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LEEDS

Alumni
magazine

Issue
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Due south

So what's it really like to visit the Antarctic? We talk to some recent visitors about research, rocks... and what to pack

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Jane Featherstone on Paul Gascoigne, Gene Hunt and Harry Pearce



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

FROM THE EDITOR

Following last issue, when we ran a feature on our alumni news page called “Leeds for Love,” we were inundated with letters and emails from alumni couples telling us their own stories about how they all met at Leeds, over many different decades. We couldn’t resist printing another one this time.

Here in the alumni team at Leeds, we read every single email, letter, and comment that comes from you, whether a question, a query, a memory, or a request to make contact with a long lost friend, and while we can only ever publish a small number, we really appreciate finding out about you, your life, and your memories of Leeds. You can also use our Facebook and LinkedIn groups to share your stories, memories and start discussions too.

This issue, we’re starting in heading south. From Leeds to Sierra Leone, and ultimately to Antarctica. Leeds is about people, their journeys, and perhaps how everyone who’s been here takes a little bit of Leeds with them wherever they go.

Enjoy!

Phil Steel (English 1997)
Head of Alumni Relations



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Leeds is published twice a year by the University of Leeds Alumni & Development Team. It is received by more than 180,000 graduates, members and friends of the University across the world.



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JOIN THE DISCUSSION



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CONTRIBUTING ALUMNI



Henry Gee (Genetics and Zoology 1984) is a Senior Editor of *Nature*. His book *The Beowulf Effect: Fossils, Evolution and the Human Condition* is forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press. His gothic horror mystery *By The Sea* is available right now on iBooks and Kindle.

Fergus Walsh (English 1983) began working for the BBC in 1984 and has reported on health, science and medicine for nearly twenty years, covering topics such as stem cells, obesity, HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, polio and cloning. Fergus has had all his genes sequenced, his heart, brain and other body parts scanned, as well as being vaccinated against bird flu – all to illustrate TV news reports.

Simon Hattenstone (English 1984) is a feature writer for *The Guardian*. Over the past year he has interviewed Lady Gaga, Max Clifford, Jonathan Ross, Gary Barlow and Paul Gascoigne. He also writes about miscarriages of justice, and his books include *Out of It* (Sceptre), about a boy who went to bed with a headache and didn't get up for three years.

Kipper Williams (Fine Art 1974) draws for a number of publications including *The Sunday Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Spectator*.



Cover image: View towards the Antarctic Peninsula from Davies Dome on James Ross Island, taken by Dr Jonathan Carrivick, School of Geography.

To see more images of Antarctica taken by Leeds researchers visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/antarctica

MAKING HISTORY

Centenarian preacher and history graduate recalls his university days in the interwar years of the early 1930s



Canon John Clayton at his local church in Leeds (picture courtesy of Yorkshire Post Newspapers)

Centenarian **Canon John Clayton** (History 1933, MA 1943) is still leading worship at his local church, despite retiring as a vicar in 1976. Once a month, he preaches at Evensong and takes Holy Communion services at the church near his home in Bramhope, Leeds.

The Queen presented him with the Royal Maundy Money in recognition of his devotion to the Church. Canon John has fond memories of his student days, 80 years ago. He said: “In my time, there were only 2,000 students. I became friends with people from other faculties, such as medics and engineers. These days, I think people tend to socialise with people from their own departments.

“I remember my graduation

day and how nervous everyone was, going up and getting their degrees. Afterwards, there was a dance in the Great Hall.”

The campus was much smaller in Canon John’s day and many of the University’s iconic buildings, such as the Brotherton Library, had yet to be built. “In my day the library was in a room at the back of a building near the Great Hall.”

One particular day that stands out for John is Remembrance Day, 1932. “There was a protest by a group of pacifists which was dealt with quite firmly by the then Vice-Chancellor. They were told to stop otherwise they would be kicked out of the University. I remember that quite clearly.”

Another graduate, the **Very Reverend Catherine Ogle** (Textile Design 1982, MPhil Textile Management 1985, MA Theology 1991) is one of the most senior women in the Church of England. As Dean of Birmingham Cathedral, her role includes conducting services, managing cathedral finances and working with people across the city. Catherine’s son, Thomas Goater, now studies at Leeds.



Picture courtesy of Birmingham Post

More than 3700
Leeds alumni live
and work in China



SKY’S THE LIMIT

Carma Elliot CMG OBE (Chinese & German 1987) is Executive Director of Half the Sky, a children’s charity founded in 1998 to enrich the lives and enhance the prospects of China’s orphans.

She oversees 51 children’s centres in government institutions, and is currently working with officials on a training scheme aimed at bringing nurturing care to all of the country’s orphans.

Her first trip to China was in 1984 as a Leeds exchange student at Shanghai’s Fudan University.

Carma said: “Studying Chinese and German at Leeds really changed my life. My experiences then really drove me to look for a career where



Carma Elliot and daughter Isabel

I could use my language skills every day. Being able to speak Chinese in particular has shaped my life in ways I never imagined, and I have now lived longer in China than I have in the UK.”

A former British Consul-General, Carma’s 23-year diplomatic career included postings in Brussels, Paris, Jeddah and Beijing, where she now lives with her daughter, Isabel.

LEEDS FOR LOVE REVISITED

More tales of relationship building in the alumni community

Thanks to all who responded to our Leeds for Love feature in the last issue. Many stories told of love blossoming in lectures, laboratories and socials, and some spent time apart before rekindling the old flame.

The most enduring came from **Donald Vincent (Chemistry 1942)** and his wife **Hazel (Chemistry 1943)** who last year celebrated the 70th anniversary of their wartime romance which began when they met across a bench in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory.

They both took part in firewatch duties and Donald reported the first fall of bombs



in Leeds from his post on the roof of the old botany building in University Road.

They married in 1944 and have been followed at Leeds by a son and granddaughter.

Donald Vincent and Hazel Vincent when they were students at Leeds

For more, visit: alumni.leeds.ac.uk/leedsforlove

SWIMMING AGAINST THE TIDE

Andrew Parkinson (Geography 1993) runs an eco-tourism business in Mongolia which aims to conserve Taimen, the largest salmonoid fish in the world, under threat from poaching and habitat degradation.

Andy started his business to put into practice the conservation and ecology principles he learned during his studies.

He said: “Establishing an

eco-tourism company that is both successful and contributes to conservation of an important species has proved a challenge, but by working with local communities, especially the nomadic herders that range the rivers, we feel we’ve started to make some real progress.”

Andy’s clients catch, carefully tag and return the Taimen to the river as part of an ecological study to estimate and monitor population size.



Taimen fishing with Andrew Parkinson (right). Photo Ken Tsurusaki.

FUNDING THE FUTURE

As Director of the Local Development Practice Area, **Kadmiel Wekwete (Geography & History 1976)** manages the global technical programmes of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF). The Fund promotes microfinance and local development in some of the poorest countries of the world.

Based in New York, Kadmiel gives guidance to technical staff, field staff and programme managers in 48 countries in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

Before joining UNCDF, Kadmiel worked with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and as a Professor of Social Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe.

He said: “Leeds University opened the world to me because of its international, diverse and cosmopolitan character. I interacted with students from all over the world which increased my desire to work in other countries and cultures.”

TAKING STOCK

Photographer **Richard Hanson (Mechanical Engineering 1989)** recently exhibited images from his three visits to post-earthquake Haiti at Central Hall, in London.

It is just one of his many assignments working for media and charities; trips that have taken him to 40 different countries covering major news events and their effect on people.

Richard developed his passion for photography as secretary of the Union Photographic Society.



Haiti by Richard Hanson

He said: “At the start of my second year, someone showed me how to make a black and white print in the darkroom at the very top of the Union building, and as soon as I saw the print emerging, I knew this was what I wanted to do.

“I then spent far too much time in the darkroom, bought my first Nikon from a little shop in the County Arcade, and that was that really.”



ONE TO WATCH

Anita Rani (Broadcasting 2000) is becoming a regular sight on British television, having just this year reported on the Royal Wedding, presented popular Channel Four art show *Four Rooms* and the BBC's *India on Four Wheels* documentary highlighting the challenges of growing car usage.

Anita worked as a researcher before becoming a presenter on

a number of different channels.

Reminiscing on her time at Leeds, she said: "From the excellent academic facilities, including the inspiring library which I loved spending time in, to the thumping heartbeat of the city, which I also spent a lot of time in, there's something for everyone at Leeds and I have very fond memories."

A STITCH IN TIME



Above: Designer Hsing-Ju Lin with her shoemaker Lu Kuang-mao (photo Catherine Shu)

Right: Liebe Hsing shoes (photo Catherine Shu)

Hsing-Ju Lin (林倬如, Design MA 2004) has started Liebe Hsing, a women's footwear brand which aims to draw attention to the artistry and quality of traditional shoemaking in Taiwan.

Her designs are handmade at Juisheng Shoemaking Centre by Lu Kuang-mao (吕光茂) who began crafting shoes more than 30 years ago.

She said: "During my studies I spent a lot of time in

ON THE BALL

Carol Isherwood OBE (History 1982, PGCE 1984) has recently become Regional Manager of the National Game at the Football Association (FA).

A leading figure in women's rugby for over 25 years, she was the first female to be appointed to the IRB Rugby Committee. Carol was a founder member of the Rugby Football Union for Women, and pioneered the development of the women's game. She was the first captain of Great Britain and England and, following injury after the 1991 World Cup, took up coaching, becoming the first woman to gain a Level 3 Award.

This year she was added to LUU's Sporting Excellence Hall of Fame.



Carol Isherwood is added to the sporting Hall of Fame by VC Michael Arthur

the library, not only reading about fashion and footwear, but also art, history and textiles. That's how we were educated, and being interested in a variety of fields has definitely helped me in my current career."



In brief

Work by artist and accessory designer **Crystal Fischetti (Fine Art 2006)** has become part of the permanent collection at the Shanghai Yuehu Museum of Art and was exhibited at the China International Art Symposium.

Syn Yee Chin (Electronic & Electrical Engineering 1997) is Supervising Electrical Engineer for the replacement of one of the USA's busiest bridges. The new San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge will feature cutting-edge engineering, construction and seismic technology.

Alex Lawrie (Politics & Parliamentary Studies 1991) is a founder member of a number of co-operatives for workers, land users, and housing groups in the UK.

Sally Sykes (English 1983) has been awarded Chartered Practitioner status by the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR). Communications Director for the Health and Safety Executive, Sally was elected president of CIPR for 2012.

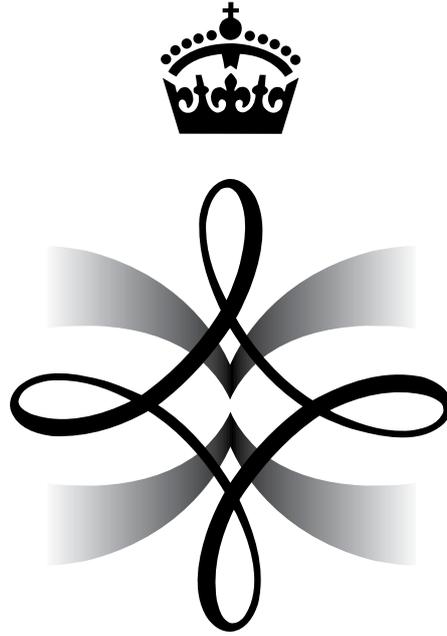
Stephen Dunn (Economic Studies 1994, MA 1996, PhD 2001) has won 'Outstanding Contribution' at the HealthInvestor Awards after developing a model of hospital provision that will see a private sector organisation running NHS services for the first time.

TJ (Tae Jin) Chung (Law PhD 2009) is CEO at Sentinel Korea, a global business risk consultancy, and Director of the Cyber Policing Research Center in Seoul.

The Radleys, the latest novel by **Matt Haig (English MA 1998)**, has been voted the nation's favourite summer read by viewers of *More 4's The TV Book Club* and is shortlisted for the Galaxy National Book Awards.

Dr Jacqui Webster (Development Studies MA 1995) is Senior Project Manager for Food Policy at the George Institute for Global Health in Sydney, Australia, responsible for overseeing food policy research and advocacy projects.

Pradeep Kumar Jaisingh (Management 1998) is Managing Director and CEO of International Oncology, a cancer care and research company with cancer centres in Delhi and Mumbai. www.internationaloncology.com



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The pioneering work of the Institute of Mechanical and Biological Engineering at the University of Leeds has led to improved joint replacements, unique heart valve technology and regenerative scaffolds for vascular repair. The Institute is at the forefront of these areas of research – a position which we will maintain and strengthen into the future.

“This is a notable achievement for the University and for everyone at iMBE, particularly Professors John Fisher and Eileen Ingham. Both are exceptional individuals and servants of the University; they and their team richly deserve this great honour.”

—Professor Michael Arthur,
Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

A century ago explorers reached the South Pole for the first time. Now the Antarctic is a regular destination for Leeds researchers – Henry Gee asks them what's it like to live and work there



“The question you should be asking,” says Dr Jonathan Carrivick, “is not what it’s like going to Antarctica – but what it’s like coming back”

What’s it like, then?

