

University
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The StAndard

Staff Magazine, Issue 10, March 2007

The language of dance



The Lean dream
SMRU by Royal Appointment
Higher Education and the May election

Scotland's first university

Contents

Page **1: Welcome**

Pages **2-16: PEOPLE**

Pages **17-20: TOWN**

Page **21: OPINION**

Pages **22-28: GOWN**

Pages **29-32: NEWS**

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In the hot seat (of learning)

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



Ron with his prized Gibson

NAME: Ron Morrison

POSITION: Professor of Software Engineering and Head of School of Computer Science

LAST GOOD BOOK – *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel. This is a masterful story of the life of an Indian boy whose family move to Canada. The first part is very descriptive of his upbringing in an Indian Zoo and his almost philosophical thoughts on captured animals. The second part finds Pi cast adrift in a lifeboat with an orang-utan, a zebra, a hyena and a Bengal tiger. The great part of the book is that it balances delicately on whether the horrific boat journey is real or an allegory for Pi's struggle with life. I still do not know.

FIRST RECORD BOUGHT – *Folk, Blues and Beyond* by Davey Graham. This was the album to be seen with if you were an aspiring cool guitarist in 1964. At least I got the aspiring part.

TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION – Having travelled extensively I still love the long summer days in the north west of Scotland. Ann and I almost always go north in the summer. This year while on research leave we visited some remote parts in the south of Western Australia (Esperance) and that was pretty spectacular.

HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY

– Winning the Glasgow Schools discus championship at the age of 13. My Dad, an athletics fanatic, was so pleased.

IDEAL MEAL – Ann's beef vindaloo. I hope I get some when she sees this.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION – A Gibson J45 acoustic jumbo guitar although I have not played it seriously for twenty years and not at all in the last four. In an attempt to start again I took the guitar to get the action lowered and a general service a few years ago. The guitar maker accused me of guitar abuse.

CHILDHOOD AMBITION – To be an Olympic athlete – delusional! I still run (shuffle) with Don Macgregor (seventh in the Olympic marathon at Munich) and Ron Hilditch, when we are not injured.

FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT – The Vine Leaf. In twenty years I have not had anything cooked by Morag Hamilton that I did not like.

FIRST LOVE – It has to be sport. I grew up in the east end of Glasgow playing football in the street but soon settled on distance running. I started to play golf when I came to St Andrews.

ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM – *Annie Hall*

directed by Woody Allen from a script he co-wrote with Marshall Brickman. Brickman is a superb five-string banjo player and played *Dueling Banjos* with Eric Weissberg as two banjos on the Rhapsody label. Weissberg plays it with Steve Mandel as a guitar and banjo duet in the film *Deliverance*. I really enjoy Woody Allen's films and watch them with my son David. Ann and Catriona, my daughter, cannot stand him.

CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO

– *Modern Times* by Bob Dylan which Ann gave me for my 60th birthday. I was an early Dylan fan who stopped listening after he went electric. This album captures the essence of Dylan with its driving and subtle rhythms. I will have to explore the missing forty years now.

THE PERFECT WEEKEND – Saturday morning, Farmer's market buying nice food, followed by cross-country running in the afternoon either taking part or officiating. Most Saturday evenings I like to cook and have dinner with what parts of the family are in attendance. Sunday morning running in Tentsmuir with Don and Ron followed by golf in the afternoon is just perfect. In the evening, dinner with Ann with whatever she has cooked after her sailing.

NAME: Helen Kay

POSITION: Secretary, Reprographics Unit/Publications

LAST GOOD BOOK – *The Da Vinci Code*. I don't necessarily agree with Dan Brown's views, the book's just a great murder story.

FIRST RECORD BOUGHT – *A Whiter Shade of Pale* by Procol Harum.

TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION – Anywhere in France. Nothing beats sitting at a pavement café with a glass of 'le cidre', people watching.

HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY – Holidaying in a cottage on an island in the middle of the River Thames at Henley, where we had to punt across the river every morning to collect the milk.

IDEAL MEAL – I know it's very unhealthy, but fish 'n' chips made with the freshest haddock from my local fishman.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION

– My driving licence. Having come to driving much, much later than most folk, it was a major achievement for me, and to pass first time!! It was my present to myself for my 50th birthday, so it's very precious.

Helen at the wheel with her precious driving licence



CHILDHOOD AMBITION – To win the ladies' singles at Wimbledon! What happened?

FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT – Roome Bay, Crail. When the sun's shining, there's no place like it.

FIRST LOVE – My Danka (grandad). His knee was the best place in the world.

CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO – The Red Hot Chili Peppers.

ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM – I have a few but *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* would have to win. And *Spaceballs* and *Blazing Saddles* have to get a mention, Mel Brooks is a favourite in our house.

THE PERFECT WEEKEND – Shopping on Saturday, and a nice run in the car on Sunday, stopping for a meal at our favourite restaurant in Yetts o' Muckhart.

NAME: Heidi Fraser-Krauss

POSITION: Director of Business Improvements

LAST GOOD BOOK – *Good Wives?* By Margaret Forster. I don't usually read biography type books but this one was fascinating. It examined the role of the wife and how this has changed, by looking at the wives of David Livingstone, Robert Louis Stevenson and Nye Bevan.

FIRST RECORD BOUGHT – No idea!

TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION – Tignes in France, it's got the best skiing in Europe, if not the world.

HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY – Getting a bike for Christmas when I was eight.

IDEAL MEAL – Cheese fondue with lots of crusty bread and a big tomato

salad washed down with a glass of Chardonnay and followed by something chocolaty.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION

– I'm not sure I can really call them my possessions but my kids Max, Oskar and Felix give me lots of joy.

CHILDHOOD AMBITION – To own a Porsche 911. I haven't managed that yet and am sorry to admit that I really love my Volvo.

FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT – Tarvit Hill outside Cupar, the views are great and Tarvit House has beautiful gardens.

FIRST LOVE – Snails! I used to keep loads of them in the garden in buckets. I once had a really pretty one with a yellow shell that escaped and I cried so much that my Dad searched the garden until he found it.



Heidi Fraser-Krauss

ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM – *Cabaret* with Liza Minnelli, every time I watch it I see something different.

CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO – I don't really listen to music but I am a Radio 4 fanatic and listen to it whenever I can.

THE PERFECT WEEKEND – Hill walking and camping in Scotland with my wonderful husband Thomas.

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: Barbara Fleming

POSITION: Postgraduate Secretary, School of Modern Languages

1. Roy Orbison: *Pretty Woman* – in my school holidays I worked for the late Moira Shearer and her husband Ludovic Kennedy. He gave me the single which has become such a classic.
2. Bryan Ferry: *Angel Eyes* – a fan since the 70s, I've got front row tickets to see him for the 4th time in March. Scream!
3. Santana: *Oye Como Va* – long-time admirer of this fantastic musician.
4. Average White Band: *Cut the Cake* – I worked with the parents of lead singer, Alan Gorrie, and didn't believe them when they said "Our son is appearing on *Top of the Pops* tonight."
5. Van Morrison: *Dancing in the Moonlight* – I'd love to see him in concert but he is notoriously unreliable as a performer.
6. Bruce Springsteen: *Dancing in the Dark* – anything by the Boss will get you through tough times.
7. The Rolling Stones: *Start Me Up* – they are simply the best. My family and I saw them prove it in concert last August.
8. St Germain: *Pont des Arts* – met a friend for lunch, the restaurant was playing the *Tourist* album. Jazz funk fusion is what I've been waiting for.
9. Rory Gallagher: *Ghost Blues* – I became interested when my son discovered his music. I wish I'd had the chance to see him live.
10. John Lee Hooker: *Boom Boom* – all of the above in one artiste. Phew.

(Like most of the other peoples' submissions, I need to play these pieces really loudly, not just Pump up the Volume, but having to move to a croft on St Kilda.)





NAME: Don Burnett

POSITION: Head Chef, McIntosh Hall

1. Duncan Browne: *Journey Only* – reached Number 23 in 1972, should have been much higher.
2. The Who: *Won't Get Fooled Again* – never tire of listening to this.
3. Roxy Music: *Virginia Plain* – one of the most original songs ever recorded.
4. Mott The Hoople: *All The Young Dudes* – Bowie wrote this but Mott made this their own.
5. David Bowie: *Starman* – great song and a legendary Top Of The Pops performance.
6. Ike and Tina Turner: *Nutbush City Limits* – stunning opening and superb vocals.
7. The Tubes: *White Punks on Dope* – totally over the top, just what The Tubes were best at.
8. T-Rex: *Ride a White Swan* – as far as singles go they were just about unbeatable in the early 70s.
9. The Tourists: *Blind Among the Flowers* – Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart before forming Eurythmics.
10. Goodbye Mr MacKenzie: *The Rattler* – very under-rated Scottish band featuring Shirley Manson, lead singer of Garbage.

The language of dance

By Gayle Cook,
Press Officer



Jenn Hogan literally can't stop moving – she loves to be on the go all the time. So it's perhaps not surprising that she spends her spare time running, and performing with, her own Irish dance company.

Jenn, a part-time receptionist / secretary with the School of Modern Languages, originally arrived in St Andrews six years ago as a student, bringing with her a life-long passion for Irish dancing. Not

content with having degree studies to get on with, Jenn set about organising Irish dancing classes as part of the Students' Association's Dance Society in her second year. It didn't take long before fellow students caught the Irish bug – from a standing start of eleven students in her very first class, Jenn found herself regularly teaching classes of forty-five (the Irish dancing class is the biggest every year), and thereafter she continued teaching once

a week throughout her degree studies. Indeed, as Jenn put it, "It was a positive, wonderful experience – I'd say dance got me through university."

After graduating in the summer of 2005, Jenn joined the sales and marketing department of the St Andrews Bay, and it was during her time there that she was swept away by a performance from the UK's leading Irish dance company Celtic Feet. Inspired by the show and wishing to take her dancing and teaching experience a step further, Jenn decided to take the plunge and set up her own independent dance company. In December of that year, the Siamsoir Celtic Dance Company (Siamsoir is Gaelic for 'The Entertainer') was born. Taking on the most talented Irish dancers from the Dance Society, Jenn established a group of twelve, all female students of the University, and some of world-class competition standard. "They are all really talented girls with the 'X-factor' when it comes to performing," she said.



Left-right:
Naho Nakashima,
Ariel Faulkner,
Jenn Hogan,
Hannah Best,
Emilie Gay and
Laura Walters.

