



L. LEEDS

ALUMNI
MAGAZINE

ISSUE
16

WINTER 2014 - 2015

New home for knowledge
Leeds' new library takes shape

Sir Roderic Lyne
On hitchhiking to Leeds and
diplomatic missions to Russia

How you changed lives
Meet some of our
alumni-funded scholars

Leeds at war
Unearthed tales of Leeds
1914-18



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

A black and white portrait of Phil Steel, a man with short hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

Phil Steel (English 1997)
Head of Alumni Relations

The New Year season is an opportunity to reflect on the previous year and look forward to the new one. Looking both back and forward is what we do in this issue.

Last year saw a series of events and activities which commemorated the start of the First World War, one of the catastrophic events of the twentieth century. This autumn, we held a ceremony of remembrance for those members of the Leeds community who died, along with so many others, during the War. What was it like, for the University, back in 1914 and during those years? We go back with the help of the University's archive to tell that story.

From the students of previous generations to the alumni of tomorrow... several of our outstanding students, all of them recipients of alumni-funded Scholarships, tell us in these pages about their experiences and their plans for the future. Read too about our first new library for 40 years as it gets closer to completion. And of course there are plenty of updates on the amazing research happening here.

Here in the alumni team, we aim to keep you in touch, informed, enthused, and enlightened. I hope we've managed to do a bit of that here!

Best wishes for 2015

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phil".

JAYNE DAWSON

(Social Policy and Sociology 1982) works as a freelance writer after a career on regional dailies, and has been awarded both Yorkshire and UK Feature Writer of the Year. She is a columnist for the Yorkshire Evening Post, where she previously worked as features editor, and also writes for the Yorkshire Post.

PETER POPHAM

(English 1974) is a columnist and leader writer on the staff of The Independent. He is the author of *The Lady and the Peacock* (2011), the best-selling biography of Aung San Suu Kyi.

MARCUS LYON

(Political Studies 1987) is a British artist and social entrepreneur. His work has been exhibited globally in more than 90 shows.

PHIL SUTCLIFFE

Is a regular contributor to Leeds and has written for Sounds, The Face, Q, Mojo, The Los Angeles Times and The Northern Echo. He is Member of Honour of the National Union of Journalists. He recently edited and published his father's book, *Nobody of Any Importance: A Foot Soldier's Memoir of World War I*.

KIPPER WILLIAMS

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

ADAM ROBINSONV

(English 2006, MA 2008) is a photographer who has spent the last eleven years living and working in Leeds. See his work at www.pikchures.com

EDITORIAL TEAM

Phil Steel (Editor), Jill Bullock (Deputy Editor), Simon Jenkins, Megan Owen

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Rachel Barson, Laura Dakin, Emma McKeown, Sarah Ward

WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK

search for "Leeds Alumni" online

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MAKING HEADLINES



THE ALUMNI AMBASSADOR



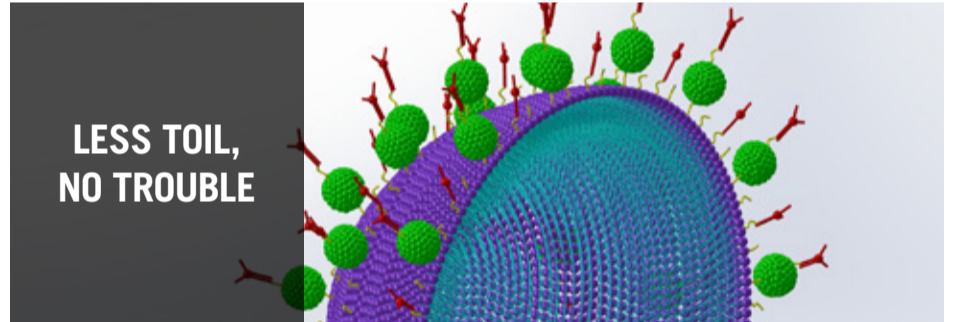
SUCCESS STORIES



LEEDS 1914-18



LESS TOIL, NO TROUBLE



REGULARS

THE LATEST FROM LEEDS



ALUMNI NEWS



DEPARTMENT ROUND-UP



VC'S VIEW



FORTHCOMING EVENTS





30 FANS CHEERED ON LONDON BOX SASH FOOTBALL CLUB AS THEY STAGED A FIVE-MILE VICTORY PARADE THROUGH LONDON



WINNERS' PARADE

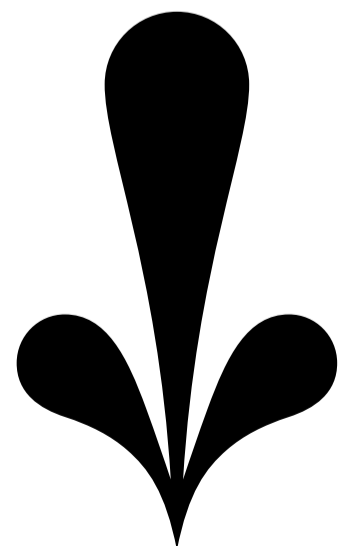


PHOTO: DAILY MAIL

A mighty phalanx of 30 fans cheered on London Box Sash Football Club as they staged a five-mile victory parade through London. The players, mainly Leeds graduates, waved balloons and sipped champagne on an open-top bus to celebrate winning this season's local Saturday league. As Manager Matt Cook (French and Italian 2010) explains, their unusual parade left onlookers "bemused".

CLASSIC AND COMPOSED

As Head of Development at NMC Recordings, Helen Hughes (Music 1989) promotes new classical music from both established and emerging composers. NMC is a rare example of a charity record label funded through donations and grants, which Helen is responsible for obtaining. "Because of this we can base our artistic decisions on quality rather than commercial potential," explains Helen. This year, NMC is celebrating 25 years of keeping new music alive.

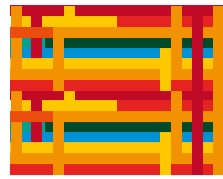


THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING

Jonathan Kaye (Political Studies 1999) is Chief Executive of restaurant group Prezzo. The company has more than 240 restaurants across the UK (including Chimichanga and Cleaver). Jonathan, who founded Prezzo in 2000 says: “I enjoyed my time at Leeds and am proud of the success of Prezzo.”

PLEASE STEP ON THE ARTWORK

For Nadia Burton (Art and Design 1993) carpets are works of art. Nadia is Design Director for Brinton’s, one of the oldest carpet manufacturers in the world. From her base in Atlanta, Nadia manages a team across both North and South America, delivering complex carpet design projects for hotels, casinos and cruise ships. Nadia says: “Carpets are as important as any architectural feature.”



NADIA BURTON PUTS HER ART DEGREE TO PRACTICAL USE PRODUCING COMPLEX CARPET DESIGNS

NADIA BURTON
BRINTON'S CARPETS,
(HARTFORD CONNECTICUT
CONVENTION CENTER
BALLROOM AREA)



RETIRE? ME?

Judge Barrington Black (Law 1952) has hung up his wig for the final time at the age of 83. He was forced to step down as Crown Court judge at 75, an age considered “statutorily senile” under English law. Fortunately, as he reached 80, the courts in Gibraltar welcomed Barrington’s so-called senility and he spent a further three years clearing their cases. What next? “If nothing comes in the post I’ll probably go down to the Jobcentre on Monday,” he jokes.

BRAIN POWER

Mary Baker MBE (Sociology 1958) was this year awarded the Dana/EDAB Lifetime Achievement Award for Outreach on Behalf of Brain Research. Mary’s contribution to neurological diseases has been varied, with major roles in the European Brain Council and the Parkinson’s Disease Association. In 2014, the European Year of the Brain, Mary spoke about the burden of an ageing population and the concomitant need for research into these conditions.



BEHIND THE SCREEN

When directing two episodes of the latest series of television programme 24, Omar Madha (English 1990) enjoyed showing off London to an international audience. The show’s nonstop action and special effects demanded a top-notch director. Omar, who launched his career in drama from the University’s Theatre Group, describes lead actor Kiefer Sutherland as: “fun to work with” and a “genuinely gentle guy.”



JUDGE BARRINGTON BLACK



MARY BAKER
PHOTO: NIGEL GREEN, FRASER
GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY



MARY BAKER RECEIVED
AN AWARD FOR HER
LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION
TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF
NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES



24

OMAR MADHA DIRECTED TWO
EPISODES OF THE LATEST SERIES
OF TELEVISION PROGRAMME 24

THE LEEDS NETWORK

Manuel Duggal (German Language and Literature 1992) coincidentally came across fellow Leeds graduate Enock Bwalya (Mechanical Engineering 1989) at this year's Mining on Top Africa conference. The two discovered they had overlapped at Leeds and enjoyed reminiscing about our campus. Manuel's energy consultancy company MCD and Enock's business African Heights are now collaborating on a mining infrastructure project in Zambia.



WATCH THIS SPACE

Dr James Kass (Physics 1978) is an adviser to Mars One, a foundation that works towards a human settlement on the red planet. In the domain of human spaceflight, James's expertise lies in the neurophysiological responses to microgravity, and the psychosocial problems of isolation. He worked with the astronauts of the first US space station Skylab and trained crews for the first Spacelab missions, as well as for the Russian MIR station. Currently CEO of his own consulting service, James provides advice on all aspects of space travel, amongst other domains.

BACK TO LEEDS

Leeds is the inspiration for Elisabeth Gifford's (French and Religious Studies 1980) latest novel Return to Fourwinds. The tale features the campus of the 1970s, a time of "summery smocks and flares." Elisabeth notes that after graduation in 1980, "we all turned into yuppies." Elisabeth was shortlisted for the Historical Fiction Debut Award by the Historical Writers' Association.



WHAT'S YOUR NEWS? TELL US AT:
[ALUMNI.LEEDS.AC.UK/
ALUMNINEWS](http://ALUMNI.LEEDS.AC.UK/ALUMNINEWS)



NEWS FROM THE FRONTSIDE

Andy Willis (Civil Engineering 2003) gave up an engineering job to pursue his passion for designing and building skateparks. In 2012 he won a bid to redevelop a site in East London as part of the Olympic Legacy programme and Frontside Gardens was created. Andy hand-built the ramps with help from local volunteers using discarded materials from the Olympic Park and other London sites. [Watch Andy's story here](#)



CHAMPION OF CAUSES

Datin Mina Cheah-Foong (Computational Science and Management Studies 1982) is Managing Director of the Body Shop in Malaysia. Mina shares the company's commitment to social causes, and was this year recognised by Forbes magazine as a "Hero of Philanthropy" for her work championing the rights of sex workers and victims of domestic violence. The Body Shop International named a wildlife corridor after Mina, in recognition of her efforts to preserve the Malaysian rainforests.



MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE BODY SHOP IN MALAYSIA. MINA SHARES THE COMPANY'S COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL CAUSES, AND WAS THIS YEAR RECOGNISED BY FORBES MAGAZINE AS A "HERO OF PHILANTHROPY"

Adrian Wong (Law 1985) was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the Hong Kong SAR Government for his contribution to the work of the Communications Authority.

Pioneer of women's rugby **Carol Isherwood** (History 1982, PGCE 1984) has been recognised in the International Rugby Board Hall of Fame.

Nancy Proctor (MA Feminism in the Visual Arts 1994) is Deputy Director of Digital Experience at the Baltimore Art Museum.

At the age of 22, **Alice Smart** (History and Social Policy 2013) is Leeds City Council's youngest councillor.

The Incarnations, by **Susan Barker** (Philosophy and Politics 2000) follows a Beijing taxi driver across 1000 years of Chinese history.

