By Sally-Ann Jones

On his latest field trip in an arid East African valley, Research Associate Professor Jeffrey Shragge met a woman who wakes at 2am every second morning to walk 20km with her donkey to fetch fresh water for her family. She gets home at 10am.

He also met a brother and sister, aged six and seven, who trudge for 90 minutes every day each bringing 10 litres water to their frail grandparents.

Professor Shragge, a geophysicist at the Centre for Petroleum Geoscience and CO₂ Sequestration, has recently returned from the Mathima Valley in Kenya’s southern Kitui province where about 30,000 people inhabit small towns and tiny villages.

“Most live without electricity and have scant access to fresh water,” he said.

“Only a lucky few are able to raise cattle, which can survive on the more available brackish water. Relocation for these people isn’t possible because they’ve lived in this valley for thousands of years and, if they moved, there’d probably be conflict over grazing and water rights. Water scarcity is the most significant development challenge in this region.”

However, fresh water is known to be present in parts of the valley in geologic faults running some 50m below the surface. Thirty years ago a local geologist working in a neighbouring valley identified such a fault system and helped to site a borehole that to this day still produces potable water for local communities.

“There are many non-government organisations (NGOs) drilling for fresh water in the area that excel at assessing community

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Thirst-busting geophysics continued from page 1

water needs and at fundraising to cover drilling costs,” Professor Shragge said. “But it’s uncommon for NGOs to incorporate the geologic or geophysical observations that could significantly improve the likelihood of a successful outcome.

“They might drill an expensive 50m borehole only to find unusable salty water. Geophysical surveying, though, could help NGOs remotely sense existing faults and relocate boreholes to sites – sometimes offset by only 100m – that would be more likely to produce fresh water.

“The goal of this project is to help equip Kenyan geoscience professionals and students to be able to perform these types of analyses, and to connect them with NGOs to improve groundwater drilling outcomes.”

The two-week pilot project was funded by a grant from the Society for Exploration Geophysics (SEG) Foundation. Professor Shragge ended up in Kenya after listening to a Masters student from Jomo Kenyatta University for Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) speak eloquently at the annual SEG meeting about the limited career opportunities in Kenya for people with applied physics degrees.

As a result of this project grant Professor Shragge, who is interested in humanitarian geophysics, was given the chance to recruit JKUAT physics students to not only teach them about geophysics for a fortnight but also to take them into the field to look for groundwater.

“We received the grant to set up a pilot geophysics field camp with a groundwater focus for post- and senior undergraduate students,” he said. “There were 13 students aged from 20 to 26, about half of whom were women.

“Establishing a sustainable geophysical field camp based out of JKUAT could really be a win, win, win project.

“Local people would win with more successful collaborative water projects between universities and NGOs.

“Students would win because they would be giving back to their own community while obtaining job-skills that make them attractive for employment with international resource companies working throughout East Africa.

“And resource companies themselves would win because they could recruit from a larger pool of local geoscientists instead of having to import expats at a far greater cost.”

Professor Shragge said four of the 13 students he taught during the fortnight, who had been undecided about their next move, told him they now planned to do a Masters in geophysics as a result of participating in the project.

Professor Shragge, who has been at UWA for three years, undertook a PhD at Stanford University in the US in exploration geophysics. He worked on this project with colleagues from the University of Bucharest in Romania and from the oilfield service company Weatherford.

He hopes UWA researchers focusing on technical and policy aspects of groundwater, resource exploration or African development might be interested in contributing to an up-scaled version of the Kenyan project.
The night when the winners were crowned in the 2012 Western Australian Scientist of the Year Awards was a starry one for our University, with a UWA program and researchers taking out five of the seven categories.

Professor Peter Quinn, founding director of the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research, was named Scientist of the Year at the gala dinner at Burswood's Crown Entertainment Complex recently. He was recognised for his central role in the success of the $2 billion Australian Square Kilometre Array (SKA) campaign.

The Australian component of the world’s biggest telescope, to be built in the radio-quiet Murchison region of WA, will explore the universe in 10,000 times more detail than ever before and benefit our State and the international scientific community long into the future.

A world-renowned astrophysicist who has conducted pioneering research in galaxy formation and dark matter, Professor Quinn joined UWA in 2006. 

Early Career Scientist of the Year is Associate Professor Ajmal Mian. He has pioneered research on the challenging problem of 3D face and object recognition for a range of multidisciplinary applications.

An Australian Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Associate Professor Mian is in the School of Computer Science and Software Engineering.

Face recognition technology is being used increasingly for computer log-ons, identity checks and surveillance, and is a boom industry around the world. It can be used in mobile phones, computers and robots and is better than fingerprinting because it doesn’t require special equipment or an expert to verify the results.

David Erceg-Hurn is Student Scientist of the Year. His clinical psychology PhD research focuses on evaluating strategies to reduce the stigma associated with seeking professional treatment for clinical depression. He has also evaluated programs designed to reduce drug and alcohol misuse.

Engineers Without Borders won the award for Science Engagement Initiative of the Year for its high school outreach program which improves students’ understanding of issues related to water, climate change, sustainability and technology.

And Professor Stephen Hopper, who recently stepped down as director of the world heritage-listed Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, UK, to take up a new Chair in Biodiversity at UWA, was inducted into the Science Hall of Fame.

He has made significant improvements to many of the State’s conservation programs and infrastructure and earlier this year was named a Companion of the Order of Australia for his service as a global science leader.

The WA Science Awards were established in 2002 by the State Government to honour the outstanding achievements of the State’s science and innovation community.
I have just returned from a successful visit to the United Kingdom and the United States, where, with the support of the team from Development and Alumni Relations, I had the pleasure of meeting some of our alumni who are forging successful careers overseas.

While our graduates may be living tens of thousands of kilometres away in either New York or London, they remain strong supporters of the University, and are eager to give back to the institution.

It highlighted to me the power of a good education, and the doors it can open at home and abroad. As we gear up for our centenary celebrations, it will be important that alumni, wherever they are in the world, can be involved and contribute.

Meanwhile, two recent events on campus – the relaunch of the Clough Scholars program and the Celebration of Philanthropy cocktail party – gave me pause to consider the enormous difference donations and bequests have made and continue to make to our University over almost a century.

