Drinking water for up to 1.9 billion people globally at threat from climate change

New research from a team of 32 scientists around the world, including a glaciologist from Royal Holloway, University of London, has found that water resource systems derived from mountain glaciers are under threat, potentially impacting up to 1.9 billion people across the world.

These systems, known as mountain water towers, receive and store water via glaciers, snow packs, lakes and streams. The systems supply drinking water, water for irrigation, power generation and other invaluable water resources to roughly a quarter of the world's population.

The study provides evidence that global mountain water towers are at risk, in many cases critically, due to the threats of climate change, growing populations, mismanagement of water resources, and other geopolitical factors.

Click here for the full story.
Royal Holloway’s Science Festival will be returning to campus on Saturday 7 March from 10am-4pm to celebrate British Science Week with a day of science exploration and discovery.

The university has a thriving science community, with world-class pioneering research, and the Science Festival is a great opportunity for everyone to come along and discover some of the amazing things taking place on campus.

In an evolving world, science is at the heart of our future and Royal Holloway is committed to engaging the next generation in science. From birds of prey and steam engines to robots and biological energy, and from virtual reality and dark matter, to conservation and DIY earthquakes, the Science Festival will be an exciting day of entertaining and educational talks and hands on activities. Admission is free and no booking is required.

Find out more.

Royal Holloway students win Cyber Crime Cup

Students from Royal Holloway have won The Cyber Crime Cup™ 2019, the first time a cyber security competition has been held live as a spectator eSport.

Organised by members of the British Computer Society (BCS), The Chartered Institute for IT and sponsored by BT, the challenge was to hack a fictional internet banking site. Each team started the competition without a bank account and had to set one up.

The winners of the Cyber Crime Cup were the team that stole the most amount of money - and team SegFault Squad managed to steal £27,000 in just half an hour. The winning team included Joshua Sawyer, Tom Bailey, Oliver Graham, Cameron Jones and Isaac Scarisbrick, who won £1,000 and said: “It was a surprising experience - a good opportunity to learn, and was very relevant to computing and to the future. It’s nice that we can showcase Royal Holloway’s excellence in cyber security too.”
Royal Holloway estate developments

Royal Holloway is continuing to develop its historic estate to provide a 21st-century campus that meets the needs of everyone studying and working at the university today and in the future.

In 2019, a series of public consultation events were held and the university’s estate development plans were shared with the local community for their feedback which was used to shape the proposals. In January, planning applications were submitted to Runnymede Borough Council for the Rusham Park student village and a variation to the use of the car park on the site.

The development plans shared at the consultation events are available [here](#). The planning applications are available on [Runnymede Borough Council’s website](#).

New Legal Advice Centre open to the local community
Royal Holloway has established a new Legal Advice Centre, providing free legal advice and information to the local community.

Student advisers can provide advice on issues regarding: contracts, landlords and tenants, family and welfare benefits. All student advisers are supervised by a solicitor.

The centre is based on the university’s Egham campus, and will be open every other Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm during term time only. Services are by appointment only - click here for more information.

Anna Jones awarded Honorary Doctorate

Anna Jones has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science, (Honoris Causa), by Royal Holloway for her commitment to empowerment and entrepreneurship.

Anna is an experienced CEO and board advisor, renowned as a prominent and progressive leader in the media and marketing sector. With a particular interest in female empowerment, she co-founded AllBright in 2017 - a community aimed at arming women with the tools to achieve their goals and build confidence along the way.

A former CEO of Hearst UK, Anna led a period of transformation in the business.

Speaking of her award, she said: “It’s such an honour to receive this award and to be recognised in this way. As my work is focused on women and empowering them to reach their goals, it feels particularly special to be granted the award by Royal Holloway, an institution invested in and built on the education of women.”

Read more from Anna.

Sound of an Egyptian mummy heard again

The sound of a mummified priest has been heard for the first time in 3,000 years, thanks to ingenious research by academics at Royal Holloway, University of York.
The sound of the 3,000 year old Egyptian priest, Nesyamun, has been accurately reproduced as a vowel-like sound based on the dimensions of his surviving vocal tract following Computed Tomography (CT) scanning.

The team transported Nesyamun from Leeds City Museum and then used a CT scanner to check to see if the significant part of the structure of his larynx and throat remained intact.

Find out more.

Holloway Notes community choir

Royal Holloway's volunteering team has launched Holloway Notes, a new community choir for adults with autism, social anxiety or a learning disability. The choir, which is funded by local charity LinkAble, is organised and led by Royal Holloway students who volunteer their time and talents to host weekly sessions on campus.

Phil Simcock, Volunteering Manager at Royal Holloway, said: “Holloway Notes gives people a great opportunity to have fun singing with others, make friends and learn life skills. The choir first formed in September 2019 and has already had an impact with its members growing in confidence and self-esteem which culminated in a successful Christmas concert attended by students and staff as well as the wider community.”

The Holloway Notes choir meets at 1.30pm every Wednesday during term time. For more information and to find out about how to join, please email us.
Royal Holloway is calling on local residents to join in the Kelly’s Royal Holloway Run 2020 on Saturday 14 March.

Runners will pass through the university grounds before leaving the campus to run through town and country before heading back onto the campus. No road closures are planned.

The run is set to bring together a mix of students, staff, runners, the public, local businesses and residents. The 5k and 10k routes will combine road and trail, starting and finishing at Royal Holloway’s Founder’s Square in front of Founder’s Building.

Royal Holloway has partnered with Kelly’s Storage Charity Events who are covering the costs for the event so 100% of all the money raised will go to the Cameron Grant Memorial Trust and Runnymede Foodbank.

To sign up, click here.

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**Local community webpages**

The university has recently updated its dedicated local community webpages at royalholloway.ac.uk/about-us/more/local-community. Members of the public can find out more about the wealth of events taking place on campus, including details of the weekly Choir concert and the latest free exhibition. People can also see what amenities are available for the local community on campus from the newly refurbished gym to a range of cafes. The site will also be regularly updated with the university’s estate development news.

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**Community drop-in session on 25 February**

Royal Holloway holds a termly drop-in session for local residents on its campus. The sessions provide an opportunity for individual members of the local community to come in and discuss topics of concern to them with a representative from the university.

Please join us for the next community drop-in session on Tuesday 25 February from 5pm to 6pm in the Event Space, on the ground floor of the Emily Wilding Davison Building. The summer term drop-in session will take place on Tuesday 19 May.

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**Community Matters is going digital!**

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As of September 2020, Community Matters will only be available to read digitally and will no longer be delivered to your door. If you would like to receive a digital copy of Community Matters, please email us at community@royalholloway.ac.uk

What's on: University events

Royal Holloway holds a number of events each year which are open to the public. Details of these events, many which are free, and how to book can be found here.