



SHARPENS YOUR THINKING

# Welcome

### Welcome to the winter 2009 edition of *newview*

University life at this time of year is always very busy.

We have had the honorary doctors awarded their degrees at our graduation ceremonies; a number of new governors have been announced; we have hosted a Royal visit and the work of former 19th Century student Godfrey Sykes has been unveiled.

This edition of *newview* also features the culmination of some very popular awards we run.

Among these are the Enterprise Challenge which helps ambitious students realise their dreams of starting up a successful business. The winners are announced at a glittering dinner which sees a wide range of business, political and public figures attend.

And the University ran the awards to find Sheffield's best restaurant and staged the dinner. Again, this was another very popular campaign which saw lots of people vote for their favourite eaterie.

We also interviewed this year's Man Booker prizewinning author Hilary Mantel who does a lot of work with our students on one of the University's writing courses.

In addition, *newview* also carries the usual mix of great news from the Faculties and departments.

We are always pleased to hear from anyone with an item they want to be considered for publication in *newview*. Please contact a member of the editorial board, details below.

In the meantime, the *newview* team wishes all its readers a very happy Christmas.

### newview's editorial board

### Corporate Communications

Claire Casey 0114 225 4187 c.casey@shu.ac.uk Steve Lumley 0114 225 2811 s.lumley@shu.ac.uk

### The Enterprise Centre Victoria Williams

v.williams@shu.ac.uk

### **Human Resources**

Suzanne Duke 0114 225 4991 s.duke@shu.ac.uk

Students' Union Tom Waltho 0114 225 4144 uusfinance@shu.ac.uk

### Facilities Directorate Claire Hamilton

0114 225 5339 c.hamilton@shu.ac.uk

### Student and Learning Services

Hazel Scott 0114 225 3967 h.scott@shu.ac.uk

### Faculty of Health and Wellbeing

Helen Shepherd 0114 225 4392 h.shepherd@shu.ac.uk

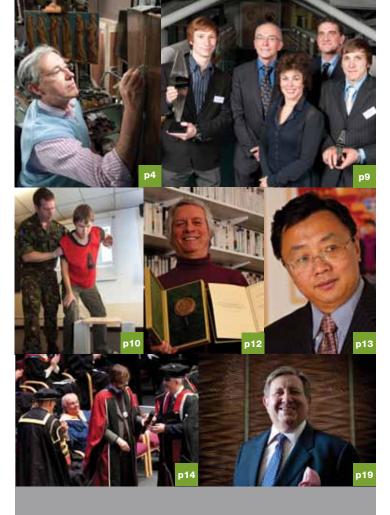
### Faculty of Development and Society

Maxine Greaves 0114 225 5774 m.j.greaves@shu.ac.uk Sarah Bell 0114 225 2538 sarah.bell@shu.ac.uk

### Faculty of Arts, Computing, Engineering and Sciences

Vicky Fillingham 0114 225 3703 v.fillingham@shu.ac.uk Kaye Burnett 0114 225 3125

k.burnett@shu.ac.uk



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# Royal visitor samples gluten free fare

Her Royal Highness the Countess of Wessex visited the University to see for herself how it helped create Delicious Alchemy, the Sheffield-based supplier of gluten free foods, with its products.

During the visit the Countess learned how owner Emma Killilea's first products were developed, including the secret recipe that stops her delicious ginger cakes from exploding while in the oven.

She also enjoyed a two course gluten free lunch.

Emma said: "When I first began to develop Delicious Alchemy's ginger cake, it would explode in the oven after exactly eight minutes. After a great deal of time and effort, one of the tutors from Sheffield Hallam's kitchens made a suggestion, which ultimately led to us resolving the problem."

The visit was arranged after the multiple award-winning business was brought to the attention of the Royal family.

As a former Sheffield Hallam student and previous winner of the University's Enterprise Challenge, Emma felt it appropriate to hold the event at the University, having trained at the campus.

She said: "It was an absolute honour and a great privilege to be given the chance to meet the Countess of Wessex and explain more about Delicious Alchemy and what we do."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Jones said: "We were delighted to host this event for Emma. We work hard to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit in our students, and to support them in developing business plans and ideas."



Stirring stuff: Emma shows the Countess how it's done







# Stunning work of art revealed for first time in 70 years

A newly restored, 60ft artwork by one of Sheffield's most influential designers has been unveiled in the city, allowing a new generation to enjoy this internationally significant work.

The Minerva Frieze was designed by Godfrey Sykes who developed his skills at the Sheffield School of Art, one of the city's many schools and colleges that went on to form Sheffield Hallam University. He then moved to London where he was the lead artistic designer at the V&A.

But before he left Sheffield in 1854, he created the frieze for Sheffield's Mechanics Institute. Originally made up of 13 painted panels – of which 10 survive – the frieze depicts a procession of workers reminiscent of the Elgin marbles.

The exhibition at the University's Furnival Gallery is the result of Sheffield Hallam working in partnership with Museums Sheffield.

The frieze panels were taken from the care of the museums and restored by Mark Roberts, an expert conservator, to be exhibited once more in the city for a new generation to enjoy.

John Palmer, Director of Communications and Public Affairsat the University, said: "We would love people to come along and see this stunning work by one of Sheffield's unsung creative heroes.

"Godfrey deserves much more credit than he received during his lifetime, partly because he died when he was only 41.

"What's even more exciting for the University is that we have, in effect, brought Godfrey's piece back to his spiritual home because he was not only a student here but also the deputy headmaster of the Sheffield School of Design in the 1850s, which is now part of the University's Institute of Art."

There's also a series of events planned to mark the exhibition which includes school visits to see the frieze and a project to encourage youngsters to emulate Godfrey's work by creating their own friezes, which will be displayed around the city.

One of the highlights will be in January when Godfrey's great, great granddaughter, the well known US-based author Diana Gabaldon, will visit the exhibition for an evening of conversation. Diana has followed in her great, great grandfather's artistic footsteps by becoming a world famous writer of historical fiction.









# Launching Godfrey Sykes' restored work

An impressive turn-out marked the unveiling of the Godfrey Sykes frieze in the Furnival Building with more than 100 people attending the event.

Among them were the conservator Mark Roberts, Sheffield Hallam's Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Jones and the High Sheriff of Sheffield, Helena Muller.

The Lord Lieutenant of Sheffield, David Moody, said: "I think the panels are quite terrific and a brilliant job has been done in the conservation work.

"I was aware of the work that was going on but I never believed that we would get anything quite like this. I think it's first class.

"I would encourage everyone to come along and see the frieze - this is something not to be missed."



# "...the panels are quite terrific and a brilliant job has been done in the conservation"





Christopher Marsden, senior archivist at the V&A in London, gave a talk about the importance of Godfrey's work at an event at Sheffield Hallam this month. *newview* caught up with him during the launch of Godfrey's frieze.

For Christopher Marsden, Godfrey Sykes deserves more recognition for his work.

And it's not just about the work the Sheffield artist did at the V&A in London which still survives today.

Christopher says that Godfrey was influential on his fellow designers and he was also a significant figure in the programme of design education that grew up in Britain in the mid-nineteenth century. Both the buildings he worked on, and the educational programme, were widely imitated in Europe and north America.

He said: "Godfrey had led a very successful career here in Sheffield before we managed to steal him away to work on the decorations of the South Kensington Museum.

"I think Godfrey should be more widely recognised for his work but unfortunately he died at the young age of 41 so he's not as well known as he should be.

"People at the time though did recognise his immense ability and he was quite an original artistic talent as well.

"Godfrey was a fine artist with a very distinctive outlook in his work. Many of his paintings here in Sheffield are of the locality, the industries and the working people - something he was very interested in."

Christopher added: "Godfrey was also a prolific and original designer in the metals industry and, in our case, a great designer for the South Kensington buildings. He wasn't an architect but he did design sculpture, mosaic, stained glass and metalwork."

During his time in London, Godfrey had lots of devoted followers and a number of students from Sheffield followed him to the capital to carry on working in his style.

Christopher said: "Godfrey should not be forgotten because he was not only a very able artist and a great creator but he was also a significant figure in design education."

### Students help "energise" award-winning author

By Tess Humphrys

This year's Man Booker prize winner, Hilary Mantel, is a visiting lecturer on Sheffield Hallam's MA Writing course. newview caught up with her as she visited the University in October.

Since winning the Man Booker prize for her novel *Wolf Hall*, Hilary Mantel's life has been a whirlwind of interviews, book signings and television appearances. "It's been pretty relentless," she admits.

The critically-acclaimed novelist found time in her busy schedule to give a workshop to a small group of students, looking at chapters from the novels they must write for their coursework. This, combined with the masterclass she is giving on *Wolf Hall*, provides invaluable experience for students hoping to emulate her success.

Hilary became a visiting lecturer on the course three years ago after being asked by her friends Lesley Glaister and Jane Rogers, who are both tutors on the course and novelists in their own rights. She had worked as a teacher at the start of her career and was keen to share her experiences of writing and to use her connections to support students in getting their novels published.



"There was no writing tuition when I started in the early 70s and it was a long lonely road," she says. "My first publication was a matter of chance because I didn't have the right connections. Creative writing schools take that random element out and create a network into the world of published writers.

"It's terrible to think that someone's talent might go to waste because they don't have a little push at the right time."

She says she also enjoys being able to go through students' manuscripts line by line and hopes her input boosts their confidence in their writing.

Hilary has had ten books published since she began writing, including the memoir, *Giving up the Ghost*. The book described the health problems that have plagued Hilary, leaving her unable to have children. Would she recommend her students being this open about their personal lives?

"No, I wouldn't at all," she says. "But I wrote a memoir and after that, of course, people want to discuss what's on the page. I would advise younger writers that their private life is their material so to be guarded."

What other advice does she give her students?

"That you have to be true to your own talent and not let other people tell you that what you are doing isn't fashionable. Your selling point is that you're unique therefore trying to imitate someone else is just foolish. You have to stick to your guns."

Sticking to her guns throughout her career has ensured Hilary has a host of accolades to her name. But now she's won the ultimate literary prize, the Man Booker, what motivates her to keep going?

"I'm curious to see what I'll do next," she says. "I'm already writing the sequel to Wolf Hall and I have two books lined up after that. Shortage of ideas is not my problem; my problem is getting the time and energy to see them through."

But, despite being so busy Hilary is adamant that she will continue visiting the University. "Working with the students charges me up, it's energising," she says.

### Cathy's poetic prowess takes top award

Cathy Bolton is the winner of this year's student poetry competition with her missive, 'The Bend in the River'.

She picked up £100 in Blackwell book vouchers and her poem will be on display in the Adsetts building for the next year.

Cathy said: "It was a great confidence boost to win the competition and it provided some timely reassurance that I was on the right track whilst putting together my final MA collection.

"It's very exciting to see my poem on such a lovely designed canvas, and to know that it will be displayed in such a public space, where hopefully a few people will pause to read it!"

Matthew Spence came second and Adam Parker third. Both won vouchers worth £60 and £40 respectively.

Director of Student and Learning Services, Clive Macdonald, presented the prizes to the winners.

The judges included Chris Jones, award-winning poet and creative writing lecturer, Nell Farrell, local award-winning poet and creative writing tutor, last year's winner, Fay Musselwhite, and members of the Students' Union.

The panel was chaired by Edward Oyston, Assistant Director, Learning and Information Services.



Competition winner Cathy Bolton being presented with her prize by Clive Macdonald, director of Student and Learning Services.

# Milestone takes eatSheffield title

The Milestone gastro pub and restaurant in Kelham Island has taken the top prize in Sheffield's annual restaurant awards, organised by the University's Business School.

The eatSheffield awards are voted for by the public and include 14 different categories.

The Milestone took the title after winning 23 per cent of the public vote. It was also named best pub dining with 47 per cent of the vote.

Milestone co-owner Marc Sheldon said: "It's a reflection of how much hard work we're putting in. There are so many good restaurants in Sheffield at the minute it's great to see our hard work's paying off."

Professor Christine Booth, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield Business School,



said: "These awards represent the best in dining out in the city, as voted for by the people of Sheffield. That makes them all the more meaningful and special.

"I'd like to thank everyone who voted in this year's eatSheffield awards, for giving us an accurate view of dining out in the city."

### Hope is key to academic success

Psychologists at Sheffield Hallam have found that students who are more hopeful are more likely to consistently get better marks. They also found that female students were likely to be less optimistic than males.

Mature students and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds had more 'psychological capital' than their younger and better-off counterparts, however these factors did not lead to better academic performance.

The study involved around 200 undergraduate psychology students and investigated how psychological make-up relates to academic performance.

It is the first time this type of study has been carried out in a higher education setting in the UK.

Katie Hanson, a researcher who led the study, said: "This study focused on why some students fare better than others, despite seeming to have lower academic ability. The analysis allows us to determine those other traits which, when combined with talent, are likely to lead to success. We have labelled these traits 'psychologica capital'.

"The next step is to look at increasing hopefulness among those students who do not naturally have this characteristic, as this should increase their academic performance, which in turn should make them more employable in the future."

# University takes lead to get care leavers into HE

With fewer than 1% of all care leavers going into Higher Education and more than half leaving school with no qualifications at all, Sheffield Hallam is leading efforts to redress the balance.

To improve the participation rate the Frank Buttle Trust, a grant giving organisation for looked after children and care leavers, set up a Quality Mark for higher education institutions.

Sheffield Hallam's Director of Student and Learning Services, Clive MacDonald, was a member of the original steering group and the University was one of the first institutions to receive the Quality Mark.

Sheffield Hallam has developed a reputation for best practice and excellence by developing strong relationships with local authorities and creating sustainable systems which lower barriers for care leavers wanting to attend University.

"The Learning and Skills Council has recently conducted research into the University's work and has published results nationally.



Jayne Taylor meets Princess Anne

"We were also one of a handful of universities to contribute to a University Best Practice guide by Action on Access and the Frank Buttle Trust which was launched at the National Action on Access conference recently."

Jayne Taylor, the project lead, spoke at the National Frank Buttle Quality Mark conference and is guiding and advising several universities on achieving and maintaining the standards required for the Quality Mark.

Jayne also introduced the project to Princess Anne at the recent NIACE (National Institute for Adults Continuing Education) Care Leavers Conference.

# Network to link UK and lowland Europe

Academics from the University's Urban Policy Studies group have set up a new research network exploring comparisons between Britain and western Europe's lowland regions in planning, economic development and urban policy.

The Low Countries-British Study Group brings together academics and practitioners from both sides of the channel to share research and discuss current and future interests in planning and urban policy.

The research forum will be officially overseen by the Association of European Schools of Planning, (AESOP), a network of universities and university departments that teach and conduct research in the field of urban and regional planning.

For further information, please visit www.aesop-planning.com





# Tasty exhibits provide sweet taste of success

A new exhibition has created a novel, but delicious, approach to art, by inviting visitors to eat the exhibits.

Mohd Zahuri Khairani, a fine art PhD student at Sheffield Hallam, displayed nearly 40 hand-crafted cakes, all made of different coloured layers of sponge, cut and shaped into complex patterns. When cut through with a knife, the cakes had the same pattern all the way through.

And despite some of the cakes taking a week to make, after visitors had admired them they were allowed to sample the work, which was displayed at the Bank Street Arts gallery in Sheffield.

With help from his cake maker wife, Sharifah Wahani, Zahuri baked each layer and cut them into different shapes, glued together with a mixture of condensed milk and jam.

Some of the patterns followed on from his previous exhibited work of prints using traditional designs, others were flowers and there was even one with the letters SHU.

Zahuri, who is a university lecturer in Malaysia, has been studying in Sheffield for the last two and a half years, said: "Cakes are not in our tradition but the process of making them is."

He said the cakes reflected the 'hybridity' of contemporary Malay culture.

# WW2 memorial rescued from Psalter Lane

by Tess Humphrys

A stone memorial, erected 20 years ago by a World War II soldier in thanks to the people of Sheffield, has been returned to his widow after it was nearly demolished.

The memorial, which had been at Sheffield Hallam's Psalter Lane campus since 1988, was carved by stonemason Geoff Lidster in recognition of the hospitality shown to him and his company by local residents when they were billeted in Sheffield at the start of the war.

In 1939, Geoff's unit the 272 Field Company of the Royal Engineers occupied what was then the Bluecoat School. By 1940, 250 men, many away from home for the first time, lived with families in the houses surrounding the site. The same year, the unit was sent to France to fight and their stay in the city came to an end.

Geoff, and many of his fellow soldiers, never forgot the kindness shown by Sheffielders and decades later decided to put up the memorial at the site. But when the campus was vacated last year, Geoff's widow Thelma, who regularly returned to Sheffield from her home in Worksop to visit the site, wrote to the University to ask that the memorial be recovered.

Head gardener Nigel Thurlow and his team worked to remove the memorial and return it to Thelma.

Thelma said: "A lot of the soldiers were so young when they came to Sheffield that the local residents became almost a family



away from home. Their kindness stayed with Geoff even after he had left the Army and he wanted to recognise them in his own way.

"The memorial was so important to Geoff and it felt totally wrong to let it get broken up. I couldn't believe it when Nigel and his team turned up with it but I am so pleased it's been saved. I will probably put it in my garden as reminder of Geoff, who passed away five years ago."

Nigel Thurlow said: "As soon as we realised the significance of the memorial we moved to get it returned to Thelma. It's so easy for things like this to go unnoticed, as buildings pass between owners, but I am really pleased we managed to rescue it."

### Paid placement lifeline for graduates

The recession may be squeezing the job market but graduates in Sheffield are being given a career-boosting lifeline in the form of paid work placements.

Recent graduates can apply to Sheffield Hallam's graduate internship scheme and earn £300 a week on work placements with local companies.

Organiser Lindsay Field said: "Through the scheme graduates can gain extensive work experience, learn new and valuable skills and get paid for the duration of the internship."

To be eligible to apply, applicants must be a 2008 or 2009 graduate of any university and be available to work for three months. International students wishing to apply must have permission to work in the UK for this period.

The initiative is funded by the Higher Education Funding Council's (HEFCE) Economic Challenge Investment Fund and Yorkshire Forward.

# **Enterprise winners** climb to success

Two aspiring entrepreneurs have been awarded a £5,000 cash boost from Sheffield Hallam, after winning the University's annual business start-up competition, the Enterprise Challenge.

Highball Climbing impressed the judges with their innovative new climbing product and won the prize to support them in taking their business forward.

Entrepreneurs Ollie Hemstock and Andrew Asquith beat 93 other entrants to take the top prize.

Ollie, 23, a final year student at Sheffield Hallam, said: "We are absolutely blown away to win. We entered the competition for the services and facilities of the University's Enterprise Centre but our competitive streak came out about half way through the competition and we made a real effort to win!"

Business partner Andrew, 24, a Sheffield Hallam graduate, added: "To win this has been a fantastic achievement and the prize money will be very helpful. We have worked really hard and done a lot towards winning especially working on our presentation for the judges."

They were inspired to start a business after building a climbing wall in a basement. They identified a market and the idea grew and grew leading to them creating a limited company in June.

Another student, Vanessa Lindley, took second prize in the competition with a product called 'Petsox', a custom protective covering for animal bandages and casts. She picked up £2,000 to help develop her business idea

As well as taking second prize in the competition, Vanessa also won the  $\mathfrak{L}1,000$  audience's vote on the night for having the best business idea

The awards were presented by comedienne Ruby Wax at Sheffield Hallam's annual Enterprise and Innovation dinner. The competition offers finalists access to support, advice and business services to develop their business. The best business then wins a cash boost to develop their idea further.







Enterprise winners pictured at the awards presentation with Ruby Wax and Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Jones

The event was attended by some of South Yorkshire's most prestigious firms and organisations and guest speaker, Miss Wax, said: "I think the two lads should have won because they have a brilliant idea but, sadly, I am not a climber so probably won't get to enjoy their product."

### New Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Sheffield Hallam



Professor Cliff Allan has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Sheffield Hallam University.

Professor Allan, currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development) at Teesside University, will take up his appointment on 1st January.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Philip Jones, said: "I am delighted that we were able to appoint Cliff Allan to this new and challenging position.

"He has a broad range of experience across the sector, with a lot of valuable experience in the Funding Council and the Higher Education Academy. He will be a valuable addition to the University and to the senior team. I am looking forward to working with him."

Professor Allan said: "I am excited about the prospect of working in such a dynamic, forward thinking and leading modern University, which has such a strong reputation for being at the cutting edge of innovation, creativity and active engagement with its students, industry, employers and region."



# Army team training develops students' group work skills

Students at Sheffield Hallam have been able to steal a march on their contemporaries - by getting an insight into how the Army does its business.

First year students on the BSc (Hons) Business Information Systems (BIS) course visited Sheffield Universities Officer Training Corps (SUOTC) at their barracks in the city centre for an insight into its leadership training.

As guests of commanding officer, Lt Col Peter Balls (RIFLES) OBE, the team was set tasks to test their ability to work as a group and individual challenges that showed them what they can achieve with determination and belief.

And the students (pictured above and below) were quick to line up in support of the day's activities.

Kirsty Howarth told *newview*: "I never volunteer to go first for anything but I volunteered to be the first to break the wooden block even though I didn't 100 per cent believe I could - but I broke it at the first attempt."

And James Swift added: "I really enjoyed the day. The acivities really helped us get to know each other as a group and understand our personalities and how we worked as a team."

Mike Heselton, BIS course leader, said: "A main strength of Sheffield Hallam is its focus on preparing people for employment. This is done by providing work placements or case studies drawn from industry but in most cases it is done by helping students to develop skills such as team-working, communicating and problem-solving."

To find out more about opportunities to attend sessions like this, contact Mike Heselton on m.heselton@shu.ac.uk

To see a video of BIS students on their visit to SUOTC visit www.shu.ac.uk/systems/bis-videos/index.html









# University serving up the science behind sport

How do you find a tennis racket's 'sweet spot'? How do you make a skeleton bobsled move faster? How quick are your reaction times?

Dr David James, a senior lecturer in sports engineering at Sheffield Hallam, answered these questions and more at a major expo which was held in Beijing, China.

David demonstrated a series of interactive exhibitions, showcasing the University's innovative sports engineering research.

Visitors to the exhibitions were able to take part in interactive games to measure the speed of their reaction times as well as discovering how finding a tennis racket's sweet spot can produce the perfect shot (pictured). They were also able to ride on a simulator to experience the thrill of skeleton bobsled racing.

Throughout the week-long expo, David and his team tested visitors to find out whether there is any link between how high a person can jump and how good they are at sprinting.

David said: "Our exhibits are about engaging people in science and technology and showing them that science is fundamental to understanding and improving sporting performance. Sheffield Hallam's research into sports engineering is internationally renowned and visitors to the exhibition will get a taste of the work we are doing.

"The sports industry is a large and rapidly growing area of the world's economy and the UK is a world-leader in sports technology, using science to develop equipment and improve athletes' performances."

# Mobile phone hook up with Ugandan university

Students from Uganda are hooking up with their contemporaries at Sheffield Hallam to improve mobile phone innovation in the developing world.

Academics from Makerere University in Kampala will be working with academics here to improve teaching techniques in the design of mobile phones, ensuring that the next generation is equipped to benefit from the technology.

The 18-month partnership, supported by a British Council grant, Education Partnerships in Africa, will improve teaching methods in mobile phone innovation and entrepreneurial skills.

Dr Andrew Dearden, Reader in E-Social Action, will lead the project alongside his counterpart in Uganda, Dr Idris Rai.

Dr Dearden, who has completed a similar project in rural India, said: "This is the first project undertaken between Makerere and Sheffield Hallam, and will see both of our reputations for excellence and innovation

"Courses that focus on user-centred products and designs are sparse in most



Dr Dearden

of Africa despite the rapid rise in mobile phone technology and usership.

"This project aims to address this and develop a university to industry partnership model that can be used throughout sub-Saharan Africa."

Dr Rai, an associate professor in communications networks at Lancaster University, added: "Makerere University produces a large number of graduates in information technology but many do not have high-value skills in design innovation, user-centred design, business communication and entrepreneurship.

"By developing strong partnerships with Sheffield Hallam, we will now have a group of staff at Makerere who can lead skills in mobile computing, user-centred design, entrepreneurship and innovation."

# Plenty of food for thought in skills summit

The region's food and drink industry came together to discuss the importance of innovation in driving the sector forward, in an event organised by Sheffield Hallam.

Those involved in new product development, processing, packaging and people development were inspired by new ways to identify opportunities and learned how to capitalise on them by investing in staff development.

Delegates also discussed how Sheffield Hallam and its partners can work with businesses to understand and provide support for their innovation and skills needs.

Speakers included John Sorsby, head of Sheffield Hallam's Centre for Food Innovation, who outlined current skills needs and provision in the region and stressed the needs for more "breakthrough" innovation and the relevance of partnerships with academia.

Mr Sorsby said: "When the economy returns to a period of growth, the businesses that thrive will be those identifying and capitalising on product, process and packaging innovations. In order to do so, companies will need people with the necessary skills and abilities to deliver this ambition."

### Burmese refugee community given voice

Members of the Karen Burmese community in Sheffield are being trained in news reporting to help raise awareness of issues in their homeland

The adult training programme at Sheffield Hallam will teach skills in news reporting, video reporting, podcasting and blogging to help them share their experiences in Sheffield with other refugees across the world.

The Community Reporters project has cost more than £36,000 and is part of the government's 'Learning for Pleasure' innovation, spearheaded by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Shirley Lindley, project manager, said: "Given that there is no freedom of press in Burma the Community Reporters project is important in allowing Burmese refugees to have a voice.



"Here in Sheffield we have the second-largest Burmese community outside London. This project will not only give them access to a range of tools and technologies, but also the skills to communicate with refugees around the world and report on the issues that affect them."

Htoo Ku, chairperson of the Karen Community Association in Sheffield, said: "Most Karen people in Burma do not have access to education so this training is very important to us.

We really value the opportunity to learn these new skills.

"The community reporting course will help our people to connect better across the world, share our experiences as refugees and maintain our identity as a people."

The project will run until March 2010.

For more information on the project call Shirley Lindley on 0114 225 6747.

# Devotion to Hungarian film nets exceptional award

Senior lecturer John Cunningham has been honoured for his services to Hungarian culture with a prestigious award not often given to people outside the country.

John, who lectures in screen studies at Sheffield Hallam, was given the Pro Cultura Hungarica Award at a ceremony marking the tenth anniversary of the Hungarian Cultural Centre in London's Covent Garden.

The award is given to people deemed to have furthered Hungarian culture in one form or another by writing, organising cultural events, visits and contacts. John was presented with a bronze medal and certificate in the presence of the Hungarian Ambassador to the UK, Hungary's ambassador to UNESCO and a representative from the Hungarian Ministry of Culture.

He told *newview*: "I was very surprised to receive this award as noone had told me what was going to happen. It's a great privilege to receive it - especially because it's only occasionally given to non-Hungarians."

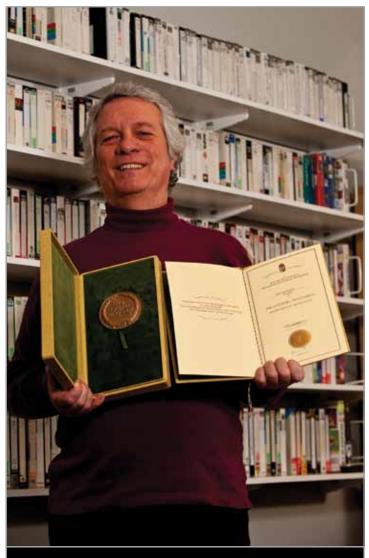
John lived and worked in Hungary from 1991 to 2000 teaching film and media studies at most of the major universities. He is the author of *Hungarian Cinema: From Coffeehouse to Multiplex* and *Hungarian Silent Cinema in Transylvania* – the first English language study of this little-known aspect of the history of silent cinema.

He is also working on a book about the internationally renowned Hungarian film director István Szabó to be followed by an essay on Hungarian documentary for a collection to be published by Routledge in 2010.

John is also curator of the Hungarian Film Festival in London, a regular guest at Hungarian Film Week in Budapest and has been a guest speaker on BBC Radio 3's evening devoted to commemorating the Hungarian Uprising of 1956 as well as speaking at many other events both here and abroad.

He is also the Principal Editor of the journal Studies in Eastern European Cinema.

Through John's efforts links with Hungary are being developed at Sheffield Hallam and two students will study film at Budapest's prestigious ELTE University next semester under the Erasmus scheme.



John Cunningham was 'surprised and privileged' to receive his award

### **Businesses given timely £500,000 training boost**

Sheffield businesses can take a slice of a £500,000 boost designed to provide training to more than 1,000 people over the next eight months.

The Training Foundry at Sheffield Hallam is using the cash to offer up to 60 per cent off a range of courses designed to develop key business skills.

The money is the result of a successful joint bid with nti Leeds, a specialist

technology training centre, and has been awarded by regional development agency Yorkshire Forward and the Train to Gain Enhancement Fund.

The offer will run until July 2010 and a range of courses are eligible for the discount, including Apple, Adobe, Microsoft, Cisco, Zend, Android and iPhone development, PRINCE2 and Agile among others.

Dave Rotherham, head of The Training Foundry, said: "This sizeable pot of money means businesses will be able to increase productivity and workflow by investing in their key asset – their employees.

"This is a timely opportunity to improve the skills of employees and equip them with the training to enhance their careers and enable the region to bounce back from recession."

### Photos of modern China unveiled

### by Tess Humphrys

A collection of photographs marking 60 years since the foundation of the People's Republic of China was unveiled at Sheffield Hallam by Ni Jian, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China.

The exhibition features images of events that have influenced modern China.

The photographs have been on display in galleries worldwide, including Australia and the Philippines. They show how Chinese society has changed since the People's Republic of China was established in 1949.

During the visit, Mr Ni also toured the University's faculty of Arts Computing Engineering and Sciences (ACES) to see how design, creativity, technology, engineering and science are being combined to create innovative research.

Mr Ni said: "I am very pleased to come to Sheffield Hallam University and see the photo exhibition. China has developed very quickly and nowadays more and more Chinese students can come and study in the UK.

"We hope that in the future even more Chinese students can come to the UK, especially to Sheffield Hallam."

Professor Terrence Perera, Assistant Dean of ACES, said: "We are delighted to be hosting this special exhibition of photographs in our gallery and to have the chance to show Mr Ni around the faculty.

"ACES is unique in its scope. It is an academic melting pot, in which we cross traditional disciplinary divides and offer a uniquely creative, dynamic environment to inspire high quality teaching, learning and research."





Consulate General Ni Jian launches the photo exhibition and meets staff in ACES



### Building material of the future unveiled

Scientists at Sheffield Hallam have developed a new building material that is fire resistant to temperatures in excess of 1100 degrees Celsius, is made largely from recycled material and is as versatile as concrete.

Liquid Granite offers a real breakthrough in reducing fire risk in buildings as, unlike concrete, it doesn't explode at high temperatures. It can also withstand high temperatures for longer periods, offering valuable minutes in the case of a fire.

The material is made up of between 30 and 70 per cent recycled material, mainly base products from industry. It uses less than one third of the cement used in precast concrete, which also reduces its carbon footprint.

Professor Pal Mangat, Director of the Centre of Infrastructure Management at Sheffield Hallam, who developed Liquid Granite, said: "Liquid Granite is a very versatile material that can be used in a similar way to concrete.

"The fact it has a high level of fire resistance means that it can be used in areas where fire safety is crucial, such as around power stations, and in domestic and commercial buildings it can offer added time for evacuation in case of an emergency.

"The product replaces most of the cement in standard concrete with a secret formula of products to change the basic properties of the material. I believe it has great potential for the future."

Bob Richards, from Liquid Granite, said: "There has already been a great deal of interest from the building industry about this product, and it has been supplied or to projects such as the Olympic Village and Stratford Shopping Centre in London in the form of fire-rated lintels manufactured by King Stone Products. It will really make a difference to the safety of our buildings and could potentially save lives."



Liquid granite could revolutionise fire risk reduction in buildings

### Hallam's Class of 2009

# Thousands of students took to the stage of Sheffield's City Hall in November during the two busiest weeks in the University's graduation calendar.

And more than a thousand members of staff were working behind the scenes to make sure their special celebration was one to remember. From organising robes and photography to catering and flower arranging, every aspect of the graduation ceremonies is carried out with near military precision.

Writing speeches and citations, producing individual ceremony brochures, organising lunches for family and friends and hosting the honorary doctors and other VIPs, is all part of the University's biggest event of the year, involving staff from almost every department and faculty.

As well as sharing the stage with the Chancellor Professor The Lord Winston and Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Jones, the new graduates rubbed shoulders with this year's Honorary Doctors. Twelve individuals nominated by University staff attended the various ceremonies to receive their honorary degrees, awarded for achieving distinction in their various fields.

### **Simon Armitage**

Poet Simon Armitage paid tribute to his great uncle as he received his Honorary Doctorate on Armistice Day. Given the honour for his contribution to literature and the arts. Simon said his great uncle Robert Kirby fought in the First World War and had enabled the poet to pursue his literary ambitions.

He said: "Robert Kirby and his kind allowed us to move freely and do our thing. I'm honoured and proud to receive this honour and I'm grateful to Sheffield Hallam for recognising me."

### **David Brailsford CBE**

David Brailsford, director of the most successful British cycling team in history, is the force behind the transformation in British Cycling. His team brought back a record haul of 14 medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

David studied for an MBA at Sheffield Hallam University, and credits his educating with directing his philosophy for managing the British cycling team.

### **Jarvis Cocker**

The former lead singer of Pulp and one of Sheffield's greatest musical icons is now Dr Cocker, but he told graduates he was not planning on opening a surgery anytime soon

He said: "It's a great honour to be given this award, especially in my home town, so thanks very much and congratulations to everyone collecting their degrees. I've worn some stage gear in my time, but I think this one takes the biscuit." Jarvis studied at Sheffield Hallam, which is where Pulp also got their first big break.

### **Richard Dale**

Richard Dale is the creative director of Dangerous Films, a groundbreaking film production company known for producing emotionally complex films about major

He was involved in a range of factual programmes including Tomorrow's World, Horizon, QED and The Human Body, featuring Sheffield Hallam's Chancellor, Professor Robert Winston, who presented Richard with his degree.

### **Angela Galvin**

Angela Galvin, former chief executive of Sheffield Theatres, was the driving force behind the redevelopment of the city's Crucible Theatre. She has been connected to Sheffield ever since she became a student at Sheffield Polytechnic in 1978. She later completed a Masters in Film at Sheffield Hallam. As chief executive of Sheffield Theatres, Angela secured the funding for the £15.3 million refurbishment of The Crucible, saving it from the brink of closure.

### **Susan Gilroy MBE**

Paralympic table tennis star, teacher and champion of disabled sport Sue Gilroy MBE received her award in recognition of her inspirational career and charity work. Currently ranked number two in the world, Sue has battled a rare degenerative disability to compete in three Paralympic Games and won two Commonwealth Games gold medals.

Sue said: "What an absolute honour to receive such a prestigious award. I love my sport and it's a pleasure to be able to give back to the people who aren't as fortunate."

### **Hilary Mantel CBE**

Hilary Mantel, winner of the 2009 Man Booker Prize for her historical novel Wolf Hall, is a visiting professor at Sheffield Hallam. She has been associated with the MA Writing course here for six years and she visits regularly to give her popular masterclasses.

Hilary studied law and became a social worker before taking up writing full time. She has won many prizes for her fictional novels.

### **Chris Rea**

Chris Rea, managing director of Sheffieldbased manufacturers AESSEAL, paid tribute to engineering graduates as he received his honorary doctorate.

Chris, who has directed AESSEAL during 27 years of continuous growth, said that engineers were essential to the success of his business. He said: "Engineers add all the value of our business, from product development to manufacturing. The rest of us just bask in their reflective glory, so it's great to be here with you today. Thank you."



"I've worn some stage gear in my time, but I think this one takes the biscuit."

- Jarvis Cocker





Top row (left to right): Jarvis Cocker, Karol Sikora, Hilary Mantel. Middle row: Susan Gilroy, Simon Armitage, Richard Dale. Bottom row: Chris Rea, James Toseland, Angela Galvin, John Taylor.







### **Karol Sikora**

Professor Karol Sikora, one of the world's leading authorities on cancer and a pioneer of holistic cancer treatment, told graduating students they are the future of healthcare as he received his award. He said: "You're the future and it's going to be a real challenge as you enter your professional careers. The lessons you have learnt from Sheffield Hallam will stand you in wonderful stead for the future."









### **John Taylor**

John Taylor, former principal of Sheffield College and interim principal at Doncaster College, credited his 'life-long' study of management theory and practice for his success.

The man who turned Sheffield College around, achieving its financial stability, and who oversaw the building of the Hillsborough Campus and city centre, said: "This is a wonderful occasion for me. It is marvellous to experience the public recognition for my success. I am very grateful to my colleagues for their invaluable assistance and to the University for recognising my achievements in this way."

### **James Toseland**

Doncaster-born motorcycle racer James Toseland became World Superbike Champion at just 23 and has been collecting titles since the age of 15.

In 1998 James was chosen by Castrol Honda to ride in the World Supersport series and he then rode in the 2000 British Superbike Championship. Since then, James has emerged as a world-class rider. In 2004 he made the history books as the youngest ever World Superbike Champion. Following a second world championship title, James moved into the elite level of MotoGP racing.

### **Rosalind Wollen**

A community pioneer who understands the mechanics of women's work rights just as well as those of a car engine received her award for her outstanding work with the region's tradeswomen and young people.

She said: "I'm honoured to be here. I receive this award in honour of all the women who've been brave enough to stand up and open the doors to non-traditional trades."

Among her many successes are the Girls Motorcycle Project in 1983 and a women's garage, Gwenda's. She also became northern England's first female AA roadside patrol.

\* For more information on all this year's honorary doctors, visit www.shu.ac.uk/

### New governors take up their seats

Sheffield Hallam's Board of Governors has three new faces on it for the next term of office.

The newcomers are Dani Beckett, Steve Jones and Judy Simons. There are also two members whose period of office continues for another year – they are Samantha Gill and Christine O'Leary.

Dani and Samantha were elected by the students, in accordance with the Instrument of Government.

Two academic staff elected by and from the academic staff of the University are Steve Jones and Christine O'Leary. Christine was re-elected for a second two year term.

The board also welcomes Judy Simons as its external governor.



### **Dani Beckett**

(President of the Students' Union and member of the Nominations Committee)

This is Dani's second year as a sabbatical officer, having

previously been elected to the role of Academic Affairs Executive for 2008/2009. Dani completed a BA (Hons) in Primary Education with Mathematics.

Throughout her time at Sheffield Hallam, Dani involved herself in many areas of the Student Union as a rep for her course and Hallam Volunteer. She was a committee member on the SHU Drama Society and then as a director.

Dani says she is proud to be Union President as she values student representation and feedback and this has recently led her to take up the position of a National Student Survey Ambassador for the NUS.



### **Steve Jones**

(One of two coopted members of academic staff on the Board elected by the academic staff)

Steve Jones is a lecturer in the Faculty of Development and

Society, specialising in school leadership in highly disadvantaged communities and internationalisation. He was a secondary

school teacher in South Yorkshire before completing a PhD at Sheffield Hallam. Steve is also a member of Sheffield City Council, currently representing an inner city multicultural area for the Labour party. He has been deputy leader of the council in recent years, being responsible for finance and performance issues. He also chaired the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority up until 2008. He stands down as a councillor in 2010 to concentrate on his work at the University.



### Emeritus Prof Judy Simons

(member of Employment Committee and Audit Committee)

Judy retired as Pro Vice-Chancellor at De Montfort University in September 2009.

Most of Judy's career has been spent in the modern University sector and since 2006 her executive HE portfolio has been largely external facing, creating a robust and sustainable alumni and fundraising operation, including relationship-building and cultivation activities with key individuals. In addition she has undertaken independent advisory and consultancy work for several universities across the sector and has chaired a range of national HE bodies. Judy's main nonexecutive post is as Deputy Chair of the Standards Board for England which was the body established by the Committee for Standards in Public Life. Judy has a special interest in the arts and creative industries and advised the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on its interaction with higher education. Judy's public voluntary appointments included being a member of the HEFCE Strategic Committee for Leadership, Governance and Management.



### **Christine O'Leary**

(One of two coopted members of academic staff on the Board elected by the academic staff and member of the Nominations Committee)

Christine O'Leary is a Principal Lecturer in the Faculty of Organisation and Management. Since her appointment at

Sheffield Hallam in 1993, she has held a number of leadership and management roles including programme leadership, Learning, Teaching and Assessment Coordinator, and more recently Associate Director for the Centre for Excellence in Promoting Learner Autonomy (CPLA) and Teaching Fellow. She serves on a number of University Committees including Academic Board and is presently Vice-Chair of the Faculty of Organisation and Management's Information and Consultation Committee. Outside the University, she is a member of a number of professional associations including the HE Academy and the British Educational Research Association. She sits on the Executive of the Association for Language Learning and chairs its French Committee. She is an active researcher and participant in local, national and international research networks in her area of interest, the development of learner autonomy. She has presented papers at both national and international conferences, and published articles in refereed publications in this area since the mid 1990s.



### Samantha Gill

(Student member)

Samantha Gill is the Sports Officer of the Students' Union, having been re-elected. Samantha has a BSc (Hons) degree in Sports Development

with Coaching. Whilst at University she represented the Women's Football Team, Korfball and Rowing Club.

Sam is hoping to go into sports event management and tries to get as much voluntary experience working on events in her free time. Experience has included working at the World Swimming Championships in Manchester, LOCOG World Press Briefing and the World Athletics Championships in Berlin.

### Professor nets £70,000 for digital media projects

by Laurie Harvey

# A Sheffield Hallam professor has received a prestigious £70,000 research award to boost a range of city-based digital media projects.

Professor David Cotterrell says the award from the Leverhulme Trust will enable him to develop his digital simulation projects inspired by two recent trips to war-torn Afghanistan.

David, a Professor of Fine Art, said: "This amazing award will bind together projects I have been exploring both at home and abroad. It is of enormous credit to the University's Art and Design Research Centre and supports the great momentum that Sheffield Hallam has built in developing its reputation for excellence in transformational digital media."

David (pictured), is one of 25 scholars to receive a share of a £40m grant from the Leverhulme Trust to explore 'politicised and romantic themes within digital technology'.

The money will allow David to develop several new bodies of work, including one focusing on the rehabilitation of returning British soldiers.

He said: "My work tries to break the limits of our empathy with abstracted experiences. On my second trip to Afghanistan I moved freely as a civilian to explore beautiful landscapes now associated with military advantage and fear.



"With this award, I hope to develop my work with immersive environments, applying new techniques to an expanding visual vocabulary to explore the possibilities of invoking sublime experiences within simulated worlds."

Earlier this year his film and photography exhibition War And Medicine captured the drama of being on the frontline in Afghanistan and the human stories of survivors coming to terms with their injuries.

Hackney-based David is an installation artist working across varied media including video, audio, interactive media, artificial intelligence, device control and hybrid technology.

His work exhibits political, social and behavioural analyses of the environments and contexts, which he and his work inhabit. For more information on David Cotterrell, go to www.cotterrell.com

# From India to Steel City in new business exchange

Postgraduate students will be swapping Silicon Valley India for the UK's 'Steel City' of Sheffield as part of a unique business school partnership.

The exchange between Sheffield Hallam and the prestigious private Manipal business school T A Pai Management Institute (TAPMI) will see students from both countries travel between the two cities to carry out a range of consultancy projects with private companies.

Five postgraduate students from India have been at Sheffield Hallam for one semester studying finance and marketing.

They carried out consultancy projects with South Yorkshire companies, and in return, Sheffield Hallam students will undertake a two-month supervised internship with leading companies in Bangalore from June to September.

Tony Fowler, leader of the Intenational Business Postgraduate Programme, said: "We are very pleased to be working with our colleagues at TAPMI to provide our students with a unique and invaluable experience.

"The TAPMI students get the chance to study in multicultural groups in the UK and to advise British companies as a part of their international consultancy project."

### Park Centre set for revamp

Students in Sheffield have redesigned a 107 year-old community building and will get to see their plans come to fruition as part of a regeneration project.

Park Community Action (PCA) asked Sheffield Hallam to redesign the Park Centre building on Duke Street, which is used as a library, sports hall, crèche and meeting space.

The aim was to make all the facilities accessible from one main entrance, while also making room for a community cafe. Students from a variety of built environment courses completed the project as part of their studies.

The best design was due to be awarded a prize by Richard Caborn MP and will be turned into reality by Park Community Action

Ann Franks, principal lecturer in built environment, said: "This has been a fantastic opportunity for students to work on a real project at the heart of the community."

The students worked in teams of four to develop the concept of a multi-functional hub which serves the needs of the local community.

The prize-giving is part of the city's RE:Defining the City campaign, an initiative to celebrate Sheffield as an exciting place to live, work and play in.

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# Pioneering research projects aim to improve people's lives

by Tess Humphrys









# Academics at Sheffield Hallam have signed up to an ambitious project to enhance people's lives – literally!

It's called 'Engineering for Life – Enhancing People's Lives' and has ideas to help improve everyone's lives through rehabilitation techniques and physical activity programmes.

With £750,000 of funding from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), the project will see several research areas work closely

together to come up with ground-breaking ideas.

Professor Chris Care, Director of Materials and Engineering Research Institute, said: "The award from EPSRC is a fantastic acknowledgment for the work that we do here at Sheffield Hallam.

"The project will create multidisciplinary teams to find pioneering ways to enhance peoples' lives. In particular, it will address problems related to three themes which are rehabilitation and assisted living; sport, physical activity and medicine and sustainability.

"By building a network of passionate researchers, we aim to create pioneering research projects that will push the boundaries of interdisciplinary working and we will provide funding for the best projects."

Other research centres involved are: Art and Design; Sport and Exercise Science; Biomedical and Communication and Computing.

The best ideas will receive additional funding to turn those ideas into reality.

### **Charities not suffering from recession**

Charities may not have taken as big a hit from the recession as expected, according to new Sheffield Hallam research.

Joint research with the University of Kent examined whether there was any evidence for the assumption that donations drop during a recession and found that despite pessimistic mass media coverage there is no basis for assuming all charities will experience reduced income.

The research highlighted a number of major UK fundraising appeals, such as Comic Relief and BBC Children in Need, that have achieved record-breaking donations during the downturn, demonstrating that financial resources are not the sole determining factor behind people's desire to give to charity.

The paper was co-authored by Professor Gareth Morgan, course leader for MSc Charity Resource Management in Sheffield Business School, and Beth Breeze at the University of Kent.

Professor Morgan said: "Looking at the literature on philanthropy, we found there is no simplistic link between economic conditions and the amount of giving that takes place.

"This is primarily because philanthropy is not a simple financial transaction. It is first and foremost a social act that enables people to support causes they believe in."

He added: "We found that much of the press coverage on the issue was simply reporting concerns that charities might be affected by the recession but was hardly ever reporting actual cases of reduced giving."

### **New City Campus building**

The University's Board of Governors has given the go ahead for a new building at City Campus.



The building on Charles Street is expected to be completed by 2012 and will be linked to the Arundel Building, enabling the Faculty of Development and Society to relocate to one campus in line with the long term vision for the University.

The building features semitransparent walls and will become a beacon for the city.

Inside, the flexible teaching spaces will encourage collaborative work and learning within a social/learning zone.

### Pupils have a say on state of schools

A new University-spearheaded network is giving pupils a say on the state of their school buildings.

The Facilities Management Network for Schools met recently in London for its first workshop to discuss how school buildings can be improved. Two of the country's leading authorities on learning environments led the discussions.

The network follows a research project carried out by Sheffield Hallam's Centre for Facilities Management Development (CFMD) which has investigated school pupils' opinions of their facilities and environments and how they affect their learning experience.

### University's Director of Estates announces retirement

He's the man who oversaw the redevelopment of Sheffield Ice Centre and the City Hall - but now Alex Pettifer is building big plans for his own future.

Alex has spearheaded the transformation of the University's estates, achieving the ultimate vision of a two campus University with a £120 million upgrade.

After 28 years at Sheffield Hallam, and 17 as Director of Estates and Facilities, Alex is retiring in April 2010.

In addition to his work at the University, Alex is also chair of the Industrial Museums Trust and a director of the Sheffield City Trust, where he worked on the development of the Sheffield Ice Centre and the Sheffield City Hall redevelopment.

He said: "My time at Sheffield Hallam has coincided with a time of great change in higher education and I believe that we have risen to the challenges presented by such change.

"Indeed we have often thrown down the gauntlet to others, pushing harder, asking more of ourselves, upping our game, finding best value, improving the student experience. We have, in short, never been afraid of change or of hard times. This hard work and continuous improvement has been rewarded with many accolades and



awards from both inside and outside the sector including Investors in People, Times Higher, Royal Institute of British Architects, Business In Facilities Management, People and Planet, Yorkshire in Bloom, University Caterers' Organisation and many, many more."

In 1982 Alex joined what was then Sheffield City Polytechnic as Head of Premises and

Commercial Services. He became the Director of Estates and Facilities in 1993

Under Alex's directorship the University has transformed its estate into one of the most modern and progressive in the UK.

Major achievements on City Campus have included the Atrium, Harmer, Howard and Sheaf buildings, the Adsetts Centre and the HUBS and, more recently, the Arundel and Furnival Buildings. In addition he has overseen a visionary residential strategy which has seen the University work in partnership with the City Council and private developers to transform the standard of accommodation for students in the city.

The work Alex has overseen for so long will continue with the commissioning of another new building on Charles Street. This is part of the  $\mathfrak{L}75$  million funding which has been secured for the next four years and the vision within the Estates Masterplan, which looks forward to 20 years of further development.

At Collegiate Campus too, an extensive programme of building refurbishment, including the flagship Robert Winston Building, has helped achieve the long-term vision of a modern, fit-for-purpose University on two campuses.

### Professor Philip Garrahan, a life in academia

Sheffield Hallam has experienced unprecedented change over the past ten years with an increasing number of students, a more exciting portfolio of courses and a growing reputation for research and knowledge transfer. These factors have made it a university in high demand.

No one is more acutely aware of the changes and progress made than Professor Philip Garrahan who, as he bids farewell to Sheffield Hallam after ten 'marvellous' years, reflects on his significant role in that transformation.

He said: "Sheffield Hallam is going from strength to strength and the best indicator of its health is the increasing number of students making us their university of first choice. The University is in a very strong position, which is a credit to all of the effort that everyone has put in over the last ten years."

Philip has studied and worked at eight other universities in the UK and abroad, but added: "I've spent a quarter of my working life at Sheffield Hallam and I

stayed because I've got so much out of it. The quality of learning and teaching is very strong, a fact not lost on others outside of the University. This strength, together with the willingness of the University to support academic innovation and encourage sound research, means we are getting the academic balance right."

Philip's achievements as Pro Vice-Chancellor at Sheffield Hallam are too numerous to list here, but highlights include the strategic approach to learning, teaching and assessment; success in widening participation; winning funding for the University's Centres of Excellence in Teaching and Learning; the embedding of e-learning; the University's growing international standing; the design and implementation of a new faculty-based academic structure and the recent colocation project for the ACES faculty.

the University's international partners for leading Sheffield Hallam's successful international strategy. Outside the University, he is known for his work with



the Universities UK international unit, the Prime Minister's international initiative to expand UK higher education, and the HE Minister's task force on online learning. He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, a member of the British Sociological Association and a Governor at Chesterfield College.

He said: "I am leaving the University, not retiring. I've got lots of things I'll be carrying on with and new things I expect to do. My only regret is that I didn't keep a diary because of the many wonderful, interesting and funny things that have kept me busy during my time here."



# Student's plinth appeal

by Joe Field

The University's occupational therapy courses were given a special airing as one student took to the plinth in Trafalgar Square as part of Anthony Gormley's unique art project.

Frances Lapage, who is studying occupational therapy at Sheffield Hallam, spent an hour on the Fourth Plinth, talking about the issues people with learning difficulties encounter in day-to-day life.

Gormley had asked the people of the UK to occupy the empty Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, a space normally reserved for statues of kings and generals, in an image of themselves and a representation of the whole of humanity.

The living monument took place over 100 days, during which the plinth was occupied by different people - chosen by ballot - every hour, 24 hours a day.

Frances said: "I spent a four month work placement at Work Ltd, a Sheffield-based charity that gives people with learning disabilities vocational experience.

"What really struck me was that the problems people with learning disabilities experience are often the same as everyone else but with a little support they could be given the same opportunities that everyone else takes for granted."

# Agreement builds student opportunities

The University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the building giant Kier Group, showing a commitment to working together on a range of projects in the future.

Potential partnerships involve leadership and change management including coaching and mentoring, facilities management, built environment, urban regeneration and knowledge transfer projects. The partnership will bring opportunities for student work placement and work related learning.

Kier Group is a leading construction, development and service group specialising in building and civil engineering, support services, private house building, property development and the Private Finance Initiative.



Pictured (from left to right): FRONT ROW: John Bradley and Richard Simkins from Kier and Professor Philip Jones from Sheffield Hallam. MIDDLE ROW: Sheffield Hallam's Sylvia Johnson, Tim Davidson-Hague and Isobel Doole . TOP ROW: Mark Steed from Kier and Sheffield Hallam's Alex Pettifer, Pete Westland and Stuart Smith

### Graduates offered 'flying start' on road to becoming own bosses

Businesspeople have been sharing the secrets of their success at becoming their own bosses at a recent event in Sheffield.

Recently graduated Sheffield Hallam students heard from former students how they used the business advice given and support given them during their time at the University to help them on the road to success.

The event, called Flying Start, Make it Happen, was held in conjunction with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the National Council for Graduate Entrepreneurship.

Around 50 graduates received business advice through the event workshops and speakers and mentors who attended.

The event also profiled the work of Sheffield Hallam's Hatchery which provides a free business incubation service offering young entrepreneurs a low-risk environment in which to set up their fledgling businesses.

The hatchery, based at the University's Enterprise Centre, offers one-to-one sessions with specialist advisors, as well as networking and funding opportunities.

# Unlocking artists' creative minds

A Sheffield Hallam artist helped unlock the secrets of creating art with metal at a new exhibition.



Dr Coilin O'Dubhghaill from the Art and Design Research Centre (ADRC) spearheaded KeyPiece, an exhibition and workshop, at the Sheffield Institute of Art and Design Gallery.

The exhibition featured the works of ten leading metalwork and jewellery makers - including Professor Christoph Zellweger, Grace Horne and Maria Hanson - and illustrates the city's long-standing tradition in metalcraft and related practices.

Dr O' Dubhghaill said: "A keypiece is important to understanding an artist's work and this exhibition brought together ten leading metalworkers with 20 of their pieces.

"The exhibition investigated the creative process, using the keypieces as a means to understand the research and development that goes into the making of new work."

Professor Chris Rust, Director of the Sheffield Institute of Arts, said: "Sheffield has a long-standing tradition in metalwork, precious metalcraft and related practices. It is in the interest of the city, its industry and creative culture to build on and develop this tradition for the future.

"KeyPiece fosters dialogue between leading practitioners working in Britain today and allowed the public to see cutting edge research works on display and to create new insights and understanding."

KeyPiece was part of this year's Galvanize Sheffield festival.







Sheffield Hallam student Hayley McLachlan has won an Apple MacBook after beating off competition from thousands who entered a free draw.

She signed up to Travel South Yorkshire's free prize draw at their stall in the University's Freshers' Fair where they were promoting their travel cards.

"I was stunned when I found out I'd won," said Hayley, 20, who is studying Events Management. "I thought it was a wind up!

"I use public transport all the time to get to and from university so the TravelMaste will save me loads of money. And now I've got a laptop, I can even do my work on the tram."

YouTube fans have been getting an alternative glimpse of part of Sheffield's skyline thanks to one of Sheffield Hallam's associate lecturers.

Richard Bolam has used the Furnival Building as the setting for The Secret Life Of Buildings, a test of High Dynamic Range (HDR) time-lapse capture using a Canon PowerShot camera.

Richard, from the ACES faculty, is an independent media producer, artist, writer and events professional with particular interest in music video, time-lapse capture, HD video and High Dynamic Range (HDR) photography.

Enjoy the clip on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/ watch?v=s75C9XZVo9M



# Early years' professionals spread the word at celebration

Men who have bucked the trend to join the world of nursery education have been spreading the word to get more men into the Sheffield Hallam's teaching courses.

David Yates currently works at Tinsley Green Children's Centre after enrolling on a course in 2007 to achieve Early Years Professional (EYP) status.

And though he is in the minority as a male, David is confident a recent celebration event – where successful graduates invite interested colleagues to sign up – will help to start to reverse that trend.

David – who joined the University's first full-time pathway in January 2007 and now works permanently at Tinsley Green – was joined at the event by fellow graduate Tim Hopkins who gave up a full-time teaching job to take his pathway postgraduate qualifications.

David said: "Achieving Early Years Professional Status was a really hands-on experience. It helped me to realise why I do what I do when I'm working with the children, and that I am able to use good practice at all times. I don't think you can have better job satisfaction or have a more important job to do.

"This event showed all interested people that there is a lot of support out there whatever your background, from staff and peers."



Senior lecturer Chris Hope said: "The first five years of a child's life are the most important time for learning and development. It's a really rewarding experience to be a part of that and know you are making a positive difference to each child's future."

### **Praise or Protest? Students make their voices heard**

Passers-by and fellow students were lost for words as scores of students took to the street in vocal protest at Sheffield Hallam.

But it was all part of their course.

The event was staged by graphics students, and overseen by graphics staff, on the walkway between Sheaf and Eric Mensforth buildings.

It was part of a module called 'Design Methods (Graphics)' where teams of students enact their own 'Praise or Protest' campaign by using students themselves, placards, banners, posters, badges and even a campaign song.

The topics they were 'praising' or 'protesting' about were not serious social or political causes but instead more light-hearted in tone featuring either custard, wasps or moustaches.

Toby Lyons, module leader for Design Methods (Graphics), told *newview*: "The intention was for students to engage effectively in the process of publicly communicating ideas, rather than stirring up public opinions.



"And it went very well. Much fun was had in the sunny outdoors, and no-one was hurt in the process. Moustaches were soundly praised, custard was demonised and wasps elevated to heroes."

### Course with designs on international property market

Chartered surveyors of the future will be able to make their mark on the international property market with the introduction of a new course.

Sheffield Hallam is launching a BSc in International Real Estate next year as part of its wider real estate programme - with an emphasis on increasing graduate opportunities with global employers and partners.

Benefits include a semester at a number of international and European universities, together with final year routes in international real estate, real estate business management, development, economics and investment.

# Healthy ambition puts Sheffield Hallam ahead

Students at Sheffield Hallam will be the first in the country to graduate with a career boosting health and well being award from the Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH) as the University steps up its bid for Healthy University status.

The University is the first in the country to deliver specialist health and well being courses to more than 1,100 undergraduate health students as part of its work with the RSPH.

The award equips candidates with a knowledge and understanding of the principles of promoting health and well being to attain a healthier lifestyle.

It is an important step towards becoming an 'exemplar' Healthy University, showing Sheffield Hallam is creating healthy working, learning and living environments for students, staff and visitors.



# Google, it seems, loves Wallace and Gromit as much as the rest of the world.

Google UK marked the 20th birthday of the first public airing of Nick Park's irrepressible plasticine duo with this homepage illustration.

Nick unveiled Wallace and Gromit to an unsuspecting public in 1989 at an animation festival at the Arnolfini gallery in Bristol. Their public debut was the 22-minute romp A Grand Day Out, later broadcast by the BBC - and so a UK institution was born.

Nick completed his degree in Communication Arts at Sheffield Hallam and is an Honorary Fellow at the University.

# Student campaigners get lessons in direct action

Social and political activism is back on the agenda as part of a new course on how to organise and deliver effective political campaigns and protests.

Students learn to organise and run their own political and social campaigns, and experts in direct action, including Stephen Kingston, the editor of award-winning community newspaper the Salford Star, will give them practical advice.

Stephen said: "Courses like this are great. When I studied sociology at college it was all theory, there was no practice attached to it at all. No-one here's talking about revolutions; we're talking about giving the community a voice and helping kids.

Other experts working with lecturers to deliver the new module in social activism



include Tracey Moberly from Foundry TV and Ruth Ibegbuna, director of learning and community at Urbis in Manchester (pictured with students)

Course leader Dr Annabel Kiernan said: "The students are learning about the politics of protest, new social movements and how to conduct an activism project or campaign with a theme of their choice."

### Engineering the art of dance

Sports engineers have teamed up with a theatre company to challenge perceptions of disability in sport by creating a series of innovative performances and exhibitions.

Experts are using specialised movement capture equipment to record the actions of dancers from Huddersfield-based Chol Theatre. The footage will then be used to create a series of new artistic pieces that showcase the forthcoming Olympic and Paralympic games.

The multi-disciplinary project, called Extraordinary Moves, will be applying to become part of the Cultural Olympiad, which encourages communities around the UK to be active through music, art, dance and sport.

Dr David James, who is leading the project, said: "The Extraordinary Moves project is about art and sport working alongside science and technology. Science and culture aren't usually mentioned in the same sentence and we're keen to change that."

# Hospitality and tourism – global reputation on the rise

Sheffield Hallam's reputation for excellence in hospitality and tourism is being recognised by its contemporaries after achieving a top-three European ranking for its appearances in peer-led journals.

The University has been ranked third in the UK and Europe for its total research output in 11 leading hospitality and tourism journals over a five-year period.

Only the University of Surrey and Manchester Metropolitan University have more mentions in the journals - which include The International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality

Management - and the University is also ranked 32nd worldwide out of 100 institutions

Dr Kevin Nield, of the University's tourism and hospitality department, said: "To be ranked third in Europe confirms our status as one of the best centres for tourism and management with an acknowledged reputation for excellence in research and education."

# Sheffield Hallam blooms in awards

Sheffield Hallam is blooming after picking up a Gold Rose award for the second year running in the prestigious Yorkshire in Bloom competition.

The University came top in the category for university, colleges and further education establishments in the Yorkshire and Humber area

Alex Pettifer, Director of Estates, said: "This award is a fantastic achievement and something a lot of people have worked very hard towards. I congratulate everyone for their efforts and hope that the many people who visit our campuses also enjoyed the work of our creative gardeners."



Rosemary Rabjohn, Sheffield City Council's community services officer and a Yorkshire in Bloom volunteer judge, said: "There's a genuinely high standard in this competition and for Sheffield Hallam to win this for two consecutive years is a remarkable achievement. The great thing about this entry is that the campus isn't sealed off and people can see for themselves what the University has done. In addition, there was a distinctive route from the City Campus up to Collegiate for people to enjoy."



Blooming marvellous! Pictured are: Alex Pettifer, Director of Estates at Sheffield Hallam; Marie May, Community and Sustainability Manager; Nick Fellgett and Rosemary Rabjohn from Sheffield City Council; Philip Jones, Vice-Chancellor; Nigel Thurlow; Jill Richards and Mark Swales, Deputy Director of Facilities.

# Sport research on international stage

The University's expertise in the analysis and evaluation of the economic impact of major sporting events has been on the world stage in recent weeks.

Chris Gratton, Professor of Sport Economics and co-director of the Sport Industry Research Centre (SIRC), delivered a presentation at Shanghai University of Sport (SUS) on how hosting major sporting events can have significant economic benefits.

And it comes hot on the heels of the results of a panel that includes Professor Gratton set up to investigate free sports coverage on TV - the so-called 'crown jewels' of sport.

England's home Ashes Tests would return to free-to-air television from 2017 if the review panel's recommendations on protected sporting events are adopted.

Home and away football qualifiers for home nations would be listed, plus Wimbledon tennis, golf's Open and Wales Six Nations matches for Welsh viewers.

But the Winter Olympics would no longer be protected for free-to-air TV.

Flat racing's showpiece, the Epsom Derby, and rugby league's Challenge Cup final have also been removed.

The Shanghai presentation covered examples studied at the SIRC of the economic impact of several major sporting events in the UK, as well as the 2006 World Cup in Germany and last year's Beijing Olympics.

Professor Gratton is a visiting lecturer at SUS, which specialises in the development of sport and physical education. In December, Sheffield Hallam will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with SUS to enable the universities to work more closely together on international sport-related research.

Professor Gratton said: "Hosting a major sporting event can greatly boost a city or country's economy. During the World Cup in Germany, for example, the German economy benefited by almost 3 billion euros from overseas visitors alone. Thanks to a number of studies into the impact of major sporting events, the Sport Industry Research Centre at Sheffield Hallam has become the main centre in the UK for producing analyses of the economic importance of sport."

# It's a Big Wide World for product design students

From collectible Batman and Marvel Comics figurines, the Volvo XC60, the Inov-8 rucksack, Mira electric showers, and the Victor piggy bank to the Fellowes laptop workstation, all have one thing in common, the person who designed them learned their trade at Sheffield Hallam.



Peter Kaye, a senior lecturer at the Sheffield Institute of Arts and the exhibition's organiser, said: "The product design course has now been running for 35 years and many of our 700 or more graduates have gone on to successful careers.

"Many of them have designed household items that people use every day.

"The exhibition was about showing what happens to our students once they go out into the 'Big Wide World' and the differences they make to people's lives."

Peter added that the course prides itself on trying to mirror how a professional practice would operate.

Other products designed by Sheffield Hallam graduates include the Dyson DC27 vacuum cleaner, Micro Machines Power Racing Playset and the Jenx Supine Stander for children with limited head mobility.











# UFOs and one man's search for 'the truth'

Dr David Clarke, a senior lecturer in Journalism, is enjoying great success with his new book *The UFO Files: The Inside Story of Real-Life Sightings.* 



David has a long-standing interest in UFOs and other aerial phenomena, and this book is based on his work with the National Archives in promoting UFO material released by the Ministry of Defence.

He told *newview*: "This is a collection of the most impressive reports from the MoD's previously secret files on real-life UFO sightings which have been released to the National Archives.

"These reports have been brought together for the first time and cover sightings made in the early 1900s, right up to the present day.

"The book is published by the National Archives and I'm acting as their consultant for the on-going release of these files under Freedom of Information. A lot of the files on which the book is based can now be accessed by anyone via the website nationalarchives.gov. uk/ufos."

The sightings are from people from all walks of life who felt they should report their experiences to the authorities, as well as a number reports recorded by military personnel and intelligence agencies. It also looks at the investigations of both British Intelligence and the CIA in response to UFO sightings, and their views on UFO threats to national security.

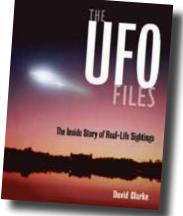
David said: "I am interested in how conspiracies arise and a lot of people believe that the government is hiding the truth about UFOs. I have persuaded them to release the information so it's a victory for Freedom of Information.

"There's a lot of fascinating information of interest to wide range of scholars and academics including historians, sociologists and psychologists."

### Highlights include:

- \* Winston Churchill's lifelong curiosity about UFOs which began with his involvement in the first government enquiry into a UFO sighting over a sensitive military base during 1912. The book also reveals that Churchill's son-in-law, Lord Duncan Sandys, Minister of Defence 1957-9, was one of a small group of senior establishment figures who secretly believed in the existence of flying saucers.
- \* The full story of the Ministry of Defence's secretive study of the UFO phenomenon that began in 1950 with the "Flying Saucer Working Party" and ended with "Condign report" in 2000.
- \* Interviews with RAF aircrew who reported UFO experiences including Venom pilots who were scrambled to intercept UFOs in 1956
- \* Details of a First World War encounter between a UFO and a British military pilot over London in 1916, when a Royal Naval Air Service pilot opened fire on an elongated object
- \* Wartime accounts from RAF Bomber Command crews who sighted strange balls of fire known as "Foo Fighters" that pursued their aircraft during night time raids over Germany

These accounts, amongst many other official reports in the book, shed new light on many famous cases, together with dramatic witness statements and personal interviews, many conducted by David.



# Sheffielders urged to serve up a slice of hospitality

### By Joe Field

Hospitable Sheffielders are being asked to invite an international student round during the Christmas season, as part of a scheme to help people from other cultures get to know the city.

The Local Friends project, run by Sheffield Hallam, gives local people the chance to meet those from other countries and introduce them to local cuisine and traditions.

Organiser Lynsey Igoe said: "Many of our international students are alone in Sheffield over the Christmas holiday and they can feel isolated during this time.

"We're looking for hosts with the famous welcoming Sheffield spirit, who can spare a couple of hours of their time to meet a small group of students and give them a taste of British life.

"Our students are keen to learn about British culture, celebrate British traditions and enjoy British food. And the hosts get to learn about a different culture at the same time!"

The Local Friends project has been running for over a year and has matched more than 80 students with different hosts. Students involved in the project come from as far afield as China, Libya, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Denmark, Holland, Serbia, Liechtenstein and Malta.

### Sporting stars on track for success

Potential Olympic stars of the future have been given a head start as part of a student athlete support scheme at Sheffield Hallam.

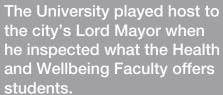
The High Performance Hallam squad for 2009/10, announced this week, includes 17 top student athletes, many of whom have represented England and GB Athletics at both junior and senior levels.

Sport Hallam manager Dan Porter said: "We had a lot of applications to the High Performance Hallam initiative this year and it was really tough narrowing the final squad down due to the high standard of applicants. This year we're giving an ever higher level of support to our student athletes.

"It's good to see less traditional sports being represented, like karate and korfball, along with rugby union and hockey. We wish them all well over the next year."

# Lord Mayor learns more about healthy Hallam





Councillor Graham Oxley not only saw for himself the impressive range of facilities and expertise available but he also recalled that his grandmother had worked in the Collegiate Campus as a nurse during the First World War tending to injured soldiers.

Councillor Oxley said: "The visit has been very informative. For instance, I didn't realise the amount of equipment they have or the expertise that exists at Sheffield Hallam. I really am staggered because it's not generally known that these excellent facilities exist, not even in Sheffield."

Professor Rhiannon Billingsley, Pro-Vice Chancellor of HWB, said: "It was an absolute delight to host the Lord Mayor because it connects once again the city to the ambitions of the faculty; to the applied research; to the education we provide and to so many healthcare professionals including biomedical sciences and sports

"We are trying to put across our aspirations and some of the innovations that are happening in the faculty and it was really great for us and, I'm sure, great for the Lord Mayor who is an ambassador for the city."

The Lord Mayor enjoyed a tour of the Robert Winston Building including a lecture for nurses on a mock ward and then at Collegiate Hall where he saw some of the technical innovations being used to improve the performance of professional sports men and women







Clockwise from left: the Lord Mayor has his hand analysed; on the ward with trainee nurses; monitoring the physical effort of a cyclist; watching a 3D image of his hand

# Firefighters join university paramedics for safety day of action

Sheffield firefighters joined forces with trainee paramedics to promote fire and road safety as part of a major city student campaign.

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue put on a day of displays, talks and giveaways at the University to hundreds of students to raise awareness of the dangers of cooking while under the influence of alcohol.

As part of the event outside the HUBS a serious road traffic collision complete with fire engines, ambulance, road vehicle and mock casualties was replicated.

Firefighters also used a chip pan display unit to highlight the importance of safe cooking. More than 30 fires have occurred in student properties in Sheffield since 2006. Cooking while under the influence of alcohol is among the biggest dangers, causing 80% of all house fires in student properties in the city over the same period.



Sheffield firefighters work with trainee paramedics outside HUBS. Photo: Tom Waltho

# newviewcompetition

# Win tickets for the Moscow ballet

Moscow City Ballet was formed in 1988 by the distinguished Russian choreographer Victor Smirnov-Golovanov.

A highly acclaimed ex-soloist of the Bolshoi Ballet, Smirnov-Golovanov enjoys bringing his heritage of classical ballet in the Moscow style to audiences including young ballet-goers, all over the world.

They have visited Korea, Japan, Taiwan, USA, Hong Kong, Singapore, Philippines, Israel, Cyprus, Greece and Poland, as well as enjoying huge popularity in Russia.

From 12 to 14 January, the company will perform an exhilarating traditional Russian version of the all-time fairy tale favourite *Cinderella*, produced by Victor Smirnov-Golovanov himself.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets to the performance of Cinderella at Sheffield's Lyceum Theatre on Thursday 14 January at 7.45pm, just answer the following question and send it to newview@shu.ac.uk with all your contact details.

### Q: What are the names of Cinderella's ugly stepsisters?

The winner will be drawn at random from all correct entries received by the closing date of Wednesday 6 January 2010.

### Notes from the President



### Higher Education funding campaign

The Town Takeover held in November was a joint campaign between Hallam Union, Sheffield Union and NUS to raise awareness of the problems with the higher education funding system and implications for students if the cap on top-up fees were to be lifted or removed. The event started with a street party near Sheffield Town Hall with students wearing red to symbolise debt, showcasing student activities and displaying information of the benefits that students bring to the city of Sheffield. Campaigners engaged members of the public in the debate and spoke to many parents and prospective students about the implications that increased tuition fees would have on future students as well as giving interviews to local media.

The conclusion of the first day was a debate at Sheffield City Hall with speakers from the Conservative, Labour and the Liberal Democrats together with the President of NUS.

On the second day of the event, students campaigned outside Sheffield train station speaking to commuters about HE funding then moved on to Sheffield College to talk to further education students about their aspirations and how they could become part of the national campaign.

### Hallam Volunteering recruitment

For the first year, Hallam Volunteering has a reserved list of students due to high levels of interest. Many first years are involved in the leadership of the 35 projects and committees with students on the reserved list being offered the opportunity to

participate in Hallam Challenges, one-day projects which allow students with limited free-time to experience volunteering.

### **Sport**

We have had a strong start to the BUCS season with a record number of wins in November. Individual championships have taken place in surfing and short course swimming. Sheffield Hallam entered its first side into the BUCS Futsal championships hoping to successfully qualify for the finals in March.

The Students' Union and Sport Hallam are working in collaboration to hold the University's first 'Get Active' Week in February 2010. The week aims to raise awareness and encourage students and staff at SHU to become more active in order to improve their quality of life.

### **Great Sexpectations**

The Advice Centre volunteering project, Great Sexpectations, has had a great start to the year, with all available places filling up within two weeks.

There are currently volunteers from various courses and faculties giving their time to other students in Sheffield around the issues of good sexual health.

The volunteers recently attended a weekend training session looking at a holistic view of sexual health.

### **Elections**

The implementation of the first stage of the review is well underway with nominations currently being taken for Student Trustees, Assembly Chair and Assembly reps. The appointments panel for External Trustees had been convened and will shortly be appointing External Trustees to the Board.

Dani Beckett, President, Hallam Union



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