



Buzz Bitesize: June 2013

Welcome to Buzz Bitesize. Circulated monthly, Buzz Bitesize provides the latest news, views, events and opportunities from across campus. Why not take a look at the Buzz Facebook and Twitter accounts for the latest campus news and opportunities throughout the month.

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University School to open September 2015

Following final discussions with the Department for Education (DfE), the University of Birmingham School and Sixth Form will open in 2015, initially to pupils in years 7 and 12. The purpose-built school will be on the University's Selly Oak site. As one of the first 'University Training Schools' in the country it will have particularly strong ties to the University's School of Education. The proposed admissions policy will be available for consultation on the website from 9 June to 2 August; a range of drop-in sessions for local residents and the wider

public will be held in June and July. Further information is available on the [University School website](#), where you can also register to receive updates directly.



Staff Welcome resources website

The 2013 Staff Welcome [resources website](#) includes a full timetable of central events including the VC Welcome Addresses, Wellbeing Fairs and a Welcome event for mature undergraduate students. The site also features a list of case studies for both College/School and University-wide Welcome events aimed at non-standard student groups (local/commuting students, students with children and UG mature students). For more information visit the website or email welcome@contacts.bham.ac.uk



We Save Lives Campaign

You may have spotted the University's new 'We Save Lives' campaign springing up on billboards, bus stops and train lines across the city raising awareness of the University's life-saving cancer research. The University's world-class centre for Cancer Sciences combines the talents of our leading academics with the excellent surgeons at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Birmingham Children's Hospital and is improving the lives of people who have been touched by cancer worldwide. You can help too just by holding a dress-down day or organising a bake sale or signing up for the Birmingham Half Marathon. To find out more [visit the website](#).

News

HAS Oscars

On Friday 12, April, 220 members of staff joined together to celebrate their hard work over the last 12 months at the annual HAS Oscars (OutStanding Customer Award Recognition Scheme) Awards evening. The ceremony honours individual and collective efforts of HAS staff who have gone the extra mile to ensure customers' expectations are not only met, but exceeded. A list of winners along with photos of the night can be seen on the [HAS intranet](#).

Exceptional HR Achievement award

The University's HR Department won the 'Exceptional HR Achievement' category in this year's Universities HR awards in recognition of a series of inter-woven initiatives which support the development of a high performance culture across the University. These initiatives included effective HR business partnering, revised academic probation and promotion processes, the professorial banding project and the delivery of the Senior Leadership Programme. This award represents a significant external recognition of the hard work and innovation by staff across the whole of HR in delivering a high quality service to the University.

College Receives Athena SWAN Bronze Award

The College of Medical and Dental Sciences has been awarded an Athena SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) Bronze Award for its achievements in assisting the recruitment, retention and progression of women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine and to promote good practice. This is a significant achievement particularly as this round saw a huge increase in the number of institutions and departments applying for awards. For more information on the College's Women in Academic Medicine Science/Athena SWAN initiative [visit the website](#).

Improving Mobile Device Security

University Executive Board has recently approved the adoption of Good for Enterprise as the security tool for securing email on Android and iOS mobile devices such as iPhones. All staff who access sensitive data and wish to download this information to their mobile device will need to use Good for Enterprise. Over the summer several other initiatives will be implemented in order to improve the security of University data. There is more information available on the [University intranet](#) or if you have a specific query or concern, please contact itsecurity@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

College of Arts and Law at Hay

For a second year, the College of Arts and Law hosted a series of talks at the [Hay literary festival](#). The series looked at teaching Shakespeare today, how we are tourists of the world through our reading, and why book clubs like 'Richard & Judy's Book Club' are so popular with keen readers. We showcased our research further by demonstrating the Codex Sinaiticus, the world's oldest bible, and uncovered the incredible history of Doggerland. Speakers included Professor Ewan Fernie, Dr Danielle Fuller and Dr David Parker.

University of Birmingham celebrates partnerships with business

In recognition of the positive impact of the University of Birmingham's partnerships with business Vice-Chancellor Professor David Eastwood hosted an evening reception at his private residence to celebrate the University of Birmingham's successful business partnerships and emphasise the University's crucial role in supporting business growth in the region. [University website](#).

Cultural Internship Scheme 2013–14

Applications open Monday 10 June 2013 for the third year of an innovative intern scheme sponsored by the University and its cultural partners. The scheme offers successful applicants a six-month paid work-based placement; each offering real opportunities to gain high quality work experience, undertaking meaningful projects at leading cultural organisations in the West Midlands region. The programme is designed to increase graduates' knowledge and skills and help them gain an interesting and valuable introduction to the workplace which will enhance their future employment prospects. To find out more visit the [University website](#).

Views

IAS Update

Since last May there have been 45 workshops involving colleagues and PGR students from all 28 schools, colleagues from 40 universities as close as Warwick and as far as Sao Paulo as well as representatives from 84 external organisations. IAS workshops have also run in Brazil and Chicago. The full range of the diverse topics can be found on our website [University website](#). If you have an idea for a workshop that brings together expertise from across the breadth of our University please contact Sue Gilligan s.gilligan@bham.ac.uk for details of how to make a proposal. It's a very simple process, we'll have a decision for you within a week and we'll even take care of all the admin support.

Help us improve the University intranet and earn £10

We're looking for staff volunteers to help us test the University intranet and make improvements. Testing sessions will take around an hour and can be carried out in your office or another place of your choice. You will receive a £10 Amazon voucher for your help. Please contact Amelia Luzzi, a.b.luzzi@bham.ac.uk if you are interested.

Volunteers required for study on End-of-Life and Bereavement

Have you been bereaved in the last 6–24 months and would you feel comfortable discussing your experience with a researcher? Alternatively, is somebody close to you currently receiving end-of-life care? If so, then we would like to invite you to participate in our study investigating how end-of-life impacts family and friends. The study aims to improve the evaluation of end-of-life care in the UK. Confidentiality and sensitivity will be guaranteed. You will be sent additional information and be able to discuss the study with the researcher before being asked to decide whether or not to participate. For more information email Alistair Canaway at axc105@bham.ac.uk

Events

AUA Midlands conference

Date: 27 June

Venue: Muirhead Tower

The annual regional conference for the Association of University Administrators (AUA) will be hosted by the University of Birmingham this summer. The theme is 'Innovative practice to support the student experience', reflecting back on the 2010 White Paper 'Students at the Heart of the System', and considering how the student experience has been affected by the new HE fee structure. To find out more visit the [AUA website](#). or contact Ellen Shobrook – e.shobrook@bham.ac.uk (AUA Advocate at University of Birmingham). In the run-up to this event, AUA branch members will also be running lunchtime drop-ins at Café Aroma, for colleagues to find out more about the conference or the AUA. Email Ellen, or simply come along to the first floor of staff house between 12.3–13.30pm on Thursday 13

June or Thursday 20 June.

University of Birmingham – Business Engagement Awareness Lunch

Date/Time: 18 June, 12.00noon–2.00pm

Venue: Birmingham Research Park on Vincent Drive (Building B6 on the [campus map](#))

Are you a member of academic or research staff based at the University of Birmingham and would you like to find out more about engaging with business? Then come along to Birmingham Research Park and find out more about the Business Engagement (BE) team and how we can help you. Meet the BE team and hear from some of your colleagues about their experience of working with business and how the team have been able to support them. Lunch will be provided but numbers are limited so registration is essential: contact i.jemahl@bham.ac.uk

Cadbury Research Library Exhibition – Roots of the University: Mason Science College 1880–1900

Date: From 21 May to 31 October

The Cadbury Research Library will be exhibiting Roots of the University: Mason Science College 1880–1900. This exhibition focuses on the creation and development of Mason College, from its origins in 1870 through to its transformation in to the University of Birmingham in 1900, illustrated by a selection of documents, photographs and printed material from the University's institutional archives. [The exhibition](#) is available to see in the Muirhead Tower Atrium and is free to staff and students.

Defining Faces: 20th-century Portrait Drawings

Date: 7 June–26 August

Venue: [Barber Institute of Fine Art](#)

This exhibition – the second in a prestigious collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery, London – focuses on portraiture in a century that witnessed radical changes in artistic style. It features emotionally charged and elegant likenesses of sitters including Henry Moore, Ted Hughes and Stephen Hawking, by artists such as Sylvia Plath, Percy Wyndham-Lewis and Oscar Kokoschka. Complemented by original material from the University's Cadbury Research Library, the exhibition celebrates the sensitivity and brilliance in the depiction of subjects who themselves helped define an epoch.

Undefined Faces: Drawing and Poetry Party

Date/Time: Thursday 13 June, 6.00–9.30pm

Venue: [Barber Institute of Fine Art](#)

Relax with a glass of wine as you hear works by poet Roz Goddard – or have yourself sketched by artist Tom Jones, who will also be sketching people in situ, while being on hand to guide guests as they make their own sketches in similar styles.

Understanding Art Part II: Representation and Non Representation

Dates: June 13, 20 & 27, 2.00–3.00pm

Venue: Barber, Ikon, New Art Gallery Walsall

In this 3-week course you will discover the changing nature of realistic representation in portraiture at the Barber; observe the non-developed work of contemporary geometric abstract artist François Morellet at Ikon; and finally, explore the charming but unsettling work by sculpture on show at the New Art Gallery, Walsall. You will never look at art in the same way again...

‘Hay Fever’ by Noel Coward – an evening out, not to be sniffed at

Date/Time: Sat 15, Sun 16 June, 6.30pm

Venue: Winterbourne

Winterbourne House and Garden will turn back the clocks to the roaring twenties with an al fresco performance of this classic English play. A farcical comedy, expect lots of laughs and beautiful period touches, with the backdrop of Winterbourne’s beautiful garden to add that final finishing flourish. Doors are at 6.30pm and play begins at 7.00pm. Tickets are £10 for staff and £6 for concessions and students. To find out more or buy tickets visit

[Winterbourne website.](#)

Evocation of Dreams

Date/Time: Saturday 15 June 7.30pm

Venue: Elgar Concert Hall, [Bramall Music Building](#)

A programme of music for oboe and string quartet, to include Elizabeth Maconchy’s quintet full of angst and supreme beauty, and the pastoral dreamlike quality of the Finzi Interlude. We will also be celebrating 100 years since the birth of Benjamin Britten, with a performance of his Phantasy Quartet. Tickets and further information are available from the Box Office on 0121 345 0492

Summer Shake – up Season at Hornton Grange – Extended opening hours at Hornton Grange.

Date: From Monday 3 June daily

Venue: Hornton Grange

The Bar at Hornton Grange located on Edgbaston Park Road will be opening from 2.00pm Monday – Friday from 3 June. (subject to availability). All staff are welcome to go along and enjoy a relaxing atmosphere in the Gardens. Between 5.00pm and 7.00pm there will be a special offer of 2 for 1 on selected drinks.

Date: Friday 5 July

Venue: Hornton Grange

Hornton Grange are offering staff the opportunity to socialise after work; for only £9.99 you can receive a burger in a box and in keeping with U.S Independence day late celebrations, a mudslide milkshake for all you Bailey's lovers (non- alcoholic options are available). This offer is from 5.00pm until 8.00pm on Friday 5 only (weather permitting). Book your groups now to guarantee a place, pre-booking is essential. A non-refundable booking fee of £2 per person will be required. To book please call the venuebirmingham office on 0121 415 8400.

Opportunities

Postgraduate Enterprise Summer School (PESS)

Date: Monday 22 July – Friday 26 July

Over one week PESS takes Doctoral Researchers from a wide range of specialist areas through a series of interactive professional skills training sessions. Each day is packed full of interactive workshops, internal and external trainers, guest speakers and activities. Throughout the week, delegates will be working closely with an influential local organisation on issues which affect their business strategy. For further details, please visit the [University intranet](#) or contact: d.white.3@bham.ac.uk

Raising your research profile

Library Services is pleased to be running a series of awareness-raising sessions to support early, mid or later-career researchers at every stage of the research process. Each session covers different ground, so we encourage researchers to attend the series. All sessions will take place in the Main Library Training Room from 2.00–4.00pm.

- Bibliometrics: What can you measure and how?
- Thursday 20 June by Linda Norbury l.norbury@bham.ac.uk
- New publishing models: Extending reach through UBIRA, Open Access and beyond Thursday 27 June by Tracy Kent t.k.kent@bham.ac.uk
- Publishing Strategies: Choosing the right journals for you Thursday 4 July by Gerald Watkins g.g.watkins@bham.ac.uk
- Social Media: Generating interest and momentum via new channels Thursday 11 July by Lisa Anderson l.anderson@bham.ac.uk

To register your place visit the [University intranet](#).

Apple or Pear – which shape is better for your health?

Healthy male and female volunteers are currently being recruited for studies on the effects of cortisol on abdominal and leg fat. You should be aged 18 years or over, and be prepared to spend two days in our research unit. Volunteer compensation of £150 upon successful study completion. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr Konstantinos Manolopoulos at the Centre for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism (CEDAM). Phone: 0121 414 2764 or email: metabolism@contacts.bham.ac.uk. The

study has been approved by the Solihull Research Ethics Committee Ref. No. 12/WM/0327

Participants needed

£10 cash study: CANTAB, a computerised test, is being used to study cognitive processes. The study involves one hour long session that incorporates a questionnaire and simple CANTAB tests. Volunteers need to be healthy, adult, native English speakers, and aged over 40. For details contact Iraida Neira lxn082@bham.ac.uk.

Apps Lunch

The IT Innovation Centre and Ideas Lab are hosting a regular 'apps lunch' for all staff interested in smartphone apps. The next one will be on the 18 June. If you'd like to come, or can't come but would like to be kept informed, please contact Sam Walter at s.h.walter@bham.ac.uk

Latest offers from UBSport

- Introduce a friend and receive a free anti-gravity treadmill session UBSport has invested in NASA technology with an anti-gravity treadmill [anti-gravity treadmill](#). It's great for: developing cardiovascular fitness; weight loss; starting running; rehabilitation. To book, email: performance@contacts.bham.ac.uk, tel: 0121 414 8583.
- Book on the go with the new UBSport booking app Download free of charge from iTunes and manage all your Active Lifestyle class and squash court bookings from your iPhone! <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/ubs/id635249436?mt=8>
- Personal Training offers Tell us why you deserve a personal trainer and win £500 worth of personal training sessions! email sportscomps@contacts.bham.ac.uk with the subject 'personal training' with 50 words on why you deserve a personal trainer by Friday 30 August. Plus, buy 10 personal training sessions and get one free! ... to claim, visit the Munrow Sports Centre reception.

Fabulous food every Sunday at Hornton Grange.

Did you know that as a member of the public sector with valid ID you are also entitled to a 10% (food only) discount off the price of your meal? Why not go along and enjoy a three course Sunday lunch served in the conservatory at Hornton Grange between 12.00pm until 3.00pm. To book your lunch please call 0121 415 8400 or see www.venuebirmingham.com/sundaylunch for menu information.

Wedding day discount

Hornton Grange are offering a luxury Platinum offer for late wedding bookings. See www.venuebirmingham.com for more information.

Do you have work opportunities for students?

Working at the Guild of Students alongside Job Zone, Worklink will match the right students to your casual work opportunities. Services include; advertising vacancies, registration and eligibility to work in the UK checks, short listing and interviewing if required

and paying student workers through on-line time sheets. Since launching in September 2012, Worklink have provided 2,300 placements for students and there are currently 3156 students registered with the Worklink service. For further information please contact the Worklink team on 01214145000 or worklink@contacts.bham.ac.uk or come and visit us at the Guild of Students.

Contact Buzz Bitesize

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Copy deadline: 25 July

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