UWA was founded on philanthropy and today our University can do much more for our students and researchers – and for the wider community – thanks to the generous support of individuals and corporate sponsors.

Over the years, our University has flourished through the enthusiasm and commitment of forward-thinking leaders who recognise the importance of excellence in education.

Among these visionary leaders is Dr Harold Clough who initiated the Clough Scholar Program, and was personally involved with it until 2004.

The scholarship has been reinvigorated after an eight-year sabbatical and reaffirms the longstanding relationship between Clough Limited and our Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics. This program has enabled many engineering students to go on to successful careers, to lead industry and government organisations and to continue the tradition of giving back.

Donations and bequests can also help a dedicated researcher by providing vital support, underpinning work that has the potential to make positive differences in the world.

At UWA we are fortunate to receive generous gifts – big and small – that open doors for students and researchers. Joining the University this year, I was struck by the affection with which UWA is held by our students, alumni and the community.

As well as many individuals who provide donations, we are pleased to have the support of corporations such as leading resource companies with which we have educational partnerships and, in a number of cases, professorial chairs.

These collaborations will advance the understanding of liquid natural gas processing and mining technologies and enable our academics to develop new technologies, protect the environment and teach our students new skills.

Individual and corporate generosity has other benefits, too, such as funding to support a new stage for our iconic Octagon Theatre and the redevelopment of the historic Masonic Hall on Broadway into a multi-purpose arts centre.

One of the ultimate gifts is a person’s decision to donate their body to medical and scientific research and teaching and we continue to be extremely grateful to those people and their families.

More than ever before, our University is a globally relevant institution playing a key part in the development of Australia’s knowledge economy – and the kindness of our donors is essential in this endeavour.

Contributions gratefully received

A senior diversity officer, a lawyer, a mathematician and an architect from UWA have won national Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

The award winners were:

Malcolm Fialho, for leadership and innovation in implementing a University-wide cultural competence program to engage, sustain and deepen an action-orientated conversation around cultural diversity; racism and community harmony;

Assistant Professor Ambelin Kwaymullina (Law School), for excellence in teaching and innovative curriculum development in the area of Indigenous peoples and the law;

Winthrop Professor Cheryl Praeger, for developing the gold standard in mathematics research supervision and more than 30 years of nurturing a research community where undergraduate and postgraduate mathematics research flourishes. Professor Praeger is an ARC Federation Fellow and Director of the Centre for Mathematics of Symmetry and Computation; and

Winthrop Professor Richard Weller, Director of the Australian Urban Design Research Centre, for sustained commitment to inspiring and enabling students to engage creatively and critically with complex design problems.

The OLT took over the operations of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council last year and has reduced the number of citations awarded nationally.
The more grass kids have to play on at school, the more active they are.

This is what Dr Karen Martin and her team from the School of Population Health discovered in their year-long study of more than 400 Year Six students in 27 government-funded Perth primary schools.

Their findings are published in this month’s issue of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health.

Dr Martin, who has a 14 year-old daughter and a 12 year-old son, studied school environments and their association with physical activity during school recess.

“Children who are more active have better physical and mental health than those who are less active,” she said.

“Research shows that in Western societies such as ours, most children over nine fail to meet physical activity guidelines, with just 40 per cent of nine to 13-year olds meeting the Australian recommendation of 60 minutes’ physical activity a day.

“Schools provide a unique setting in which to increase children's physical activity. Yet, during recess, many children are sedentary or not being very active.”

During the study, each child wore an accelerometer (which measures the intensity of activity) and their body mass index (BMI) was recorded.

There was a clear correlation between the amount of grass and the level of physical activity of each child.

“This supports previous research that also found the availability of open fields was associated with higher physical activity,” Dr Martin said.

“Expansive and unobstructed grassed surfaces are ideal for children's sports and games.”

Dr Martin said because the study examined kids movement during recess (morning and lunch breaks), sports and games such as skipping, four-square (or kingball) and tag also counted as physical activity.

“The results indicate that the amount of grassed play area available is an important variable to consider during school planning,” Dr Martin said.

“We also found that children attending schools with a physically active PE coordinator participated in significantly more physical activity per day and that a physically active PE coordinator provides a positive role model for children.

“The benefits of childhood physical activity transcend childhood and adolescence and include a reduced risk of being overweight or obese.”

Dr Martin said children who believed they were ‘bad at sport’ and those who were overweight or obese tended to be less physically active during recess. She said it was important that schools consider encouraging appropriate and non-competitive games and options such as dancing or tennis for those students, as well as encouraging them to safely walk or cycle to school.

“I’d like to thank the WA Department of Education and Healthway for their support for this study,” she said.

Dr Martin said her previous research had shown that before Year Six, children are still having similar playground fun to their parents and grandparents, with hopscotch, chasey and hide-and-seek popular.
Remembering Pinjarra

Exactly 178 years ago, a horrific event took place between the Noongar people and soldiers – ‘red coats’ – led by Governor James Stirling.

The massacre at Pinjarra, in which many Noongar men, women, children and elderly people were killed, was the subject of research some 16 years ago co-authored by Australian Research Council Research Fellow – Indigenous Professor Len Collard, who was appointed to the School of Indigenous Studies last month.

Professor Collard is a Whadjuk Balardong Noongar and traditional owner of the Perth region and surrounding districts. His ground-breaking theoretical work has put Noongar cultural research on the local, national and international stage, through four successful ARC grants over 10 years.

His new three-year project will use multiple media to tell the story of the meanings of Noongar place-names and create 14 indigenous language maps of the South-West.

Professor Collard was born in Pingelly, close to Pinjarra. He believes Pingelly most likely means ‘swamp-like’ and Pinjarra ‘swamp jarrah’.

While his Pinjarra report was published in 1996, the event – on the morning of 28 October 1834 – is still fresh in the minds of both Noongar people and non-Noongar people in the region. And the play about the massacre, Bindjareb Pinjarra, was performed at Cockburn Memorial Hall last week with actors including Kelton Pell, Isaac Drandic and Franklin Nannup, a local Pinjarra Noongar elder.

Professor Collard’s grandfather, Tom ‘Pop’ Bennell, had heard the story, as a boy, of the ‘red coats’ and of other ‘white fellas’ murdering Noongars in and around Fremantle, Perth and Bunbury.

The report, written in 1996 with Dr David Palmer of Murdoch University, reviewed settlers’ letters and diaries of the time as well as Government records, newspaper reports and oral histories from Noongar and non-Noongar descendants who had heard stories of what happened on that terrible day.

“It’s good for Noongar and Wedjela alike to hear, through this play, another version of the story apart from the one told by those who had a vested interest in getting Stirling’s message across,” Professor Collard said.

Flowery thanks

Our grounds staff do a brilliant job and probably don’t get thanked enough as we’re all so busy going about our business.

Garry Hendry, Associate Director of the International Centre, returned from holidays recently and was pleased to see the new Australian wildflower garden planted at the entrance to Car Park 1 (in front of the Parking and Security Office).

“I watched the gardeners and grounds staff planting it some months ago,” Garry said. “I’ve been away and, when I returned this week, it was in full bloom with everlasting kangaroo paws…

“It’s absolutely delightful and cheers me up each time I walk past it. I’m sure that it would make a great seasonal picture and you could pass on our thanks and appreciation to the grounds staff involved.”
Indigenous people use science to investigate their heritage

Imagine being a Noongar man and finding a quartz artefact that was most likely tossed away by one of your ancestors anywhere between 19,000 and 30,000 years ago.

This was exactly the experience of Larry Blight, one of several Indigenous people involved in an Inspiring Australia project at a crossing on the Kalgan River near Albany.

According to Associate Professor Joe Dortch, who is Director of Eureka Archaeological Research and Consulting, Larry found the stone flake more than two metres down in the test pit in the last hours of the final day of the dig.

The find was even more satisfying because digging and sieving had been delayed by storms and the arrival of several ducklings that none of the group wanted to harm.

The group also discovered ochre that had been carried from another site by the Noongars’ ancestors thousands of years ago as well as charcoal and charred seeds, all of which will be analysed at UWA by scientists who hope to date them and find out where they originated.

The depth of Larry’s find suggests the artefact was about 25,000 to 30,000 years old, Associate Professor Dortch said. This was the time of the last ice age: an era of severe cold and little rain, when the small population of the region may have had to travel long distances to get food and water.

To improve their chances of survival, they would have had to share more, and this may have included the ochre which was (and still is) important for body decoration and perhaps warmth.

Some of the Noongar people collaborated with Associate Professor Dortch five years ago and invited him to work with them again to help them find the true age of the Kalgan site, also known by the Noongar name of Kalganup.

In the 2007 project, on a tract of bushland between the Stirling Range and Fitzgerald River National Park (not far from the Kalgan), Noongar people identified valuable archaeological sites and found stone implements, lizard traps, quarries and patterns of settlement along creeks.

"Kalgan Hall is where fresh water meets salt water and where there would have been abundant resources such as fish and birds. It’s also 14m above river-level so it probably wasn’t prone to flooding," Associate Professor Dortch said.

"Today’s science can give us some of the answers to questions that couldn’t be answered in the 1980s, which is when the Kalgan site was last dated. In the 1980s, it was thought the site was 19,000 years old but it could be older.

"Along with Larry, some of the other Noongar people involved were the organiser, Lynette Knapp, Carol Pettersen from the Wagyl Kaip Working Party, Vernice Gillies from the Albany Heritage Reference Group, Harley Coyne from the Department of Indigenous Affairs, and many others."

Students, postgraduates and staff from UWA’s discipline of Archaeology worked at the Kalgan site as well as the nearby Old Farm, Strawberry Hill (or Barnup) in Albany – WA’s oldest farm. While the farm was established in 1831, the place had been used by Aboriginal people for thousands of years before that.

“It’s the meeting-place of a cross-cultural world,” Professor Alistair Paterson, Chair of Archaeology, said.

“By 1831, there was Aboriginal ‘firestick farming’ in which the land had been managed by fire, alongside European farming with paddocks and fences, although at Strawberry Hill earth walls were used to keep animals away from crops,” Professor Paterson said.

“It’s satisfying to be able to bring science to a community who mobilised us as scientists to help them investigate and record their Indigenous heritage,” Associate Professor Dortch said.
You could be forgiven for thinking that the world has suddenly become very concerned about burping sheep.

Certainly at UWA two young researchers with links not only to Australia but also to India, Japan and China are working hard to find ways to reduce the amount of methane gas that sheep burp into the atmosphere as they graze.

India-born Dr Parwinder Kaur (31) from the Centre for Legumes In Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA) is currently at the Kazusa DNA Research Institute about an hour’s drive from Tokyo. She is there for a two-month collaboration which aims to sequence parts, or produce a scaffold, of the subterranean clover genome.

Funded by the Australian Research Council, UWA and the WA Department of Agriculture and Food, Dr Kaur’s work is important because subterranean clover is the most widely sown pasture legume species in Australia.

Covering about 29 million hectares nation-wide, subterranean clover is valued by sheep and cattle producers because it is highly nutritious. Its nitrogen-fixing qualities also improve the soil, leading to better yields when cereal crops are grown on clover paddocks on alternate years.

Dr Kaur and her colleagues, including CLIMA Director Winthrop Professor William Erskine, want to lower the large amounts of methane emitted by Australia’s 74 million sheep. (Agriculture contributes 17 per cent of our greenhouse gases.) In doing so, they also hope to improve the amount of energy sheep receive from subterranean clover, much of which is currently wasted in gas.

In Japan, Dr Kaur is working 12-hour days and most of her weekends testing the most promising lines identified earlier this year from the world germplasm collection of subterranean clover, to pinpoint the gene or genes responsible for methane production. Japanese scientists are interested in this project because they will be able to adapt Dr Kaur’s findings for the red clover grown for pasture on Japanese farms.

Once Dr Kaur identifies the culprit gene, it will open exciting avenues for agriculture to reduce its carbon footprint and a very efficient marker-assisted breeding for subclover in future.

“Genome-sequencing is a wonderful tool which produces enormous amounts of data,” she said. “But there’s no use having a lot of data unless you can interpret it. And that’s what I’m learning to do here in Japan.

