Here are some other “pioneers” who studied at Sheffield!

- Amy Johnson (1903-1941), BA 1925 – pioneering aviator of the 1930s and the first woman to fly solo to Australia.
- Helen Sharman, OBE, BSc 1984 – Britain’s first astronaut
- Linda Smith (1958-2006), BA 1982 – comedienne
- Eddie Izzard, DLitt 2006 – comedian and actor
- David Blunkett MP, BA 1972 – former Home Secretary
- Martin Fry, BA 1979 – lead singer of 80s group ABC
- Jessica Ennis, BSc 2007 – Great Britain heptathlete
- Deidre Sanders, BA 1966 – The Sun’s “Dear Deidre”
- Stephen Daldry, CBE, BA 1982 – director of Oscar-nominated films “Billy Elliott” and “The Hours”
- David Davies, OBE, BA 1969 – former Executive Director of the Football Association
- Joanne Harris, PGCE 1987 and DLitt 2004 – acclaimed author of novels such as “Chocolat” and “Coastliners”
- Vanessa Lawrence, CB, BA 1984 and DSc 2001 – Director General of Ordnance Survey
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As a Sheffield Pioneer, you will:

- receive the University’s annual donor newsletter so you can see how your donation is making a difference to current students
- have your name recorded in the Sheffield Pioneers section of our annual donor honour roll
- receive priority invitations to selected alumni events

“During my time as the Students’ Union President at Sheffield, I saw for myself how donations from graduates like us make a huge difference to students at Sheffield – from student scholarships, to the amazing new Information Commons building, to grants for student clubs and societies.

I had a fantastic time at Sheffield, and I love the idea of helping the next generation of students to do the same. As recent graduates, we have a special understanding of the financial pressures that today’s students face. We’ve now got a great opportunity to help them, by joining the Sheffield Pioneers.

We all know that Sheffield students are amongst the best, most innovative, and most community-minded in the country. Through the Sheffield Pioneers, we can now show everyone that Sheffield graduates are also the most generous!”

Harsh Srivastav
President, Sheffield Pioneers (BEng 2007, and SU President 2005 – 2006)

We hope that by becoming a Sheffield Pioneer, you’ll feel even more a part of your University – and that you’ll feel proud of helping to make your University better than ever!