary. For more information on the evening degree, contact Nicky on 01334 46 2203 or evening @st-andrews.ac.uk. Places on the programme are still available for September 2010.

Chimwemwe's children

Why the children of Malawi are happy to be helped, by Amanda Fleet.

Last year, I wrote about a project in Malawi that works with the children living on the streets of Blantyre to help them to return to school. Eighteen months on, there are a lot of updates..

Schooling in Malawi can be haphazard. Primary schooling is compulsory but not enforced, and secondary schooling is neither compulsory nor free. To go to school, children need to have a uniform, even for primary schools. Although the uniforms are relatively cheap, they are beyond the means of children living on the streets.

The project provides the children with uniforms, school essentials and pays the fees for the children attending secondary school. One of the children from the project is now attending the College of Medicine and is studying to be a doctor – something that simply wouldn't have been possible without this help.

My involvement with the project started after I met its leader, Macdonald Nkhutabasa, in Johannesburg airport whilst we were waiting to board a plane to Malawi. We kept in touch and in January 2009 we met up again and I had the chance to meet the street-children he is trying to help. Early in 2009, the project gained a name, Chimwemwe, and a logo, a sheep. Chimwemwe means 'We are happy' and the children chose this as the name for the project because 'they were happy that people cared about them'. They chose the logo of a sheep because 'sheep are quiet and obedient like us' although I would have to say that the children I have met on my travels to Malawi are most certainly not quiet!

The project applied for Community-Based Organisation (CBO) status in Malawi (the first stage to becoming a Non-Government Organisation – NGO) in the summer of 2009 and was awarded it in August 2009, allowing it to apply for grants and donations from charities such as Unicef, Oxfam and Save the Children amongst others. I also began my campaign and started talking about the project to anyone who would listen, to help with fundraising.

What have we achieved in the year since gaining CBO status? We have bought uniforms for about forty children, we are paying the secondary school fees for half a dozen of the older children, we are providing educational materials to the schools and to the children to support their learning – exercise books, textbooks, stationery – and we are also trying to work with the communities to stem the flow of children onto the streets in the first place.



The children arrive onto the streets for a variety of reasons. Most of them have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS, having lost one or both of their parents. There is an extended family system in Malawi where many orphaned children move into the care of their relatives. Whilst this can work out, it can also put an enormous burden onto the family, who may have been struggling to manage before the arrival of more children. Many of them cannot manage the extra costs of sending the children to school, and some cannot manage the extra costs of feeding them. As a consequence, some of the children have been sent onto the streets to beg to raise money for the families. A few of the children have run away from abuse.

Chimwemwe is working with the families and communities to help support the children to return to school. Often, just providing the uniforms is enough to allow the extended family to cope with the extra children. We endeavour wherever

possible to keep the child within its community and only resort to finding orphanage placement when absolutely necessary. The volunteers working with Chimwemwe also visit the schools to help to explain the situation to the staff and to encourage the children at school.

Chimwemwe also recognises the importance of sport and recreation to both physical and mental health and organises football tournaments with the children. Football is enormously popular in Malawi but the children cannot afford to buy balls. Chimwemwe has bought strips and footballs and the children play each weekend. Having witnessed some of the matches, I can say that they are not only a huge amount of fun, but also a chance to check on the welfare of the children there and catch any issues that are developing.

Underlying all of this is some essential infrastructure. As well as Mac, there are other volunteers helping out and we have now managed to acquire an office in one of the suburbs of Blantyre to use as a base. Transport issues are being resolved by the purchase of bicycles for the volunteers, to facilitate visiting the schools and communities, many of which lie a few kilometres from the centre of Blantyre and we are in the process of buying cooking pots and sacks of maize flour to make the production of meals for the children cheaper. I have also followed a vertical learning curve in web-page writing and produced a website for Chimwemwe to facilitate awareness of the project and the issues.

One of Chimwemwe's long-term aims is to buy an acre or two of land to build a centre on to provide shelter for the children and permanent office space for the charity. The gardens would be used to grow vegetables, not only to help feed the children, but also to teach them basic cultivation and food production – an essential life skill.



Amanda

So where are we now? Everything we do is paid for from donations. The Rotary Club of the Howe of Fife very generously gave £500 to the project in January this year and also organised a concert in aid of Chimwemwe in April that raised £832. In addition, the Black Watch Battalion cadets organised a bag-pack over Christmas and New Year which raised £100. Dr Colin Nicol has also produced beautiful photographs of the Bute to sell to staff and students who will be leaving the Bute this summer, with the proceeds going to Chimwemwe. This has already generated almost £100. Unicef have promised £2,000 (but at present this remains a promise not a cheque). In Malawi, a number of small firms and charities have raised money to help the project with a number of other grants and donations pending. Without these donations we would not have been able to achieve any of the work we have done. We are working to get project grant funding from larger charities working in Africa to make the future more secure for the children.

What started out as a chance meeting has resulted in the support of some of the poorest children in the world and I am proud to be able to be a part of it.

If you want to find out more about the work of Chimwemwe Children's Centre, please visit our website:
www.chimwemwe.net

If you want to buy a photograph of the Bute, please email Colin at
cjmn@st-andrews.ac.uk



Brian Johnstone: 10 years of poetry

by Annie Kelly, StAnza Press & Media Manager

StAnza 2010 had a special significance this year as the last with Festival Director and co-founder Brian Johnstone at the helm. He stepped down in May after a decade as Festival Director, having overseen its growth from relatively humble beginnings to become a high profile festival that is both intrinsically Scottish and international.

He has overseen some remarkable achievements. Last year, StAnza was shortlisted for a Scottish Thistle Award, in recognition of its impact during Homecoming Year; in previous years he has brought a range of major American poets to the festival, commissioned art works from leading Scottish artists, featured both past and present Poet Laureates, and has brought to StAnza poets from over 40 countries. The last five years have seen sustained increases in attendances and there is a sense that, as the festival turns 13, it has grown up.

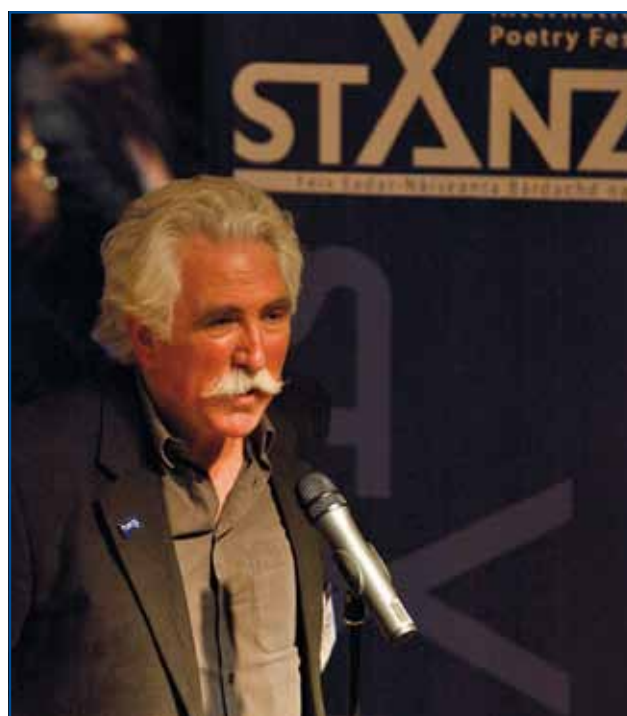
Having been the festival's driving force for so long, it is heartening to find that he's not taking a back seat with poetry: rather the opposite. His latest collection, *The Book of Belongings* was published by Arc last year and in between working on this year's festival, he has been giving readings around the country and as far afield as Italy, with more in the offing at the Borders Book Festival and the Edinburgh International Book Festival over the summer.

The Book of Belongings has been described as 'about memories and secrets and the passing of time...about loss of innocence [and] the loss of lives in war' (*The Scotsman*). The title poem of the collection was inspired by a book of belongings of the dead, used to identify those lost in the Bosnian conflict, and the cover image, Will Maclean's *Archaeology of Childhood* reflects topics broached in several other poems.

"It is no coincidence," Brian says wryly, "that my first book in 13 years has coincided with my stepping down from StAnza. While it's been a real pleasure to work professionally in poetry promotion, it has rather got in the way of my writing."

On 1 June he handed over the reins to Eleanor Livingstone, currently the Artistic Director, but will continue to be involved as Festival Consultant.

Now he plans to devote more time to writing and to working with poetry and music. He is the poet member of Trio Verso, a collaboration with saxophonist Richard Ingham (Fellow in New Music and Composer in Residence at the University of St Andrews Music Centre) and bassist Louise Major (double bass teacher at the Music Centre and Research Fellow with the Centre for Biomolecular Sciences). Dedicated to presenting live poetry with jazz and improvised soundscapes, the trio has performed for festivals and other venues around Scotland. They will be playing at the Big Tent Festival in Falkland this



summer, and The Bakehouse arts centre in Galloway in the autumn, with other gigs lined up for later in the year.

Born and brought up in Edinburgh, Brian's first involvement in poetry was during his teens listening to poets such as Norman MacCaig, Robert Garioch and the popular Liverpool Poets he read at the Traverse Theatre while starting to write himself. As an undergraduate at St Andrews, he kept up his interest, but it wasn't until the 1980s that he returned seriously to writing.

"It was those early experiences of live poetry," Brian says, "that gave me the idea, decades later, to start something along the same lines. And out of those experiences I've been inspired to bring an always eclectic mix to programming."

In 1991, he co-founded Edinburgh's Shore Poets, having previously served on Professor Nick Roe's committee organising the St Andrews Poetry Festival in the 80s. Other literary activities included running Cave Readings for the Pittenweem Arts Festival and stints as an events chair for the Edinburgh International Book Festival. He has also taught creative writing for the University of St Andrews Open Association and the Open College of the Arts.

Brian Johnstone's first collection *The Lizard Silence* (Scottish Cultural Press) was published in 1996, followed by two pamphlet collections. His work has been published in Britain

and America and has been translated into Catalan, Swedish, Polish, Slovakian and Lithuanian. In 2009 *Terra Incognita*, a small collection of his poems in Italian translation, was published by L'Officina (Vincenza). He has been poet of the month on the websites of both the Scottish Poetry Library and the Scottish Arts Council.

With such a busy schedule, it is clear that poetry is still at the centre of Brian's life. As a farewell gesture to StAnza this year and 'a final fling at programming', he organised the 'Director's Cut' presenting his favourite poets – six new to StAnza and six returning – plus the artist Brigid Collins, whose poetry-inspired work he admires.

'That was a fine way to put a creative full stop on my work with StAnza and a good note to go out on,' said Brian. 'While I'm looking forward to having more time to pursue my own creative interests, I will also enjoy seeing how StAnza develops and grows as I'm sure it will under its new Festival Director. It's been a privilege to develop such a major event and I'm delighted to be able to hand it on to such a dedicated successor. It's going to be great – just you wait and see!'

The Book of Belongings is published by Arc Publications. For information about Trio Verso, visit www.myspace.com/trioverso.

Saints Sport: from strength to strength

Four top sportsmen in their fields have joined the University's Department of Sport and Exercise, now branded Saints Sport. The new senior positions mark out the Department's aim to become a force to be reckoned with across a variety of sporting fields.

Steve North, Ian MacCallum, David Ross and Mike Aitken have joined the Golf, Swimming, Rugby and Tennis athletes as a part of the Focus Sports development programme.

Steve North is Director of Instruction at the St Andrews Links Golf Academy and is responsible for the delivery of the world-class coaching. Steve is currently one of the Top 25 Instructors in the UK as voted by *Golf Monthly* magazine. He was instrumental in the opening of the Academy in 2005 after four successful years as David Leadbetter's Director of Instruction at one of Asia's top golf resorts, Saujana Golf and Country Club.

After becoming one of the youngest golf professionals to complete the rigorous David Leadbetter training, Steve went on to conduct golf clinics all over Asia for some of the world's leading corporations and is still writing instructional articles for a number of publications including *Asian Golf Monthly*.

Steve is an expert in the use of video analysis technology and currently is working with golfers at all levels of the game including successful tournament professionals, nationally ranked junior players (including the National Scottish U/16



& U/12 Champions as well as the English U/14 Champion), county level players and complete beginners. He is also well versed in links golf having spent time at Royal Jersey Golf Club and Seacroft Golf Club.

Originally from Lincolnshire, Steve turned professional in 1997 becoming a fully qualified member of the British PGA - gaining perfect marks in the swing theory on the way.

Ian MacCallum is the current coach of the Scottish National Select Squad, as well as the current coach of Scottish Universities Water Polo Team. He has now joined St Andrews to take on the Director's position for Waterpolo and

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Swimming. Ian has had an extensive playing career, including: Edinburgh University Captain, Scottish University Captain and British University Captain at the World Student Games in Zagreb 1987. Ian gained over 100 caps for the Scottish National Waterpolo team and has already proven to be a dynamic asset to the St Andrews team.

Ian's waterpolo experience has not just been confined to his nation, as the Scottish National Player of the year on two occasions, he also went on to represent Great Britain on three occasions, competing in the European Championships. A great deal of Ian's commitment to water sports goes far beyond the pool. He is currently a member of the Scottish Water Polo Committee and a Board Director of Scottish Swimming.

David Ross has been recruited from his position with the Scottish Rugby Union where he spent the last three years working in their Performance Department as a Performance Development Manager (PDM) for the Caledonia region. He is a UKCC Level 3 qualified coach as well as a Senior UKCC Trainer, IRB Trainer and UKCC Coach Educator. David was the youngest club coach in Scotland when he took over as Head Coach at GHK RFC in Glasgow at 21 years old where he held the reigns before being appointed by Scottish Rugby.

In the summer of 2009, David worked as backs coach for the Scotland U18 Squad at their Performance Training camp in Valladolid, Spain. Returning to the camp two years after his first stint at the camp as Team Manager.

David's proudest achievements have been assisting individual players through the Scottish Rugby Pathway and achieving selection for International Age grade squads, or moving onto National Academy or Professional Contracts. With over

30 players over the last three years achieving such honours, David's passion for player development has shown through and he is looking to continue that in his role as Director of Rugby at the University.

His vision is to establish the University of St Andrews as the first choice University for talented rugby players when coming to Scotland. The Rugby club is aiming to become the number one team in Scotland in terms of university rugby in SUS and BUCS but also move up the Scottish Rugby National Leagues and into the Premier 3 within five or six seasons. This is a tough challenge considering the academic commitments of players at the University but with a robust and systematic programme in place that focuses on individual player development, as well as team development, and the support of the Sports Science experts in the department, there is nothing to hold this talented squad of players back.

Mike Aitken, the new Director of Tennis, has been coaching tennis full time for over 20 years, 18 of them at St Andrews Tennis Club and around Fife. The only break in his coaching career was a twelve-month spell at Tennis Scotland as a Development Officer and Talent & Performance Co-ordinator. Mike's input helped bring success to the St Andrews Club with many of the juniors winning Scottish titles and going on to represent North County at junior and senior level and some going on to play for Scotland.

Mike is looking forward to spending more time with the players, building up the Performance Programme, and working closely with the Sports Exercise Team at the University.

Debby Sargent



Retirals



Residential and Business Services

Isobel Clifford, Head of Student Accommodation Services

Isobel, who helped find beds for over 60,000 St Andrews students, has taken early retirement from her post following 29 years distinguished service to the University.

During her time in St Andrews, Isobel helped thousands of students find accommodation over a period when the popularity of Scotland's oldest university has soared worldwide and demand for places has increased markedly.

Educated at Edinburgh University, Isobel held posts in programme scheduling with the BBC World Service in London and the Religious Broadcasting Unit of BBC Radio Scotland before returning to Edinburgh where she worked in student accommodation services for four years.

On a whim, she applied for a vacancy in Student Accommodation Services at St Andrews, and arrived to take up post in the Fife town in May 1981.

At 7250, St Andrews has one of Scotland's smallest student populations but it houses substantially more of its students than any other university. Over 55 percent stay in University-owned or managed accommodation and all first years are guaranteed a place in halls.

Allocating accommodation to all those who want it has proved to be one of the most important, demanding and challenging logistical tasks undertaken by St Andrews staff, and Isobel led

the accommodation team throughout a period which has seen student numbers grow and a rise in the numbers of international students.

Isobel, who is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Housing and a former Chair of the Association for Student Residential Accommodation, plans to "indulge" herself in retirement and will enjoy "not running to a timetable for the first time in decades!"

She was presented with a variety of gifts by colleagues at a reception in Parliament Hall.

School of Mathematics & Statistics

Eric Priest retired at the end of September after giving 41 years of service to the University. During this time he played a major role in establishing St Andrews as a leading centre for theoretical studies of the behaviour of the Sun's corona, his own distinguished contributions to the subject having been recognised by his election as Fellow of the Royal Society in 2001.

Eric received many awards for his research and has served on numerous committees and panels for learned societies, Research Councils and the RAE.

Eric's retirement was marked with a reception, with Eric generously donating funds from his collection to the Student Hardship Fund.

Musical notes

Do you have a soundtrack to your life? Is there one song that always cheers you up, makes you sad or reminds you of days gone by? What tunes inspire you, relax you or get you in the mood?

From what they listen to at work, home, in the car or on holiday, The StAndard asks members of staff to name their top ten tracks of all time. Send yours to magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk

NAME: John Anderson

POSITION: Head of the School of International Relations

1. *Dazed and Confused* by Led Zeppelin - the perfect song for a Head of School, though as I saw them perform this in the early 1970s it also reminds me of how old I am.
2. *Ave verum corpus* by Mozart - sung at my wedding and pencilled in for my funeral (no hurry).
3. *Piano Concerto No 15* by Mozart - an adagio to make you weep and a third movement that really swings in the right hands.
4. *Need Your Love So Bad* by the pre-pop Fleetwood Mac - white men can play the blues.
5. *Heard It Through The Grapevine* covered by Creedence Clearwater Revival - a largely forgotten band (except for those of a certain age) with great original songs and great covers.
6. *The Wasp (Texas Radio and the Big Beat)* by The Doors - take off the trenchcoat, forget the more pretentious songs, and check out this quirky little number.
7. *The Song of the Cherubim* by Dmitri Bortnianski - occasionally attending Orthodox liturgies during a year spent in Moscow, this provided a contrast with much of the dreariness of late Soviet Russia and truly, in the words of mediaeval chroniclers, represented a point where heaven and earth meet.
8. *Concerto for Piano and Trumpet* by Shostakovich - a triumph of optimism over adversity, especially when Martha Argerich is vamping up the piano part.
9. *Billericay Dickie* by Ian Dury - horribly incorrect but makes me smile.
10. *Kind of Blue* (the whole album) by Miles Davis - leadership through understatement, a lesson to us all.



Obituaries



It was with great sadness that the University announced the death of its former Chancellor, Sir Kenneth Dover, FRSE, FBA in March. Sir Kenneth died peacefully in hospital a few days short of his 90th birthday.

Professor Stephen Halliwell wrote an insightful obituary for *The Guardian* newspaper, which we reproduce in full for readers of *The StAndard*.

Sir Kenneth Dover (11 March 1920 - 7 March 2010)

Sir Kenneth Dover, one of the world's greatest Hellenists, has died at the age of 89. His career of pre-eminent academic distinction included the presidency of Corpus Christi College, Oxford (1976-86), the presidency of the British Academy (1978-81), and the Chancellorship of the University of St Andrews (1981-2005). Dover was a towering, renowned figure in the study of ancient Greek language, literature and thought; very few indeed could approach the range and quality of his scholarship, especially the synthesis of philological, historical and cultural acumen which marked all his work. His name became known to a wider public partly for his groundbreaking book *Greek Homosexuality* in 1978, and partly as a result of the controversy which erupted after publication of his candid autobiography, *Marginal Comment*, in 1994.

Dover was born in London and educated at St Paul's School and Balliol. He showed an early fascination for the varieties and intricacies of language, going so far as to teach himself the grammar of some Pacific languages as an adolescent. A capacity for close, subtle investigation of

what linguistic usage can reveal about the fabric of human experience was to remain his hallmark, but he distanced himself from theoretical linguistics ('my attempts to read Chomsky are enfeebled by the rapid onset of boredom', as he put it). His undergraduate studies were suspended for war service in the Western Desert and Italy, earning him a mention in dispatches but also bringing him into contact with working-class soldiers whose unpretentious attitudes made a lasting impact, he maintained, on his conception of life even in Greek antiquity. He returned to Oxford in 1945 to continue an academic trajectory illuminated by a succession of prizes and scholarships. In 1948 he began doctoral study under the great historian Arnaldo Momigliano (who later said there was nothing he could teach Dover), but this was overtaken by appointment to a fellowship of Balliol in the same year.

The early 1950s saw him build up a prodigious mastery of Greek language and literature, above all in three areas (comic drama, historiography, and oratory) in which he was to become a world authority. When he left Balliol in 1955 for the chair of Greek in St Andrews, it was with the general expectation that he would succeed Eric Dodds (author

of *The Greeks and the Irrational*) to the Regius chair in Oxford; but when that opportunity was presented in 1960, family considerations led him to decline it. He remained in St Andrews till 1976. During his two decades there he became the finest Hellenist of his generation in Britain and author of a succession of acclaimed books, including major commentaries on Aristophanes' *Clouds* and on parts of Thucydides' *History*.

Always a polished stylist, and, in his prime, a superbly assured lecturer, Dover was capable of adapting his expertise for very different audiences, even if a 1980 tv series on the Greeks was blighted by maladroit directing. *The Greeks* (1980), for instance, a book commissioned in connection with the tv programmes, distils many of his guiding ideas for students and general readers, while *Greek Word Order* (1960) is an exhibition of formidably meticulous analysis on a subject so improbably specialised to some eyes that I have seen its title 'corrected' to *Greek World Order*. Highly characteristic of Dover's methods and mentality was *Greek Popular Morality* (1974), a richly documented attempt to reconstruct the value-system of fourth-century BC Athens from the various argumentative strategies used by orators in the city's courts and political assembly. This work brought out his concern to try to understand the Greeks always in realistic rather than idealised terms. His complementary suspicion of abstractions engendered an impatience with philosophical aspirations (not least Plato's) which formed one of his few intellectual weaknesses.

The production of substantial books, together with visiting positions in the USA and elsewhere, continued after Dover's move to the presidency of Corpus in 1976 (and his knighthood in 1977). Particular attention inevitably focussed on *Greek Homosexuality* (1978; subsequently translated into several languages, Japanese among them), which treated the topic with unprecedented openness, nuanced definition, and a full panoply of scholarly techniques. The work drew together the evidence of literature (not least, a prosecution speech in a sensational Athenian court case), visual art (Dover inspected hundreds of sexually explicit vase-paintings, often in the basements of museums), history, mythology, and even philosophy, to present a compelling picture of the complex web of sexual and social practices, as well as the ambivalent mores, that constituted the phenomena now grouped together under the label of Greek homosexuality. The book proved a turning-point in the modern study of ancient sexual cultures, greatly stimulating the growth of this field in the 1980s (and not just among specialists: Michel Foucault was among those influenced by it). Later in life Kenneth was sometimes impatient that the subject had become an academic industry and that *Greek Homosexuality* had become the best known of his works, partly occluding what he felt to be his own central achievement as a

historian of the Greek language. But the book is deservedly admired for harnessing scholarly sophistication to a shrewd and broad-minded historical imagination. If parts of its argument have been challenged, it remains an indispensable resource and makes some recent contributions to the subject look tawdry.

The later years of Dover's career continued to be marked by important publications, including two volumes of collected papers, a commentary on Aristophanes' *Frogs*, and his last book, *The Evolution of Greek Prose Style* (1997), a difficult but searching essay in historical stylistics. Dover's eminence led him, however, into the thick of controversy. His presidency of the British Academy was marked by acrimonious contention over Anthony Blunt's fellowship after the latter's exposure as a Soviet spy: while privately favouring Blunt's expulsion, Dover felt obliged, in the interests of the Academy's unity, to maintain public even-handedness, a policy which made him the target of animosity from opposing camps. But he was more trenchant in declaring his own convictions when in 1985 he was the only serving Oxford head of house to lend open support to opposition to a proposed honorary degree for Margaret Thatcher.

The same year brought to a head a protracted problem in Corpus over the chronically unstable conduct of Trevor Aston, a history fellow whose bitter disputes with the college led Dover, as he subsequently revealed, to wish him dead and even to contemplate pushing him into suicide. When Aston did kill himself (for independent reasons), Dover felt immense relief, which he described with ruthless honesty in *Marginal Comment*. This frankness, which soured his relations with certain Corpus Fellows, shocked some people, as did the book's occasional passages of personal sexual detail. But even if his judgement of tone in respect of the latter was naive, Dover had taken a principled decision to write autobiography in a confessional mode, one of the oldest traditions of the genre, and he thought that some reactions to his book ostensibly preferred hypocrisy to truthful handling of one's feelings and experiences. It is unfortunate that the furore over these aspects of *Marginal Comment* obscured the work's elegantly written attempt to explore the motivations and the understated passions, that had shaped a life of academic enquiry at the highest level.

The distinctive value of Kenneth Dover's remarkable body of work lies not just in its consummate linguistic and historical adeptness, but in its fusion of these qualities with an imaginative insight that never ceased to find the whole gamut of human behaviour worthy of attention and explanation. To a degree extremely rare among top-rank academics, Kenneth was genuinely interested in all dimensions of life – from the sounds of people's voices, as he sometimes said, to the largest ideas which inform their actions in the world. Students and colleagues found him exemplary not for his pursuit of a method or ideology (he

was scrupulously undidactic) but for the finesse with which he displayed how the best historical thinking can fuse technical excellence with deeply reflective understanding. His death feels like the end of an era in classical scholarship. His extensive published legacy will always be a landmark in the study of the ancient Greeks.

His wife Audrey, whom he married in 1947, died two months before him in December 2009. They are survived by a son, Catherine, and a daughter, Alan.



Professor Sir James Whyte Black OM FRS FRSE FRCP, MB ChB 1946, Hon DSc 1985

Born in Lanarkshire and educated at Beath High School in Cowdenbeath, Sir James won a scholarship at the age of 15 to study Medicine at St Andrews. He came to St Andrews in war time and first lived in St Salvator's Hall where his portrait hangs today.

Sir James met his future wife, Hilary Vaughan, in St Andrews where she was studying Biochemistry and the couple married shortly after his graduation. He worked briefly in the Department of Physiology before moving abroad and went on to have a very distinguished career with posts in academia and industry. Sir James' discovery in the early 1960s of the drugs propranolol and pronethalol, which work by blocking the body's own response to stress hormones, revolutionised the way doctors treated heart patients. Although best known for his work on drugs which regulate the heart, Sir James also made significant discoveries in the development of drugs to treat heartburn and ulcers.

Sir James was knighted in 1981. He was awarded an Honorary degree by the University of St Andrews in 1985 and in 1988 was awarded a Nobel Prize for Medicine for his work on drug development. In 2000 he received the Order of Merit. Sir James served as Chancellor of the University of Dundee from 1992 to 2006.

The University of St Andrews has recently established the Sir James Black Chair of Medicine in his honour and expects to make the first appointment to this prestigious post later this year.



Geoffrey Rickman

Geoffrey Rickman was educated at the University of Oxford and came to St Andrews as the sole Lecturer in Ancient History in 1962.

A hard-working scholar and charismatic lecturer, who was an outstanding hit with first-year students, Geoffrey steadily built up the presence of Ancient History in the University, working alongside other notable classicists, such as Kenneth Dover.

His qualities of wisdom and incisiveness were widely recognised in the University community and he held a number of Faculty and University posts. As Master of the United College in the 1990s, he oversaw the introduction of modularisation and the reform of the structure of the academic year.

A Fellow of the British Academy, his publications, including two books, *Roman Granaries* and *Store Buildings* and *The Corn Supply of Ancient Rome*, bear the distinctive imprint of the question which engaged him all his life: how did things actually work?

Those who worked with him, and learned from him, will remember a man of kindness, generosity and humility, who will be much missed.

Jill Harries, School of Classics

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Robert Dingle

Professor Robert Dingle was a much respected scholar and Head of the Department of Theoretical Physics in St Andrews during the 1960s and 70s. He died suddenly at his home in St Andrews on March 2nd after a long battle with illness.

Bob Dingle was educated at Cambridge and Bristol. He came to St Andrews in 1960 from a readership in theoretical physics at the University of Western Australia. On arrival here, he took up the recently created Chair of Theoretical Physics, which he held until his early retirement in 1987. He was also the first Head of the Department.

Professor Dingle's original field of research was theoretical solid state physics where he made major contributions in diverse areas such as the magnetic properties of metals, the anomalous skin effect, scattering theory in semiconductors and the conductivity of thin wires. From an early point in his research career he became increasingly involved in how asymptotic series can be obtained and how, by a suitable process of interpretation, they can be employed to maximum advantage in theoretical physics. He published numerous influential papers on this subject culminating in his definitive *Asymptotic Expansions*; their derivation and interpretation, published in 1973. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

As an administrator, he had two particularly notable achievements. One was the remodelling of the basic structure

of first year courses in Mathematics. The other was overseeing the planning and construction of the Students Union building in his role as Convener of the Project Committee.

Away from work, he had a keen interest in local history, architecture, music and gastronomy. Those who worked with Professor Dingle remember a valued colleague, an excellent teacher and a good friend with a greatly admired sense of humour.

He is survived by his wife Helen and daughters Judith and Susan.

Professor Jeff Sanderson

Jeff Sanderson, retired Professor of Mathematics and former Proctor of the University, died at home aged 72 after a battle with cancer.

Jeff joined the University in 1966 as a Lecturer in Applied Mathematics. He was promoted to a Chair of Theoretical Plasma Physics in 1985. He subsequently was elected Dean of Science and most recently served as Proctor and Vice-Principal from September 1997 until his retirement in December 2000.

He is survived by his wife, Misha, and their children, Sanya and Mark.

Shoestring budget film named among top movies of 2009

You read about it here first... in the last issue of The StAndard, Film Studies academic William Brown wrote about his film-making exploits across Europe.

Last summer, William took a bunch of credit crunch unemployed friends on an adventure to make a film about the rebellious filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard.

Hitchhiking and blagging his way across Paris, London and Geneva, the loss of reels and near loss of eyesight didn't put William off making the film he now hopes to take to the film festivals.

In the meantime, the film, *En Attendant Godard*, has been named as one of American film critic Jonathan Rosenbaum's top 5 films of 2009, in the film industry magazine *Sight and Sound*!



Howzat!

Staff Cricket Club is batty for new members



There are many sounds that evoke the experience of cricket in Fife. There is the gentle thud of the bat hitting ball, the sharp cry of “howzat” as fielders appeal for a dismissal and the relentless drumming of rain on the pavilion windows.

The St Andrews University Staff Cricket Club is a long-established club offering cricket for staff and students (postgraduate and undergraduate) throughout the summer. Every year it plays up to 40 competitive and friendly matches from April until the end of September. It offers a wide range of games for players of all levels of ability and experience. For the more experienced and competitive members there are regular 40-over matches on Sundays and the chance to participate in the Scottish Small Clubs Cup.

However, if you are more of a part-time slogger or haven't played since you were in short trousers at school there are also quick fire games of 20/20 on most Wednesday evenings. Of course all these matches build towards the ultimate grudge match against Dundee University Staff for the Ferrier Cup. A sporting rivalry that is surely equal in intensity to the Ashes or an Old Firm derby.

All home games are played at the University sports ground and are followed by detailed post-match analysis in the nearby Whet Pat pub. Here, over a few drinks, scores are exaggerated, performances are embellished and techniques are critiqued. Games are played against all the local Fife clubs and also against clubs from further afield such as Dollar and Almond Valley. Away games offer a great chance for you to see some of the more hidden parts of the Kingdom of Fife with the grounds at Largo and Kinross being particularly memorable. For away games new members with a car

are always particularly welcome! The club is made up of a core group of permanent staff members but every year numbers are bolstered by new postgraduate students. In particular the club is always keen to unearth talented players from the sub-continent. So if you are Sachin Tendulkar's cousin and in St Andrews for a years MSc course we'd love to hear from you. For stylish, elegant batsman from overseas who have been brought up playing on bone dry pitches and parched outfields, adapting to the damp Scottish summer conditions can prove a bit of a challenge!

The Club's emphasis is on providing an enjoyable experience and although we like to win it is more important to have a competitive game that matches the level of our team to that of our opponents. Team selection is rotated so that all members get as many games as possible. Throughout the summer we have practice nets at the sports centre on Thursday nights and these are a great chance to come along, meet the members and see if you fancy a summer of cricket.

We welcome players of any age and level of experience, so whether you're an experienced player or have never tried the game before, we would be love to welcome you along to one of our practice sessions. Don't worry if you don't have your own cricket equipment as we provide bats, gloves, pads, etc.

Details of our upcoming net practices can be found on our home page www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~scricket or feel free to email us at cricketsquad@hotmail.com for details or with any queries you might have.

Patrick Jess

StAnza 2010 brings a world of poetry to St Andrews

Annie Kelly, StAnza's Press & Media Manager, sums up the outcome of this year's festival.

It was Seamus Heaney who best described the relationship between poetry and St Andrews. Talking to The Scotsman's Susan Mansfield about his coming to this year's StAnza: Scotland's International Poetry Festival, he said, 'The context in St Andrews is the context of people I know, it's a deep poetry audience, it's an old connection, it's a sustenance as much as a giving. There's a camaraderie there with all those people.'

The poetry audience was certainly out in force for this year's StAnza, which ran from 17-21 March at the Byre Theatre and other venues in the town. It was a sell-out, comfortably surpassing last year's memorable Homecoming extravaganza. Attendances increased by over 10 per cent, many events were close to full capacity and nearly half the ticketed events were completely sold out. The festival, which is supported by the University, boasts numerous St Andrews alumni, staff and students among its organisers and its army of volunteers.

The fact that the opening night fell on 17th March, St Patrick's Day, prompted the organisers to create an Irish Focus for the

festival and there was a distinctly Irish theme to the launch at the Byre Theatre. Dr Louise Richardson, the Principal of the University, and originally from Co. Waterford, was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony, providing a wide-ranging assessment of the Irish poetic tradition to an audience that included Cliona Manahan, the Consul General of Ireland to Scotland and John Moloney, a Minister of Health in the Irish Government. The festival proper kicked off with a St Patrick's Day celebration: the melodic combination of poetry from Matthew Sweeney and Moya Cannon and beguiling baroque and traditional music from the elegant Galway trio, Dordán.

All this was just a prelude to the Irish element of the festival, with a roster of poets – Anne-Marie Fyfe, Colette Bryce, Dennis O'Driscoll, Cahal Dallat – and of course Seamus Heaney. Returning to the festival for the first time since 1999, the Nobel Laureate delighted audiences, festival staff and just about everyone he met with his warmth, humour, eloquence and the power of his poetry. Such was the demand for tickets to his events that for the two main ones – Heaney's solo poetry reading and his 'In Conversation' with Dennis O'Driscoll – were relayed live on screen upstairs from the main Byre Auditorium so that those who missed out on tickets could still experience them.

In his reading, which included poems from his forthcoming collection, out in September, Heaney demonstrated what must surely be *imbas forosnai*, the poetic gift which poet and academic Grevel Lindop referred to in the StAnza Lecture, entitled 'Myth, Magic and the Future of Poetry'. Responding to festival theme, *Myth & Legend*, Lindop made a passionately argued case for using poetry and mythology as a means of bringing humanity closer to the natural world. Faced with the problems of climate change, it was imperative to regain this lost connection, Lindop said, to encourage through poetry 'a renewed sense of the sacredness of life, of our planet and of existence as such.' The full lecture can be downloaded on www.stanzapoetry.org

Myth & Legend wove its way through the festival: Professor Stephen Halliwell of the School of Classics began a marvellous Poetry Breakfast discussion, to the audience's delight, with a reading of Homer in the original Greek. As part of StAnza's Past & Present series, Alexander Stoddart explained the complicated and controversial history behind James McPherson's 'Ossian' poems. Moniza Alvi read from her latest collection, *Europa*, which uses myth as a starting point for an examination of contemporary East-West relationships. In her vibrant one-woman show, *The World's*



Poet John Akpata

Wife, acclaimed actor Linda Marlowe brought to life Mrs Midas, Mrs Noah, Medusa and other characters from Carol Ann Duffy's poems.

The festival themes are organic, creating opportunities rather than constraints for the participants. But one of the joys of having over 80 events to choose from is that visitors can enjoy what Colin Will, former Chair of StAnza, called the 'parallel StAnzas'. The 'Border Crossings' strand, for example, paired poets from the UK with established poets from overseas who are less well known here. Taking place in venues such as the atmospheric St John's Undercroft, the results were inspiring.

Among some memorable combinations were Italy's Valerio Magrelli, and Scotland's Hamish Whyte; Suffolk based poet and translator Will Stone with the charismatic Cuban poet Victor Rodriguez Núñez; and Canadian Gaelic poet Lewis MacKinnon, who read alongside Mario Susko, originally from Sarajevo, and a witness and survivor of the war in Bosnia.

MacKinnon, from Cape Breton, was one of three poets to travel to St Andrews from Canada, and each provided a very different view of life, language and politics in that country: this was another example of the 'parallel StAnzas'. As a Gaelic poet and musician, MacKinnon's work reflects the cultural richness of Nova Scotia and his own passion for the language. Karen Solie, offered a vision of rural life based on her own upbringing on a farm in south west Saskatchewan. Her poems explored the mundane and seemingly insignificant – tractors, roadtrips and motel visits – and were both wryly funny and philosophical, even political, as she portrayed rural landscapes, suffering gradual decline. The musician and spoken word poet John Akpata, comes from Ottawa, and is a relatively new talent and this was his first visit to Scotland. Appearing at StAnza was 'the biggest night of his life' most especially because he was billed alongside his lifelong hero, Linton Kwesi Johnson. The two performers, though generations apart, created an outstanding evening of poetry.

To have Johnson, the father of 'dub' poetry, on the bill at StAnza was a coup indeed. Once again, the show was relayed live on screen upstairs from the auditorium to accommodate more people, and afterwards, the queues lengthened at the book signing desk: poetry and reggae fans had come from all over Scotland to see this most influential of poets, whose career as a political activist and journalist has also made him famous. All his polemical power was evident in his reading, which chronicled the black experience in Britain. Hearing him felt like a moment in history.

Alongside the big hitters of the poetry world, such as Heaney and Johnson, StAnza lived up to its reputation for nurturing young talent. An international showcase of new voices included the seriously surreal Monika Rinck, with English



Poet Seamus Heaney

versions of her poems read by Alistair Noon, the lyrical young Gaelic poet Catriona Lexy Campbell and the Austrian rising star Andreas Unterweger. Another discovery was the Spanish poet Luis Muñoz, with translations by the acclaimed poet and novelist, John Burnside, of the School of English at St Andrews.

Humour was in abundance, too. Heaney and O'Driscoll formed the wittiest and most erudite of double acts on stage together. Kevin Cadwallender and Angela McSeveney, two Edinburgh-based poets, have the gift of making the most mundane event bone-shakingly funny. And there was the fast-paced humour of the live open mics and slams which are the festival's trademarks.

StAnza 2010 was the last for Brian Johnstone who stepped down as Festival Director in May, handing over to the current Artistic Director, Eleanor Livingstone. 'The festival is now in its thirteenth year and has gone from strength to strength,' he said. 'It's been a great one to bow out on. I'm proud of StAnza's success, much of which is thanks to the support of the local community and our army of volunteers.'

A festival is more than the sum of its line-up. At StAnza there is a special alchemy that is created by myriad encounters and opportunities to be creative. Stroll through the on Saturday and you found a buzz and energy that is unsurpassed elsewhere: people moving between events, or chatting over coffee or drinks. StAnza's Artistic Director, Eleanor Livingstone confessed that: 'So many excellent readings and such warm engagement with audiences from poets and others taking part made for a wonderful atmosphere, which not only delighted people attending the festival but also exceeded even my high expectations.'

It's a cliché to say 'you had to be there' in order to experience the magical atmosphere of poetry and partying that is StAnza. But by listening to StAnza's podcasts via www.stanzapoetry.org – you can catch some of the highlights of what was (to misquote Heaney) the marvellous festival as we had known it.

Commuter students – living on the edge

by Matthew Guest, Director of Student Development and Activities, Students' Association.

Throughout the last year, the University and Students' Association have both been working hard to solve some of the issues faced by those students who commute daily to study in St Andrews.

In recent months, a year long project, led by the Student Experience Office, was undertaken into the commuter student experience as it was apparent that these students were not getting the best they could out of the University.

The first problem for many staff and many students is the exact definition over who is and who is not a commuter student, as, for example, some students who live in David Russell or even McIntosh have considered themselves commuter students! This obviously confuses matters, as students in either of these halls still have a strong element of the University experience that a true commuter student does not. For example, while an Arts student, say, who lives in David Russell has to walk twenty minutes into town, they still have the experience of living in a hall of residence and the types of community atmosphere associated with it. However, if a student lives in Dundee for example, they lose out not only on the convenience of living in St Andrews but also the hall spirit that brings so much to the student experience at this University, at the same time though, there might be students who have lived in St Andrews during their first year, but moved out of the town for their later years. They will have a different experience to someone who has never lived in the town before because they will have at the very least formed friendships and also have a more intimate understanding of how the University works within the town and community.

