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Creating a better, safer and greener campus for all.

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Your University

ALUMNI MAGAZINE • 2016/2017

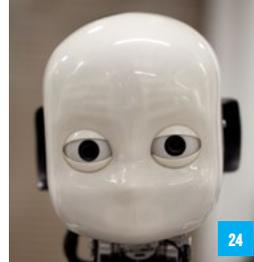
THE INSPIRING VOICE OF A NATION

MEET THE ARAB WORLD'S FIRST FEMALE
LEADER OF A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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A note from your editor



It has been a pleasure to edit the 2016/17 edition of *Your University*. Whether it's meeting our

alumni, attending reunions and events or hearing about your achievements and views online, it's been great to get an insight into the people that make this University what it is.

This year's alumni magazine sees the introduction of video

content for many of our features, which you can view online alongside all of the articles in this magazine.

Thank you for reading and I hope you enjoy the following pages as much as I have enjoyed putting them together.

Nick Howard

Nick Howard

(MA Print Journalism 2009)

Alumni Relations Marketing and Communications Officer

Read Your University online!



Your alumni magazine is also available online, complete with exclusive videos.

If you would prefer not to receive the print edition please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk with the subject: Your University Online, and include details of your preferred email address. We will email you when next year's edition is available. In the meantime, you can see this year's magazine at:

www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity

Welcome



I am writing the Welcome to this year's edition of *Your University* at a momentous time.

For our students who have worked so hard across all our faculties, there is an element of relief. Exams are over and we will shortly begin the process of graduations, when hopeful young people take what they have learned and the precious friendships they have formed and go out to make their future in the world. It is always a deeply moving moment. I know without any doubt that these people, who become part of our global family of alumni, use their knowledge and strengths to be a great force for good in a world that deeply needs all they have to offer.

They also take with them a reputation and good name built over 100 years for excellence in education and a progressive view of the world. Sheffield University students and graduates put their education to work. They have been taught by those who believe that the world's greatest challenges need us to challenge our thinking and apply understanding. They and we want to make a positive difference, and we do.

But this year, they also graduate at a time when the UK itself is reimagining its own future, uncertain of what is to come. Our country has made a decision to leave the European Union, while still seeking to be an important partner in the world. It is a momentous moment for us all, whether we voted for this change or not.

And as is always true at times of transition, we are focusing on what must not change. Our University remains a community of international scholarship open to students from across the world, deeply proud of what our international students achieve when they are with us and what they go on to do in the world after they graduate.

Sheffield as a city has offered a warm welcome to international students and it will continue to do so. Our students from around the world celebrate their own cultures and friendships in many ways, participate in volunteering activities and enjoy festivals and sports in the city centre and our beautiful Peak District. In return the city is deeply grateful for the investment and vibrancy our international students bring. They see our students training to be architects, lawyers and engineers. They see the contribution

you make to our hospitals as doctors, and they know that you go on to serve the world in wonderful and important ways after graduation – taking something of Sheffield with you into the wider world.

Our research is also global, made possible by postgraduates and early career researchers from across the globe. Our Grantham Institute for example works with scientists, engineers and social scientists to address global challenges of environmental sustainability. Our work on energy, future cities, medical technologies and food security knows no geographical boundaries. Our industrial and research partnerships are a list of the world's great companies, and this provides a powerful opportunity for our students from all countries to learn from our links to global organisations such as Siemens, Boeing, Rolls-Royce and Santander.

Our University and Students' Union lead a national campaign to welcome and celebrate international students. We are now supported in this by 100 other universities, but the push began in Sheffield with students and a university who treasure our international family. The message is clear – international students and scholarship are welcome here.

Naturally we have concerns. Even as I write, University colleagues are working hard to answer the specific questions students from across Europe have about what specific changes will apply to them once the UK finally exits the European Union, although we know this process will take two years at least.

But my commitment to you is that we will continue to be the home of global scholarship which provides a superb education to the most talented people from around the world. I want to thank you all for your support in making this possible, and all I know you will continue to do to offer opportunities to the young people who will shape all our nations in the years to come.

**Professor Sir Keith Burnett CBE FRS FRSE
Vice-Chancellor**

Welcoming our new Chancellor

The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE, a Lord Justice of Appeal, was officially installed as the Chancellor of the University of Sheffield on 26 November 2015 in Firth Hall. She is the eighth person to hold this ambassadorial role and the first woman. Her appointment followed the retirement of Sir Peter Middleton GCB (BA Economics 1955, Hon LittD 1984). An alumna of the University, Dame Anne graduated with a degree in Law (LLB) in 1971 and received an honorary degree (LLD) for her substantial contribution to the judicial system of this country in 2005, the University's centenary year.

As Chancellor, Dame Anne is the Senior Lay Officer of the University; she represents the institution at special occasions, and confers degrees and other academic awards. "The installation of a new Chancellor is a wonderful and serious moment in the life of a university," commented Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Keith Burnett. "Beyond the everyday challenges of scholarship, it is a time to think deeply about the purpose of a university and to celebrate its success."

Dame Anne said her appointment was an opportunity to repay the University for what it had done for her: "The Chancellor has the opportunity to say, 'I represent one of the best universities in the world and I'm bringing you its values: hard work, devotion to education and an awful lot of humility but an inner determination to turn what you have given me outward to the public good.'"

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch our new Chancellor's installation speech.



The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE, the new Chancellor of the University of Sheffield.

Chancellors of the University of Sheffield

Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty 2015–
Sir Peter Middleton 1997–2015
Rt Hon The Lord Dainton of Hallam Moors 1978–97
Rt Hon Richard A Butler, Baron Butler of Saffron Walden 1959–77
Rt Hon The Earl of Halifax 1947–59
Rt Hon The Earl of Harewood 1944–47
Most Hon The Marquess of Crewe 1917–44
His Grace the 15th Duke of Norfolk 1905–17

■ Delivering a step change to tackle climate change

Substantial, long-term investment of £10 million over 10 years is funding the pioneering Leverhulme Centre for Climate Change Mitigation at the University. Led by Professor David Beerling FRS, of the Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, the Centre aims to revolutionise approaches to climate change

mitigation, and transform the evidence base needed to alter land management options for mitigating climate change and promoting food security. The vision is to develop and assess the role of enhanced rock weathering as a means of safely removing large amounts of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide from the

atmosphere to cool the planet, while also reducing ocean acidification. The plan is to deliver these aims through Earth system modelling, lab-based controlled environment experimental investigations and large-scale field studies, embedded with social science analyses of sustainability and public engagement.

■ Sheffield at COP21

For the first time delegates from the University took part in a United Nations Climate Change Conference: COP21 was held in Paris in November and December 2015. Researchers from the Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures, Energy2050 and the Faculty of Science joined world leaders and their delegations from more than 190 countries to share powerful messages about food security and sustainable energy. Our experts presented at various events on innovation, climate smart agriculture and the global energy

transition. Their evidence contributed to securing the international climate agreement that aims to prevent global temperatures going more than two degrees above pre-industrial levels. Professor Tony Ryan, former Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Science, commented, "The only way to meet the challenge of global warming is through collaboration and cooperation. And that is just how we work in Sheffield. We relish challenges because they provide us with the opportunities to discover solutions."

● Read more about how we're tackling climate change at shef.ac/tuosCOP21

Exploring hidden worlds

A celebration of the scientific research of Sir Hans Krebs (Hon DSc 1959) (Lecturer in Pharmacology 1935–45, Professor of Biochemistry 1945–54) took place at locations around Sheffield in the 80th anniversary year of his coming to the city. Sir Hans left Germany in 1933 after he was dismissed from his post at the University of Freiburg following Hitler’s rise to power. He initially worked at Cambridge before taking up a post at this University in 1935.

He received the Nobel Prize for Medicine/Physiology in 1953 for the development of the Krebs Cycle, which explains how life-giving energy is set free in cells by oxidation of glucose to carbon dioxide and water. KrebsFest explored his legacy through a series of public events and exhibitions, including talks by three of today’s recipients of the Nobel Prize for Medicine/Physiology, Sir Richard Roberts (BSc Chemistry 1965, PhD Chemistry 1968, Hon DSc 1994), Professor Jules Hoffmann and Sir Paul Nurse (Hon DSc 2005).

The University commissioned several art works as part of KrebsFest. These included a 28-metre inflatable E. coli bacterium, which was suspended from the ceiling of the Winter Garden in Sheffield



Left: Keith Robinson’s portrait of Sir Hans Krebs. Below: Luke Jerrams 28-metre inflatable E.coli installation.



and later Firth Hall, and a beautiful hand-blown glass mitochondrion, both by Luke Jerram, along with a portrait of Sir Hans by Keith Robinson. The portrait was funded with the generous support of alumni and staff through the University of Sheffield Alumni Fund and now hangs in the entrance to Firth Court, outside Krebs Café.

- Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch a time-lapse video of the inflatable E. coli being installed in Firth Hall. krebbsfest.group.shef.ac.uk

The Big Walk challenge



The Big Walk 2016 team celebrate their success in completing the Trans Pennine Trail.

- Read more at www.shef.ac.uk/big-walk and www.justgiving.com/thebigwalk2016

Students, staff and alumni have come together to raise funds and the profile of an important charitable cause as part of an annual challenge organised by the University – the Big Walk. In 2015, a team walked the entire 268 miles of the Pennine Way and raised over £86,000 for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension research. This year, the Big Walk was undertaken to support refugee academics and

students at the University. Two teams of ten walkers spent five days walking over 120 miles across England along the Trans Pennine Trail (one team from the east coast, one team from the west coast), meeting in the middle at Tankersley, near Barnsley, on 17 June. This feat was followed by a further 18-mile walk into Sheffield, when the 21 walkers were accompanied by over 100 friends and supporters.



■ Pioneers of flight

2016 is an anniversary year for two pioneering alumnae who led the way in the development of the science of aviation during the 20th century. In 1930, Amy Johnson CBE (BA Latin, French and Economics 1925) was the first female pilot to fly solo from Britain to Australia. She joined the Air Transport Auxiliary during World War II and ferried aircraft around the country. It is 75 years ago, in 1941, that she was killed when her aircraft crashed into the Thames Estuary. She is commemorated on the University campus through the name of the building housing the Department of Automatic Control and Systems Engineering. As a tribute to Amy's achievements, the University is sponsoring A Moth for Amy (design, right), a public art project and part of this year's Amy Johnson Festival that will see giant moth sculptures landing on buildings nationwide.

Above: Amy Johnson with her plane, Jason, a De Havilland Gipsy Moth, and Helen Sharman.



And in 1991, 25 years ago, Dr Helen Sharman OBE (BSc Chemistry 1984) became the first Briton in space. She was also the first woman to visit the Mir space station. She is now the Operations Manager of the Department of Chemistry at Imperial College, London, and became the President of the Institute of Science & Technology in 2015.

■ Year of Making 2016

In 2016 Sheffield celebrates a Year of Making, an opportunity to highlight all forms of making in the city and region. From advanced manufacturing to award-winning theatre, internationally acclaimed art and design, ground-breaking research and world-class talent, the celebration is also offering opportunities for local, regional and international businesses to engage with the cultural sector. Activities include a special piece of art called 'Fetched Home' by acclaimed artist and author Edmund de Waal (PgDip Japanese 1992, Hon LittD 2013), given to the University in recognition of its deep commitment to supporting refugees, a residency by artist Paul Evans within the Department of Physics and an exhibition celebrating the life and work of Annie Bindon Carter, founder of Painted Fabrics Ltd, in the Western Bank Library Exhibition Gallery.

Professor Vanessa Toulmin, Director of City and Cultural Engagement at the University, is Chair of the Sheffield Culture Consortium, which partners the University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University, the Chamber of Commerce, Made in Sheffield, The Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire and Sheffield City Council. She said, "Year of Making is our opportunity to provide a crucible of creativity for residents, visitors and the next generation of would-be makers, whether born here or wanting to make their future in our city."

● www.sheffieldcityofmakers.co.uk



■ The very best student experience

The Students' Union came first in the latest Times Higher Education (THE) Student Experience Survey of UK universities – for a remarkable eighth year in a row. The survey also placed the University as a whole third in the country for overall student experience. Sheffield is alone in having consistently been in the top three universities for the past three years.

Further evidence of the University's high standing was demonstrated by the THE World University Rankings for 2015–16, which listed Sheffield as 15th in the UK, 40th in Europe and 97th in the world. These rankings are the only global performance tables that judge research-intensive universities across all their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer



Inside the Students' Union on Sheffield Pride Day 2015.

and international outlook. The University was also ranked as one of the 100 'most international' universities by THE in a 2016 survey, placing us 99th out of 800 institutions worldwide.

