



Paterson  
Institute for Cancer Research

Paterson Institute

# newsletter

The Newsletter for Paterson Institute for Cancer Research

## Inositide Laboratory



Issue 13 - March 2008

MANCHESTER  
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The University of Manchester



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## Director's Introduction



We are currently in the middle of discussions with Cancer Research UK on the level of support for the next academic year. It is always an important time since it allows us to reflect on the last year and develop our research and infrastructure priorities for the coming year to ensure that the Institute continues to thrive and reach its goals.

As the Institute develops and particularly as it expands its service capabilities, refurbishment and redesigning of space is important and in this regard it has been a very busy couple of months. There have been improvements to the air-handling within the Molecular Biology Core Facility which meant part of the facility was temporarily decanted to the second floor of TRF1. There was a pressing need for a major overhaul of the space for Mass Spectrometry and Flow Cytometry and this has now been completed. The two areas are now vastly improved and expanded, with mechanical and electrical services upgraded. A new conference room has been created in RG26 and we will be installing a new projector and screen as well as all new furniture. The current conference room will be split into two offices for the MCRC staff and a new group leader. There have been changes within the Finance Office which give Denise Owen her own office within the main Finance office. Yunis and Donald have moved to new rooms in the basement, and the space they have vacated will be converted into a Histology laboratory including areas for the MCRC Tissue Bank sample receipt and storage.

Hopefully, the disruptions have been kept to a minimum but it is inevitable that some disruption will occur. However, at the end of this work we will have increased capacity. The improvements to the Mass Spectrometry lab will accommodate the new Orbitrap which will be commissioned in March and which will vastly increase the sensitivity and throughput of the Proteomics service. The alterations will also provide space for new equipment which may be purchased in the future. The Flow Cytometry lab has also been expanded and a BD FACS Array already purchased. We will imminently be purchasing a new FACS analyser which will be housed within the new space.

So thanks for your cooperation during this time.

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## Pombe Club

by Iain Hagan

The 24th January saw another invasion of the institute by a bunch of “yeast heads” as they congregated for a “Pombe Club” meeting. The “Pombe Club” is sponsored by the Genetics Society and began as a typical scientific gathering in being based entirely in London.

It was a bimonthly affair hosted by Prof. Paul Nurse in the London Institute in Lincoln’s Inn Fields. Being somewhat irked by the London centric nature of yet another scientific get-together, Nic Jones and Iain Hagan suggested that it may be good to take a more regional approach and offered to host a meeting in Manchester in January, 2003. As this first meeting was a resounding success, the “Manchester Pombe Club” has become a major annual event on the fission yeast circuit.

The aim of the Pombe club is to give post-docs, students and junior faculty a chance to talk to their community in a very informal setting. The meetings are therefore spiked with a couple of headline speakers to attract the punters, but there is a strong emphasis on trying to give exposure to new group leaders and emerging figures in the field, within a coherent programme. This year Sophie Martin who is just setting up a group in Lausanne after a highly successful post-doc in Fred Chang’s lab in Columbia

University, New York, gave a presentation on her work addressing the role of the formin proteins in nucleating actin cables to direct polarised cell growth. Her talk nicely complemented the account of microtubule nucleation by Ken Sawin (Edinburgh University) in which he described how the four different microtubule organising centres of fission yeast recruited distinct sets of microtubules nucleating proteins. Microtubule interactions were also prominent in Kevin Hardwick’s (University of Edinburgh) account of the spindle assembly checkpoint. There was a switch of themes to transcriptional control for two presentations. The first by Chris McNerney (Glasgow University) described how a set of genes that are required for cytokinesis are induced at the correct stage of the cell cycle by a conserved transcription factor complex called PBF. Caroline Wilkinson followed this presentation with an account of her work on the control of gene expression following oxidative stress (a collaborative study with Jürg Bähler (Sanger Institute)). The programme was rounded off by an interesting account from Edgar Hartsuiker (independent investigator working in Tony Carr’s lab in the MRC GDSC unit in Sussex). He described how his studies of the role played by the “MRN” complex led him to the fission yeast version one of the hottest molecules in the recombination field at present, CPT.