Therefore, the definition that the project group settled on is as follows: *Students who commute to the University each day, and have never had a base in a University residence. This is NOT the same as students who spend first year in a residence and move out and commute for subsequent years.*

One of the major problems that commuter students themselves face is the fact that staff and students do not always recognise that they are commuter students, and assume, unintentionally, that they are the same as every other student and live in St Andrews. A good example of when this is most apparent is when a lecture is cancelled, either by an email half an hour before the class or by a note on the lecture hall's door. While this is not a major inconvenience for most students, it is for a student who commutes, and who may have travelled from Glenrothes - taking an hour or more to reach the town by bus for their one class of the day – to find out it has been cancelled. This also extends to deadlines that require paper submission. If there is a submission deadline at a set hour for some paper-based work, despite the student

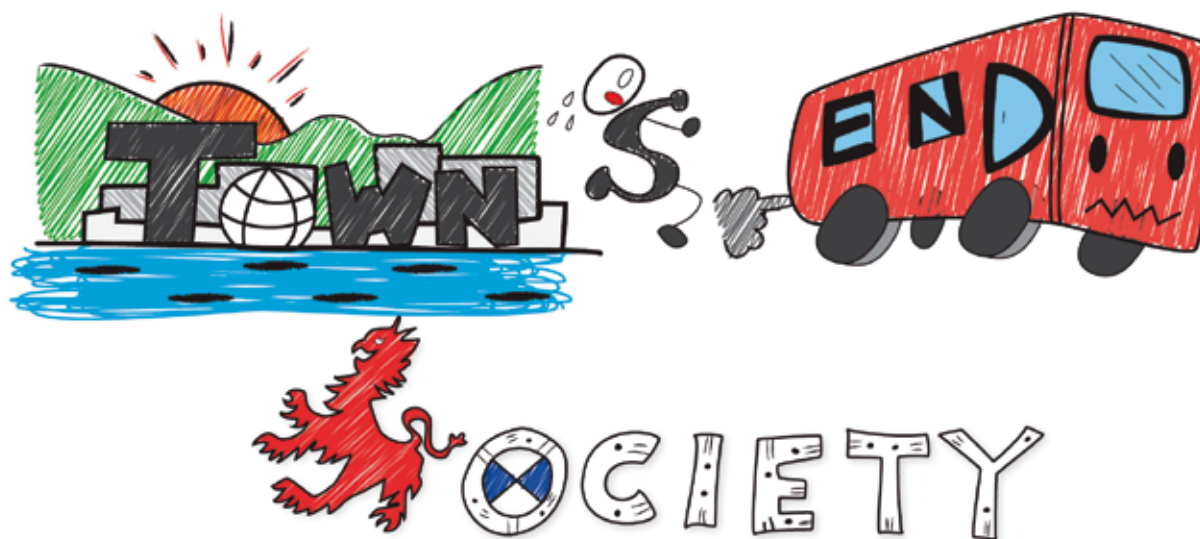
leaving enough time to meet the deadline, unavoidable delays can be placed on the commuter, such as the Tay Bridge being closed. If there is no clear way to identify the student as a commuter, exceptions are often not made. This, therefore, can pose a significant problem for a commuting student.

However, there has been good progress made on both of these fronts. The introduction at the start of this academic year of a C on a commuter student's matriculation card has helped staff easily identify genuine commuters. Many staff are more than willing to make exceptions, and this is a good way of helping them identify those affected. Of course, since this is the first year that this classification has existed, the system is not yet perfect (for example, returning commuters may have missed the registration), though this can be expected to improve year on year. Additionally, the increased use of online submission means that the necessity to submit paper-based work is decreasing. This therefore means that commuters do not need to travel all the way into St Andrews in order to submit a piece of work if that is the only thing they have to do that day, thus saving on time and travel costs. Finally, staff development training at the University is starting to incorporate areas which highlight the need for greater awareness of the different types of students who study at St Andrews, and this includes a section on commuters.

Of course, another major issue that many commuter students have concerns about is the Library and its loan provision. The three-day loan system was seen as a potential disadvantage for distance learners. However, a meeting in February 2009 helped solve many of the concerns raised, and the Library has helped in the provision of storage lockers for commuter students.

Perhaps some of the biggest challenges that face commuters on a daily basis involve finding areas in which to eat and drink. Whereas students who live in St Andrews have either a house or hall to return to at lunchtime, many commuters have nowhere where they can go to eat their own food, not even in the Students' Association. Food licensing laws have made it impossible for space to be set aside within the Union and there has been a lack of space within the University for commuting students to have some to go and eat, or even rest. This was identified as a key problem in research carried out in January 2009 and has continually been highlighted since.

There is good news on this though as University space as been found in the basement of 79 North Street. It is currently being refitted and equipped with basis cooking and common room facilities that will immensely improve the daily experience of a commuter. This room will be ready for



September and will also hopefully provide a social space for these students.

Indeed, social isolation was highlighted as another key area where there needed to be an improvement. By commuting, students find it hard to fit into social groups which had previously formed in halls or classes, especially given the broad range of ages of commuter students. One way of approaching this social isolation has been through the creation of the Townsend Society (for Commuting Students). This society is based in the Students' Association and aims to provide a much-needed social side to the commuter experience. It is in its early stages, and has only been running effectively this year. The ultimate aim of the Society is to create a virtual hall, involving regular events as well as an online network. The idea itself is not new, and is based on a former society that used to exist for just this purpose, which unfortunately "died" a few years ago.

This year's President of the Townsend Society, Laura MacDonald, has been working hard to restart the society in a big way, having been a commuter herself for the last four years. The Society has hosted a variety of events this year; from Christmas meals and bake sales to the regular coffee meetings. However, there has been a big challenge in engaging commuter students. Despite personalised emails to the individual students, it has been tricky to create a true commuter spirit. Those students who do get involved are enjoying it, but it means that the next academic year will be crucial in continuing and expanding upon Laura's work to advertise and promote the society. Indeed, Freshers' Week will be the most important time to do this. This is the time when students can feel most isolated, especially when they are not living in halls. For this year, a series of events

and activities aimed specifically at commuter students will help build a sense of community spirit right from the start of a student's time in St Andrews. The society is also open to staff members who are interested in helping out or who even commute themselves. Other areas that need to be built upon include setting up and running an up-to-date website for the society, which will serve as a forum for discussion. At the moment, there is a facility on the WebCT system that was set up to help students and the University communicate information between each other. This has had some success, but there is still a way to go.

Over the last year a lot of progress has been made by both the Students' Association and the University in terms of addressing the major concerns that commuter students have, but there is always more that can be done. There is an ongoing need to create further awareness about commuting students amongst both staff and students. This is a must for ensuring that the new schemes and projects described above are maintained. On the other side, we need to advertise what we have done so far in dealing with issues that have been raised by commuter students and the University at large.

If you are interesting in finding out more about Townsend or want to get involved (Associate Membership is available to all staff members), please email townsoc@st-andrews.ac.uk

Taking a trip?

Look no further than the University Travel Service

By Clair Waterhouse, Travel Manager.

St Andrews is one of very few universities fortunate enough to have its own travel service in-house. Located in the Students' Association, the University's own one-stop-shop is now the preferred travel provider for St Andrews' users.

We are a dedicated team of four, with over 40 years of experience, specialising in all aspects of travel, whether it is a taxi to Edinburgh (£50 with us!) or a return flight to Sydney with a few stops along the way.

Don't waste your valuable time booking travel – with the Travel Service, it is simple: just send us an email or pick up the phone, tell us where you want to go, and we will do all the work for you! One of the main benefits (for business travel) is that we can raise an invoice to your school/unit so that you are not out of pocket.

Over the years, staff and students have been booking their own travel, surfing the net for hours, wasting time and money, to end up with the same result, if not more expensive! But remember, the Travel Service is here for you. We have also recently streamlined the process to make it even quicker and easier for your travel to be booked at the one stop shop.

Customer service is high on our agenda, for example when volcanic ash disrupted our skies, the Travel Service put in extra hours and worked over the weekend to assist our clients every step of the way.

If you are planning a business or personal trip call the travel team on 2345 / email travel@st-andrews.ac.uk, or pop into the Students' Association to see us. Our opening hours are (for telesales and email queries) Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm and 10am - 4.30pm (for in person visits). If you need to visit us outwith these hours please call to arrange a time.



It's all academic

NAME: Susan Sellers

POSITION: Professor of English and Related Literature

AREA/S OF RESEARCH: I work primarily on twentieth-century and contemporary women's fiction – as a commentator, critic and practitioner. In addition to scholarly books and articles, I've published a number of short stories and a novel.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS FIELD OF RESEARCH?

I was a student at a time when it was possible to do a literature degree without reading a single woman author! I've made it my business to reclaim and promote writing by women – particularly women's fiction.

WHY IS YOUR RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

If you've looked in a bookshop window recently you'll have noticed that instead of a rich diversity of titles only one or two are singled out for promotion (Dan Brown or JK Rowling, for example). Books extend the envelope of our experience, but if most of the population reads only the same few then we risk the opposite effect – the homogenisation of assumptions and ideas. Literature is too important to be left to the pressures of the marketplace, and university departments play a crucial role in ensuring that a wide range of books continues to be read and discussed.

WHAT DO YOU MOST ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORK?

I enjoy challenging preconceptions! One of my current research projects is a scholarly edition of Virginia Woolf's writing for Cambridge University Press. Thanks to a large grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council, we've been able to establish her as an extraordinarily erudite, thoughtful and provocative personality deeply engaged in the issues of her time and concerned for the future. Woolf is an iconic figure today, appearing on greeting cards and coffee mugs, but that image is clichéd, limited and highly misleading. This public perception is based on a seemingly endless obsession with her lesbianism and suicide, whereas these are just two elements in a much more varied picture.

WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING FINDING YOU HAVE MADE?

One of Woolf's characters makes a mistake when talking about classical Greek tragedy. Previous editors have assumed this was because Woolf was uneducated – they make the point that because she was a woman she did not follow her brothers to school or Cambridge. We've been able to establish that Woolf undertook degree level classes in Greek and Latin at King's College London and also translated a number of important



Greek tragedies – including the one she apparently gets wrong! Of course it's the character who makes the mistake, not the author.

AND WHAT DEVELOPMENTS AND/OR CHALLENGES DO YOU FORESEE IN THE FUTURE?

My novel about Woolf and her painter sister, Vanessa and Virginia, is currently being translated into twelve languages and also adapted as a stage-play. I am excited about the opportunities this will bring for taking literature outside the academy to a wider public.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS?

It was Douglas Dunn. He persuaded me to come for interview and though it wasn't a propitious start (it was pouring with rain and very windy when I arrived at Leuchars station!), I felt on meeting other members of the School of English, that this was a place where I could be myself.

AND WHAT MAKES YOU STAY HERE?

The extraordinary collegiality of the School of English coupled with the University's willingness to accommodate different employment needs (I now work a half contract so as to have more time for my family and writing). The fact that the School of English is excellent in both literary study and creative writing is definitely important to me.

NAME: Professor Kevin Laland

AREA/S OF RESEARCH: The Laland lab studies behavioural and evolutionary biology, particularly cultural evolution and niche construction, in organisms ranging from sand shrimps to humans. A primary objective is to understand the evolutionary roots of human cognition and culture, both through studying the copying behaviour of other animals and through constructing mathematical and statistical models. By integrating rigorous experimental work on primates, birds and fish with theoretical approaches, my team are able to explore how animals invent new behaviour, the diffusion of these behavioural innovations through animal populations, and the behavioural traditions that can result.

WHY OUR RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT, CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

While our research is primarily blue skies, the Laland lab has developed statistical methods for detecting social learning and predicting the diffusion of innovations, that it makes available to other social learning researchers as freeware packages on its website. There is a broad constituency for these tools, including not just behavioural biologists, but also psychologists, anthropologists, archaeologists and economists, all of whom seek to understand how knowledge, skills and preferences diffuse through populations. Potentially, the tools also have a commercial outlet, being of interest to business, sales people, economists, and market researchers seeking to predict the spread of technological innovations to target potential buyers, and perhaps also transferring to predict the spread of diseases, allowing individuals most at risk to be identified.

A key challenge for the future is to develop these applications. The Laland lab's work has already been applied in the areas of conservation and restocking. As a direct result of their basic research, findings from studies of social learning in non-commercial fish species have been applied to develop efficient training procedures for enhancing the life-skills of hatchery-reared fishes. My team devised procedures through which a minority of knowledgeable fish can pass on their lifeskills to the majority, at low cost. These procedures are now being implemented in commercial hatcheries, to the benefit of the fishes' welfare and the hatcheries' economic returns. Zoos are now using social learning protocols to ensure released animals are appropriately pre-trained.

MOST INTERESTING FINDING

While our laboratory experiments and mathematical theories have suggested that different evolved strategies guide the copying behaviour of humans and other animals, they did not tell us which of these was the best rule. So to address this question we organised an international competition – called the 'social learning strategies tournament' – where anyone who wanted could submit an entry specifying how best to learn in a complex, changeable environment. We then



The Laland lab at work

played off these submitted strategies against each other on a computer (in fact, hundreds of computers – we used the UK National Grid computer service), to determine the most effective rules. We had over a hundred teams of people enter, from 16 different countries and as many academic disciplines. The subsequent analysis, which was recently published in Science, reveals both why copying is so widespread in nature, and why humans happen to be so good at it. The surprising finding was that copying was always better than learning for oneself, even when it is highly error prone: even mindless, random copying is more effective than trial-and-error learning.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS, WHAT MAKES YOU STAY

I came to St Andrews from Cambridge University in 2002, where I was a Royal Society University Research Fellow. I was drawn here by the large number of colleagues studying aspects of social learning and cognitive evolution, in the Schools of Biology and Psychology. St Andrews offers an unusually rich and stimulating intellectual environment in this field. The Centre for Social Learning and Cognitive Evolution, formed around the time of my arrival, has been a real success story, boasting millions of pounds of grant money and many high-profile publications.

Philosopher recognised by the University of Oslo



Professor Herman Cappelen of the School of Philosophical Studies has been awarded a Professor Ingerid Dal and Sister Ulrikke Greve Dals Award in support of Research in the Humanities.

The prize is awarded by the University of Oslo on behalf of the Research Fund bequeathed by the two sisters Dal. This prestigious prize is not an annual or regular award, but is only awarded when the University of Oslo finds a worthy recipient in the fields of philosophy, linguistics or mathematics.

The award was made in recognition of Professor Cappelen's research into the theory of meaning, theory of truth and the nature of linguistic communication.

Research highlights

Cured by light

St Andrews' scientists working at the forefront of the use of light in biomedical research have been awarded £1m funding to develop their research.

Professor Kishan Dholakia (Physics & Astronomy) and Dr Frank Gunn-Moore (Biology) will use the funding to translate and commercialise their labwork into devices that can be used to investigate a range of diseases.

Using their combined expertise in physics and biology, the researchers will develop their novel photoporation technology with colleagues at the University of Dundee in the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) funded project.

The funding will allow for new trials of the technology in applications such as stem cell science and in agriculture.



The art of copying

New St Andrews' research suggests that accidentally copying the mistakes of others can lead to some of man's greatest innovations.

The international project found that mimicking the mistakes of others can ultimately aid the human ability to adapt. The study also alludes to the 'secret ingredient' of what researchers call 'the super-effectiveness of human copying'.

The EU-funded project set out to ask key questions about the art of copying, such as who do we copy and why? It was led by Professor Kevin Laland and Dr Luke Rendell of the School of Biology and involved a team of leading researchers across the world, from UCLA, Stanford, Stockholm and Bologna Universities.

Biting back

Researchers at St Andrews are one step closer to breaking the tsetse fly's grip on Africa's health and economy.

The bloodsucking fly, which carries the parasite *Trypanosoma brucei*, is responsible for the spread of the deadly African sleeping sickness and the related disease Nagana in cattle.

Each year African sleeping sickness infects up to 60,000 people, kills three million livestock and causes more than £2 billion in economic losses.

But now researchers in the Biomedical Sciences Research Complex have developed a strategy to block the parasite's use of a protein crucial to its defence against the human immune system. By investigating a specific gene involved in the production of lipids, the researchers, led by Dr Terry Smith, have been able to stop the parasite from using this major and essential protein, resulting in the parasite's death.



The high school honeymoon

When pupils move from primary to high school their engagement levels, self-esteem, and well-being immediately improve, before beginning to decline six months later according to research carried out at St Andrews.

The interdisciplinary study by Vivienne Horobin (Psychology) examined the transfer process from the perspective of a group of 393 children (195 boys and 198 girls) as they moved from 19 primary schools to four high schools.

The children's school commitment, school belonging, school participation, self-esteem and well-being were evaluated four times over a 13-month period, twice before transfer in the final year of primary school and twice after transfer in the first year of high school.

Despite evidence of an initial "honeymoon period" immediately after the move to high school, by the final questionnaire there was a decline in all outcomes except for the perception of self-esteem, which continued to improve.

The seal diet

Researchers from the University's Scottish Oceans Institute have launched a year-long survey of the Scottish coastline, to detail the diet of Scotland's harbour seals.

Despite conservation efforts, surveys have shown widespread declines of harbour seals around the UK, with the most severe declines around the Northern Isles. It is hoped that this study will help to understand the cause of this drop.

The research team, led by Lindsay Wilson, began their study with a trip to Orkney to collect seal-faeces samples which can then be analysed to determine what and how much seals eat.



Remembrance of things past

People with dementia are to be given help to unlock their memories, thanks to academic research by teams at the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee.

A programme of scientific research involving more than 100 people with dementia, as well as their families and care staff, was conducted to ascertain exactly what stimulates their long-term memories.

The research, by Dr Arlene Astell (Psychology) has led to the development of two new systems designed to facilitate communication – the Computer Interactive Reminiscence and Conversation Aid (CIRCA) and the Living in the Moment system.

Scientists capture 'terrifying' Tolkien-like image

St Andrews' scientists have captured a 'terrifying' image of a giant Goliath-like star undergoing a two year eclipse.

First discovered by a German astronomer 180 years ago, it is the first close-up image of an eclipse beyond the solar system to be captured on camera by scientists.

Ettore Pedretti and Nathalie Thureau, members of an international team led by Brian Kloppenborg at the University of Denver, described the find as a 'terrifying image... like something from a Tolkien book'.



The group combined the light of four telescopes more than 300 metres apart to capture a magnified image of the giant star undergoing a 'stellar eclipse'.

The birth of the biological clock

St Andrews researchers have moved one step closer to solving the inner workings of the biological clock, by studying it from the moment it starts ticking.

A successful collaboration between the Universities of St Andrews and Edinburgh has resulted in a better understanding of how many eggs a woman has in her ovaries (ovarian reserve) from conception to menopause. It is the first time that scientists have ever modelled human ovarian reserve from establishment before birth to menopause around 50 years of age.

The new research, by Dr Tom Kelsey (St Andrews) and Dr Hamish Wallace (Edinburgh), provides further evidence for the theory that women are born with a fixed number of non-growing follicles (eggs) that decline with increasing age.

The study, using data from women in the UK, US and Europe, models the establishment and decline of the number of eggs in the ovary to its peak at about twenty weeks after conception, and its subsequent decline until menopause when no eggs are left usually around 50-51 years.

An honest face

Wider faced men are less trustworthy and our instincts know it, according to researchers at St Andrews.

A new study led by Michael Stirrat (Psychology) shows that how trustworthy men are can be seen in their faces.

The study involved inviting men to play a game for money. The game offered players opportunities to trust other participants, but also opportunities to exploit them.

During the game a participant was shown an expressionless photo of a fellow player's face at the start of each game. The participant had then to decide whether to take an immediate pay-off or entrust the money to the person in the snapshot – who, in turn, could decide either to co-operate, and help both players make more money, or take the cash and run. Michael found that participants were more likely to entrust money to men with narrower faces.

Imagined communities

Minority film festivals are creating live social and political encounters that bring together a host of imagined communities, according to a new book by researchers at St Andrews.

Film Festivals and Imagined Communities, the second volume in the Film Festival Yearbook series, brings together essays about festivals that use international cinema to mediate the creation of transnational 'imagined communities'.

Edited and published by Professor Dina Iordanova (Film Studies), the series includes discussion of the cultural policies and funding models linked to such festivals, as well as analysis of programming practices linked to these often highly politicised events.

On the track of a giant scorpion



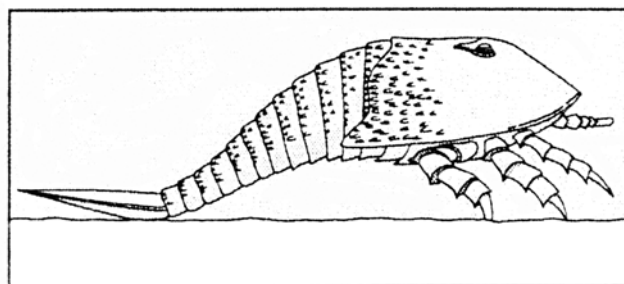
*By Richard Batchelor, Leverhulme Emeritus Fellow,
School of Geography & Geosciences*

While strolling along a Fife beach some years ago, a St Andrews geology graduate (Dr Martin Whyte) discovered an outstanding example of fossilised footprints.

These prints were made by a giant sea scorpion some five feet long and three feet wide, as it lumbered over wet sand 330 million years ago when this part of Scotland lay close to the equator.

The fossil trackway is preserved in sandstone which now forms part of an overhanging cliff close to sea level. As there is a risk that the trackway could be vulnerable to coastal erosion and to vandalism, I spearheaded a rescue operation, under the ægis of *geoHeritage Fife* of which he is Chairman. Funding was secured from Scottish Natural Heritage and the Geologists' Association in order to record the trackway for posterity, for future research and for public awareness of the local geological heritage.

The project, which involved taking a rubber mould of the track impressions, was successfully completed by a specialist contractor (GeoEd Ltd) during April. The enthusiastic media coverage, in Scotland and England, Portugal and Poland, has helped to put Fife's geodiversity on the map. Local MSP Iain



Smith also took time out to visit the site and gave the work his support.

The mould will be used to produce plaster casts which will be displayed locally for the benefit of the public and scientists. Two major Scottish museums have also expressed an interest in obtaining casts of the tracks.

At a time when the academic discipline of Geology at St Andrews is in the ascendant, it is timely to tell the world that Fife is an outstanding place in which to study the subject. As Fife's University, St Andrews is uniquely placed for the study of Geology.

Academic appointments

School of Classics

Dr Myles Lavan **Lecturer**

Dr Myles Lavan, currently Junior Research Fellow at Sidney Sussex College Cambridge, will be joining the School of Classics in September 2010 as Lecturer in Ancient History. Dr Lavan was the successful candidate from a large and notably international field of applicants for this post. He is a brilliant young historian who obtained his PhD in Cambridge and has also studied at Georgetown University and Trinity College Dublin. In addition, he has worked outside academia, as a management consultant, for several years. Myles has wide interests in the political and cultural structures of ancient Rome, including Roman conceptions of slavery, patronage and imperialism, as well as the dynamics of social mobility in the Roman world. He will therefore complement and extend the School of Classics' existing research and teaching strengths in Roman history.



School of Computer Science

Dr Mirco Musolesi **Lecturer**

Dr Musolesi received a PhD in Computer Science from University College London in 2007 and a Master in Electronic Engineering from the University of Bologna in 2002. From October 2005 to August 2007 he was a Research Fellow at the Department of Computer Science, University College London. Then, from September 2007 to August 2008 he was an ISTS Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Dartmouth College and from September 2008 to October 2009 a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge. His research interests lie in the broad area of mobile systems and networking with a focus on online social networks, complex networks, application of machine learning to networked systems design, mobility modelling, sensing systems based on mobile phones and delay tolerant networking. He has been involved in several ACM and IEEE events in recent years as Program Chair and Program Committee Member. He is also a reviewer for leading computer science journals including many ACM and IEEE Transactions.



Alex Voss **Advanced Research Fellow**

Prior to moving to St Andrews in September 2009, Alex was a research fellow at the University of Manchester, working for the local Hub of the National Centre for e-Social Science. He is interested in how researchers use advanced information and communication technologies and how large-scale e-Infrastructures for research (such as grids and clouds) are created and used. He has played a key role in a number of empirical investigations studying the uptake of JISC-funded e-Infrastructure services, the use of Web 2.0 tools by researchers and, recently, the use of digital tools by social scientists.

He is also collaborating with colleagues in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region to establish an Asia-Pacific Grid Initiative connected to the European Grid Initiative EGI. Together with colleagues in Taiwan he is developing a social simulation model to



study migration patterns, focusing on ways to scale simulations to create realistic representations of millions of individual agents based on real-world data.

Alex serves on programme committees for the IEEE e-Science conference, the UK e-Science All Hands Meeting and the International Symposium on Grid Computing. He has a PhD in Informatics from the University of Edinburgh and is a member of ACM and IEEE.

Edwin Brady **SICSA Advanced Research Fellow**

Edwin, who was appointed to his current role in June 2009, has worked as a Research Fellow in St Andrews since receiving his PhD from the University of Durham in 2005.

His research interests include functional programming with dependent types, type theory, program generation and programming language design and implementation. He has previously worked on compilation and optimisation techniques for dependently typed functional programming languages, and written an experimental compiler for the type theory underlying the Epigram programming language as part of his PhD. This research has important applications in the verification of safety-critical systems, and he has been involved in the application of strong type systems to the correct implementation of embedded systems with limited memory. His recent work has focused on the practical applications of dependently typed programming, in particular the design and implementation of verified network communication protocols.

Edwin has published extensively on type systems, functional programming and program generation, served on programme committees of a range of international workshops and conferences, and is a member of IFIP Working Group 2.11 on Program Generation.



Department of Film Studies

Robert Burgoyne **Professor and Chair of the Department of Film Studies**

Robert, who joined the University in January, had previously served as Professor of English and Film Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit, where he had been head of film studies and chair of English. He received his PhD from New York University in 1986, and his Baccalaureate degree from The University of Minnesota (summa cum laude).

His work centres on film and historical representation, narrative theory, and film and national identity. Among his recent publications are *The Epic Film in World Culture* (forthcoming, Routledge, 2011); *Film Nation: Revised and Expanded Edition* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010); and *The Hollywood Historical Film* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2008).

Robert's plans for the Department of Film Studies include the expansion of the post-graduate programme, and the extension of the curriculum to emergent as well as canonical cinema cultures. He hopes to reinforce and expand the Department's outstanding reputation for its innovative curriculum and outstanding scholarship in world cinema, by building up the 'centre' as well as reinforcing the 'peripheries.' New approaches to early cinema, to digital media, and to the psychology of perception are areas he plans to develop, positioning St Andrews into the very forefront of Film Studies in the UK.



*School of Medicine***Dr Catherine Adamson**
Lecturer in Molecular Medicine

Catherine researches the molecular biology of HIV and other retroviruses with the long-term goal of developing new therapies for the treatment of HIV infected patients.

Catherine graduated with a BSc (Hons) degree in Biology from the University of Manchester in 1993 and gained her PhD in 1997 for her studies investigating the yeast retrotransposon Ty1. She then undertook postdoctoral research with Professor Ian Jones at both the Institute of Virology in Oxford and the University of Reading. These studies examined assembly of HIV and generated novel antibodies against the prion protein. In 2004 she moved to the United States and took up an International Research Fellowship in Dr Eric Freed's lab within the HIV Drug Resistance Program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). During this time her research focused on the novel HIV maturation inhibitor bevirimat. Catherine was appointed to a Lectureship in Molecular Medicine at St Andrews in March 2010, where she will continue to study HIV and other retroviruses.



In addition to her professional research, Catherine is interested in wildlife conservation. In 2000 she spent six months as a voluntary visiting scientist at the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia. Catherine has also participated in numerous other volunteer projects with local wildlife organisations and the British Trust of Conservation Volunteers (BTCV). Projects include surveying water voles in the UK, mountain footpath building in Iceland and turtle conservation in Turkey. More recently Catherine worked for in years as an educational volunteer at the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington DC, where she educated the visiting public about elephants and the conservation and scientific efforts to protect these animals. Catherine is looking forward to getting involved in conservation projects in Scotland.

Stephen H Gillespie
Sir James Black Chair of Medicine

Stephen Gillespie was educated at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution where he was awarded a Hyndman Scholarship to study Medicine at the Queens University Belfast. He graduated in 1980 and after house posts trained in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Microbiology at the Royal Victoria and associated hospitals. In 1985 he was appointed to the Mercers Lecturership in Tropical Medicine at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1985. During this period he participated in the initial development studies that established the Wellcome/Kenya Medical Research Institute Centre at Kilifi on the East African Coast. He later developed his research programme in respiratory infections at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre.



Stephen was appointed as a Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Medical Microbiology at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School in 1989 and awarded a personal chair in 1998 at the newly-merged University College London Medical School. In 2005 he was appointed as the Regional Microbiologist for the Health Protection Agency where he has been developing the public health microbiology service both locally and nationally.

Professor Gillespie's main research interest is in the diagnosis and treatment of respiratory infections. This has included studies of the evolution of antibiotic resistance. His team demonstrated the relationship between fitness and clinical

frequency of infection for resistant *M. tuberculosis* strains. More recently they have been studying chains of transmission and the way in which transfer between hosts affects the genetic basis of the ability of the organism to cause disease. He also contributes to research using cohorts of patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

School of Modern Languages

Emily Finer Teaching Fellow

In between reading English Literature as an undergraduate at Clare College, Cambridge and teaching Russian and Comparative Literature at St Andrews, Emily has lived and worked in Moscow, Krakow, Berlin and Boston. She previously held a temporary lectureship in the Department of Slavonic Studies at Cambridge University, and, as a Frank Knox Memorial Scholar, she spent two years as a Visiting Fellow in the Slavic Department at Harvard University.

Emily's research explores English novels and their authors as they are uprooted and read in different cultures, in particular in Russia and the Soviet Union. Her broader research interests include Comparative Literature; the Jewish culture of Poland and Russia; and, the influence of the novels of Dickens on Russian literature. She is also working on a translation of the memoirs of Shostakovich's favourite viola player: Fedor Druzhinin. Emily's book, *Turning into Sterne: Viktor Shklovskii and Literary Reception*, was published in April of 2010 by MHRA / Legenda.



Anne Fuchs Chair in German

Anne was born in 1961 in the South of Germany. She studied German and English literature at the University of Constance, the Freie Universität Berlin and Trinity College Dublin. After graduating with the Staatsexamen and an MA in German and English, she embarked on a PhD on the role of humour in the prose writings of the Swiss author Robert Walser. She narrowly missed the fall of Wall by moving to London in the summer of 1989 where she completed her thesis while working as DAAD Lektor at University College London. In 1992 she assumed a Lectureship in the German Department at University College Dublin. Promotion to Senior Lecturship in 1999 was followed by the award of a personal Chair in 2004. She played a key role in the foundation of the UCD Humanities Institute, an interdisciplinary research centre for postgraduate students, indigenous staff and visiting academics. After directing the Institute in 2003/04, she received a fellowship from the Irish Research Council that enabled her to complete her book on continuities and shifts in German cultural memory since unification.

Her research focuses on German cultural memory since 1945, modernism, travel writing and on contemporary German literature. She is author of four monographs, amongst them *Die Schmerzensspuren der Geschichte: Zur Poetik der Erinnerung in W G Sebalds Prosa* (2004) and *Phantoms of War in Contemporary German Literature, Films and Discourse* (2008). Co-edited volumes include *German Memory Contests* (2006) and *W G Sebald and The Writing of History* (2007). In 2009 she was awarded the President's Research Fellowship for her latest research project on the cultural history of the bombing of Dresden. She is a member of the Royal Irish Academy. As a keen hillwalker she is looking forward to exploring the Scottish highlands.



Dr Oliver Smith
Teaching Fellow

Oliver joined the staff of St Andrews after completing his PhD at University College London. He read Russian and Slavonic Studies at the University of Leeds before taking an MA in Russian Studies at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, London. His linguistic skills in Russian and Czech were further honed during periods of study at Moscow and Tambov State Universities, Russia, and Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic.

Oliver specialises in Russian intellectual history, with a specific emphasis on Russian religious thought, and literature. His monograph on the Russian philosopher Vladimir Solov'ev is forthcoming in 2010 with Academic Studies Press. His research covers a wide range of areas including the contribution of the Russian religious and philosophical traditions to the contemporary environmental debate, Russian biblical reception and hermeneutics, and depictions of spirituality in Russian literature.



School of Philosophical, Anthropological and Film Studies (Academic Music)

Dr Sarah Sneddon
Teaching Fellow & Director of Teaching

Sarah originally arrived at the University of St Andrews in 1990 as an undergraduate. She completed an MA in English Literature and Modern History and continued her studies at the University gaining a PhD from the School of English while working as a postgraduate tutor in the department. While a student she also benefited from the tuition available at the newly-created Music Centre and by the time she graduated for the second time she had also gained a LTCL from Trinity College, London in Clarinet Teaching and the Scottish Certificate in Jazz.

Although interested in pursuing an academic career, Sarah took a sideways career move into primary education and was the Director of Music at New Park School in St Andrews from 1997 to 2004. While working at New Park, she also became an associate lecturer with the Open University working on both interdisciplinary arts and music courses.

Sarah joins the newly-reformed Music Department as teaching fellow and director of teaching and is looking forward to the continued expansion and development of the department which has grown so much over the last academic year.



School of Physics & Astronomy

Paul Cruickshank
Teaching Fellow

Paul, who joined the University in February, first came to St Andrews from Morayshire in 1995 to study for a physics degree. The University, town, and particularly the School of Physics & Astronomy proved to be such a friendly and stimulating place that he never left. After a PhD on using mechanical means to detect magnetic resonance, he spent about five years as a research fellow working on the design and construction of a high magnetic field electron paramagnetic resonance spectrometer, a key application of which is to help biologists and biochemists determine the structure of important biomolecules by examining the interaction of electrons and microwaves in a magnetic field.

Throughout his PhD and research fellowship, Paul greatly enjoyed teaching within the School. He also has a keen interest in science communication and has enjoyed interacting with public of all ages in the course of explaining physics ideas.



Lucy Hadfield
Coordinator, the Gateway to Physics and Engineering programme

Graduating top of her year from the School of Physics & Astronomy at the University of Sheffield (2003), Lucy quickly realised that Science was going to play a major role in her life.

Describing herself as 'someone who loves to learn', Lucy's passion for science has opened up many opportunities over the last ten years. After completion of a Masters degree in Physics with Astronomy, she undertook doctoral research in astrophysics and was fortunate to gain access the world's leading telescope facilities, in addition to spending a year studying at Caltech, California, USA. She then went on to undertake a research position at the Rochester Institute of Technology, New York, USA, where she became widely involved in Science Communication and realised that engaging with aspiring Physicists was particularly rewarding.



Following this research position Lucy was teacher of physics at Ampleforth College, York, UK. Her strong academic background and secondary school teaching experience stand her in good stead for her current role as the coordinator for the Gateway to Physics and Engineering programme. Her task is to help first year undergraduates registered on the course to make a smooth transition between secondary and undergraduate education. The aim is to help students develop the necessary tools needed to succeed as a good scientist, essentially enabling them to hit the ground running at St Andrews.

Caption fantastic!



Each issue The StAndard trawls the University's photo archives, past and present, for strange, surprising and humorous images calling out for an entertaining caption.

Last issue we featured student James Killingbeck who travelled all the way back to St Andrews from Devon - on a kayak. Following the mammoth 1500 miles, James celebrated with a bottle of bubbly down by the pier.

Winning suggestions are:

'You can take the boy out of St Andrews..'

'I know the University discourages students from bringing cars, but this is ridiculous..'

'Students will do anything for a bottle of champagne.'

'I hope he's got a permit for that kayak.'

Guess where?

With luck, we'll all be spending more time on the beach this summer - but can you guess which beach these shots were taken at? (East Sands, Castle Sands or West Sands)
Answers on page 53

1



2



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4



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6



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8



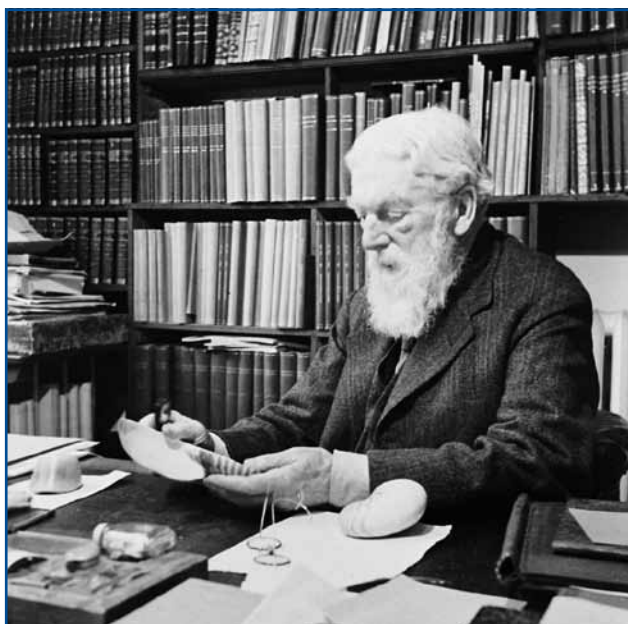
9



Celebrating St Andrews' own polymath

Q. "Could you tell us a little about the history of Professor D'arcy Wentworth Thompson and St Andrews?"

Maia Sheridan, Manuscripts Archivist, replies on behalf of the Special Collections team.



This year we have been celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Professor D'arcy Wentworth Thompson, with exhibitions on his life and work, lectures and street theatre. He was a professor for a startling 64 years, being appointed Professor of Biology at University College Dundee when only 25; in 1917 he became Professor of Natural History here in St Andrews, a post he retained until his death in 1948. D'arcy was a witty and engaging lecturer and a well-known local personality, walking around St Andrews with his parrot Polly on his shoulder. He was famous for his love of dancing, often saying, 'I must dance just once more before I die'.

D'arcy possessed an aptitude not only for his own subject but also for classics, mathematics and physics, and often combined his talents in these disciplines. He translated Aristotle's *Histaira Animalum* (1910) and produced *Greek Glossary of Birds* (1895) and *Greek Glossary of Fishes* (1944). His major work, *On Growth and Form*, on the mathematical principles underlying nature, is still widely used and he is regarded as a pioneer in the field of bio-physics. He did not entirely accept Darwin's ideas of natural selection, arguing instead that local physical conditions affected the development of any given species; using grid diagrams, he analysed patterns of growth in related species to show mathematical transformations. Yet his words are still relevant to the debate on creationists who wish to ban the teaching of Darwinian evolution in schools:

'That these good people should insist on setting the *Book of Genesis* against the *Origin of Species*, and that they should hate the one as they love (or profess to love) the other, is a sadder thing. The philosophy of Evolution itself should help us all to appreciate them both, and to see in the Mosaic Cosmogony as noble a poem as ever was in all the world, and a living monument of very ancient science and wisdom. The child cannot understand it all; who is there that can? But if it be withheld from him, he is robbed of part of his heritage.'

D'arcy founded the Zoology Museum in Dundee and enhanced the exhibits at the Bell-Pettigrew Museum here. He brought many shells home with him from his travels, while contacts with Dundee whalers brought him various Arctic fauna; other specimens he acquired from zoos and exotic animal dealers, such as William Cross in Liverpool, who telegraphed to him in 1895:

"I have only one tortoise (Brazilian), price 7/6. I will advise you when I have dead animals. I presume you want monkeys." (ms11674)

He was appointed scientific advisor to the Bering Sea Fur Seal Commission, for which he made two expeditions to the Bering Straits, becoming an early advocate of marine conservation in his recommendations to preserve seal, whale and sea otter populations. He was later engaged in research for the Fisheries Board of Scotland and International Council for Exploration of the Sea.

He was also in demand for his popular public lectures, even being invited to entertain the troops still stationed on the continent after World War I:

'I am going over to France to lecture the Tommies for 3 weeks or so. There seems no pretence of making the thing a serious



educated affair. The men are idle, apt to be restless and want to be occupied and amused. And after all, that is worth going for.' (2 February 1919, ms43752)

D'arcy's extensive archive is held in Special Collections. There are more than 30,000 items, containing a fascinating diversity of material that reflects his wide ranging enthusiasms, as well as a remarkably complete record of his career. It includes correspondence with eminent scientists and other prominent figures of the day, Bering Straits investigations, shipping, whaling and fishing studies, photographs, lectures, notebooks,

scrapbooks, research notes for publications including *On Growth and Form*, family letters, and postcards home from his voyages to Japan, India and other locations.

Two recent exhibitions, *The Parrot and the Polymath* at the Gateway Gallery and *D'arcy: On Growth and Form* at Lamb Gallery, University of Dundee have both used original documents from Special Collections.

Visit www.darcythompson.org/index.html for more information on these and other anniversary celebrations.

The mysterious letter for a future bride

As an 18 year old backpacker from South Africa, Wim Mosert spent just one night in Hamilton Hall (Room 43) in 1989.

Although he didn't know her at the time, the romantic teenager wrote a letter to his future wife, telling her all about himself. Hiding it behind a wooden cupboard in the room, Wim planned to go back and retrieve it one day.

Twenty years later, when preparing for his own wedding, Wim's memory jolted back to the letter he left behind in Scotland twenty years ago. In a fit of romanticism, he hoped to secure the return of the letter, so that he could read it out during his big day on 10 April. However, after contacting the University with the hope of tracing its whereabouts, initial searches came up with nothing. Following its sale, room 4 is little more than rubble.

The last residence manager - now retired - recalled a secret drawer in the Regent's room that was often used as a pick up point for notes and letters. However, her memory of room 43 - it was a broomcupboard apparently - tallied exactly with the South African's memory of it.

Despite being unable to deliver the letter back to him, Wim was very touched and is planning to visit St Andrews with his new wife Richelle to show her where the room - and her letter - used to be.



Do you know anything about the mysterious letter or Room 43? Did you find it and wonder who the author was? If any readers can shed any light on the mystery, contact The StAndard on magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk

Opening the doors to Medicine



At the end of February 2010 the construction company formally handed over the School of Medicine building to the University. With the building finally under the control of the University, there is a real sense of anticipation at the prospect of occupying this new building.

Stuart Armstrong, Director of Medical Fundraising, is delighted to report that the School of Medicine will open on time for the new academic year in 2010, and within budget. "This", he stressed, "is a real achievement in a volatile construction environment."

The £45 million building project delivers 10,900 square metres of world-class medical and science facilities over four floors; includes a lecture theatre for 300 people, teaching rooms, laboratories, research units, offices and support areas and is linked to the University's School of Physics & Astronomy via a first-floor bridge.

However, the bridge is not the only link that the new building creates. The School of Medicine will encourage interdisciplinary collaboration within the entire science faculty, acknowledging the international consensus that the most significant advances in medical and biomedical research result

from unrestricted collaboration between medicine and the sciences.

The St Andrews development will be one of the first UK medical schools where research facilities are fully integrated across the sciences. Already the investment in the multidisciplinary research structure is delivering results. Major research grants from Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Medical Research Council, The Alzheimer's Trust and, most recently, a European grant to study the genetics of obesity, have been awarded to cross disciplinary teams of scientists and demonstrate the increasing profile of medical research at St Andrews.

The building is futuristic in both its construction and in the services built into it. The intranet system will provide students with 'customised tuition' via a fully-integrated online curriculum and staff management system that allows 24-hour accessibility. The high 'comms system' has the capability to deliver highly flexible video conferencing that can be selectively streamed to all rooms. Teaching spaces are designed to accommodate a wide range of teaching scenarios and the interdisciplinary research laboratories are future-proofed to adapt to changing agendas.



The University is determined to maintain its reputation for environmental sustainability and is delighted to have met the considerable challenge of securing a BRE (Building Research Establishment) Environmental Assessment rating of 'Excellent'. This is a unique distinction for a building with such a significant research component.

Innovations that have contributed to the achievement of the "Excellent" sustainability rating include an array of solar thermal panels on the roof space which will provide all domestic hot water for the building without any CO₂ emissions. All internal partitions have been formed using a recycled product to avoid using traditional plasterboard which has a high CO₂ cost in its production. A strong emphasis has been placed on the use of recycled, locally-sourced materials and natural ventilation is used wherever possible to reduce reliance on air conditioning. Rainwater will be recovered from the roof to provide flushing water for the toilet cisterns. A Combined Heat and Power Engine will generate enough electricity to meet the needs of both the new Medical School and the Physics building all year round.

The development of the new School with its new curriculum and online teaching methodologies is also acting as a model for the Blantyre College of Medicine in Malawi. The University is the lead organisation in the process of helping Malawi to modernise its medical system for the long-term benefit of the people of Malawi.

Emma Shea



Another step forward for Malawi

St Andrews collaborative and consultative relationship with the College of Medicine at Blantyre, Malawi, took another step forward this semester with a visit from three senior members of staff from the school.

Dr Mavuto Gondwe of the Blantyre Physidogy Department, Mr Juziel Manda of the Anatomy Department and Mr Diston Chiweza, Head Librarian, spent a week in St Andrews meeting students and staff, seeing our curriculum in action, and learning about the infrastructure that supports it.

The relationship between the University of St Andrews and the Blantyre College is over twenty years old. The College was founded on the basis of previous medical training at St Andrews so when the time came to modernise their teaching systems, an ideal partnership was born of our long-standing links. Based on their own experiences the team, comprising Professor Simon Guild, Dr Susan Whiten, Dr Amanda Fleet, Mrs Julie Struthers and Mr Chris Coutts, has worked with the College of Medicine to facilitate a restructuring of the initial years of the medical curriculum in Malawi, and to introduce a new online curriculum management system. It is underpinned by the provision of new servers to run the software plus 60 new PCs and monitors for use by the students to access resources.

Dr Gondwe, Mr Manda and Mr Chiweza were able to use their trip to report back on the improvements these changes have made in a country which has only one doctor per 200,000 of the population. Their new curriculum introduces early clinical experience and integrates the basic and clinical sciences across the curriculum. This restructuring, coupled with the curriculum management system, has allowed for expansion in student intake not only in medicine but also in allied health subjects such as nursing, dentistry and physiotherapy.

In addition to the main project of curriculum reform, a second St Andrews' team has facilitated the introduction of a new electronic student management system and support for the library at Blantyre. This group comprises Vicki Cormie from the University Library, Ester Ruskuc from Registry, Heidi Fraser-Krauss from Business Improvements, Jon Callan from IT Services and David Corner from the Principal's Office.

Reflecting on the visit and the success of the Bute/Blantyre co-operation, Professor Simon Guild said, "This collaboration with the College of Medicine over their curriculum reform has been one of the most interesting and rewarding ventures I have ever undertaken. Thanks to the magnificent efforts and cooperation of our colleagues in Malawi we were able to make



rapid and significant progress in helping them achieve their goals. It is not often one gets the chance to influence a whole country's education programme but we were able to do this for medical education in Malawi."

While in Scotland, Dr Godwe, Mr Manda and Mr Chiweza were also able to visit Blantyre, their home towns namesake, as a tribute to their special ties with Scotland.

Emma Shea

University first as students award teachers

Principal hails inaugural awards as an 'impressive student initiative'



Student sabbatical Georgina Rannard with the award recipients

Students at St Andrews have already voted their experiences of learning and teaching the best in the UK, with the University being named top mainstream university in the National Student Survey 2009. Now, for the first time, our students have decided to reward the teachers who inspire them with the creation of the students' Teaching Awards.

Nominations were invited across six categories, and the winners were:

- **Outstanding Honours Teaching**
– Dr Stephen Tyre (School of History)
- **Outstanding Sub-Honours Teaching**
– Dr Morven Shearer (School of Biology)
- **Innovative Teaching**
– Dr Jeremy Howard (School of Art History)

- **Outstanding Postgraduate Tutor**
– Lydia Edwards (School of Art History)
- **Dissertation Supervisor in Faculty of Arts**
– Dr Roger Rees (School of Classics)
- **Project Supervisor in Faculty of Science**
– Dr Gareth Miles (School of Biology).

In total 160 students responded, nominating individuals who had made a difference to their learning and inspired them to get the most out of their studies.

The University has the highest accumulating Teaching Quality Assessment average rating in Scotland, and four years running it has figured at the top of the National Student Survey. This independent survey measures how satisfied students are with the quality of their higher education experience.

Introducing the Equality & Diversity Inclusion Service

By Sukhi Bains, Equality & Diversity Officer

E=mc²

Equalities = Managing Cohesion with pace throughout the University

Based within Human Resources, the Equality & Diversity Officer has led to a new service which will form part of the strategy in aligning the University with the new Single Equality Act and the proposed Single Equality Duty April 2011.

Services provided:

Facilitating an environment that values diversity, promotes inclusion, and is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity.

Delivering updated and mandatory equalities training across the University in partnership with Staff Development.

Constantly updating equalities training to make it specific to School/Unit and University needs.

Signposting staff in confidence to external services available to them and their partners/families across the equality strands locally in Fife and Scotland to improve staff well-being.

Anonymous feedback initiatives on a consistent basis for organisational improvement.

Facilitating and coordinating effective data monitoring, analysis and publishing process.

Heads/Line Managers gaining scheduled or ad hoc advice and guidance for:

- Equalities legislative compliance
- Equalities reports to bodies
- Equalities improvement initiatives specific to Schools/Units
- Implementation on equalities strategies, policies, practices and procedures through Equality Impact Assessments.

Definitions

Equality Strands:

Modern day equalities legislation is split into strands, which bans discrimination and harassment on the following:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender and transgender
- Human rights
- Race and ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Social inclusion

Equality:

- Replacing the meaning of 'Equal Opportunities', equality protects people from being discriminated against; and ensures that higher education institutions are complying with anti-discrimination legislation which has been created to promote equality of opportunity.

Diversity:

- Respecting people's visible and non-visible individual differences.

Inclusion:

- Maintaining social cohesion, building social capital and minimising social exclusion.

Service:

- Guiding the institution in organisational improvement through equalities by serving the staff to serve our clients how we expect to be served.

For more information contact Sukhi on 1649 or email sb104@st-andrews.ac.uk

Helping hands

New award for staff

By Frances Griffiths, Development Officer (Legacies & Stewardship).

Last month, the Proctor and Provost of St Leonard's College, Professor Peter Clark presented the very first 'Helping Hands Award for Excellence in Supporting Students' to Mrs Fiona Oviatt. Fiona has been School Secretary in the School of International Relations since September 2000.

The Award recognises the outstanding help, care and support Fiona has given to students at times of difficulty. Fiona was nominated by Dr Mark Imber who praised her personal warmth and professional skills in handling a very high case load of unusual demands.

He said, "Fiona has over the last ten years been the consistently sympathetic and masterfully efficient face of the School to all students who have sought help, encouragement or advice on any issue outside the class-room."



International Relations is one of the University's largest Schools, with the largest number of overseas students, and the student welfare demands on Fiona are unusually high. She is often involved in protracted and sensitive discussions with frequently demanding students, parents and guardians.

Fiona has been exemplary and meticulous in the services she provides to students; these include support during serious illness, hospitalisation, leaves of absence and family bereavements. Fiona is also the School's Disability Officer.

She was of considerable help to a student who lost their family in the Boxing Day Tsunami. In the sad case of one student's accidental death in St Petersburg, Fiona demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment and organisation when she arranged a memorial event in the School, and the family's international travel to St Andrews.

Fiona said, "I was really touched when Mark first spoke to me about nominating me, and even more so to be offered the award. It took a while to sink in. Helping students has been a neglected area in terms of recognition; I was delighted to first read of the creation of the award. I wish to thank Student Support for all the help and support they give to me, and Vinse and William for their support and encouragement. I would like to pay tribute to the students, who cope with tremendous courage and dignity in very challenging situations."

The presentation was attended by Fiona's husband, Vinse, and her son William, Dr Mark Imber and colleagues from International Relations, Rob Warren, Assistant Director of Student Support Services and Jamie Walker, University Chaplain. All nominees and nominators were invited also.

The panel received eleven nominations for the Award, all of which provided unique and powerful illustrations of care and support within the University community.

Each nomination told a story about the ways individuals in the University care for and support others. The Award has helped in gaining a valuable perspective of the University community, the way we help one another and the importance of this help to the student experience. Every nomination told a story of people quietly helping others. The development of the Award has given an insight into this often hidden factor in our community.

The Award was established by the family of two St Andrews students who were grateful for the support their son received at a time of personal difficulty while studying here. The medal has been designed the family. The hands are a common sign throughout the world of help and support. The Red and White ribbon represents the colours of the family's home town in Germany.

Print & Design - new name; continuing professional service

By Lesley Lind, Publications Manager

Although Print & Design is a new name for the work of four previous services (Reprographics, Print Unit, Publications and the Bute Photographic Unit) we continue to provide high quality professional work in the area of design, print, communications and photography at our two locations in St Katharine's West (on The Scores) and 65 North Street (behind College Gate).

Our fourteen staff have an average of 19 years' experience working for the University. Modern equipment and an increasing range of products ensure that we can offer an excellent in-house facility for staff and students and a very competitively priced service for the general public.

Print

We offer a wide range of printing and binding options at both of our locations. Superb high quality colour digital and litho printing is available on a wide variety of paper and card. There is also black and white quality printing on a wide range of paper stock, including high volume output at 65 North Street.

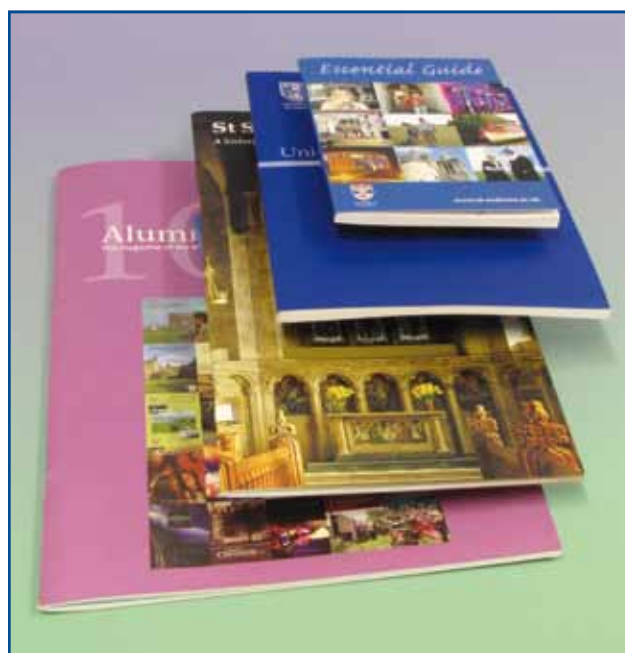
Print & Design is ideally set up to print and bind dissertations and theses. Pre-printed hard copies can be bound and/or printed at either location. In addition, you can bring your electronic copy for printing and/or binding to St Katharine's West. Hard case book binding, including gold embossing on covers, is available at 65 North Street.

We can also print posters up to one-metre wide by whatever length you require on our standard 240gsm paper. However, we can also provide an option which is unique to any company in St Andrews whereby we can print onto canvas, fine art paper and vinyl (standard, adhesive backed and water resistant stocks). All paper posters can be laminated.

Design

At St Katharine's West our skilled graphic designers can design, layout and prepare a wide range of publications. We can print either within Print & Design on our high quality colour digital printers or through one of our external professional contacts.

We have expertise in producing items such as brochures, leaflets, flyers, posters, display boards, postcards, notelets, bookmarks, invitations, menus, and tickets. Each job is charged based on time and materials required. An estimate can be provided following an informal briefing and our



designers can provide initial concepts and refine the final design to your personal requirements.

All official University stationery is provided by Print & Design, including business cards, letterheads, and compliment slips. This service links in with our having responsibility for the application of the University's corporate identity and branding (further details under Publications). Please contact us with all stationery requests.

Publications

The Publications team within Print & Design is responsible for editing, proofreading, publishing and promoting the University through a wide variety of print and electronic media. We manage the proofing processes and production timetables of key University publications (for example undergraduate and postgraduate prospectuses and recruitment leaflets, and the Course Catalogues), on behalf of Student Recruitment & Admissions, Registry and other central University services.

The Friday Memos and the Wednesday Memos are also co-ordinated by us. We also produce the Maps, Facts & Figures, the Student Handbook, and the Staff Diary and the Handbook for New Staff. We also jointly edit, with the Alumni

Relations Office, the *Alumnus Chronicle* which is distributed world-wide to all graduates and non-graduating alumni. We also produce the full colour guidebook to St Salvator's Chapel and the *Essential Guide* which provides information about the University and the town.

Over the summer we will be completing work on the corporate identity which is a crucial element of the University's communications during the 600th Anniversary period. During the next academic year we will be providing online information and also we hope to meet with heads of schools and units to discuss how we can support them in the use of new corporate identity which will be used during the Anniversary years and beyond. In the meantime please contact us for current logos, and also any other enquiries associated with corporate identity.



Before & after

Fragile original photographs can be scanned at high resolution, then detailed and skilled digital repair can be carried out.



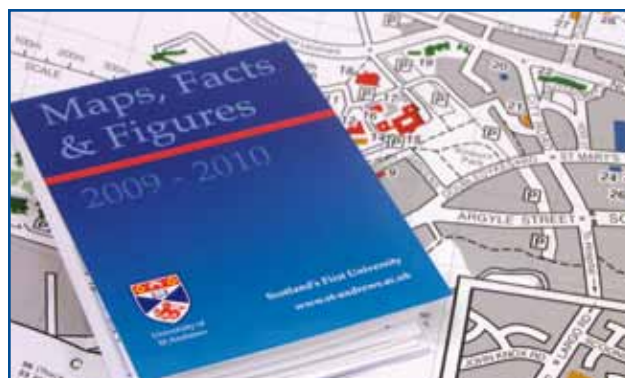
Photographic Work

At St Katharine's West we also have expertise in photography. We can provide photos from stock via an online database of current photos of all aspects of the University. We also specialise in image preservation, repair and manipulation. Transparencies, negatives (glass plate, or film of any format) and printed photographs can all be digitised and reproduced as high quality prints.

