

# BRUNEL **link**

Magazine 2010

The Brunel University Alumni Association



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WEST LONDON



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We are currently in the process of constructing our new Brunel Alumni NetCommunity, and when this goes live we will let you know on our current website.

We have the following groups on LinkedIn ([www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)):

- The Official Brunel University Alumni Group
- The Official Brunel University MBA Alumni Group
- The Official Brunel University MSc Management Group

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The Official Brunel University Alumni Group

If you are unable to register on our Alumni website, please contact Hilary Whale, Alumni Database and Website Manager, at [hilary.whale@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:hilary.whale@brunel.ac.uk).

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### Meet the team (pictured from left to right):

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### Acknowledgements

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# Message from the Vice-Chancellor

It is my pleasure to introduce another issue of Link magazine and to tell you about some of the exciting things that have been happening at Brunel over the past year. Underpinned by the success of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, the University has continued to chart an upward trajectory – no mean feat in these challenging times.

For example, Brunel was chosen to lead one of three new Centres for Innovative Manufacturing, funded by the Government and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council to boost growth sectors in UK high-tech manufacturing. The initiative places Brunel at the forefront of research into Liquid Metal Engineering and is a considerable coup for the team here.

Success and recognition are not just confined to the high-tech sectors. Within the past year, the School of Arts has received a Times Higher Education nomination for Innovation and Excellence in the Arts, and the Placement and Careers Centre has been recognised as the Best University Placement Office in a national search sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers. These examples underline Brunel's commitment to our students and to ensuring that our alumni continue to be recognised amongst the best graduates of UK Higher Education.

On campus it has been a busy year, not least because work has now begun on the next stage of the expansion of our facilities: a new home for the Business School at the University's Eastern Gateway on Kingston Lane. 2009 also saw the first of what I hope will be an annual event: an exhibition devoted to the life and works of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, reminding us how much we owe to his pioneering spirit and imagination. The exhibition coincides with the London "Open House" weekend in September, and I warmly invite you to join us this year.

There has been no shortage of headlines recently about looming financial cutbacks for universities, as both major



parties seek to cut the deficit and shift more Higher Education funding away from the public purse. It is against this background that I would like to thank you particularly for the warm support which you have shown to our fundraising activities over the last year. It is so important for universities to be able to ask for and receive funds from our alumni, to ensure that the student experience does not suffer from these cuts and that financial support is in place for those who need it in order to be able to study.

Your considerable contributions this year, particularly through our annual telephone fundraising campaign, have come at a time when the Government is incentivising donations by matching each £1 raised with an additional 50p. This

"Matched Funding" scheme adds greatly to the opportunities we can offer and will continue until the end of July 2011, so if you would like to make a gift then this is an excellent time to do so.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Brunel's Alumnus of the Year for 2010: Peter Ward. Peter is an entrepreneur and a role model for all our students and is incredibly generous with his time and support for the University. I look forward to presenting him with his award at Graduation 2010. If you would like to nominate a Brunel graduate (perhaps yourself?) for the 2011 award, details of how to do so can be found on the back cover.

**Wishing you every success,  
Professor Chris Jenks**

# News and events on campus

## Jack Straw delivers inaugural Magna Carta Institute annual lecture

In November, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice Jack Straw MP (pictured right) outlined his thoughts on constitutional change and the state of UK democracy during Brunel's Magna Carta Institute annual lecture.

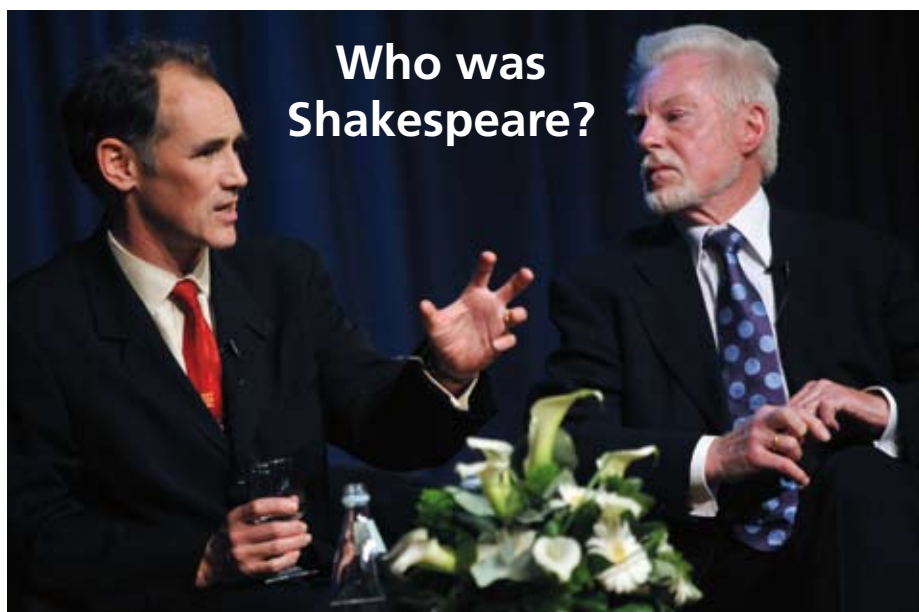
The talk, addressed to a packed audience of policy makers, public figures and dignitaries in Westminster, explored the constitutional reforms effected by the Labour Government since 1997, the principles that underpin them, and the challenges and opportunities for future reforms. In reference to the recent MPs' expenses scandal, he claimed that the "restoration of trust in UK politicians [is] the most pressing issue facing UK politics today."



The lecture marked the first of what will be an annual event for the Magna Carta Institute, the political, social and legal think tank directed by Brunel's Professor Justin Fisher, a regular media commentator on political issues and advisor and consultant to numerous bodies. Professor Fisher, who chaired the event, said: "Jack Straw's lecture

went to heart of what the Magna Carta Institute is all about – recognising the opportunities and challenges in delivering appropriate reforms, and engaging in a thorough debate about how best to achieve and sustain good governance."

[www.brunel.ac.uk/magnacarta](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/magnacarta)



For 2009's annual Spring Debate, Brunel played host to two heavyweights of the stage: internationally renowned actor Sir Derek Jacobi (pictured right), and playwright, actor and the first artistic

director of the Globe Theatre, Mark Rylance (pictured left). The pair joined Dr William Leahy, Head of the School of Arts, to discuss the centuries-old question: who was Shakespeare?

The three gave fascinating insights into why doubt should be cast on whether 'the Man from Stratford' could have been responsible for the many plays and sonnets attributed to him, such as the lack of surviving original texts, his limited education, his other 'career' as a loan-shark and the fact that no one in the literary world marked his death in 1616. They also discussed the credentials of some other likely candidates, such as the then Earl of Oxford, Edward De Vere, and the philosopher, statesman and lawyer Sir Francis Bacon.

The University has a well-established reputation in this field, following the formation by Dr Leahy of the world's first Master's programme dedicated to studying the Shakespeare authorship question.

During the event, Mark Rylance was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.



## Fairtrade Brunel



In June 2009, Brunel was officially awarded Fairtrade status by the Fairtrade Foundation, following a continuing commitment to promoting the use of Fairtrade products on campus.

At a special launch evening in December, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Ken Darby-Dowman highlighted the need for higher corporate and social responsibility amongst both staff and students in modern universities.

Natalie Foster, President of the Union of Brunel Students, pledged her support to the movement, claiming that at Brunel it has "become cool to care" about the working conditions of those who produce our commodities.

The Fairtrade strategy aims to ease poverty and spread sustainable development by improving opportunities for producers and workers in developing countries who suffer from poor market access and unfair trade rules.

[www.brunel.ac.uk/fairtrade](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/fairtrade)

## Brunel offers UK's 'Best Placement Service'

Brunel University's placement team were named 'Best Placement Service' at 2010's inaugural National Placement and Internship Awards, run by [RateMyPlacement.co.uk](http://RateMyPlacement.co.uk).

The Placement Service, part of the Placement and Careers Centre (PCC), was nominated for the award by Brunel's own students and their employers. Mohit Malik at Transport for London was one of



many employers impressed by the service's high quality and dedication to students' success, stating that "the team have a genuine passion for developing students and getting them ready for industry."

## Double book signing celebrates two thought-provoking autobiographies

In October, the University hosted the launch of two books by members of its staff: *Living with Parkinson's Disease: Shake, Rattle and Roll* by Professor Ray J Paul and *The Living Spirit: One Woman's Battle Amongst Ghosts, Spirits and the Living* by Carole Bromley.

Introducing Professor Paul's book, his consultant neurologist Dr Peter Bain described it as an honest and direct insight into the intrusion of Parkinson's Disease into life. Fay Weldon, Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel, similarly praised Carole's book for its insight into the author's personal perspective: "There are more ways than one of looking at the world we live in and Carole's is a very special one."

Professor Paul's book is available at [www.rayjpaul.com](http://www.rayjpaul.com) and Carole's at [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk).



## Student successes



### Employee of the year

Business and Management graduate **Adam Sumar** (pictured left) was named 2009 National Student Employee of the Year in recognition of his work both

as a Student Ambassador for Brunel's Marketing and Widening Participation departments and as a volunteer for the St John Ambulance. The award recognises the achievements of students who combine their studies with part-time work.

### Brunel's beauty queens

Two Brunel second-year students have won the UK rounds of international beauty pageants for 2010. English student **Roro Chen** became Miss China UK in October and was then second in the Miss Chinese International European round. Miss Zimbabwe UK, Communication and Media Studies student **Vanessa Hadebe**, is combining her studies with fundraising for a Zimbabwean charity.

### Festival of flight

**Kashif Cornwall**, a first year Business and Management student, and **Sharmane Barrett**, who graduated in 2009, learnt to fly a plane as part of their role as Ambassadors for the 2009 Festival of Flight. The programme uses the concept of flight to engage with young people and explore national, racial and cultural boundaries.

### Cartwheeling on campus

Sport Sciences student **Sophie Muir** and **Becky Whitaker**, who is training to be a PE teacher, cartwheeled a mile along the concourse in November in aid of Children in Need. They raised a total of £778.02.





## End-of-term festival shows the best FACE of Brunel

May 2009's Festival of Awareness, Creativity and Expression (FACE) brought the campus to life over a week of performances, sports, stalls and activities. The Festival, staged jointly by the Students' Union and the University, aimed to improve the accessibility of sport and physical activity and promote cultural exchange and integration.



## MOBO founder entertains Brunel at HSBC lecture

November's HSBC-sponsored lecture featured the founder of the Music of Black Origin (MOBO) Awards, Kanya King MBE, who discussed the challenges she overcame to become a successful entrepreneur with the flamboyant interviewer and TV presenter Russell Amerasekera.



As the driving force behind one of Britain's most successful music awards, Kanya (pictured above) gave an inspirational insight into what pushed her to succeed. Her first 'business' was selling whistles, food and drink at carnivals, and she puts her success down to "passion, more passion, and passion again".

She offered the following advice to anyone wanting to start their own business: "I do believe that if you do whatever it takes, for however long it takes, and refuse to quit, success is only a matter of time."

Kanya was impressed by how Brunel has encouraged enterprising activities amongst its students. "I spoke to two very entrepreneurial and driven [students] earlier who were already looking for a job from me and I thought, 'what fantastic training they've had here!'"

The University also held a special ceremony before the lecture to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Education upon Lord Sainsbury of Turville, businessman, politician and former Chair of the Sainsbury's supermarket empire.

Lord Sainsbury was awarded the degree for his services to national and international communities. He was the first Briton to donate more than £1 billion to charity, largely through the Gatsby Charitable Foundation which he founded in 1967. He is also a champion of the teaching of science in schools, and was the Minister for Science and Innovation from 1998 to 2006.

Speaking at the ceremony, he said: "I am delighted to be associated with Brunel University, which I think has carved out a position for itself as a university which combines academic rigour with the practical and entrepreneurial approach pioneered by Isambard Kingdom Brunel."

## Brunel tops London chart for disabled access

Brunel University has the best university facilities for disabled students in the London area, according to a recent report by the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign.



Brunel scored 94% overall (the second highest score in the UK) in the University Challenge report, which explored accessibility issues within UK universities. The undercover report was carried out by more than 100 Trailblazers, a network of young campaigners for the rights of disabled people, who investigated the challenges facing disabled students applying to and studying at university.

Brunel's Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) has worked exceptionally hard over the last few years to ensure that the University provides the best support service possible. This is not the Service's first accolade: last year the team received the Times Higher Education Award for Outstanding Support for Disabled Students.



## Exhibition marks 150th anniversary of the death of IKB

A special exhibition bringing together archives from Brunel University, Borough Road College, Maria Grey College, Shoreditch College and the British and Foreign School Society was held in September to mark the 150th anniversary of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's death.

The exhibition featured a waxwork model of IKB from Madame Tussauds, objects and pictures from the University's

collection of artefacts as well as exhibits about the history of local train transport in Hillingdon.

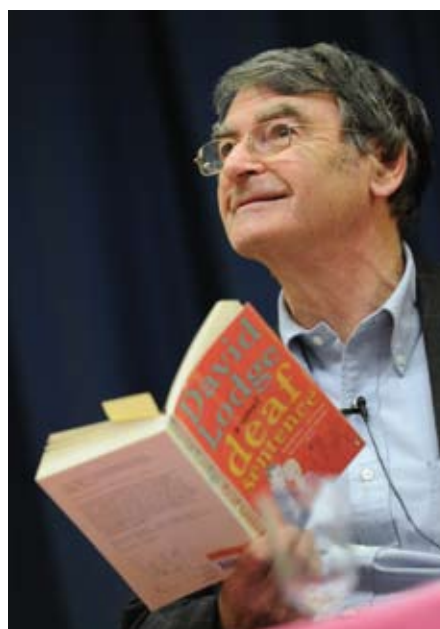
To mark the passing of the great Victorian engineer, the railway cutting on campus was also cleared and opened. The segment of the branch line, built by IKB himself, runs parallel to Cleveland Road and used to connect Uxbridge to the Great Western Railway at West Drayton until freight traffic ceased in 1964.

## Internationally-acclaimed authors re-imagine old age in public debate

In February, Brunel welcomed novelist Jim Crace and author and literary critic David Lodge (pictured) to campus to take part in a public debate challenging attitudes and representations of ageing.

'The Great Ageing Debate', hosted by the Brunel Centre for Contemporary Writing as part of the Fiction and Cultural Mediation of Ageing Project (FCMAP), focused on Lodge's *Deaf Sentence* and Crace's *Arcadia*. Both novels explore the theme of old age through the characters of their protagonists. The authors discussed issues including the moment when one realises one is 'old', the relationship between long life and technology, and the prospect of retirement and loss of creativity.

The audience included volunteers from the University of the Third Age, who, as part of the FCMAP project, had examined the two novels as well as works by other authors who address ageing.



The FCMAP project aims to compile a detailed picture of older people's opinions on ageing in Britain today, as well as addressing issues arising from Britain's rapidly ageing population, especially in governmental policy planning areas such as health provision, the compulsory retirement age and social care.

*With thanks to reporter Emma Filtness*

## Campus awards

### Widening Participation team achieve two prestigious awards

Brunel has been awarded the Frank Buttle Trust Quality Mark for Care Leavers in Higher Education, which recognises institutions that go the extra mile to support students who have been in public care. Brunel Widening Participation also won a prestigious London Education Partnership Award as part of the Aspire Initiative, a programme run by a team of local education providers and Government agencies which aims to improve motivation for study, self-development and career planning among Year 6 students.

### ARC retains Community Legal Service Quality Mark

The Advice and Representation Centre, a free, confidential service run by the Students' Union, has been re-awarded a national Quality Mark for adherence to standards and good practice. Natalie Foster, President of the Students' Union, described the accolade as "a credit to our staff and our commitment to independent support".

### Brunel achieves Secured Environments award

Brunel has become only the fourth university in the UK to receive a Secured Environments certificate. The accreditation, awarded by the Association of Chief Police Officers, is given to organisations that are committed to exacting standards of security and crime risk management.

### Residential, Catering and Conference Services celebrate double success

For the seventh successive year, Brunel's Residential, Catering and Conference Services (RCCS) have secured Hospitality Assured accreditation. Their services are now rated as 'outstanding', with some of the highest scores in the sector. Furthermore, Brunel now has the only 5\* campus accommodation in the UK, following the Lancaster Suite's top rating by Quality in Tourism. For more information or to book a room at the Lancaster Suite, Lodge and Spa, see [www.brunel.ac.uk/life/sport/lancasterhealthsuite/lancaster](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/life/sport/lancasterhealthsuite/lancaster).



## Shoreditch College 1969 reunion

With the assistance of the Alumni Office, Ed Thompson organised Shoreditch College's 40-year reunion in September 2009.

"In February 2009, Graham Gregory and I were discussing the fact that it was 40 years since we left Ditch. 'What about a reunion?' I suggested. And so it began! I started with two email addresses and one phone number, plus an old pass list and a connection to Friends Reunited, but when the day arrived we had fifteen alumni, seven partners and one former lecturer - Alan Rees. Derek Giles travelled the furthest, from Canada, and others from far and wide in England.



I had discovered that Brunel still has an archive section based on the old Shoreditch campus, which was opened on a Saturday afternoon just for us. Some of the group had brought photos, newspaper articles, college ties and other memorabilia to be added to the collection.

If anyone who was not present would like to contact old friends, email me at [ed.thompson2@virgin.net](mailto:ed.thompson2@virgin.net)."

(l-r) Derek Giles, Dave Field, Bruce Gregory, Ed Thompson, Alan Rees (Lecturer), Fred Lewis, Derek Hall, Ted Cooke, Graham Gregory, Danny Philips, Colin Turner, John Cordory, Pete Dicker, Joe Dobson, Alan Goodridge (1968), Roger Williams

## Borough Road coat of arms explained



Kevin Wood (Borough Road, 1964), a retired head teacher and school inspector who now works as a genealogist and author, writes of his involvement in the creation of the Borough Road coat of arms.

"My interest in heraldry started as a schoolboy, so on arriving at the College I explained my interest and my dissatisfaction with their logo. Surprisingly, this coincided with the ideas of the then Bursar and Chair of Governors, and within a few days I was given a brief to come up with a new design!

The bees, a symbol central to College life, afford balance to the whole design. The arch bears a Saxon crown, signifying the College's location in the Middle Saxon kingdom (Middlesex), while a pair of red roses, the historic symbol of Lancaster, indicates the College's origin at the site of Joseph Lancaster's School. The cross at the base is drawn from the seal of Isleworth Priory. The College motto, *Una mente*, was preserved, and it has always inspired me to single-mindedness!"



## Early memories of the Uxbridge campus

by Charles Rudd (Library, 1967-2004)

"I was appointed as an Assistant Librarian in August 1967 to work mainly at the Uxbridge Campus, which at that time consisted of the Wilfred Brown Building, the Howell Centre and the Refectory. The Acton move was completed in 1971, and the first books, in bundles tied with string, came over from Acton to the Library space in the Engineering Centre at Uxbridge, with additional space in the newly built Lecture Centre.

It was several years before serious landscaping began, with the planting of shrubs and trees in large numbers. There were far fewer students than there are today, and after Easter many went on work placements, leaving the Uxbridge campus seemingly deserted during the summer.

The Library building was opened in 1973 by the German novelist and Nobel Prize winner Heinrich Böll. For some time the stock was not large enough to fill it up, enabling the ground floor to be used for various purposes, ranging from yoga classes to art exhibitions. It all seems so long ago!"





# Graduation 2009

Graduation Week provided an opportunity for staff, students and their friends and families to recognise the achievements of the graduating class of 2009. Despite the occasional downpour, the eight ceremonies, held in the Indoor Athletics Centre, were cause for celebration across campus.

## Honorary Graduates

Brunel awarded 11 honorary doctorates this year:

### Dame Kelly Holmes



*(awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of the University in recognition of her outstanding services to the sporting and international communities)*

Dame Kelly Holmes secured her place in history by winning both the 800m and 1500m in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. She began pursuing athletics full-time in 1997, after reaching the rank of Sergeant and receiving an MBE for her services to the British Army. She won Olympic, World, European and Commonwealth medals prior to her Athens triumph, and her many accolades culminated in a damehood in 2005. Since retiring, Kelly has founded various initiatives supporting and mentoring young people in sport.

### Jenni Murray OBE



*(awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in recognition of her outstanding services to broadcasting)*

Jenni Murray is known to millions of radio listeners as the voice of *Woman's Hour* on BBC Radio 4. After beginning her career in local radio in Bristol, she moved on to *Newsnight* and the *Today* programme before inheriting the *Woman's Hour* chair in 1987. She was awarded an OBE in 1999. In December 2006, Jenni announced live on air that she had been diagnosed with breast cancer, but following treatment, she returned to *Woman's Hour* in 2007 and is now Patron of the charity Breast Cancer Campaign.

### The Rt Hon Lord Hurd of Westwell CH CBE



*(awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his outstanding services to the national and international community)*

Lord Hurd's distinguished career in Government included the offices of Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Home Secretary and Foreign Secretary in the Thatcher and Major governments of the 1980s and 1990s. He was created a Life Peer in 1997, and since retiring from politics has held senior roles with national and international organisations, commissions and charities. He is also a published author.