The company is available for hire to dance at balls, corporate, charity or private events, and even team-building workshops, and indeed has recently performed at a number of University and local events. This month, on St Patrick's Day (17 March) the group will perform in and around the pubs of St Andrews and in May they will perform an original show written and choreographed by Jenn. *The Battle for Eire* is a unique fusion of Irish and contemporary dance, which will transport you back to a time full of magic, intrigue and revenge. Described as 'a full length dark tale of ancient magic and mystery', the show is based on traditional Irish folklore and will feature Jenn's troupe dancing to original music performed live by the University's Celtic band, Shy Bairn. Though Jenn is responsible for the full creative direction of the company, it is very much a team effort with the multi-talented dancers being involved with the design and making of costumes, all unique and elaborate affairs.

"What we are doing is like what Michael Flatley does with his Lord of the Dance shows, but on a much smaller scale. We use theatrical storylines and modern interpretations of traditional Irish dancing," she explained.

Jenn describes her method of Irish dance as 'traditional, with all the jigs and reels, but with a contemporary twist', but when asked if she'd like to work in shows as big as Flatley's, she wasn't so sure.

"What we do is very fulfilling and very real – we socialise afterwards with the audience and have the opportunity to get to meet the people we dance for. I don't think his dancers can say the same! But no-one can dispute what Michael Flatley has done for the profile of Irish dancing," she said.

Originally from Paisley, Jenn (23) danced her way through childhood, regularly performing ballet and tap before feeling the urge to take up Irish dancing as an eleven year old – and once she started, she couldn't stop. With most of the family in Ireland it's in her blood – Jenn



spent many a happy summer holiday there with relations on both sides as a child. Indeed, her Dad always wanted her to learn traditional Irish dancing, but it wasn't until later that Jenn learned that most of her Irish family were keen dancers.

"I've tried most types of dancing, but there is something about Irish dancing that I love – it has a special spark and it isn't like anything else I've ever done. On a performance level, it is something of a novelty, and though the movement is fast and looks complicated, it's actually quite easy to do once you've mastered the main steps," Jenn said.

Siamsoir corners something of a niche in the market in St Andrews and Jenn is unaware of any Irish dance companies in the surrounding areas. Though Irish dancing is hugely popular on the competitive market, it remains relatively underground in non-competitive circles. Though Jenn would love to expand Siamsoir further, there are the inevitable problems with funding and the fact that every year she loses a valuable dancer when they graduate and leave St Andrews.

Though she remains in town, no-one could describe her as resting on her laurels since graduating – Jenn technically has three jobs; working day-time at the University and at Pagan Osborne during the weekend, while committing her evenings to teaching

dance (she spends around five hours dancing and four hours working on routines a week). As if that wasn't enough, she is also taking a module in Film Studies AND this year started up a student cheerleading society, of which she is its founding president.

As to the future, the world is her oyster – Jenn and boyfriend Malcolm (who will graduate from St Andrews this summer) will take off for a year travelling, initially starting off in the US, where Irish dancing is huge and could potentially offer some new opportunities. Though Jenn has yet to decide whether Siamsoir too should take a year off, she will be taking her love of Irish dancing with her wherever she goes.

"Wherever I am in the world, I feel that Siamsoir will exist in some form. I may start it up again and I know my dancers are all hopeful of this," she said. She would never say never about returning to St Andrews too, "I've had a brilliant six years here and done most of my growing up here, so I would never close the door completely."

Jenn's dance company Siamsoir are available for hire at corporate, private or charity events. Jenn's show, *Battle for Eire* will premiere in St Andrews on 5 and 6 May 2007. For further information visit: www.siamsoir.co.uk

Reed on!

by Dr Ishbel Duncan, Lecturer,
School of Computer Science

Ishbel recently won the opportunity to play in a national event organised by the BBC to champion the cause of oboe and bassoon players. A bassoonist of some thirty years, Ishbel shared the experience of playing in the nation's largest single gathering of double reed players with The StAndard.

'Reed On!' was part of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra's *Reed Between the Lines* Festival and was a collaboration with the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD). On Sunday December 3 2006, fifty bassoonists and fifty oboists gathered at the RSAMD in Glasgow to perform a new work by William Sweeney entitled *Slow Air and Reel*. Two further premières were also performed by members of the BBC SSO and students at the Academy.

The call went out via the web for applicants for the 100 places for the Double Reed Choir. Fellow local bassoonist Aileen Taylor and I applied and were both accepted to play the Bassoon C parts for players of Grade 8 and above. Aileen and I play in Tayside Symphony together. We were all sent the music in advance but it was obviously difficult to get a feel for it, given we had never heard the piece, no-one had, and the music had a strange rhythmic structure in which the bars changed length seemingly at random. When faced with such difficult counting I usually use a computer, but this time, like everyone else, I would have to concentrate and count.

The day itself involved two rehearsals followed by the performance itself in the early evening. We drove through to Glasgow through torrential rain and registered before spying out the stalls selling instruments and other accoutrements. Having just been to my building society to increase my mortgage to fund a kitchen in my new house I had a thought that perhaps I would prefer to buy a new bassoon.



Ishbel with her bassoon

Aileen wisely suggested that I couldn't cook on a bassoon and steered me away from the display of about a dozen.

We were called to order and split into two sectional groups: the B and C group bassoons and oboes and, separately, the D and E group sections. The A group were the Principals from the SSO. We were taken into the auditorium and seated, oboes to the left of the conductor and bassoons to the right, fanning out in the traditional semi circle. Everyone settled into their position and then we all looked at each other. We looked over at the oboes, they looked over at us. It wasn't quite the enmity of an Old Firm match but not far off.

Each section was led by a student from the RSAMD. Our leader was a young Irishman who expressed concern at the sight of so many bassoons sitting behind him. Aileen counselled him, "Never look back at the bassoons!" He smiled wanly and turned back to face the conductor, Baldur Brönnimann. Aileen and I started adapting lines of poetry and prose; "bassoons to the right of them, bassoons to the left of them" came to mind.

We started the rehearsal. The piece started with some long haunting notes in both the bassoons and the oboes. As the oboes started to play more melodic phrases, the bassoons accompanied with low, off the beat

rhythmic staccato. It sounded like dancers stamping their feet and it was very tricky given the constantly changing beat. This was followed by a free format section where the oboes played for five bars doing little runs or trills, each bar lasting fifteen seconds. One young student put up her hand, "How will I know when the fifteen seconds is up?" The conductor replied, "I will raise my arms and beat the bar every fifteen seconds. Trust me, I'm Swiss!"

I thought the oboes sounded like sprites dancing in the night, Aileen thought it was more like bagpipes starting their drones. Either way, it was an interesting sound before the bassoons came in together to play a long sustained note of thirty seconds before embarking on a low melody that was hauntingly beautiful. Twenty bassoons playing the same thing was an amazing sound. It was rich, solid and peaceful and absolutely wonderful. Then we hit the allegro section and it was disjointed, offbeat and double forte. Earplugs really should have been advised. The B and C sections were competing, calling to each other, and the *Reel* was well underway. It reminded me of *Tam O'Shanter* and a drunken reel interspersed with manic apparitions. When we got to the end everyone laughed as it felt like a race to the end, to cross that bridge and escape the sprites.

We had a short break and Aileen let me touch some of the bassoons on display but gently guided me away from them after a few minutes. I took some digital pictures to delight my daughter with. I am sure she will spend many a happy minute pouring over the pictures of C locks, roll bars and pancake keys with me. I can just imagine her unbridled joy.

The second rehearsal brought together all four choir sections and the Principals. I have never seen so many bassoons in one room. The Principals were introduced by Jennifer Martin, the Learning Manager of the BBC SSO and later they would each give a little exposition of their instrument to the audience at the evening concert. When I heard the contra bassoon soloist, Simon Rennard, playing the contra's lowest notes, a semi-tone off the bottom of a piano keyboard, I turned to Aileen and whispered "A contra or a kitchen?" She leaned back, "I could lend you a primus stove." It seemed a good deal as who needs to eat anyway?

The second rehearsal gave us the first chance to hear the whole piece as written. William Sweeney sat and listened and gave advice on any issues that arose. When all fifty bassoons played together it was a solid wall of sound, a warm rumbling as if from the depths of some chasm. It was a sound everyone should hear at least once in their lifetime.

The soft melodic passage of the *Air* sent shivers up our spines and the *Reel* was an argument between the sections, each answering the other with rapid, quick fire notes. At the end of the rehearsal the photographer took group photos of everyone and then, separately, the bassoon section and the oboe section. He asked us to raise our instruments in a salute to the camera. Fifty bassoons raised to the ceiling was dangerous. I thought it would only take



Ishbel played in the national event organised by the BBC

one to slip sideways before a domino effect would take place. Some people seemed to be turning a woad-like shade of blue with the physical strain, a colour reminiscent of Braveheart. "You can take our bassoons, but you cannae take ...OUR FREEDOM!" Thankfully, no accidents occurred and we had another short break. I sidled towards the bassoon stall. Common sense and sensibility had kicked in and I placated myself with a bassoon stand, to keep the instrument upright between rehearsals. My kitchen was safe, my daughter would eat hot meals again.

The concert started at 6pm and was recorded for a possible slot on Radio 3 or BBC Scotland. We played the *Slow Air and Reel* twice, at the start and at the end of the concert. Both times the piece sounded tight and controlled, even when the manic reel was underway. The *Slow Air* was ethereal and romantic. It was an amazing sound. The two other pieces performed were the Percy Grainger *Hill Song no 1* arranged for twenty-one woodwind. As a lover of Grainger's music, I listened entranced at the two contras and several bassoons

passed melodies between them. The second piece was written by J Simon van der Walt, a PhD student at the Academy. This was performed by several of the Academy students and was a humorous piece ostensibly portraying a court orchestra from the Principality of San Serif. It was a mixture of farce and military music. We completed the event with the second playing of the Sweeney piece and again it came off well. The sound of 100 woodwind players playing in unison is not something to be forgotten easily and nor should it be. It was sad to finish and leave the Academy. To quote Wallace and Gromit "it was a grand day out". I also realised I need to get out more.

For more information on the event, including images taken on the day, visit the Reed On website: www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/musicscotland/bbcso/learning/reedon.shtml

Do you do something in your spare time which is far removed from 'life at the office'? Would you like to share your creative exploits with fellow staff, or do you have a talented colleague you'd like us to shine the spotlight on? Email us at magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk with your suggestions.

The Lean dream

By Gayle Cook, Press Officer

According to the University's website, Lean is an 'exciting new initiative aimed at dramatically improving the effectiveness of administrative processes across the whole institution'. The elimination of waste and the delivery of a high-quality service are the principal goals behind the new initiative being spearheaded by Business Improvements. But what does it mean for the University, who is behind it and how much difference will it make to your day-to-day working life? Most importantly, is Lean an achievable dream in an organisation like the University of St Andrews?

