

# The Graduate 2011

The magazine for Graduates and Friends of Queen's University Belfast

## RECLAIMING TITANIC

Queen's people at the heart of Belfast's rebirth



Queen's University  
Belfast

Students in Mercy Mission  
to Africa

Career in Crisis?

How we support our graduates

Innovation in our DNA

Queen's is changing society for the better

PLUS: UNIVERSITY NEWS, MY TIME AT QUEEN'S, CLASS NOTES, SPORT

# Welcome To The Graduate



## Welcome to the 2011 edition of The Graduate Magazine.

It is important to keep you, our Alumni, informed about what is going on at Queen's. We are proud of our exceptional University and we hope you share this pride!

It has been an exciting year. Our world-class research has gained significant media

coverage. In our Innovation feature, starting on page 19, you can read about a scientific breakthrough in the treatment of Cystic Fibrosis that will make a huge difference to the quality of life for CF sufferers globally. Indeed, the Queen's Student of the Year, Therese White, is herself a CF sufferer, yet manages to accomplish truly outstanding work (see 'News').

Belfast is getting ready to celebrate all things Titanic in 2012. You probably know that next year is the 100th anniversary of the launch of the world's most famous ship, but did you know that Queen's is right at the heart of the revival of the Titanic quarter? From page seven you can read award-winning journalist Claire McNeilly's account of the University's role in a project key to the economic future of Northern Ireland!

And with the economy at the forefront of everyone's mind, you will no doubt be interested to read about Riddel Hall, Queen's Postgraduate and Executive

Education Centre, which aims to reinvigorate our economy by offering exceptional programmes. The Riddel Hall Founders' Club, set up by the Development and Alumni Relations Office, connects companies from across Northern Ireland who together have pledged over £1m in support of the project. You can read more about this on page 44.

I would also like to welcome this year's graduates to our family of over 100,000 alumni. The Development and Alumni Relations Office is your link to Queen's and we want to make this network beneficial for you. For example, new graduates who are uncertain about their future career path should turn to page 14 and read Belfast Telegraph journalist John Lavery's article on the support available from the Queen's University Careers Employability and Skills Service.

Along with all your favourite regular columns such as Class Notes, My time at Queen's and our Book Review page, we hope that The Graduate lives up to the high standards set by previous issues! If it does, or even if it doesn't, please let us know, email [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk). Remember this magazine is for YOU, so make sure to tell us what YOU want!

Thank you for taking time to read The Graduate!

Ian Moore  
Acting Head of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving



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Front Cover: Pictured, Stephen Wray and Professor John McCanny, of ECIT. Photography: Chris Hill

## ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCES GOOD NEWS

Northern Ireland's Employment and Learning Minister, Dr Stephen Farry, has confirmed that tuition fees for Northern Ireland students enrolled at Queen's, the University of Ulster, St Mary's University College or Stranmillis University College, will be kept at current levels and subject only to inflationary increases.

In addition, the Minister has announced that there will also be no additional cuts to the higher education budget beyond the £28m efficiencies savings which have already been imposed and that the remaining £40 million funding gap will be met by the Northern Ireland Executive.

This is good news for Queen's students, for our staff and for Northern Ireland as a whole. The Stormont Executive has recognised the pivotal role of higher education as an economic driver, and the need for Northern Ireland to retain a sustainable, competitive and high quality sector which attracts the brightest and best young people from all backgrounds.

The Executive's decision to plug the £40m funding gap follows a robust campaign led by the University. Thank you for your help if you took part in the "Election Doorstep Challenge" and any other initiatives that supported this campaign.

# News From Across The Campus

For more news stories, visit our website: [www.qub.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.qub.ac.uk/alumni)

## Graduation Best Dressed Competition

The Development and Alumni Relations Office, in partnership with Argento, Perks and the QGA, once again recognised the style of Queen's alumni in the annual graduation 'Best Dressed' competition.



Exclusively for the Class of 2011, the 'Best Dressed' competition took place throughout Graduation Week from 4 - 8 July. All entrants received a special graduation

chocolate lolly and a 10% discount from Argento.

The 'Best Dressed' graduate each day won a £50 voucher courtesy of Argento. And the overall winner for the week received a £200 voucher, again thanks to Argento.

See Alumni facebook for all entries.

## Queen's fast-tracks business opportunities in China

Queen's has launched a China Management Research Institute to fast-track business opportunities in China for Northern Ireland companies.



The new Institute, based in the Queen's University Management School, which recently opened for business at Riddel Hall on the Stranmillis Road, encourages local entrepreneurs to look towards China as a potential source of new trading partners and markets.

It also strengthens the links between Queen's and China by working with a range of Chinese educational businesses and government organisations to forge new academic and research connections.

Professor Richard Harrison, Queen's University Management School, says: "The new Institute will offer enhanced knowledge and expertise for the benefit of industry and commerce in both Northern Ireland and China."

Are you an entrepreneur keen to do business in China? Contact Dr Yu Xiong +44 (0)28 9097 3644 for more details.

