Future events

Wednesday 21 November, 2.30pm

Many Friends will know about the work of The Reader Organisation. Its first project was to set up informal ‘Get Into Reading’ groups, led by trained project workers and volunteers and meeting regularly in places like care homes, prisons, libraries, mental health drop-in centres and schools or workplaces, where they read aloud and took time to talk about their responses to what they have read.

Since then the organisation has initiated a number of imaginative activities and we are very fortunate that Professor Phil and Dr Jane Davis will come to speak to us about the way in which the organisation has developed since its early days. They will trace its growth from the joint work that Phil and Jane did in the University and what it does now as an independent charity, working with the University’s Centre for Reading, Information and Linguistic Systems.

Their talk, entitled The Story of The Reader Organisation will be in the Foresight Centre, Brownlow Hill.

Wednesday 6 February 2013, 2.30pm

The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, the first to be set up anywhere in the world dedicated to research and teaching in tropical health, will be the subject of our meeting. Our speaker will be Professor David Molyneux, a former Director of the School and Professor of Tropical Health Sciences. He has chosen to reflect on the contribution of the School to the eradication of disease and has chosen as his title, The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine – History and Context. It will take place in the Foresight Centre, Brownlow Street.

Recent events

The last newsletter featured a report from Robert Simpson on his three-month round the world trip funded by an award from the Circumnavigators Club. In March, Robert gave a talk entitled: How do you spell democracy to Friends. He spoke fluently and wittily about his experiences in the six countries he visited, illustrating his talk with many fascinating photos and discussed his conclusions on literacy and democracy in each. Robert has clearly got the bug for travel and we look forward to hearing more from him in the future!

In May, Friends were invited to the Guild of Students to view the improved facilities now in place as a result of Friends’ grants to the Performing Arts Societies, student radio service (LSRadio) and the Bodysoc Dance Society. We were warmly welcomed and helped to greatly increase the number of listeners. Before we left, some of us watched a class in progress in the Dance Studio. It was a fascinating afternoon and very good to see that our grants really make a difference to student activities and are much appreciated.

Our Chairman, John Tarn, commented at the recent AGM: “One of the things which stands out is the programme of events for local members. There is a long tradition of wide ranging menu of interesting talks and visits. Just one facet of the work you all help to support - thank you.”

For those Friends who are unable to attend our Events, here is a brief description of events held recently in 2012.

The Women’s Club

The University Women’s Club has asked us to pass on an invitation to any of the following meetings:

Tuesday 18 September - Burton Mere;
Saturday 13 October - FACT Opera evening; Wednesday 17 October - Autumn Lunch; Thursday 22 November - Speke Hall, Tuesday 27 November - AGM; Friday 7 December - Christmas Coffee Morning.

It will take place in the Foresight Centre, Brownlow Street.

More detailed information about these events will be available at: www.liv.ac.uk/womensclub. If you would like to attend any of the Women’s Club meetings, please contact Elizabeth Rogers at 0151 709 3337 or email: eliz27rogers@gmail.com.

The Guild of Students

The Guild of Students has also asked us to remind Friends that they are warmly invited to any Guild events, perhaps most especially those of the Drama Society and the Body Society, some of whose equipment we have helped to fund. Because student activities are often not planned too far in advance, anybody wishing to attend a Guild performance should check what’s on at: www.ligos.org.

The University of Liverpool is a member of the UK’s elite Russell Group of research-led universities.

The University of Liverpool has also asked us to remind Friends that they are warmly invited to any Guild events, perhaps most especially those of the Drama Society and the Body Society, some of whose equipment we have helped to fund. Because student activities are often not planned too far in advance, anybody wishing to attend a Guild performance should check what’s on at: www.ligos.org.

The Women’s Club

The University Women’s Club has asked us to pass on an invitation to any of the following meetings:

Tuesday 18 September - Burton Mere;
Saturday 13 October - FACT Opera evening; Wednesday 17 October - Autumn Lunch; Thursday 22 November - Speke Hall, Tuesday 27 November - AGM; Friday 7 December - Christmas Coffee Morning.

It will take place in the Foresight Centre, Brownlow Street.

More detailed information about these events will be available at: www.liv.ac.uk/womensclub. If you would like to attend any of the Women’s Club meetings, please contact Elizabeth Rogers at 0151 709 3337 or email: eliz27rogers@gmail.com.

The Guild of Students

The Guild of Students has also asked us to remind Friends that they are warmly invited to any Guild events, perhaps most especially those of the Drama Society and the Body Society, some of whose equipment we have helped to fund. Because student activities are often not planned too far in advance, anybody wishing to attend a Guild performance should check what’s on at: www.ligos.org.

The University of Liverpool is a member of the UK’s elite Russell Group of research-led universities.
Well done to the Motorsport Team

The Friends of the University of Liverpool are one of the main sponsors of the University of Liverpool Motorsport Team which competed for the seventh time this year in the Formula Student competition at Silverstone.

Formula Student is Europe’s most established educational motorsport competition, challenging students to design, build and race a single seater racing car.

The car underwent a major redesign by the Motorsport team making it tighter, faster and more manageable.

This year has been the team’s most successful yet - coming fourth out of the 37 UK Universities competing and 18th overall out of 103 international competitors. And as the icing on the cake, they were placed first in the Business Presentation element of the competition.

Lecturer Dan Hibbert, who leads the team of third and fourth-year Engineering undergraduate students responsible for the car, said: "This year has been the School of Engineering’s best performance so far... for the fourth year in a row the team improved its ranking in an increasingly competitive field of international universities."

The Friends congratulate the Motorsport Team on its achievement and look forward to further success in the future.

New website

The website has been redesigned to be more user-friendly and to give more information. It is intended that it will be kept up-to-date with new, recent newsletters, reports of grants and bequests, details of past and forthcoming events and other useful information. Feedback would be most gratefully received as well as suggestions for other items of news and information which would be useful online. Please send comments to: fmthomson@gmail.com

The website has been fixed for this.

Friends/Convocation AGM 13 July 2012

The Friends/Convocation Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Friday 13 July in the Victoria Gallery & Museum (VG&M) on a day of atrocious weather.

Tea at 5.30pm was followed by the AGM where the Chairman reported on the past year’s work of the Committee, the grants made and events held. Changes to the membership of the Committee were unanimously agreed.

The AGM 13 July 2012

To look at the new website simply type into your browser: www.liv.ac.uk/friends and you will be taken directly to it.

and

www.liv.ac.uk/friends

you will be interested to know that the Friends website has undergone a much-needed makeover and is also now much easier to access.

Thanks are due to the Digital Communications section of Corporate Communications for their help in this important development.

To look at the new website simply type into your browser: www.liv.ac.uk/friends and you will be taken directly to it.

In this section, those who have received grants from the Friends recently have been asked to report back on how the money has been used.

Well done to the Motorsport Team

The website has been redesigned to be more user-friendly and to give more information. It is intended that it will be kept up-to-date with new, recent newsletters, reports of grants and bequests, details of past and forthcoming events and other useful information. Feedback would be most gratefully received as well as suggestions for other items of news and information which would be useful online. Please send comments to: fmthomson@gmail.com

The website has been fixed for this.

Friends/Convocation AGM 13 July 2012

The Friends/Convocation Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Friday 13 July in the Victoria Gallery & Museum (VG&M) on a day of atrocious weather.

Tea at 5.30pm was followed by the AGM where the Chairman reported on the past year’s work of the Committee, the grants made and events held. Changes to the membership of the Committee were unanimously agreed.

Sad the dinner, which was to have followed the AGM, had to be cancelled at short notice due to lack of support. However there is a plan to reschedule the dinner to November 2012 in the VG&M to tie in with 120th anniversary celebrations of the building.

At the time of writing no date have been asked to report back on how the money has been used.

A grant of £2,200 to Dr James Wilson, Dental Cancer Researcher from the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine in the Institute of Translational Medicine, to fund the purchase of a liquid nitrogen container which will enable the establishment of a research bank of head and neck cancer primary cell cultures.

A grant of £10,000 to Dr Amarina Nwosu, Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool in the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to enable the purchase of equipment and software to support a new ongoing, academic project to improve the understanding of (de)hydration in advanced cancer patients in a non-invasive fashion.

A grant of £10,000 to Joseph Slusky, FASTor Facility, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to purchase an upgrade to an existing Flow Cytometer for the analysis of cells.

Followings our grant of £9,000 to the Bodysoc Dance Society, as reported in the last Newsletter, committee members were invited to the Now That’s What I Call Dance 2012 Spring Show in March.

Maureen Jones was present and has contributed this report:

“The show was held in the Stanley Hall in the Guild of Students, scene of so many Saturday hops and drama performances, but our dancing was never like this.

We oldies were enthralled by the variety of styles - mixed jazz, Irish, tap, ballet, bollywood, burlesque (including striptease!) and break. We marvelled that the breakdancers were not ‘broken’ by their extraordinary athleticism.

The music of 20 or so current pop recordings went perfectly with the unflagging energy of all the performers. The slick staging showed great teamwork and professional aplomb. It was difficult to believe that there had been no scenery because inspired lighting and costumes were constantly changing.

Our hosts were welcoming in every way - at the door, showing us to privileged seats, bringing us refreshing drinks of our choice and thanking us effusively for our presence as well as for our grant!”

A really rewarding occasion for all.

Recent grants

At the Friends Committee Meeting on Wednesday 13 June, several grant applications were considered.

The following awards were made:

A grant of £7,000 to the University of Liverpool Motorsport Society for a rolling road testing area and engine workshop for the Motorsport Team’s car.

A grant of £16,119 to Professor Tom Solomon, Head of the Institute of Infection and Global Health, for various pieces of equipment to support the further development of the public engagement and widening participation work of the Institute (below).

A grant of £8,000 to Dr Robert Slupsky, FACSort Facility, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, for the purchase of an SORBENT 2000 cell sorter for the analysis of primary cell cultures.

A grant of £5,000 to Dr James Wilson, Dental Cancer Researcher from the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine in the Institute of Translational Medicine, to fund the purchase of a liquid nitrogen container which will enable the establishment of a research bank of head and neck cancer primary cell cultures.

A grant of £10,000 to Dr Amarina Nwosu, Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool in the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to enable the purchase of equipment and software to support a new ongoing, academic project to improve the understanding of (de)hydration in advanced cancer patients in a non-invasive fashion.

A grant of £10,000 to Joseph Slusky, FASTor Facility, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to purchase an upgrade to an existing Flow Cytometer for the analysis of cells.

The website has been redesigned to be more user-friendly and to give more information. It is intended that it will be kept up-to-date with new, recent newsletters, reports of grants and bequests, details of past and forthcoming events and other useful information. Feedback would be most gratefully received as well as suggestions for other items of news and information which would be useful online. Please send comments to: fmthomson@gmail.com

The website has been fixed for this.

Friends/Convocation AGM 13 July 2012

The Friends/Convocation Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Friday 13 July in the Victoria Gallery & Museum (VG&M) on a day of atrocious weather.

Tea at 5.30pm was followed by the AGM where the Chairman reported on the past year’s work of the Committee, the grants made and events held. Changes to the membership of the Committee were unanimously agreed.

A grant of £2,200 to Dr James Wilson, Dental Cancer Researcher from the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine in the Institute of Translational Medicine, to fund the purchase of a liquid nitrogen container which will enable the establishment of a research bank of head and neck cancer primary cell cultures.

A grant of £10,000 to Dr Amarina Nwosu, Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool in the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to enable the purchase of equipment and software to support a new ongoing, academic project to improve the understanding of (de)hydration in advanced cancer patients in a non-invasive fashion.

A grant of £10,000 to Joseph Slusky, FASTor Facility, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to purchase an upgrade to an existing Flow Cytometer for the analysis of cells.

The website has been redesigned to be more user-friendly and to give more information. It is intended that it will be kept up-to-date with new, recent newsletters, reports of grants and bequests, details of past and forthcoming events and other useful information. Feedback would be most gratefully received as well as suggestions for other items of news and information which would be useful online. Please send comments to: fmthomson@gmail.com

The website has been fixed for this.

Friends/Convocation AGM 13 July 2012

The Friends/Convocation Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Friday 13 July in the Victoria Gallery & Museum (VG&M) on a day of atrocious weather.

Tea at 5.30pm was followed by the AGM where the Chairman reported on the past year’s work of the Committee, the grants made and events held. Changes to the membership of the Committee were unanimously agreed.

A grant of £2,200 to Dr James Wilson, Dental Cancer Researcher from the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine in the Institute of Translational Medicine, to fund the purchase of a liquid nitrogen container which will enable the establishment of a research bank of head and neck cancer primary cell cultures.

A grant of £10,000 to Dr Amarina Nwosu, Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool in the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to enable the purchase of equipment and software to support a new ongoing, academic project to improve the understanding of (de)hydration in advanced cancer patients in a non-invasive fashion.

A grant of £10,000 to Joseph Slusky, FASTor Facility, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, to purchase an upgrade to an existing Flow Cytometer for the analysis of cells.
Silverstone success

Wednesday 21 November, 2.30pm
Many Friends will know about the work of The Reader Organisation. Its first project was to set up informal ‘Get Into Reading’ groups, led by trained project workers and volunteers and meeting regularly in places like care homes, prisons, libraries, mental health drop-in centres and schools or workplaces, where they read aloud and took time to talk about their responses to what they have read.

Since then the organisation has initiated a number of imaginative activities and we are very fortunate that Professor Phil and Dr Jane Davis will come to speak to us about the way in which the organisation has developed since its early days. They will trace its growth from the joint work that Phil and Jane did in the University and what it does now as an independent charity, working with the University's Centre for Reading, Information and Linguistic Systems.

Their talk, entitled The Story of The Reader Organisation will be in the Foresight Centre, Brownlow Hill.

Wednesday 18 September - Burton Mere;
Saturday 13 October - PACT Opera evening; Wednesday 17 October - Autumn Lunch; Thursday 22 November - Speke Hall, Tuesday 27 November - AGM; Friday 7 December - Christmas Coffee Morning.

Future events

The last newsletter featured a report from Robert Simpson on his three-month round the world trip funded by an award from the Circumnavigators Club. In March, Robert gave a talk entitled How do you spell democracy to Friends. He spoke fluently and wittily about his experiences in the six countries he visited, illustrating his talk with many fascinating photos and discussed his conclusions on literacy and democracy in each. Robert has clearly got the bug for travel and we look forward to hearing more from him in the future!

In May, Friends were invited to the Guild of Students to view the improved facilities now in place as a result of Friends' grants to the Performing Arts Societies, student radio service (LSRadio) and the Bodysoc Dance Society. We were warmly welcomed and entertained with tea and cake. We then visited the Dance Studio to inspect the high quality sound system and acoustic improvements which the Friends' grant had purchased. This was followed by a visit to the LSRadio studio, small but surprisingly high-tech, where the equipment funded by the Friends has enabled broadcasting to be extended and has helped to greatly increase the number of listeners. Before we left, some of us watched a class in progress in the Dance Studio. It was a fascinating afternoon and very good to see that our grants really make a difference to student activities and are much appreciated.

Our Chairman, John Tarn, commented at the recent AGM: “One of the things which stands out is the programme of events for local members. There is a long tradition of wide ranging menu of interesting talks and visits. Just one facet of the work you all help to support - thank you.”

For those Friends who are unable to attend our Events, here is a brief description of events held recently in 2012.

The Guild of Students
The Guild of Students has also asked us to remind Friends that they are warmly invited to any Guild events, perhaps most especially those of the Drama Society and the Body Society, some of whose equipment we have helped to fund. Because student activities are often not planned too far in advance, anybody wishing to attend a Guild performance should check what's on at: www.luos.org.

The Women's Club
The University Women's Club has asked us to pass on an invitation to any of the following meetings:
- Tuesday 18 September - Burton Mere;
- Saturday 13 October - PACT Opera evening; Wednesday 17 October - Autumn Lunch; Thursday 22 November - Speke Hall, Tuesday 27 November - AGM; Friday 7 December - Christmas Coffee Morning.

For those Friends who are unable to attend our Events, here is a brief description of events held recently in 2012.