Rising to the challenge
In the spotlight
Renaissance Sheffield
A meeting of minds

A dramatic return
Eddie Izzard finally collects his degree
STANDING UP FOR STUDENTS

A Centenary History of the Students’ Union to be published this summer.

It will bring back memories for every graduate:
The 1920s: The very first Union building, Graces, is opened at last.
The 1930s: Fire-watching and, when the war ended, the First Freshers’ Weekend.
The 1940s: Over-crowding – Graces fully packed out every lunchtime.
The 1950s: Spreading out into the Lion Building, Bar One and University House.
The 1960s: Brilliant concerts, frequent strikes.
The 1970s: ENDS expands into the new Octagon. The Union goes commercial.
The 1980s: The sharper among Unions: smarter, bigger and more successful than ever.
The Present: Winning awards and volunteering goes from strength to strength.

Standing Up for Students will be a paperback, 120 pages, illustrated in full colour with lots of photos.
There will be chapters on every decade, featuring quotes from former students, and thematic sections will include Rag, Sport, Students in the community, Newspapers, and International students.

To order your copy for £9.99 (plus postage)
download the order form from www.sheffield.ac.uk/union/pastofficers/orderbook.html or contact us on 0114 2228601

We're still here to help...
You may have graduated from University but the Careers Service is still here to help:

Careers Vacancy Service
Search for graduate jobs and all kinds of work experience at www.sheffield.ac.uk/careers/vacancies.html

Help on the net
A range of information and advice for graduates can be found on the Careers Service website, including an email enquiry service - www.sheffield.ac.uk/careers/graduates

Graduates Yorkshire - Career Coaching
Career Coaching workshops are available to help graduates in the region develop their careers.

Careers Fairs
High-profile careers fairs run throughout the year, including the Yorkshire Autumn Graduate Recruitment Fair (Tuesday 30th & Wednesday 31st October 2007).
Further information can be found at www.sheffieldcareersfairs.ac.uk
Welcome to the 2007 issue of Your University magazine.

This fifth issue of Your University also marks the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Development and Alumni Relations Office. In 2002 only six alumni were making regular donations in support of the University. We have now received our 3,400th gift from a supporter, bringing the total to more than £500,000. This generosity has funded 100 scholarships, supported the Information Commons building and funded the work of the Alumni Foundation. In addition, more than £500,000 has been received through generous legacies. I am constantly delighted by the interest and enthusiasm our alumni have for the University and its future.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Bob Boucher, for the constant support he has given alumni relations at the University. He has been proactive in maintaining contact with our graduates, both in the UK and overseas, and taken great personal interest in the work of the Development and Alumni Relations Office. We have invited him to contribute to this issue of Your University with a reflection on his term of office, which ends with his retirement in December.

We now offer our alumni a range of benefits; see page 30 for details. Each alumnus or alumna who receives this magazine in the post also receives a membership card, with a unique membership number. Keep this safe and use it when you want to take advantage of the special discounts and services on offer. We are also organising and promoting more alumni events; details and dates are listed on page 31.

A new feature of this issue of Your University is the Your Notes and News section. Here we have listed a selection of "where are they now?" snippets. I hope that we can develop this section in the future with your support, in conjunction with alumni news that appears on our web pages.

Finally, please remember to update your details if anything has changed. Use the enclosed questionnaire, complete one online or log on to Sheffield Reunited and make your changes there (www.sheffield.ac.uk/sheffield-reunited).

Miles Stevenson
Director of Development

The Development and Alumni Relations Office is your contact point for the University. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact us:

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277 Glossop Road
Sheffield
S10 2HB
UK
Tel +44 (0) 114 222 1071
Fax +44 (0) 114 222 1044
Email: alumni@sheffield.ac.uk
Website: www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni
Our Shared Vision

The University has published a new corporate plan, following the largest ever consultation process across campus. Staff, students and business partners all contributed to Our Shared Vision, which clearly states the University’s mission, its vision, its goals and the measures by which progress towards them will be assessed.

“The University will be firmly positioned amongst the world’s leading universities, recognised for the impact, excellence and distinctiveness of its graduates and research activities.”

www.sheffield.ac.uk/oursharedvision

100 years of the Union

Over 120 former Student Officers, spanning six decades, attended a reunion dinner to mark the Union’s centenary. After a lunch reception, sponsored by Convocation, current Officers organised tours of the building for their predecessors, providing an opportunity to see how their old haunts had changed over the years.

A dinner held in University House concluded with speeches by current Union President Dave White and John Watkinson, President 1952-53. Dave comments, “Over the past 100 years, generations of students have worked hard to ensure that the Union adds value to the lives of its members and contributes to the success of the University. Last year we were again recognised by the Virgin Alternative Guide to Universities as the best students’ union in the UK.

“However, it is important that we do not become complacent or nostalgic. That is why 2006 saw not only a celebration of our past success, but also our latest strategic review, which set out the plans that will enable us to continue to meet students’ needs and to stay on top for the next 100 years and beyond.”

Call for Trustees

The Union has established a Board of Trustees in line with its new status as a registered charity. Alumni with an interest in playing a part in the future of the UK’s most exciting and successful students’ union are invited to contact Samantha Hay on 0114 222 8601 or email s.d.hay@sheffield.ac.uk.

Standing up for Students

Published to mark its centenary, Standing up for Students, written by Dr Helen Mathers, gives a decade by decade account of the Union’s contribution to student life. See inside front cover for further details.
Sheffield among education’s global elite

Two prestigious global rankings published for 2006-07 put Sheffield among the top 10 universities in Britain and the top 70 globally. And the Virgin 2007 Alternative Guide to British Universities states that “Sheffield is a top university across the board”.

International publication Newsweek ranks the University of Sheffield 9th in the UK, 18th in Europe and 70th worldwide. The global top 100 listings are based on the University's performance in the leading world league tables published by the Times Higher Education Supplement and Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Researchers at Shanghai Jiao Tong University assessed over 2,000 universities using several research performance indicators, including the number of highly cited researchers, academic performance, articles in the periodicals Science and Nature, and the number of Nobel prize-winners. They ranked Sheffield 69th in the world, 20th in Europe and 8th in the UK.

Major funding success

The Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) is a key source of support for university knowledge transfer. Sheffield was awarded more HEIF3 funding (for the period August 2006 to July 2008) than any other university and was one of the very few institutions to receive the maximum £3m funding under the formula allocations. This formula is driven by levels of current activity and capacity and recognises the established strengths of the University in knowledge transfer.

The University hosts prestigious Confucius Institute

The Chinese government has awarded the School of East Asian Studies a Confucius Institute for the promotion of Chinese language and culture. Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott officially opened the institute on 18 January 2007.

This is a joint initiative in collaboration with the Office of Chinese Language Council International, Beijing Language and Culture University and Nanjing University. Together with its partners in China and the UK, the institute will work with community organisations, the public and private sector and the general public across the Yorkshire and Northern England region.

The institute has already embarked on a range of China-related activities including supporting research into learning Chinese as a foreign language, promoting the teaching of the Chinese language in primary and secondary schools, providing Chinese language training for students, teachers, community and business, and organising seminars on Chinese culture and society.

Professor Tim Wright, Chairman of the School of East Asian Studies, said, “We are eager to hear from organisations in the public and private sectors about what their needs are and how we can work together to help the whole region to build its links with the world’s most dynamic economy and society. Please contact us via seas@sheffield.ac.uk.”

(left-right) Councillor Mrs Jackie Drayton, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott, Vice-Chancellor Professor Bob Boucher, Professor Tim Wright, Mr Gong Jianzhong, Consul General, Consulate of the People's Republic of China in Manchester, and Professor Cui Xiliang, President of the Beijing Language and Culture University.
Pinnock records Bach

Internationally renowned conductor and soloist Trevor Pinnock chose Sheffield City Hall as the venue for his 60th birthday concert on 16 December 2006. Since his first visit in 1985 Trevor has developed a special affinity with the city and with the Department of Music at the University. He received an honorary degree in 2005 and brought the European Brandenburg Ensemble to Firth Hall for a three-day residency of open rehearsals, lectures and children's events in the summer of 2006. The ensemble rehearsed Bach's Brandenburg Concertos, which were also the subject of a new recording made during December and January in the City Hall’s Ballroom. The University, Sheffield City Hall, Sheffield City Council, British Land and Wolf Safety Lamp are sponsors of this recording, which will be released by Avie Records in October 2007.

www.avierecords.com

Sheffield Legends

Helen Sharman OBE (BSc 1984), Britain’s first astronaut, has joined other famous people from or connected to Sheffield, including Gordon Banks and Michael Palin, on the Walk of Fame outside Sheffield Town Hall.

£4.3m boost for human health research

The University of Sheffield has been selected for a prestigious Science and Innovation Award by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). The award will be used for a pioneering centre of excellence that will bring together leading chemical engineers and biologists.

The new centre, Chemical Engineering Life Science Interface (ChELSI), will be based in the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, and will enable chemical engineers to collaborate with biologists at what is termed the ‘Life Science Interface’. Such collaborations in the UK are unusual. The vision for ChELSI is that it will focus on human health problems, with initial projects in areas such as stem cells, kidney diseases and reproductive biology.

The University appoints new Vice-Chancellor

Professor Keith Burnett CBE, FRS will be the next Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield, taking up his post on 1 October 2007.

At the time of his appointment, Professor Burnett was Head of the Division of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences at the University of Oxford. Before this he was Chairman of Physics at Oxford, where he has enjoyed a successful career for almost 20 years. He is currently Chairman of the International Science Advisory Committee of the UK’s national laboratories. His research interests are in the areas of atomic, molecular and optical physics.

“The University of Sheffield has a great reputation,” he said, “and I look forward to building upon that and shaping our vision of education in the next decade.”
The Union of Students’ has been recognised for its sustained commitment to the local community by winning the Royal Mail Community Impact Award at the Sheffield Business Awards.

The Union highlighted SheffieldVolunteering in their application as their flagship initiative with over 1,000 students each year providing services for 142 community organisations, charities and schools. SheffieldVolunteering has also been cited by the national funding body, HEFCE, as an outstanding model of good practice.

Rag, the Union’s student-led fundraising initiative, raised over £73,000 for local, national and international charities in 2006. The ‘Sshh’ Campaign was also put forward as an example of positive relations with local residents. It encourages students to be aware of the consequences of late-night noise.

SheffieldVolunteering received over £380,000 from the Big Lottery Fund and the Higher Education Active Community Fund and is using the cash to set up new schemes and encourage more students and staff to volunteer. Current activities include school mentoring, weekly visits to residential homes, and A Nice Time on Saturdays (ANTS) – a support project for children who have experienced the loss of a parent or sibling.

The Management School has received accreditation for its MBA programmes from the Association of MBAs (AMBA). The School now joins the world’s elite MBA providers. Professor Keith Glaister, Dean of the School, commented, “This is an international benchmark that validates the global standard of our MBA programme and represents an important step in the building of a world class Management School at the University of Sheffield.”
Architecture centenary 2008

The centenary of the School of Architecture will be celebrated with various events, including an exhibition, a lecture series, publication of a School history and a series of reunion dinners. Professor Roger Plank, Head of School, wants to hear from former staff and students who may have lost touch with the University: "We are particularly keen to identify architectural works or other achievements and examples of past student work for the exhibition. Please encourage people with connections to the School to get in touch. They may complete the online questionnaire at www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch, email j.alexandrou@sheffield.ac.uk or write to The Alumni Officer, School of Architecture, The University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN. We want to make this a celebration to remember."

The world’s first dissolvable dress

A creative partnership between Tony Ryan, ICI Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University, and designer Professor Helen Storey, entitled Wonderland, shows off new materials that can make consumer products less environmentally harmful. Professor Storey has worked with the University of Ulster to develop a series of innovative dissolving textiles based on polymers created in collaboration with the Sheffield Polymer Centre.

"The dresses Helen has created are a metaphor for the beautiful things we create and use but never really think about and just throw away," said Professor Ryan. "In your lifetime you throw away about 20 tons of packaging material. We want people to think about that. But it has made us think more seriously about science, too. This isn’t about boring labs and test tubes. It’s about turning ideas into reality."

www.polymercentre.org.uk

New Vice-Chancellor at Sheffield Hallam

Professor Philip Jones, a former Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Sheffield, has been appointed as the new Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University.

Sorby’s date with destiny

A controlled explosion demolished the 12-storey Sorby building on 27 August 2006. The block had provided accommodation for thousands of students since it was opened in 1963. The demise of Sorby is one element of the ‘Student Village’ redevelopment scheme, which also includes the demolition of Earnshaw and Ranmoor Halls of Residence, together with Wolfson Flats and Woodvale Flats. When the project is completed in 2009, a total of 3,540 new study-bedrooms will be in place – 2,360 on the Endcliffe site and 1,180 on the Ranmoor site.

A video of the demolition is available to view on our website: visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni and follow the links to the Latest News section.
**Information Commons welcomes first users**

The Information Commons opened its doors for the first time to students across the campus on 10 April 2007. Born out of completely fresh thinking about learning resources for the 21st century student, it contains a whole range of study experiences within a single spectacular building.

Located on the corner of Upper Hanover Street and Brook Hill, the seven-storey building provides the latest IT resources, including over 400 PCs and pervasive wireless networking and IT-equipped classrooms, well-equipped spaces for teaching and learning, 1,070 study spaces, 100,000 of the most in-demand books, and a 70-seat cafe.

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**Sheffield to host Bollywood ‘Oscars’**

The city was chosen to host the 2007 International Indian Film Academy Awards. The Indian film industry, centred on Mumbai, produces in excess of 800 films each year, twice the number from Hollywood. The awards ceremony was held in the Hallam FM Arena with other events taking place across the Yorkshire region.

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**Sheffield Graduate Award Scheme**

The University has launched a Sheffield Graduate Award Scheme to enable students to earn formal recognition for their wider skills development during their programme of study. It is open to all students, with individuals accumulating points towards a bronze, silver or gold award by taking part in extra-curricular activities.

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**Focus on Tynan**

The best of Kenneth Tynan’s theatre criticism has been brought together in one volume by Professor Dominic Shellard, the critic’s biographer. *Kenneth Tynan: Theatre Writings* was chosen as a BBC Radio 4 ‘Book of the Week’ in February 2007; it was also serialised by the *Guardian*.

Famous above all for his championship of the Angry Young Men at the Royal Court and for heralding Brecht, Beckett and Pinter, Tynan was the 20th century’s most influential theatre critic. Included in the book are ground-breaking reviews of plays by Arthur Miller, John Osborne, TS Eliot and Noel Coward.

Professor Shellard is Head of the School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics and is the principal investigator on the Arts and Humanities Research Council British Library Theatre Archive project. He said, “My interest in theatre criticism has spanned my entire career and I am honoured that Radio 4 chose this edition of Kenneth Tynan’s theatre criticism to serialise.”

www.bl.uk/theatrearchive
Reflections of the Vice-Chancellor

Professor Bob Boucher has been Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield since 2000. Prior to that, he was Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) for five years. He has spent much of his working life at the University of Sheffield, initially as an academic within the Department of Mechanical Engineering, then as a Head of Department and Pro Vice-Chancellor for Academic Development and for Research.

"The University of Sheffield is, appropriately to its home city, frequently at the 'cutting edge'. Innovation is part of our daily life. Yet in many ways the reflection we underwent during our Centenary Year in 2005 reminded us of how much of our mission remains unchanged.

"I am always struck by the poster from the beginning of the last century, which was attached to the walls of companies and factories all over the city as funds were sought to provide a university of our own. It looked to a university for the children of the working man (and woman), for knowledge which would directly benefit the economy of the city. Hard pressed individuals made 'penny' donations which finally totalled £50,000: based on the RPI increase that's £3.5m today or about £15m as a proportion of earnings! So the University of Sheffield was born largely out of the amazing generosity and commitment of people who believed in its benefits.

"Our mission continues to be that expressed in our coat of arms; we aim in Virgil's words 'to discover the causes of things', to improve the world by seeking to understand it. We are still delivering education which produces outstanding graduates who have a global impact in their various fields. We provide knowledge exchange in areas crucial to the regional, national and international economy. We continue to be a force for good.

"What we seek to do now is to express these same priorities in ways which fit the needs of the modern world. In that sense, I believe our founders would recognise us as fellow spirits, although so much else would astonish and delight them. And were we able to re-visit the University 100 years from now, although doubtless much else will change technologically, I believe these core values will still hold true.

"In 2006, we undertook an exercise to define Our Shared Vision as part of our endeavour to improve our planning process and unite in key areas of priority. Our aspiration continues that expressed by our Victorian founders, to firmly position ourselves amongst the
The University has always been home to great discoveries and innovation. Stainless steel was developed by Harry Brearley, who worked on his development in our Faculty of Engineering. Crucial work on the development of penicillin was carried out in Sheffield by Lord Florey, leading to a Nobel Prize – the first of five awarded to scientists with close connections to the University. But today’s work requires partnership, often with global organisations such as our Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre with Boeing, sharing research with world-class private sector organisations like Rolls-Royce in the development of a ‘Factory of the Future’, or those between the Informatics Collaboratory of the Social Sciences and the Institute for Public Policy Research, or the University and the British Library.

Our approach has to be one of taking the challenges we face and breaking these down into tangible goals. We have given each of our priorities key indicative measures which will help us assess how far we are meeting our aspirations. For example, our goal is to be one of the top five universities in the UK based on peer review assessment. But we will also measure crucial factors like the centrality of an outstanding student experience by reviewing how many students would recommend the University as a place to study.

Yet, in the end, we can only deliver this by working together. In the modern world a Vice-Chancellor has to lead, but a great leader also needs a great team united in common purpose, and the University is built on outstanding efforts by many talented and hard-working individuals.”
Rising to the challenge

Environmental research at the University contributes to the global change research agenda.

Sheffield is one of the UK’s leading universities involved in environmental research, attracting annual funding of over £13m for this field alone. The Environment Division, representing 13 academic departments, is the focus for this work, of which global change research is a substantial element.

Professor Malcolm Press, Director of Research, Environment Division, and Head of the Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, is clear that discussions of global change should permeate the University: “It’s my view that every undergraduate should take a module in global change, and that’s not just biology and geography students but students in all faculties from Engineering to Social Sciences to Arts – it’s relevant to everyone. We have 25,000 students at the University and we should use this resource to take positive action in protecting the environment.”

He was speaking during Sheffield Is My Planet Week 2007, a showcase for regional manufacturers and organisations involved in delivering solutions to climate change. Professor Press introduced his three point strategy – Research, Education and Translation – into the debate.

“Our research at the University is innovative, diverse and interdisciplinary. Our conservation biologists work in collaboration with economists, psychologists and mathematicians. Partnerships with business and industry are critical to the transfer of research knowledge; for example, the Rolls-Royce University Technology Centre for Advanced Electrical Machines and Drives and the application of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for environmental monitoring.

“Our research reputation means that we work with policy makers across the board, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the Arctic Climate Impacts Assessment, the Arctic Council of Ministers, the United Nations Expert Panel on Ozone Depletion, and the House of Lords inquiry into water management in Britain.

“As regards education, climate change, environmental change and sustainability are relevant across the University. An understanding of these issues could be a distinctive element of the knowledge and transferable skills acquired by our graduates. And, as a natural progression, our graduates will act as informed ambassadors, influencing public opinion.

“And thirdly, translation. The results of our research are already influencing new technologies, policy and practice. Communicating our findings across the academic world and to the public through events such as Sheffield Is My Planet is ensuring that we contribute to the worldwide debate on climate change.”

