Copy deadline for the next issue is 5 June.
Please send all items to Tammy Baines, Marketing and Public Relations Department, 6 Portland Villas, Plymouth campus email: T1baines@plymouth.ac.uk.

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What's the story for HE? Minister opens new Exmouth building The new chair of governors
It was disappointing to learn, last month, that Plymouth’s bid for a new marine science and technology education centre had not been successful. However, the project has strengthened marine partnerships across the city, and the commitment to world-class marine science is stronger than ever.

There is still much to celebrate. Some of the University’s ocean research work, led by Professor Paul Worsfold, is profiled on page 10. Dr Andrew Chadwick recently won £180,000 to co-ordinate research across the UK into coastal zone management issues such as global warming, flooding and storms. More details can be found on www.cozone.org.uk

This issue of UFPfront features the official opening of the Owen Building at Exmouth, a new partnership agreement with Paignton Zoo, news of a gold HEIST award for widening participation and a trailblazing course in emergency care. We also welcome Sir Brian Pearse as the new Chair of Governors (page 9). In The Times league tables published last month, Plymouth was once again ranked amongst the leading post-92 universities – just nudged into second place, but already ahead of some of the older universities.

June marks the tenth anniversary of receiving University status – although our history goes back to 1862 when a school of navigation was founded in Plymouth. In this long tradition of education, a tenth anniversary is not a major milestone. We are, though, planning a special publication in the summer, which will look to our future as well as marking our past.

For anyone interested in the University’s origins and history, Alan Kenneley’s book, The Making of the University of Plymouth, is a mine of information – with chapters devoted to Seale-Hayne, Exmouth and Exeter as well as Plymouth. The book retails at £19.99, but is available to staff at a special price of £9.99. Contact publicationrelations@plymouth.ac.uk to order your copy.

Corinne Farrell
Editor

Cover photo: Professor Mike Neave (left) with government minister Margaret Hodge and Vice-Chancellor Professor John Bull outside the new Devon Building.

The April 2002 Budget was not expected to bring any immediate benefits to higher education – neither did it! However, quite unusually, the Chancellor did give a commitment in his speech on the Spending Review 2002 – for the triennium 2003/4 to 2005/6 that “… education will receive the priority it requires to deliver further substantial improvements not just in our schools but also in our universities and colleges…” and “… we are pledged to increase significantly the share of national income devoted to education over the course of this Parliament”.

The outcome of the SR 2002 will be announced in or after July this year; we welcome the commitment but we will want to see the colour of his money. So far as the immediate budget is concerned, the news for HE is not helpful. Firstly, the announcement that employers’ (as well as employees’) National Insurance contributions will rise from 2003 will add approaching £400,000 per year to the University’s expenditure. Secondly, changes to VAT arrangements may be less than beneficial to the University sector, although we must await details before the impact can be fully addressed.

As you all know, we are currently involved in the detailed planning of our budget for 2003/2004. It will not be an easy year, particularly given the fact that the Higher Education Funding Council has only allowed 1.73% for inflation – well below reality, and certainly less than any pay rises are likely to be. Student recruitment and retention is absolutely crucial to our continued financial health, and I know that each and every one of you will play your part in securing our students – the major source of our income.

In the meantime the April 2002 Budget does nothing to reduce the pressures, and we must hope that the Chancellor’s longer term encouragement to Higher Education will turn into hard cash.

Professor R J Bull
Vice-Chancellor
Margaret Hodge (right), Minister for Lifelong Learning and Higher Education, took a keen interest in the teaching sessions.

The Students’ Union would like to remind staff on all campuses that they are automatically associate members of the SU and welcome to use any of its services and facilities. This means that members of staff, and up to two guests, can take advantage of the Union’s bars, games rooms and entertainment nights, join any of its sports teams and societies, or even make use of the launderettes! Staff and departments can also hire SU minibuses.

For more information, just call in at one of the SU offices or ring 01752 663337.

Staff at the University’s Institute of Health Studies (IHS), in collaboration with colleagues from acute NHS trusts, have developed one of the UK’s first inter-professional degree programmes in emergency care.

The plot course is, so far, unique in training qualified ambulance paramedics and hospital accident and emergency care (A&E) nursing staff alongside each other.