“Terrifying.”

“Going to a supermarket is my nightmare,” says Professor Jane Francis. “You just get so bombarded with smells, the noise, the colour, the people... nearly always when I come back I have to walk out before I get very far. It’s just too much. Crowds of people are a bit overwhelming.”

Jonathan is a geographer who’s just come back from his first field season in Antarctica, where he’s been studying the behaviour of land-based ice sheets on the Antarctic Peninsula – how they’ve behaved in the past and whether their ways are likely to change in the future. Professor Jane Francis is a palaeobotanist and seasoned Antarctic explorer. Since 1989 she’s been to Antarctica about ten times, visiting not just the relatively hospitable Antarctic Peninsula but the Transantarctic Mountains in the middle of the icy landmass.

Until around 40 million years ago, Antarctica was ice-free, even when

it lay over the South Pole, hosting forests of conifers and beech trees. Professor Francis collects fossils of plants from the Cretaceous Period (150-65 million years ago) from the few areas of ice-free rock on the continent. Her task is to chart the changing fortunes of the now-frozen continent and investigate the how and the why of its dramatic change in climate – and possibly shed some light on how global warming might affect it in the future.

2012 is the centenary of Roald Amundsen’s conquest of the South Pole – and of Captain Robert Falcon Scott’s ill-fated second place that ended in tragedy as he and his team perished on the Ross Ice Shelf on the way back to base. Among the dead was Captain Lawrence Oates, who accompanied Scott and famously popped out of the tent with the remark that ‘I may be some time’ – and who had strong links with the city of Leeds. A century on, Leeds retains its connections with the Great White South.

Antarctica is easier and safer than it was in Oates’ day – but that doesn’t mean you can simply buy a ticket and turn up. Research is carried out in the austral summer (our winter) and preparations – including packing – begin in July. You have to get fit, pass a physical and be jabbed for various tropical diseases. Antarctica is sterile, but to get there you have to pass through the tropics.

The usual way is by British

Antarctic Survey (BAS) charter from RAF Brize Norton via hot, sticky Ascension Island, and one might even be diverted to West Africa. From Ascension one heads to the Falkands. After that it’s a week-long sea voyage, which ends with the explorers being dropped off on the icy shore by landing craft. “It’s a bit like a Normandy D-Day landing,” says Jonathan.

A more congenial journey is via the surprisingly busy town of Ushuaia in the far south of Argentina, and then another flight to Rothera, a permanent base named for a former Leeds student who surveyed the area in the 1950s (see *Leeds Connections* sidebar). Landfall only happens if you don’t get turned back by the notoriously treacherous Southern-Ocean weather. “We were boomeranged about three times before we got there,” says Leeds seismologist Dr Graham Stuart, who usually gets to Antarctica via New Zealand.

When you finally get there, there is much more to do than admire the view. Jonathan and his colleagues spent the best part of two days ferrying almost a tonne of supplies and equipment from the shore to the base camp. The days of Amundsen’s sled dogs and Scott’s ponies are long over – the workhorse of choice is now the quad bike. Then you pitch your tent. The expedition works, eats, rests and plays in pyramid tents large enough to stand up in, and proof

Jonathan Carrivick:
“This is a picture I took of the view towards the Antarctic Peninsula from Davies Dome on James Ross Island. The figure in the picture is Alan Hill, our British Antarctic Survey field assistant.”



against the near-constant wind. And before you ask, yes, there is a special tent that houses a big bucket with a toilet seat. “When it was particularly windy,” says Jonathan, “you’d be holding the tent around you.”

Talking to Jane, Jonathan and Graham in the civilized setting of a Thai restaurant in Leeds, the conversation naturally turned to food. Meals in the far south are based around standard BAS supply boxes – big wooden crates that hold enough food to supply two people for 10 days, at a regulation 3500 calories per person per day. The food is dried, packed and stored – sometimes years before – and the contents are always the same. “After a while it gets incredibly boring,” says Jane. A Full Explorer’s Breakfast is porridge, dried milk powder, sugar and jam. Lunch might be delectable combinations of ship-biscuit, peanuts, raisins and sardines... with Marmite. (“Marmite is critical!” exclaims Jane). Dinner might include dried beef, sweetcorn, potatoes and boil-in-the-bag military-style fare.

The chefs on the sea voyage south know all about the rations that the passengers will have to live on for the next two months, and take pity on them, donating further stores – whose nature isn’t apparent until they are opened. The surprises include such mega-morsels as a 60kg sack of potatoes, enormous packets of bacon, and, on one occasion, a catering-sized jar of Branston pickle.

Americans and New Zealanders tend to live life more lavishly, especially if working from a permanent base. The American McMurdo base has a kind of supermarket that Jane used in order to provision a party of six for two months in the Transantarctic Mountains. In addition to the usual British-style dried fare she could raid the freezer cabinet – fillet steaks, halibut, lobster tails and such delicacies. “It’s a different kind of world,” she says. But lack of variety eventually takes its toll on tired taste buds, which require ever stronger stimulation as the

field season wears on. In addition to Marmite, Jane always packs plenty of wasabi paste and horseradish. “Sardines in tomato sauce with a very large pile of horseradish,” Jane recalls. “When the horseradish goes up your nose you know you’re alive.” “I started to put Marmite in everything,” adds Jonathan.

Jane recalls having come across some processed blue cheese triangles that had been hanging around for ten years, and adding tiny pieces to more or less everything. “I never used to like blue cheese before I went to Antarctica. Now I really like strong blue cheese.”

Jonathan says “You end up sniffing around the food boxes, looking for ingredients that might somehow have turned up by accident, or combinations that might not have been tried.” It’s not just taste, but texture. “What I really crave is ‘crunch,’” says Jane, “because the food is dried and a bit sloppy. I have cravings for celery. And lettuce.”

It’s not just taste that changes over the course of a field season. A landscape which at first looks barren and monochrome is slowly revealed as a patchwork of subtle tones and textures, smells and sounds, even tiny variations in the sound of the almost constant wind.

One smell you tend not to notice is your own – as explorers don’t wash for the whole season with anything more than wet-wipes. “The one thing I’ve learned never to do is wash your clothes,” says Jane. “The moisture instantly freezes, and stays frozen, even when the clothes are hung up in the stiff southern breeze. In a tent they drip and drip – but never dry. When the explorers come

... everything is so calm, so beautiful, you can’t do anything. So I have sat with others for about five hours just looking at the scenery – it’s so transfixing



Home comforts? Accommodation, food and commuting, Antarctica-style (images by Jonathan Carrick – to view more images, including those taken by Jane Frances and Graham Stuart, visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/antarctica)

out of the field they are as fit as fiddles, but look like racoons, their faces tanned except for around their permanently goggled eyes. It’s only then – when they start to warm up – that they notice how badly they smell. Others notice it too. Back aboard ship, the crew keeps them at arm’s length until they have put all their clothes in plastic bin liners and showered (“The most amazing thing is the first shower you have,” says Jane) and only then will they allow them to be sociable. Although, sometimes, they are allowed to have a hot meal first, and on some ships, meals are served strictly at set times and have waiter service, no matter how badly you smell. “It’s beyond surreal,” says Jonathan. And somehow terribly British.

The last thing Captain Scott did before he died was write letters home that were collected when the rescue party arrived. A century later field teams send messages back to base by radio, and with satellite phones and laptops one can even get one’s email. Jane, though, will have none of it.



“Part of the joy of going is to be cut off from the rest of the world for two months,” she says. “One of the best moments is when the plane or boat disappears and you’re totally alone. It’s liberating. I’m there for about three days and I stop thinking about the rest of the world. You realise that your world has shrunk to this little island, the rocks that you’re going to work on, and that’s it. In the field I think about three things, the weather, the rocks ... and what I’m going to have for dinner.”

“When the wind stops you notice it and that’s when you have an ‘Antarctic Day’. That’s when the wind drops and it’s perfectly still, the sky is blue, and the sun is shining, and everything is just incredibly peaceful. Nothing moves. Icebergs are glinting like fairy lights and everything is so calm, so beautiful, you can’t do anything. So I have sat with others for about five hours just looking at the scenery – it’s so transfixing.”

LEEDS CONNECTIONS

Captain Lawrence Grace Oates (1880-1912) is a well-known symbol of heroism. It is less widely-known that he came from a prominent Leeds family.

His father William owned land close to what are now the University’s Weetwood playing fields, and the family divided their time between homes in Leeds and Putney, London.

After studying at Eton, Oates served in the Boer War with the Sixth Inniskilling Dragoons and was chosen to join Captain Scott’s ill-fated Polar expedition both for his skill with horses and his willingness to put up £1,000 toward the cost.

Despite frequently clashing with Scott, he was chosen as a member of the five-strong party to make the final push to the Pole, arriving there five weeks after the rival Norwegian expedition. On their dispiriting return, weakened by scurvy and frostbite, Oates left his companions with the words: “I am just going outside and may be some time” – sacrificing himself in the hope that they might make better progress without him. His body was never found. There are memorials to Oates in Meanwood and in Leeds Parish Church.

John Rothera (Geography 1956) is one of very few people who actually have a part of the planet named after them.

Rothera Point is now home to an airstrip and a major British Antarctic Survey base – but when John visited the area it was utterly uninhabited.

“After graduating I saw an opportunity to join a surveying expedition to the Antarctic, and I was delighted to be accepted,” he recalls. “It was a very beautiful place, mostly snow-covered but with some areas of exposed rock where we were able to explore and camp. I spent two years there working alongside a geologist and then a further year working up the results with the Directorate of Colonial Survey.”

John’s was the first detailed survey of the area, and as a result the name Rothera Point was soon adopted by the United Kingdom Antarctic Place-Names Committee. “That was the normal practice at the time, but I was very proud.”

After completing this work, John went into town and country planning in Dorset and Hampshire, until his retirement 14 years ago.

A QUESTION OF ETHICS

Should a football team be thrown out of the FA Cup if one of its players used a performance-enhancing drug in an earlier tie?

Would it be ethical for a mining company to fund an African village hospital, if it guaranteed them excavation rights over an area of land, rich in gold, or is this bribery?

Is it wrong for a job applicant to change his mind about accepting a post, simply because he has received a better offer elsewhere?

These are just a few of the dilemmas which students are encouraged to tackle during classes in ethics, which are bringing new insights to subject areas right across campus.

Save for those in medicine, alumni who graduated before 2000 are unlikely to have experienced anything similar during their time at Leeds. Even for those training to be health professionals, the ethical side of medicine was largely bolted on to their studies, rather than integral to everything they learned. “It was really just a box which they could

What exactly is ethics?

Ethics refers to our standards of right and wrong – morality, good and evil, virtue and vice, fairness and obligations to others.

These standards inform our daily conduct, constrain us from rape, theft, assault and slander, while giving us a moral compass that embodies our basic rights to life, privacy and freedom from harm. Ethics embeds honesty, compassion and loyalty into our relationships with other people.

Applied ethics is the study of how we can use these basic beliefs and concepts in our everyday lives, and how our decision-making can be informed by ethical reasoning in the practical situations that we face day-to-day.

What do you think?

Ethics in business and the environment

A major DIY chain is contacted by environmentalists who explain that one of its suppliers of garden furniture uses mahogany from a central American forest. Though a legal trade, it is adding to the deforestation of an area rich in biodiversity, and is threatening the way of life of local communities. The pressure group has released the information to the press.

Imagine you are leading the company’s procurement team:

- Should you be concerned about this at all, given that the supplier is acting legally?
- Even if you are, should your company dictate environmental standards to its suppliers?
- How much consideration should be given to environmental issues when this supplier has the lowest cost and highest quality garden furniture on the market?
- Is it possible to assess the cost of the furniture to the environment in terms of the loss of habitat for plants and animals that support the ecosystems on which humans depend?
- Should companies be allowed to import environmental resources from developing countries to be consumed in the UK?
- Does a company need to have values higher than the law when dealing with environmental issues?

tick,” says Dr Jamie Dow, deputy director of the Ethics Centre.

A new model was developed to enable trainee medics to be taught collaboratively both by academics from philosophy, with expertise in ethics and moral reasoning, and by doctors and clinicians with expertise in medicine and relevant experience to bring the subject alive.

Ethics is now embedded into many other degree programmes at Leeds besides medicine, from computing to journalism, and right from students’ first year, as Jamie explains. “We start with an introduction to how ethics are relevant. We develop students’ reasoning skills by looking at issues related to their own studies such as plagiarism, or whether working on team-based assessments – where each team member gets the same mark – obliges every student to work as hard as their more motivated colleagues. As students move into subsequent years and become more confident we go into greater depth on some of the serious issues of medical ethics.

“It has really worked. It makes the content of these courses really rich and robust and so much more engaging and relevant.”

The opportunity to roll this out across campus came when the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) invited Universities to bid to establish centres of excellence in learning and teaching. A Leeds collaboration, drawing on our experience in medicine, secured the funds to establish the Inter-Disciplinary Ethics Applied (IDEA) Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and to apply this approach to a range of disciplines – including business, engineering, dentistry, biology, computing, environment, accountancy and journalism.

HEFCE’s faith in the project was justified – and though their funding of the project has now ended, the Centre is working towards being self-financing. Now simply the Ethics Centre, it has grown in both size and scope, reaches more students than

In its sixth year, the Ethics Centre at Leeds now covers a broader range of topics than any other university ethics centre in the world. So how exactly can you learn ethics, and why is it so important?

ever, and is running Masters courses of its own. While some universities around the world have larger centres, or expertise concentrated on particular academic areas, none engages with such a broad range of topics as Leeds.

Different subjects take different approaches – for broadcast journalism students, their most concentrated ethics teaching is a year two module on the ethics of journalism; in the Business School the subject is introduced in various ways that culminate in a dedicated third year module. But in each case the tutors look to develop students' understanding and explore issues crucial to their area.

Overwhelmingly, undergraduates value the fresh dimension this is bringing to the studies. "Students tend to be quite idealistic and think that ethics is relevant," says Dr Dow.

"On the other hand, you do get some who have been watching programmes like *The Apprentice* and have the wrong perception of what is needed to succeed in business and life. Equally some who are focused on the technical aspects of their subject and would rather concern themselves with the technical knowledge and let someone else make the moral decisions.

A guiding principle is that professional people need the tools to reason for themselves, and prepare for any scenario

What would you choose?

Ethics in sports and medicine

St. Martin's Under 15s have reached the All-Ireland hurling final for the first time, and despite star players Adrian and Brendan having broken fingers from the previous game, they insist they want to play. Brendan's father, a doctor, suggests he could give the boys a painkilling injection to get them through the game. Desperate to take part, the boys agree.

Imagine you are the coach responsible for this team:

- Should you let Adrian and Brendan receive the injections and play with broken fingers?
- What difference does it make that the doctor is the father of one of the boys?
- What if the players concerned were not star players and could be easily replaced?
- Should it be the boys' decision whether they take part?
- Are they old enough to make this decision and to consent to the injection – and if not, should you allow the parents to make that decision?
- Is it possible to justify the claim that they should be considered competent to refuse to play but should not be competent to choose to play?

"It's about putting the technical abilities and the ethical abilities into the same head."

From small beginnings, the Centre now employs a Director, two lecturers, two teaching fellows, a full-time knowledge transfer officer, as well as four administrative staff. All the academic staff are active researchers.

Additionally the Ethics Centre works with academics in subject areas, where they need to tap into their specialist expertise.

Their workload has ballooned. The Centre has advised major companies and external bodies, held workshops for the local business community, shaped the ethical code of the Royal Academy of Engineering and carried out "ethics audits" for both HEFCE and the Higher Education Academy.

The Centre supervises PhD students researching topics as varied as decision-making, alternatives to the internal combustion engine, and assisted suicide. In addition the Centre runs two dedicated MA courses – one in healthcare ethics, the second an online course in professional ethics which has attracted students from all over the world.

A guiding principle behind its work is that professional people need the tools to reason for themselves, and prepare for any scenario. "When faced with ethical issues, as they will be in their working lives, we don't want them to simply freeze like rabbits in the headlights," says Jamie.

There are no simple answers, either. "Simply passing a module won't help them deal with a situation which might be quite different to the one in the textbook. They need to reason for themselves, and develop a clear understanding of the values they should be implementing. It's facing people with challenging case studies and, by working through them, form a justifiable response.

"We're developing skills, not just dumping a lot of knowledge in their heads." 

COMING BACK TO LIFE

Maternity health in Sierra Leone is undergoing a transformation – Fergus Walsh meets the remarkable doctor who is overseeing the change



“They would all be carrying guns – Kalashnikovs or the like. The child soldiers were given cocaine, ephedrine and other drugs. They’d be high on these drugs which made them irritable and trigger-happy”

It was not somewhere I had expected to bump into a fellow Leeds alumnus. I’d travelled six hours north of Freetown on mostly red dirt roads with my cameraman.

In 2008, Sierra Leone had been singled out by UNICEF as having the highest rate of child mortality in the world. One in four children died before the age of five. I’d been interviewing the doctor at a newly opened maternity hospital in Kabala. The doctor, not one of many.

After my cameraman had gone off to get a few other shots of the maternity ward, I stayed talking to Dr Kargbo. I would have carried on talking to him all day if I could.

This is a man who could have got work in any number of countries. But he had chosen to remain in Sierra Leone, working for extremely low pay, to try to make a difference.

Dr Samuel A.S. Kargbo – known as SAS (pronounced to rhyme with ‘lass’) because of his initials – was certainly making a difference. We filmed as SAS performed a caesarean delivery in the hospital’s operating theatre.

There were no high-tech monitoring devices. The hospital had no X-ray machine, no ultrasound scanner or intensive care facilities.

Even so, the staff were saving lives. The next hospital was several hours’ drive away across bumpy roads: no use if immediate medical help was required.

Dr Kargbo explained that the healthy baby boy he delivered that morning would almost certainly have died, perhaps his mother too, had the emergency happened before the hospital opened.

He was one of just two doctors providing medical care for a region of nearly 300,000 people. The other medic was an ophthalmologist, which left Dr Kargbo doing most of the surgery.

I’ve been covering health and medical stories for the BBC for around 20 years and I wrote at the time that he was perhaps the most remarkable doctor I’ve ever met.

Dr Kargbo explained how he

had stayed working in Sierra Leone throughout its bitter and bloody civil war. He brought basic health services and vaccines to children, which meant negotiating his way across rebel lines. His life was frequently in danger.

“Sometimes the checkpoints were run by boys as young as 11 or 12,” he explained. “They would all be carrying guns – Kalashnikovs or the like. The child soldiers were given cocaine, ephedrine and other drugs. They’d be high on these drugs which made them irritable and trigger-happy.”

Like everything else, this was all said with a smile. Despite the horrors he must have witnessed, SAS Kargbo remains genial; there is often a laugh as he speaks.

You need to be an optimist in Sierra Leone. I wonder how else it would be possible to work year after year as a doctor in one of the world’s poorest countries, witnessing patients dying for the lack of the most basic medicines.

Dr Kargbo managed to win the trust of the combatants on both sides of the civil war. He trained rebel soldiers to be medics, performed surgery, administered medicines and immunised children.

By 2008, the war had been over for six years but there was still a huge amount of reconstruction needed – hence new facilities like the hospital at Kabala.

It was during our conversation on the maternity ward, more than three thousand miles from Leeds that SAS Kargbo and I realised we had both once lived in the Hyde Park district.

In the tropical heat of Sierra Leone, he recounted the pleasant mornings he’d spent walking across the park to get to Leeds’ Nuffield Centre for International Health. He gained a Masters in Public Health in 2005.

“Leeds was a great experience for me. It made me realise the inner potential that I had and gave me the confidence to look at problems and realise that these were simply opportunities for change. Before Leeds I often thought the challenges



Above: Dr Samuel Kargbo (photo: Oxfam)

Opposite page: People waiting in line for medical care on the launch day of free health care at the Women and Children’s Hospital in Freetown (photo: Faye Melly)

facing me in Sierra Leone were insurmountable. Now I can climb the mountains.”

Leeds staff have fond memories of SAS Kargbo. One of his tutors, Dr Kamram Siddiqi said: “I remember him talking very passionately about the plight of those caught up in the civil war. He struck me as someone who cares deeply for his country and his people.”

Earlier this year I returned to Sierra Leone and was struck by how much the country had improved since 2008.

There is now free healthcare for pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children under five. The rates of child and maternal mortality are still among the highest in the world. But they have fallen significantly.

I did not expect to see Dr Kargbo again but soon discovered that he had been promoted to a key position in the health department, as Director of the Reproductive and Child Health Programme.

Before Leeds I often thought the challenges facing me in Sierra Leone were insurmountable. Now I can climb the mountains

This time we met in Freetown, in a crowded children’s hospital. Two beds were pushed together and these were shared by four or five sick youngsters, some of them with their arms attached to drips.

“Free healthcare has made a huge difference,” he said. “Now mothers are not frightened to bring their children to the hospital and we are able to treat them more easily.”

Until 2008, Sierra Leone had been singled out by UNICEF as having the highest rate of child mortality in the world – one in four children died before the age of five



I was in Sierra Leone to report on pneumonia and diarrhoea, two of the biggest killers of children in the developing world.

The country had just begun to immunise children against pneumococcal disease, the leading cause of severe pneumonia.

There is no doubt the vaccine will save lives. But Dr Kargbo was pressing hard for a second new vaccine to be introduced against rotavirus, the leading cause of severe diarrhoea.

My report was timed to go out the night before a vaccine summit in London in June being attended by David Cameron, the philanthropist Bill Gates and government representatives from across the world.

So what was SAS Kargbo's message to the donor nations, who were being asked to pledge more money for immunisation?

"It is a matter of conscience. If the vaccines exist then they should be made available. During the war I had to cross rebel lines in order to immunise children. Now we are a country at peace, surely we owe it to the children to give them the vaccines they need."

Dr Kargbo now attends international meetings on public health and said he often felt embarrassed when Sierra Leone's poor record was shown in comparison to other developing countries. It was another motivation to keep trying to improve the healthcare system.

Earlier this year on a trip to the United States he visited the Children's Hospital in Boston, recognised as one of the world's most advanced centres for maternity and paediatric care.

"I saw the paediatric department and thought I would be the happiest man alive if we could have just a tiny bit of their equipment and the expertise to use it. I know our healthcare will not be as good as that in the United States or Europe but we can do a lot better. Our people deserve that."

That begins with improving maternity care. He recalls one tragic

case: "I remember a few years ago a pregnant woman was brought to the hospital. She had been in labour for four days and was dying. We operated but it was too late to save her or her baby. For me it was a turning point. I read every book I could find on how other African countries were trying to improve maternity care and I knew it was vital to get women living in remote villages to come to hospital well before the delivery."

Dr Kargbo pioneered the introduction of 'birth waiting homes' in Sierra Leone. Towards the end of their pregnancy, women are encouraged to come to hospital and stay there to deliver.

It's a marked move away from the use of traditional birth attendants, who often have no formal medical training. It has helped reduce both maternal and neonatal mortality.

Sierra Leone may now have free healthcare but it still faces huge challenges, not least the acute shortage of medical staff for a country of nearly six million.

"The lack of consultants is a huge problem," said Dr Kargbo. "We have two or maybe three gynaecologists, one paediatrician and no psychiatrists. Hospitals rely on many unskilled staff and the doctors we have are far too busy."

So the medical links between Leeds and Sierra Leone are highly valued. SAS Kargbo told me that the majority of public health specialists there had done some training in Leeds, which was held in high esteem.

For us working in public health we say, "Leeds is the best and then there's the rest!"

During the war I had to cross rebel lines to immunise children. Now we are at peace, surely we owe it to the children to give them the vaccines they need



Top: Fergus Walsh interviews SAS Kargbo for a BBC report

Opposite page (top to bottom): Signwriting; launching free healthcare in Freetown (photos: Faye Melly)

LEEDS CONNECTIONS

SAS Kargbo, who is married with a son of 12 and a daughter aged 10, is clearly an inspirational figure to many he meets.

"When I met SAS I was immediately struck by his passion and commitment," says Faye Melly (History 2002). A management consultant with KPMG she arrived in Sierra Leone in 2009 on a 15-month sabbatical.

Part of the Tony Blair Africa Governance Initiative, she was there helping with the introduction of the free healthcare policy.

"Being fellow Leeds alumni was a great point in common. SAS has huge credibility because he has worked his way up through the system and knows exactly what healthcare staff experience and what they need. He works tirelessly, under enormous pressure to ensure the health system improves. Working with him was both a real pleasure and an inspiration."

Faye rates her time in Sierra Leone as the most fulfilling of her career to date; "It was an incredible privilege working alongside such talented and dedicated people."



SIERRA LEONE: WAR AND REBUILDING

Civil war broke out in Sierra Leone in 1994 as rebels from the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), were led over the Liberian border by their leader, Foday Sankoh. Although ostensibly politically inspired, the fighting centred around control over the diamond-rich areas of the country. Rebels and government forces both profited from the sale of diamonds to traders linked to international markets, which served to perpetuate the war. Hence the use of the term 'blood diamonds.'

After the controversial deployment of foreign mercenary firms, several failed UN interventions and a series of coups, the fighting was finally brought to an end by the British intervention in May 2000, which restored order to the capital and reinstated the democratically-elected president. "Since the end of the fighting, attempts at addressing the past to move the country forward have involved the formation of a truth and reconciliation commission and the trial of former rebel leaders like Sankoh," says Dr Alexander Beresford, from Leeds' School of Politics and International Studies. "Despite a period of relative peace and stability since 2000, however, Sierra Leone remains one of the most underdeveloped countries in the world."

Leeds' Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development has trained 18 health professionals from Sierra Leone. Many worked at the district level, where services are provided and managed for the general population. The Masters in Public Health programme focuses on preparing health professionals for work in managing both district services and national disease programmes. This is particularly important for a country like Sierra Leone, which has had to rebuild its infrastructure after the end of the civil war.

Professor Andrew Green visited the country twice, just after the end of the civil war in 2002, where he was asked to work with senior health officials to help them draft a health policy. "One of the pleasures of the work, as is so often the case working in such countries," he says, "was the opportunity to work alongside alumni such as Dr Kargbo and see their skills in action."

CHINESE ATHLETES GUESTS AT LEEDS

The University will host hundreds of Chinese athletes preparing to take part in the Olympic Games in London in 2012



China has selected Leeds as its official training base before the Olympic Games – and athletes, coaches and support staff from at least 11 sports will be based in the city as they acclimatise to conditions in the UK.

The majority will stay in our halls of residence, while training in our own facilities and those of Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds City Council, and venues further afield such as Dalby Forest for mountain biking, Bishop Burton near Beverley for modern pentathlon

and Wakefield for hockey.

Other athletes coming to Leeds will be representing their country in fencing, athletics, swimming, women's water polo, women's handball, tennis, boxing and taekwondo. Among them will be 100m hurdler Liu Xiang, who is a sporting superstar in China and among the favourites to win gold in London.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur said: "This is a great honour for the University and the city of Leeds."

"We have outstanding facilities on campus and more than 1,500 students from China at the University, and I know we will provide a superb training camp environment for these world-class athletes. Our staff and students will give the Chinese team a wonderful reception and I hope be inspired by our involvement with the 2012 Olympics."

PRACTISING MEDICINE

Health professionals, trainee doctors and student nurses can now sharpen their skills in a state-of-the-art training centre in Leeds.

The new Clinical Practice Centre, a joint venture between Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Leeds Foundation Partnerships Trust, NHS Leeds, the University, Leeds Metropolitan University and the Open University was funded with a £2.85 million grant from the Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Health Authority.

The Centre will offer training for existing NHS staff across the city, as well as the next generation of nurses, doctors and healthcare workers. Facilities include a simulated four-bed ward plus mocked-up treatment and observation rooms, allowing staff and students to practise different procedures in realistic surroundings.

Ruth Holt, Chief Nurse at the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, said: "The Clinical Practice Centre is an enormous step forward for academic training here in Leeds. Health practitioners at all levels

can look forward to a much improved learning environment with better facilities – and for patients this will mean they are looked after by better-prepared and more confident staff."



BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR KEITH

The University honoured Yorkshire businessman and philanthropist Dr Keith Howard with an Honorary Degree at a special event to celebrate his 80th birthday, hosted by the University, Opera North and Yorkshire County Cricket Club.

The Honorary Doctorate of Laws was conferred during a dinner for 100 people in Opera North's Howard Assembly Room – itself named in his honour.

Dr Howard, who holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from Leeds, is the owner and



majority shareholder of Emerald Group Publishing, one of the world's leading scholarly publishers in business and management, with an annual turnover of £33 million.

He is chairman of the Opera North Future Fund, which has supported research opportunities for undergraduates in the University's Faculty of Performance, Visual Arts and Communications, and enabled the appointment of the inaugural members of the University's Academy of Cultural Fellows.

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY TEAMS CLASH AT LEEDS

One of the fastest and most brutal Paralympic sports came to the University of Leeds in the summer when Olympic bronze medal holders Canada took on the Great Britain team at wheelchair rugby.

The match, which was eventually won by Canada, was one of the high points of a six-day pre-London training camp, during which the two squads trained together in the University's flagship sports facility, The Edge.

Around 60 athletes and officials made the trip to Leeds for the camp and the Canadians will be back in Leeds in April, before a final camp leading up to the Games themselves in August 2012. During each camp, the Canadian team – who were placed third in Beijing – will stay at the University's new hall



of residence, Storm Jameson.

Andy Van Neutegem, performance director for Canadian Wheelchair Rugby, said: "After careful evaluation, the University of Leeds was chosen as it best met the

training needs of our team and, in particular, the flexibility and accessibility of the excellent facilities and accommodation. Their sport and supporting facilities are certainly to international standards."

ENGINEERING PIONEERS' PRIZE

The Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering has won the Royal seal of approval as a winner in the 2011 Queen's Anniversary Prizes.

The prizes, awarded every two years, are Britain's highest recognition for an academic institution.

Led by professors John Fisher and Eileen Ingham, the Institute is the UK's leading bioengineering research institution and has pioneered research into medical devices and regenerative therapies.

Its research into three main areas – joint replacements, spinal interventions and tissue engineering – has created new products and interventions available to surgeons to improve patients' lives.

TOP UNIVERSITY

Leeds was shortlisted for the prestigious *Sunday Times University of the Year* award, announced at the start of the new academic year.

Leeds was the only institution in the Russell Group to be shortlisted for the award alongside Essex, Robert Gordon, Exeter, Bath and Surrey. Bath took first prize. At the same time, Leeds rose from 26th to 24th in the *Sunday Times* national league table.

The citation for Leeds said the University was "ahead of the curve in announcing a partnership agreement with all students" – and highlighted Leeds' focus on student employability.

More: See VC's view on page 30

CLIMATE TALKS

PhD geography student Kristina Diprose was chosen as one of ten young people to represent the UK at United Nations climate negotiations in South Africa in November.

She talked to negotiators and politicians from all over the world, questioning and challenging them about the work being done in their own countries to reduce carbon emissions, joining the debates about climate. Kristina said: "I've been an avid climate change campaigner since I arrived at Leeds as an undergraduate and have learned about its impacts on many parts of the world. This is an amazing opportunity. The decisions made in South Africa will affect our generation for decades to come." She is supported by campaigning body the UK Youth Climate Coalition.

VOLUNTEER AWARD

The University's Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery has been recognised nationally for the work of outstanding volunteer Elizabeth Stainforth.

The 'Volunteers for Museum Learning' award scheme is run jointly by the British Museum and the Marsh Christian Trust and recognises the huge contribution that volunteers make in helping museums to engage with their visitors.

Elizabeth, who now works part-time at the gallery and at the University library, was recognised for her work as a volunteer during 2010, when she organised and delivered educational workshops and trained other volunteers to lead workshops aimed at inspiring young people who might not normally engage with local heritage to visit galleries – and even aspire to attend University.



Tens of thousands of people have received improved joint replacements based on this research; its unique valve replacement technology has given a new lease of life to patients suffering chronic heart conditions; it has pioneered regenerative biological scaffolds for vascular repair.

The award will be presented by the Queen in February.



QUEEN OF INTELLIGENCE

Jane Featherstone, the woman behind some of the UK's most talked-about television dramas, speaks to Simon Hattenstone about student life and the end of Spooks

Jane Featherstone (German and History 1991) is happily gabbing away about *Spooks*, her super-successful television series.

"We have many writers on *Spooks*, but only two producers have lasted the full 10 years." I stop her, mid-flow, and point out she should be talking in the past tense. After all, 10 series on she has just killed off the intelligence thriller that regularly had seven million viewers. The blood drains from her face, and she really does look spooked.

"Oh yes, don't remind me. I sometimes worry if that was the wrong decision ..." Jane pauses, gathers herself together, corrects her tenses, and continues talking about her input as producer. "That is the bit I love ... the opportunity to sit around and come up with stories that have some kind of global resonance and were political in some way, but were disguised as thriller and action. It was a rare treat. Actually now I don't know how to do that in another genre."

She sounds slightly panicked, but she shouldn't be. After all, the former History and German student, and current chief executive of Kudos Film & Television, has been responsible for any number of successful series, including *Life on Mars*, *Ashes to Ashes* and *Hustle*.

Jane loved her time at uni, and has recreated a mini campus at Kudos, working with a number of friends from Leeds. Hers is an inspiring story – she wanted to go into telly, didn't know the right people and the careers adviser wasn't encouraging. She then did a test to tell her the most suitable career – the green cursor flashed on the computer, and prison officer came up. She laughs. She got into telly eventually through a mix of fluke, opportunism and hard work.

She thanks her father for the family's get up and go. That's just what he did when she and her two siblings were young. Jane was born in Scotland where he was a chemist working for an oil refinery. When she was four, he moved the family

to India. They briefly returned then were off again, this time to Germany.

The bravest decision, she says, was that her parents (mum was a nurse) put their children in a German school. They could barely speak a word, and within months they talked like natives. Jane says this gave her a confidence that has stayed with her for life.

"It's pretty brave. I put so much of the risk-taking and enjoyment of the new that we all have as a family down to my dad saying 'let's just go' and my mum saying 'OK, great'. The ability to adapt, to see the world in a different way and have experiences beyond my circle of British life was the most valuable thing that's ever happened to me."

In her teens, Jane's family moved to suburban London and she was determined to head north for university. It was the Eighties. The country was divided by Thatcher, unemployment was three million and the poll tax riots were round the corner. "I was a bit leftie socialist, wanted to go up there, away from the suburbs, and I did love it."

She lived in James Baillie flats, then Manor Terrace and after a year away in Germany where she'd made some money working, she went up-market and moved to Kelso Gardens behind the University.

Jane returned to the University a couple of years ago to talk to students about her career and was astonished at their current comforts. "You do get a bit 'in my day' about it, but apparently students have ensuite bathrooms and central heating and hot water. I'm not joking, but we never had any heating, ever. You could die if you lit the gas. I paid £20 a week, or was it £18? Then in the fourth year I splashed out and went to £25."

"I used to go to the Warehouse. I read last week that the Stone Roses were there in '87. I was talking to Dan and Diederick, who both work here and were at Leeds, and we don't remember that. The Mile High Club was the big one. I did a lot of clubbing. I really wasn't one



"The ability to see the world in a different way was the most valuable thing that's ever happened to me"

of the cool kids, but I did like dance music." When she wasn't dancing, she was drinking in the Hyde Park, Royal Park or much missed Newlands.

In her last week at university in 1991, Jane returned from a job interview in London as Paul Gazza Gascoigne's PA. Gazza was just about the most famous footballer on the planet, and her first job out of uni was keeping his affairs in order. Not an easy task. He was injured at the time and drinking heavily, but she says it was a wonderful experience, and paved the way for everything else.

What are her memories of Gascoigne? "Him lifting his shirt and wobbling his tummy. He wasn't playing and was getting fat. I remember him giving wads of money to his mum. I had to memorise his card number to get money out of

Nearly all my best friends are from Leeds. I didn't carry that many friends from school forward. I went to Leeds and found that's where I felt more at home, with the people there

the bank to put bets on for him." Then there were some very drunken evenings... Amazingly, Jane says, she could keep up with him. "Yeah because I was a student, and as a student you really could drink a LOT."

She made contacts in TV with people making documentaries about Gascoigne, and was offered a job as runner and secretary for a show

called *Superchamps*, about kids on motorbikes. The company was tiny, so she did a bit of everything. From there she moved to Hat Trick Productions to work on *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* and *Drop the Dead Donkey*.

“Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin at Hat Trick are brilliant producers and writers, so I worked for them for two years. I just loved it. That’s when I worked out that this is what I can do – storytelling. With hindsight I realised that was the reason I loved

JANE’S HANDY HINTS TO BECOMING A TOP TV PRODUCER

*** Say yes to every opportunity.** If offered the chance to become PA to world-class footballer, prankster and drinker, take it. “*Who’d have thought working as Gazza’s PA and making Superchamps were good ideas? But they opened doors.*”

*** Follow your instinct at all times.** “*It’s always right. Everything that has not quite worked in my career has been when I’ve not followed my instincts.*”

*** Take risks, and know what risks they are.** “*What can really go wrong? If you’re comfortable in your life and you’re happy, then, if it all goes wrong, it doesn’t really matter.*”

*** The do as I say, not as I do rule.** “*Have babies younger than I did.*”



Above: Some of the ever-changing cast of *Spooks*.

Below: Paul Gascoigne during his England heyday (photo: Getty)

history. Television producers, unlike film producers, are much more involved in the creative aspect than the fundraising side.”

In 2000, Jane joined Kudos. Despite some stinking reviews for the first series of *Spooks*, which she developed, it became a huge hit. Success was followed by more success – *Life on Mars*, *Hustle*, *Ashes to Ashes*, *The Hour*. But it is *Spooks* that she remains most proud of.

The series started soon after 9/11, and many of its storylines have been fuelled by the resultant paranoia and distrust between East and West. “9/11 happened four weeks before we started shooting. The show would not have been the same if it hadn’t happened. In fact we’d probably not be sitting here now.”

One of *Spooks*’ greatest



I hoped I’d always have the courage and dignity to end on a high with Spooks. I loved it so much, I couldn’t bear the thought that one day people would say ‘you know what, this isn’t as good as last year’

innovations was to kill off its stars. She says the format grew out of necessity – they couldn’t sign up big names for long enough. “It soon occurred to us that the format was strong enough to sustain recasting. We didn’t know that would happen, and that was revolutionary. We’ve killed 15 of our main characters,” she boasts. *Doctor Who*, eat your heart out. “Often characters we brought in fulfilled the same kind of role, but you could have a whole new dynamic because there are only so many frickin crises you can throw at one actor and one character.”

So why did Jane, who has two toddlers, decide to kill off such an assured money-spinner?

“It’s really hard work and it requires a lot of focus. I hoped I’d always have the courage and dignity to end on a high with *Spooks*. I loved it so much, I couldn’t bear the thought that one day people would say ‘you know what, this isn’t as good as last year.’”

Is there a sense of loss?

“I feel genuinely sad about it cos it was enormous fun to make. I loved the people who worked on it, and it was 10 years of my life. A quarter of my life.” Jane is already looking to the future, though. There are two brand new shows, *Eternal Law* and *Nemesis* on the cards.

In 2007 Kudos was bought out by Elisabeth Murdoch’s Shine Group



THE GREAT LEEDS LINKUP: NO DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Name: Diederick Santer
Degree: Psychology 1991
Role: *Producer*

Met Jane through student theatre in Leeds. Produced *EastEnders*, was script editor on *Where the Heart Is* and was head-hunted by Jane. Has now set up production company Lovely Day under the Kudos umbrella.

Name: Dan Isaacs
Degree: Dentistry 1990
Role: *Chief Operating Officer, Kudos*
Met Jane through student theatre in Leeds. After graduation went to drama school and film school then worked on business affairs at ITV. Head-hunted by Jane to work at Kudos.

Name: Omar Madha
Degree: English 1990
Role: *Director*
Met Jane through student theatre in Leeds. Directed seasons five and six of *Spooks*.

Name: Rachel Ford
Degree: Politics and Parliamentary Studies 1992
Role: *documentary filmmaker and journalist*. Directed several episodes of *Spooks*.

Name: Peter Bowker
Degree: English Literature and Philosophy 1981
Role: *Screenwriter*
Wrote *Occupation* for Kudos.

Name: Juliet (Roberts) Tzabar
Degree: English 1992
Role: *Specialist on children's digital media with a broadcast tie-in.*



for an estimated £15 million. As one of the four directors, it made Jane a fairly wealthy woman. Something she'd not planned for – yes, she says, she has worked hard and loves her career, but she has never been money-oriented.

In fact, she says one highlight has nothing to do with *her* work at all. Her partner, the documentary maker Archie Powell, recently made a film

with Alan Bennett, and the great writer came round to their house in London's Islington for supper. "He sat next to me in my own kitchen; for me that was one of the highlights of my career. Meeting Alan Bennett in my own kitchen. A Yorkshireman as well." 🗨️

More from the Kudos stable
Top: Philip Glenister as Gene Hunt in *Ashes to Ashes*
—
Below: 1950s drama *The Hour*

WHAT'S GOING ON

A selection of news from our University departments

€ Business School Money for nothing?

Banks whose chief executives receive substantial option-based compensation are more likely to carry out risky takeovers and mergers, analysis of US bank acquisitions from 1993-2007 shows. Regulators should consider limiting the option-based incentives that bankers receive, the researchers claim. Francesco Vallascas, Lecturer in Banking and Finance, said: "Our results show a clear link between executive pay and risky behaviour in banks. Regulating bankers' pay is an issue that deserves consideration, no matter how controversial." During the period studied, chief executives were offered increasingly large amounts of risk-based compensation.

🖥️ Computing

Life-saving robot worm

Dr Jordan Boyle (Computing PhD 2010) has built a giant robotic worm that can wiggle its way around obstacles. It is modelled on the *C.elegans* nematode, a tiny worm that uses an ultra-simple nervous system to control the way it moves. "A future version of this robot could potentially navigate through irregular gaps and holes in buildings damaged by fire, explosions or earthquakes," he says. "Given the correct 'skin', the next version should also deal with different environments such as water, snow or mud." The robot has a rigid 'backbone' with a series of springs providing flexibility and allowing it to adapt blindly to any obstacles that are preventing it from moving forward.

🦷 Dentistry

A reason to smile

A pain-free way of tackling dental decay that reverses the damage of acid attack has been trialled on patients in Leeds Dental Institute. When painted onto the tooth, a fluid containing peptide P 11-4, designed by researchers in the School of Chemistry, seeps into the micro-pores caused by acid attack and attracts calcium, regenerating the tooth's mineral. Professor Paul Brunton (BChD 1984), who is overseeing the testing, said: "If these results can be repeated on a larger patient group, then I have no doubt that in two to three years this technique will be available for dentists in their daily practice." The study is being funded by credentis ag who have licensed the technology.

🌿 Earth and Environment

The heart of the matter

The inner core of the Earth is simultaneously melting and freezing due to circulation of heat in the overlying rocky mantle, according to new research. The findings are based on numerical modelling and contribute to understanding of the structure of the inner core, previously only seen with seismology. Study co-author Dr Jon Mound said: "We can't go and collect samples from the centre of the Earth, so we have to rely on surface measurements and computer models. Our new model provides a fairly simple explanation to measurements that have puzzled scientists for years. It suggests that the whole dynamics of the Earth's core are in some way linked to plate tectonics, which isn't obvious from surface observations."



01

★ Electronic and Electrical Engineering

A ray of light

Leeds researchers are part of the first team to produce T-ray 'pulses', rather than a continuous beam, from a quantum cascade laser, opening up new ways for T-rays to image natural and synthetic materials. T-rays are a band of radiation in the electromagnetic spectrum that falls between radio waves and visible light. They can detect impurities in chemical and biological materials. Researchers are looking into a technique known as terahertz time-domain spectroscopy, a particularly sensitive way of probing materials using pulses of T-rays. Professor Edmund Linfield said: "The potential for T-rays to provide new imaging and spectroscopy techniques for a range of applications, such as chemical and atmospheric sensing, or medical imaging, is immense."



02

who scaled Everest in 2005, will assess the psychological benefits of taking on a unique physical challenge and how this might contribute to overall sense of wellbeing when recovering from physical trauma. She said: "There has been a lot of emphasis on the positive effects of regular, structured exercise on day-to-day physical and psychological wellbeing, but there has been little research to explore the potential benefits of less structured, more demanding physical pursuits."

🧠 Psychology

A mountain to climb

A group of soldiers recovering from serious injury as a result of service in Afghanistan hiked to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro as part of a research project. The research, carried out by Dr Shaunna Burke, an expert mountaineer

🌍 Geography

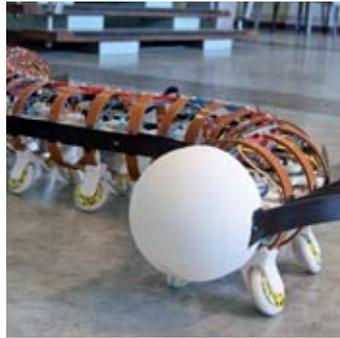
Capturing carbon

The world's forests remove 8.8 billion tonnes of CO₂ per year from the atmosphere – equivalent to nearly a third of annual fossil fuel emissions – according to new research. Regrowth of trees on deforested lands in the tropics removed a further 6 billion tonnes of CO₂

£119bn

New estimates show the care provided by friends and family members to ill, frail or disabled relatives is now worth £119 billion every year

annually between 1990 and 2007, but deforestation released 10.8 billion tonnes annually. The findings suggest the world's forests play a much larger role in the carbon cycle than previously thought. In recent years, Leeds has become a world centre for understanding the carbon dynamics of tropical forests. A research group, founded by Professor Oliver Phillips, together with collaborators in more than 30 countries, has discovered large and persistent carbon sinks in tropical forests.



03



04

+ Medical School

Going viral

Researchers, funded by Cancer Research UK, have used a library of DNA to create a vaccine that could treat cancer. The vaccine was made by putting the DNA library inside a vesicular stomatitis virus, which stimulates an immune response that tracks down and kills tumour cells. It has already been used to successfully treat mice with prostate cancer. Professor Alan Melcher, co-author of the study, said: "The biggest challenge in immunology is developing antigens that can target the tumour without causing harm elsewhere. By using DNA from the same part of the body as the tumour, inserted into a virus, we may be able to solve that problem."

History

Remains of the day

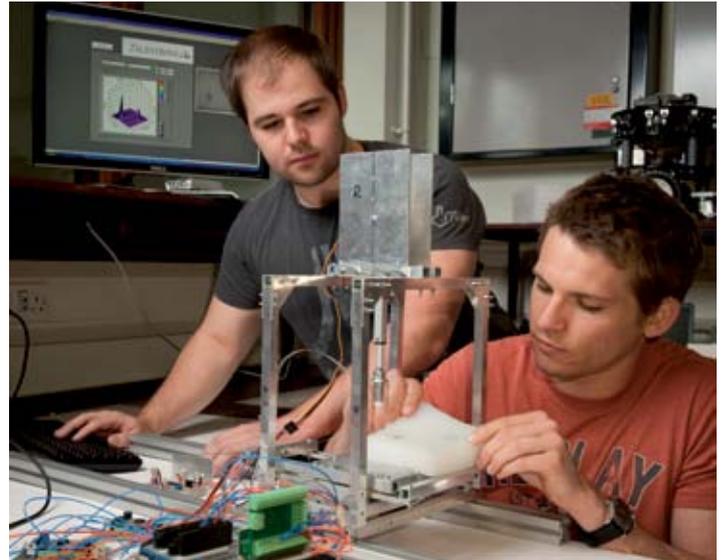
Members of the public handled skeletal remains dating back to the medieval era to find out what they teach us about healthy eating. The remains showed how a wide variety of common diseases linked to poor nutrition leave their mark on the body. Co-ordinated by food historian Dr Iona McCleery,

the project looked at what the remains tell us about society, such as the relationship between bad teeth and social status. The event was part of the three year You Are What You Are project, funded by a Society Award from the Wellcome Trust and run in partnership with Wakefield Council and the University of Bradford.

Physics

A gel of an idea

A new type of polymer gel that can be used to make safer and more cost effective lithium batteries is being trialled by Polystor Energy Corporation. The 70% liquid electrolyte gel, developed by Professor Ian Ward FRS, Research Professor of Physics, can be cut to any



05



06

- 01 Injured soldiers tackling the hike to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro
- 02 Forest in Ecuador (credit Abel Monteagudo)
- 03 The 'wormbot' developed by Dr Jordan Boyle
- 04 Researchers involved in the study of the protein E5, produced by the human papilloma virus
- 05 Engineering students develop the haptic technology for use in keyhole surgery
- 06 New mathematical models predict how polymers will flow based on the connections between their molecules (credit Dow Chemical)

size. Professor Ward and his team have also developed a patented manufacturing process, called extrusion/lamination, which sandwiches the gel between an anode and cathode at high speed to create a highly-conductive strip that is just nanometres thick. It seals the electrodes together avoiding excess solvent and liquid electrolyte. The research was funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and Yorkshire Concept.

Integrative and Comparative Biology

Island intruder

New research on the risk posed by West Nile Virus (WNV) shows renewed vigilance over the biosecurity of the Galápagos

Islands is needed. The mosquito species *Culex quinquefasciatus*, accidentally introduced to the islands in the 1980s, is capable of transmitting WNV, a potentially dangerous disease for the archipelago's unique wildlife, researchers have found. Dr Simon Goodman said: "Once WNV has been introduced onto the Galápagos, it would be much harder to contain. Therefore the best strategy is to have strict preventive measures to reduce the chance of the disease reaching the islands in the first place."

Mathematics

Plastic fantastic

Researchers have developed new mathematical models that could revolutionise the way plastics are developed, saving

time, energy and money. Until now, polymer resins such as low-density polyethylenes were often developed first and then a use was found for them later. The new models predict how polymers will flow based on the connections between their string-like molecules. Dr Daniel Read, who led the research, said: “This breakthrough means that new plastics can be created more efficiently and with a specific use in mind, with benefits to industry and the environment.” The research was carried out with Durham University, LyondellBasell and Dow Chemical and was funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the European Union.

Sociology and Social Policy The cost of care

New estimates show the care provided by friends and family members to ill, frail or disabled relatives is now worth £119 billion every year. A new report, carried out with charity Carers UK, shows there are around 6.4 million people in the UK providing care, each saving the state £18,473 a year on average. Professor Sue Yeandle, who co-authored the report with Dr Lisa Buckner, said: “As our society ages and more people live for longer with illness or disability, we must address the important question of how to provide and fund the support carers need.”

Healthcare Herbal essence

Researchers found that prior to a new EU law, brought in this year, the majority of over-the-counter herbal products did not



Professor Theo Raynor



Waved albatros on the Galápagos Islands

contain information on safe use and possible side-effects. As the legislation does not apply to existing stocks, these products could be on the shelves for a number of years. Also, products that do not make overt health claims are regarded as 'foods' and escape the legislation. Professor Theo Raynor, who led the study, said: “The best advice to consumers is 'buyer beware'. Any substance that affects the body has the potential to do harm if it is not taken correctly.”

Molecular and cellular biology Protein is the key

Yorkshire Cancer Research and Cancer Research UK are to fund a pioneering investigation into the treatment of cervical cancer. It will focus on using therapeutic drugs to target a specific protein, called E5, which is produced by the human papilloma virus. Scientists at the University recently

became the first to produce sufficient amounts of E5 to enable researchers to study it in detail. They have already discovered that E5 forms a ring-like structure that is able to puncture cell membranes, creating what is known as a 'virus encoded ion channel'.

Mechanical Engineering Touching subject

Engineering students have developed a proof-of-concept system which could help cancer surgeons to remotely 'feel' tissue during keyhole procedures – an important way of locating tumours and finding out if they are malignant or benign. The system is controlled using a haptic device which can apply forces to the user's hand. The computer model calculates the forces that would be experienced as the virtual instrument probes a simulated organ and feeds these back to the user. “The system these students have developed is an encouraging step towards solving one of the main disadvantages of keyhole surgery,” said Professor David Jayne, Senior Lecturer in Surgery.

Politics and International Studies Terror on trial

Dr Brad Evans (Politics of International Resources & Development MA 2002, Politics and International Studies PhD 2008) has been running a Ten Years of Terror symposia through *The Guardian* news website. The project, which brings together the world's pre-eminent thinkers on politics, arts and culture, is also being held at a number of high profile venues, including the Guggenheim, in New York, and The Hague. It is part of Dr Evans' wider research project, Histories of Violence, which provides an open access resource centre to explore the wider problem of violence in the context of theory, film, art, literature, theatre and personal testimonies.

In the news

Brain waves

Research by the School of Medicine and the Universities of Edinburgh and Dundee into how the brain protects itself when its blood supply runs low has been featured in the *Scotsman*, *Science Daily* and the *Yorkshire Post*.

Skin cancer genes link

Findings by Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine that three particular genes are linked to an increased chance of developing skin cancer was widely covered in the national and international press, appearing in the *Scotsman*, the *Daily Mail*, the *Mirror*, the *Yorkshire Post*, and covered by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

D deficiency risk

Professor of Dermatology Julia Newton-Bishop's research findings that people with fair skin who burn easily in the sun may need to take supplements to avoid Vitamin D deficiency was covered by the BBC, *Daily Mail* and *Yorkshire Post*.

Go ahead for GM wheat trial

The news that Defra has given the green light to a tightly controlled trial of genetically modified wheat following research by the Centre for Plant Sciences was covered in the *Telegraph* and the *Yorkshire Post*.

Key to life in meteorites

School of Chemistry Astrobiologist Dr Terry Kee has found meteorite fragments containing a precursor to a key chemical that allows biological cells to capture energy from their surroundings, reported the *Telegraph*.

Bipolar research

The *Yorkshire Post* reported on research led by Dr Steven Slapcote, of the Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology, which has identified an abnormal level of an enzyme known as NKA in sufferers of bipolar disorder and two new drugs which could be used to treat it.

Chinese boom

Research by Leeds University Business School and the China-Britain Business Council pinpointing 35 cities in the interior of China where a new, affluent group of consumers is fuelling booming demand for goods and services has been reported by the *Herald Scotland*.



More department news:
alumni.leeds.ac.uk/news



**THE
FOOTSTEPS
FUND**

**A precious pint of blood >
A century of Leeds expertise >
A brilliant piece of fabric >
A bedside life-saver...**

Every minute, life-saving blood transfusions are carried out worldwide, thanks to over 100 million voluntary donations of blood. Yet due to impurities and traces of disease, not all these precious gifts of life can be used.

Last winter, the UK almost ran out of Type-A blood altogether. We urgently need to find ways to make sure health services can use all the blood they receive.

The solution? Textiles.

Leeds has been researching textiles for over a century. Now NIRI, in our Centre for Technical Textiles, is creating sophisticated new fabrics to filter out impurities from blood – which can then be transfused at the bedside. So life-saving supplies can reach as many people as possible, as quickly as possible.

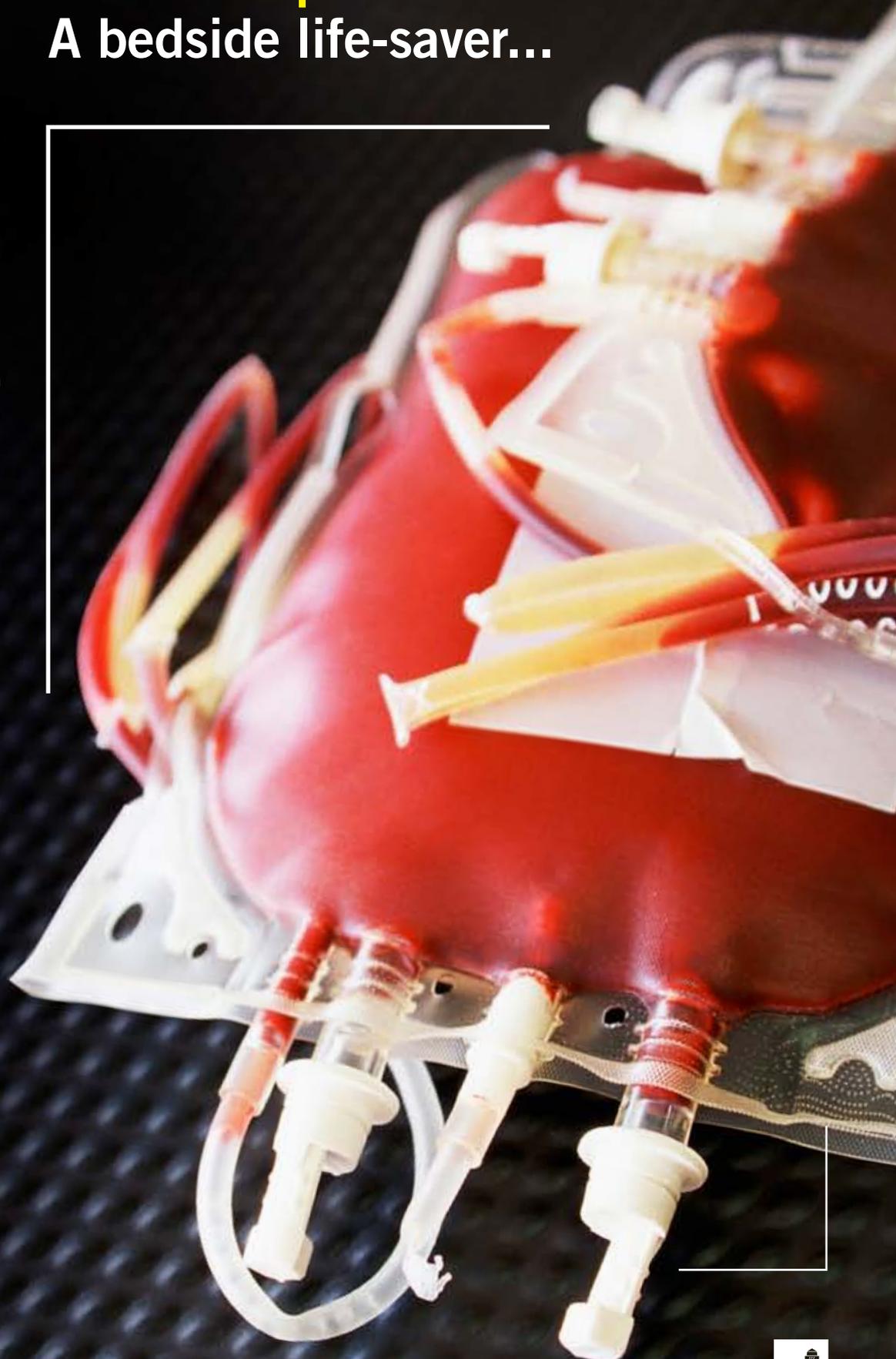
You can help to make it happen - with a gift to the Footsteps Fund.

Just 40 gifts of £40 could fund a whole month of doctoral research into this vital area.

Send back a donation with the 'Update Your Details' form with this magazine.

Alternatively, give online at www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/give or text 'STEP03 £3', 'STEP03 £5' or 'STEP03 £10' to 70070.

(Texts are charged at your carrier's rate, in addition to your donation, and you must have the permission of the person who pays the bill in order to text. Text donations are handled by Justgiving in partnership with Vodafone so that 100% of your donation is received by the Footsteps Fund).



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

FACE TO FACE

Peter Hendy (Economics and Geography 1975) and Amy Byard (Broadcast Journalism 2011)

Peter Hendy's rationale for funding scholarships is simple: "I'm not interested in giving money to buildings. I'd rather support kids who wouldn't otherwise have been able to get to University."

Peter has been Commissioner of Transport for London since 2006. We're overlooking the city from TFL's boardroom, where Amy Byard has come to thank him for his support for her education.

●●

As a nation we should be supporting and nurturing bright young people. One of the best things you can do is to get people to use their innate ability

—Peter Hendy

●●

Amy is one of 195 students who have received Centenary Alumni Scholarships since the donor-funded scheme began in 2004, and she received £1,000-a-year as an undergraduate. "Your support meant I was able to work hard and concentrate on my degree, rather than worrying too much about debt."

Amy came from a challenging background – yet managed to secure the A-levels she needed for a place at Leeds. Even so, her family was unable to offer financial support for her studies: "I had no security blanket but I didn't want to let that be a barrier to coming to University." Three years on, Amy graduated with a First – the only student in her class to do so.

Peter's background is similar: "My parents weren't rich but when I went to University I got a grant. Most of my fellow students were from places like Liverpool and Doncaster and we'd probably never have gone if we'd had to pay."

Peter joined London Transport as a graduate trainee, eventually becoming managing director of CentreWest London Buses Ltd, where he led a management buyout. He later became Deputy Director of FirstGroup and returned to Transport for London in 2001, becoming Commissioner five years later.

They are talking as London reels from street violence: "We should nurture bright young people and get them to use their innate ability," said Peter. "If there's no hope and no opportunity – that's why people smash things up."

Leeds changed them both: "I came with a streak of inverted snobbery," says Peter. "We decided to drink in the pubs, like the locals. We thought the student union was the establishment, which was completely wrong actually."

Amy smiles: "I had a hostile attitude to people with money. I learned that I was just as capable of success as anyone, regardless of social circumstance. If you get a good mix of people, barriers dissolve."

Peter sees this as an example of how University aids social mobility: "Where else would you get that opportunity and that experience; think it through and change your view?" The memory of how Leeds shifted his horizons is a driving factor behind Peter's support for students: "I'm very fortunate – why wouldn't I give something back?"

Amy did the same. She took three jobs, and saved for a flight to Uganda where she spent a month working with children



and she tells Peter about this life-changing experience: "It was monumental. Having the experience of travel was thoroughly educational, but the highlight of it for me was definitely the children. It gives you such a perspective on your own life."

She also became a powerful advocate of scholarships, working on the call team and talking to alumni about their experiences at Leeds, and how they might help other students. "We should shout about these scholarships and the good they do. It's great to talk to the alumni and tell them how their support can make a difference." You may have received a call from her; you may even have been contributed to the £33,000 which she raised. Her one scholarship helped start another 11.

Amy's success at Leeds was underlined by two awards. The Access Programme Award recognised her success in her studies; the Mentor of the Year

●●

If you get a good mix of people together, those barriers dissolve. That's possibly the most useful lesson I've learned at University

—Amy Byard

●●

award reflected the work she did with children from an under-achieving Leeds school.

Amy has now started work in PR, and remains grateful for the head-start given by the scholarship: "It has changed my life. Hopefully when I have a family, it will have changed theirs too. 'Thank you' will never quite sum it up."

AN INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEY

Climbing Kilimanjaro to raise money for dementia research at Leeds

Francis Teer's father was a brilliant and respected deputy headmaster, who loved the outdoors. But his career and his life were both cut short by Alzheimer's, and he died before he reached the age of 60. Franky knew that the University of Leeds is at the forefront of research into dementia, of which Alzheimer's is just one of many forms.

He decided that the best way to honour his father would be to climb Kilimanjaro, a journey his father would have loved to make with him, and raise money to benefit research at Leeds. Franky has already raised nearly £2,000 towards his £3,400 target.

You can support Franky, or set up your own fundraising page for the Footsteps Fund at Leeds at www.justgiving.com/universityofleeds



In brief

Doctoral training

A gift of £750 from an alumnus will enable a PhD student in medical engineering to take up a secondment in Leeds' Doctoral Training Centre in Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine, which brings together postgraduates and established academics to develop effective clinical therapies for the treatment of disease and disability. Secondments give early-career researchers vital exposure to practical research through working on real-life medical problems, and insights into how to give new ideas the best chance of success.

Law legacy sends students to China

A legacy from John Loftus (Law 1967) enabled ten students to join a summer school in Shanghai. His £5,000 gift, along with a donation of £5,000 from law firm Slaughter and May, funded a two-week visit to the East China University of Politics and Law where they took part in lectures, legal and business-related visits and cultural activities. One student said: "Lectures enabled us to understand how Chinese culture is reflected in law. The areas covered in contract law will be invaluable when conducting business in China in the future."

New chair in End-of-life-care

The University has appointed a new chair in Palliative Medicine, thanks to support from local hospice St Gemma's. Professor Michael Bennett will lead a new Academic Unit of Palliative Care at the Leeds Institute of Health Sciences, a teaching and research institute within the School of Medicine. He will be leading research to develop and test innovative treatments aimed at improving the care of patients with an incurable illness. St Gemma's will fund the new research unit for five years and Professor Bennett will work as a Consultant at the hospice.

New Footsteps

The Alumni Annual Fund has changed its name to the Footsteps Fund, reflecting that donations are helping students to follow in the footsteps of alumni and take the first steps on their own journey. More than 2,000 alumni have already supported the Footsteps Fund this year. In November, 90 donors attended the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships Reception where they met some of the students whose lives have been changed, thanks to your support.

THE GIFT OF LEARNING

A gift of £900,000 from Lord Laidlaw of Rothiemay (Economics 1963) will support students from less privileged backgrounds during the first year of their studies.

His gift provides scholarships of up to £6,000 to students who win a place at the University through its pioneering Access to Leeds scheme, which works with schools and communities to encourage young people to aim high. With bursaries given directly by the University, these students will receive £9,000 in year one – equivalent to their tuition fees from 2012.

Lord Laidlaw has also committed to give £250,000 to Research and Leadership Scholarships for arts students, enabling undergraduates to join research projects during their summer vacation.

CALLING FULL TIME ON THE BIG MATCH

Our Big Match appeal ended in July 2011. You helped us raise more than £1 million and benefit from the government's match funding scheme.

For more information visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/bigmatchfacts

The Big Match appeal has funded 88 future medical professionals



44 Centenary Alumni Scholars so far have graduated with a first or a 2:1



Since 2009 there has been an 87% increase in the number of digitised texts available to students across the University



We have spoken to 32,266 Leeds Alumni about the Big Match



The student callers consumed 11,376 cups of tea during the Big Match appeal



109 Centenary Alumni Scholarships funded during the Big Match appeal



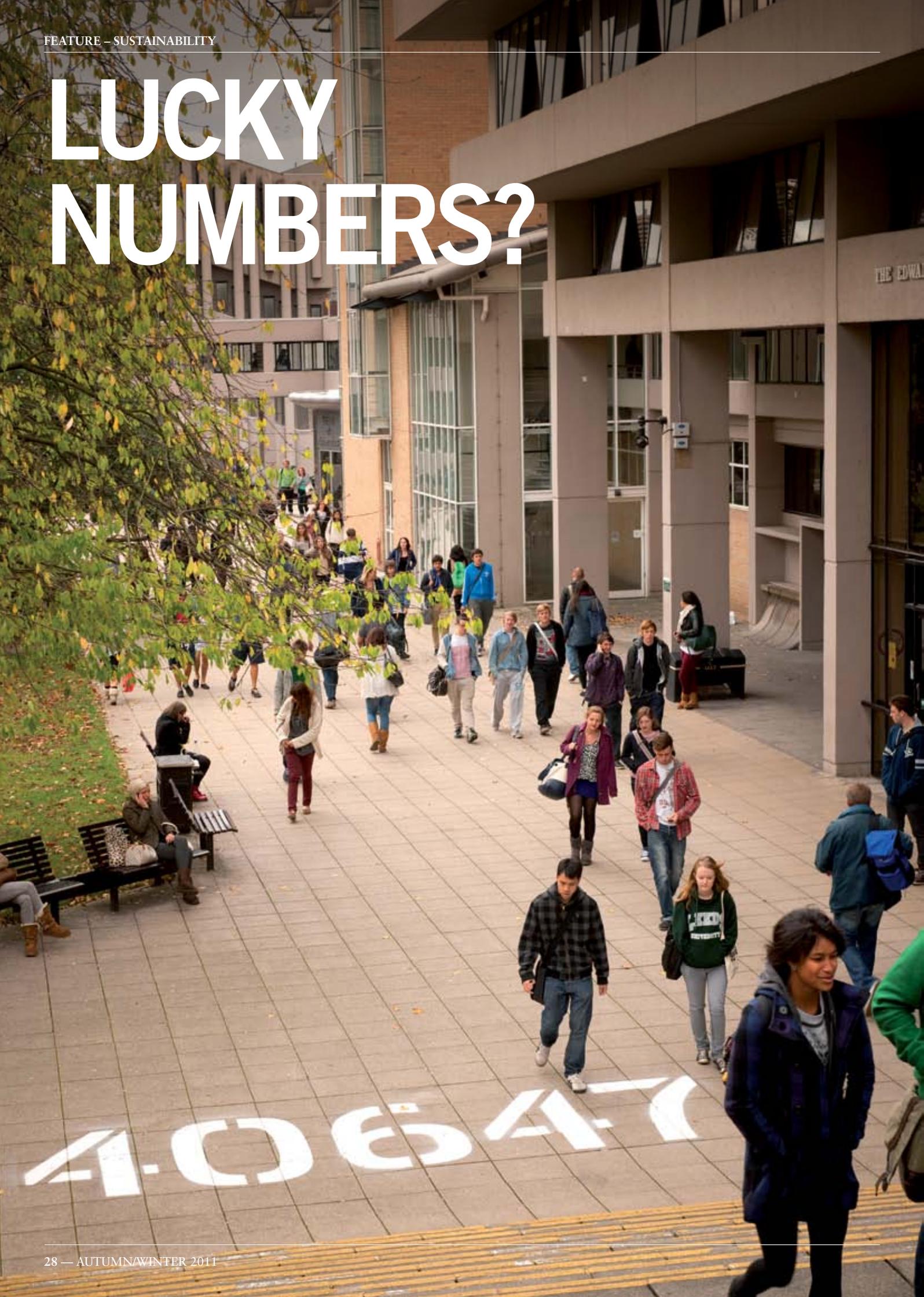
7 Olympic hopefuls and 21 sports teams supported since 2008



The Big Match appeal helped to support 117 student community projects



LUCKY NUMBERS?



Something strange happened on 15th October. A single mysterious number started appearing in various locations across campus. Was this some kind of code? A secret message? A student prank?

Over the following weeks, the message became clear: 40,647 is the total number of people based on campus: the population of a sizeable town.

Leeds is one of the world's leading centres for research into environmental impact and sustainability, but we need to make sure our own house is in order. 40,647 people and more than 100 buildings add up to around 70,000 tonnes of carbon from direct emissions annually. Leeds has now committed to reducing emissions by 35% by 2020/21, compared to 2005/6 levels.

40,647 marks the start of a high-profile campaign to spread the message about how much energy could be saved if staff and students work together.

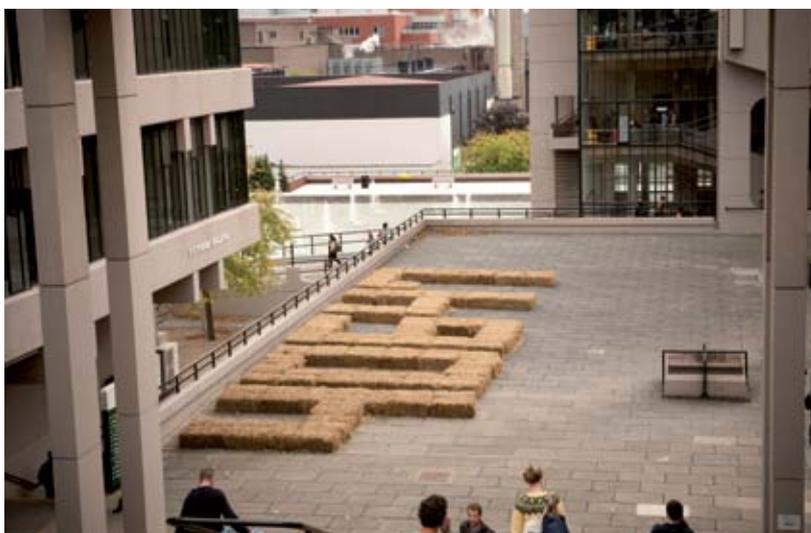
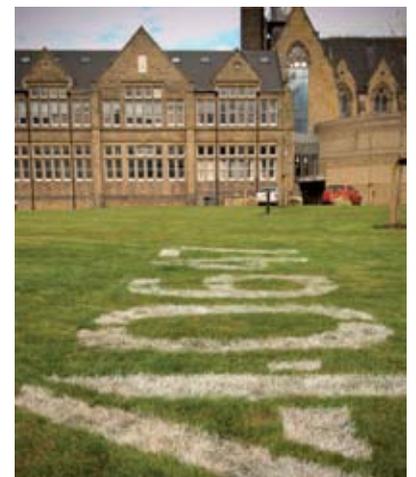
What about the impact of the installation itself? Well the paint is water soluble, biodegradable and environmentally friendly. The straw bales will be used at Leeds University Union's community food growing project at Bardon Grange. The polystyrene numbers will be used as art materials by the School of Art and Design. 🌱

For more, visit:
italladdsup.leeds.ac.uk



Big numbers: can you spot the locations?
This page: Clockwise from top: Parkinson Court, Western Campus (Business School), close to the Sports Centre, Chancellor's Court (by Roger Stevens Building), between the Union building and Botany House.

Facing page: by the Edward Boyle Library



VC'S VIEW

*Professor Michael Arthur
on the student experience*



I'm sure you will have great memories of your time as a student at Leeds. One of the traditions of which we're most proud is that of giving students something different and distinct to that of other universities.

Whether it's the cultural dimension of the library's special collections and our gallery, seeing live music in the Refectory, being given a close-up connection to cutting edge-research – or just sharing a vibrant, cosmopolitan city-centre campus with students of all academic disciplines – the Leeds student experience is a special one.

As one of our alumni you'll feel this more keenly than anyone.

It's tradition that continues to this day. Our new Partnership Agreement formalises the academic relationship which we have with our students. It sets out what they can expect from us and each other, and what we expect of them.

Drawn up with representatives of the students' union, its name reflects the fact that learning here is very much about partnership. Our students may only join us for three or four years of study, but they are our partners in a learning experience inspired and informed by our research.

This is not only something we're proud of, and something we feel builds on Leeds' rich traditions; it has also put us, in the university sector, "ahead of the curve". Those aren't my words; they're the view of the *Sunday Times*, which shortlisted Leeds for its University of the Year award.

Leeds was the only institution in the Russell Group to be shortlisted and we rose two places in the newspaper's national league table. The Partnership Agreement and our focus on the employability of our graduates were singled out for praise.

Our record for developing adaptable, employable, rounded, forward-thinking graduates ready for the world of work is a source of pride; the alumni I meet both in Leeds and around the world are its living proof. A survey showed that

six months after graduation, 92.6% of our class of 2010 graduates were already in graduate-level employment or continuing their studies. On this measure, we're not just ahead of the curve, we're ahead of Oxford.

These are timely successes. As we prepare for a seismic change in University funding, where our students will be paying tuition fees of £9,000 a year, everything we can do to stress not only the value of higher education – but specifically the benefits of studying at Leeds – will be invaluable. Though our students will not have to begin paying these fees until they graduate, their expectations of higher education will be increased.

A survey showed that six months after graduation, 92.6% of our class of 2010 graduates were already in graduate-level employment or continuing their studies. On this measure, we're not just ahead of the curve, we're ahead of Oxford

The vast reduction in Government funding for higher education (our teaching budget will be cut by 80% over the next few years) is not what we would have chosen, but it does enable us to do more – much more – to help bright students from disadvantaged backgrounds to study at Leeds. We will work with more schools, colleges and young people than ever to encourage them to aim for a place at Leeds; those students from the least well-off families will be entitled to £12,000 assistance over their three years at Leeds.

All Universities must do this, but for us, it's building on something we have long done, driven by a determination to make a place at Leeds accessible and achievable to those of sufficient talent, whatever their background. Helped by the donations which you have given to support a range of student scholarships, it's a curve we've been ahead of for several years.

At the same time, we're spending £12m on teaching facilities, new equipment and field trips to enhance the student experience for everyone. We have exciting plans to renew our libraries for the digital age; additional teaching staff across the University will reduce class sizes and improve the feedback we give.

Our commitment to putting research at the heart of the learning experience is perhaps best exemplified by our plans to recruit 50 new academic chairs, leaders who can integrate outstanding student education with world-leading research and help us to demonstrate our commitment to academic excellence in everything we do.

We know we're already moving in the right direction. The recent National Student Survey showed that the overwhelming majority of our students were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with their experience at Leeds. Across all categories – including teaching, academic support, learning resources and personal development – our scores were up on the previous year. Our financial projections are good, our research income is rising, and the 35,000 visitors to campus during our recent open days are clear proof that Leeds remains a popular place to study, learn and live.

We're determined to stay ahead of the curve.

SIGNING OFF

Dr Sue Jacklin

Assistant Director of Sport and Physical Activity
Retiring after 34 years



Also:

- Worked with the Student Union and the University Sport Centre
- BUCS award, Outstanding Contribution to Higher Education Sport

Looking back over my time at Leeds, with so many changes over that time (sports facilities for one!), it is clear that some things never change – the passion and enthusiasm of the students remains constant.

I have had the privilege of working with some amazing people, staff and students, and would love to hear what you are doing now, and your recollections of your time here.

Post your best wishes and memories of Sue at:
alumni.leeds.ac.uk/suejacklin

Professor Dick Killington

Professor of Virology Education
Retiring after 39 years



Also:

- Pro-dean for Learning and Teaching, Faculty of Biological Sciences
- Warden, Henry Price Building
- Country Adviser, Brazil

I have shared learning, teaching and pastoral experiences with many thousands of Leeds students. For those of you who lived in Henry Price from 1981 to 2011, rest assured that your secrets are safe with me. For those of you whom I taught, thank you for laughing at my very poor jokes!

I would love to hear from you – either to relate anecdotes or to let me know what you are up to these days.

Post your best wishes and memories of Dick at:
alumni.leeds.ac.uk/dickkillington

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

What's on for Leeds alumni over the next few months



LEEDS ALUMNI SPRING RECEPTION AT HAREWOOD HOUSE

Thursday 19 April 7-9pm
The State Rooms and Terrace, Harewood House, Nr Leeds



> Tickets £30 per person
Booking opens on Tuesday 3 January.
Early booking is advised as places are strictly limited
Book online at alumni.leeds.ac.uk/harewood or call 0113 343 7520

The University is holding a special reception for Leeds alumni in the historic and beautiful surroundings of Harewood House. This will be an exclusive opportunity to meet the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Arthur; senior staff from the University and other Leeds alumni in one of the treasure houses of England.

Experts will be on hand to talk about the house, its history and its renowned collections of paintings and furniture, and guests will also be able to enjoy Harewood's magnificent Terrace, one of the most beautiful Victorian formal gardens in the country. Wine and canapés will be served during the evening.



JANUARY

Pip Dickens: New Work

Opening Night: Tuesday 17 January, 6-8pm
18 January – 14 April
Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery
Contemporary painter and artist-in-residence at Leeds Pip Dickens creates new work inspired by Michael Sadler's gifts of Kashmiri shawls to the University, now held at the University's Textiles Archive (ULITA).
> For further details visit www.leeds.ac.uk/gallery



Leeds University Old Students' Association London AGM

Sunday 29 January, 3pm
Calthorpe Arms, London
The Leeds University Old Students Association has been arranging events and activities in and around the London area for alumni of the University since its formation in 1912.
> To book, or for more information about the association, contact LUOSA London secretary Chris Pudsey on chrispudsey@googlemail.com or 01727 864981, or visit the LUOSA London website at www.luosa.org.uk



MARCH

Edinburgh reception

Wednesday 14 March, 6.30pm
University of Edinburgh
Leeds comes to Edinburgh! Meet up with fellow Leeds alumni and graduates from the other Russell Group universities (the group of 20 leading research intensive institutions in the UK) at a drinks and networking reception.
> Booking and further details at alumni.leeds.ac.uk/Edinburgh



The big debate: Freedom of expression vs the right to privacy

Monday 12 March, 6.30-9pm
Mishcon de Reya, Summit House, 12 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QD
As politicians, lawyers, journalists and police consider the culture, practices and ethics of the press in the wake of the *News of the World* hacking scandal, we ask 'Who guards the guardians? Are we any the wiser?' All alumni with an interest in the legal or media professions, or the topic are invited to attend our open debate, led by a panel of lawyers and journalists, chaired by Deputy Head of the School of Law, Professor Ian Cram, and Partner at Mishcon de Reya, Tony Morton-Hooper (Political Studies 1976). The discussion will be followed by networking over drinks and canapés.
> Tickets £10. Booking is essential. Go to alumni.leeds.ac.uk/pn/law



Alumni London pub quiz

Thursday 29 March, 6.30pm team registration, 7pm quiz starts
Counting House, 50 Cornhill, London, EC3V 3PD
Form a team with your family, friends and work colleagues, come along and see if you have what it takes to be quiz champions. Give your grey matter a work out and be in the running for a top prize. Teams can be made up of up to six people but the captain must be a graduate of the University. Questions will cover a whole range of topics, but one or two might just have a Leeds theme!
> Booking and further details at alumni.leeds.ac.uk/pubquiz





MAY

Treasures on Paper

Opening Night: Tuesday 1 May, 6-8pm
2 May – 28 July
Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery
 Highlights from the University Art Collection's wide-ranging works on paper, including early English watercolours, 20th century drawings and recent prints.
 > For further details visit www.leeds.ac.uk/gallery



Weekend of sport

Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 May
Sports Day at Weetwood Playing Fields on Saturday, VIP morning at The Edge on Sunday.
 Alumni will be taking on student teams in a host of sports, including football, hockey, rugby and netball. As always, the bar will be open and there will be an all-day barbecue on the terrace on Saturday. All alumni, family and friends are invited for a free swim in The Edge pool on Sunday, 9-11am.
 > Book at www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/sportsday and www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/freeswim



JUNE

Leeds University Liturgical Choir — Tenth Anniversary Concert

Sunday 3 June, 3pm, Great Hall
 Alumni are invited to see LULC, one of the finest University choirs in the country, in a concert celebrating its 10th Anniversary. Membership is drawn from the staff and student community, and this concert will include alumni who have performed with the choir over the years. The conductor is Dr Bryan White.
 > For more information and booking: music.leeds.ac.uk/lulc



Society of Old Devonians reunion dinner

Saturday 16 June
Devonshire Hall
 Join us once again for the annual reunion dinner at Devonshire Hall. The event is a fantastic opportunity to reminisce with friends about your time at Devonshire. Enjoy dinner at the Hall and have drinks in the bar afterwards.
 > alumni.leeds.ac.uk/devonshire



Alumni lounge at the University Open Day

Friday 22 June and Saturday 23 June, 1pm-3.30pm
1913 Room, Great Hall
 If you're bringing your son or daughter to the University Open Day, take advantage of your alumni status by relaxing in the tranquil setting of the 1913 Room, next to the Great Hall. Join us for exclusive access to the alumni parents' lounge, a perfect place for you and your family to take a break after exploring our campus. Complimentary refreshments, including cream teas, strawberries and cakes, will be available.
 > For booking and further details visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/openday



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

For those outside the UK, we have a regular programme of alumni-led international events taking place in countries all over the world. Within the last year, graduates of the University have got together to share their memories of Leeds, make new friends and business contacts in South Korea, Hong Kong, the US, Canada, China, Japan, Vietnam, Brazil and Qatar among others. Many more events are planned for 2012. Visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk website for more information and booking details, and make sure we have your up-to-date email address so we can invite you! If you should find there is nothing planned near you, why not arrange your own event? Just get in touch to find out more. We have alumni in most countries, from Gabon to Guatemala, Albania to Argentina.

LUOSA EVENTS

LUOSA organises a wider range of activities for former students. This year members visited the European Parliament in Strasbourg.
 > For a report on the Strasbourg visit, and to find out more about LUOSA and its activities visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/luosa

For a full list of all events, including class reunions and international events visit www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/events

Olympics at Leeds

2012 sees the Olympics and Paralympics Games take place in the UK. Leeds students and alumni will be taking part and we'll tell you who to watch. We will also show you just how many connections the University has to the London 2012 Games. *Do you know any Leeds graduates who have competed, or are hoping to compete in the Olympic or Paralympic Games?*

Learning revolution

Is teaching and learning now all just podcasts, iPads and Facebook? Next issue we'll look at the Leeds learning experience, and how it's changed over the years. *We'd love your stories about your own experiences of the lecture room, the classroom or the lab at Leeds. What was special about it?*

Riley's hall

We'd like your memories of the Riley Smith Hall – whether events, drama productions, meetings. What did it mean to you?

Let us know at alumni@leeds.ac.uk write to us at **Alumni and Development Team, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT** or post your comments at alumni.leeds.ac.uk



**THE
FOOTSTEPS
FUND**

**Leeds scholarship > Headingley
home > Late nights in Edward
Boyle > Discovering my
vocation > Led to this...**

For Cheryl, Leeds wasn't just the place where she could begin to realise her dreams – it was the first place she could properly call home.

Cheryl's £1,000 per year scholarship, provided by the Footsteps Fund, was a life-saver. It gave her the financial security to move away from a troubled family background and begin to discover what her true potential really was. She discovered a true love of teaching and mentoring. In her vacations she began working with our Access Academy - to reach out to other young people in the same situation as she had been in, and show them what could be possible for them, too.

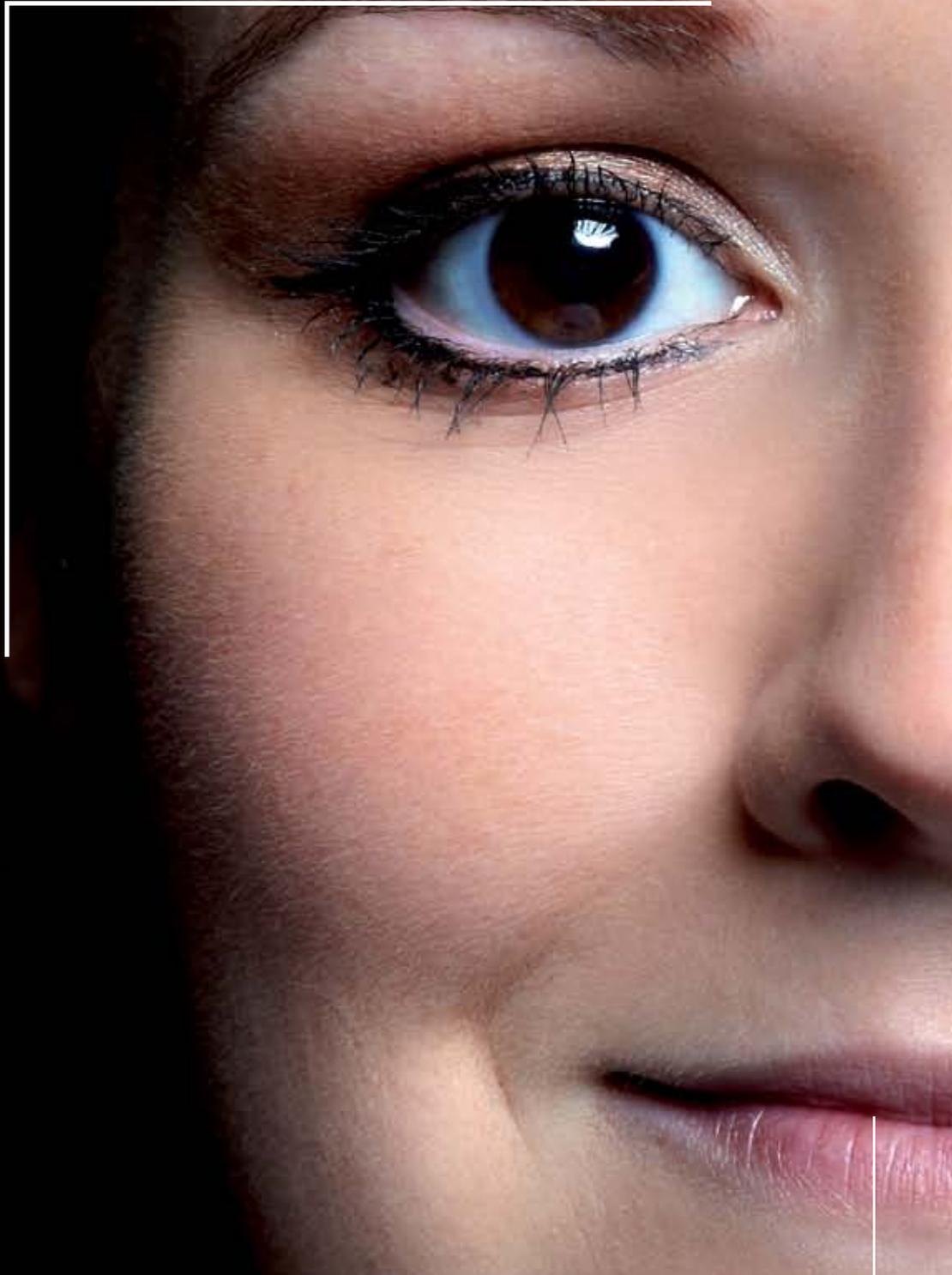
Now, just 2 years since she graduated, Cheryl is already an inspirational teacher. And all from a scholarship of £1,000 per year, provided by donations from Leeds alumni.

Just 25 gifts of £40 to the Footsteps Fund will provide a whole year's scholarship for another student like Cheryl. Please give today, and help another student follow in her footsteps.

Send back a donation with the 'Update Your Details' form with this magazine.

Alternatively, give online at www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/donate or text 'STEP05 £3', 'STEP05 £5' or 'STEP05 £10' to 70070.

(Texts are charged at your carrier's rate, in addition to your donation, and you must have the permission of the person who pays the bill in order to text. Text donations are handled by Justgiving in partnership with Vodafone so that 100% of your donation is received by the Footsteps Fund).



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS