The health issue
- why the smoking ban isn’t going far enough
- are we really a nation of binge drinkers?
- wellbeing at work
plus news and views
Dangers to our health make popular headlines and the imminent smoking ban, along with reports of chronic levels of binge drinking, mean that our lifestyles are under the microscope again.

This issue of Insider takes a look at some of the things that have an impact on how healthy we are, from governmental policies to facilities on campus.

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We have welcomed several high-profile visitors on campus in recent months.

In March, TV historian David Starkey officially opened the new study facilities in the library. David Cameron, Leader of the Conservative Party, spent time on campus meeting academics from the Centre for Research in Education & the Environment (CREE) and the Centre for Research in Strategic Purchasing & Supply (CRiSPS) to discuss how education and the dissemination of best practice can help address some of the UK’s environmental and sustainability issues. Fellow politician David Blunkett, former Home Secretary, spoke about the legacy of Tony Blair during a roundtable discussion in the University Hall. He was speaking as part of the Political Studies Association annual conference, hosted by the Department of European Studies & Modern Languages. The Duke of Kent spent a morning at Oakfield visiting the Innovation Centre, the Business Hub and the Museum of Computing. He spoke with entrepreneurs who use the facilities available on campus.

In April, the Minister for Science & Innovation, Malcolm Wicks, visited the Powertrain & Vehicle Research Centre in the Department of Mechanical Engineering to see its innovative work to make vehicles greener and more efficient. Work at the Centre has cut pollution from diesel engines by half in seven years.

Politicians, TV presenter and royalty meet our staff and students on campus

Clockwise from top left: Gary Hawley (left), Department of Mechanical Engineering, & Malcolm Wicks; David Richards (left), University of Sheffield, & David Blunkett; David Starkey; Duke of Kent (left) & Phil Merrick, Oakfield Innovation Centre; Jutta Nikel, Department of Education, & David Cameron

The Insider team welcomes feedback: please email insider@bath.ac.uk

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Stone lectern finds a home on campus after 14 years

The 14-year journey of a stone lectern donated to Bath by a former mayor came to an end when the lectern was officially installed on campus as part of a new ‘speakers’ corner’. Eric Snook (pictured) donated the lectern to the city at the end of his term as mayor in 1993, and wanted it to be the centre of an area where open debates could take place.

Celebrating 100 years with Commons party

More than 120 graduates and members of staff attended a reception at the House of Commons in March to mark the launch of events celebrating 100 years of pharmacy at Bath. For details of forthcoming events see www.bath.ac.uk/pharmacy/centenary
Choosing different model organisms could give insights into evolution

Research in evolutionary developmental biology, known as ‘evo-devo’, is being held back because the dominant model organisms that are used by scientists are unable to illustrate key questions about evolution, say Dr Ronald Jenner and Dr Matthew Wills, in the Department of Biology & Biochemistry.

The subject of evo-devo is particularly dependent on the six main model organisms that have been inherited from developmental biology. However, to help understand how developmental change underpins evolution, evo-devo researchers have selected new model organisms, ranging from zebrafish (pictured) to dung beetles to study.

Dr Wills said: “Many models to date have been chosen because they are easy to keep in the laboratory, select and breed. Whilst this is generally fine in the context of development research, the benefits to evo-devo as a subject are limited.”

Dr Jenner added: “The popular advice of choosing new model organisms to maximise phylogenetic spread is nice to show diversity, but it doesn’t necessarily lead to new general insights about evolution.

“Instead, we urge workers to select new models specifically to illuminate hitherto neglected general themes within evo-devo.”

Reducing the scale of childhood obesity

Research by Professor Chris Riddoch, in the School for Health, suggests that making even small increases to a daily exercise routine has a striking effect on childhood obesity.

Professor Riddoch, who worked with colleagues from the University of Bristol, discovered that doing just 15 minutes a day of moderate exercise, such as playing football or taking a brisk walk, lowered a child’s chances of being obese by almost 50 per cent.

The researchers monitored 5,500 12-year-olds from the Children of the 90s research project (also known as ALSPAC, the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents & Children). The large number of children studied and the use of high-tech equipment, provided the most accurate measures of both fat and activity levels ever achieved for a study of this type.

Professor Riddoch explained the significance of their results: “We know that diet is important – but what this research tells us is that we mustn’t forget about activity. It’s been really surprising to us how even small amounts of exercise appear to have dramatic results.”

New treatment to heal damaged bones

Damaged bones could one day be repaired using bone tissue grown in the laboratory, thanks to new research by Dr Paul De Bank in the Department of Pharmacy & Pharmacology.

The technology, which uses stem cells taken from bone marrow, could help people whose bones have been damaged in severe accidents or suffer from diseases which attack the bone, such as osteoporosis and cancer.

The new technique allows the bone tissue to self-assemble in a liquid. As the cells come together, they aggregate to form small balls of connected bone tissue which can then be carved into shape and inserted into damaged or diseased bone to help the healing process.

New funding will enable the researchers to optimise their technology to produce larger spheres of bone cells, around one centimetre in diameter, that will be more useful in medical applications.

“If successful, this kind of approach could give patients the type of recovery that we have never been able to achieve in the past,” said Dr De Bank.

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Linda Bauld clears the air

On 1 July 2007, England’s smoking ban will come into force. Dr Linda Bauld (pictured), from the Department of Social & Policy Sciences, is one of the UK’s leading experts on tobacco policy. Here, she talks to Insider about some of the issues surrounding the smoking debate, why she thinks it is as contentious as climate change and why the government isn’t doing enough.

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable ill health and death in the UK. Although smoking rates have been dropping since the 1970s, around one in four adults still smokes. The forthcoming legislation bans smoking in virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces, and it is predicted that smoking rates could drop by between two and four per cent as a result.

Dr Bauld has been looking at the economic, health and social consequences of smoking since 1999. She was working at the University of Glasgow when the Scottish ban was introduced, and is currently part of a team conducting the evaluation of smoke-free legislation in England, a project funded by the government’s Department of Health.

She said: “I think that most people in England would consider that the government has tried hard to reduce smoking rates, but research shows we seem to take one step forward, and then one step back.”

The economics of smoking – saving lives and money
Some of the steps forward taken by the government are: running a free NHS stop smoking service across the UK; cutting the VAT on stop-smoking aids, such as nicotine replacement patches and gum; and running a series of high-profile, big-budget anti-smoking advertising campaigns.

However, Dr Bauld said: “I believe the recent budget needed to include an increase in cigarette tax above the rate of inflation.”
“Research has shown that even an extra 20p on a packet of cigarettes will result in many more people quitting just because of the cost. Cigarettes already cost a lot, but they could cost a great deal more.

“\To make a tax increase effective the government would need to come down much harder on black market cigarettes. It’s a huge industry – it’s estimated that around one in three cigarettes smoked in the UK avoids duty.”

Despite the anticipated loss of tax revenue from reduced cigarette sales, the government is set to profit from a drop in the number of people smoking. In 2005/6, it raised £800 million from cigarette tax, but smoking-related illnesses cost the NHS £1.5 billion per year.

The government has increased the amount it puts into the health service to help people stop smoking from £51 million in 2005/6 to £56 million for this financial year. However, it is a mixed message because, according to figures recently released by the Conservative Party, some Primary Care Trusts have frozen funding for NHS stop-smoking services, despite the anticipated increase in demand in the run up to the ban.

The ban – a heated debate
Since the Welsh smoking ban came into force on 2 April, England has been the only place in the UK where you can smoke in a pub or a restaurant. In July, the smoking ban will take effect here too. Despite being the last place in the UK to implement the ban, it continues to generate heated debate and extensive media coverage.

Campus smoking policy – after the ban
A new University Smoking Policy will come into force on 4 June 2007, at the end of this academic year.

The major change will be that the Parade will be non-smoking apart from the following areas: part of the terrace of the Parade Bar, and behind 1 East (evenings only, for users of Students’ Union nightclub).