All in all it was yet another successful meeting and was rounded off by beer and wine and an evening in the local restaurant, Aladdin. As ever, those coming to the Paterson for the first time commented upon what a great place it seemed to be, so we hope that there are additional payoffs of hosting such a gathering within the institute. Needless to say, Iain and Nic do very little towards the co-ordination and organisation of these meetings and nothing could have happened without Elaine’s slick organisational skills both before the meeting and with Shirley and Julie on the day to organise the catering and remain sane while dealing with a myriad of changes to complex requests for taxis to stations and airports, for which Carl is a great help! Their drive makes it a very smooth affair indeed.



Caroline Wilkinson, left, presents at the Pombe Club

## Congratulations - Appointments and Promotions

by Pippa McNichol

The new Appointments and Promotions committees were established for the first time this year following the new contribution review system that was implemented last year.

I am delighted to announce that the following appointments were made:

- Wolfgang Breitwieser  
Associate Scientist, Cell Regulation group
- Agnes Grallert  
Associate Scientist, Cell Division group

And that the following promotions were made:

- Angela Cleworth  
Scientific Officer to Senior Scientific Officer
- Fouziah Butt  
Scientific Officer to Senior Scientific Officer

- Laura Humes  
HR Administrator to HR Adviser
- Tim Yates  
Research Applications Programmer to Research Applications Programme Manager

I would like to thank the members of both panels for their dedication and fairness in administering the new processes.

The Appointments panel comprised Nic Jones (Chair), Pippa McNichol, Jenny Varley, Caroline Dive and Nullin Divecha.

The Promotions panel comprised Pippa McNichol (Chair), Jenny Varley, Mandy Watson and Lynn Disley (union rep).

The next appointments and promotions panels will meet in July after the contribution review panel has met and made its recommendations.

## A New Laboratory Services Manager Arrives

by Jenny Varley



At the beginning of March we welcomed Mark Craven to the Institute to take up the post of Laboratory Services Manager.

When Martin Chadwick left last year, Central Services - which incorporated both Logistics and Lab and Media Services - was reviewed and the decision was made to separate the two components again. Maurice Cowell was appointed as Head of Logistics (porters) and a post of Lab Services Manager was created.

We are delighted to welcome Mark who will be running Lab Services and in particular will be developing the Media Services side of the facility. Mark has joined us from Wythenshawe Hospital where he was a senior technician acting as a laboratory manager providing for a small research team and a number of laboratories. Over the next few weeks Mark will be formulating his ideas for the service, and will be talking to many of you about the developments he is considering.

Mark will fit in well with half the Institute – the “Red” half – as he is yet another Manchester United season ticket holder!

## Paterson welcomes the Inositide Laboratory

by Nullin Divecha



While genetic aberrations are the initiators of the tumorigenic potential of cells, the realisation of this potential is dependent

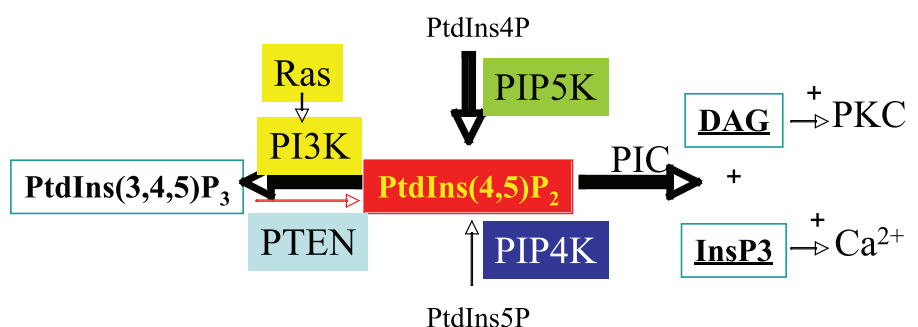
on how those aberrations then impinge on signal transduction pathways.

Understanding how signal transduction pathways are deregulated during tumourigenesis offers the most promising possibility toward identifying key cancer relevant regulatory molecules which could be used for the development of personalised cancer therapies.