The Royal Society has awarded **Professor Howard Morris** FRS (BSc Chemistry & Mathematics 1967, PhD Biophysics 1970) the 2014 Royal Medal for his pioneering work in biomolecular mass spectrometry.

The Empty Homes Doctor service, run by **Rob Greenland** (French and Spanish 1996), works with Leeds City Council to bring vacant houses in the city back into use.

Questions Editor for BBC's University Challenge, **Thomas Benson** (Chinese Studies 1983) has the task of challenging Britain's brightest minds.

CEO of the NSPCC **Peter Wanless** (International History and Politics 1986) conducted a review of the inquiry into the Home Office's handling of historical allegations of child sex abuse.

Gillian Roe (Radiography 2001) has been named Radiographer of the Year 2014 for the Yorkshire & North Trent region by the Society and College of Radiographers.

Theology and Religious Studies graduate **Rebecca Coupe** (2011) scooped "Most Successful New Business" at the South Yorkshire Business Awards, recognising the growth of her digital marketing company "Infinity Digital" since its launch in January.

BUILDING EXCITEMENT



**OUR FIRST NEW LIBRARY IN
HALF A CENTURY IS DUE TO
OPEN IN THE SUMMER, AND IT
IS STARTING TO TAKE SHAPE ON
WOODHOUSE LANE**



University Librarian Stella Butler can scarcely contain her excitement as she looks around the shell of the Laidlaw Library taking shape on Woodhouse Lane. “It’s like being in a sweetie shop,” she says.

She acknowledges that few librarians ever have the chance to lead the development of such a facility: “It’s a fantastic thing to be involved in. It’s the first time we have expanded our library space since the 1990s and the first time we have built a whole new library since the 1970s. It’s a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

“What’s really exciting is that we are doing it in a high-quality way,” says Stella, indicating the Portland stone panels which echo the stunning frontage of the Parkinson Building nearby. Each is unique and rich with fossils.

“IT’S VERY TACTILE. THE DESIGN WILL FIT SO WELL WITH THE PARKINSON AND THE TWO CHURCHES AND CREATE A WONDERFUL APPROACH TO THE UNIVERSITY.”

It’s green too. Natural ventilation, solar panels and a green roof each help to create a carbon efficient building fit for our environmentally conscious times: “We’re going to encourage people to use the stairs too, rather than the lift.”

Original artworks, an airy atrium space, high-end furnishing and the latest information technology, all designed around student demand for facilities, will make for impressive surroundings. “We’ll also have top-quality shelving – but maybe only librarians get excited about things like that.”

Those shelves will be packed with texts central to undergraduate study across the disciplines offered at Leeds. “On the ground floor we will have the really high demand material, like all the books which are on first and second year reading lists – the resources our students need as they go through that transition from directed learning into independent study.”

The library will also provide students with facilities tuned to today’s needs and the way they learn. Over 1,000 new individual study spaces – each with power sockets and super-fast connectivity – will provide access to online materials through laptops, tablets and



THE BROTHERTON LIBRARY IS NAMED AFTER LORD BROTHERTON, AN INDUSTRIALIST AND FORMER LORD MAYOR OF LEEDS, WHO IN 1927 DONATED £100,000 TOWARDS ITS CONSTRUCTION. HE DIED IN 1930, SOME SIX YEARS BEFORE BUILDING WORK WAS COMPLETED.



▲
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN
STELLA BUTLER



phones. “All students tend to bring at least one device – and they stay in the library for a long period, particularly when they’re revising, so they can’t rely on batteries.”

Stella bristles at the suggestion that students no longer need libraries or books: “Sure, they use a lot of resources online and they may do that in their study bedrooms. But that doesn’t mean they don’t need libraries as well. You only have to visit during exam times when it can be hard to find a space, just to see how much they are used. That’s part of the reason why we are doing this; if you give students the facilities, they flock to them. And where students use libraries regularly, they perform better in their studies.”

The Laidlaw Library will give students still more, equipping them with the skills needed for final year and postgraduate study and for research. “There will be skills teaching facilities, and the software and databases they will need to become independent learners. There will be group study rooms that reflect how they now learn collaboratively, and pods with facilities to enable them to share presentations.”

2.3 MILLION

LEEDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY IS ONE OF THE UK'S LARGEST UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES WITH A STOCK OF OVER 2.3 MILLION VOLUMES

This vision of the Library as a place of interaction extends to a ground-floor café and Stella is “looking forward to seeing students sitting drinking coffee on the steps outside, just like they have done at the Parkinson for generations.”

And she sees the Laidlaw Library as symbolic of the same academic ambition which created the iconic circular reading room of the Brotherton: “Libraries have always been the intellectual heart of the University, and that’s absolutely what we are doing here.

“The students who use the Laidlaw will become effective researchers, learners and collaborators. They will move on equipped with the skills to take advantage of what we have elsewhere – the research collections of the Brotherton and the training facilities of the Edward Boyle. At the same time, it will relieve the pressure on these other libraries so they can be the quiet, contemplative spaces which they need to be.”

The new library will be named after Irvine Laidlaw, who studied economics at Leeds in the early 1960s, and whose £9 million gift – the biggest ever received by the University – underpinned the development. A wall just inside the Hillary Place entrance will feature the names of the generous alumni and friends of the University, including nearly 2,500 donors to the Footsteps Fund, who between them have donated more than £700,000 towards creating this remarkable space.

“It’s wonderful that our alumni are investing in both our current students and the generations to come. Our donors’ response has shown us what an impact our libraries had on their own studies, and it’s been great to read some of their memories of Leeds – from the alumnus who credited library staff with helping him complete his degree to the alumna who met her future husband in the Brotherton.

“Of all the facilities on campus, the one which will impact on every single student, is the library. It’s the way of making the biggest difference to the greatest number of people and I’d like to say a big thank you for making this possible.

“It’s going to be, from top to bottom, absolutely worthy of a first-class university. For a librarian, what could be better than that?”



THE BROTHERTON'S DOMED READING ROOM WAS MODELLED ON THAT OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM; THOUGH A SLIGHTLY INCREASED DIAMETER ENSURED THAT IT WAS LARGER THAN THE SOUTHERN ORIGINAL.

POSTGRADUATE OPEN DAY

6 FEBRUARY 2015

INSPIRING
MINDS



Are you looking to enhance your career potential, pursue your subject passion or thinking about a change in direction? As a Leeds graduate you may be eligible for a 10% tuition fee bursary for postgraduate study (terms and conditions apply).

Find out more and book your place online:
www.leeds.ac.uk/pgopenday



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



PUTTING THE FLAGS OUT FOR OUR ALUMNI

A display of banners across campus is celebrating the achievements of some of Leeds' most illustrious alumni. The banners, in Parkinson Court and along University Road (in front of the LUU building) show how Leeds graduates are making a world of difference in their particular field, including human health, arts and culture, business, sport and politics. The banners were first displayed for graduation in the summer and will continue to change over the course of the year.

HONORARY DEGREES AWARDED

Scientist and entrepreneur Nicholas Lydon (Biochemistry and Zoology 1978) joined a Hollywood actor, a pianist and a polar explorer in this year's list of honorary degrees.

Lydon played a decisive role in the development of Gleevec, a drug that has saved the lives of thousands of patients with chronic myelogenous leukaemia and gastrointestinal stromal tumours.

▲ PARKINSON COURT, WITH OUR ALUMNI BANNERS



▲ ACTOR SIR PATRICK STEWART (HON. LLD)

Actor Sir Patrick Stewart, best known for his portrayals of Star Trek Captain Jean-Luc Picard, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Letters.

Sir Andras Schiff, regarded as one of the greatest piano players of our time, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Music.

Director of the British Antarctic Survey Professor Jane Francis, until recently the Dean of the Faculty of Environment, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science.

Leeds conferred Honorary Doctorates of Laws on John Dyson, Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice and Professor Michael Arthur, Vice-Chancellor of the University from 2004-13 and now President and Provost of University College London.



The newly opened Beech Grove Plaza is giving staff, students and visitors a bright, open gateway onto campus.

As well as new seating and lighting, the Plaza incorporates planting to attract a more diverse range of wildlife. This includes indigenous species such as small-leaved lime trees, a native “green wall” and a variety of herbs and grasses to encourage pollinating insects and birds.

Visitors will also be struck by the monumental new sculpture in the Plaza. Called Sign for Art (Stelae 2014), it was designed by Yorkshire-

born artist Keith Wilson. The proximity of the artwork and Plaza to the refurbished Social Sciences Building means this area of campus is more welcoming and accessible, providing a space where people can meet, relax or simply pass through and enjoy.

HEARTFELT THANKS

Thank you to almost 1,700 Footsteps Fund donors who responded to our appeal to support the work led by Professor Mark Kearney into the links between heart disease and diabetes.

In the last issue we featured the work of Mark and his team. The leading group in the UK working on this deadly cocktail of diseases, they are searching for answers to why heart attack patients with diabetes have a far worse prognosis than those without.

Together alumni raised over £140,000 for this work.

The funding will enable the team to recruit a postgraduate student to spend three years working on this cutting edge research while working towards their PhD. As we went to press, recruitment to that post was already well under way.



A POET IN RESIDENCE

Helen Mort is the newest member of the Academy of Cultural Fellows.

“Poetry is something I have always loved,” says Helen. “I was an only child, so I grew up on my own. My mum used to read to me at bedtime, my dad was an English teacher and I used to listen to stories

on the radio. These things have a formative influence.”

Her prize for winning a national writing competition at the age of 12 was to take part in a week-long residential poetry course. “That really started me off.”

After completing a degree in psychology, Helen combined these twin passions with PhD research into the relationship between neuroscience and poetry. “It was looking at the extent to which neuroscientists and poets are interested in the same thing – about how we think and how we process metaphors in the brain.”

A gift from alumnus Douglas Caster (Electronic and Electrical Engineering 1975) will now allow Helen to develop her writing as a Cultural Fellow in Poetry, working in the School of English and beyond. The Academy revives the tradition of the Gregory Fellowships, which saw a string of talented, creative artists take up residence here in the post-war years.

Helen sees the campus as a fertile ground for her creativity: “The University has wonderful poetry archives, and I want to write new work which responds to some of this material. I also want to establish links between writers in the University and those elsewhere in the city.

“I have spent a lot of time being extremely busy doing lots of things. The most exciting thing about this is that it will allow me to dedicate time and space to poetry.”

TERRY’S GIFT TO THE GALLERY

A gift from Terry Ingram (General Studies 1963) has enabled the University to buy a remarkable piece of artwork in memory of artist Quentin Bell who was Professor of Fine Art. “He was inspirational,” says Terry. “No-one missed his lectures.”

Now a respected art historian and journalist in Australia, one of Terry’s key interests is the Bloomsbury Group, an influential group of artists and writers in the early 20th century. Quentin Bell was the son of Clive and Vanessa Bell, and nephew of Virginia Woolf – all Bloomsbury members.

Terry’s support has helped the University to buy Henry Lamb’s ‘Study for Advanced Dressing Station on the Struma 1916’ which now hangs in the Audrey and Stanley Burton Gallery. Lamb was a close associate

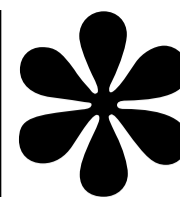


ALMOST 1,700 FOOTSTEPS FUND
DONORS HAVE GIVEN £140,000
TOWARDS CARDIOVASCULAR
RESEARCH

of the Group, and Terry says the painting reflects their ambiguous attitudes towards the War.