- **Margaret Burgess** – Brunel graduate and founder of leprosy charity Promise Nepal
- **Alastair Curtis** – Brunel Industrial Design graduate and former Chief Designer for Nokia
- **Jeffrey Ellwood** – businessman, Justice of the Peace and ex-Chair of Brunel's Council

- **Peter Galloway OBE** – Brunel visiting Professor, Reverend and scholar
- **Sir Craig Reedie CBE** – Vice President of the British Olympic Association
- **Kelly Sotherton** – Commonwealth gold medallist and Olympic bronze medallist in the heptathlon
- **The Rt Hon Malcolm Wicks** – Former Brunel lecturer, MP, Prime

- Minister's special representative on international energy issues and Vice President of Carers UK and the Alzheimer's Society
- **James Younger CBE** – Served as Director General of the British Red Cross, Chair of the Electoral Commission and Managing Director of BBC World Service

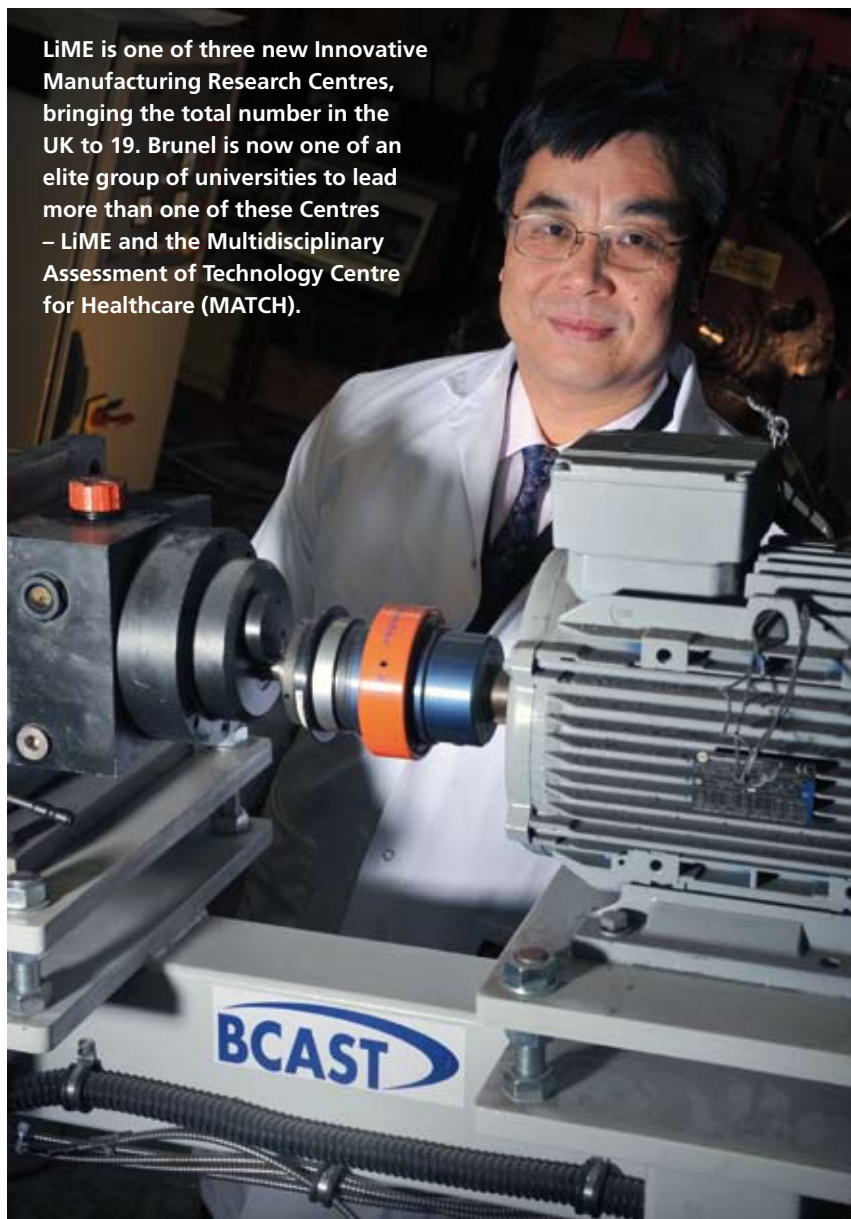
## Brunel leads new £9 million Centre for Innovative Manufacturing

In January, the Prime Minister and the Business Secretary, Lord Mandelson, announced that Brunel will lead a new multi-million pound research centre as part of a £70 million investment to boost high-tech manufacturing business.

The Liquid Metals Engineering (LiME) Centre for Innovative Manufacturing aims to make a significant contribution to the £17 billion UK metals industry by advancing sustainable and cost-effective ways to manufacture and use more durable, lightweight metals. The Centre, led by Brunel's Professor Zhongyun Fan (pictured) and operating in partnership with the Universities of Oxford and Birmingham, will attract £9 million in funding over five years from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and 15 industry partners.

Professor Fan explained the Centre's dual economic and environmental potential: "We aim to safeguard the role of the metals industry in wealth creation by developing manufacturing technologies that cut carbon emissions by millions of tonnes, reduce energy use by trillions of kilowatt hours and save millions of tonnes of natural resources every year – without jeopardising efficient production of high-quality metallic materials."

LiME is one of three new Innovative Manufacturing Research Centres, bringing the total number in the UK to 19. Brunel is now one of an elite group of universities to lead more than one of these Centres – LiME and the Multidisciplinary Assessment of Technology Centre for Healthcare (MATCH).



## Major international conferences come to Brunel

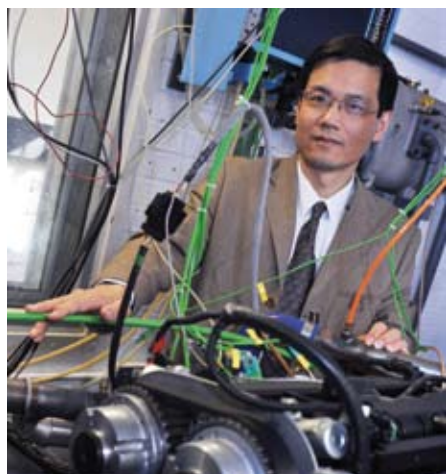
In July 2010, Brunel's School of Health Sciences and Social Care will be hosting the 39th **British Society of Gerontology Conference** on Identities, Care and Everyday Life. The event will provide an opportunity to showcase the work and successes of the Brunel Institute for Ageing Studies (BIAS). Find out more at [www.bsg2010brunel.org.uk](http://www.bsg2010brunel.org.uk).

In June 2009, the **International Association for Philosophy and Literature (IAPL)** held their annual conference at Brunel, welcoming high profile names from the worlds of academia, literature and philosophy to the campus (pictured right). The event highlighted the quality of research being undertaken in the School of Arts.





## Research projects target reduction in carbon emissions



Groundbreaking simulation results from the Advanced Powertrain and Fuels Research Group, led by Professor Hua Zhao (pictured above), suggest that a normal combustion engine can be adapted into a new air hybrid engine at very low cost.

Electric hybrid vehicles save fuel using energy management measures such as switching off the engine when not in use and recovering braking energy, but

transforming an existing combustion engine into an electric hybrid is expensive and problematic.

Air (pneumatic) hybrid engines are cheaper to run and deliver significantly fewer carbon emissions. Compressed gases produced by engine pistons while the car is slowing down are driven into a tank and used later to power the pistons and to provide compressed air for turbo charging during periods of turbo lag. Brunel's simple, cost-effective solution avoids the costly exhaust valve adaption which engineers have been struggling to overcome for ten years.

In December, the potential impact of this breakthrough was recognised when Brunel was named one of six winners of the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership's Technology Challenge. The winners had the chance to pitch their ideas directly to senior representatives from a number of major companies within the automotive industry, including Jaguar Land Rover, Nissan, Ford, Shell International and McLaren Automotive.

Brunel's X-Team competed in the inaugural "Zero Carbon, Clean Emission Grand Prix" on the Isle of Man in 2009.

The group, comprising four final-year Mechanical Engineering MEng students supported by academic staff and a professional rider and mechanic, planned, managed, designed and built an electric-powered racing bike, investigating and implementing "green" technology in conjunction with existing race-bike systems to produce a competitive machine.



## Brunel's online research archive reaches millionth download



In June, the Brunel University Research Archive (BURA) recorded its millionth download since its launch in December 2006, demonstrating the quality and depth of research excellence at Brunel.

The Archive preserves and disseminates articles, data sets, working papers, conference papers, pre-prints and PhD theses produced by staff and research students across the University. These are accessible on the web to a worldwide audience, 24 hours a day.

On average, BURA records 4,000 individual downloads per day. At the time of writing, it has attracted a total of 1.6 million downloads, and is ranked 12th in the UK research repository rankings.

## Individual awards and appointments

**Professor Celia Brackenridge**, Director of Brunel's Centre for Youth Sport and Athlete Welfare, has been awarded an honorary doctorate in science by the University of Bedfordshire, in recognition of her long term commitment to the study of sexual abuse and child protection in sport. Celia began her career at the former Bedford College of Physical Education. The honorary degree represents her third major honour in as many years.

**Christina Gipson**, a doctoral student in the Centre for Youth Sport and Athlete Welfare, received the prestigious Nell C Jackson Memorial Award from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The award, made to elite African American women in sport, recognises Christina's success coaching young women in soccer, with the aim of developing them both as athletes and as citizens.

**Professor Ray Hackney** of Brunel Business School was elected to serve on the European Doctoral Programmes Association in Management and Business Administration (EDAMBA) Executive Board. EDAMBA promotes the improvement of PhD programmes by encouraging the exchange of information and expertise.

**Daniel Phillips**, a Brunel Sport Sciences graduate, was doubly successful in 2009 when his research into exercise performance in an oxygen-deprived state, funded by a Physiological Society Vacations Studentship Award, also jointly won an Oxford University Physiological Society conference prize. Daniel is seeking funding in order to continue his studies.

**Dr Christine Riefa**, lecturer in the Brunel Law School, received a Fulbright Commission EU Scholar-in-Residence award to strengthen US expertise in EU affairs. Dr Riefa will spend five months at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Ohio, teaching European Consumer Law and researching the protection of consumers in virtual environments such as Second Life.

**Dr Bryan Taylor**, research associate in the Centre for Sports Medicine and Human Performance, was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Commission Distinguished Scholar Award in May 2009, giving him the opportunity to pursue a 10-month postdoctoral research project based at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota into the role of the respiratory system in limiting exercise tolerance amongst heart-failure patients.

## New Brunel-led DVD label restores classic 1970s horror movie



*Cine-Excess*, Brunel's joint commercial-academic DVD label, has released the new high-definition master of Dario Argento's cult 1977 shocker *Suspria*, making the new print of the film available on DVD and Blu-Ray for the first time in the UK.

Film and TV lecturer Xavier Mendik (pictured), the director of *Cine-Excess*, helped supervise the restoration of the release in conjunction with film organisations in London and Prague. Mendik also leads the annual *Cine-Excess* international cult film conference and festival upon which the label is based, and the movies it releases all include teaching tool extras created by Brunel academics to complement the main feature.

Under the strand '*Cine-Excess: Taking Trash Seriously*', the *Suspria* release includes a documentary written and directed by Mendik, entitled 'Fear at 400 Degrees'. As well as exploring Argento's tale about a coven of murderous witches in a dance academy, the documentary analyses the cultural, social and political

context of Italy in the 1970s, including issues such as urban terrorism, the women's movement and regional inequality.

The release received wide critical acclaim, with leading reviewers stating that "*Suspria* has never looked better. It has never sounded as good, either," (John Millar, Film Critic, Sunday Mail) and hailing the new *Cine-Excess* release as "a stunning makeover for one of the greatest horror films ever made," (David Edwards, Daily Mirror). It was also named top DVD release of the week by Time Out magazine.

The *Cine-Excess* brand, launched in November 2009, is a joint venture between the University's Cult Film Archive and Nouveaux Pictures, a leading distributor of classic art-house films. Recent releases include the gory 1980s Dutch thriller *Amsterdamed*, directed by Dick Maas, and the label has been given the rights to a selection of the 300 movies owned by B-movie director and producer Roger Corman, some of which will be released in 2010.

## Brunel ergonomist launches Design Museum exhibition

How could the same sorts of errors you make when setting your alarm clock have led to a commercial airliner crash in 1992? What links iPods, the CERN control centre, airline design and your office chair?

The answer is ergonomics, and in early 2010 it was the subject of a major exhibition at London's Design Museum, led by Brunel ergonomist Dr Mark Young and supported by the Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors as part of its 60th anniversary celebrations.

Often described as the science of everyday life, ergonomics combines knowledge of human performance with design and engineering to create systems, products and services that are enjoyable and safe to use.