Our laboratory studies a family of phospholipids termed phosphoinositides. Phosphoinositide synthesis and degradation is modulated in response to various extra and intracellular cues and is controlled by the action of kinases and phosphatases that phosphorylate and dephosphorylate the inositol head group and phospholipases which can cleave the lipid. For example upon EGF receptor tyrosine kinase stimulation, which is very often upregulated in cancer cells, the phosphoinositide  $\text{PtdIns}(4,5)\text{P}_2$  is both rapidly phosphorylated by PI-3 kinase to generate  $\text{PtdIns}(3,4,5)\text{P}_3$ , and it is also cleaved by a phospholipase to generate diacylglycerol and  $\text{Ins}(1,4,5)\text{P}_3$ . Together with  $\text{PtdIns}(4,5)\text{P}_2$  itself these second messengers control various cellular pathways including migration, calcium fluxes, transcription, proliferation, membrane trafficking and cell polarity. To add to this complexity  $\text{PtdIns}(4,5)\text{P}_2$  is also present in the nucleus, where its levels are distinctly regulated compared to the plasma membrane and the downstream targets and pathways that it can modulate are different. Our goal is to understand how  $\text{PtdIns}(4,5)\text{P}_2$  is synthesised (PIP5K and PIP4K in figure) and how it can be used in so many different cellular contexts. More importantly as  $\text{PtdIns}(4,5)\text{P}_2$  is highly utilised by tumour cells (thick arrows in figure), inhibition of its synthesis might be useful for the development of a novel cancer therapy.

I began my undergraduate studies in Manchester as the biochemistry department had just moved to the “new and super high tech” Stopford building. I then moved to Sheffield University to do my PhD with Dr. Charlie McDonald where I obtained a solid grounding in protein purification and antibody generation. I took this knowledge to my life changing postdoctoral position with Prof. Robin Irvine at the Babraham Institute in Cambridge, where I learnt the completely new language of phosphoinositide signal transduction. After five years with Robin I established my own laboratory as a Babraham fellow. Four years later I moved to the Netherlands Cancer Institute in the beautiful city of Amsterdam to push our studies of phosphoinositides towards understanding their role in cancer. Ten years later the NKI inositide laboratory came back full circle to Manchester.

The Inositide laboratory is made up of Willem Jan keune, Yvette Bultsma, and Iman van den Bout who all came from Amsterdam and David Jones a long standing friend and colleague who came back from Belgrade where he was involved in a different type of biological experimentation. I am eternally grateful to these people as they have made the transition “makkerlijke” (easier) and certainly much more “gezellig” (not translatable). Why did I come back? Family, Nic Jones and the Paterson Institute and the possibility to make a difference in the environment that I work in. However it is unlikely that I will forget my time in Amsterdam, so if you want to know what “gezellig” is and what rookworst, bitter ballen and vlammetjes taste like or why the Dutch need “two fingers” to drink beer then come and see us upstairs.



## HR Update

by Anna Haylock

### Contribution Reviews

As you are probably aware, the contribution review process for 2008 is currently underway. A brand new online system has been launched and will help to make the process easier for both reviewees and reviewers.

The purpose of the contribution review process is to give the member of staff and their manager time to discuss the staff member's contribution to the group and to the Institute as a whole and reflect on significant highlights or achievements. The contribution review meetings should take place in March or April. The meeting is an opportunity to discuss what has gone well along with any areas of concern and any improvements needed. It is important that a way of moving forward is established. Forward objectives are set during this meeting to ensure that the reviewee is clear on what is expected of them. The meeting should also include a discussion on the learning and development needs of the member of staff. There are several methods to fulfilling training needs – long-term college or university courses, on-the-job

training, in-house seminars, one day external courses and observation of other colleagues are just a few ways to undertake learning and development.

The absolute deadline for the online forms to be signed off is Wednesday 23 April 2008. The Contribution Review Panel will then meet in early May. The role of the panel is to read all forms and ensure equity with the objectives and ratings across all groups, between reviewers and within peer groups and grades. The pay awards resulting from this process will then be awarded on 01 June 2008.

