

#06 Winter 2014

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discover more



University of
BRISTOL

MONKEY BUSINESS

This Indonesian macaque's 'selfie' went viral, but who owned the image? Page 7

this issue

**STUDENTS TO
SOLDIERS**

WHERE WILL
YOU STUDY?

**HUNDREDS OF
CLUBS FOR
YOU TO JOIN**

ALL THE
COLOUR OF
LATIN AMERICA



HARBOUR LIGHTS

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hello!

Welcome to the sixth issue of *Discover More*, the University of Bristol's magazine for schools and sixth form colleges.



In this issue we take a look at the many study space options open to students, and some of the societies that students get involved in while at Bristol.

Added to this, we profile one of the BBC's newest natural history presenters, and talk to the women who are bringing science to the UK's streets.

We hope that you enjoy the issue!

David Alder
Director of Communications

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How does Blippar work?

Download the Blippar app from Google Play or the App Store, then use the camera on your phone or tablet to bring the page to life!



Look for this icon for Blippable content on page 23!



Blippar is a fun app which allows you to launch interactive content from this magazine – try it on page 23!

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Here's looking at you

This new species of frog was discovered deep in the
Madagascan jungle by an intrepid Bristol graduate



Main picture: *Boophis ankaraensis*, the frog
discovered by Sam Penny
(above)

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Sam Penny, who recently completed a Master's at Bristol, was studying amphibians in Madagascar when he discovered a new species of tree frog.

Sam said: "This brightly coloured tree frog has a distinctive advertisement call so by placing sound recorders at potential breeding sites, I could plot its distribution across a wide area of the Sahamalaza Peninsula in the north west of Madagascar. This also provided detailed information on acoustic variation between individuals and on how its calling pattern changed throughout the night."

The frog is bright green with red speckling across its head and back, and has been named *Boophis ankaraensis*, due to its location in the hidden streams of the Ankarafa Forest.



HOW DOES IT COMPARE?



5cm

Boophis ankaraensis:
Madagascar



8cm

Common frog:
Europe and
western Russia



15cm

Cane toad:
Central and South
America, Australia

Bristol students receiving their free copy of *Pigeon English*



The big read

Five thousand copies of Stephen Kelman's debut novel, *Pigeon English*, were given free to University of Bristol students at the start of the autumn term.

As part of the Man Booker Prize Foundation's Universities Initiative, every new first year student is to be given a

copy of the book, which follows young Ghanaian immigrant Harri Okupu as he and his friend attempt to solve the murder of a boy on their London estate.

The initiative gives first year students the chance to engage with contemporary fiction – no matter what their field of

study – and was accompanied by a series of events across the University.

The events included students and academics sharing their reading experiences, and debates around the issues that affect contemporary Britain that are raised in the novel.



Students helping out at the Big Give this summer

Responsible recycling

BRISTOL STUDENTS donated over 50 tonnes of unwanted goods to the Bristol Big Give this summer, raising £100,000 for local and national charities in the process.

This staggering total is more than five times as much as was donated last year, and is a sure sign that the end of year clear out from halls of residence and private accommodation can raise some serious cash.

Goods donated included kitchenware,

clothes, food, sports equipment and books, and were donated at temporary British Heart Foundation donation points throughout the campaign. Julie Paffett from the British Heart Foundation said: "Each BHF shop needs to receive 400 bags of unwanted items a week and thanks to generous donations from the students, staff and residents of Bristol we have been able to help our shops in the city."



Elsa Hammond in Bristol harbour before the Great Pacific Race

WEATHER STOPS PACIFIC ROW

Elsa Hammond, our cover star in the last issue of *Discover More*, was forced to pull out of her attempt to row across the Pacific due to bad weather and unfavourable winds.

The only solo oarswoman left in the 2,400 mile Great Pacific Race from California to Hawaii, the University of Bristol student battled the elements for five weeks before making the tough decision to turn back to North American shores.

During her time competing Elsa rowed more than 560 miles, giving her the highest 'miles per rower' of anyone in the race, but adverse wave and wind patterns meant she was never fully able to make progress towards Hawaii.



Everyone's favourite natural history television presenter opened the University's impressive new Life Sciences building in October



Sir David opens world-class facilities

GUESTS, STAFF AND STUDENTS welcomed Britain's best-known broadcaster and naturalist to the University in October, when he officially opened the new £56.5m Life Sciences building.

The building is the University's biggest

construction project to date, and will be the focal point for research needed to tackle the key challenges of the 21st century.

"We in Britain have been leaders in understanding the life sciences and you will be the leaders of tomorrow," said Sir David

Attenborough. "This great building will give you and its graduates pleasure for the rest of your lives. It will play an important role in tackling the great problems and difficulties that the world is going to face in your generation."



Student HQ

Beacon House, one of the most recognisable buildings in the University area, will soon become a central study and learning hub for students, with 350 study seats and areas for group working.

The building was a Habitat store until three years ago, and is the latest in a series of investments in teaching and research facilities by the University.

Constructed in the 1850s, this Grade II listed building was formerly the Queen's Hotel before being converted for retail purposes.

Turn to page 8 to find out more about the University's many study options.

Beacon House will soon become a central hub for Bristol's students

Monkey business

Who owns this photo? Andrew Charlesworth, from Bristol Law School, clears up the conundrum

In 2011, wildlife photographer David Slater took a trip to a national park in Indonesia, where he claimed he left his camera unattended. One of a troupe of macaque monkeys began playing with the camera and, fascinated by the lens reflection and the noise produced when it accidentally took a photo, it snapped hundreds of 'selfies'. Most were blurred and out of focus, but several turned out clearly. Mr Slater made the best photos available through a photo agency, expecting that he would be paid if they were re-used. However, the photos were so striking that they went 'viral' on the internet, and many individuals and organisations re-used them without permission or payment.

The story might have ended there, but recently Wikimedia, the organisation that runs Wikipedia, published a report noting the monkey 'selfies' had been posted to its Wikimedia Commons, a database of freely usable media files. Mr Slater had asked for the photos to be removed, but Wikimedia had refused his request. This re-ignited the debate about who actually owned the rights in the photos.

Under UK law, a photograph can be copyrighted as an artistic work, if it is original and a product of intellectual creation, skill and judgement by its author. The author of a photograph is defined as the person who creates it. Early reports suggested the monkey was the author, as it had pressed the camera trigger to create the photos. However, monkeys aren't considered 'persons' at law, so, even if it created the photos, the monkey couldn't be an author or own a copyright. Wikimedia's position was

that without an author, the photos were not copyrighted and could be freely used by anyone.

There is no argument about who took the photos, but there are several arguments Mr Slater might make to support his claim to copyright, and thus the right to control how they are reused. For example, copyright experts suggest that pressing the camera trigger is not the defining issue; rather it is "who made the original contribution" that justifies copyright ownership.

So if Mr Slater can show he made an "original contribution" by arranging the circumstances, or choosing the camera settings, or altering the photos using photo-editing software, after they were taken, but before they were released to the public, a court might accept his copyright claim. Ultimately, if Wikimedia and Mr Slater cannot settle their differences, the final decision on ownership will rest with the courts. ●

Monkey image: Wikimedia Commons/David Slater. Background image: Thinkstock

PLEASE NOTE

We paid an agency for this photo, so at least Mr Slater got something!

Quiet time

There are dozens of study spaces open to students at the University. Here's a round up of what's on offer...

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This page:
Chemistry Library
Right top: Cafe area,
Arts and Social
Sciences Library
Right bottom:
Wills Law Library

You did the exams, you got the grades, you've been accepted... now your mind is drawn to all kinds of new questions: who will my new friends be? Where will I live? Can I survive on pasta alone? One factor that might not come to mind, but which will be intrinsically linked to your next few years at university is: where, and how, will I study?

A-Levels see us spending hours in our bedrooms or in the school or college library. However, once you're at university the choice of places in which to sit down and get stuck into what you're there to learn are numerous.

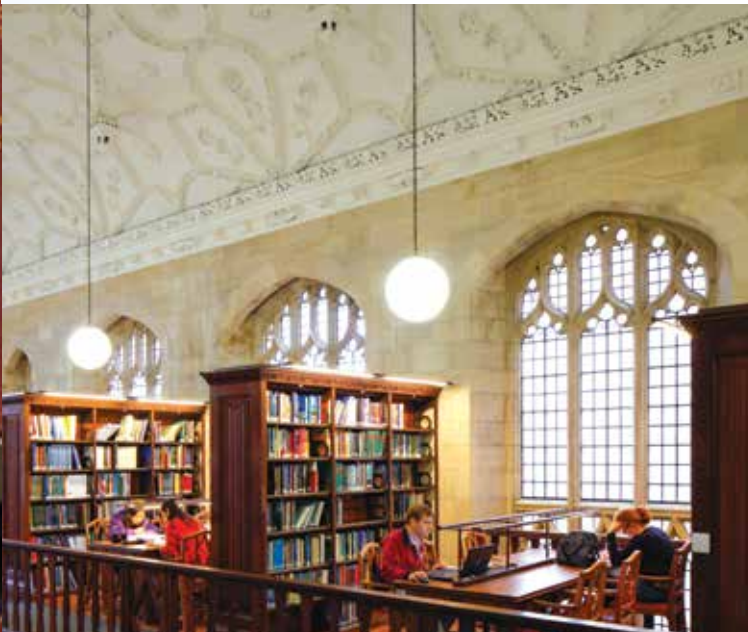
Dr Jess Gardner is Director of Library Services at the University of Bristol: "We have 10 libraries at the University, as well as a number of learning spaces. Some students like to be close to the books they need, which often means quiet study in one of the libraries. Others prefer a more sociable learning

experience, which might mean using one of our open access study areas, which include cafes, common rooms and computer rooms. It's a case of finding out what works for each individual."

