



LEEDS

ALUMNI
MAGAZINE

ISSUE
I8

AUTUMN 2016

Clean water

How a student project is changing lives in Madagascar

Going deep

Underground laboratories and the search for dark matter

Climate challenge

Research in Leeds' new Priestley Centre

Taking on the world

Lawyer Anne-Marie Hutchinson talks about family law and human rights



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

It feels like about five minutes since this magazine was identifying the alumni Olympic hopefuls for London 2012. As we go to print, we've seen a hugely successful British contingent at the Rio Olympic Games with medals for Leeds alumni (step forward, Brownlee brothers), and fearless, committed performances from those who didn't reach the podium. We're proud of them all, alongside those alumni involved behind the scenes. Next up is the Paralympics and we have high hopes for our Leeds alumni there too.

(By the way, if you want to know why Leeds is so good at producing triathletes in particular, it's worth going to alumni.leeds.ac.uk/magazine and re-reading last issue.)

Back in 2012 this magazine was read by 187,000 Leeds graduates. This issue is going out to almost a quarter of a million Leeds alumni right across the globe.

The fact that Leeds is an international community has always defined us. Right now, it's more important than ever. The challenges of our age – human health, climate change, human rights for all – are global ones, and need an international approach. You'll find out in these pages how Leeds people – researchers, alumni and students – are helping tackle them.

Two things are certain: firstly, that the Leeds community of students, staff and alumni, is made up of people from all across the world who can, and do, make a world of difference in ways large and small. Secondly, the Leeds connection is something that about 280,000 people all have in common. Just think about the implications of that for a moment. It's an incredibly powerful thing.

Enjoy the magazine!

CHRISTOPHER BEANLAND

(Political Studies 2001) is the author of the forthcoming novel *The Wall in The Head* and a non-fiction book *Concrete Concept*, both of which feature cameos from the University of Leeds. He is also a freelance journalist and is based in London.

SHEENA HASTINGS

(Spanish & Portuguese 1980) has worked in television and print journalism and was previously chief feature writer at the *Yorkshire Post*. She is now a freelance working regionally and nationally.

SUSANNAH IRELAND

(Sociology 2004) shoots for a number of publications including *The Times*, *The Independent* and NPR. She is based in London after living in India. See more at susannahireland.com

CHRISSIE RUSSELL

(PGCE English 2004) is an award-winning features journalist from Northern Ireland. She writes predominantly for the *Irish Independent*. She reckons that once you've stood in front of a class of Yorkshire teenagers, wearing a baseball cap and trying to rap – in an attempt to prove that poetry is 'cool' – the world of journalism holds no fear.

JAMES URQUHART

(History & Philosophy of Science with Biology 2003) is a freelance science journalist who discovered at Leeds that he preferred writing about science than doing it. He is also a filmmaker and is currently editing his debut feature documentary 'Beyond the Mountains' about a 7-month journey walking in the wilds of Scotland.

KIPPER WILLIAMS

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

EDITORIAL TEAM

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

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Rachel Barson, Vicky Blake, Laura Dakin, Catriona Leggat, Greg Miller, Rob Wadsworth, Sarah Ward, Becky Winwood

WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK

search for "Leeds Alumni" online

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES

FRESH
OPTIMISM



GOING
UNDERGROUND



TOP TEN



FACING A
CHANGING
CLIMATE



HUMAN
RIGHTS



LIFE AND
NIGHTLIFE



REGULARS

ALUMNI
NEWS



THE
LATEST FROM
LEEDS



DEPARTMENT
ROUND-UP



VC'S VIEW



EVENTS





LEADING THE WAY

◀ NICOLA MENDELSON CBE

“I’m a serial networker”, says Nicola Mendelsohn CBE (English 1992), the Vice-President of Facebook EMEA. No surprise, then, that she has found great success at the social networking company, having become one of the most influential women in technology today. Nicola oversees a diverse portfolio of operations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and enjoys the pace of change the role brings. At Leeds she was active in student politics, having a role on the Union Council, and was a keen actress. “I learned to ask questions,” says Nicola. “When you hear something that doesn’t sit right or doesn’t agree with you (‘no’ for example!), it’s important to always ask for more information to understand its rationale. I used that approach in school, on the Student Council and I continue to practise it today.”

CLIMBING THE WALLS

At 75, Angela Soper (née Faller), (Physics 1964) shows no sign of hanging up her ropes. She began climbing as a postgraduate student on gritstone outcrops such as Almscliffe Crag near Leeds. “I also trained on the climbing wall”, says Angela, remembering the holds built into a corridor of the sports centre by lecturer Don Robinson. Angela became one of the best women climbers in the country and was asked by Sir Chris Bonington to be the first female Vice-President of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC). This year Angela was elected Honorary Member of the BMC for services to climbing, another female



ANGELA CLIMBING IN TENERIFE

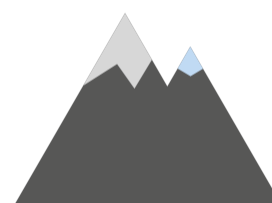


DR YVONNE GREENSTREET



PHARMACEUTICAL CAREER

Dr Yvonne Greenstreet (Medicine 1985) has over 20 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry. Her career began at GlaxoSmithKline plc, where she remained for 18 years, first as Senior Vice-President and then Chief of Strategy for Research and Development. Moving to pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, Yvonne became Head of Medicines Development, where she worked, amongst other things, on rare disease areas. Today Yvonne sits on the board of directors of Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Indivior PLC, Advanced Accelerator Applications and Moelis & Company. She is also on the advisory board of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



Angela became one of the best women climbers in the country and was asked by Sir Chris Bonington to be the first female Vice-President of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC)



◀ KEREM (LEFT) AND YAMAN (RIGHT)

Two academics are fighting internet censorship and the right to access social media in Turkey. Professor Yaman Akdeniz (LLB 1995, MA Law 1996, PhD Law 2001) and Assistant Professor Kerem Altiparmak (PhD Law 2002) won a case at the European Court of Human Rights against the government of Turkey with regards to the blocking of YouTube from Turkey between 2008-2010. The Court ruled that the countrywide ban violated their right to freedom of expression and amounted to censorship.

HOLDING THE BABY

Family outreach worker Lucy Potter (Childhood Education and Culture 2009) organised Leeds' very first Baby Week in September. The event saw a packed programme of guest speakers and workshops on a range of issues surrounding pregnancy, birth and babies. Lucy was inspired by her recent visit to Canela, Brazil where she lectured on her experiences of baby massage during their Semana do Bebe. "I was impressed by the way it drew together a variety of people focusing on the challenges faced by parents," says Lucy. Leeds' Baby Week involved academics, health visitors and the NHS, amongst others. It formed part of Leeds' commitment to families and the city's recent pledge to become child-friendly.

LUCY POTTER

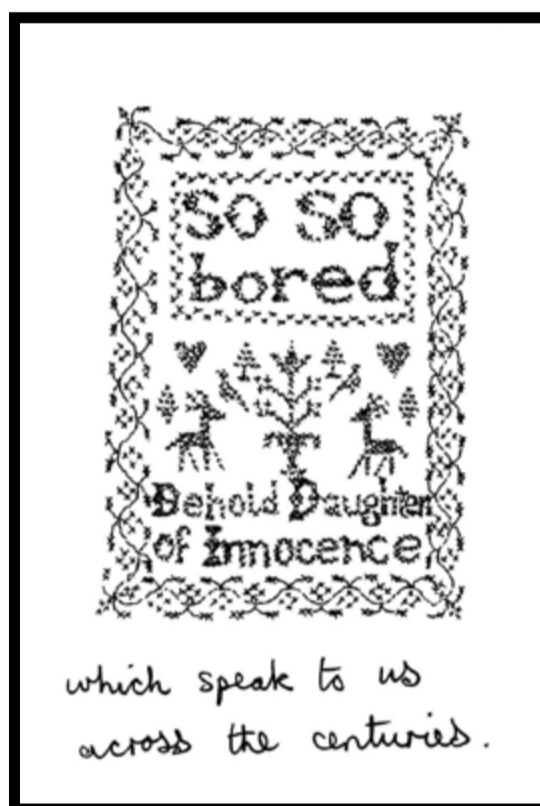


NO PAIN, NO GAIN

Dr Stewart Adams (PhD Pharmacology 1952) has alleviated the pain of millions, thanks to his discovery - Ibuprofen. Stewart's interest in science was sparked by an apprenticeship at Boots, who funded his studies at Leeds. Returning to the company in 1952, Stewart set out to develop an alternative to aspirin. "I was confident there'd be something better tolerated among compounds with a similar structure." Stewart took the very first dose of Ibuprofen himself, a practice that would certainly not be permitted today, and was awarded an OBE for his contribution in 1987.



▲ DR STEWART ADAMS



which speak to us across the centuries.

◀ A CARTOON FROM THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN

"Can women be geniuses?" asks Jacky Fleming (Fine Art 1978) in her latest book of satirical cartoons *The Trouble with Women*. The answer, for Darwin at least, was no. In response, Jacky presents a satirical view of women in history, explaining with comic derision the possible reasons for their inferiority (small heads? too emotional?) and unravelling Darwin's conclusion. The book is the seventh in Jacky's 40 year career which has spawned a range of caustic postcards and illustrations. "The book is a satire about how women's achievements are systematically overlooked, while men are awarded and applauded - to maintain the illusion that only men do things worth mentioning," explains Jacky.



Dr Stewart took the very first dose of Ibuprofen himself, a practice that would certainly not be permitted today

LOVE, VIRTUALLY

Love is in the air for Alex Ziff (Art and Design 2013), developer of new dating app Ciao. “Ciao puts the emphasis on the date itself,” explains Alex, “with users able to filter on things like location and price.” Alex credits the University for nourishing his creative side, which engendered his novel approach to app building. “The confidence and experience I developed at Leeds has really kept me going,” says Alex.



Alex Ziff's dating app Ciao puts the emphasis on the date itself



GREGGS – PLC

Roger Whiteside (Economics 1979) has proved the essential ingredient in the revival of Greggs - the UK's leading bakery. No stranger to the food market, Roger arrived with delivery brand Ocado and 20 years at M&S food to his name. Greggs was in decline. “It was losing out to coffee shops and supermarkets,” explains Roger. Straight away, Roger hit the shop floor, exchanging his time at head office for a busy Newcastle shop. “I learned more there than I ever would have in the boardroom,” he says. Since becoming CEO Roger and his Senior Management team have made a number of changes to ensure Greggs is a winning brand, including a new shop format and an improved menu. Greggs won the Turn-around of the Year accolade at the 2015 PLC Awards in recognition of Roger's strong leadership.



ROGER WHITESIDE

ON THE BOX

◀
ALEX GARDINER



Alex Gardiner (Politics and Parliamentary Studies 1989) is Managing Director of Shiver, one of the UK's biggest producers of factual television. His work spans the full range, from hard-hitting documentaries, such as the ITV EU Referendum debates, to light-hearted entertainment series, including Come Dine with Me. 2016 has been a successful year for Shiver, with a wide range of exciting new commissions. "The sheer diversity of content, fast pace of change and team spirit makes it a really exciting career for young people," advises Alex. "The creativity, communication and commitment demanded are useful skills to help future proof your career."



▲
**THE INTREPID TEAM. LEFT-RIGHT:
 RORY, SAM, HARRY AND FELLOW
 TEAM MATE TOBY FENWICKE-
 CLENNELL**

Blisters, sleep deprivation and sharks are on the menu for three Leeds alumni this Christmas. Harry Wentworth-Stanley (Business Management and Spanish 2012), Sam Greenly (Product Design 2011) and Rory Buchanan (Spanish 2012) are part of a four-man team undertaking the Talisker Atlantic Challenge, which will see them row 3,000 miles unsupported from the Canary Islands to Antigua. The team are rowing in memory of Harry's brother, and hoping to raise £300,000 for the James Wentworth-Stanley Memorial Fund, a suicide-prevention charity founded in his name. Follow their progress online:
www.rowforjames.com

CLIMBING THE LADDER

Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Sun (Law 1980) has been promoted to the Malaysian Court of Appeal from her previous position as a High Court judge. Mary came to the UK as a teenager, completing her A-Levels in Leeds before studying Law at the University. She remains grateful to her lecturers, "including the late Professor Brian Hogan and Latham Brown. These two lecturers, amongst others, were truly devoted and driven by their infectious passion for the law. What Leeds also taught me was independence." After graduating, Mary completed her bar exams at Lincoln's Inn, where she retains close ties. After returning home, Mary took up a range of legal positions at the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia, including Advisor to the State of Negeri Sembilan and Deputy Head of Civil Division, before her last assignment as the Commissioner of Law Revision and Reform.