St Andrews is at the forefront in the implementation of Lean within the Higher Education sector. Heidi Fraser-Krauss, Director of Business Improvements, first brought the concept to the attention of the University in November 2005, having had prior experience of Lean. The result, in October last year, surfaced in the form of an affectionately-titled 'Lean team', consisting of familiar faces Alison Ramsay, Steve Yorkstone and Nicki Brain, who will be line-managed by Heidi but who will also work under the direction of a Steering Group.

Pioneered to great effect in the 1980s by the Japanese car company Toyota, Lean is all about improving the way in which staff work by empowering them to take control of their working processes, to revise and improve them to make them more efficient. The key emphasis is on the quality of service provided to the University's 'customers', be they students, external agencies or colleagues across the institution.

At the Lean launch session late last year, reception to the idea was mixed: it all sounded very positive but the spectre of change by its very nature has a habit of drawing initially negative responses. Questions from the back of the room were raised as to the 'real' reasons behind Lean being brought into the University's cosy walls. 'Will 'Leaning' result in staff cuts?', 'Is this just change for change's sake?', 'Won't this create more work and more red tape?' were legitimate concerns voiced by some colleagues perhaps understandably suspicious and resistant to the idea of change.

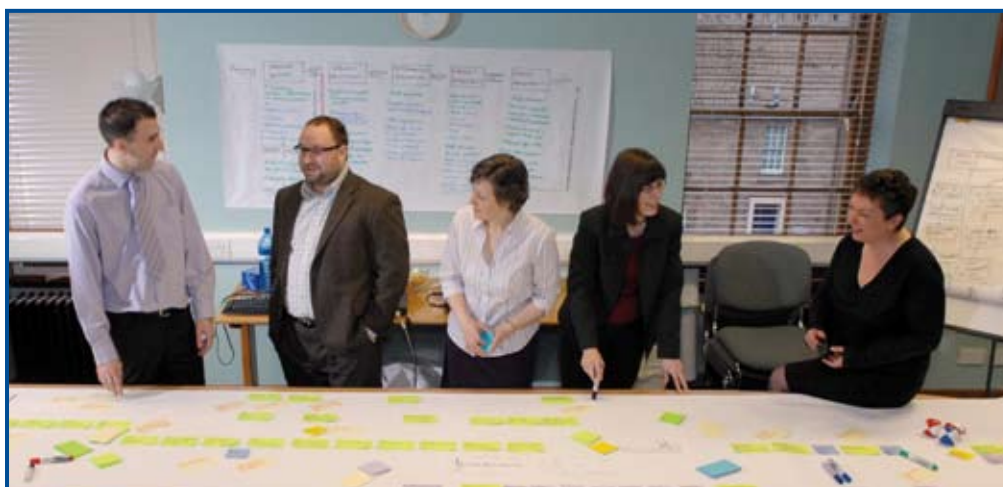


The Lean team: Steve Yorkstone, Nicki Brain and Alison Ramsay

It does sound radical. The basic idea of Lean is to focus on processes, to ensure that they are as 'waste-free' as possible. Getting rid of waste is at the heart of Lean, in order to achieve the end result more effectively. Typical examples of waste include the duplication of effort; delays in processing information; unclear communication and data input errors. How many of you can honestly say you have never uttered the phrase 'this is not a good use of my time' or 'I would love to do that but I just don't have time'? How often are you frustrated by pen-pushing, bureaucracy and apparently needless procedures which prevent you from getting on with the job? Why does that piece of paper need four signatures on it? Could you do the job quicker and more effectively yourself? And most importantly, do you feel powerless and therefore demotivated about the

whole process? The good news about Lean is that one of its fundamental aims is to bring staff together to find ways in which the whole institution can function better – and, crucially, not by enforcement from above, but through the empowerment of individuals at all levels of the institution.

Obviously, as with any form of change, it is not an overnight process. With that in mind, *The StAndard* met up with the Lean team four months after that initial launch meeting to learn more about Lean, what they have achieved so far and what their hopes are for the future. We were joined by external facilitator Tim Washington (Bourton Group) and Secretary & Registrar (and Lean Steering Group member) Mark Butler, while staff from the Recruitment Office were also on hand to talk about their experiences of being 'Leaned'.



The Lean team brainstorming with colleagues, Cameron Little and Penny Stephenson from Recruitment

Alison, Steve and Nicki are on three-year secondments as full-time 'Lean facilitators', coming respectively from Registry, Student Support Services and Admissions. Concerned primarily with looking at processes as opposed to individual units, the team's key focus is on administration.

Mark Butler explained, "Most organisations are focused on getting things done on a day-to-day basis as best they can. Too often this means corners are being cut or extra loops are being added to processes unnecessarily. We are looking at starting with a clean sheet in many respects, so work can be designed from a fresh start with everyone making a contribution to getting things to work better."

And it's not all about making major changes either, as Alison commented, "It's all about applying the principles of Lean to the workplace and creating a new way of thinking and working – but it's just as much about the little changes you can make every day as it is about redesigning the whole process. People are working very hard all over the University, but are sometimes using processes which may no longer be the best way of doing things. Because academic Schools are externally monitored and rated, they are continually changing in response to external measures. This may not be the case with the administration, which sometimes uses processes that have evolved over time and become overly-complicated."

The first task set for the Lean team by the Steering Group was to look at the Staff Record, which underpins all levels of administration, from Schools to Recruitment, from Staff Development to Salaries. The Lean team began with Recruitment staff.

The first step was to enable Recruitment to spend time together out of the office. This began with a day-long Lean awareness session - talking about what they do, charting current processes and gathering data to produce a 'current state analysis'.

By brainstorming ideas, notes and comments on a succession of wall-charts and post-its, it wasn't long before the Recruitment team themselves were identifying areas of waste.

"It's only when you sit down and look at it properly do you realise that certain things can be done better," they agreed.

This period of data-gathering culminated in Margaret Lindsay and her five colleagues taking two further days out of the office as part of what Lean calls a 'Blitz Event'. Away from the daily grind of the office, and with the information they had gathered, they could fully explore how they work and redesign it using Lean thinking.

Since then, the Recruitment team have achieved two tangible improvements: firstly an electronic application form, which will benefit applicants, recruitment staff and appointing

committees; secondly, staff have been able to go out visiting Schools and Units – something they always thought was 'a good idea' but for various reasons were unable to.

When asked how they had felt about beginning Lean, the answer wasn't an entirely positive one...

"Stressed!" said Margaret. "Initially, we were negative about it because we were worried about falling behind with our work. But once we got into the process and began to feel the benefits of it, we were all really glad to have gone through it. Only time will tell how it has affected us, but it will be interesting to see in six months time what is working and what isn't. This isn't the end of the process for us now though, we will continue looking for ways to improve working."

Her team agreed that ultimately it was a positive experience which has not only increased motivation and quality of work, but has enhanced team spirit as well as individual job satisfaction. When asked if they felt they had control over their own processes, the answer was a resounding 'yes'. It did take time, however, and a high level of commitment and co-operation, but which ultimately was of benefit to everyone involved.

So what does the University expect to get out of Lean and what can staff expect to gain from this new way of thinking?

PEOPLE



Recruitment agreed it was a worthwhile experience

Mark Butler said, “We have high hopes for this initiative. What we are aiming for is excellence in the University administration, one which will match the excellence expected of our academic Schools and Departments, but it is very much a learning journey for all.

“Everyone involved so far has worked very hard to see if Lean can work here. The early signs are positive. It is easy to look at ways of improving the way we work but much more difficult to make change stick. That is why we need to be careful with the pace at which we move.

“Within any organisation, working practices can become embedded, both good and bad. We are aiming for a sound approach that can be used across all administrative processes and which will achieve change where it is needed in a non-threatening way. The Lean process is one which continually evolves as it goes but one which we hope will form the basis for excellence throughout the University and which will make a real difference. It is not about a quick fix.”

Nicki was keen to stress “this is **not** about cutting costs or jobs or telling people how to do their work by imposing change from above. It **is** about streamlining - finding more appropriate ways of working across the entire process, with the overall aim of improving customer service and reducing the stress of unnecessary and unproductive work for all staff involved.”

While the team aren’t working to specific targets, nor have a ‘hit list’ of Units, Schools or Departments to visit, the next major step is looking at the Student Record process, and everything and everyone that process involves (such as Admissions, Student Accommodation, Registry and Finance). While ultimately it is not the aim to target individual units or members of staff, the team realise that they can only achieve success with the co-operation and openness of the people at the heart of the processes.

As Steve put it, “What we are hoping for is that colleagues will be open to change – with Lean it really is a case of you get out what you put in.”

Alison echoed the sentiment, “To go through change which ultimately reaps positive rewards is not just really exciting but liberating. At Toyota, every worker has the right (and indeed is duty bound) to stop the production line if they spot a defect or an area for improvement because it’s more efficient to stop something faulty than to continue producing defects. This is an ethos we would like to see across the entire University.”

It is worth noting that you don’t have to wait for the Lean team to contact you – if you think something can be done better in your place of work, why not try it?

The Lean team can be found at the top floor of College Gate, and can be contacted by email: Lean.facilitators@st-andrews.ac.uk, or telephone: 01334 46 2786 /2784 /2776.

For further information check out their website: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/business-improvements/Lean/

On the starting block

This issue *The StAndard* welcomes Alice Crawford, Vickie Cormie, Rob Warren and Lyndsay Gallacher to their new posts ...



The University recently appointed two Academic Liaison Librarians with the aim of creating much-needed channels of communication between the Library and the academic community. They are Alice Crawford (left) and Vicki Cormie (right).

Alice Crawford, Academic Liaison Librarian (Arts and Divinity).

Dr Alice Crawford is no stranger to the University, having worked in the Library's Special Collections Department for the last two and a half years, and before that as a teaching assistant in the School of English. A trained librarian, Alice switched positions in January this year to become Academic Liaison Librarian (Arts and Divinity).

Bellshill-born Alice studied English at Glasgow University, and completed a postgraduate degree in Librarianship at Sheffield University, before returning to Glasgow to do a PhD. In 1995 she published a book on the novels of Rose Macaulay.

Alice has worked at both Glasgow and Dundee Universities as subject librarian and senior administrator respectively before moving to St Andrews in 1989 when her husband Robert took up a post in the School of English. The latest

opportunity is a fortunate one which allows her to return to librarianship at her local university.

The new positions are important for raising awareness, not just for academics, ensuring they are aware of all the many facilities the Library has to offer, but for Library staff themselves, so that they know what print and electronic resources their staff and students want.

