



## Community Day 2011

'Fantastic!'

'Please do more!'

'We loved it all!'

The words of happy visitors to this year's Community Day on 19 June, where local people were invited to explore our beautiful, historic campus and enjoy a range of events and activities throughout the day.

Supported by staff and students, Community Day throws open the doors for you to see for yourselves the great things that the University is doing for people here in the Midlands and around the world.

It is estimated that around 12,000 visitors descended on campus, an increase of over 50% from last year. Community Day is now an annual event and thanks to everyone who took the time to come and make 2011's event memorable, the only question is... how will we beat that in 2012?

During the event we asked some of our visitors about the Community Day and engagement with the University.

- 66% agreed or strongly agreed that they 'understand more about the work taking place at the University having attended the Community Day'
- 78% agreed or strongly agreed that they 'know more about University facilities available to them having attended the Community Day'

Over a quarter of visitors, 27.8% had never been to the University before. We were excited to welcome so many new people onto campus for the day. We would welcome any feedback you have on what we can do to improve the day for next year. You can contact us by email: [community@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:community@contacts.bham.ac.uk)



'Thank-you to everyone who attended our Community Day, our staff and students put a huge amount of effort into organising events,

so it was wonderful to see people on the day enjoying themselves on campus. Although Community Day is a special event we hope it encourages people to use the many facilities available on campus throughout the year. We have also just announced exciting plans to redevelop our campus extending access to sports and cultural facilities and over the next few months we will be consulting with the local community to help shape these developments.'

**Professor Michael Sheppard**  
Provost and Vice-Principal



# University proposes £175m transformation of historic Edgbaston campus

The University of Birmingham has announced a five year investment in facilities that will transform the University's Edgbaston campus, reinterpreting founder Joseph Chamberlain's vision for the estate for the 21st century and extending the services available to the local community.

The key developments include a new sports centre and a new library, to join the new Music building currently nearing completion on campus. The University wants local residents to come and find out more about the plans at a series of drop-in events on campus.

The plans for the sports centre include a 50m swimming pool which will be the only one in Birmingham, as well as sports halls and training areas that will be used by regional amateur sports clubs and local schools as well as staff and students.

The University's Director of Estates Ian Barker explains:

*'Although we are very proud of the Edgbaston campus these are significant and exciting projects that will benefit the local area as well as our students and staff. The University was founded to be an asset for the city and these plans have that aim in mind.'*



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*Ian Barker, Director of Estates*



The Bramall Music Building, which is expected to open later this year





A visualisation of how the proposed new sports centre could look

**'Birmingham is city with a proud sporting heritage and sport plays a huge part in the life of our campus. In less than a year the city will be hosting the Jamaican and US Olympic teams for their pre London 2012 training campus and athletes from Birmingham will be starring at the London Games.'**

*Zena Wooldridge, Director of Sport*



*'For that reason, a number of developments, like the proposed new sports centre, swimming pool and the cultural hub, focus on facilities that will benefit the community. We also hope that extending student accommodation and improving car parking measures will relieve pressure on Selly Oak. Overall our plans also envisage a reduction in the University's environmental impact and carbon footprint. We hope that local people will take the opportunity to let us have their views, as we develop the plans over the next few months.'*

The University's Director of Sport Zena Wooldridge comments: *'Birmingham is city with a proud sporting heritage and*

*sport plays a huge part in the life of our campus. In less than a year the city will be hosting the Jamaican and US Olympic teams for their pre London 2012 training campus and athletes from Birmingham will be starring at the London Games. Although the new centre will not be open for 2012 we believe it will provide fitting facilities for the UK's second ranked sporting University and a perfect base to train and develop future Olympians.'*

The proposed library development will provide outstanding facilities for a new generation of students and researchers, as well as an open access cultural hub for the University and the city.

Drop-in events for local residents will take place in the Beale Room, Aston Webb on 19 August, 11.30am–7.00pm and 16 September, 11.30am–7.00pm and staff are welcome to attend to hear more about the planned developments.

A detailed consultation will take place during the autumn. If you have queries regarding the development contact [campusdevelopments@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:campusdevelopments@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

- designed housing
- improved collaborative learning
- sports sets
- tiered but accessible
- granite benches
- cafe terrace
- sports walkway through arcade
- hand landscaping



## The Blue Plaque Trail

The University's Blue Plaque Trail, launched earlier this year, celebrates those who have helped shape our heritage as a university and showcases the range of unique museum artefacts and archives on campus.

The blue plaques around campus serve as reminders of the immense accomplishments of men and women who have worked here in the past. It is hoped they will inspire those who pass by and will encourage yet greater achievement in the future.

Here are two of the interesting people celebrated on the blue plaque trail.

- Professor Mark Oliphant – Professor Oliphant's group was instrumental in developing airborne radar that played a crucial role in intercepting German U-boats during the Second World War
- Professor Granville Bantock – Professor of music at the University and a renowned composer, he also played a key role in founding the City of Birmingham Orchestra (now CBSO)



Although Community Day is over – don't forget that there are still plenty of things happening on campus that you can enjoy from Winterbourne House and Garden to the Barber Institute of Fine Arts. A full list of events happening on campus can be found here: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/oncampus/index.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/oncampus/index.aspx)

### Upcoming events:

#### Open Day 10 September

Our Undergraduate Open Days offer you the perfect opportunity to hear first-hand from our current undergraduates and teaching staff about living and learning at Birmingham.

#### Barber concerts

Friday 30 September, 7.30pm

Barber Evening Concert

In association with the Department of English

Orchestra of St Paul's

Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*

Walton's *Façade*

More Barber concerts [www.barber.org.uk/music.html](http://www.barber.org.uk/music.html)

#### Barber Institute of Fine Arts

27 May to 18 September

Court on Canvas: Tennis in Art

More Barber exhibitions [www.barber.org.uk/exhibitions.html](http://www.barber.org.uk/exhibitions.html)

#### Winterbourne House and Garden

More events at Winterbourne House and Garden

[www.winterbourne.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.winterbourne.org.uk/whats-on)

#### Visit the Lapworth Museum of Geology

Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm

Saturday and Sunday, 2.00pm to 5.00pm

The museum is open to staff, students and the public and can organise group visits for schools, colleges, adult education and community groups.

Admission is free. Learn more about the Lapworth

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/lapworth-museum/index.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/lapworth-museum/index.aspx)

Let us know what you think by contacting us on [community@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:community@contacts.bham.ac.uk) For information and to download the Community Day programme, visit: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/community](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/community)