Terry has also pledged a legacy in his Will to support a student from a disadvantaged background studying fine art or the history of art.

For full story visit campaign.leeds.ac.uk/news/



MORE NEWS FROM LEEDS:
ALUMNI.LEEDS.AC.UK/
[UNIVERSITYNEWS](#)

ONLINE COURSES AT LEEDS

Fancy topping up your learning? The University is running a series of free, short, online courses in 2015. The courses are interactive, and you can work through them at your own speed, with the opportunity to discuss your ideas and thoughts online with other students and tutors.

For more information and to sign up, [click here](#)

Physical Actor Training - starts 26 Jan

World War One: The Changing Faces of Heroism - Starts 9 March

Exploring Anatomy and the Human Abdomen - starts 5 April



THE AMBASSADOR

WORDS: PETER POPHAM
IMAGE: MARCUS LYON



WHAT'S THE LINK BETWEEN CLINTON, YELTSIN, PUTIN, MAJOR, BLAIR AND REVIE? DIPLOMAT RODERIC LYNE KCMG....

In the late 1960s, an Etonian at the University of Leeds was about as likely as a Yankee at the Court of King Arthur. And when the young Etonian Roderic Lyne turned up to be interviewed for a place, he got a classic Yorkshire welcome. “So how did you get here?” the admissions man asked him – Secretary of the local branch of the Communist Party, as it later emerged. “Did the chauffeur bring you up in Daddy’s Rolls?”

Roderic answered truthfully enough: “No, I hitch-hiked.” “From then on,” he recalls, “he was on the back foot. He’d stereotyped me wrongly. My family didn’t have money and I’d sneaked into Eton through the back door, on a sort of assisted place.” Despite Roderic’s poor A-level grades he was accepted for an honours degree in History.

Sir Roderic, as he is now, was taken on by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1970, soon after graduating with a 2:1, and has repeatedly found himself in the thick of dramatic events during the past 30 years.

He was Head of Chancery – the political section – at the British Embassy in Moscow from 1987 to 1990, when Mikhail Gorbachev tried to reform the Soviet Union. The attempt resulted in the disintegration of the Soviet state and the exhilarating and liberating – but chaotic – end of the Cold War.

Roderic was Assistant Private Secretary to Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington during the long negotiations which ended the Rhodesian conflict. A decade later he was appointed Private Secretary to Prime Minister John Major, advising him on foreign affairs, Northern Ireland, the European Union and defence.

From 2000 to 2004 he was back in Moscow, this time as Ambassador while Vladimir Putin secured his grip on power. More recently he was a pugnacious and probing member of the Chilcot Inquiry set up to investigate Britain’s role in the Iraq War. Today he is Deputy Chairman of Chatham House, the top international policy institute in London.

It would have taken the insight of Nostradamus to predict such a career, but Leeds lecturer David Murdoch still recalls his former student’s “keenness of intelligence.”

The son of a wartime RAF Spitfire pilot who went on to make a career in the Air Force, Roderic had a typically nomadic Forces childhood – his first school was a simple village primary school in the Lincolnshire Wolds.

His induction into the world of international diplomacy came early, when he paid a visit, aged 13, to his father, who at the time was the UK's defence attaché in Moscow.

The year was 1961, and the Cuban missile crisis was brewing. When it came to its terrifying climax he was safely back home in England, but more clearly aware than most 13-year-olds of the risks involved, and aware also that if it came to nuclear war, his parents and his sisters could find themselves on the receiving end of an American or even British nuclear bomb.

A boy with a different temperament might have been put off by this early introduction to the Soviet Union at its most powerful and paranoid. Instead, it ignited a fascination which was to become the dominant theme of Roderic's adult life, occupying half of his 34-year diplomatic career.

Although he had failed Russian A-level at school, he had immersed himself in Russian history at Leeds and persuaded the Foreign Office to send him for proper Russian language training. He was then posted to Moscow as Third Secretary in 1972.

Russia was still a grim and menacing place. Détente was just beginning; but the British were cold-shouldered by the Kremlin after kicking 105 Soviet spies out of London the year before.

In Roderic's second spell in Moscow, as Head of Chancery during the Glasnost years, he watched the gradual unravelling of the Soviet system. "Things started to move on an almost daily basis from 1987," he recalls. "The gerontocrats of the Communist Party, the heirs of people like Brezhnev, had been like rabbits in the headlights – they had no idea what to do."

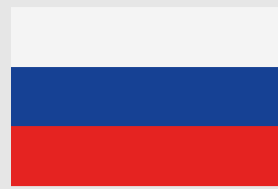
Gorbachev made a desperate bid to reform the system. "He never stopped believing in Socialism. He thought you could have a paternalistic mixed economy, on the model of Canada or Sweden, but events got out of his control. I used to go for private meetings with him in the company of the ambassador, Rodric Braithwaite." Being there in those years was "an extraordinary experience," he says.

His own political persuasions remain a closely guarded secret, and they are certainly hard to deduce from the facts of his early life. He was actively involved in the Anti-Apartheid Movement while at school and demonstrated outside the US Embassy in Grosvenor Square against the Vietnam War. "Bill Clinton was there somewhere, too," he notes.



WHO ELSE STUDIED AT
LEEDS? ALUMNI.LEEDS.
AC.UK/PROMINENT





FROM 2000 TO 2004 SIR RODERIC WAS BACK IN MOSCOW, THIS TIME AS AMBASSADOR

◀ SIR RODERIC WITH DAUGHTER SASHA (ENGLISH 2002) AFTER COMPLETING THE 2008 NEW YORK MARATHON – HIS TWELFTH, HER FIRST

At Leeds, on the other hand, where Jack Straw was President of the Students' Union during its most militantly left-wing years, Roderic joined the University air squadron and learned to fly. "For many years it was my ambition to join the RAF, like my father," he says, "but it was pointed out to me that a few years' flying would be followed by many years at a desk."

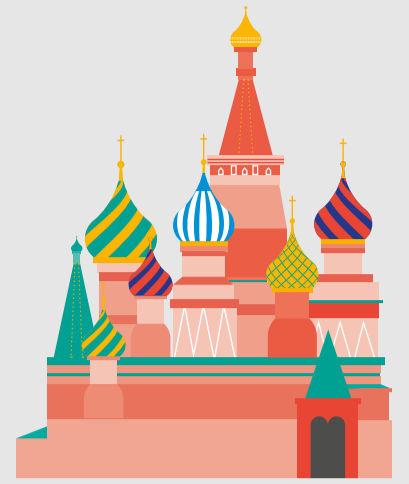
Having been born near Liverpool and with grandparents from both sides of the Pennines, he was fascinated and delighted by Leeds. "I loved the fact that, unlike, say, Manchester, it was built on hills. I lived much of the time in Headingley and did a lot of walking in the Yorkshire Dales. I bought an old car, and one of the great things was that you could be on Otley Chevin in ten minutes and Ilkley Moor in half an hour.

"I loved Leeds' Victorian architecture, and the fact that it hadn't been destroyed by motorways. I thought Armley jail was a grimly romantic piece of architecture and I used to walk round it with a friend. You'd feel better off than the poor guys inside."

He helped pay his way through university by working for Securicor while writing his dissertation. One memorable task involved being locked in the kennels at the greyhound stadium to make sure the dogs were not doped.

A football fan, he often went to Elland Road during the heroic Don Revie years, and courageously cheered the opposition. "I loved to listen as the Leeds fans rained their dry Yorkshire sarcasm, not on the visitors but on the home side," he says.

In 1969 Roderic became a married undergraduate and Mandy, who "deserves a place in the story," moved to Leeds. Since then Mandy has



RODERIC PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS IN THE KREMLIN IN 2000, BETWEEN IGOR IVANOV, (LEFT) FOREIGN MINISTER AT THE TIME, AND SERGEI PRIKHODKO, THEN PUTIN'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISER, NOW A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

“put up with our peripatetic life, made a huge contribution in difficult places like Moscow, brought up three children and is helping with bringing up eight grandchildren.”

The Troubles in Northern Ireland erupted during Roderic’s time at Leeds. A quarter of a century later, he found himself advising John Major during the early stages of the peace process.

He says that his first introduction to the Irish Question came when he was induced to speak on the subject in a Union debate – “and a fiercely Republican fellow student wiped the floor with me.” It is one of many valuable experiences for which he credits his time at Leeds.

ON RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND THE WEST

Sir Roderic became Ambassador to the Russian Federation in 2000, the same year that Vladimir Putin was elected Russia's president.

“In his first three years Putin made serious headway on internal reform. Externally, he reached out to rebuild relations with the West. He worked hard to make Russia a full member of the G8 and build a stronger relationship with NATO. Broadly speaking he was on a pretty positive course.”

But then, “the oil price rose from \$17 to \$100 per barrel. And when the money started rolling in, people in Russia said ‘let’s take this money and enjoy it’ rather than go through all the pain of reform and so on. It became a very kleptocratic regime.

“Ukraine’s Orange Revolution was a turning point: Putin felt very bitter about western support for the Orange Revolution, and his relationship with the West has been on a hostile course ever since.

“The Russians hadn’t got their heads round thinking of Ukraine as a foreign country. When an empire collapses, it takes generations for the metropolitan power to adjust to this change. This trouble in Ukraine has gone so deep that Putin has no room for manoeuvre – he’s stirred up nationalism in Russia to the point where he has to pander to it. Our partnership with him has been set back a long way.”

Rebuilding it, Sir Roderic says: “will need a change of tack in Russia, and that will most likely come as a result of the decline of the economy. They’re raiding the pension fund to pay for the budget. When you get into that sort of condition, you are in trouble.”

Get Social with Leeds Alumni

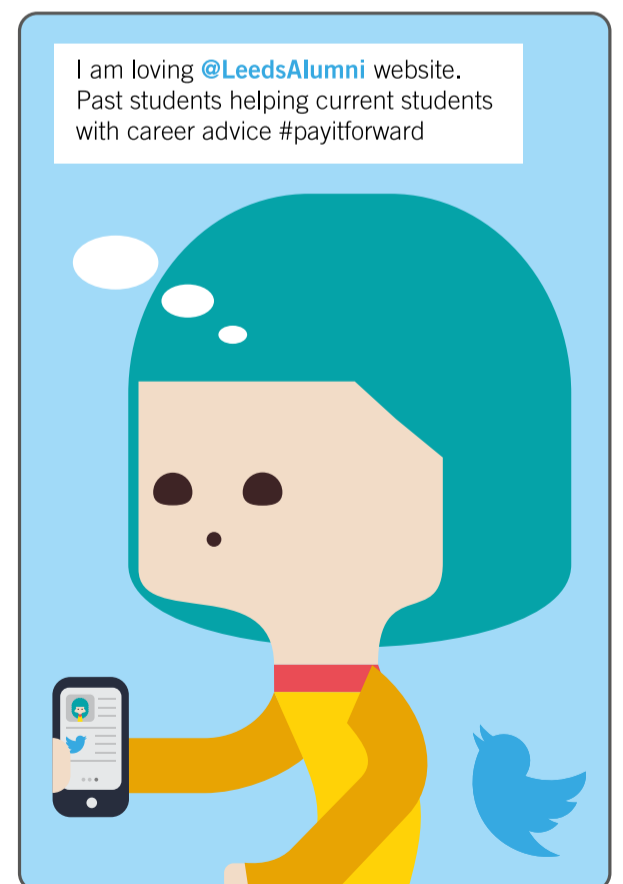
Recently on Facebook...