In addition to the million or so printed volumes on the shelves, the Library provides access to hundreds of thousands of e-books and journals via the many online databases to which it subscribes. As well as this, the Special Collections Department holds about 150 incunabula (books printed before 1500), and substantial collections of 16th, 17th and 18th century material in the areas of Classics, Theology, English and Scottish History, Science and Medicine.

"It will be my job to ensure that staff and students are aware of all the rich resources available to them in the Library, and that they develop the information-finding skills which are increasingly necessary in the electronic age," Alice explained.

Viewing the move as a 'wonderful opportunity', Alice's initial impressions are positive.

"My impression of the Library is of a place poised to re-invent itself so it is an exciting time to be starting a new job."



PEOPLE

Vicki Cormie, Academic Liaison Librarian (Science & Medicine).

Vicki joined the University in January this year from Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh.

Though she describes moving to Scotland's oldest university from its newest as 'something of a culture shock', Vicki is no stranger to St Andrews, having spent her schooldays here.

Born in Edinburgh but brought up in Fife, Vicki is a Chartered Librarian and a member of CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals). However, her original qualification is in computing and she has an MSc in Library and Information Science from the University of Strathclyde.

At QMUC she was for the last twelve years Site Librarian at the Leith Campus and Academic Liaison Librarian for several subjects in the Health Science Faculty. Before that she worked for Fife College of Health Studies (now part of the University of Dundee), the University of Edinburgh's Erskine Medical Library, Cupar Public Library

and even had a short stint at the Scottish Police College, which she describes as 'a fascinating experience!'

Citing the size of the University as an added attraction, Vicki is looking forward to the challenges of the new post and is looking forward to 'making a difference'.

"There seems to be a real commitment within the University to develop what is already an amazing resource to ensure that it meets the needs of the academic community in the 21st century. The redevelopment work planned should make a huge difference to all users of the Library. It is an exciting time to be here."

She is particularly looking forward to getting out and about meeting academic staff and students, and is enjoying the teaching side of the job – a key part of the new role involves teaching and developing an information literacy programme.



As to the importance of the new role, she said, "From my previous jobs I know that liaison librarians can make a real difference in helping ensure that the library listens to and reacts to the needs of students and staff."

Already impressed by the Library's 'excellent induction programme', Vicki has enjoyed reacquainting herself to St Andrews and has already been awe-struck by the Library's Special Collections. "I was amazed at the amount of material they have, especially some of the science material. To see a copy of Copernicus' *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* or Galileo's own inscription on one of his books was astonishing," she said.



Rob Warren, Deputy Director, Student Support Services.

Surrey-born Rob joined new Director Ailsa Ritchie's team in early December 2006. Prior to joining the University, Rob had been working from home in Kirkcaldy, as a freelance consultant to statutory and voluntary sectors working in the health, social work and community services field.

A Humanities graduate of Thames Polytechnic (now the University of Greenwich), Rob was previously employed as Director of Edinburgh Young Carers Project.

Upon leaving Thames, Rob began working with people who were rough sleepers in London as a member of the support team at Arlington House, at that time London's largest hostel for men who were homeless. This led into a nineteen year long career of working

with people who are disadvantaged and vulnerable. During the past sixteen years Rob has worked at either a project or senior management level in both the voluntary and statutory sectors, much of that time spent in campaigning organisations to raise awareness of the issues that impact on people, increase support, promote diversity and challenge exclusion.

Rob's experience includes working with children, young people and adults who

are vulnerable and who experience a broad range of difficulties; including mental health issues, substance misuse, disability and social exclusion. He has been closely involved in the development of person-centred services in Scotland and the development of advocacy for vulnerable people.

Rob was particularly attracted to the job for 'the chance to learn new things, refresh my own development and expand my understanding.

Having spent the past few years working with small campaigning organisations I am also looking forward to working in a larger establishment and the opportunities this offers.'

Further citing the all-important location of St Andrews, Rob believes that the University is 'unique.. situated in a beautiful and interesting town and in an equally beautiful and interesting part of Scotland.'

First and foremost Rob was particularly looking forward to joining the existing team who work in Student Support

Services and working with the students to support them to get the best out of their time at St Andrews.

Of what he would like to achieve, Rob said, "I am particularly interested in working to ensure that students have access to the best and most appropriate support and to an effective network both within the University and more widely in the community. I am looking forward to increasing my own understanding, in raising awareness of the difficulties many students face and increasing access to support."

Rob has not been disappointed with his initial impressions. "I feel fortunate in joining a team that is warm, forward thinking, motivated and committed.

"The work has been very interesting and I have been struck by the broad range of issues that students experience and the very real distress this can cause. I have also been impressed by the way the team works to help students address problems."

Lyndsay Gallacher, Fitness Instructor.

Lyndsay joined the Department of Sport and Exercise in early December 2006, perfect timing for getting the St Andrews community in shape for the festive season!

Dunfermline-born Lyndsay joined the University straight from Lauder College in Dunfermline upon completion of an HNC in Health, Fitness and Exercise.

This isn't Lyndsay's first job though - prior to returning to study, Lyndsay worked first as a Police Constable with Fife Constabulary then as an estate agent after leaving school in 1997. Always with a keen interest in health and fitness, Lyndsay eventually decided to make a career out of it, joining The Picture of Health Club (part of the Keavil House Hotel in Dunfermline) as an instructor. After achieving a qualification in Teaching Exercise to Music she taught aerobics classes in the local community, setting up her own class, before finally deciding to further develop her knowledge by going to College.

Lyndsay has her course tutor to thank for bringing the St Andrews job to her attention – and, after making some initial enquiries, she met with Debby Sargent from the Sports Centre. She said, "It then became clear to me that it was a fantastic opportunity to both further my career, and put to use the knowledge and experience that I already had, whilst working within a very reputable educational establishment."

Citing the job as a 'new challenge', Lyndsay believes that fitness is a growing industry and that her role within the Department will develop as her knowledge and experience grows. Lyndsay is lucky enough to say she has made a career out of something she enjoys. She said, "It is ideal for me. I



don't think many people can say that they earn a living from doing something they love!"

Lyndsay's initial first impressions are 'so far so good' with colleagues being instrumental in helping her settle in and providing assistance whenever they can. She said, "The staff, students, and community members who have attended my classes have also been extremely friendly and welcoming, helping me settle quickly into my new role."

The StAndard is keen to flag up new recruits and officially welcome them to the University.

If you're the new girl or boy, or working alongside a new start, let us know and we'll give them a mention – magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk

In the pink

Late last year, Dr Valerie Smith (Gatty Laboratory) hosted a series of fundraising events amongst colleagues, friends and associates in aid of Breast Cancer Campaign. Val, who was diagnosed with the disease last summer, organised various events across the Schools of Biology and Medicine for one week in October. The week, which culminated with a special 'pink day', to coincide with Breast Cancer Campaign's Wear it Pink day, successfully raised over £2600, far exceeding an anticipated £1500.

Encompassing quiz nights, auctions, raffles and cake sales, Val decided to get involved in fundraising for cancer charities to help take her mind off the unpleasant side effects of chemotherapy and to 'give something back for the wonderful care and support' she has received from friends, colleagues and medical staff.

Ably supported by colleagues, Lianne Baker (Harold Mitchell building), Sandra Dunn and Joyce Strachan (Bute), Rona Ramsay, Charlotte Ryan and Margaret Wilson (Purdie / CBMS), as well as student members of the Bute Medical Society, Val was overwhelmed by the support and generosity offered by colleagues.

"The cake sales and Wear it Pink events went superbly well and to have raised such a sum is absolutely awesome, given that it was mostly raised from within Biology and Medicine. It is an absolutely staggering outcome and I'd like to say a million thanks to everyone who helped with and supported the event," she said.



Though it was a hectic week, Val declared it to be well worth it, and even managed to have some fun herself in the process! Even her 84-year-old Mum offered support from afar, raising nearly £200 during separate fundraisers at home in Staffordshire.

As for 2007, Val reports that she is doing well, having had her last chemo session before Christmas and is currently undertaking the less-gruelling radiotherapy.

Are you organising a charity event? Email magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk or write to the address on the inside cover with your news.

Eat Safe record

The University recently celebrated being awarded a record number of Eat Safe Awards for its Halls of Residences. Staff from Catering Services and Residences were presented with the awards in December by Fife Council in partnership with the Food Standards Agency Scotland (FSAS).



StAnza 2007:

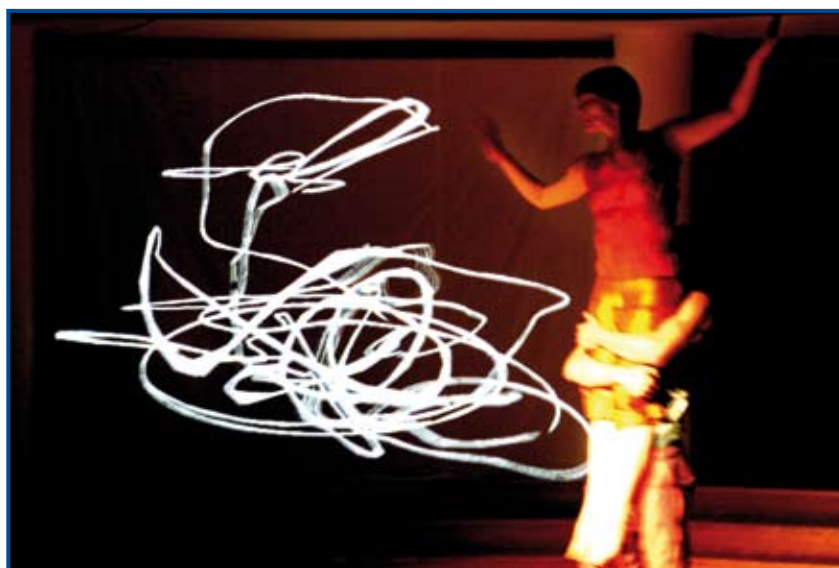
a celebration of poetry

by Annie Kelly,
Chief Press Officer, StAnza

StAnza, Scotland's poetry festival, marks its tenth birthday this year with a programme that celebrates the impact it has made over the past decade. From fairly modest beginnings, StAnza has established itself as a highlight of the literary calendar, attracting major poets from home and abroad. Audiences have flocked in increasing numbers to the readings, masterclasses, discussions, performances and exhibitions, all of which take advantage of the historic and natural beauty of St Andrews. Reputations have been made, controversial opinions aired, and new ways of presenting poetry have been explored through performance, music and dance. StAnza in 2007 promises to be more vibrant than ever, but as Festival Director Brian Johnstone points out, a sense of celebration has always been important. "It's the celebratory nature of the festival that makes it so special. We are dedicated to making the experience of live poetry inspiring and life-enhancing."

