



Buzz Bitesize: July 2015

Welcome to Buzz Bitesize. Circulated monthly, Buzz Bitesize provides the latest news, views, events and opportunities from across campus. Take a look at the Buzz Facebook and Twitter accounts for the latest campus news and opportunities throughout the month.

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Birmingham Professional Mini Conference *What's new for UoB? Working effectively in the changing environment of higher education*

Date/time: Tuesday 7 July, 9.00am–2.00pm

Venue: Arts Building

This year's conference will open with a plenary session looking at the political landscape post-election, and the challenges facing the city.

Following this, there will be four sessions:

- Workshop 1: What next – how can professional services support academics for REF 2020? (10.00–11.15am)
- Workshop 2: Using web tools in our roles (10.00–11.15am)
- Workshop 3: Engaging with the city and the region (11.45am–1.00pm)
- Workshop 4: Organising an event (11.45am–1.00pm)

Following the workshops there will be a networking lunch. [Book](#)

[online.](#)



Staff recognised in the 2015 Queen's Birthday honours

The University is delighted to announce that four members of staff have been awarded honours:

- Professor Simon Halsey (pictured), Professor and Director of Choral Activities, has been awarded a CBE for services to music
- Professor David Parker, Edward Cadbury Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute for the Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing, received an OBE for services to higher education
- Dr Clare Taylor, General Practitioner and NIHR Doctoral Research Fellow, has been awarded an MBE for services to general practice
- Carl Hingley, Senior Automotive Technician, School of Mechanical Engineering, receives the British Empire Medal for services to higher education, STEM education and the automotive industry.

[Read more.](#)



Look out for the owls around campus

[The Big Hoot](#) is a public art project and charity initiative coming to Birmingham this summer. The large-scale art event will see around 100 individually designed giant owls placed at locations around Birmingham, creating a trail which will encourage residents and visitors alike to discover new parts of the city as they visit as many owl locations as possible. After ten weeks of the owls being on display, they will be auctioned off to raise funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital. The University is sponsoring two owls on campus as part of the Big Hoot; they will land on 20 July and will be in residence throughout the summer – and will still be around to meet newly arriving students in September. You will be able to visit them at any time. [Keep up-to-date with all the owl news.](#)

News...

Celebrating your success

Staff across the University contribute enormously to the success of the institution and many are recognised with awards and prizes from external organisations. For the second year running *Buzz* magazine will be including an awards insert in the October/November edition showcasing the achievements of colleagues from across campus. In order to do so we will need your assistance to identify all the prizes and awards received by staff over the last

academic year. We are not looking for research grants but would like to include as many other awards and prizes as possible, although cannot guarantee that everything will be included. Please could you send details of all the awards and prizes from your area to [Internal Communications](#) by Friday 31 July.

New Birmingham International Academy

The Birmingham Foundation Academy (BFA) and English for International Students Unit (EISU) have been renamed the Birmingham International Academy (BIA). The Academy was formally launched at an event on 19 May by Provost and Vice-Principal Professor Adam Tickell, who emphasised the importance of the Academy's role in supporting the University's international recruitment strategy. The Academy will retain its base at Priorsfield and will continue to offer high quality pathway provision to international students looking to progress on to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The current offering includes pathways in the form of foundation, pre-sessional, pre-doctoral and pre-Masters programmes. The BIA will also provide free in-session courses in English language and academic skills for our current international students. [More information](#).

Kudos: helping you explain, enrich and share your research

The University is working with a new service called Kudos, to help you maximise the reach and impact of your published work. It's quick to use – you need to invest just a few minutes explaining your work in plain language, enriching it with links to materials that add context, and sharing it via your social, web and email networks. This makes your work more accessible, and helps ensure it is found, read and applied by people all over the world, both within and beyond your field. Kudos gives you control of the performance of your publications. It brings together multiple metrics – downloads, altmetrics and citations – and maps these against your actions to feed back on their effectiveness. [Find out more](#).