And what a choice you're presented with: to start you have the Wills Memorial Library. Found within the University's most famous landmark at the top of Park Street, Wills attracts over 240,000 visits annually. But that's not to say it's a noisy place – hushed spaces make this the perfect surrounding for getting away from the hustle and bustle of everyday University life.

"Wills Library has seen a great deal of refurbishment over the past 10 years," continues Dr Gardner. "It has been greatly modernised, but changes have been made in keeping with the history of the space."

The University's 10 libraries are each situated in or near the



“Students collaborate more now, mirroring modern working life”



THE WORLD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The University's Special Collections are found in the Arts and Social Sciences Library. Whatever your subject, there will be some fascinating material for you to discover

Darwin's Mouse

An illustration of *Mus Darwinii* by George Waterhouse. This mouse was first recorded by Charles Darwin on his voyage around the world, and features in *Zoology of the Voyage of HMS Beagle*, which Darwin edited in 1839.



Floral tributes

Portraits of a canna lily and a cobweb house leek, drawn by Sydenham Edwards and published in *The New Botanic Garden* in 1812. The University of Bristol Libraries hold a fine collection of botanical works, both manuscripts and printed sources.





Study area,
Wills Law Library

“University should be a memorable experience for many reasons”

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relevant faculty or school, but students can use any one of them. This might be very useful at times... if you're studying English but are easily distracted by students you know in the Arts and Social Sciences Library, head for anonymity in the Physics Library!

Continuing the extensive refurbishment of libraries over the past decade, the Chemistry, Physics, Veterinary Sciences, and Arts and Social Sciences libraries will all be further improved in the coming years.

The new Senate House Study Centre encompasses what was once the University's Senate Room, and now offers a combination of quiet study spaces and group study spaces. There are open access computers and even a Student Laptop and Mobile Clinic on weekday afternoons.

“Senate House is at the heart of the University of Bristol campus,” says Dr Gardner. “There are two distinct wings, one set up as a traditional quiet study area, the other more group orientated. Students seem to collaborate more now, which mirrors modern working life.”

“University should be a memorable experience for many reasons,” concludes Dr Gardner. “What we're doing is providing a number of different options for how today's students want to learn, which we think will further enhance their time at Bristol.” ●

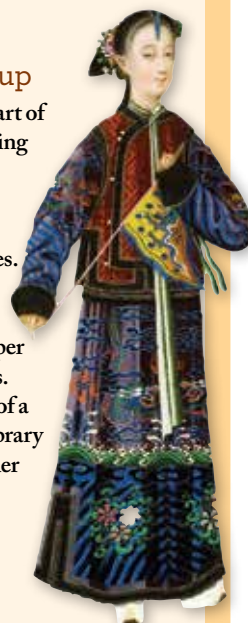


Hall life in 1921

A photo depicting students relaxing at Canynge Hall, one of the University's first halls of residence, where board cost £2 a week.

All dressed up

This painting is part of an album containing 13 portraits of Chinese men and women in ornate, colourful costumes. The album also has the remnants of a decorative paper cover, and silk ties. This formed part of a donation to the library by Miss AE Tanner in 1946.



Surgeon's tools

The skilful Warwickshire-born surgeon John Woodhall published these illustrations in 1639, along with the advice that the practitioner should think himself into the place of his patient. He also put great emphasis on the cleanliness of equipment in preserving it free from rust.

A life less ordinary

Hyppolite Ntigurirwa has come a long way since he was caught up in the Rwandan genocide as a seven-year-old.



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One of the most important aspects of university is the chance to meet people from all walks of life.

Many of these people will have similar backgrounds to you, but occasionally you'll meet someone with a story to tell that's so extraordinary it will stick with you for the rest of your life.

That's surely the impact Rwandan student Hyppolite Ntigurirwa will have on the people he meets while at the University of Bristol. Now 27, Hyppolite was a young boy when the Rwandan genocide began in April 1994, a spate of ethnic cleansing that claimed the lives of 800,000 people in just 100 days.

