

Welcome

Every year we welcome thousands of visitors to campus. Whether it is for exciting events, inspiring lectures, sporting facilities or cultural treasures, our campus is open to all throughout the year. But, we aim to continually improve and expand this offer. Therefore, we need your help to shape the future relationship between the University and the local community. On page 5, discover how you can make your voice heard through our new Friends scheme.

From the Community Buzz team

DISCOVER CAMPUS

From Egyptian shabti figures to 19th Century medical waxes, 1960s art to West African masks, the University's Research and Cultural Collections are a cornucopia of extraordinary artefacts that play a valuable role in campus life and beyond. Get hands-on with these stunning and unusual artefacts through our lunchtime tours, object handling sessions and family workshops.

Book online at researchandculturalcollections.eventbrite.com or join our mailing list to find out more at rcc@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Image: Sarah Taylor-Silverwood, Artist in Residence, 2013.



CALLING ALL art-lovers

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts has launched a unique scheme for those who love art and music.

The Barber Association provides a new community for art-lovers who want to support the Barber Institute financially; enabling us to keep our collections vibrant, inspiring the next generation and training the cultural professionals of tomorrow. To recognise your support, different levels of membership offer a range of exclusive benefits including:

- Event, concert and merchandise discounts
- Private exhibition viewings
- Exclusive member events
- Volunteering opportunities
- 'Early bird' e-newsletters and advance booking

Become a member today at barber.org.uk/support or email David Powell at association@barber.org.uk



Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/buzzunibham



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/buzzunibham

Taking potential to new heights

A groundbreaking new partnership between the University of Birmingham and University College Birmingham is set to offer young people across the region innovative new routes into university education. The two institutions have signed an agreement that builds on a 22-year relationship that has seen the University of Birmingham accredit and award 20,000 University College Birmingham degrees.

The partnership creates a new model for how the Higher Education and Further Education sectors can work together to improve outcomes for young people through a range of joint activities. These initiatives include degree apprenticeships (focusing initially on nursing), training and development for academic teaching staff and creating a better Birmingham student experience through shared facilities.

Find out more about our new partnership at birmingham.ac.uk/ucbpartnership



ENGAGING YOUR LOCAL MPS

Following the General Election, we have continued to work with your local MPs to ensure that they are up-to-date on all the latest University developments and how they can benefit you. Steve McCabe, MP for Selly Oak, visited our new Sport & Fitness centre to find out more about its community facilities. We also welcomed new MP for Edgbaston, Preet Gill, to our Institute for Translational Medicine to show her some of our internationally pioneering life sciences research.



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



UCB
University College Birmingham

In partnership – taking potential to new heights

A ROARING SUCCESS



Art Fund
Museum of
the Year 2017
Finalist



At a formal ceremony at the British Museum, the University's Lapworth Museum of Geology was named as Runner-Up in the Art Fund Museum of the Year 2017.

The honour, previously won by the V&A and the British Museum, is the world's largest and most prestigious prize for museums.

Transporting visitors back 4.5 billion years, the Lapworth Museum is one of the UK's most outstanding geological museums, housing over 250,000 objects from dinosaurs to diamonds. Throughout the year, the Lapworth hosts events for all the family from expert lectures and children's workshops, to special exhibitions and museum tours.

This latest achievement is the culmination of a transformational £2.7 million regeneration to bring the Lapworth's collections to life for the public. Its success has resulted in visitor numbers doubling and the museum is consistently named in the city's top ten visitor attractions.

Discover more at

birmingham.ac.uk/lapworth-museum

transforming our campus



Restoring a 100-year-old vision

If you go onto campus you will see some transformational work taking place. The former library has now been demolished, and part of University Square has been cordoned off to allow significant landscaping work to take place. The result will be 12 acres of parkland at the centre of campus by 2019 – the Green Heart.

This project will restore the vision of the campus as initially designed in 1909, when there was a green walkway through the centre. This was curtailed by the building of the former library in the 1950s. Restoring this space, while incorporating exciting plans for sustainability, study, relaxation, wellbeing, entertainment and biodiversity, is a unique development.

Experience the Green Heart in 360-degree virtual reality at birmingham.ac.uk/greenheart360



Taking sport facilities to the next level

Following the opening of the Sport & Fitness centre, the University unveiled its brand new athletics track in August. The 400m, eight-lane floodlit track, with a full range of throw and jump facilities, was first tested by the Jamaican Track and Field team, who held a training camp here as part of their World Championship preparations. As well as becoming a home for the University's athletic stars and local schools, the track will also be available for community club bookings.

New sports pitches parallel to the Bristol Road will also open shortly. This includes two international-standard hockey pitches, one of which will be used for football, a 3G rugby pitch, and ten courts for netball and tennis. A new pavilion and club house, to provide changing and catering facilities, will open as part of the Bournbrook residence later in the year.

To book the running track for your club email book@sportandfitness.bham.ac.uk

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE UNIVERSITY

We're seeking Friends for
an exciting new local scheme

The University of Birmingham isn't just for staff and students. Every year thousands of visitors and local residents enjoy talks, festivals, workshops, events, cultural attractions and sports facilities right here on campus. But, we want to bring our cultural treasures and cutting-edge research even closer to you and your community. We also want to give everyone the opportunity to actively champion what we do.

We are piloting a new Friends scheme to do just that. With the aim of launching publicly from spring 2018, we need your feedback and ideas to ensure that the scheme is tailored to you.

We need you to tell us:

- How we can best inform you about campus events and activities
- What events and activities we should include as part of the scheme's programme
- What the format of a Friends scheme should be
- How you could champion us

Be part of our exciting new scheme and make your voice heard,
email David Powell at d.powell@bham.ac.uk or call 0121 414 9160



Research in practice

Did you know that

40%
OF MEDICINES
prescribed to children
are never taken?

Taking medicine is an unpleasant yet necessary activity, especially for children. Our School of Pharmacy is working to make medicines child-friendly by considering how taste, texture, appearance and medicine administration can affect whether a child will take a prescription. For example, our researchers are exploring how certain tastes polarize opinion, including liquorice and coconut, and that children are more receptive to liquid medicine than a pill, to design age-appropriate drug formulations.

Discover how our researchers are designing medicines for children at birmingham.ac.uk/medicine-child-friendly

Five top tips for making the experience of giving your child medicine less challenging...

1. Be honest with them
2. Offer an incentive
3. Be positive and use encouragement
4. Empower your child
5. Mask the medicine with food or drink if possible

ESRC FESTIVAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES



Want to know how Brexit will affect Birmingham, understand the facts on 'fake news', or what it really means to be an 'ordinary working family'? Join us at the ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council) Festival of Social Sciences and discover how pioneering social, economic and political research impacts our everyday lives. Events and workshops are open to all, and free

of charge, so whether you're studying the subject at school, a leading researcher, or a member of the public, be inspired and expand your knowledge this November.

OUR RESEARCH IS CHANGING THE WORLD

Date: 4–11 November

Venue: University of Birmingham, Edgbaston campus, and across Birmingham

More information:

birmingham.ac.uk/esrc-festival-2017





HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the Bramall

The Bramall is celebrating its fifth birthday this November and to commemorate this very special milestone, we are holding a weekend of spectacular events. On the bill will be An Audience with Martin Kemp, a screening of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (accompanied by live organ improvisation) and a performance of Elgar's *Cello Concerto*. We also

welcome back *Flash – A Tribute to Queen* to 'blow your mind' in late November.

Buy tickets online:

www.thebramall.co.uk

Call our Box Office team:

0121 414 4414



BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL

The University is thrilled to host this year's Birmingham International Piano Festival where we will bring some of the world's finest pianists and keyboard players to the city. Performances will take place at our world-class concert halls in The Bramall music building and The Barber Institute of Fine Arts from **27 October–4 November**.

Discover more at
birminghampianofestival.com

SAVE THE DATE

birmingham.ac.uk/events

ARTS & SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The University's annual Arts & Science Festival returns to Birmingham from **12–18 March 2018**. Celebrating ideas, research, culture and collaboration on campus and beyond, the festival brings together leading artists and academics for a jam-packed programme of concerts, exhibitions, performances, talks, workshops and special events. Next year's Festival is themed 'STOP/START'.

Save the date at

artsandsciencefestival.co.uk

Get ready for xpLOSION

Join us on **11 November** for one of the year's sporting highlights at xpLosION. Get ready for cheers and excitement at this momentous evening of American football. Be stunned by a huge fireworks display, exciting half-time performances from the University's cheerleading and dance squads, and delicious food and drink throughout the evening. Entering its 12th year, xpLosION will be held on the University's redeveloped state-of-the-art sports pitches, just a stone's throw from our new Sport & Fitness centre.

sportandfitness.bham.ac.uk/events



Making a difference

At the Guild of Students, almost 8,000 student volunteers do some truly fantastic things!
IN THE PAST YEAR THEY...

Raised more than
£315,000
for charities and student-led
volunteering projects

Campaigned for a range of causes including
**welcoming refugees,
eating disorder awareness,
blood donation and more**

Ran respite breaks
and play schemes for
**disadvantaged children
in Birmingham**



Raised more than
£130,000
for the British Heart Foundation
through the Junkbusters scheme

Made more than
500 CARDS
for seriously ill children all over the UK

A HUB FOR THE COMMUNITY

The University's new Bournbrook student residence opened in Selly Oak this September, but the complex will also provide facilities to bring the University closer to you.

A new pavilion, attached to the residence, will in the coming months become home to the University's first Community Living branch. Community Living will be the base for a number of activities aimed at increasing the advice and support available to residents and students living in the area. It is hoped that Bournbrook Pavilion will be visited by students and community members alike for society groups, advice services, community meetings and events. In addition, it will house a café, open to all.

TRANSFORMING SELLY OAK

Your Community Wardens are a team of students, who work for a safer, cleaner, greener community for all. They work primarily in the Bournbrook area of Selly Oak and work in partnership with the University and local organisations. We encourage residents to keep us informed to help make our community a better place. Wardens can provide you with information, advice and contacts to help resolve problems you may be facing including anti-social behaviour, nuisance neighbours, waste and recycling and housing. We also work hands-on in the area by patrolling our streets to identify issues, and attending local resident meetings.

Find out more about our work at
guildofstudents.com/community-wardens

Do you know a community group or
charity in need of volunteers?

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

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