▲
MARY LIM THIAM SUN

Mark Wild (MBA 1997) will oversee over 249 miles of track and 270 stations as the new Managing Director of the London Underground.

Gillian Roche (German 1966) has retired as Secretary of LUOSA, the Leeds University Old Students' Association. LUOSA celebrated their 90th anniversary in September.

Two English alumni star in Hollywood film *The Finest Hours*. **Chris Pine** (JYA English 2001) joins **Holliday Grainger** (English 2008) in the disaster film released earlier this year by Disney.

Phil Emery (Civil Engineering 1986) is an archaeologist at engineering firm Ramboll, managing the cultural heritage of their projects, including the excavation of London St Pancras station on an old burial ground.

Allison Sawyer (MSc Molecular Nanoscience 2008) won the British Council Alumni Award (Entrepreneurial Category) for the USA. Allison's company Rebellion Photonics has developed a unique camera that can detect gas leaks on oil rigs. Known as the traffic-busting

professor, **Dr Agachai Sumalee** (PhD Transport Studies 2004) is Director of Smart City Research in Thailand. He won the 2014 ASPIRE prize for young scientists who have demonstrated excellence in scientific research.

Globe-trotting mum **Gretta Schifano** (Italian 1989) is inspiring other parents with her award-winning blog, mumsdotravel.com.

His Honour Judge **Michael Stokes QC** (Law 1970) is to publish his first crime novel, *Blackmail*

Dr Simon Timson (PhD Psychology 2003) will take up the role of Performance Director for British Tennis in November.

Ben Harris (French and Spanish 2014), founder of Radix Language Services, provides translation with a social ethos. Unlike other agencies, Radix offers work to young language graduates without experience, giving them a valuable opportunity to progress in their careers.



A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH

HOW ONE LEEDS STUDENT USED ENGINEERING KNOWHOW AND DOGGED DETERMINATION TO HELP A COMMUNITY

WORDS: [SHEENA HASTINGS](#)
IMAGES: [EDOARDO BONO](#)



SEPARATE CUBICLES AND A WATER SANITATION SYSTEM WILL HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S HEALTH

WHEN EDOARDO BONO FIRST TRAVELLED TO MADAGASCAR ON A FAMILY HOLIDAY A FEW YEARS AGO, HE WAS STRUCK MOST BY THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND'S STUNNING SCENERY, UNIQUE ECOSYSTEMS, THE VARIETY OF ITS WILDLIFE AND ITS WARM AND WELCOMING PEOPLE.

It was later, when the engineering student travelled again to the island from his home in Turin, Italy, he learned that around 85 per cent of the country's 23 million population did not have a toilet and in some areas few people had access to clean water.

When he asked for the bathroom, the locals pointed towards the forest or the beach. Women risked attack as well as snake bites when they ventured out in the night to relieve themselves.

Infant mortality was high, life expectancy low, and diarrhoeal illness endemic – with run-off including human excrement infecting the rivers and streams where people washed themselves.



Edoardo wanted to put his engineering knowhow to good use. He talked to the community elders and government about the benefits and logistics of a plan to start the installation of a water sanitation system in one village on the outlying island of Nosy Iranja. He then set about building the first of what he hopes will be basic squat toilet cubicle with a sink and fresh clean water supply plus septic tank and soak-away mechanism for each of 300 homes.

“They knew all about the problem and its knock-ons for the economy as well as health, and were happy to have help from someone,” says Edoardo. “My plan was to provide facilities that were made from local materials – apart from concrete, which we have to import.

“In the pilot scheme we have so far installed 17 private toilets, and it’s going very well. The home owners puts their own roof on and paint the walls and door, so they are involved and we keep our costs down.”

Edoardo began an MSc in Water Sanitation and Health Engineering at Leeds in 2015, and has been able to call on the expertise of colleagues at the University. So far he has travelled to Madagascar a dozen times to oversee his project.

The cost of each toilet installation is £120 – with Edoardo working on a voluntary basis and paying all his own expenses. The scheme has involved not only helping to train three local builders in how to replicate this specialist work and spending weeks at time living in very basic conditions, but also fundraising to keep the project afloat.

“To begin with friends gave money and I organised little events



STUNNING SCENERY, WARM AND WELCOMING PEOPLE. EDOARDO AND FRIENDS

“

TO BEGIN WITH FRIENDS GAVE MONEY AND I ORGANISED LITTLE EVENTS IN TURIN TO RAISE CASH, BUT I’VE ALSO APPLIED TO VARIOUS SOURCES OF FUNDING IN ITALY. IT’S COMPLICATED AND TIME-CONSUMING

”

in Turin to raise cash, but I've also applied to various sources of funding in Italy. It's complicated and time-consuming," says Edoardo. "Whenever I'm in Italy I also earn money for the project by tutoring students in Maths."

He set up the non-governmental organisation Help For Optimism (H4O) to administer the project, raise money and publicise the work, and a Dutch charitable foundation came in with some cash in return for information from Edoardo on his sanitation system – which they hope to replicate in Nepal.



LEFT:
SEPARATE CUBICLES AND A
WATER SANITATION SYSTEM WILL
HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON
PEOPLE'S HEALTH

RIGHT:
SUSTAINABLE SOAP AND
TOOTHPASTE PROJECT

Alongside the sanitation work that will measurably change the lives of thousands of people and improve public health in Madagascar, Edoardo decided, in partnership with the government, to develop and raise money for the installation of a clean water supply to the only hospital on the Madagascan island of Nosy Be. Currently there is no water most of the time.

He also noticed that while children on the islands had good teeth, those of people in their 20s and 30s were bad. Where toothpaste was used at all, it was an inferior product that was expensively imported. An affordable, high quality and locally produced source of disinfectant soap was also needed.

So, in typically determined and pragmatic fashion, Edoardo got the pharmacy department of the University of Turin to help out with methods and quality control and sourced a good supply of raw materials from Madagascar's main island. Now four young women

work full-time on a sustainable soap and toothpaste project.

“I want the ideas that are working in Madagascar to go into global development,” says Edoardo. “There’s no reason why they can’t be used elsewhere, but what we need now is consistent funding. My goal is to give local people the competency and sustainability to carry on by themselves.”

Recently, Leeds named H4O as its volunteering project of the year for 2016. Greg Miller, head of student placement at Leeds, says that upwards of 3,500 of the University’s students are involved in volunteering each year with projects that improve the community whether on a local, national or international level.

“The volunteering ethos is very strong at Leeds. While hundreds of organisations benefit from the energy and ideas of these bright young people, the students themselves gain a great deal by feeling involved in the wider community.

“Many of student volunteers are helped by the Leeds for Life Foundation, which is funded by Leeds alumni donations to the Footsteps Fund and by Santander. The Foundation gives grants to students whose projects will help others and add to their own skills.”

Some opportunities are Students’ Union led and others such as Students into Schools were started by the University itself. While some focus on projects like Eduardo’s in Madagascar, others create benefits closer to home.

“Whether working with a small environmental or social project, a school or national or international charity, volunteering helps students to learn about team work, critical thinking, civic awareness. It also gives both practical and communications skills, promotes cultural awareness and a local version of a global perspective.

“When they leave Leeds and go into the world of work, they take all of this with them.”

“

I WANT THE IDEAS
THAT ARE WORKING
IN MADAGASCAR
TO GO INTO GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT

”

LIFE CHANGERS: SOME MORE OF OUR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Georgina Binnie (studying a PhD in English) set up Writing Back, a scheme that pairs an elderly person in the community and a student as penpals. With financial support from the Footsteps Fund, the initial 14 pairs of penpals have now grown to 70. “To begin with I thought it would be the older person who benefited most from the relationship, but not at all. Students can feel lonely when they first come to university and miss older people in their life.”

Rebecca Raymond (Psychology, 2016) became Education Officer for Mind Matters (MM), a volunteering group run by LUU which aims to change how we think about mental health and support those who have mental health issues. Rebecca researched, planned and delivered sessions to primary school children and their parents in Leeds through the Students Into Schools scheme. “We talk about what mental health is, how we can look after it and include in session any issues a school might want us to focus on, such as anger management.” Rebecca is now training in primary school teaching with Teach First.

Dulcie Huwew (English Literature and Theatre Studies, 2016) volunteered with a variety of community initiatives, teaching English through the STAR (Student Action for Refugees) project, cooking for residents of homeless hostels and co-ordinating events to help integrate international students into the community. She has supported Pay-As-You-Feel cafes (intercepting food waste), mentored future Leeds applicants and worked on projects both supporting elderly residents and young people in Leeds. “You can arrive at university and be so caught up in the student bubble. Getting involved with people outside of the university gives you a much more ‘real’ experience.”

Niall Kerr (studying for a PhD in Energy Efficiency and Buildings) joined the Hyde Park Source co-operative, working with local people to improve their surroundings by helping them to design and create attractive, exciting, safe and useful places in which to live, work and play. “It’s a great organisation that brings people together to make green spaces out of derelict, run down areas. There’s a big connection between what you see and how you feel, so creating more gardens and self-sustaining vegetable growing projects in the community, is good for everyone’s sense of wellbeing.”



YOUNGSTERS URGED TO AIM HIGH

Children from the age of seven are being encouraged to aim for a place at university by attending after-school classes at a new centre in inner city Leeds.

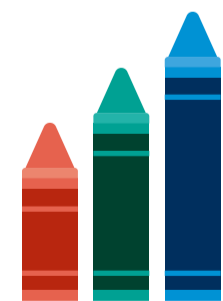
The centre in Beeston, run by national education charity IntoUniversity, has been opened in partnership with the University, thanks to the support of the Asda Foundation and The Queen's Trust. The centre is working with children from primary school upwards to raise both their attainment and aspirations.

The scheme builds on the success of similar centres, all in areas of social deprivation, which have been established by IntoUniversity. It follows the opening of the East Leeds centre in Harehills in 2014 (and reported in the last issue of Leeds).

The new centre is already working with seven Leeds schools and has seen dozens of families sign their children up to receive this valuable extra support. Sessions for around 30 children at a time are



THE NEW INTOUNIVERSITY CENTRE
IN BEESTON, SOUTH LEEDS



The IntoUniversity centre is preparing children from a very young age, raising their aspirations and giving them the confidence to think that university could be a real option for them.

run after school, while staff visit schools during the day. “The community has been really welcoming,” says centre leader Ellie Rowley. “We have been fully subscribed from the start and we’re so proud that this partnership is benefiting the city of Leeds.”

The new centre is close to the headquarters of supermarket chain Asda and has been supported by a £345,000 grant from the Asda Foundation, their charitable foundation which makes independent grants throughout the UK.

For the University, the centre represents an important aspect of its work in ensuring that people of all backgrounds are encouraged to aim for a place in higher education. Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands says: “We want to raise aspiration and ambition and support young people, no matter their circumstances or their background. The IntoUniversity centre is preparing children from a very young age, raising their aspirations and giving them the confidence to think that university could be a real option for them.”

They are badly needed. Only around 12 per cent of children from Leeds who are entitled to receive free school meals go on to university, compared to a national figure of 32 per cent. But when children from similar backgrounds have been through IntoUniversity programmes across the UK, the figure rises to a staggering 71 per cent.

THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY

“Thanks to my scholarship I’ve been able to take advantage of so much of what the School of Medicine has to offer.”

Eleanor Green is one of a number of students who have benefited from the generosity of Leeds alumni and friends who have left a gift to the University in their will. A legacy from Dr Mary Hartley (Medicine 1946) funded Eleanor’s Excellence in Scholarship, Enterprise and Leadership (EXSEL) Scholarship.

EXSEL scholarships are unique to Leeds. They allow our brightest medical undergraduates to get involved in research early on in their studies, conducting research in their summer vacation, mentored by leading academics.

Working with a consultant in Diabetes and Endocrinology, Eleanor gathered data on how sleep quality influences diabetes control in



ELEANOR GREEN

pregnancy: “Gestational diabetes can be very harmful to both mother and baby so it was exciting to contribute to research that is developing our understanding of the condition,” says Eleanor.

EXSEL scholars are also encouraged to get involved in mentoring and volunteering and to participate in activities which build their leadership and enterprise skills. 2016 is the tenth anniversary of the Scheme; many of its alumni now hold key posts in medicine and research.

“I hope EXSEL continues for many years so future students can benefit from these brilliant scholarships,” says Eleanor.

“I’m immensely grateful to Dr Hartley.”

To find out more about leaving a gift to the University in your will, please contact Caroline Bartholomew at c.bartholomew@adm.leeds.ac.uk or on 0113 343 2347.



A new £1.9 million gallery is a showcase for the remarkable priceless artefacts held in the University’s Special Collections.

The Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery, which opened in the Parkinson Building in March, was made possible by the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and a generous donation from the Brotherton-Ratcliffe family in making this possible. It has allowed the University to bring historic items, once housed deep in the Brotherton Library, to a public audience.



VIEWING THE TREASURES OF THE BROTHERTON GALLERY

They include a 4,500-year-old Babylonian clay tablet, a copy of Shakespeare's First Folio, a Mendelssohn manuscript and a map and compass used by the first prisoner to escape back to Britain from Germany during the First World War.

The collections began with Leeds industrialist Lord Brotherton, who funded the building of the Brotherton Library 80 years ago and bequeathed his library of rare books and manuscripts to the University.

SCHOLARS GAINING PRACTICAL SKILLS

A gift from a Leeds alumnus has allowed four graduates to deepen their knowledge of public health by studying for a Masters degree with the University's Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) project.

A key aspect of the course is its practical element. It draws postgraduates from around the world to immerse themselves in real-life issues of water supply and sanitation – and work on solutions relevant to their own communities.

One scholar, David Parks from Colorado, plans to use the water engineering expertise he gained at Leeds as a member of the Emergency Response team of America's Center for Disease Control and Prevention, bringing humanitarian support wherever crises arise.

Another, Louise Ulveland from Sweden, hopes to use the practical skills she has gained in Leeds, along with her experience of working on groundwater issues in Sudan, to create sustainable water solutions for vulnerable communities. In a letter to the donor, Louise writes: "Thanks to your support I have an opportunity of fulfilling my dream of becoming an emergency water and sanitation specialist."

To learn more about the WASH project, visit campaign.leeds.ac.uk/projects/water-sanitation-and-health

DOING THE BUSINESS

A string of awards has acknowledged Leeds' commitment to nurturing the entrepreneurial ambitions of staff, students and local businesses.

Seen as the ‘Oscars’ of the higher education sector, the Times Higher Education Awards are highly prized, and the accolade of Entrepreneurial University of the Year, which Leeds received at the end of 2015, recognises the University’s role in offering opportunities for student entrepreneurship, supporting small businesses in the region and in commercialising the innovation of staff.

Leeds alumni have played a significant part in this. Donors’ gifts to provide enterprise scholarships are giving students the financial support they need to get their business off the ground and access to the wealth of practical advice available through the University’s student start-up service, Spark.

Head of Spark Kairen Skelley was named as the Higher Education Enterprise Champion at the National Enterprise Educator Awards.

Leeds also won The Duke of York Award for University Entrepreneurship at the 2015 Lloyds Bank National Business Awards. This recognised the University’s role in encouraging and enabling student entrepreneurship and supporting high growth small businesses in the region.

Campus developments 1:
An overhaul of the Worsley Building to transform teaching in the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry; upgrade of the School of Healthcare, and a refurbishment of the former Geography/Agriculture building to create a new home for the School of Fine Art (Geography has moved to the Garstang building)

Campus developments 2:
An upgrade of the Edward Boyle library; modernisation and extension of the Victorian building home to the Institute for Transport Studies; refurbishment of the School of Philosophy, Religion, History of Science and Arts and levels 3 to 5 of the School of Chemical and Process Engineering; a new laboratory for electron microscopy in the Roger Stevens building



Campus developments 3:
Plans are in place for Plans for new centre for Engineering and Physical Sciences in the north east quarter of campus; a new building to support businesses to grow and remain in the city, to be built in the old car park beside the EC Stoner building and 1.6km cycling track and refurbished pavilion in the Bodington playing fields

Seventeen students spent a week in New York on a leadership development programme working with business leaders, alumni and academics to examine the concept of ‘smart cities’.

The students were winners of the first Leeds to New York Student Leadership Challenge, which was open to all undergraduates, who were invited to submit a two-minute video demonstrating how this opportunity would help them develop their leadership skills and benefit their career planning or future study.

The winning group was very diverse, from first years to finalists, from the UK and overseas – and in disciplines from food science to artificial intelligence. “I jumped for joy,” says mature student Roland Maposa, recalling the moment he learned he had been chosen to take part.

A number of prominent Leeds alumni in New York helped set up an exciting programme of talks and visits for the group on the theme of ‘smart cities’. “We spent time listening to speakers from various sectors in New York and looking at some of the challenges that exist there – crime, transport, affordable housing,” explained Eddie Askew who graduated this summer in Management and Spanish. The group then presented their findings to representatives from the University and the two cities.

The programme was funded by alumni donations to the Footsteps Fund, and run by the University’s Learning Enhancement team and educational charity Common Purpose.

“One useful thing we learned was how these different disciplines could come together and be really beneficial to teamwork,” says Neuroscience student Jessamine Stonehouse. Geographer Rosie Clewlow adds: “It took me right out of my comfort zone – and through that I gained in confidence.”



Students spent time listening to speakers from various sectors in New York and looking at some of the challenges that exist there.



GOLD AND SILVER FOR ALUMNI BROTHERS

Triathletes Alistair and Jonny Brownlee confirmed their status as the sport’s pre-eminent stars on the roads of Rio, claiming gold and silver in a highly convincing Olympic win.





Alistair (Sports Science and Physiology 2009, Hon LLD 2013) and Jonny (History 2012, Hon LLD 2013) led the field from the half-way point of a thrilling race, to follow up on their success at London 2012, where they took gold and bronze respectively.

They were joined on the start line by Gordon Benson, one of the rising stars of the sport – completing a full house for alumni in the GB team. Gordon (Food Science 2016), who took gold for GB in the European Games in Azerbaijan in 2015, was this time forced to retire from the race after a crash in the cycle stage.

As recipients of sports scholarships, each of the triathletes directly benefited from alumni donations to Leeds' Making a World of Difference Campaign. All three still train regularly at the University's sports centre, The Edge.

Congratulating the brothers on their success, Alan Langlands, Vice-Chancellor, said: "There could not be a better result for the Brownlees or for our city than seeing a Leeds gold and silver result in the triathlon.

"I'd also like to pay tribute to Gordon Benson, who reached Olympic standard while studying for a demanding degree. He's played an important role in helping the Brownlees achieve the success they have and deserves credit."

As we go to press, 4 alumni are heading to Rio for the Paralympic Games: Claire Cashmore (Linguistics and Phonetics 2011, Hon LLD 2013); Grace Clough (Sociology 2013); Karen Darke (Chemistry and Geological Sciences 1992) and Laura Sugar (Sport and Exercise Science 2012). Medicine student Kim Daybell is also Rio-bound.



TREASURES FROM ABOVE

This summer three alumni went rummaging in their lofts for mementoes of their days as Leeds University Union entertainments secretaries, and then donated their findings to the University's archives.

When Andy Kershaw (Politics early 80s, Hon DMusic 2005) brought his archive to the University, he dusted off one treasure after another, each capturing a dizzying rock and roll era at Leeds. Now these contracts, records of negotiations, promotional material and photographs are saved for posterity in our Special Collections.

His papers provide invaluable insight into the workings of the early 80s music industry. "You can see how much we paid each band, who wanted what for dinner, even which students were on security that night. I knew all these details would be lost so, when I was finishing as ents sec, I packed the papers into crates and carried them with me for 3 decades. Now they'll be safe," said Andy.

Former ents secs Steve Henderson (Metallurgy 1975, Materials MSc 1976, Mechanical Engineering PhD 1980) and Karen Emanuel (Biology 1986) also donated their Refectory posters and backstage passes. Steve, who brought punk to the University, unfurled 29 pristine posters promoting late 70s gigs such as Siouxsie and the Banshees with opening act Human League or Buzzcocks with opening act Joy Division.

See the posters at alumni.leeds.ac.uk/scrapbook

TACKLING BRAIN CANCER

Sports broadcaster Jacqui Oatley MBE (German Language and Literature 1996) is one of a number of celebrities who have lent their name to Wear A Hat Day – an annual charity event which raises awareness of brain cancer and raises funds for research.

The fact that brain tumours are relatively rare means research in to brain cancer receives considerably less research funding than most cancers. But they are the leading cause of cancer-related death in people aged under 40 and can devastate lives.

Leeds has the UK's largest group of neuro-oncology researchers, with a focus on translating laboratory findings into patient care. Our current research aims to tackle brain cancer by defining new targets for treatment in tumours of the brain's glial cells, and finding mechanisms that affect a patient's resistance to treatment. Leeds is also carrying out clinical trials, including drugs that block the growth of blood vessels that allow cancers to grow.

For further information please visit www.braincancer.leeds.ac.uk



IN TO DARKNESS

LEEDS GRADUATES ARE BEHIND NOT ONE, BUT TWO, OF THE MOST COMPLEX DARK MATTER LABORATORIES IN THE WORLD. JAMES URQUHART MEETS THE MEN WHO MAKE PIONEERING DISCOVERIES HAPPEN

At the end of a dusty tunnel in the depths of a working nickel mine is a door. Beyond it is perhaps something you'd only expect to see in a James Bond movie. But there it is, two kilometres below a long established mining town in Northern Ontario, Canada. "It's like some scientist's lair that you come across when you're not expecting it," says Nigel Smith (Physics 1985, PhD 1991), the director of SNOLAB, one of the deepest and cleanest laboratories in the world. "That doesn't make me Dr No though, right? I don't plan world domination," he assures.

In this pristine subterranean facility physicists are hoping to solve some of the biggest mysteries of the universe, and it's Nigel's job to help them do it. Just four per cent of the universe's matter, including all the stars and galaxies right down to ourselves, can be understood by current science. The remaining 96 per cent is a mystery, comprising the aptly-named dark energy and dark matter.

It may seem strange, but one of the best places to shed light on dark matter is deep underground. Here Nigel runs a lab that detects elusive particles whose existence will change theory into fact. Last year the mine hit pay dirt when its results led to a Nobel Prize for Canadian Arthur McDonald. He, along with Japanese physicist Takaaki Kajita, showed that neutrinos have mass.

"I SUSPECT IT WAS AFTER MY SUPERVISOR HAD GIVEN ME ENOUGH BEER, BUT THAT'S WHERE I DECIDED TO GO TO THE SOUTH POLE"

THE FENTON

This extreme environment is a far cry from student life in Leeds. "I didn't even know such jobs existed when I went to university," Nigel admits. However, he pinpoints a moment during the early days of his PhD that sent him on the trajectory that now finds him running SNOLAB. Typical of student life, it was in a pub. The Fenton, on the fringes of the campus, to be precise. "I suspect it was after my supervisor Alan Watson had given me enough beer," he says, "but that's where I decided to go to the South Pole."

As a student, Nigel's fondness for the wild took him orienteering and fell running. "I have a lot of memories of being very wet and cold on top of hills, but having a great time," he says.



The World Wide Web (WWW) was invented at CERN in 1989 by British computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee. He developed the web to enable scientists to easily find, share and retrieve information via a computer network that linked to webpages.



SNOLAB grew out of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) experiment which ran from 1999 to 2006. This Nobel Prize winning experiment revealed that neutrinos oscillate and switch between three different 'flavours', proving that these elusive subatomic particles have mass.

Even his PhD was initially based on the exposed moors of Haverah Park near Harrogate. This is where Watson (now Emeritus Professor) and Bob Reid (now retired) were running an array of detectors in an effort to find the elusive origin of cosmic rays, a kind of high-energy radiation which continually rains down on Earth from somewhere in space.

DOWN SOUTH

Nigel grabbed at the chance to investigate cosmic rays in Antarctica. “There was one slot left and this was for the poor sap who was going to run the experiment for an entire year, which meant wintering over,” says Nigel. “That perversely really appealed to me.”

Nigel would be the first Briton ever to stay all winter at the South Pole. “I have vivid memories of seeing that last plane leave and looking around at the 19 of us on station thinking ‘oh my word what have we done?’” He hunkered down with 18 Americans and a pizza oven while he cracked on with the project until eight months later when the next plane arrived.

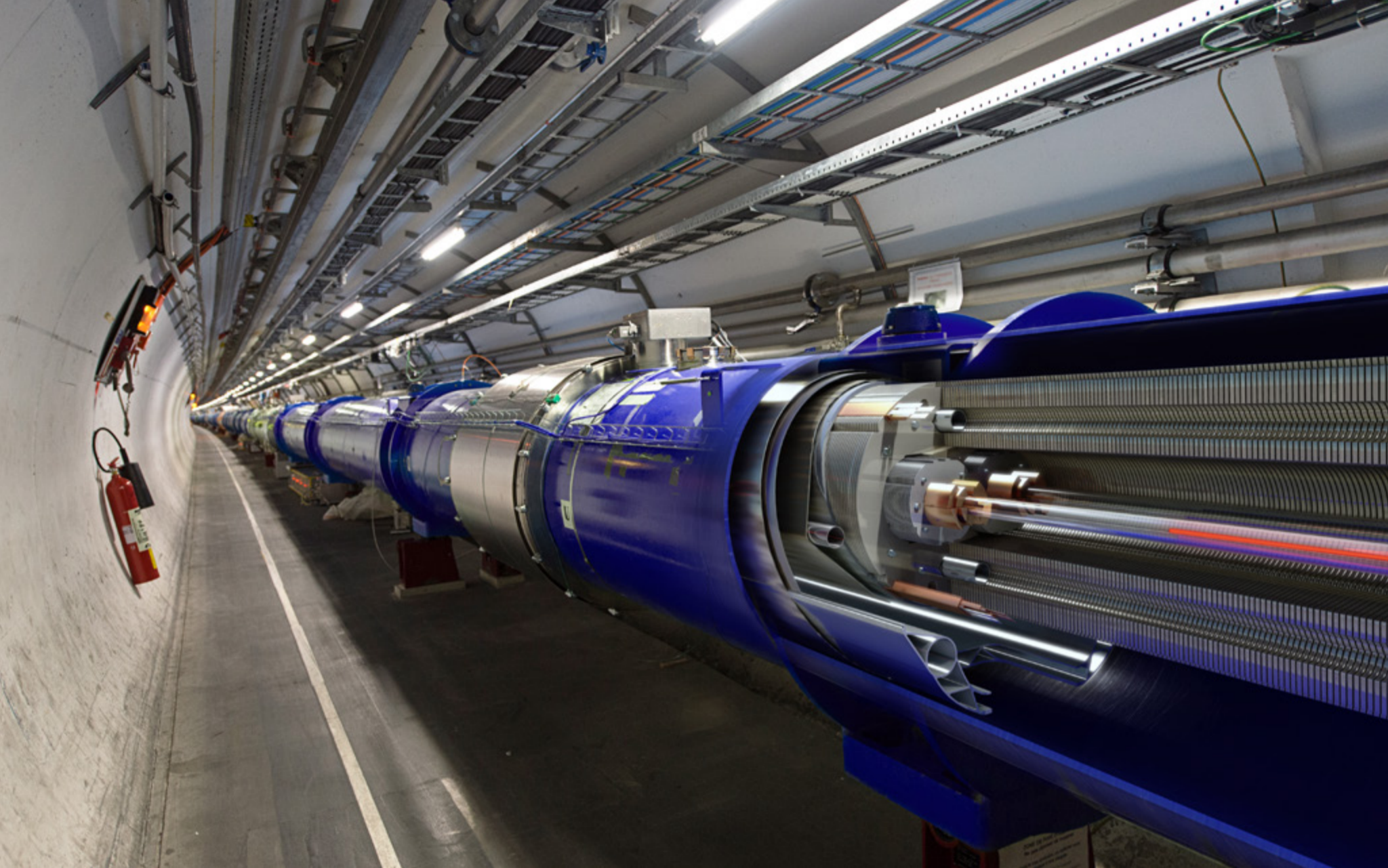


NIGEL SMITH, DIRECTOR OF SNOLAB (PHOTO: SUSANNAH IRELAND)

“

THESE ARE BY FAR THE BIGGEST SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS THAT HAVE EVER BEEN BUILT

”



CROSS-BORDER TUNNEL

While Nigel ran his experiment through the darkness of the 1988 austral winter, another Leeds physics alumnus was working in a huge tunnel 100 metres beneath the Franco-Swiss border.

The control system for part of a 27 kilometre-round accelerator was being completed by Paul Collier (Physics with Astrophysics 1982). The accelerator belonged to CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research. This giant underground circular machine, called the LEP (Large Electron-Positron), was designed not to detect particles from space, but to create them by manufacturing particle collisions at nearly the speed of light.

The LEP accelerator was switched on in 1989 but it has since been replaced in the same tunnel by the more powerful and famous Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the largest machine in the world.

Paul is now Head of Beams at CERN where he manages 420 staff and oversees anything from beam physics to the instrumentation and infrastructure necessary to fire up its nine accelerators, including the LHC. “I think it’s the coolest job title on the planet,” he says. “I’ve been very lucky and I think a lot of the groundwork was set up for this in my studies at Leeds.”

▲
3D CUT OF A DIPOLE TUNNEL
PHOTOS 1 & 3 © CERN 2 ©
SNOLAB

ROLLING STONES

He admits he wasn't exactly a model student academically, perhaps overindulging in the social life and music scene of Leeds, with bands like The Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd and Thin Lizzy visiting the city. "I almost failed my second year because I was enjoying myself far too much," says Paul. Romance blossomed too. He met his wife at the start of second year. Nevertheless, he knuckled down in third year and now believes the course was key to his success.

His interest veered away from astrophysical objects and why the universe is the way it is towards the technical and electrical engineering side of physics. He says that Leeds taught him how to integrate various subjects in physics, which is something that's invaluable for a massive project like CERN.

HOT SOUP

"These are by far the biggest scientific instruments that have ever been built," Paul says. "Making the whole thing work together is a very big challenge and this is what's driven me for most of my life."

CERN's research into the nature of things isn't that far from Paul's original interest in the cosmos. Due to the speed of light, we see the Sun as it was eight minutes ago and we see the nearest star as it was 4.5 years ago because it takes that long for their light to reach Earth. The further you look into the universe, the further back in time you see. And the furthest astronomers can see is up to a fog when the universe was very young, only about 280,000 years after the universe formed at the Big Bang. No one can see beyond this fog, known as the cosmic microwave background, because it doesn't transmit light.

Step in the Head of Beams. CERN's instruments allow scientists to recreate the conditions – an extremely hot soup of fundamental particles – to within fractions of a second after the Big Bang started. When protons are accelerated almost to the speed of light, they gain an enormous amount of energy. Inside the LHC, two separate beams of protons, ten times thinner than a human hair, are made to collide. These collisions annihilate the protons, which liberates their vast energy. Different energies produce different and new kinds of particles, interactions and states of matter.

Four main experiments are located around the LHC ring and tens of millions of collisions occur per second. Detectors generate data which is sent to a global network of computers.

The CERN-created particles should help physicists to start getting a handle on unanswered questions about the components of matter and the forces that hold them together. The Nobel Prize winning discovery of the Higgs boson particle, which was confirmed by LHC experiments in 2012, completes the standard model by explaining the origin of mass, but there's a lot more beyond it.

There's still that 96 per cent of the universe's mass that we don't understand. Physicists know about 23 percent of this missing mass is dark matter – they know because without it, galaxies would simply break apart. There must be something else that has a gravitational influence, and therefore mass, that adds to the force exerted by all the stars and gas inside a galaxy.



▲
INSIDE SNOLAB

◀
PAUL COLLIER, HEAD OF
BEAMS AT CERN

IN THE DARK

Dark matter is what Nigel moved onto after he returned from Antarctica, finished his PhD, then took a job at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, working in Whitby at the Boulby Underground Laboratory. Having built and operated detectors in an extreme setting, he was ready to design and build dark matter experiments anywhere, even deep inside a salt and potash mine. A few years later he was running the facility, and in 2009 he became the Director of SNOLAB in Canada.



The CERN Data Centre stores more than 30 petabytes of data per year from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiments. That's enough to fill about 1.2 million Blu-ray discs, or 250 years' worth of HD video.

Nigel and a team of 72 staff now steer SNOLAB towards some of the most sensitive direct searches ever for dark matter. They've set up complex detectors to find the particles that comprise this elusive substance. One of the most popular candidates is a hypothetical particle called a WIMP (weakly interacting mass particle) > which Nigel has sought during the past 23 years. There are many other theoretical candidates, however, which means SNOLAB is hosting several experiments with a wide range of detection technologies.

One new experiment comprises 3.6 tonnes of liquid argon inside a large ultra-clean acrylic vessel. Detectors will observe the flash of light emitted when a WIMP hits the nucleus of an argon atom. It'll take at least five years to complete all data taking.

Nigel says any dark matter interactions are expected to be about one event per tonne of detector per year. "It's a long process to find this stuff but once it's found that will open up whole new areas of physics to understand both the particle and understand its impact on the universe," he says. "That's pretty cool... tying subatomic physics to the evolution of the universe."

In the meantime, a tantalising observation was made at CERN last December when the LHC was switched back on after Paul coordinated an energy boosting upgrade. When scientists analysed the data produced from millions upon millions of collisions occurring

at almost double the previous energy level, they noticed an anomaly which hinted at a new kind of particle.

Paul says it's too early to declare a discovery but since two of the big LHC experiments saw the anomaly, there is more hope that it's real, rather than a statistical fluctuation. "This is like the equivalent of throwing a die, say 20 times in a row, and getting the same number. It sounds pretty unlikely but you can do it," explains Paul.

CERN scientists are now gathering more collision data in the hope of corroborating this blip. "If it's confirmed, this finding will be very big," Paul says. "We've never seen anything beyond the standard model. It would be like opening a new door and peering into something that we've never seen before."

Perhaps this and future work at CERN, together with the research that will filter through the subterranean door of SNOLAB in the coming years, may just herald the dawn of a new physics. "Watch this space," says Paul.

CERN

Established in 1954, CERN is the largest particle physics laboratory on the planet, with 21 member states and collaborations involving over 10,000 researchers from more than 140 countries. "It certainly has a special feeling to it," says Paul. "In a sense it is a bit like utopia because everybody is focussed in the same direction and goal, where science is king and politics takes a backseat." That goal is to tease out the secrets of the universe. To achieve it, CERN's accelerator complex has grown into a succession of particle accelerators with increasingly higher energies as technology develops. Each machine accelerates a beam of particles to a given energy before injecting the beam into the next machine in the chain. This next machine increases the beam's energy and so on until it reaches a maximum energy in the LHC.

"For new physics you need to go to higher and higher energies because we've basically seen what we've seen at lower energies," Paul explains. "When you first switch on the LHC it's an incredible feeling because of how much effort, time, and brain power has gone into building a thing of this size."

Each day SNOLAB scientists and technicians share their commute to work with miners who, after taking a lift down 2,070 metres, set off to extricate ore whilst the SNOLABers go to shower before they can enter their workplace.

SNOLAB - KEEPING IT CLEAN

We are constantly surrounded by a background ‘noise’ of radiation caused by cosmic rays raining down from outer space as well as trace amounts in everyday materials. This ruins any chance of using super-sensitive detectors to pick up the rare signals of specific astrophysical subatomic particles.

SNOLAB is buried 2 kilometres underground and is kept extraordinarily clean to escape this noise. Mine dust and even human sweat can contain traces of radioactive elements which can upset the detectors.

No one enters the facility after their trip through the mine without first hosing down boots, removing overalls, taking a shower, changing into clean overalls that are laundered on site, putting on a hairnet and finally wearing a clean hard hat.

Everything else that goes into the lab gets cleaned twice through an area called ‘the carwash’. Scientists even travel the world to vet the manufacturing processes and materials that detector components are made from to avoid any possible contamination.

Despite these rigorous regimes, the rock itself emits radiation. So SNOLAB shields the detectors inside massive silos that contain some of the purest water in the world to soak up the radiation. To avoid contaminating the environment with dust, even simple tasks become logistical nightmares. It took 8 months to drill just 24 holes to anchor one of the detectors. “And all of this is happening at the bottom of a cavity where access is through a hatch 80 feet above your head!” Nigel says.



MATHEMATICS

A computer model developed by Leeds mathematicians could improve the design of search and rescue boats. The vessels are particularly vulnerable to waves that amplify suddenly due to unpredictable weather and sea conditions. Using advanced variational principles and modern computational techniques, the new model produces highly accurate simulations of these waves. “Describing mathematically the complex behaviour of waves and their interaction with fast ships, and then incorporating all of this into a robust computer model has been very challenging,” explains project lead Professor Onno Bokhove. The study was funded by the EPSRC.



MEDICINE

Leeds researchers have discovered that thousands of deaths could have been avoided if heart attack aftercare guidelines were followed more closely. Their study, funded by the British Heart Foundation, used data from the UK National Heart Attack Register to analyse the 389,000 cases of heart attacks in 247 hospitals in England and Wales over a ten year period. They found that 87% of patients did not receive at least one of the required interventions, mainly dietary and smoking cessation advice, as well as the prescription of anticlotting drugs. “We’ve highlighted the unacceptable deficit in care given to heart attack

LEFT:

LEEDS RESEARCH COULD IMPROVE THE DESIGN OF RESCUE BOATS

RIGHT:

DR CHRIS GALE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH SCIENCES

patients,” explains Dr Chris Gale (PhD Medicine 2004), Associate Professor of Cardiovascular Health Sciences. “We calculate that roughly one patient per month per hospital is losing their life as a direct consequence of this deficit.”



EARTH & ENVIRONMENT

Windfarms have a negligible impact on their local environment, finds a study by the Universities of Leeds, Lancaster, Glasgow, the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology and the National Centre for Atmospheric Science. Sensors placed around turbines in a North Lanarkshire windfarm took detailed readings of the air and soil for six months. They measured a slight warming from the turbines at ground level during certain weather conditions. However, this warming was only detected close to the turbines and did not change the composition of the farm’s peatland environment. The results are good news for supporters of wind energy. “Even in the most extreme conditions, the warming was no more than a fifth of a degree Celsius,” explains lead author Professor Stephen Mobbs (PhD Applied Mathematics & Physics 1983).

GEOGRAPHY

Analysis of a decade of air quality change in Britain has revealed that deprived neighbourhoods have benefited least from improving air quality. Dr Gordon Mitchell (Geography 1991), Dr Paul Norman (MA Geographical Information Systems 1999) and researcher Karen Mullin looked at changes in concentrations of atmospheric nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulates (PM₁₀). The study showed that air quality improvement was fastest in the most affluent neighbourhoods, nearly all of which now comply with the NO₂ annual average standard. Of the half a million people that live in non-compliant areas, 85% reside in poorer neighbourhoods. Levels of PM₁₀ are also highest in these disadvantaged areas. The authors call on government to make equity analysis part of their clean air planning, to ensure that the most vulnerable populations are treated fairly and are adequately protected.



SCHOOL OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

There was a full house for “Are you Plugged in? How Digital is Transforming News”, a panel discussion held as part of the Leeds Digital Festival. Panellists



THE WIND FARM IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE



ALUMNA ANNA DOBLE TAKING PART IN THE DISCUSSION. COURTESY OF THE YORKSHIRE POST

included alumna Anna Doble, Editor of Radio 1 Newsbeat (Broadcast Journalism 2001) who joined other industry experts to discuss how online technologies are transforming the way news is consumed. The impact of social media on news dissemination was one area where panellists saw both opportunity and challenge, with the relationship between social media giants like Facebook and established news organisations also providing fodder for debate. “It’s fantastic to see Leeds Media and Communication graduates playing a big role in shaping the future of the news media,” explains panel Chair Dr Kate Nash.

Would you like to come back and speak to students? Email alumni@leeds.ac.uk.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Researchers from Leeds and the University of Copenhagen have discovered an “overload release valve” in bacteria, a weakness in its energy metabolism which can only be detected when nanoscale “pumps” in bacteria are monitored one at a time. “Bacteria maintain a finely tuned imbalance between the pH value inside and out,” explains Reader in Biophysics Lars Jeuken. “This imbalance acts as a power source, fuelling the bacteria’s growth.” The team has discovered that when this delicate pH imbalance becomes too large, the pump

seems to act as a valve, releasing some of the power. “If we can design a drug that would jam the release valve in the open position, it would be a very powerful antibiotic indeed,” he explains.



ENGLISH

Poetry fans are enjoying their lunch with an extra dose of verse, thanks to lunchtime poetry readings in the School of English. Dr Helen Mort invited staff, students and alumni to share their favourite poems and read aloud their own. “It’s a 30-minute break in the working day and a chance to discover writers that may inspire us,” explains Helen. Recent sessions have included readings from the works of Yeats, Elizabeth Bishop, Gerard de Nerval and Jenny Joseph, amongst others. Helen is an established poet and holds a cultural fellowship funded by alumnus Douglas Caster (Electronic and Electrical Engineering 1975). Her first collection of poetry, *Division Street*, was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize and Costa Prize in 2013.

▲
CARTOON BY KIPPER



POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

The School of Politics and International Studies welcomed experts for a panel discussion entitled “Pounds, Pence and Politics: How Parliament scrutinises economic issues”. The panel, chaired by Professor of Politics Cristina Leston-Bandeira, featured experts from the Chamber of Commerce, the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Attendees enjoyed insights into the work of the Treasury Select Committee, hearing observations from panellists about the way it examines economic issues and the Yorkshire economy. The discussion was part of the “Perspectives on Parliament” series, designed to give an insight into Parliament’s people, offices and history.



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

The Mechanical Engineering building’s giant sculpture is guaranteed to welcome students of the future, now that it has been listed by Historic England. The iconic artwork has received a grade II listing as part of a national programme to preserve post-war artworks across the country. The dynamic shapes in “A Celebration of Engineering Sciences”, made from glass fibre reinforced polyester and clay moulds, are intended to symbolise the struggle between man and machine. It was designed by architect Allan Johnson in 1963. “The work is a prominent example of public art here at the University of Leeds that is seen by thousands of passers-by each day,” says Professor Ann Sumner of the Public Art Project.



LEFT:

“POUNDS, PENCE & POLITICS”,
THE DISCUSSION UNDERWAY

RIGHT:

THE NEWLY LISTED SCULPTURE



SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY

Masculinity was under the spotlight during the “Masculinities, roles and transitions” symposium hosted by Dr Anna Tarrant. The conference explored questions relating to men’s wellbeing, their care roles and the life course. Speakers from several universities presented research about a diverse range of themes. These included the concept of masculinity in young Muslims; men’s experiences of infertility and childbirth; work-life balance in Norway; fathering and grandfathering in low-income families; autobiography; and the construction of gendered identities in alcohol consumption. “The event really showcased diversity and innovation in the field of men and masculinities,” says Anna.

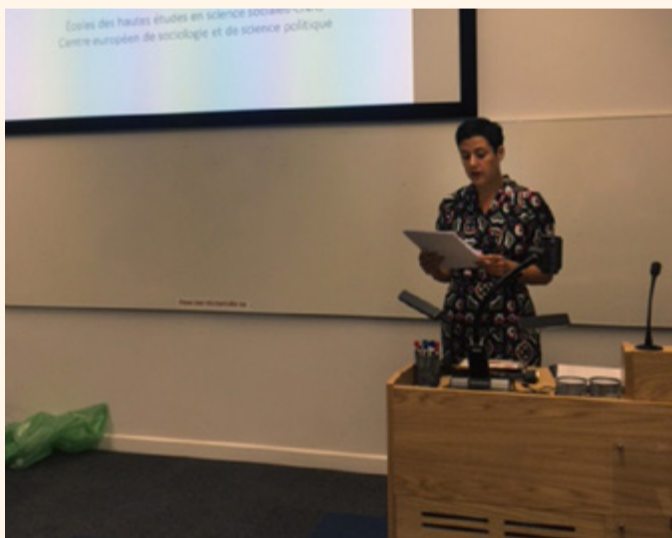


PRHS

A two-headed fish, an ancient Cypriot statue and a microscope

have all been the subject of public lectures at Leeds this year. The “History of Philosophy and Science in 20 Objects” series invites audiences to explore ideas in science, technology and medicine through the ages using items from the University’s scientific collections. The lectures aim to promote the University’s artefacts, both online (<http://bit.ly/1sRq6rm>) and through open lectures. “HPS is such an exciting subject, and Leeds has played an important part in its development,” explains Dr Mike Finn, Director of the University’s Museum of the History of Science, Technology & Medicine. “We hope the lectures will give a taste of that.”

Join us for a future lecture:
<http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/museum-of-hstm/20objects/>



LANGUAGES, CULTURES AND SOCIETIES

The Centre for Translation Studies joined forces with the Centre for World Literature to host “The Sociology of Poetry Translation” conference, organised by Leverhulme

◀
DR ANNA TARRANT AT THE SYMPOSIUM

◀
THE SOCIOLOGY OF POETRY TRANSLATION CONFERENCE

◀
A TWO-HEAD FISH, ONE OF 20 OBJECTS EXPLORED IN THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE LECTURE

Early Career Fellow Dr Jacob Blakesley. They aimed to open new avenues of research in poetry translation, an area relatively untouched by new sociological approaches being applied to other areas of translation. Speakers examined how this new lens can be applied to poetry, analysing the role of poetics, ideology, and book markets, in topics ranging from Arabic and Swahili translations of Shakespeare to English anthologies of Pablo Neruda's poetry.

LEEDS MBAIN THE WORLD'S TOP 100

The Leeds University Business School Full-time MBA is among the world's top 100 programmes, according to the Financial Times Global MBA Ranking 2016.

The rankings are compiled using data collected from business schools across the globe and a survey of alumni. Participating alumni were surveyed on a variety of criteria, including the quality of their student experience, career progression and increase in salary.

Business School alumni saw an average salary increase of 79% from the point they started their MBA. The programme represents an excellent investment, underlined by its league table position of 17th globally for value for money.

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

Celebrity chef Jamie Oliver's back-to-basics approach to improving our diets works, according to research from the School of Food Science and Nutrition.

Researchers found that people who attended one of the chef's eight-week Ministry of Food courses showed significant improvements in their eating habits.

The participants greatly increased their intake of fruit and vegetables, halved the amount of snacks they ate and became much more confident about their cooking skills. "These positive changes emerged immediately following the course and had increased further by six months after the course," said researcher Janet Cade, Professor of Nutritional Epidemiology.

TOP TEN: ART ON CAMPUS



WRITER CHRISTOPHER BEANLAND (POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES 2001) FOLLOWS THE CAMPUS ART TRAIL AND CHOOSES HIS 10 FAVOURITES

1

One of the many pleasures of the Leeds campus is stopping and looking. There are paintings, sculptures and statues both in plain view – and hidden away. The buildings are intriguing too. When I was at Leeds in the 90s, I didn't pay a great deal of attention to what was around me in general. But it's really worth taking the time to drink in all that's beautiful, weird and wonderful about it.

1 MAN-MADE FIBRES BY MITZI CUNLIFFE (CLOTHWORKERS BUILDING SOUTH, 1956)

New Yorker Mitzi Cunliffe was, like Barbara Hepworth, a creative woman who shone out in a 'Mad Men' world. Most famous for designing the BAFTA 'face mask' trophy in 1955, still presented today, Cunliffe super-sized her sculpture as her career went on. Man-Made Fibres is a big, heavy, dominating icon perched high in the air on the Clothworkers Building – easy to miss if you look up. Its interwoven threads look like a kind of pop logo, a little like the Woolmark, and distil the spirit of the modern way of making clothes.

2 ROGER STEVENS BUILDING BY ARCHITECTS CHAMBERLIN, POWELL & BON (1970) / HERMES BY WILLIAM CHATAWAY (1958)

With its sci-fi ventilation shafts thrusting up into the sky and huge amounts of space given over to circulation (stairs, lifts, walkways, atria) this recently listed building is a link between 1960s brutalism and the hi-tech style of the 1970s that resulted in buildings like



2



3

Richard Rogers' Centre Pompidou in Paris – which it seems to inspire a little. Its eastern face, by sheer coincidence, proved to be the perfect home for William Chataway's huge bronze figure called Hermes, which originally graced the Midland Bank HQ in London, before heading up the M1 in 1983.

3 IACA BY VICTOR VASARELY (IN THE STANLEY AND AUDREY BURTON GALLERY, 1957)

Victor Vasarely was born in Hungary, but lived in France for much of his life. His most important pop art output evokes a pure spirit of dynamism – it's the late 50s and early 60s come to searing life, a white-heat period of artists trying new tricks; Bridget Riley was playing similar games. This piece makes you squint, feel a bit nauseous, look up, look down. It will immediately remind anyone of a certain age who grew up in the UK of the famous shifting ATV logo which mashed its coloured circles together on screen – just like Vasarely does here with static paint.

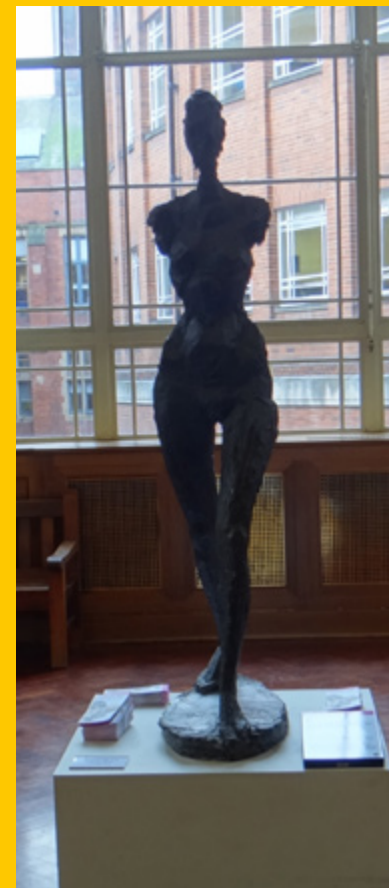


SEE FOR YOURSELF

THERE'S NOW A PUBLIC ART TRAIL WHICH STARTS AT THE STANLEY AND AUDREY BURTON GALLERY IN THE PARKINSON BUILDING, WHERE YOU ALSO CAN PICK UP A TRAIL MAP



4



5

4 A CELEBRATION OF ENGINEERING SCIENCES BY ALLEN JOHNSON (SCHOOL OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING BUILDING, 1963)

We're definitely taking more of an interest in public art as the 2010s rattle along, and the current re-appraisal of post-war architecture has a lot to do with that. In the 1980s and 90s much of the best stuff from the 1960s was slagged off in the papers, demolished or forgotten about. Allen Johnson's gutsy, no-nonsense frieze makes me think of a knuckle-duster. It sticks out from the Mech Eng Building, looking down on the Otley Road with its traffic, and the shivering smokers outside The Eldon pub. It was Grade II listed by Historic England at this year.

5 UNTITLED BAS-RELIEF BY HUBERT DALWOOD (BODINGTON HALL, 1961; NOW ON THE STAGE@LEEDS BUILDING) / WALKING FIGURE BY WILLIAM CHATAWAY (BODINGTON HALL, 1968; NOW INSIDE THE PARKINSON BUILDING)

This most rural of all the University settings gave artists the opportunity to design the kind of things that were springing up at the new greenfield 1960s universities – garden statues and big wall sculptures to be enjoyed from afar. Former Gregory Fellow Dalwood's relief on the side of the canteen has recently been relocated to the stage@leeds Building on campus. William Chataway's female figure was damaged (possibly by drunk residents?), so the version in Parkinson Court is a recast of the original bronze.

5 WALKING FIGURE, 1989 RECAST OF 1968 ORIGINAL, BRONZE, © W H CHATAWAY, PHOTOGRAPH © THE STANLEY & AUDREY BURTON



6

**6 CHANCELLOR'S COURT / MANTON AND EC STONER BUILDING
BY ARCHITECTS CHAMBERLIN, POWELL & BON (1965-75) / WORSLEY
BUILDING BY ARCHITECTS BUILDIN**

“This is either a Godless building... or God,” mullied Leeds College of Art graduate Damien Hirst in a fascinating BBC film from 1996 about the Worsley Building called Building Sights (which is still on iPlayer). He said it displayed “strength but lack of emotion.” It’s a real brute – which I love – and I think the whole Chancellor’s Court area, with its skyways and squares and stretched superblocs, is a total thrill ride, which is why I set part of my new novel *The Wall in The Head* in this 1970s maze.

**7 BLACK ZORO BY ERIC ATKINSON (IN THE STANLEY AND
AUDREY BURTON GALLERY, 1965)**

Some of Eric Atkinson’s early paintings are sort of outsider art, sort of Lowry, sort of landscape studies. *Black Zoro* though is a completely different kettle of fish. It’s horrifying, pared-down, and completely impossible to ignore. That black Z will haunt your dreams. Atkinson was born in Hartlepool and did time as head of fine art of Leeds College of Art from 1961-69 before leaving for Canada. Who knows what part of Leeds, or his life, during that period this singular painting refers to?



7 REPRODUCED WITH THE
PERMISSION OF LEEDS UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY



8



REPRODUCED WITH THE
PERMISSION OF LEEDS
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

9

8 THE DREAMER BY QUENTIN BELL (CLOTHWORKERS' COURT, 1982)

A good bit of public art can react to different sites, and The Dreamer is a prime example of this – having been next to the Edward Boyle Library and in the Baines Wing cafe before coming to rest in Clothworkers' Court. It's a bit spooky – how could a levitating woman not be? Quentin Bell, professor of fine art at Leeds, designed it and Gurdev Singh from the University's School of Civil Engineering made the supports that keep it floating.

9 CHRIST DRIVING THE MONEYCHANGERS FROM THE TEMPLE BY ERIC GILL (MICHAEL SADLER BUILDING, 1923)

Eric Gill's controversial frieze is a War Memorial with a difference – not at all like the Cenotaph, more a kind of painting come to life in stone. Gill was a trained architect who became a sculptor, and knew about space and the impact of walls and large works on them. It was originally located below the Great Hall from 1923 until 1961, when it was moved inside the Michael Sadler Building. Many people just stride past it, but it has the power of a shock doctrine.

10 LAIDLAW LIBRARY BY ADP ARCHITECTS (2015) / EDWARD BOYLE LIBRARY BY ARCHITECTS CHAMBERLIN, POWELL AND BON (1975)

We're still living through austerity and sadly I think there are a fair few shoddy, cheap buildings around the campus and the city from the last decade. But this library is handsome, high-spec and I'm sure a pleasure to study in. It won one of RIBA's 2016 Yorkshire Architecture Awards. But I also love the tough aesthetic of Edward Boyle, opened in 1975 and currently being refurbished. It too makes appearance in my new novel.



10



• THE VIEW FROM UP HERE:
LEEDS ALUMNUS DR PIERS SELLERS
PHOTO: NASA

WORLD CHAMPIONS

LEEDS' CLIMATE RESEARCHERS
ARE SEEKING ANSWERS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET

Like it or not, our planet is getting warmer. Globally, July 2016 was the hottest month since records began in the 1800s, the latest in a string of record-breaking figures. The impacts of a changing climate – rising sea levels, extremes of temperature, flooding and drought – can be seen around the world.

Leeds' new Priestley International Centre for Climate could not have been launched at a more important time. It aims to better link our physical, technological, economic and social understanding of climate change, and strategies for mitigating and adapting to its impact. Research is directed into policy – enabling governments, industry and individuals to make the decisions and changes needed.

The Centre is named after the 18th century scientist and philosopher Joseph Priestley who is credited with the discovery of oxygen. While working in Leeds between 1767 and 1773, Priestley experimented with a gas from a local brewer which he called “fixed air.” The work won him the Royal Society Copley Medal, and the gas he described was carbon dioxide (CO₂), one of the principal causes of climate change.

The Priestley Centre brings together the work of more than 150 Leeds academics – expertise on a significant scale – and led by Professor of Physical Climate Change Piers Forster. “Our vision is to be a world-leading centre for policy-relevant, solution-driven climate research,” he says.

The Priestley Centre was launched in June this year, and is supported by former astronaut Piers Sellers (PhD Biometeorology 1981, Hon DSc 2007).

Dr Sellers has committed himself to raising awareness of climate change. “We need to debate our options with the best ideas and information that science can provide,” he says. “I expect Leeds to be at the forefront of this effort.”

Dr Sellers' work as a climate scientist and in raising public awareness of global warming, has been recognised with two annual prizes in his name to recognise outstanding research in the field.

The Piers Sellers Prize for ‘World leading contribution to solution-focused climate research’ was awarded to Dr Joeri Rogelj of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Austria. His research examines workable mitigation solutions and the effects of staying below different global temperature targets.

The first winner of the Piers Sellers Prize for Exceptional PhD Research, meanwhile, is a Leeds alumna. Kate Scott (MSc 2008,



▲
DR KATE SCOTT

PhD 2016) is researching how environmental and industrial policies, as well as measures taken by consumers, can be used to best effect in mitigating climate change.

“Conventionally, we account for our carbon emissions through what we produce in our own country,” she says. “In the UK this has been reducing for a number of years as we have transitioned from manufacturing towards a service-based economy. However, we now import more materials and products which embody carbon emissions. In this sense, we’re effectively passing on our own emissions to those countries.

“My work examines how the UK and other high-consuming countries can change our patterns of consumption, to take responsibility for our consumption-driven climate impacts, and bring about greater emission reductions.”

Kate’s research has been integrated into assessments of evidence by the Committee on Climate Change – an independent body that reports to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions – and has been presented to various Government departments.

She is now doing post-doctoral work as a Research Fellow for the Centre for Industrial Energy, Materials and Products at Leeds. There’s a strong public engagement side to her work: “We need to think about consumer behaviour,” she says. “Not just the public but industries, businesses and the public sector.

“We waste almost a fifth of the food we buy and much of this is avoidable. Cars are getting bigger when they don’t need to be – and they could use more carbon-efficient materials.”

The work of researchers, like Kate Scott, Piers Forster, and Andy Shepherd puts Leeds at the forefront of tackling the greatest challenge our world faces. Speaking at the Centre’s launch, Vice-Chancellor Alan Langlands said: “We are proud to be leaders in facing the challenge of ensuring a healthier, more sustainable planet for future generations.”

FOUR BIG PRIORITIES FOR THE PRIESTLEY CENTRE

1. IMPROVING PREDICTION OF FUTURE CLIMATE

In partnership with the UK's Met Office and National Centre for Atmospheric Science (NCAS), Leeds' palaeontologists, geochemists, volcanologists and climate modellers are using laboratory studies, fieldwork, remote sensing and computer modelling to improve predictions of climate change, extreme weather, air quality and carbon budgets. The team also draws on expertise in psychology, social sciences and communications to understand how different stakeholders learn about and respond to climate predictions.

2. UNDERSTANDING RISK TO DEVELOP A RESILIENT WORLD

Researchers evaluate changes in rainfall, crop yield, sea level rise and land degradation – along with impacts on people and socio-economic systems – to improve our understanding of climate-related risks. The Centre combines research in physical climate change and sustainable development, to tackle issues such as food security, flood adaptation, biodiversity, protection of ecosystems, urban development and building resilient infrastructure.

3. ENABLING LOW CARBON TRANSITIONS

Physical and social scientists are working to understand and develop the potential from bio-energy, renewables, carbon capture and storage, energy efficiency and demand reduction, sustainable transport and sustainable cities. Partnerships with the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy and the Centre for Industrial Energy Materials and Products ensures the research has impact in at national and international policy levels.

4. UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS

Climate change, and the way we tackle its effects, will have an effect on society and individual consumers, and so Leeds

is drawing on expertise in sociology, psychology, business, economics and politics, making sure we can communicate the latest research in a way that enables people to make informed decisions about their impact on future climate.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE UK

Leeds researchers have contributed to the recent ‘UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Evidence Report’, the result of more than three years of work involving hundreds of experts from the public and private sectors. In it, the Committee on Climate Change’s Adaptation Sub-Committee (ASC) sets out the most urgent risks and opportunities arising for the UK from climate change.

The report concludes that the most urgent risks resulting from these changes are:

- Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure
- Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures
- Shortages in the water supply
- Risks to terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity
- Risks to domestic and international food production and trade
- Risks of new and emerging pests and diseases affecting people, plants and animals

The report did however note that longer growing seasons may increase agriculture and forestry production, provided water is available and soil fertility managed. Businesses such as engineering and insurance could see an increased global demand for adaptation-related goods and services.

Priestley Centre Director Professor Piers Forster said: “The UK gets off lighter than many countries but this important report confirms that we are already seeing damage to homes, businesses and livelihoods. There are a few opportunities hidden in the mix but the future is one of increased risk that we must prepare for now.”

WATCHING

THE FLEET







▲
PROFESSOR ANDY SHEPHERD

LEEDS IS USING SATELLITE DATA TO PREDICT CHANGES TO OUR CLIMATE, INCLUDING LOOKING AT CHANGES TO SEA ICE

“THE word ‘sceptic’ gets a bad press, but it’s every scientist’s job to be sceptical,” says Professor Andy Shepherd. “We should wrestle the term back from those who overlook what has been learned about Earth’s climate.”

Andy, Professor of Earth Observation in Leeds’ new Priestley International Centre for Climate, understands that confidence in climate predictions has to be earned: “Early computer simulations of Earth’s climate didn’t get everything right. A good example is the Arctic sea ice cap, which has shrunk far quicker than was expected. Because computer models weren’t always accurate in the past, people need to be sure that they have improved, before trusting them in future.”

As leader of a global project to monitor the amount of ice stored in the Arctic and Antarctic, Andy provides vital information for organisations and communities living and working in the polar regions, and data that will enable climate modellers to make their future projections as accurate as possible.

He is Principal Scientific Advisor to the European Space Agency’s CryoSat mission, the only satellite dedicated to monitoring the changing patterns of Earth’s polar ice. CryoSat is enabling scientists to measure for the first time the total amount of Arctic sea ice. “It’s



not just about area covered, we also need to measure how thick it is too,” says Andy.

Sea ice is a big part of the climate equation, because it has a cooling effect, reflecting the sun’s heat back into space. “Thanks to CryoSat, we can now produce an annual assessment showing how much Arctic sea ice is left,” says Andy. “Though it has been shrinking in area for 30 years as the temperature has risen, the total amount has been quite stable over the six years since CryoSat was launched.”

His work also provides an important public service: “The levels of sea ice are important for people who work in these regions. We provide a real-time monitoring service which is vital to the Royal Navy, to oil and gas exploration companies, for shipping, tourism and expeditions – and of course for people who live in or whose livelihoods depend on the Arctic. No-one else can do this.”

The location of sea ice is in constant flux and a period of strong winds can pack it together, causing problems for ocean vessels. “If the sea ice is a metre thick, then an ice-strengthened ship can get through; if it’s four metres thick, you need a nuclear-powered ice breaker.”

Leeds is also at the forefront of work to assess the loss of land ice from Greenland and Antarctica, which together is responsible for approximately 40 per cent of today’s sea level rise. “Since the last report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, we have

▲
RESEARCH IN THE FIELD

“

WE BELIEVE SEA LEVELS WILL RISE BY BETWEEN 40 AND 60 CENTIMETRES, ON AVERAGE, OVER THE NEXT CENTURY

”

been producing regular updates on the decline of land ice, and this information is used by the European and US environment agencies as an indicator of global climate change.”

It’s important work and feeds directly into policy: “80 per cent of the world’s nations have a coastline, and their coastal protection agencies make long-term plans to deal with rising sea levels. Every year, a handful of countries commission new and expensive flood defence works, and our measurements help them to be sure that they’re doing the right work in the right place.

“We believe sea levels will rise by between 40 and 60 centimetres, on average, over the next century. But the pattern won’t be uniform across the world; northern and coastal regions should expect more. And the prediction will change if more glaciers in Antarctica and Greenland become unstable, as has happened over the past few decades. To be alert to such changes, global measurements are needed.”

CryoSat is providing these kinds of measurements, operating over the earth’s highest latitudes and monitoring variations in the thickness and mass of the polar ice sheets with a level of accuracy and detail impossible from the ground. Its findings showed Greenland alone lost a trillion tonnes of ice between 2011 and 2014.

The speed at which ice sheets move is another important measurement – and could have a big impact on how ice will contribute to future sea level rise. Until recently it was thought glaciers shifted at top speeds of about five kilometres a year, but now it’s been shown that some can flow four times as fast. “You can sit next to the Jacobshavn Isbrae glacier in Greenland and actually watch it move as you have your lunch – it’s that quick,” says Andy.

In the long-term, CryoSat’s measurements will provide a benchmark against which climate models can be tested and revised. “Climate models need to be able to reproduce what has happened on Earth during the past few decades,” says Andy. “Now that we have a reliable record of these events, thanks to satellites, the skill of forecasts – and, crucially, people’s confidence in them – should start to rise.”

“Science moves forward by people challenging what has come before them and that’s why it’s always important to be sceptical. But through CryoSat, we can give the climate modellers a clear picture of what’s going on, and help bring a genuine confidence to the projections.

OUR SCRAPBOOK IS NOW THE MOST POPULAR PART OF LEEDS ALUMNI ONLINE, THANKS TO ALL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. HERE ARE A SELECTION OF YOUR PHOTOS AND COMMENTS. SEE EVERYTHING AT ALUMNI.LEEDS.AC.UK/SCRAPBOOK



“I couldn’t believe my eyes when I looked through the montage of photographs. I am certain that the picture of the tennis player in the centre of five is my brother-in-law...”

JOHN VARLEY (MECHANICAL ENGINEERING 1964)

“Your photos from the past made me think of my time at Leeds. Here’s a photograph from the 1957 Medical Ball.”

*JOHN MEAKIN
(METALLURGY 1955, PHD 1957)*



“I enjoyed looking through the photos of the late 60s. While rummaging around in an old desk I found this, taken I believe in 1967! This shot is of Martin and me atop a friend’s limo.”

*PETER CHENEY
(BACTERIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY 1969)*



“The alumni scrapbook brings back many happy memories. I was in the Photography Society and this shot from the early 50s was taken in front of the Union when the Engineers were celebrating ‘Stick Day’.”

GEOFF BAWCUTT (GEOGRAPHY 1953)

“Here’s one for your scrapbook, taken on the day after a party in one of the Brudenells when we found there was beer left.”

KERRY THOMAS (CHEMICAL ENGINEERING 1971)

We love hearing from alumni – and usually having a laugh with them – about their student days. Alumni have been generously sending in photos for us to share with you. You can join the fun by viewing our online scrapbook.

It is packed with more than 8,000 images, including an entire section on Leeds nightlife (obviously). We're confident that this is the UK's largest alumni photo collection. And it captures the Leeds experience like nothing else does... Not just study, but friendships, romances, escapades and one or two parties.



“Loved the curry and a pint of Tartan at the Fav. Guy at the front looks a bit like my husband except I'm not sure his hair was that short in 1972!”

JUDITH SUTTON (CHEMISTRY 1974)

“I enjoyed looking at the scrapbook and spotted myself in the 1977 Weetwood Hall picture!”

MARY O'KANE (BIOCHEMISTRY 1979)



“My friend and fellow dental student showing cooking skills after a night out in the Original Oak. Smoke detectors hadn't been invented yet!”

PAUL ELCOCK (DENTISTRY 1986)



Here's the sub aqua club in 1985 when we met at the Pack Horse twice a week. The same photo might still be in the corner of the upstairs room.

ANDREW REID (ZOOLOGY 1987)

“I just had a look through the pictures on the scrapbook page and there is some great stuff on there.”

ISH KALIA (INTERNATIONAL STUDIES 1996)

“I love the online alumni scrapbook from @LeedsAlumni FAB IDEA! The photos bring back such nostalgia for my @UniversityLeeds years.”



For the scrapbook here are some photos of my best moments at Leeds University. It's great that the University is providing such a service to its alumni!"

ALEEM KHAN (POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES 2007)



"I love how the scrapbook shows student fun through the years. I was there when some tigers came to tea in Lupton Hall."

BECKY WINWOOD (PHILOSOPHY 2014)

FROM CLASSIC ROCK GIGS TO CLUB NIGHTS, WE'VE COMPILED AN UNPRECEDENTED SCRAPBOOK OF PHOTOS AND MEMORABILIA RELATED TO LEGENDARY LEEDS NIGHTLIFE.

Our thanks to Steve Henderson, Andy Kershaw, Steve Chivers and Karen Emanuel who dusted off their jaw-dropping poster collections which haven't been seen in decades.



"Have to admit I'm the rather tense looking girl in the background as Pete Townshend signs an autograph."

DOROTHY GEARY-JONES (MUSIC AND THEOLOGY 1971)

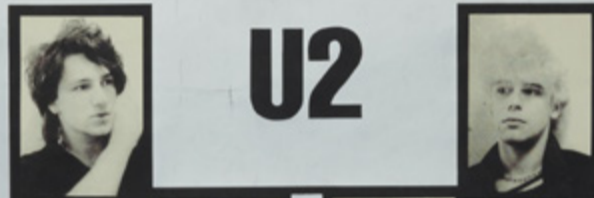
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Check the price of that U2 ticket in 1983.

COURTESY OF KAREN EMANUEL (BIOLOGY 1986)



COPYRIGHT JOHN RETTIE

Leeds alum Dan Smith's band, Bastille,
play Stylus in 2013.



Leeds
Univents
backstage
Pass

ELVIS COSTELLO & THE ATTRACTIONS

REALLY

TUES. 23 JUNE 1981

“I knew all these details would be lost so, when I was finishing assignments sec, I packed the papers into crates and carried them with me for 3 decades. The Elvis Costello pass is a souvenir of when he did his only UK show of the year at Leeds uni. I’d persuaded Costello’s manager to come but then I had an exam that day. I sat down, wrote my name at the top and thought ‘right, the equipment trucks will be arriving, I better go...’”

ANDY KERSHAW (POLITICS EARLY 80S, HON DMUS 2005)



“For me, there were two unmissable live acts at this time - The Clash and Ian Dury. I was lucky enough to book both. At this sold out Clash show, Joe Strummer gave me a guest list of 200 names - those outside with no tickets. I hope he’ll forgive me but capacity restrictions stopped me from satisfying his wish!”

*STEVE HENDERSON (METALLURGY 1975, MATERIALS MSC 1976,
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PHD 1980)*



• ANNE-MARIE HUTCHINSON
AT DAWSON CORNWELL

PHOTO: KEITH EMMITT



HUMAN *Rights*



AS WELL AS SHAPING GOVERNMENT POLICY, ANNE-MARIE HUTCHINSON SAVES VICTIMS OF CHILD ABDUCTION AND FORCED MARRIAGE. NOT BAD FOR A STUDENT WITH NO FIXED CAREER PLAN, SHE TELLS CHRISSIE RUSSELL

There are nights when all Anne-Marie Hutchinson OBE QC (Hon) can do is sit with her mobile phone in the dark, hoping that a text will come through to tell her that a client is safe and well. Many of the top human rights lawyer's cases are life and death: children wrenched from their mothers' arms, young girls forcibly wed to men they don't know, let alone love, and innocent people trapped in countries they long to leave, denied their basic freedoms.

Anne-Marie (International History and Politics 1980, Hon LLD 2016) has fearlessly assisted in the protection of more than 150 forced marriage victims. She was recently named one of the Top 50 Women Super Lawyers and was honoured with an Outstanding International Woman Lawyer Award. This summer the University awarded her an Honorary Doctor of Laws.

And yet – reassuringly for many students – Anne-Marie had no idea what she wanted to be when she grew up. Born in Donegal, but brought up in Cambridgeshire from the age of two, she was one of six children. There was no tradition of the Law in her house. Her mum was a nurse and her dad, a hairdresser.

She failed the 11 plus and went to a secondary modern school, then left at 16 before returning to education at a technical college. She headed to Leeds “because it was the hardest place to get into,” with an unexpected three grade As at A level.

On graduating, Anne-Marie thought law might interest her as a career, so she did a conversion course and entered the field of civil law in 1985. Her first case wasn't a headline-making international human rights case, but a landlord and tenant dispute.

She didn't have a rigid career plan. “It was all very organic for me and I think that's how it should be,” Anne-Marie reveals. “I often get sent requests and CVs saying ‘I want to do human rights’ or ‘I want to do women's rights’ or ‘I want to do forced marriage.’ I always write back to them and say ‘well, that's actually quite insular and probably not the best way to start your career’. It's much better to take all the opportunities you get to have the broadest spectrum of education and experience.”

Areas of expertise: Anne-Marie was the expert for the International Academy of Family Lawyers at the Hague Conference on Surrogacy and other Child Status Issues. She has a special interest in assisted reproduction and surrogacy law, especially since the government's announcement that the Law Commission will be looking at new legislation in this area.

Leeds life #1: Who was your favourite lecturer? “Nicolas Pronay. He was Eastern European and ran a really good course on propaganda and its impact on politics, international politics and issues. He was so totally interested in his subject, and passionate about it, that you couldn't help but be passionate too.”

Leeds life #2: Where were you most likely to be found off-campus? “A fish and chip shop called Sweaty Betty's. By the end of term we'd be living on chips with what was called ‘sweet and sour sauce’ (which really was just jam and vinegar) from Sweaty Betty's. I haven't been able to look at sweet and sour sauce since.”



It was a mixture of fluke, being in the right place at the right time and interest that led to her portfolio of cases associated with women’s and children’s rights. Anne-Marie joined the family law firm Dawson Cornwell in 1998, was awarded the first UNICEF Child Rights Lawyer Award in 1999 and later given an OBE for battling international child abduction and adoption. In 2004 she was named Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year for work with victims of forced marriage.

The work can be all-consuming. “There are some cases where you are motivated by a passion largely because of the feeling – on my side, anyway – that otherwise a huge injustice would be done,” she explains, “particularly when you realise there are huge communities of women who are not able to access their rights and living in cultures that deter them from doing so. They can be separated from their children and would not even think to pursue an application to have custody of them.

“That’s just wrong. That’s just morally wrong and unjust.”

But not every case ends in success. “There are cases that I haven’t managed to achieve, girls I haven’t managed to get back, girls who’ve said to me, ‘I’m not strong enough to go through with this. I’m going

▲
ANNE-MARIE, PICTURED IN 2009 WITH FELLOW LEEDS ALMUNA HUMAYRA ABEDIN (MA PUBLIC HEALTH 2003). ANNE-MARIE WON A HIGH-PROFILE LEGAL BATTLE THAT RESCUED HUMAYRA, AN NHS DOCTOR, FROM KIDNAP AND FORCED MARRIAGE IN BANGLADESH

PHOTO: JOHNNY GREEN

to stay where I am' and I know they've been got at... Those make me sad. Those are hard."

Anne-Marie cites in particular the case of an Asian girl, pregnant by a European boy. The girl's parents persuaded her to go to India to have the baby and promised she could return home with the child. "Having got their daughter into India, they tried to organise a termination," says Anne-Marie. "That wasn't happening because it was so late in the pregnancy. But then the baby was born and it disappeared. We spent about two years trying to find that child and we never have."

As a mum of two herself, surely it must be impossible not to be burdened by such loss and cruelty? "It's no different than being a doctor," she says frankly. "That's what I can do, I'm trained to do it. You have to distance yourself, otherwise you're not a very good lawyer. If you can't keep that professional distance, your judgement goes."

She gets a huge sense of reward from working on policy and trying to establish cohesive political momentum behind it, "so the next person that comes along doesn't feel so isolated".

Just this May, Anne-Marie was appointed to an independent review into the application of Sharia Law in England and Wales. She feels one major challenge is confronting stereotypes in the wider community, where people say "Oh, that's what 'they' do". Another issue is to challenge thinking where young people – women in particular – are raised to believe that their path in life can only go one way.

When she first started working with women in forced marriages Anne-Marie faced hostility. "Not from the young people," she explains, "but certainly from some of the communities who'd say 'well, who is she to be telling us? What does she know? She doesn't understand'."

There was also greater sexism, when occasionally she'd turn up to court to be asked where her boss was. She thinks more should still be done to help working mothers in the law profession. In her own largely female team, staff can work from home or go part-time when they become parents.

"It's really important for firms to support women, or men, with family commitments," she explains. "There's no point putting all the investment in at the early end and having this gap in the middle, so their careers stall."

“There needs to be flexibility so that if women want to keep working, they can. I don’t care if they work nine to five, or at night when the kids are in bed. As long as the work gets done it makes no difference to me.” Her own working days often end at 10pm. Outside of work, to her son and daughter, now 21 and 28, Anne-Marie jokes that she’s “just mum” or “her moaning”. Filial pride did shine through in January when she was appointed Honorary Queen’s Council for the major contribution she’s made to the law of England and Wales outside of practice in the courts. Of all the accolades, that’s the one she’s most proud of. But what she treasures more than awards are those many cards from grateful clients. “I got a card recently from a girl who I took from a forced marriage, who now works for the UN,” she reveals. She recently visited a mother and son in Japan whom she reunited when the boy was five. “I met them, after 15 years at his graduation,” says Anne-Marie. “The mum still had the photo of me and her outside the High Court. “The texts from girls under their code names at Christmas, the pictures sent to me on Facebook and the texts at New Year from clients saying they’re sitting with their kids and they haven’t forgotten me... just knowing I’ve helped someone do something with their lives, that means more to me than any accolade.”



**VICE-CHANCELLOR ALAN LANGLANDS ON
THE CHANGING FACE OF CAMPUS**

The brief heatwave which greeted this summer's graduation ceremonies ensured that the academic year finished on a high, as over 5,000 students celebrated their successes in the sunshine, and swelled the ranks of our global alumni community to almost a quarter of a million.

It was a fitting end to a momentous year.

The spring saw the opening of our Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery. Our Special Collections, founded on a remarkable trove of rare books and manuscripts bequeathed by Lord Brotherton, are among the finest in the UK and a unique resource for study and scholarship. The gallery now showcases a selection of these treasures for the public, alongside changing themed exhibitions, the latest being a display of our rare Shakespeare materials to mark the 400th anniversary of his death.

In June we launched the Priestley International Centre for Climate. The Centre builds on our expertise in all the key strands of climate change and is focussed on providing solutions to meet this global challenge. The launch was supported by one of our most illustrious alumni, astronaut Piers Sellers (PhD Biometeorology 1981, Hon DSc 2007), who has given his name to two prizes which recognise exceptional research in this field.

Leeds has garnered a series of prizes of its own, acknowledging our work to encourage entrepreneurship. In September, Kairen Skelley, head of our student start-up service Spark, was named Higher Education Enterprise Champion at the National Enterprise Educator Awards. In November we received the Duke of York Award for University Entrepreneurship at the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards. And we rounded off the year with Leeds being named Entrepreneurial University of the Year at the Times Higher Education Awards. These accolades recognise the opportunities we offer to enterprising students, the support we give to small

businesses, and our work in innovation and commercialisation.

This work will be given renewed momentum through our £40 million Innovation and Enterprise Centre, due to open in 2018. Built on the south-eastern side of campus beside Woodhouse Lane, this impressive initiative with state-of-the-art incubator facilities will present an accessible face to business. It will provide external partners access to the knowledge, facilities and funding to support their growth, and students and graduates with everything they need to take their businesses forward.

Further developments are changing the face of campus. Work starts soon on the £90 million Engineering and Physical Sciences Quarter, a new home for science, technology and innovation. Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, the centre will bring together physicists, chemists, materials scientists, engineers and computer scientists to address pressing issues in fields that include medicine, security, energy and telecommunications.

A dramatic transformation of the Union building – a project that many of you have generously supported – is already under way. A £5 million development of our sports facilities will see the creation of a mile-long outdoor cycling circuit open to students, staff and the community, while cementing Leeds' place as the home of the Great Britain Triathlon Team. The success of the Brownlee brothers, and the contribution of all our alumni – both athletes and those behind the scenes to Rio 2016 – is a source of enormous pride for the University.

Of course, this year has not been without its challenges, in particular Britain's decision to leave the European Union.

The result came as a shock to many and its implications will not be fully understood for a considerable time. As a university we will face some significant issues as a result of the vote, but with clarity, purpose and a willingness to work with others, I know we can meet them head-on and prosper in these changed circumstances.

In the 11th century, international scholars studied in Bologna; in the 12th they flocked to Paris. In the 21st and 22nd centuries I am sure that they will continue to come to Leeds. Ours is a great international university in a strong, compassionate, outward-looking city, which welcomes students from 147 countries around the world. Britain may be leaving the EU, but this city and this University will remain international in its outlook.

Wherever you are in the world, be assured that we will not simply be seeking answers to the uncertainty thrown up by this vote, but

will be shaping the solutions: working towards an enlightened immigration policy which makes all overseas staff and students welcome, pressing for effective measures to support growth in research and innovation, and ensuring we offer a stimulating, rounded student experience which continues to attract the most able, committed faculty and students from around the globe.

Thank you for all your support – financial, practical and as ambassadors for this great institution. This is much admired and greatly appreciated.



More than 2,000 of you attended an alumni event or reunion last year. You brought an additional 1,500 guests with you! Here are highlights from some of the 110 events that took place in 32 countries. To find out about forthcoming events, visit alumni.leeds.ac.uk/events. To ensure we invite you to any events near you, make sure your contact details are up to date on the form enclosed with this magazine.





THE BIG GET TOGETHER

Alumni across the world organised social activities for other alumni in their area as part of the Big Get Together in September 2015 and again in 2016. To see photos from this year's events visit: alumni.leeds.ac.uk/bgt

1. Big Get Together Abuja, Nigeria, 2015
2. Big Get Together Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 2015
3. Big Get Together Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2015
4. Big Get Together Taipei, Taiwan, 2015
5. Leeds alumni reception, Guangzhou, China, April 2016.
The event marked the 10th anniversary of Leeds' joint MA programme with Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
6. Leeds alumni lecture and reception, Hong Kong, April 2016, where Professor Rob Richardson, Director of the Institute of Design, Robotics and Optimisation gave a talk on Exploration Robotics
7. Leeds alumni lecture and reception, Kuala Lumpur, April 2016, where Andy Gouldson, Professor of Environmental Policy and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor gave a talk on Cities and Climate Change
8. House of Lords reception for alumni, May 2016, hosted by University Chancellor, Lord Bragg of Wigton
9. Members of the Brotherton Circle, August 2015, enjoyed a special tour of the new Laidlaw Library followed by afternoon tea
10. Leeds alumni reception, New York, October 2015, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alan Langlands
11. Scholarships Reception, Great Hall, December 2015. More than 100 donors attended the event to meet some of the students who have benefited from alumni-funded scholarships

12. Leeds alumni lecture and reception, Singapore, April 2016, where Andy Gouldson, Professor of Environmental Policy and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor gave a talk on Cities and Climate Change
13. 10th annual Alumni Sports Day, April 2016. Alumni teams took on students in sports including football, hockey, lacrosse and squash
14. Leeds alumni brunch, Toronto, October 2015, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alan Langlands
15. Alumni wine tasting event, Leeds, June 2016. Leeds graduate and wine expert Clive Woodhouse gave guests a wine tour of Italy

YOU CAN HELP TALENTED STUDENTS FOLLOW IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS



“It is never far from my mind that the security I feel is due to the kindness of the donors who have generously given their money to help those from less advantaged backgrounds.”

Katie Mahon, Year 3, BA (Hons)
Theatre & Performance



This year, the government is phasing out student bursaries. For students from low-income households, this could mean even greater levels of debt when graduating, or that they are dissuaded from Higher Education altogether.

WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR LEEDS SCHOLARSHIPS

This year, Leeds received **945 applications** for undergraduate scholarships, **a huge increase from 698 in 2015**. If we are to continue to welcome students with the greatest potential to Leeds, regardless of their backgrounds, we need your support.

Please will you give £50 to help a talented student take up their place at Leeds? Your gift to the Footsteps Fund will go directly towards helping another deserving student experience a world-class education at Leeds. **Please give what you can today.**

VISIT alumni.leeds.ac.uk/footsteps-fund or alternatively if you are in the US alumni.leeds.ac.uk/footsteps-fund-US to give online.

CALL +44(0) 113 343 2499 to give over the phone.

POST your donation to us by completing the form enclosed with this issue and returning it in the envelope provided.

Thank you.

**Making a World
of Difference**



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS