Jack bounces into 2013

By Sharon Webb

Engineering Honours student Jack Penny is springing eagerly into the great unknown of a life of achievement, and he has a plan.

He wants to represent Australia in trampolining at the 2016 Rio Olympics – but there is only one place for six contenders.

And he wants to resolve his intense curiosity about what the world will do for energy when fossil fuels run out. His recent 12 weeks’ work with Tasmania’s hydro power generator, Transcend, was a step in the right direction.

Like many UTAS students at this time of year, Jack’s excited by what the promise of the future and inspired to work on success.

“I’m inspired by my love of maths and science; there are so many different technologies arising now – wind, solar, tidal – that I find it fascinating to think about which ones will be the leaders in 50 or 100 years,” he said.

“I got into engineering in the first place because I’m interested in renewable energy; it’s such an important step in where society is going.”

In trampolining Jack is also propelled by his curiosity – and inspired by Australia’s first Olympic medallist in the sport, Ji Wallace, who won silver in Sydney in 2000.

“I was a kid doing gymnastics when trampolining started up in Tasmania; I had a trampoline in the backyard but I didn’t realise it was a competitive sport. Once I started I pushed myself to see if I could do better,” Jack said.

The boy on the backyard tramp has become a young man in a leotard with clips under the heel who is driven, in the run-up to major competitions, to trampoline 15 hours a week and spend another four conditioning in the gym. All to ensure he is the only athlete in the squad of six Australians vying for the Rio place who will actually compete.

Jack knows he could fail, even if he gets to Rio.

He watched South Australia’s Blake Gaudry initially look good in last year’s London Olympics only to come off the trampoline in the second round.

“It’s a volatile sport,” Jack said thoughtfully.

But resilience and achievement are in Jack Penny’s genes.

His parents Jo and Dennis are UTAS graduates and have successful careers in teaching and commerce. Older brothers Tom and Chris are also UTAS graduates in engineering and psychology and sister Claire studied occupational therapy at Deakin University.

And his grandfather Terry Childs, now 87, left the family farm and one-teacher school at Bream Creek to create a family first by graduating from UTAS in 1949.

He’s as proud as punch of young Jack’s achievements, and this is only the beginning.

What inspires UTAS staff and students in 2013? See p.3
In collaboration with City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust, Steven Campbell is a food scientist specialising in nutraceuticals and functional foods, and has spent the past six years working in Queensland teaching and conducting research with the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, a joint Queensland Government–University of Queensland research institute project.

Incoming Chancellor Michael Field: “To be involved in what is a very big organisation in the Tasmanian context is a privilege.”

By PETER COCHRANE

NEW UTAS Chancellor Michael Field has hit the ground running in his new role with a trip to New York and London to meet university alumni there.

The former Tasmanian Premier replaces Damian Bugg; a John Fisher College student, he graduated in history and political science in 1970 to become a teacher.

“This was the sixties, a turbulent time,” he said. “I was marching in moratorium demos and all that – I was an activist although I didn’t play a role in university union politics and didn’t have any ambitions to become involved in mainstream politics.”

However, in 1972 the then Queenstown teacher joined the ALP and motivated by the “scarcity” of the Whitlam sacking successfully stood for the House of Assembly seat of Braddon in 1976. Then he had left teaching and was working as a community development officer under the federally-funded Australian assistance plan.

As Labor Premier and Treasurer from 1989 to 1992, Michael reined in spiralling public debt and established a template for fiscal management. With the Labor Party unable to govern in its own right he formed an historic accord with the Tasmanian Greens lasting 18 months.

He left parliament in 1997, relocated to three acres of beach frontage at Eaglehawk Neck and became a consultant on leadership.

Later he would become chairman of the Tasmanian Innovations Advisory Board and more recently chair of the Australian Innovation Research Centre. In December 2005 he was appointed to the board of the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority.

Now Michael has responded to the pull of the university, saying of the attraction of the role of the chancellor: “Any community that hasn’t got an educated citizenry is not going to survive. To be involved in what is a very big organisation in the Tasmanian context is a privilege, an opportunity I welcome.”
A new year, a fresh start

English author G.K. Chesterton once said the object of New Year is not that we should have a new year: “It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made new year resolutions, he will certainly do nothing effective.”

SHARON WEBB asks ten UTAS staff and students about their goals and inspirations for 2013…

Dr James Hills

Research Fellow in the Queensland Institute of Agriculture’s Dairy Research Centre at the Cradle Coast Centre and developer of horizon sensor technology detecting cow (e)waste in pastures.

I want to increase our network of learning in the dairy industry and establish our research direction using the Elliott Research Station here – as well as achieving a work/family balance. I’m inspired by the idea of applying research to interact with farmers and grow the dairy industry. Also by providing an environment where my new baby and three boys can thrive!

Dr John Parish

Deakin University and artist who graduated with a PhD in 2012 aged 70 years; and whose assisted Taiwanese devil sculpture raised $10,000 for the Save the Devil Appeal.

My goals for 2013 are to continue on the work I presented for my PhD exhibition so that it can become available for a commercial gallery to exhibit – and to stay viable as a full-time artist! I’m inspired by my ideas to take my mark-making art by native animals such as the Taiwanese devil to a new level. I still have my cameras in the caves at Golden Valley so that I can film them actually making the marks.

Leah Armand

Good sugar in a destructive metal band Internal Quest, one of two Compositions of Music Groups chosen to perform at the 2013 Marion Bay Arts Festival.

In 2013 my goal is to play some shows on the mainland with my band. I’m inspired by great music, especially live music like the Miwa Nancy concert I went to over summer, because when I hear it I think: I wish I could be part of something that amazing!

Dr Tracey Muir

Senior Lecturer in mathematics education and member of the UTAS Maths Education Team which won a 2012 award from the Office of Learning and Teaching.

This year I am looking for ways to involve pre-service teachers more in the community - in research projects and after-school maths clubs. I want to involve them in the wider mathematical community and the mathematics profession. I’m inspired when I see these students engaging in maths and enjoying it, even though maths isn’t necessarily been a positive experience for them in the past.

Dr Andrew Bowie

Marine biogeochemist at the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre and 2013 Tasmania Young Researcher of the Year in physical sciences.

This year I aim to look at the ‘big picture’ and not stress about trivial things so I can live life to the fullest. I’m inspired by positive organised people who manage to do everything, always remain calm and have time to enjoy life – people who can say no without feeling guilty!

Anne Elliott

Visiting lecturer at the Rwenham campus and organizer of 2009, the Opening Christmas Chicks! event.

In the last couple of years I’ve led oceanographic research expeditions – 2013 is dedicated to publishing our findings in journals. And I’m off to France mid-year to work on that with my French colleagues. I’m inspired by the idea of getting this work into the public domain because we discovered a number of exciting factors controlling the drawing of CO2 into the oceans.

Professor Peter Rathjen

Departmental chaplain and ecologist who graduated with a PhD in 2012 and whose 25,000-year-old Tasmanian devil sculpture raised $10,000 for the Save the Devil Appeal.

In conversation

Times of change

2013 sees UTAS in good space, highly ranked for teaching and research, investing significantly in the student experience and community relationships, and with clear aspirations articulated in Open to Talent. Our immediate future though must be charted within the recommendations of the Higher Education Base Funding Review, with particular impacts anticipated in the Bradley Review. While the uncapping of undergraduate places has increased student numbers, the unexpected introduction last year of restrictions on enrolments into pre-degree and postgraduate courses has proven problematic for our attempts to create pathways for disadvantaged and regional students into UTAS. So too, the decision not to increase base funding to universities, in conflict with the recommendations of the Higher Education Base Funding Review, has particular impacts anticipated in the Bradley Review.

The mid-year Commonwealth financial statement also saw significant cuts to support for research infrastructure, of particular consequence for universities such as UTAS that house specialist research programs aligning local opportunity with global impact. An environment of fiscal tightening provides a backdrop to determination of a new Enterprise Bargain that supports UTAS staff to achieve the goals of Open to Talent.

Outside the domain of policy and politics we confront challenges and opportunities associated with technological advance. 2012 saw fierce international debate around the impact of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS), triggered by the entry of several of the world’s finest universities into this space, often in partnership.

Skill will be required to progress our long term ambitions in the context of technological, policy and financial change. Reassurance has been provided by recent statements from all sides of politics that are supportive of higher education, recognising the important social, cultural and economic benefits that accommodation investment in the sector can provide.

UTAS can play a significant role in the £25 billion global impact. An environment of fiscal tightening provides a backdrop to determination of a new Enterprise Bargain that supports UTAS staff to achieve the goals of Open to Talent.

Professor Peter Rathjen

Vice-Chancellor

www.utas.edu.au/vc
The contradictions and conundrums of Tasmania, its dark history and possibly brilliant future, are thought-provokingly explored in a new publishing collaboration between the Griffith REVIEW and the University of Tasmania’s Inglis Clark Centre for Civil Society.

Copies of Edition 39 of the Griffith REVIEW, Tasmania – The Tipping Point?, have been flying off the shelves in bookshops around the country following its national launch at Hobart Town Hall on 5 February, attended by more than 300 people (launches have since been staged in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide). The edition is a mixture of essays, memoirs, reportage, fiction and a picture gallery. Among the contributors are UTAS staff members Associate Professor Natasha Cica, who co-edited the edition with the Griffith REVIEW’s founding editor, Professor Julianne Schultz; Professor Jonathan West, director of the Australian Innovation Research Centre; Associate Professor Richard Eccleston from the School of Government; Lecturer in English (and novelist) Dr Danielle Wood; Moya Fyfe, chief of staff to the Vice-Chancellor; and gay rights advocate Rodney Croome, an honorary associate with the School of Sociology and Social Work.

Reaction to Prof. West’s essay, ‘Obstacles to Progress’, subtitled ‘What’s Wrong with Tasmania, Really?’ was republished on ciceroy.com just prior to the national launch.

Since returning to Tasmania after 20 years in the US, Prof. West has investigated why the state ranks at the bottom nationally on virtually every measure of economic, social and cultural performance.

“The underlying problem is simple but intractable,” he writes in his essay. “Tasmania has developed a way of life, a mode of doing things, a demographically, a culture and associated economy that reproduces under-achievement generation after generation.”

Yet despite this gloomy prognosis, Tasmania is, as he conceded in a discussion with Phillip Adams on Radio National, “a special place, touched by magic”. He returned from living abroad because he wanted his daughter to grow up here.

Fellow contributor, historian Cassandra Pybus, also part of that discussion, spoke evocatively of Tasmania’s push-pull power.

Having written previously about how Tasmanians worry about “dipping off the end of the world unnoticed”, Pybus told Adams that it was “the place I am destined to keep returning to … [but] I can’t stay here for any length of time without starting to get clinically depressed”.

Regardless of one’s reaction to individual pieces in this edition, few would argue with the Premier, Lara Giddings, who at the national launch, said that “readers must surely agree that all contributions have been penned with honesty and eloquence … by people who care deeply about their subject”.

Copies of Tasmania – The Tipping Point? are available from bookstores or online at: http://griffithreview.com for $27.99. The Griffith REVIEW website includes additional material which will be added to over the next three months.

Contributing in the Caribbean after AMC studies

**BY KIRSTEN WOOLLEY**

AMC GRADUATE Kathryn Audroing took a head full of knowledge and a suitcase of extra jumpers back to Trinidad-Tobago at the end of 2012.

She came to Tasmania two years ago as part of the Federal Government’s AusAID program and the recipient of a prestigious Australian Leadership Award Fellowship.

AusAID provides funding to international students for study in Australia in priority development for their home countries. It aims to develop appropriately trained current and aspiring leaders in priority areas, who, in the short to medium term, will be in a position to advance key regional policy objectives and increase institutional capacity of partner countries.

After completing her Masters of Applied Science (Marine Environment) honours Kathryn believes her AMC research will benefit her home country.

“It involved examining the influence of artificial light on trawl catch rates and by-catch reduction. This has the potential to make a big difference to the sustainability of our fisheries in the Caribbean,” she said.

Kathryn completed her first degree in biology at the University of West Indies; a childhood spent near the beach first inspired her love of the marine environment.

“My dad, a marine underwriter, took me to the fishing depot where they bring in the catch. “I watched them cut open and prepare the fish. One of the fishermen gave me biology lessons – he was a simple man but he definitely knew his fish anatomy.”

“It gave me a real appreciation of how much effort goes into getting the catch.”

Kathryn’s professors encouraged her to look further afield for a special- ist degree.

“That’s when I found out about AMC,” she said.

“Working with AMC academics who have industry experience was fantastic.”

AMC’s training vessel Bluefin provided Kathryn with a unique opportunity to get hands-on experience in her specialist field, and armed with her new-found knowledge and confidence, she plans to hit the ground running back in the Caribbean.

“By-catch and sustainable fishing is a global issue. We have unregulated fisheries at the moment so we need to be proactive about managing our resources.”

“Many small Pacific countries now have successful models in place, often with Australian help, which we can learn from. People will listen; it’s not just theory any more.”

While Kathryn never saw herself as ‘a leader’, she is determined to fulfil the role for which she was chosen.

“There is an expectation that I can move forward in what I am doing, and carry people along with me,” she said.

“They have given me the tools; now I just have to figure out if I can do it. I am excited to see where it goes.”

---

Griffith REVIEW explores the push-pull factors of a ‘tipping’ Tassie

**BY PETER COCHRANE**

Tasmania – a source of clinical depression or touched by magic? UTAS Vice-Chancellor Peter Rathjen, Griffith REVIEW editors Professor Julianne Schultz and Associate Professor Natasha Cica and Premier of Tasmania Lara Giddings joined 300 others at the launch of the most recent edition at the Hobart Town Hall.

---

Aspiring fisheries leader in the Caribbean: Kathryn Audroing has returned to Trinidad-Tobago an expert in trawl catch rates after completing honours at the Australian Maritime College.
Exhibition

From King Island to the Shetlands at Cradle Coast

BY ANNA OSBORNE

Tasmanian artist Katherine Cooper has opened up her folio to take us to the wilds of the Shetland Isles in her exhibition, The Hemisphere Travellers – 60 Degrees North/60 Degrees South.

This exhibition at the UTAS Cradle Coast campus is part of the Ten Days on the Island program and features drawings, photographs and highly-finished watercolours of birds and other Shetland wildlife from her 2012 arts residency there.

Her work portrays global travellers like the albatross and the home-loving puffin in the most extreme of wild environments.

“The project is a snapshot of what we take for granted around us – what we don’t see but could, if we took the time to do so,” she said. As a child living on King Island, Katherine grew up surrounded by the unspoiled ruggedness of the coast and the power of the sea.

This uniquely Tasmanian background has helped her to interpret the distinct parallels between the Shetlands and Tasmania, as reflected in her latest works.

Among Katherine’s career accolades, she was a finalist in the 2011 BBC Wildlife Artist of the Year. The Hemisphere Travellers – 60 Degrees North/60 Degrees South runs until April 4.

1. A Northern Gannet or Shetland Solar colony.
2. The Shetland Haaf fish (meaning deep sea fish) or Grey Seal.
3. The Tammie Nories (watercolour gouache on Fabriano Artistico 640gsm paper, 60cms x 50cms).
4. The Northern Fulmars (watercolour gouache on Fabriano Artistico 640gsm paper, 40cms x 50cms.)
Stepping out for December graduations

It rained in Launceston but in Hobart UTAS graduands marched proudly through the city in the annual Town and Gown parade heralding December graduations.

IN A total of 13 ceremonies, 3355 students graduated statewide, family and friends watching on. Students graduated with degrees and diplomas from the faculties of Arts, Business, Education, Health Science, and Science, Engineering and Technology.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said the graduation ceremonies were the culmination of a year of excellent achievements for the university.

"In 2012 UTAS received accolades recognising our excellence in teaching and research, including our institution featuring prominently in the Commonwealth Government’s Office for Learning and Teaching grants," he said.

“The innovative student learning programs, Patient Partner Program, run by the Launceston Clinical School, and the School of Education’s Maths Education Team, were both recipients of $25,000 Programs that Enhance Learning Awards.

“Several of our individual academics were also recognised for their excellent teaching abilities, receiving Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

“This firm focus on quality teaching at UTAS ensures our graduates benefit from learning in an environment where teaching is both celebrated and viewed as a core responsibility of the institution,” Prof. Rathjen said UTAS’ recent Excellence in Research for Australia results were also a cause for great pride, with a range of disciplines, including agriculture and land and farm management, rated as world standard or higher.

Hobart graduations: Graduands step out in the 2012 Hobart Town and Gown parade led by medical (purple hoods) and PhD students (red hoods).

This firm focus on quality teaching at UTAS ensures our graduates benefit from learning in an environment where teaching is both celebrated and viewed as a core responsibility of the institution.”

Launceston graduations: Joanne Finney, Jane Bennett and Lewis Philpot, all of Launceton, graduated with Master of Architecture degrees. Photo courtesy Examiner.

Burnie graduations: Smithton Bachelor of Education graduate Kayla Hite with her proud parents. Kayla travelled to Sweden in the third year of her degree.

Hobart graduations: Hobart siblings and Bachelor of Arts graduates Robert and Lizzy Malcolmson. Lizzy majored in psychology and hopes to study medicine at UTAS next year. Robert plans to study honours in history.

Launceston graduations: Roger Egbe of Camaroon graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering (Marine and Offshore Engineering) degree and Howan Kim of South Korea graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering (Naval Architecture). Photo courtesy Examiner.
Charcoal passion for Cradle Coast Artist in Residence

BY ANNA OSBORNE

THE NORTH-WEST Coast’s scenic coastlines and patchwork landscapes will take on a different form in this year’s Artist in Residence program at UTAS, Cradle Coast campus.

Hobart-based visual artist David Edgar’s work involves large-scale charcoal drawings of coastal geological formations.

His interest in using charcoal for drawing, combined with the raw elements of a natural landscape, help to create artwork which is both organic and dynamic.

“It’s such an intense and seductive medium,” he said.

“It can totally change the way we look at things with a view to accentuating the tonal values, particularly those inherent in nature.”

Over the past 10 years the rugged and remote landscape of Tasman Island has captured David’s attention, inspiring much of his work.

“The North-West Coast offers a unique and impressive backdrop ideal for drawing. I’m keeping an open mind about what I intend to create while I’m here. I really want to get to know the locals, and absorb the intensity of the area, letting the work flow from there.”

David’s work for the residency will contribute towards an exhibition at the Burnie Regional Art Gallery later this year and subsequently an interstate tour.

The residency will also include public studio sessions at the Markers’ Workshop in Burnie, as well as interactions with school groups and other artists in the region.

A UTAS graduate with a Master of Fine Art degree, David’s work has been exhibited in Hobart, Launceston and Evandale, as well as interstate and overseas.

The campus’ Artist in Residence program is valued at $5000, and is now into its third year.

My PhD

Megerssa Walı

Institute for Regional Development

Tackling poverty in Ethiopia through urban planning

New UTAS PhD candidate Megerssa Walı’s specialty has brought him half way around the world.

The Elite Research Scholarship holder has just arrived from Ethiopia to do his PhD with the Institute for Regional Development at the Cradle Coast campus.

His study will focus on local economic development, in particular the interactions between a town and its surrounding rural areas.

“Hs specialisation is in urban and regional planning and the scholarship made it possible for me to come here,” Megerssa said.

“One of the major contemporary issues of developing countries is poverty.

“There are different theories and policies forwarded by governments and NGOs to tackle this deep-rooted problem, yet the result is not as anticipated.

“This may be because of the fact that policies and practices are not going hand-in-hand.”

His ultimate aim is to put theory into practise, helping developing countries strengthen the ties and networks between towns and rural areas and their broader local economies.

“I want to link the available local economic development theories with practice,” he said.

Prior to his arrival, Megerssa was teaching at the Wollega University in Ethiopia having completed his Masters of Arts in Geography and environmental studies, with a particular emphasis on urban and regional planning, at Addis Ababa University.


He intends to divide his time between the North-West coast of Tasmania and Ethiopia, where he will carry out fieldwork.

UTAS books

Sustainable coastal management and climate adaptation: Global lessons from regional approaches in Australia


Australians are famous for our love of the coast, although in many places this ‘love’ has caused serious and often irreversible impacts. The sustainable management of our society’s many uses of the coast is complex and challenging. This book explores the evolution of coastal management, and provides critical insights into contemporary experience and understanding of coastal management in Australia. It draws on contemporary theory and lessons from case examples to highlight the roles of research and community engagement in coastal management.

The dynamics of global economic governance: The Financial Crisis, the OECD, and the politics of international tax cooperation


This timely book highlights the challenges in post-financial crisis global economic governance, information that will strongly appeal to scholars and graduate students in the fields of political science, international political economy, global governance, international taxation and law. Stakeholders in the international tax regime including diplomats and tax administrators, international organisations, NGO and business representatives will also find plenty of enriching information in this study.

Griffith REVIEW Edition 39: Tasmania – The tipping point?


Griffith REVIEW is Australia’s leading journal of ideas and analysis. This issue presents new writing exploring the theme of Tasmania. A collaboration with UTAS, this edition will generate debate, conversations and strategic approaches to the challenges and opportunities facing the state. It comprises a robust collection of original commentary, memoirs, reporting and fiction from award-winning authors, academics and talented newcomers – including Natasha Cica, Peter Timms, Favel Parrett, Cassandra Pybus, Rodney Croome, Jonathan West, Matthew Evans, Scott Rankin, Kathy Marks and David Walsh. They paint a portrait of an island in a state of transition, and a microcosm for a major part of Australia.

Griffith REVIEW is Australia’s leading journal of ideas and analysis. This issue presents new writing exploring the theme of Tasmania. A collaboration with UTAS, this edition will generate debate, conversations and strategic approaches to the challenges and opportunities facing the state. It comprises a robust collection of original commentary, memoirs, reporting and fiction from award-winning authors, academics and talented newcomers – including Natasha Cica, Peter Timms, Favel Parrett, Cassandra Pybus, Rodney Croome, Jonathan West, Matthew Evans, Scott Rankin, Kathy Marks and David Walsh. They paint a portrait of an island in a state of transition, and a microcosm for a major part of Australia.

Griffith REVIEW is Australia’s leading journal of ideas and analysis. This issue presents new writing exploring the theme of Tasmania. A collaboration with UTAS, this edition will generate debate, conversations and strategic approaches to the challenges and opportunities facing the state. It comprises a robust collection of original commentary, memoirs, reporting and fiction from award-winning authors, academics and talented newcomers – including Natasha Cica, Peter Timms, Favel Parrett, Cassandra Pybus, Rodney Croome, Jonathan West, Matthew Evans, Scott Rankin, Kathy Marks and David Walsh. They paint a portrait of an island in a state of transition, and a microcosm for a major part of Australia.
Lady in red captivates at Morris Miller

A NEW exhibition at the UTAS Morris Miller Library explores a young artist’s longing for a lost homeland. Kate Piekutowski is currently doing a Masters of Fine Arts in Printmaking at UTAS. The displayed selection of her elegant and moody hand-coloured etchings depicts a woman in red travelling around a bleak cypress.

Kate’s artwork is held in galleries in Sydney, Melbourne, Launceston and Hobart. She has also held numerous solo exhibitions and just returned from a printmaking residency in Venice.

Kate said her work is about longing for a lost homeland; her parents moved to Australia from Poland 30 years ago.

“It was a difficult time and they made a decision to leave to give my brother and I a better life.”

“As a first-generation child of Polish migrants I constantly question what it means to belong,” she said.

“These images explore the ideal of belonging, perhaps in their most basic self, and in retrospect of my Polish diasporic experience.”

Kate said the work shown in the library was also about trying to find a certain arcadia or imagined land.

“In my second year of study I began to realise there were certain things influencing my work: figures, old-fashioned portraits, fabrics, laces, architecture, my heritage and my connection to my great-grandmother.

“I realised I was yearning for another homeland.

“This work is more than aesthetics – it represents my identity and who I am. At the end of the day we are all just trying to belong and I think people connect with that.”

Kate is returning to Europe in July this year for an artist’s residency on Skopelos Island in Greece for a month.

“I proposed for that project that I would explore culture again to try and encase myself within Greek culture,” she said.

“I’m definitely interested in other countries and cultures but I keep coming back to Poland – it’s the most significant for me and it’s my home.”

Longing for a lost homeland: UTAS Masters student and artist Kate Piekutowski with her etchings, displayed in the Morris Miller Library.

What’s on

EXHIBITIONS

1-8 MARCH
Just the Shock
NEW Gallery Exhibition
The artworks produced by Amelie Rossie derive inspiration from responses to the everyday world.
Time: 9am-5pm
Venue: NEW Gallery, UTAS, Newnham campus
Information: Malcom.Bystow@utas.edu.au

19 MARCH
Exhibition: for little (big) world exhibition
An exhibition celebrating diversity, held in conjunction with World Vision – One Just World
Time: 19 March 2013
Venue: NEW Gallery, UTAS, Newnham campus

LECTURE

5 MARCH
Launceston Philosophy Café: Launceston
The ethics of profit.
Time: 6–7.30pm
Venue: The Royal Oak Hotel, Brisbane St, Launceston

Information: (03) 6324 3920 or email Graham.Wood@utas.edu.au

CAREERS FAIR

18 MARCH
UTAS 2013 Careers Fair
UTAS will be hosting five days of career-related activities and events.
Time: 10am–5pm
Venue: Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart; Newnham campus, Launceston; Cradle Coast campus, Burnie
Information: http://www.utas.edu.au/students/careers/careers-fair-2013

CELEBRATIONS

20 MARCH
Harmony Day Celebrations: Launceston
This community event celebrates the very diverse nationalities that form the northern region.
Venue: Newnham campus

FORUM

20 MARCH
Harmony or Hindrance: Is culture a barrier to development?
Tour: World Vision – One Just World Public Forum
Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Lecture Theatre 5, Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, Newnham campus

AWARDS

21 MARCH
University Foundation Awards Dinner – Launceston
Welcome new scholarship students, acknowledge the generous support of donors and celebrate excellence.
Time: 7–10:30pm
Venue: Tamar Room, Wrest Point, Sandy Bay
Information: Amal Cutler@utas.edu.au or (03) 6226 2596

11 APRIL
University Foundation Awards Dinner – Hobart
Welcome new scholarship students, acknowledge the generous support of donors and celebrate excellence.
Time: 7–10:30pm
Venue: Tamar Room, Wrest Point, Sandy Bay
Information: Amal Cutler@utas.edu.au or (03) 6226 2596

UTAS MARCH 2013 NUMBER 166

An unusual day at the office: Professor Ralph Crane with shortlisted author Tan Twan Eng at the 2012 Man Booker Prize reception.

By CHERIE COOPER

A NEW team-taught English unit designed by Dr Ellis Leate and Dr Lisa Fletcher introducing students to award-winning books has attracted the interest of the organisers of the Man Booker Prize.

Literary Classics and the Canon is a core second-year English unit that examines the literary canon, considers what makes a literary classic and asks why some texts stand the test of time while others are soon forgotten.

A key module in the unit focuses on the novels shortlisted for the prestigious Man Booker Prize, with students working towards a group presentation on each of the six shortlisted novels.

During the final lecture the day before the 2012 winner was announced, English lecturers and tutors speculated on each novel’s chances.

“When the organisers of the Man Booker Prize learned of the unit’s existence, they invited Professor Ralph Crane, who happened to be in London conducting archival research in the British Library, to the champagne reception at the Guildhall preceding the announcement of the winning book. They added: ‘All the shortlisted authors, judges and the great and good of literary London will be there.’”

Prof. Crane met authors Alison Moore, Tony Tan Eng and Jibert Thayil at the black-tie reception and attended 2012 winner Hilary Mantel’s press conference. Mantel, who won for the first time in 2009 for Wolf Hall, became the first woman and first British author to win the prize twice when her novel Bring up the Bodies won the 2012 prize.

Prof. Crane also spoke with Downtown Abbey star Dan Stevens, one of this year’s judges.

“Everyone was enthusiastic about what we are doing with the unit and it was great to mingle with the authors and judges, as well as the prize organisers, who do an extraordinary job behind the scenes.”

The students were surprised by Mantel’s success as they had favoured Deborah Levy’s Swimming Home to take the 2012 prize.

“And Prof. Crane’s pick?

“The Garden of Evening Mists. I hoped Tan Twan Eng would win,” he said.

In 2013 the English team will continue to develop the Man Booker prize module, exploring new ways for their students to engage actively with the Prize process and building on the links Prof. Crane has established with prize organisers.

UTAS prof meets ‘great and good’ of literary London

For a complete list of, or to contribute to, What’s on visit: www.utas.edu.au. Contributions are free but may be edited.