“`I’ll be able to share the knowledge gained here from the team of bio-informatics world experts with other colleagues at UWA and teach students at UWA when I get back. The skills that I’m acquiring here aren’t just valuable for agriculture. They can be used to interpret sequences in plants and animals and have a range of applications, including in medicine.”

Meanwhile, PhD student Xixi Li (27) is investigating the possibility of using an Australian native plant, tarbush, as a pasture plant which will greatly reduce on-farm greenhouse gas emissions.

TARBUSH, or Eremophila glabra, has been used by Aboriginal people for thousands of years to cure fevers and colds. It also has the potential to kill internal parasites that reduce meat, wool and milk production. These parasites are developing resistance to chemical treatments.

Xixi, who is from China, was on hand at our Future Farm near Pingelly in September when a delegation from China’s Zheziang Province visited to examine UWA’s latest agricultural research. Shi Jixi, Zheziang’s Director-General of Agriculture, was impressed.

*It creates a deep impression and has given me new ideas for combining production and environmental management while*
also looking after the lifestyle of the farmers,” he said. “We want to learn from your methods and approach to research to help our future development in agriculture.”

Xixi said she hoped to help build a bridge between Australia and China’s livestock industry and research institutions. “In China we have a huge population with increasing demands on animal production,” she said. “With a few years’ experience in Australia and a PhD research background, I am capable of working in multi-cultural environments and want to be part of the process to achieve win-win situations in international cooperation.”

Xixi said she was enjoying being at UWA, where she was growing from ‘a baby scientist’ into a serious researcher. “If it weren’t for my supervisors’ support and encouragement I wouldn’t have got this far,” she said. “My supervisors are Associate Professor Phil Vercoe, Animal Production Systems Manager at the UWA Institute of Agriculture; Assistant Professor Zoey Durmic in the School of Animal Biology; and Research Professor Shimin Liu, from Animal Biology, who is also Chinese Relations Coordinator.”

“The lovely part of my research is working with sheep,” Xixi said. “When I take care of them they love me back in their own way!”

Sheep get the lavender blues

A flock of merino sheep at UWA’s research farm at Wundowie are helping scientists understand more about a condition that affects millions of people around the world every year.

Dr Penny Hawken, from the School of Animal Biology, has recently co-authored a paper in Physiology and Behaviour, in which she suggests that handing out benzodiazepines — commonly used to treat anxiety (which often leads to depression) — may not be beneficial for everyone.

Interested in the increasing use of alternative therapies to treat medical conditions in humans, Dr Hawken studied the effects of lavender oil on a group of anxious sheep and on a group of calm sheep.

While rodents are often used to model health problems in humans, sheep can sometimes be a better model and, at UWA, they have been used for research into pre-term birth in humans and the effects of stress in pregnancy.

Dr Hawken grew up in North Wales and started horse-riding when she was nine. As a teenager she was a volunteer at several animal rescue charities and local farms. In WA since 2005, she noticed that chamomile tea had a calming effect on her own horses and wondered if lavender oil might have a calming effect on nervous sheep.

Lavender oil and other essential oils do have a direct effect on the brain and with more research they could be used as alternative treatments to conventional drugs, she said.

To find out how sheep reacted to lavender, she and her colleagues devised a study.

She explained that UWA had been breeding two lines of sheep for about 18 years to study the effects of temperament on a range of outcomes including lambing and meat production.

“The calm sheep ovulate more, have more lambs and are better mothers, especially in challenging situations,” she said. “They tend to be more concerned about their offspring.”

“The nervous sheep are not such good mothers as they are more concerned about individual survival.”

“The pathways in the brain that mediate the effects of lavender oil are thought to be similar to those used by benzodiazepines,” she said.

In the study, the calm and the anxious sheep were each put into a big solid plywood box. The sheep were in no physical danger but found the situation stressful as they dislike isolation from the rest of the flock.

The control animals in both groups had a mask of just peanut oil placed over their muzzles while the others had a mix of peanut and lavender oil. The animals were observed for signs of distress (such as pawing, urinating and calling out) and the level of cortisol — the stress hormone — in their blood was measured.

“The lavender oil made the calm sheep even calmer but made the nervous sheep even more nervous,” she said.

“The study suggests that genetic differences in temperament determine whether lavender oil alleviates or exacerbates anxiety in sheep. This result could be extrapolated to people who have divergent behavioural and hormonal responses to the same stressor.”

The paper’s other authors were UWA’s Associate Professor Dominique Blache and Dr Carolina Fiol, a researcher from the Facultad de Veterinaria in Montevideo, Uruguay.
Uniview editor Trea Wiltshire has written more than a dozen illustrated history and travel books and her most recent – A Stroll Through Colonial Hong Kong – takes readers through the buildings and places, monuments and relics that reflect the history of the international city that was restored to China in 1997.

Born in China, Trea began her career in journalism in the United Kingdom before going to Hong Kong to work for the South China Morning Post. She went on to edit in-flight magazines and write the first of several commissioned illustrated histories for Hong Kong’s leading publishing house, FormAsia.

“The year i arrived, 1967, was a year of living dangerously for Hong Kong as the Cultural Revolution spilled across the border,” Trea said. “There were street riots and marches by local Maoists calling for the overthrow of colonial ‘running dogs’, and bombs were planted across the city. But with much of its population having fled mainland Communism, there was little sympathy then for a return to China.”

“It was a fascinating introduction to an incredible city that has always fused the vision of Chinese and foreign entrepreneurs with the hard work of those who often worked for untold hours and meagre wages to make a better life for their children. In terms of journalism, in a single day I might cover a high society event at the Mandarin hotel and then interview a newly-arrived refugee building a corrugated iron hillside shack for his family.

“In a land-hungry city, many historic buildings have been lost but in recent years locals have become very protective of those that survive. A sombre bronze of Queen Victoria – that somehow survived being shipped off to Japan during World War II to be melted down for the war effort – still stands in a local park. You can stroll through colonial cemeteries where soldiers of many nationalities (including young Australians) are buried.

“The wonderful domed courthouse – symbol of the rule of law so highly valued by locals – survives in the very heart of the island city, along with the colonial cenotaph that became a rallying point for thousands of demonstrators following the Tiananmen Square massacre. June 4 is still marked by candlelit vigils now held annually in the park where Victoria’s bronze stands. And these days, mainlanders join with locals in remembering those who died for democracy.

“Government House (redesigned by a Japanese Governor with shoji screens and pine floors during the occupation) is today the home of Hong Kong’s Chief Executive. It overlooks the botanic gardens that early colonials planted and nearby is St John’s, the longest surviving Anglican cathedral in the Far East, a well-loved landmark that has witnessed much of Hong Kong’s colonial history.”

A Stroll Through Colonial Hong Kong contains archival and contemporary images. Trea is the author of Old Hong Kong, Echoes of Old China, and Encounters with China as well as books on Angkor Wat, Margaret River and Rottnest. For more information visit: www.formasiabooks.com
Medical students on song

“Music is the medicine of the mind,” according to American playwright John Logan.

And a group of medicine students would heartily agree. They have formed the new WA Medical Students Orchestra and rehearse every week in the Music School with music students as guest conductors.

Third-year medical student and violinist Daniel Dorevitch, whose father and grandfather both played the violin, said he had been thinking last year about forming an orchestra when he discovered that two students in the year below him – Johanna Lee and Amy Zhang – had the same idea.

Today about 25 medical student musicians get together to play music including Strauss waltzes and the Harry Potter Suite.

“Music and medicine are similar in some ways,” Daniel said. “Medicine is both an art and a science, and music is an art that has a strong maths component.”

And he added that combining music and medicine was good for the mental health of the musicians as well as for their audiences. The students have already played for patients at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children.

“We have most instruments but are short of some of the less commonly played ones such as the French horn, trombone and bassoon,” Daniel said. “But we’d welcome any new members and they can be medical students as well as pre-med students.” If you are interested please contact the orchestra at medicalstudentsorchestra@gmail.com

China calling

Tudou, Weibo and Renren are the Chinese equivalents of YouTube, Twitter and Facebook.

The social media forms were one of the topics addressed by an e-learning expert in our Faculty of Education when he presented a seminar in China recently.

Winner of several local and national teaching awards, Assistant Professor Mark Pegrum is becoming well-known on the world stage.

The Beijing seminar, for 450 teachers, was held during the Chinese Ministry of Education’s National Teacher Training Week.

Assistant Professor Pegrum’s research is on the (increasing) integration of web 2.0 and mobile technologies into everyday life. His current work concentrates on the growing field of digital literacies, especially network literacy (including personal learning environments, personal learning networks and e-portfolios), and m-learning (including the use of smartphones, tablets and apps with educational benefits).

He is co-editor and author of books Brave New Classrooms: Democratic Education and the Internet and From Blogs to Bombs: The Future of Digital Technologies in Education (UWA Publishing) and his book on digital literacies, co-authored with Gavin Dudeney and Nicky Hockely, will be published next year.

“In our new book, we argue that it’s possible to acquire digital literacies at the same time as you acquire language and more traditional literacy skills, and that’s the message I delivered in my seminar.”
Look. Look again

A painting of an Aboriginal woman – the great great grandmother of the artist – who was married to a white man, taken to England and displayed as a carnival curiosity is one of 140 artworks in a new exhibition at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

Artist Julie Dowling painted her ancestor, Melbin, a Badimia woman, in a 19th century gown which encases her whole body and has an exaggerated hoop skirt.

Melbin is part of the Look. Look Again exhibition drawn from the gallery’s Cruthers Collection of Women’s Art.

Look. Look Again examines issues such as identity, domestic and family life, gender and the body and colonisation through art movements including impressionism, modernism and new media.

Running from 20 October to 15 December, it brings neglected historical artists back into the light and showcases the work of newer and younger artists.

The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated publication by UWA Publishing Custom, Into the Light, and a symposium, Are We There Yet? The symposium brings together national and international art historians, curators and artists to discuss issues facing women’s art and the contribution of women artists to Australian life and culture.

All the world’s a stage

Why have Shakespeare’s works proved so durable in their emotional power? What is it about them that has seen them adapted for opera, music, film and dance?

These and other questions will be addressed at an international conference on Shakespeare to be held at UWA next month.

John Bell, Artistic Director of the Bell Shakespeare Company, is one of the keynote speakers. He founded the company in 1990 and has played all the major Shakespearean heroes. In 1997 he was named by the National Trust of Australia as one of the nation’s Living Treasures and won the JC Williamson Award in 2009 for his extraordinary contribution to our live entertainment industry.

Philippa Kelly, who is Resident Dramaturg at the California Shakespeare Theatre and has written extensively about early modern English lives, is another keynote speaker, along with Steven Mullaney, Associate Professor of English at the University of Michigan. He is working on two books: The Reformation of Emotions in the Age of Shakespeare and Emotion and Its Discontent.

One of the most prominent international Shakespearean actors, Andrew Jarvis, will also speak at the conference. He is writing a book on the actor’s approach to Shakespeare and recently played Gonzalo in the Ralph Fiennes production of The Tempest.

During the conference, practice performances will be held at the New Fortune Theatre, built in 1964 in our Arts faculty to the exact dimensions of the Fortune playhouse in 17th century London.

The 11th Biennial International Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Shakespeare Association, in collaboration with the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, will be held from 28 to 30 November.
Three times lucky for Working Life participant

For Sally Bower, a statistician in the School of Medicine and Pharmacology, good things come in threes.

Sally is one of two staffers who scored an iPad as a result of taking part in UWA’s three-yearly Working Life survey.

It’s been a lucky year for Sally and her family. They’ve won 12 months’ worth of Lindt chocolate balls and her daughter won an iPad at school.

“One of the things I like about UWA is the flexible work life,” Sally said. “By doing the survey you reinforce the positive aspects of the work place and get the opportunity to say if you want anything changed.”

The other winner was Dr James Springer from the School of Mathematics and Statistics.

Rod Dewsbury, Associate Director, HR Policy and Planning, said he was pleased that about 44 per cent of staff completed this year’s survey – up four per cent from the number of participants in 2009.

Rod thanked all the staff who had taken the time to participate in the survey.

“The healthy response means that the University can act on the results of the survey with the confidence that it is representative of all the UWA community,” he said.

The results of the survey will be available in November. A summary will be published in UWA News.

RESEARCH GRANTS
Grants awarded between 1/10/2012 and 19/10/2012

AUSTRALIAN ANTHROZOOLOGY RESEARCH FOUNDATION
Assistant Professor Hayley Christian, Population Health (School of): ‘Reviewing the Evidence of the Relationship between Dog Ownership and Physical Activity’ — $10,400 (2012)

AUSTRALIAN POWER INSTITUTE
Professor Victor Sreeram, Associate Professor Farid Boussaid, Dr Gregory Crebbin, Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering (School of): ‘Power System Emulation Hardware Platform with Interactive Student Interface’ — $38,123 (2012)

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY EX NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NIH
Winthrop Professor Jennifer Blackwell, Child Health Research (UWA Centre for): ‘Visceral Leishmaniasis in Bihar State, India’ — $119,760 (2012-16)

CHANNEL 7 TELETHON TRUST
Dr Corinne Reid, Winthrop Professor Michael Anderson, Dr Donna Bayliss, Dr Allison Fox, Dr Catherine Campbell, Psychology (School of), King Edward Memorial Hospital KEMH: ‘Project KIDS’ — $356,585 (2012)

GRAINS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Assistant Professor Kenneth Flower, Dr David Minkey, Plant Biology (School of): ‘Long Term No Till Farming Systems’ — $250,070 (2012)

LAWITJA INSTITUTE
Associate Professor Barbara Nattabi, Primary, Aboriginal and Rural Health Care (School of): ‘Development and Implementation of a Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood Borne Viruses Audit Tool and Protocol to Support Continuous Quality Improvement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Services’ — $80,000 (2012-13)

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA RESEARCH PROGRAM
Samantha Bickell, Animal Biology (School of): ‘Investigating the Effects of Stock Handling Training in Sheep Feedlots’ — $140,785 (2013-14)

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION
Associate Professor Robert McLaughlin, Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering (School of): ‘A New Tool for Intra Operative Tumour Margin Assessment’ — $200,000 (2012-13)

PRESBYTERIAN LADIES’ COLLEGE
Winthrop Professor Jennifer Gregory, Dr Susan Maushart, Humanities (School of): ‘Head, Heart and Hands: A Centenary History of Presbyterian Ladies’ College’ — $242,393 (2012-14)

UWA RESEARCH COLLABORATION AWARDS
Dr Martin Ebert, Assistant Professor Michael House, Calyn Moultou, Physics (School of), University of London: ‘Translational studies in radiotherapy treatment response – collection of quality clinical trial data and application of mathematical models’ — $12,000 (2013)

Dr Keith Stubbs, Chemistry and Biochemistry (School of), University of St Andrews: ‘Developing Tools to Gain Insight Into an Unusual Form of Protein Glycosylation’ — $12,345 (2013)

Professor Susan Prescott, Dr Rae-Chi Huang, Associate Professor Debra Palmer, Nina D’Vaz, Winthrop Professor Karen Simmer, Paediatrics and Child Health (School of), University of Sydney, University of Adelaide, Umeå University, University of Melbourne, University of Southampton, Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Cape Town,Philippus-Universität Marburg, Swansea University, Aga Khan University Hospital: ‘The International Inflammation (i-FLAME) network’ — $20,000 (2013)

Dr Steven Smith, Dr Wenxu Zhou, Dr Jing Li, Winthrop Professor Dongke Zhang, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering (School of), Chemistry and Biochemistry (School of), Plant Energy Biology (ARC Centre for), Chinese Academy of Science, Qingdao Institute of Bioenergy and Bioprocessing Technology: ‘Bioenergy and valuable hydrocarbons from algae’ — $10,000 (2013)

Dr Dimitar Azmanov, Medical Research (UWA Centre for), University of Sydney: ‘Next-generation comprehensive mutation detection in mitochondrial disease’ — $10,000 (2013)

Dr Etienne Laliberte, Plant Biology (School of), Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute: ‘The role of climate in nutrient retention during long-term ecosystem development’ — $19,528 (2013)

Dr Emile van Lieshout, Animal Biology (School of), Uppsala University: ‘Population divergence in female responses to sexual conflict’ — $9,424 (2013)

Dr Kathryn McNamara, Animal Biology (School of), University of Exeter: ‘Sexually antagonistic coevolution in genital traits’ — $18,510 (2013)

Dr Eric Howell, Physics (School of), University of Melbourne: ‘Probing the biggest explosions in the Universe: a multimessenger approach’ — $10,000 (2013)

Associate Professor Muhammad Hossain, Offshore Foundations Systems (Centre for), Korea
Advanced Institute of Science and Technology: ‘Collaboration with Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology’—$16,000 (2013)

Assistant Professor Peter Metaxas, Physics (School of), University of Southampton: ‘Modelling superparamagnetic particles for biomedical applications’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Danial Obreschkow, Physics (School of), University of Cambridge: ‘Watching the Universe Expand’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Ali Mozaffari, Social Sciences (School of), Universite Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Universite Lumiere Lyon 2: A Digital Humanities Approach to the Study of Living World Heritage Sites - the Case of Pasargad in Southern Iran’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Jean-Paul Hobbs, Plant Biology (School of), James Cook University: ‘The Importance of Hybridisation to Reef Fish Biodiversity’—$13,500 (2013)

Dr Monique Robinson, Child Health Research (UWA Centre for), Columbia University: ‘Maternal Prenatal Stress Exposure and Risk of Asthma and Allergy for Offspring in Childhood and Adulthood’—$10,000 (2013)

Assistant Professor Ionat Zurr, all: ‘Invasive species under climate change: economic impacts’—$14,120 (2013)

Bonnie Laverock, Associate Professor Matthew Hipsey, Plant Biology (School of), Edith Cowan University, Southern Cross University, University of Chicago: ‘How do microorganisms in the coastal sediments of WA control carbon and nutrient cycling processes?’—$16,500 (2013)

Dr Timothy Perkins, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (School of), Los Alamos National Laboratory: ‘Fast Bacterial Genome’—$15,300 (2013)

Dr Aaron Robotham, Physics (School of), University of Durham: ‘Building galaxies with trees’—$15,696 (2013)

Dr Katrina Easton, Sport Science, Exercise and Health (School of), Stanford University, University of Auckland: ‘Development and validation of a musculoskeletal model of a New Zealand White rabbit hindlimb and its application to the study of tendinopathy’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Maria Celeste Rodrigoz Louro, Humanities (School of), University of Victoria (Canada), University of Toronto: ‘Narratives from the past: Quotation across time in Australian, Canadian and New Zealand English’—$17,500 (2013)

Dr Attila Popping, Physics (School of), Columbia University, University of Cape Town: ‘Exploring the deep HI Universe’—$5,000 (2013)

Assistant Professor Seyed Mortaza Chakal Haghighi, Agricultural and Resource Economics (School of), University of Alberta: ‘Therapeutic effects of natural compounds on bone and joint health’—$11,500 (2013)

Dr Joshua McGrane, Graduate School of Education, University of Sydney: ‘The psychometric properties of pain: a collaboration to improve pain assessment in clinical trials’—$12,000 (2013)

Stephen Parker, Dr Yauhui Fan, Physics (School of), University of Washington: ‘Photonic Bandgap Cavities for Axion Detection’—$110 – 100 GHz Frequency Range’—$13,150 (2013)

Dr Lies Notaebat, Professor Colin MacLeod, Psychology (School of), Harvard University, Ghent University: ‘Resilience building at hand: Increasing adaptive functioning through smartphone delivery of positive cognitive bias modification’—$3,340 (2013)

Assistant Professor Ram Pandit, Agricultural and Resource Economics (School of), University of York, University of Leeds: ‘Forests, Environmental Services and Communities: Lessons from Nepal Himalaya’—$11,583 (2013)

Dr Mary Broughton, Music (School of), University of Melbourne: ‘A different song! = Sing with me!: Investigating interactions, development, and wellbeing of young children and their caregivers through action songs, using technology’—$8,000 (2013)

Dr Adam Rountrey, Dr Peter Coulson, University of Bristol, University of Tasmania, Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), Marine Futures (Centre for): ‘Recycling the effects of climate on fish growth in space and time’—$8,000 (2013)

Assistant Professor Grand Joldes, Dr Quyong Zhang, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering (School of), Queens University (Ontario): ‘Towards an image-guided neurosurgical system using biomechanical models’—$19,250 (2013)

John McCabe-Dansted, Computer Science and Software Engineering (School of), Australian National University, Tel Aviv University: ‘Tableaux for Variants of CTL’—$15,000 (2013)

Dr Einar Fridjonsson, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering (School of), Montana State University: ‘Collisions of solid particulate transport through porous media studied with dynamic Nuclear Magnetic Resonance’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Minh Tieu Huynh, Dr Alan Duffy, Physics (School of), University of Melbourne, University of Manchester: ‘Large Cosmological Surveys with the Square Kilometre Array’—$13,000 (2013)

Professor Kit Wong, Associate Professor Herbert Xu, Professor Tyrone Fernando, Dr E. Teng Vo, Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering (School of), Zhejiang University: ‘A cyber-physical-system-based networked control for electric vehicles’—$15,000 (2013)

Professor Martin Saunders, Professor Timothy St Pierre, Dr Killugudi Swaminatha Iyer, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Leeds: ‘Turning nanoparticles into nanomedicines: understanding the behaviour of bioactive nanoparticles in physiological media and cells’—$12,000 (2013)

Dr Timothy Perkins, Stephanie Bartley, Associate Professor Charlene Alder, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (School of), Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute: ‘High-throughput analysis of pooled transposon mutants in the important human pathogen Neisseria meningitidis.’—$15,000 (2013)

Professor Erik Veneklaas, Plant Biology (School of), Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile: ‘UWA-Chile collaboration on Mediterranean ecosystem conservation and restoration’—$15,000 (2013)

Assistant Professor Michael Considine, Professor Christine Foyer, Winthrop Professor Timothy Coimber, Palaeoecology and Evolutionary Biology (School of), University of Western Australia: ‘Roles of hypoxia in signalling plant dormancy and mortality’—$19,600 (2013)

Jun Li, Winthrop Professor Hong Hao, Civil and Resource Engineering (School of), University of Sheffield: ‘Energy sustainable wireless sensor networks for positive indoor health monitoring’—$11,000 (2013)

Associate Professor Christopher Power, Steven Murray, Physics (School of), University of Durham, Carnegie Institution for Science: ‘Building Model Universes for the Square Kilometre Array and Its Pathfinders’—$15,960 (2013)

Dr Graeme Zosky, Rachel Foong, Child Health Research (UWA Centre for), Cincinnati Childrens Hospital Medical Center: ‘Epithelial function and vitamin D deficiency’—$9,580 (2013)

Professor Colin MacLeod, Psychology (School of), University of Maryland, Kings College London: ‘Investigating the relationship between attentional control capabilities and the expression of anxiety-linked attentional biases across development’—$14,500 (2013)

Winthrop Professor Jiake Xu, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (School of), Nanjing University: ‘Therapeutic effects of natural compounds on bone and joint diseases’—$15,100 (2013)

Professor Ryan Lowe, Earth and Environment (School of), Deltares, UNESCO-IHE: ‘Vulnerability of coral reef-protected coastlines to a changing environment’—$12,400 (2013)

UWA SUPPLEMENTARY TRAVEL GRANTS

Dr Elizabeth Newnham, Psychology (School of), University of Western Australia: ‘Climate Adaptation Technology and Engineering for Extreme Events’—$345,000 (2012-15)

Dr Stefan Daniilishin, Physics (School of): ‘Supplementary Travel Grant, Tokyo 2012’—$750 (2012)

Dr John McCabe-Dansted, Computer Science and Software Engineering (School of), University of Western Australia: ‘Tableaux for Variants of CTL’—$15,000 (2013)

Dr Einar Fridjonsson, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering (School of), Montana State University: ‘Collisions of solid particulate transport through porous media studied with dynamic Nuclear Magnetic Resonance’—$10,000 (2013)

Dr Minh Tieu Huynh, Dr Alan Duffy, Physics (School of), University of Melbourne, University of Manchester: ‘Large Cosmological Surveys with the Square Kilometre Array’—$13,000 (2013)

Professor Kit Wong, Associate Professor Herbert Xu, Professor Tyrone Fernando, Dr E. Teng Vo, Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering (School of), Zhejiang University: ‘A cyber-physical-system-based networked control for electric vehicles’—$15,000 (2013)

Professor Martin Saunders, Professor Timothy St Pierre, Dr Killugudi Swaminatha Iyer, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Leeds: ‘Turning nanoparticles into nanomedicines: understanding the behaviour of bioactive nanoparticles in physiological media and cells’—$12,000 (2013)

Dr Timothy Perkins, Stephanie Bartley, Associate Professor Charlene Alder, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (School of), Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute: ‘High-throughput analysis of pooled transposon mutants in the important human pathogen Neisseria meningitidis.’—$15,000 (2013)

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LONDON: Newly converted fully equipped London accommodation (can sleep four) with panoramic views and excellent transport to Central London available in nice area of Peckham from one week to three months at very reasonable price from £410. Cleaning fee of £100 and 50% deposit required at time of booking with £500 damage deposit and remainder of rental due before arrival. Contact: mel@ophusnet.com.au

FRANCE – DORDOGNE: Holiday accommodation. Self-contained apartment in one of the most beautiful Medieval Villages of the Périgord Noir, Bléves. Train and all amenities. For more details see website www.blelves.info or contact Susana Melo de Howard on 9246 5042 or 0438 878 425. Email: susana.melo@trainingsite.info

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ACCOMMODATION

Family of four, two professionals with two small children relocating to Perth in December 2012-January 2013. Seeking accommodation either short or long-term, rental or house minding. Ideally would prefer a house, unit or similar with 2-3 bedrooms, preferably in a 10 km radius of Welshpool (Western Australian Museum Collections and Research Facility, Kew Street). Non-smoking with no pets. If you have any accommodation that could help them relocate, please contact Dr Lisa Kirkendale, Curator of molluscs, Western Australian Museum, lisa@uwa.edu.au

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The University of Western Australia

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Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association

Annual Elections

ELECTION OF WARDEN AND DEPUTY WARDEN OF CONVOCATION
ELECTION OF NINE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF CONVOCATION

Nomination forms are now available for the above positions. Associate Professor David Hendgkinson will complete his term as Warden of Convocation in March 2013. Mr Raoul Oehmen will complete his term as Deputy Warden of Convocation in March 2013.

Seven members of the Council of Convocation will complete terms in March 2013, and there are two additional vacancies.

Nomination forms for all positions are now available from Convocation. Please telephone Juanita Perez, the Convocation Officer, on 6488 1336, or email her on convocation@uwa.edu.au and include your postal address.

All graduates of UWA are automatically members of Convocation and entitled to vote and/or nominate for positions in these elections. For further information on the elections and the role of Convocation go to www.graduates.uwa.edu.au.

The closing date for nominations for all positions is 4.00p.m., Friday, 14 December 2012.

Applications received after this date will be invalid.

The University of Western Australia

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By Dr John Melville-Jones
Senior Honorary Research Fellow
Classics and Ancient History

As a Very Small Investor in a Very Large Australian Bank, I decided last year to attend an Annual General Meeting. It was not exciting, but I was struck by one thing: what the Chairman, the Chief Financial Officer and some of the other directors said was delivered more professionally than the average academic lecture.

It was not the first time that I had felt that non-academics (including some of our senior administrators who have not been university teachers) often perform better in such circumstances than learned professors (and are not almost all of us professors now?), even though academics might be expected, because they speak before an audience more often, to speak well and clearly.

In fact, however, academics are not always good speakers. We mumble, drop our voices at the ends of words or sentences, avoid looking at the audience and, worst of all, pepper our speech with frequent ‘Umm’s and ‘Ahs’ and ‘Uhs’.

Some years ago I became conscious that I occasionally ummed, so I began training myself out of it. There was no one to help me, because the staff of the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning remain in their House of Love, far from the scene of action, and do not attend our lectures, so this was an unfunded exercise in personal development.

After more or less succeeding in abolishing my Umms, I became more conscious of the failings of others (like a reformed smoker who rages against the evils of nicotine), and I now regularly use a personal Ummometer to check on what they are doing. The highest score that I have recorded is 170 Umms in 20 minutes. It was achieved by a postgraduate student, who would not count as a full academic yet, but might have ambitions. I am glad to report that he responded well to counselling, and at his next performance, the score during another twenty-minute presentation had been reduced to 19.

Some time ago I attended a meeting of the Faculty of Arts. On this occasion I recorded 49 Umms in 10 minutes from a Winthrop Professor. This might be considered a normal performance. I have not been brave enough to offer counselling to this person.

There are different kinds of Umm. There is the Introductory Umm – the speaker prefaces what is about to be said with a loud UMM or AHM, keeping the audience waiting (it might also be called the Anticipatory or Basic Umm, of which ‘Basically …’ or ‘Well …’ are alternative forms). A variant of this is the even louder Prelusive or Predatory UMM, which is employed when a discussion is in progress, and the ummer wants to be heard before anyone else (I acknowledge with gratitude the contribution of Dr Patrick O’Sullivan of the University of Canterbury, who suggested the second descriptive term to me). Again, there is the smaller Umm or Uh that recurs at frequent intervals because the speaker is tense (it would be interesting to see the score, if Hansard and others had recorded every Umm or Uh uttered at the time of the last election by the man who aspired to become Australia’s Prime Umm, although he has now, as his confidence increases, reduced his Umming considerably). Then there is the simple punctuatory Umm or Uh, placed where one would expect to find a comma or a full stop in a written text. Finally, there is the post-joculatory Umm, which is preceded by an attempt at humour which the speaker realises is not funny, and is followed by a short silence during which no one laughs.

My fellow academics, now that I have drawn this matter to your attention, listen to what your peers do, notice, perhaps even count and classify, their Umms, and try to control your own speech. You have nothing to lose but your Umms.