DOWNSTAIRS AT CHATSWORTH
Secret lives revealed

WHAT USE IS AN OLD MATTRESS?
Sheffield researchers co-creating sustainability

100 YEARS OF SPORT
Celebrating a century of competition

What Sheffield means to me

Dominic West
A note from your editor

It’s been an exciting year for the University. We welcomed our new President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Koen Lamberts (page 21); we officially launched our four flagship research institutes – Energy, Healthy Lifespan, Neuroscience and Sustainable Food (page 12); we secured our position as one of the world’s top universities, ranking 9th in the UK and 78th internationally; and thanks to support from the Sheffield community and beyond, we raised an amazing £2 million to help fund the Sheffield Scanner (page 10).

You can read about these stories and more in the following pages. I hope you enjoy the magazine.

Sarah Hopkins
(BA English Language with Linguistics 2003)
Alumni Communications Manager

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Prefer to receive the digital magazine? Let us know by emailing alumni@sheffield.ac.uk
Respect the positivity of gratitude

Researchers at the University of Sheffield are passionate about tackling the great global challenges of our time. Four new research institutes have been created to bring together our key strengths and turn interdisciplinary and translational research into real-world solutions. The institutes are based on outstanding academic strength and dynamic leadership. They will support and engage with key stakeholders — we already have strong links in each subject area with industry, government, academia and people directly affected by the issues in the UK and internationally.

Professor Koen Lamberts, President and Vice-Chancellor, said, "The University of Sheffield delivers exceptional research across many areas of global importance. These multidisciplinary flagships will bring together expertise from across all faculties to focus on delivering real-world solutions to some of the biggest global challenges. They provide a key opportunity to gain more recognition for our world-leading research strengths."

www.sheffield.ac.uk/research/flagship-institutes

A bold and ambitious vision

The positivity of gratitude

A n interactive Wall of Gratitude was a popular feature of last year’s Festival of the Mind, the collaboration between the University and Sheffield’s cultural, creative and digital industries. Several hundred people contributed their personal messages of what makes them grateful, listing their top three on ‘brick’ cards.

Dr Fuschia Sirois, of the Department of Psychology, explained, "An important aspect of the wall is that it allows you to see what other people are grateful for as well as share your own thoughts. It was fascinating to see people open out and engage in the process. The next step is for us to analyse the responses and assess the types of expressions of gratitude that the project has revealed. Public engagement events such as this are a dynamic research tool for promoting mental health and wellbeing. We now have plans to extend the project into local schools."

Share your own messages of gratitude: @WallGratitude and wallofgratitude.group.shef.ac.uk

Institute for Sustainable Food at the University of Sheffield investigates dynamic solutions to the challenges of food security and sustainability.

Energy Institute at the University of Sheffield investigates low-carbon solutions to the world’s biggest energy challenges.

Healthy Lifespan Institute at the University of Sheffield investigates the biological and socio-economic drivers of disease and ageing and looks at how we can intervene to support healthy ageing for all.

Neuroscience Institute at the University of Sheffield investigates neurological and sensory conditions — including chronic pain and motor neurone disease.
Unlocking UK productivity

University-led major research project – the Productivity Insights Network (PIN) – is engaged in promoting new interdisciplinary social science insights into the drivers and inhibitors of productivity, arguably the most pressing economic challenge facing the UK. Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and launched by Lord Jim O’Neill (BA Economics 1978, MA Economics 1980, Hon LittD 2014), Chair of PIN’s International Advisory Board, the Network has already attracted members from universities across the UK as well as a growing number of public, private and third-sector partners. Its Co-directors are Professors Philip McCann and Tim Vorley from the Management School.

Professor Vorley commented, “Despite being a political priority the productivity puzzle continues to frustrate economists and policymakers. Our aim is to rethink the productivity issues facing the UK and to develop new insights that challenge conventional views. Through commissioning a series of projects we will unpack the complex interactions between factors of production across different institutional and geographical settings.”

Campus update

Developments to the University’s estate are creating the best possible environment for our students, staff, local residents and visitors.

Construction work has begun on a world-leading social science facility, which will provide a hub for the Faculty of Social Sciences – the largest faculty of the University with 10,000 students – around Northumberland Road. It will house a wide range of social science disciplines under the same roof for the first time. The design of the learning and teaching spaces has been informed by student ambassadors who worked closely with their academic departments. The building has been designed with sustainability at its core and green spaces, which will also be open to the public, are an important part of the development.

Work on the Concourse, linking the Students’ Union to Firth Court and the Alfred Denby Building, is now complete. Highlights include new lighting, paving, seating and an art wall. The facilities at Norton Sports Park have expanded with the construction of two high-quality artificial pitches – one for hockey and one for rugby/football. And the transformation of the Sir Frederick Mappin Building with the creation of the Engineering Heatspace is nearing completion, with the total refurbishment of the building and the adjacent IB86 Central Wing.

Success at the Sheffield Design Awards

The Leaegreave Road Plantables Scheme, which forms part of a large area of shared space for pedestrians and cyclists, received the Open Spaces Award and the Keith Hayman Award for Public Art at the Sheffield Design Awards 2018. The judges commented on the impact that integrating artist David Appleyard into the design process had on the scheme: he was a key contributor to the new street furniture, combined with a mixture of artwork, plants, and trees. Part-funded by the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund, the scheme is part of the University’s Public Realm Project, working in partnership with the Sheffield City Council to make better links with local communities and the wider city.

Focus on multilingual reading

Younger readers now have access to books in languages from across the world thanks to Sheffield Central Children’s Library’s new multilingual book section. Over 500 books in 11 different languages have been donated by publishers, authors and the public. The scheme has been developed by Dr Sabine Little (PhD Education 2001) of the School of Education. Funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council’s Other Worlds Research Initiative will enable data collection on how families engage with the available resources, and what impact the library has on language and identity development.

Lord Mayor Magid Magid said, “Sheffield is home to over 150 spoken languages, and the diversity represented in Sheffield’s multilingual children lends strength to the city’s standing in today’s global climate. Helping children to grow up multilingual is not just important in terms of identity and heritage, but also has real economic benefits. It is great to see the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Libraries working together to support and nurture Sheffield’s multilingual families.”

“Do I love Sheffield? I think I do.”

Go online to see our exclusive interview with alumnus Eddie Izzard (Hendrix 2006). Eddie started his career as a comedian and performer at the University’s Drama Studio 40 years ago. We caught up with him to reflect on his time in Sheffield.

www.sheffield.ac.uk/faculty/ medicine/ISSB/health/ community-outreach/ community-engagement/commplacement
What's new at the SU

Say no to packaging
The new Zero Waste Shop is one of the ways the Students’ Union is progressing its commitment to sustainability value: it forms part of Development Officer Megan McGrath’s #ReusableRevolution campaign. The shop offers a huge range of dried goods, all sold by weight and free from plastic packaging. It also has refill stations for empty bottles of household liquids, and recycled and sustainable products including bamboo cutlery and kitchenware.

Promoting alcohol-free events
Coffee Revolution transforms into the Mocktail Lounge twice a month, offering non-alcoholic cocktails and live music. It is the idea of International Students’ Officer Rex Bechu, who said, “I talked to the Entertainments team and they were really keen on meeting this demand. It’s been an amazing journey to create Mocktail Lounge with such impressive, smart, innovative individuals.”

Committee Central
A new space has been developed within the Students’ Union to provide a mixture of informal lounge space, private meeting booths and larger meeting areas. It provides dedicated areas for the Working and Representative Committees; from campaigns and events to media and sport, the space facilitates new collaborations between these groups.

Education for our Future
Education for our Future is an ambitious project that aims to equip students with “the knowledge, skills, values and attributes needed to work and live in a way that will bring about solutions to the urgent, and ever-changing, environmental, economic and social challenges that we face.” It is led by Development Officer Mel Key, Women’s Officer Mayeda Tayyab and Education Officer Anna Crump Raiswell, in collaboration with the University. The project has three individual strands, each spearheaded by one of the officers. They address decolonising the curriculum, establishing a pedagogical approach to teaching, and ensuring all graduating students have a holistic understanding of sustainability.

Rising to the top
The University of Sheffield is ranked among the best universities in the world for teaching and research in the arts and humanities, according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2019. Sheffield was ranked 62nd out of more than 500 institutions across the world for arts and humanities subjects – rising five places from its position in the rankings from the previous year. Professor Susan Fitzmaurice, Vice-President for Arts and Humanities, said, “The key is the creative, critical and inspirational research and teaching of our academics across the disciplines of history, modern languages, archaeology, music, philosophy, and English language and literature studies.”

The University’s Faculty of Arts and Humanities is home to more than 3,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students from both the UK and around the world. It has more than 350 members of staff.
SHEFFIELD SCANNER SUCCESS

Bringing the world’s most advanced medical imaging technology to Sheffield.

CANCER. HEART DISEASE. DEMENTIA. STROKE. MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE. DIABETES. MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS.

It too familiar to so many, these devastating conditions affect the lives of millions of people across the world every day. But now, thanks to the University’s £2 million Sheffield Scanner campaign, we’re one step closer to helping in the fight against them.

The first of its kind in Yorkshire – and one of only eight in the UK – this state-of-the-art MRI-PET facility will bring about the biggest change to medical research at the University in its 114-year history.

Thousands of people from across the University community and beyond got behind the campaign. Alumni, staff, students and members of the public came together to help reach the £2 million fundraising target, making a valuable contribution to medical research at the University in its 114-year history.

Alumni, staff and members of the public came together to help reach the £2 million fundraising target, making a valuable contribution towards the £20 million project. This was match-funding by the University with the remaining £6 million provided by the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health.

As well as generous one-off donations, many undertook fundraising events and challenges. There were sponsored walkers and runners, swimmers and singers, bake sales and craft fairs – all in recognition of the important role the scanner will play in advancing human health, right here in Sheffield.

Professor Dame Pam Shaw, Founding Director of SITraN and Vice-President and Head of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health, said, “The new MRI-PET facility will be at the heart of our medical research campus and will integrate seamlessly with the hospital buildings, offering the best of both worlds for the University and our Trust colleagues. We are looking forward to welcoming our first patients once the Sheffield Scanner is up and running.”

Why is combining MRI and PET preferable to scanning separately?

The combination of MRI and PET [Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Positron Emission Tomography] imaging techniques in one machine allows us to detect very small abnormalities very sensitively. We hope, and expect, this will allow us to diagnose conditions a lot earlier, and monitor whether new experimental treatments are working much more nimbly than we have in the past.

What conditions will benefit?

The scanner will accelerate research into many conditions. It’s particularly important for cancer research, neurological disorders and degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s, motor neurone disease and multiple sclerosis, as well as conditions including stroke, epilepsy, cardiovascular disease and infectious diseases.

What are the next steps?

Work on the new facility where the scanner will be housed – at the heart of the University’s medical campus adjacent to the Royal Hallamshire Hospital – is now well under way. We’re hoping it will be completed by spring 2020. Once it’s up and running we’ll begin clinical trials with patients from the Yorkshire region.

The Sheffield Scanner will focus on serious conditions which so many of us have been touched by. The University carries out world-class medical research and I’m so pleased to have played a part in helping reach the £2 million target.”

Alumnus Rob Pulford (BA Business Studies 1994) raised £200,000 by completing the Marathon du Medoc.

GETTING TO £2 MILLION

The figures behind the Sheffield Scanner fundraising target

<table>
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<th>£1.5m</th>
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<th>£0.9m</th>
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<td>682 fundraisers</td>
<td>£133k from alumni appeals</td>
<td>£373k largest gift</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JANUARY 2016

Professor Dame Pam Shaw starts planning to bring an MR-PET scanner to Sheffield

MARCH 2017

Fundraising for the Sheffield Scanner begins

JUNE 2017

The Big Walk 2017 raises £68,000

DECEMBER 2017

£1 million raised

JUNE 2018

£1.5 million fundraising target reached

DECEMBER 2018

£2 million fundraising target reached

SPRING 2020

Facility completed and scanner installed

2019/2020 YOUR UNIVERSITY
Researchers and clinicians from Sheffield were instrumental in the development of ticagrelor, a drug that reduces the risk of blood clots in heart attack patients. It has saved the lives of thousands of people around the world since its discovery over 20 years ago. Ticagrelor improves on clopidogrel, previously the standard treatment for heart attack patients. Rob Storey, Professor of Cardiology at the University and Honorary Consultant in Cardiology at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, was keenly aware of clopidogrel’s shortcomings and the need for something better. Pharmaceutical company Astra (later AstraZeneca) were working on a new intravenous anti-clotting therapy known as cangrelor. Professor Storey became the first researcher outside Astra with access to this drug, which showed a more consistent and reliable response in different blood samples – potentially a major step forward from clopidogrel. He was also the first doctor to administer cangrelor to a patient, in the late 1990s. He then worked with Astra on the development of an oral alternative to cangrelor, namely ticagrelor, which can be prescribed for long-term treatment. He was adviser to a complex study involving over 18,000 heart attack patients in 43 different countries. Results showed that ticagrelor reduced mortality rates in patients from five to four per cent – preventing one in five deaths.

The study opened the way for ticagrelor to be approved in 2011 by the UK’s National Institute for Health and Care Excellence as a cost-effective treatment for heart attack patients. South Yorkshire was one of the first areas in the world to adopt the drug, and it is now the main anti-clotting treatment for heart attack across the UK and many other countries. Professor Storey was subsequently involved in another international study in over 25,000 patients, which showed that ticagrelor treatment over many years can further reduce the risk of recurrent heart attack.

Research continues at Sheffield. Dr Wael Sumaya is focused on reducing mortality rates among the 20 per cent of patients who still don’t respond to post-heart attack treatment. Dr William Parker is looking at whether a lower dose of aspirin may be more effective for long-term treatment when combined with ticagrelor.

“A life-saving drug for heart attack patients”

Results showed that ticagrelor reduced mortality rates in patients from five to four per cent – preventing one in five deaths.”

Professor Rob Storey
Growing crops in the most extreme conditions

The University’s expertise in plant and soil science is triggering innovative ideas about how agriculture can feed the world’s growing population in an environmentally sustainable way. The design of new systems for growing food in dry deserts and other areas of the world that are normally hostile to plants has led to the development of a new type of greenhouse, which costs rather than warms and deals with issues such as a lack of water and soil degradation.

A new way forward for radioactive waste management

A group of over 40 academics and researchers in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering are focused on developing strategies, materials, processes and policy to support the safe, timely and efficient clean-up of legacy radioactive waste. A key aspect of their work is the design, manufacture and performance assessment of glass and ceramic materials for the immobilisation of plutonium residues, legacy intermediate-level wastes and high-level wastes from reprocessing operations.

Led by Neil Hyatt, Royal Academy of Engineering and Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Research Chair in Radioactive Waste Management, the team works closely with industrial organisations, including Sellafield Ltd, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and the National Nuclear Laboratory, to address real-world challenges of radioactive waste management.

“The Strategy and Technical Directorate at Sellafield Ltd first saw the quality of our work when we ran a project with Magnox, the nuclear decommissioning site licence company, looking at possible vitrification technology – the transformation of a substance into glass,” Professor Hyatt explained. The group was then commissioned to develop a proof of concept for the novel process, which involves the mixing of plutonium-contaminated waste with blast furnace slag and turning it into a glass-based form. This reduces its volume by between 50 and 95 per cent and locks in the radioactive plutonium, creating a stable end product.

The research undertaken at the University made an essential contribution to the decision to change the UK’s waste management strategy to adopt thermal treatment technologies for some radioactive wastes. The future expectation is for a £240 million investment to construct a thermal treatment plant at Sellafield.

“Professor Hyatt said, ‘It has been a very fruitful partnership. We understand the needs to harness science and engineering to address real-world challenges and the team at Sellafield Ltd understands the need to harness fundamental science in order to solve technical problems. This gives us very similar outlooks from different ends of the science spectrum; we are interested ultimately in basic science, and they want to achieve translation.’”

Improving care for nerve injuries

Sheffield is an internationally renowned specialist centre for the clinical management of patients with trigeminal nerve injuries. Damage can occur during wisdom tooth removal, the placement of dental implants, corrective jaw surgery or as a result of facial fractures. A proportion of patients are left with complete numbness or altered sensation of the affected region; this may also be accompanied by severe pain. Historically, little was offered to these patients by standard clinical practice, either in terms of a clear prognosis or possible surgical intervention to improve the level of recovery.

A team at the University has now developed reliable and successful methods for trigeminal nerve repair and published protocols for its clinical management. Led by Simon Atkins (BDS Dentistry 1993, PhD Dentistry 2008), Senior Clinical Lecturer/Consultant Oral Surgeon, they have undertaken extensive research in the field; their techniques include direct surgical repair and the use of grafts to enable regeneration of nerve fibres.

They also actively promote procedures that avoid nerve damage in the first place, through the dissemination of information at local, national, international and specialist meetings and online training courses. Embedding the management of trigeminal nerve injuries within undergraduate and postgraduate dental curricula is an ongoing part of their work.

The team receives around 120 referrals a year from throughout the UK and further afield, and is the only specialist centre for trigeminal nerve repair. The quantitative assessment of the outcome of nerve repair has revealed that there is a highly significant improvement in the majority of cases, and patients consider the improvement in the pain and the effects of scarring to further enhance nerve repair outcomes. Research in conjunction with the Department of Materials Science and Engineering aims to further improve nerve repair by utilising novel synthetic conduits.
BAFTA award winner and Sheffield-born TV, film and stage actor Dominic West rose to fame for his performance as Jimmy McNulty in the American drama series *The Wire*. Most recently, viewers have seen him play Jean Valjean in the BBC’s stunning adaptation of Victor Hugo’s classic novel *Les Miserables*. We caught up with him to reflect on his exceptional career so far – and find out what Sheffield means to him.

What inspired you to be an actor?
My mum was raising seven children in Sheffield in the 1970s and to keep herself sane, she joined a group called Theatre Focus. She played lots of great parts, all at the University’s Drama Studio, with proceeds going to charity. She would draft us kids in when they needed crowd scenes and my sisters and I loved the excitement backstage.

Are we right in saying your acting career actually started in the University’s Drama Studio?
Yes, my first speaking role was at the Drama Studio as The Winslow Boy when I was nine. It’s what made me want to be an actor.

What have been the highlights of your career so far?
Career highlights have been in *The Wire*, *The Affair* and *Les Misérables* – but my favourite role was in an Argentinian circus show called De La Guarda in 1999. We flew above the audience on ropes and harnesses to loud rave music.

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What did it mean to you to be given an honorary degree by the University in 2018?
I’m really proud of my honorary degree. My grandparents and great aunt all studied useful subjects like engineering and medicine at the University of Sheffield. It makes me feel worthy of them.

Where is your favourite place in Sheffield?
The Fat Cat pub near Kelham Island.

What advice would you give to aspiring actors?
My advice to young actors would be: if you’re in it for the fame, get going on Instagram. If you’re in it for the art, do a play or make a film.

What is coming up for you next?
Next for me is a film of Gypsy Boy, which we’re due to start shooting in late autumn.

How did it feel to come back to Sheffield to perform in *My Fair Lady* at the Crucible?
I’ve done three plays at the Crucible and I love it. It is such a fantastic space and the audiences are much sharper than in London. All my mum’s old friends come and see me; some of whom I acted with 40 years ago at the Drama Studio. It’s harder work performing on stage than it is for TV but it is more gratifying. I’m not just saying this but the best stage is the Crucible. The audience is all around you. I loved every second of performing there.

Where is your favourite place in Sheffield?
The Fat Cat pub near Kelham Island.

What advice would you give to aspiring actors?
My advice to young actors would be: if you’re in it for the fame, get going on Instagram. If you’re in it for the art, do a play or make a film.

What is coming up for you next?
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My first speaking role was at the Drama Studio — it’s what made me want to be an actor.”
The Zaatari refugee camp is on the front line of the greatest humanitarian crisis of modern times. Home to 80,000 men, women and children displaced by war, it is the largest camp for Syrian refugees in the world. Many have arrived with limited means to cover even basic needs, and those who could at first rely on savings are now increasingly in need of help. It is estimated that 93 per cent of refugees in Jordan live below the poverty line. They once led lives very like our own – they were farmers, teachers, lawyers, engineers, nurses and builders.

Co-creating Sustainability
In the camp, all the normal events of life take place – but they present greater challenges. The United Nations’ Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is leading a coordinated effort, together with partners, non-governmental organisations and the Jordanian Government, to offer a lifeline. Staff and students from the University of Sheffield are actively engaged in addressing a range of everyday problems in the camp. This isn’t a one-way process. They are working with, not just for, the residents and learning from them along the way.

Led by Professor Tony Ryan, Director of the University’s Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures, they are using their expertise to help grow food and develop amenities using pioneering techniques. Recycling materials from the camp – such as mattresses, bicycles and yogurt pots – they have created a host of home improvements and innovations, including windmills, air conditioning, mobile phone chargers and wheelchairs.

“The Mattress Moment
Taken into a warehouse full of used polyurethane foam mattresses, Professor Ryan made a connection to the research of a PhD student in Sheffield who was involved in working out how polymer foams can be used as artificial soils to grow crops. What if the knowledge of Grantham Centre researchers and the resourcefulness of the refugees could be combined to give every family in Zaatari camp a vegetable plot made out of recycled mattress foam? This would avoid them breaking Jordanian law, which does not allow refugees to grow plants directly in the earth – or build permanent structures. And turn a problem for the UNHCR – a pile of unusable mattresses – into an opportunity to improve everyone’s wellbeing.

Hydroponics is a way of growing plants without soil, using a nutrient solution with plant roots supported in an inert medium. Yogurt tubs provided the pots and mattress foam the growing medium. The basic principles of this system were introduced to residents at a workshop run by Grantham Scholar Harry Wright, supported by the Norwegian Refugee Council. The attendees quickly set up a production line, cutting raw materials, making up nutrient solutions, and planting seedlings and cuttings into the pots. Around 200 refugees have now been trained to grow plants using hydroponics.

“Make no mistake, the people who end up in these camps face daily struggles that many of us cannot imagine,” commented Professor Ryan. “But those I’ve met embody values that are often forgotten by those of us in more privileged parts of the world: an adaptable approach to solving problems, an aversion to waste, a sense of community. As hard as we must strive to live in a world where no one is forced to flee their home, there is much we can learn from Syria’s refugees.”

He first went to Zaatari in 2016 with Professor Helen Storey (Hon DSc 2013), of the London College of Fashion; they have been working together on a number of sustainability projects. He was tasked by the UNHCR to look at resource use and repurposing, with a specific question about the design and manufacture of sanitary products. He ended up working on recycling a stock of bicycles recovered from canals and donated by the Amsterdam Police – into trikes and trailers. A week of ‘scrap yard challenges’ also saw a group of Sheffield scientists and engineers collaborate with refugees to co-create solutions for home-scale water heating and electricity generation.

Our researchers in Jordan are supporting sustainable living

What use is an old mattress?

What if the knowledge of Grantham Centre researchers and the resourcefulness of the refugees could be combined to give every family in Zaatari camp a vegetable plot made out of recycled mattress foam?”

CREDIT: LIVIA CIVES

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What Next?

With funding from the University, researchers are making four to five trips a year to the camp. Once the initial Sheffield projects were under way, it became obvious that their day-to-day work in Zaatari would need a broader knowledge base. Social scientists, geographers, architects, and management experts have now joined the scientists and engineers, said Professor Tony Ryan, Business Manager of the University’s Sheffield Solar, the UK’s first solar-powered refugee camp.

Aldous Everard, Business Manager of the University’s Sheffield Solar, the UK’s first solar-powered refugee camp, is shown at the Zaatari refugee camp.

Professor Tony Ryan inspects the materials at the Zaatari refugee camp.

Aldous Everard, Business Manager of the University’s Sheffield Solar, the UK’s first solar-powered refugee camp.

Hydroponics system is built from plastic piping, mounted on a rack. Old yogurt pots are filled with recycled mattress foam that acts as the soil for the seeds to grow in. The pots planted with seeds are placed into slots in the piping. The pipes are filled with a nutrient solution that flows through and feeds the seeds. The seeds grow in the pots producing feeds that flow through and with a nutrient solution into slots in the piping with seeds are placed to grow in as the soil for the seeds mattress foam that acts filled with recycled. A rack piping, mounted on is built from plastic.

How does hydroponics work?

1. Hydroponic system is built from plastic piping, mounted on a rack.
2. Old yogurt pots are filled with recycled mattress foam that acts as the soil for the seeds to grow in.
3. The pots planted with seeds are placed into slots in the piping.
4. The pipes are filled with a nutrient solution that flows through and feeds the seeds.
5. The seeds grow in the pots producing feeds the seeds that flows through and with a nutrient solution into slots in the piping with seeds are placed to grow in as the soil for the seeds mattress foam that acts filled with recycled.

Photovoltaic industry’s leading scientific data resource, has been a regular visitor to Zaatari. On a recent trip, he caught up with the progress of the hydroponics scheme. He explained, “Helen Storey has established a new compound, called Five Caravans, where female-centred training is provided. One of the caravans houses one of our hydroponics set-ups. Being on-site to monitor progress is important—and WhatsApp is very useful if you want to check any problems with colleagues back in Sheffield. “We are having discussions with the UNHCR about how our co-created schemes and research findings can benefit the wider population throughout Jordan. We are also investigating a collaboration with a major plastics company and the Jordanian Government on transforming the sustainability of waste management in refugee camps. Another potential project involves introducing hydroponics to roof-top gardens in the Palestinian Aida refugee camp. The next step involves bids for funding to develop and share our knowledge and research grants so we can continue to do research and share our knowledge and experiences. How we build resilience and promote sustainable living is relevant whether in Jordan or back here in the UK.”

Professor Ryan added, “The solutions developed in Zaatari are the sort of solutions the world needs in order to respond to another global crisis—the environmental one. We must reduce global consumption by recycling more materials. We also need to deal with growing food in a changed climate—one with less water and more CO2. “And we have to face the fact that many more people will be living in refugee camps in the future—predictions estimate there will be millions of environmental refugees as a result of climate change. Finding ways to help displaced people is all part and parcel of creating a sustainable future.”

Sheffield is known across the world for the excellence, impact and distinctiveness of its research and teaching, and for being a university with a passion for transforming lives for the better. I feel proud and privileged to have been appointed as your new President and Vice-Chancellor and I have greatly enjoyed getting to know the University and the city since I joined in November.

Of course, as alumni, you know all about this too. You have been taught by great minds and inspiring teachers, formed lifelong friendships and gone out into the world knowing the positive impact that a Sheffield degree can have on your life and career. Whether you graduated in 2018 or 1978, live nearby or thousands of miles away, that connection remains.

This could be joining us in our quest to tackle some of the greatest global challenges facing humanity today by supporting our new flagship research institutes, by helping disadvantaged students to study here with a scholarship; or it could be by getting involved in our hugely successful Alumni Volunteering programme to guide and inspire current students. However you choose to connect with your University, I am looking forward to working together with you over the coming months and years to drive Sheffield and our students forward to even greater success.

The alumni connection

BY PROFESSOR KOEN LAMBERTS, PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Whether you graduated in 2018 or 1978, live nearby or thousands of miles away, that connection remains.”

Find out more

• The Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures grantham.sheffield.ac.uk
• Harry Wright’s blog post about his hydroponics project grantham.sheffield.ac.uk/seeds-without-soil-a-new-use-for-old-beds
• Feeding the world with foam www.sheffield.ac.uk/research/features/zaatari

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Hannah Wallace (BA History 2013, MA Early Modern History 2014), Lauren Butler and Fiona Clapperton were successful applicants for Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded collaborative doctorates, supervised jointly by the University and Chatsworth. Together, they are gaining an understanding of the wider Chatsworth community, exploring the changing relationships between masters and servants over three centuries.

“Only 60 per cent of the thousands of records have been catalogued and we also had access to the remaining 40 per cent, which meant we were reading letters and documents for the first time. It was an amazing process,” explained Hannah.

The students compiled a database of 4,000 servants and staff going back to 1700, recording names, dates and occupations. This is already proving to be a useful resource for family historians from around the world. They have also worked in partnership with Chatsworth to present stories from the archives at public events and on the house’s website. Hannah added, “Piecing together servants’ lives has shown us that they were not only workers; they were people with families, hobbies and responsibilities. We have plans to continue to uncover individual stories, capturing the ordinary and the extraordinary, to further our understanding of how such a community operated during a long period of social and economic change.”

Find out more at researchstories.group.shef.ac.uk/impact/chatsworth

Access the servants and staff database at www.chatsworth.org/art-archives/access-the-collection/archives-and-works-of-art/historic-servants-and-staff

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Elizabeth Bickell

The sixth Duke of Devonshire hired a barmaid from Buxton, Elizabeth Bickell, as housekeeper in 1843. She bought silk dresses for the maids when she arrived at Chatsworth in a bid to win their loyalty, but this marked the beginning of her habit of reckless spending. Her final undoing came in 1846 when there were rumours that she had been entertaining friends at Chatsworth, making other servants wait on table and hosting musical soirées in the Duke’s private apartments. One letter records: “If this foolery is to continue any longer, then the Duke is no longer master of his own home.” Following an investigation, Miss Bickell was swiftly removed from her post.

Lauren Butler commented, “The scandal of the housekeeper who was too fond of company involved servants at every level. More widely, it shed light on fears about upsetting the social order. The idea that Elizabeth was trying to fill the position of the Duchess came up several times, as did the concerns about the ‘rag tag’ people she brought into the house.”

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Monsieur Dupuis and Fraulein von Bloem

Many of the employees at Chatsworth came from the surrounding villages and towns. However, there were also a significant number who came from much further afield. “Over 100 years ago, the aristocracy were keen consumers of French cuisine,” said Fiona Clapperton. “So, if you wanted to impress your dinner guests, you needed a French chef. Monsieur Dupuis, who held this position in 1910, was the highest paid of all the indoor servants who worked for the Cavendish family.”

“German governesses were in demand because they could teach their pupils a modern foreign language and because they were considered to be good disciplinarians. Yet, Fraulein von Bloem, who was employed to teach the children of the ninth Duke of Devonshire, turned out to be a very poor governess indeed. The Duchess wrote to her husband in December 1913: ‘I have just lost my temper with Fraulein von Bloem. The girls say that she has been grumbling and making difficulties’. “

A group of Chatsworth’s servants from the 1850s.

Nestled in the heart of Derbyshire’s Peak District, Chatsworth House and its estate have been home to thousands of servants and staff for over 500 years. With unprecedented access to the stately home’s archives, three PhD students from the School of English are discovering the names and stories of the people who worked for the Cavendish family between 1700 and 1950.

Downstairs at Chatsworth
The UK’s engineering workforce is currently 94 per cent white and 91 per cent male; these are concerning statistics. Firstly, they don’t represent the diversity in our country and more worryingly, these statistics could be intimidating to those underrepresented groups of people who have aspirations of becoming an engineer but have few role models within the field. We need to show young people that engineering is an accessible and exciting career and we do this by celebrating a diverse workforce. However, in order to do this we first need to create one. There is no doubt that engineering is vital to our economy and future success. The Engineering UK report from 2017 revealed that it contributes 26 per cent of the UK’s gross domestic product – more than the retail, financial and insurance sectors combined. Yet according to skills organisation Semta, the UK’s engineering industry is facing a skills shortage of unprecedented levels, with the need for 1.8 million people trained by 2025. At this University, we regularly celebrate the achievements of our female academics, students and alumni in a bid to inspire young girls. Our female undergraduates run a fantastic Women in Engineering Society, which offers encouragement to younger students to get involved in engineering as well as support for current students in their career pathways.

We want to reach young people before societal and gender stereotypes about engineering set in. As Professor Mike Hounslow, Vice-President and Head of Engineering, said, “We need to be talking to children in primary school about what engineering is and what engineers do, particularly to girls in primary school. They make up half the population; they should make up half the engineers.” We are spearheading several key initiatives to inspire the next generation. Each year we hold an Exploring STEM for Girls event as well as an Inspire Summer School – both designed for female students to spark their curiosity in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, and we are also working with local companies to look at ways of increasing the number of women studying and working in engineering.

We are happy to see that our efforts to make engineering more accessible are beginning to have an effect. We currently have 21 per cent female undergraduate students across the years, up from 18 per cent in 2015, while our first year now has 23 per cent female UK students. It is fantastic that we are seeing positive changes such as this in women studying on engineering programmes. Unfortunately, it is far from the norm. In the UK, just 15.8 per cent of engineering and technology undergraduates are female. Compare this to India, where over 30 per cent of engineering students are female. As Helen Gregory CEng, MICE, says, “I’ve been a really active STEM ambassador since I left the University; I’ve really enjoyed taking what I’ve learned and my mentoring abilities and applying them to the next generation and inspiring them.”

"Engineering is the most exciting, challenging and diverse industry to work in," says Dr Gwen Reilly, Director of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for the Faculty of Engineering. She reveals how Sheffield is attracting female students from all backgrounds to follow this career path.

Helen Gregory CEng, MICE
- MEng Structural Engineering and Architecture 2013
- Project Manager, Transport for London

“I’ve been a really active STEM ambassador since I left the University; I’ve really enjoyed taking what I’ve learned and my mentoring abilities and applying them to the next generation and inspiring them.”

Sue Threader FICE
- BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1988
- Chief Executive of the Rochester Bridge Trust

“As a child I had always enjoyed taking things apart like clocks and going to look at bridges to understand how they worked so engineering was a natural choice for me. I would really encourage anyone who wants a job that’s creative but is commercial, and that has a technical challenge involved as well, to go and study civil and structural engineering.”

Salina Jantarang
- Chemical Engineering student

“I chose to study engineering at university because back in high school I liked maths and science, especially chemistry and physics. Engineering is about problem solving, creativity, innovation and technical knowledge. I like that it’s hands-on learning.”

Dr Mitra Abbasi
- MSc (Eng) Advanced Software Engineering 2010
- PhD Computational System Biology 2015
- Research scientist, Simcyp Ltd

“Modelling and simulation has the ability to transform data into information and information into knowledge – I believe working in this field prepares me to be an effective scientist in global healthcare.”
are women. The UK also has the lowest percentage of female engineering professionals in Europe, at less than 30 per cent, while Latvia, Bulgaria and Cyprus lead with nearly 50 per cent. Over the last 100 years, many significant engineering achievements have become commonplace globally and are often taken for granted. Safe drinking water, a reliance on electricity, safer use of the internet, and air travel made easier and faster. These are all remarkable, and engineers continue to push the boundaries, seeking to make a difference by solving the grand challenges of the future, in areas such as healthcare, sustainability, infrastructure and artificial intelligence.

Our motivation as engineers is to make the world a better place, achieving the unachievable. What more could you ask for from a career?

Visit our Women in Engineering website at www.sheffield.ac.uk/faculty/engineering/wie

COMPETITION

A CENTURY OF COMPETITION

The first meeting of the Inter-varsity Athletics Board of England and Wales took place in March 1919. The University of Sheffield was one of the 10 founding members. The first athletics meet took place the following May, marking the beginning of university sport in the UK. Today, over 170 institutions compete in over 50 sports as part of British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS).

Dr Christina Georgiou

• PhD Automatic Control and Systems Engineering student
• Principal Consultant at PA Consulting Group

"People often have misconceptions of what being an engineer means. When I was at school, I had people asking me why I wanted to go and fix cars. There’s so many things you can do as an engineer, it’s all about shaping the future. You’re the person who designs what happens next and I find that truly fascinating."

Atalanta Hinds

• MEng Mechanical Engineering student

"I was encouraged to look at Sheffield by my cousin who studied chemical engineering here and had a fantastic time. Now I’m here myself, the scholarship means I can fully embrace university life without having to worry about finances. It’s given me some fantastic opportunities and motivates me to succeed - both on my course and in my future career. I hope to succeed in my career so that one day I will be in a financial position to donate to the scholarship fund so that another student can benefit the way I have."

Helen Wright

• BSc Biomedical Science student
• Teaching Technician for Bioengineering, Department of Multidisciplinary Engineering Education

"I teach over 500 undergraduate and postgraduate students, across all disciplines of engineering. As well as delivering the practical teachings of laboratory skills, I also create and develop new practical activities that allow our students to get hands-on experience and vital techniques that they can then use in their future careers."

Wall of Women

Our online Wall of Women showcases 55 women who all have one thing in common – they are successful engineering alumni, students and staff at the University of Sheffield. Video profiles highlight why they believe engineering is a great choice of career. www.group.shef.ac.uk

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

UNDERGRADUATE

The first part of its centenary celebrations, BUCS have inaugurated a Hall of Fame to mark the achievements of athletes, coaches and supporting staff. Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill (BSc Psychology 2007, Hon LittD 2010) was the first inductee, announced at the BUCCentenary Dinner held at the University. An Olympic gold and silver medallist and three-time heptathlon world champion, she developed her athletics career at BUCS events during her time as a Sheffield student, and her first senior international competition was the Summer Universiade in Izmir, Turkey, in 2005. She said, “University sport is so many people on so many levels – it gave me so much and I’m very proud to be inducted into the BUCC Hall of Fame.”

BUCS are also profiling 100 People of British University Sport. One of the first to be included was Lord Coe (Hon LLD 1991), two-time Olympic gold medallist and President of the International Association of Athletics Federations. Sarah Morse, Sports Officer at the Students’ Union, added, “The 100 Years of Sport anniversary is a very special celebration to us. The University now has nearly 60 diverse student-led sports clubs, provides world-class sporting facilities and collaborates on one of the largest Varsity events in the country. Sport has the power to unite and bring all students together under one shared passion and provides an outlet to combat stress and cope with busy academic periods, keeping students happy and healthy.”

Visit www.bu.cs.org.uk for details of the centenary celebrations and #100YearsOfSport for news of the University’s special events.

Visit our Women in Engineering website at www.sheffield.ac.uk/faculty/engineering/wie

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ORDER FRANK TRIBORNY'S PRINTS!
1910: SPORTING MEMORY

“Wednesday 19 January 1910: the First XI soccer team match against Durham was cancelled and our secretary managed to arrange a game against Sheffield Wednesday reserves – we beat them 3-2. Four months later, two of their team, Graham Pugh and Sam Ellis, played in the FA Cup Final at Wembley. Celebrations at the Union Bar went on long into the night.”

John Kinder (BSc Chemistry 1967)

1910–1950

1910
Students successfully campaign to get the first playing fields at Norton.

1928
The Hobson Memorial Pavilion at Norton was opened on 16 May 1928. The Hobson Pavilion opens and the University hosts the Inter-University Sports for the first time. A gymnasium opens on Western Bank: it is demolished during the 1960s expansion of the University estate.

1930
'Sarge' Harry Cofield joins the staff: he is a key figure in shaping sporting activity in the University for almost 40 years. The swimming pool at Goodwin is named in his honour in 1967.

1946/47
Four sports pitches are handed back to the University by the War Agricultural Committee, who used the land for growing crops for the war effort.

1975
The post of Athletics Secretary becomes sabbatical: in the 1975/76 season, there were 1,609 intra-mural fixtures involving over 3,000 students and lecturers.

1975: SPORTING MEMORY

“I arrived as a ‘typical grammar school all-round athlete’, but specifically as a South West Counties cross country champion,” said Gillian Castka (BEng Civil and Structural Engineering 1977). “There wasn’t a women’s athletics team; I would be left to train on my own and there would be no competitions. As a result I took up swimming as my own and there would be no competitions.

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1980s
Successes in the 1980s include the Lacrosse Team winning the Iroquois Cup Final; Sally Ann Hales (MB ChB Medicine 1985) runs the second fastest time by a British female marathon athlete in 1985; and the men’s Rugby League Team win the UAU and Premiership Trophies, topping the Student Rugby League and also having players selected for the Great Britain squad.

The Sheffield team who were the Universities’ Athletics Union table tennis champions in 1987.

1990s: SPORTING MEMORY

“My favourite memory was going to the inter-university archery tournament at Bath. It felt great to be representing my University.”

Caroline Hall (née Atkinson) (BA Germanic Studies 1987)

HIGHLIGHTS:
OUR SPORTING HISTORY

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Harry Secombe welcomes the relay team to London.

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The Bramley Playing Fields are inaugurated on Charter Day (31 May) in the University’s golden jubilee year.

1956: SPORTING MEMORY

Openning of the new athletic ground, 15 October 1910.

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The Goodwin Athletics Centre opens on Western Bank; it is demolished during the 1960s expansion of the University estate.

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Caroline Hall (née Atkinson) (BA Germanic Studies 1987)
1991: The World Student Games is hosted by the City of Sheffield, involving thousands of students, either as competitors or volunteers. Curtis Robb (MB ChB Medicine 1997) wins a silver medal in the 800 metres, going on to take part in two Olympic Games, three world championships and a Commonwealth Games.

Andrew Twist (BA Journalism 2011) carried the torch during the opening ceremony.

1991

2008: BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport) is the result of the merger of the British Universities Sports Association and University College Sport.

2008: SPORTING MEMORY
“Playing intra-mural football for three years with my journalism course mates as part of the legendary Red Tops FC.”
Andrew Twist (BA Journalism 2011)

2010: The Elite Sports Performance Scheme is launched – the support structure for high-level athletes studying at the University.

2012: UISport is rebranded as Sport Sheffield

2015: Sheffield Varsity records the year’s highest-attended student ice hockey game outside North America – 8,300 people watch the final at the Sheffield Arena.


2016: SPORTING MEMORY
“Before University I had never rowed before, so one of my favourite memories was rowing in the Women’s 8+ at Henley.”
Sarah Prescott Smith (Politics and International Relations student and President of the University of Sheffield Rowing Club 2016/17)

2018: Now pitches at Norton are opened – the site is renamed Norton Sports Park.

2019: Celebrations of 100 Years of Sport – and the University of Sheffield wins Varsity for a record-breaking seventh consecutive year.

1993: SPORTING MEMORY
“The ping pong national championships at Warwick. A squad of eight, sleeping on one floor, the captain in the bath. No medals but great fun!”
Ian Warner (BA Accounting and Financial Management 1995)

IN PROFILE
EXPLORE OUR WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF OVER 180,000 ALUMNI

ADE SOLANKE
BA English Literature 1984
Award-winning playwright and screenwriter, and founder of Spora Stories

ADE SOLANKE

Ade Solanke’s latest play was a site-specific commission for the 2018 summer programme at Hampton Court Place. The Court Must Have a Queen features John Blanke, a trumpeter in Henry VII and VIII’s courts and the first black person in the UK for whom we have both an image and a written record. Ade’s many achievements are celebrated on our online Wall of BAME, including the Professor Robert Boucher Distinguished Alumni Award 2016. She was also a popular speaker at our City Connections event held in London, for over 50 current Arts and Humanities students.

EXPLORING OUR WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF OVER 180,000 ALUMNI

2019: Your University | 2019/2020

I was delighted that a scene from my first play, Pandora’s Box, was included in New Daughters of Africa, the recently published anthology of work of more than 200 women writers of African descent. I was thrilled when the editor Margaret Busby asked me to contribute. I’m also writing about African artists in Los and you London and growing up in Notting Hill, next to Grenfell. Lots to do! I’m so privileged that my work allows me to explore my personal history and share it with others, so enriching our collective story too. Studying English literature at Sheffield started me on this journey and I’m so grateful.

Meeting the students was absolutely inspiring. They were sparky, keen, excited, attentive. My message was there’s no tried and trusted way to success in the arts – you have to make your own path. I felt really privileged to be able to share my journey as a Sheffield arts graduate. We talked about equality and inclusion and how as a black female creative I’ve addressed the challenges.

“Some were cynical when I said the landscape around women’s and BAME arts has changed, but it has. We have Lisa Burger, Sheffield alumnus and Executive Director at the National Theatre, and other women in positions of power, and male cultural leaders who are willing to share power and resources with the other half of the population. We stay positive and keep pushing for an arts ecology where merit matters more than race, class or gender. The audience is ready; the issue is in the arts world itself.”

“...the recently published anthology of work of more than 200 women writers of African descent. I was thrilled when the editor Margaret Busby asked me to contribute. I’m also writing about African artists..."
ERIC YU
MA Global Journalism 2016
International Public Relations Executive, NetEase Inc and Co-founder of Shanghai Direction Cultural Media

A deep interest in television journalism led Eric Yu to study at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China. The high reputation of the School of Journalism at Sheffield then attracted him to study here for his master’s degree. Since returning to his home country he has embarked on an exciting career, working on both sides of the camera. He is also the Chief Operating Officer of our Shanghai Alumni Group, hosting events and communicating with hundreds of fellow graduates.

“I have a lot of unforgettable memories of Sheffield. I remember that I was so excited when we had our first lecture in St George’s Church. Our lecturer said, “Welcome to the University of Sheffield and thank you so much for coming to study here.” This is my first class, the building is so beautiful and the Sheffield English are so friendly – I found I loved the city from that time.

Another favourite memory is when I was the official host of the Chinese New Year show in Sheffield City Hall and I interviewed the lord mayor. However, my most important memory is that I met my dear wife Yao in Sheffield – where I designed large tournaments and e-sport tournament operator in China. We fell in love in Sheffield, we got married in Sheffield! Sheffield English are so friendly – we fell in love in Sheffield, we got married in Sheffield! Sheffield is one of the few cities that provided the medical support I needed; I was finally diagnosed with Lyme disease. Sheffield was one of the few cities that provided the medical support I needed; I was finally diagnosed with Lyme disease.

I next spent two years with Versus Programming Network, the biggest media, television/film and advertising. Over the next few years, I will add to my work experience, improving my professional skills in order to gain more expertise in my field. I will also further develop our new company and expand our business in the media industry. I want to produce creative content and we want to have several of our own productions that are financially successful.

I have plans to succeed in e-sports, ACG [Anime, Comic and Games], media, television/film and advertising. A simple act of kindness inspired the creation of an online business delivering personalised ‘hug in a box’ gift hampers. BearHugs is the brainchild of Faye Savory - Chief Sender of Hugs. She is the recipient of a Duke of York Young Entrepreneur Award, a Prince’s Trust NatWest Enterprise Award and a HELLO! magazine #HelloToKindness Award.

I was working on the Isle of Lewis as a speech therapist – the exact job I’d been hoping to get after my degree when I fell seriously ill. I was finally diagnosed with Lyme disease. Sheffield was one of the few cities that provided the medical support I needed; I was finally diagnosed with Lyme disease.

I would like to work at No 10 Downing Street for my professional skills. I worked with a start-up coach and social enterprise specialist. The biggest opportunity was winning the Startup Showcase. The £5,000 prize allowed me to move to my own office. I also went on courses offered by Business Sheffield and the Prince’s Trust. BearHugs gift hampers are filled with treats, and each box reveals outstretched paws and a ‘Consider this a BearHug’ message. The contents are made by talented independent British makers, many based in Sheffield. It’s really helpful to have a lovely network of people around to turn to when facing the challenges that come from running your own business.

“BearHugs is a Disability Confident employer, which means we are able to successfully employ and retain disabled people and those with health conditions. Over half our team works remotely and flexibility is built into how we operate. Our ‘catch up cappas’ via Google Hangouts are really important for making us all feel valued. I was thrilled to be able to take Laura, our Hug Outreach Assistant, to participate in a roundtable discussion about inclusive employment at No 10 Downing Street last November. From the start I knew I wanted kindness to be at the core of BearHugs and I wanted to work out how we could directly convert sales into giving. Now, for every 50 gift boxes we sell, we create and donate a hug-in-a-box for someone affected by serious illness. We are particularly proud to work with Sheffield’s Bluebell Wood Children’s Hospice.

FAYE SAVORY
BMedSci Speech Science 2012
Founder of BearHugs

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I next spent two years with Versus Programming Network, the biggest media, television/film and advertising. Over the next few years, I will add to my work experience, improving my professional skills in order to gain more expertise in my field. I will also further develop our new company and expand our business in the media industry. I want to produce creative content and we want to have several of our own productions that are financially successful.

I have plans to succeed in e-sports, ACG [Anime, Comic and Games], media, television/film and advertising. A simple act of kindness inspired the creation of an online business delivering personalised ‘hug in a box’ gift hampers. BearHugs is the brainchild of Faye Savory - Chief Sender of Hugs. She is the recipient of a Duke of York Young Entrepreneur Award, a Prince’s Trust NatWest Enterprise Award and a HELLO! magazine #HelloToKindness Award.

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DR LOWELL LEWIS

MB ChB Medicine 1976, Hon MD 2018
Former Chief Medical Officer and Chief Minister of the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat

As both a respected surgeon and dedicated politician, Dr Lowell Lewis played a vital role in the recovery of the Caribbean island of Montserrat in the aftermath of two calamitous natural disasters. He was recognised with the Montserrat Order of Excellence in 2018 for his commitment to the development and advancement of the island.

"Everything changed when Hurricane Hugo hit. There was no hospital, no port, no electricity and no fresh water. I’ll never forget that day. I carried to bodies to the mortuary by myself. I didn’t see my wife and children for two days. But we got through it. We rebuilt. And then a volcano hit, destroying most of the occupied part of the island. The population fell from 10,000 to 1,800. If it fell to 1,500, everyone was to be evacuated. I did my part in stopping that from happening. I later did my duty as a politician, serving as a member of parliament for 15 years.

"For some of that time I was also working as a locum consultant surgeon at hospitals in Portsmouth, UK, commuting back home to Montserrat every month to attend parliament. On more than one occasion, I stepped off the plane and went straight into surgery to conduct major operations, including kidney transplants. Having completed a master’s degree in experimental surgery and surgical education, I’ve now established an Institute of Surgical Research and Education in Montserrat dedicated to improving surgical education for remote and limited resource communities. We have published our first international paper and are inviting medical and postgraduate students from across the world to collaborate with us on research projects.

MB ChB Medicine 1976,
Hon MD 2018
Former Chief Medical Officer and Chief Minister of the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat

"My medical career began much earlier, in 1971, when I came to Sheffield to study medicine. I have many happy memories: achieving bronze at the UK Universities’ decathlon championships; dances at the Students’ Union; and I can’t help but smile thinking about the time I played a Scotsman in a performance of Offenbach’s La Vie Parisienne – kilt and all – at the Drama Society on Glossop-Road.

"It was always my plan to return to Montserrat. By 1981 I was working as the island’s Surgeon Specialist and Director of Health. It involved performing over 10 operations a week, leading a staff of 90 and managing an annual health budget of EC$3 million.

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Meet the scholar

"Receiving a scholarship has taken away the pressure of thinking about spending and earning money constantly. Instead, I can focus on my studies. I’ve been able to buy all the course materials I need for my course too – I simply wouldn’t have been able to afford them otherwise.

"The scholarship also means I can do the things I love and have the same opportunities as my course mates. It helps me feel equal to them and gives me a chance to have the full university experience. It’s something I really value and am extremely grateful for."

Leah Lam,
Dr Cherry Fraser Scholar
Alumni Board

The Alumni Board was established in 2014 to represent the global alumni community within the University of Sheffield. We are an advisory body, working alongside Development, Alumni Relations & Events (DARE). The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Alumni Board are also members of the University Council and were both appointed Pro-Chancellors in 2017.

The Alumni Board meets three times a year, twice in Sheffield and once in London. All meetings begin with a short report on current issues facing the University from a member of the University Executive Board and conclude with the consideration of past and future alumni events. The Board receives regular updates on fundraising from a member of DARE staff as well as international activities from DARE staff and the Board’s international representatives. The key activities and items discussed this academic year were:

- The organisation of the first Convocation Lecture, delivered by Professor Annette Kuhn (BA Geography 1983) in June 2018. The lecture was attended by nearly 400 alumni and guests. An Alumni Forum was convened before the event. The next Convocation lecture will be delivered in 2020.
- Consideration of Student and Staff Mental Health Strategies with Students’ Union Officers leading the discussion.
- Our Reputation and Engaging Alumni: a presentation delivered by Corporate Communications and discussion of the two-year project to develop the University’s website.
- On-going discussion about the Alumni Portal and its potential advantages for the University of Sheffield’s global alumni community.
- Students’ Union Special Research Projects: a discussion of the Union’s long-term funding link with the Alumni Foundation.
- Distinguished Alumni Awards: see page 44 for the latest recipients.

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

1950s

Roger Croft (BA Economics 1955) published the fifth book in his Michael Vaux spy series.

1960s

Professor Annette Kuhn (BA Sociology 1969, MA Sociology 1975) gave the guest speech at our 50th Anniversary Reunion Lunch in 2017. Sir Richard Roberts FRS (BSc Chemistry 1968, PhD Chemistry 1971) was elected Mayor and Alderman of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in 1969.

1970s

Richard Bennett (BA Economics and Business Studies 1971) is a Deputy Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire. Martin Rees (BA Economics 1972) was recognised by the National Trust for 20 years’ service as a volunteer ranger in the Brecon Beacons.

Your notes and news

Commemorating one of the great figures in our University’s history

This year the University of Sheffield celebrates the double centenary of one of the great figures in Sheffield’s history – Mark Firth. Born 200 years ago on 25 April 1819, he is considered one of the founders of the University of Sheffield.

In 1871 Sheffield’s manufacturing and steel industry was booming and the population had doubled over the previous 30 years to around 230,000. Firth had been inspired by a new vision of higher education and decided to bring it to Sheffield. In 1872, he bought a city-centre site on the corner of what is now Leopold Street and West Street to build new premises for the classes.

Firth College was opened in 1879 by Prince Leopold, the youngest child of Queen Victoria.

He became Master Cutter for three years from 1867–69 and in 1872 he was elected Mayor and Alderman of the city of Sheffield. In 1873, he hosted a royal visit from the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The College has come to be considered the forerunner to our University’s faculties of arts and pure science. Within 10 years of Mark Firth’s initial efforts, the College, along with the Technical School and the Medical School amalgamated under a Royal Charter as the University of Sheffield in 1905.
2000s

David Cawley (BA Management 2008) was named the 2019 Young Accountant of the Year at Insider’s Young Professionals Awards.


Professor Gina Higginbottom (née Awoko) MBE (PhD Health and Related Research 2004) received the title of Emeritus Professor from the University of Nottingham.

Tim Key (BA Russian Studies 2000) reprised his role as ‘Sidekick’ Simon Denton, alongside Steve Coogan in This Time with Alan Partridge.

Squadron Leader Steve Morris (BEng Aerospace Engineering 2002) started his second tour with the Red Arrows, the RAF Aerobatic Display Team.

Lucy Prebble (BA English Literature 2002) was part of the team that won a BAFTA for their work on the US satirical drama Succession.

Dr Nousheen Zakaria (MSc Human Resources Management 2007) was nominated for a British Council Study UK Alumni Award 2019 – Entrepreneurial Award (Pakistan).

2010s

Faye Savory (BMedSci Speech Science 2012) won the Hello! magazine #HelloToKindness Award. Discover more about Faye’s achievements on page 33.

Lucia Puricelli (BMus Music 2014) received a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

Vicky Smith (BA French and Business Studies 1995) was named one of the UK’s Ambassadors for the Year of Green Action by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.


Wan Loi (Jerry) Cheung (MBA Marketing 1999) was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for South Yorkshire.

2010s

Faye Savory (BMedSci Speech Science 2012) won the Hello! magazine #HelloToKindness Award. Discover more about Faye’s achievements on page 33.

Lucia Puricelli (BMus Music 2014) won her second British Powerlifting Championship in the 65kg weight category.

Dr James Weinberg (PhD Politics 2018) received the University’s Chancellor’s Medal for his work in advocating citizenship education and civic participation.
Dates for your diary

2019
Pop Tarts Reunited
Saturday 7 September 2019
On campus
All Sheffield alumni are invited back to the Students’ Union to relive memories from your student days with non-stop retro pop at Pop Tarts Reunited!

Celebrating 10 Years of International Development
Saturday 14 September 2019
Sheffield
A celebration dinner organised by the Department of Geography to mark 10 years of masters courses in International Development (2009–19). All of our alumni are warmly invited to attend.

Annual Alumni Reunion
Saturday 20–21 September 2019
Sheffield
BDS graduates are organising a reunion back in Sheffield to celebrate 50 years since graduation. For more details and information on how to take part please email Dr Ian Levy at ian.levy@virginmedia.com

Heritage Circle Lunch
Friday 30 October 2019
Firth Hall
A special lunch for those alumni and friends who are interested in leaving or have left a gift to the University in their Will. Email d.meadows@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 1075.

2020
House of Lords Alumni Reception
Spring 2020
London
Join fellow alumni in the impressive surroundings of Westminster for this popular reception. Guests also have the opportunity to go on private tours of the Houses of Parliament. Tickets are allocated via a ballot system, details of which will be sent by email nearer the time.

Alumni Sports Day
Saturday 4 April 2020
On campus
Meet your friends back in Sheffield for the annual sports day, followed by an evening social and pub quiz at the Students’ Union. Email j.blencowe@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 6576.

‘Out of This World’ by Dr Helen Sharman
Tuesday 3 December 2019
The Royal Society, London
Alumna and first Briton in space, Dr Helen Sharman will take the audience on a journey into space during this lecture. Helen’s space mission was set in the context of the last few years of the Soviet Union, when the Soviet Space Agency had approached western European countries with a view to flying one of their nationals to the Mir Space Station. The talk will be illustrated with photographs from space, some of which Helen took herself. Invitations will be sent in due course to those living in London and the surrounding areas. For enquiries please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk

Annual Alumni Reunion
Saturday 7 September 2019
On campus
Open to all alumni, our annual reunion recognises in particular those marking significant anniversaries since graduating from the University. Join the classes of 1959, 1964, 1979 and 1999 back on campus for a trip down memory lane.

Alumni returning to Sheffield can take part in a selection of daytime activities and tours, as well as a delicious buffet lunch. In the evening, we are pleased to announce we will be holding a four-course dinner celebration, with a live band and special guest speaker.

Annual Alumni Reunion
Saturday 4 April 2020
On campus
Following on from the sports day, celebrate or commiserate with a trip to the Students’ Union for a night of pop pleasure.

University Quiz Night
Thursday 23 April 2020
On campus
Teams of alumni, staff, students and friends are invited to take part in the annual quiz, with prizes for the winners and runners-up. Email events@sheffield.ac.uk

Anniversary Reunion Luncheon for the classes of 1955 and 1959
Friday 19 June 2020
On campus
A celebratory luncheon in Firth Court, to mark the 50th anniversary of alumni graduating from the University. Invitations will be emailed out in the spring to all those from this class year for whom we hold contact details.

Annual Alumni Reunion
Saturday 13 September 2020
On campus
Join us for our annual reunion event, to celebrate alumni marking 20, 25, 30 and 40 years since graduating from the University. The classes of 2000, 1995, 1990 and 1980 are the focus of our 2020 celebrations. Invitations will be emailed out in the spring to all those from these class years for whom we hold a current email address.

For a list of all our UK and overseas events visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/events/upcoming
Alumni honours

A number of our alumni have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to society in the Queen’s Birthday Honours 2019 and the New Year Honours 2019.

Richard Stephen Ash
(BSc Geography 1968, Dip Education 1968) Awarded an MBE for services to the community in Beeston, Kent.

Beverley Barnett-Jones
(PG Dip Integrated Practice with Children and Their Families 2015) Awarded an MBE for services to vulnerable children in Coventry.

Param Singh Bhatia
(MEng Mechanical Engineering 2001) Awarded an MBE for voluntary service to minority communities.

Professor Julia Clare Buckingham
(BSc Zoology 1971, Hon DSc 2019) Awarded a CBE for services to biology and education.

Helen Louise Clark (née Fleetwood)
(BA Business Studies 1993) Awarded an OBE for services to leadership education and interfaith cohesion in the UK.

Dr David Crichton Craigh (MBBChir Surgical and Anaesthetic Sciences 1992) Awarded an MBE for services to dental patients.

Anne-Louise Ferguson (LLB Law 1977) Awarded an MBE for services to NHS Wales.

Margaret Ann Kitching (MMedSci Nursing Practice 2002) Awarded an MBE for services to nursing.

Anne Ohey (née Whittam) (BA English Literature 1982) Awarded an OBE for services to financial reporting and sustainable energy.

Michael Palin CBE
(Hon LittD 1992) Appointed a Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of St Michael and St George for services to travel, culture and geography.

Krish Raval (LLB Law 1995) Awarded an OBE for services to leadership education and interfaith cohesion in the UK.

Dr Christopher Paul Stanley
(MSc Health Economics and Management 2002) Awarded an MBE for services to general practice.

Stefanie Katherine Stead
(MArch Architecture 2006) Awarded an MBE for services to architecture and the construction industry.

Alex Usborne (MBA Business 2014) Awarded an MBE for services to exports in media and promoting disability in film.

Dr Susan Margaret Whippis (née Pritchard) (PhD Pathology 1980) Awarded an MBE for voluntary services to people affected by Parkinson’s disease.

Alumni and friends of the University may submit obituaries – for an alumnus, alumna or member of staff – to be included on our website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/obituaries. Please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk to share a tribute.

We are sorry to report the deaths of the following members of University staff in the past year:

Professor Graham Battersby
A member of staff in the School of Law, from 1960-2002.

David Grosley A member of staff from 1969-1971 in the Departments of Economic History and Continuing Education and latterly an Honorary Reader in the Department of Archaeology.

Dr Alan Douglass

Penny Draper
Senior Assistant Registrar in the Academic Secretary’s Office, and a member of staff from 1980–96.

Dr Nigel Terence James
A member of staff within the Departments of Anatomy and Biomedical Science, from 1969–97.

Dr Bernard Colin Jarvis

Dr Christopher John Knight
A lecturer within the Department of Mathematics, from 1981-87.

Professor John Graham Merrills
Emeritus Professor and former Dean of the Faculty of Law, and a member of staff from 1964–2007.

John Penton

Professor Graham Battersby

Honorary degrees

The University of Sheffield confers honorary degrees (or degrees honoris causa – as a ‘mark of honour’) on people who have given distinguished service or brought distinction to the University, the City of Sheffield or the region. Alumni who received honorary degrees from the University in 2019:

Clara Eastell
(NA Librarianship 1985, Hon LittD 2019): award-winning public librarian

Dr Wayne Garvie
(PhD Economic and Social History 1989, Hon LittD 2019): President of International Production for Sony Pictures Television

Dan Walker

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

Barry Rawlings
Former Head of the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering from 1970–75, and a member of staff from 1977.

Revd Professor John Rogerson
Emeritus Professor and former Head of the Department of Biblical Studies, from 1979–96.

Professor Colin Smith CBE

Professor Christopher Spencer
A member of staff in the Department of Psychology, from 1968–2001.

Professor John Andrew Thornton
Professor of Anaesthetics in the Medical School, and a member of staff from 1963–83.

Dr Jack Wearing
A member of staff in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, from 1982–98.

Dr Edward Williams
A member of staff in the Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, from 1963–94.

Professor of Media and Journalist

Broadcasting and Journalism 1999, 2019)

Professor of International Production for Sony Pictures Television

President of International Production for Sony Pictures Television

Emeritus Professor and former Dean of the Faculty of Law, and a member of staff from 1964–2007.

Sheffield Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award

Susan Belcher (née Adams) (BA Business Studies 1985)

Susan has been an active volunteer since 2015, supporting numerous events and activities across the University. She is always prepared to take time out of her busy schedule to provide genuine, supportive and knowledgeable advice to help the next generation of students. She is a regular supporter of our City Connections networking events in London, as well as regularly travelling back to Sheffield to support activities on campus. She also volunteers as a member of the Alumni Board, which provides valuable strategic support to the University, and she volunteered her time as a steward for our Big Walk. Nothing is too much trouble for Susan – the time she gives and the breadth of activity she supports is truly outstanding.

Susan Belcher receiving her Volunteer of the Year award from Professor Mike Houslow, Vice-President and Head of the Faculty of Engineering.

Susan Belcher (right) receiving her honorary degree from University Chancellor The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE.

Obituaries

Ann Cairns (right) receiving her honorary degree from University Chancellor The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE.
The Professor Robert Boucher

These awards acknowledge the achievements of alumni who have made outstanding contributions to business and community life. The awards were established in 2011 in memory of Professor Robert Boucher (Hon DEng 2009), the University’s 12th Vice-Chancellor.

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

The deadline for nominations to be considered for an award in 2020 is 22 November 2019.

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

Award winner 2018

Dr Joe Kavanagh (MBChB Medicine 1979) was jointly responsible for the restoration and renewal of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens. During his studies Joe fell in love with the gardens, spending hours there as a break from his medical training. In the late 1970s he was dismayed to discover how neglected they had become and he offered to help return them to their former glory. He became a founding member of the Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust (SBGT) together with Dr Sue Kohler (Hon LLD 2005). They were successful in applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund, but were required to raise £1.22 million match funding to release the £5.06 million Heritage Lottery Grant. They achieved their target and in 1993 the first stage of the restoration was opened. Over the following six years, restoration and fundraising work continued until the completion and formal opening. Most recently, Joe led a major campaign to build a new Education Centre in the Gardens, which has also been supremely successful, raising over £610,000. Joe became Chair of SBGT in 2010, and continues to devote considerable energy, diplomacy, persistence and hard work to the Gardens to the benefit of everyone in Sheffield.

Award winner 2018

Professor Greg Tegart (PhD Metallurgy 1959) is one of Australia’s most eminent scientists and engineers. After his degree, Greg remained at the University until 1966, progressing to the position of senior lecturer in metallurgy, and is still remembered within the Department of Materials Science and Engineering as a remarkable academic. An inspiring mentor, he oversaw a number of students who have gone on to become leaders in the field of metallurgy themselves. His formidable career has spanned the breadth of science and technology, making invaluable contributions to research, government and industry. As a mark of his achievements, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for services to science and technology. Now at 90 years of age, his focus has shifted to the field of assistive technologies for the aged and disabled, to help improve and enrich the lives of ordinary people.

Award winner 2019

Sir Richard Roberts (BSc Chemistry 1965, PhD Chemistry 1968, Hon DSc 1994) is one of the University’s six Nobel Prize winners, having received the 1993 prize in Physiology/Medicine. Sir Richard received the prize for the joint discovery of introns in eukaryotic DNA and the mechanism of gene-splicing. His pioneering work on DNA sequencing and genetic engineering has had a profound impact on molecular biology. Following his six years at Sheffield, he has been a dedicated supporter as a volunteer, donor, speaker and ambassador. For over 15 years he was the Chair of the University of Sheffield in America Board of Directors, and has greatly helped in the University’s philanthropic efforts. He has also delivered numerous lectures for the University.

Award winner 2019

Sir Richard Roberts (BSc Chemistry 1965, PhD Chemistry 1968, Hon DSc 1994) is one of the University’s six Nobel Prize winners, having received the 1993 prize in Physiology/Medicine. Sir Richard received the prize for the joint discovery of introns in eukaryotic DNA and the mechanism of gene-splicing. His pioneering work on DNA sequencing and genetic engineering has had a profound impact on molecular biology. Following his six years at Sheffield, he has been a dedicated supporter as a volunteer, donor, speaker and ambassador. For over 15 years he was the Chair of the University of Sheffield in America Board of Directors, and has greatly helped in the University’s philanthropic efforts. He has also delivered numerous lectures for the University.

2019 recipients

We are delighted that this summer we will be awarding Distinguished Alumni Awards to Faye Savory (BMedSci Speech Science 2002), Founder of BearHugs, and Lucie Lunt (BA English Literature 1996), Editor in Chief of Heat magazine.
Honours and awards

The Academic Unit of Medical Education received a Senate Award for Collaborative Activities.

Dr Rebecca Barnes (Molecular Biology and Biotechnology) received an Early Career Senate Award.

Professor Nick Bishop (Oncology and Metabolism) was appointed by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health as Vice President for Science and Research.

Dr Caspar Chater (PHD Animal and Plant Sciences 2017) (Molecular Biology and Biotechnology) won a national award for his project developing climate-ready beans to combat drought-related crop losses in Mexican and Latin American agriculture.

Professor Hugo Dobson (PHD East Asian Studies 1998, MEng Education 2006) (East Asian Studies) received a Senate Award for Leadership in Learning and Teaching.

Professor Rob Dwyer-Joyce (Mechanical Engineering) was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Dr James Field (Dentistry) and Dr Kay Guccione (Research Services) received prestigious National Teaching Fellowships in recognition of their work helping to transform student and academic learning.

Professor Jackie Harrison (PHD Sociology 1997) (Journalism) was awarded a UNESCO Chair on Media Freedom, Journalism Safety and the Issue of Impunity to further her research on the threats faced by journalists across the world.

Professor Roger Lewis (MEng Mechanical Engineering 1996, PhD Mechanical Engineering 2001) (Mechanical Engineering) was appointed to a new Research Chair by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Dr Graham McEleanney (MSc Environmental Archaeology and Palaeoeconomy 1990, PhD Archaeology and Prehistory 2007) (Academic Programmes and Student Engagement) received a Senate Award for Sustained Excellence.

Dr Rahul Mandal (Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre) won Channel 4’s Great British Bake Off 2018.

Dr Millie Mockford (Animal and Plant Sciences) received an Early Career Senate Award.

Dr Peter Mylon (MEng Mechanical Engineering 2006, PhD Mechanical Engineering 2013) (Multidisciplinary Engineering Education) received an Early Career Senate Award.

Zoe Ollerenshaw (LLB Law 1984) (Law) received a Senate Award for Sustained Excellence.

Professor Shaun Quegan (Mathematics and Statistics) received a NERC Economical Impact Award for his ground-breaking work on a satellite that will monitor climate change by weighing the Earth’s forests.

Professor Pat Sikes (BEd Education 1978) (Education) was appointed the 2018 John Nisbet Fellow by the British Educational Research Association.

Anna Sotiriadou (Computer Science, International Faculty) received a Senate Award for Sustained Excellence.

Professor Marco Viceconti (Mechanical Engineering) was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Dr Chantelle Wood (Psychology) received an Early Career Senate Award.

CONTINUED STUDY

Library services for alumni members

All our alumni can apply for free membership of the University Library: as an alumni member you will receive a library card which enables you to borrow books from all library sites plus on-site access to a large number of e-journal articles via the library walk-in access service. The card also allows alumni to access all library sites during staffed service hours, including Western Bank, the Information Commons, the Health Sciences Libraries and the ground floor library space in the Diamond. In addition to the Western Bank and Health Sciences Libraries during self-service hours. All you need to do is provide proof of study or graduation. To find out more, including how to apply for a library card, visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/services/library.

Postgraduate discount

As a Sheffield graduate you can benefit from a 10% discount on tuition fees if you decide to study with us at postgraduate level. Terms and conditions apply, visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/finance/alumni-rewards/terms.

CAREERS ADVICE

Continued use to the Careers Service and receive bespoke careers advice up to three years after graduation; visit careernnnect.sheffield.ac.uk to search for jobs.

REUNIONS AND EVENTS

Reunions and events

Exclusive invitations to events both on and off campus.

Discounted concert tickets for alumni

Graduates of the University are eligible for a 10% discount off the ticket price for all University concerts. Tickets must be purchased online via TicketSource through the University of Sheffield Concerts website. The Concerts programme includes scores of international and award-winning performers from across the world, jazz, folk, contemporary and classical music. There’s also a series of concerts from our talented current students and an annual alumni concert.

We have something to astonish and delight music lovers of all tastes and ages.

LIFESTYLE AND LEISURE

Discount on sports facilities

Snook Health offers a discounted membership rate for all Sheffield alumni. This membership provides access to the gym, swimming pool, steam and sauna rooms, and fitness classes all based at the Goodwin Sports Centre; visit www.sport.sheffield.com.

Discounted hotels and cottage hire

Enjoy a 10% discount with cottages.com and receive a discount at several hotels in Sheffield including Halifax Hall (left).

Inox Dine

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

Wedding venue discount

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

For full details of the benefits, please visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/services.
YOUR UNIVERSITY 2019/20

REASONS TO BE PROUD

Celebrating diversity
We’re celebrating the achievements of our Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic staff, students and alumni on the Sheffield Wall of BAME.

Tackling global issues
We’re tackling some of the greatest challenges facing humanity today through our four new flagship research institutes in Energy, Neuroscience, Healthy Lifespans and Sustainable Food.

One hundred views
An iconic symbol of Sheffield and the University, the Arts Tower was celebrated in 100 different representations in the One Hundred Views of the Arts Tower exhibition.

Scholarship support
Over 550 students from disadvantaged and lower-income backgrounds are currently receiving a donor-funded scholarship, helping them to study here free from financial worry.

Tardis in town
Doctor Who made Sheffield her home in the latest series of the iconic TV show.

Our volunteering community
1,000 alumni volunteered their time to inspire students and support the University, and over 2,000 students volunteered their time to help charities and organisations across the city.

Honorary degree
Proud Sheffield alumnus Dan Walker (BA History 1998, MA Broadcast Journalism 1999) was awarded an honorary degree in recognition of his broadcasting achievements.

Celebrating diversity
We’re celebrating the achievements of our Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic staff, students and alumni on the Sheffield Wall of BAME.

Inspirational teachers
Dr James Field (School of Dentistry) and Dr Kay Guccione (Research Services) received prestigious National Teaching Fellowships for their inspirational teaching.

A leading university
We secured our position as one of the world’s top universities, ranking 1st in Yorkshire, 13th in the UK and 78th internationally.

Rising to the top
Research Scientist Dr Rahul Mandal (Nuclear AMRC) won the Great British Bake Off 2018.

Sporting success
We celebrated 100 years of university sport by beating local rivals Sheffield Hallam at Varsity for a record-breaking seventh consecutive year.

Thank you!
The University community raised an amazing £2 million to help fund the Sheffield Scanner, bringing about the biggest change to medical research here since our foundation in 1905.

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