These four Leeds graduates met up last weekend for the first time in 40 years. Steve, Neil, Nigel and Steve bid their farewells to Leeds and each other in 1974.



The latest from Twitter...



PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Women with wider hips are more likely to engage in one-night stands, according to a study by Senior Lecturer Dr Colin Hendrie. A survey of young women found that those with larger hips tended to have more sexual partners than their slimmer contemporaries. Dr Hendrie suggests this may be linked to the potential for birth trauma experienced by smaller-boned women who generally display a more cautious sexual strategy as a result.

COMPUTING

A browser extension developed at Leeds offers a new way to visualise web-surfing history. MyWebSteps replaces the familiar history list with graphics that allows users to see their browsing at a glance. With MyWebSteps, a user sees screenshots of each page to easily trace their path from one page to the next. Download it for free [here](#)



CLASSICS

Two Thousand years after his death, Classics hosted the Commemorating Augustus conference in August. International delegates exchanged lively opinions on how Augustus has been perceived over the last 2000 years. Historians throughout the millennia have responded to material about Augustus in conflicting ways, depending on the influence of their own social settings.

TRANSPORT STUDIES

Research led by Daniel Johnson shows that 50,000 jobs could be created if British bus journeys were 10 percent shorter. Those currently unemployed are more dependent on buses for access to work, and the bus remains the most popular means of commuting. Despite this, bus services continue to be cut.

The research, commissioned by Greener Journeys and the Department for Transport, also shows how crucial buses are to the prosperity of city centres, with bus users making up 29% of city centre- based expenditure.

MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY

A new data analysis technique could radically improve healthcare. In a trial, thousands of pieces of information from the blood samples of kidney transplant patients were run through a computer. Too immense for human calculation, the data were organised according to thousands of variables to produce a single score that indicated the likelihood of the transplant's success. The technique has potential for use across a range of health conditions.

PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION, HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Greg Radick, Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, has been elected President of the prestigious British Society for the History of Science (BSHS). The BSHS supports the international history of science, technology and medicine. Professor Radick will oversee the Society's activities during his two-year term and will present his work on the early history of genetics

during his presidential address at the July 2015 conference.

DESIGN / GEOGRAPHY / BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Leeds Corn Exchange was brought to life as members of Leeds Community Healthcare held a dance to improve wellbeing among older people. They hit the dance floor on International Clinical Trials Day to promote a project using dance in healthcare. The scheme, run by Leeds academics across several different faculties and the NHS, also encourages patients to engage with clinical research through the "It's OK to Ask" campaign. Patients are advised to speak to their doctors about research they may benefit from, of which the dance project is an example.

EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Sustainability Research Institute, part of the School of Earth and Environment, celebrates its 10th anniversary this academic year. The Institute conducts interdisciplinary research and teaching in environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability. The celebration was launched with a gala dinner for staff, PhD students and external researchers in September. An alumni event will be held on the evening of Saturday 6th June 2015 to celebrate the achievements of our

past students. To express your interest in attending the event, please contact m.vandergucht@leeds.ac.uk



LUBS

International business at Leeds University Business School has been rated number one in the world, according to tables published in the *Financial Times*' 2014 Masters in Management rankings. Organisational behaviour placed third in the UK and sixth in the world. The results were based on feedback from graduates of the MSc International Business programme. "The course is designed to prepare students for real-world global challenges that matter," says Professor Mario Kafouros, Head of the International Business Division. "I am delighted that it's been recognised in this way."



THEO RAYNOR, WIFE
YVONNE, AND DAUGHTERS
JENNIFER AND CATHERINE

HEALTHCARE

Theo Raynor, Professor of Pharmacy Practice, has been awarded the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award. Professor Raynor was recognised for more than three decades' research into improving patients' knowledge of their medicines. His work has led to significant improvements in the information supplied by pharmacists to patients. His University of Leeds spin-out company, Luto Research Ltd, was also mentioned in the citation. It has become one of the biggest providers of user-testing services across Europe, with bases in Leeds and Paris.

PROFESSOR MARIO
KAFOUROS

EAST ASIAN STUDIES

A major project highlighting contemporary Chinese writing was launched with a visit from Chinese novelist and activist Chen Xiwo. "Writing Chinese: Authors, Authority and Authorship," funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council, will continue until 2016 and beyond with a virtual book club, translation workshop and a range of events, all open to the

public. “We aim to make Leeds the centre of new Chinese writing in the north of England,” says Dr Frances Weightman, Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies.



MUSIC

A team of researchers has been awarded a £1.5 million grant to unearth lost treasures from the Jewish cultural past. “Performing the Jewish Archive” seeks out lost music scores and theatrical scripts by Jewish artists, so that they can be heard and seen by modern audiences. Many of the works have been hidden in attics or filed away in forgotten archives, their composers killed during the Holocaust. The University plans to hold festivals to showcase the newly discovered works, with one expected to take place in the former concentration camp at Terezin.



BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The magnificent plumage of the male peacock, designed to attract a mate, may not be quite the sacrifice to love that it appears. Associate Professor Graham Askew (Animal and Plant Biology 1992, PhD Zoology 1995) filmed five peacocks taking off to assess the possible impediment of the spectacular 300g feathers to flight. The experiment was repeated on the same birds with their plumage clipped. Professor Askew found that the plumage made negligible difference to their take-off performance. “The results have ramifications for evolutionary biology’s understanding of sexual selection,” explains Professor Askew.

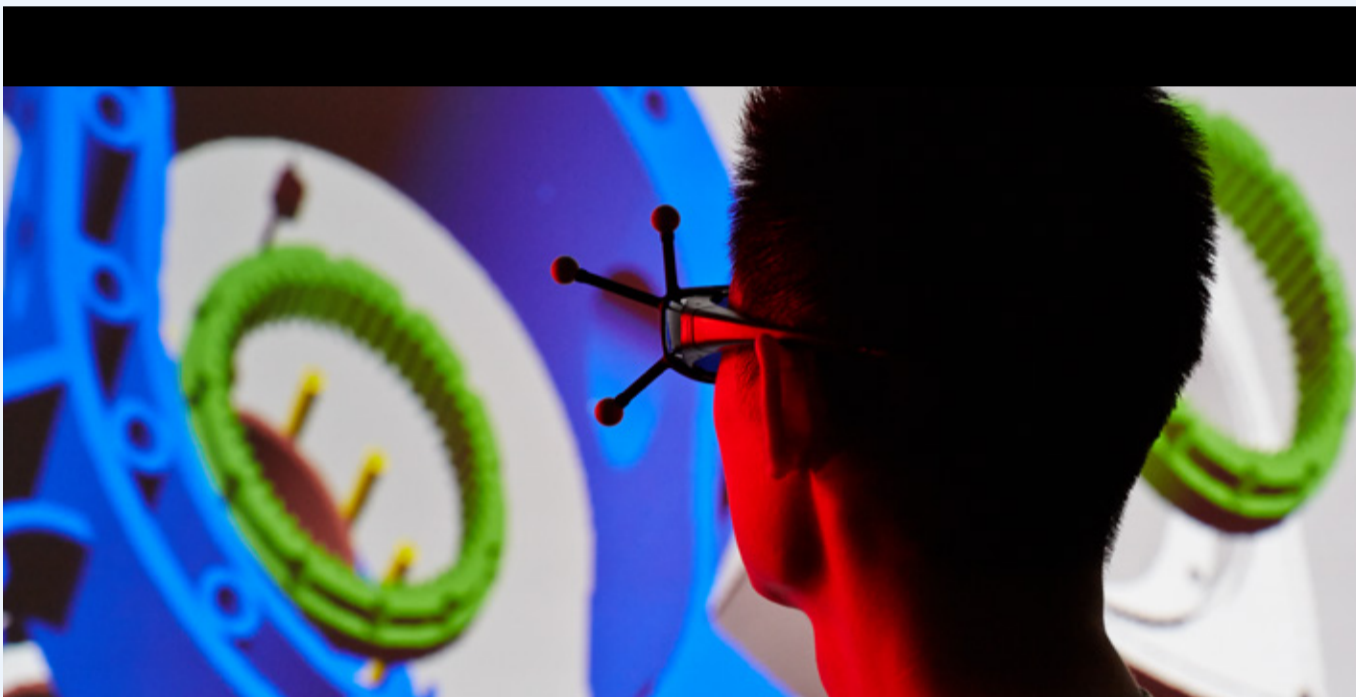


PHOTO:
GRAHAM ASKEW

CHOIR OF THE THOMACKIE
SYNAGOGUE, WARSAW
C.1929. DIRECTED BY DAVID
AJZENSZTADT. SOURCE:
YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH
RESEARCH

LEEDS IN THE HEADLINES

RESEARCH GOING ON AT LEEDS IS HAVING AN IMPACT ACROSS THE WORLD, AND FREQUENTLY FEATURES IN GLOBAL MEDIA. HERE ARE SOME DISCOVERIES THAT HIT THE HEADLINES THIS YEAR



We opened a new £4.3 million robotics facility, set to put Leeds at the forefront of robot design and construction. The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council's (EPSRC) National Facility for Innovative Robotic Systems will host the most advanced suite of robot building equipment in the UK.

Leeds already has a great track record in robotics for surgical applications, patient rehabilitation, prosthetics, and exploration, but we'll be able to make robots that are smaller, more intricate, more flexible and more integrated than ever before.

Dr Rob Richardson, Director of the Facility, said: "We looked at the most innovative and exciting robots being developed across the world and asked ourselves what kit we'd need to build something even better. This new facility will revolutionise our ability to turn new concepts into reality."

Covered by the BBC and local press including Look North



GROUSE MOOR BURNING CAUSES WIDESPREAD ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

We found that burning heather on the moors, which is practised predominantly to support red grouse populations for gun sports, has significant negative environmental impacts, especially on peat hydrology. Altering the hydrology of peatlands is of great concern, as peatlands are the largest natural store for carbon on the land surface of the UK and play a crucial role in climate change. They've been called the 'Amazon of the UK'.

Covered by The Times, The Independent, Radio 4's Farming Today



TICKLING YOUR EAR COULD BE GOOD FOR YOUR HEART

We found that stimulating nerves in your ear could improve the health of your heart. We used a standard TENS machine, like those designed to relieve labour pains, to apply electrical pulses to the tragus, the small raised flap at the front of the ear immediately in front of the ear canal. The stimulation changed the influence of the nervous system on the heart – it reduced the nervous signals that can drive failing hearts too hard.

Covered by BBC World Service, Times of India, New York Daily News



SEA SPONGE DRUG AIDS BREAST CANCER TREATMENT

A drug originally developed from sea sponge could give women with advanced triple negative breast cancer an average of five extra months of life. We found that the drug, Eribulin, may offer valuable extra time to patients whose cancers have stopped responding to conventional treatments and who have few options left.

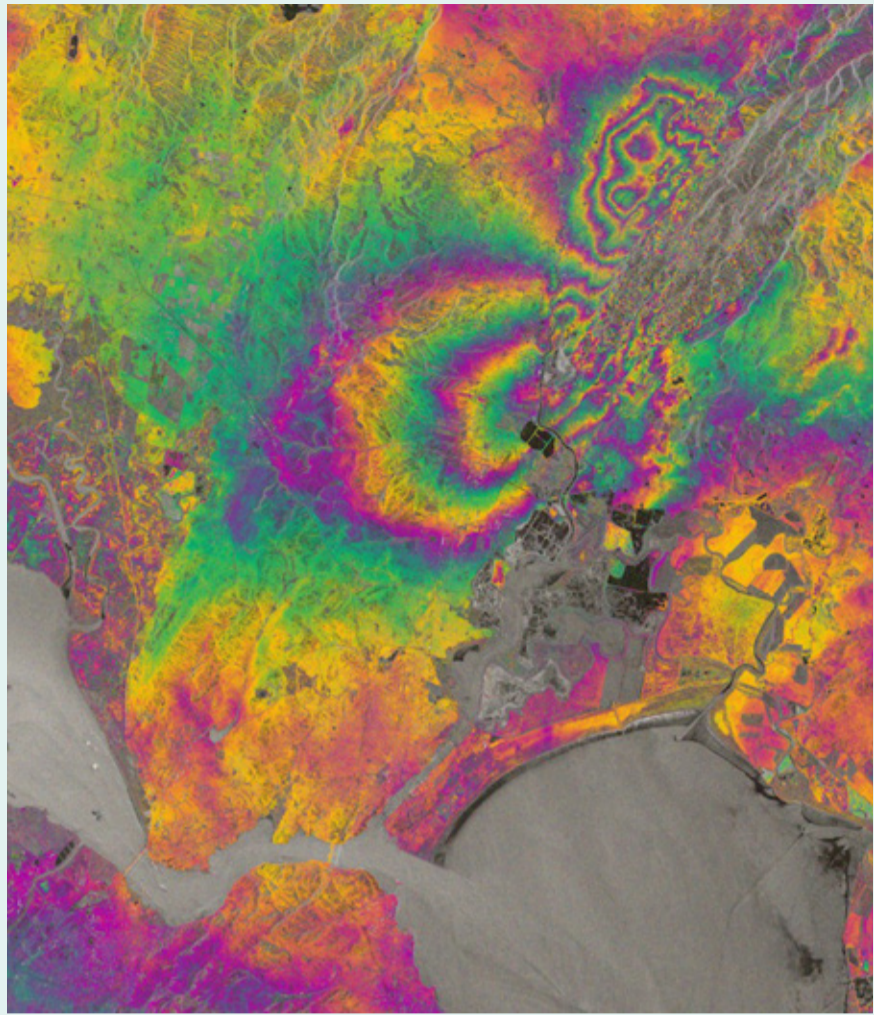
*Covered by The Daily Telegraph, Daily Mail,
The Times*



FIRST KIND OF KINDLE?

We have found what is thought to be the first travel-sized library, likened to a 17th century e-book reader. The miniature books are contained in a wooden case, disguised to look like a large book, and may have been the only way people could carry around large amounts of literature. The Jacobean miniature travelling library, one of only four made and dating from 1617, can be found in the Brotherton Collection, soon to be on show to the public thanks to a new round of Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grants.

Covered by the Daily Mail and the US "Slate"



HOW THE EARTH MOVED IN THE NAPA VALLEY EARTHQUAKE

Researchers from COMET (Centre for the Observation and Modelling of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tectonics), which is now based at the University, have used a European Space Agency satellite to map the ground movements caused by the earthquake that shook up California's wine-producing Napa Valley. The Sentinel-1A satellite created a map of the surface deformation, called an interferogram, to precisely trace the extent of the fault rupture caused by the magnitude 6.0 tremor.

Covered in BBC Online, Sky News online, The Australia Times.

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

IMAGES BY ADAM ROBINSON

FORMER “WORKING CLASS KID” JAYNE DAWSON (SOCIAL POLICY 1982) RETURNS TO CAMPUS TO MEET SOME OF TODAY’S LESS PRIVILEGED STUDENTS, TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE CHALLENGES, AND HOW THANKS TO LEEDS AND OUR ALUMNI, THEY’RE SUCCEEDING

I was a working class kid who went to university. I cleaned trains at night to earn some money, and I fell pregnant in my second year at Leeds.

It depends how you tell the story. My time at Leeds was tough, but I had a full grant, there was a crèche, and I left university with a degree, a son, and no debt.

Thirty years on, the challenge of breaking the potent cycle of deprivation faced by youngsters from disadvantaged backgrounds still remains.

Leeds’ approach to this is both impressive and pioneering. It’s called Widening Participation – broadening the range of socio-economic backgrounds from which the University draws its intake. Leeds is reaching out to communities locally and nationally to ensure almost a quarter of each year’s intake meet a range of criteria that show them to be financially, socially or educationally disadvantaged.

In charge of this undertaking is Head of Educational Engagement Louise Banahene. Her work is underpinned by her own experience: “My dad came here from Ghana in the 1960s and didn’t have study opportunities. He worked in a factory making biscuits for 30 years.”

Louise was the first from her family to go to university and is now working hard to make sure others of similar backgrounds have the same opportunity: “We are changing the lives and prospects of young people both nationally and across the region, working with schools from primary level upwards. We want to recruit the brightest and the best, regardless of background.

“We know that the barriers for them are awareness, aspiration and attainment and we are determined to break through those barriers.”

Key to the success of the University’s initiative is Access to Leeds. Potential students who complete an extended piece of subject work and study skills workshop receive an admissions offer two A-level grades lower than the standard, meaning, for example, they would need to achieve grades ABB on a course where three As was the usual offer.

It recognises that students who have a challenging upbringing and achieve ABB have performed at least as well as those who didn’t face such challenges, and achieved AAA.

Other universities have similar schemes but what makes Leeds unique, Louise says, is that all subjects are involved and students can apply from all over the UK.

“It’s not about them having an easy entry into university. It provides reassurance that the student is wanted and reduces the risks in applying.

“We know these students are able. Three years on, their graduation results have proved to be just as good as those who entered with a standard offer.”

Thanks to the generous support of donors, many of whom are Leeds alumni, various scholarships are also on offer. Some give financial help to those from a household with an annual income below £25,000 – and make a serious difference to these young people. Other scholarships help

students progress into postgraduate work, give the brightest undergraduates the opportunity to join major research projects and allow students to carry out rewarding volunteer work.



Dulcie arrived at the University via Access to Leeds and has been awarded a Social Enrichment Scholarship. This means that as well as financial support, she receives support to participate in volunteering. Thanks to the Scholarship, she is able to develop her own skills and experiences, and to give back to the community.

“I wanted to work with homeless people,” says Dulcie, who now spends time working at a men’s hostel for former alcoholics.

Warren Wellington, 20, is in his third year of a law degree and was awarded the Centenary Alumni Scholarship.

He was brought up in south London by his mum: “I went to the kind of school where people brought in knives and a lot of people I associated with ended up in prison. I got into trouble at school but never did anything criminal. I managed to stay focused because I knew I didn’t want to be poor. My mum was a big help to me.”



Warren received an offer through Access to Leeds but in the end didn't need it, gaining two A* grades and an A at A-level.

"I feel indebted to Leeds for the help I have received and very thankful to the donors. I hope I can do the same for somebody else one day."

Support also gives those from poorer backgrounds invaluable skills that their peers from better-off homes might have already acquired through education, social and family life – anything from learning how to structure an essay to managing time effectively. The benefits don't stop with the scholar however. Scholars engage with the next generation of scholars, providing support for their peers, and with the next generation of students through visits to schools and colleges. The impact of one scholarship can extend to a much larger group of people.

To do all this, students need time, and so the financial part of the scholarship ensures that they aren't too busy working in part-time jobs to get involved in such worthwhile activity.

"Support and financial help go hand in hand," says Louise. "We work hard to give these students a sense of belonging and stop any feelings of isolation."

So where does the money for all of this come from? That's where the tradition of university philanthropy comes in. Leeds alumni and

other supporters of the University give millions of pounds to help today's students have a chance in life. Over the last twelve months, Leeds alumni have pledged nearly £1.5 million to support widening participation.

Our generosity as alumni is vital both in ensuring that the financial barrier is removed for students with the ability to study at Leeds and in providing vital pastoral support.

“It's a key part of our extensive widening participation programme and is crucial in ensuring the diversity of our student body,” says Louise. “It's the range of experiences and perspectives this brings to the lecture room or seminar that enriches the learning experience for everyone.”

SCHOLAR SUCCESS STORIES

Charlotte Mulcahy, 21, from Blackburn, Lancashire, is in her third year studying classical civilisation. She arrived at Leeds via Access to Leeds and is a Pathways for Potential Scholar.

She says: “I always knew I wanted to come to university but I also knew we couldn't afford it. When I was doing my A-levels I was often in the situation where I had to choose between bus fare and lunch.

“The family circumstances and background of people like me really do affect your work and it is a big achievement for us to achieve the grades we do. But we know we have been given a break, and that is truly wonderful.

“I love my subject and I am currently on track to get a first. I will forever be so grateful to the donors, and I hope to be able to give something back myself one day. You only get one shot at life and mine has been transformed by someone's generosity. I am having the time of my life.”






Scholarships aren't just about financial support. Some are about giving students opportunities to develop skills as researchers. Chris Hamer, 22, from Newcastle-Under-Lyme, was awarded a two-year undergraduate Research and Leadership Scholarship – giving him an opportunity to get involved in a research programme, led by a top academic, while still an undergraduate.

Chris is in his final year of a Master's degree in theoretical physics and on course to gain a first. His project is in the field of data security and, while contributing to a major research programme, is also giving him benefits beyond the academic: "I am learning how to make presentations to different audiences, getting advice on job applications and being introduced to the power of networking."



WHEN WAR CAME TO TOWN

BY PHIL SUTCLIFFE



CADETS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
OFFICERS' TRAINING
CORPS PRACTISE
MORSE CODE WITH
BUZZERS POWERED
BY BATTERIES.

THE NIGHTMARE OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR
WAS PUNCTUATED BY CURIOSITY ABOUT
BELGIANS, A POW RESCUE BY A TOFFEE
TIN AND THE WORST TRAGEDY IN THE
HISTORY OF LEEDS.

Over there was where it started and mostly stayed, but the First World War had hardly drawn breath before it came home to Leeds. 17 September, 1914, six weeks after Germany's invasion of Belgium triggered the British declaration of hostilities, a train arrived at Midland Station bearing 90 wounded men, the first wave of casualties from the Battle of Mons and subsequent Great Retreat.

Ambulances awaited and conveyed them, not straight to hospital as they might have anticipated, but to City Square where stood Lord Mayor Edward Brotherton in full regalia, proffering a formal civic reception. But he was not alone. Forewarned by the press, Leeds had come out *en masse*, packing the Square, craning and jostling to view this new phenomenon – casualties of war.

Some of the wounded could walk with sticks or an arm to support them. Many were carried by stretcher-bearers. Some, as the chaplain of Beckett Park Hospital later recalled, had been “entirely covered from view and, of these, some would not have been recognised by those who knew them best.”

“It was exciting and scary at the same time,” wrote Ronald Dalley, a Boy Scout chosen to drive an ambulance (because he'd done his first aid badge). Regardless, the citizenry cheered and threw cigarettes and tobacco at wounded soldiers they glimpsed along the route to the hospital in Headingley.



LEEDS MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATE AND LEEDS INFIRMARY SURGEON DR JOSEPH FAULKNER DOBSON, WHO STARTED PREPARING BECKETT PARK HOSPITAL FOR WAR IN 1912.



UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN RESEARCH LABORATORY OF EXPLOSIVES FACTORY

“

“THERE'S NO PUNISHMENT OR HUMILIATION WOULD INCITE ME TO BEAR ARMS AGAINST MY FELLOW MAN”

”

But that wasn't all. Within days, a group of Belgian refugees arrived in Leeds and again the mayor donned his chain and robes, says Alison Fell, Professor of French Cultural History and leader of the University's far-reaching Legacies of War project. "The whole city came out to have a look – they needed police to keep the crowd back."

Looking back, such intense interest may seem strange but, she says: "People had read so much about atrocities committed by German troops in Belgium, especially against women and children, and they felt afraid it could happen here. This was war arriving on the doorstep."

Legacies of War has drawn hundreds of people together in a common cause, with cash support and/or researchers coming from Leeds City Council, the Imperial War Museums, the BBC, the Arts & Humanities Research Council (a welcome £150,000) – but most notably from the local public.

And why did ordinary people come forward to help with history research? "Sometimes a family link, sometimes an interest in local history or a more general curiosity stimulated by the centenary," says Professor Fell. "And we do have some funding to support people willing to do the work."

Just as well, given it's nowhere near finished yet. The wartime story of University and City keeps on unfolding. Already it's become clear how much more closely entwined were town and gown back then, maybe more so than in any subsequent period.

For instance, it was a Leeds Medical School graduate and Leeds Infirmary surgeon Dr Joseph Faulkner Dobson, who

THE CABLE GUY

In the shadow of the Fenton pub, recruits, both equine and human, trained to keep the Forces in touch with each other.

Leeds lad Norman Woodcock joined the Royal Engineers Signals Corps at seventeen and, like many of his generation, it wasn't until after the war that Norman studied at Leeds. First he had communications drills to follow, including "airline work – not flying but working up poles," he'd later joked.

Long hours training in signalling, horse care, riding, jumping and wagon driving prepared the recruits to transport and use precious communications cargo. Norman said, "the wagons we used were, in fact, the signal offices with all the equipment on board to communicate along cables and lines."

They'd set off to train in the Yorkshire countryside, past the University's OTC training ground, where now stands the old Mining Building. Their six-horse-drawn wagons barrelled down winding country lanes while recruits fed communications lines off the back to Norman, who rode at speed close behind with his "crook-stick". The stick, when not entangled with galloping hooves and flailing stirrups, helped Norman lay the cables along the ground. A treacherous task in rural Yorkshire, let alone on the Front.

In the book "On that day I left my childhood behind", Norman's granddaughter, Susan Burnett (Mathematics 1983) brought together Norman's memoirs.



started preparing Beckett Park Hospital for war in 1912. By the time that first contingent of wounded arrived he had 600 beds and 92 nurses ready. One of Dobson's colleagues at Beckett Park was Sir Berkeley Moynihan, the University's Professor of Clinical Surgery, who devised new procedures for operating on jaw injuries and served intermittently as a medic on the Western Front – twice mentioned in dispatches – while serving nationally as Chair of the Army's Medical Advisory Board.

Over the five years of war and its immediate aftermath, Beckett Park dealt with 57,200 wounded men, of whom only 266 died.

Likewise, the University usefully augmented Leeds' support for the displaced Belgians – 1,500 arrived by Christmas, 1914 – with a lot of fundraising effort coming from students and academics' wives' groups. The refugees' higher educational needs won prompt consideration too, as the University Council voted on November 4: "Belgian students who know English sufficiently well to enable them to follow lectures" could attend classes fee-free.

However, it has to be said that the University was forced to make one grievous exception to its generosity – in the case of Albert Schüddekopf, Professor of German since 1890. Schüddekopf's fate rested on the City Council, which provided the University with a modest Education Committee grant.

1. CADETS IN THE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS DRILL WITH BAYONETS ON THE GROUNDS OF THEIR HEADQUARTERS, WHERE NOW STANDS THE OLD MINING BUILDING
2. A GROUP OF CADETS LEARN ABOUT FOOTCARE DURING A TRAINING MARCH. ATTACHED TO THE CAP OF THEIR OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS UNIFORM IS A GRYPHON BADGE, REPRESENTING THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
3. A POSTER FROM THE LIDDLE COLLECTION, PART OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS. THE LIDDLE COLLECTION INCLUDES THE PERSONAL PAPERS OF MORE THAN 4,000 PEOPLE WHO LIVED THROUGH THE FIRST WORLD WAR INCLUDES ITEMS SUCH AS ORIGINAL LETTERS AND DIARIES, PHOTOGRAPHS, AS WELL AS WRITTEN AND TAPE-RECORDED RECOLLECTIONS

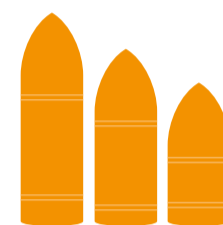


IT WAS TOTAL WAR. SUCH DOMINATION OF SO MANY SPHERES OF ACTIVITY HAD NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.

The Aliens Registration Act decreed that Germans of military age living in the UK should be interned (mostly on the Isle of Man) or repatriated – but Professor Schüddekopf was legally safe because he had taken British nationality two years earlier. “The Council didn’t want to be paying a German’s wages,” says Professor Fell. “They threatened to withdraw the University’s grant if he stayed in post. Michael Sadler, the Vice-Chancellor, defended him for as long as he could, but eventually, in 1916, Sadler succumbed.”

Professor Schüddekopf, aged 54, died of a stroke two days after Sadler delivered the bad news to his home in Harrogate. The Professor’s son, a Leeds graduate and member of the Leeds Regiment was a doctor who survived the War, but when he came home he changed his name to Shuttleworth.

That personal story has its wider significance. One of the themes emerging through Legacies of War is the diversity of the University’s involvement, sometimes entanglement, in the war effort via funding from local and national government.



THE UNIVERSITY HELPED TO TRAIN WOMEN AS MUNITIONS WORKERS. AND, MEANWHILE, ITS CHEMISTS HAD LABS TO DEVELOP EXPLOSIVES IN LOCAL FACTORIES.



With war looming, the City Fathers took stock. Knowing that Leeds had abundant heavy industry, but hardly any arms factories, they set about rectifying the situation post-haste. They founded the Leeds Munitions Committee, which immediately turned to the University as a crucial ally.

“The logistics of keeping the Forces going, millions of men, meant research of every kind became geared around the war,” says Professor Fell. “It was total war. Such domination of so many spheres of activity had never happened before. The State did start to control everything. The University was very cooperative and patriotic – and happy to be paid to do the work.”

Legacies of War researchers Professor Graeme Gooday, David Stowe and Ruth Allison report how University departments pitched in to grow flax for the fabric of early warplanes, manufacturing antiseptics, anaesthetics, varnishes for shells, and dyes for uniforms (with a spin-off into explosives successfully pursued by aptly named Tinctorial Chemistry Professor Arthur Green – who later, in Manchester, moved on to the production of Britain’s mercifully little used mustard gas supplies).

One Munitions Committee venture which proved the dynamism – and the hazards – of military-commercial-political-academic collaboration was Barnbow shell factory at Crossgates on the east side of the city. Built from scratch in 1915, at its peak it employed 16,000, more than 90 per cent of them women – “the Barnbow lasses” – on three shifts round the clock, packing explosives and fuses into howitzer shells.

The University was right there. “When the Government needed manual workers trained for agriculture – or an armaments factory – they turned to the University because, with its foundation in textiles, it had very close links with industry,” says Professor Fell. “The University helped to train women as munitions workers. And, meanwhile, its chemists had labs to develop explosives in local factories.”

In 1916, December 5, something went wrong at the Barnbow factory and a massive explosion killed 35 women outright, injuring many more. It’s commonly referred to as “the worst tragedy in the history of Leeds” in terms of the death toll but, at the time, censorship ensured it passed unreported beyond word of mouth. With wages hitting £12 a week (more than £1,000 at today’s values) work resumed within hours. A war on, you know...



“All was mud and desolation, and there the depths of human misery, suicidal futility, and despair were surely plumbed,” wrote former Leeds Grammar School boy Captain Harry Oldham, 50 years on, recalling a day on the Western Front. “The casualties were frightful; indeed the dead seemed better off than the living. Oh what a lovely war.”

A group of students in the School of History uncovered his story while ferreting through the papers and other memorabilia from 4,000 people who lived through the First World War which comprise the University Library’s Liddle Collection.

But the material they found and brought to life in local schools wasn’t all muck and bullets by any means. War having its daft and random aspects, the project came up with bizarre stories too.

Captain Oldham himself actually got denounced as a spy when, on a York military hospital operating table after 1917’s third Battle of Ypres, he babbled in German. Not only that, he ended up marrying the nurse who’d accused him!

Then there’s the tale of Bertie Ratcliffe, nephew of the very same Brotherton, the Leeds Mayor who later endowed the University Library. Taken prisoner in 1915, he soon escaped and became the first POW to make it back to England, partly by dint of a compass which



A CADET OF THE LEEDS OFFICERS’ TRAINING CORPS ON CAMPUS. THIS IMAGE, FROM THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

his mother had sent him concealed in a tin of Harrogate toffee – said compass now resident in the Liddle Collection, naturally.

The University's participation in the fighting centred on the Officer Training Corps – of course, commissioned officers formed the majority of the 1,596 staff and students who joined the Forces. Around 85 per cent of the 350-odd killed in battle were captains or lieutenants, usually the highest ranks left in the line when action threatened; about 40 of the dead had gone straight from Leeds studies to fight, according to research by Professor Edward Spiers.

The University's Officer Training Corps switched almost overnight from a lark with annual camp “a free holiday”, as one member put it, to deadly serious preparation for the real thing. All university OTCs had to double their numbers pronto as the early weeks of combat laid waste to not only the poor Bloody Infantry of the standing Army but to the experienced, professional “officer class”.

Hence, this closing sombre note from the student newspaper in March, 1916: “The University has now lost the greater part of its men students. Many have left us, some sacrificing careers which can never be taken up again and the number increases of those who have made the greatest sacrifice of all.”

THE FIRST WORLD WAR: FROM ARCHIVES TO REAL LIVES

Folk memory of World War One is, naturally, dominated by mud-and-bullets imagery from the front line. However, a different experience emerges from Legacies of War and Civilian Experience of the First World War*.

Members of Snowgoose, a Bradford-based writers' group, delved into the Liddle Collection (see main feature) and moulded this raw material into a series of monologues portraying Leeds and West Yorkshire people on the home front.

We meet the dissenting voice of Archie Dalton, a conscientious objector jailed in Wakefield: “I'm a confirmed Methodist... and there's no punishment or humiliation would incite me to bear arms against my fellow man.”

Mary Cooper, a Christian girl who works in the Leylands, then Leeds's “Jewish ghetto”, gets caught up in a race riot: “Yelling, throwing stones... Such terrible curses heaped on the heads of poor people who came here to escape persecution. It makes me ashamed to be English.”

And the innocence, then grief, of middle-class girl Ella Lethem, her brother John and fiancé Douglas both in the trenches. Douglas's letters are “Très nice but very saucy”. When both lads come home on leave it's “ripping to be together again!” Until, “News reached us today that John killed in action”. And six months later, in church: “The prayers... made me think of John lying out there in France. It comes over me with such a rush sometimes... I don't think anyone saw me crying.”

ONLINE COURSE



WORLD WAR ONE: THE CHANGING FACES OF HEROISM

The University of Leeds has teamed up with the BBC to deliver a free on-line course on 'World War One: the changing faces of heroism'. This short course looks at how the war moved us away from traditional views of heroism and created new kinds of heroes and heroines and the legacy this has left us with today. If you missed this course in November, it is running again in March 2015.

World War One has had a significant impact on our lives and culture in ways we might not expect. Uniquely, this free and interactive online course will explore heroism from British, French and German perspectives.