Greg Dargue, in Estates, said: “We don’t anticipate any problems bringing in the new regulations. Security will be there to remind people of the designated areas, and we’re relying mainly on good will.”

“The recent increase in media interest has been really good in terms of promoting the dangers of smoking,” said Dr Bauld. “However, the power and influence of the tobacco industry should not be overlooked. Since becoming involved in tobacco control research, I have become aware that we are actually involved in a war not just against smoking lobbyists but with the tobacco industry too.

“Whenever people see a ‘debate’ in the media they need to be aware that the industry will be there feeding in its own ‘research’, most of which is not very legitimate. This means that a lot of what people read in the media may not be accurate, but has been generated by some very spurious ‘evidence’. In that sense it is very similar to the climate debate.

“For example, there has been recent coverage questioning the danger of second-hand smoke. However, studies over the last 20 years have proven irrefutably the impact of passive smoking on lung function, as well as its immediate effect on the eyes and skin.

There are 4,000 chemicals in a cigarette, some taken in by smoking directly, and some that will be released into the air in second-hand smoke.”

However, smoking lobby group, FOREST, claims that the government adverts exaggerate the risks of second-hand smoke. Simon Clark, Director of FOREST, said: “The implication that non-smokers are in serious danger from second-hand smoke is not born out by the evidence. The smoking ban, and campaigns like this, are out of all proportion to what is a relatively minor health risk.”

What needs to change?
Dr Bauld said: “The big unanswered question in England is: how many people are going to give up as a result of the ban? It’s impossible to say at this stage - I don’t think we’ll be a smoke-free state in my lifetime, but the visibility and acceptability of smoking will be reduced. I feel very positive about compliance, and quite positive about the amount of people who will quit.

“However, I still feel like the government needs to do more. The increase in spending on the health service is a very positive step, but it is vital that this money is directed in the right areas.”

“One of the major challenges that the government faces is to tailer NHS treatments to the groups of smokers with the lowest cessation success rates, including younger people, people living in more disadvantaged areas, pregnant women and people with mental health problems. At the moment there’s a one-size-fits-all approach. There are international examples where governmental tobacco policies are much more structured and aggressive. California is the best example, where smoking is down to around 15 per cent of the population, compared to a quarter of adults in the UK. I hope that in 10 years’ time we will be much closer to the situation where smoking is no longer as socially acceptable. That’s what this ban is about - cultural change.”

For further information on the ban see: www.smokefreeengland.co.uk and www.ash.org.uk. For help and advice on quitting: The Medical Centre on campus has two trained stop-smoking nurses. Call ext 6655 to find out more. In town, Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust's Stop Smoking Service offers support to quit through a network of trained advisers in GP practices, pharmacies and in hospital, as well as drop-in sessions. Call 01225 831 852 for more information.
Are reports of ‘binge drinking’ all hype?

Alcohol consumption in the UK is rising and we may soon be the biggest consumers of alcohol in the western world, but to what extent is it really a problem? Dr Willm Mistral (pictured), manager of the University’s Mental Health Research & Development Unit, spoke to Insider about some of the realities of alcohol misuse and considers the role that newspaper headlines play.

The government estimates that almost four million people aged 16-65 are dependent on drugs or alcohol and a further nine million people take drugs or drink at levels that affect the wellbeing of their family.

The National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England reports that alcohol misuse costs the country around £20 billion a year; and that around 50 per cent of all violent crimes and, at peak times, up to 70 per cent of all admissions to accident and emergency departments are linked to alcohol misuse. Yet, some people think that the government’s actions suggest a lack of real concern. It has increased the availability of alcohol by removing restrictions on hours of sale, has only increased taxation of alcohol in line with inflation, and does not fund research into the long-term effects of misuse.

The Mental Health R&D Unit (MHRDU) is a collaboration between the local Mental Health Trust and the University. The MHRDU’s work includes evaluation of drug and alcohol services, as well as educational and harm-reduction projects across the European Union, and further afield in Russia and Australia.

Dr Mistral said: “When talking about people who misuse drugs and alcohol, I think it’s dangerous to use the word ‘addiction’. I see it as a pejorative term that suggests there’s something ‘wrong’ with them. It also narrows the subject down – for example, two people could use alcohol in very different ways, and to describe them both as ‘addicted’ suggests that there is one, simple solution.”

A recent major project at the unit has been looking at ways in which city communities can come together to reduce some of the social problems associated with alcohol, such as under-age drinking, violence and disorder.

Dr Mistral said: “One of the cities involved in the project was Cardiff. It is a city that has become associated with binge drinking, with regular local and national headlines about young people misbehaving when they are drunk; there has even been a television programme focusing on the city’s perceived drink problems. But reports from Cardiff show that while the majority of people breathalysed on weekend nights had consumed amounts equating to binge drinking, most were simply enjoying themselves and very few were aggressive.”

The city centre project concluded that the perceived problems in the city could be reduced by encouraging communities, including businesses, health authorities and local authorities, to join together in working partnerships to identify a range of local solutions. For example, discussions between the police and the licensed trade, improving the quality of bar staff and door staff, increasing street lighting, re-siting taxi ranks and providing late night buses to get people home quickly and efficiently.

“The media likes to focus on bad news stories, rather than report on the positive initiatives set up to help those affected by alcohol, and create a real moral panic around the issue. Then the government ends up following the trends dictated by the headlines and funding is affected. While binge drinking is hitting the newstands, other important support services, such as treatment for drug users, close down.

“Until the government commits to funding long-term research, we can’t find out the real impact of a high rate of alcohol consumption, identify the causes or see which type of interventions really work.”
In addition to the huge range of facilities and classes run by the Sports Training Village, which are available to staff for a discount, there are lots of staff initiatives aimed at helping colleagues stay healthy at work. *Insider* looks at some of what’s on offer.

**Sitting pretty**

Staff in the School for Health (pictured below) are abandoning their traditional office chairs in favour of large exercise balls. The inflatable balls, more commonly seen in gyms, are used to increase core strength, balance and stability.

So far, ten members of staff have switched to the balls, which are around two feet in diameter. Often known as Swiss balls, they cost around £12 each.

The craze started with the arrival of Sonya Crowe, a physiotherapist who is involved in developing a new physiotherapy course at the University.

“We noticed that Sonya used one of these balls instead of a chair, and once we had a go we were hooked,” said Cathy French, Marketing Co-ordinator for the School.

“You never really sit still as you need to keep moving slightly to keep your balance. They are really comfortable to sit on though.”

**Health initiatives on campus**

The School for Health team has also set up its own running club. On Friday lunchtimes they can be seen heading out to the towpath, Rainbow Woods or North Road. There is an informal football league for staff and postgraduate students, as well as a cricket league. For lower impact exercise, there is a lunchtime walking group, which leaves from UBSA at 12.30pm on Mondays and Thursdays. The Division for Lifelong Learning runs Hatha yoga classes, and Jon Hunt runs a weekly iyengar yoga class. In addition to the lunchtime Bollywood dance class, organised by the Bath One World Staff Society, the ICIA runs a range of dance classes at different times throughout the day and evening, including tap, ballet, belly dance, street and jazz.

The mental and emotional health of staff is also well-catered for on campus. The University provides free confidential counselling at Relate, and a free session with a campus counsellor. There are personal development programmes for male and female staff, providing advice and training on topics such as confidence building, goal setting and balancing work and home life. The Staff Development Unit runs an additional extensive series of courses and events which look at issues such as communication, effectiveness at work and management training.

**Further information:**

- Football league: [www.bath.ac.uk/internal/clubs/football](http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/clubs/football)
- Cricket league: [www.bath.ac.uk/internal/staff/cricket](http://www.bath.ac.uk/internal/staff/cricket)
- Walking group: email Nicholla Dalziel on N.J.Dalziel@bath.ac.uk
- Bollywood dance: email Marlene Bertrand on M.A.Bertrand@bath.ac.uk
- Iyengar yoga: email Jon Hunt on J.Hunt@bath.ac.uk
- Lifelong Learning programme: [www.bath.ac.uk/lifelong-learning/parttimecourses/weekly/health](http://www.bath.ac.uk/lifelong-learning/parttimecourses/weekly/health)
- Relate counselling: [www.bath.ac.uk/personnel/policies/counselling](http://www.bath.ac.uk/personnel/policies/counselling)
- Campus counselling: [www.bath.ac.uk/counselling/services](http://www.bath.ac.uk/counselling/services)
Insider asked: Do you use any of the sports facilities on campus or attend any classes? What do you think might make it easier for staff to stay healthy at work?

Dilly Brownlow
Administrator, Foreign Language Centre

"I've been going to the lunchtime yoga class in the Sports Training Village once or twice a week for the last 18 months. It's a great way to relax and feels like a proper break from work. If I didn't have a long commute, I'd use the facilities more; I think they're brilliant for staff and really cheap.

"We have absolutely no catering faculties in our department and I always bring my own lunch. It would be great if there were picnic tables on campus that staff could use during the summer - I think it would encourage people to get away from their desk at lunchtime."

Susan Upton & Fara Meeudon
postgraduate students, Department of Economics & International Development

Susan (left): "We used to play badminton at the Sports Training Village but it's hard to find the time in the middle of the day. I'm also a member of the gym and I try to go at least once a week. It's convenient to have it on site but it gets really busy before and after work."

Fara: "I think the catering could be more healthy – what about a juice bar, a bigger salad bar and somewhere selling sushi?"

James Mitchell
Research Officer, Department of Computer Science

"I use the gym three times a week in the early evening – it's quieter once the students have gone home. I think it's a fantastic facility to have on site.

"However, the catering could be improved – it seems as if the outlets don't feel the need to be competitive on quality or price because they have a captive audience here on campus. When I was an undergraduate, which was about ten years ago, the campus food was subsidised – that way at least you felt you were getting value for money."

Anne Coleborn
Administrator, Department of European Studies & Modern Languages

"I find the Sports Training Village too intimidating, everyone looks so fit! But my colleagues and I go for a walk most lunchtimes, either around campus or up on to the golf course. We might start using the 25m pool, rather than join any of the classes – they go on too long and you end up taking more than an hour for your lunch break.

"One of the girls in our department goes for a run at lunchtime and then uses the showers outside 3WN. That's a really useful facility – I'm not sure staff really know that those kind of things are available on campus."

Tom O'Brien
painter & decorator & Stewart Macfarlane
maintenance operative, Department of Estates

Stewart (left): "We're out and about all the time and always active, but that doesn't keep you as fit as you'd think. I went to the doctor when I pulled something in my back and he said it was common for this type of work."

Tom: "I've joined the gym but not got further than my induction. The plan is to come up and use it on Saturday mornings. I think the facilities are really good but I think the University should do more to promote them, and provide information on staying healthy at work."
In February, Mark Humphriss took up the new post of University Secretary. As part of the Vice-Chancellor’s senior management team, Mark is involved in a wide range of issues, from long-term strategies to day-to-day life on campus.

My job is very varied - I can be asked to advise on almost any decision that affects the University’s future development. For example, I found myself involved in my first week with the withdrawal from the Gateway project in Swindon, and soon afterwards in reviewing aspects of the University website.

On a more day-to-day level my responsibilities involve oversight of the legal office and the team that supports the main University committees, and I have inherited many of the formal responsibilities of the Registrar. So, I am the person that receives any appeals against student disciplinary matters - shall we just say that we have some very enterprising students! I have just taken on someone to help us get ahead on business continuity planning. We need to ensure we would be able to cope as well as possible if we had a fire or if a flu pandemic really does hit Britain.

I worked for the Church of England for 17 years in a number of different roles and felt I was ready for a new challenge and a new sector. Higher education is a very different world now than when I was a student at university in the late 1980s.

In my previous job I did some work with universities originally set up by the Church. The two major schemes I was involved with were a £55 million relocation project at Roehampton, and the establishment of the University of Cumbria, due to open its doors in August 2007.

It’s a relief not to be doing the London commute. I like being part of a learning environment again, although it’s strange to stand out wearing a suit. It’s been good to meet lots of people both at Claverton and Oakfield and see some of the impressive research projects underway. I look forward to meeting many more staff in the months ahead.

I love experiencing different places and cultures on holiday, but moving from Cambridge to Bath is about as intrepid as I’ll get for a while, until my sons Samuel and Joshua, aged one and three, are old enough to carry their own luggage. My wife, a clinical scientist in the NHS, will be moving down soon and hopes to work in Bristol.

Bath is a fantastic city with lots on offer; I’ve already been to the theatre most weeks and will do my best to get to any wine tastings on offer.

This job is a great opportunity to support and contribute to the development of the University post-Gateway. It’s very easy to be seen as ‘just a bureaucrat’ in a role like this. The challenge is to make sure my department and I add value, and are seen as an asset – by academic and non-academic staff alike.
New staff

**Petra Cameron**
RCUK Fellowship, Department of Chemistry

I’m back at Bath after completing my PhD here in 2005, followed by a two-year fellowship at the Max Planck Research Institute in Germany. Working in the institute was a great experience – it is very international and well-resourced, and Mainz is a beautiful city. I have a student working there, so I go back for a few days each month.

I’m one of two RCUK fellows in the Department of Chemistry. It’s a new scheme aimed at encouraging young academics into university positions rather than industry. The application process was intense and competitive; the fellowships run for five years and if it goes well we will be offered a permanent position at the University.

I have worked in sustainable energy since my PhD. Currently I’m looking at ways of reducing carbon dioxide to make alcohol, which could be used as vehicle fuel in the future. At the moment I’m fairly office-based, busy writing funding proposals so I can equip my new laboratory.

**Lacey Davis**
Research Contracts Officer, Research Support Unit

When academics apply for external funding their applications and, if successful, their contracts will be managed by my colleagues and me. It’s a busy department – there have been approximately 580 proposals since October 2006 - and the funding requests can vary significantly, ranging from single travel grants to multi-million pound research projects.

My role concentrates on the pre-award aspects of grant applications and involves checking and approving the estimated cost of the project to the University – including the cost of staff time, and the use of University facilities and consumables – and managing the grants in process. Successful applications result in a contract being drawn up in collaboration with the legal team in Research & Innovation Services; we advise on the acceptance procedures for the contracts when awarded.

Previously, I worked as an environmental consultant in Swindon, which provided me with significant national and international experience in project development and the preparation of technical reports. University projects tend to be on a much larger scale and cover a broader scope. The deadlines are tight and in combination with the number of proposals submitted require me to be very organised!

**Stephen Rangecroft**
Director of Corporate Relations, School of Management

This position is all about creating new opportunities for the School of Management by building relationships with companies that share common interests. The opportunities could include anything from student placements or research collaborations, to funding a Chair or a scholarship.

My first task is to map the current relationships and identify the areas that need developing. The School has grown very quickly and we need to get a clear overview of who we are connected to and why.

As the School of Management’s first Director of Corporate Relations, the day-to-day is still fairly undefined. But it’s a familiar world to me – my previous role of Director of Marketing at the London Business School had similar challenges and opportunities.

**Tiggy Tigwell**
Departmental Secretary, Department of Education

I love admin - I’m very organised and really enjoy setting up processes, so this is the perfect job for me. From September I will also be providing the administrative support for the MPhil/PhD students.

I didn’t go to university so it all feels a bit foreign at the moment. I’m looking forward to really getting my teeth into something new and dealing directly with students.

My previous job was working from home for a local charity so this is a total change. I’m really enjoying being back in an office with lots of friendly people, and now I feel like I really leave work at work – that’s hard to do if you work from home.

Having a visit from David Cameron was an exciting way to start the job. There’s still a buzz in the department about it.
Emma Finch  
Consultant Assessor: Bath Assessment Centre  
& Study Skills Tutor: Learning Support

I have two jobs with two distinct roles: I assess students with disabilities to identify their ways of learning and what kind of support could help with their studies, and I also tutor students in study skills. The University has students who qualify for a wide range of different types of study support; on average I assess one a week and teach five a day.

I assess the learning needs of students with any physical or mental disability, from partial sightedness or scoliosis to dyslexia or mental health problems. We support students in a huge range of ways, for example, by providing them with software that can read books out loud, scribes, proof readers or adjustable desks and chairs.

It’s a great job to have – I really enjoy meeting students with such a variety of backgrounds and interests and of finding ways to really help them. In many cases they will have gone through school without being diagnosed, so this is the first time they really get the help they need. The Bath Assessment Centre and Learning Support are a communicative and cohesive team with very diverse training and specialisms. Together we provide the University and its students with a lot of support.

Zeina Orfali  
Research Assistant, Department of Biology

It’s proven that smokers are less likely to get Parkinson’s Disease; my research is to try and identify the protective effect of nicotine on neurones in the brain. It’s a totally new research area for me – it’s really interesting because the implications are so wide-reaching - smokers seem to be protected from a range of illness, including Alzheimer’s.

I spent six months working in industry after graduating from the University of York. I worked on the type of ultrasound that helped heal David Beckham’s metatarsal injury in the run up to the World Cup. It was a great opportunity to work somewhere with so many resources but I found that people in industry lacked the passion for research that you find in academia.

I’m on a two-year research contract, funded by the Parkinson’s Disease Society. I wanted to come back into academia to decide whether to go on and do a PhD, to study medicine, or to try another role in industry. In the meantime, this position was definitely the right choice – I came here because of the people; it’s inspiring to work with people who love what they do so much that they stay here till nine or ten o’clock at night.

Clive Radford  
Music Co-ordinator, ICIA

As a ‘co-ordinator’ rather than a ‘director’ my role is to enable artistic development. That means I do a lot of logistical work – organising performances, booking rehearsal space, arranging lessons and so on, as well as finding new commissions, developing new partnerships and identifying opportunities for collaboration within the University.

I’m a trained musician; I play guitar in a small group signed to an independent record label. I’m particularly interested in sonic art – using non-traditional instruments and making music from other music in the studio I have at home.

I also used to teach music technology and I really enjoy working with the students here. They’re different to my normal students – probably because the majority of them are primarily scientists rather than artists. I think the new ICIA facilities will make a huge difference to how adventurous they become musically.
ICIA performance listings: May to June 2007

PERFORMANCES
Curious (be)longing
Sat 12 May, 7.30pm
ICIA Arts Theatre
Smart and seductive, this innovative performance explores ideas of longing and belonging in edgy and humorous interrogation of contemporary culture and politics.

Bath Dance Forum Shift
Sat 26 May, 7.30pm
ICIA Arts Theatre
Showcasing new and exciting work created by a variety of local companies and individual dancers.

STUDENT PRODUCTIONS & CONCERTS
Choral Society & Orchestra
Wed 2 May, 7.30pm
Oldfield Park Baptist Church
The Choral Society performs Faure’s Requiem, and the University’s Orchestra makes its debut concerto performance supporting talented young pianist, David Keefe.

Music Matters Concert
Fri 4 May, 5.30pm
University Hall
Solo and chamber performances celebrate an excellent year of music making on campus.

WORKSHOP
Raku
Sat 5 May, 10am-4pm
ICIA Arts Complex
Make, fire and glaze pots using this spontaneous, traditional Japanese rapid-firing process where pots are removed red-hot from the kiln.

Ceramics
9 May-13 June,
Wed 2-4pm, 6-8pm
Studio 2, ICIA Arts Complex
Here is a chance to try your hand at clay. You can improve your skills and develop ideas through experimentation with concepts and techniques.

EXHIBITION
Deborah Robinson Recent Work
Until Fri 29 June, 10am-5pm
ICIA Art Space 1
Deeply atmospheric photographic work that draws from the edges of rational thought and vision to explore the unconscious of science.

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