The first intake of eight students – from Westcountry Ambulance Service NHS Trust and A&E departments in hospitals across the South West – recently undertook a visit to Belfast where they were able to learn first-hand from staff who have to deal with a very different type of trauma from that experienced in most emergency care settings. They also shared their own findings on how ambulance services can improve their response times.

When these students graduate in the summer, they will be the first inter-professional cohort in the country to qualify with this type of emergency care degree.

University of Plymouth Programme Leader, Annie Jenkin, herself an experienced A&E nurse and tutor, said: “We developed this course in anticipation of a new role for the emergency care practitioners in the country!”

Students need at least two years’ experience in emergency care before being eligible for the course, and they learn through a combination of attendance at the University of Plymouth, self-directed learning days and work placements with a ‘buddy’ in clinical practice.

The BSc (Hons) in Emergency Care was designed to ensure that patients receive a seamless service from the time of injury or illness through to discharge from hospital A&E care. In addition, students are taught assessment skills to ensure patients receive the most appropriate level of care in the pre-hospital situation. The course is also meeting one of the government’s modernisation targets for the NHS, by breaking down traditional barriers and training different groups of health professionals to work better together.

In April, the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Higher Education, Margaret Hodge, visited the Faculty of Arts & Education at Exmouth to open the Owen Building – a newly-built £2.1 million teaching and performing arts centre. During her visit, she was also given a brief tour of the campus, saw a variety of teaching sessions in progress and met a cross-section of students and staff.

The new building was named in commemoration of Joslyn Owen CBE, MA (1928-1992), who was Chief Education Officer of Devon from 1972 until his retirement in 1989. He was also one of the architects of what is now the University of Plymouth.

The visit went very well, according to Dean, Professor Mike Newby: “We were able to discuss a number of issues with the Minister in private, including the funding of higher education, student loans and pay within the sector. We were also able to present some of our work, and I know that the Minister was impressed with the quality of higher education in this part of the South West.”
The Race Relations Amendment Act (RRAA) imposes a general duty on all public bodies to "promote equality of opportunity and good race relations... in all their relevant functions". What does this mean?

"The Act's intention is to improve the way people think and act – not in relation to race alone but towards all people, following the devastating findings of institutional racism by the Macpherson inquiry," says Professor Joyce Hill, Director of the Equality Challenge Unit. The methods of achieving this ambitious intention are laid out in the specific duties, the first of which requires the writing of a detailed Race Equality Policy and action plan – by 31 May (Scotland is subject to a slightly later timetable and Northern Ireland is already covered by existing legislation). So from 1 June, institutions in the rest of the UK are expected to begin implementing their plans. The burden of proof is reversed: it will be the institution's responsibility, through the governing body, to ensure that every member of staff and all students are made aware of their responsibilities and accountabilities under the act.

The RRAA places a positive duty on institutions to draw up their plans through widespread consultation; demonstrate implementation; give every member of their community appropriate training in race equality awareness; and monitor and assess the impact of policies on different racial groups. Each HEI must also annually publish the results of their race equality policy implementation, to show how the actions are affecting race equality in the institution.

Plymouth has established a Race Equality Working Group to ensure the University complies with the new legislation. Mel Landells is leading the project and is keen to hear from black or minority ethnic staff who would like to take part in the consultation process. Contact: melanelandells@plymouth.ac.uk

Institutional racism
"The collective failure of an organisation to provide an appropriate and professional service to people because of their colour, culture or ethnic origin. It can be seen or detected in processes, attitudes, and behaviour which amount to discrimination through unwitting prejudice, ignorance, thoughtlessness and racist stereotyping which disadvantage minority ethnic people."
A consortium led by the Universities of Plymouth and Bournemouth has won major funding to address the important skill shortages in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) experienced by businesses in the South West. The go-ahead for New Technology Institute (NTI) status, worth £1,350,000, comes from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). The announcement was made in early May by Margaret Hodge, Minister for Lifelong Learning and Higher Education, who said: “NTIs offer a new and exciting opportunity for further and higher education and industry to work together and deliver the latest information technology training in an accessible and responsive way. This is essential for both individuals and business, and critical to the success of local and regional economies.”

The initiative will see Plymouth teaming up with the University of Bournemouth and three strategic further education college partners – Bournemouth & Poole College, Somerset College of Arts & Technology and Yeovil College – to respond to the competitive needs of businesses, large and small, in east Devon, Dorset, Somerset and south Wiltshire.

Welcoming the news, Professor Les Ebdon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), said: “I am delighted the consortium has been successful in this bid, which will enable advanced training in ICT to be more widely available. Through our partners at Somerset College of Arts & Technology, for example, we will be able to assist dynamic young companies in Somerset in grasping the computing opportunities of the 21st century.”

As part of the initiative, one of just two in the South West and 18 nationwide, a Centre for Advanced Practice in Information and Communications Technology will be established, bringing education and business into a much closer partnership. The Centre will not only promote a coherent approach to education and training in advanced ICT in the region, but will also serve as a portal to the expertise of the Universities of Plymouth and Bournemouth and their partners.

The Centre is expected to feature two electronically-linked sub-regional locations in Bournemouth and Taunton to provide the focus for business support and course provision. A further extension is anticipated for Yeovil to service the hi-tech manufacturing cluster based in this area of Somerset.

Key agencies which have important roles in facilitating the development of the regional economy and skills will work closely with the Centre. These include the South West of England Regional Development Agency, the Small Business Service, the Manufacturing Advisory Service, UKLearn Direct, NTO and the Learning and Skills Council.

Further details about NTI recommendations are available on the HEFCE website at www.hefce.ac.uk

Brian Pearse took over from Victor Parsons as Chair of the University’s Board of Governors on 1 May, having served as a governor since 1997 and Vice-Chair since 1998. Married with a son and two daughters, Brian lives in South Milton.

Brian left school at 16 to pursue a career in banking. He quickly worked his way through the ranks and held various management positions for Barclays Bank – mainly in the north of England and the Midlands. By 1979, he was General Manager for all UK branches of Barclays, with a remit covering products, premises, staff, and the then newly-introduced ATMs – the ‘hole in the wall’.

He has never been afraid to challenge the status quo. In his efforts to make Barlays more customer-focused, he pioneered Saturday opening for banks.

In 1982, Brian was appointed chief executive officer of Barclays Bank, North America, with overall responsibility for 6,000 staff in 32 states across Canada, America and the British Virgin Islands, which he describes as ‘rather pleasant’.

He returned to the UK in 1987 as Finance Director for Barclays – a role he held until, in 1991, he was asked by the Governor of the Bank of England to take over the ailing Midland Bank. Interestingly, he doesn’t recall ever saying ‘yes’ to the Governor’s request. However, within a week he was Chief Executive of Midland and turned the bank’s fortunes around, staying long enough to oversee the merger with HSBC in 1994. In the same year, he was knighted for his services to banking.

During his career and retirement, Brian has held a number of non-executive roles – including Chairman of the Housing Corporation and Lucas Industries, and directorships of Smith & Nephew and Britannic Group Plc. He was Treasurer of King’s College in London during its merger with UMDS (United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals).

‘The high points for me have been winning approval for the Peninsula Medical School and being involved in preparations for a new Vice-Chancellor. I think Roland Levinsky’s big challenge will be in setting a direction which leads the University one step at a time towards its world-class ambitions. For my tenure as Chair of Governors, I am looking forward to working closely with staff and students, and seeing for myself how the University works.”

Brian Pearse defies the stereotypical view of bankers as office-bound men in grey suits. Above all, he is a people person, believing in openness and accessibility. When he first arrived at Midland Bank’s London head office, he found a very impressive Lutyens building, with corridors filled with heavy-duty oak doors, which were hoisted to swing effortlessly and soundlessly shut at all times. Over the weekend, Brian carved himself a wedge, so that his door at least could be freed open. His own door-stop was swiftly removed and replaced with a carved, Lutyens-style one. But he’d set the trend: doors started to open all over the bank.

At 69, Brian shows no signs of flagging. He attributes his energy to not needing much sleep, and describes ‘everything I do as a hobby’ which, he says, has held true throughout his working life. Aside from work, other hobbies include the garden, rugby (no longer as a player or referee – but he rarely misses an international at Twickenham) and opera. He is also considering following up friends’ suggestions that, after 52 years of banking, he commits some of his inside stories to paper – promising an interesting, frank and lively read.

“Sir Brian Pearse”

Introducing...
Plymouth is one of 12 European universities taking part in a three-year programme to map the world’s 361 million square kilometers of seabed. A major tool in the study of the subsea world is the ROV (remotely operated vehicle), particularly for the acquisition of video images to obtain accurate measurements of seabed features, living creatures and natural and man-made artefacts. However, there is a major problem in the most fundamental interpretation of video recordings: they have an unknown scale and perspective. The Abiss system uses ‘structured lighting’ to enable scaling of images of the seabed or other flat surfaces. An array of five video lasers projects a pattern of spots onto the surface, and the image of this pattern, which varies with camera range and perspective, is subsequently analysed by a computer programme written in IMS by Dr Derek Pilgrim. The output is a fully scaled image from which measurements can be taken.

Abiss has been used successfully in seabed surveys in Plymouth Sound and Loch Crean as part of an IMS PhD programme (David Parry). A grant has also been awarded by QinetiQ (previously DERA) to fund a PhD programme (Sid Rimmer) to further develop Abiss to map curved surfaces – particularly underwater mines. A consortium comprising IMS (through UoPE), QinetiQ and Tritech International of Aberdeen, has produced a modified version of Abiss, named Tritech ISS (image scaling system), for the offshore industry. This new system was launched at the recent Oceanology International exhibition in London, where the first ISS was sold to a seashell farm in China.

Further details of the IMS Abiss programme can be found at www.seabed.info

Plymouth Institute of Neurocience (PION) at the University.

Since its inception in 2000, the Institute has recruited neuropsychologists, neurobiologists and computer scientists of international standing and is set to become a world leader in both understanding movement disorders caused by abnormalities in the brain. The research involves the use of highly sensitive equipment that works as a diagnostic tool, recording subtle eye movements and the way our lips move when we speak. It is hoped that tracking and analysing these movements in people with neurological diseases – either congenital or acquired – will aid understanding and lead to advances in treatment for patients suffering from chronic movement disorders.

In another project, Chris Harris, Professor of Neuroscience, is leading research into detecting and understanding movement disorders caused by abnormalities in the brain. The research involves the use of highly sensitive equipment that works as a diagnostic tool, recording subtle eye movements and the way our lips move when we speak. It is hoped that tracking and analysing these movements in people with neurological diseases – either congenital or acquired – will aid understanding and lead to advances in treatment for patients suffering from chronic movement disorders.

The next cruise, planned for October this year, will be in the Azores region, the Atlantic Ocean and the Southern Ocean to conduct iron measurements. The work of Dr Sue Denham, Senior Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence, focuses on neural modelling of the human auditory system. It has resulted in a better understanding of how the brain enables important sounds to be separated out from background sounds and noise, for example when we are trying to listen to and understand one speaker when there are other people speaking loudly around us – the so-called ‘cocktail party effect’.

This research has resulted in the formation of a University spin-out company, NeuVoice, which produces speech recognition software for use in mobile computing and telecommunication devices, such as the new generation of smart mobile phones. For further details about these and other PION projects, contact Christine Brown on ext 3359 or via email: christine@pion.ac.uk

Plymouth is one of 12 European universities taking part in a three-year research project called IRONAGES, which investigates the impact of iron on ocean productivity and climate change. Research to date indicates that in 40% of the world’s oceans, iron concentrations are so low that the production of phytoplankton is iron limited. This has an impact across the food chain, as oceans rich in plankton are also rich in fish-life. Phytoplankton need carbon dioxide to grow, which they source from the atmosphere. Experiments have shown that addition of iron to patches of the ocean causes an increase in the growth of marine plants and animal life and therefore an increase in the uptake of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The IRONAGES group is investigating the sources, sinks and distribution of iron in the world’s oceans and how iron is related to primary production and carbon dioxide uptake. The Plymouth group has been involved in research cruises in the Atlantic and Southern Oceans to conduct iron measurements. The next cruise, planned for October this year, will be in the Azores region, investigating the input of iron to the North-Atlantic Ocean from Saharan dust. Professor Paul Wardolf, Co-director of Plymouth Environmental Research Centre (PERC), heads the Plymouth team working on this project. He said: “We are one of just a handful of universities in the world with the specialist knowledge and equipment to be able to measure the presence of iron in the oceans accurately. We have invested in some of the most sophisticated instrument equipment in the world, and now have probably the best instrumentation base in the UK. We have also developed accurate, robust and portable measuring equipment, which can be used in field surveys. So far we’ve put this equipment to the test in the Bay of Biscay, the Atlantic Ocean and the Antarctic.”

Last month Professor Wardolf presented a paper on the subject at Europe’s leading analytical chemistry conference, Analytical in Munich. His findings will also be presented much closer to home when Plymouth hosts the 32nd International Symposium on the Environment and Analytical Chemistry next month (17 - 21 June).

Dr Eric Achterberg, a partner in the IRONAGES project, added: “The work on iron conducted by the Plymouth group since 1995 is on the cutting edge of marine biogeochemistry.”

This view was endorsed by Simon Usborne, a PhD student at PERC, who said: “Scientists, such as myself, who have gravitated to Plymouth to become involved in environmental research on an international level, tend to find a very refreshing and rewarding experience.”

Learning and memory is being investigated in research led by Mike Denham, Professor of Neural and Adaptive Systems. Professor Denham and colleagues are looking at how memories are established, how memory guides us in making decisions and how decision-making ‘rules’ are extracted from our remembered experiences. This work will help to establish why, in some cases, people habitually make decisions leading to short-term rewards despite obvious, serious long-term consequences such as loss of home, job and family. Such behaviour is common amongst people addicted to alcohol, drugs and gambling. It seems that in these cases decision-making is being biased away from the use of remembered experiences, towards the case where behaviour is dominated by the prospect of an immediate reward.

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Help is at hand for graduates seeking work in the South West, thanks to the launch of Gradsouthwest.com, a unique online careers and vacancy service.

The website is the result of collaboration between all HE careers services in the region and the Higher Education Regional Development Association South West. The project has received funding from the South West Regional Development Agency, and CSU - the higher education Careers Services Unit - has provided the technical expertise.

Gradsouthwest.com will provide graduates with information and advice to help them find employment in the region. It includes a vacancy service for jobs, information on voluntary work and advice on funding for those looking to start their own business. The site is also accessible to employers, enabling them to advertise graduate positions.

The University-based Gradsouthwest team is comprised of Wendy Atkinson, Amy West and Brett Culverwell, whose base is Room 101 at the Moneycentre in Plymouth. The team can be contacted on 01752 325990 or via email: w.atkinson@plymouth.ac.uk

Right: Research student Elizabeth

Stemhouse with Gary Streeter, Conservative MP for South West Devon. Elizabeth and Gary met at the recent SET (Science, Engineering and Technology) for Britain conference at the House of Commons. Elizabeth, from the Plymouth Postgraduate Medical School, was invited to attend the conference as one of Britain’s top ‘mature and part-time’ research students. She presented her research into blood sugar levels of pregnant women and the effect this has on birth weight.
Gemma (second from left) with her winning rug design.

Congratulations to Wendy Smith, Illustration Tutor at the School of Art & Design, who recently scooped the prestigious SMARTY prize for The new Owen Building at the Exmouth campus was opened by the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Higher Education, Margaret Hodge, in April (see page 5 for more details).

The Macmillan Education Unit, formerly at Plymouth, has relocated to the Exeter campus. The Unit is based within the Institute of Health Studies and provides educational support for Macmillan postholders, contributes to cancer and palliative care education and research within the University and provides an interface between education and practice for the South West.

Congratulations to Wendy Smith, Illustration Tutor at the School of Art & Design, who recently scooped the prestigious SMARTY prize for illustrated children's books.

Sue Goodwin, who gained a first class degree in English from the University in 1994, has secured a two-book deal with publisher Macmillan (Pan). Her first book, The Quickerening Ground, has just been published under Sue’s new name, Hayden Gabriel.

The refectory at Exmouth has undergone a recent refurbishment. The redecoration and new lighting and furniture have given the facility a fresher, more up-to-date feel.

Somerset College of Arts & Technology (SCAT) held a topping out ceremony in April for their new technology centre. The centre was commissioned as a direct result of the increase in Somerset of young people choosing careers in technical and hi-tech industries. The building will be used by sixth formers and students on HE courses – as well as providing on-line support to rural communities.

SCAT also had something to celebrate when a rug design by Gemma Klonowicz, a third-year degree student (BA Hons in Textiles Surface Pattern), won a national competition run by Axminster Carpets. Gemma’s seascape design was woven by Axminster, who presented Gemma with the resulting, unique rug.

Left to right: Jonathan Burnett, Principal of Truro College, Professor John Bull, Vice-Chancellor, Dr Ian Tunbridge, Director of Academic Partnerships & Liaison, and Dr Alan Stanhope, Principal of Cornwall College.

The vision of the Combined Universities in Cornwall (CUC) for a significant increase in the provision of higher education in the county has taken a major step forward with the signing of an official agreement between the University of Plymouth, Cornwall College and Truro College.

The agreement sets the seal on a long-term partnership between the institutions, with the University validating courses and providing a channel for over £6.4 million of HEFCE capital funds that will support the development of new buildings for the CUC ‘rim’ at a series of sites including Redruth, Falmouth, Truro, St Austell, Saltash and Stoke Climsland.

The University has also obtained – on behalf of the rim – HEFCE funding of over £1 million for around 200 extra student places from September 2002, bringing the total number of rim students at University of Plymouth-validated courses to over 1,800.

This is a key development in the CUC project, providing the greatest range of courses and focusing in particular on increasing participation in higher education for people who are unable to travel out of Cornwall to study,” said Dr Ian Tunbridge, Director of Academic Partnerships & Liaison at the University.

In addition to funding the CUC ‘rim’ colleges, the University is engaged in the CUC project in its own right, through its Institute of Health Studies, which has a site at Pool, and – in two years time – through the Peninsula Medical School (PMS), which will provide clinical training for new doctors at the PMS centre at Trebiske Hospital in Truro.

The University has entered into a formal partnership with Paignton Zoo and Environmental Park which aims to build on existing collaboration between the two organisations. The University has already contributed to the zoo’s captive breeding programmes, and Faculty of Land, Food & Leisure runs successful degree courses in Animal Science and Wildlife Conservation. The formal partnership will encourage future collaboration on research, publications, fieldwork and postgraduate programmes.
Will McBurnie, PGCE Primary Programme Director and PGCE Secondary Music Pathway Co-ordinator, has worked in the Faculty of Arts & Education since 1986. Here, he tells us about his work with the Exeter Symphony Orchestra...

"Working with young people is also an important part of what we do..."

The orchestra enjoys playing concertos as well as a range of other symphonic works and we try to include a wide range of repertoire in our programmes – solo works have included classics like Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto and lesser known works such as Takemitsu’s Trombone Concerto (Choros Cantos II). Most of our soloists in the last seven years have been young musicians recently qualified from one of the main music conservatories.

Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening, and take a couple of hours at the weekend to plan and organise. We are currently preparing for an Exeter Festival concert on Saturday 29 June (7.30 pm) in Exeter’s Mint Methodist Church. The programme includes Shostakovitch’s Exposition Overture, Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet (extracts from Suites 1 and 2) and Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No 3.

Many teachers in the county play with the orchestra, and students too have the opportunity to further their orchestral experience. I find the whole experience is fun, allows you to entertain the public and helps to maintain relations between the University and the NMA."

Marine biology students from the University are gaining valuable work experience, thanks to a unique partnership project with the National Marine Aquarium (NMA). Plymouth is unique amongst UK universities in offering HSE professional scuba diving qualifications on a number of its undergraduate courses, including marine biology. Recently, ten third-year students, who have already completed their commercial diver training, have been diving their scuba gear and helping to hand-feed rays and other flat fish.

“Volunteer diving at the NMA is an exciting opportunity to use the diving skills learnt in the first two years of the marine biology degree,” said student James Brewer. “It gives you the chance to go behind the scenes and gain an understanding and experience of diving operations in real organisation, as well as meeting the friendly staff. Your chance to make contacts is increased and the whole experience is fun, allows you to entertain the public and helps to maintain relations between the University and the NMA.”
The University is co-sponsoring – with CMA Marketing and the Countess of Munster Musical Trust - a concert in celebration of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee.

The concert, which will take place on Saturday 1 June at St Andrew’s Church in Plymouth, is a collaboration between Devon’s professional Ten Tors Orchestra and the 120 voices of the University’s Choral Society. Beginning with Elgar’s arrangement of God Save the Queen, the programme will feature Walton’s Coronation March Crown Imperial and Handel’s Coronation Anthem Zadok the Priest. Also included will be Elgar’s Nimrod from the Enigma Variations; Nicolson’s Overture to the Merry Widows of Windsor and a new work by Plymouth composer Clive Jenkins, Heart of Dartmoor Overture.

Guest soloist at the concert will be mezzo-soprano Alexandra Sherman, who was born in St Petersburg but grew up in Australia, where she was awarded the Queen’s Trust Award at the University of Melbourne. She was the Sydney Symphony Orchestra’s Young Performer of the Year in 1997 and performed with them at the Sydney Opera House.

“T’he Golden Jubilee is an occasion for celebration and presents a wonderful opportunity to unite two musical organisations to perform a programme of joyful and uplifting music. With very nearly 200 people participating, the sound should be amazing – a fitting tribute to our reigning monarch,” said Simon Idle, Musical Director at the University and Resident Conductor of the Ten Tors Orchestra, who instigated the event.

Tickets for the concert cost £10 each (£4 for students and children) and can be obtained from In Other Words Bookshop, Mutley Plain, Plymouth (tel: 01752 663889) or Plymouth Music Shop, Mayflower Street (tel: 01752 670403). Alternatively, contact the Ten Tors Orchestra on 01566 783138 or visit www.tentorsorchestra.co.uk

### Exhibitions

The following exhibitions of paintings will be held in the Sherwell Centre on the Plymouth campus. Further information is available from the Science and Technology Short Course Unit on ext 3304.

17 – 21 June
ISEAC (International Association of Environmental and Analytical Chemists) 32 conference. The overall objective of ISEAC 32 is to bring together scientists engaged in research into environmental issues. Although, traditionally, ISEAC has been directed primarily towards environmental analytical chemistry, in recent years it has been acknowledged that different disciplines must function together for maximum effect. ISEAC 32 addresses this issue by broadening the scope of the symposium to include biological issues and policy drivers. For more information, visit the conference website at www.pml.ac.uk/iseac32, or email iseac32@plymouth.ac.uk.

1 – 5 July
UKEMS Conference: The 25th annual meeting of the UK Environmental Mutagen Society. UKEMS is the UK branch of the European Environmental Mutagen Society and is a major research component of Biological Sciences at the University of Wales Swansea. For further information, visit www.swanseas.ac.uk/gep/ukems/general/mar2002newsletter.htm.

16 – 18 July
International Network Conference 2002 - This conference, the third in a series, will bring together leading figures from academia and industry to present and discuss the latest advances in networking technologies from both research and commercial perspectives. For further information, go to www.plymouth.ac.uk/nic2002.

### Concerts

1 June
7.30pm: Golden Jubilee Concert by Devon Ten Tors Orchestra and the University of Plymouth Choral Society, St Andrew’s Church, Plymouth. Tickets cost £10 (£4 for students/children) from In Other Words Bookshop, Mutley Plain, (tel: 01752 663889) or Plymouth Music Shop, Mayflower Street (tel: 01752 670403). See opposite page for further details.

20 May
5 – 7pm: Yealm Committee Room, Babbage Building, Plymouth campus. A sociology research seminar by Nina Halliwell, Senior Research Associate at the University of Cambridge. Nina will be taking about genetic testing for breast and ovarian cancer and the issues associated with it. Contact Val Woodcock on ext 3202.

20 May
6 – 7pm: Lecture Theatre 8, Babbage Building, Plymouth campus. A public lecture by Michael Hyland, Professor of Health Psychology. The intelligent body: how complexity theory provides a new way of thinking about people in health and disease and the integration of conventional and complementary medicine. This presentation provides an introduction to the intelligent body hypothesis: that the whole body, and not just the brain, functions, in part, as an integrated, intelligent system. Contact: Alison Whitehouse on ext 3190.

25 June
2 – 5pm. An open lecture by Professor Gary Craig, University of Hull, about social justice and race. Venue to be confirmed. Contact: Val Woodcock on ext 3022.

Photo: Plymouth College of Art & Design.