

University  
of  
St Andrews

# University of St Andrews The St Andard

Staff Magazine, Issue 7, March 2006

## I'm with the Band



Development's Dynamic Duo  
Mail Room's First Class Service  
The Future of our Finances

Scotland's first university

# Contents

**Page 1:** Welcome

**Pages 2-15:** PEOPLE

**Pages 16-20:** TOWN

**Pages 21-22:** OPINION

**Pages 23-32:** GOWN

**Page 33-37:** NEWS

*The StAndard* is funded by the University and edited by the Press Office under the direction of an independent Editorial Board comprising staff from every corner of the institution. The Editorial Board welcomes all suggestions, letters, articles, news and photography from staff, students and members of the wider St Andrews community. Please contact us at [magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk) or via the Press Office, St Katharine's West, The Scores, St Andrews, KY16 9AX, telephone 01334 462529.

Cover picture: Liz Wood  
Credit: Alan Richardson; Pix A-R

## Produced by:

### *The StAndard* Editorial Board

#### Joint Chairs:

**Stephen Magee** is Vice-Principal (External Relations) and Director of Admissions.



#### To be announced in next issue



**Joe Carson** is a Lecturer in the Department of French, Disabilities Officer in the School of Modern Languages, Warden of University Hall and the Senior Warden of the University.



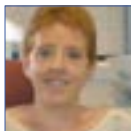
**Jim Douglas** is Assistant Facilities Manager in the Estates Department and line manager for cleaning supervisors, janitors, mailroom staff and the out of hours service.



**John Haldane** is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs.



**Chris Lusk** is Director of Student Support Services covering disability, counselling, welfare, student development, orientation and equal opportunities.



**Jim Naismith** teaches students in Chemistry and Biology and carries out research in the Centre for Biomolecular Sciences.



**Niall Scott** is Director of the Press Office.



**Dawn Waddell** is Secretary for the School of Art History.



**Sandy Wilkie** works as Staff Development Manager within Human Resources, co-ordinating the work of a team of three staff who support personal and management development activities for all University staff.



# Welcome

Action Man, rock music, kitchen knives, cakes and Roman legal culture – all passions of some of our colleagues and all featured in this seventh edition of *The StAndard*.

We hunted high and low for the most interesting, odd and valuable content and hope you agree that we have successfully unearthed some of the more random elements of staff's professional and personal lives.

Included are insights into the work of arguably the world's most high-profile terrorism expert, Professor Paul Wilkinson, and classicist Professor Jill Harries.

There's also the first in a new series of articles looking at money. No, we're not giving it away, but we've ditched the tradition of regurgitating research grant lists – however impressive they are – for a more 'useful' look at University income. The series is kicked off by Research and Enterprise Services Director, Ewan Chirnside, who examines where our money comes from and what the future holds for our finances.

On a more light-weight note, we've continued our tradition of putting three staff in the hot seat, forcing them to reveal their childhood ambitions, what they get up to when they're not here and their prized possession.

We also reveal the dynamic duo charged with directing Development – learn how two strong personalities succeed in managing the office charged with fundraising for the University's priorities.

Talking of priorities, this edition's anonymous review focuses on cakes. So whether you're a muffin man or into your tarts, find out which sweet delicacies hit the spot on page 16. We also credit life-saving colleagues and energetic Finance staff and ask you to plant a tree in your lunch break.

And one last thing . . . if you've been lazily addressing internal mail to 'Bob' or 'John' or using the Mailroom to distribute mail in your own building and thought you'd got away with it, you haven't. Our feature on the mailroom teams reveals their pet hates and some pleas to help lessen their load.

As always, *The StAndard* thanks all contributors, including a special thank-you to Rachel Hart, and acknowledges the use of images supplied by Alan Richardson; Pix-AR, Peter Adamson, Tim Fitzpatrick, Needham Research Institute (Cambridge), Liz Wood, Audrey Dyce, Kenneth Stewart, European Southern Observatory, Ewan Chirnside, Dundee University, BBC, Isla Graham, Jean Luc Bertini, Benedict Schmidt, the University of St Andrews Library and StAnza.





## PEOPLE

---



Hazel Larg with her very own Action Man!

# 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](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk) with your suggestions.

**NAME:** Hazel Larg  
**POSITION:** School Secretary, Modern Languages

**LAST GOOD BOOK** – *A Courtesan's Revenge* by Frances Wilson.

**FIRST RECORD BOUGHT** – *Puppy Love* by Donny Osmond.

**TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION** – I love Cornwall for the sun, sea, ice-cream, cream teas and Scrumpy.

**HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY** – Walking to Craigtoun Park (no kidding!) for a fun day out with brothers, sister, Mum and Dad. We loved the wee train and the sun always came out.

**IDEAL MEAL** – A hot dog on a sunny day by the beach. For one summer only the café near Step Rock (now a restaurant) served up great hot dogs and we went there many times.

**MOST PRIZED POSSESSION** – It's not my scene to prize possessions. However, I did take my brother's Action Man to sell and I haven't sold him because I want to keep him. So, I guess it qualifies.

**CHILDHOOD AMBITION** – To get to the top of Maiden Rock. I gave up trying when I eventually fell off and got a nasty scrape for my efforts. (You can find Maiden Rock along the cliff-top walk near the East Sands, St Andrews).

**FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT** – The Starbar and lounge. My mum also recalls from her hey-day that it was the place to go. It's gone, I'm afraid, replaced by shops.

**FIRST LOVE** (not necessarily a person!) – Topsy. Fluffy, white and cute ... when I got him as a kitten. Fluffy, off-white with oil-streaks from cars and a mean face ... when he got older.

**ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM** – *Donnie Darko*.

**CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO** – *Playing An Angel* by Depeche Mode.

**THE PERFECT WEEKEND** – To see Hothouse Flowers in Cork. When we were visiting the city a couple of years back, I spied a poster advertising this band who were going to be playing in Cork and I really wanted to go ... and still do.



Alex, with his second most-prized possession (the baby grand piano he bought for his wife to travel so well!!)

**NAME:** Paul Brown  
**POSITION:** Director of  
 Careers Centre

**LAST GOOD BOOK** - *Iris Murdoch As I Knew Her* by A. N. Wilson. Explores how little you may know about someone you are close to, while entertaining with some first rate gossip.

**FIRST RECORD BOUGHT** – Acker Bilk's *Stranger on the Shore*.

**TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION** – Panzano in Chianti, Tuscany.

**HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY** – Waking up at Twiga Beach, Mombasa, with a whole day in the sea to come.

**IDEAL MEAL** – Summer lunch outdoors in warm sunshine with friends and great views. Fresh sea fish, fruit and cheese to eat and plenty of good wine.

**MOST PRIZED POSSESSION** – Kitchen knife. Beautifully balanced, aesthetically pleasing and wonderfully functional. Perfect tool for cutting juicing oranges.

**CHILDHOOD AMBITION** – To be a dockside crane operator.

**FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT** – The harbour end of East Sands.

**FIRST LOVE** (not necessarily a person!) – Kenyan sunshine.

**ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM** – *The Third Man*, for its incomparable atmosphere and suspense.

**CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO** – Schubert's *Impromptus* played by Arthur Brendel.

**THE PERFECT WEEKEND** – Company of good friends for parents and children, leisurely meals, time on the beach and a good film or two. St Andrews offers a lot!



Paul Brown with prized kitchen knife.

**NAME:** Alex Rougvie  
**POSITION:** Director of  
 Continuing Education

**LAST GOOD BOOK** - Just finished two – *Brick Lane* by Monica Ali, and *Teacher Man* by Frank McCourt. I lived in Tower Hamlets for a while and Ali's book is very evocative of the area and its tensions. I enjoyed *Teacher Man*, but in places it was in danger of becoming *Angela's Ashes II*.

**FIRST RECORD BOUGHT** – I don't remember the name of the record, but it was an LP by Elizabeth Cotton, a American folk singer and guitarist. It wasn't till I discovered that she played a standard-strung guitar upside-down that I realised why I was finding it hard to learn her finger-picking from the record! The record had to be ordered from the USA, and in 1964 that was a very complicated operation (okay, I was only two years old at the time ...)

**TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION** – I've never really liked the idea of returning to a holiday

destination as there are too many bits of the world I haven't seen yet. Athens last summer was great – good combination of things to do (can't be bothered with lying on the beach type hols), with good food, nice folk and great company.

**HAPPIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY** – School steak pie: there wasn't much steak, and you had to scrape the pastry off the bottom of the ashet, but it hit the spot.

**IDEAL MEAL** – Almost any combination of shellfish, steak and nice puddings, all made with lots of cream and booze.

**MOST PRIZED POSSESSION** – A 1920's art deco baby grand piano, closely followed by a Suzuki SV 650S (I'll get my Harley one of these days.....)

**CHILDHOOD AMBITION** – I don't think I want to put that in writing...

**FAVOURITE LOCAL HAUNT** – Probably Taste in North Street – the best value doppio within walking distance of the office.

**FIRST LOVE** (not necessarily a person!) – Morag W\*\*\*\*\*, the daughter of the local doctor, aged about 8-9 at the time. Don't recall reciprocation though.

**ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM** – I can't keep it just to one, because I don't often revisit films – so I'd nominate *Godfather 2*; *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*; *Chinatown*; *Being John Malkovich* and *Apocalypse Now* (and no amateur psychoanalysis please).

**CURRENTLY PLAYING ON STEREO** – At home, a compilation of arias by Maria Callas (*Une vie, d'art et d'amour*), and in the car, Credence Clearwater Revival.

**THE PERFECT WEEKEND** – Gliding on Saturday morning and getting up to 10,000 feet; collect Ann and head off to Edinburgh or Glasgow to see *La Traviata*, with some good nosh afterwards and a long walk by lochs or seaside on Sunday. Even better to substitute NY/Met or Milan/La Scala – one of these days maybe.



and does not



Left-to-right – Alex, Murray, Peter and Gordon in the Mailroom.

# First class service

By Claire Grainger, Press Officer

**“Good morning, Mailroom...?”**  
**“Good afternoon, Mailroom...?”**

You’re all familiar with that cheery phone response but who are the people behind the voices and what’s involved in us receiving – and sending – our precious mail?

And what’s more, what can you do to help give the Mailroom service that ‘first class’ stamp of approval?

*The StAndard* met up with Alex McQuade, Senior Janitor to find out more.

The Mailroom, which is open from 7am until 6pm, is operated by four people – Alex, who has been in charge for nearly four years, Gordon Dickson, Murray Falls

and Peter MacAlindin, the familiar face who delivers the post by delivery van.

They are a small team who take great pride in providing an efficient and effective mail service to the University.

Alex said, “Our working day begins at 7am when Royal Mail drop off the first of several batches of mail received each day. The mail is then sorted into pigeon holes, which takes about an hour and a half, and then put into departmental and office mail bags which are then delivered by Peter. That 7-9am timeslot is extremely busy. We may be a small university and people might think the Mailroom’s only busy first and last thing but, due to the sheer volume of mail being processed through the Mailroom, we are kept busy

throughout the day.

“To give you an idea of the volume we sort and frank on an average day – we deal with around 1000 pieces of mail for external posting per day, sort and pigeon hole 2500 pieces of inter school/unit mail per day, and sort and pigeon hole around 1300 pieces of mail delivered to the University by Royal Mail.”

The team are also responsible for departmental mailshots of anything from 100 to over 1000 pieces of mail – for example, the University prospectus. This is in addition to the recorded delivery, registered post and parcel force packets which generate extra administrative paperwork. All in all, a sizeable turnaround of mail for four individuals!





The Mailroom sort around 2500 pieces of internal mail a day.

and postage costs will be determined by the size and thickness of items rather than their weight. Schools/units may see an initial increase to their monthly account until they adapt to using the new system in the most cost effective way."

But we staff don't always make it easy for this already-stretched team!

Among the Mailroom's pet hates are people who address envelopes with a first name only (it's not always easy to track down 'Bob' or 'Jim!') or who include the addressee's name but not their location. Worse still, those who use the Mailroom to send mail within their own building when they could easily hand-deliver it!

The Mailroom also feel that staff 'could do better' when it comes to bundling their mail in their mailbags, as they regularly receive internal, 1st class, 2nd class, airmail etc. in one confused bundle in the same bag.

Alex said, "We'd really appreciate if staff could separate their mail. It's in their interests to do so because, if we receive piles and piles of bags containing mixed-up mail, it ultimately takes longer to deal with, increases the margin for error and, therefore, takes longer to reach the person or organisation you're trying to reach."

Mailroom staff also require schools/units to provide reasonable notice prior to sending large mailshots to the Mailroom for distribution.

Alex said, "Sometimes, three or four schools/units will send large mailshots at the same time and we simply cannot cope with the volume of this additional mail. If schools/units give us notice, we can pre-plan and provide a more efficient service."

**If you need any guidance on this – or any other Mailroom matter - please call Alex on extension 3981.**

In between the laborious (and physical) task of sorting the University's mail, the team also receive a substantial number of phone calls each day on a range of postal matters.

Alex explained, "It could be anything from mail prices to delivery times in any corner of the world. What staff might not realise is that we can supply 'next day' services in the UK or even two to three days abroad. We like to think that every inquiry is dealt with quickly and efficiently".

Change is afoot in the postal world though, and Alex is keen to ensure that the word has spread.

As of 21 August, substantial changes are being made to Royal Mail's postage pricing. Currently, the postage cost of all UK mail is priced by weight. However, smaller items of mail are cheaper to sort and process, therefore, Royal Mail are introducing a new system taking account of weight AND size.

Notification of the revision to the service – called Pricing in Proportion (PIP) - has already been communicated via memo to all University schools/units. Further information will be circulated nearer the implementation date.

Alex explained, "It's all going to change

# I'm with the band

By Gayle Cook, Press Officer

**Hidden behind the door of Liz Wood's old office in the Irvine Building, a signed poster by tribute act, The LA Doors revealed a glimpse into the personal life of the woman behind the desk.**

The personalised psychedelic image hinted that there might be more than meets the eye with the data quality assessor for the Joint Centre for Scottish Housing Research, now based at the Observatory.

And there is no denying it – Liz loves her music. She might work full-time, but as night-time descends and the rest of us look forward to a relaxing evening at home, Liz cranks up the music and begins her second job as manager to a rock musician known as 'The Zany Genius'. The remarkable switch from day job to night-time impresario happened three years ago when her love of original rock music led her to her 'dream job' managing Scots singer-songwriter Gerry Jablonski.

*The StAndard* caught up with Liz to find out how this partnership came about and just what it means being Girl Friday to an original rocker.

Liz explained how her love of local music brought her close to the band she would end up managing in her spare time:

"My husband and I have always enjoyed going to see local bands, and in September 2002, we took a trip to the Orkney Blues Festival on the recommendation of a friend Gaz, who was the bass player for a band called Glebestreet. It was an amazing experience and it was there we first saw Gerry Jablonski, who we fell in love with there and then. He's such an endearing person."

Having learned that Gerry was also in a band called Klothmonkey (pictured on page 7), Liz and hubby Dunc went to a few gigs to check them out. Soon afterwards Liz approached the band's manager offering to help out on a voluntary basis, which he duly accepted, benefitting from Liz's administrative and organisational skills. Liz took on the role in her spare time with great



enthusiasm, and soon, it became apparent that her services were proving invaluable. Just a few months later, Liz was to answer the phone call that was to take her one step nearer to her dream role. The date is still etched firmly in Liz's mind:

"On February 16th 2003 the band called me to ask if I would be their manager. At first I thought it was a nuisance call as it was a jumble of voices, then it dawned on me that it was the band – all speaking at once on a speakerphone. I was surprised but delighted by their offer, but of course had to give it some thought... so after about 10 seconds I accepted!"

Liz's first task was to whip the administrative systems into place, building a database to hold all the information from which mailshots to music industry contacts could be made. Not long afterwards she joined the band in the recording studio to record their second album "FACE", which, though was 'great fun', got off to a less than auspicious start:

"As we arrived at the recording studio, Gerry, not long past his driving test, accelerated instead of braking and careered right through the newly built fence... which the guy was still painting! Miraculously on our departure later that day, the fence was already mended."

It wasn't all bad though – luckily for the band, during the recording process Liz 'always took along a giant pot of freshly made pasta for us all to devour'.

Klothmonkey, now disbanded, were singer-songwriter and lead guitarist Gerry Jablonski, 'Beefy' (bass guitar) and 'Japo' (drums) and to them Liz was 'The Boss'. It was a labour of love for Liz, who described herself as 'first and foremost a fan.' On a typical week she worked around 15 hours a week on top of her full-time job here, and as well as keeping on top of her managerial duties, she accompanied the band to gigs across Scotland and mini tours across the North of England and Arran. Liz's husband Dunc helped out too, mainly by being their driver when on the longer haul journeys, but also occasionally leaping to the rescue when band members made an SOS from broken down cars in the middle of the night. He was also chief roadie. And let's not forget son Dunc junior, Gerry's own personal hairstylist!

When asked if she was ever faced with any other Spinal Tap moments, memories of injured hands, faulty PA systems, double bookings and hilarious Chinese whispers came to Liz's mind.

She described with good humour the times band members turned up at gigs without their instruments, causing a frantic



last-minute dash for replacements. And during one tour, Liz has fond memories of one bizarre night spent with the band in a swanky flat in Glasgow, passing round the pot... noodle.

More recently, a gig at Arbroath's Clifftown Hotel had been marred by a drunken reveller, who had been pestering Gerry all the way through his set. Liz remembers:

"As the night wore on he got more and more drunk until finally, he fell at Gerry's feet. Due to the fact he'd been a pest all night banging into the PA equipment and knocking over tables, Gerry put his foot on his chest and held him down till he finished his song. It was an absolutely brilliant moment."

Thankfully the band's clean-living low-maintenance natures meant there were no backstage demands of white dressing rooms; all they ever requested was iced water.

Liz managed Klothmonkey for 16 months until egos clashed between band members, causing her to feel caught in the middle and her loyalties divided. In June 2004 she reluctantly quit as band manager, and the band split soon afterwards, leaving Gerry to go solo. Happily for Liz, who had been 'awestruck' the first time she saw Gerry perform acoustically (he has also performed with bands Mojo Pep, Twilight and Hush), the singer approached her to continue working with him as his personal manager. The position includes being everything from roadie to promoter and typical duties include organising and promoting gigs and tours, helping with equipment, driving, producing cd's, designing artwork, ordering and selling merchandise, issuing promos and maintaining contacts in the industry. Though Gerry is based in Inverbervie and Liz in Glenprosen, they are often in daily contact - Liz is very much his right-hand woman, and along with Dunc is available 24/7 for help with anything from music to car difficulties, all the while chasing that elusive record deal.

Gerry, 46, has already had his share of success though - in a brush with the big time in the late nineties, Gerry and his



band, the Gerry Jablonski Band, supported both Status Quo and Bryan Adams in the Scottish legs of their tours at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre. During a soundcheck before the Quo warm-up, Francis Rossi, not exactly known for being rock's most sensitive soul, was seen by the sidelines with tears in his eyes. He later confessed to being struck by Gerry's balladry and told him that it was the first time another band's soundcheck had made him so emotional. Around the same time, the band made some openings in the U.S., but Gerry found himself on a plane back to Scotland when his home-sick band-mates insisted on returning home.

Fast forward almost a decade from the GJ Band and Liz is still hopeful that Gerry's talents will yet be recognised with a record deal, and her dream gig would be a spot for Gerry on the Jools Holland Show. This year however could be a big one - Gerry's latest cd, *The Man Who Lost the Moon*, has had glowing reviews, particularly in the blues press, and later this year Gerry will join blues artist Steve Arvey in a tour of the States. American audiences have already shown a keen interest in Gerry's solo work, influenced by both Led Zeppelin and Scots singer-songwriter John Martyn, and which Liz describes as 'a combination of hard rock and sentimental ballads'. And his music will soon be on sale stateside - an American music website recently approached Liz requesting stock of the two latest albums. With an admirable taste in music past and

present, Liz regularly flits between all-time favourites The Doors and current art-rock darlings Franz Ferdinand. Her reputation in Scottish music circles has brought her further work with bands such as Lazy Poker, Glebestreet and Dukes of Hazard, and a chance conversation with her mum's hairdresser was followed by an approach by The Mars Patrol, a gutsy young band from Edinburgh who recently supported St Andrian K.T. Tunstall.

Though she loves the buzz of living and breathing music, "I just love good live music and an enthusiastic audience." Liz is 'trying' to wind down work with the other bands to concentrate both on Gerry and also on other areas of her life. In the rare moments when she isn't working, Liz is researching her late Dad's war service history with the Polish Cavalry during World War 2, which will take her to Poland in two years time. She is keen to trace his roots, using many first-hand documents from the war as a starting point. Co-incidentally, it might reveal a long-lost family link to Gerry himself - Liz's paternal grandmother was called none other than Anna Jablonska, the female derivative of Jablonski!

**Gerry regularly plays gigs in Dundee, Aberdeen and Fife - check out upcoming dates on his website:**

[www.gerryjablonski.com](http://www.gerryjablonski.com)

**Also check out [www.elzwood.com](http://www.elzwood.com) which is Liz's music and poetry website.**

# The dynamic duo

By Claire Grainger, Press Officer

**“We’re quite a dynamic department,” announced Louise Taylor, co-director of Development, the department charged with raising funds for the University’s priorities.**

‘Dynamic’ is the word.

Louise, and her fellow co-director Sarah Frankland, are motivated, smart, energetic and, in the nicest possible sense, forceful. But alumni, however much in love with their alma mater, are hardly likely to part with their cash if faced with a dreary exterior.

When *The StAnd* met Louise and Sarah in their office next to the Porter’s Lodge, they were on the verge of moving into their new, shared surroundings. It’s part of a drive to improve communications (which are clearly already healthy!), free-up office space elsewhere and, well, ‘consummate’ their professional partnership.

In a rare move, the pair were jointly appointed co-directors after the departure of former Director of Development, Jennifer Dumas, who left for pastures new late last year.

Louise, who has worked in the Development office for over eight years, is Director of Operation and Donor Relations, while Sarah, whose background is in project management in the international stock market, is Director of Fundraising and Alumni Relations.

So how did the pair decide on the role split?

“It was automatic to be honest,” explained Sarah, who joined the University three years ago with husband Stan, a lecturer in Social Anthropology.

“We were already doing the bulk of these jobs but it made sense to make the division clearer and become co-directors. It’s very simple – my role is external facing, while Louise’s is internal facing.”

Sarah spends approximately 35% of her time out of the office, building and cultivating relationships with potential donors. She sources these ‘prospects’ through a variety of sources including information forms which alumni are regularly asked to complete online and through Development publications which contain, among other things, employment details and links to charitable trusts and other alumni. All prospects are researched in-house, before a strategy is developed on the best way to approach them.

“My fundraising trips are currently focusing on the UK – specifically Edinburgh and London – and the United States. The places I visit either have a full concentration of successful alumni, an active alumni club or companies that are interested in specific areas of research within the University.”

Citing an example, Sarah explained, “We recently held a fundraising dinner in Charlotte, North Carolina, at which Professor Paul Wilkinson gave a presentation. Stephen Magee, Director of Admissions, had already established firm links with a number of schools and universities in the state, so there were established links with St Andrews that could be built upon. Charlotte is also the banking capital of the US, banking as an industry is interested in security, and therefore Professor Wilkinson’s presentation on the importance of tracking terrorist movements through financial transactions, and the impact of cyber terrorism, was of great relevance to them. That’s an example of how it can work but I also visit New York, Washington, Boston, San Francisco and Philadelphia. Occasionally, my trip may centre on one specific event but I’ll ensure that three to four other meetings are taking place each day to make the trip viable.”

“I love talking and have a genuine love for the University and what it symbolises

as a ‘brand’ but it can be hard work. I may only, physically, be away for a week but the preparatory work – and the reporting back – can mean that one trip takes a fortnight. In general though, alumni with fantastic memories of St Andrews are fairly easy to convince!”

Asked if ever envious, Louise was quick to reply, and quick to compliment her co-director – “Definitely not. My expertise lies elsewhere while Sarah has the skills for face-to-face fundraising and experience of the corporate world”.

Sarah points out that the process of fundraising – and the chances of success – are far from instant, going straight back to an undergraduate’s arrival in town.

“A student’s view of the University goes back to their first day. Put it this way, in the unlikely event of having a poor experience here, an alumnus is unlikely to give back to his alma mater. We have to cultivate our students, engage with them and educate them on the importance of fundraising and giving back. One way we can do this is by involving them as callers in our annual phone campaign. This year, we have 35 student callers on a five-week campaign, from which we hope to raise in excess of £100,000. Once they graduate, we keep our alumni informed through our various publications, such as the *Alumnus Chronicle* and *Fourteenten*, and by organising reunion events and offering a range of services such as helping them trace lost friends from their university days - the lot!”

So, most importantly, what is the Development office raising money for, and why is it important?

Their current priorities, set by the University Court, are to secure funding for 50 access scholarships each year for students in need and the new Arts Faculty building,



Louise Taylor and Sarah Frankland.

scheduled for completion later this year. To date, the team have raised £1.5 million for scholarships and almost £950,000 for the new Arts Faculty building.

But what if someone approaches Development offering money for a specific project that does not fit into the current 'priority' categories?

"We never turn away donations!" Sarah exclaims. "Louise and her team would look into possible projects and liaise between the donor and the relevant member of staff to ensure the donor's wishes can be met. This is reactive fundraising but is still a valuable part of our work and helps a range of small but important projects. Likewise, if a specific department within the University approaches us for financial help, we will give them advice and of course will keep their details to see if we encounter someone who might be willing to help them."

So what else can Development do for University schools?

Cautious in the event of being bombarded with requests, Louise pointed out that they could, under certain conditions, provide access to data.

"We recently provided data to Physical Education of alumni who had held R&A bursaries so that they could approach them directly for one of their own fundraising drives. This can be very productive. We want people to know that we're here to help, if we can."

Development also recognise that academics have their own personal or business contacts, but are keen to ask that any gifts to the University are channelled through their office.

Louise explained, "This is for a number of reasons – mainly to ensure all charitable support to the University is correctly recorded

and acknowledged and to help maximise the value of the gift through the gift aid tax reclaim scheme for example. We also need to be aware about relationships of this nature when speaking to donors – otherwise the institution can look unprofessional. This is not a control measure, or one which boosts our results – it genuinely benefits everyone!"

Indeed, mutual benefit seems to be a common thread running through the Development office that comprises of 11 staff, soon to be 12 with the arrival of a Major Gifts Officer concentrating on corporate fundraising.

Louise and Sarah are eager to point out that they are only part of a truly team effort. They are supported by an equally energetic group of individuals. Elaine Cartwright, a St Andrews graduate, and Sandra Doig are the first point of contact for alumni, providing a range of services and events, producing the *Alumnus Chronicle* and running the ever-popular Family Programme that keeps in touch with the families of current undergraduates. Jonathan Livingstone is responsible for fundraising from Trusts and is editor of the Development Newsletter, *Fourteenten*, as well as managing the vital prospect research function. Caroline Wright, who is on maternity leave at present (her cover until the autumn is Jennifer Kirton), has responsibility for managing phone and direct appeals to alumni and, as a St Andrews graduate, is well placed to help student groups with their fundraising efforts.

The work of the external team is underpinned by the efforts of the operational staff – Neil Tolland and Yvonne Bishop have the unenviable task of managing the IT systems and a database of over 60,000 alumni and donor records while Evelyn Quate looks after gift processing and last year processed over 7,000 donations! Last, but certainly not least, the main office is staffed by Susan Donald who is involved in every aspect of the Development office's activities and is generally the first place people go to for help and advice - which is always given with enthusiasm!



# The StAndard reaches the stars

## What's Radio 1 DJ Edith Bowman doing reading *The StAndard*?

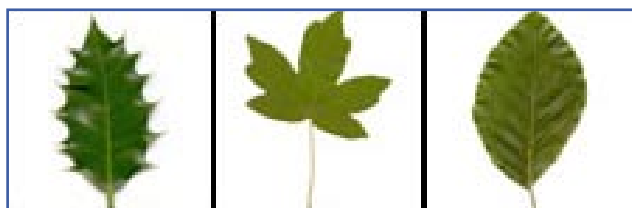
Anstruther-born Edith, lifelong friend of Audrey Dyce, Assistant to the Vice-Principal (External Relations), spent a day in her hometown with co-presenter Colin Murray as part of Radio 1's 'DJs Go Home' campaign.



Edith reading *The StAndard*.

And here's a challenge to staff – how far does *The StAndard* reach to the stars? Send your photos of a celeb with *The StAndard* to [magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk).

# Branching out at lunchtime



## Want to help the environment, meet new colleagues and enjoy a free lunch?

If you haven't already twigged, the University's Changing Behaviours group has organised a tree-planting event and wants staff to take a leaf out of their book.

Volunteers are needed to help plant a number of native trees along the side of the University playing fields in St Leonard's Road. The trees will provide screening for local residents, shelter for users of the jogging trails and, unlike most lunchtime activities, will benefit the environment.

It's also an opportunity to meet new colleagues from Schools and Units throughout the University and, as a thank-you, a buffet lunch will be provided beforehand in the nearby David Russell complex.

The event, on Wednesday 22 March, forms part of Estates' wider environment strategy.

Roddy Yarr, Environment and Energy Manager said, "It would be great to see lots of staff coming along to this event. The afternoon will be fun, hands-on and lunch is provided."

### The timetable for the day is as follows:

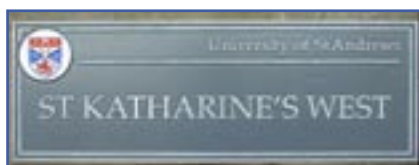
**12.45-1.15pm** - Lunch in David Russell Apartments, and a Health and Safety talk and introduction to the event by Jim Drummond, Head of Grounds Services.

**1.15-2pm** - Planting trees (in pre-dug holes) along the playing field.

**2-2.15pm** - Return to David Russell Apartments for hand-washing, tea and coffee.

**2.15pm onwards** (optional) - Any tree-planting enthusiasts are welcome to stay on for more!

Staff wishing to take part should contact **Staff Development on extension 2591 or email [staff.development@st-and.ac.uk](mailto:staff.development@st-and.ac.uk)**



## Through the keyhole

**Last issue, we lined some of the newly flitted members of staff on the steps of St Katharine's West, formerly the School of Management and now the new home for units such as Reprographics and Admissions.**

This issue, we take a peek inside, offering a brief glimpse into some of the units now under the umbrella of the University's External Relations function. Next issue, we will look closer at the two functions which underpin the new building – Admissions Applications and the Office of the Vice-Principal (External Relations).

The **Office for Scottish Recruitment and Access** promotes the educational opportunities at St Andrews to the people of Scotland. It does this largely by delivering talks, attending Careers Conventions and running Visiting Days for potential students and their families.

The University's Access and Widening Participation strategy underpins much of what they do, including running the week-long Sutton Trust Summer School (designed to raise the aspirations of S5 pupils from schools who do not traditionally send students to St Andrews) and the four-week Access Summer School, which helps mature students and those with non-traditional entry qualifications prepare for study here.

Other initiatives include the Associate Student programme which gives S4, 5 and 6 pupils the opportunity to sit in on lectures, tutorials and labs, shadowing existing undergraduates to get a 'feel' for our student community.

Director Fraser Keir is supported by a team of part-time Associate Education Liaison Officers and is currently in the midst of recruiting an Education Liaison Officer and a Working in Health Access Project Officer.



Back – Left-right – Kirsty Stokes, Vicky Torrance Middle – Left-to-right – Laura Harcus, Jenni Robb, Karen Ross Front – Left-to-right - Ann Wieland and Fraser Kier.

The **Office for English, Irish and European Recruitment** was established last summer and is mostly involved with the recruitment of undergraduate students from the UK (outside Scotland), Europe, Russia and other emerging markets. Since its inception, they have recruited in Ireland, toured in Germany and have upcoming tours in Northern Ireland and Russia. Their main 'bread and butter' is recruitment in England, Northern Ireland and Wales and the busy season is now upon them.

Director Ann Wieland and Education Liaison Officer Samantha Lister are also involved in a number of other recruitment/admissions related projects including managing the arrangements for individual visitors to the University. They will also, eventually, be responsible for the management of the Socrates programme and naturally already work closely with the Scottish/Access and Postgraduate Offices.

The University continues to increase its number of postgraduate students (both taught and research), and to this end, the **Office for Postgraduate Recruitment** was established last October. The Office consists of a Director (Rona Mackenzie) and an Education Liaison Officer (Thomas Marr), and their main role is to encourage potential postgraduate students to consider St Andrews for their Masters or PhD.

The number of careers and postgraduate study events attended this year has already increased significantly, and they aim to build on the interest generated through event attendance by facilitating an increased number of prospective postgraduate student visits to St Andrews. To assist with this, they hope to introduce a postgraduate student ambassador scheme in the near future, which will be of benefit to our postgraduate visitors and current postgraduate students alike.

## PEOPLE

---



Left-to-right – Alex Rougvie, Alison Andrews and Nicki Brain.

Other current projects being undertaken by the office include the rebuilding of the University's website provision for postgraduate students (highlighting a revamped section on available funding), a retiming of publications aimed at prospective postgraduate students and a streamlining of enquiry processing.

The above recruitment offices are supported by the five Admissions Assistants at St Katharine's - Karen Ross, Kirsty Stokes, Laura Harcus, Jenni Robb and Vicky Torrance.

Next up is the **Office for North American Recruitment**, headed up by Director Barrie Spurr. The office deals with the publicity, recruitment and admission of all North American students. They deal with applicants from Mexico and India as well as applicants from other countries who offer US or Canadian qualifications and are also responsible for all European Exchanges through the Socrates/Erasmus Programme and the University Exchanges with the USA and Canada.

Barrie's office – consisting of Senior Admissions Assistants Gill Gardner and Dorothy Moffat, and a temporary Admissions Assistant, Alison Beddows - plan and make recruitment trips and also handle all the enquiries and application

forms, both direct and through UCAS, from the above countries.

Alex Rougvie, Director of **Continuing Education**, is responsible for four main areas across the University's Lifelong Learning, access and vocational learning initiatives, from Evening Degrees to bespoke CPD (Continuing Professional Development) to scholarships. The Evening Degree programme, coordinated by Alison Andrews, is an MA General Degree, delivered wholly in the evenings. Now with around 150 adult students at different stages, the programme has been running since 2000.

Another programme run by the office is the Open Association, a programme of short courses and "town and gown" lectures for adults in and around St Andrews and East Fife. Administered by Linda Ednie, who is based in ELT, the OA has around 1000 enrolments each year.

Continuing Education is also responsible for a programme run on behalf of the Scottish Executive to provide training for people involved in the Children's Hearing system. A team of four - Children's Hearing Training Officer (Judith Bell), two assistant CHTOs (Jeannie MacLean and Bill Gault) and an executive assistant (Morag Wilson) - is based in College Gate.

Meanwhile, the Scholarship Support Officer Nicki Brain runs Scholarship Support, an operation which distributes just under £1m per annum in scholarships, both undergraduate and postgraduate, in support of the University's recruitment efforts.

The main remit of the **Press Office** is to promote the University's world-class reputation for teaching and research across all disciplines, in the local, national and international media. It works closely with academics to ensure that their work is made accessible and relevant to members of the public from all walks of life.

From the discovery of new planets to shipwrecks to innovative teaching methods or access initiatives, the Press Officers work to ensure that the University's profile remains high and accessible to its audiences across the world. Conversely, it defends the University's reputation when under attack from outside audiences, including the media. As a matter of course, the Press Office also publicise honorary graduates, conferences and special events and provides ongoing media training to staff and student sabbaticals. Press Officers are also on call 24/7, which places St Andrews at significant advantage during breaking stories out-of-hours.

The office, consisting of Niall Scott (Director) and Press Officers Gayle Cook and Claire Grainger, is also responsible for this very publication, working with an editorial board to ensure content is reflective of the entire University community. Other ongoing projects include the development of an online Experts Guide, consisting of 400 areas of expertise.

The **Reprographics Unit** has been providing a complete design and print service to the University and commercial customers since 1988. Since then, there have been many developments, including the introduction of high-speed colour digital printing - short run colour work has become very popular as the litho





Left-to-right  
- Claire Grainger,  
Niall Scott and  
Gayle Cook.

alternative was always very expensive. Their other services include A0+ colour posters, large format laminating, mounting and encapsulation, A3 and A4 laminating and soft binding (wire, comb and unbind).

The staff within the Unit are Andy Mackie (Manager), Helen Kay (Secretary), Duncan Stewart (Graphics Designer/Illustrator), and Graphics Technicians Margaret Smith and Rhona Rutherford.

Finally the **Publications Unit** is headed up by Publications Officer Lesley Lind with team members Kitty Macintyre (Editorial Assistant), Helen Kay (Secretary) and Rhona Rutherford (Photographic Assistant).

Publications has an overarching editorial responsibility for the production of the generic University publications, both hard copy and online. They include the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Prospectuses and accompanying Subject leaflets, Course Catalogues, Student Handbooks, Staff Diary, Maps Facts and Figures booklet, New Staff Handbook, and the Christmas card. Lesley is also joint editor of the *Alumnus Chronicle* magazine as well as being involved in various other communication projects and 'one-off' publications.

The Unit is also involved with various aspects of internal communications

including the Friday Memos for staff and Wednesday Memos for students, and provides guidance on the use of the University's Corporate Identity.

The recent advance in digital photography has enabled the wide range of images taken and commissioned by the Unit to be available as an online photo database with high quality pictures of all aspects of the University and town. These are primarily for use by all staff for University publications and web pages - but also freely accessible to the external community such as the media. The Unit is also charged with ensuring

that photographs are taken of all key University events, such as honorary graduation ceremonies. Detailed records are maintained as all the negatives and digital image CDs are subsequently archived to the Special Collections department in the University Library.

**For information and links to all the projects and publications noted above please see the Publications web page:**

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/publications](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/publications)

Left-to-right – Duncan Stewart and  
Andy Mackie.



## You're a life saver!

**In the last edition of *The StAndard*, we highlighted the life-saving past-times of two University staff.**

Eric McIntosh, who works in the Special Collections Department of the Library, is on-call 24-7 with Anstruther Lifeboat Station, while Estates plumber Tony Linney has a similar role with Fife Fire and Rescue Service.

*The StAndard* has since been alerted to a number of others who combine working here with saving lives.

Five staff form part of the St Andrews coastguard team which provides search and rescue from Perth to the East Neuk. The team is based at the East Sands and, like Eric and Tony, are on-call 24-7.

Tom Brown, Lecturer in the School of Physics and Astronomy said, "We deal with a whole variety

of incidents. Typical jobs might include the evacuation of injured walkers on the coast path with helicopters, unexploded munitions in local harbours, searching for missing persons and rescuing people cut off by the tide on the Elephant Rock – often at highly unsociable hours. Without this level of support from staff, the team would have a hard job recruiting and retaining a viable team".

The coastguard team has a long history of drawing members from the University. The current team also relies on Jack Jarvis (School of Geography and Geosciences), Craig Tough (Estates), Martin Barkala (Library) and Duncan Brannen (IT Services) along with 10 other members from within the



local community.

**If you are interested in finding out more about the Coastguard Team, please email [ctab@st-and.ac.uk](mailto:ctab@st-and.ac.uk) or leave a message on 01334 478755.**

**If you do something valuable (or strange/fun/interesting!) in your spare time, tell us about it - email [magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk)**

---

## A taste of Scotland for overseas students

**Want to help overseas students settle into their new environment, and experience new aspects of Scottish culture?**

Student Support Services, together with Elmwood College, are seeking volunteers to befriend students and introduce them to new activities in and around the area, or further afield.



It could be a walk in the Highlands, trip to the theatre, cinema or local

city, family lunch or a ceilidh. Or, if you have a particular hobby, you can be matched to a like-minded student.

The University also has a number of overseas students who are accompanied, during their studies, by their families. The scheme gives the families an opportunity to meet local families, form friendships and links in Scotland and get a true feeling of living here.

**If you think you can help a student from the University, or Elmwood College, please contact Wendy Houldsworth, Student Support Services, University of St Andrews, 9 St Mary's Place, St Andrews, KY16 9UZ – telephone 01334 462041 or email [wah1@st-and.ac.uk](mailto:wah1@st-and.ac.uk)**



## On the run!

Left-to-right - Derek Watson, Jackie Thomson, Julie Hogg, Ann le Feuvre, Katy Clark, Rosie Steven, Ian Robertson, Tracy Montgomery, Eloise Campbell and Lynne Ramsay. Missing from the photo - Lesley Watson.

**They're used to saving money, but ten Finance department staff are shedding pounds while training for the Edinburgh Marathon relay.**

Two groups of five have been formed to take part in the 26-mile event on 11 June. Jackie Thomson has also joined as a late substitute to replace anyone who is ill on the day.

The teams, two of 1,000 taking part in the relay, have now embarked on a rigorous training regime involving Saturday jogs along the West Sands, under the watchful eye of Martin Farrally of Sport and Exercise.

Kenneth Stewart, who works in Financial Accounts – Insurance, will be running the marathon in full and admits responsibility for persuading colleagues to get involved.

### TEAM A

**Lynne Ramsay, Financial Accountant  
Ian Robertson, Head of Management Accounts  
Ann le Feuvre, Research Grants  
Katy Clark, Research Grants  
Julie Hogg, Cash Office**

Kenneth said, "We first came up with the idea during our Christmas lunch – probably after the second glass of wine. We even managed to entice Derek Watson, Quaestor and Factor, into the team!"

The marathon relay starts from Princes Street, extending to Cramond, and returns by Port of Leith, the Royal Yacht Britannia and along Portobello Beach before finishing in the grounds of

### TEAM B

**Eloise Campbell, Research Grants  
Tracy Montgomery, Research Grants  
Lesley Watson, Research Grants  
Rosie Steven, Cash Office  
Derek Watson, Quaestor**

Holyrood Park.

Kenneth added, "Although the closing date for the marathon itself has passed, registration for the relay is open until 20 May. It would be superb if other departments or schools took up the challenge, and entered the relay".

**For more information, visit [www.edinburgh-marathon.com](http://www.edinburgh-marathon.com)**



# Let them eat cake

## By Truly Scrumptious

**The things we do for the sake of this magazine... Actually, since we are habitual comfort eaters, it really wasn't that difficult – all we really had to do was ponder the values of the delicacies passing through our lips as we wolfed them down.**

St Andrews has its fair share of cake shops, coffee houses and baked goods counters, but we focussed on just three outlets: Tesco, Starbucks and Fisher & Donaldson. As we chomped our way through three of St Andrews' finest, each cake was rated in terms of value, taste and relative 'feel-good factors'. Warning: only read on a full stomach and in high spirits.

## Tesco, Market Street

### Tesco bakery muffins, 49p each



Mmm-uffins!

Mmm, if there's one thing in life that takes away that Monday (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ...) morning feeling, it's a Tesco's muffin. I speak from experience of course, and I've tasted many a muffin in my time. There's something about the Tesco muffin though that hits the spot, and they just seem healthier than a sticky donut or a fat-packed Danish pastry. The

baked counter at Tesco offers all of these, as well as a mean foray into all manner of cakes, from scones to cookies, pain au chocolates to Belgian biscuits, yum yums to chocolate eclairs.

Tesco's freshly baked muffins offer fantastic value (only £1.39 for 4 or 49p each), as well as satisfaction (so big they need two cups of tea to wash them down) and durability (calories can easily be spread through the week since the four pack last a few days). Offered in three different flavours, Belgian chocolate (for all you chocolate fiends), chocolate chip (a light spongy vanilla-y muffin with choc chips) and traditional blueberry (my personal favourite), Tesco offers either mixed or same sex packs. But be prepared for disappointment – many a morning dash to Market Street has been met with the dreaded words 'sorry, no muffins', when simply nothing else will do.

**Value – 10/10**

**Taste – 7/10**

**FGF – 7/10**

## Starbucks, Market Street

### The cupcake, £1.45



Small but perfectly formed.

It's a conspiracy against my waistline that I simply can't make do with a caramel macchiato. Why? Because those meanies Starbucks slyly introduce a fiercely attractive line-up of cakes to the eyes before you even reach a 'barista', and many a trip for a quick coffee has been supplemented by a quick cake on the side. One furtive glance at the cabinet introduces an expensive lineup of goodies, from the ever-present rocky road to the name-says-it-all chocolate decadence cake to the delightfully gooey cinnamon swirls (yes, I've tried them all). If there's one thing I can be grateful for though, it's the coffee chain's introduction of the smallest cake on the stand, little cup cakes, which are a tempting sojourn away from my favoured passion cake. Starbucks passion cake (£2 take away) is the mother of all passion cakes (kind of like carrot cake but with less carrot), deliciously moist and bursting with a nutty tasty flavour, topped off with a creamy butter icing ... but it's probably twice the size one person should eat, and in the absence of a cake buddy, one might as well eat the whole lot, even if just out of loneliness. The cup cakes, on the other hand, are truly scrumptious little bite-sized fairy cakes smothered in even creamier icing. I don't know whether they're just as fatty, but I certainly don't feel quite so guilty about eating the little baby cake. Available in three different flavours, coffee (please leave one for me!), pecan and chocolate, these little beauties (£1.45 takeaway) are a pleasant reminder of children's parties and would put a spring in any Monday's step. I dare you not to be tempted!

**Value – 6/10**

**Taste – 8/10**

**FGF – 8/10**



On the cake stand:  
Tesco's muffin,  
Starbucks' cupcakes  
and the mighty  
coffee tower by  
our own Fisher &  
Donaldson.

## Fisher & Donaldson, Church Street

### The coffee tower, £1.02

When asked 'do you have any coffee towers?', the bakery assistant's sarcastic response said it all... 'do we have any coffee towers?? Yes, hundreds!' Clearly a favourite with townspeople and visitors, the princely coffee tower must surely sit at the top of F&D's best-seller list. And while



The coffee tower – a mountain of pleasure.

Starbucks' passion cake might be the mother, the coffee tower is arguably King of all cakes. The assistant does not agree however, with the side remark, 'I don't like them, too sweet and I don't like coffee'. Undeterred, we reminded ourselves of the high standard set many moons ago (the East coast family-run business was founded in 1919), and selected the CT from the veritable treasure trove of cakes. You name it they have it – from bakery staples such as fudge donuts, scones and snowballs to little frogs with the best butter icing heads, to the fruit-topped 'Carmen Miranda', F&D is renowned for its wide selection of fresh cream cakes and offers an array of baked 'goodables' unrivalled in St Andrews.

Based on the French 'religieuse', the coffee tower is a truly scrumptious mini-mountain of choux pastry generously stuffed with coffee cream. Literally the icing on the cake is the coffee-flavoured topping from which erupts a dollop of cream, topped off with the ubiquitous chocolate button (I eat mine last with a dollop of cream). At £1.02 it ain't cheap, but satisfaction doesn't come cheaply and the CT is a meal in itself. Not for the

faint-hearted and certainly not for having every Monday morning, the coffee tower is a rare treat to be enjoyed once in a while and every mouthful should be savoured like it's your last bite on Earth.

**Value – 7/10**  
**Taste – 10/10**  
**FGF – 9/10**

**Stakes on the cakes** – No surprise really that the life-enhancing coffee tower pips the rest of our mood-enhancing goodies at the post, but not by far. While the muffin does a good cheap job at lifting the spirits on a dreary Monday morning, and Starbucks' cup cake is a perfect mid-week pick me up, the Fisher & Donaldson favourite 'towers' above the rest and wins hands down overall as the best cake treat around.

**These reviews are conducted by anonymous members of University staff and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The StAndard editorial board or University. Prices correct at time of going to press.**

# StAnza 2006 breaks new ground in poetry

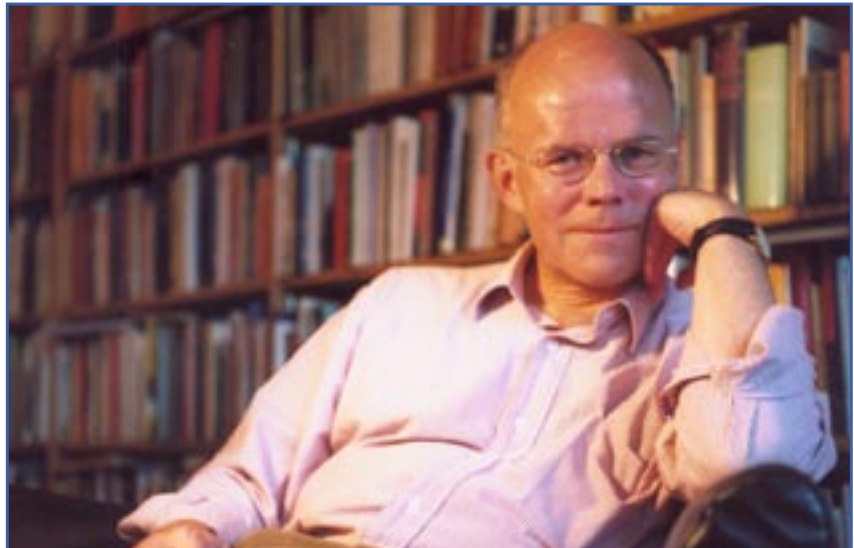
By Annie Kelly,  
Press Officer, StAnza

**StAnza, Scotland's poetry festival, has become a highlight of the cultural calendar, not only in Scotland but in the UK and internationally.**

Now in its ninth year, the festival is one of the reasons why St Andrews has been called the 'Poetry Capital of Scotland'. This month, over 50 poets, writers and artists will be delighting audiences in a programme that boasts a vibrant mix of readings, lectures, discussions, master-classes, music, workshops, art exhibitions and a whole weekend of children's events.

This year's twin themes, Celtic Links and Land and Ecology, are particularly prescient: environmental issues are so often hitting the headlines, and public debate continues about cultural and national identity both here and abroad. Both subjects have dovetailed perfectly with the concerns of StAnza's guest poets and writers from the University of St Andrews, particularly the School of English, which actively supports the festival. Forward Prize-winning poet Kathleen Jamie will be talking about nature writing with guest Richard Mabey, the author of *Flora Britannica*, and *Nature Cure*, and the writer/narrator of the BBC series, *Postcards from the Country*. Mabey will also be joining a panel discussion on poetry and the ecology movement with poet and novelist, John Burnside, who co-edited the nature-themed poetry anthology, *Wild Reckoning*, and like Jamie, teaches in the School of English.

The thorny issue of Celtic identity will be tackled, with incisive humour and plenty of invective, by fellow Dundonians Don Paterson and A L Kennedy, both of whom are also with the School of English. Paterson was the first poet to win the coveted TS Eliot prize twice and will be taking a master-class during the festival. Kennedy is a novelist,



Michael Schmidt.

**STANZA**  
*Scotland's Poetry Festival*

short story writer, broadcaster and journalist. Her recent novel, *Paradise*, confirmed her reputation as one of the country's most original writers.

More strong opinions can be expected at The StAnza lecture, to be given by Michael Schmidt, Professor of Poetry at the University of Glasgow and founder of the poetry imprint, Carcanet Press. He will be arguing against the notion that criticism is inimical to creativity and looking at the ways in which the discipline can protect and enhance the arts.

In partnership with the Department of Spanish at St Andrews, StAnza is proud to host readings by Galician poets Xosé María Álvarez Caccamo and Miguel Anxo Fernán-Vello. This is a rare opportunity to hear poets writing in the language of Spain's "Celtic Fringe". A poet and literary critic, Caccamo,

born in Vigo, has published 14 collections and a bilingual selection of his poetry in Spanish and Galician appeared in 2004. His work has been described as "love as vital energy." Fernan-Vello, also a playwright, has received many awards for his work and represented Spain in last year's World Poetry Festival in Venezuela.

The most significant event of the festival will be the official Scottish launch of the new and highly praised website, The Poetry Archive, by its Director, the Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion. The Archive was launched in England last November, its aim being to preserve readings by poets of their work and StAnza audiences will be the first in Scotland to see and hear recordings of several Scottish poets, the latest additions to a valuable educational and literary resource.

StAnza provides rare opportunities to hear established poets reading their work. Not to be missed this year is the influential Irish poet Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, who is also an Associate Professor of English at Trinity College, Dublin. She has recently translated the work of Romanian poet Ileana Malancioiu. And fresh from his Forward



Prize triumph at the end of last year comes Devon-born poet and librettist David Harsent. He ranges in his poetry from the domestic to the world-shaking, as in *Legion*, the title sequence of which explores how people try to live everyday lives in the midst of war. Pulitzer prizewinner Galway Kinnell is one of America's foremost poets, one who "speaks with a big voice about the whole of life." (*American Poetry Review*) He will be exploring his Scottish and Irish roots at StAnza, reading alongside Michael Longley, a contemporary of Seamus Heaney, whose lyrical and sensitive nature poems have been described as "extraordinary blendings of delicacy and strength." (*Sunday Telegraph*) Also interested in ancestry is New Zealand born Fleur Adcock OBE. She is one of the UK's most outstanding poets – "her imagination thrives on what threatens the peace of mind" (*Times Literary Supplement*) – and she will be reading with the witty and original Jo Shapcott, CBE, presenter of Radio 3's *Poetry Proms*.



A L Kennedy.

A host of poets with Celtic connections will also be reading during the festival. Rising Irish star Leontia Flynn and the Welsh poet Owen Sheers are two of the most exciting voices to emerge in recent years. The work of Dublin born Tony Curtis has been described as "uniquely artful yet appears artless." And the poetry of Glaswegian David Kinloch reflects time spent living and working in France. Launching StAnza's Voices of Scotland readings are Matthew Fitt and Rab Wilson, both writing in Scots and both known for a groundbreaking use of language that always entertains. Wilson is also appearing in StAnza's new Poetry StAnd-up spots sharing his Scots wit and tall tales with audiences over a pie and a pint. Gaelic voices are represented by the celebrated Donald MacAulay, born in Lewis, whose poetry is famed for its subtlety and "fundamentally passionate clear-headedness," and Fearghas MacFhionnlaigh, who has been hailed as a poet for the computer age, placing the richness of the Gaelic language firmly in the present-day.

The principal representative of Scotland in this Celtic catch-all is Valerie Gillies, StAnza's poet-in-residence, who was last year appointed as Edinburgh Makar, or city poet laureate. She has published seven poetry collections and most recently also edited the first Poetry Map of Scotland for the Scottish Poetry Library website, mapping

the landscapes where poets live and write. She will help launch The Poetry Archive with Andrew Motion, and will also be giving readings and leading master-classes and workshops.

What is most exciting about StAnza as a festival of poetry is the way in which it shows us how poetry can be presented in so many different ways. You can enjoy some poems with your lunchtime pie and pint; or you can try reading a poem on a plate – an entirely different work of art, as poet Linda France and ceramicist Sue Dunne will reveal in their exhibition, *Wildling*, at the Crawford Art Centre. Or you can attend one of StAnza's Dead Poets Readings, in which guest poets read work by their favourite writers from the past: listen to Michael Longley reading Edward Thomas or Galway Kinnell reading Rilke. As part of its Children's Programme, StAnza has always invited its poets to take sessions in local schools. This year, with the help of the University's GRADSkills initiative, Postgraduate Creative Writing students will also hold workshops in local schools, developing talents at all levels.

As the festival director, Brian Johnstone, puts it, "Approaching the first decade of a constantly growing festival is never easy, and keeping what we offer fresh and engaging for our audiences remains a challenge we hope we rise to each year. That said, we are convinced that for 2006 we



One of the creations of ceramicist Sue Dunne.

can guarantee a festival that will once again attract audiences from across the country and, more importantly, send them home stimulated and inspired by the words and ideas they've experienced at StAnza!"

**StAnza 2006 is at the Byre Theatre and other venues in St Andrews from 16-19 March. For more information about the festival, visit the website at [www.stanzapoetry.org](http://www.stanzapoetry.org)**

**The StAnza Box Office is at the Byre Theatre, Abbey Street, St Andrews, — telephone 01334 475000. Programmes are available from the Byre Theatre or post free from Fife Council Arts Development — telephone 01592 414714.**

# 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 37.

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



# Fact or fiction?

St Andrews is home to a myriad of myths, traditions, facts and legends, from avoiding the PH to the real reason why students wear the red gown. But how many of them are actually true? Are they merely the stuff of legend? Can they be proven or given the reality test? *The StAndard* attempted to test one of the more oft-repeated 'facts' about St Andrews and met with interesting results.



Just some of the traditions that make St Andrews unique – from cursed cobbles to foam fights.

Ok, so we've all heard the 'one in three' titbit – you know, walk through the streets of St Andrews and one in every three people you see will have 'something to do with the University'. Obviously it's a useful tool to reel in those who are attracted to St Andrews by the 'small but friendly' tag, but there are others who would run a mile at the thought of bumping into all and sundry when all they want to do is run to MacGregors for a hangover-curing bacon roll.

Just who decided on that figure and how they came to that number is anyone's guess, but there's only one way to find out! We set our antennae to spotting mode and hot-footed it around town, literally putting the 'OIT' theory to the test. Here's what happened ...

**Day one:** From the inside of Pizza Express, an idle glance out of the window is regularly met with University types – four sightings in all and definitely within the OIT ratio, consisting of a Geographer, a Biologist, an Accountant and an Admin Assistant.

**Day two:** Church Street, walking towards South Street – a wander up the street is met with a huddle of secretaries from various parts of the University and a

lone Biologist. However, it fails to meet OIT standards due to a proliferation of pensioners hopping off a tour bus and seen heading straight for Fisher and Donaldson.

**Day three:** Walking up Union Street towards the Buchanan, there are two figures walking down the other side of the street, one after the other – a well-known face from College Gate followed by an English lecturer – since we were the only ones in the street, we are actually the three in three!

**Day four:** Walking from Market Street to Greyfriars Gardens – one member of the Development office ticks one box in Market Street, followed by a secretary from Management and another from Social Anthropology. Another tick!

**Day five:** I was a solitary figure taking a reflective walk by the castle on the Scores when up popped a friendly member of Business Improvements. There's just no getting away from it all.

Ok, so obviously if you go to the Northpoint at lunchtime, you're going to see a lot of University types, but walk down any street in central St Andrews at any time of day and you're bound to

see at least one person you know. Even those you don't, especially of the younger generation, are probably 'something to do with the University'. You just don't know them. You may even notice, as I have, that you regularly see the same person in the same place at roughly the same time – the College Gate senior member of staff in the Boots queue at lunchtime, the physicist in Market Street, the Geographer enjoying a beer in South Street, the historian in College Street and that familiar person in exactly the same spot on North Street every morning! Maybe that means we're all creatures of habit, but there's something laughable but comforting about this happy coincidence. In some ways, it's nice to feel part of a small but beautiful community, unless you happen to be in the Boots pharmacy queue at the time...

**Are there any facts or myths about the University you would like to put to the test? How about the one that claims St Andrews has more pubs per square mile than any other town in the UK? Send your observations to [magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk) or by post to Press Office, St Katharine's West, The Scores.**



# Standing on ceremony

**By Dr Brian Lang, Principal and Vice-Chancellor**

**St Andrews is a university that takes its public occasions, and its rituals, seriously.**

The way we do things reminds us of the kind of university we are, and lets the external world know how we wish to be regarded. We take excellence as axiomatic, so our public occasions and ceremonial events have to be well-organised and impeccably carried out. We like to parade our high standards. Graduation ceremonies are, as I regularly remind our guests, the highlight of the academic year. They demonstrate our academic mission in the gowns, hoods and – for the men – white ties. Attention to detail and presentation is reflected, literally, in the polished toecaps of the mace-bearing janitors. The nature of our past is represented by the use of Latin, although in the spirit and clear intention of accessibility a translation into English is provided. As to hierarchy, angst over order of precedence is testimony to that although, thankfully, and perhaps this is another testimony, this time to our confidence with ourselves, this seems to be diminishing. Ceremony is important, and in St Andrews we appear to enjoy our big occasions, which are invariably well attended by staff. They are also enormous fun.

We are presently looking forward to two great public occasions, the installation of Rector Simon Pepper closely followed by that of our new Chancellor, Sir Menzies Campbell. At the time of writing, preparation for both ceremonies is well advanced. The Rector is taking a close and enthusiastic interest in how he will be installed. What takes place in the Younger Hall will be preceded, the day before, by an event that for its apparent informality and high spirits is nevertheless highly ritualistic. For the drag, the arrival of the Rector to St Andrews for his installation, the Rector is required to enter



The splendour of graduation.

St Andrews by a novel method. Sir Clement Freud arrived on 21 February 2003 by parcel post; Katherine Whitehorn came by boat and Andrew Neil by horse-drawn carriage.

The Chancellor's installation is, of course, rather less frequent. Sir Kenneth Dover was elected Chancellor 25 years ago but the files recording the attendant ceremonial are still the source on which we are basing our planning for Sir Menzies Campbell's installation on 22 April. Sir Menzies, as I write, is still busily engaged in the campaign to become Leader of the LibDems. While it is unusual in St Andrews for our Chancellor to be an active politician, we should note that Oxford had a Chancellor in Lord Jenkins who remained a committed and voluble party politician. What is it about LibDems



Clement Freud in advance of his drag in 2003.

that they become Chancellors? Roy Jenkins had also been a successful Chancellor of the Exchequer nature. Does Sir Ming believe that the Jenkins sequence might work in reverse?

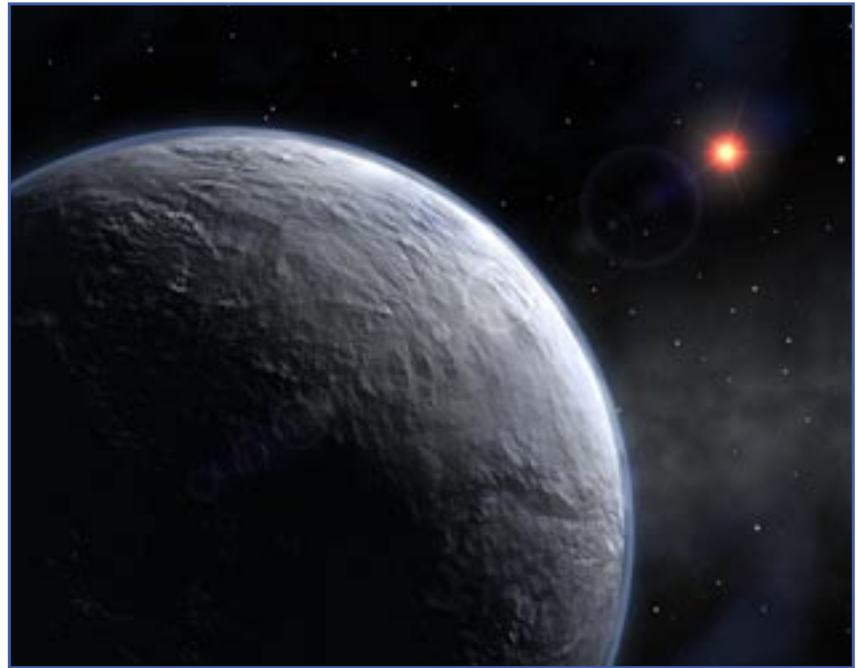
# From icy planets to rare seals

**St Andrews researchers reached for the stars in more ways than one at the beginning of the year with two major astronomy stories hitting the headlines.**

First up were Dr Martin Dominik and Professor Keith Horne, who played a crucial role in a one-in-a-million chance discovery of a new planet, a tiny ice world at the centre of the Milky Way. The discovery of the most Earth-like planet found to date could lead to the same methods being used in an attempt to discover life on other planets.

The astronomical story hit the headlines world-wide, from the *Asian Tribune* to the *Yorkshire Post* and both Martin and Keith were besieged with requests for interviews in the days preceding the announcement going live. The scientists were part of a world-wide network of astronomers from Chile to South Africa; 32 institutions which collaborated around the clock using high-precision monitoring techniques and super-microscopes to spot and characterise the planet, now named OGLE-2005-BLG-390Lb.

Meanwhile, colleagues Professor Andrew Collier Cameron and Dr Moira Jardine were involved in new investigations of a tiny star in the constellation of Pegasus. The research, also part of an international collaboration, is especially important



An artist's illustration of the new planet (credit European Southern Observatory).

because it may provide a novel insight into the Sun and its potential impact on Earth.

The researchers from St Andrews and France made a crucial discovery when studying a small cool star named V374 Pegasi, 20 light-years from the Sun. They found that the star had a simple form of magnetic field, much like that of the Earth, which means that further investigations on similar stars may reveal more clues about how changes in the magnetic field

of the Sun impact on Earth's climate.

**The Sea Mammal Research Unit** had a similar double-hit, with marine scientists being involved in two major marine-life stories recently. Researchers carrying out routine surveys spotted a couple of rare sightings of seals. The group noticed two species of seal in different locations; a ringed seal (*Phoca hispida*) in the Kyle of Sutherland, and a hooded seal (*Cystophora cristata*) in the Moray Firth.

There have been records of both species as far south as Portugal, however, this was only the ninth ringed seal and fourteenth hooded seal reported around the coasts of the British Isles, according to the central database held at SMRU.



The ringed seal spotted in a rare sighting by SMRU scientists.

In the second big splash, SMRU Director Ian Boyd and colleagues found themselves in the middle of the Thames whale media frenzy, with newspapers clamouring for expert comment on the incident which hit the headlines across the world.

# 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.**

*The StAndrard* spoke to two academics with diverse research interests – terrorism and Rome.

**NAME:** Jill Harries  
**POSITION:** Professor of Ancient History in the School of Classics.

**AREA/S OF RESEARCH:** The history of the later Roman Empire in the fourth and fifth centuries AD; more recently, the history of Roman legal culture from the late second century BC onwards, including jurisprudence as part of Roman intellectual culture and the evolving concept of the lawful state in the writings of Cicero.

## WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS FIELD OF RESEARCH?

Initially, I was interested in the rise of Christianity in late Roman Gaul; later this became a book on a politician-turned-bishop who was an 'eyewitness' to the Fall of the Roman Empire in the fifth century. But the legal culture research that I do now grew out of my interest in Roman imperial law-codes, which became a hot topic in the late 1980s; we had a colloquium in St Andrews on that in 1990, with some big names, which turned into a well-received book. After that, I

Jill outside the newly refurbished Swallowgate.



Professor Jill Harries with postgraduate student Elisabeth Lösch.

wrote a book about my own ideas on Roman emperors and how they used law to control the Roman Empire (or didn't), then went back in time to Cicero in the first century BC, with his ideas on constitutionalism and natural justice. So one thing led to another, as they tend to in research.

## WHY IS YOUR RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

Two main reasons. One is that 'legal culture' is a new field in the UK – it's better understood in the US than here. It addresses questions affecting history, law, social anthropology and other disciplines. The second is that how law works affects everybody. For example, the current debates over the rights of the citizen versus those of the state or the collective are played out in Cicero as well, against the backdrop of a republican constitution in meltdown.

## WHAT DO YOU MOST ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORK?

Making classical antiquity come alive, through teaching, papers and publication. I really enjoy the responses of students to ideas and controversies; their perspectives can be very enlightening.

## WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING FINDING YOU HAVE MADE?

Historians deal with questions as much as answers, so identifying a 'finding' is difficult. Cicero's concept of 'partnership', taken from philosophy and jurisprudence and developed as a building block of statehood has obvious modern resonance, as also does

his insistence that the 'higher law' (public safety) takes precedence over civil rights.

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

The big challenge will be to integrate the early imperial legal writers of the first two centuries AD into the wider literary and political culture of the capital. As they are buried in legal collections, and rather technical sometimes, historians don't read them in their own right, but they're full of good stuff on senators dressing up as women and what happens if your peacock is stolen. I am an amateur lawyer already, but I can see myself becoming an antiquarian, an etymologist and a grammarian as well.

## WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS?

I visited friends at St Leonards in 1975 a year before the job in Ancient History was advertised. When I was interviewed, I told the panel about this and how I loved the town and the sea and the idea of a small university. I suspect that's why I got the job!

## AND WHAT MAKES YOU STAY HERE?

I think the School of Classics is one of the best in the world and one of the friendliest as well. We have a lot of very dynamic young people, who are at the cutting edge of the subject in all kinds of ways. Also, I still think small is beautiful. It's easier to make the changes needed to cope with new challenges if you're a small, relatively streamlined institution.





**NAME:** Paul Wilkinson  
**POSITION:** Professor of International Relations and Chairman, Advisory Board, Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence.

**AREA/S OF RESEARCH:** International terrorism and the problems of democratic and international response: liberal democracy.

#### WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS FIELD OF RESEARCH?

I was trained in both modern history and politics and became interested initially in the mid 1960s, in why terrorism had been effective in some conflicts and not others. Then, with the burgeoning of modern international terrorism in the 1970s, I became interested in the politics of democratic and international response. My first book on the subject was *Political Terrorism*, published in 1974 in the Macmillan comparative politics series.



Professor Paul Wilkinson.

#### WHY IS YOUR RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

Obviously because terrorism is a major threat to human rights, peace and security and it is therefore very important to try to understand the phenomenon and to seek more effective ways of preventing and mitigating this modern scourge.

#### WHAT DO YOU MOST ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORK?

Terrorism is a particularly grim research subject but it is also very challenging, complex and ever-changing. One of the most stimulating aspects of my early research was that I was one of a small band of pioneers in this almost totally neglected field. I have also enjoyed the multi-disciplinary challenges of terrorism studies, the foreign travel that has been essential to carry out my work and best of all, meeting and engaging in dialogues with a growing network of academic specialists, policy-makers, legislators, lawyers and other professionals involved in the tasks of studying, and attempting to prevent and combat terrorism around the globe.

#### WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING FINDING YOU HAVE MADE?

I have discovered that, contrary to so much received opinion, it is possible for democracies to respond effectively to contemporary terrorism without undermining basic civil liberties and the rule of law, and that the protection of

human rights, far from being an obstacle to effective counter-terrorism is a vital part of an effective long-term democratic response.

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

Sadly there is no sign that the scourge of terrorism is going to fade away in the foreseeable future. New groups, new leaders and new tactics and weapons will emerge and it will be the task of scholars in terrorism studies to monitor and analyse these developments, and hopefully, to help find ways of reducing and mitigating their effects on the international community.

#### WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO ST ANDREWS?

The opportunity to be the first Head of the new Department of International Relations in 1990, the charm and friendliness of the citizens of St Andrews and the superb quality of students and staff.

#### AND WHAT MAKES YOU STAY HERE?

The fascination of helping consolidate the unique research centre, CSTPV (Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence), which I co-founded with its first Director, Bruce Hoffman. Also my wife, Sue and family, who have been so supportive in my work, and my love for the 'Golden Kingdom of Fife'.



Paul is a well-known face in St Andrews and in living rooms across the globe

# Combing the collections

Once again, the Special Collections team attempt to answer one of your questions on a subject that might be enlightened by the collections in their care. It might be an obscure aspect of University or local history, a photographic issue or a bibliographical mystery. Send future questions to [magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:magazine@st-andrews.ac.uk)

What do we know about alumni of the University who were involved in the Independence movement in America?

**Rachel Hart, Muniments Archivist answers:**



St Andrews enjoys its close links with North America, shown by the many undergraduate students taking a Junior Year or Semester Abroad, the postgraduates who choose to study here, often bringing their families over with them, and through long-established programmes (or should that be programs) such as the Bobby Jones Scholarships, American Summer Schools and the Princeton Summer School in Theology.

However, there were close links between America and the University of St Andrews before the USA even came into existence. St Andrews has three distinguished alumni who were involved in the Independence movement in America, who had an enormous influence on the development of the intellectual and political life of the fledgling Republic and who were signatories of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. One was an undergraduate student here, and two received honorary degrees from the University before they came to prominence in the political sphere in America. They are James Wilson (United College, 1757-1761), John Witherspoon (D.D., 1764) and Benjamin Franklin (LL.D., 1759). Wilson was one of only six men to sign both the Declaration and the United States Constitution.



Benjamin Franklin.

The University's muniments (as the institutional archive is known) contains a wealth of information about former graduates, and so it is possible to check through such records as original rolls of matriculation and graduation, minutes of the Senatus and of the colleges, and class and prize lists to draw together primary source material about men (up to 1892) and also women (thereafter) who received degrees from St Andrews.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), whose career has been summed up by Robert N. Smart as "printer, publisher, politician and physicist", was awarded his honorary degree in recognition of his "writings on Electricity" (Senatus Minutes, 12 February 1759), his degree being conferred gratis and in absentia. However, in October 1759 he included a visit to St Andrews in a tour of Scotland during which he was made a Freeman of the Burgh. He presented copies of his own writings to the University Library as well as a volume, still held at RQ11.A6T8, which he forwarded, as is noted on the flyleaf: "The American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia humbly desires to co-operate with the University of St Andrews in their laudable endeavors for the advancement of useful knowledge, request that learned and respectable Body to accept this volume, as the first Fruits of their labors in this new World. By order of the Society. London, August 10. 1772. Received and forwarded by the University's obliged and most obedient humble servant, B Franklin."

James Wilson (1742-1798) was the son of a local Ceres tenant farmer and was an undergraduate in St Andrews when Franklin visited the town. His library borrowing record indicates that he was not particularly adventurous in his reading, at least for that



James Wilson.

period for which the record survives. For example, between January and April 1758 he only borrowed from the library *Swift's Works*, *Watson's Horace* and *Hooke's Roman History* – let's hope he used many more books on reference only! He emigrated to America in 1765, finding work as a tutor in Latin, then training as a lawyer. He became influential in the legal world and was active in the politics of his own state of Pennsylvania. He played a decisive part in the Federal Convention of 1787 and had an influential role in the formulation of the American Constitution. He was appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court by President George Washington in 1789. He has been hailed as "a true benefactor to the nation and deserves to be held in everlasting memory" (James Bryce, quoted in G. Seed, *James Wilson*, (New York 1978), p. 179).

John Witherspoon (1723-1794) was a radical intellectual and churchman. Born and educated in Edinburgh, he ministered at Haddington, Beath and Paisley until 1768. He seems to have been 'head-hunted' by the College of New Jersey which succeeded, at the second attempt, in appointing him as first President of what is now Princeton in that year. His earlier reluctance to emigrate was apparently due to his wife's dislike of the sea. He used his pulpit and position in New Jersey to advocate the cause of independence and the ideas current in the Scottish Enlightenment. He signed the Declaration of Independence in his capacity as a representative of New Jersey to the Continental Congress.

**If you want to find out more about the Declaration of Independence and those fifty-six men who signed it, you can visit [www.ushistory.org/declaration/](http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/)**

# Money in, money out ...

Will funding provide the power to make “science fiction” fact?

**By Ewan Chirside,  
Director, Research and  
Enterprise Services.**

**... It's 2020: Gordon Brown has been Scotland's first minister for 10 years and development on the North Haugh has continued to expand the University's science base.**

I look across from the 10th floor of the SASOL Tower on the recently-constructed steel and glass buildings occupied by the Institutes of Medicine, Biophotonics, Convergent Technology and the rising Energy Materials building. Since 2006, the University has invested in excess of £100m in new build, infrastructure staff appointments and equipment in these Institutes. As a consequence research income has quadrupled to >£120m p.a ...

OK, dream on, but this “science fiction” may not be as improbable as it sounds. Over the next few years, three events will determine how the current dual support system which supports our research and consists of Funding Council and Research Council funding streams, funds research at the University -



Ewan Chirside.

- By 2010, all Research Council awards will, instead of paying a proportion of full economic costs (fEC), pay 100% fEC on projects.
- Under the UK government's requirement for research sustainability, all research projects must now be priced to sponsors at least at 100% (fEC). By 2010, the University's whole research portfolio should recover its full research costs.
- Funding Council block awards supporting research infrastructure (the so-called quality of research funding (QR) stream) are likely to change following the next Research Assessment Exercise in 2008, which may be the last RAE.

The whole mechanism by which research is funded at the University may change soon, in particular the role of the Funding Councils' QR funding. Over the last 30 years, where there has been scope for increased public expenditure on science, government ministers have generally preferred to give it to the Research Councils rather than the Funding Councils. If we successfully recover the magic 100% fEC from our research sponsors and the Research Councils, what will be the purpose of the Funding Councils QR funds?

Sitting here on a dreich grey day in St Andrews at a point in time when competition for research funds in the UK has never been tougher, it is comforting and very good news for the University that, in the last academic year, our staff successfully

competed for, and won, almost £30m of new research awards. AY 2004-05 was a record year and these research awards, “confirmed orders”, will fund projects over the next 1-5 years; expenditure from these awards is profiled into subsequent years and will emerge in future Annual Reports as research income. A report of quarterly research awards is posted on [http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/research-enterprise/2004info\\_for\\_business.php#rrga](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/research-enterprise/2004info_for_business.php#rrga)

Typically, university research can be funded by donation, grant or contract; all require elements of “grantsmanship” by an applicant and a keen eye for both an interesting research topic and a funding opportunity. In addition to competitively won research income, of around £24m from a variety of sponsors (Research Councils, Scottish, UK, EU and foreign governments, charities, learned bodies and commercial and industrial concerns), the University receives additional research income of around £12m p.a. from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) through the QR stream. This funding is based on the most recent (2001) Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) in which St Andrews confirmed its No. 1 status amongst Scottish universities. Unlike specific project derived awards the QR funding supports and underpins the University's research activity by providing capital for investments in key infrastructure, posts (academic, technical and administrative) major equipment and any other items which are strategically important to the University to maintain and improve its research environment.

In the event that, within the next five years, fEC provides full cost recovery for our research projects, the QR funding, if it remains, may become available for really major strategic research investment and expansion. As such, new research and study centres become a distinct possibility for St Andrews.

**...got to dash to catch the shuttletram from D'Arcy Thomson stop on campus to Leuchars International Airport. I'm on the 21.50 Ryanair flight to South Africa for a meeting on our Capetown Campus.**





# A healthy collaboration

## The Social Dimensions of Health Institute

### By Professor Paul Boyle, Founding Director, SDHI

Since the establishment of the University of Dundee in 1967, an impressive array of collaborative research has blossomed between the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews.

With the aim of building upon these successes, funding from the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC) was awarded in 2000 to 'promote partnership' between the two institutions and a variety of research projects were initiated. Health research was identified as one potential area of collaboration and the result was an ambitious proposal to establish the Social Dimensions of Health Institute (SDHI) – a joint institute of the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews. The SDHI was launched at the beginning of 2004 with a poster exhibition at the St Andrews Bay Hotel. We report here on the progress of this collaboration, drawing attention to some of the exciting new projects which the institute has since embarked upon.

The SDHI is based in Airlie Place, Dundee, and began life with a small group of four part-time academics, two from each University, supported by a research manager. We have since grown substantially, with the addition of 6 research staff and a new secretary funded from a range of different funding sources. We have also recently appointed Vikki Entwistle as a reader and Rosemary Rushmer as a lecturer – our first full-time academics. In addition, three further staff from Nursing (Dundee) and Social Anthropology (St Andrews) are also based in the institute. This provides a vibrant inter-disciplinary research environment which is generating an impressive amount of activity. The aim of the SDHI is to encourage and



facilitate inter-disciplinary health research between researchers in the two universities. While the overall remit of the SDHI remains a broad one, over the past two years the research niches of the institute have begun to crystallise. The three broad areas of health research that have dominated activities to date are summarised in our research Venn diagram (see page 30).

The theme of self-care and the management of long-term, chronic, conditions considers patients' involvement in their own care from a range of perspectives and explores issues such as rights and responsibilities along the course of patients' journeys through health care. It examines the impact of both individually targeted interventions and organisational changes (such as the introduction of managed clinical networks) on people's contributions to

Back row, L-R: Brian Williams, Associate Director; Paul Boyle, Founding Director. 2nd row, L-R: Karen Munro, Research Manager; Vikki Entwistle, Deputy Director; Martyn Jones, Associate Director. 3rd Row, L-R: Rosemary Rushmer, Lecturer; Sara Joice, Post-doctoral Fellow. Front row, L-R: Mei-Li Roberts, Research Fellow; Anne Duguid, Research Fellow; Roseanne Bell, Administrative Assistant.

Absent from the photograph - Alex Greene, Senior Research Fellow; Ali Zohoor, Senior Research Fellow; Debbie Baldie, Clinical Research Fellow; Huw Davies, Associate Director.

their own care. A significant proportion of this research is carried out in association with the Alliance for Self Care Research on p30.

Our second theme is record linkage and analysis. There is considerable expertise in Tayside in linking patient data for research purposes and the Health Informatics Centre



Bridging the gap

(HIC) based at Ninewells Hospital is a key player in this field. Members of the SDHI work closely with staff in HIC to add value to these medical data, often through linkage to census and other data collected from different sources. Indeed, SDHI and HIC are collaborating to organise a conference on medical data linkage in 2007. The SDHI is also strongly involved in the establishment of the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS), which includes linked administrative data from the decennial censuses, vital events (births, deaths marriages) and hospital admissions, and is one of the largest studies of its type in the world. It will provide an unparalleled resource for examining the links between social characteristics and health in Scotland and how they change over time for a large sample of around 275,000 people.

The third theme focuses on socio-economic variations and health inequalities. This theme brings together a wide range of research which is interested in population health and the factors that underpin social differences in health outcomes. While some of this research is interested in individual differences in health (such as parent and step-parent health – see page 30) other research focuses on variations in health and well-being across differing social groups and geographical areas. However, the SDHI hopes to go beyond identifying inequalities and, in collaboration with other health and social care agencies, to move towards developing and testing possible strategies to close these gaps.

The SDHI organises a variety of activities which are designed to bring researchers together who may not normally have the opportunity to meet, or may not even realise that others are working on similar problems elsewhere in one of the Universities. We manage a range of events, including an annual conference, seminars, learning and discussion days and

## Future events hosted by SDHI

The SDHI has planned a series of events for the forthcoming semester.

### Annual Conference

'Enhancing Self-Care – The Evidence Base', University of Dundee, West Park Conference Centre, 3-5 May 2006.

### Seminars

Professor Tony Gatrell, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Professor of the Geography of Health, Lancaster University will speak on 'Inequalities in access to inpatient palliative care', Room 1.36, Tower Building, Dundee, 31 March 2006.

Dr Kate E Pickett, Lecturer in Epidemiology, Department of Health Sciences, University of York will speak on 'Ethnic Group Density Effects on Health', Mackenzie Building, Ninewells Hospital, 9 June 2006.

Postgraduate Away Weekend  
Research training for all health-related PhD students from both universities - Kindrogan Field Centre, Perthshire, 3-5 March 2006.

### Learning and Discussion Days

We are also planning a learning and discussion day on 'Child health' - location and date to be announced.

postgraduate training weekends (see page 30). These events are well-attended and are designed to bring together researchers from many academic departments.

The SDHI is also determined to work closely with those in the health service, particularly through collaboration with the local Fife and Tayside Health Boards. Therefore, the SDHI is playing a central role in the evaluation of a range of new strategies funded by the Scottish Executive and designed to address unmet health need in some of Tayside's most deprived areas. These collaborations are proving mutually beneficial with the NHS benefitting from the research expertise of a range of academics, and researchers being given the rare opportunity to examine the effectiveness of population based health care strategies in real-life settings. The SDHI is also collaborating closely with Fife Health Board and the Scottish Executive to organise a series

of seminars on health inequalities, designed to help us rethink the ways that they can be measured and addressed.

The SDHI's success stems from a fruitful collaboration between the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews who have supported this initiative strongly, but its research success relies upon the health researchers in the two institutions being excited by, and willing to collaborate on, genuinely inter-disciplinary projects. If you have interests in health research and feel that you like to share your ideas with a growing group of experts, please don't hesitate to contact us.

**For further information visit [www.sdhi.ac.uk](http://www.sdhi.ac.uk) or contact Karen Munro at [k.m.munro@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:k.m.munro@dundee.ac.uk)**

**Turn over for a look at some SDHI projects currently underway.**

## How can patients with chronic disease be supported to manage their illness?

Funded by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council and NHS Education for Scotland, the Alliance for Self Care Research, of which the Social Dimensions of Health is an important member, is a Consortium between a number of Scottish Universities and associated NHS organisations across Scotland.

This Research and Development programme is based on the premise that health professionals work with patients, carers, family members and communities

as co-producers and partners to maintain health, prevent and treat illness and manage the impact of chronic disease on everyday lives. While healthcare professionals play a key role in the supporting self-management of chronic disease, the evidence base for such collaborative working requires strengthening. This is particularly the case in the promotion and evaluation of self-care and self-management in chronic disease and it is therefore essential that more research is conducted on this topic by this group.

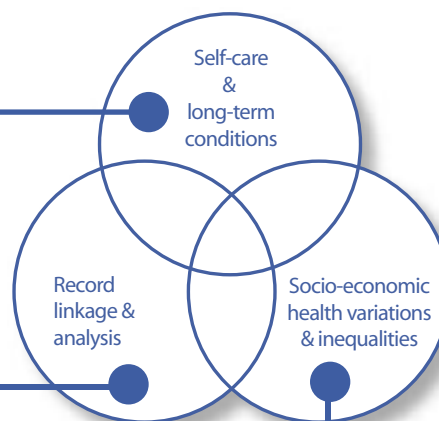
Within SDHI, a scoping review is being undertaken to inform the development of patient-directed self-management interventions in people with chronic illness. Other Department of Health funded research being undertaken in the SDHI on 'delivering healthcare through managed clinical networks: Lessons from the North' is also likely to inform the development of self-management policies.

**For more information contact Martyn Jones - email [m.c.jones@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:m.c.jones@dundee.ac.uk)**

## What actually happens in GP consultations and can we improve communication to provide better care?

This is the ultimate aim of the Scottish Clinical Interactions Project (SCIP), a feasibility study funded by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC) and led by academics in both Dundee and St Andrews. We already know that the GP consultation is the hub of most clinical decisions and that this is where most illnesses are detected, diagnosed, treated or referred. However, we also know that people communicate their symptoms in different ways, using varying language to emphasise some or perhaps understate others, making illness detection potentially difficult. We also know that GPs use different strategies and techniques to explore symptoms, explain treatments and help people change behaviours where appropriate. Until now, however, researchers have rarely been able to identify different patient and GP behaviours in consultations and follow them through time to see how and whether they result in good or bad outcomes. With developments in information technology, and supported by a range of methodological skills and academic disciplines from the two universities, this may now be possible and the team is developing new software and hardware and piloting procedures to see if it is possible to routinely audio-record a large number of GP consultations and follow these patients through time. The result will be an unparalleled longitudinal research resource.

**For more information, contact Brian Williams - email [brian.williams@chs.dundee.ac.uk](mailto:brian.williams@chs.dundee.ac.uk)**

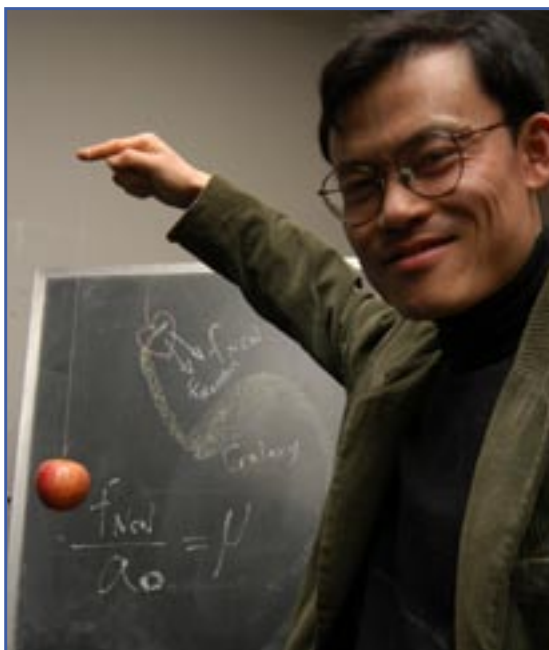


## Is being a step-parent bad for your health?

The past few decades have seen significant changes in household arrangements in many countries, and one outcome is a growing number of stepfamilies. There is a growing academic literature which considers the effects of living in a stepfamily on children and, while there is growing recognition that many stepfamilies provide extremely supportive environments, on average stepchildren have been shown to be at greater risk of a range of health and social problems. To date, however, there has been virtually no research on the effect that living in a stepfamily has on the health of step-parents and step-parent's partners and this will be redressed in this ESRC-funded project. Using data from the British Household Panel Study (BHPS), which allows us to follow individuals and their changing circumstances through time, this project will consider whether there are additional stresses and strains in stepfamilies which have an impact on the health of adults. Overall, it will help us understand how an increasingly common family arrangement may, or may not, be influencing health outcomes.

**For more information, contact Paul Boyle - email [p.boyle@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:p.boyle@st-andrews.ac.uk)**





Hong Sheng demonstrates his new formula with the help of 'Newton's apple'.

## Einstein's Theory 'improved'

**Research at the School of Physics & Astronomy has revealed that a 'simple' fine-tuning in Einstein's theory of gravity could solve a dark mystery in galaxies that has baffled astrophysicists for three-quarters of a century.**

By refining the law of gravity, Chinese astronomer Dr HongSheng Zhao and his Belgian collaborator Dr Benoit Famaey of the Free University of Brussels (ULB), aim to improve Einstein's theory and prove whether the mysterious Dark Matter actually exists in galaxies.

Dark Matter is thought to account for up to 90% of the Universe, but it cannot be detected since it does not emit light or radiation. Some scientists believe that Dark Matter explains the accelerations of stars in galaxies where there is more gravity observed than predicted by the theories of Einstein and Newton.

Dr Zhao, a lecturer and member of the Scottish Universities Physics Alliance (SUPA), said:

"There has always been a fair chance that astronomers might rewrite the law of gravity. We have created a new formula for gravity, which is different from the Einstein/Newtonian theories. Our simple formula, and which is actually a refinement of Bekenstein's, is consistent with galaxy data so far, and if further verified for solar system and cosmology, it could solve the Dark Matter mystery. We may be able to answer common questions such as whether Einstein's theory of gravity is right and whether the so-called Dark Matter actually exists."

The new law will be presented to an international audience of experts at Edinburgh's Royal Observatory in April.

## Top marks for pilot placement scheme



**A pilot placement scheme, giving Management students a unique insight into the voluntary sector, has received a 'thumbs up'.**

The students spent a day, as part of their coursework, with voluntary organisations throughout Scotland. Their analysis and recommendations have been formally presented to representatives of the host organisations at a seminar attended by the students and module leader/fund-holder Dr Eleanor Burt.

Jane Carswell, one of the students to benefit from the initiative said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience - it has been a great opportunity. I think having the opportunity to undertake a placement is extremely important in order to fully develop one's understanding of the sector and of our course content in general. More than any other time at university, I feel I have really gained a lot of confidence in public speaking, experience in working with powerpoint, and knowledge in how to perform a mini-consultancy".

The initiative was funded by SALTIRE's Strategic Enhancement of Learning Fund and involved students undertaking the 'Managing Voluntary Organisations: Perspectives, Policy and Practice' module.

Dr Burt has also produced a 'reflective logbook' outlining how the placement was taken forward and suggesting how other, similar initiatives might be developed in the future. The logbook is available as a resource for like-minded colleagues through SALTIRE – telephone 01334 462334.

Dr Burt said, "I'd like to extend my thanks to SALTIRE for funding the placement initiative, to the host voluntary organisations without whose participation the placement would not have been possible, and to the students whose enthusiasm and praise for the initiative has made it a very worthwhile project. I'd also like to thank Candice Mitchell, Placement Administrator for her truly excellent support".

# Treating angina Chinese style

By Tony Butler

**If you have been diagnosed with angina, you will be treated with nitroglycerine to relieve the severe chest pain.**

Despite widespread use, only in 1987 was its effect understood. Nitroglycerine and other, related drugs are all converted, once inside the body, into the same 'messenger' molecule, called nitric oxide, which tells the muscles lining the arteries to relax and the arteries are enlarged. Thus more blood gets to the muscles of the heart. The discovery that nitric oxide controls the size of blood vessels, crucial to the control of blood pressure, was awarded the 1998 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine.

As you can imagine, an important discovery like this leads to a flurry of research activity in which this University played its part. I had a richly rewarding collaboration on this topic with Eric Flitney of the School of Biology and continue with Russell Morris in Chemistry. One anti-anginal drug, related to nitroglycerine, is a very simple substance called potassium nitrite. You may not be familiar with potassium nitrite (note the final ite) but you will know its cousin potassium nitrate (saltpetre), a component of gunpowder. If you heat potassium nitrate (KNO<sub>3</sub>) it changes into potassium nitrite (KNO<sub>2</sub>) and gives off oxygen, which is why it makes gunpowder burn. In recent years there has been a surge of interest in potassium nitrite as a supplement. It occurs naturally in blood and maybe a top up each day would improve our cardiovascular health. In 2005 I lectured at an international conference in Washington DC on the use of potassium nitrite.

Potassium nitrite may be a 'hot topic' for 2006 but it also has a long history. Chinese medicine is very ancient and it continues to provide new leads in the treatment of diseases, including malaria. As angina must have existed as long as humans have had hearts, it is interesting to ask how medieval Chinese physicians dealt with the condition. One answer to that question came to me in a strange way.

One man changed our understanding of



Chinese document with translation.

Chinese civilisation. That man was the late Joseph Needham, the Cambridge don and honorary graduate of this University, claimed by some to be the greatest scholar of the 20th century. In the 1930s, he became fascinated by the scientific and technological achievements (gunpowder, printing, and the navigational compass, to list but a few) of the Chinese during Europe's 'Dark Ages'. In the 1950s he, although a biochemist by training, started to write a book entitled *Science and Civilisation in China*. Today that 'book' has grown to 28 volumes and, although, Needham has died, the work continues at the Needham Research Institute in Cambridge. I became captivated by Needham's writings, met him and we collaborated over a number of years on several projects. One source of information on China's medieval past is a collection of manuscripts (about 20,000 in all), hidden in a walled-up cave near Dunhuang in China's remote Gansu Province in about CE 1000, and discovered by a Daoist monk (Abbot Wang) in 1900, having lain untouched for 900 years. The manuscripts are now in museums all over the world. The International Dunhuang Project (of which Dr Brian Lang was part when he worked at the British Library) is now attempting to catalogue and correlate them.

In 2001, I was at a conference in London on medical manuscripts from the Dunhuang

collection and one speaker, in discussing the contents of one of them, described what was clearly a treatment for angina written, we think, about CE 800. A detailed translation was made for me by John Moffett, a St Andean and librarian of the Needham Research Institute. The sufferer is instructed to put some crystals of saltpetre (potassium nitrate) under the tongue, leave them there for a time, and then swallow the saliva. Now, potassium nitrate has essentially no medical effect and so it might be thought that the Chinese physician who wrote the prescription was a fraud. But why did he tell the patient to retain the crystals under the tongue and then swallow the saliva? Some recent research at the University of Aberdeen by Nigel Benjamin has shown that under all our tongues are bacteria that can convert potassium nitrate into potassium nitrite. So, if a Chinese patient followed the instructions carefully, he or she would be swallowing saliva containing potassium nitrite, an effective anti-anginal drug. The pain would lessen but the claim in the Dunhuang manuscript that this is 'a certain cure' should like all promises of miracle cures be taken with a pinch of salt.

When you think of how little a Chinese physician of the 8th century understood about the workings of the human body it is truly astonishing that this rather complicated procedure for the use of potassium nitrate as a treatment for angina was discovered. However, Joseph Needham himself would not have been the least bit surprised to learn that an 8th century Chinese physician had an effective treatment for angina and, perhaps, neither am I. If only the Chinese physician could have been at the Washington conference.

**Tony Butler was a member of the School of Chemistry until his retirement. He is now Honorary Reader in Medical Science in the Bute Medical School. He also takes classes in English Language Teaching.**



Joseph Needham.

# Counting your opinion

By Sandy Wilkie, Staff Development Manager

**Late last year, all University employees were given the opportunity to take part in our third Staff Survey exercise.**

Using a new questionnaire designed in conjunction with NHS Partners, we asked for your opinions on issues including Job Satisfaction, Management, Pay and Conditions, Development Opportunities and the Student Experience. The overall response rate was 40% (767 staff), giving us a broad range of opinions from all Schools and Units.

**So, what do the initial results look like?**

**What we are doing well...**

Staff perceive the core values of the University as 'High Quality and Excellent' and 'International'. Related to this, we have positive perceptions of the quality of service and experience provided to our students. A significant majority (93%) of respondents generally enjoy their work and have a clear understanding of what's expected of them in their role. The University is also seen as a good place to work - staff comment on the friendly atmosphere at work. Finally, staff have a good awareness of diversity issues, health and safety procedures and the impact of the Framework Agreement.

**The most positive survey items were as follows:**

**Q1.8**

My Unit/School delivers good quality service to students and other users.

**Q1.1**

Generally, I enjoy my work.

**Q9.2**

My Unit/School provides a high quality student experience.

**Q6.3**

I have a good awareness of diversity issues and how to interact appropriately with colleagues.

**Q9.4**

Dealing with students is a generally positive experience.

**What do we need to think about?**

One issue of concern to staff in the 2005 Survey is workload – 77% of survey respondents think that this has increased within the last 12 months. Although local communication within Schools and Units seems generally effective, communication between different University areas could be improved. Staff are also keen to have more space to eat and meet socially with colleagues. There is a desire for better management guidance on career development and promotion issues. 80% of respondents would welcome the opportunity to review their performance and development needs.

**The least positive survey items were as follows:**

**Q5.4**

I feel my workload has increased over the last 12 months.

**Q7.3**

There is good communication between various parts of the University.

**Q8.9**

Helpful guidance/advice is provided on promotion possibilities and procedures.

**Q3.2**

I am satisfied with my pay in relation to people doing similar jobs in other organisations.

**Q4.2b**

There is sufficient space for staff to meet socially.

**What happens next?**

Once the detailed Staff Survey results have been received, these will be communicated to all staff. Our intention is to engage everyone from the Principal's Office to the Units/Schools in developing constructive suggestions that will continue to improve the quality of the working experience at the University.

Watch this space for details of how we will consult and develop a survey action plan over the next few months.

Finally, many thanks to everyone who took the time to participate in the 2005 Staff Survey exercise – your opinions and ideas are valued.

# Installations announced

**Two major events at the University will take place in the coming months. New rector Simon Pepper will be installed at the Younger Hall on Friday 10th March at 3pm, with the traditional drag taking place on Thursday 9th - check out Simon's arrival, traditionally an unusual one, at St Salvator's Quad at 2pm.**

In a couple of months, the new Chancellor Sir Menzies Campbell will be installed officially as Sir Kenneth Dover's replacement on Saturday 22nd April at 4pm, again at Younger Hall. It's been 25 years since the last one, so don't miss it!





## Flagship role for maritime historian

### Maritime historian Dr Robert Prescott has taken the helm of the National Historic Ships Committee.

Dr Prescott has been appointed Chairman of the NHSC which was established in 1992 to oversee all aspects of historic ship preservation in the UK. The committee aims to secure the long-term preservation of a sample of ships representing important aspects of British maritime history and technology.

Under the chairmanship of Admiral of the Fleet, the Lord Lewin of Greenwich and his successors, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald and Captain Richard Woodman, the committee rapidly gained the support of the Department of National Heritage and of its descendant, the Department of Culture Media and Sport.

In 1995, Dr Prescott was appointed the NHSC's Research Director, with responsibility for compiling an inventory of all surviving historic ships in the UK and developing an evaluation system to



Dr Robert Prescott with the salvaged anchor of HMS Beagle.

objectively assess the relative heritage merits of the historic vessels identified. The resulting database, the National Register of Historic Vessels, has become a valuable tool in maritime heritage management, widely consulted by government departments and funding bodies such as the Heritage Lottery Fund.

For some years, the NHSC has been pressing the Government to establish a

Historic Ships Unit to carry forward the work started by the committee. Their efforts paid off last year when such a unit was established, staffed and funded within DCMS.

As the new NHSC Chairman, Dr Prescott's task will be to work closely with DCMS staff as the new unit comes into being and to ensure that the work of the NHSC, since 1992, is carried forward with renewed vigour and better resources.

## Lend your voice

**Can you spare an hour per week? Would you like to join a team of dedicated volunteers helping out the University's Alternative Format Suite? With the aim of making crucial texts available for the print-disabled, the AFS have purpose-built recording booths and book-scanning equipment in Crawford Cottage.**

AFS Manager Paresh Raval gave *The Standard* an update on the Suite's progress since its launch one year ago:

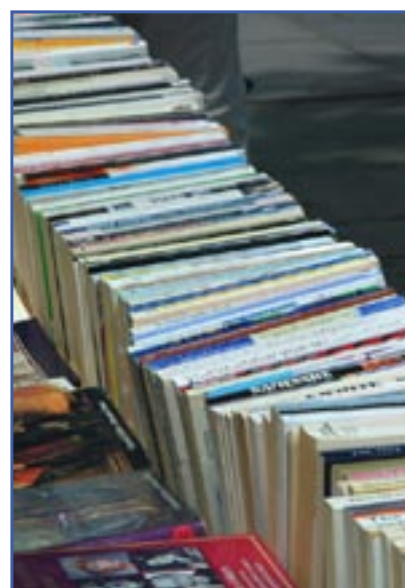
"We have been up and running now for 13 months and we have nearly 50 volunteers who have signed up and are regularly coming in every week to help transcribe

reading materials for print-disabled students at the University.

"Thanks to departments for forwarding their core reading titles we have produced over 25 fully accessible DAISY (Digital Accessible Information SYstem) Books – some of which are huge reference books over 250 pages long, including Ethics, Scottish History, Accounting and Business.

"Come and lend your voice – you never know who will listen to our Talking Books in the future. The tasks involved are scanning, proof-reading, reading and listening – and all training is provided in-house."

**The AFS is always looking for more volunteers. Anyone interested in finding out more about what they do can contact Paresh by email [pr19@at-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:pr19@at-andrews.ac.uk)**



# Assistant to Principal appointment

**If you recently spotted Hugh Martin at the side of the Principal, you'd be forgiven for thinking he looked familiar ...**



Hugh, the newly-appointed Assistant to the Principal, is a well-known face around the University, having previously worked in a range of posts - from tutoring and lecturing in the School of English to Assistant Director for the Scottish Studies and Creative Writing Summer Schools. Hugh has also worked for the Library, International Admissions and Business Improvements, while probably being best recognised for his role on the IT Helpdesk.

In this completely new post, Hugh's main function is to provide executive support to the Principal. Responsibilities include researching and advising the Principal and his Office on higher education policy issues, coordinating various projects, managing the information gathering phases of the strategic planning process, and ensuring effective communication of appropriate information from the Principal's Office to the wider University.

Hugh initially came to St Andrews in 1997 and took an MLitt with Distinction

in Creative Writing, joining us with a BA (Hons) and MA (Hons) in English Language and Literature from the University of Oxford. In between degrees, Hugh spent five years working in a number of retail management positions, ending up as Head of Customer Relations for the W H Smith Group plc.

Still with a keen interest in writing and poetry (his prize-winning work has been published), Hugh tutors on a number of creative writing courses at the Open University and is a founder editor of the magazine of poetry and opinion, *The Red Wheelbarrow*.

Asked how he feels about this new challenge, Hugh commented, "This position is without doubt an exciting new opportunity at the very centre of the University. The Principal wants the role to develop; I intend to put the skills and experience I gained working for the CEO at W H Smith to good use in this regard, and I'm sure my time already at St Andrews will help me as I come to a better understanding of the University and its governance. I'm grateful to all the many friends and colleagues I've met over the years here for their encouragement and their ongoing support."



Hugh outside his new home

## Wanted! – participants for new memory research

**Are you aged between 60 and 70 years? Would you like to participate in a research study?**

The study examines age differences in memory abilities. Taking part in the study involves performing two tasks assessing your memory. You will receive feedback on your performance. Finally, you will be asked to complete a number of psychological measures including self-

esteem and mental health. The study will take approximately 60 minutes. You will receive £5 as payment for taking part and reimbursement of any travelling expenses incurred.

**If you are interested in taking part, please contact Joanne Persson, School of Psychology - telephone 01334 462060 or email [jkp3@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:jkp3@st-andrews.ac.uk)**





## Multi-million pound funding for revolutionary projects

**Groundbreaking research is underway in the School of Physics and Astronomy, thanks to a multi-million pound funding success.**

Professor Kishan Dholakia and his team are collaborating with colleagues in Biology and the Bute Medical School on a £1.8 million project with Ninewells Hospital in Dundee. The group will explore new medical methods using laser light instead of more invasive electrical, mechanical or chemical means. Professor Dholakia said, "This is an exciting and adventurous interdisciplinary project which could potentially offer a revolution in the manner in which DNA, drugs and genetic therapies are delivered to single cells and ultimately to patients in the clinic".

Meanwhile, scientists in both the Bute Medical School and Physics and Astronomy have been awarded major funding as

part of a £3.5 million Basic Technology Grant funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and led by the University of Leeds. Dr Tom Brown, coordinator for the St Andrews work said, "This project looks at the underlying technology required to build a new generation of optical components by joining very dissimilar materials. We believe that under this programme we will be able to produce new optical devices for applications as diverse as speeding the internet up and delivering new and more accurate tests for diseases. We are pleased to have this opportunity to demonstrate that true integrated optics can really become a major technology for the 21st Century".

And finally, a third batch of Physics and Astronomy-based scientists have secured funding as part of a collaborative £3.6 million Basic Technology Grant, led by the University of Warwick. This follows on from funding from the top-rated

£2.6 million Basic Technology award in 2003 led by the St Andrews group, a 7 million euro collaborative EU instrumentation development grant led by Frankfurt University and a £0.85 million collaborative instrumentation development grant led by the University of Nottingham. Dr Graham Smith, head of the MM-wave and ESR group and coordinator for the St Andrews works said, "All these projects utilise our core expertise in mm-wave and ESR technology and are concerned with developing advanced magnetic resonance instrumentation that aims to increase sensitivity by orders of magnitude over current state of the art. Potential applications extend across all scientific disciplines. For example, detailed understanding of protein function is extremely important as it underpins much modern drug development and we have ongoing collaborations with the Scottish Structural Proteomics facility in St Andrews and the Cancer Research UK Nucleic Acid Structure Research group in Dundee".

## National Science Week in St Andrews

**Whatever 'science' means to you, your definition of the word will be tested when the University hosts a number of impressive events as part of National Science Week.**

A range of talks, demonstrations and activities – mainly free of charge and for all the family – are being held throughout the University from 10-19 March.

The activities are being hosted in conjunction with the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science).

Highlights include the Science Discovery Day which runs from 11am-5pm on



Saturday 18 March in both the School of Physics and Astronomy and the Bell Pettegrew Museum.

Meanwhile, the mid-week talks will

address everything from ...

- Do chickens prefer beautiful humans?
- Who do you inherit your hair colour from?
- What minerals are in toothpaste?
- What's inside your mobile phone?
- What is eye shadow made of?
- Why is titanium so useful for bike frames and bone reconstruction?
- Why are we fooled by visual illusions?
- How does memory work?
- Do I make my own choices or can my behaviour be controlled by others?
- What would I have looked like if I had been born a man / woman?

**Full details of what's on, where and when can be found at [www.st-andrews.ac.uk](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk)**



## STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...

## First class travel

**Did you know that the University of St Andrews Travel Service is open to all members of staff?**

The Travel Service, based at the Students' Association, can arrange anything from a train ticket to Edinburgh to the holiday of a lifetime.

### They can arrange:

- Rail travel to London from £13.50 one way
- Travel insurance
- Accommodation
- Special rate taxi service from St Andrews to Leuchars station
- Direct flights from Scotland to USA
- London theatre breaks

Contact them on 01334 462710 or by email: [uts@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:uts@st-andrews.ac.uk)



## Upcoming inaugural lectures:

Wednesday 15 March – Professor Jan Bebbington / Professor Rob Gray, School of Management.

Wednesday 12 April – Professor Dina Iordanova, School of Modern Languages.

Wednesday 26 April – Professor John Hudson, School of History.

Wednesday 3 May – Professor Mike Ritchie, School of Biology.

All lectures will be held in School III, St Salvator's Quad, at 5.15pm.

## Guess where? Answers



1. Star of David above 23/25 Murray Park.



2. Railings outside 79 North Street.



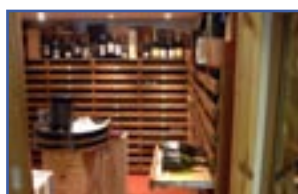
3. Engraving of J Whyte (restorer), exterior, Holy Trinity Church.



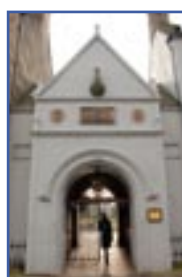
4. Study place, University Library.



5. Le Rustique sign, College Street.



6. Luvians – Fine Wines room - Market Street.



7. Crest above entrance to St Mary's Quad.

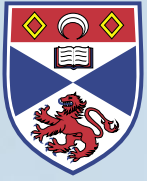


8. Superb Lyrebird, Bell-Pettigrew Museum, Bute Medical School.



9. Floor design, foyer of St Katharine's West, The Scores.

Back Cover – Action Man! Credit: Alan Richardson; Pix A-R



University  
of  
St Andrews