Pioneering postgraduate Virtual Open Day platform launched

On 1 June the University successfully launched its postgraduate Virtual Open Day (VOD) platform, which enables the University to offer online videos, presentations and Q&A chats alongside physical events. Developing live, pre-recorded or on-demand VOD events will provide additional and attractive information to drive and maintain engagement with prospective students. The Postgraduate Recruitment Team has been busy interviewing current students, alumni, and academic staff for each of the postgraduate programmes that the University offers. This video library will revolutionise the information provided to prospective students. Another aspect of the VOD platform is the Postgraduate Mentors Scheme that enables prospective students to get in touch with current students and alumni and has already been nominated for a HEIST award. For more information on developing content for your subject please email the [Postgraduate Recruitment Team](#) or [visit the website](#).

University managed print service update

From October the University will put in place a managed print service across the campus to optimise service provision through multi-functional devices (MFDs). The benefits for the

University will be:

- New devices with latest technology
- Follow-me printing, the ability to print anywhere on campus
- Secure printing (printing will link to ID cards)
- Mobile printing
- Reduction of waste, energy usage and paper consumption
- Cost-effective

Implications for staff:

- The selected supplier will be surveying all printers/photocopiers during the summer
- There will be an ongoing phasing out of a significant proportion of the current fleet of desktop printers and installation of replacement MFDs in new locations

More information on the new service will be available in the autumn and the roll out is expected to start in October, initially focusing on the replacement of MFDs where leases have expired. For further information, please refer to the [Interim Procurement Policy](#).

Maintenance update

Estates will be shutting down the Hills Electrical substation on Saturday 18 July (6.30–11.15am) to complete essential maintenance. This work will take down power to most of Aston Webb, including the IT Services Aston Webb Data Centre and neighbouring buildings such as Harding Law, Hills, Law, Frankland and Harding Library. Core IT Services are resilient and will therefore be available with the exception of Postgrad Admissions Service (PGA). Many other non-core services will also benefit from the resilience we have put in place so the impact on services for the business as a whole is very limited. If you have any concerns or questions please contact: [Estates](#) or [IT Services](#).

Events...

A full list of events can also be found on the [University's website](#) including performances, lectures, workshops, cultural activities and exhibitions.

‘Rupert Brooke’: a One-Man Play

Date/time: Saturday 4 July, 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Venue: Winterbourne House and Garden

Winterbourne are once again hosting exciting live performances in their grounds. This year they are being joined by a one-man play based on the life and work of World War I poet, Rupert Brooke. Tickets cost £10 for adults and £8 for concessions. Tickets can be purchased from the shop at Winterbourne or by calling 0121 414 3003.

Birmingham Energy Institute to welcome Professor John Loughhead

Date/time: Tuesday 14 July, 6.00pm

Venue: Large Lecture Theatre, Poynting Building

The Birmingham Energy Institute is delighted to launch its brand new distinguished lecture series, focused on energy related policy and research. Delivering the first lecture of this series is Professor John Loughhead OBE, who will share his thoughts on planning ahead to meet the growing demand for energy. Professor Loughhead is Chief Scientific Adviser to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). He is also Executive Director of the UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC) and a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering. In 2014, he was also voted as one of the Top 500 Most Influential People in Britain by Debrett's and *The Sunday Times*. [Book online](#).

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships – cyber security

Date/time: Wednesday 15 July, 1.00pm

Venue: LG13, Learning Centre

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is Europe's leading programme to help businesses to improve their competitiveness through access to the UK knowledge base. For academics, KTP projects represent an excellent opportunity to gain access to equipment, generate research papers and contribute to the impact of their research. This event will focus on the forthcoming cyber security KTP call, though academics from all disciplines are welcome. Contact [Luke Jones](#) for more information.

Introduction to Metabolomics for the Clinical Scientist

Date/time: Friday 17 July, 10.00am–3.00pm

Venue: Centre for Computational Biology Meeting Room, Haworth Building

Held at the new Birmingham Metabolomics Training Centre this event is an introduction for clinical scientists to metabolomics and research in the Phenome Centre. Speakers include Professor Mark Viant and Dr Warwick Dunn, and will cover topics such as integrating metabolomics into your research and translation from the discovery phase to the clinic. The event is free but places are limited; please contact [Dr Cate Winder](#) to book.