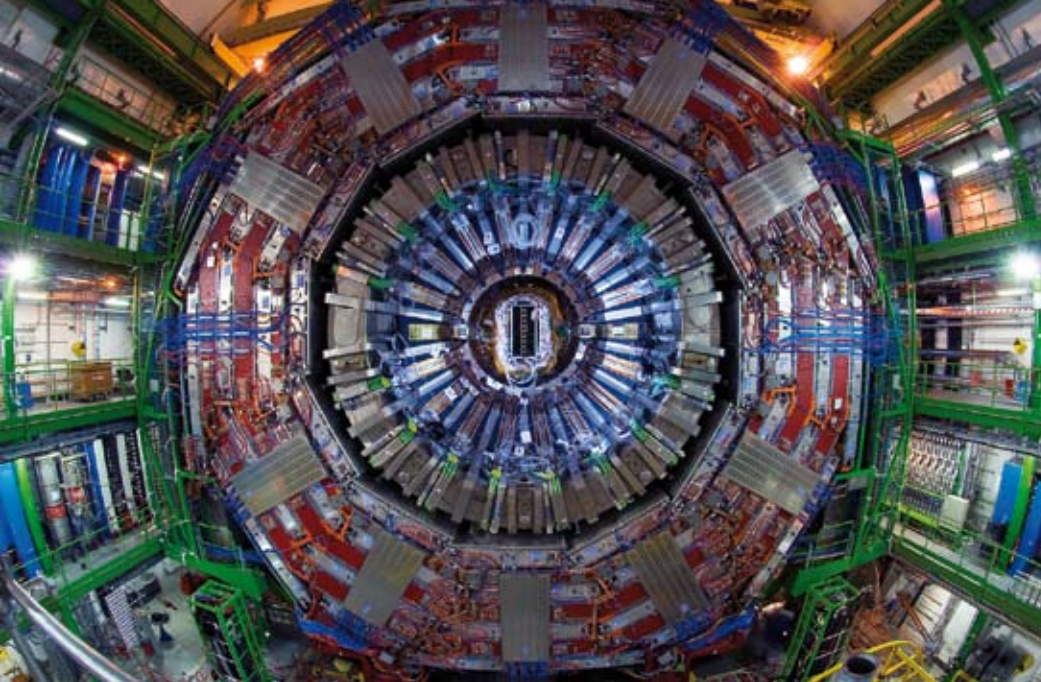
"Ergonomics is about applying science and method to what might otherwise be assumed as common sense," explains Dr Young. Its principles improve how we interact with the world around us, from using your TV remote control to driving your car, and it even impacts on vast, complex systems such as transport and medical care.

The Ergonomics – Real Design exhibition was organised in collaboration with the Design Museum, Loughborough University and Laura Grant Associates, and made possible by a grant from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.



Made in Brunel, the University's annual design and engineering exhibition for graduating students, showcases some of the most innovative, creative design thinking in the UK. To find out more, see page 23.





## Brunel's female scientists celebrated at CERN

Members of Brunel's Centre for Sensors and Instrumentation in the School of Engineering and Design were among those recognised to mark International Women's Day at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

To celebrate the progress of women in particle physics, the organisation encouraged as many women as possible to be on shift in the experiment and accelerator control rooms, to staff the IT helpdesk, and to guide official visits.

Brunel's scientists play an important role at CERN as members of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment (pictured above), one of the four detectors designed to study the proton-

proton collisions generated by the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). Part of the CMS team's celebrations involved the production of a poster featuring the names and faces of the women who contribute to the experiment, including Brunel's Dr Jo Cole, Dr Dawn Leslie and Dr Liliana Teodorescu.

CERN is one of the world's largest and most respected scientific centres, and its recognition of the vital role of women at all levels throughout the laboratory sends a clear message that particle physics is a field in which women play an active role at the forefront of experimental research.

## Brunel Innovation Centre established at world-leading research institute

Brunel University and TWI, one of the world's leading research and technology organisations, have formalised a long-standing research association by founding the Brunel Innovation Centre (BIC).

The Centre, led by Professor Tat-Hean Gan in the School of Engineering and Design, will be based at TWI's site in Cambridge, and will focus on acoustic waves to address major, industrially-driven research challenges in the energy and advanced engineering sectors.

## Research Centre advances understanding of chromosome movement



Researchers in Brunel's Centre for Cell and Chromosome Biology have revealed that chromosomes move much faster within our cells than had been thought, advancing knowledge about chromosome behaviour that could improve our understanding of diseases such as premature ageing and cancer.

Our DNA is organised into chromosomes, housed in chromosome territories within the nuclei of our cells. These territories are positioned depending on whether the cell in which they sit is in an active or resting state, and when it is stimulated to change state the territories are repositioned accordingly, for optimal cell function.

When resting cells are stimulated to become active this repositioning takes 24 to 36 hours, but the research team, led by Dr Joanna Bridger, found that when cells are induced from an active to a resting state, the process takes just 15 minutes. Such rapid movement implies that repositioning is a tightly-controlled, energetic process, driven by a motor within the cell nucleus. This hypothesis was successfully tested by the team by using drugs to block the behaviours of a specific motor protein and then by removing it – the chromosomes remained stationary.

The team are investigating these events in three types of cells: normal cells; cells derived from patients with progeria, a premature-ageing syndrome; and cancer cells. The study was supported by the Brunel Progeria Research Fund.

# Sport news

## Lightning Bolt strikes Brunel



Over the summer of 2009, Brunel played host to one of the biggest stars in world sport; triple world and Olympic sprint champion Usain Bolt.

The University provided the perfect package for the 100m, 200m and 4x100m world-record-holding sprinter as he prepared for the World Athletics Championships in Berlin: state-of-the-art athletics facilities and easy access from Heathrow to competitions all over Europe. Along with other stars of the Caribbean sprint teams, he could be spotted training on the indoor and outdoor tracks, relaxing in the Hub bar and even making the occasional trip to Uxbridge KFC!

Seven of Brunel's athletes and Sports Scholars were lucky enough to meet the Jamaican superstar for a post-training question and answer session.

Perri Shakes-Drayton (400m hurdles), Rion Pierre (100m), Dan Davis (110m hurdles), Lucy Sargent and Joey Duck (200m), and Nick Leavey and Shelayna Oskan (400m) quizzed Bolt on topics that ranged from mainstream athletics to football allegiances and Caribbean cooking.

Two weeks later in Berlin, Bolt demolished both the 100m and 200m world records again and took three gold medals to complete an astonishing World Championship campaign. Clearly his time at Brunel had paid off!

## Korean group visits Brunel in drive to improve athletes' human rights

A delegation from the National Human Rights Commission of Korea visited Brunel in June 2009 to discuss athlete abuse issues with Professor Celia Brackenridge, Director of the Research Centre for Youth Sport and Athlete Welfare (CYSAW).

Abuse is a major problem in the South Korean sporting system and the delegation's leader, Mr Hyeon Su, emphasised the value of meeting Professor Brackenridge: "We are really impressed with your endeavour to protect and promote human rights in sport over a period spanning more

than 25 years. After our meeting, we are confident that it will be possible to improve the Korean sports policy and system from a human rights perspective."

Professor Brackenridge hopes to continue to support Korea's drive to improve athletes' human rights, especially those of children, who are a particular focus of CYSAW's activities. The visit underlines the value of the School of Sport and Education's growing international status and of its links with academic and political organisations around the world.

[www.brunel.ac.uk/research/centres/cysaw](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/research/centres/cysaw)

## Individual and team successes

There were impressive successes for Brunel's students on the national and international stage in 2009.

Six Brunel students represented Great Britain in the European Under 23 Athletics Championships. Perri Shakes-Drayton won gold in the 400m hurdles, and Rion Pierre claimed bronze in the 100m as well as gold in the 4x100m relay. Joey Duck and Lucy Sargent won gold as part of the women's 4x100m relay squad, and Tara Bird and Emma Pallant competed over the middle distances. In addition, Brunel's athletes enjoyed huge success at the British University Championships – both men's and women's teams were crowned indoor champions, and the Brunel team won 15 medals in the outdoor championships.

Sport Sciences student Lenka Gajarska won silver in the long jump at the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sport Federation World Games in India. Lenka is coached by Brunel graduate Ben McIlroy (Sport Sciences, 2005).

MSc student Rachael Jefferies took gold in the Women's Eight at the Under 23 World Rowing Championships.

Eniola Aluko (Law, 2008) and Anita Asante (BA 2006, MRes 2008 and a current PhD Education student) both played for England's women's football team in the final of Euro 2009. In addition, team psychologist Misia Gervis lectures in Brunel's School of Sport and Education and assistant manager Brent Hills and coach Hope Powell both studied at Borough Road College.

Sport Sciences student Jon Boyton exceeded all expectations to win the first British Indoor Canoeing Championships, defeating Beijing Olympic gold medallist Tim Brabants and British number one Paul Wycherley. The competition, the first of its kind in the UK, was held in Brunel's Indoor Athletics Centre.



# Brunel builds up to London 2012

## Talent days draw potential Paralympians to campus

**Over a hundred potential Paralympians headed to Brunel's Indoor Athletics Centre in September and January to take part in two talent spotting days, run by ParalympicsGB.**

The hopefuls were part of the Talent 2012: Paralympic Potential campaign, a joint initiative between ParalympicsGB, UK Sport and the English Institute of Sport, sponsored by Cadbury, which aims to identify new competitors for the 2012 Olympics and beyond. After trying a variety of sports including athletics, wheelchair basketball, judo and adaptive rowing, those showing potential may progress to a fast-track training programme.

Penny Briscoe, Performance Director for ParalympicsGB, emphasised the success

rate of such talent days: "Around 40 per cent of today's participants will get a call-back and maybe half a dozen will go on to win major medals at an international level in the future." She praised the University's "fantastic" facilities, which allowed multi-sport activities to run in one area.

Brunel MSc student and Paralympic gold medallist Tom Aggar (right) lent his support and encouragement on one of the days. A former rugby-player, Tom took up adaptive rowing following a spinal cord injury and won a gold medal at Beijing within 18 months. He said: "I'm sure there are a lot of people out there who want to get involved in sport but just don't know where to go. Today provides them with that fantastic opportunity."



## Brunel hosts Chinese Olympic Committee

**In January, a delegation from the Chinese Olympic Committee visited Brunel to assess its potential as a pre-Olympic Games training base and sport sciences support service for their Olympic teams.**

The delegation was led by Professor Tian Ye, President of the Chinese Institute of Sport Sciences, who emphasised China's desire to strengthen their performance in traditional Olympic sports such as athletics and swimming. China topped the medal table in Beijing in 2008, winning 100 medals, including 51 golds.

The delegation was impressed with their accommodation in the Lancaster Suite on campus as well as with the new rooms in the Isambard Complex. They were delighted to learn that Brunel is the summer training base of Usain Bolt and that 1992 Olympic 100m gold medallist Linford Christie regularly coaches at the Indoor Athletics Centre.

The tour also took in Hillingdon's newly-built Olympic swimming pool as well as the University's Sport Sciences labs, where the delegates discussed potential collaboration in sport science support services.

## Search for an Olympic Hero finds Brunel sprinter

Brunel student and 200m sprinter Junior Ejehu won first prize in the regional Search for an Olympic Hero competition, after a superb year in which he reached number two in the national 200m rankings.

Junior secured the £1000 top prize and the use of a Renault hire car, while fellow Brunel student and 1500m runner Emma Pallant was awarded fourth place, and a prize of £300.

60,000 members of the public voted in the competition, which was sponsored by Trinity Mirror Southern and Renault London West. The award is intended to help with training and preparation for the 2012 Olympics.

## Are you a Brunel Olympian?

Students and graduates from Brunel University and its predecessor colleges have participated in Olympic Games stretching back to the last time the Games were held in London in 1948.

As part of our preparations for the London 2012 Olympics, we are attempting to compile a complete list of Brunel Olympians, and would be delighted to hear from anyone who represented their country or who knows of a fellow alumnus who competed at the Olympic or Paralympic Games in any discipline.

Please send details to [alumni@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@brunel.ac.uk).

# Alan Bennett: Painting Brunel



2006

Alan Bennett, who retired as Curator of the Beldam Gallery in 2006 after over 35 years at Brunel, painted the University for both the 20th and 40th anniversaries of its Royal Charter. He describes how his focus on University 'spaces' reveals the evolving atmosphere and shape of Brunel since the 1980s.

"In 1986 I painted a series of views around the Uxbridge campus (page opposite). On seeing these and other paintings in 2006, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chris Jenks, invited me to make some new work depicting 'Brunel in the 21st Century' (this page).

A link exists between the 1986 group and the two 2006 paintings as in both it was my intention to make compositions about University spaces. I was interested in the architecture but I didn't set out to paint 'portraits' of buildings.

In the 1986 series, I was concerned that to include figures in some of the paintings might distract the viewer from experiencing the mood, atmosphere, shapes and spaces within them. Considerably fewer people were on campus in those days and the ones outdoors were generally walking fairly determinedly between one building and another!

Twenty years on the University has greatly expanded and much more conversation and interaction takes place outside, particularly along the central concourse. These elements therefore had to be 'central' to the 2006 paintings.

Outside my main work at Brunel and in the intervening years I was fortunate to be granted space to continue my private work – painting in the grounds of the University's Runnymede campus. My principal subjects were the landscape and trees, and here, the freedom to explore the landscape and experiment with painting enabled my work to develop. Manipulation of paint became more attuned to the colours, structures and atmosphere of my subject matter and closer to my thoughts about the nature of my painting."

*All the paintings reproduced here are in Brunel University's Collection of Artworks. Many of Alan Bennett's works are displayed and enjoyed in buildings and offices across the campus.*





1986



# Graduate news

## Law graduate who travelled to Iraq wins volunteering and humanitarian awards

Seja Majeed (Law, 2007) has received two prestigious awards for her highly-influential voluntary work, both in the UK and overseas.

Seja was named the v-inspired most inspirational volunteer for Greater London in 2009, and was also shortlisted for a national award as one of the UK's most inspirational volunteers. The accolade, awarded by v, the leading charity supporting young people's involvement in volunteering, recognised Seja's Cosmetic Hives project, a series of skills workshops to help young people break into the media and fashion industries. The project was funded by v's youth volunteering fund, v-cashpoint.

Along with fellow alumnus **Rui Jorge Octavio (Business and Management, 2009)**, Seja was one of four volunteers chosen to front v's 'Good for Nothing' campaign in 2009, which aimed to challenge negative stereotypes surrounding today's young people. Rui created a v-cashpoint-funded comedy club, Grab Your Mike, to provide young people with opportunities to develop their confidence and performance skills.

Seja's wider volunteering activities have comprised a range of innovative and sometimes sensitive projects relating to issues of global significance, and she received an Ambassador for Peace Award from the UK Universal Peace Federation in recognition of her humanitarian work in Iraq.

Seja travelled to Iraq in 2007 in collaboration with the Rainbow Collective Film Company, to deliver humanitarian supplies and record informal interviews with those trying to lead a normal life in the aftermath of war. The resulting film, entitled Baghdad Holiday, attracted attention from several prominent broadcasters, and the journalist and presenter Jon Snow commented: "It's a brilliant piece...very moving... beautifully shot and edited...I love it".

She has also worked on Amnesty International's Anti-Death Penalty programme, where she handled extremely sensitive and highly confidential matters including 300 death row cases. Her projects for the coming year include a live interview with Sir David Nicholson, director of the NHS, on behalf of the SocialBreakfast website which seeks to get young people involved in politics.

Seja is currently continuing her studies in Law, and also has a diploma in screenwriting, but her goal is to enter politics. She says: "A little self belief and encouragement is all you need to make an impact in life. Sometimes we go through a lot of hardships, but once we overcome them the rewards can be plentiful. Brunel University certainly made me believe in my abilities, and because of this, I aim to create a lasting change for us all."

[www.vinspired.com](http://www.vinspired.com)  
[www.sejamajeed.webs.com](http://www.sejamajeed.webs.com)





## Former Students' Union VP helps bring football home for 2018



**Tony Jackson (Sport Sciences, 2005) was Vice President for Sport and Societies at the Union of Brunel Students from 2005 to 2006.**

After roles with Sport England and UK Sport, Tony joined pmp-genesis, a leading management consultancy specialising in sport, leisure and culture, where he now works as a Consultant in the sporting events division, pmp-legacy. Tony is currently working with England2018, the company established by the Football Association to bring the FIFA World Cup™ to England.

"I worked as part of a multi-disciplinary team of pmp-legacy Consultants, staff from England2018 and the architects Populous to manage the City Selection Process, which assessed the capability of each city that hoped to be a part of England's 2018 FIFA World Cup™ bid. The team helped the cities to develop the best possible bid in line with FIFA

requirements and then evaluated these bids against the selection criteria. This culminated in the announcement of the 12 Candidate Host Cities in December 2009.

Taking penalties with Boris Johnson on a spot of grass in front of Tower Bridge was a highlight of my involvement, as was meeting former England international Paul Ince, a childhood hero of mine. My colleagues have met many other names from the world of football including Jamie Carragher, Rafael Benitez and, perhaps most notably, David Beckham, who is one of many ambassadors for the bid.

The real highlight however was the sheer energy, enthusiasm and excitement exhibited by each Applicant Host City at the possibility of hosting the FIFA World Cup™. An astounding volume and quality of work was delivered within extremely demanding timescales and it

was fascinating to see just how much the FIFA World Cup™ and football can excite and engage an entire city!

Working on such a high profile project and within multi-disciplinary teams that include renowned stadium architects, football administrators and business professionals has been an exceptional experience. Not only have I experienced bidding for the biggest sporting event in the world, but I have developed my general and football-specific business acumen immensely. As a football player and a fan, it has been a fantastic project to be involved in and I feel privileged to have been a part of it."

You can find out more about England's bid to host the 2018 or 2022 FIFA World Cup™ and show your support by backing the bid at [www.England2018bid.com](http://www.England2018bid.com) or by texting 'England' to 62018.



### Claire Bertschinger made a Dame in New Year Honours list

**Claire Bertschinger (MSc Medical Anthropology, 1997), the nurse whose work inspired the Live Aid concerts, has been awarded a damehood for her commitment to nursing and international humanitarian aid.**

Working as an International Red Cross nurse in Ethiopia during the 1984 famine, Claire was the central figure of a BBC news report in which she described how, each day, she had to decide which children should receive the limited food available, and which were too malnourished to survive. Bob Geldof was so moved by the report that he organised the Band Aid recording 'Do They Know It's Christmas?' and the subsequent 1985 Live Aid concerts, which between them raised in excess of £150 million.

Claire, who was awarded an honorary Brunel doctorate in 2008, continued to work with the International Red Cross in more than a dozen war zones. Michael Buerk described her as "one of the true heroines of our times – an ordinary woman who did extraordinary things and really did move mountains."

## Successful metallurgist gives back to Brunel

Dr Edwin France (PhD Metallurgy, 1973) describes the impact of studying at Brunel on his distinguished career in metallurgy.

"When I was 18, family friends showed me around a local company that produced magnesium alloys and castings. The experience whetted my appetite to study metallurgy, but the problem was where!

The then-new degree courses incorporating industrial experience appealed to me, and I considered myself fortunate to be accepted at the newly-established Brunel University. The fact that I successfully completed my degree and subsequently a PhD in the Metallurgy Department was down to the staff of the time – my gratitude is to Professor Colin Bodsworth, my degree tutor Bernard Davies and research tutor Dr Barry Fookes.

After graduating, I worked as a professional metallurgist mainly in the nuclear power and military sectors, before forming a consultancy company with a colleague. We provided metallurgical and welding engineering services to industry, including devising the welding procedure for the steel tunnel sections on the London Underground Jubilee line through Canary Wharf. Since 2000 I have continued the company alone, working in problem solving and on many occasions as an expert witness.

Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to travel in a number of countries in the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. At 18 I could never have envisaged doing this type of activity for a living – it would have been beyond my horizons!

Brunel changed me from being shy and naïve into a mature individual. I feel others should have the chance to experience a Brunel education, and this motivated my recent contribution to the Brunel Scholarship Fund."



## Career in management consultancy leads to idyllic life in Chile

**Pete McEvoy (MA Industrial Relations, 1989) has lived in Chile since 1996 and works at the Gemini Observatory, one of the world's major astronomical telescopes.**

"I live with my family in the Central North of Chile, on the coast. We only have three or four days of rain a year, but are guaranteed green valley floors (and great wine!) by the glacial run-off from the nearby Andes.

I am the Administration and Facilities Manager for the Chilean and Hawaiian base facilities of the Gemini Observatory. I arrived in Chile with a British management consultancy, for which I had worked in the UK, US and Africa. Perhaps the greatest perk of working with the company was the travelling, which encompassed most of South America, as well as the variety of industries with which I worked.

These days, life is well-balanced. Work is very demanding, but the load can be managed in a reasonable number of hours per day. Weekends are sacrosanct. The family and I enjoy kayaking, trekking – I completed the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu in 2008 and am trekking in the Cordillera Blanca of Peru this year – golf, surfing, cycling and swimming. One of the reasons this place was chosen for the site of major optical telescopes is the very high number of cloudless days here per year, and we try to make the most of them!

Since Brunel, I have learnt that life is full of surprises. In a couple of years I could be running a hot dog stand in Leicester Square, but with my family around me, that would be cool."



## Military honour for graduate who helped secure £9 billion of reconstruction funding in Iraq



Trevor Killen (Government Studies, 1977) has been awarded a Certificate of Commendation “in recognition of exceptional contribution” to the Coalition mission in Iraq.

Since March 2008, Trevor has acted as the UK’s Investment Promotion Advisor in Iraq. Although more recently based in Baghdad, most of his time has been spent setting up and advising the Basra Investment Commission and working as part of the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Basra province, a region in desperate need of sustained investment to improve living conditions.

General Andy Salmon OBE, then General Officer Commanding Basra, presented the award at a ceremony in the city, where he cited Trevor’s “enormous commitment and hard work, above and beyond what might be reasonably expected”, and described him as “outstanding in his knowledge and expertise in investment promotion, while also generous and effective in sharing this with others.”

In practical terms, Trevor’s achievements range from the establishment of a functioning office and staff for the Basra Investment Commission, to building their capability to attract investment proposals worth £9bn after a highly successful programme of investor visits. His work will make a great contribution to improving stability and security across the province.

Trevor, who has also received the UK Iraq Reconstruction Service Medal, described the award as “an unexpected honour.”



### Musician records renowned composers for online library

Jo Belcher (Music, 2005) works with world-class composers and performers at Audio Network, the first UK company to create a large scale, rights-cleared original music catalogue for use in television, film, advertising and new media.

