

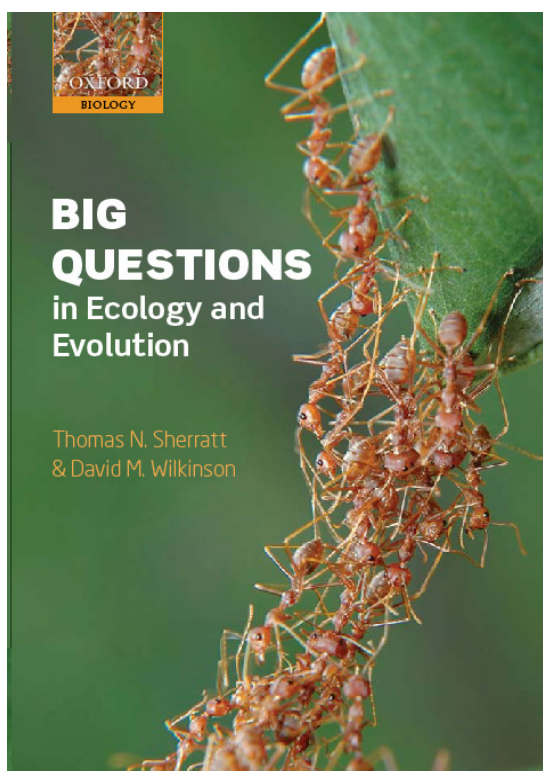


Above: measuring the velocity of the Morteratsch glacier using GPS.

### Staff and student research in the Alps

LJMU staff including Dr Anne-Marie Nuttall from NSP were involved in a project to take undergraduates into the field in Switzerland last summer. A paper on the research undertaken, co-authored with two of the undergraduate students, is now in press:

Stott, T., Nuttall, A-M., Eden, N., Smith, K., Maxwell, D. *in press*. Suspended sediment dynamics in the Morteratsch pro-glacial zone, Bernina Alps, Switzerland. *Geografiska Annaler*.



### Big questions in ecology and evolution

Dr David Wilkinson's new book, co-authored with Prof. Tom Sherratt (Carleton University, Canada), will be published in February 2009.

The book considers such questions as 'why do creatures age?', 'why is the world green?' and 'why co-operate?'.

### Keynote speaker

Dr Sally Woods was invited to give the International keynote address at the Harm Reduction Conference in Oslo, Norway 14 - 17 Sept. The Conference was organised by the Harm Reduction Section of the Norwegian Government.

Dr Woods' presentation covered the history and development of harm reduction, Liverpool's experiences and lessons learned over the last 20 years. It also focussed on the forthcoming 21st International Harm Reduction Conference, which is being hosted in Liverpool in 2010.

### Grant awarded

Dr Fiona Simmons, Dr Cath Willis and Dr Anne-Marie Adams have been awarded £5227 by the British Academy to examine the relationships between phonological recoding ability and the development of children's literacy and numeracy skills.

## Forthcoming research seminars

**Natural science research seminars** take place every week on Wednesdays at 4.30pm in room 327, Byrom Street. The first speaker will be on January 21<sup>st</sup> - Dr Isabella Capellini, University of Durham. *Functional benefits and ecological constraints of sleep in mammals*.

**Psychology research seminars** take place every two weeks on Tuesdays at 1pm in room 323, Henry Cotton Building. The first seminar will be on January 20<sup>th</sup>, further details will be announced in the New Year.

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## Some recent publications from staff within the School

Jin, Y-T., Brown, R.P., Liu, N-F. 2008. Cladogenesis and phylogeography of the lizard *Phrynocephalus viangalii* (Agamidae) on the Tibetan plateau. *Molecular Ecology* 17: 1971-1982.

Forsythe, A., Mulhern, G., Sawey, M. 2008. Confounds in Pictorial sets: the role of complexity and familiarity in basic-level picture processing. *Behavior Research Methods* 40: 116-129.

Harrop, A., Tattersall, A., Goody, A. 2008. The reported rewards of part-time study. *Psychology Learning and Teaching* 7: 6-11.

Langton, S.R.H., Law, A.S., Burton, A.M., Schweinberger, S.R. 2008. Attentional capture by faces. *Cognition* 107: 330-342.

Maher, E., Harvey, A.M. 2008. Fluvial system response to tectonically induced base-level change, Rio Alias southeast Spain. *Geomorphology* 100: 180-192.

Montgomery, C., Fisk, J.E. 2008. Ecstasy-related deficits in the Updating Component of Executive processes. *Human Psychopharmacology: Clinical and Experimental* 23: 495-511.

Plummer, T., Bishop, L.C., Hertel, F. 2008. Habitat preference of extant African bovids based on astragalus morphology: operationalizing ecomorphology for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 35: 3016-3027.

Romero, T.M., Aureli, F. 2008. Reciprocity of support in coatis. *Journal of Comparative Psychology* 122: 19-25.

Simmons, F., Singleton, C., Horne, J.K., 2008. Phonological awareness and visual-spatial sketchpad functioning predict early arithmetic attainment: Evidence from a longitudinal study. *European Journal of Cognitive Psychology* 20: 711 - 722.

Sneddon, J., Rittruechai, P., Staats de Yanes, G., Howard, C.V. 2008. Seasonal changes in sweat-associated anatomy in native and thoroughbred horses. *Veterinary Dermatology* 19: 163-173.

Turner, A., Antón, M., Werdelin, L. 2008. Taxonomy and evolutionary patterns in the fossil Hyaenidae of Europe. *Geobios* 41: 677-687.

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This is a sample copy. If you would like your research news (papers, grants, conference papers, activities, etc.), included in the next research round-up please send details to Hannah O'Regan (h.j.o'regan@ljmu.ac.uk). The research round-up will be distributed to all NSP staff and students, and made available on the school website as a PDF.