"My father was killed but we never had the chance to bury him," said Hyppolite. "Lots of my family died in the genocide. I knew some of the killers – some were neighbours, others my family friends."

But now, thanks to a friendship he developed with a professor at Bristol, Hyppolite is in the UK to take a Master's in Sociology. Having read Professor Tariq Modood's research online and watching conferences on YouTube as part of his studies at the National University of Rwanda, Hyppolite emailed him to

enquire about the possibility of studying in the University's School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies.

Hyppolite, whose mum and five siblings still live in Cyanguu in Rwanda, said: "I had dreamed of studying at a great university abroad and felt that Professor Modood's work would be very helpful in my region, where there are still ethnic divides.

"I emailed him one day to enquire about the course. I didn't have high expectations so was very happy and excited when he replied. It's an unimaginable opportunity for me and I hope to eventually complete a PhD and become a professor in Rwanda, contributing to social research which will one day help my family and community."

Professor Modood, who was awarded an MBE for services to social sciences and ethnic relations in 2001, said: "We've set up the Survivor Bursary so Hyppolite could be the first rather than the last recipient. Initially I was worried that it would be too difficult for Hyppolite to study here due to the logistics and costs involved but everyone has worked together to make it happen. We're delighted he's here and able to pursue his passion for Sociology and desire to make a difference."

Join the club!

The University of Bristol Students' Union is home to over 200 student societies and 50 sports clubs, so you've no reason not to get involved. Here's a small selection...

Gliding Club



We've been running for two decades and had 94 members in the last academic year, but we're hoping to hit 100+ this year! The club offers affordable gliding to anyone who wants to learn how to fly. No experience is needed at all, and during training flights members get the chance to see stunning scenery at multiple gliding clubs, meeting other glider pilots of all ages and abilities along the way.

Bristol University Gliding Club compete in events throughout the year, including the Inter-University Gliding Competition and Varsity. Our members also take part in the gliding winter series, which means they are able to go gliding in places all over the UK. On top of this we are able to fly any weekend the weather allows us at Nympsfield – our local club.

Added to this, we even have our own glider, which means solo pilots pay £8 for a winch launch into the skies and then fly around for three hours... not a bad deal!

Tim Harris, Secretary



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Top: Northern Regional Gliding Competition 2013, Yorkshire

Middle: Club members Paolo and Stefano sharing a flight above Nympsfield

Bottom: The University glider 'HXM' at the Long Mynd Expedition 2014, Shropshire



African Caribbean Experience



ACE (African Caribbean Experience) values the diversity of all its members. We aim to celebrate and explore our culture, introducing each other to music, fashion and food from across states and countries. We call ourselves ACE because we want to experience our culture in Bristol, but we also want to share this experience with Bristol. We proudly promote our inclusiveness as we create a platform for education, encouragement and entertainment.

In October we held a number of events to celebrate Black History Month and Nigerian Independence, including a film night, debates and guided tour around Bristol to explore the slave trade rooted in the city's history. But there are also lots of events just for fun, including AfroKhan, a new night of music that will run every term.

We want our presence to reverberate on a global, as well as a local scale. We are working to raise awareness of the campaign against female genital mutilation. In addition, we are supporting Tinate, an ACE member, who is initiating the Confident Children out of Conflict charity in South Sudan. On a more local level, our flagship 'Aunties & Uncles' peer-mentoring initiative will pair new members with people who have been with us for a while, thus fostering a mutual learning and bonding experience.

Rachel Mfon, Secretary



Members of ACE letting their hair down

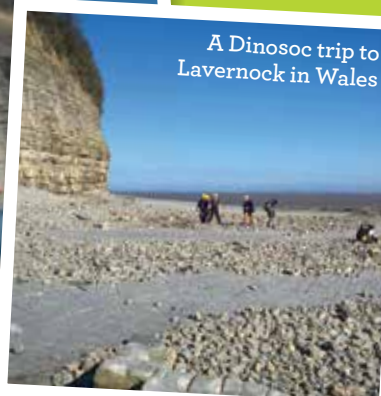
Dinosoc



We offer students an insight into the world of palaeontology. For those who are studying the subject this gives them field experience and looks at current science; for others this can be a reconnection with a childhood love of all things dinosaur. Any fossils found on our trips are the property of the finder, which just adds to the thrill!

We organise fossil hunting trips, fortnightly pub trips, big socials, guest lectures, behind the scenes at museums trips, fossil preparation training... the list goes on. The society is great for getting palaeontology students together, and also connects students from other disciplines – we have dentists, engineers and English students involved for example.

Rhys Charles, Founder and President



A Dinosoc trip to Lavernock in Wales

Capoeira Society

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For the past 10 years, the University of Bristol Capoeira Society has been promoting one of the most important aspects of Brazilian cultural life. The vibrant atmosphere gives students and the local community the chance to get involved in a martial art that is based around music and instruments.

Capoeira is a fight disguised as a dance, and builds on coordination, flexibility, stamina and cooperation, as well as learning about Brazilian and Portuguese culture through songs and music. Capoeira also represents the fight and freedom of Africans who were brought to Brazil as slaves – we bring people together to fight, dance, smile, play and learn! Capoeira has a great sense of community. We're friendly and welcoming to anyone who wants to come and give it a go. We have frequent social events ranging from pub visits to Brazilian parties. **Carine Emer, Secretary**



Flights of fancy with the Capoeira Society

Meet the new Attenborough

Bristol University graduate Patrick Aryee is an exciting new face of wildlife TV. But how did he go from studying cancer biology to being skunked on the BBC?

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“The skunk swung around and let rip his secret weapon”

What sparked your interest in the natural world?

I've always been intrigued by the way things work. As a child I had a few select books to whet my appetite on the world of science – books on chemistry experiments, dinosaurs, human bones and astronomy. It was probably my parents' love of documentaries that sowed the early seeds – me and my siblings would get so excited when there was a programme about big cats, especially lions and cheetahs.

When did you decide you would pursue wildlife filmmaking rather than cancer biology, and why?

This was quite a difficult choice. Since school my plan was to graduate and work in a laboratory for one of the big pharmaceutical companies; I hoped I might be part of a team that would go on to make groundbreaking discoveries in the field of biological medicine. But in my final year I realised that, although I loved the theory behind science, I really wanted to talk about it and get people excited and inspired about the world around them.



How did you first get into the BBC?

There was a media scheme called 'Next Generation', which aimed to train a group of people to become the next generation of production assistants. They wanted people who were technically minded and prepared for the challenges that were happening at the time; the move to tapeless and file-based filming. I reached the final six out of 300 candidates, and each of us was placed with a different company – I headed for the BBC.

When did the jump from filmmaking to presenting happen?

I had been working with BBC Bristol for five years before *Super Senses: The Secret Power of Animals* was commissioned, during which time I had made it known to producers and directors that I wanted to go into presenting and voice narration. Slowly I started doing small jobs – internal memos and short videos – that led to other small jobs, but, importantly, demonstrated to senior staff that I

was serious about this career choice. Eventually I was given the chance to appear on *Earth Unplugged* (the BBC's first YouTube channel), and *Super Senses* followed.

What was it like making *Super Senses*?

Super Senses was a fantastic series. I had a brilliant team to work with and we found some great animal stories and some amazing locations to film them in. The key was to show the audience animals they were familiar with, but to also reveal something new and exciting. What I liked most was that we were able to show how amazing and finely tuned animal senses are with their environment. As humans we think that we can see, hear and smell everything around us, but we only have access to a sliver of this sensory world and animals are the key to unlocking what's really there.

You were 'skunked' – what happened?

A pest control expert we were working with had just removed a problematic skunk from under someone's house, and I was



going to help him release the animal in another location. But catching a skunk is easier said than done, not least because they can spray you with a very pungent musk.

After I'd grabbed him, he swung around and let rip his secret weapon – I got three shots directly in the face, one on the forehead, one in my mouth and one straight up my nose! The aroma didn't seem too bad to begin with, but then matured into its full smell... burning rubber and strong garlic. It took two weeks before I was rid of *eau de skunk*!

What else sticks in your mind from the series?

As well as being skunked, being surrounded by killer bees and having a falcon fly straight between my legs were pretty memorable, but to be honest the entire project will be one to remember.

What are your other passions?

Acting, musical theatre, street and contemporary dance, mountain biking and Formula 1. ●

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

For two Bristol postgraduates, the chance to research Australia's unique wildlife was an opportunity too good to miss

Bristol Vet School's new Master's in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation gives students the knowledge and training needed to work with wildlife on a global scale.

With topics including animal capture and handling techniques, transportation and care of injured animals, improving the welfare of captive animals and endangered species breeding programmes, this course could lead to a lifetime of valuable scientific work.

Nadisha Sidhu and Francesca Santoni were two of the first students to enrol on this course, which gave them the opportunity to visit Australia this summer.

"I've always been interested in working with animals and conservation so this course was perfect for me," said Nadisha.

"In Australia I was staying in Albany, four hours south of Perth on the west coast. My 10-week project was looking at the noisy scrub-bird, an endangered species endemic to Western Australia. It was thought that this bird was extinct until it was rediscovered at a place called Mount Gardner in 1961."