The results of our research are already influencing new technologies, policy and practice.
The University has identified seven key strengths in climate change research and is concentrating endeavours in these areas:

**The past as the key to the future**
The analysis of fossils to estimate ancient carbon dioxide concentrations and their link to global climate change. Using the past as a means of evaluating future projections.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/aps/research

**Understanding the carbon cycle**
We measure and model current and future movements of carbon to work out the influence of emissions on global temperatures and vegetation patterns.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/aps/research

**Polar Regions as critical ecosystems**
What happens at the poles is critical because of impacts on ice, release of greenhouse gases and changes in ocean currents. We also study the impacts of ultraviolet radiation on ecosystems.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/aps/research

**Conserving biodiversity**
How does climate change affect biodiversity and the future consequences for managing and conserving species and habitats?
The scale of our activities ranges from the gardens of Sheffield to mountains in Mongolia.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/aps/research

**Flooding: predicting and managing the risk**
Research developing flexible, adaptable approaches to predicting and responding to flood risks.
http://pwg.group.shef.ac.uk

**Sustainable buildings and cities**
The built environment accounts for approximately half the carbon dioxide emitted by the UK – so how best can the construction sector rise to this challenge? Studies include predicting current carbon emissions from buildings and the deployment of renewable energy technologies.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/architecture

**Technological solutions**
Addressing technological measures to reduce the environmental impact of land, air and sea transport, which are major contributors to global warming and pollution.
www.sheffield.ac.uk/eee
The Long Blondes, the Sheffield band with the ‘glamorous punk’ image, and 500 bottles of Kelham Island beer featured at the opening of the British submission, Echo City, at the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale. The theme of this international showcase for architecture, which attracted 150,000 visitors, was the interaction of architecture and social dynamics in the world’s major cities. Professor Till saw off stiff competition from cities around the country to be invited to curate the exhibition by the British Council.

The idea for Echo City came from a story about the decoy city built on the hills above Sheffield during the Second World War: ‘Sheffield will be made and remade, out of light, out of sound, out of words, out of images, out of stuff. It will be a city that is here, nowhere, and everywhere. Like an echo.’

The collaborators included the cream of Sheffield’s creative industries:
- The Designers Republic (Ian Anderson, media designer)
- Encounters (Ruth Ben-Tovim, Trish O’Shea and Jim Previtt, cross-discipline artists)
- Tim Etchells (writer and theatre director, Forced Entertainment) and Hugo Glendinning (photographer, Forced Entertainment collaborator)
- The Illustrious Company (Martyn Ware, musician and sound engineer)
- School of Architecture (Professors Jeremy Till and Sarah Wigglesworth)

“We used Sheffield as a vehicle to push around wider ideas about cities and their social dynamics. In this way, it was an echo of many cities, buffeted by the social and technological forces of modernity. The exhibition had Sheffield at its heart, but was about much more than Sheffield; it was about any city,” explained Professor Till.

“An ‘urban catalogue’ was assembled in the four side rooms of the Pavilion, the composition of light, sound and images in each room reflecting urban experience at a particular architectural and social scale; either 1:1, 1:100, 1:10,000 or 1:10,000,000. The central room was a dynamic interactive space in which visitors created their own version of Sheffield – an Echo City.

“It was a fantastic experience to represent Britain at the show and we generated a lot of interest and public participation. The exhibition was also a visible example of the relationship between the University and the city, and I believe we proved that Sheffield is worthy to be on the international stage.”
Scientist on a mission

Pharmaceutical scientist Dr Gill Samuels CBE was part of the team that discovered Viagra. This Sheffield graduate is now recognised for her crusade as a science advocate.

She spoke to Miles Stevenson, Director of Development, about sharing her passion for science with the wider public.

“It’s huge fun being a scientist. For me it has provided an entrée into lots of areas – bench work, the socio-political arena with governments, NGOs and multilateral organisations like the WHO, combating world diseases, arts and science projects, communications. I am committed to enfranchising the public on matters scientific.

“There are many challenges facing us all – both nationally and globally – from pandemic flu to climate change. Science can play a major role in addressing these issues but only with the active support of society in general. Therefore, scientists really do need to understand and commit to a different, more productive and enabling way of engaging with people who don’t have a science education, who are afraid of science and may even condemn it.

“I’m the Chair of the Cheltenham Science Festival which was set up in part to challenge the stereotype of a science festival. In effect it’s an arts festival for science. We aim to get the great scientific names to give talks and engage in organised and impromptu discussions with the general public. The festival is the human face of science, because science is about people and for people. Another festival objective is to identify and encourage new young science communicators, which we do via FameLab, a national speaking competition sponsored by the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts.

“I’ve been working with the Department of Defence Studies at Kings’ College London to develop Lodestar, a war game programme which provides a navigational aid for choppy waters and difficult conditions. We plan to run the game with 14-16-year-olds and get them to navigate through changing science and politics up to 2015 to deliver the health aspects of the millennium development goals.

“For me, science is a great springboard and platform. Science is an enabler – the French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry said, “Our job is not to foreseee the future, but to enable it.” That is what science is all about.”

Dr Gill Samuels

Originally from Lancashire, Gill Samuels read Physiology at the University of Sheffield, graduating in 1966.

She completed a PhD in experimental neuroparmacology at the University of Birmingham and began her long association with pharmaceuticals giant Pfizer in 1978.

In her early years with the company, she worked on several drugs including Cardura and Istin, which are used to treat high blood pressure and angina. As Director of Cardiovascular Biology she was a member of the team that created Viagra.

In 1995 she became Director of Science Policy and Scientific Affairs, working with such institutions as the British government and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

She retired from Pfizer in 2005 and now sits on several boards and advisory committees, including the WHO and the Biosciences Futures Forum. She is Chair Elect of the Foundation Council of the Global Forum for Health Research.

She was made a CBE in 2002, received one of the CBI’s inaugural First Women Awards in 2005 and an honorary degree from the University of Sheffield in 2006.
Miles Stevenson, Director of Development, reflects on the University’s commitment to alumni relations.

“I have an emotional attachment to alumni. They’ve been part of the University community – and they are part of the family.” This is what Professor Bob Boucher, the Vice-Chancellor, said when I was appointed in June 2002 to set up the Development and Alumni Relations Office (practically from scratch). Five years on we have made huge progress, both with our alumni relations programme and with our fundraising initiatives. This has been made possible by the hard work of my committed team of professional, dedicated staff.

The keystone in our programme has been the creation of a database with information about our alumni, based on information received and processed from more than 30,000 questionnaires. We have also created an excellent website where alumni can update their details online, download copies of Your University magazine, read the latest news stories about the University, find ‘lost friends’ through Sheffield Reunited, our online alumni directory (where more than 8,000 have already registered), or consult our events programme.

During the Centenary Year in 2005, the University organised a full programme of events for alumni in the UK, the United States, the Caribbean and Asia. Thousands of alumni reconnect with the University – and we sent a Centenary DVD to 25,000 alumni who couldn’t make it to one of our celebrations.

We are committed to sending our graduates and friends news about the University – through Your University magazine, which is distributed annually to 120,000 people, and via our e-bulletins. Letting us have your current email address will ensure that we can occasionally send you news about University developments – for example we emailed 40,000 alumni a web link to a film of Sorby Hall’s demolition. And we will continue to organise a programme of events, especially in Sheffield and London which both have large concentrations of our alumni. We are organising a major Reunion Weekend (see page 31) in Sheffield in September 2007 and are encouraging alumni with significant graduation anniversaries (60, 50, 40, 30, 25 years on) to come back to Firth Hall to dine with University friends and see how the city has changed.

We have also made great progress with fundraising – especially for projects which make a real difference to current students. The funding of higher education is changing and some students do struggle to make ends meet. We have already received more than £1m in cash from individual supporters. We
have used this to provide 100 scholarships for talented students who need financial support. Capital projects throughout the University campus have also benefited – from new computer stations, to enhancing the facilities of the new Information Commons building, to purchasing equipment to train medical students. And we have distributed £100,000 through the Alumni Foundation to support student music, sport, drama, volunteering initiatives and Students’ Union clubs and societies. We have already received more than 3,400 donations via our annual fundraising campaigns and a further 1,250 people have contacted us to find out how to remember the University (which has charitable status) in their wills. These figures are dramatic – and we have been hugely encouraged by the positive support we receive.

The feedback I get from Sheffield alumni is that they are fiercely proud of their University and that their time here was a life-changing experience. They want to be kept informed about what is happening here and they want to see their University flourish. An increasing number of alumni are getting involved by providing careers talks and work shadowing and placement opportunities for our students.

Many are willing to take out a regular standing order with their bank so that we can create scholarships and we are now able to recognise such donors through our new gift club, The Silver Arrows Circle, which takes its name from the arrows on the University’s coat of arms. Collectively these smaller gifts are making a huge impact. The generosity of our alumni is quite outstanding, and very humbling. One shy donor said that he could only make a “token, modest gift” – it turned out to be £100,000! I was absolutely amazed. Only a few of our donors are this wealthy, but all of them are very generous and even small donations collectively add up to very large sums.

The gratitude of our students to these donors is heartfelt. One recipient said to me, “Your donors are so kind. I think that your office exists to make people happy.” It’s amazing how a grant of £1,000 can completely change someone’s life.

So, please do keep in touch. Fill in the alumni questionnaire, let us have your email address, come to events – and if you would like to help with our fundraising campaigns, please consider making a donation.

Visit our website www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni
Calendar of events www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/events
A dramatic return

Comedian and actor Eddie Izzard could lay claim to the title of most famous ex-student not to graduate from the University of Sheffield. All that changed on 19 July 2006, when he received an honorary doctorate before an audience of delighted graduands.

Eddie Izzard first came to the University in 1980 to study Accounting and Financial Management, Economics and Pure Mathematics – allegedly because it had the longest title in the UCCA handbook. “I was born in Yemen, then I was in Northern Ireland, then I was in South Wales so I’d really seen a lot of places. And then I’d been in the south for 11 years and I thought I did want to go somewhere north,” he said. “I could add up and I wanted to do a course that I could just do while I concentrated on my shows.

“So I got here and I didn’t do anything the first term, but after that I did a show the second term and a show the third term, and then they threw me out, and I just did loads of shows and slept on people’s floors and worked out that I was going to tell everyone that I was a transvestite and that was good, that was in Sheffield.”

He established the award-winning Alternative Productions Society which put on cabaret-style events, poetry readings, dance and travelling theatre shows: “There was a lot of great energy coming out of the University at that time and I was aware of people like Stephen Daldry and Linda Smith putting on some amazing stuff. They were a bit older than me but I wanted something of that. In a sense I did my own degree,” Reuben Grocock of the Drama Studio remembers. “It was a bit of a nightmare, the challenges we were set. Eddie and his mate Rob Ballard were always pushing the envelope as far as possible.”

Comic reviews such as Sherlock Holmes Sings Western and a five-person re-enactment of Ben Hur were just two of the highlights of Eddie’s creative career in Sheffield. He took a show to the Edinburgh Festival in 1981, which he has described as being the start of a learning curve on what makes people laugh. After several stamina-building years as a street performer he became a stand-up comic, inspired by Monty Python, Richard Pryor and early Benny Hill. His first stage appearance as a comic was at the Comedy Store in 1987, and within six years he had won a British Comedy Award for Live at the Ambassadors, with another following in 1996 for Definite Article. His appearance in Dress to Kill, shown on HBO, earned him two Emmy Awards in 2000 for performance and writing.

