

HopeTimes

Issue 12

THE NEWSPAPER FOR LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND STAFF

Vasily Petrenko to receive Hope award

The University and invited guests will welcome Vasily Petrenko, Principal Conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, to The Cornerstone on Wednesday 25th March when he will receive an honorary award of Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*).

A special evening has been planned which will include Vasily's inaugural address, an interview and Question and Answer session with Hope Professor of Music, Stephen Pratt, and a behind-the-scenes look at a rehearsal, preceding a performance.

Photo: Mark McNulty



New Conference Centre at Hope Park



Conference and Events team members **Laura Owen, Caroline Fitt and Tammy Gribbin** were on the move recently to their new base in the University's new Conference Centre at Hope Park.



The new Centre will provide additional facilities for the University and for business and the wider community. There are first-class spaces for talks and lectures, as well as smaller meeting rooms, a large reception area and fully-equipped kitchen.

The new Centre is ideal for a wide variety of functions and a number of the rooms lead out on to a terrace and private



garden/wooded area beyond which will be perfect for events in the summer months. The Centre will be a welcome addition to the wide range of conference and meeting rooms which are already available at Hope Park and The Cornerstone, complemented by over 300 bedrooms for residential delegates and full refectory facilities.

An official opening of the Conference Centre is planned for later in the year -



more details will be available later. In the meantime, for further information on all of the University's conferences and events facilities, please visit www.hope.ac.uk and click on to Conferences in the Quick Links menu or call Laura Owen on **0151 291 3229**.

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Outdoor exhibitions at The Cornerstone

'The View from the Brow', a photography exhibition developed by the young people and staff of Shrewsbury House Youth and Community Centre (The Shewsy), was officially launched during February. The exhibition, which reflects the contributors' views and experiences of their community, has been devised and delivered by Liverpool-based photographers, Christian Petersen and Mark Loudon. Currently displayed on the hoardings of the site of the University's new Cornerstone Centre for Music, Performance and Innovation, the exhibition is being sponsored by the contractors, AllenBuild.

This exhibition is the first of three different displays planned for the outdoor space throughout the February to November period during which The Cornerstone Centre is being constructed.

Going from strength to strength

Professor Bill Chambers got the idea for Hope's new Staff Social Society after he had attended a University celebration for staff with long service. He says, "It became apparent during the conversation and reminiscences that many people were already involved in a wide range of sporting, health, social and cultural activities at Hope and that many had ideas for new activities which would bring staff from across the University together". He advertised for interested colleagues and, following a meeting in October, a committee was set up. The first event was a highly successful children's Christmas party.

Commenting recently, Bill said, "The Staff Social Society is really moving forward with all sorts of activities being proposed and run by colleagues. Roshan Singh's Film Club was a great success, Alma Whitfield has proposed a book exchange which we hope to set up on the website. Someone else wants to start a squash ladder and we are actively preparing for the wine tasting led by Beverly Metcalfe and the Lake District walk led by Terry and John Phillips".

For all the latest information on events, visit the Society's webpage, available from the Quick Links menu on the www.hope.ac.uk

Hope choir to sing in York Minster

This month a 30-strong Hope choir travels to York St John University to take part in the 21st Annual Church Universities and Colleges Choirs Festival. The choir, under the direction of Senior Lecturer, Mary Black, will be presenting a solo piece and will join with the choirs from 12 other Universities and Colleges for a spectacular performance of Thomas Tallis's Spem in Alium and Omnes Gentes by Giovanni Gabrieli. The choirs will perform in York Minster on Saturday 7th March.

For more information about the Festival, please visit www.yorks.ac.uk/choirsfestival

If you have a story you would like to include in a future edition of Hope Times, please email editor@hope.ac.uk

A day in the life of...Dr Martin Carey

Clearly we are living through challenging times and working in higher education in the areas of regeneration, enterprise and employer engagement brings you into direct contact with a myriad of rich and challenging experiences.



My time at work is now split between 50% at Liverpool Hope heading up the Business Gateway, Urban Hope and the University's enterprise

strategy and 50% working on secondment to Chester & District Housing Trust (a registered social landlord - with a mission similar to Hope's) in order to assist in the development of its regeneration strategy. So you can imagine that in any given day there is a wide range of different tasks and meetings to be undertaken.

On Tuesday 10th February my day starts at 6am in my office at home finalising Liverpool Hope's additional student numbers bid for new foundation courses and other provision for The Cornerstone Centre. This proposal is the final element in The Cornerstone building initiative and has offered the University an opportunity to bid for the remaining additional student numbers that are on offer in the sector.

9am and I start the day at Hope in the new Business Gateway offices over the Chaplaincy. Much of the morning involves bringing together information to support a University-wide bid to HEFCE relating to the current economic recession. The response of colleagues to this initiative has been great. Given that the immediate

future for many in work is uncertain, the opportunity for them to retrain or pursue a different career through study in higher education may well offer a real lifeline. Very often those in work are not affected by the hardship imposed by recession. However, the current credit crunch is impacting on a wide range of professions. It is good therefore that Hope staff are working together to provide to businesses and individuals a wide set of offers which will make a positive difference to their future.

At mid-day I start work drafting a report for Chester & District Housing Trust (C&DHT) relating to regeneration activity in the Blacon area of Chester. The perception of Chester is one of affluence - however, like all UK cities, there are also areas which have all the challenges of the inner city in Liverpool and Manchester. C&DHT is a "Two Stars and Excellent" organisation and listed in The Times Top 100 Companies. It has a strong commitment to regeneration which goes beyond simply providing quality homes; issues of education, health, jobs and environment are all critical to contributing to sustainable communities. C&DHT's work with Urban Hope includes developing a neighbourhood management scheme with a high level of partners' and community members' involvement, and more, radically developing an asset management company in which local residents will have a key role in terms of ownership of assets and management of their own housing stock. In addition we are jointly developing a skills exchange scheme which will involve construction workers from C&DHT and students from Hope going out to Uganda to help build part of a primary school. This initiative is part of a longer partnership plan with VMM (UK and Irish Charity which has an office at Liverpool Hope) and The University of the Mountains of the Moon (Fort Portal, Uganda), which will involve supporting construction work and training in Uganda.

At 2pm I get on a train at Runcorn in order to take the Fort Portal initiative

forward and seek the support of the High Commissioner for Uganda. Two hours on the train provides an opportunity to draft a briefing paper for the North West Development Agency seeking financial support for the building of a new Education, Innovation and Enterprise Centre at Hope Park.

London's Charing Cross at 5.30pm in February is both cold and close to madness. No one seems to relate, the overall stream is endless and in one direction towards waiting trains. I once read that Marlon Brando had spent a day in Charing Cross as part of his acting development watching human interaction and how people acted out their own encounters. I am sure he must have left before the evening rush hour. I am meeting Su Bramley, the Deputy Chief Executive of C&DHT and together we go to the High Commission of the Republic of Uganda in Trafalgar Square. I am from London and yet the impact of entering Trafalgar Square always surprises me. The High Commission looks out across a square where the world rushes by.

The High Commissioner, Mrs Joan KN Rwabyomere, welcomes us into her office and immediately confirms her support for the initiative. She informs us that she is from Fort Portal, where she went to school. For her this initiative offers an opportunity to provide a school resource which will impact on hundreds of children in the region. On my own visit to Fort Portal what struck me was the endless line of school children walking miles before dawn to get to school and make sure they could benefit from education. The High Commissioner has agreed to host a reception at the High Commission in early May to raise funds and awareness of the scheme.

Sitting on the train returning to Liverpool I reflect on a good day, progress on additional student numbers, seeking funding for new Education Centre at Hope, work on regeneration in Blacon and finally a chance to make a difference in Uganda. Not a bad day in anyone's life.

Developing a strategy

Education Dean, Bart McGettrick, was in Rome earlier in the year as a member of an international Vatican committee which is working to support the Christian community in the Holy Land (Palestine, Israel and Jordan).

Bart, who is also Regent at the Christian University in Bethlehem, says that the committee's remit is to consider the need for and the balance between education



Bart with His Holiness the Pope

and humanitarian aid - a task made all the more difficult by recent events, which have also presented a whole series of new problems.

Having already submitted a number of papers to the committee, Bart is now working on the development of a strategy of support. With a limit to resources available, he says that the potential permanence of any humanitarian aid must be considered.

He believes that, in the long term, it will be education that will bring about change and that it is essential to remain positive, referring to education as 'a ministry of hope'. "The only solution is education and while you cannot educate for peace, you can educate for justice. Without justice peace is not possible - the world needs greater justice."

Hope celebrates Foundation Day and January Graduation 2009

A special job for a special guest



Getting ready



Turning the bolt



Looking towards the city

When Sir Jeremy Isaacs, award-winning TV producer and former Chief Executive of Channel 4, arrived at Hope on Foundation Day to receive his Honorary Doctorate, he was immediately put to work.

Sir Jeremy, whose association with Hope began at The Cornerstone campus, was asked to officially mark the beginning

of the final phase of the campus redevelopment by 'turning the first bolt' on the new £6.5m Centre for Music, Performance and Innovation.

The new three-storey Centre, scheduled for completion in November 2009, will boast state-of-the-art facilities including ten music practice rooms, three music studios, three music technology laboratories, music therapy rooms, a performance hall with tiered seating for 300+ capacity, a library, an exhibition

gallery, and extensive facilities for business incubation and a number of teaching rooms.

Commenting on the new development, Sir Jeremy said, "I am particularly glad to be here for the beginning of construction for a new Centre for the Creative and Performing Arts at The Cornerstone. I am sure it will prove to be a huge asset for the University and the City of Liverpool".

A day of thanksgiving, honours and scholarships



The platform party



The Hendersons and the Isaacs



After the ceremony



Enjoying mum's success



Glenda Wall and sons



Celebrating outside the Gateway

On Wednesday 28th January, Hope celebrated its Foundation Day with a Service of Thanksgiving which incorporated the University's second Winter Graduation ceremony.

This year saw over 50 graduands joined by

family and friends for the special occasion at Hope Park.

Chancellor Baroness Caroline Cox presented the degrees and two scholarships along with three honorary awards - two Fellowships and a Doctorate. The Fellowships were awarded to Mr and Mrs Gerald and Judith Henderson in recognition of the voluntary work they have undertaken with Initiatives of Change and their local work with the Faith in the

City and Asylum Link Merseyside. Sir Jeremy Isaacs, who has made a valuable contribution to the cultural life of the country, the city and to the University, became a Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*).

The celebrations drew to a close with a buffet lunch.

News in brief

SU hosts successful health promotion



SU Vice-President (Education and Welfare), Claire Frost, has been working in partnership with Liverpool Primary Care Trust as part of this year's Union Health Promotion Campaign. The Trust has launched the Liverpool Challenge to get Liverpool slimmer and fitter and Claire, along with other Students' Union representatives, was dressed for the occasion when the campaign tanker rolled on to Hope Park on 10th February.

Claire was pleased to see approximately 160 staff and students getting involved in the event which is part of the campaign to get Liverpool fitter. Participants were asked to pledge to help Liverpool lose a million pounds of fat. Dieticians were on hand to provide confidential help and advice and each participant received a goody bag and starter pack.

UCAS Fairs begin

Between 4th March and early April, the first round of UCAS Fairs gets underway. The Recruitment Team will be travelling the length and breadth of the UK from Belfast to Exeter and onwards to the Channel Islands. If you would like to find out more and possibly volunteer to help, contact Dave Sennett on sennetd@hope.ac.uk or call extn 3527.

Superlambananas on the move again



Just one week after the news that the city will be getting a replica Superlambanana as a long-term replacement for the original iconic statue, a replica of the Hope mini Superlambanana 'Colours of Hope' was delivered to St Jerome's Catholic Primary School in Formby by Hope driver, Bob Ellis.

The original Colours of Hope was designed by former pupil of the School, Lauren Cheston, who won a competition organised by the University for schools. It was one of three Superlambananas which appeared on Hope campuses as part of the hugely ambitious public arts project, Go Superlambanana, which saw 119 scaled-down models parading across the city last summer. All of those models were eventually auctioned and raised a British record of £600,000 in one night for the Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal.

Hope to offer £100,000 in postgraduate scholarships

In response to the general economic downturn and the difficulties being faced by those students due to graduate this year in finding appropriate employment, the University has created 50 scholarships worth £2,000 for first class students to progress to full-time postgraduate study in 2009/10.

These scholarships are in addition to the existing scheme that offers a 20% discount of the tuition fees on all postgraduate (Masters) programmes for all former students.

In recognition of the success achieved by the University in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise these new scholarships will be targeted in those academic areas where staff research is internationally recognised in terms of originality, significance and rigour. This scheme provides a one-off opportunity for Hope graduates to work with some of the

best academics in their field in the country.

Postgraduate study can enhance employment prospects and long term career goals as well as providing an essential grounding for those students considering progressing to doctoral level studies or wishing to pursue an academic career.

The programmes eligible are:

MSc Business and Management*
 MA Children and Young People in Society
 MA Christian Theology
 MSc Computer Science
 MA Conflict Transformation and Peace Building*
 MA Contemporary Popular Theatres
 MA Education
 MA Global Politics*
 MSc Health, Exercise & Nutrition
 MSc Human Resource Management and Development*
 MA Humanities
 MA International Perspectives on Education
 MA in Literature and Popular Culture*
 MSc Marketing Management
 MA Maritime and Colonial History*
 MA Ministry*
 MA Music since 1900

MA Religion and Society
 MSc Research Methods
 MA The Beatles, Popular Music and Society
 MA Transatlantic Studies*

* subject to validation

The Postgraduate Scholarships will be available in addition to the usual 20% discount available to Hope students and will mean that on a fee of £3,445, there would be £689 reduction plus the £2,000, leaving only £756 to pay. The University has a dedicated team to help you plan the financing of your postgraduate studies including payment plan options for fees and advice about sources of income to help with living expenses.

Details about how to apply will be available shortly and will be posted on the student portal. Further information will also be available from the Postgraduate & International Office tel **0151 291 3389** email **postgraduate@hope.ac.uk**

Details about funding your postgraduate studies are available from the Students Funds Team on **0151 291 3435** or email **studentfunds@hope.ac.uk**



Hope launches a host of new postgraduate taught programmes

From this September, Hope is planning to introduce a number of new programmes to enhance and expand its postgraduate provision.

Many of the new programmes will be offered by the Deanery of Arts & Humanities. The Department of Politics and History, under the leadership of Professor Nicholas Rees, is to introduce four new MAs - an MA Conflict Transformation and Peace Building*, MA Global Politics*, MA Maritime and Colonial History and MA Transatlantic Studies*. An MA in Islamic Studies is also being developed.

The Department of Theology & Religious Studies has developed two new programmes to replace its long-running MA. The two new courses are Christian Theology and Religion and Society. An MA Ministry* is also awaiting validation.

Meanwhile at The Cornerstone, Amelia Yates has developed an MA in Art History and Curating* and Mike Brocken will be Award Director for the MA in

Beatles, Popular Music & Society. The latter programme has already attracted media attention and Mike describes it as "a seminal moment in popular music studies". He says, "For the first time in the UK, and possibly the world, a postgraduate taught course is offered to research the Beatles, the city from which they emerged, the contexts of the 1960s, technology, sound and songwriting, and the industries that have set up in their wake to capitalise on tourism in the city of Liverpool.

"The course can be studied by anyone with a good first degree; in certain circumstances music industry experience may also be taken into account. Popular music studies is now rightly regarded as an academic discipline in its own right and its interdisciplinary nature will appeal to those who have come from backgrounds in the humanities, cultural studies as well as music. The degree can be studied full-time for one year or part-time for two".

The MA in Contemporary Popular Theatres is the brainchild of John Bennett, Senior Lecturer in Drama & Theatre Studies. Recently David Ward, Hope's Media Adviser, caught up with John who

was in conversation with John Godber, Visiting Professor of Popular Theatres at Hope, about the new course and the nature of modern drama (see article opposite).

Elsewhere, the Deanery of Business & Computer Sciences is introducing three new management programmes - the MSc Business and Management*, the MSc Human Resource Management and Development* and the MSc Marketing Management* and the Education Deanery is developing an MA in Teaching & Learning.

Dr Janet Speake, Associate Dean (Postgraduate Studies), commented, "It's wonderful to see colleagues developing new and exciting postgraduate programmes".

For information about the other postgraduate programmes available at Hope, please pick up a Postgraduate Prospectus or visit **www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate**

* subject to validation

Research at Hope

There are opportunities for MPhil and PhD study at Hope. Research areas include:

Business, Management & Organisation Studies; Computer Science; Education; Health and Social Care; Humanities; Music; Psychology; Social and Political Science; Sport and Exercise Sciences; Theology and Religious Studies.

For more details, please see the Postgraduate Prospectus or contact Liz Bugler on **0151 291 3948** or at **buglerl@hope.ac.uk**

Considering popular theatre

Next academic year sees the launch of Hope's new MA in Contemporary Popular Theatres, a course which will cover the works of modern playwrights including Willy Russell, Jim Cartwright, Lee Hall, Dermot Bulger, Amanda Whittington and John Godber.

This last name should be familiar to Hope staff and students as John Godber is Visiting Professor of Popular Theatre at Hope. John Bennett, whose PhD was on Godber and who has written the introduction to a collection of Godber's plays, recently invited the acclaimed writer gave a talk to Hope students and he later discussed the nature of popular drama with Bennett.

"Shakespeare was popular theatre," says

Godber. "It wasn't low-brow and there was something in it for everyone. I start from the idea of attracting the widest possible audience to come and see the play."

Godber recalled inviting a group of builders to a 1991 Hull Truck show. They didn't want to come but by the interval they admitted they had got it. "So I said, 'What is there to get?' A lot of this is to do with school, with being macho and the nature of being sensitive, of exploring the world of your mind. We all have that but the majority of the people in this country are excluded from it. They don't think it has anything to do with them."

The trick for a writer, Godber suggests, is to get his characters to express feelings and emotions that they wouldn't normally express in a way that the audience will understand.

Bennett similarly defines popular theatre according to the audience rather than a play's content or form. "If you look around and sense that this is not a typical theatre

audience, then I would say there would be a connection with popular theatre. One definition might be a non-traditional audience engaging with popular material that has some kind of progressive agenda."

That's the kind of thing now going on at Hull Truck and the unsubsidised Royal Court in Liverpool, where Kevin Fearon has staged a successful series of (often Scouse) plays, including Dave Kirby's Council Depot Blues, which celebrated the lads who work in Liverpool City Council Excrement Eradication Department.

"There's a lovely moment in Council Depot Blues where the central character, who is two days off retirement, breaks down and weeps," says Bennett. "It's a very profound statement about wasted lives. That worked. It was beautifully done."

Bennett has launched his course, aimed at those likely to want to work in the theatre, because he thinks popular drama deserves serious study and has been given the cold shoulder by critics and academics.

"It has been marginalised. My PhD on Godber was possibly the only thesis ever submitted with a non-bibliography at the end - a list of books that purport to survey British theatre since 1984 that make no mention of the third most performed playwright in the country.

"That's a very serious omission. We academics love the avant-garde. We love the German expressionist stuff, that whole kind of grappling with hidden subtexts and all that kind of decoding we do. But we miss so much of the impact or significance of popular theatre."

David Ward
Hope Media Adviser

(David is also literary consultant to Theatre by the Lake in Keswick, Cumbria. Other fuller versions of this article have appeared in the Arts Industry magazine and The Guardian.)

Case studies



Paresh Wankhade PhD student

After his viva in February with internal and external examiners,

Paresh Wankhade is moving ever closer to gaining his PhD.

Paresh's supervisor is Professor Beverly Metcalfe in the Deanery of Business & Computer Sciences and his successful completion will make him their first research student to gain this award.

Paresh was enjoying a successful career as a civil servant in a senior management position with the Indian Customs and Excise Department, when in 2003 he was selected by the Indian Government to study for a Masters in Public Administration (MPA) in the UK.

Upon completion of his MPA Paresh decided to further his academic training, and in 2005 enrolled on a three year PhD course at Liverpool Hope University,

in collaboration with the University of Liverpool.

Paresh comments, "Before embarking upon my studies I had held important positions in India including customs sea port assessment, anti-smuggling and central excise tax administration and investigation, and had also completed a Masters degree in Political Science at Vikram University. However, I was delighted to be offered a scholarship to study in the UK even though I knew it would be a huge challenge, which would demand complete commitment from myself and my young family.

"Identifying the right university was the most important issue, I knew that once I had chosen a university then the rest of my preparations would be fairly straight forward. I would advise any students considering studying in the UK to not simply make a choice of university by league table rankings, but to take into consideration the experience of staff and other students. I was particularly impressed with the amount of widely published professors who taught at Hope."



Martin Guest MSc in Computer Science student

Martin Guest works in Hope's Deanery of Sciences & Social

Sciences and is currently taking an MSc in Computer Science. He writes:

"I am currently working as a Psychology Technician, which amongst other things involves programming psychological experiments, using equipment such as an eye-tracker. Therefore studying computing on a more theoretical basis is helpful.

"The MSc course I'm on is focused towards areas such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), biological inspired computing and neural networks, there is a close connection between these and Psychology.

"I decided to study at Hope for two reasons. First Hope is where I work,

and secondly I was more interested in Computer Science rather than the IT side of things.

"Hope has a feel of a traditional university, but once you study here you find there is a very down-to-earth attitude with it. Everyone is supportive, and gives you confidence in your own ability.

"Hope is a great environment to learn, as the modules are well presented by staff and up-to-date with latest research trends. Also the lecturers are all very approachable, and eager to help. Dr Hissam Tawfik is a very inspirational tutor and researcher. He is a brilliant teacher, who makes classes fun and makes technical areas very accessible.

"My Masters degree has many very up-to-date research areas to it, such as data mining, bio-inspired computing etc - Hope has a growing research profile, which it encourages its students to get involved with."

Green Hope

Green Week

Green Week is an environmental awareness raising event, running from Monday 9th to Friday 13th March. The main aim of the week is to educate and inspire staff and students on environmental issues both on campus and worldwide. Green Week is also an opportunity to get active and improve your health and fitness.

The programme will include:

- Biodiversity walks around campus - come along for a walk around Hope Park to discover what species or trees, wildlife and other biodiversity you share the campus with.
- Film festival - see a number of relevant and topical films and join in a discussion afterwards. These films will be shown at both The Cornerstone and Hope Park during lunchtime and during the evening.
- Walk around Calderstones Park - get out in the fresh air during lunchtime and see this local park which is noted for its feature gardens and rare trees.

- Living sustainably at Hope - find out how you can live more sustainably at Hope and make your contribution to reducing waste, energy use and increasing recycling.
- Sports activities - get involved with the various sports that are available, including football, cricket, fitness classes and running. Please see www.hope.ac.uk/hopeparksports for more details.
- Swap-shop - bring clothes that you no longer wear and exchange them for something new. You will be given a ticket for each item you bring and you can exchange the tickets for something new. The clothes you bring must be of satisfactory quality i.e. what you would want to receive; both men's and women's clothing is needed.
- Sustainable travel - find out about bus and train services and other ways to travel more sustainably.
- Ethical and green careers and volunteering opportunities.
- Mini-lecture series - topics will cover a wide range of environmental and 'green' issues.
- Recycling art - an exhibition, workshop and talks are being planned at The Cornerstone.

When the programme has been finalised, details will be available on Hope Virtually Daily and on posters around campus. Please contact environment@hope.ac.uk

for more details.

Don't forget that Liverpool Active City has a programme of free walking and cycling activities around the city including:

Monday

11 am - Everton Park (walk)
1.30pm - Stanley Park (walk)

Tuesday

1.30pm - Woolton Woods and Camp Hill (walk)

Thursday

10.30am - Calderstones Park (walk)

Friday

10am - Calderstones Park (Cycling - own cycle required)
11 am - Conservation walk, Liverpool city centre

More details may be found at: www.lhps.org.uk/hp_walkforhealth.html and www.liverpoolactivecity.co.uk/

Suzanne Hartley
Environment Officer

Making an environmental difference at The Cornerstone - Gary's catering campaign

Gary Pace, Catering Manager at The Cornerstone, has implemented a number of measures to reduce waste and increase recycling.

All food there will be served on crockery; if take away cartons are required, you will be charged extra unless you bring your own cartons. All hot drinks will be served in crockery mugs unless takeout is requested, for which you will be charged extra. Recycling bins for cans and plastic bottles have been introduced at the Refectory at The Cornerstone and at Hope Park - please make sure that the cans and plastics are empty and placed in the correct bins.

Suzanne Hartley
Environment Officer

Birdwatch at Hope Park

Some members of the newly formed Biodiversity Group, which operates through the Service and Leadership Award, took part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch on Sunday 25th January.

The Group monitored birds for an hour across both sides of the Hope Park campus with some good results. The data will be stored on Hope's own wildlife database as well as being sent to Mersey BioBank and to the RSPB to inform regional and national records. It can often be the simplest types of engagement, such as spending an hour counting birds, which can inform agencies such as Mersey BioBank and the RSPB of important environmental changes. The Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest bird survey and helps the RSPB to prioritise bird conservation work as it becomes alerted to declines in numbers of

certain species each year.

The RSPB's instructions were to record the highest number of each species seen at any one time, thus it does not indicate exact numbers of birds that visit the campus regularly.

Birdwatch findings The results were as follows:

Gateway side (mostly centred on the lawn near Green Lane)

3 blackbirds, 4 blue tits, 2 carrion crows, 1 chaffinch, 8 magpies, 2 song thrushes and 2 woodpigeons

Hilda Constance Allen side

2 blackbirds, 1 carrion crow, 17 chaffinches, 2 coal tits, 1 collared dove, 17 feral pigeons, 2 jackdaws, 6 long-tailed tits, 16 magpies, 1 robin, 14 woodpigeons

The students are keen to participate in such events on a regular basis; one of them felt that it was "as refreshing as a

session in the gym" and another said "I wasn't expecting to enjoy it, but I really, really loved it".

The aim of the University's Biodiversity Group is to promote nature conservation, sustainable environmental practices in the university and collaborative and meaningful work with external agencies. The Group will also produce and maintain a wildlife database for the university campuses.

The Biodiversity Group can make a major contribution to enhancing the wildlife value of the campus, which is a significant component of a network of important greenspace sites, reflecting well the urban biodiversity of south Liverpool. In addition, the data will inform local conservation management and will enrich the educational value of the campus.

All staff and students are welcome to join this group. Look out for key events over the year - including a family event for National Moth Night, insect monitoring events, bird surveying, bird ringing, wild flower identification and general



Alice and the students

sustainability activities.

For further information, please contact Matthew Pickering 08001272@hope.ac.uk; Alice Bennett benneta@hope.ac.uk or Sally Edmondson edmonds@hope.ac.uk

Alice Bennett
Service & Leadership Award Administrator

Hope diary dates for March 2009

Applicant Day

Saturday 7th March from 9.30am to 3.30pm

The year's series of Applicant Days continues on Saturday 7th March when more undergraduate applicants will be visiting Hope to find out more about their chosen courses.

Staff available to help should email Emma Fereday on feredae@hope.ac.uk

Business & Computer Sciences Research Seminars

Spaces and Places: a brief history of Daniel Wade Clarke

Dr Daniel Clarke, Liverpool Hope University

Wednesday 4th March from 4.30pm to 5.30pm in Room AJB 009

Talent, Diversity and Workplace e-Learning

Dr Sylvia van de Bunt-Kokhuis, The Hague University

Wednesday 18th March from 5pm to 6pm in Room AJB 009

Career Development Events

Highlights of March's seminar programme include:

Postgraduate research opportunities at Liverpool Hope

Tuesday 3rd March at 1pm

Seminar Room 2, Gateway Building

Careers Tactics for the Credit Crunch

Monday 16th March at 1pm in Seminar Room 1, Gateway Building. Repeated on Tuesday 24th March at 12pm in Room COR 114, The Cornerstone

Presentation Skills

Friday 20th March at 12pm

Seminar Room 2, Gateway Building

CVs and Personal Statements

Wednesday 25th March at 1pm

Room COR 110, The Cornerstone

To book a place at any of these events, please go to www.hope.ac.uk/careers and click on green 'Events' tab on right.

Conference for Students

Teaching in a Christian School

Saturday 7th March from 9.30am to 3.45pm

A free Conference for students, led by members of the Centre for Christian Education Consultancy Team, will consider these questions. The Conference will be held in Room AJB 007.

For further details, please contact Christina Anderson on **0151 291 3383** or at andersc@hope.ac.uk

Cornerstone Gallery

'Self Observed': paintings and drawing by Jason Jones

Private View: Thursday 19th March between 6pm and 8pm
Exhibition open: Friday 20th March to Friday 24th April (closed Thursday 9th to Monday 13th April inclusive)
Opening hours: 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Liverpool artist and Cornerstone Gallery manager Jason Jones shows his own colours in his first solo show in five years with 'Self Observed' - an introspective and observed analysis of modern man and a re-evaluation of the stereotypical male within contemporary painting.

Foundation Hour

Foundation Hour is held at 1pm each Wednesday during term-time, providing an opportunity to find out more about an aspect of Hope life. Foundation Hour lasts about 45 minutes with time at the end for some lunch. The programme for March is as follows:

Values-based Leadership

Wednesday 4th March

Healthy University

Wednesday 11th March

Licensing of Hope's new Anglican Chaplain

Wednesday 18th March

Service and Leadership Award

Wednesday 25th March

Room tbc, The Cornerstone

Foundation Hour is held in Room WAR 013 Powys unless otherwise stated. Please see Hope Virtually Daily nearer the dates given for more details.

Hope Theological Society

The Society holds a series of lectures throughout the academic year. They begin at 5pm. Lectures during March are as follows:

Surveying Roman Catholic Clergy Today

Christopher Fallon, Durham University
Thursday 5th March

What Sort of Spirituality Should We Be Equipping Our Ministers With in the Christian Church Today?

Anne Dawtry, Diocese of Manchester
Thursday 12th March

Can a Ritual Be Silent?

Vivian Boland Blackfriars, Oxford
Thursday 19th March

Untameable Transcendence? The Struggle with Divine Otherness in Feminist Theology

Anne-Marie Korte University of Tilburg
Thursday 26th March

For more information, please contact Dr John Walliss by emailing wallisj@hope.ac.uk

Inaugural Professorial Lecture Programme

The next lecture in the series is:

Christian Mission as "Service to the Soul" and "Service to the Body": Retrospect and Prospect

Daniel Jeyaraj Professor of World Christianity

Wednesday 11th March at 5.30pm
Senate Room, Hilda Constance Allen Building

Light refreshments will be available beforehand. If you would like to attend, please contact a member of the Events team on **0151 291 3567** or email events@hope.ac.uk

Learning & Teaching Week

Skills Development Day

Monday 30th March

Deaneries' Day

Tuesday 31st March

Generic Day

Wednesday 1st April

Subjects' Day

Thursday 2nd April

For more details, please contact Tessa Owens at owenst@hope.ac.uk

Occasional University Seminar

"Measuring" our performance: how well are Australian universities doing and what difference does it make?

Professor Kerri-Lee Krause Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

Wednesday 4th March at 4.30pm
Room HCA 023, Hilda Constance Allen Building

Politics and History Event

Friday 13th March

The Department, in conjunction with the Political Education Forum, are hosting a Conference on Politics in the USA in the Obama Era for Year 12/13 students at Hope Park on Friday 13th March.

Students' Union Events

The Students' Union is planning events for **Comic Relief (Red Nose Day)** on Friday 13th March and for **St Patrick's Night** (Tuesday 17th March). More details will be available nearer the time.

Car safety event

Tuesday 17th March between 11am and 3pm
The car park in front of the Library

Merseyside Police, with support from the AA, will be providing the opportunity to have car number plates fitted with special screws that protect them from theft.

For more information, contact SU Vice-President, Claire Frost, at vpres@hope.ac.uk

The Andrew F Walls Annual Lecture

Prophet to the Nations: Jeremiah's Missiological Reflections

Wednesday 18th March at 5pm

Rev Dr Chris Wright, International Director of Langham Partnership International and the Chair of the Lausanne Theology Working Group, will give the first Andrew Walls Annual Lecture in The Senate Room, Hilda Constance Allen Building.

For more information, please contact the Corporate Events Team on **0151 291 3567** or at events@hope.ac.uk

Workshop for Students

Know Yourself Better - a two-part workshop for students to develop Assertiveness Skills

Tuesdays 10th and 17th March between 12.50pm and 3pm

This two-part workshop is available to male and female students. For more information and to book a place, please contact Joan in Counselling & Health (Green Lane Annexe) by ringing **0151 291 3413** or emailing robertj@hope.ac.uk

Looking Ahead

Inaugural Professional Lecture Programme

Globalisation, International Security and the Role of International Organisations in Conflict Resolution

Nicholas Rees Professor of International Politics and Contemporary History
Wednesday 8th April at 5.30pm
Senate Room, Hilda Constance Allen Building

Light refreshments will be available beforehand. If you would like to attend, please contact a member of the Events team on **0151 291 3567** or email events@hope.ac.uk

Stephen Axon - an Ambassador for Hope



Life's pretty hectic for Stephen, who is in his third year of a BSc Geography with Environmental Management degree. Apart from his course, Stephen is involved in a number of Hope-related activities and is the elected Environmental Officer for the Students' Union.

Stephen lives near Penny Lane and, in keeping with his environmental credentials,

he walks to and from the University each day.

During a typical day at Hope, Stephen will have two hours of lectures, spend time in the Library working on his dissertation and most likely he will be doing something for Hope. Stephen is one of the Gateway team of Student Ambassadors - so he could be on the reception desk in the Gateway or he may be in a local secondary school.

Stephen is an experienced Mentor who has been working, one day a week, with the Widening Participation team since he started at Hope. As part of the Schools Targeted Aspiration Raising (STARS)

project, Stephen has worked with children in two different schools. He says, "The work allows Hope students to provide help and encouragement to under-achieving pupils to help them gain confidence and skills so that they can achieve better results at school and work towards gaining a place at university".

Having taken on the role of SU Environmental Officer, Stephen has regular meetings with Hope's Environmental Officer, Suzanne Hartley. He attends the fortnightly SU Council meetings and supports SU's Raising & Giving Officer, Jonathon Herman, by attending the lunchtime Ethical Revolution meetings.

Stephen also works with Marketing, Recruitment and Admissions providing tours of the University on Open and Applicant Days. He says, "Time management and being well organised are key to fitting everything in".

In his 'spare time', Stephen enjoys music and relaxing with friends. Looking to the future, Stephen would like to stay in Liverpool for possibly another year - he is keen to continue his studies at postgraduate level and gain a PhD eventually.

Highlights of Stephen's time at Hope

- In his first year after spotting a poster in the Library, Stephen applied and gained a place on a three-week Government-funded study trip to China. The trip provided tuition in Chinese, the opportunity to meet business and community leaders and chance to see the sights.
- Field trips to French Alps, Malta, Plas Caerdeon (Hope's outdoor education centre in mid-Wales), and going to Romania in March this year.
- Gaining a Dean's List scholarship
- Being a Student Ambassador for The Big Hope - meeting delegates from across the globe - welcoming them to the Global Youth Congress held in June, being part of the 'Believing in Cities' strand, acting as a Hall Tutor and guide to the city - "It was a fantastic experience."
- Representing Hope and the UK in Brussels at the European Union's award ceremony for Youth in Action projects - Stephen, and fellow student Cass Giles, received the EU certificate awarded to the University in recognition of the success of The Big Hope.

Developing stronger links across the country



Dave Sennett, Schools Liaison Officer, has been working hard to develop the University links with schools across the country.

In late January, Dave organised a two-day visit to Hope for eight Year 10 students from English Martyrs School in Leicester. The students, who will be presenting radio programmes during National Science Week, were able to work with Media lecturer, Gary Morrisroe, in Hope's radio station.

On the Saturday, the group visited Hope partner Radio City, which is currently sponsoring two Media students on a unique scholarship. School principal Mr Carney said, "The programme of activities gave the students great insight into university life and all the students have acquired a repertoire of new skills in radio editing, production and



presentation".

Students, accompanied by tutors Mr Wilby, Miss Turner and Mr Carney enjoyed a packed programme, starting with a coach tour of the city then a guided tour of the Metropolitan Cathedral, followed by the visit to Radio City and finishing in the FACT arts centre for the DING>>DONG exhibition - an interactive experience which allows visitors to explore possible futures of music from artist to stage to computer.

In February, Dave visited the Convent of Jesus & Mary Language College in Harlesden to provide a session on higher education for groups of Year 11, 12 and 13 students. Head of Sixth Form Miss Walsh said, "The students found the talk very interactive and fun whilst also finding out about what university is and what to expect. They have started thinking now about their hopes and aspirations for their own future also some students realised that there is life outside of London."

On a mission



Pierrick Picot, Deputy Director of the International Office, L'Université Catholique de L'Ouest, Angers, France, came to Hope recently with colleagues Professor Laurent Peridy, Director of the Institute of Applied Mathematics and Professor Pierre Chauvet, Head of the CREAM Laboratory (Research Centre on Mathematical Applications).

Hope and Angers have worked together for many years as part of successive student exchange programmes and then, more recently, talks began to

look at developing a closer relationship. Pierrick says, "The Universities have a lot in common - they are similar in size and age and they both have a Christian foundation".

In January 2008, Professor Pillay and a group of senior academic staff from Hope visited Angers to consider in more detail possible ways to develop joint programmes, research projects and other activities. Initially the Universities chose Business, Creative & Performing Arts, Education (including Languages) and Theology & Religious Studies as potential areas for this greater cooperation and development. Since then there have been staff and student exchanges, collaborative course and research projects are under consideration and joint symposia are planned. The first of the symposia will be held at Hope in April, with the second to be held in Angers in 2010. The first, to be called 'Christian Gifts for the Common Table' will see a group of scholars consider how the Christian nature of the respective institutions underpins, informs and supports their work.

During the visit to Hope, Professors Peridy and Chauvet met with their counterparts here at Hope to look at developing links in Mathematics and Information Technology.