■ Engineering centenaries

The Departments of Civil and Structural Engineering, Electronic and Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering will celebrate their centenaries in 2017:

- Civil and Structural Engineering are planning a series of celebratory events. Alumni are invited to submit their memories and photos of their time in the department.

Visit www.shef.ac.uk/civil, email Emily Howe at e.howe@sheffield.ac.uk

- Electronic and Electrical Engineering alumni and former staff are invited to attend a day of celebratory events on Saturday 8 July 2017.

Visit www.shef.ac.uk/eee/alumni/centenary, email eee100@sheffield.ac.uk

- Mechanical Engineering will be hosting a series of events and activities throughout the year. Alumni are invited to join the department in making its centenary year a memorable one. Keep an eye out on the department's dedicated web page for details of forthcoming events.

Visit www.shef.ac.uk/mecheng/centenary, email me-centenary@sheffield.ac.uk

■ 51 years!

Professor Mike Blackburn has retired from the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, having joined the University in 1965. He delivered his final undergraduate lecture on 16 March 2016.



■ Charter Day 2016

Alumni and friends from around the world helped the University mark its first Charter Day through a series of celebrations in May 2016.

These events commemorated the sealing of

the Royal Charter that created the University of Sheffield on 31 May 1905. More than 30 events took place in over 20 countries across six continents, including family barbecues, formal dinners and academic debates. The Vice-Chancellor said, "From just 114 full-time students in 1905, the University community now has more than 26,000 students and 160,000 alumni. Charter Day gives everyone connected with the University the chance to celebrate its history and international diversity as one community across the world."

- www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/events/charter-day

We Are Black and Gold



■ BUCS Nationals come to Sheffield

Held in Sheffield, the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) Nationals 2016 attracted over 6,000 entries from more than 100 universities, involving ten sports across seven venues. The University team collected 11 medals, including golds for medical student Lianne Sellors (Trampolining), the Men's Climbing Team and PhD student in Information Studies Penny Andrews (Ambulatory 60m). BUCS has agreed a deal with the City of Sheffield to host the BUCS Nationals for a further two years. The city partnership consists of Sheffield City Council, Sheffield International Venues, the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University.

■ Two decades of Varsity



2016 marks the 20th year of Sheffield Varsity – and the University of Sheffield was victorious for the fourth year running, with an overall score of 42 compared to Sheffield Hallam University's 35.

A record number of students took part over nine days of competition in over 20 venues across the city. The concluding event saw over 7,000 spectators in attendance at Sheffield Arena for the ice hockey final – the highest attendance at a Varsity ice hockey match outside North America.



The University of Sheffield.



■ Road to Rio 2016

Good luck to all Sheffield alumni involved in the Rio 2016 Olympics and Paralympics - whether it is on the field of play or behind the scenes. As *Your University* goes to press, we are waiting to hear if the following athletes will be taking part:

- Dami Bakare (Dentistry student), Volleyball, Team GB**
- Jessica Ennis-Hill CBE (BSc Psychology 2007, Hon LittD 2010), Heptathlon, Team GB**
- Kieran O'Malley (BA Management 2009), Volleyball, Team GB**
- Bryony Page (BSc Biology 2015), Gymnastics (Trampoline), Team GB**
- Jazmin Sawyers (studied Law and Criminology 2012–13), Athletics (Long Jump), Team GB**
- Ambwene Simukonda (LLB Law 2005), Athletics (400m), Malawi**
- Hollie Webb (BA Economics 2013), Hockey, Team GB**
- David Wetherill (BSc Biological Chemistry 2012), Table Tennis, ParalympicsGB**

● Visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/news for updates on Sheffield alumni taking part in Rio 2016.

Research in the News

A selection of research stories that have attracted attention from national and international media.



■ Apps can benefit pre-schoolers

A study led by Professor Jackie Marsh, of the School of Education, investigated pre-school children's use of apps and tablets. In homes with a tablet, nearly a third of this younger age group have their own device. Over half of them can swipe the screen, trace shapes with their fingers, drag items across the screen, open their apps, draw things, tap the screen to operate commands, exit apps and enter other apps, and turn the device on and off without any assistance. Professor Marsh said, "The study showed that the use of apps on tablets by pre-schoolers can be very productive, and foster a wide range of play and creativity. However, apps that contain adverts and pop-ups for in-app purchases can limit children's play. Parents should look for apps produced by broadcasters or companies that know a great deal about this age group."

● The research report is published at www.techandplay.org

■ Exciting times in SMA research

Scientists from the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience (SITraN) have joined a pioneering £1.3 million research project to find new treatments and a cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), the childhood form of motor neurone disease. Led and funded by the SMA Trust, the research consortium has two main aims: to further develop existing drug targets and identify new neuroprotective therapies to maintain function throughout the lives of people living with SMA; and to identify improved ways of delivering treatments in order to maximise the benefit throughout the body. Professor Mimoun Azzouz, Chair of Translational Neuroscience at SITraN, said, "The creation of this consortium brings together excellent SMA experts to further our understanding of the disease and accelerate therapy development."

● Visit www.sitran.org/research/spinal-muscular-atrophy

■ MRI targeting directs cancer-killing cells

An international team of researchers, led by Dr Munitta Muthana from the Department of Oncology, has discovered that MRI scanners, normally used to produce images, can steer cell-based, tumour-busting therapies to specific target sites in the body. The technology is being used to non-invasively steer cells, which have been injected with tiny super-paramagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles, to both primary and secondary tumour sites within the body. This targeted approach is extremely beneficial for patients as it dramatically increases the efficiency of treatment and drug doses could potentially be reduced – helping to alleviate side effects. Dr Muthana said, "The beauty of using the MRI scanner to administer the therapy is that you can also



use it for its original purpose, providing a real-time image-guide to ensure the treatment has gone where it is needed."

● Research published in *Nature Communications*, August 2015.

CREDIT: NASA, ESA, P. CROWTHER (UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD)



■ Hubble reveals monster stars

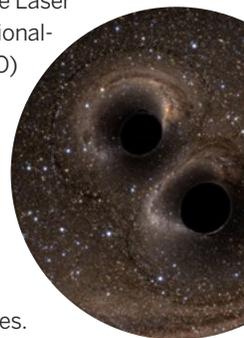
Nine very massive stars, which are each over 100 times the mass of the Sun, have been identified using the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope. The international team of researchers, led by Professor Paul Crowther of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, combined images taken with the Hubble's Wide Field Camera 3 with the unprecedented ultraviolet spatial resolution of the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph to successfully dissect the extragalactic star cluster named R136 in the ultraviolet. As well as finding the nine monster stars, the new study also revealed dozens of stars exceeding 50 solar masses. Professor Crowther commented, "Our work demonstrates that, despite being in orbit for over 25 years, there are some areas of science for which Hubble is still uniquely capable. The ability to distinguish ultraviolet light from such an exceptionally crowded region into its component parts, resolving the signatures of individual stars, was only made possible with the instruments aboard Hubble."

● **Research published in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 458, 624 (2016).**

The central region of the Tarantula Nebula in the Large Magellanic Cloud. The star cluster R136 can be seen at the lower right of the image.

■ First detection of gravitational waves

For the first time, scientists have observed ripples in the fabric of spacetime called gravitational waves, arriving at Earth from a cataclysmic event in the distant universe. This confirms a major prediction of Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity made in 1916. The gravitational waves detected were produced in the final fraction of a second during the merger of two black holes, which produced a single, more massive spinning black hole. The collision of two black holes had been predicted but never observed before. Dr Ed Daw, from the Department of Physics and Astronomy, is part of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Scientific Collaboration that made the discovery. He said, "Gravitational waves will propagate almost completely unaltered through entire planets, star systems and galaxies. They are so completely different from light. By detecting this signal, LIGO has uncovered a completely new way of observing the universe."



● **Research published in *Physical Review Letters*, April 2016.**

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch Gravitational Waves explained by LIGO scientist Dr Ed Daw from the University of Sheffield.

■ Aircraft 'bomb bag' limits on-board explosions

A bomb-proof lining developed by a European team, including researchers from the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering, has successfully contained blasts in a series of controlled explosions in the luggage hold of a Boeing 747 and an Airbus 321. The Fly-Bag, which consists of multiple layers of novel fabrics and composites, was tested under increasing explosive charges on disused planes. "Key to the concept is that the lining is flexible, and this adds to its resilience when containing the explosive force and any fragments produced," said Professor Andrew Tyas (PhD Impact Dynamics 1999), who is leading the research at Sheffield. "This helps to ensure that the Fly-Bag acts as a membrane rather than as a rigid-walled container which might shatter on impact. We have extensively tested Fly-Bag prototypes at our blast-testing laboratory, but the purpose of these tests was to investigate how the concept works in the confines of a real aircraft and the results are extremely promising."

● Visit www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch blast engineering explained.

■ Why birds never lose their colour

Sophisticated changes to the structure of birds' feathers creates multi-coloured plumage. A research team, led by Dr Andrew Parnell (PhD Responsive Nanosystems 2007) of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, has used the facilities at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in Grenoble, France, to study the blue and white feathers of the Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*). Feathers are made of a nanostructured, spongy keratin material. The X-ray results showed that holes in the keratin are fixed at very particular sizes. When light hits the feather, the size of these holes determines how the light is scattered and therefore the colour that is reflected. Larger holes create the colour white; smaller holes create the colour blue. Dr Parnell commented, "Current technology cannot make colour with this level of control and precision – we still use dyes and pigments. Now we've learnt how nature accomplishes it, we can start to develop new materials such as clothes or paints using these nanostructuring approaches."



● Research published in *Nature Scientific Reports*, December 2015.

■ Impact of melting giant icebergs

Melting water from giant icebergs, which contains iron and other nutrients, supports hitherto unexpected high levels of phytoplankton growth. This activity, known as carbon sequestration, contributes to the long-term storage of atmospheric carbon dioxide, therefore helping to slow global warming. A team of researchers from the Department of Geography analysed 175 satellite images of ocean colour, which



is an indicator of phytoplankton productivity at the ocean's surface, from a range of icebergs in the Southern Ocean that were at least 18km in length. The study is the first of its kind on this scale. Enhanced phytoplankton productivity, which has a direct

impact on carbon storage in the ocean, extends hundreds of kilometres from giant icebergs, and persists for at least one month after the iceberg passes. Project leader Professor Grant Bigg said, "If giant iceberg calving increases this century as expected, this negative feedback on the carbon cycle may become more important than we previously thought."

● Research published in *Nature Geoscience*, January 2016.



■ Mummification in Bronze Age Britain

A study is the first to provide indications that intentional mummification may have been a widespread funerary practice in Britain during the Bronze Age. Working with colleagues from The University of Manchester and University College London, Dr Tom Booth (BSc Archaeological Science 2007, MSc Human Osteology and Funerary Archaeology 2008, PhD Archaeology 2014), of the Department of Archaeology at the time of the study and now of the Natural History Museum, London, analysed skeletons from several Bronze Age burial sites across the UK. He said, “The idea that British and potentially European Bronze Age communities invested resources in mummifying and curating a proportion of their dead fundamentally alters our perceptions of funerary ritual and belief in this period.” The novel method developed by the team, of using microscopic bone analysis to identify formerly mummified skeletons, means that archaeologists can now continue searching for Bronze Age mummies throughout Europe.

A skeleton from Neat’s Court, Kent, provides compelling evidence that these remains were once mummified.

CREDIT: GEOFF MORLEY

● Research published in *Antiquity*, November 2015.

■ Discovery of an Anglo-Saxon island

The remains of an island, once home to a Middle Saxon settlement, have been found at Little Carlton, Lincolnshire, after a discovery by a metal detectorist. A team from the Department of Archaeology was brought in to excavate and record the site. The artefacts include over 20 styli, about 300 dress pins, a huge number of sceattas (coins from the seventh and eighth centuries), an unusual small lead tablet bearing the female Anglo-Saxon name ‘Cudburg’ and Middle Saxon pottery, some of which was from Germany. Targeted geophysical surveys and 3D modelling, using equipment purchased with generous alumni donations, have revealed the landscape on a large scale. “Far from being very isolated in the early medieval period, Lincolnshire was actually connected in a much wider world network, with trade spanning the whole of the North Sea,” said Dr Hugh Willmott. “This little field in Lincolnshire is part of a connected European trading network.”



A sceat found at the site.

CREDIT: PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME



I love the city and
want students to enjoy
their time in Sheffield
as much as I did

My Sheffield

In February 2016 Dan Walker (BA History 1998, MA Journalism Studies 1999) replaced Bill Turnbull on BBC Breakfast. We caught up with Dan to reflect on his exceptional broadcasting career and memories of his time at the University.

What have been the highlights of your career as a presenter and broadcaster so far?

It's genuinely hard to pick. I feel very privileged to do the job I do. It's a real responsibility to wake up the nation on *BBC Breakfast* and, with my sport hat on, I get to travel the world presenting top-level events and interviewing some of the biggest names going. If you asked me to pick one or two I'd choose spending Christmas in Camp Bastion with the British troops a few years ago. That was for a TV and radio documentary. I met some truly amazing people there and the prime minister turned up on a helicopter half way through too.

I also filmed a documentary in Auschwitz with the former Chelsea manager Avram Grant. He'd lost 15 members of his family there and that is the most emotional thing I've ever been involved with. His testimony was so powerful and I don't think you can visit a place like Auschwitz and not be changed by it.

At the complete opposite end of the scale I have also gone out in the first round of *Celebrity Pointless* twice – but let's not talk about that.

Why is it important for alumni to continue to be connected with the University after graduation?

Like the *Breakfast* job, staying connected to the University always felt natural. I had some of the best years of my life in Sheffield (I even met my wife here) so it was always a special place.

We moved back to Sheffield with our kids about five years ago and I am now involved with the Elite Sports Performance Scheme and am hoping to get some sort of bursary scheme up and running with the Journalism Department as I did an MA in Broadcast Journalism after finishing my BA in History.

I love the city and want students to enjoy their time in Sheffield as much as I did.

What memories stand out from your time at the University?

So many! I loved playing for the University football team. I'm still friends with loads of the lads from there and the guys who lived in Earnshaw Hall. I ended up being best man at my roommate's wedding!

I do remember a gigantic snowball fight with neighbouring Sorby Hall late one night. Their lacrosse players started flinging ice balls, which got a little painful, so we invaded their hall and filled reception with about a foot of snow. We got chased up the hill by a security guard but thankfully he was more of a sprinter than a long-distance runner.

I also helped set up Sure FM (which was the University radio station) in my final year and hosted loads of shows on there. That was invaluable experience and I still have the tapes somewhere.

What advice would you give to your first-year self if you were able to go back in time?

That is a good one. I never really got out into the Peak District – which was a bit of a miss – but I think I would tell myself that dressing up in medieval outfits and giving lectures to fellow students from GCSE revision books is probably not the best way to revise for a crucial history exam. Thankfully I worked that out after year one.

I'd also tell myself to enjoy the wonders of Scott's Pantry sandwich shop. I only discovered it in my second year. ■

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to read the full interview.



Transforming our Public Spaces

The Diamond.

Anyone who has ever studied or worked at the University of Sheffield will know that there are some fantastic buildings – old and new – but that the campus itself is not the easiest one to negotiate. Intersected by two major roads – Western Bank and Upper Hanover Street – getting from A to B can sometimes be a bit of a challenge.

That is why, as part of the University's 10-year masterplan, we have embarked on a major programme to improve the public spaces in and around the Portobello area of the campus. Working closely with Sheffield City Council, the University has secured just under £3 million from the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund, which, along with just over £5 million of our own funds, will see a radical transformation of many of the spaces around the campus.

Key to the first stage of the work is the ambition to open up the campus, making it much more welcoming to the people of Sheffield, as well as creating a better, safer and greener environment for students and staff. There will be new and improved crossings on Western Bank and Upper Hanover Street, pedestrianisation of a number of smaller roads, new cycle routes, more trees and plants, and pieces of public art.

Many alumni will have developed a taste for Henderson's Relish, Sheffield's very own spicy sauce, during their time in the city, and the old Henderson's factory is at the centre of our plans for a new vibrant social hub. Purchased by the University in 2015, work is underway to transform this much-loved landmark into a pub with the original house at the centre.

Scheduled to open in summer 2017, this new development will create a great place to chat and socialise. A collection of the Henderson's special label bottles – including the one produced to >>



mark the Tour de Yorkshire in 2014 – will be on permanent display, along with many other artefacts charting some key moments of the firm's history. The extensive menu will, naturally, include a selection of pies with a dash of Hendo's on the side!

On the other side of Leavygreave Road is Jessop West, home to several departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities as well as Blackwell's bookshop. The Jessop Plaza has been enhanced by a new sculpture by Broadbent Studios. Inspired by Sheffield's little mesters – many of whom were situated around what is now the University campus – these two giant ladles, formed from steel and surrounded by plants and trees, offer a peaceful haven.

At the other side of the plaza is the Diamond, which opened in September 2015. With a total spend of £86 million, this represents our largest investment in teaching and learning. The six-storey

building provides specialist engineering teaching facilities as well as lecture theatres, seminar rooms, and library and IT services for all academic disciplines.

The Diamond has quickly become one of the best-used buildings on campus and its development was a big driver for the work on improving the University's public spaces. Keith Lilley, Director of Estates and

Facilities Management, explained, "We knew the Diamond would lead to a big increase in the numbers of students and staff moving around this part of the campus, and an important part of the public spaces

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It's clear that the Diamond is already having a major impact on attracting students



Above: The old Henderson's factory.

Left and below: Artist's impressions of how the new pub might look.



element of the masterplan was to ensure that they could do so safely and in a high-quality environment. Sheffield already has some of the best public spaces in the UK and we wanted to make sure that the University campus achieves the same high standards.

"Engineering undergraduate applications rose by 24 per cent in 2015/16 and it's clear that the Diamond is already having a major impact on attracting students to the University. Once the work on our public spaces is completed, we'll be providing an even better place for all our students and staff, as well as the wider Sheffield public." ■

● www.shef.ac.uk/campusmasterplan

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch a video explaining the new developments.

A Real Impact on Lives in our City

The School of Law's pro bono programme not only gives students a great grounding in clinical legal education but also has a real, positive impact on the lives of people in Sheffield.



Bartolomé House, home of the School of Law.

As a university with proud civic roots, serving the local community is an integral part of what we do. With the support of alumni, the School of Law's pro bono (for the public good) programme has grown to involve over 200 student volunteers, accessing a range of opportunities to develop their legal skills in a practical setting while engaging with people from across the city.

One such opportunity is South Yorkshire Refugee Law and Justice, which forms part of the City of Sanctuary Sheffield movement and provides advice to asylum seekers whose claims have been refused and who are therefore ineligible for legal aid. Students provide support to

qualified immigration lawyers who advise the asylum seekers on a voluntary basis.

Another of the School's six external partners is the Sheffield Personal Support Unit (PSU) at the Sheffield Combined Court Centre. The PSU supports people going through the court process without legal representation and Jo Wardle, PSU Coordinator, is grateful for the students' contribution: "Our student volunteers are the beating heart of our organisation. The University of Sheffield is one of our key partners and each September we are inundated with Law students wanting to join our team."

The Law School is also home to four in-house projects including the FreeLaw legal clinic, which provides free legal advice to staff,

students and members of the public and is the School's largest pro bono project, having dealt with more than 120 cases in the last year alone.

Annabel Moore (LLB Law 2015) was involved with FreeLaw as a student and now has a training contract with Hill Dickinson LLP: "The FreeLaw clinic opened my eyes to how daunting the legal world can be for a lay person. Being able to offer them support and advice was a real privilege."

The pro bono programme was set up by Professor Claire McGourlay (PhD Law 2002) in 2006, and its expansion over the last three years has been overseen by Professor Sarah Blandy, Director of Civic Engagement at the School of Law, who says, "There is no doubt that pro bono work enhances students' employability, and develops legal and transferable skills. We actively encourage our students to give back to the city-wide community, and their activities are helping us to build the School's identity and enhance our reputation." ■

● www.shef.ac.uk/law

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch an interview with Professors Sarah Blandy and Claire McGourlay.

Engaging Communities

Over 4,500 miles south of Sheffield, and standing 19,341 feet above sea level, Mount Kilimanjaro in north eastern Tanzania is Africa's highest mountain, and the University of Sheffield has its own special place in the history of this spectacular region.



In the mid-1950s, geologists from the University of Sheffield undertook a series of expeditions to Kilimanjaro, first exploring its upper reaches and then returning to lower altitudes to complete a geological survey of the mountain. Their research was published in *Nature* in October 1956 and one of the team's bases, at 14,800 feet, even retains the 'Sheffield Camp' name to this day.

Sixty years later, the University is once again having a positive impact on the area, while giving students the chance to enhance their studies with experience in the field, through a new social enterprise.

The SIDshare/KEDA Alumni Field Centre is a joint venture designed to create a source of income to support the international development projects of SIDshare and KEDA. SIDshare – led by its Director Dr Deborah Sporton (BA Geography 1986, PhD Geography 1990), Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography, is a student-run social

enterprise that operates as a non-governmental organisation (NGO) seeking to promote engagement and partnerships in international development. Grass-roots NGO Kilimanjaro Environmental Development Association (KEDA) focuses on sustainable environmental and social development in the Kilimanjaro Region. It aims to alleviate both poverty and environmental degradation in the area, alongside its sister organisation, Community Economic Development Empowerment (CEDE).

The Field Centre is located in the village of Njia'panda close to Himo Junction, which lies at the base of Kilimanjaro, in the Moshi rural district of the Kilimanjaro Region. The community here has suffered from the high rates of unemployment and poverty associated with many rural areas of East Africa, and so the recent building of the Field Centre brought some much-needed stimulus into the area. >>



Mount Kilimanjaro provides a spectacular backdrop to the SIDshare/KEDA Alumni Field Centre in the village of Njia'panda, close to Himo Junction, Tanzania.



Dr Sporton lists some of the initial benefits, saying, “We employed 50 people from the local area on the build and retained a couple of them who continue to work on-site alongside a cook, full-time manager, maintenance man, cleaner and another two cooks for when we have a field class visiting.

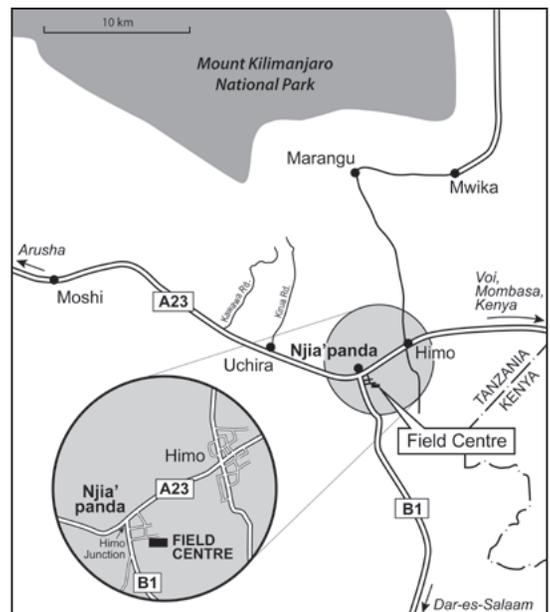
“All of the furniture, furnishings, murals and artwork were sourced locally. We commissioned 32 beds from a local carpenter, bought fabric for the curtains from the local market and we source food from local smallholders supported by the NGO.”

Planning for the project started in 2012 with early alumni donations, but it was not until Dr Sporton was introduced to supporter of the University of Sheffield and Tanzanian Murt Merali that the idea began to develop into a reality. Mr Merali donated £10,500 towards the Field Centre, which also received a small contribution from the University’s Department of Geography, a £10,000 grant from the Alumni Fund and a plot of land donated by KEDA.

“As someone who has lived and worked in Sheffield for many years, I have always had a deep respect and admiration for the work of the University – particularly its research in medicine and in international development. When I heard about the Field Centre project it was of great interest to me as I was born in Tanzania and still regularly visit the country. I was delighted to make a donation through the Sanita Merali Trust to help this initiative as not only will it benefit Sheffield students but it will also have a real

impact in the local community in Kilimanjaro Region,” says Mr Merali.

Students from Sheffield have helped to market, fundraise for and run the Field Centre, and have been working on a range of research projects in collaboration with KEDA to ensure that their work is relevant to the local community.



Map showing the location of the SIDshare/KEDA Alumni Field Centre.



All of the furniture, furnishings, murals and artwork were sourced locally. We commissioned 32 beds from a local carpenter, bought fabric for the curtains from the local market and we source food from local smallholders

Left to right:
Students
undertake
field work at
the Centre.
SIDshare/
KEDA Alumni
Field Centre.
Students in
Himo Town.



Dr Sporton explains, “All of our students are actively working with the NGO to deliver their research projects, which range from studying the decline in smallholder coffee production and within that the role of the Kilimanjaro Region as a coffee producer, to the dramatic decline in tourism numbers due to the perceived threats of terrorism and health issues in Africa, such as Ebola.

“They have also gained practical experience of working with communities in economically developing regions. For instance, the Water Committee Manager has asked our students to come and help manage the village’s water, which has allowed them to learn about water scarcity and also contribute to the allocation and scheduling of water supply.”

The first group of students visited in 2016 and have been engaging with the community on a number of local development projects, including a bee-keeping project, which has seen training and equipment given to local people on bee keeping and honey collection. A marketing programme is being developed alongside the training, and the honey is being packaged and sold to various locations, including the Field Centre itself.

Joanna Moody, Field Centre Marketing Officer and one of the first students to visit the site in summer 2015, comments, “Being able to gain an overview of a local NGO’s work within the community was invaluable for my work. As a geography undergraduate this has given me more

determination to pursue my interests in international development, and has given me personal perspective on modules I take in this area.

“The opportunity that this Field Centre has created for a mutually beneficial relationship between the University and KEDA will help facilitate further success within the community projects, whilst giving other students a chance to apply their academic knowledge in progressing KEDA’s activities.”

Dr Sporton hopes that the Field Centre will be used more and more in the next few years, and there are currently plans to run IT classes and workshops for local people, host educational groups from within and outside of the University, provide tourism opportunities and even run a field class for alumni teachers in the future.

The SIDshare/KEDA Alumni Field Centre will ensure Sheffield continues to play its part in the development of the Kilimanjaro Region for years to come. ■

● Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch an interview with Dr Deborah Sporton and others at the Field Centre.

● If you would like to enquire about using the Field Centre, please contact Dr Sporton at sidshare@sheffield.ac.uk

The Life Robotic



Forget the threat of rogue robots as imagined on screen in The Terminator, Blade Runner and I, Robot. Thankfully, the real world is very different.

Our day-to-day engagement with robotics is having a positive impact on the economy and our society, influencing many aspects of home life and work practices.

Sheffield Robotics, through responsible, ethical research, is pioneering new products and processes that will transform energy, healthcare and manufacturing.

“I think we project on to robots our fears about ourselves,” says Professor Tony Prescott (PhD Machine Learning 1992), Director of Sheffield Robotics.

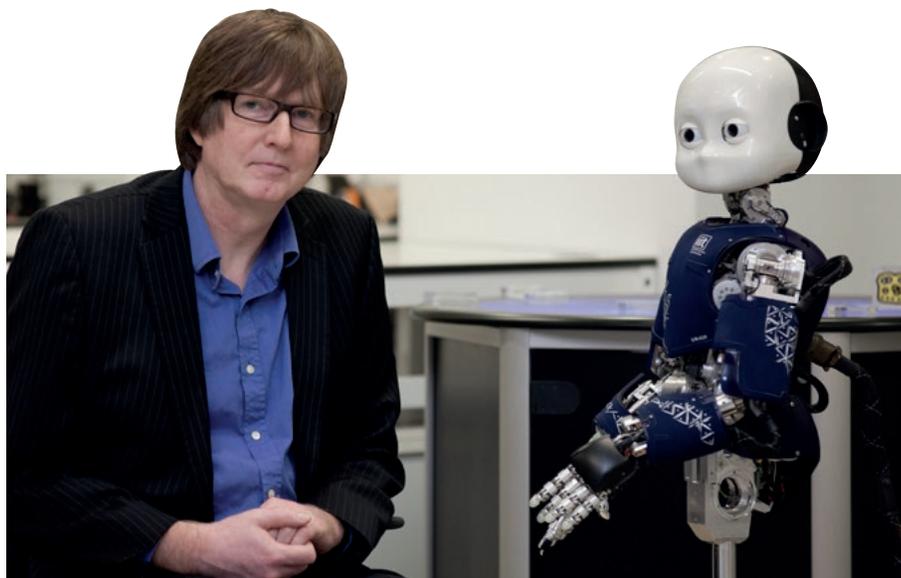
“Ultimately, the benefits hugely outweigh the risks, from using assistive robots to help our ageing population, to using them for repetitive menial tasks in agriculture and industry. They’ll be working alongside humans, combining our ability to think imaginatively with the computer’s capacity for memory, precision and speed. They’ll take some aspects of our jobs, but it will be the dirty and dangerous jobs, letting us focus on the things we are better at. They’ll also be going places we can’t, in terms of cooperative robots sent into hazardous environments too dangerous for people – whether on Mars or to a post-nuclear or earthquake disaster zone.”

Sheffield Robotics, based in the University’s Faculty of Engineering and involving over 100 active

researchers from across the campus and from Sheffield Hallam University, has a clear vision – to be a world leader in robotics. The institute is one of 12 founding members of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council’s UK Robotics and Autonomous Systems Network, which brings together this country’s core academic capabilities in robotics innovation for the first time. The aim is to encourage academic and industry collaborations that will accelerate development and adoption of this technology. Alongside this push, the researchers at Sheffield are studying human-robot interaction and the impact of robots on human society. The potential of assistive robots, our fear of robots and the challenges of creating robots actually worth talking to are all issues being discussed.

Tony brings his experience as Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience in the Department of Psychology to his involvement with Sheffield Robotics. His research includes taking a biomimetic approach

Professor Tony Prescott with iCub, the humanoid robot that has vision, hearing, touch and a proprioceptive sense, which allows it to coordinate its 53 joints. It can speak and interact with its world, and it improves its performance by learning.



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDY BROWN/SHEFFIELD ROBOTICS

– abstracting principles from nature to assist in the design of novel technologies – to develop robots with brain-like control systems. He explains, “By combining insights from neuroscience, neural network research and robot modelling we are hoping to understand more about how our brain works. This is the real driving force behind most of our work. Ultimately it’s about understanding ourselves.”

Engaging the general public in thinking about robotics is one of Tony’s key roles. He regularly writes and speaks on the ethical and societal issues related to robotics and advanced artificial intelligence technologies. He poses a thought-provoking question: “Our idea of self is intimately tied up with our notion of what it means to be a person. Is it conceivable, then, that one day we might attribute personhood to a robot with an artificial sense of self?” Maybe *I, Robot* isn’t so far-fetched after all. ■



We are hoping to understand more about how our brain works ... Ultimately it’s about understanding ourselves

Sheffield Robotics

Sheffield Robotics is supported by the UK research councils and the European Union, and manages one of the largest portfolios of publicly funded robotics research in the UK. Since its inception in 2011, the centre has secured over £20 million of public funding.

Public and private sector partners include Airbus, BAE Systems, Costain, Eglemoss Publishing, Network Rail, Rolls-Royce, The Science Museum, Sebastian Conran Associates, Thales and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Specialisms:

- field robotics (the development of robots for use in settings such as agriculture, search and rescue or mining)
- assistive and domestic robotics (alternative models for future health and care, and the implications of delivering care that has traditionally been within a hospital setting to the home)
- flexible manufacturing (robotic control, human-robot and robot-robot collaboration, and autonomous manufacturing).

www.sheffieldrobotics.ac.uk

[@ShefRobotics](https://twitter.com/ShefRobotics)

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- Watch a video with more robotics facts at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity

The Sweet Taste of Success

Three of our enterprising alumni have developed innovative start-ups, accessing the help provided by University of Sheffield Enterprise (USE) to allow them the breathing space to develop during their early stages.

A holiday trip to the Eden Project in Cornwall provided Natalia Welch (MA International Criminology 2012) with the inspiration to set up her business, Pura Panela. Panela is unrefined cane sugar, and its production is one of the most important economic activities of Natalia's home country of Colombia. She explained, "I was amazed to see a display of panela in the rainforest at the Eden Project, but they had no stock for sale. I spotted an opportunity to import it, to bring the taste of Colombia to the UK. I took my idea to USE and their advisers helped me assess its viability. I received first-step funding and I was encouraged to take part in the Enterprising Ideas Competition, and won the Business Concept Category and a £1,000 grant, which I've used for branding and my website."

Pura Panela – marketed by Natalia as 'Healthier and a balanced alternative to processed sugar' – was featured as a Start-up of the Year 2014 by the Guardian Small Business Network. Natalia runs the business, which started trading in September 2014, from a dedicated space in the University's Bioincubator: "My legal background has been very helpful, but my involvement with USE and the skills I've developed, the ability to test ideas and network with other entrepreneurs, have been fundamental to getting my idea off the ground."

Pura Panela is now part of the programme Cerrando Brechas ('closing the gaps') created by the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture and FEDE Panela, which is a cooperative of more than 350 family-run producers of panela. Natalia is the UK ambassador for the scheme. Her next step is to run a crowd-funding campaign to support the development of panela-based mixers and syrups.

The Bioincubator is also home to PHROOTI, an alternative to fruit tea that is made of 95 to 97 per cent real fruit and tastes as fruity as it smells. Founder Jerome Jacob (BA English Language and Sociology 2012) has also been successful at the USE business awards, winning the £5,000 prize for Business Start-up of the Year 2015. He was then named Cotswold Fayre's Young Food and Drink Entrepreneur. This success has continued in 2016: Jerome was one of 10 successful students or graduates from the 10 universities across Yorkshire to receive a Duke of York Young Entrepreneur Award.

"I have moved from the kitchen table to an independent base and the credibility that a registered business address gives me," he said. "My involvement with USE lit the touch paper. I couldn't have done it without their support, funding and networking opportunities. I'm working seven days a week, and am now finding that the hard graft is starting to pay off. I want PHROOTI to be a household name in five years."

Natalia Welch and Jerome Jacob.



USE not only supports and encourages business start-ups but also social enterprises. Launched in October 2014, All Ears is a hearing protection campaign. Its founder, Justin Pryce (BA Economics and Politics 2014), received first-step funding of a £250 grant, which he used to brand the campaign. With a small core of committed volunteers, he sells ear plugs and has established an accreditation scheme for music venues in Sheffield.

Justin developed tinnitus during his first year at University: "It was difficult to come to terms with and I had no knowledge of the condition. I wanted to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of using ear protection. I now have access to the Evolve Co-working Space at USE, and have regular business support and meetings with my mentor. The contacts and support have been invaluable in getting All Ears off the ground. I can see the campaign spreading as there is plenty of scope for working with venues in other cities." ■

Pura Panela www.purapanela.com
 PHROOTI www.phrooti.co.uk
 All Ears www.weareallears.org.uk

Evolve Co-working Space

A £10,000 grant from the Alumni Foundation, which distributes the philanthropic donations of alumni and friends, has resulted in the opening of the Evolve Co-working Space in the USE building. "We have now scaled up our

support," said Samantha Deakin (BA Journalism Studies 2009), Start-up Coach – Creative Digital Specialist. "We have room for 24 entrepreneurs at any one time. There are three advisers on hand and the opportunities for building

relationships and networking have increased. The impact of the new space has definitely accelerated business development, helping our entrepreneurs to move forward more quickly."

- Call **0114 222 4044** or visit enterprise.shef.ac.uk for details of how graduates can access the support offered by USE, with the potential to receive a £1,500 grant from the Evolve Fund.

- Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch a video with Natalia and Jerome.

Learning for Life

This year more than 800 alumni have volunteered nearly 10,000 hours of their time to share advice and expertise to support the University. Our alumni are passionate about giving back to the University and helping current students, and volunteering can contribute to the continued development of our graduates too.



Alumni and students take part in the Global Engineering Challenge.



There is a huge appetite among our alumni community to share their knowledge with the next generation. This, along with an increasing number of opportunities to support students and growing support of many employers to provide flexible leave or even travel costs for employees wishing to volunteer as a way of continuing their professional development, is one of the reasons more alumni are giving their time than ever before.

One example of the skills-based volunteering supported by employers is the Global Engineering Challenge (GEC), which sees all first-year students from across the Faculty of Engineering take part in a week-long project to design creative solutions to real-world problems. This year, we welcomed 38 alumni volunteers from a range of engineering businesses back on to the campus to contribute their experiences and knowledge to the students' projects.

The 1,300 students were divided into interdisciplinary teams, and the alumni – who had all graduated within the last 10 years – inspired them to put their learning into context and identify the skills needed in industry. There were valuable opportunities for networking, and our volunteers provided presentations about their own career progression, mentored groups of students about the development of their projects, and took part in panels to critically feedback on student presentations.

Hannah Brooker (MEng Structural Engineering with Architectural Studies 2015) is a graduate structural engineer with Cundall, a large multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy: "My employer really encourages staff to get involved in volunteering. I participated in GEC five years ago as a student and was curious to see how it had evolved since then. I think including alumni in the project week is a valuable addition.

"It's really interesting to hear the students' ideas and their justifications for their engineering solutions, and it's also a great opportunity to inspire future engineers. I will be able to include my experiences as evidence in my initial professional development record as I work towards gaining chartership. I would recommend the experience to other Sheffield alumni."

● If you are working in the engineering sector and are interested in GEC 2017 visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/volunteering

Introducing the Sheffield Alumni Volunteer Awards

The advice, experience and support offered by our alumni volunteers to current students is greatly appreciated by all of us at the University. We launched the annual Sheffield Alumni Volunteer Awards in 2015 to recognise their outstanding contributions.



Interested in volunteering? Visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/volunteering to find out more.

Roy Jeans (centre) received his award from Richard Mayson, Chair of the Alumni Board (left), and Professor Tony Ryan (right).

Winners 2015

Pioneering Alumni Award

For a recent graduate who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and enthusiasm as a volunteer: **David Naylor-James** (BEng Chemical Engineering 2010)

Alumni Leadership Award

A member of our alumni community who has shown exceptional leadership skills in their involvement with the University, often juggling personal, professional and other voluntary commitments: **Dr Trevor Richards** (BSc Chemistry 1977, PhD Synthetic Organic Chemistry 1983)

Sheffield Alumni Volunteer Project of the Year Award

Recognising alumni volunteers and staff involved in delivering an outstanding project, activity or event that has had substantial impact on its beneficiaries: **eMentoring Programme**

Sheffield Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award

A member of our alumni community who has demonstrated commitment, enthusiasm, inspired others and gone above and beyond the expected role of a volunteer: **Roy Jeans** (BA English 1979) *"Sheffield University opened my*

eyes to a whole new world of possibilities that was completely unknown to me before. My connection and commitment to the University is lifelong, and actually quite emotional, as a result. My award was genuinely unexpected and humbly received."

- Find out more about our alumni winners at www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/volunteering/why/volunteer_awards

- Visit our online magazine at www.shef.ac.uk/youruniversity to watch alumni speak about their volunteering experiences.



The Inspiring Voice of a Nation

PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHE BORTELS

Dr Amal Al Qubaisi (PhD Architecture 2001, Hon LittD 2016), who made history in November 2015 when she became the Arab world's first female leader of a national assembly, spoke to Your University about her work in preserving the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) architectural heritage, her career in politics and her warm memories of Sheffield.

In a recent UAE election, Dr Al Qubaisi ran to become the first female President and Speaker of the United Arab Emirates' Federal National Council (FNC). Located in Abu Dhabi, the FNC is the federal authority formed to represent the Emirati people. Dr Al Qubaisi says that as a citizen, and as a woman, she felt an obligation to take the opportunity to serve as a strong voice for the people of the UAE.

She is a leading advocate for women's and societal issues in the UAE, and has also shown a particular interest in issues related to education, youth, children's health, scientific research and national identity. She comments, "I regard myself as a strong advocate of the people of the UAE; its men and its women. My priority is to ensure that the FNC is a strong voice for our people, strengthening and protecting our national unity and integrity, culture and heritage, and actively engaged in addressing global challenges such as terrorism and extremism, poverty and climate change."

Prior to her political career, Dr Al Qubaisi worked with UNESCO to help document and conserve historical heritage sites in the UAE, particularly the conservation of the city of Al Ain – whose six oases sustained its development as far back as 2000BC. It was for this work, in which she helped to document more than 350 historical sites in order to gain national

and international legal protection for them, that she was honoured with an Abu Dhabi Award in 2008.

We believe that she is the only holder of a PhD focused on the conservation of the UAE's architectural heritage, and her studies at Sheffield helped shape the outstanding work she has gone on to do in the field of architectural conservation and then politics.

Dr Al Qubaisi talks of being fascinated with UAE heritage from a young age, inspired by the Late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the Founder of the UAE, who instilled in her an ambition to work towards preserving the UAE's heritage, and to celebrate its history and national identity.

This ambition transformed into a strong interest in architectural heritage when she started studying as an undergraduate at UAE University, and her architectural philosophy was further developed at the University of Sheffield's School of Architecture.

"The school taught me that architecture is not about imposing an artificial human construct on a natural landscape, but about building a sustainable human habitat that emanates from within the topography and culture of the land," she comments.

"The University of Sheffield not only contributed greatly to my technical and scientific education, but also provided an environment that welcomed and embraced diverse cultures, religious views and ways of thinking. This environment of tolerance and understanding gave me the opportunity to interact and learn from fellow students from all over the world.

"I would like to especially note the sincere support, commitment and highly professional guidance I received from my thesis supervisor, Peter Fauset. This support and the support of all of the faculty whom I met is indicative of an institution of higher learning that cares for its students and puts students first in everything it does."

She adds, "I will always cherish my warm and unforgettable memories at Sheffield, the charm and warmth of its people, the prospering and developing city, the highly supportive and friendly faculty at the University of Sheffield and the sincere friendships I had with my colleagues."

Her transition into the political sphere was driven by the same strong feelings of service to her country that fuelled her ambition to preserve the UAE's architectural heritage – a common thread in everything she has done. >>

Dr Al Qubaisi has served with the FNC since it held its first election in 2006 and throughout her historic rise she has taken a particular interest in education and issues affecting young people. Until recently she held the position of Director General at the Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC), a body that aims to develop educational institutions in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. She has established the Emirate's future education strategy of building the comprehensive ecosystem of a knowledge-based society. She has also overseen the introduction of a range of innovative new schemes in schools across the UAE, such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) innovation initiatives and the School Health Program, which seeks to combat obesity and prevent the development of diabetes among young children. She also recently played a role in introducing Smart Buses for schools, ensuring safe transport to education for thousands of children in the UAE. Her work at ADEC demonstrates her commitment to creating a knowledge-based economy in the UAE, helping all young people to achieve their potential throughout education and contribute towards the country's rapid development. In recognition of her continued dedication to the UAE and her exceptional work in government, Dr Al Qubaisi was awarded the UAE Federal National Award in 2014.

She has also taken a strong stance on anti-discrimination and anti-extremism in the wider Arabian Gulf and Middle East region, and has argued that offensive rhetoric only serves to deepen ongoing conflicts and prevents peaceful long-term solutions. She believes that education has an important part to play when it comes to countering issues such as discrimination and extremism.

She says, "Our universities represent our thought leadership; our aspirations for a knowledge-producing society and our hope for the future.

"Schools and universities are society's beacons for promoting and nurturing understanding, tolerance, acceptance and most importantly compassion. It is through compassion for each other that we find moderation in our views and balance in our actions.

"There is much that can be done and it is critical that education steps up and takes an active and leadership role in fighting discrimination and eradicating extremism."

Ten years on from her initial election to the FNC, she now serves as the first female speaker in the



The University of Sheffield not only contributed greatly to my technical and scientific education, but also provided an environment that welcomed and embraced diverse cultures, religious views and ways of thinking



UAE and the Arab world, determined to play a key role in the development of her young country, ensuring that the voices of women and all citizens are heard and reflected in the overall shaping of UAE society. Dr Al Qubaisi continues to lead the UAE delegation at international parliamentary and

decision-making meetings and conferences.

Her political career is a genuine inspiration to young women who wish to follow in her footsteps and seek positions of leadership, and her message to them is simple: "We have to work very hard to make a difference. Success will be measured by the degree to which we can influence and bring about positive and meaningful change not just for women but for all members of society.

"By being successful leaders, Arab women can show that great achievements can be fulfilled when society effectively utilises the talents of all its people; its privileged and its underprivileged; its talented and its challenged; its men and its women." ■

Dr Amal Al Qubaisi received an honorary degree (Hon LittD 2016) alongside 10 other esteemed honorary degree recipients and thousands of new University of Sheffield graduates in July 2016.

Alumni Board

The Alumni Board supports and advises on the effectiveness of the University's alumni engagement programme and other University strategies.



Alumni Board Chair
Richard Mayson
speaks at the 2015
Alumni Volunteer
Thank You Event.

Last year the University carried out one of the most far-reaching changes in alumni relations in its history, resulting in the establishment of the Alumni Board and the suspension of Convocation. The Board has been set up to reflect, as far as possible, the diversity of our alumni worldwide. Over the past 18 months the Board has met five times, three times in Sheffield and twice in London.

Among the major items that we have considered are:

- approval of a new University of Sheffield Alumni Charter
- alumni Volunteering Policy
- a review of the material handed out at graduation ceremonies

- scrutiny of the Alumni Survey
- a review of alumni access to University library facilities
- feeding ideas into the University's five-year strategic plan
- the usage and practical benefits of Alumni Membership Cards
- alumni consultation on the Learning and Teaching Strategy 2016–21.

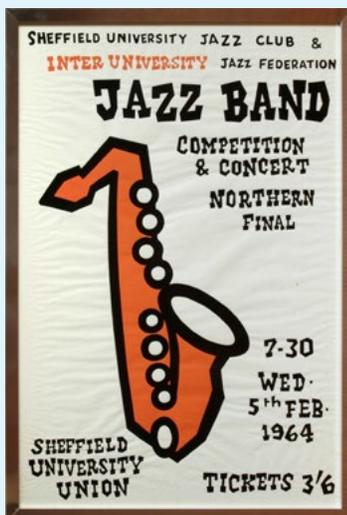
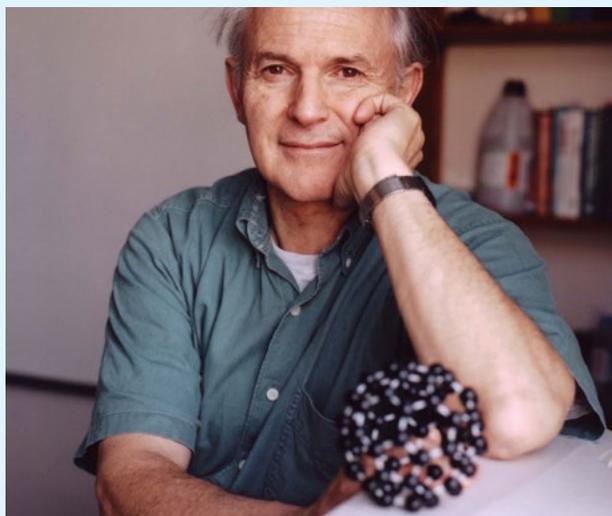
Future agenda items for 2016 include the establishment of the University Charter Day, a day of celebration for alumni and friends from around the world, and setting out a role for International Alumni Ambassadors. A copy of the Alumni Charter, biographies of board members and full minutes of our meetings

can be found at www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/alumniboard

The Alumni Board was established as an advisory body to work alongside the professional team in the Development, Alumni Relations & Events office. We all welcome your ideas and suggestions and I am very happy to hear from fellow alumni at alumniboard@sheffield.ac.uk

Finally I would like to pay tribute to Convocation, the body that represented Sheffield alumni for 110 years. The Alumni Board now inherits the Convocation Fund, which we hope to put to good use for the benefit of students past, present and future.

Richard Mayson
(BA Geography 1983)
Chair of Alumni Board



Far left: Sir Harry with a model of the buckyball – the spherical fullerene molecule which he discovered.

Left: An example of Sir Harry Kroto's design work, produced during his time at the University.

A Great Science Communicator

Professor Sir Harry Kroto FRS (BSc Chemistry 1961, PhD Chemistry 1964, Hon DSc 1995), a joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1996 for the discovery of a new form of carbon, sadly passed away on 30 April 2016. He was an alumnus, honorary graduate and firm friend of the University, and the naming of two centres on the North Campus – the Kroto Innovation Centre and the Kroto Research Institute – honours his outstanding contribution to nanoscience and nanotechnology.

Harry, as he was known, had fond memories of his time as a student at Sheffield. He joined the University in 1958 to study chemistry, but also explored his passion for design when he took up a position as the art editor of *Arrows*, the University's arts magazine. In his final year he was President of the Athletics Council after three years of

playing first-team tennis. It was also during this year that he married Margaret while the couple were both studying at the University.

After his PhD, Sir Harry completed post-doctoral work in Canada and the United States. He then moved to the University of Sussex, becoming Professor of Chemistry. In 2004 he accepted a chair at Florida State University,

Tallahassee. His research into allotropes – different atomic structures – of carbon was first published in *Nature* in 1985 and revealed the discovery of a third form of carbon (alongside diamond and graphite). He named it 'buckminsterfullerene' and the discovery won him the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, which he shared with Professors Robert Curl Jr and Richard Smalley.

Sir Harry was a wonderful communicator and educator, and worked relentlessly to share his passion with a wide range of audiences. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1990, was knighted in 1996 and served as President of the Royal Society of Chemistry from 2002–04, when he did much to lobby the government about the importance of chemistry and science in general. ■

It is with the greatest sadness that I have learned of the death of an exceptional scientist, graduate and true friend of the University of Sheffield, Professor Sir Harry Kroto. He carried out scientific research which changed how we understand the world. He also taught others – his Buckyball workshops engaged children all around the world to learn more about science – and he kept on working right up to the end of his life, teaching and inspiring others.

Professor Sir Keith Burnett CBE FRS FRSW
Vice-Chancellor

In Profile

Exploring the diverse group of people associated with the University of Sheffield.

Professor John Beynon FREng, FIMMM, FTSE

BMet Metallurgy 1974

PhD Metallurgy 1980

**Executive Dean, Faculty of
Engineering, Computer and
Mathematical Sciences,
The University of Adelaide**



Professor John Beynon has made a major contribution to metallurgical research, academic leadership, and developing links between research and industry. He was the recipient of the Bessemer Gold Medal 2015, awarded annually by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining for outstanding services to the steel industry. Before moving to Australia in 2005, he spent 10 years as a member of academic staff within Sheffield's Faculty of Engineering, first as Professor of Mechanical Engineering (he was Head of Department 1999–2001), and then Professor of Metallurgy and holder of the POSCO Chair in Iron and Steel Technology.

“Universities are critical, partly for their research but mainly for the quality and quantity of workforce that they graduate each year. Every country needs more high-quality engineers – and the quality of engineering needs to be the same wherever you live. You need secure and safe water and power supplies, and healthcare needs engineers to support medical practitioners. I have just completed a two-year term as Chair of the Global Engineering Deans Council. We work on engineering education and research at universities. It was a very stimulating experience, particularly working with both developed and developing worlds, the latter in partnership with the World Bank.”

Dr Evelyn Collins CBE

LLB Law 1980
**Chief Executive,
Equality Commission
for Northern Ireland**

Through the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, Dr Evelyn Collins promotes the vision of a society where there is equality for all and a common understanding of the benefits of a more equal society. She received a CBE in 2008 for public service, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Ulster for her contribution to the promotion of equality and good relations in 2014.



“There were a good number of staff at Sheffield who made a particular impression on me, including Josephine Steiner. She taught what was then called EEC Law and I found that fascinating, particularly how a European legal system could impact on the British legal system.

With the EU referendum this year and my own role currently as Chair of the European Network of Equality Bodies, this early grounding in EEC Law has been very helpful.

“The work of the Equality Commission is vital to improving people's lives in Northern Ireland, whether it is providing assistance to individuals with potential complaints under the anti-discrimination legislation or seeking to influence public policy in areas such as employment, education and housing. Although challenging, we are working hard to ensure we provide the best possible public services in the most efficient and effective way.”

Lucy Corne

BA Journalism Studies 2000
Freelance writer, traveller,
beer expert and blogger

After graduation Lucy Corne went on a long trip through South America and Asia, and began to write and sell travel stories. She completed her first Lonely Planet contract (to Angola) in 2009 and continues to write for the publication. Now living in Cape Town, she has developed a very successful blog that covers all aspects of South African beer (at brewmistress.co.za).



Lucy Corne, pictured on the island of Jeju-do, off the coast of South Korea.

*“My first big piece was in the *Guardian* – I had to send the piece on spec as I didn’t have any published work to show at that point. Then in 2004, I got my first guidebook contract – a first-edition guide on the Canary Islands for Bradt. That was really my big break and from then it became easier to sell stories. I’ve contributed to a range of Lonely Planet books now, including *South Africa*, *Southern Africa*, *Canary Islands*, *Africa* and several foodie titles. I moved to Cape Town in 2010 and wanted to diversify my writing. The craft beer scene was just starting to take off and I realised there was a real niche. I started a small blog for a magazine and gradually developed a following, later moving the blog to its own site.”*

Dr Urooj Mumtaz Khan

MMedSci Restorative Dentistry 2011
A Consultant Restorative Specialist at
Khan’s Dental Clinic in Karachi, Pakistan,
and former Captain of the Pakistan
Women’s Cricket Team



PHOTOGRAPH © GETTY

Urooj Mumtaz Khan bats during the ICC T20 Women’s World Cup Group B match between India and Pakistan at Warner Park on 8 May 2010 in St Kitts, Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Following her parents into dentistry, Dr Urooj Mumtaz Khan describes herself as “very career-orientated” and was keen to gain postgraduate experience in the UK. She was a member of her national cricket team from 2004–10 as an all-rounder. She now focuses on her dental career, but is also a member of the Women’s National Selection Committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board, and runs a coaching academy for young girls to introduce them to sport.

“I started playing cricket when I was seven with my dad, cousins and uncle. Being Pakistani, cricket runs through our blood, and whether you play it or not everyone in our country watches it. So cricket became my second nature. Women’s cricket has only recently started gaining popularity in the country. It wasn’t until the 2009 One Day International World Cup in Australia that we made headlines. We beat Sri Lanka and the West Indies to jump our rank up from eighth to sixth. The pinnacle of my career was finishing among the top two at the qualifying round for the World Cup in South Africa in 2008, and then the World Cup in Australia and captaining two historic wins in the tournament.”

Dr Andy Tickle

BSc Botany 1984

Director of the Campaign to Protect Rural England South Yorkshire (CPRE SY)/Friends of the Peak District (FPD)



Dr Andy Tickle became Director of the CPRE SY and FPD in 2013. The charity acts as a watchdog ('critical friend') to the Peak District National Park Authority, and represents the views of local people and visitors on developments affecting the Peak District. Sheffield introduced plans to set up the UK's first green belt to protect countryside from urban sprawl in 1938. And in 1951, partly due to the charity's lobbying, the Peak District became the UK's first national park.

"We're hugely concerned to see that the Peak District delivers benefits as a breathing space for the nation while providing rural livelihoods. We're a small

charity with a lot of work to do but the sheer variety of casework means it never gets boring. When things work well, often campaigning in tandem with affected communities, and you see off bad developments, it spurs you to think we can make a difference. Our main challenges for 2016 include making sure Sheffield's green belt isn't eaten away by inappropriate development. With the current relaxation in planning rules, we're very hard pressed to defend South Yorkshire's green belts and the national park. Sheffield folk are proud of their local countryside and for good reason, so we hope we'll get a lot of support for our campaigns."

Dr Neil Phillips

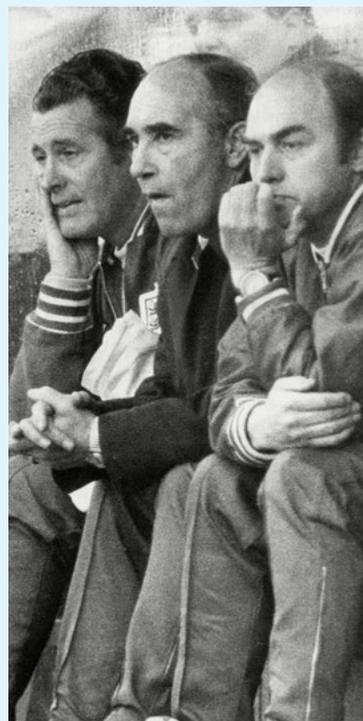
MBCbB Medicine 1955

England Football Team Doctor 1966–74

2016 marks 50 years since England won the FIFA World Cup in 1966, and the University of Sheffield has a special link to the famous squad. Alumnus Dr Neil Phillips, who died in 2015 at the age of 83, was England's team doctor when they beat West Germany 4–2 to lift the Jules Rimet trophy. He also served the squad as they attempted to defend the trophy in Mexico, and appeared on the BBC's Top of the Pops when they reached the top of the UK singles chart with their World Cup song, Back Home. He recalled his experiences in his autobiography, Doctor to the World Champions.

A keen sportsman, Dr Phillips enjoyed a very successful cricketing career during his time at the University. He was wicket keeper for the First XI, and served as President of the University's Athletics Council. In this capacity, he was one of six students chosen to take tea with HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh during their 1954 visit to inaugurate the University's Golden Jubilee celebrations. He was elected by his contemporaries to receive The Arthur Hall Cup, which was awarded to the best all-round final-year student in the Medical School.

Dr Neil Phillips (right) sitting next to England coach Harold Shepherdson and manager Alf Ramsey, 13 May 1972.



PHOTOGRAPH: REX/FEATURES

Dates for Your Diary

2016

Annual Alumni Reunion

Saturday 3 September 2016

On campus

Open to all alumni, the annual reunion recognises in particular those marking significant anniversaries since graduating from the University. The classes of 1991, 1986 and 1976 are the focus of our 2016 celebrations. The day will include various tours around the campus, a trip on the famous Arts Tower paternoster and a choice of a formal evening dinner in Firth Hall or a relaxed BBQ in the Students' Union.

www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/events/specialevent

Email h.meadows@sheffield.ac.uk

Pop Tarts Reunited

Saturday 3 September 2016

On campus

All Sheffield alumni are invited back to Bar One to relive memories from your student days at the one-and-only Pop Tarts Reunited.

Alumni Reception and Exhibition – Business and benefaction: the colourful life of Sheffield artist Annie Bindon Carter

Thursday 15 September 2016

On campus

An evening event showcasing the work of Sheffield artist and businesswoman Annie Bindon Carter. She transformed the lives of ex-servicemen returning from the trenches of the First World War by employing them in her company, Hand Painted Fabrics Limited.

Email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk

Alumni Volunteer Thank You Event and Awards

Thursday 6 October 2016

On campus

A special event in recognition of all our alumni volunteers and their contribution over the past year.

Email e.j.packham@sheffield.ac.uk

Heritage Circle Lunch

Friday 28 October 2016

On campus

A special lunch served in Firth Hall for those alumni who are interested in leaving or have left a gift to the University in their Will. Email d.meadows@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 1073.

Alumni Fund Celebration Event

Friday 4 November 2016

Firth Hall

Alumni, friends, staff and students join together to thank donors for their generosity over the past year, recognising and celebrating the achievements made through donations to the University. Email l.arnold@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 5598.

Alumni Sports Day

Over 200 alumni returned to Sheffield for our annual Sports Day on 19 March 2016. The football tournament attracted 24 teams, and the eventual winners of the trophy were Fly Me To The Moon, with FC 79 the runners-up. The Students' Union provided the post-match entertainment, with a pie and peas supper followed by a pub quiz and Pop Tarts Reunited.



Alumni Sports Day football tournament winners Fly Me To The Moon.

2017

House of Lords Alumni Reception

February/March 2017 (date tbc)

London

Join fellow alumni in the impressive surroundings of Westminster for this popular reception. Guests will also have the opportunity to go on private tours of the Houses of Parliament. More details to follow.

Sheffield Alumni Pub Quiz

April 2017 (date tbc)

London

The annual pub quiz is back for a fifth year. Who will beat their

Annual Alumni Reunion 2015

Beer tasting, the Arts Tower paternoster, the Media Hub in the Students' Union and student residences all featured in last year's reunion on 12 September 2015. We were delighted to welcome over 200 alumni back to Sheffield from all over the UK as well as further afield, including Belgium, Germany, Norway and the USA. The day was packed with tours of old and new landmarks on the campus, and plenty of opportunities to catch

up and reminisce. The evening gave two options – a barbecue in the garden outside the Union's Bar One or a formal dinner in Firth Hall, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and addressed by Dr Jeff Wadsworth (BMet Metallurgy 1972, PhD Metallurgy 1975, Hon DEng 2004). The festivities came



to a close back at Bar One, where guests took to the dancefloor for a special alumni Pop Tarts Reunited.

fellow alumni to take home the trophy? Invitations will be sent by email in early 2017.

Alumni Sports Day

Saturday 1 April 2017

On campus

Meet your friends back in Sheffield for the annual sports day and compete against fellow alumni in a variety of sports.

Email g.unwin@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 6966.

Pop Tarts Reunited

Saturday 1 April 2017

On campus

Continue the Alumni Sports Day celebrations with a trip to the Students' Union for a night of pop pleasure. More details to follow.

University Quiz Night

April 2017 (date tbc)

On campus

Teams of alumni, staff, students and friends are invited to take part in the annual quiz. More details to follow.

Email eventsteam@sheffield.ac.uk

Reunion Luncheon for the Classes of 1957 and 1962

Thursday 18 May 2017

On campus

A special event for alumni celebrating 60 and 65 years since graduating from the University. Invitations to addressable alumni from both class years will be sent out in the New Year.

American Alumni Reunion 2017

Saturday 20 May 2017

California

The flagship reunion for alumni in the United States will take place on the West Coast of America in 2017. All alumni based in the United States will receive an invitation and more details.

Email helen.rey@sheffield.ac.uk

Reunion Luncheon for the Class of 1967

Saturday 24 June 2017

On campus

Another special anniversary event, this time for alumni marking 50 years since graduation. Invitations will be sent out in the New Year to

all those from 1967 for whom we hold contact details.

Former Staff and Friends Event

July 2016 (date tbc)

On campus

A special event for former staff members and friends of the University, to include the showcasing of current research and a drinks reception. More details to follow.

Annual Alumni Reunion

Saturday 9 September 2017

On campus

Celebrating the anniversary years of 1992, 1987 and 1977.

Engineering Centenary 2017

Dates throughout 2017

On campus

A series of events to mark 100 years of the Faculty of Engineering will be held throughout 2017. For more details, see page 8.

- For a list of all our UK and overseas events visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/events/upcoming

Your Notes and News

1950s

Professor Greg Tegart AM FTSE (PhD Metallurgy 1959) was a finalist in the National Senior Australian of the Year 2016 awards. He is a leading advocate for smart assistive technologies that give aged and disabled people independence and a better quality of life.



A team of postgraduates from the Department of Metallurgy (left-right T Gladman, K Salmon, RV Pathy and KC Mills) with their float for the 1959 Boat Race, *Roger Bacon II*. Photo supplied by Terence Gladman (AMet Metallurgy 1956, MMet Metallurgy 1958, PhD Metallurgy 1960).

1960s

Jeremy Grantham (BSc Economics 1961, Hon DSc 2012) and his wife Hanne received the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy 2015 in recognition of their support for organisations that actively engage in communication and collaboration in environmental protection.

Peter Beach (LLB Law 1969) has been elected a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

Dr John Roberts (BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1969, PhD Civil Engineering 1972, Hon DEng 2006), the Executive Director of Operations, Jacobs UK Ltd, was the London Eye's principal engineer and is the Director of Brighton i360, which will be the world's tallest moving observation tower.

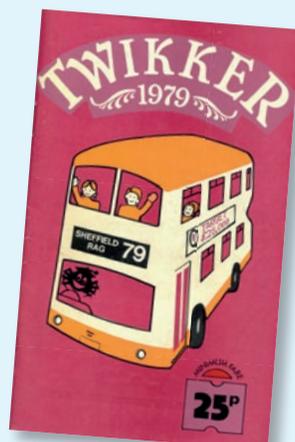
1970s

Professor Jeffrey Pollard (BSc Zoology 1971), the Director of the MRC Centre for Reproductive Health, University of Edinburgh, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

The Rt Hon the Lord Blunkett (BA Politics 1972) joined the House of Lords on 28 September 2015 and has taken the title of Baron Blunkett, of Brightside and Hillsborough in the City of Sheffield.

Sir Nigel Knowles (LLB Law 1977, Hon LLD 2011) has been appointed Chair of the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach GBE, KCB, ADC, DL (BA Geography, Economic and Social History 1977, Hon LittD 2007) is the new head of the UK armed forces, taking up the role in the summer of 2016.



The 1979 issue of *Twicker*, the rag magazine. Photo supplied by Dominic Ganteaume (BA Law 1982).

1980s

Simon Allford (BA Architecture 1983, Dip Architecture 1984) and **Paul Monaghan** (BA Architecture 1983) and their partners at Allford Hall Monaghan Morris won the



A party in the Junior Common Room, Sorby Hall, in 1964. Photo supplied by Steve Betney (BSc Physics 1965).

We are always interested to discover what our alumni are doing now. Here is a small selection of news from people who have been in contact with us or who we have spotted in the media.



Earnshaw Hall's rag float in 1980. Photo supplied by Andrew Gray (BEng Electronic and Electrical Engineering 1982).

RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) National Award 2015 and the RIBA London Award 2015 for Burntwood School, a comprehensive girls' school in Wandsworth.

Dr Christine Rigden (BSc Geology 1986, PhD Polymers 1990) was elected a Non-Aldermanic Sheriff 2015 for the City of London.

The Ven Jan McFarlane (BMedSci Speech Science 1987) became the Bishop of Repton on 29 June 2016.

Sue Threader (BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1988), the Chief Executive of Rochester Bridge Trust, received an honorary degree (DSc) from the University of West London.

Rt Rev Martyn Snow (BSc Chemistry 1989) became the Bishop of Leicester on 22 February 2016.

1990s

Professor Nigel Clarke (BSc Physics 1991, PhD Physics 1994) has been appointed Pro-Vice-

Chancellor for the Faculty of Science at the University.

Professor Christopher Dingle (BMus Music 1993, MPhil Music 1995, PhD Music 2000), Professor of Music/Research Degrees Co-ordinator at the Birmingham Conservatoire, premiered a previously unperformed piece by Messiaen, *Un oiseau des arbres de Vie*, at the BBC Proms 2015.

Students' Union Head of External Engagement **Stella McHugh** (BA English Literature 1995) has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of South Yorkshire.

2000s

Professor Adam Hart (PhD Animal and Plant Sciences 2002) captained the University of Sheffield team in the alumni version of *University Challenge* shown on BBC Two in



The Officers of the Students' Union, 2006–07.

December 2015. The other team members were **Ruth Reed** (BA Architecture 1978, Dip Architecture 1981, MA Architecture 1982), **Sid Lowe** (BA History and Spanish 1998) and **Nicci Gerrard** (MPhil English Literature 1986). They made it to the final, losing to Magdalen College Oxford.

Organised by the British Council, the Education UK Alumni Awards 2016 showcased the benefits of a high-quality UK education across 10 countries. Professional Achievement Awards were >>



The International Cultural Evening held in the Students' Union in 1991.

won by **Jahanzeb Awan** (*LLB Law 2004*) from Pakistan, **Jaime Oliveira** (*MA Biotechnological Law and Ethics 2006*) from Brazil and **Dr Hani Choudhry** (*MSc Molecular Medicine 2009*) from Saudi Arabia.

Dr Matt Johnson (*BSc Biochemistry 2003, PhD Molecular Biology and Biotechnology 2007*) has been awarded a President's Medal by the Society of Experimental Biology.

Lorna Bradford (*PGCE Education 2008, MA Applied Professional Studies 2010*) received the Gold Plato Award for Teacher of The Year in a Secondary School 2015 at the Pearson Teaching Awards.

Anne Buchanan (*PGDip Psychoanalytic Studies 2009*) runs a company selling specialist tea online and through regional markets in the Rotterdam area of the Netherlands (www.sensationaltea.com).

2010s

Professor Tomas Lindahl (*Hon DSc 2011*) was a joint recipient of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry 2015 for

work on the mechanism through which DNA repairs itself.

The family of **Richard Pover** (*MEng Mechanical Engineering 2013, awarded posthumously*) were named Champion of Champions at the 2015 Trinity Mirror ScottishPower Your Champions awards for their work in setting up the Richard Pover Outstanding Contribution Award, which will support future mechanical engineering students at the University.

Hollie Webb (*BA Economics 2013*) is a member of the GB Hockey Senior Women's squad. The team won the Unibet EuroHockey Championships 2015, beating the Netherlands in the final.

Kieran Bhakta (*BDS Dentistry 2015*) received the Chancellor's Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the School of Clinical Dentistry, the University and communities throughout Sheffield.

Dominic Walker (*MEng Structural Engineering and Architecture 2015*) received the Institute of Civil Engineers Student Prize 2015 for engineering excellence.

Alumni Honours

Birthday Honours 2015, New Year Honours 2016

Professor Paul Curran (*BSc Geography 1976*) Created a Knight Bachelor for services to higher education.

Professor Melanie Davies (*MBChB Clinical Medicine 1985*) Awarded a CBE for services to diabetes research.

Robin Dollery (*MA Art and Psychotherapy 1997*) Awarded an MBE for services to higher education and student counselling.

Marjorie Fotheringham (*BEd Education 1979*) Awarded an MBE for services to the community in Thorne, South Yorkshire.

Agnes Grunwald-Spier JP (*MA Holocaust Studies 1998*) Awarded an MBE for services to the Jewish community and holocaust awareness.

Professor Amanda Howe (*MD General Practice 1996, MEd Medical and Dental Education 2001*) Awarded an OBE for services to primary care.

Dr David Kennedy (*BA Economics with Econometrics 1991*) Awarded a CBE for services to the environment.

Her Honour Judge Anne Molyneux (*LLB Law 1979*) Awarded an MBE for services to the administration of justice and voluntary service to disadvantaged people.

More than 200 students graduated from the University's International Faculty, CITY College, at the Thessaloniki Concert Hall, Greece, in November 2015.



Craig Morley (*BA Economics and Politics 1993*) Awarded an MBE for services to young people and to the community.

Elizabeth Neat (*BA Biblical Studies and English 1973, PGCE Education 1974*) Awarded an MBE for services to community cohesion.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach KCB, ADC, DL (*BA Geography, Economic and Social History 1977, Hon LittD 2007*) Created a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire.

Professor Alison Petch (née Jarman) (*MA Town and Regional Planning 1974*) Awarded an OBE for services to social services in Scotland.

Paula Phillips (*MA Psychoanalytic Studies 2010*) Awarded an MBE for services to mental health nursing.

Dr Spencer Pitfield (*PhD Music 2001*) Awarded an OBE for political service.

Elizabeth Sexton (*BA General – History 1960, MA Ancient History 1962*) Awarded a BEM for services to the community in Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Elizabeth Versi (née Bills) (*BA Politics 1997, MA Politics 1999*) Awarded a BEM for services to mental health awareness.

David Glyndwr Wall (*MA Law 1973*) Awarded an OBE for public service, particularly to communities.

Honorary Degrees

The University of Sheffield confers honorary degrees (or degrees honoris causa – as a ‘mark of honour’) on people who have given distinguished service or brought distinction to the University, the City of Sheffield or the region. Alumni who received honorary degrees from the University in 2016:

Dr Aileen Adams (*MChB Medicine 1945, Hon MD 2016*): a former Dean of the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

Dr Amal Al Qubaisi (*PhD Architecture 2001, Hon LittD 2016*): President and Speaker of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates.

The Rt Hon The Lord Blunkett (*BA Politics 1972, Hon LittD 2016*): a former MP, he served as Education and Employment Secretary, Home Secretary, and Work and Pensions Secretary.

David Childs (*LLB Law 1972, Hon LLD 2016*): a former Global Managing Partner of Clifford Chance, one of the world's top law firms.

Professor Roderick Flower FRS (*BSc Physiology 1971, Hon DSc 2016*): Professor of Biochemical Pharmacology at the William Harvey Research Institute, Queen Mary University of London.

Clive Humby (*BSc Applied Mathematics and Computer Science 1975, Hon DEng 2016*): a leading marketing analyst and a pioneer in data analytics.

Richard Leafe (*BSc Geography 1987, MPhil Geography 1990, Hon LittD 2016*): Chief Executive of the Lake District National Park Authority.

Norman Ling (*BA German and Economic History 1975, Hon LittD 2016*): a former diplomat, serving a series of appointments including Ambassador to Ethiopia, Djibouti and the African Union.

Dr Chas Sims (*BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1971, PhD Electromagnetics 1974, Hon DEng 2016*): a pioneer of engineering product design and business development.

Dr Richard Summers (*PhD Genetics 1988, Hon DSc 2016*): cereal breeding and research lead at RAGT Seeds and Chairman of the British Society of Plant Breeders.

Professor Tilli Tansey OBE, FMedSci, Hon FRCP (*BSc Zoology 1974, PhD Zoology 1978, DSc 2011, Hon MD 2016*): Professor of the History of Modern Medical Sciences at Queen Mary University of London.

● For further information on how to nominate someone for an honorary degree, please contact Claire Rundström, Head of Alumni Relations, email: c.e.rundstrom@sheffield.ac.uk



Christos Liaskos

Honours and Awards

Staff and students from the University continue to be recognised nationally and internationally for their expertise.

The Careers Service received an Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services Excellence Award for their Careers Diagnostic tool.

The Confucius Institute for the promotion of Chinese language and learning was named global Confucius Institute of the Year 2015.

Professor John Hobson (*Politics*) was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy.

Fiona Kesteven (*BA Archaeology and Prehistory 1997, MSc Sport and Recreation Management 2000*) (*Sport Sheffield*) won gold at the 2016 ETU Sprint Distance Duathlon European Championships (40–44 Female AG Sprint category) in Kalkar, Germany.

Joe Kirk (*BSc Microbiology 2013, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology PhD student*) won

the Sir Howard Dalton Young Microbiologist of the Year 2015 competition, organised by the Microbiology Society.

A research paper co-authored by **Professor Lenny Koh** (*Management School*) on recycling waste electrical and electronic equipment received an Elsevier Atlas Award.

Dr Niraj Kumar (*Management School*) received a Hind Rattan Award 2015, one of the highest Indian diasporic honours, for his research and initiatives that have raised the profile of India in international academic circles.

Christos Liaskos (*Economics student*) won team road race gold, tennis singles silver, tennis doubles bronze and mixed doubles bronze at the World Transplant Games 2015.

Professor Jon Nicholl FFPH, FMedSci (*Health and Related Research*) received a CBE for services to health research in the Birthday Honours 2015.

Professor Allan Pacey FRCOG (*Oncology and Metabolism*) received an MBE for services to reproductive medicine in the New Year Honours 2016.

Dr Sarah Staniland and **Professor Michael Ward** (*Chemistry*) were awarded the Harrison-Meldola Memorial Prize and the Supramolecular Chemistry Award respectively by the Royal Society of Chemistry in recognition of their achievements to advance the chemical sciences.

Professor Paul White DL, FAcSS (*Geography*) received an OBE for services to higher education in the New Year Honours 2016.

Obituaries

Alumni and friends of the University may submit obituaries – for an alumnus/alumna or former member of staff – to Development, Alumni Relations & Events for inclusion on our website. Please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk

We have been informed of the following deaths of long-serving University staff in the past year:

Dr Margaret Attwood
Senior Lecturer in Microbiology in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, and a member of staff from 1965–2001.

Emeritus Professor Kevin Connolly
Professor in the Department of Psychology from 1973 and Emeritus Professor from 1999–2015.

Professor Stanley Gregory
Professor in the Department of Geography, and a member of staff from 1968–88.

Jim Hall
Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture and a member of staff from 1964–90.

Dr Colin Haworth
Senior Lecturer in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, and a member of staff from 1959–87.

Professor Andrew Heath
Professor in the Department of Infection, Immunity and Cardiovascular Disease from 1994–2015.

The Professor Robert Boucher Distinguished Alumni Awards



Stephen Sly receives his award from Mrs Rosemary Boucher.

These awards give the University the opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of alumni who have made outstanding contributions to business and community life. They were established in 2011 to honour the memory of Professor Robert Boucher (Hon

DEng 2009), the former Vice-Chancellor who set up the Development and Alumni Relations Office in 2002.

Award winner 2015

Stephen Sly (LLB Law 1984) was honoured for his outstanding pro bono legal work towards the creation of SITraN (Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience). He volunteered his time to assist with the development of the Sheffield Institute

Foundation for Motor Neurone Disease (SIFMND), the charity established to raise funds for the new research institute. Both a Trustee and the Chair of SIFMND, he was the key link between the University and the charity, specifically concerning the legal intricacies. The charity eventually donated over £8 million to the University – the largest philanthropic gift since its foundation in 1905. SITraN was opened by HM The Queen in November 2010.

To nominate one of our alumni for this annual award, please submit their biographical information and a letter of nomination (of no more than 500 words) to: Claire Rundström, Head of Alumni Relations, The University of Sheffield, Development, Alumni Relations & Events, 40 Victoria Street, Sheffield, S10 2TN, or email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk with the subject 'Professor Robert Boucher Distinguished Alumni Award nomination'.

The deadline for nominations to be considered for an award in 2017 is 25 November 2016.

• Further details can be found at www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/our_alumni/distinguished

Emeritus Professor David Hey

(Hon LittD 2015)

Emeritus Professor of Local and Family History in the Department of Lifelong Learning (formerly Division of Adult Continuing Education), Dean of the Faculty of Education 1994–96 and a member of staff from 1973–1998.

Otto Illman

Director of the University Field Laboratories, and a member of staff until 1983.

Emeritus Professor

R John Nicholson

Professor of Econometrics in the Department of Economics, Pro-Vice-Chancellor 1983–87 and a member of staff 1971–88.

Derek Roper

Senior Lecturer in the Department of English Literature, and a member of staff from 1958–90.

Mary Sharrock *(Hon MA 1994)*

Tutor for Students and Warden of Halifax Hall 1977–87, and tutor of English literature classes for

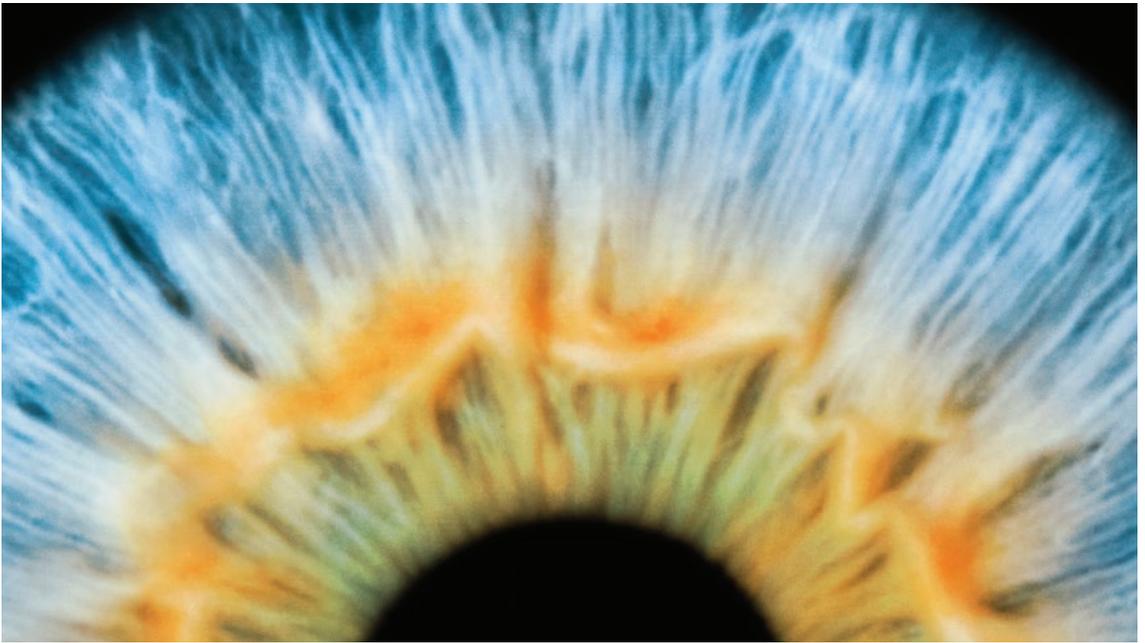
the Division of Adult Continuing Education (formerly Department of Extramural Studies) for over 30 years.

Marion Simkins

Technical Support Manager in the Department of Psychology, and a member of staff from 1978–2012.

Professor Frank Woods CBE, FRCP

Appointed to the Chair of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics in 1976, and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry from 1988–98.



A Legacy with Impact



Emeritus Professor Eric Sainsbury OBE

Make a positive difference to the future of the University of Sheffield with a gift in your Will.

Seeing With My Own Eyes

Emeritus Professor Eric Sainsbury OBE (PGDip Sociological Studies 1955, CertHE Adult Continuing Education 2003), who died in 2014, was committed to social justice throughout his distinguished career in the Department of Sociological Studies. He specified that his £10,000 legacy to the University be used to “enhance the direct wellbeing of students”.

 This legacy will enhance the direct wellbeing of students

Professor Sainsbury's generosity has now funded research into the *Seeing With My Own Eyes* project, led by computer scientist Professor Fabio Ciravegna. He is developing a tool to support the full participation of visually impaired students in lectures by mirroring the screen used by a lecturer to produce live presentations into a student's laptop or tablet.

● To talk through your ideas in confidence or to request a copy of our Legacy brochure, please contact: David Meadows, Development Officer for Legacies, Development, Alumni Relations & Events, The University of Sheffield, 40 Victoria Street, Sheffield, S10 2TN, **Tel:** +44 (0)114 222 1073, **Email:** d.meadows@sheffield.ac.uk, **www.shef.ac.uk/legacies**

The University of Sheffield is an exempt charity X1089



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Exclusive Benefits for Alumni

Don't miss out on the benefits of staying in touch with us.

Reunions and Events

Exclusive invitations to events both on and off campus.

Postgraduate Discount

As a Sheffield graduate you can benefit from a 10% discount on tuition fees if you decide to study with us at postgraduate level.

International Alumni Loyalty Discounts for Further Study

Rewards worth £1,000 per year of study are available for all University of Sheffield graduates and their siblings, spouses, and sons and daughters for all years of study.

Business Support

Do you want to set up a business? Alumni can access University of Sheffield Enterprise and their free business services up to five years after graduation.

Careers Advice

Continue to use the Careers Service for up to three years after graduation. You can use Career Connect at <https://careerconnect.sheffield.ac.uk> to access support and search for jobs.

Discount on Sports Facilities

Siohealth offers a discounted membership rate for all Sheffield alumni. This membership provides access to the gym, swimming pool, steam and sauna rooms, and fitness classes all based at the Goodwin Sports Centre.

Free Borrowing Rights at the Library

Graduates with undergraduate or higher degrees can apply for free membership of the library scheme, which enables you to borrow books from Western Bank Library, St George's Library and the Health Sciences Library.

Library Services for Alumni Members

The Library card allows alumni to access all library sites during staffed service hours, including Western Bank, the Information Commons, the Health Sciences Libraries and the Library Connect area in the Diamond. To find out more, including how to apply for a Library card, please visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/services/library

Discounted Hotels and Cottage Hire

Enjoy a 10% discount with cottages4you and receive a discount at a number of hotels in Sheffield, including Halifax Hall Hotel situated within the Endcliffe student village.

Inox Dine

Situated on Level 5 of the Students' Union Building, Inox Dine is an independently run restaurant serving contemporary British food with an international twist and Sheffield alumni receive a 10% discount.

Wedding Venue Discount

Choose from four stunning wedding venues at the University of Sheffield, including Firth Court, and receive an alumni discount with momentoUS.

For full details of what is available to you, please visit www.shef.ac.uk/alumni/services

For some of these benefits you may need to show your Alumni Membership Card. If you haven't received your card yet or need a replacement, please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 5592.

Reasons to be Proud of the University of Sheffield



Our scientists contributed to an international climate agreement at the **COP21** United Nations Climate Change Conference.



Our physicists are part of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Scientific Collaboration that observed ripples in the fabric of spacetime called **gravitational waves** for the first time.

Two teams from the University walked the Trans Pennine Trail from the east and west coasts, before meeting colleagues and students to walk the final 18 miles to campus to raise money for **refugee students and at-risk academics**.



2016 marks 25 years since Dr Helen Sharman OBE (BSc Chemistry 1984) became the **first Briton in space** ...



... and 75 years since the death of Amy Johnson CBE (BA Latin, French and Economics 1925) – the first female pilot to fly solo from Britain to Australia.



The **world-leading Factory 2050** on Sheffield Business Park is expected to contribute almost £2 million to Sheffield's economy every year.



Our **Students' Union** was voted **#1** in the UK for the eighth year running in the National Student Survey and we are the only university consistently in the top three for student experience.



St George's Church is home to the region's first urban breeding pair of **peregrine falcons**.



We are Varsity **Champions** in the 20th year of Sheffield Varsity, having retained our title for the fourth year running.



At £81 million, the new **Diamond** building is the University's largest investment in teaching and learning.



We are a **world top 100** university and one of the world's top 100 most international universities according to *Times Higher Education* rankings.

 @SheffieldAlumni

 University of Sheffield Alumni

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 www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni

 alumni@sheffield.ac.uk

 0114 222 1071

Development, Alumni Relations & Events
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