His real dream was to act, and soon those chances came along with offers of parts in theatrical and film productions. His stage portrayal of Brian in Peter Nichols’ black comedy A Day in the Life of Joe Egg won him critical acclaim including a nomination for a Tony Award in 2003. Other stage credits include David Mamet’s The Cryptogram and Marlowe’s Edward II. A move into film and television acting has seen him work with some of the top directors and actors. He was in the middle of filming The Riches, a TV series for FX Channel with Minnie Driver as his co-star, when he flew into the UK for the graduation ceremony. The film Ocean’s 13, in which he plays Roman Nagel, was released in June this year.

Eddie has a long-standing interest in current affairs and is an ardent European, appearing on Newsnight and Question Time to discuss the virtues of the single currency and European integration. He has also used his talents to raise awareness and funds for his two favourite charities, Amnesty International and the Prince’s Trust.

Having left the world of accountancy long ago, he now acknowledges that some of the course might have rubbed off: “I own copyright on all my DVDs which hardly anyone has, apart from Lucille Ball. But from my very first stand-up video I refused to give the rights to anyone, which was an excellent accountancy decision. So maybe I got something out of it.”

He came to the ceremony with his father, Harold John Izzard. When asked why he accepted the honorary degree, Eddie said, “Well, as much as anything I did it for my father who wanted me to have a degree after 25 years.”
I didn’t do anything the first term, but after that I did a show the second term and a show the third term, and then they threw me out.
Renaissance Sheffield

The city centre is the focus of one of the UK’s most ambitious regeneration programmes.

Step off the train at Sheffield Station and walk through the new concourse out into Sheaf Square, with its 90-metre-long Cutting Edge steel sculpture, dramatic water features and innovative lighting. This space is the start of the award-winning Gold Route, up Howard Street, via Millennium Square and the Peace Gardens, to Barker’s Pool. Immediately you are aware that Sheffield city centre is undergoing a dramatic process of change and development, a process which started in 2000.

The Sheffield Station Gateway is one of the Magnificent Seven projects led by Sheffield One, the urban regeneration company which has now reached the end of its designated lifespan. “During our seven years of operation the look and feel of the city centre have been dramatically altered, helping to re-establish Sheffield’s reputation as a thriving location in which to live, work and do business,” says Andy Topley, Chief Executive, Sheffield One. “Everything is moving ahead with increasing pace. The trends for investment activity and values, office rentals, private and public sector confidence, speculative development, lettings, retail footfall, and the city centre population are all pointing firmly upwards and, according to market indicators, will continue to rise.”

A partnership of Sheffield City Council, Yorkshire Forward and English Partnerships, Sheffield One, along with Sheffield First for Investment, was integrated into Creative Sheffield in April 2007. This broader-based, city-wide economic development company is the first of its kind in the UK. Ian Bromley, Chief Executive, Creative Sheffield, explains, “We are responsible for transforming Sheffield’s economic performance, delivering city competitiveness and winning a place amongst the leading cities in Europe. Creative Sheffield is not simply Sheffield One in a new guise, but a significantly larger body with a much broader and even more challenging role, that of bringing about the city’s economic transformation. One of the agency’s first tasks will be to develop a City Wide Economic Masterplan, which will provide a unified strategic framework for the economic and physical development of Sheffield over the next ten to fifteen years.”

www.creativesheffield.co.uk

Sheffield city centre is undergoing a dramatic process of change and development.
The Magnificent Seven
Two of the Magnificent Seven projects are now complete – City Hall & Barker’s Pool and Sheffield Station Gateway; three – Heart of the City, Castlegate and the Integrated Transport Strategy – have seen delivery of major elements with the next phases either underway or due to start in 2007; and the remaining two projects – Sheffield Digital Campus and the New Retail Quarter – have planning approval.

Heart of the City
This flagship project incorporates top grade offices, new civic spaces, a prestigious hotel, residential units, leisure facilities and a range of cafes, restaurants and specialist shops. The public works element of the £200m scheme – the Peace Gardens, Millennium Galleries and Winter Garden, all multiple award-winners – forms the backdrop for the commercial development. St Paul’s Place, City Lofts St Paul’s, the 32- and 9-storey Conran-designed residential towers, will add a new landmark to the city skyline by 2010.

New Retail Quarter
Planning permission has been granted for this £500m development of shops (including a new and bigger John Lewis store), apartments and leisure attractions between Barker’s Pool, Pinstone Street and Moorhead. The aim is to re-establish the city centre as a regional shopping destination.

City Hall & Barker’s Pool
The principal elements of this project are complete – the refurbished City Hall and the transformation of Barker’s Pool with dramatic fountains, seating and trees. The surrounding public areas, including Leopold Street, are in the process of being developed. The Leopold Square scheme, featuring Grade II listed Victorian school buildings, combines loft-style apartments with a boutique hotel, cafe-bars and restaurants.

Castlegate
This project involves the redevelopment of the markets to create a mixed-use scheme and utilise the Broad Street and Sheaf Market sites for major new office developments. The indoor market will be relocated to The Moor. Initial development includes an £80m scheme for the Broad Street/Exchange Street site, including office accommodation, hotel, multi-storey car park and leisure and retail units.

Sheffield Digital Campus
Spread across three adjacent sites in the Sheaf Valley, next to Sheffield Station, this development comprises a city centre business park for pioneering and innovative digital, ICT, wireless multimedia and software companies of all sizes.

Sheffield Station Gateway
This is a key component of Sheffield’s regeneration. The £60m project has seen the transformation of the station and its environs into a world-class gateway to the city and South Yorkshire.

Integrated Transport Strategy
The whole public transport system is in the process of being upgraded and refocused. The access system in and around the city centre is being developed to create a user-friendly, efficient, integrated public and private transport network. Projects include the remodelling of the Central Interchange and the final phase of the Northern Inner Relief Road, opening in summer 2007.
Once students, now staff

With 10% of its workforce being Sheffield graduates, just what are the attractions of the University to its employees?

Rosie Valerio (BA 1979), Director of Human Resource Management

“I’m from Sheffield, and came back 15 years after graduating as a mature student. It is a very different experience to be part of the administration – you have no idea how the place runs when you are a student! Many of the staff who taught me were still here, which was a lovely surprise and added to the sense of belonging, not just to the city but also to the University.

“This is the third largest employer in the city, with over 6,000 staff, so there is a reasonable expectation that we will attract our own graduates. It is also a very good employer with favourable terms and conditions. As a senior woman, I was delighted that the University was named in The Times as one of the top 50 companies where women want to work, and Opportunity Now recognises us as one of its Gender, Equality and Diversity Exemplar Employers. It’s still great being back here, and I love the challenges and excitement of working with so many talented individuals.”

Tom Rhodes (BA 1992), Assistant Registrar, Teaching and Learning Support Unit (TLSU)

“The University set up a Graduate Traineeship Scheme in 1993. I got one of the six places and started work as an administrator. I was obviously in the right place at the right time. I was offered a permanent post and my career progressed quickly. I now manage the Programme Development and Review Section within the TLSU. I’m very happy here; it is an interesting and stimulating place to be. I also love Sheffield itself which helps me to achieve a good work/life balance.”

Dr Jonathan Rayner (BA 1989, PhD 1994), Reader, School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics

“I taught film studies in the Division of Adult Continuing Education while studying for my PhD. I then spent time teaching at Portsmouth, North East Wales Institute and Sheffield Hallam before returning here in 2001. I consider myself extremely lucky. The students are great and I research and teach in areas that really interest me. I’ve recently worked with the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, looking at films and the history of the navy. There is a collegiate atmosphere here. Even though the English School is huge, it still feels friendly and enthusiastic.”

Jackie Harrison (PhD 1996), Professor of Public Communication, Department of Journalism Studies

“I’ve spent my whole career at the University; it’s like a second home. I started as a secretary in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, went to Sheffield Hallam to do my first degree, came back as an administrator and then decided to do a PhD in broadcast news. I was appointed as a researcher in the new journalism department and have steadily progressed, becoming a professor in 2005.

I love Sheffield. The quality of life is fantastic. I can walk to work and my office is just a few minutes from the city centre. I’ve had great mentors and guides and I’ve got to know so many people – the University is like a village within the city.”

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Lovejuice is the creation of John Heseltine. In just three years he has built the brand into the country’s leading chain of juice bars. Eight are already established in airports and shopping malls, with the prospect of a further 100 sites in the UK, together with franchises in the Middle East, India and South East Asia.

After graduating in Landscape Design and Plant Science in 1996, John completed a Masters degree at Harvard University. There he studied with top designers including Sir Norman Foster and Philippe Starck. He even had the opportunity of dinner with Richard Branson.

Inspired by Jamba Juice, a huge juice bar company in the USA, he returned home, believing he could achieve similar success in the UK. Fellow Sheffield alumnus, Phil Hall (BA 1996) was also impressed by the idea – he backed the project from the start, helping to fund the first two stores, at Stansted Airport and Bluewater.

Following major investment in the company by Tom Singh of New Look, further branches opened at Manchester and Gatwick Airports, along with Brent Cross and thecentre:mk. John says, "In the beginning of 2006 we wanted to grow to 60 stores in two years so we had to raise more money. This we did through Smedvig Capital which invested £2.3m." Sheffield’s Meadowhall was then added to the list of sites.

He believes the design skills he gained at the University gave him the edge when it came to selling his idea. “I started my business by designing the logo first and the stores. This helped, because you can present something more tangible than figures to the decision makers. I got the first site at Stansted in 2003 this way. I spent a month living in a van outside the airport and on the first day had to dash to Tesco, having run out of oranges after only two hours.”

John is now a non-executive director of Lovejuice and is pursuing new ideas under the umbrella of The Hez Group. He is about to launch a range of bottled alcoholic organic fruit juices called Jucifer, together with Nectar, the non-alcoholic version. Then there’s a deal to establish a range of crêpe bars and bring Lovejuice to the high street.

John is still coming to terms with his success: “From initial scribbles at my kitchen table we’re now a global company, which is hilarious and something I find hard to believe. Seeing the physical form of some crazy idea I had, seeing my logo, my design produced and people actually believing in it is amazing.”

As the nation’s health drive continues, one Sheffield alumnus is reaping the benefits of the push for ‘five portions a day’. Claire Rundström, Development Manager for Alumni Relations, investigates.
A meeting of minds

With the UK’s largest dedicated multidisciplinary research facility on the North Campus, the University is investing heavily in its world leading research in convergent technologies.

Professor Geof Tomlinson, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Director of North Campus, gives an insight into developments on the North Campus.

Your University: What’s special about the North Campus?
Professor Tomlinson: The investment by the University of over £20m, supported by the Science Research Investment Fund, in the creation of this campus has allowed us to bring together researchers across the scientific, engineering and medical departments to co-locate here as teams. The result is the encouragement of expertise transfer and faster research breakthroughs with particular strengths in the convergence of engineering and life-science research.

What are the main buildings on the campus?
The Kroto Research Institute, which provides facilities for researchers from 20 or so different disciplines across the sciences, engineering and medicine, as well as the Sorby Centre for Electron Microscopy and Microanalysis. And the Nanoscience & Technology Centre, which also houses the EPSRC National Centre for III-V Technologies and the North Campus business incubator, the Kroto Innovation Centre.

What is the remit of the Kroto Innovation Centre?
An investment of over £2m, supported by the European Regional Development Fund, provides state of the art facilities and support for high-tech businesses in the region. We offer a flexible combination of business incubator offices, product test laboratories and access to one of the UK’s largest semiconductor cleanrooms, together with business support services. The facility is proving highly attractive to high-technology start-up businesses with initial tenants from sectors including third-generation mobile phones and automotive sensors. We welcome approaches from alumni who wish to assess the possibilities of locating their businesses here.

www.krotoinnovation.com

The world’s first ‘Giant Buckyball’ sculpture stands outside the Kroto Research Institute. Scaled up so that one metre of the sculpture represents one nanometer in the molecular world, the sculpture (which is one thousand million times larger than the molecule itself), represents a pure carbon cage fullerene. Professor Sir Harry Kroto shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of this new form of carbon, known as ‘buckyballs’. The sculpture is sponsored by an alumnus of the University and his wife (Dr Jack and Annetta Horwitz Kushner).
North Campus research themes

www.sheffield.ac.uk/northcampus

Semiconductor nanotechnology
As host of the EPSRC National Centre for III-V Technologies, the University has the UK’s most extensive experience of developing compound semiconductors for lasers, light emitting diodes, solar cells and mobile phone networks (lead researchers: Professors Peter Houston and Maurice Skolnick). Recent achievements include high efficiency solar cells and cost breakthroughs in lasers for telecommunications and medical diagnostics. Extensive research is also conducted into development of these devices using low-cost polymer materials (Professor David Lidzey). The inclusion of carbon fullerenes offers an exciting increase in polymer material performance. High performance sensors are being created through research into nanomagnetism (Professor Mike Gibbs).

Environmental engineering science
The behaviour of groundwater, soil and pollutants is studied at scales ranging from microscopic bacteria to macroscopic catchment areas. Research at Sheffield has shown that natural attenuation – decomposition of organic pollutants by subsurface biodegradation – offers a lower cost and less disruptive solution for restoring contaminated land and groundwater (Professors David Lerner and Steve Banwart).

Future generation materials
Materials that display unusual behaviours are harnessed to benefit automotive, aerospace and manufacturing industries. Research modifies these materials at all scales from nanoscopic to macroscopic, offering components that are part of the structure and also provide sensing or actuation. Costs are reduced through increased use of composite materials (Professors Geof Tomlinson and Costas Soutis).

Nanocharacterisation and nanomanipulation
Viewing and manipulating samples at extremely high spatial resolution is of fundamental importance to science and engineering. The Sorby Centre has one of the UK’s largest concentrations of electron microscopes, providing a focus for academic and industrial research into interfaces – nanoscale zones that can dominate a material’s behaviour (Professor Mark Rainforth).

Tissue engineering and modelling
Research uses a patient’s own cells to grow restorative tissue, overcoming the shortages of donor organs. Clinical trials have been undertaken on a number of products, the first of which is in commercial production. Extensive experimental development is enhanced by powerful computer models of the self-organising behaviour of the tissue’s cells (Professors Sheila MacNeil and Rod Smallwood).

Virtual reality
Virtual reality provides a powerful means of recreating and accessing environments for scientists and engineers. From miniscule molecules to the vast cosmos, virtual reality allows improved understanding and stimulates new insights (Dr Daniela Romano).

“During a lifelong career in science I have benefited greatly from close multi-disciplinary collaboration. Such collaboration promotes new insights and fosters new approaches which accelerate research dynamics. I believe it is the right way to approach the emerging nanometer scale landscape of materials science which is inherently multi-disciplinary.”

Nobel Laureate Professor Sir Harry Kroto (BSc 1961, PhD 1964, DSc 1995)

“A key feature of the Kroto Research Institute is the interface between engineering applications and research in the pure sciences. Within a year, these different disciplines were being joined up in ways we couldn’t imagine before, with new proposals already being funded. Perhaps the greatest strength of this interdisciplinary environment is that by mixing excellent scientists and engineers from many disciplines, we somehow manage to raise each other’s game. I think this occurs because collectively we ask questions, test our ideas and propose research methods in ways that we wouldn’t dream up in isolation.”

Professor Steve Banwart, Department of Civil and Structural Engineering
This has been a good year for Convocation. We completed an agreement for the Sheffield University Association of Former Students to join us, bringing their experience of arranging social events and visits to new buildings in the University and elsewhere. We both gain from this. A visit to Information Commons, new home of the undergraduate library, is planned for the 2007 long vacation.

Convocation’s unique role is to take part in University governance. We appoint 40 members to the University Court, the annual meeting of the University’s stakeholders. Reports on new policies, as well as learning, teaching and research from the past year, here reach the public domain for discussion. Questions asked by our members this year are quoted on our website, along with the answers. These will give you a sense of the issues that concern us, though we take an interest in other matters including employment opportunities for students and student affairs.

Convocation continues to work with the Development and Alumni Relations Office and we are developing stronger ties with the Students’ Union. We are helping to fund Standing Up For Students, the centenary history of the Union written by Dr Helen Mathers, author of Steel City Scholars. Next year we expect to part-fund the refurbishment of the Union’s media centre with its new radio station and newspaper office.

This page is for all our members, but there is a special welcome to every new graduate. Congratulations on obtaining your degree, which has given you a great foundation for the rest of your life. You automatically became a member of Convocation as you graduated – although you may not have realised this in the excitement of the ceremony.

For new graduates and for all our members, our revised website will keep you up to date with what we (and the University) are doing. Notice of our Annual General Meeting held in the spring, visits, stories of graduates who are in the news and University achievements are posted here. If you would like to get involved in what we do, the website is the place to start.

www.sheffield.ac.uk/convocation

David Bradshaw
Chairman of Convocation
Email: d.c.bradshaw@sheffield.ac.uk
At the cutting edge of industry

The announcement of the £14m ‘Factory of the Future’ as part of the University’s Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) with Boeing means broader scope for exploring novel manufacturing themes and technologies.

The Factory, due for completion by early 2008, will house the latest manufacturing equipment and state of the art production capabilities. These will enable companies to trial new manufacturing technologies in a full-scale commercial production facility before making significant and high-risk investment decisions.

Funding for the project comes from Yorkshire Forward (£6.5m), European Objective 1 (£3m), the University of Sheffield and AMRC partner companies. The Factory is a key development in ongoing work to apply world-class engineering expertise to real manufacturing challenges. “The AMRC was cited by a government White Paper as an example of how universities can work with business and government to create cutting edge companies. Our team have developed new manufacturing techniques that have resulted in a performance ‘step change’ – bringing in commercial orders to the region that would otherwise have gone to developing economic regions,” says Professor Keith Ridgway, Research Director.

The AMRC’s prime partners include the world’s leading aircraft manufacturer the Boeing Company, aero-engine manufacturer Rolls-Royce, and landing gear manufacturer Messier-Dowty. The demand for safe, low-cost, lightweight components in aerospace requires that the best manufacturing technology be used in order to develop top quality products to market as quickly as possible. The Factory is expected to attract further investment partners and so build on the region’s international reputation for manufacturing excellence.

Barton Moenster, Director and Functional Technology Leader of the Advanced Manufacturing Research and Development team in the Boeing Phantom Works, and Colin Smith, Rolls-Royce Engineering and Technology Director, joined over 60 AMRC staff and guests at the new building’s dedication ceremony on 6 March 2007. Using Sheffield-made shovels, the two aerospace leaders buried a time capsule that contains items from the Factory’s partners. They then planted two gingko trees, symbolising the environmental sustainability of the Factory and the legacy of high quality education and knowledge generation at the University of Sheffield.

“We are creating a centre that will be a national exemplar of environmentally friendly building design,” says Professor Ridgway. “Having a zero carbon footprint is an ambitious but realisable goal, accomplished by incorporating the latest in green energy technology such as our 60-metre wind turbine for generating power, temperature control by using natural heating and cooling vents, and below ground water heating technology. We are raising the bar for everyone to re-examine not only their energy consumption, but also their energy generation.”
Kathryn Jones (BSc 1976) is Team Leader for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Burundi in the Office of Operations of the UN’s Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). Based in New York, the major focus of her work is to provide political guidance to MONUC, the UN’s peacekeeping operation in the DRC.

During 2006, 25 million voters participated in the first democratic elections in some 40 years. MONUC played a central role in supporting the organisation of this process. Kathryn also coordinates the police and human rights components of MONUC’s 17,400-strong military forces; and she works closely with colleagues from international partner organisations such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the European Union.

“My team is now focusing on supporting MONUC as it helps the new government in addressing the daunting challenges ahead, including restructuring the armed forces, protecting human rights, holding local elections and promoting good governance and economic and social development. We are facing a whole new set of challenges in helping the Congolese people fulfill their hopes for peace, stability and democracy. It’s seeing our contribution start to amount to something positive that makes my work all the more worthwhile.”

Rod Aaron Gammons

Playing live in front of thousands of people one week and attending Business Studies lectures the next. This is how singer/songwriter/producer Rod Aaron Gammons has juggled his time since starting his degree. Now a final-year student on track for a First, he has already released one single, A Forgotten World, with another on the way.

“Whilst studying for my degree, I’ve also built up a reputation around Sheffield, had my record played on the BBC and performed to over 3,000 people in Glasgow for a tour organised by Rimmel London, Sugar Magazine and Popworld Promotes. My degree has been vital in bringing out my entrepreneurial skills – I do all my own promotion and marketing, as well as managing sales and distribution. The Union has given me a forum to play my music, my personal tutor has offered constant encouragement and the University print service has been an excellent resource for my promotional material. Music is my form of creative expression and I’m really looking forward to seeing what the future holds.”

Visit Rod’s website at www.myspace.com/rodaarongammons, or download his single from Itunes, HMVdigital.com, Tescodevelops.com or Woolworths.co.uk and listen to this ‘potential new David Gray’ (Popworld Promotes).

In the spotlight

Paul Evans

After Nature is the title of a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings by Paul Evans (BA 1983). Dynamic, abstract images of waterfalls contrast with delicate drawings in watercolour and graphite of cell structures. They will be on display in the Cupola Gallery, Sheffield, in September 2007. The show is an opportunity to see the work of an artist described as ‘one to watch out for’ by the Guardian.

Paul studied philosophy at the University followed by a fine art degree a decade later at Sheffield Hallam. In between, he spent time rock-climbing, working as a merchant seaman and as an archaeological technician at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. “I came to fine art by the back door, having produced cartoon strips for On the Edge magazine. A career as a graphic artist followed. I left my post as creative director of Sheffield based company Vertebrate Graphics in 2005 to take the plunge and make my living as an artist.

“My style is abstract, but based on powerful, iconic images. Drawings from these provide a graphic framework for the paintings, around which I build a structure of luscious brushstrokes and opulent colour.”

www.pkevans.co.uk

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Dr Vanessa Toulmin

Five years’ research by Dr Vanessa Toulmin (BA 1988, PhD 1997), of the National Fairground Archive, culminated in the publication of *Electric Edwardians: The Story of the Mitchell and Kenyon Collection* (BFI Publishing 2006). The book complements a series of DVDs of these ‘local films for local people’ as well as over 100 shows that Vanessa has curated across the UK, Europe and the USA.

“The response to the films has been fantastic. This is living history, a dynamic way of looking at Edwardian social history. I’m now developing the process of working with a live audience by producing entertainment shows. These involve real acts, such as the human ostrich, that link back to the collections of the National Fairground Archive. Blackpool is the perfect place to do this, the home of the Winter Gardens and the Pleasure Beach.

“The archive itself is opening its doors to more visitors. We are based in the University Library and a new development is a ‘front of house’ reading area opening in December 2007. The collection continues to grow — with over 80,000 images, in addition to audio and video material, journals and magazines, fairground ephemera and nearly 3,000 monographs.”

www.nfa.dept.shef.ac.uk

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts (DSc 2002), who was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield from 1991 to 2000, died on 6 February 2007, aged 66. Sir Gareth was an enthusiastic promoter of opening up higher education, especially to young people with no background to encourage them, and was renowned as an energetic ambassador for the city of Sheffield.

Nationally his influence was enormous. He was the driving force behind the setting up of the Dearing Inquiry into the funding of higher education, was president of the Science Council and was on numerous national committees, including the prime minister’s Advisory Council on Science and Technology. He was also chairman of the committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals from 1995 to 1997.

Sir Gareth arrived in Sheffield with an international reputation in physics and engineering, having been a professor of electronic engineering at Oxford University and Director of Research at Thorn EMI. His involvement in the life of Sheffield and the region was extensive, particularly in the fields of health care and community regeneration. He was a member of Sheffield Development Corporation, Sheffield Health Authority and the Regional Development Agency for Yorkshire and the Humber. He was knighted in 1997 for services to higher education.

Alexzandra Hildred

A love of diving and archaeology combined perfectly when Alexzandra Hildred (BA 1978) joined the staff of the Mary Rose Trust in 1979. “I learnt to dive at the sub aqua club at Sheffield. I was involved with the Ancient History Society and invited Dr Toby Parker, an expert on marine archaeology, to speak. That started my interest in this field, which is very different to the prehistory I studied for my degree.

“I was first appointed as PA to Dr Margaret Rule, who led the project to excavate and raise the ship — one of Henry VIII’s warships — in 1982. I was on board every time she dived to the wreck. I became a supervisor on site involved with the salvage and recovery and then a co-head of the Department of Research and Interpretation. As Curator – Ordnance I am now responsible for the collection of weaponry, which accounts for a quarter of the 19,000 objects found so far.

“We are fundraising to create a purpose built museum around the ship. We hold one of the most important collections of 16th-century objects anywhere in the world and they deserve to be displayed and interpreted effectively.”

www.maryrose.org
Alumni celebrations across ‘The Pond’
Over 80 alumni gathered in the grand surroundings of the Hyatt Roof Salon for an alumni reunion in Toronto. Co-host and guest speaker Dr Maureen McTeer (MA 2003) welcomed her fellow alumni to the event, which was the first of its kind in Canada. We look forward to building stronger Canadian links in the future.

Caribbean honorary degrees
Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott received an honorary degree from the University at a degree ceremony which took place in St Lucia. The Vice-Chancellor said, “Derek Walcott is the most renowned and respected English-speaking poet in the world today. It is fitting that he received the award here in St Lucia, land of his birth and a source of inspiration for so many of his wonderful works of poetry and drama.”

African links strengthened
Miles Stevenson, Director of Development, spoke to over 100 delegates at a fundraising conference held in Ghana in 2006 to encourage the development of alumni relations and fundraising programmes in Africa. Philanthropy for universities is developing across the continent; in April 2007 a delegation of administrators from Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda visited Sheffield to learn more about the work of the Development and Alumni Relations Office.

Nobel Laureate attends receptions
Nobel Laureate Dr Richard Roberts was the special guest at an alumni reunion held in Singapore. He spoke about his experiences at Sheffield and the benefits of staying in touch and supporting the University.

Dr Roberts also attended an alumni gathering in Kuala Lumpur, organised by the University in celebration of Malaysia’s 50th anniversary of independence. The Vice-Chancellor announced that the University has established the Dato Dr Ikmal Hisham Albakri Scholarship Fund to help Malaysian students study at Sheffield.

Contact the Singapore Alumni Association at email admin@shefalumnisg.org or visit www.shefalumnisg.org.
Contact the University’s South East Asia Office via seao@sheffield.ac.uk.

A Cuban perspective
An international conference, hosted by the Political Economy Research Centre and the Department of Politics, attracted academics and politicians to discuss ‘Social Democracy in the Post-Bipolar World’. The Cuban Ambassador to the UK, Rene Mujica Cantelar, and Silvia Blanca Nogales, First Secretary and Head of the Scientific and Cultural Office at the Embassy of the Republic of Cuba, spoke on the current social developments in South America.
Czech links strengthened

Jan Winkler, the Ambassador for the Czech Republic, visited Sheffield to celebrate the University’s strong links with Czech institutions and to encourage further international research collaboration. He met staff in the Department of Archaeology. The department, in collaboration with Moravské Zemské Muzeum in Brno, is conducting research into the biological and cultural identity of Europe’s first farmers. Mr Winkler also took part in a discussion with staff, students and members of the public on ‘The Czech Republic and the EU: Three Years On’, which was chaired by Sheffield’s Lord Mayor, Mrs Jackie Drayton.

Erasmus success

The University of Sheffield is an active participant in Erasmus, the European Commission’s education programme for higher education students, staff and institutions. Many Sheffield students take the opportunity to spend some time studying within the European Union; and in return the University welcomes more than 400 students each year from partner institutions. These exchanges are an integral part of course programmes and full academic recognition is given. Sheffield has been chosen to feature as one of 20 Erasmus success stories in Europe by the European Commission, following a competition between 2,500 higher education institutions.

Dörte Stevenson, Socrates-Erasmus Institutional Co-ordinator, is keen to hear from Sheffield alumni about their Erasmus experiences; email d.stevenson@sheffield.ac.uk.

Chinese Blades in town

Students from the University met star players of the Chengdu Blades football team at Bramall Lane. Chengdu Blades, a leading football club in China, is closely associated with Sheffield United, who hold a majority share in the team. The special event was organised in celebration of this and the close ties the University and the city already have with China. The students also met Sheffield United player Li Tie and Ding Junhui, China’s leading snooker player. They also put questions to Chengdu Blades’ Director Tony Xu and Head Coach Li Bin, as well as enjoying a full Chinese buffet and Tsingtao beer.

Chinese New Year celebrated in style

The Sheffield Chinese Students’ and Scholars’ Association (CSSA) organised a gala celebrating Chinese culture and traditions in the Octagon Centre to celebrate the start of the Chinese New Year. The evening included Chinese dance performances such as the lion dance, live traditional Chinese music and band performances, and performances of Beijing opera. Hongtao Guan from CSSA said, “We believe that our Chinese New Year gala is not only an important cultural event, designed to bring China’s unique customs to Sheffield, but will also break down barriers and promote Chinese students’ influence on University life.”

Sheffield remembered in UAE

Dr David Fletcher, the Registrar and Secretary, hosted a reception at the British Embassy in Dubai for 30 alumni and friends of the University living in the United Arab Emirates. Guests were joined by the artist Brendan Neiland and Hisham Al Madhloum, the Head of the Directorate of Art, Emirate Sharjah. The University is actively developing links with the UAE, and Dr Fletcher was delighted to meet so many alumni with fond memories of Sheffield.
Alumni services and benefits

The University of Sheffield offers a range of services and benefits exclusively to our alumni.

Benefits

Remember to keep your new membership card, enclosed with this issue of the magazine, to ensure you don’t miss out on a range of benefits.

- **Library services** – the University offers a free External Borrower Service from the Main Library to alumni.
- **Sports facilities** – special discounted membership rates are available for alumni at all the USport sport facilities.
- **IT discounts**
  - **Viglen Sheffield Alumni Programme** – Viglen are offering alumni discounts on a wide range of their IT products. Please visit www.viglen.co.uk/specialoffers/sheffield or call 08705 386 386 quoting ‘ST015-5’.
- **Hotel discounts**
  - **Mercure St Paul’s Hotel and Spa, Sheffield** – alumni receive a discount of 38% off the standard double/twin room rate. Please email h6628@accor.com or call the hotel on 0114 278 2068 quoting ‘University of Sheffield’.
  - **The Marriott Hotel, Sheffield** – alumni receive discounted room rates. Please call the hotel on 0800 222222 quoting ‘University of Sheffield’.
  - **The Rutland Hotel, Sheffield** – alumni receive a discount rate of 20%. Please email reservations@rutlandhotel-sheffield.com or call the hotel on 0114 266 4411 quoting ‘University of Sheffield’.
  - **InterContinental Hotels Group** – alumni enjoy a 25% discount off bed & breakfast weekend stays at over 300 participating Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn and Express by Holiday Inn hotels throughout the UK, Europe and the Middle East. To book from the UK call 0870 400 8135, to book from the Republic of Ireland call 1-800 55 31 55, to book from Europe call 0800 185 2428. Remember to quote ‘Exclusive Rate’.
  - **Cottages4U** – alumni receive a 10% discount on bookings with Cottages4U. Please call 0870 192 1774 and quote ‘SHEF10’.
  - **Avis Rent A Car** – Avis is offering alumni preferential discounted car rental rates worldwide. To book please call 0844 581 0136, quoting your Discount Number AWD X225266.
  - **Students’ Union Lifetime Membership** – for just £10 you can top up your Alumni Membership Card to give you lifetime membership of the Students’ Union. This gives you life access to the Union building and facilities including club nights and bars, enables you to sign a friend into the Union and you can join your favourite Union society.
  - **IMA Travel Programme** – IMA Travel are offering alumni the chance to go on some special tours in 2008, with leading academics from the University. For further details call 0208 940 4114, visit www.imatravel.com/sheffield/index or see the back cover of this magazine.

Visit [www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/services](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/services) to keep up-to-date with the latest range of services and benefits available and for further details on all of the above.

**Remember** – we can only keep you informed of what’s on offer if you stay in touch! So please keep us informed of your current address and email by completing the enclosed questionnaire, update online at [www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch) or contact alumni@sheffield.ac.uk, tel: 0114 222 1079.
The Alumni Relations team organise a number of events throughout the year. We can also help you plan and promote your own reunions and help you trace friends from your time at the University.

The following events are planned for the forthcoming year:

- **Alumni Anniversary Reunion, Saturday 8 September 2007**
  The first Sheffield Annual Alumni Reunion will take place this year. All graduates are welcome – especially those from the anniversary years of 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977 and 1982. Activities during the day will be followed by a dinner in Firth Hall. Email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 1043 for further details.

- **SUA North West Branch Annual Lunch, Sunday 30 September 2007, Old Hall Hotel, Buxton**
  Please contact the Branch Secretary, Mrs Joan Evans, on 0151 334 1299 if you wish to attend.

- **Pop Tarts in London, October/November 2007**
  Get back to the good old student days with a cheesy Pop Tarts night to remember. Visit www.poptartslondon.co.uk.

- **SUA Annual Christmas Lunch, Saturday 1 December 2007, Tapton Masonic Hall, Sheffield**
  Please contact Barry Sampson on 01909 567214 or email barry.sampson@care4free.net.

- **Alumni Dinner, February 2008, London**
  Following on from the success of previous Alumni Dinners at the House of Commons, we are planning another occasion at a prestigious London venue. Visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/events, email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 1079.

- **Convocation AGM and SUA Annual Dinner, Saturday 12 April 2008, Sheffield**
  Details to be confirmed – visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/convocation or contact Brian Wrigley, email brian@norrie-waite.com or call 0114 276 6166.

- **Alumni Reception, May 2008, London**
  We will be hosting a special reception for alumni who graduated in the last 15 years at a venue in London to be confirmed. Invitations will be sent out via email so please ensure we have your correct address.

- **Department of Architecture 1958-1963, 45th Anniversary Reunion, June 2008, Dublin**
  Please contact Barry Wheat on 0114 289 0018 or email barry@wheaty.co.uk.

- **Retired Staff Dinner, July 2008, Firth Hall, Sheffield**
  Drinks reception in the Quadrangle (weather permitting) followed by dinner in Firth Hall. If you're a retired member of staff and would like to receive an invitation, please email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk or call 0114 222 1079.

- **Alumni Anniversary Reunion, Class of 1948, 58, 68, 78 and 1983, 13 September 2008, Firth Hall, Sheffield**
  If you’re from the class of one of these years, you’ll be celebrating 60, 50, 40, 30 and 25 years since completing your studies. We invite you to join us in Sheffield, catch up with old friends and see what new developments are taking place on campus. Celebrate in style with a drinks reception and dinner in Firth Hall. Visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/events for details.
Your Notes and News

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

1950s

Leo Soloman (BSc Mathematics 1952)
A former musical director of the University Rag Show is now Chairman of the Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Youth Orchestra and musical director of GCDYO Swing Bands.

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Is behind the project to build the New Brooklyn Bridge across the River Don in Sheffield.

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The former Vice-Chancellor of Durham University and retired Chairman of Northumbrian Water won the Lifetime Achiever Award at the North East Business Executive of the Year Awards.

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Dr Jack Kushner (American Year Abroad student 1959-60)
As a pioneering neurosurgeon, Jack has been honoured on many occasions for his services to healthcare. But he recently won a more unusual feather to his cap; the impressive title of ‘Best Newcomer’ at the World Dance-O-Rama Las Vegas.

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1960s

Professor Jim Feast (BSc Chemistry 1960)
Is the new President of the Royal Society of Chemistry and has been awarded a CBE for services to polymer chemistry. An organic materials chemist, he is currently a research professor at both Durham University and Eindhoven University of Technology.

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Jack Burkitt (BEng Mechanical Engineering 1963)
Travelled to New Zealand to see a water turbine he worked on during a year’s work experience at Markham and Co Engineers in Chesterfield in 1958. The turbine in Waipapa is still working today.

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Dr Hisham Tawfiq (BEng Mechanical Engineering 1964, MEng 1967)
Is the Cultural Attaché for the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Canberra, Australia.

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To have the chance of appearing in Your Notes and News, please complete the section on our online Update your Details form at www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/keepintouch or email alumni@sheffield.ac.uk with the subject ‘Your Notes and News’.
Dr David Shaw (BSc Geology 1973)
Has been appointed to the board of directors at Odyssey Resources Ltd, a Canadian based junior mining company.

Jon Bond (BA Architecture 1974)
Is partner with John Bryan (BA Architecture 1982) of Bond-Bryan Architects, a Sheffield based practice involved with much of the new development across the city, including projects for the University.

Dr Elizabeth (Tilli) Tansey (BSc Zoology 1974, PhD Zoology 1978)
Has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Hon Dr Lowell Lewis (MB ChB Medicine 1976)
Is Chief Minister of the Caribbean island of Montserrat.

Professor Paul Curran (BSc Geography 1976)
Has been awarded the Patron’s Medal by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers). He is Vice-Chancellor of Bournemouth University.

Guy Thornton (BA Architecture 1977)
Has been named a Senior Associate at the New York office of international architects’ firm Brennan Beer Gorman Architects.

Michael Lip (MA Landscape Architecture 1979)
Is co-founder of Malik Lip & Associates, a landscape architecture consultancy and environmental planning company in Malaysia.

Kevin Cox (BSc Chemistry 1979)
Is President of Abecia Biologics and Chair of UK Trade and Investment’s Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals Sector Advisory Group.

Professor Gillian Bates (BSc Genetics 1979)
Has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Dr Cathryn Hickey (BSc Chemistry 1981)
Has been appointed as Operations Director of SummitSkills, the Sector Skills Council for the building services engineering sector.

Professor John Marsh (PhD Electrical Engineering 1983)
Is the elected President for 2007-08 of the IEEE Lasers and Electro-Optics Society. John is co-founder and Chief Technical Officer at Intense Ltd and Professor of Optoelectronic Systems at the University of Glasgow.

Chris Rhodes (BSc Chemistry 1984)
Has held a number of roles with Alliance & Leicester since joining them in 1988. He is currently their Managing Director of Retail Banking.

Chris Morton (BSc Psychology 1986)
A partner at Abbeydale Brewery in Sheffield, he competed in the Three Peaks Race, taking a barrel of Abbeydale Moonshine to the top of Ben Nevis to raise money for the National Osteoporosis Society.

Craig Baxter (BSc Zoology 1986)
Took part in a dramatisation of a selection of Darwin-Hooker letters at a Royal Society meeting.

Dr Janet Sumner (BSc Geology 1987)
Presented the BBC2 programme Nature’s Calendar in December 2006. She is a research fellow and lecturer at the Open University and Adjunct Professor at Washington State University, USA.

Caroline Stockdale (BA Politics 1987)
The former Students’ Union President (1985) is the Executive Vice-President of Global Human Resources for Warner Music in New York.

Simon Marsh (MA Town and Regional Planning 1989)
Is Head of Planning and Regional Policy at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Wayne Garvie (PhD Economic and Social History 1989)
Is BBC Worldwide’s Director of Content and Production. He was previously the BBC’s Head of Entertainment.
1990s

Dr Nahi Yousif Yaseen (PhD Virology 1990)
Is the Director General and Professor in Cancer Genetics at the Iraqi Centre for Cancer and Medical Genetics Research.

Christopher Dingle (BMus Music 1993)
Has recently had his book *The Life of Messiaen* published. Christopher is Assistant Course Director at Birmingham Conservatoire and a member of the review panel for *BBC Music Magazine*.

Daniel Gordon (BA Modern History and Politics 1994)
Has set up his own production company, Verymuchso. The filmmaker has made three films about North Korea including the award-winning *The Game of Their Lives*, about the North Korea football team who took part in the 1966 World Cup.

Rachel Newsome (BA English Literature 1994)
Is Editor of the magazine *Dazed and Confused*.

Joel Firth (BA Architecture 1995)
Is Managing Director of Firth Associates, an architecture practice in Lytham, which designed the award-winning National Railway Museum in Shildon.

Dr Lisa Lilley (BEng Chemical Process Engineering 1995)
Is F1 Project Manager for Shell France responsible for the planning and logistics of getting their petrol to the F1 race track.

Lucie Cave (BA English Literature 1995)
Is a Feature Editor of *Heat* magazine.