The festival will run for five days rather than the usual four, in order to fit in a bigger 'birthday' programme. This is thanks to the Scottish Arts Council, StAnza's principal funder, and the Fife Council Events Programme, which is supporting a series of tenth birthday special events. Chief among these is the 100 Poets Gathering, a marathon reading by no fewer than 100 poets, all in the space of one afternoon. According to the organiser, poet Jim Carruth, "To our knowledge, this is the first time in Scotland so many poets have appeared together under one roof."

StAnza prides itself on its international outlook and one of this year's themes, *Homelands & Exile*, appeals to many of the invited poets with varied cultural backgrounds, from George Szirtes,



The Contemporary Dance Association of Slovakia will bring a special performance to StAnza

to Jack Mapanje, Imtiaz Dharkar and newcomer Daljit Nagra. StAnza's other theme, *Poetry & the Moving Image* develops StAnza's forays into visual art, with short films, film installations and specially commissioned video projections. To add movement to the visual feast, there's the unique and powerful Contemporary Dance Association from Slovakia, whose *Love in Bilingual Motion* is an extravaganza of poetry, music, dance and light effects.

Throughout the last ten years, StAnza has enjoyed support from the University of St Andrews through funding and the contributions of time and talent made by staff and students. The festival relies on a large and enthusiastic team of student volunteers, whose efficiency and helpfulness has consistently attracted praise. The School of English has always been actively involved in supporting StAnza and this year Douglas Dunn and Robert Crawford, both Professors at the School, will be

reading at the 100 Poets Gathering. This year, two major events have been sponsored by the School of Modern Languages and by the University's Music Centre, while the regular support from the Office of the Principal and Admissions/Continuing Education will continue to assist the festival's future.

Among a larger than ever roster of poets reading this year, StAnza is particularly delighted to welcome two eminent poets from the USA. Mark Strand is a former Poet Laureate and a former Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. He has written ten collections of poetry including *A Blizzard of One*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1999. He currently teaches at Columbia University and is also well-known as an essayist and translator. Jorie Graham is Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory at Harvard University and, like Strand, has had a distinguished career as a poet. She won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1996, with *The Dream of the Unified Field*:



Jackie Kay

Selected Poems 1974-1994. Her most recent collection, *Overlord* (2005) is a powerful meditation on the Normandy landings in 1944 (the poet lives part of the year in Normandy), which she also links with present day concerns about war and a fragile environment.

Taking part in major readings at StAnza are UK-based poets Sean O'Brien, Ruth Padel and George Szirtes. O'Brien, who is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University, has established a reputation both as poet and critic. He was the first poet to win the Forward Prize twice (in 1995 and 2001) and won the 2006 Forward Prize for Best Single Poem. Latest publications include a verse version of Dante's *Inferno* and the

forthcoming poetry collection *Manifest* due out later this year.

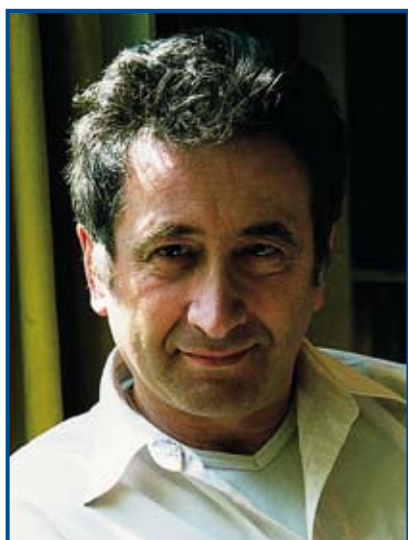
The poet George Szirtes will deliver this year's StAnza Lecture, which has become a platform for informed and sometimes controversial debate. Born in Hungary, Szirtes came to England as an eight-year-old refugee after the Hungarian Uprising in 1956. His poetry collection, *Reel*, which won the TS Eliot Prize in 2004, explores the nature of memory and displacement, using film among its metaphors. Szirtes has taken to the podium before: in 2005, he gave the prestigious annual TS Eliot Lecture in London.

Ruth Padel's background in classics (she taught Greek at Oxford and Birkbeck) has informed her poetry in many ways. A great-great granddaughter of Charles Darwin, her poetry reflects her wide-ranging interests, from the natural world to myth, opera, politics, religion and gender issues. Her book, *52 Ways of Looking at a Poem*, is a compilation of her popular articles on close reading for *The Independent*. Padel will be chairing a discussion panel on the theme of *Homelands & Exile*, with Jackie Kay, George Szirtes and Gwyneth Lewis. The event is being held in partnership with the Poetry Society, who are hosting a similar discussion as a 'StAnza in London' event in February, and will be introduced by the Society's Director Jules Mann.

Other important voices taking part in the festival include the eminent Scottish poets Jackie Kay and Alastair Reid, translator of Neruda and Borges. Former Welsh Poet Laureate Gwyneth Lewis will be StAnza's Writer-in-Residence. Poets

Roy Fisher and Mimi Khalvati, Matt Harvey and John Hegley are also among those to be heard at the Byre Theatre evening readings. The *Voices in Scotland* series includes Gaelic poets Aonghas Macneacail and Anne Frater, and Scots poets William Hershaw and Janet Paisley. Not to be missed is the premiere of a new musical suite based on the work of Scots poet Marion Angus. The poems will be read by Aimée Chalmers (editor of *The Singin Lass*, *Selected Work of Marion Angus*, published by Edinburgh's Polygon), in a specially commissioned setting by the University of St Andrews' visiting Professor of Jazz, Richard Ingham, and played by the Heisenberg Ensemble.

Stanza's *Translated Poets* series of readings is justly celebrated for introducing new poetic talent to the UK. This year features talent from Slovakia, Italy and Russia. In partnership with the University's School of Modern Languages, StAnza is proud to present three prominent Russian poets. Elena Fanailova is a former doctor and prize-winning poet from Voronezh. Maria Galina, a biologist by training, has won many prizes for her poems, novels and short stories. Her work features in *War and Peace*, a collection of translated stories from the Russian publisher, Glas, which has been favourably reviewed in the UK. Alexandra Petrova is from St Petersburg and was shortlisted for the prestigious Andrey Bely Literary Prize. All three poets offer incisive insights into fast-changing, contemporary



George Szirtes



Alastair Reid



Roy Fisher



Ruth Padel

Russia. The Slovakian poet Peter Sulej writes both poetry and fiction and has had his work translated in nine different languages. He will read with Martin Solotruk, a younger voice, with two collections under his belt. The reading by Milanese poet, Vivian Lamarque, and Marco Fazzini from Venice, is being presented in partnership with The Italian Institute, Edinburgh, and provides a unique opportunity to hear two outstanding poets – especially for those teaching and studying Italian at St Andrews.

For the last few years, StAnza has broadened the definition of poetry, most notably through visual arts and dance. The Poetry Film Programme presents a series of short films including *Bye-Child*, the Scottish BAFTA award-winning film by Bernard MacLaverty, based on the poem by Seamus Heaney; *Half-life, a Journey to Chernobyl*, by David Bickerstaff and Phil Grabsky, is based on a poem by Mario Petrucci. Other



Sean O'Brian

shorts are by poet/film-makers Imtiaz Dharker and Malgorzata Kitowski and coastguard officer/turned writer Ian Stephen. The films are haunting and challenging, a meeting ground for the verbal and the visual.

"Poetry seeps from the very stones", said a critic about StAnza. This year, that will come true, thanks to *Language on Stone*, a series of text and images based on Alastair Reid's poem *Scotland* which will be projected on walls around St Andrews after sunset every day of the festival. Back indoors, work by Will Maclean, one of Scotland's most distinguished artists, will be exhibited at the Byre Theatre. On top of this there will be a retrospective devoted to the late Gael Turnbull, poet and word magician, a much-missed regular at Stanza in the past, whose witty and magical kinetic poetry casts a spell of its own. Down in St Andrews harbour, the StAnza poetry boat, the historic vessel *The Reaper*, welcomes visitors on board to experience sight and sound installations on maritime themes.

These are just a few highlights from the festival programme. There are more than fifty events including poetry StAnd-up, open mics, a poetry slam, masterclasses, a pamphlet fair, showcases for up and coming poets, Dead Poets sessions, exhibitions and children's events.



Jorie Graham



Michael Marra

The festival runs from 14-18 March at various venues in St Andrews. Tickets are available from the StAnza Box Office at the Byre Theatre, Abbey Street, St Andrews, KY16 9LA, 01334 475000. Details of the full programme are available on StAnza's website, www.stanzapoetry.org.

Guess where?

Again, we take a closer look at some of the town and gown's most distinctive features – can you guess what it is yet?

Answers on page 33

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



Higher Education and the May Election

By Dr Brian Lang,
Principal & Vice-Chancellor



The Scottish elections do not take place until May but campaigning has been well under way for some time. As far as higher education is concerned, there is barely a cigarette paper's width between the positions taken up by the parties likely to win a position of power. All parties have indicated their commitment to higher education, some stating that Scotland's universities constitute one of our greatest strengths. Alas, no indication tends to be given as to how that position is to be sustained.

All appear to be concentrating on issues of student funding (as opposed to university funding) and all are apparently firmly opposed to the

prospect of students paying fees. The Scottish National Party has gone furthest, to date, indicating that it will not only abolish the graduate endowment, but cancel all outstanding debts that are owed to the Student Loan Company by Scottish-domiciled students. The SNP claims that this will have no impact on other expenditure in higher education.

Substantial debate is taking place on the viability of an independent Scotland, in the event of the SNP achieving power and subsequently a majority vote in favour of independence in a referendum. The impact on Scotland's universities of the demise of the UK has

not been considered. However, bearing in mind the international nature of higher education it is doubtful whether an independent Scotland would necessarily benefit the task of ensuring a flourishing Scottish research base. We would need to bear in mind not least the consequences of being, presumably, denied access to the research councils and London-based research charities, from all of which Scottish universities presently win disproportionately large shares. We must await the election results and, probably more significantly, post-election negotiation among the parties as they strive for coalition deals and commitments.

Before and after – West Park

Richard Batchelor's piece in the last issue of *The StAndax* (Inns that ain't) prompted the following recollection from IT Services' Peter Adamson.

"I was interested in Richard Batchelor's article in issue 9 (November 2006) about the history of various hotels and bars of St Andrews, with reminders of how the buildings had changed (or had been demolished) over the years - sometimes including use by the University.

"His reference to West Park suggested that the building was demolished as soon as it was bought by the University in 1967. It was in fact used for a short time as a University residence before it was demolished in 1971. (The University Calendars for 1968-69 and 1969-70 list the Wardens for West Park as a men's residence.)

