



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

COMMUNITY
buzz

011

SPRING 2017



Community festival

YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

Welcome

More than a century after the University of Birmingham was established, we remain committed to being at the heart of the city's renaissance. We aim to support the region's endeavours to be a destination nationally and globally. Our campus is home to a wealth of historical, scientific, cultural and sporting assets open to our community; many free of charge. We welcome you to visit, be inspired, entertained and expand your knowledge.

From the Community Buzz team



JOIN OUR UNIVERSITY APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME NOW!

Earn while you learn on a University of Birmingham apprenticeship. Placements are available across a wide range of professions for between one and four years. Our scheme is designed to get your career off to a flying start by providing you with skills training and personal development alongside hands-on experience.

Posts for the 2017 intake are now open and you have until the end of May to apply. Roles are available in:

- Estates (Electrical and Mechanical Engineering)
- IT Services
- Technicians
- Administration
- Hospitality
- Catering

Find out more at birmingham.ac.uk/apprenticeships or email Caleb at c.wright.2@bham.ac.uk

OUR IMPACT

The Economic, Social and Cultural Impact of the University of Birmingham

We have looked at the diverse ways in which our University contributes to the success of Birmingham, the region, and the UK.

We contribute **£3.5 billion** to the economy every year and...

- Almost **1 in 50** jobs in Birmingham depend on the University
- Our teaching contributes **£1.34 billion**
- Our international students contribute **£160.2 million**
- Our research and knowledge transfer activity is worth **£885 million**

Discover more at birmingham.ac.uk/our-impact



Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/buzzunibham



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/buzzunibham

Transforming *wellbeing*



Currently only 1 in 3 people with a diagnosable mental health condition get any help. The personal and societal costs are huge, resulting in an estimated cost of £105 billion in England. Poor treatment and undiagnosed conditions only exasperate the situation by causing sufferers otherwise avoidable long-term health problems and distress.

But, the University's latest Policy Commission is looking to tackle this vicious cycle.

Professor Paul Burstow will chair the Commission on mental health promotion and illness prevention. Focusing on children and young people, the report will make recommendations on how we can build individual and community resilience through early interventions in schools and reducing stigma.

Explore our Policy Commissions at birmingham.ac.uk/policycommissions

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Many school leavers in the West Midlands achieve good GCSE outcomes, but very low numbers go on to higher education. The University of Birmingham, in partnership with Aimhigher West Midlands, is ensuring that those young people have access to exciting and challenging experiences that enhance their educational and professional development.

Aimhigher West Midlands has secured £4.5 million to deliver university master classes, summer schools and taster days to support pupils from wards across Birmingham, Solihull, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Sandwell. The funding will enable the University to train more than 100 undergraduates and graduate mentors for up to 5,000 pupils in targeted schools and colleges.

Find out more about our outreach programmes at birmingham.ac.uk/outreach



VITAMIN D REVELATION

Vitamin D is vital for our health; keeping our bones and teeth in top condition and preventing disease. But, researchers at the University have now shown that increasing your levels of vitamin D can also improve muscle strength.

The team hope that these findings will enable them to answer the question: what is the optimal level of vitamin D required for healthy muscles? The team will now work alongside international collaborators to investigate the mechanisms at work further.

Boost your vitamin D intake by eating oily fish, egg yolks, fortified foods and enjoying the sun responsibly.

transforming Our campus



Building a new space centred around you

 @uobgreenheart

Work to create a striking new parkland in the centre of our Edgbaston campus is now underway. The Green Heart will bring over 12 acres of new natural space to our community and is on schedule for completion in 2019.

The University has undertaken an extensive consultation to understand the needs of our community to make sure that the new space is centred around you. Thank you to everyone who gave their views and ideas. Your suggestions have now been explored and incorporated into the Green Heart.

You can find the full consultation results at birmingham.ac.uk/greenheart

Here are some of the ways your ideas have shaped the vision:

- A range of wild flowers and native plants, 160 new trees, water features and nesting sites
- Space for markets, performances and events, including a grass auditorium and outdoor cinema
- A new café and bar
- Energy saving technologies, zoned lighting and energy generating paving
- Improved signage and access to information
- Dedicated areas for art, sculptures and the University's collections

Investing in Selly Oak housing

The University of Birmingham's new Bournbrook residence approaches completion, having reached its highest point. Opening in September, this purpose-built complex will comprise 178 contemporary student bedrooms; including 11 wheelchair accessible rooms.

The residence will provide students with a vibrant living experience, and establish a new accommodation advice and support hub in

Selly Oak. This will bring the local community and students together to help make the area a great place to live.

The complex will also boast a new sports pavilion for local community sports clubs to use during the weekends and holidays, as well as a café overlooking the sport pitches.

Find out more at birmingham.ac.uk/building

FREE CULTURE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Have you spotted the dramatic transformation at the University train station recently?

In March, the station was given a revamp and now our research achievements and educational strengths decorate the platforms. But, did you know we are also home to some of Birmingham's finest cultural assets?

All within a 15-minute walk from University Station, the campus is teeming with historical, scientific and cultural wonders; many of which are free to enter, every day of the week! You won't be disappointed at what you find.

- **LAPWORTH MUSEUM OF GEOLOGY** – transporting visitors back 4.5 billion years, the museum houses everything from dinosaurs to diamonds
- **THE BRAMALL INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS** – your very own mini National Gallery, housing one of the finest small collections of European art in the UK
- **WINTERBOURNE HOUSE AND GARDEN** – seven acres of tranquil botanic gardens nestled in the grounds of an Edwardian Art and Craft house
- **THE BRAMALL** – Birmingham's most exciting new entertainment venue for music, comedy, lectures and 'Audience With' evenings
- **CADBURY RESEARCH LIBRARY** – feed your curiosity and come and consult 200,000 rare books and some 4 million manuscripts
- **RESEARCH AND CULTURAL COLLECTIONS** – visit our exhibitions to see some of our most unusual, inspiring and significant pieces from our collections



Be inspired, entertained and expand your knowledge at birmingham.ac.uk/destination

Research in practice

In the West Midlands, around 83 people are diagnosed with cancer every day.

Cancer Research UK has invested £6.7 million in the University of Birmingham's groundbreaking work to beat cancer, enabling us to establish a cutting-edge research hub. While healthy living is not a guarantee against cancer, it can stack the odds in your favour.

More than 4 in 10 cancers can be prevented largely through lifestyle changes and it's never too late to change...

1. Give up smoking
2. Maintain a healthy weight
3. Eat more fruit and veg, and cut down processed and red meat
4. Drink less alcohol
5. Enjoy the sun safely by applying sunscreen, wearing a hat and sunglasses, and taking breaks in the shade.

Find out more about the University's cancer research at birmingham.ac.uk/cancer-genomics

YOU'LL BE AMAZED WHAT STUDENTS DO

Our students are working throughout the local community and across the world to make a difference. Did you know our students have been transforming lives by...

- Raising £125,000 for British Heart Foundation through the Junkbusters recycling scheme, and volunteering in Bulgarian, Indian and Ecuadorian orphanages
- Providing weekly tutoring sessions in English, Maths and Science to secondary school pupils, and litter picking on the streets of Selly Oak
- Supporting the police with their Community Speed Watch campaign, and training over 300 people in basic self-defence techniques
- Performing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and providing over 500 hours of first aid cover at major local and national events



Do you run a local community project you feel students would be interested in helping?

Get in touch with us at volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!



MONET

masterpiece arrives

'The Water Lily Pond', painted by Claude Monet, will be on display at the University this summer thanks to a picture-swap with one of the most important art collections in the US.

Painted in 1900 by renowned French Impressionist, Monet, this stunning painting has been loaned to the Barber Institute by the Art Institute of Chicago. It is on display from **25 June–10 September** and will coincide with an exciting range of public events and activities for all ages, including a lecture, gallery talks and painting/writing workshops. Come and marvel at this feat of Impressionist art at our gallery for free, every day of the week.

Discover our art treasures at barber.org.uk

Making Space: Celebrating Women at the University of Birmingham

Visit us at: The Rotunda, Aston Webb Building, Edgbaston campus
Open until 21 July FREE entry
Monday–Friday, 9.00am–6.00pm

Launched on International Women's Day, 'Making Space' celebrates the achievements of inspiring women associated with the University of Birmingham's past, present and future. The exhibition creates a positive platform for female figures today, and considers what we need to achieve in order to make a better space for women on campus and beyond. The exhibition includes portrait photography by artist and anthropologist Liz Hingley along with 'object portraits', which consider how women are represented through material culture. [#UoBMakingSpace](https://twitter.com/UoBMakingSpace)



WHAT'S ON at the Bramall

Take your seat and be enthralled by an unforgettable night at the Bramall with our very special guests this season.

An Audience... with Allan Lamb

Join us for an evening with ex-Northamptonshire and England cricketer, Allan Lamb.

Thursday 11 May, 6.30pm

£10 standard, £7.50 concessions, £5 student

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series: Lord Peter Hennessy

Keeping Calm and Carrying On?

British Crises and the Special Case of Brexit

Professor of Contemporary British History at Queen Mary, University of London, and recently elected Fellow of the British Academy.

Monday 12 June, 6.00pm

FREE admission (registration required)

Buy tickets online: www.thebramall.co.uk

Call our Box Office team: 0121 414 4414



SAVE THE DATE

birmingham.ac.uk/events

Birmingham

YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

See our research brought to life!

Join us for free family fun at our Community Festival on **Sunday 11 June, 11.00am–4.00pm**, where you can explore our beautiful, historic campus, and enjoy events and activities throughout the day. See for yourselves the great things that the University is doing for people in Birmingham and around the world.

We'll also be throwing the doors open so you can explore our world-famous cultural attractions including the Lapworth Museum of Geology, Elgar Concert Hall, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, and our brand new library.



11 JUNE 2017

Don't miss our spectacular performances and hands-on workshops, culture trails, farmers' and craft markets.

Designed and printed by