Rugby World Cup comes to campus

Date/time: Sunday 19 July, 10.30am–12.00noon

Venue: University Square

The Webb Ellis Trophy will be coming to campus as part of its nationwide tour ahead of the Rugby World Cup later this year, when the University will play host to the South African team. Staff and their families and friends are invited to have their photo taken with the trophy. There will also be the opportunity for children aged 7–14 to take part in some small rugby skills sessions led by Bournville Rugby Club. All are welcome at this free event, and more details can be found on the [trophy tour website](#).

Giving women their place in Holocaust history

Date/time: Tuesday 21 July, 6.00pm

Venue: UG09, Learning Centre

A keynote lecture by Dr Rochelle G Saidel from the British Association for Holocaust Studies. Dr Saidel, founder and executive director of Remember the Women Institute, based in New York City, has been addressing the topic of women and the Holocaust for more than 35 years. From the time she first visited Ravensbrück women's concentration camp in 1980 until today, she has devoted herself to including the experiences of women in the Holocaust narrative. [More information](#). If you are interested in attending please email [Sarah Jeffery](#).

An evening with the Jazz Ramblers

Dates: Saturday 25 July, 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Venue: Winterbourne House and Garden

Enjoy an evening of jazz in the garden. There will be a licensed bar selling snacks and you are welcome to bring your own sandwiches. Tickets cost £12 for adults or £10 for concessions/students and are available from the Winterbourne shop or by calling 0121 414 3003. It is advisable to bring folding chairs/blankets as seating will not be provided.

Events off campus...

B-Film: Screening Rights Film Festival

Dates: Thursday 9–Saturday 11 July

Venue: mac birmingham, Cannon Hill Park

Join B-Film, a University research centre, for this inaugural festival, a three-day programme of social justice film and discussion, led by Dr Michele Aaron. The need for heartfelt films about the depths of human adversity around the world has grown enormously in recent decades. This new film festival will bring some of the best and most interesting of these films to Birmingham. The festival programme combines screenings of highly acclaimed social justice films with post screening discussions involving directors, producers, writers, activists and experts. [More information](#).

Opportunities...

Arts & Science Festival will return in 2016 for its fourth instalment

Next year's festival will run from 14–20 March and the programming theme is 'Memory and Forgetting'. If you have an idea for an event, please get in touch with Laura Milner, Cultural Partnerships Manager at artsandscience@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Supporting Degree Congregations

Degree Congregations offer the University a unique opportunity to come together and

celebrate the success of our graduates, and wish them well in their future endeavours. The success of our graduates is the culmination of a great deal of hard work by students and colleagues across campus, and we are keen for as many staff as possible to be involved with Degree Congregations, to celebrate the tremendous success of our graduates. If you are interested in helping with Degree Congregations and would like to shadow staff from Academic Services from 8–16 July, please contact [Funding, Graduation & Awards](#).

Birmingham Energy Institute blog

The Birmingham Energy Institute, which brings together over 140 researchers from across the University, recently launched a research blog to provide thought-provoking comment and expert opinion on the energy agenda and latest research developments. The blog provides a creative, flexible and shareable platform for academics to communicate research strengths and expertise. Researchers are encouraged to engage with the articles online and submit contributions. If you would like to get involved, please email energy@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Mad Science summer holiday scheme

A brand new summer holiday scheme, to be held at the University, is now open for bookings. Run by Mad Science, the scheme will run from 20 July until 28 August 2015, for children aged 5- to 11-years-old, taking place at Infusion, on the Vale Village. The holiday scheme will run every day during the school holidays from 9.30am until 3.00pm; with an option for early drop off (from 8.30am) and later collection (until 4.30pm) for those who need it. The cost is £30 per child per day. [More information](#).

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Copy deadline: 29 July, 2015

Email: university-buzz@bham.ac.uk
Web: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/buzz



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