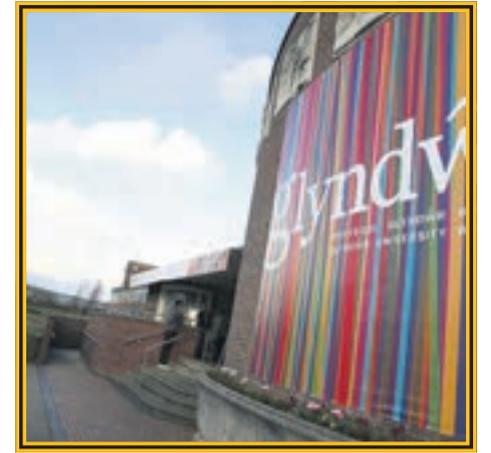
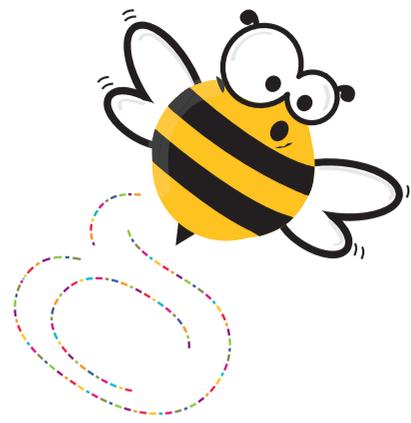
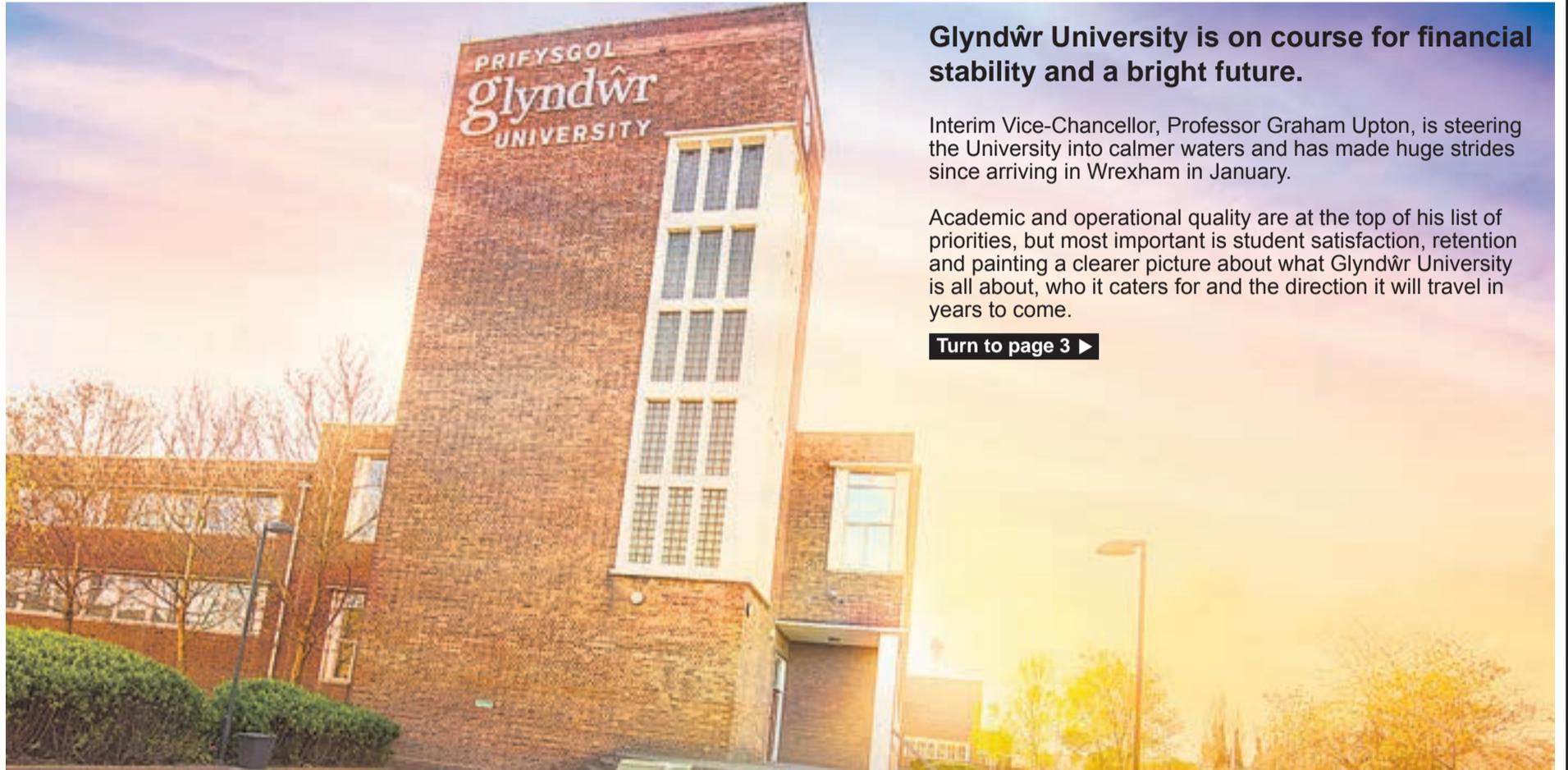


# Buzz



The Glyndwr University Newspaper

Spring 2015



## Glyndwr University is on course for financial stability and a bright future.

Interim Vice-Chancellor, Professor Graham Upton, is steering the University into calmer waters and has made huge strides since arriving in Wrexham in January.

Academic and operational quality are at the top of his list of priorities, but most important is student satisfaction, retention and painting a clearer picture about what Glyndwr University is all about, who it caters for and the direction it will travel in years to come.

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# HERE COMES THE SUN

<p><b>THE DRIFTERS</b> 3 JUNE</p>	<p><b>THE PROCLAIMERS</b> 18 JULY</p>	<p>An Evening With Simon &amp; Oscar From Ocean Colour Scene 16 OCT</p>	<p>BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, THE LEGENDARY <b>CHAS &amp; DAVE</b> 24 OCT</p>	<p><b>EDDI READER</b> 12 NOV</p>
<p><b>HEAVEN 17</b> 20 NOV</p>	<p><b>The Stylistics</b> 28 NOV</p>	<p><b>shed seven</b> also special guests inspiral carpets 14 DEC</p>	<p><b>THE COMMITMENTS</b> 19 DEC</p>	<p>LIVE AT <b>WILLIAM ASTON HALL WREXHAM</b> BOOK NOW: 0844 888 99 91 GLYNDWR.AC.UK/EVENTS</p>

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## Inside this Issue



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### Alumni with Jemma Kinch

## Donating your expertise

As a University we rely heavily on the generosity of current pupils, their families, Alumni and business donations to continue to provide the high quality student experience that we offer here at Glyndwr University.



Our fundraising activity helps to make up the shortfall of funding from the Welsh Government - since the new fee regime was launched the University receives only a small percentage of income from the Government. Making donations is increasingly more important to safeguard the future of Glyndwr University.

This is your opportunity to really make a difference. We are appealing to our current students to help support our fundraising ball. If you are looking to start a business when you graduate this is your opportunity to promote yourself. If you can donate your services, expertise, time or commission an item to be auctioned off at the Fundraising Snow Ball we would love to hear from you. It is great PR for you and is an opportunity to support some local worthy causes.

If you would like to discuss in more detail or support our fundraising efforts then email Jemma - [j.kinch@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:j.kinch@glyndwr.ac.uk) or call 01978 293995

## In Pictures

Two spectacular celebrations of art are marking the conclusion of Glyndwr University's exhibitions for the 2014/15 academic year.



Hundreds of visitors had already dropped into COLLABORATE! at the Oriel Sycharth Gallery before the opening of the annual Final Year Degree Show at the North Wales School of Art and Design at the end of May.

COLLABORATE! formed the central exhibition as part of a wider programme in partnership with THIS Project and music and arts festival Focus Wales.

Most artists in this exhibition have shown internationally, but never in Wales before, and many were present at the launch event in April.

In a first for the Oriel Sycharth Gallery the opening featured live performance art of a courtroom drama.

Professor Estelle Thompson, head of the

division of Media, Arts and Design at Glyndwr University, said: "We are delighted to be the first venue in Wales to showcase the work of so many of the artists in our latest exhibition.

"We are equally thrilled that the exhibition formed part of Focus Wales, which has become such a key event in the Wrexham arts calendar."

Work by students from applied arts; animation; game art; fine art; film and photography; graphic design and multimedia; illustration, graphic novels and children's publishing are all featured in the Final Year Degree Show, which runs until Wednesday June 10.

This year's show is titled 'Burning Bright' and Estelle said the collection of works showed how much students develop over

their time at Glyndwr University.

"The show is reflective of all the skills and creativity which students pick up during their time with us and some of the work is really outstanding," she added.

"Many of our students will now be going on to further study and some into employment and we wish all of them the very best for the future."

COLLABORATE! is open until June 19 2015, from 9am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

The Burning Bright Final Year Degree Show opens Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm until June 10

Admission to both events is free. More information online at [www.glyndwr.ac.uk/OrielSycharthGallery](http://www.glyndwr.ac.uk/OrielSycharthGallery)

## Make some noise for... The Zoological Society

Are you animal mad? If so, this is the society to be in! Our group is composed of Animal Science, Wildlife and Plant Biology, and Equine students but we also have members from Art, Business and Engineering so you don't need to be the next David Attenborough to be a part of it.

We encourage diversity and covering the campuses of Wrexham and Northop always have lots of activities to participate in. Last year we had social events in the form of quiz nights in the local student bar, and a big day out in London where we spent time at the Natural History Museum. We gave members the opportunity to get 'hands-on' and ran days to take part in surveys with local companies OPAL and NEW wildlife, gaining new skills and making important contacts in the employment industry.

That was just one of the highlights from last year; to round the year off all societies at Glyndwr were invited to a barbecue hosted by the Guild. A very, very wet barbecue! Nothing could have dampened our spirits that day though as we were announced Society of the Year.

Over the next 12 months we will build on this. We are working hard to bring something for every single member,



including more social activities, more visits to local interest locations, and the big focus will be a charity drive.

Want to get involved? Just email us via [zoosociety@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:zoosociety@glyndwr.ac.uk)  
President: Sadie Thackaberry

Continued from page 1

## Glyndŵr University is on course for financial stability and a bright future

**Interim Vice-Chancellor, Professor Graham Upton, is steering the University into calmer waters and has made huge strides since arriving in Wrexham in January.**

Supported by Assistant Vice-Chancellor Louise Casella and Head of Finance Eugene McCrossan - also interim - and Director of Operations, Lynda Powell, Professor Upton has already identified a distinct vision for Glyndŵr.

Academic and operational quality are at the top of his list of priorities, but most important is student satisfaction, retention and painting a clearer picture about what Glyndŵr University is all about, who it caters for and the direction it will travel in years to come.

"I've only been here a short amount of time but what became apparent from day one is that we have a team of people who want to see this University succeed," said Professor Upton.

"That's also the case when I've been speaking to businesses and other organisations locally and across the country

- nobody wants to see Glyndŵr in the challenging positions it has faced in recent times."

He added: "When I arrived I knew difficult decisions would have to be made, and that is still the case, with negotiations ongoing in certain areas to obtain financial stability and a surplus for 2015/16.

"This is achievable, as is the desire to give our students a first class education and a social experience they will remember positively when they graduate.

"A strong period of recruitment will strengthen that vision - and we are pleased to see more students accepting offers of places with us this year - but there is still more to do.

"Attracting students is a big challenge for the sector, and we are working hard to get them here this September, but I would encourage all staff to keep focused on that target and to work together to put us in the best position possible."

Referring to the recently-published accounts for 2013/14, Professor Upton said the University had anticipated a deficit and must now focus on strengthening its financial

position following last year's operational and academic restructure and the reinstatement of its licence to sponsor international students.

A decrease in funding from Hefcw for the coming 12 months was also "disappointing" given the University's provision of part-time education, but he welcomed extra QR capital received following the University's successful results in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Reinvigorated relations with stakeholders and partners must be a key component of any future plans, added Professor Upton.

"We are already very much a partnership university and have a number of strong and long-established relationships with other universities, further education colleges, public sector organisations and a range of businesses and industrial companies in the region," he said.

"The challenge is to strengthen these foundations that have been in place for many years and for the mutual benefit of the various communities which we serve, enabling us to better meet the needs and interests of our students and contribute to the development and prosperity of the region."

He added: "I think the time is right to look at the achievements of the last seven years and reflect on how far the University has come in a short amount of time.

"This year is also about learning from mistakes and creating a more vibrant and



Professor Graham Upton

positive community here at Glyndŵr. I'm already seeing signs of that and am eager to spread the message that while we welcome students from all over the world, of all ages and from all backgrounds, the community of north east Wales is hugely important to all of us.

"It's a family - the Glyndŵr family - and we want everyone to feel a part of that as the University moves forward into a new era in its short history."

## LOUISE CASELLA sees the potential in Glyndŵr University and is relishing the task of driving the institution towards a period of sustained growth



Louise Casella

**The new interim Assistant Vice-Chancellor arrived in Wrexham just weeks ago but already feels "part of the team" and is impressed by the rich and varied community of lecturers, students and researchers at the north east Wales institution.**

A keen rugby fan and fundraiser, Louise was born and raised in Cardiff and went on to work at the city's university for more than 25 years after graduating from nearby Swansea.

Specialising in strategic planning and internal management structures, she brought all of her experience and skills to the challenge of helping Glyndŵr University achieve stability - financially, academically and with the students, staff and stakeholders at the heart of all future decisions.

Having headed-up the departments of planning, student recruitment, the VC's office, fundraising, marketing, and the international office while in South Wales, Louise is working with staff and governors on a new long-term strategy for Glyndŵr - to be unveiled in July - before staying on in the north until later this year.

Having left Cardiff University in 2012 to start her own successful consultancy and executive coaching business, the married mother-of-two says the lure of joining Glyndŵr and "belonging to something again" is what brought her to the region.

"The situation we have here at Glyndŵr University is in some ways similar to the one Cardiff was in when I arrived in 1988, where we were handling big organisational upheaval and dealing with the aftermath of financial troubles," said Louise.

"I knew, particularly after speaking with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Graham Upton, that we would have to make decisions, quick decisions, to build the University up again, and that has proven to be the case."

She added: "I immediately saw a lot of potential in Glyndŵr and think there is so much we can do here. There is the opportunity to reinvent the institution and make big jumps forward. I don't think you get those same opportunities at bigger and established universities.

"There is also a really great team of people who are open to change and have welcomed me, which was heartening - I feel like a part of the university after just a matter of weeks."

As well as producing a strategic plan, Louise believes her experience in other areas will contribute to the University going forward.

She admits herself to asking questions of the people around her... lots of them.

"My role is to question, test and ask," said Louise.

"It's about bringing the best out of people, getting them to take a step back and look again at their department or course or a problem they may have. It's about finding the solution but not just in the short-term.

"While we have immediate problems to sort out we have to keep an eye on the long term. A lot of the important things we have to do are further away on the horizon but we have to look at the impact of these decisions in two, three, four years' time."

She added: "The important thing about that is that we can't do it alone, we need to

look at partnerships that will help us progress, and to have confidence in where we are.

"I truly believe if everyone continues to work together, remains focused and keep creating and welcoming new ideas then we can achieve that."

When she's not at work, Louise and her husband Mike can be found watching their beloved Cardiff Blues and local rugby side Rhiwbina, whom her sons Joe and Dylan have both played for.

As chair of the Tenovus Cancer Care's Ball committee she is also a major fundraiser and is currently enjoying a "year of giving selfishly" for the cancer charity.

"I decided earlier this year to see how much money I can raise just by doing things I enjoy and going about my daily life," said Louise.

"I will, of course, be there for the fundraising ball and recently took part in the Goodnight Walk, and these are things I love to do, so they are not a challenge to me.

"If I'm honest I'm never going to climb Mount Kilimanjaro or run 26 marathons in 26 days or do anything remotely heroic - I'm not that kind of person.

"But this charity is very close to my heart and I may even join the Tenovus choir here in Wrexham... though I am a dreadful singer!"

**Sponsor Louise at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LouiseCasella>**

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hire a bicycle from the Sports Centre

save money recreational easy parking  
keep fit commute stay young

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UNIVERSITY

Come along to the Sports Centre to hire out a bike.  
Hire charge of **£5.00 per week.**

# Student Recruitment

with Andy Cairns

It has been a busy spring period for the student recruitment team, with a huge range of activities taking place, both on and off campus, promoting Glyndwr University to potential students from a wide range of backgrounds.

During March we commenced the annual tour of UCAS Higher Education Conventions, taking place at venues the length and breadth of the UK. With an exciting range of courses available, as well as flexible study options such as two year fast track degrees and four year integrated

master programmes, the university has been well received by students in all regions we have visited.

Our programme of school and college visits, supported by academic colleagues, has also been taking place throughout the year.

Representatives have attended careers conventions at schools across the region as well as in North West England and the West Midlands. Subject-specific workshops and taster days have also given students the opportunity to visit our campus and experience first-hand the great facilities and opportunities that are available should they choose to study at Glyndwr.



On April 29, the university was very fortunate to be able to host the return of the psychology department Big Practical. In order to raise awareness of the new legislation around drug-driving offences, the team facilitated a road traffic collision simulation and the ensuing rescue operation.

We are extremely grateful to our colleagues within the local emergency services who were able to bring their broad expertise to support the event and further augment its impact. Representatives from CAIS, the local drug and alcohol rehabilitation unit, were also on hand throughout the day to raise awareness of the diverse range of illegal drugs, along with their effects and the severity of punishment for being in possession of them. The event was hugely successful and was well attended by students from a number of disciplines, including Psychology,

Engineering and Health Sciences. We'd like to extend our thanks to all colleagues that helped to make the event such a great experience.

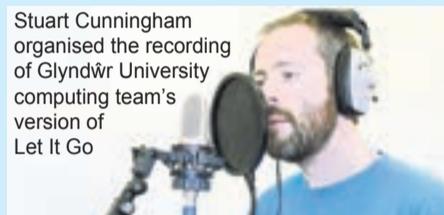
Throughout summer, the recruitment team will continue to develop our relationships with local schools and colleges, as well as promoting Glyndwr University to their students in the run up to A-level results day (Thursday August 13) and the Clearing Open Day, which will take place on Saturday August 15.

In the meantime, we are continuing to tour the country to promote Glyndwr at the remaining UCAS conventions, as well as helping to facilitate a number of exciting events over the coming months. Thursday June 18 will see the first School of Social Sciences and Education Open Day take place on campus from 3pm-8pm. Tutors will be on hand to share their expertise within their respective subjects and student support services will be able to answer questions about funding, welfare and employability. We are also expecting a number of interesting history-themed events to take place during June and July.

Altogether another very busy year for the student recruitment team and we look forward to working closely with other departments over the coming months.

## Let it go!

Stuart Cunningham organised the recording of Glyndwr University computing team's version of Let It Go



Computer scientists took themselves out of the lecture theatre and into the recording studio to raise money for Comic Relief with their own version of Disney song Let It Go.

Members of the computing team at Glyndwr University took a line from the first verse of the Frozen track for a video in support of this year's appeal.

The clip raised more than £300 a short time after appearing on YouTube and the team released a full version on Red Nose Day.

Stuart Cunningham, senior lecturer in computing, organised the recording and produced the video.

He said: "The idea just kind of happened over a coffee break whilst we were discussing songs that we thought would be challenging to sing. Suddenly everyone was learning and recording the song.

"The song itself was recorded quickly - most people did it in one or two takes - and it shows!!

"The full version contained a few surprises, with fancy dress, robots and dancing of varying degrees of imperfection.

"We've always been strong as a team and in the past we've done silly things to raise money for Red Nose Day, but this was perhaps our wackiest and most ambitious idea to date.

"Of course, a lot of our students were interested in what was going on and they always give us plenty of support."

The computing fundraiser was one of a number led by Glyndwr University for this year's Comic Relief.

Students and staff from the journalism department raised £115.32 by making and selling cakes at the launch of a new black comedy film based on the Great British Bake Off.

A talk from filmmaker Thomas Llywarch, from Garden Village, about producing movies on a low budget accompanied the premiere of Split Second at Glyndwr University on Friday February 27.

Angela Ferguson, lecturer in media communications and journalism, said: "It was an utterly surreal and very, very funny experience - one I hope we can repeat in the future.

"It was great to raise money for such a good cause at the same time."

Business students also arranged a Red Nose Rave, which took place at the Centenary Club on Wednesday March 11. Student DJs gave up their time to play at the event, which cost £1 to enter.

To view the computing video go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHSRqMyvNEM&feature=youtu.be> or to donate visit <http://my.rednoseday.com/sponsor/compglyndwr>

## Less Is More

by Andrea Hilditch, Careers Adviser



Here in the Careers Centre, we're often telling students to stop 'waffling' with their applications and get to the point. Our students who have lots of fabulous experience struggle to fit everything into their CVs and applications, often needing help to work out what is relevant and what's not so relevant. However, this time it's our turn to take a 'less is more' approach to our information as we are a smaller team now, following the end of the GO Wales project.

### Our team is currently:

- Karen Lennox - Head of Careers and Student Services
- Andrea Hilditch and Neil J Pritchard - Careers Advisers
- Gill Hewitt and Angela Corbett - Employability Officers
- Lucy Jones - Work Experience Officer/ ADOR Project Coordinator
- Susan Mayall - Destinations Coordinator
- Zone - Mike Corcoran

### Services include:

- Individual careers advice and guidance
- Support for Glyndwr students and graduates
- Work experience support
- CV checking, application checking and interview preparation
- Jobshop and Glyndwr Temps
- Careers events
- Career Development Learning sessions within subject areas
- Support with business ideas and enterprise projects

### Our approach:

We have the same friendly and professional approach to working with our students and graduates. We can still be found in the Centre for Employability.

We welcome any Glyndwr students, Glyndwr graduates or staff who would like to pop in for further information about our services - contact 01978 293240 or email [careerscentre@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:careerscentre@glyndwr.ac.uk)

That's all. Not quite a 140 character tweet, but fairly short and sweet.

# Focus Wales and Comic Con



Thousands of music and movie fans visited Glyndwr University as it hosted two of North Wales's biggest annual events in April.

The organisers of Focus Wales for the fifth year and Wales Comic Con for the seventh year chose to stage their events at the University's Wrexham campus.

Headlining the festival's opening comedy night, German star Henning Wehn lit up the William Aston Hall (WAH), while bands from Canada and Australia presented a day of live music sessions in the Centre for the Creative Industries.

The line-up for the event included Baby Brave, The Drive, The Mexican Walking Fish, HIGHS, Orient Machine, The Echo and the Always, Danielle Lewis, The Luka State and PHIA.

The festival concluded with the Voices of the Land: Lleisiau'r Fro choral concert.

Co-ordinator Andy Jones said: "Focus Wales was brilliant once again. We are growing year on year and we hope it's just going to get better and better."

The same can be said of Wales Comic Con, which brought more than 2,000 fans to see a host of stars from the world of film, TV, comics and gaming.

Famous faces included Nicholas Brendon



from Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Star Trek's Garrett Wang, Eve Myles from Torchwood and wrestling legend Rob Van Dam.

There were also several actors from the TV show Game of Thrones, including Kerry Ingram and Ross Mullan.

Glyndwr University's Director of Operations, Lynda Powell, said: "These events attract thousands of people from all over the world to Wrexham and showcase the facilities we have here and in the town, as well as building on our reputation as a top venue for music, comedy and the arts.

"We hope everyone who came to both Focus Wales and Comic Con had a great time. We look forward to seeing you all here again next year."



Photo Credit: Caloni FM

# Guild News

## RAG WEEK 2015

It was our Raising and Giving Week from April 13 - 17 and we are delighted to announce that our lovely students raised £1000. We are going to match that to make the total going to charity £2000. We want to extend a really big thank you to all students who helped with the event we ran and for all the money you kindly gave. We will be splitting it equally between the charities voted for by the students - Soldiers Off the Street, Autism Research Trust and Sapphire. We will be making the donation to Sapphire in Ella Parry's honour. Ella was a student of ours who sadly passed away the weekend before RAG Week. Sapphire is a support group for women with mental health issues and it was Ella herself who suggested them to us for consideration.

## VARSITY 2015



Glyndwr University went head to head with Chester University (Warrington Campus) in what was our first ever Varsity competition. The Guild put on a bus for spectators and we were grateful to all the students who came out to show their support. The teams went with anticipation for what would be a difficult tournament. We are delighted to announce that Glyndwr won and are the 2015 Champions! We won seven out of nine games. Our Athletic Union Officer Murray Taylor said: "I could not be prouder of Glyndwr's Athletic Union. We went to Warrington with nerves on

the first ever Varsity for Glyndwr University. A lot of passion led to the Varsity tournament and every individual on each of the teams gave their all. Of course, as Glyndwr, we don't back down from a challenge and always thrive as the underdogs. Well not only did we give it our all but we WON! The benchmark has been set. We are the champions of 2015. We showed Warrington exactly what we are made of! Roll on next year."

### The results were:

- Volleyball - 2-1 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Rugby - 21-7 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Netball 60-15 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Women's Hockey - 1-0 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Men's Basketball - 49-32 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Pool - 5-1 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Men's Hockey - 11-3 (Glyndwr Wins)
- Football - 3-0 (Chester Warrington Wins)
- Futsal - 4-1 (Chester Warrington Wins)

## NEW REGENT STREET RECOURSES AND ADVICE SERVICE

As a Guild we have been aware of the need to get more resources to all students who study at Regent Street. The students there should have equal access to resources, equipment and student services. So good news!

Regent Street is having new computers and printers soon. The art books from the library at main campus are going to be moved to Regent Street so that our art students don't have to come over to main campus to get them. As for the access to Student Services, there will also be a drop-in advice desk opening at the end of March. This service will see a member of each student service at Regent Street at all times, and means art students can also access these at their own campus. Our Regent Street Officer, Lewis Lawton said: "The new Regent Street IT hub may seem like a small improvement on the list of many to come but I can tell you it makes the world of difference to students studying in Regent Street. There was always an idea to have a bigger room full of space for tables to do stuff and write work

as well as have windows and easy access to a place to come and study. Personally I'm very happy about this addition. It's just the start of improvements to come within Regent Street!"

## NORTHOP CAMPUS DROP BOX

Our Clubs and Societies Officer Emily Karim has managed to secure a library book drop off point in Northop Campus! Glyndwr library books can be returned at Northop main reception meaning students no longer have to travel to Wrexham campus to return books. This should be up and running very soon. We are really pleased the Library & IT team have agreed to support this as it will be really helpful to the students in Northop. We will keep you posted when the service is available.

## ENVIRONMENT GLYNDWR



Environment Glyndwr, which is run by our Ethical and Environmental Officer Katie Saxby, has been busy, working with Incredible Edible Wrexham planting edibles on Glyndwr Plas Coch campus and checking the fruit trees planted for Global Divestment Day and Green Week. More volunteers came to clear, sow seeds and plant more edibles on sites in the town centre (Mount Street and Madeira Hill).

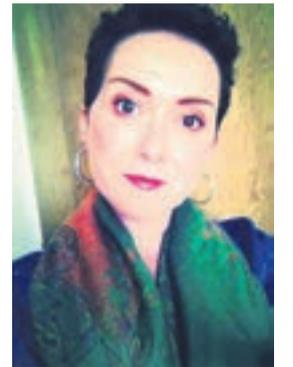
All these edibles are part of the Incredible Edible Network where 'If you eat, you're in!' and all food on Incredible Edible sites in Wrexham are free for

anyone to eat.

For more information on volunteering with Environment Glyndwr and/or Incredible Edible Wrexham, you can join their Facebook groups or e-mail Katie at [ethicalandenvironmentalofficer@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:ethicalandenvironmentalofficer@glyndwr.ac.uk)

## GUILD STUDENT ADVISOR

We are happy to announce that we now have a new member of staff with us in the Guild. Kim Lloyd is our new Student Advisor. Kim is able to help students with information, advice, advocacy and representation. Whether it's university accommodation, finances or emotional support, Kim is here to help, so please don't hesitate to contact her.



Phone - 01978 294453

Email - [studentadvisor@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvisor@glyndwr.ac.uk)



**What's happening in the world of social media...**

Review, renew and shout about it

By Michael Roberts

**Why it's important to keep on top of your blog or website content**

At some stage we may have all thought about setting up our own blog or website. We've all got something to say, we all want a slice of the pie that is the world wide web. We all think (rightly or wrongly) there is an audience waiting for us.

Once we finish our first post and put it live we can be forgiven for thinking it's a case of 'job done'. The reality is, if you're seriously interested in building a following, there's more work to do. Regular posts will help, providing they are relevant to a particular subject area and/or target audience. Take it further by considering keywords to add in and writing about topical items of interest in your field or subject area. If you are an active user in the social media world make sure you tell people about your new posts or content. Do you have images or videos to accompany your content and really set it apart from other posts that will appear in people's timelines? What time are you tweeting or posting? Your message is unlikely to spread far at 3am so factor in what people might be doing at certain times and when they are most likely to read (and want to read) what you have to say.

Over the long term be mindful the internet is constantly moving, as is the way people consume content. Merge current trends with your output to be as relevant as possible; renew old content; and when you change something or post something new, tell people about it!

And another thing.....

Make it mobile. Stats in 2015 relating to consumption of news and media sites show that around 40% of web traffic is via a mobile or tablet device. For retail and other industries this is even higher and predicted to rise in the coming years so whichever platform you choose to use - make sure it's mobile friendly!

**For any tips on setting up your own blog or website feel free to get in touch by emailing [michael.roberts@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:michael.roberts@glyndwr.ac.uk)**

# Campus Round-Up

The North East Wales 'knowledge corridor' encompasses Glyndwr University's campuses in Wrexham, Northop and St Asaph.

The university is growing all of the time, and with GUL (Glyndwr University London) going through a period of change the future looks bright for the institution. Here's the latest from our other campuses.

## NORTHOP

**Gardening writer and broadcaster Monty Don was the star turn at a special conference staged by Horticulture Wales at Glyndwr University's Northop campus.**

Nearly 100 representatives from across the Welsh horticulture sector turned out in force for the supply chain efficiency project's Bringing Growers Together event, which was fittingly hosted at the National Botanic Garden of Wales (NBGW) near Carmarthenshire.

As well as getting the chance to hear guru of gardening Monty speak about his life-long passion for growing and share numerous stories from his illustrious career, attendees also enjoyed presentations from Stephen Hedderly, MD of vegetable co-operative Bedfordshire Growers, and Simon Goodenough, Curator of Horticulture at NBGW.

The event also got to hear interesting Q&A sessions with a number of farmers and growers who shared their experiences of having worked with the Horticulture Wales project, while a fun (and rather frenetic!) speed networking session enabled delegates to meet plenty of new business contacts.

Horticulture Wales Project Director and the University Head of Department, Biology and Environment, Dr David Skydmore, rounded the day off by outlining what the £1.94 million initiative - which is set to run until the end of June - had achieved. He explained what opportunities there could be for growers and the wider industry to capitalise on during the coming years, particularly the upcoming round of the Wales Rural Development Programme.

Meanwhile, congratulations to Amy Bannister and Alice Bell, who gained the top level British Horse Society (BHS) qualification for instructors aged just 25.

The industry-standard award allows both to teach to the level of advanced medium dressage, intermediate horse trials and Fox Hunter level showjumping.



Amy Bannister and Alice Bell (right)

Amy and Alice lecture on Glyndwr University's Equine Science and Welfare Management degree course based at Northop.

Amy said: "It's a really big thing for us to have the qualification, especially at our age. Normally it's only gained by people in their late 30s or early 40s after many years of experience.

"Our aim now is to pass on to students our own experiences and encourage them to start their training straight away if they're looking to work as riding instructors."

Tamsin Young, programme leader for equine science and welfare management at Glyndwr University, said: "We're very lucky to have Amy and Alice with us."

## ST ASAPH

**Glyndwr University's OptIC Centre has joined forces with a globally-renowned classical music festival to light up North Wales.**

The University and North Wales International Music Festival will be working in partnership to mark the International Year of Light.

The St Asaph centre - celebrating its 10th year - is to host the launch on June 23, and will be among the sponsors.

The world-leading technology and science complex will also support the festival's

groundbreaking education project, entitled The Power of Light, which explores the concept of light through music as well as poetry, visual art and science.

The stellar line up for this year's event at St Asaph Cathedral from September 26 to October 3 will be unveiled at the launch.

Mick Card, Head of Business Development and Funding, said: Glyndwr University was proud to be associated with the popular programme of classical music, which celebrates its 43rd anniversary this year.

"We are delighted to be hosting the launch of the North Wales International Music Festival, especially in what is such an important year for the OptIC Centre," said Mick.

"The festival is one of the jewels in the crown of classical music and brings so many people to St Asaph, so we are thrilled to be working even closer together."

Ann Atkinson, the festival's artistic director, added: "We are grateful to Glyndwr University for their support in what promises to be an exciting and fruitful partnership."



The Denbighshire facility has already organised a free conference to be held on June 16, in collaboration with KTN, the Engineering and Science Group North Wales and the Welsh Opto-electronics Forum.

Bright Lights and Engineering includes seminars and workshops on how light is used in engineering and how it can be used in manufacturing, as well as showcasing job prospects for graduates and presenting talks by key figures on entrepreneurship, quality control, risk management and R&D. There will also be exhibition space and demonstrations.

Visit <http://bit.ly/1DMsLBN> to register your place at the Bright Lights and Engineering conference.

# NEWS IN BRIEF...



**Glyndwr University proved once again that student satisfaction is its number one priority with positive results in a prestigious league table.**

The Wrexham-based institution was ranked second in Wales for student satisfaction in the Complete University Guide.

The University was also fourth in Wales for graduate prospects and saw huge rises in subjects across the board.

Among the high-performing areas were Psychology - which saw an overall increase of 47 places and came top in Wales for graduate prospects - and Agriculture and Forestry, which was number one in the UK for student satisfaction. The Education team (pictured) were number one in Wales and second in the UK in the same category.

Other areas where Glyndwr was number one for student satisfaction in Wales were: Nursing, History, Theology, and Librarianship and Information Management. Drama, Communications and Media Studies, and Sports Science were both ranked second in Wales.

In the UK tables for student satisfaction Nursing was second, and both Theology and History were listed third.

Interim Vice-Chancellor, Professor Graham Upton, said: "The students are the number one priority of everyone here at Glyndwr University so for us to have performed well and seen such positive levels of student satisfaction is very



promising.

"I'd like to thank the staff for all of their hard work and congratulate those subject areas which have achieved encouraging feedback."

Reflecting on the University's overall position, Professor Upton said: "The University is focused on offering students a personal and professional experience that equips them for life and for success and enjoys a strong partnership with the student body as we build a brighter future together."

"We are disappointed to have seen a fall in our overall ranking having risen five places the previous year but we are working hard to improve."

John Luker, Programme Leader for the BA (Hons) Education Studies and route leader on the MA Education, speaking on behalf of the team, added: "The University's suite of excellent Education and Childhood & Families courses have helped many people go on to achieve their goal of becoming qualified teachers as well as community roles, so we are delighted to have secured such positive results in student satisfaction."

**A respected American professor and IT expert will help spearhead a world-leading computer department's new research strategy.**

Dan Farkas from Pace University in New York has joined Glyndwr University as a Visiting Professor.

Specialising in environmental science, telecommunications, network security and internet technology, he is also chairman of the Westchester University's Information Systems Department.

His appointment was welcomed by Computing lecturer Dr Rich Picking.

"We are delighted to announce that Professor Dan Farkas has joined the University," said Dr Picking, a Reader in Human-Computer Interaction.

"Professor Farkas has developed a close relationship with Glyndwr University over the past 10 years as a key member of the International Conference on Internet Technologies and

Applications (ITA) programme committee and as a regular contributor in the form of publications, workshops, tutorials and event organising."

Professor Farkas has been involved in computing, technology and education for the past 25 years.

His early experience was as a systems programmer on IBM mainframe computers in the financial industry gaining expertise in a spectrum of operating environments, before devoting his energy to smaller systems, becoming involved with the automation of foreign exchange operations and trading.

"It is a great pleasure to be honoured as a Visiting Professor of Computing at Glyndwr University," said Professor Farkas.

"In particular, my interests in computer networking and interdisciplinary spatial analytics will greatly benefit from this new relationship.

**Glyndwr University has strengthened its ties with a giant of Russian education.**

A delegation from Bauman Moscow State Technical University visited Wrexham to sign a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), reinforcing the close links between the two institutions.

The universities work together in the fields of engineering, optics, composites and computing, with students and lecturers travelling between Russia and Wales on a regular basis.

While in the region the party - which included Bauman's rector Professor Anatoly Aleksandrov - spent time at the OpTIC centre in St Asaph, where a team of scientists are polishing prototype mirrors for the world's largest telescope, the ESO E-ELT, which is being built by the European Southern Observatory.

Professor Aleksandrov also took a ride in the flight simulator in the engineering complex at Glyndwr's Plas Coch campus in Wrexham before a tour of Techniquet and the Centre for the Creative

Industries.

Stating that he was "proud" of Bauman's burgeoning relationship with the north east Wales University, he said: "It is a pleasure to again be here at Glyndwr University, with whom we have a good partnership."

"We are here because of a new agreement for further long-term collaboration and to build on our existing research projects, some of which are concerned with composite material and optics, and as we have postgraduate students here."

Professor Aleksandrov revealed students from Bauman would again be attending summer school at Glyndwr, and that they have a strong interest in research collaboration in the development of new technologies for optical fabrication.

The fourth International Conference on Advanced Composite Materials and Technologies for Aerospace Applications takes place at Glyndwr University from November 2-4.



**Former Wrexham FC captain Dean Keates has unveiled his plans for the future.**

The popular midfielder was recently released by the club and despite interest from teams in the Football League and Vanarama National League has committed to complete the final two years of his Sports Coaching degree at Glyndwr University.

The 36 year-old has also signed-up to coach the Glyndwr Wrexham Football Academy, joining former Liverpool and Wrexham FC striker Lee Jones and Dr Adam Owen, currently with FC Servette in Switzerland.

The Academy has gone from strength to strength - with players from sides including Manchester City, QPR, Leeds United and Leicester City already studying at the Wrexham institution while playing for the Dragons or a feeder club based in the Welsh football league system.

A delighted Dean said: "There has been interest from several clubs but I'm 37 soon and to be honest this is the next natural next step for me."

"I could still play part-time as well as coaching and studying for my degree, so I'm not hanging up my boots just yet, but this will be a progression in my career and gives me the opportunity to coach players coming through the ranks."

"It's an exciting opportunity and I look forward to getting started."

**The head of the UK's professional body for HR is to chair a major debate on the challenges and opportunities posed by skills gaps, an ageing workforce and globalisation of the workforce.**

Peter Cheese, chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), will be lead speaker at a 'Future of HR' event at Glyndwr University on Monday June 1 from 6pm to 8pm.

Managing change and the impact of flexible working patterns on HR professionals are also on the agenda for discussion at the free debate.

The panel line-up will be completed by Perry Timms, director of People and Transformational HR, Carrie Foster, programme leader for Glyndwr University's Human Resources Management degree, and employment law specialist Mark Leach, partner at Weightmans LLP.

As well as being chief executive of the CIPD, Peter Cheese is a leading speaker and writer in his field and was voted as the UK's most influential thinker in HR in 2013 by HR Magazine.

Laura Gough, business development executive at Glyndwr University, said: "This is a rare opportunity for the region's HR professionals to hear from the leader of their professional body."

"Peter's insight into issues which will affect everyone working in HR will I'm sure spark some healthy debate and we're delighted to have him on board."

Charismatic Movement.

Dr Robbins said they were delighted to be involved with the collection, which follows more than a dozen short papers from leading academics in the social sciences.

"It was a pleasure to participate and submit research on behalf of Glyndwr University," said Dr Robbins.

"We looked at the perspectives of religious groups, prayer, belief and social actions in the UK, which makes for interesting debate."

"The widely held view that religion is in decline and church attendances are falling is also discussed and analysed, along with positives around the strong identity and community of evangelicals."

**Psychology and Theology lecturers published articles in a critically-acclaimed new book on religious belief, identity and church life.**

Dr Mandy Robbins and Professor William Kay contributed chapters to 21st Century Evangelicals - Reflections on Research by the Evangelical Alliance.

A reader in Psychology at Glyndwr University, Dr Robbins - whose previous work includes research into religious divides in Northern Ireland - submitted a report on Life in the Church.

The book - described as "fascinating" and "an invaluable resource" by leading lights in the theological arena - also includes a section by both academics entitled Evangelicals and the

**Students watched in horror as police arrested a young woman for drug driving.**

The live-action scenario formed part of a simulated exercise held at Glyndwr University in April.

Organised by the University's Psychology department the event brought together the CAIS drug and alcohol agency, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service and North Wales Police.

They were joined by more than 100 students and lecturers representing Engineering, Health, Forensic Science, Computing, TV Production and Design, Film and Technology.

Phill De Prez, programme leader for Psychology, had organised a similar activity two years ago and said the collaboration between subjects adds to the experience of everyone taking part.

"I'd like to again thank all of the emergency services and CAIS for taking the time out to come here and carry out the exercise, and Bagillt Car Spare for supplying the vehicles," said Phill.

"I think all of the departments involved gained a lot from it because they could all look at the situation from a different perspective and find solutions and key information that relate to their

degree programmes."

The mock incident saw the affected driver's Volkswagen Polo collide with a minibus before rolling onto its side.

Firefighters were quickly on hand to cut the doors and roof off the vehicle before extracting the woman from the scene.

"The scenario was dealt with exactly how it would be in real life," added Phill.

"That way it gave us a variety of issues and outcomes, utilising the different partnerships here at the University, and in the emergency services - it was a very worthwhile exercise."





**A DJ who worked with some of the top bands of the nineties is developing an app that could regulate emotions.**

Darryl Griffiths, currently studying for an MPhil/PhD at Glyndwr University, has created a number of studies looking at how different songs can influence emotion, environment and activity.

Having already received a first class honours degree in creative media computing at Glyndwr he decided to pursue a postgraduate under the supervision of Stuart Cunningham and Jonathan Weinel and is now working towards a PhD in automatic music playlist generation using affective computing technologies.

The 38-year-old has recently acquired data from one of three participatory self-report online music surveys that asked the public to rate 20 songs from 20 genres with respect to emotion.

He said: "The results from this particular music survey provided a useful statistic for the proposed system framework, and they will be presented at the Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Internet Technologies and Applications (ITA15) at Glyndwr University in September.

"My main aim is to collect the emotional and environmental data and to put it into a system that will deduce how the listener is feeling and what they are doing, having employed a range of electronic Arduino-based sensors."

He added: "I want the next experiment to establish if there is a correlation between a person's physiological responses and music, and the low-cost element is important. As I said, I want this to be a mobile application using mobile technologies and not something you would use at home with more expensive equipment."

**The 240,000 tinnitus sufferers in Wales were urged to take part in university research designed to examine the impact of living with the hearing condition.**

Health lecturers at Glyndwr University joined forces with Action on Hearing Loss Cymru and Tinnitus.org to explore the effect it has on the daily lives of people forced to cope with the distressing ailment.

They drew-up a survey and are urging people who experience tinnitus, which is typically described as ringing, whistling, hissing, buzzing, music or humming, to take part in the study.

Debbie Roberts, Professor of Nurse Education and Clinical Learning at Glyndwr University, is leading a team of researchers determined to shed more light on the subject and garner answers that will help medical and nursing experts explore new ways of dealing with the complaint.

"We want to improve our understanding of the range of sounds experienced and the impact that having tinnitus has on an individual's daily living," said Professor Roberts.

Richard Williams, Director of Action on Hearing Loss Cymru, added: "It's important that we know as much as possible about the impact of living with tinnitus and we are hopeful that the results of Glyndwr University's study will be useful for us when shaping our future support for people with tinnitus in Wales."



**Glyndwr University students looked the business as they finished ahead of other Welsh institutions in a prestigious 24-hour challenge.**

A six-strong team from the Wrexham-based University took on 15 Business Schools from across the UK and finished among the runners-up at Flux 500.

Team Glyndwr - representing the smallest and newest institution in the contest - more than held its own and came first in a vote by students attending the popular event, held at Lancaster University.

Glyndwr University - which has campuses in Northop, St Asaph, and London - was number one in Wales, as the group impressed judges with their product knowledge and debating skills.

Supported by Consumer Psychology lecturer Gareth Harvey and Glyndwr's Zone Enterprise Hub, they were asked to create an item of wearable technology with a medical application, before being given 24 hours to come up with a product, pitch and business case.

Their invention - the IdMe - was a RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) band that could locate the medication of someone who suffers from visual impairments, reducing the burden upon the care sector as the technology was scalable to other domestic tasks.

The team later had to come up with solutions to a crisis scenario and branding issues.



**Glyndwr University signed a new agreement which extends its commitment to supporting thousands of small businesses in North Wales and Chester.**

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) cements the University's place as a powerful vehicle for the prosperity of the region's economy.

Professor Graham Upton, Interim Vice-Chancellor, put pen to paper on the MoU with Shaun Roberts, chairman of the Wrexham and Chester branch of the FSB, at an Industry Liaison Forum at Glyndwr University.

Professor Upton said: "The FSB is the voice of thousands of small businesses and we're proud to be working with them."

"This region in particular is home to lots of creative organisations which are a small part of the economy overall but deliver huge returns. It's wonderful to be part of that and we look forward to working together to help North Wales realise its economic potential."

Glyndwr University graduate Shaun is managing director of Wrexham-based web developers Creative Catalysts, which he founded four years ago at the age of 19.

Shaun said: "Many of our members or their employees already have links to the University through education and training and as a graduate of Glyndwr, I'm passionate about the role which it has to play in supporting small businesses."



**Students bidding to secure a break in the creative industries listened to career stories and tips from artists, musicians, filmmakers and journalists at an annual event.**

Creative Futures at Glyndwr University featured four days of keynote talks, workshops and interactive sessions delivered by professionals who earn a living from the £76 billion UK creative industries.

Set up to provide students studying courses such as art, film, TV and music technology with valuable careers advice, it was opened up to the public for the first time this year.

Keynote speakers included artist Bedwyr Williams (pictured), illustrator Charlie Adlard, sculptor and filmmaker Huw Davies and animator Susan Young.

There were also talks on working within the music industry from DJ Graeme Park; jobs in journalism from BBC North East Wales news organiser Cath Steward and life as a tree carver from Glyndwr University illustration graduate Simon O'Rourke.

Event organiser Neil Pritchard, careers adviser, said: "It was fantastic to yet again welcome so many professionals from across the creative industries to provide our students with advice."

Glyndwr University's careers centre supports graduates from across North Wales with a range of advice on skills and employability. For more information call 01978 293240 or email careerscentre@glyndwr.ac.uk



**A rising arts charity supporting graduates in the creative industries is in need of sponsors.**

Action for Arts has geared-up for a fundraising drive over the summer, starting with a 'Songerama' family fun day in Llandudno with award-winning vocalist, actor and composer Cleveland Watkiss.

The campaign - backed by Glyndwr University in association with V Creation and Diverse Arts - targets filmmakers, musicians and artists and is focused on breaking new ground in the media.

Founder Ali Carter, a renowned producer, director and the driving force behind Colwyn Bay-based Laundry Studios spends virtually all of her time mentoring and helping fledgling artists to break through in the sector.

She does this for free and is in need of financial support to develop the organisation and boost its chances of meeting an increase in demand.

"Action for Arts and V Creation are all about giving youngsters a chance, but we need people to get behind us so the next generation of filmmakers, artists and musicians isn't lost," said Ali.

Follow Action for Arts on Twitter @actionforartsuk or take a look at the website: www.actionforarts.org.uk. To support the charity contact Ali Carter via email: a.carter@diversearts.co.uk.

**If you have a story for Buzz or the communications team at Glyndwr University email Martin Williams or Andrew Price - press@glyndwr.ac.uk**



# Admissions

with Andy Phillips

With summer almost here, it's getting more important than ever to make sure that those applicants we are expecting to come and study with us in September actually arrive. Universities across the country have all worked hard in the last couple of admissions cycles to improve this critical transition phase for their applicants, and our strategy here has been one of developing and maintaining a personal touch with our applicants to make them feel like less of a 'number' and more of a member of the Glyndwr community. We want them to know that Glyndwr University cares about them before they've started studying with us.

A key part of this strategy is going to be our applicant support team. This team, comprised of current students with high levels of customer service experience, is a very important tool for developing the applicant/university relationship prior to enrolment. We have seen the benefits of current students proactively calling and emailing our applicants, and showed how small, unanswered questions could have an influence on whether or not an applicant eventually turns up in September.

This ranges from pointing an applicant towards our funding and welfare team for reassurance about their student loan, to getting in touch with accommodation to help them with finding a place to live; from giving them timetables, course details or even just letting them know how close we are to the train station. This applicant support team is central to all we are doing to reach our target numbers come enrolment.

The team itself is led by one of our BSc Applied Computing students, Andy Cannell, who has been a member of the team since it started in 2013. Katie, Joanne, Hayley, James, Alvaro and Penny make up the rest of the team, and represent subject areas from across the university. Having been based in K Block for the last two years they're in D25 this year so if you're passing, feel free to pop in and say hello. You might even get signed up for a course!



## Academic Study Skills - with Andrew Edwards

We have had a productive year since we joined forces with colleagues in the library to create a new learning resources team. Our one-to-one appointments for students have been complemented by group sessions and online resources aimed at responding to the need of students. If staff members have particular requirements for study skills, be that for sessions or other assistance, we can be contacted on [academicstudyskills@glyndwr.ac.uk](mailto:academicstudyskills@glyndwr.ac.uk) or on 01978 293981 / 294437

We welcomed Kate Oram to the team recently as a new academic study skills tutor. She will be working with myself, Julie Mayers and Chris Nordoff to continue to provide support for study skills across the University. Broadly speaking we cover planning, writing, referencing and critical thinking. In addition, Julie supports IT and Chris supports Maths.

We have also established bases at Regent Street and Crispin Lane, and will be regularly advertising times that students can drop in to chat with us about their study skills needs. Please drop by to say hello or to ask us about the support we can offer to students individually or as a group.

Julie and I will be available over the summer break and would encourage students to come and see us if they need support with resubmissions. I also help students with exam skills, so I am available for those students who are resitting exams.

Spread the word! If you're not doing so already, follow us on Twitter at [@glyndwruni](https://twitter.com/glyndwruni) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/glyndwruni](https://www.facebook.com/glyndwruni) and be the first to hear about the latest news, developments and events.



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## The Money Doctor

- Jenny Jones

The funding and welfare team has been very busy since the start of the year visiting schools and spreading the message of financial capability and money management to potential Glyndwr University students.

We were delighted to be asked to take part in the "Money Week" at West Cheshire College. Their Ellesmere Port Campus was hosting a week of events highlighting the importance of good money management to their students and we were invited to take part, to promote Glyndwr University and inform the students on the financial implications of attending university.

It's always interesting to speak to potential students and find out their views on money and also to network with colleagues from other schools and colleges to see how they promote financial capability and share best practice.

The spring and summer months are very much involved with promoting our services to potential students when answering enquiries about the University and the funding available. Part of this money comes from a charitable donation which was set up to help local students. The Thomas Howells grant is a bursary that first year, local students and under 25s can apply for.

The funding and welfare team is very grateful to the academic staff who have promoted this fund to their students and we have seen the uptake dramatically increase in the last two years.

The funding and welfare team and the Money Doctor work closely with the widening access team to visit schools and recruit potential students

whilst delivering the message that university is not just about the degree at the end, but also about new life skills that can be learnt including financial capability. Recently we have visited Connah's Quay High School, Denbigh High School, Ysgol Morgan Llwyd and Flint High school taking part in events for students and parents, whilst representing Glyndwr University.

The student funding and welfare team offer a holistic approach to supporting students. As well as advice and budgeting we can arrange to support students with debt advice, and legal surgeries.

If you are aware of any student who is in financial distress please direct them to the funding and welfare team on the second floor of the library building or call ext. 3295 for any advice about student welfare.



Inaugural Lecture  
Thursday 11 June 2015, 7pm  
Cairn Finch Centre, Glyndwr University,  
Mold Road, Wrexham LL11 2AW

### Evidence-based Practice in Nurse Education: are we practising what we preach?

Debbie Roberts, Professor in Nurse Education and Clinical Learning

Nursing education has been undertaken in University settings for over 70 years, but despite recent commitments by many governments to secure an all-graduate nursing workforce, nursing's place in higher education may remain insecure.

There are two significant problems. First, nursing academics do not significantly undertake research and second, despite several strong journals such as Nurse Education Today and Journal of Nursing Education devoted to the topic, nursing education in the classroom or practice setting is not significantly underpinned by educational research.

In this inaugural lecture Professor Roberts will explore the relationship between teaching and research, looking at how the profession can practise what it preaches and move towards a research agenda. She will consider the role of the nursing teacher, in particular their ability to ensure that students can identify the scientific source of their nursing knowledge, and the extent to which they can articulate the research underpinning the methods they use in teaching and creating learning opportunities.

Professor Roberts will conclude the lecture with a discussion of the current developments and research strands being undertaken at Glyndwr University to establish the evidence base underpinning nurse education.

Glyndwr University is proud of its world-leading research and pioneering spirit, and the world's first three have the Academic, Industry and Society. Our Inaugural and Professional Lectures aim to showcase and celebrate the academic excellence of the University's professional staff, and bring leading research and thinking to the wider community.

Our Inaugural and Professional Lectures are open to all and free to attend. Each lecture will be followed by a reception, where attendees will have the opportunity to meet the speaker and discuss the topic in more detail.

Free event. To book your place visit:  
<http://glyndwr-eventbrite.co.uk>



Debbie Roberts, Professor in Nurse Education and Clinical Learning

Originally from Exeter, Professor Roberts has lived in Wrexham for over twenty five years. A graduate of NESE in 1998, she joined the University of Salford as a lecturer in 2006, achieving a PhD in 2007. She is a Registered Nurse Teacher and Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and is Associate Editor of the international peer reviewed journal Nurse Education in Practice. Debbie joined Glyndwr University in 2012 as a Reader with a track record of leading research teams, something she is keen to continue to develop further.

Debbie is Director of the University Research Centre for Psychology, Sport Science and Health. Her research focuses on two complementary areas: scholarly work exploring the pedagogy of nursing and healthcare professions, and clinically driven work. She has undertaken creative and innovative interdisciplinary work, exploring links between learning to act and learning to be a nurse, and suggesting how nurse educators could learn from the performing arts in matters of assessment.

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