Comprehensive guidance notes are available in the help section within the online system. I have also provided an optional training session to staff and have placed the training session slides on the intranet in the Latest News section. I hope that everyone now feels able to use this new system. If anyone wants further help or assistance once they have read the guidance notes and slides, please feel free to contact either myself or Laura in the HR office.

### JNC Update

At the end of last year, the following policies were implemented by HR after ratification by the Joint Negotiation Committee:

- Associate Scientists Policy
- Personal Relationships at Work Policy
- Record-Keeping Policy
- Respect at Work Policy

The committee is currently very busy reviewing several new and amended policies including the Flexitime Policy – for Operations staff only – where feedback on the policy and flexitime card is presently being assessed.

The committee is also in discussions regarding the GCLP – Non-compliances Inquiry and Evaluation Policy. This is a new document and has been drafted by myself in conjunction with Jeff Cummings, Senior Quality Assurance Scientist in CEP. The policy will only apply to people who are analysing samples collected from subjects entered into clinical trials. Prior to implementation, individuals who this policy applies to,

will be fully trained in the principles of GCLP if they have not yet received this to date or require further training.

In addition, the Maternity Policy is under review to include new legislation and furthermore to provide clearer guidelines for expectant mothers.

Hopefully these policies will be launched or re-launched in the next few months. You will, of course, be notified of this.

I have recently put together a policy review schedule which I will make available on the intranet. This will mean that you will be able to see which policies are coming up for review and any new policies that the HR department are proposing to implement. If you have any comments regarding any of these policies, you should direct these to either Lynn Disley, the union representative, Gail Bruder or Cassandra Hodgkinson, staff representatives on the committee. This schedule will be updated regularly so everyone can see the status of policies and procedures.

## Fundraiser's enjoy trip to the Paterson

by James Dunphy



“It’s a shame we can’t spend all day here, there is so much more we could learn, I can’t wait to get back to store and tell the volunteers about the fantastic research that they are helping to fund”

Staff and volunteers from Cancer Research UK shops across the northwest took a break from stock sorting, merchandising, and making money for the Charity, to spend an afternoon at the Institute.

The visit started with a talk from Caroline Wilkinson from Cell Regulation. She gave an overview of cancer, some of the work of Cancer Research UK and specifically the research undertaken in her lab.

The group were then taken to see Stuart Pepper in the Molecular Biology Core Facility. Here they were particularly pleased to hear about Stuart’s excellent money saving negotiation techniques!

The final leg of their tour took them to see Steve Bagley in the basement, where they were extremely impressed with the technology, images produced and advancements that are being made in research.

None of the group had visited the Institute before and the feedback from them all was very positive, Margaret Spencer who is shop manager at the Buxton store said: “It’s a shame we can’t spend all day here, there is so much more we could learn, I can’t wait to get back to store and tell the volunteers about the fantastic research that they are helping to fund”

The visit is the third of the monthly lab tour programme offered to all fundraising and volunteers of Cancer Research UK, if anyone would like to be involved with these tours please speak to James Dunphy.

## Forthcoming Seminars

Tuesday, March 18th @ 4:00pm

**Gareth Williams, University College London**

Title to be confirmed

Thursday, March 27th @ 12:00noon

**Postdoc seminar: Jen Loonto (Medical Oncology Group)**

Tuesday April 1st @ 4:00pm

**Eric So, The Institute of Cancer Research**

Title to be confirmed

Tuesday, April 8th @ 4:00pm

**Duncan Odom, CR-UK Cambridge Research Institute,**

Title to be confirmed

Thursday, April 10th @ 12:00noon

**Postdoc seminar: Alison Backen (Angiogenesis/Medical Oncology Group)**

Tuesday, April 15th @ 4:00pm

**Doug Higgs, MRC Molecular Haematology Unit, Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, Oxford**

Title to be confirmed

Tuesday, April 22nd @ 4:00pm

**Eduardo Moreno, Spanish National Cancer Center, Madrid**

Title to be confirmed

## Where are they now?

by Ann Hallam

Where am I now – you might well ask! Since leaving my post as Safety Officer at PICR in 2004 for the University of Nottingham Safety Office, I've had a lot of new experiences.

I went from a small manageable organisation where I knew almost everyone in the building to a huge university spread across 5 sites within the Nottingham area with campuses in China and Malaysia. I still feel like the new kid on the block a lot of the time as there are so many people, 6,000 staff and about 30,000 students!

My main area of remit is Biological Safety and because of my background and experience at PICR I also find that my main 'customers' are in the science disciplines. Within my first week I was advising engineers how they could safely catapult dummy legs down a track on a bogey into a solid wall. They take measurements which apparently helps with the design of crash dummies!

We also have a farm and lots of glasshouses at our Sutton Bonington campus and recently we opened a Vet School here as well. I was involved in advising on the design of labs and other areas. Visiting there makes a change as you interact with dogs and horses as well as people. Soon I will have to visit the Defence Animal Centre and Twycross zoo as we have students based there which all adds to the interest and variety of the job.

The other bonus about working here is the grounds and surroundings. They are absolutely fantastic and some of our garden areas on main campus have won awards. It's lovely to sit out at summer lunchtime in a garden

surrounded by semi tropical plants, walk amongst rare trees or feed the ducks on the lake whilst the music students give an outdoor performance. Beats listening to traffic on Wilmslow Rd.

A few months after arriving here I bought a narrow boat which I renovated and I lived on that, with my labrador, Sunny, during the week. The boat was moored on the Trent at Beeston [ photo]. That was a really nice way to live for a while but last year I decided that I needed a more solid residence so sailed the boat to New Mills and bought a converted, stone school house built about 1827. A very unique property – at the moment I'm remodelling the garden which is my project for 2008.

So that's brought you up to date. Do I regret leaving? Well to be honest I do a bit. The job here is challenging and varied and keeps me absorbed and I've made some pals but I miss all my good friends at PICR to bits and whilst Nottingham is an OK place Manchester is still the best!

## Long Service Awards

At the 2007 Christie Staff awards there were several people from the Paterson Institute who had reached milestones worthy of acknowledgement.

Four members of staff had reached a 20 year anniversary: Gail Bruder, Jonathan Deakin, Frances Hockin and Steve Royle and two achieved their thirty years service award:

Stella Pearson and Graham Rushton.

The awards ceremony was held in the Christie Hospital lecture theatre in December. Fran Hockin commented, "The award ceremony was really informal and friendly, and as a Manchester City supporter it was a thrill to actually meet Sven who seemed a really nice man. It doesn't seem so long



## Ex Pat Going Strong in Birmingham

by Caroline Chadwick



How time passes it doesn't seem possible that it has been two years since I left the Paterson for the unknown realms of Birmingham.

During this time I have become far too familiar with the M6 motorway, as we haven't yet moved our home

from Stockport. Initially we had to wait until the move fitted in with Sarah's school exams and then when we were finally ready to go last summer, the housing market plummeted and everything ground to a halt. So two years on I am still living in a caravan during the week, now also shared with a seventeen year old daughter which as you can imagine is a little fraught at times, especially when the heating packed up last week with the outside temperature at -10.

On the brighter side of things work is going really well, I love the challenges of running a much larger and more diverse Unit. It took a little time to adjust to just how diverse the research is within a University environment. In my first few weeks I was dealing with looking at the effects of supplementary winter feeding of birds in a local wood, the behavioural studies on

vision in Cormorants and cardiac stress in Carp. Once I got over my initial thoughts of why, and after a couple of visits to the wood inspecting nesting boxes and bird feeders, I started to appreciate the breadth and diversity of studies carried out. Birmingham University is a centre of excellence for Ornithology which explains all the birds. As well as birds in the wild we have large aviaries on the campus and a cormorant swimming pavilion where our colony of cormorants are trained to swim through a maze. Working out an emergency plan for an outbreak of bird flu was also an interesting challenge.

It amazed me how quickly I slotted into the new role, although to be fair a lot is very similar just different office, new people and the same HR issues. I have to remember that when we are talking about football at break time any reference to "the blues" is not Manchester City but Birmingham City, and I have needed my Mancunian to Brummy translator a few times, asking for a barm cake in the canteen gets you a very blank look.

One thing I have not yet managed to overcome is my fear of snakes, it is improving but I still have to delegate if anyone needs a snake handling. We had an amusing job swap last year for comic relief and yes I did have to go and work with the reptiles for a day.

So do I miss the Paterson? Yes it would be hard not too miss friends after 30 years in one place but I am really happy in the new role and have no regrets, at least that will be the conclusion when we finally move down here as a family.

since I started in Laboratory Services and there have certainly been a lot of changes over the years. Thanks to everybody for putting up with me for all this time!"

In modern times people often follow careers that involve frequent moves from job to job. It is great that in this environment the Paterson Institute has managed to continually evolve, and continue to offer challenges that have

encouraged some people to stay for many years. For those approaching their own milestones in service you may be intrigued as to what you get at the awards: a modest book token, a certificate and, the best bit, a long service badge. As Jon Deakin put it: "the badge I got for 20 years service was very nice, as it reminded me of the old-style cycling proficiency badges we got at Primary School!"

## Christmas time – experience from different countries...

Since we have a particularly multi-cultural student society in the Institute we thought it would be nice to learn about the Christmas and New Year traditions in some of their home countries. A number of students have kindly shared with us their traditional Christmas time experiences, which we hope you will enjoy reading.

*Natalie and Dorota*



**Magda Przywara**

The important part of Christmas time in Poland is the dinner on Christmas Eve. When the first star in the sky is shining we start a special family dinner with 12 dishes (Yes!!) celebrating vigil of the day when Jesus Christ

was born. After dinner there is time for opening the Christmas presents and sometimes singing carols, if you can sing, of course. A very popular tradition is attending midnight mass called 'Pasterka'. In Poland we have an additional two days for celebrating Christmas, which are full of carols, food and meetings with the aunts and uncles you've never seen before or not seen for a year.

New Year's Eve night is mostly about fun, spending time in the pubs with music and drinking champagne at midnight with lots of fireworks displays!

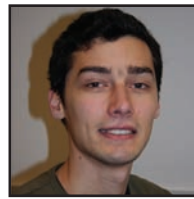


**Erik Alcantar Orozco**

In Mexico we start Christmas celebrations around mid-December with what we call 'Posadas' which represents the troubles that Joseph and Mary faced in finding a room when travelling to Bethlehem. Groups of

children and adults go from house to house singing a traditional song requesting lodging (posada) until they reach the designated site for the party. The party celebrates the fact that Joseph and Mary found a place where Jesus will be born. During Christmas evening the tradition is that families get together for a big dinner with turkey and traditional food. We also have 'piñatas' which are brightly-coloured paper containers filled with sweets. It is suspended on a rope and hit with a stick by children who try to break it to collect the sweets.

During New Year, we get together for a family dinner and on 6th January we have another celebration called 'Dia de los Reyes Magos' (Day of the Three Wise Men). This celebrates the day that the three wise man found baby Jesus and gave him presents. We have a big ring-shape cake filled with fruit. In some parts of Mexico this day is when children get the presents (from the Three Wise Men, not from Santa).



**Guilherme Costa**

The Portuguese Christmas is about food and family. Families gather for the 24th evening supper and to attend midnight mass. This is also when you get to open your Christmas presents! On the 25th, families gather again

to spend the whole day eating the leftovers from the night before. Most of the traditional Christmas dinners include either turkey or cod.



**Hiroko Morohashi**

In Japan we celebrate Christmas, go to Buddhist temples at the end of the year and then go to Shinto (indigenous religion) shrines for New Year's Day. Weird but true. It's great for kids around Christmas/New

Year because they get presents for Christmas and money for New Year. So if you didn't get what you wanted from Santa, then you can go and buy it yourself! For young couples Christmas is like Valentine's day. New Year is more family-orientated. Apart from going to shrines, we stay at home and stuff ourselves.



**Martin Brandenburg**

On the 24th the Christmas tree is put up and is decorated in the afternoon. Afterwards everyone rushes to church. After a light dinner the presents are opened. After a few more hours I normally sneak out to meet

some friends. On the 25th we concentrate on food! There is goose for lunch and a small dessert. If you can move afterwards we go for a walk or just lay on the sofa. The 26th is leftover day. It is also time to visit grandparents. We normally eat cake in the afternoon.

New Year's Evening in Germany is the most overrated day! I meet some friends at a party or go to the Brandenburg Gate. After the fireworks at midnight it is drinks till the next morning.....

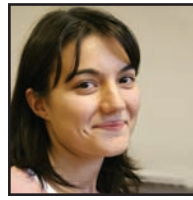


**Monique Melis**

In the Netherlands, Sinterklaas (Saint Nicolas) arrives every year from Spain by steamboat in November to visit all the schools, hospitals, etc. All children will put their shoe next to the chimney with some

poems for Saint Nicolas and some carrots for his horse, hoping to find some candies in their shoes the next morning (if they were behaving well, or they will find a bundle of sticks if they were behaving badly). On the 5th of December, we have Saint Nicolas eve, where little, black Pete, the helpers of Saint Nicolas would deliver a bag full of presents, and a poem attached to

most of them. Nowadays we make a poem for a certain person. Sometimes the present may be involved in the poem, so you might guess what it is. Chocolate letters, the small, round ginger bread-like cookies and marzipan, are traditionally eaten at Christmas time.



#### Asli Devrekan

In Turkey we don't have Christmas celebrations, however many people celebrate New Year. On New Year's evening, usually the families come together and after having dinner, they chat and watch the celebration programmes on television. The day after New Year is a holiday for everyone. Even celebrating Christmas/New Year is not a part of our culture, having at least one day's holiday is the greatest part I guess.

## Race for Life launch

by James Dunphy



On February 7th Stephen St George Smith, Caroline Hamer and Tracy Gardener (from DCU) helped to officially launch Cancer Research UK's Race for Life in Manchester.

They were joined by a local mum, who sadly lost her daughter to cancer. Anne Smith, 58, from Ashton Under-Lyne, took part in the Heaton Park Race for Life last summer after her daughter Fiona was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia. Fiona, who was 35, underwent a course of chemotherapy treatment but sadly passed away in November 2007.

The occasion was also marked with the release of 120 balloons – a poignant reminder of the 120 people each day in the North West who will be told they have cancer. This summer, the annual women-only fundraising event – the largest of its kind in the UK – will see 750,000 women join together to raise over £50 million to fund vital, life-saving research into the prevention, treatment and cure of all types of cancer.

And in Manchester, 16,000 women are expected to take part, raising a total of £1,029,000

For more information about this event please visit [www.raceforlife.org](http://www.raceforlife.org)

## Staff News

### Congratulations to:

**Kelly Chiang** (Stem Cell Haematopoiesis) and **Jane Barraclough** (Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology) who passed their PhD's on 11th January and 27th February, respectively. Well done to both of them!

**Amanda Williamson** (née Lomas) (Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology) and her husband Matthew Williamson who got married on 1st December, 2007 in Weymouth, Dorset. Amanda and Matthew went on a short break to Prague after the wedding (a gift from Amanda's family) but will have a 'proper' 2-week honeymoon in Sri Lanka at the beginning of April.

**Graham Hooley** (Estates) who has recently passed two City & Guilds courses – C&G's 2381 IEE Wiring Regulations BS7671 and C&G's 2391-01 Inspection & Testing of Electrical Installations.

**Carla Moller** (Bioinformatics) on the birth of her son, Nicolas Gonzalez-Moller who was born on 20th November, 2007 weighing in at 3.720 kg.



*Has your life been touched by Cancer?*

Would you like to give something back to help fund research?

Please support the

*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Relay for Life Ball*

A formal dinner and dancing to a live band in aid of  
Cancer Research UK

*Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008*

Lancashire County Cricket Club - Talbot Road, Old Trafford

Reception 7.30pm, Welcome and Dinner 8.00pm, Grand Draw,  
Dancing till 12.30pm

Guests are encouraged to dress up and enjoy a memorable evening  
of live music and fine dining

Tickets £45 per person or £500 for a table of 12

For more information please contact

Jayne on 07850 841 825

or e-mail [relayforlifestockport@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:relayforlifestockport@hotmail.co.uk)

*Together we will beat cancer*