As Music Co-ordinator, Jo briefs composers on what music to write, organises recording sessions and oversees coding of the finished tracks for upload onto the web. She explains: “I always wanted to be involved in music for film and TV. I worked my way up to be involved with the music production – it’s a great job because I’ve learnt how a studio works and how to record and mix tracks. I’ve had the opportunity to work with amazing composers and performers, including Evelyn Glennie and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.”

Brunel Honorary Graduate **Sir John Dankworth**, one of the biggest names in British jazz who died in 2010, was a founding investor and regular composer for the company.

# Graduates in print



**Jo Brand (BSc Human Sciences, 1982)** *Look Back in Hunger* (Headline Review, 2010)

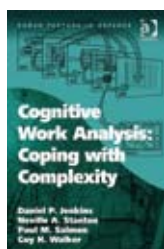
Jo Brand, one of Britain's best-loved comedians, gives a candid account of her life, including her time at Brunel, her career and the unforgiving world of stand-up comedy in her newly-released autobiography.

**Valerie Jack (PGCE 2007)** *Educational* (Tall Lighthouse, 2009)

*Educational* draws on Valerie's experiences as a teacher as well as on continuing life lessons, and was described by her publisher as 'a mature and assured debut from a young writer'. ([www.valeriejack.com](http://www.valeriejack.com))

**Victor Kattan (Law, 2001)** *From Coexistence to Conquest: International Law and the Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict 1891-1949* (Pluto Press, 2009)

Victor teaches at the School of Oriental and African Studies and has worked for the UN Development Programme, specialising in Palestinian refugee rights. His book has been praised as 'an elegant and forceful narrative' by Boutros Boutros-Gahli, Former UN Secretary-General.



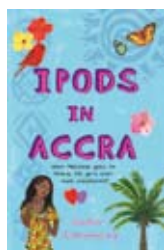
**Dr Dan Jenkins (MEng 2004, PhD 2008) and Professor Neville Stanton, Dr Paul Salmon and Dr Guy Walker (all former researchers at Brunel)**

*Cognitive Work Analysis: Coping with Complexity* (Ashgate, 2009)

*Cognitive Work Analysis* focuses on the development and analysis of complex socio-technical systems – systems made up of numerous interacting parts, both human and non-human.

**Russell Myrie (English and History, 1999)** *Don't Rhyme for the Sake of Riddlin': the Authorised Story of Public Enemy* (Canongate, 2009)

Russell is Arts Editor for *The Voice*. His book is the first authorised biography of Public Enemy, one of the foremost hip hop groups of all time.



**Sophia Acheampong (BA 2000, MA 2002)** *Ipods in Accra* (Piccadilly Press, 2009)

Sophia's follow-up to the popular and well-received *Growing*

*Yams in London*, written as part of her Brunel MA dissertation, provides an insight into the lives of London girls born to Ghanaian parents.

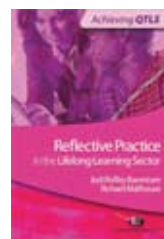


**Professor C T J Dodson (BSc 1965, PhD 1969) and Dr Khadiga Arwini** *Information Geometry: Near Randomness and Near Independence* (Springer, 2008)

Kit Dodson is now Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Manchester University. His latest book was co-authored by his final PhD student, who now lectures in Libya.

**Dr Costas Karageorghis (BSc 1991, MPhil 1997, PhD 1998 and currently Reader in Sport Psychology) and Professor Peter Terry (BHum 1981, PGCE 1982 and former Professor of Sport Psychology at WLIHE)** *Inside Sport Psychology* (Human Kinetics, 2010)

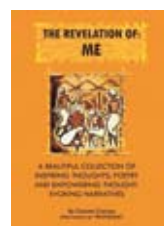
This new resource for athletes, coaches, team managers and students aims to provide a theoretically-grounded approach to developing the psychological aspects of training and competition. Anecdotes from the wide experience of the authors help bring theoretical principles to life.



**Jodi Roffey-Barentsen and Richard Malthouse (both MA Education, 2004, and current EdD students)**

*Reflective Practice in the Lifelong Learning Sector* (Learning Matters, 2009)

This guide draws on Jodi's teacher training and Continuing Professional Development work and Richard's role in training design for the Police Service. They are currently working on a foundation programme study skills book and have written a number of books for policing students.



**Chantel Clarissa Tagoe (nee Roache – Psychology, 2004)** *The Revelation of: Me* (Creation's Expression, 2009)

Chantel Clarissa's collection of poems, thoughts and letters derives from her observations and life experiences, and is an expanded version of a text designed for secondary school pupils. She is currently working on three other anthologies.



# MADE IN BRUNEL™

## 2010: Innovation that works

Students in the School of Engineering and Design are once again preparing to stage their annual showcase, **Made in Brunel**.

This year, the team have chosen the theme “innovation that works”, and plan to place the spotlight squarely on the innovative ideas behind their projects. Made in Brunel is now entering its fifth year at Islington’s Business Design Centre and is becoming a fixture on the London design calendar.

Much hard work takes place behind the scenes to organise the showcase, with teams of dedicated students working closely with staff, sponsors and supporters to make each year’s vision a reality. The experience of working on such a complex project from inception to an audience of over a thousand

people is significant, particularly as it is undertaken alongside final year study (and exams!).

The Alumni Office is often asked what Made in Brunel students do after leaving the University, so this year Link has taken the opportunity to catch up with the Directors of 2009’s exhibition, Tim Holley and Nital Patel (see below). It is no surprise to see their talent and hard work helping them conquer one of the most challenging job markets in recent memory, and they join an ever-growing pool of talent embodying the Made in Brunel brand.

To meet current students and catch up with graduates like Tim and Nital, come and join the team at the Business Design Centre between **8 and 10 June 2010** for Made in Brunel: Innovation that works.



For further information and to register go to [www.madeinbrunel.com](http://www.madeinbrunel.com).



**Made in Brunel’s Directors for 2009, both of whom graduated in Industrial Design, discuss their careers since graduation.**



### Tim Holley

“Graduating in 2009 was not the best timing: jobs were scarce, and the creative industries were some of the first to be hit. However, I had two key weapons in my favour: being heavily involved with Made in Brunel and the support of Onzo Ltd.

Onzo, a UK clean technology company, supported my degree project throughout my final year and offered me an internship at their office after graduating. I started as a product designer but have since moved into a project management position.

Being a Director of Made in Brunel was a crash course in project and

time management – juggling its responsibilities with the workload of my degree was a challenge, but one that has shaped my career path at Onzo. I learned a variety of transferrable skills, including managing a large team, handling significant budgets and working with industry professionals and external companies. This gives me the confidence to take on new challenges.

I can think of few undergraduate projects on the scale of Made in Brunel that give students the freedom to realise a showcase for themselves, their university and for young design and engineering as a whole.”

### Nital Patel

“After graduating from Brunel in 2009, I joined DIY Kyoto Ltd, a sustainable design company who create products to help people understand and control their personal impact on the environment. As a junior designer and product development strategist, my role was to explore potential development opportunities, working closely with the Design Director to explore, conceptually design and evaluate the many ideas generated.

In January 2010, I was offered an internship at a world renowned design consultancy, Jacob Jensen Design in Denmark. My inspiration to be an industrial designer came from Jensen’s products, and it is a huge privilege to be working for the company, designing products for both the Jacob Jensen brand and external consultancy projects. I have fallen in love with Denmark!

Working on Made in Brunel was a tremendous experience and gave me a sense of what it takes to bring a major undertaking to life. It has helped me so much already, and has given me confidence for the future.”

# Congratulations!

## Awards and honours

### **Hayley Barton (Sport Sciences, 2009, and current MSc student)**

Awarded the 2008/09 HTA Whiting Undergraduate Dissertation Prize by the British Psychological Society Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology.

### **Janette Faherty OBE (MPhil Human Sciences, 1976)**

Awarded an OBE for her services to unemployed people and entrepreneurship. Janette's company Avanta provides training and skills education to help people get back into work.

### **Ellen Goudsmit (PhD Health Psychology, 1996)**

Elected Fellow of the British Psychological Society – she is believed to be the first disabled psychologist to be awarded a Fellowship.

### **Lucy Grove (MSc Public Affairs and Lobbying, 2008)**

Named Public Affairs News Newcomer of the Year 2009, whilst working at Grayling PR, public affairs, investor relations and events consultancy. Lucy is now working for Macmillan Cancer Support.



### **Patrick Liew (MBA, 1997)**

Presented with the Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Award at a ceremony in Singapore. In recognition of his drive for enlightened entrepreneurship, Patrick also won the Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Social Contribution.

### **Professor Gossett Oliver (PhD Mechanical Engineering 2003, MTech 1980)**

Awarded the Silver Musgrave medal by the Institute of Jamaica for his contribution to engineering. Professor Oliver is currently acting Deputy President of the Jamaican University of Technology, and has also received a UNESCO Medal for his efforts in globalising engineering education.

### **Lord Sugar of Clapton in the London Borough of Hackney (Brunel Honorary Graduate, 2005)**

Raised to the peerage in 2009.

## Business and industry

### **Erlend Bakke (MA Design and Brand Strategy, 2006)**

Launched 3sixtyfactory, a Norwegian photo and image editing company.

### **Hans Bishop (Chemistry, 1987)**

Appointed Chief Operating Officer of Dendreon Corporation, a Seattle biotechnology company targeting cancer.

### **Chris Box (Economics, 1980)**

Started his own microbrewery, Shenstone Brew Co.

### **Anthony Chew (MBA 1992)**

Appointed Vice President for International Sales for Joopy WWB, marketing Portuguese wines to the international market.

### **Professor Jean-Noel Ezingard (MSc Advanced Manufacturing Systems, 1991, PhD Systems Engineering, 1997)**

Elected to the executive committee of the Association of Business Schools (ABS).

### **Trevor Hutley (Polymer Technology, 1977)**

Appointed General Manager for Product and Technology Development for Sipchem in Saudi Arabia.

### **Marek Jagus (Economics, 1985)**

Appointed General Manager of Finance Operations at London General Insurance.

### **Johannes Paul (Mechanical Engineering, 2001)**

Responding to the current bee population crisis, Johannes's company Omlet have now produced the Beehaus, a complete garden beekeeping kit.

### **Suresh Paul (former Brunel researcher and current PhD student associated with the Brunel Institute for Bioengineering)**

Continuing to achieve groundbreaking design and development work promoting inclusion in active lifestyles and outdoor adventure for disabled as well as non-disabled people.

## Sport

### **Carla Burkitt (current Sport Sciences student)**

Won a silver medal at the 2010 European Cadet and Junior Karate Championships, and competed in the World Junior and Cadet Championships.

### **Danny Daniels (Education, Borough Road College, 1951)**

Won the World Masters Indoor Pentathlon competition at the age of 81, setting a new Canadian Masters age group record. Danny proudly wore his Brunel Sport T-shirt between events!



### **Joel Enoch (Sport Sciences, 2005)**

Competed in the Triathlon World Championships in Australia.

### **Ben Gotting (Sport Sciences, 2003)**

Playing Hooker for London Welsh RFC.

### **Amber Jackson (PGCE Physical Education, 2007)**

Representing Great Britain in the Women's Fastpitch Softball team, while working full-time as a PE teacher.



# Graduates, students and staff in the news



**Andy Lewis (Leisure Management and Sport Sciences, 1993, PGCE 1995, MSc Sport Sciences 1999)**

Broke the World Masters Indoor Pentathlon world record for his age group. As a student, Andy won the British Universities long jump title six years in succession – a record that still stands. He now teaches PE.

**Ben Marsden (Sport Sciences, 2001)**

Retiring as half back for GB Hockey having gained 46 caps for England and 31 for Great Britain. Ben plans to continue playing and coaching.

**Chris Martin (Design, 2003)**

Rowed from Japan to San Francisco as part of the first two-man crew to row unsupported across the North Pacific ([www.goldengateendeavour.com](http://www.goldengateendeavour.com)).

**Amanda Parker (Secondary Education and Physical Education, 2008)**

Came second in the British Trampoline Championships and represented Great Britain in the 2009 World Championships.

**Conor O'Shea (MSc Sport Management in conjunction with the US Sports Academy, 1996)**

Appointed Director of Rugby for Harlequins from March 2010.

**Iwan Thomas (Leisure Management and Sport Sciences, 1995)**

Awarded a World Championship Gold medal as part of the 1997 British 4x400m relay team, following the US team being stripped of their title.

## Arts

**Charlie Gleave (Performing Arts, 1997)**

Singer-songwriter known as Charlie Winston who topped the single and album charts in France and played to 55,000 people at France's biggest music festival. His latest album, *Hobo*, was released in the UK in October 2009.

**Wolfgang Mwanje and Ashley Simon (current Multimedia Technology and Design and Law students, respectively)**

Reached the semi-finals of Sky 1's dance competition show *Got to Dance* with their dance duo Parallel.

**Edward Osei-Gyimah (English with Film and Television Studies, 1999)**

Received a Director's Guild of America Student Filmmaker award for Outstanding Achievement in Direction for his film *Kwame*, along with many other accolades.

**Archie Panjabi (Management Studies, 1996)**

Currently starring as Kalinda Sharma in the CBS award winning drama series *The Good Wife*.

**Dave Smith and Katie Stephenson (both MA Music, 2002)**

After reaching the semi-finals of ITV's *Britain's Got Talent* in 2008, with their junk percussion duo Bang On!, Dave and Katie performed outside St Paul's Cathedral for the opening procession of the City of London Festival.

**Claire Spence (Drama with Film and Television, 1999)**

Actress who performed in a revival of Jean Genet's *The Maids* at Greenwich Playhouse in summer 2009.

## Other congratulations

**Professor Brian Agnew (Mechanical Engineering, 1972)**

Appointed Professor of Energy and the Environment at Northumbria University.

**Mel Ashmead (Cert HE Social Work, 2009)**

Won the £50,000 prize in the TV programme *Deal or no Deal*.

**Lyn Dowsett (née Williams) (Biology, 1970)**

Appointed to the Board of New Horizons Trust for Women, a national funding body in New Zealand where she has worked for over 25 years in Otago University's Department of Biochemistry. Lyn is also now a Justice of the Peace.



**Amina Graham (Law, 2007)**

Secured a sought-after barrister pupillage following successful completion of her Bar Vocational Course.

**Professor Susan Smith (former Brunel Research Fellow)**

Elected Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge.

**Jeanne Socrates (MTech Numerical Analysis, 1970, and former lecturer in Maths)**

Sailing solo non-stop around the world for Marie Curie Cancer Care and ReGenerate, a social action charity.

**Marina Yannakoudakis (Government, 1979)**

Voted in as one of London's Conservative MEPs in last year's European Elections.

# Noticeboard

**Opportunities to stay involved and keep in touch with Brunel, and important information for graduates**

## Brunel Library alumni membership

Brunel Alumni can continue to use the Library as visitors by producing an alumni card together with photo ID. If you want to use the Library on a regular basis, please register to obtain a year-long visitor's pass. Check our website at [www.brunel.ac.uk/life/study/library](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/life/study/library) for further details or ring us on +44 (0)1895 266141.

## Make the most of Brunel's world-class sports facilities

Our training facilities provide everyone from Olympians to students, alumni and the local community with an opportunity to play more sport, have fun and enjoy the great surroundings on campus. Visit any of our outdoor or indoor facilities and the team will advise you about what is on offer, or alternatively visit [www.brunel.ac.uk/life/sport](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/life/sport).

## Keep up your creativity at Brunel Arts Centre

Come and try one of our weekly, weekend and summer courses in painting, drawing, pottery, jewellery making, digital photography or music, all at reduced costs for alumni for the first two years following your graduation. You are also welcome at our regular concerts, exhibitions, events and productions.

Contact the Arts Centre on +44 (0)1895 266074, email [artscentre@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:artscentre@brunel.ac.uk) or consult our web pages at [www.brunel.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/artscentre).



## Calling all entrepreneurs!

Do you run your own company? Do you consider yourself to be entrepreneurial (irrespective of your role)? Would you like to be involved in mentoring our enterprising students and new graduates?

We are trying to find ways to support our students and graduates, to give them a helping hand to start up a business and develop their entrepreneurial and commercial skills. If you would like to be involved, please contact Pauline Seston ([pauline.seston@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:pauline.seston@brunel.ac.uk)) in the Placement and Careers Centre.

## Your company can access Brunel expertise!

Brunel's Research Support and Development Office (RSDO) supports research projects within the University and with our industrial partners. The office also co-ordinates access to consultancy services, as well as Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (a Government sponsored scheme enabling companies to achieve business objectives by accessing University expertise). Find out more at [www.brunel.ac.uk/research/rsdo](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/research/rsdo).

## Give back to the Placement and Careers Centre

As a Brunel student, you may have had the opportunity to benefit from a Work Placement as part of your degree course. If you or your organisation could offer a current student a placement please contact [placements@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:placements@brunel.ac.uk) or phone +44 (0) 1895 266841.

We also warmly welcome alumni who can offer careers advice, shadowing and skills development. Do please also let the Careers team know if your organisation is recruiting to enable us to pass on notices of vacancies to recent graduates.

Contact [careers@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:careers@brunel.ac.uk) or call +44 (0)1895 266840.



## Are you looking for additional value from your Brunel degree?

If you have gained one of the following degrees from Brunel, then you are eligible to apply for fast-track professional recognition (ACMI or MCMI) from the Chartered Management Institute, saving at least 30% on your first year's subscription:

- MBA
- MSc Management



**Brunel merchandise!**  
Visit [www.brunelleisurewear.com](http://www.brunelleisurewear.com)  
for branded clothing, and  
[www.evalondon.com/brunel](http://www.evalondon.com/brunel)  
for Brunel rings.

### Cybernetics reunion

If you studied Cybernetics at Brunel and would like to meet up with old friends and fellow alumni, contact David Dewhurst ([david.dewhurst@gmail.com](mailto:david.dewhurst@gmail.com)).

### Brunel Inaugural Lectures 2010

You are very welcome to attend the following free lectures, which provide an opportunity to experience some of the fascinating research taking place at Brunel. For further information, please email [events@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:events@brunel.ac.uk).

**Thursday 14 October** – Prof Nicola Madge, School of Health Sciences and Social Care

*"Who am I? Who are you? Children, young people and the negotiation of identity"*

**Tuesday 9 November** – Prof Justin Fisher, Magna Carta Institute

*"Seven Myths about Political Parties"*

**Tuesday 7 December** – Prof Kai Cheng, School of Engineering and Design

*"Precision and micro manufacturing with a global sustainable dimension and e-thought"*

- MSc International Business
- MSc Human Resources Management
- MSc Global Supply Chain Management
- MSc Human Resources Employment Relations
- BSc Business and Management
- BSc International Business

To find out more please call the CMI's membership team on **+44 (0)1536 207307** or email [membership@managers.org.uk](mailto:membership@managers.org.uk), quoting code **2485**.

### All it takes is a little application!

A Brunel postgraduate degree is the obvious choice! Benefits include 10% discount on the final amount due (ie after any other discount) for graduates of the University who register for a taught or research postgraduate programme on a fully self-funding basis.

Postgraduate Open Days:

**Wednesday 26 May 2010, 2pm - 5pm**

**Wednesday 28 July 2010, 5pm - 8pm**

at the Hospitality Suite, Hamilton Centre, Uxbridge Campus, UB8 3PH

Programme:

- Course forum with stands from each academic school
- Tours of the campus and accommodation by current students
- Seminars on postgraduate issues including finance and student life
- Postgraduate Society representatives available to offer information on student life
- Representatives from other areas including the Graduate School, Placement and Careers Centre and Brunel International

To book your place, please visit [www.brunel.ac.uk](http://www.brunel.ac.uk).

For further information, contact Brunel Graduate School on [graduateschool@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:graduateschool@brunel.ac.uk) or **+44 (0)1895 265935**.



### Affordable rates and superb facilities at the Lancaster Suite

The Lancaster Suite offers Bed and Breakfast accommodation in a convenient location on Brunel's campus.

#### Rates per room:

Single occupancy: £54.00

Double occupancy: £69.00

Triple occupancy: £84.00

#### Rates include:

- Continental breakfast
- Car parking
- Spa facilities (spa pool, plunge pool, sauna and steam room)
- Freeview LCD TV
- Tea and coffee-making facilities
- Mini-fridge
- Hairdryer
- Internet point (internet access is chargeable)
- 24hr check in (via campus security between 22:00 and 07:00)

To make a reservation or for more information call

**+44 (0)1895 268001** or email [lancaster-staff@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:lancaster-staff@brunel.ac.uk).

### Corporate Brand Management internship opportunity

From summer 2011, as a key part of their professional development, students on the Brunel Corporate Brand Management MSc will undertake a three to four month internship with brand-aware organisations and their advisors. For students, it is an opportunity to apply learning to real issues of brand management and to build their industry understanding. For organisations, it is an opportunity to engage a smart and motivated student, supported by a leading academic, to help deliver a better managed corporate brand.

We are looking for innovative brand-aware organisations and brand management consultancies to benefit from this scheme. For more information or to discuss your needs please contact Dr Ian Rowley via [ian.rowley@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:ian.rowley@brunel.ac.uk) or **+44 (0)7768 303917**.



## Brunel's not just for graduation – it's for life!

**Brunel University has come a long way in its first 40 years, establishing itself as one of the country's most innovative and enterprising universities. It boasts an enviable national and international reputation for academic excellence in teaching and research, and for pioneering the work placement programme.**

The consolidated campus at Uxbridge is built on the rich heritage of our colleges: Borough Road, Maria Grey, Shoreditch and The West London Institute of Higher Education. Tributes to some of the remarkable individuals who are part of Brunel's history may be found at every corner in building and facility names.

Today the alumni of Brunel and its partner colleges can be found meeting challenges and changing lives in local, national and international communities, organisations, commerce and governments.

Meanwhile, today's University pioneers cutting edge research and development, seeking and delivering innovative solutions to the challenges and issues of our modern world. Close links with industry support our renowned work experience programmes, as well as ensuring the highest standards in teaching and practical application.

Brunel aims to continue to build a dynamic and sure future for our students, founded on the excellence of its past and aspiring to greater achievements. To help us meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the 21st Century we need your support. Knowledge is free but education costs!

The good news is that the Government is currently match funding all non-restricted living gifts at a rate of 50p to every £1. In real terms this means that

for every £1 donated, the true value of the donation with Gift Aid and Match Funding is over £1.85, with every penny going to the area of your choice.

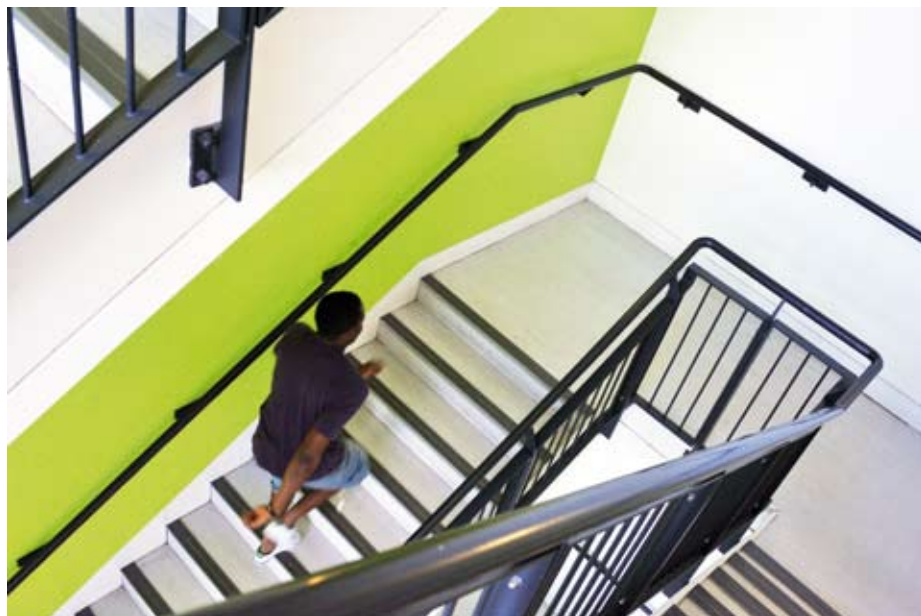
Alternatively, if now is not a good time to donate, you may wish to consider leaving us a gift in your Will.

Whichever method you choose, such generous support will enable us to preserve our heritage of distinction, continue to attain excellence and help our students realise their potential. On behalf of your education family - Brunel - we thank you that you share our vision and commitment to meeting the challenges of tomorrow's world.

For further details please contact Janie Grover ([janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk)).



# Celebrating excellence: prizes and awards for outstanding Brunel student achievements



Celebrating excellence is a resonating theme here at Brunel, and we have much to celebrate. Brunel students are a cut above the rest in so many ways, taking their expertise and experience into local, national and international communities, to realise their potential and make a difference to our world.

We pride ourselves on the excellence of all our students, however there are always those who stand out from the crowd. In recognition and celebration of their particular achievements, Brunel encourages the giving and supporting of prizes and awards. Many of our successful Alumni enjoy giving back to

the University, having benefited so much from their own experiences here.

By sponsoring a prize in your discipline or in an area of interest you can pass on the benefit of your own experience. On a personal level it may reflect your own journey, overcoming obstacles and challenges, or for a business it may be to support much needed research and development in your specialist field.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our prize sponsors. If you would like to know more about sponsoring a prize and about how this helps Brunel students please contact [janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk).

MBA alumnus and entrepreneur **Dave Granshaw** sponsors the Copiae Personal Development Prize and the Copiae Business Application Prize for the MBA programme in the Brunel Business School. The prizes reflect his impression of the value of the MBA: "We at Copiae Consultancy Ltd are delighted to be recognising outstanding achievement at Brunel, but felt that rewarding just the student with the highest grades missed two very important aspects of

the MBA experience. Driven by the thought that 'academic excellence is not enough alone to deliver business excellence', we have chosen to present two unique prizes. The first is to reward the person who has made the most comprehensive progress during their studies and the second is to reward the most practical business application of the knowledge gained during their postgraduate experience."



**Natalie Foster**, President of the Union of Brunel Students (pictured), describes the impact of the new Student Hardship Fund, which is supported by an annual contribution from Brunel's alumni.

"Brunel alumni provide support to students in a variety of ways, which help to improve their lives and their experience of the University.

Notably, the new Student Hardship Fund, sponsored by Brunel alumni, allows students who run into unexpected financial problems to apply to the Union for emergency money. We are able to provide them with a small sum in a short period of time, which will tide them over until they can get alternative funding.

This has proven to be an invaluable addition to the support that we provide for students at Brunel."

.....

**Deyan Kolev** was awarded the Peter Galloway Award for the most promising Level 2 student in the Politics and History subject area.

"Studying Politics and Economics at Brunel University has allowed me to explore in detail two very different yet complementary disciplines. This unique combination gives me a better understanding of how our world functions, as well as knowledge that will be useful to me in my future studies and career. The support I got from the teaching staff at Brunel made my studies interesting and enjoyable.

I intend to use my prize money to help fund a Master's degree."



**Muna Hussain is a Biomedical Sciences student and was awarded an Alumni Scholarship.**

"The Alumni Scholarship has been a great help as it has shifted the financial burden that comes with university off my shoulders. I have been living on my own for the past three years with no one to support me, and the thought of going to university remained a dream because I knew I could not afford it. The Alumni Scholarship changed my life, and I cannot express how grateful I am.

I am originally from Somalia and fled to England in 2004 due to political instability in my home country. I am the first to go to university in my family, and they are very proud of me as they never thought that it would be possible. I am passionate about Biochemistry and I hope to work for a pharmaceutical company.

The Alumni Scholarship has enabled me to buy a laptop and books which are essential for my studies as well as helping me to pay my rent and bills. I am also planning to volunteer abroad, which would have not been possible without the support of the Scholarship money. This experience would allow me to develop vital skills and to grow as a person.

I would love to show my gratitude by giving back to the Brunel community the support that has been given to me, and by giving opportunities to others who are underprivileged. The support of the Alumni Scholarship has taught me a valuable life lesson, which is that together, we can achieve anything. Without the help of the scholarship I would not have been able to achieve half of what I wanted to achieve. My thanks to everyone that is involved with the Alumni Scholarships."



## Telephone Campaign 2009

**We were delighted with the response we received to the telephone campaign in the summer of 2009.**

More than £56,000 was donated by alumni over the four week period. This is the largest amount ever raised during such a campaign, with almost a quarter of the 2,000 people to whom we spoke deciding to make a contribution.

This result is a real testament to your fond memories of your time at Brunel, and to your understanding of what a difference alumni donations make to supporting current students.

The students who took part in the campaign really enjoyed the experience, and many of them have already expressed an interest in taking part again next year. Sarah Essien, one of the 40-strong calling team, found speaking to alumni both interesting and useful: "It was enjoyable finding out what they were all up to, as well as getting career advice!"

We were also pleased to receive so many kind messages from alumni, letting us know how much they had enjoyed their conversations and how impressed they were with the bright students who spoke with them.

Thank you to all those who took the time to speak to one of our students last summer, and we hope that you will continue to enjoy these conversations and the opportunity to discuss the University past and present.

*Laurelle Vingoe, Development Officer (Alumni Fundraising)*

### 'Lost' alumni

We still have many 'missing persons' – alumni with whom we have not yet made contact or with whom we have lost touch. If you know of anyone who does not hear from us, please do let us know so that we can include them in all our future news and events.



## Alumni get together in Toronto for first official international reunion

On August 30 2009, the Brunel Development team organised their first official international reunion in the splendid surroundings of the University Club of Toronto, in the heart of the city.

Hosting the event were Development Officer Janie Grover and her husband Phil, joined by Ontarian Miranda Seymour who had spent the previous year working with Janie at Brunel in the Events team. The University Club boasts one of the finest collections of the Canadian Seven artists and we all thoroughly enjoyed their grandeur as a backdrop to the event.

Gathering in the mid afternoon for a sumptuous tea, conversation and reminiscing were soon underway. Alumni attended from as far afield as New Mexico and from as nearby as around the block in Toronto.



The formal presentations began with a DVD of life on campus at Brunel today, introduced by a warm welcome from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chris Jenks. Further presentations included archive shots and material, views of the tremendous recent campus developments, and visions of some of the University's future plans.

Conversation continued through a delicious drinks and cheese reception and dinner, before the group bid a happy goodnight late in the evening.

### Future reunions

Following the success of the Toronto reunion, plans are in place for future reunions with our international alumni. If you have any thoughts or ideas we would love to hear from you.

In the near future we are hoping to arrange a further Canadian event, with a stopover in New York and the US West Coast. We would be very grateful to receive any contributions or suggestions from alumni living in these areas, such as venues, dates to avoid, help with travel planning and hospitality, or just requests to be added to the guest list! Please forward your details and thoughts to [janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:janie.grover@brunel.ac.uk).

## Mauritian Alumni Association launched



The inaugural meeting of Brunel's Mauritian Alumni Association, held in Trianon in February 2010, proved a great success.

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Chris Jenks and his wife hosted the occasion along with Philip Ah Chuen, Head of Allied Motors in Mauritius. Philip is one of Mauritius's best known entrepreneurs and educationalists and also one of Brunel's first Mauritian alumni, having graduated in 1973. He put a great deal of time into organising the event, working closely with staff at Brunel International.

The reunion was attended by the Mauritian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Dr Rama Sithanen, who graduated with a PhD from Brunel in 2008. Also in attendance were 20 other Brunel alumni, along with Mrs Dorish Chitson, Head of OVEC, the University's agent in Mauritius.

During his visit to the island, the Vice-Chancellor gave a presentation to the Mauritian Rotary Club, was interviewed for Mauritian TV and radio, and met privately with the Deputy Prime Minister to discuss training and development

opportunities. These events preceded the OVEC annual recruitment fair, held in Port Louis and attended by a member of Brunel International's marketing team.

Brunel already has some 35 Mauritian students on campus (including an International Scholarship student) and Sue Capel, Head of the School of Sport and Education, is an external examiner at the University of Mauritius. It is hoped that the Vice-Chancellor's recent visit to the country will foster productive and sustainable links for the future.

# Brunel Alumnus of the Year 2010

We are delighted to announce that **Peter Ward (Economics and Business Finance, 2001)** has been named the **2010 Brunel Alumnus of the Year**.

As a Brunel student, Peter was already an entrepreneur, having experimented with setting up companies before he graduated.

Whilst working at Accenture, he began [www.WAYN.com](http://www.WAYN.com) with a couple of business partners. WAYN is now the world's largest travel and lifestyle social networking community, with a presence in 220 countries. Membership has grown

from 45,000 users in March 2005 to over 15.5 million today, increasing connections between like-minded people based on where they would love to go and what they would love to do.

Since graduating, Peter has been extremely supportive of Brunel and its students. He regularly comes to the University to assist with judging projects in the Business School and to give inspirational talks to our current students. Peter has also been a strong supporter of the Brunel Entrepreneurs Society and has generously advised many aspiring entrepreneurs.



## About the award

Each year we invite nominations from staff, graduates, students and members of the Brunel community to nominate a Brunel Alumnus who has excelled.

The nominee must have studied at Brunel University or one of its associated colleges, and must have demonstrated one or a combination of the following achievements:

- an ongoing commitment to the University
- suitability as a role model for students and fellow alumni
- success in their professional career
- significant community involvement or heroism

Nominations and citations should be sent to Sue Curley, Head of Alumni Relations, Brunel University, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH, to reach us by 30 September 2010.

**Brunel**  
UNIVERSITY  
WEST LONDON



Last year's winner, Heather Fell (pictured with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chris Jenks) received her Alumna of the Year award during Graduation 2009.

### Procedure

Calls for nominations are made through Brunel Link magazine, the Brunel Alumni website, IntraBrunel

(the University intranet news pages) and through current Brunel student networks. All nominations must be made by 30 September.

The Award panel will make their decision by the end of October and the Alumnus of the Year will be presented with their Award at the degree ceremonies the following July.