Francesca was also in Western Australia, investigating whether camera detection of animals could one day replace live capture.

"Live capture of an animal isn't always welfare friendly," said Francesca. "I was gathering data using night cameras to see whether this method is reliable. We photographed bandicoots, quokka and Gilbert's potoroos – one of the world's most endangered mammals – and built up a log of how these animals used these habitats."

"A total of 28 students have now started the current MSc," said course founder Dr Andrew Kennedy, Director of Taught Postgraduate Programmes for the School of Veterinary Sciences. "Several of these students will be carrying out their research projects in Australia, with others able to experience practical field ecology in the southern hemisphere in the future."

Since finishing their degrees, Francesca has gone on to take up a six-month internship with the World Wildlife Fund in Malaysia, and Nadisha has applied for an internship with the United Nations in New York. ●

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The beaches are stunning in Western Australia



Nadisha making friends



Francesca on Bluff Knoll, Western Australia's second highest peak





CORPORAL
C.H. BARRATT

Corporal C.H. Barratt

University course:

Certificate in Mechanical Engineering, 1914.

Died: Carrying dispatches by motorcycle between Loos and Merville [Normandy, France] on September 26th, 1915.

"He was very popular and much loved by all his company."

Sgt-Major S.L. Hall

Royal Naval Division

University course:

Mechanical Engineering.

Died: Killed by a Turkish shell, July 21st, 1915.

"He was buried in Cape Helles cemetery [Turkey], where his comrades have placed a stone cross over his grave."



SERGEANT-MAJOR
S.L. HALL

For King and Country

17

From 1914 to 1918, those who joined up for the war effort came from all walks of life, and students, staff and graduates from the University of Bristol served in the armed forces. These four unfortunate souls lost their lives in France and Turkey, with their deaths reported in *The Nonesuch*, the University magazine.



2ND-LIEUTENANT
R.H. BASKER

2nd Lt. R.H. Basker

University course:

Dentistry, graduated in 1913.

Died: Killed in action near Loos, September 26th, 1915.

"His example to the men, his pluck, his energy, were finer than any I have ever seen."

2nd Lt. F.C. Coleman

University course:

Chemistry, graduated with First Class Honours in 1913.

Died: Killed in action, attacking the German lines, September 24th, 1915.

"He was a brilliant student of great promise, and was a well-known player in the Association Football Club."



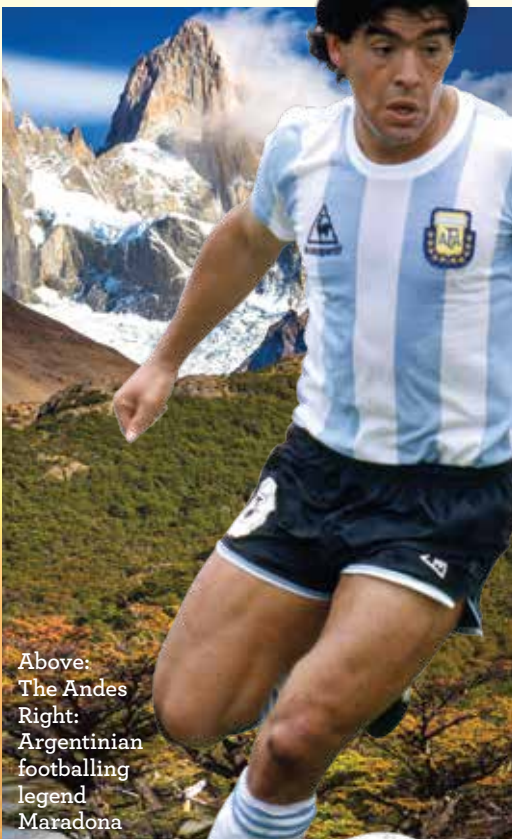
2ND-LIEUTENANT
F.C. COLEMAN

¡AY, CARAMB

A new book by Bristol academic **Matthew Brown** outlines the challenges facing Latin America, a continent that's been very much in the spotlight this year



Brazil's favelas are home to millions



Above:
The Andes
Right:
Argentinian
footballing
legend
Maradona



The Corpus Christi festival in Peru



The annual carnival in Rio

The World Cup in Brazil showcased a young, resurgent, diverse nation to the world, with magnificent new stadia splashed across the country.

Brazil's carnival of sport hosted fans from across the world, united in celebration of Latin America's unique passion for football... at least until the semi-finals. In just 90 minutes, Brazil's dismal defeat at the hands of the eventual champions, Germany, brought the celebrations to an end. This also led to anxieties that the *manifestações* (demonstrations) against the Brazilian state and FIFA, where millions of Brazilians had taken to the streets, would be repeated under full media glare.

This didn't happen, thanks to a combination of police repression of potential protesters and a few policy improvements by the government in the wake of the initial protests. Most importantly, there was the impression across society that Brazil had put on a pretty good World Cup, and seeing as the team certainly wasn't good enough to win, they might as well preserve a reputation of being excellent hosts and honourable losers.

In *From Frontiers to Football: An Alternative History of Latin America Since 1800*, I showed how football and popular culture have become central to the ways in which Latin Americans think about themselves and their places in the world. The Olympic Games will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, when the eyes of the world will once again turn to Brazil's favelas, its inequality and the travails of its president, whoever she may be. At the time of writing

“Fact: the consumption of drugs in the West fuels violence and crime in Latin America”

A!

Brazil's October presidential election looks set to be a run off between two women, Dilma Rousseff and Marina Silva, continuing a trend that sees several female presidents on the continent.

Ongoing challenges

In the meantime, Latin America continues to make its presence felt on the global stage, with some of its economies booming, and some of its new political models being lauded or denounced on the world stage. The biggest single challenge for Latin America in its relationship with the world remains the terrible consequences of the criminalisation of the production of coca and cocaine, and the so-called 'war on drugs'.

Several former Latin American presidents have been prominent in the struggle to decriminalise the drugs trade. They are clear that if world leaders can find a way to regulate and police the trade in narcotics, then the violence that is the scourge of Colombia, Mexico and urban centres across the continent will be deprived of its toxic fuel – illicit drug money. Fact: the consumption of drugs in Europe and North America fuels violence and crime in Latin America.

The other major challenge facing Latin American countries is climate change. As Andean glaciers melt, conflict over control of water supplies has become more acute in Bolivia and Ecuador. As the temperatures of the water in the Atlantic

and Pacific oceans change, major weather events such as hurricanes and tropical storms have become more frequent, causing major loss of life especially in the informal housing settlements where poorer people live. At global gatherings, Latin American leaders point out that as the industrialised countries of Europe and North America were the ones to trigger climate change, should Latin America now be left alone to deal with the consequences?

Times are a-changing?

The book grew out of an undergraduate course I have taught at the University of Bristol since 2005, and during that time I've become obsessed with the stories told about the origins of modern sports in Latin America, like the railway engineers who played the first football matches in Buenos Aires, or the coffee exporters who tried to persuade Brazilians to take up cricket in the late 19th century.

Since then, Latin America has made the transition from being a predominantly rural continent to the home of some of the biggest cities in the world. In many ways, today Latin America stands on the brink of a new era, symbolised by the creativity and dynamism of its two great footballing exports, Neymar and Leo Messi, multimillionaire superstars at FC Barcelona.

But the global structures that have shaped Latin America's modern history – export dependency, the fragility of its institutions, the effects of policies and ideologies developed elsewhere, and the instability of its political systems – continue to lurk in the shadows. ●

MORE INFO

Dr Matthew Brown is a Reader in Latin American Studies at the University of Bristol. Follow him on Twitter @mateobrown

Science on the street



Soapbox Science founders Dr Seirian Sumner (left) and Dr Nathalie Pettorelli

Soapbox Science takes science out of the lecture theatre, and gives the public the chance to listen to inspiring female scientists

Below: Dr Heather Whitney, School of Biological Sciences, University of Bristol

Soapbox Science events are designed to engage with the whole spectrum of society, in particular people who would not otherwise seek out scientific events. The project transforms urban areas into centres of science engagement, enticing the public to take a break from their day-to-day activities to learn from, interact with, and question scientists at the cutting-edge of scientific research.

Soapbox Science looks at all the topics relevant to the STEMM subjects – Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine.

Founded by the University of Bristol's Dr Seirian Sumner and Dr Nathalie Pettorelli from the Zoological Society of London, Soapbox Science started in 2011 on the Southbank in

London. As two active research scientists, Seirian and Nathalie had watched with dismay as their fellow female colleagues trickled out of the science market. They wanted to make a difference to how women and women's careers in science are perceived, with the hope that women could be better retained in science in the future. They chose to take a very public approach to this... and what could make more of a statement than getting some of the UK's top women in science to stand on a box on the street to shout about their science?

Soapbox Science was born. To begin, events were solely London-based but, due to popular demand from



scientists around the country and beyond, Soapbox went national in 2014, with additional events in Dublin, Swansea and Bristol.

But Soapbox Science is not just about the day itself; the overarching aim of this initiative is to improve the visibility and representation of women in STEMM in the public, private and voluntary sectors, providing inspiration and role models for a future generation of young scientists. Soapbox Science also aims to nurture the confidence, capacity and skills required among the local scientific community to establish a legacy of public engagement in the locations where the events are held, and this for years to come.

So how do you get involved?

The best way to engage with Soapbox Science is to follow them on Twitter (@Soapboxscience) or take a look at www.soapboxscience.org to keep up-to-date with their activities and future events. The organisers are always on the lookout for new speakers, so if you'd like to take part in 2015, please let them know!

“Providing role models for a future generation of young scientists”



Dr Laura Evenstar,
School of Earth
Sciences, University
of Bristol

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Now it's time for you to have a go!

The University of Bristol's Dr Elaine Massung spent her time on the soapbox telling the public about citizen science and crowdsourcing

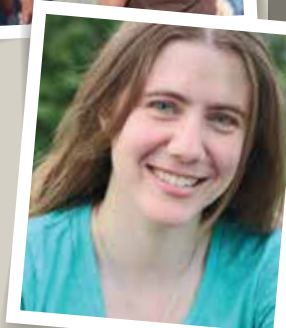
How do you use the smartphone that's in your pocket? To send text messages, play games or watch videos? Or maybe to check your email or update your Facebook status while on the go? There is something else you can do – take part in real scientific investigations and support efforts to help the environment. It's called citizen science and it's a great way to get involved in research. Here in Bristol, a number of smartphone apps have been developed:

- **Mammal Tracker:** Use your phone to log the animals visiting your garden or local park.
- **Conker Leaf Watch:** Record both

healthy trees and those infected by the leaf-mining moth so that researchers can chart the course of the moth's spread.

- **iRecord Ladybirds:** This app helps you identify and record native and invasive ladybird species.

How do apps like this help scientists? By using crowdsourcing, with hundreds or thousands of records submitted from across the country, researchers are able to get a more complete picture of what is happening, measure the impact of programmes, and raise awareness of problems. If you want to give citizen science a try yourself, head over to www.zooniverse.org or visit your phone's App Store.



Above
and right:
Dr Elaine
Massung
from
Bristol's
Department
of Computer
Science

BRISTOL GOE

With Bristol set to become European Green Capital 2015, what is the University doing to play its part?

Recognising Bristol's success in creating a green-thinking city with a great quality of life, the European Commission named the city the European Green Capital 2015.

With a reputation for creativity, culture and innovation, Bristol is already a leader when it comes to forward thinking, but what will this award mean for the city, and the University in particular?

A number of plans are in place, including the creation of partnerships with public and private bodies.

This is where the University comes in. There are plans to become a net carbon neutral campus by 2030, to decrease the University's transport footprint and to ensure that students have the chance to undertake education for sustainable development.

And already well under way is the University of Bristol's Students' Union Get Green initiative, with over 800 students already signed up to take part in environmental projects.

You'll already have read about one of these projects on our news pages, the hugely successful Bristol Big Give. Tons and tons of unwanted items are going to local and national charities to raise much needed funds. By donating items that may in previous years have ended up as landfill, Bristol students are playing a vital part in reducing the University's carbon footprint.

"UBU Get Green empowers students to change how and what they learn, gives them opportunities to engage with likeminded students, and supports them in creating change through their ideas and campaigns," says Project Assistant Amy Walsh.

"UBU Get Green has a really exciting year ahead – this term we're launching Engage Cafe, a brand new student sustainability network, which will give like-minded students the chance to get together and discuss topics that are important to them. We are also launching the Create Fund, which is £7,000 worth of funding to support student-led sustainability projects."

"Students are the backbone of this project," adds Ellie Williams, UBU Vice President, Community, "mainly because they bring so much enthusiasm and energy, but also because they tend to have the best ideas and they're really creative."

The two-year Get Green project is funded by the NUS Students' Green Fund, and offers an amazing way to learn more about social and environmental initiatives, meet new friends and make a positive contribution to the community where Bristol's students live. Volunteers meet like-minded students and have fun, whilst gaining valuable skills for graduate employment. ●

MORE INFO

www.facebook.com/UBUGetGreen



S GREEN

Blip this page
to watch a film
about **Bristol
students and
green initiatives**

Blippar download details
on page 3



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BRISTOL STUDENT INITIATIVES



Student Switch Off Competition

Reduce your hall's energy use and
increase recycling rates to be crowned
champions and win tons of prizes!



Love Bristol Fair

Grab a bargain from one of the
fantastic pop-up charity and vintage
shops, browse local arts and crafts stalls
or grab a tasty locally-made lunch.



Time to Act – UK Climate March

Bristol will be joining the Time to
Act march alongside cities from
around the UK in the run up to the
General Election.

DISCOVER MORE