The course, led by Professor Alison Fell, runs for three weeks requiring only 4 hours of study a week at a time and location to suit you.

To find out more visit www.leeds.ac.uk/onlinecourses, where you can also watch a short introductory video about the course and find out how to sign up.



VICE-CHANCELLOR ALAN LANGLANDS ON THE CHANGING FACE OF CAMPUS

Life at Leeds is never dull, never quiet. There seemed barely a moment between the wonderful fortnight of graduation ceremonies in July when we launched 6,800 students into the world and the A-level results in August when we prepared to welcome a new intake of equal size.

Our new students join a University in the midst of profound change. The most visible sign of growth is our state-of-the-art Laidlaw Library, which has been supported by almost 2,500 donations and will bring a new dimension to undergraduate education when it opens in the summer.

The Library is just one of a number of changes as our campus continues to develop. In this past year, our Miall Building, Social Sciences Building and School of Design have seen major refurbishments while the stunning Beech Grove Plaza gives a fresh look to the area outside the Great Hall.

Those who enjoyed rowing at Leeds will also be delighted to know that, in a joint venture with Leeds City Boat Club, we have opened a brand new boathouse in South Leeds. This is the first clubhouse our rowers have had for decades. In recent years, members of our rowing team have had to be up at 4.30am to travel to York for training – often having to rush back to Leeds for early morning lectures.

The University Council has committed to a £350 million campus redevelopment over the next five years, including a complete renovation of the Edward Boyle Library and Students' Union building, and a permanent "Treasures of the Brotherton" exhibition in Parkinson Court, made possible by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant and a donation from the John Brotherton-Ratcliffe Trust.

We are now home to a £4.3 million National Facility for Innovative Robotic Systems, making the University a world leader in robot design and construction, and in the Spring we will open the Leeds Institute of Data Analytics.

A Technology Platform in Imaging and Nano-fabrication, grounded in our acknowledged leadership in the growing area of nano-technology will allow us to “grow” materials on the molecular scale, supporting research with potential applications in fields as diverse as medical sterilization, climate prediction and high-speed data processing.

In addition, the creation of the University Innovation and Enterprise Centre, a high-quality, business-facing gateway will help external partners engage with our knowledge, research and facilities, accelerating business creation, innovation and economic growth.

We are also making a significant investment in new talent. Up to 250 early career academics will be recruited to our new University Academic Fellowships over the next three years, an unprecedented £100 million investment which sits alongside a substantial increase in PhD studentships over the same period. A new Q-Step Centre, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, Economic and Social Research Council and Higher Education Funding Council will address the shortage of quantitatively-skilled social scientists, a traditional strength in Leeds.

These developments, and stronger links with cultural organisations such as Opera North and the West Yorkshire Playhouse, underpin the University’s five-year Strategic Plan. This envisages a forward-looking environment for the education and personal development of our students and a step-change in the range and volume of world-leading research.

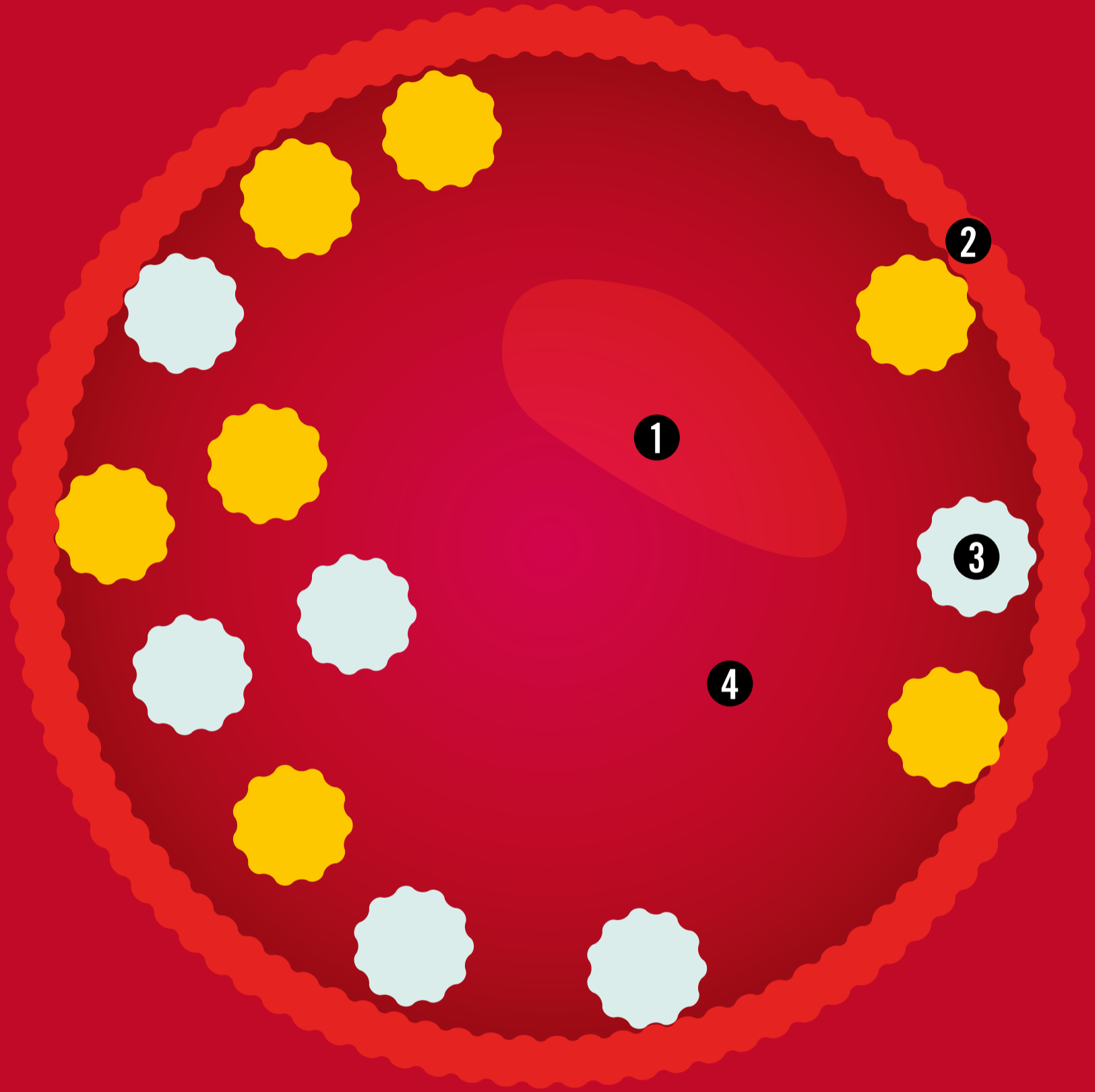
Universities like ours must remain international gathering points for discussing and understanding the difficulties facing the world around us, places that encourage open, informed debate on the major questions of security, political upheaval, environmental change and global health – and a home for the cross-campus, collaborative research needed to address them. These world challenges will drive what we do.

In facing them we can draw inspiration from you, our worldwide community of alumni. I thoroughly enjoyed the alumni annual lecture in October, given by Professor Craig Jordan (BSc Pharmacy and Pharmacology 1969, PhD 1973, DSc 1985, Hon DMed 2001), who pioneered the use of the drug Tamoxifen to treat and prevent breast cancer. That same day, Christopher Newton (English 1957) spoke at an alumni lunch in Toronto about his career as artistic director of Canada’s prestigious Shaw Festival.

These are just two examples of the remarkable people Leeds has produced; many more are celebrated in a series of banners around the campus precinct and in Parkinson Court, which illustrate how Leeds alumni are, to echo the theme of our Campaign, making a world of difference.

When I meet Leeds alumni, what always strikes me is the warmth of feeling you have towards your University. It is mutual. And your support, both financial contributions to the Campaign and, just as important, the practical help which you give voluntarily through internships, student mentoring, advice for our student businesses, careers talks and the sharing of your expertise, is proving invaluable.

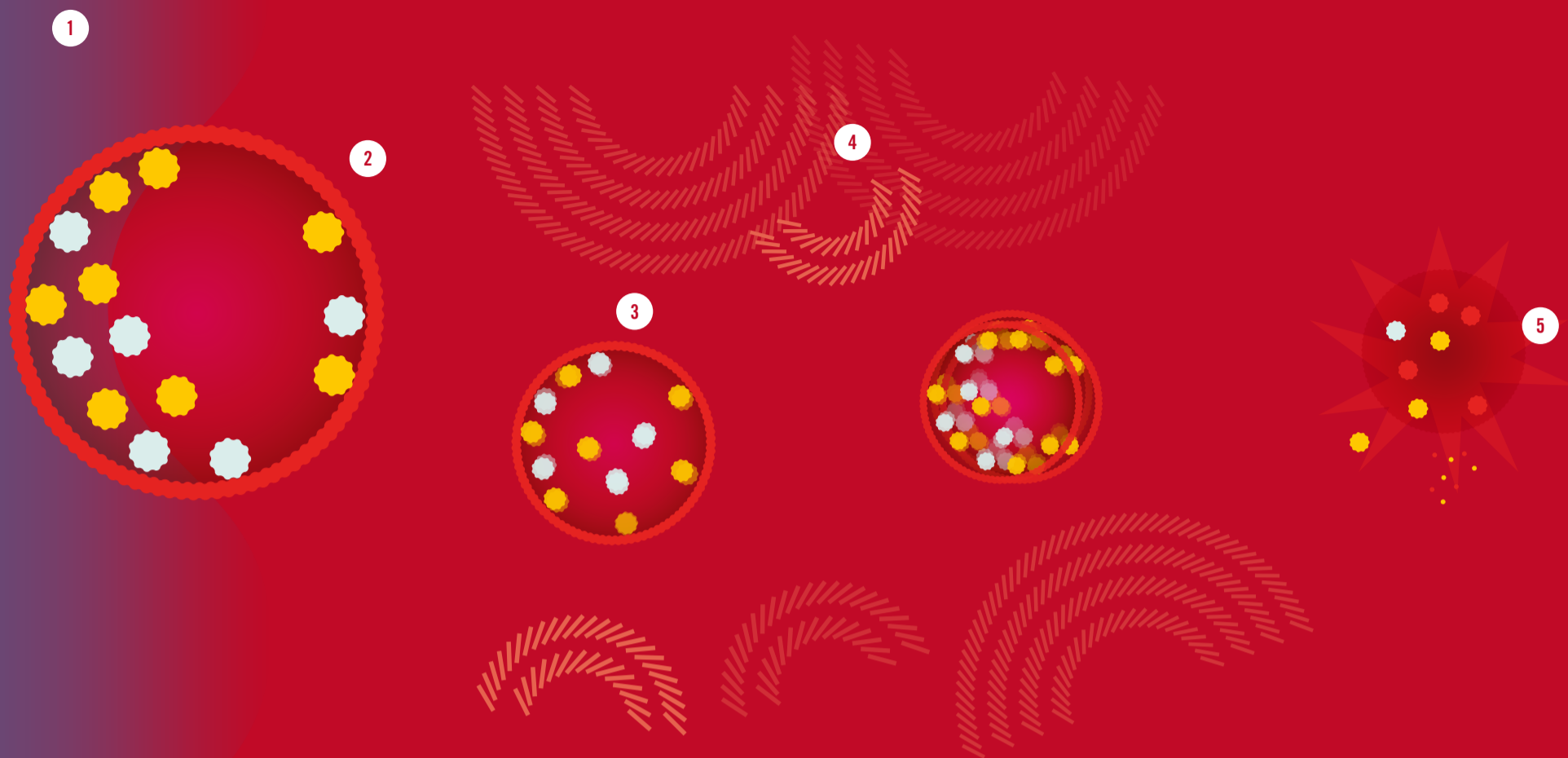
Just as I know we can rely on your support, you can be assured of our firm determination to deliver on our ambitious plans for the future of your University.



