

The University in the news



Bristol scientists upstaged by chicken

(Daily Mail, 12 September 2002)

Scientists from the University spoke at Europe's biggest festival of science, held in September by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Subjects included how we learn and remember things, predicting extreme weather, living with diabetes and improving education in science. Several papers chose to lead with another topic under discussion: why did the chicken cross the road?

Other media coverage included: *The Times, The Financial Times, The Guardian, The Independent, Western Daily Press*



Blood test 'could save babies'

(BBC News Online, 31 October 2002)

A new test can determine whether pregnant mothers are carrying a baby with the potentially fatal Rhesus disease.

The test was created by Professor Peter Soothill in the Division of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the National Blood Service in Bristol and Dr Nick Avent in the Centre for Research in Biomedicine at the University of the West of England.

Other media coverage included: *Western Daily Press, The Daily Telegraph, BBC Radio 5 Live, BBC Points West, HTV News*

Britons' 6,000-year-old taste for dairy

(The Independent, 28 January 2003)

Ancient Britons may have eaten dairy foods some 6,000 years ago, according to new research by the School of Chemistry.

The researchers examined potsherds from several archaeological sites in Britain. Residues indicated the presence of dairy products. The age of sherds containing milk residues differed from site to site, suggesting a gradual spread of dairying practice throughout Britain.

Other media coverage included: *The Herald Tribune, The Daily Telegraph, BBC Three Counties Radio and newspapers in Australia, Canada and USA*

Ants teach drivers a lesson

(The Guardian, 28 January 2003)

The behaviour of army ants could teach British drivers a thing or two, according to research by Professor Nigel Franks.

His study has found that New World army ants



Out of the mist

(The Daily Mail, 17 October 2002)

Romina, a Western lowland gorilla at Bristol Zoo Gardens who underwent the first-ever cataract operation performed in Europe on an adult gorilla in April 2002, had her sight fully restored to both eyes by the same pioneering veterinary and medical team at the Department of Clinical Sciences Veterinary Hospital.

Other media coverage included: *BBC News Online, BBC Points West, HTV News, Evening Post*

(Eciton burchelli) migrating between nest sites face problems similar to those encountered by commuting car-users in British cities. But while *Homo sapiens* tends to cut in and take shortcuts, the ants keep constant speed and stay in their lanes. They also create trails of pheromones that guide other ants and ensure that the trail continues smoothly.



Other media coverage included: *The Independent on Sunday, BBC Online, Evening Post, Focus magazine*



Peanut allergy link to skin creams

(BBC News Online, 11 March 2003)

Peanut allergy may be triggered by the use of skin creams containing peanut oil, according to findings from the Children of the 90s study. The research found that significantly more infants who developed peanut allergy were exposed to soy formula feeds in infancy.

Other media coverage included: *The Daily Telegraph, The Times, Western Daily Press, BBC Points West*