Angela Murray (BSc Psychology 1999)
Has had her book, *Through the Eyes of a Street Child*, published. She currently works for Toybox, a Christian charity working with Latin American street kids.

Paul Gill (MA Economics 1999)
Works in the charity CAFOD’s international office. He recently ran in the Great Ethiopian Run to raise money for CAFOD.

2000s

Elizabeth Watts (BA Archaeology and Prehistory 2001)
Represented England in the 2007 Cardiff Singer of the World competition. The soprano was one of the 25 competitors selected from more than 1,000 entrants.

Satsuki Fuji (BA Chinese Studies 2001)
Is working for the British Education Office in Tokyo, responsible for developing and supporting academic links and exchanges between Japanese and UK institutions.

Luke Howitson (BA French Studies 2001)
Is International Business Development Manager at information resource company Lexis Nexis Martindale Hubble.

Dr Joseph Dervan (PhD Molecular and Genetic Medicine 2002)
Has been promoted to the position of Director of Protein Chemistry at Protalex, a biotechnology company.

Anuj Khanna (MBA 2002)
Is Marketing and Communications Director for the Netsize Group, a global wireless solutions enabler. He was recently appointed by the Mobile Data Association as their Mobile Media Group Director.

Tridivesh Singh Maini (BA Politics 2002)
Has written a book, *South Asian Cooperation and the Role of the Punjabs*, which has received a good response in India, Pakistan, the UK and USA.

Jemma Walton (BA English Literature 2003)
Is now Feature Writer for the *Peterborough Evening Telegraph* and recently won the Feature Writer of the Year Award 2006 at the Eastern Media Awards.
Honours

Sir Michael Holroyd (LittD 1993)
Awarded a Knighthood for services to literature.

Professor Jim Feast
(BSc Chemistry 1960)
Awarded a CBE for services to polymer chemistry.

Provost Stephen Tomlinson
(MB ChB 1968, MD 1976)
Awarded a CBE for services to medicine.

David Davies (BA Politics 1969)
Awarded a CBE for services to sport.

Adrian Vinken
(BA Philosophy 1975)
Awarded a CBE for services to the arts.

Dr Frank Neal
(MB ChB 1950, MD 1996)
Awarded an MBE for services to healthcare.

Dr Bernard Knowles
(BSc Geology 1956, DipEd 1960, PhD 1971)
Awarded an MBE for services to the community.

Obituaries

We have been informed of the following deaths in the past year. Please contact alumni@sheffield.ac.uk with any enquiries.

Basil Deane, James Rossiter Hoyle
Professor of Music 1968-1974

Dr G Arthur Fieldsend (MB ChB 1952), Chairman of Convocation 1998-2002

R Douglas Haigh (BEng 1936, MEng 1937), Treasurer and President of SUA’s North West Branch for 45 years (26 as President)

Simon Hallam
(graduate, BA Politics 1995)

Richard Mitchell (graduate, BEng Automatic Control and Systems Engineering 1988)

Peter Mottley (graduate, BA History and Philosophy 1960)

Dr Francis Orton (LLD), Registrar and Secretary 1978-1982 and a member of staff from 1966

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts (DSc 2002), Vice-Chancellor 1991-2000 (see page 27)

Jean Ruddock, Professor of Education 1982-1994

Meredith Thring, Professor of Fuel Technology and Chemical Engineering 1953-1964

Dr Henry Turner (BSc 1941, PhD 1949), Chairman of Convocation 1983-1987 and President of SUA

Robert Arthur (BA Social and Political Studies 2005)
Was named Best Chemical Engineering Student at the 2006 Science, Engineering and Technology awards.

Claudia Albertini (MA Advanced Chinese Studies 2005)
Works in China for 798 Space, the leading contemporary arts venue in Beijing.

Felicity Hay
(BA Journalism Studies 2006)
Was a triple winner in 2006. She was named Reporter of the Year in the Guardian Student Awards, together with Press Gazette Student Journalist of the Year and Student News Writer of the Year.

Hattie Dean (MSc Statistics 2006)
Is pursuing her sporting career and competed in the 3000m steeplechase at the 2006 European Championships in Sweden.

Wei Su (MA Journalism 2006)
Has been busy writing and recently published the first volume of her memoirs, Beijing Kid, about growing up in Beijing.

Jamie Hodge
(BA Japanese Studies and Politics 2004)
Is the Events Manager at the Fabian Society.

Laurel Truscott (Diploma in Landscape Planning and Design 2005)
Is a landscape architect for LDA Design, London, and is currently working on the Thames Gateway project.

Richard Trueman (MEng Chemical Engineering 2005)
Was named Best Chemical Engineering Student at the 2006 Science, Engineering and Technology awards.

SUA News

The main item on the agenda of the Sheffield University Association (SUA) Annual General Meeting, held on 26 February 2007, was “It is proposed that the SUA shall become the Social arm of Convocation.” There was unanimous support for the proposition.
Honours and awards

Staff and students from the University of Sheffield continue to be recognised nationally and internationally for their expertise.

**Holly Castleton**, a Mechanical Engineering student, won the Ford WISE Prize at the Young Woman Engineer of the Year 2007 awards.

**Simon Cook**, an Accounting and Financial Management student, won first prize at the Yorkshire and Humber Shell STEP awards.

**Gordon Duff**, Florey Professor of Molecular Medicine, was knighted for services to public health.

**Professors Richard Eastell** (Clinical Sciences), **Barry Hancock** (Genomic Medicine), **Richard Jones** (Physics and Astronomy), **Tony Ryan** (Chemistry) and **Jeremy Till** (Architecture) all feature for the first time in the 2007 edition of Who’s Who.

**Rachael Elder**, a Chemical and Process Engineering PhD student, won a gold medal in the women’s relay at the World University Orienteering Championships held in Kosice, Slovakia.

**Jill Jesper** (Nursing and Midwifery) won the Robert Tiffany International Award for her role in a project that provides training for teachers and health professionals who work with disabled children in Kiev, Ukraine.

**Professor Richard Jones** (Physics and Astronomy) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the field of polymers at surfaces and interfaces.

**Koorosh Korfi**, a Medical Genetics student from Iran, was awarded the Valerie Broomhead Prize for exceptional achievement in science.

**Dr Sally McArthur** (Engineering Materials) received the Silver Medal as part of the 2006 Medals and Prizes organised by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining. The award was made for her outstanding contribution and dedication to biomedical engineering, both at home and abroad.

**Professor Malcolm Press** (Animal and Plant Sciences) is President-elect of the British Ecological Society and will take up the role in September 2007.

**Elena Rodríguez-Falcon** (Mechanical Engineering) was awarded the £10,000 Engineering Teaching Prize by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

**Steel City Press** was named Best Student Newspaper at the National Student Media Awards 2006.

**Stuart Tanner**, Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics, was awarded a CBE for services to medicine.

**Professor Paul White** (Geography), Pro Vice-Chancellor, was awarded the Edward Heath Award for his contribution to geographical research on Europe by the Royal Geographical Society.

The second volume of a biography of William Empson (William Empson: Against the Christians), written by **Professor John Haffenden** (English Literature), was picked as Book of the Year 2006 by several national newspapers including the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Guardian*, *Independent on Sunday*, *The Sunday Times* and the *New York Sun*.

**Professors Freddie Hamdy** (Urology) and **Pamela Shaw** (Neurology) have been elected Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

The architects (CPMG) of the Informatics Collaboratory of the Social Sciences (ICOSS) building won a gold medal at the International Green Apple Awards 2006 for the Built Environment and Architectural Heritage. The award was made for their visually striking, low-energy, sustainable design.

A team of five students **Ryan Jendoubi** (Japanese and Politics); **Emily Hounslow** (Biology); **Sven Beresdorf** (International Politics and East Asian Studies); **William Christophers** (Architecture); and **Xin Xin Cao** (Accounting and Financial Management) were named Make Your Mark champions at the national final in London. Their electronic reminder device, Planimal, beat entries from 108 other teams from 32 universities.

**Jill Jesper** (Nursing and Midwifery) won the Robert Tiffany International Award for her role in a project that provides training for teachers and health professionals who work with disabled children in Kiev, Ukraine.

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**Professor Claire Lewis** (Medicine and Biomedical Sciences) was awarded an honorary degree by the University of Oxford for her contribution to the field of tumour inflammation research.

**Dr Sally McArthur** (Engineering Materials) received the Silver Medal as part of the 2006 Medals and Prizes organised by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining. The award was made for her outstanding contribution and dedication to biomedical engineering, both at home and abroad.

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To place your order for any of the above merchandise, either download the relevant order form(s) from www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/merchandise or contact us on +44 (0) 114 222 1079.

Please send completed order forms and your payment to: Development and Alumni Relations Office (Merchandise), The University of Sheffield, 277 Glossop Road, Sheffield, S10 2HB, UK.

Payment by cheque or £ sterling draft made payable to 'The University of Sheffield'.
At the instigation of some of the academic staff of the University of Sheffield, the Development and Alumni Relations Office has teamed up with IMA to create a number of special tours for alumni and friends. The tours are designed to be educational and entertaining for like-minded travellers.

IMA is the leading operator of alumni tours in the UK, bringing decades of experience to bear in arranging that vital combination of learning and leisure which makes our tours so memorable.

The Magical Islands of the Galapagos
20 March-1 April 2008

Professor Tim Birkhead (Department of Animal and Plant Sciences) will accompany this tour of the ‘enchanted islands’ of the Galapagos. After a stopover in the Andes – visiting Quito and the Avenue of the Volcanoes – we join our privately chartered ship for eight days and thread our way to all the main islands to see the boobies, frigates, sea lions, giant tortoises and so much more. We also offer a pre tour into the Amazon Rainforest.

From £3,220 per person (depending on cabin choice).

Cruising to Ephesus – Turkey
14-28 June 2008

Led by Dr Paul Halstead (Department of Archaeology), this cruise on our exclusively chartered private yacht concentrates on the classical sites which enrich Asia Minor’s beautiful shores, as we consider the archaeology of the cultural hinge of the ancient world. Great figures from the past like Herodotus, Mausolus, Alexander, Lysimachus, Trajan and Hadrian haunt the columned splendour of these Graeco-Roman cities along the Turquoise Coast.

£1,490 per person.

For itineraries and brochures on these tours contact:

IMA
13 The Avenue
Kew
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