"I attach photographs of West Park that I took from across the road at St Mary's Place (the rambling building was end-on to the road). The first is from the time that demolition was started (March 1971); the site was almost clear by the beginning of May 1971 when the second picture was taken."



West Park, 'Before... and after'



It's all academic

What attracts leading academics to St Andrews and what makes them stay? This feature focuses on individual researchers, looking at their achievements so far and their hopes for the future.

This issue, *The StAndard* spoke to researchers interested in different fields - young stars and Victorian studies.

NAME: Moira Jardine

POSITION: Reader, School of Physics & Astronomy

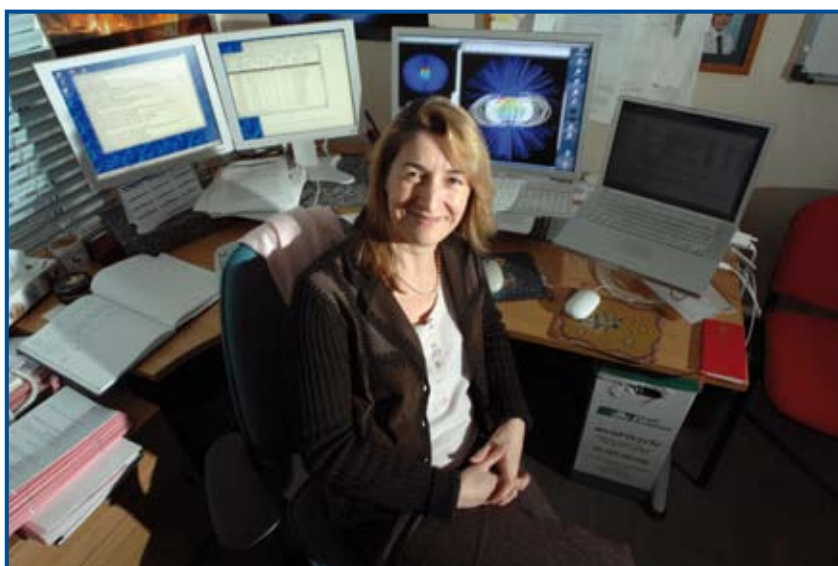
AREA/S OF RESEARCH: Younger versions of our own Sun and their planetary systems.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS FIELD OF RESEARCH?

I began my research career studying the Sun – it's the only star that's close enough that we can see it in detail. At that time no planets had yet been found around other stars and many people were wondering if the Sun was peculiar in any way, and whether planetary systems like ours were rare or commonplace. I started to study other stars that were similar to our own Sun in age and mass, but which were known to be much younger. They gave some clues about the past history of our Sun and conditions in the early solar system. Since then of course, many planets have been found around other stars and improvements in technology have meant that we can observe not only very young stars that are just forming, but also the very small, cool stars that are the most common in the Galaxy. I'm currently studying the outer atmospheres (or 'coronae') of these stars, which are the part of the Sun you can see during an eclipse. In very young stars, these coronae emit very intense X-ray emission, which irradiates any planets that may form.

WHY IS YOUR RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

By studying younger versions of our own Sun, we can learn about the origins of our own solar system. This may allow us to predict what conditions might be like on planets around other stars. For



Moira Jardine

example, when the Earth was younger it was bombarded by much more intense X-ray emission from the Sun than it receives today – nonetheless, life managed to evolve. Studying stellar coronae may also help us to understand the corona of the present-day Sun. This is powered by the Sun's magnetic field, but we still don't fully understand how the Sun generates its magnetic field or how this field manages to heat the corona to temperatures of over a million degrees. Studying the same processes in other stars may shed some light on this problem.

WHAT DO YOU MOST ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORK?

I really enjoy the challenge of piecing together the different parts of a scientific puzzle. Typically I'll have various pieces of observational evidence that I try to fit together using my understanding of the underlying physics. Often this involves learning about a new piece of physics. This

process of continually learning new things is one of the best parts of my job. I also enjoy teaching students and enabling them to go out and tackle scientific problems for themselves.

WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING FINDING YOU HAVE MADE?

I was recently part of a team that made the first observations of the magnetic field of a very young star. When a star is born it ignites hydrogen in its core to start the nuclear reactions that will power it for most of its life. I showed that at this point the structure of its magnetic field, and hence of its corona, changes into the 'adult' form that we see in the Sun today. We also studied one of these very small, cool stars that are very common but which are so faint that they're hard to see. I discovered that they have magnetic fields that are more like those of our planets than that of the Sun.

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

The field of young stars and exoplanets is a very new one and I foresee huge advances in the future. Very soon we will have observations of the magnetic fields of many more young stars, of a range of masses and ages and we will also have observations of their planets. We will be able to see how these stars interact with their planets and perhaps learn more about how planets form and the conditions that may be found on them. We may even know if these conditions are conducive to the formation of life.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS?

I was an undergraduate here, so I knew the area well. I love living in Scotland, with its easy access to open and unpopulated areas and its friendly, down-to-earth people. St Andrews is a great town – small enough that I can walk to work, but cosmopolitan enough that I can easily get to the theatre or a good restaurant. I also like the group of people that I work with here – we have a very co-operative, relaxed team of people who get on well together and are enormous fun to work with.

AND WHAT MAKES YOU STAY HERE?

I haven't yet found a place that I prefer. Since I first arrived here the research group has grown enormously and now has people with a wide range of skills and expertise. This is a very stimulating environment to work in, without being so large that internal rivalries become a problem. Whatever I'm working on, I can always find someone at coffee, or in the office next door, who can offer some insights or suggestions. St Andrews is also a great place to bring up children (I have three). There are unspoilt beaches and rivers for swimming, mountains for walking or skiing and a safe and clean environment.

NAME: Phillip Mallett

POSITION: Senior Lecturer, School of English

AREA/S OF RESEARCH: Broadly, Victorian studies.

Two hundred years ago, in 1807, Britain was an island of eleven million people, at war with Napoleon. Most people lived in the countryside, they travelled by stagecoach, and few of them had the vote. One hundred years ago, in 1907, they lived in cities, travelled by rail, the men could vote and women were seeking the vote, and Britain ruled over a quarter of the world and its peoples. What I study is how the poets, novelists and prose writers tried to understand the impact of these changes on daily human experience.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS FIELD OF RESEARCH?

Serendipity, I suppose. My Cambridge tutor suggested I should read John Ruskin, who began by thinking art could save the world, and ended by believing that he had to save the world if there was ever to be any good art again. Within a couple of hours of reading, I thought of myself as a 'Victorianist'.



Phillip Mallett

WHY IS YOUR RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

My main research at the moment is into the links between feminism and imperialism between about 1870 and 1930. How far could a British feminist speak for or even to Indian women, about, say, child marriage, without making the imperialist assumption that 'we'—the white peoples—know what is best for 'them', the Others? Could a British feminist really hear what an Indian woman had to say? These are

questions that still impact on feminist thinking, and on the broad questions of multiculturalism.

WHAT DO YOU MOST ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORK?

All of it, even marking essays. I spend my time working with clever people, in a room filled with books, looking out over the Castle and the Bay. What's not to enjoy?

WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING FINDING YOU HAVE MADE?

I don't think my kind of research has single, separate 'findings'. What I try to do is shape the way we think about some of those books—novels, poems—we keep coming back to because they seem to have something to say to us. But I hope I've contributed to the way we understand thinking about sexuality at the end of the nineteenth century, at a time when ideas about free love, celibacy, motherhood, marriage, homosexuality, were being debated and fought over at every turn.

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

Most immediately, I'm aware that I'm writing about the British experience of India, in particular British responses to the Indian 'Mutiny' of 1857. But this

comes close to making that a 'British' event, and I'm uneasy about that. I need to know more about Indian responses. On the other hand, I can't read Urdu, so I can only get at them secondhand. Beyond that, the main challenge will be finding ways not to retire.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS?

Sea, stones and sky— especially sky. Where I grew up in London, to see the sky you more or less had to lie flat on your back and look up. Here it's at the end of every street. And I like the grittiness of the landscape—the way the soil seems to cling to the rock, and the plants cling to the soil.

AND WHAT MAKES YOU STAY HERE?

The work, the place, the people. When I came in 1972, there were individual scholars of energy and distinction, but

as an institution the University was unambitious, and content to be that way. In the 1970s no-one in English was encouraged to research; I was actually forbidden to publish anything. That's all changed, of course, and we're now a School with a 5* rating for research. But through the changes the School has mostly retained a spirit of collegiality. If an oar needs pulling, someone will sit down and pull on it. Like everyone else I find things to grumble about, but I don't think I could find a better working environment elsewhere.

Nomination or submissions for this feature are welcome – email magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk with your suggestions.

Buckingham Palace Hosts Science Day

By Susan Heaslip
Research Assistant, Sea Mammal Research Unit

A sea of close to 1,000 GCSE and A-Level students and their teachers flooded Buckingham Palace late last year to explore science exhibits such as the Sea Mammal Research Unit's *What Ahab Never Saw: The Secret Life of Diving Mammals*.

As part of the Queen's 80th birthday celebrations, and one in a series of Royal Society events, 850 students and their teachers were exposed to the importance of science at a science day exhibition at Buckingham Palace on 24 October 2006. Nine of the exhibits, including the SMRU exhibit, had been featured at previous Royal Society Summer Science Exhibitions and were selected to participate in the event. The Duke of Edinburgh, The Earl of Wessex, The Duke of Kent and the Duke and



SMRU Director Professor Ian Boyd (centre right) speaks with the Queen

Duchess of Gloucester attended the daytime events, and the day ended with an evening reception hosted by Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh for 500 members of the science community.

Exhibits from a number of UK Universities and an 11-18 co-educational comprehensive school filled the Ballroom, while exhibits from the Natural History Museum filled the State Dining Room. A 36 foot winged lizard kept a watchful eye on the students from amidst the crystal chandeliers, part of the University of Portsmouth's pterosaur display. Other eye-catching exhibits included a large model of Einstein's head on the handlebars of a bicycle, part of an exhibit about Einstein's world, and a giant mosquito, part of an exhibit about what makes humans attractive to midges and mosquitoes. On the smaller side, a beautiful display of live orchids demonstrated Writhlington School students' dedication to orchid conservation, and the Natural History Museum supplied live and preserved insect specimens as part of a display about forensic entomology.

What Ahab Never Saw: The Secret Life of Diving Mammals was created by SMRU scientists for the Royal Society's Summer Science Exhibition 2006 in



Drs Vincent Janik and Nicola Quick

London last summer. Following this, the exhibit has travelled to the Glasgow Science Centre and has been on display locally at the St Andrews Aquarium and at the Bell Pettigrew Museum of Natural History, in the School of Biology. Professor Ian Boyd, Dr Vincent Janik, Susan Heaslip, Dr Sascha Hooker, and Dr Nicola Quick travelled to London with the exhibit to showcase research at the Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU) and engage students in learning about SMRU science.

The title of the exhibit refers to Herman Melville's 1851 novel *Moby-Dick*. In this story, a whaling ship led by Captain Ahab hunts for the white sperm whale Moby-Dick. What Captain Ahab and other real-life whalers couldn't see was the behaviour of these animals below the surface of the water. With the advantage of technology, scientists at the Sea Mammal Research Unit study the complexity of the social lives of

diving mammals, their use of sound to locate food and communicate, and the management of oxygen stores that allows them to dive to great depths.

Four species of marine mammals are featured in the exhibit: the sperm whale, southern elephant seal, Antarctic fur seal, and bottlenose dolphin. An array of tracking devices used on these animals together with video visualisations of the data collected demonstrate some of the technology that allows dive profiles, acoustic data, and digital images to be collected from these species in the wild. An interactive acoustic section of the exhibit provides the opportunity to visually compare your voice with vocalisations of whales, dolphins, and seals. Another interactive display demonstrates how pressure changes affect the buoyancy of deep diving mammals. As pressure is increased inside a water-filled cylinder, by pushing on a lever, the buoyancy of a whale model decreases causing it to descend.



Students compare their voices with vocalisations of marine mammals

Royal Society Exhibits in the impressive Palace Ballroom



The exhibit is currently on display at The Centre for Life, Newcastle, and will next travel to The Scottish Seabird Centre, North Berwick, before returning to The Bell Pettigrew Museum of Natural History in the Bute Medical Building, University of St Andrews, later this summer.

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Combing the collections

My girlfriend's mother is a Beaton; her family tree is mapped back to partly Scottish roots for quite a long way. She was pleased to hear that two sixteenth-century Chancellors of the University were Beatons. It is understood that one of them was murdered. Can you tell us anything more about them?

Elizabeth Henderson (pictured) answers on behalf of the Special Collections team:

Both James Beaton (c. 1473-1539) and his nephew David Beaton (c. 1494-1546) were powerful people in sixteenth-century Scotland. The Chancellors of the University at this time were almost invariably Archbishops of St Andrews, and both Beatons held this office; David Beaton was also made a Cardinal and papal legate. James Beaton is of particular importance to the University, as he founded St Mary's College in 1538. David's legacy was a colourful historiography in which alleged forgery, secret missions, conspiracy and murder are recounted with vicious satisfaction or pious horror. For John Foxe, "like a Butcher he lived, and like a Butcher he died, and lay seven moneths and more unburied, and at last like a Carrion buried in a Dunghill", while in an article published in 1898 entitled *The Truth about the Cardinal's Murder*, Andrew Lang declared "the character of the great Cardinal, probably the most consummate statesman whom Scotland ever produced, shines against the blackness of his assassins."



The seal of Archbishop James Beaton

From a Fife family, James Beaton studied at the University of St Andrews, receiving his licence in 1493. Little is known of his early career, but he entered the church and also seems to have carried out state administrative work, presumably through his brother, who was treasurer of Scotland from 1501. He began to amass wealth and political power with promotion to the Abbey of Dunfermline in 1504, succeeded his brother as treasurer, and in 1509 was consecrated Archbishop of Glasgow. The devastating battle of Flodden in 1513 created vacancies in high office which were to his advantage, and during the tense and complex political struggles of the infant James V's minority he was first a member of the advisory council to the widowed queen, then chancellor of the realm. His support for the regent, the Duke of Albany, was rewarded – or secured for the future – by nomination to the archbishopric of St Andrews in 1521. By this stage he was a formidable and wealthy statesman, and although his relations with the different regents and then King James V were not always entirely harmonious, he survived the difficult factional years and was able to promote his nephew David's career. In religion his most evident concern was for the prevention of the spread of Lutheran heresy, and in 1528 he oversaw the trial and condemnation to death of Patrick Hamilton at St Andrews.

In 1525 Beaton had unsuccessfully petitioned the papacy for permission to establish a new college within the University of St Andrews, primarily for training candidates for the priesthood in theology and canon law. He renewed his petition in 1537 and a Papal Bull was issued in February 1538 authorising the foundation of St Mary's College.



Elizabeth Henderson

His nephew, David Beaton, studied at the Universities of St Andrews, Glasgow and Orleans between 1508 and 1519. The patronage of his uncle, and later of the Duke of Albany (governor of Scotland 1515-24), ensured him an introduction to the king; in 1517 he became Abbot of Arbroath, and thereafter he was active in royal service, and central to the administration and diplomacy of Scotland. His public career during the minority of James V was not without difficulties, however. He held a strong attachment to the Franco-Scottish alliance, a resistance to English influence in Scottish affairs, and an antipathy to the powerful Douglas family, who acted as a channel of that influence.

Beaton's knowledge of the French court was to his advantage when in 1533 James V renewed negotiations for a French marriage. He spent almost half of the next ten years in France, including in the autumn and winter of 1537 and spring of 1538, when he negotiated James V's marriage to Mary of Guise. European observers were impressed by his grasp of international affairs.

Beaton's diplomatic efforts on Scotland's behalf turned to his own advantage. In 1537 Francis I nominated him to the French bishopric of Mirepoix, and

a year later he was one of five new cardinals created by the pope. On his uncle's death on 14 February 1539 he also became archbishop of St Andrews. Five years later, in the spring of 1544, he received intimation of his appointment as *legate a latere*, with delegated papal powers over the Scottish church. Having passed the zenith of his diplomatic usefulness, tension developed in Beaton's relations with the king. This partly arose out of the cardinal's initiatives in tackling the problem of heresy among those whose royal service protected them, and partly from fear of the king's designs on the wealth of the church. He instigated a number of heresy trials, some resulting in executions. In March 1541 the cardinal put his stamp on a group of anti-heresy statutes whose provisions reflect the extent to which religious dissent had grown since Patrick Hamilton's case in 1528; he targeted criticism of the papacy and of the church's central doctrines and practice, iconoclastic protest, and group discussion of protestant teaching. Anglo-Scottish relations deteriorated in the autumn of 1542, and border hostilities turned into a campaign for the invasion of England, encouraged by Beaton who in his letters to the pope gave it the character of a holy war against the apostate king of England. The campaign ended with the rout of the Scottish army at Solway Moss on 24 November, followed by the death of the king on 14 December, a few days after the birth of his daughter Mary. The power struggle that followed the king's death first saw Beaton in a position of influence, but the situation rapidly changed in favour of the more Anglophone earl of Arran, the heir presumptive. By the end of January 1543, the cardinal had been arrested on a charge of having invited the French to Scotland, and was removed from the court. Three months' detention ended in house arrest in his own castle at St Andrews, where he worked to break the English intervention in Scottish

affairs, even sending for French military help to withstand England.

On 20 July the cardinal's party signed a band to protect the queen from Henry VIII's plans to marry her to his son, Prince Edward, and to have her and her mother removed from Linlithgow to Stirling Castle. After a conference with Arran's party the royal removal was accomplished. Beaton stayed away from the ratification of the English treaty at Edinburgh on 25 August. His anti-English attitude gained credibility when the English seized some Scottish merchant ships. Briefly back in the ascendant, Beaton's party effectively saw to the abandonment of the proposed English marriage, and the institution of more trials – and executions – for heresy. Over the ensuing months, a situation close to civil war ensued.

In 1544 and 1545 the cardinal paid Henry VIII's price for having broken the marriage treaty, in several devastating English invasions, which, even with some meagre French help, the Scots were unable to withstand.

Meantime a more personal threat was maturing, born out of growing political, religious, and personal antagonism. Henry VIII eventually agreed to a plot to kill Beaton, his conditions being conveyed through Scottish agents to those who promised him to take out of the way 'the worker of all your mischief'. By the winter of 1545–6 Beaton was financially exhausted, his credit with France was at a low ebb, and dislike of his policies had turned into a personal vendetta. Early in 1546 he seized the protestant preacher George Wishart, whose public preaching in defiance of an episcopal ban and the support he received from prominent adherents of reform had recently been making a mockery of the anti-heresy laws. Beaton's show of authority in the trial and execution of Wishart at St Andrews on 1 March 1546 recoiled brutally on

himself. On 29 May he was murdered in his castle in St Andrews by a small group of Fife lairds whose motives combined personal quarrels, political frustration, and religious outrage at the death of Wishart, on whom they had counted to advance publicly the cause of reform. Beaton's body, preserved in salt, was handed over for burial when his killers surrendered the castle at the end of July 1547. It is not known where his remains were interred. Some European reports of the assassination remarked how well the cardinal's removal from the political scene suited the king of England. It can hardly be a surprise that in days of such intolerance, a career rooted in political and religious controversy, ended in violence.

The Special Collections Department holds many books and manuscripts printed at the time and subsequently, which have much light to shed on the Beaton's story. These include the original bulls of foundation of St Mary's College and at least one book which was owned by James Beaton.



Cardinal Beaton besieged in St Andrews Castle by W. E. Lochart (1846 - 1900)

Do you have a historical question or challenge for the Special Collections team?

Email us at magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk

Caption fantastic!

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



Last issue we set you the challenge of inventing a humorous caption for the above image, taken during last summer's graduation dinner attended by Michael Douglas and his

wife Catherine Zeta-Jones. Our challenge met with some not surprisingly anonymous and amusing results...

'Grab your coat Brian, you've pulled'

'Sorry Brian, but I'm off to get Jim the Chauffeur'

'Brian couldn't believe it when he pulled Catherine's keys out of the bowl'

'The Principal gave new meaning to the phrase, 'keeping up with the Jones''

'The Principal could not wait to get home to tuck into his Welsh Rarebit'

This issue, we supply for your wit a candid image taken of Jim Douglas prior to the arrival of HE Khatami late last year. Email your suggested captions (anonymous or otherwise) to magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk or send to the address on the inside cover. The best offered will be printed in the next issue. Likewise, images for possible use are also welcomed.



Directorate of Corporate Communications

The University has established a new Directorate of Corporate Communications within External Relations to encompass all key areas of communications including Press and Media, Print Unit, Public Relations, Publications, Reprographics Unit, Internal Communications and Public Affairs.

The Directorate will be responsible for ensuring the University communicates openly and effectively with all audiences and stakeholders, both internally and externally.

Gayle Cook, Claire Grainger and Niall Scott, who were previously employed by Beattie Communications to provide

Press and Public Relations services to us, have joined the University as permanent staff.

Niall Scott will lead the new Unit as Director of Corporate Communications.

Gayle Cook and Claire Grainger become University Press Officers with input to

all areas of University communications. Marion Gibson, External Relations Manager, also joins the new Directorate with continuing responsibility for Publications, the Print Unit and the Reprographics Unit and input to all areas of communications.

Performance Sport Launch



The Principal and representatives from the Sports Centre and Athletic Union join the University's 'talented athletes' for the official launch

In the last issue of *The StAndard*, you will (hopefully) have read about the University's new sports strategy. The new and exciting ten-year plan includes the Performance Sport Programme, which encompasses performance sports teams (in fencing, golf and rugby) and a Talented Athlete Support Programme.

The programme helps all athletes within the University who are representing their sport at Scottish Universities Level

or higher. There are twenty-one athletes on the programme from basketball, cycling, fencing, hockey, lacrosse, rifle shooting, rugby, sailing and waterpolo. Support includes funding travel and accommodation for training camps, competitions and workshops and all athletes are additionally supplied with a fitness programme and mentoring.

The Performance Sport Programme was officially launched by Principal Dr Brian

Lang late last year. The Athletic Union and Department of Sport and Exercise hosted a showcase event which aimed to highlight the importance of high level sport to students at the institution. The Principal and invited guests were given a snapshot of sport at the University, with visits to various sports on the playing fields, and a fencing demonstration.

NEWS

Staying with sport, the Principal has also formally opened a new £98,000 facility at University Hall. The new pitches, suitable for tennis, netball, soccer, korfbal and basketball, are situated to the west of University Hall and are dedicated to the memory of the late David Sinclair.

David was a student at University Hall who tragically died playing soccer on the all-weather court in 1998. At the time of his death, fellow students and the Hall's House Committee wished that he be remembered and a plaque now stands outside the new facility in his memory.

Guests at the official opening included David's family, previous senior students and Wardens from University Hall, members of the present Staff and Hall Committee, as well as representatives from the Development Board, who generously awarded a grant of £20,000 towards the new facility.

Guests were treated to reminiscences from Lorna Walker, a former undergraduate student and Warden of University Hall, who spoke of how the grass tennis courts were used for growing vegetables during WWI and WWII.



The new £98,000 facility



Members of the Sinclair family joined Chaplain Jamie Walker, the Principal and Martin Farrally, Director of Sport and Exercise, for the official launch

The new facility, which is also suitable for conference groups, is open during daylight hours to all Sports Centre members and those who reside in University Hall. Access is only available by prior booking - bookings can be made up to seven days in advance by calling (46)2190.

Staff dining club

Interested in eating out and meeting with fellow University colleagues?

A new initiative developed by staff for staff, is looking to recruit like-minded individuals for a staff dining club.

The idea is to provide a social focus for staff in the University, something long missing since the demise of the staff

club. It is hoped that it will be 'beneficial in providing a forum to meet people from other departments, to exchange thoughts and ideas, and, through this, afford an increased sense of collegiality and intellectual community'.

The club will meet monthly and is open to all employees of the University. The University has already offered support in the form of access to University facilities and catering service at privileged rates,

but alternatives include one of the Scores hotels. Price is anticipated to be around £20 per dinner. Staff could attend as many of these as they wish. Enough to whet your appetite? If you are interested in attending say five dinners in the year, email StAndrewsDiningClub@hotmail.co.uk with the subject line 'Dining Club 5' and your name and department in the main body of the text.

Collaborating with the community

Mad about films? Fed up of travelling to Dundee or further afield to see the best in art house cinema? If so, then you will be pleased to hear of a much-longed for collaboration the Centre for Film Studies is forging with the New Picture House Cinema in St Andrews.

As part of their initiative to increase the cultural engagement of University departments with the local community, the Centre has entered an agreement with the NPH which will allow the University community advance information of upcoming films. Most importantly, Film Studies hopes to work closely with the cinema in the future to bring more diverse screening programmes to St Andrews.

Currently in discussions for introducing one art house type screening a month, the Centre hopes that the

local community will gradually have a richness of cinematic choices in St Andrews compatible to those available in other University towns such as Oxford or Cambridge. The diverse range of films will include the best in specialist and highly acclaimed independent films as well as old classic masterpieces.

For the initiative to work though, they need your backing. So next time you fancy a change from the usual Hollywood blockbuster, and the NPH are showing something alternative, why not try it?

Upcoming events currently hosted by the Centre for Film Studies at the NPH include:

Tuesday 20 March, 6.15pm - a screening of the compelling and internationally

acclaimed drama, *Clandestins* (*Stowaways*). The film's director, Quebecois filmmaker Denis Chouinard, will be in attendance.

Monday 30 April, time tbc – a screening of the hit Spanish comedy *La Comunidad* (*Common Wealth*, 2000), starring Carmen Maura. It is hoped that the Director Alex de la Iglesia will be in attendance (to be confirmed).

And if you need a little bit of help, look out for the pick of the best of what's on in the next issue of *The StAndard*, due out 1st June 2007.

For more information, please visit www.st-andrews.ac.uk/filmstudies/events and www.nphcinema.co.uk

Events

Graduation 2007

The following individuals will be awarded honorary degrees by the University this year:

Sir Alfred Cuschieri,
Professor of Surgery/Surgical
Technology (DSc)

Professor Neil Douglas,
President, Royal College of Physicians
(MD)

Rev Joel Edwards,
UK Director of the Evangelical
Alliance (DD)

Dr Richard Fortey, Scientist (DSc)

Sir Brian Heap, Scientist (DSc)

Professor Lisa Jardine,
Professor of Renaissance Studies (DLitt)

Jenni Murray,
Journalist & Broadcaster (DLitt)

Professor Sir Kenneth Murray,
Scientist (DSc)

Dame Janet Nelson,
Medieval Historian (DLitt)

Baroness O'Neill, of Bengarve,
Moral Philosopher (DLitt)

Professor Richard Rorty,
Philosopher (DLitt)

Professor Nancy Rothwell,
Science Administration (DSc)

John Sunderland, Chairman,
Cadbury Schweppes (LLD)

Professor Janet Thornton, Scientist (DSc)

Inaugural lectures

The following Professors will deliver their inaugural lectures in the coming months:

Professor Mike Ritchie, School of Biology
– Wednesday 18 April (School III,
St Salvator's Quadrangle, 5.15pm)

Professor Kishan Dholakia, School of
Physics & Astronomy – Wednesday
25 April (Lecture Theatre A, School of
Physics & Astronomy, 5.15pm)

Professor Lorna Hutson, School of
English – Wednesday 2 May (School III,
St Salvator's Quadrangle, 5.15pm)

Conferences, courses and events

The following events will take place across the University this month:

Interviewee Skills Tuesday 13 March 2007, 10 am - 1 pm, FR1, New Hall

There are few things more nerve-racking than a job interview. This course aims to help staff who may be thinking about seeking internal promotion or a lateral career move by learning more about interviews, and how to handle them.

To book a place and for further details please visit: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/hr/staff-development/Products/courses/SD0130

Advanced Reception Skills Wednesday 14 March 2007, 1 pm - 5 pm Seminar Rooms 4&5, The Gateway

This half day workshop is devoted to refreshing the communication and image-building skills of front line staff, with particular focus on developing the skills needed to deal with difficult or sensitive situations on the phone or face to face.

To book a place and for further details please visit: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/hr/staff-development/Products/courses/SD0069

Presentation Skills II Wednesday 7 March 2007, 9 am - 5 pm, location tbc (Day 1 was held 28 February)

Successful presentations start with knowing how to organise and structure your speech, to open with impact, finish strongly and keep your audience interested all the way through. Good presenters are trained, not born, and these skills can be learned. Armed with the knowledge of how to structure and prepare, on the second training day you learn how to overcome presentation anxiety, deal with difficult situations, and - crucially - handle questions during or after your presentation.

For further information - www.st-andrews.ac.uk/hr/staff-development/Products/courses/SD0162

Enhancement Themes Conference, Thursday 8 and Friday 9 March 2007, Heriot-Watt University.

QAA Scotland's annual Enhancement Themes Conference will take place on the 8 and 9 March 2007 at the Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University. There will be

opportunities to hear how past themes are being worked into practice as well as the chance to contribute to the planning of future theme activities.

Further details of the programme will be posted in due course on the Enhancement Themes website: www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk/

SALTIRE can cover the cost of travel to Enhancement Theme events such as the conference - for more information please email learning@st-andrews.ac.uk

Philosophy for Children, one-day conference, Saturday 17 March 2007, Room 104, Philosophy Departments, Edgecliffe, The Scores.

The Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain (Scottish Branch) will host a one-day conference with a programme which includes sessions on *Learning for life: virtue ethics and practical wisdom* and *Philosophical inquiry for children*.

The conference is open to the public. For free registration, please email David Shaw at dms11@st-andrews.ac.uk or telephone 01334 (46)2411.

The Complete Servant

Catch it while you can - an exhibition celebrating domestic help in the 18th and 19th centuries at the Gateway Galleries ends on the sixth of this month.

The Special Collections Department of the University Library has brought together items from their rare book, manuscript and photographic collections, along with artefacts loaned

by the St Andrews Preservation Trust and private individuals, to illustrate the life of domestic servants in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The display is based on a 'practical guide' from 1825 by Samuel and Sarah Adams, a married couple who had spent all their lives in service, rising from the lowliest positions as footboy and maid, to the senior ranks of house-steward and housekeeper. In their retirement they wrote the book "as the legacy of

their old age to servants of the present and future generations".

The exhibition at the Gateway reveals the work of the Housekeeper, Cook, Maid, Nurse and Footman, and offers copies of old-fashioned recipes to take away.

The Galleries are open Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday 10 am to 5 pm – *The Complete Servant* runs until 6 March 2007, admission free.

Would you like an event or conference listed in the next issue of *The StAndard*?
Email magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk with your events for June-November.

Guess Where? Answers



1. Doors to the Buchanan Building



2. Railings outside the Library



3. 'In – Out' board in the School of English foyer



4. Frontage of the School of Physics & Astronomy



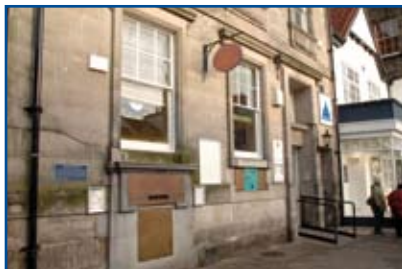
5. Sign outside the Sports Centre



6. Spotlights on St Salvator's tower (from Development)



7. Clock outside the Central Bar, College Street



8. Large postbox outside the main Post Office, South Street



9. Bollard at the foot of Butt's Wynd

Back cover: *Cardinal Beaton besieged in St Andrews Castle*
Credit: Museum Collections



University
of
St Andrews