We can provide all photographs on premium digital papers, specialist fine art paper and textured materials. Printing can be at any size up to A0 posters (841 × 1189 mm).

Recent products we have added to our range include photographic mounts, photo books, calendars, postcards and notelets. You can either choose stock photos or else provide your own.

So please do contact us with your requirement – by email, telephone or just drop in to see us Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Further details including a price list at:
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/printanddesign



Cleaners raise cash for cancer

Cleaning staff from the United Colleges put in a lot of elbow grease last year to raise almost £2,000 for breast cancer charity. Supported by colleagues and friends, the dedicated group organised a series of events to raise the impressive sum.

Heather Forrest, Cath Finlay, Isobel Davie and Margaret Lackie were the main organisers behind the events which included a massive Christmas raffle, a quiz night, tombola and homebaking sales.

University staff from all departments supported the cause and donated generously with money and items for raffles or to help increase the total.

The group, who are pictured presenting a large cheque to Ninewells Hospital in Dundee, hope to organise a car boot sale in the summer months to continue raising much-needed funds.



Sporty staff and students raise funds for Project Zambia

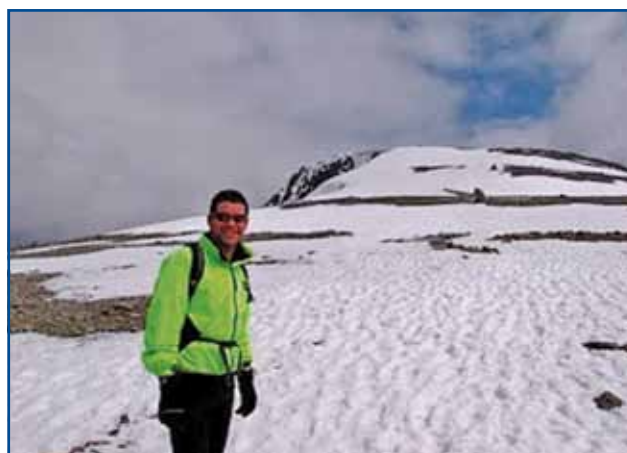
Last month, Dr Grant MacAskill ended a journey that saw him cycle the longest climb in the UK, run the highest hill, and swim 200 lengths – all in aid of Project Zambia.

Project Zambia is a University of St Andrews scheme to take students to Africa, to develop sports and educational projects for communities, while learning about a radically different culture.

Dr MacAskill, a lecturer in New Testament studies, began his adventure triathlon on 8 May when he tackled the Bealach Beag cycle race – a 70km race which includes an ascent of 1,800m including the biggest road climb in the UK, rising 626m in just 10km, with 1km at a 22% gradient.

The challenge continued with a run up and down Ben Nevis, the highest hill in the UK. To top it all off, Grant swam for three miles in St Andrews.

Meanwhile, the students selected for this year's life-changing trip to Zambia cycled the distance from John O'Groats to Lands End... without leaving Fife.



The group cycled the 874 miles on stationary bikes positioned around town to raise funds for this year's trip. The £560 raised from this event will go towards the project set up in 2009 by a group of dedicated students and staff from the University of St Andrews.

Staff run a mile for Charity

For the last four years postgraduate students and staff from the School of History have taken part in the Edinburgh Hairy Haggis Relay Marathon. The St Andrews Chariots and the Historic Racing Snails originated as a competitive challenge between academics against their postgraduate students.

Rumours that some of the academics have made it compulsory for their postgraduates to compete are exaggerated, though this may be contested by some students. But the original challenge soon changed to ensure the staff-student rivalry faded. Injuries altered team selection and in the last two years the new challenge has been to foster an environment which pits newcomers to running into the training orbit of some more competitive runners. And there have been a few of those: in 2009 Steve Reid ran an eight mile leg in 48 minutes, while the team he was in pulled off a phenomenal time of 2hrs and 56 minutes overall. This placed them 11th out of over 900 teams (positioning them in the Top 15 Elite bracket) and earning them the coveted First Place University Team Prize. What is most impressive is that in the process the Chariots beat numerous university and club running teams who may have been horrified that our final team selection was made in the

pub about midnight the night before. The Snails also did well, knocking half an hour of the previous year's time.

This year, the Chariots and Snails are composed of both new and returning members. At present the Snails include veterans Professor Ali Ansari and Laura Hedrick with newcomers James Koranyi and Martyna Mirecka. The Chariots are composed of new staff members Kate Ferris and Katherine Wilson with super-swift veteran students Sophie Mullins and Chris Hill. Steve Murdoch will be escorting the teams round the whole marathon, supported by Bernhard Struck who will be running the second half with him. Other reserve runners and supporters include Cynthia Fry and Claire McLoughlin and ex-Snail captain Ashley Barber who had to drop out due to injury at the last moment. Their support is invaluable in raising money for the cause we are running for, DeafBlind Scotland.

Anyone wishing to support the Chariots and Snails can donate online at: www.justgiving.com/mods

Steve Murdoch

Historians take part in marathon event

A group of medieval historians meanwhile ran the Edinburgh marathon last month in aid of MS Scotland.

The group, running in support of a former student who has multiple sclerosis, raised over their target of £2,000.

Running as four teams, The Medievalists, Dry Island Buffalo Jump, Medieval Fury/Team Jumieges and Dead on Arrival, the staff included: John Hudson, Kimberley Knight, Audrey Wishart, Laura Tompkins, Chris Jones, Gary Stratton, James Palmer, Peter Kushner, Matt McHaffie, Kenneth Duggan, Kate Hammond, Emily Michelson, Alex Woolf, Angus Stewart, Steve Robbie and Roberta Cimino.

To support them visit:

www.justgiving.com/themedievalists



Members preparing Chariots of Fire style on the West Sands

Graduation 2010

The former head of MI5, a gold medal-winning Olympic pentathlete and a respected former BBC war reporter are among those to be honoured by the University of St Andrews this month (22 – 25 June).

Baroness Eliza Manningham-Buller, Dame Mary Peters and Kate Adie will be awarded honorary degrees by the University. The trio will be joined by leading figures from the worlds of science, music and law for this year's summer graduations. The full list is as follows:

22 June (am) Kate Adie and Professor Robert Darnton (pm)

23 June (am) Professor Eleanor Dodson and Sir Fraser Stoddart (pm) Professor Kay Jamison and Mohsen Makhmalbaf

24 June (am) Douglas Allan and Professor John Mallard (pm) Dame Mary Peters and Baroness Manningham-Buller

25 June (am) Professor Ian Campbell and Professor John W Allen (pm) Professor Arvo Part and Ms Irene Khan



Golfing by degrees

Three of the world's greatest golfers are to be honoured by the University on the eve of the 139th Open Championship at the Old Course.

Arnold Palmer, Tom Watson and Padraig Harrington will be awarded Honorary Degrees in a public ceremony in the Younger Hall next month.

The trio has won 18 major championships, including nine British Open titles, over the course of the last half century.

St Andrews golf legend Jim Farmer and South African business leader Johann Rupert, head of the Swiss-based luxury group Richemont whose brands include Cartier, Chloe and Dunhill, will also be honoured.

Jim Farmer will be presented with the University Medal in recognition of his long and exemplary service to golf in St Andrews while Rupert's honorary degree will recognise his long term support of the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship

The awards ceremony – a traditional feature of Open Week in St Andrews – will take place at 3 p.m. on 13 July.

The degrees will be conferred by University Chancellor Sir Menzies Campbell.

University staff, students and members of the public are warmly invited to attend the ceremony. Tickets are free and

interest may be registered by email to golfgrad@st-andrews.ac.uk

University Principal Dr Louise Richardson said, "Individually and collectively, our honorands exemplify excellence, drive and achievement at the highest levels of professional sport.

"This will be an opportunity for St Andrews and Scotland to honour their determination and achievement in the game of golf and the pursuit of excellence. We are absolutely delighted that they have agreed to accept these Honorary Degrees at the home of golf on the eve of the 150th anniversary of the Open Championship."

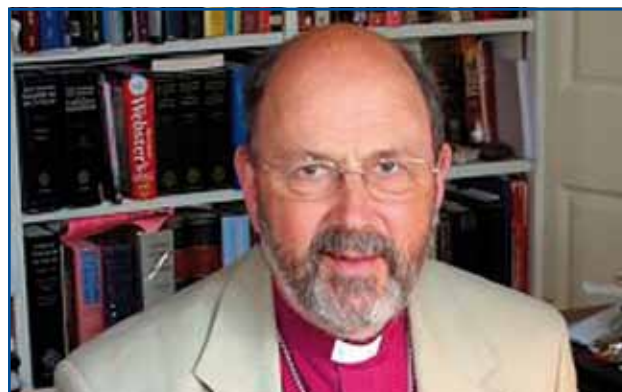
Two-times Open champion Padraig Harrington said, "I am very proud to be awarded an Honorary Degree from the University of St Andrews and I am really looking forward to receiving it at the public ceremony in July during the Open Championship week. It is fantastic to be recognised for this honour but what makes it even more special is that I will be receiving it alongside golfing legends Arnold Palmer and Tom Watson, whose achievements and contributions to the game I have admired and aspired to throughout my career."

Previous recipients of Honorary Degrees from St Andrews include Jack Nicklaus, Seve Ballesteros, Gary Player, Colin Montgomerie, Nick Faldo, Peter Thomson and Peter Alliss. All have been invited to this year's ceremony to witness their fellow professionals receive their degrees.

Divinity makes 'Wright' appointment

The University has appointed the Right Reverend Dr Nicholas Thomas Wright, presently the Bishop of Durham, to be Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity.

Professor Wright will take up post in the School of Divinity at St Andrews from September 1st 2010. Widely regarded as one of the world's foremost New Testament scholars, Professor Wright has written over fifty books, both for the academy (his series *Christian Origins and the Question of God*) and for a mainstream audience (the *Everyone* series of guides to the New Testament). He has also written books of apologetics, including the best-selling *Simply Christian*. He has broadcast regularly on radio and television and has written guest columns for broadsheet newspapers.



More league table success

The University of St Andrews was named among the UK's top five universities, maintaining its highest ever ranking in the latest Times Good University Guide.

The new national league table published in May ranked St Andrews as the leading university in Scotland and 4th in the UK. It remains the highest place ever attained by a Scottish university in the Times table.

Universities were rated on student satisfaction, quality of research, staff-student ratio, completion rates and spend per student on services and facilities.

The guide also looked at entry standards, the percentage of students gaining good honours and graduate prospects.

St Andrews improved its overall score and was ranked amongst the best in the UK for student satisfaction, research quality, completion rates and good honours results for students.

Individual subjects performed well in the Times rankings, with 20 of 24 subjects at St Andrews in the UK top ten.

Subjects rated among the top five in the UK are Anthropology, Geology, German, Middle East and African Studies, Physics and Astronomy, Philosophy, International Relations, Divinity, Chemistry, Classics, Geography, Art History and Maths.

The result closely followed the publication of the Complete University Guide 2011, published online and in the Independent newspaper, which ranked St Andrews as the leading university in Scotland and 6th in the UK.

In a separate survey published, St Andrews was named one of the UK's "cool" places to study. The Times Higher survey ranked St Andrews as the second most popular UK choice for prospective students with approximately twelve applications for every available place.

Staff moves in brief

Professor Keith Brown, former Deputy Principal of the University, has been appointed as the new Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Manchester.

Keith will head the largest of four faculties at the University, with 934 academic staff and 16,377 students.

St Andrews joins Santander

The University and Santander UK have signed a three-year agreement, with a total value of £150,000, that will create support for scholarships, research, entrepreneurship and the arts.

Santander Universities, an international scheme which already supports 800 academic institutions across Latin America, China, USA, Spain, Morocco, Portugal, Russia and the UK, will set up postgraduate scholarships, awards for academic travel,

support for entrepreneurship activities and Latin American and Spanish arts projects.

At least six scholarships per year will be for postgraduate students – five from Iberamerican countries and one scholarship for a UK student. They are likely to be for students on one-year master courses, but not limited to any particular subjects.

Transition St Andrews group launch a low carbon future

The brainchild of a group of like-minded St Andrews students was launched late last year.

The pioneering students are championing a new approach to a more sustainable way of living for students and staff of the University as well as town residents. As members of the University's One World Society, these students, supported by a cast of other volunteers, are spreading the word about the need to change our wasteful and oil-reliant way of living.

The group includes Rebecca Petford, Daniel Fisher, Georgina Rannard, Elana Bulman and Hannah Steenberg. Elana, the convener of Transition St Andrews explained, "Transition St Andrews is a wide-reaching network of students, staff, senior administrators, and community members aiming to cut the personal emissions of carbon from the student and staff by five percent in 2010 in response to the challenges of climate change and peak oil.

"Our initial aims will be the sourcing of local foods, adopting more renewable forms of energy generation and promoting energy efficiency. We will also be campaigning for sustainable short – and long – distance travel improvements for students and town residents and reducing waste across the town and University."

Hannah added that this initiative is open to all who live and work in the town. "We all have a responsibility to reduce waste, save energy and reduce our own impact on the planet. As students, it really is up to us to lead the way on this and make the change happen and we think that by coming together under this 'Transition' banner, we can make that difference."

Arabia in St Andrews

Students at the University of St Andrews have transformed the windswept beaches of Fife into an exotic Arabian desert in an homage to Arabic film.

The thirty students – from countries as far as Egypt, Morocco and India – have played a starring role in a film written by their Arabic lecturer. The hour long movie is acted out entirely in Arabic, and was previewed last month in St Andrews.

The film, 'Groom Number Five' was written by Arabic tutor Dina Al'Afrangi, who first came up with the idea of a student film four years ago when she arrived in St Andrews



Guess where? Answers



1 East Sands



2 East Sands



3 West Sands



4 West Sands



5 East Sands



6 West Sands



7 West Sands



8 Castle Sands



9 Castle Sands



University of
St Andrews

**KEEP
CALM
AND
CARRY
ON**