MICROBUBBLES

IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD OF MICROBUBBLES YET, YOU WILL. THEY'RE TINY ENOUGH TO FLOAT THROUGH YOUR BODY CARRYING A DRUG, THEN BURST ON TARGET.

- 1. GAS CORE
- 2. ANTIBODIES
- 3. DRUGS
- 4. SURROUNDING SHELL



Nearly 60 years ago, an immense computer impressively “capable of addition and subtraction” was hoisted by crane into the disused Eldon chapel across from our Chemistry building. Now, just think about all the things a microchip can do.

Microbubbles are set to miniaturise our world in an enormous way. They are to drug delivery what microchips were to computing technology. Goodbye chemicals swished around in beakers, hello bubbly fluids mixed at a microscopic level.

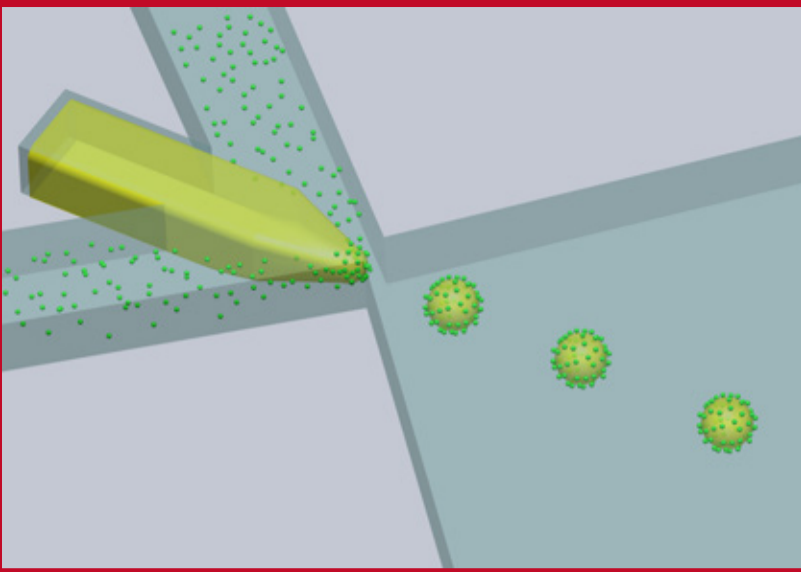
To imagine the size of a microbubble, divide the width of a human hair by 100. That bubble’s shell contains a uniform combination of substances and encloses a minuscule amount of an inert gas.

HITCH A RIDE

Microbubbles were developed in the 1990s to improve the clarity of ultrasound and are used, for instance, to trace how blood flows through damaged organs. Because gas reflects ultrasound waves better than tissue does, the bubbles appear well in scans.

Enquiring minds started to think, if these bubbles can safely travel around the human blood stream, why not get a drug to hitch a ride to a useful destination? Enlist some antibodies, nature’s navigators, which have a natural inclination to seek out a tumour.

1. MICROBUBBLES ARE LOADED WITH A DRUG, ALONG WITH ANTIBODIES THAT ARE ATTRACTED TO CANCER CELLS
2. A COMBINATION OF MICROBUBBLES AND SALINE IS INJECTED INTO A PATIENT
3. ULTRASOUND TRACKS THE BUBBLES UNTIL THEY REACH TUMOUR CELLS
4. ULTRASOUND WAVE FREQUENCY INCREASES AND AGITATES THE BUBBLES
5. POP! BUBBLES BURST. DRUG DELIVERED



TINY BUBBLES MAKE YOU FEEL FINE

There's simple logic here. To deliver medicine by microbubbles, first get a drug and some antibodies to self-assemble around a bubble. Then, inject millions of microbubbles into a patient, wait for them to reach a tumour and increase the ultrasound waves to agitate and burst the bubbles. The medicine arrives on target.

Initial tests show that the use of microbubbles has higher therapeutic benefit than the systematic injection of a drug alone. More powerful medicine, too toxic for an entire body, could come into use when sent only to a specific target. Side effects, recovery time and drug costs could decrease dramatically.

Creative thinking about therapeutic microbubbles abounds. Perhaps microbubbles could break up a blood clot, add oxygen to the blood stream or set off small, precise explosions that burn away layer after layer of tumour.

Simple in concept, but not in the lab. A diverse group of experts have worked hard to prepare this technology for widespread use.

HOW MANY ACADEMICS DOES IT TAKE TO BLOW A BUBBLE?

The Leeds Microbubble Consortium brings together engineers, physicists, chemists and cancer specialists from across the University. Enthusiastic undergraduates, postgraduates, researchers, eminent academics and hospital clinicians have made Leeds a world leader in this quickly developing area.

To start with, the work has focused on colorectal tumours, thanks to the involvement of expert oncologists in our Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine.

Physics Professor and head of the Consortium, Stephen Evans says: "With the breadth of expertise available at Leeds we were in a good position to make a breakthrough, and we did."

BUBBLE MACHINE

The Leeds group worked with its partner Epigem to produce a portable, and aptly small, bubble factory called the HORIZON, developed right here at Leeds.

“Our HORIZON machine is the first commercial microfluidic microbubble generation machine in the world,” says Professor Evans. “It can quickly create personalised bubbles for each patient and can be used with a standard ultrasound machine.”

The HORIZON is practical and speedy, making 10^9 bubbles in three minutes.

“Never before have scientists and clinicians been able to generate microbubbles as they want them,” says Professor Evans, “with different sizes, with consistency, with different surfaces and different products within the bubble.”

ON THE HORIZON

The University’s patented plastic chip, around the size of a microscope slide, is engraved with various channels. When different constituents are sent down separate channels on the slide, they meet and self-assemble.

The microchip assembles these therapeutic bubbles in a new, patented “microspray” regime. Bubbles are consistently generated between 1 and 8 μm (a 1/1000th of a millimetre) in diameter. More than a million bubbles are produced per second (MHz). A single dose of drug requires around 10 million microbubbles.

“Our machine opens boundless opportunities,” says Professor Evans. “Just like what happened with computer processing, drug making will become miniaturised. Both kinds of chip have very small channels where small amounts are manipulated and controlled.

“We’ve developed a method to deliver highly toxic drugs in small doses directly to tumours, where their toxicity can safely be put to good use. The technique could easily be adapted for other diseases.”

The same technology could be used, for example, as an early detection system for cancer cells or in applications involving food, cosmetics and water-based paint. Tiny they may be, but as Leeds is discovering, their potential is huge.

BURSTING BUBBLES

More and more, scientists are working with experts from different disciplines to solve their research issues. Cracking the code of microbubble production involved Leeds engineers, chemists, biologists, physicists and medics.

Professor of Molecular and Nanoscale Physics Stephen Evans says that the interdisciplinary approach has reached undergraduate physics teaching. “We’re now taking on more medical problems and getting inspiration from biology,” he says. “By applying a combination of skills from across the disciplines, they can tackle much richer and rewarding problems,” says Professor Evans, “and make a difference in the real world!”

And, he adds, “The most popular projects for physics students are on microbubbles.”

See Professor Evans discuss his work [here](#)



ALUMNI RECEPTION AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS

Friday 5 June
7.15 – 9.00pm
House of Lords, Westminster,
London

Join us for an exclusive evening reception hosted by University Chancellor Melvyn Bragg. Enjoy a fascinating guided tour of the Houses of Parliament before a wine and canapé reception on the House of Lords' Terrace, which has spectacular views of London over the River Thames. The evening gives a special opportunity to meet the Chancellor, Lord Bragg and Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alan Langlands as well as a chance to talk to some current students about their Leeds experience.

Cost: £40 per person.
Booking and further details at www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/houseoflords2015

Places are strictly limited. Booking opens on Monday 9 February

MAR 2015

WINES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Thursday 12 March
6.30 – 9.00pm
Parkinson 1.08, University of Leeds

Shake off the winter with a flavour of the Mediterranean by tasting a range of fine wines made close to its shores. Enjoy a tutored tasting of wines from several countries, finger food and a fun quiz.

Cost: £15 per person.
Booking and further details at www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/winetasting2015



LEEDS 2 LONDON PUB QUIZ 2015

Thursday 26 March
6.30 - 9.00pm
The Counting House, 50 Cornhill,
London EC3V 3PD

Could you be our next quiz champion? Form a team of two to six people (at least 50 percent must be Leeds graduates) to compete for the title of 'Leeds alumni quiz champions'. This popular pub quiz covers a wide range of subjects and, as always, includes a few questions about Leeds.

Cost: £4 per person, including a free first drink
Booking and further details www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/pubquiz2015

MAY 2015



9TH ANNUAL ALUMNI SPORTS DAY

Saturday 2 May
All day
Weetwood playing fields, The Edge and Gryphon Sports Centre

Polish up your boots, dust down your racquets and join your fellow alumni to compete against the current student sports teams. Whether you are a veteran of the pitch or just enjoy a game, come and join the fun.

For more information visit www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/sportday2015

JUN 2015

ALUMNI LOUNGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY

Friday 19th June, Saturday 20th June & Friday 26th June
12.00 – 2.00pm
The Great Hall, 1913 Room,
University of Leeds

As a graduate of the University you and your family have exclusive access to our alumni lounge on the University Open Day. Join us for complimentary tea and cakes while relaxing in this peaceful room at the heart of campus.

Further details at alumni.leeds.ac.uk/Openday



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN 2015

Keep an eye on alumni.leeds.ac.uk/international for details of our upcoming international events including ones in:

- France
- Hong Kong
- South Africa
- Turkey



REUNIONS AND ALUMNI GROUPS

Thinking about organising a reunion or interested in joining one of our alumni groups? Visit our website for more information and details about upcoming reunions and our international and UK groups.

THE BIG GET TOGETHER
5-13 September 2015

Want to be part of something big and celebrate your connection with Leeds?

Get involved with our worldwide party by volunteering to organise an event where you live.

For event ideas and to find out what's already planned visit: www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/biggettogether



WILL YOU LEAVE YOUR MARK ON LEEDS – AND ON THE WORLD?

For over a hundred years, the University of Leeds has been a place where amazing things happen, from life-saving breakthroughs to world-changing ideas. That's all thanks to you – the exceptional students and staff who make Leeds so special. **You helped to shape our present. Will you play a vital role in our future?**

By remembering the University of Leeds in your Will, you could help to fund scholarships for the brightest students of tomorrow, build cutting-edge facilities and make the breakthroughs that change the course of history.

For more information about remembering Leeds in this special way or to request your free booklet, please contact Caroline Bartholomew, Development Officer, who will be happy to help.

CALL Caroline on **0113 343 2347** for a discreet, informal chat.

EMAIL c.bartholomew@adm.leeds.ac.uk to make an enquiry or request your free guide to leaving a legacy, '**Remembering Leeds**'.

VISIT www.alumni.leeds.ac.uk/legacies to find out more about how you could leave your mark on Leeds with a gift in your Will.

“

I am acutely aware of how my time at Leeds has changed and enriched my life and continues to do so. Happily, my legacy will allow me to continue to participate in the life of the University and help to ensure that future students benefit as I so clearly feel I have done.

Annette Dewhirst
(English 1988; PGCE 1993)

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UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS