

Horizons

The newsletter for **Cardiff Met** Supporters

Issue 09 | Summer 2015

Donations enable *World-leading Cystic Fibrosis Research at Cardiff Met*

Recent grants from the Waterloo Foundation and the Jane Hodge Foundation have enabled a three-year research study into a completely novel approach to managing chronic infections in cystic fibrosis patients. The study will look at ways that manuka honey can improve outcomes for cystic fibrosis patients undergoing lung transplantation...

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Horizons yn Gymraeg:
www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/horizons

If you would like to get in touch you can email us at: developmentoffice@cardiffmet.ac.uk or call on 029 2020 1590.

Alternatively, write to us at: Development and Alumni Relations Office, Cyncoed Campus, Cyncoed Road, Cardiff, CF23 6XD

For more information about our fundraising activities, please see our website: www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/supportus



It brings me great pleasure to introduce this issue of Horizons which aims to update you on the innovative and worthwhile projects your gifts are helping to support here at Cardiff Met. If you are reading this for the first time - perhaps after a call in our spring telephone campaign - welcome to our community of Cardiff Met supporters!

In this edition we focus on several life-changing projects made possible by donations like yours. At Llandaff, the School of Health Sciences is carrying out ground-breaking Cystic Fibrosis research. Donations are enabling new graduates to have a year's 'Incubation' in the new CSAD building. At Cyncoed the Outdoor Learning Centre is now

in use, bringing Forest School education to the next generation of teachers, and primary school children from the local community. The Student Hardship Fund is supporting students of all disciplines who are facing financial difficulties.

The Development Fund is very important in contributing to these opportunities and we would not be able to fulfil our ambitions without the funding made available through the support of our very generous donors.

I hope that you enjoy reading about how you are making a difference. If you would like to pop in for a coffee and visit the campus, we'd be delighted to see you.

Thank you!

Andrew Walker (HCIMA 1984)
Director of External Engagement
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“The team are very excited that we have been provided with the opportunity to pursue this research and we are confident that the data we are collecting will be used in the future to impact positively on the treatment of those with Cystic Fibrosis.”

Rowena Jenkins,
Lecturer in Microbiology

Your Support of Research: Transforming Lives for Cystic Fibrosis Patients

...Continued from front page

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is the most common life threatening inherited disease in Caucasians and is caused by defective ion transport, causing impaired airway clearance. There are over 9000 patients with CF in the UK and the median survival is currently 34.4 years. However, with improvements in treatment being discovered at Universities such as Cardiff Met, it is expected a child born with CF in the year 2000 would be expected to live into their 50s. One area of improvement in care has been the aggressive treatment of pulmonary bacterial infection with antibiotics to reduce the burden of infection in the airways by preventing or delaying chronic lung infections.



Honey is an ancient remedy that has been proven to have significant antimicrobial activity across a broad range of microorganisms. It is now licensed as a medical product and is used routinely in topical wound infection care across the world. The Microbiology and Infection Research Team at Cardiff Met has been investigating the antimicrobial effect of manuka honey and has demonstrated its effectiveness against a range of pathogens.

The aim of this project is to investigate combinations of manuka honey with other antimicrobial agents to find out how effective they will be against pathogens isolated from CF patients. This research will be carried out with a view to decontaminating the upper respiratory tract of CF patients. If successful this would identify innovative combinations that could be swiftly integrated into clinical practice following clinical trials. This is a completely novel approach to managing chronic infections in cystic fibrosis patients, and has the potential to transform outcomes for those with the disease.





Your Support of Community: Cyncoed Outdoor Learning Centre Opens!

The Outdoor Learning Centre is now up and running thanks to donations from The Development Fund, The Waterloo Foundation, The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust, The Simon Gibson Charitable Trust and The Oakdale Trust.

Outdoor Learning and Forest School Education emphasises learning through child-led discovery, and promotes and develops environmental awareness in children. Cardiff Met's School of Education has a dedicated team who run a wide range of Outdoor Learning and Forest School activities on campus for children, young people, and community groups. Activities include identifying and observing wildlife and plants, making bird boxes, play, exploration, and searching for firewood. The team also delivers training in Outdoor Learning for teachers, practitioners and the School of Education's own undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The creation of the Outdoor Learning Centre building will leave a lasting legacy for the thousands of children and young people who will benefit as new worlds are opened to them: the natural world of the forest, the world of their heritage experienced through storytelling, and the world of higher education. For many school pupils from urban neighbourhoods, the programme is their first opportunity to explore a woodland environment. The Centre will also introduce the next generation of teachers and children's workers to the benefits of outdoor learning and discovery.

This year over 1,000 children and young people have already benefited from Outdoor Learning. The creation of the new building will allow many more children and young people to benefit from the programme this year and for years to come, as more new projects and activities are added to the programme.

Thank you!



2015 Student Callers (From top, left to right: Helen, Andrea, Beverley, Ellis, Muireann, Rob D, Rebecca, Lottie, Jade H, Avril, Kirstine, Jess, Annie, David, Lucy, Sarah, Sammy, Grace, Connor, Jade M, Brittany, Rob M)

Telephone Campaign 2015

A huge thank you to all who took part in our spring Alumni Telephone Campaign.

Between Saturday 21st February and Sunday 8th March, 22 current Cardiff Met students from five academic schools spoke to hundreds of our alumni and had some life-changing conversations.

The phone calls provided a fantastic opportunity for our students to network with Cardiff Met alumni who have gone on from a very similar starting point to follow a wide range of career paths.

We were overwhelmed by your support - 127 alumni volunteered to work directly with our students through mentoring, guest lectures, or networking events and over £26,000 was pledged to the Development Fund.

If you spoke to one of our students and would like to put a face to a name, you can find all of their profiles on the Cardiff Met Alumni Facebook Page.

If you would like the opportunity to inspire one of our current students in a future telephone campaign, email developmentoffice@cardiffmet.ac.uk and we will make sure that you receive a call.

We would also like to thank all of our telephone campaign sponsors who can be found in our Supporters List on page 9.

Student Employees of the Year!

Our student call team have been recognised at national level in the

Student Employee of the Year (SEOTY) Awards for their hard work during the Alumni Telephone Campaign. Rob Mant won the regional and national award in the 'Step up to Leadership' category after the team voted him as most enthusiastic and supportive team player during the campaign. The whole team were nominated in the 'Commercial Impact' category, and won the institutional and regional heats of the competition. They were also awarded the 'Highly Commended' award at national level. Beverley was also 'Highly Commended' at institutional level in the 'Above and Beyond' category.

We are waiting to find out whether Rob will be crowned overall UK 'Student Employee of the Year' at the SEOTY awards ceremony in Liverpool in a few weeks. We will keep you updated.



“Although it was an intense two weeks, I absolutely loved the experience and gained so much from it - both in terms of making new friends and developing new skills. Some of the alumni that I spoke to were an inspiration.”

Jade Heffron
Student Caller

A large, artistic photograph showing the silhouette of a person sitting on a wooden chair by a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water. The person is sitting with their head resting on their hand, looking out over the water.

Your Support of Social Justice: The Student Hardship Appeal

We were overwhelmed by the incredible response to our appeal for the Student Hardship Fund. With the Welsh Government funded Financial Contingency Fund likely to be axed at the end of this academic year, Cardiff Met's Student Hardship Fund is more important now than ever. Thank you to those of you who have offered support by responding to a letter, email or poster. More than 120 alumni and staff have set up regular monthly gifts which will be directed to students in financial crisis. This will make a life-changing impact on students at risk of dropping out of the university for financial reasons.



Your Support of Opportunity: Graduate Incubation Bursaries

Laura Smith completed her MSc in Advanced Product Design last year, and this is her first year in business making and selling designer animal hutches.

This year, the Development Fund has allocated funds for two bursaries in Cardiff School of Art and Design's Graduate Incubation Unit. The unit provides recent Art and Design graduates with studio space and access to facilities, business startup support and creative mentoring to help them during their first year as an entrepreneur and practitioner.

The programme is for recent graduates who aspire to run their own design agency, make a living as a painter, printmaker or ceramicist, run workshops for the local community or have another idea of how they can set up on their own.

We are delighted that there will be seven more bursaries on offer in September - one from CSAD, one from Santander and five from the Fenton Arts Trust who wish to support graduates from the Ceramics, Artist Designer: Maker and Fine Art programmes.


The Fenton
Arts Trust



"I don't think I could have done this on my own. If I'd finished my degree and decided to just start up a business I would have had no idea what to do. The support I have received from my internal and external mentors this year has been invaluable. Thank you!"

Laura Smith
Freelance Product Designer



Our Supporters

Cardiff Metropolitan University would like to publicly thank all alumni, friends and organisations for their generosity over the past 12 months. Through philanthropic support, we can remain a truly progressive university. NB Names in bold indicate Cardiff Met staff members.

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www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/supportus
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Cardiff Metropolitan University Public Lectures & Events

Class of 1975 Reunion

Date: Saturday 11th July

Venue: Cyncoed Campus

CSAD Masters Show Open Day

Date: Saturday 5th September

Venue: Llandaff Campus

150th Anniversary Public Lecture with John Cridland

Date: Wednesday 7th October

Time: 5.45pm for a 6pm start

Venue: Llandaff Campus

Inaugural and Professorial Lecture with Professor Cathy Treadaway

Date: Wednesday 14th October

Time: 5.45pm for a 6pm start

Venue: Llandaff Campus

150th Anniversary Christmas Carol Service

Date: Friday 4th December

Venue: Llandaff Cathedral



Places are free of charge and are offered on a first come, first served basis.

To book online, please go to www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/lectures

For more information, please contact Caryn Blunt on pandilectures@cardiffmet.ac.uk or 029 2041 6052

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