## David voted top entrepreneurial educator

David Gibson of the Management School was voted the world number one entrepreneurship educator in the United States





in January 2011. Universities in Thailand are now using his Enterprise for Nurses training materials created at Queen's and David has been asked to design international Entrepreneurship training courses for teachers in Europe. He is also working on applying his model to further education in the UK. The EEC has recently confirmed Queen's as one of the top five in entrepreneurship education in Europe.

### **Queen's takes its case to politicians up on the hill**

Queen's University took its campaign to highlight the importance of Northern Ireland's Higher Education sector to the heart of government when it showcased the very best of its staff and students to local politicians at Parliament Buildings.



The June event saw leading students and academics demonstrate the impact the University has on people's lives at a local, national and international level and aimed to drive home the importance of funding for higher education.

Academics and students who brought their work to Stormont included Professor Chris Elliott, the international leading voice on food safety; Professor Tracy Robson,

who has led the development of a cancer drug to prevent tumours from growing new blood vessels; Dr Bhaskar Sengupta, whose pioneering work removing arsenic from ground water is transforming the lives of millions around the world and Professor Kieran McEvoy, a world-leader on research into conflict resolution, transitional justice and truth recovery.

### **International students 'migrate' to Queen's**

Fifty students from 16 countries migrated to Queen's for a unique two-week summer school on the human rights issues arising from migration.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Summer School, organised by the Human Rights Centre in the University's School of Law. Among the topics discussed was the history of mobility since Neolithic times, ethnicity and ethnicisation, national identity, treatment of refugees, implications of economic and technological globalisation, the Irish diaspora and trafficking in human beings.

Participants had the chance to meet members of local civil society groups involved in protecting the rights of migrants, as well as interacting with the teachers, doctoral researchers and guests, including local MLA Anna Lo.

### **Robert Brunner has designs on Queen's**

One of the world's leading product designers, who has worked with Lady Gaga and Dr Dre to develop some of this century's most iconic products, visited Queen's in May to talk about his work and ideas.



Robert, a founder of San Francisco-based design company Ammunition, shared his unique approach to product design during a presentation organised by the Chief Executives' Club at Queen's in association with the Northern Ireland Technology Centre.

Some of Brunner's most exciting projects include collaborating with pop star Lady Gaga to develop a wearable camera in the form of a pair of sunglasses with embedded LCD displays, which was launched earlier this year.

### **Science Park visionary gets top academy award**

One of the people behind the creation of the Northern Ireland Science Park has been recognised for his outstanding contribution to engineering by the Royal Irish Academy.



Professor John McCanny, a world-leading authority in the field of Microelectronics Systems and Director of the Institute of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT) at Queen's University Belfast, received the Royal Irish Academy's Cunningham Medal, the Academy's premier award (for more on ECIT see page 7).

### **Bangor man graduates from the same degree for second time**

During Summer graduation week a Bangor man graduated with the same degree for a second time! Tony Crosbie, who graduated with a BSc degree in Civil Engineering in 1976 graduated once again in a Master of Engineering in Environmental and Civil Engineering.

Tony worked as an Engineer

for over 20 years after his first degree but was the victim of a serious assault which left him with memory loss and associated disabilities. Determined to return to employment after the attack, but aware of his significant memory loss and the need to re-learn his skills to ensure safe practice as an Engineer, he decided to return to University to repeat his degree.

He enrolled at Queen's in 2007 and after three years of full-time study attained the level of BEng (Hons) in Civil Engineering.

Tony went on to surpass his original degree by continuing in the MEng degree course in Environmental Engineering.

### Sister act as grandmothers graduate

Two sisters from West Belfast graduated from Queen's University in July, over 40 years after leaving school without any qualifications.



Kate McGahey (58) from Twinbrook and Marion Molloy (57) from Dunmurry, graduated with BA degrees in Modern History and Social Studies. The sisters decided to return to education in the 1990s and after studying for their GCSEs and doing an access course, they enrolled in a part-time degree at Queen's in 2006.

### 'Our Man in the Vatican' and NASA student scoop Queen's University awards

Northern Ireland man Francis Campbell, whose work was featured in the BBC series *Our Man in the Vatican*, is this year's Queen's University Graduate of the Year.

Francis played a key role in securing the Papal visit to the UK last September and was instrumental in helping develop a new level of understanding between Westminster politicians, civil servants and the Holy See.

In 2005 he made history by becoming the first Catholic to be appointed UK Ambassador to the Vatican since the Reformation. He is now the British Deputy High Commissioner, Karachi and the Director, Trade and Investment for Pakistan.

Therese White, from Mayobridge Co. Down, a medical student who has made an outstanding contribution to the Students Working Overseas Trust (SWOT), and was the only student from the UK and Ireland selected for a medical placement with NASA, is this year's Student of the Year. Despite having to deal with Cystic Fibrosis, Therese, as President of SWOT, has been the driving force behind raising £30,000 and was one of the main organisers of the charity's fashion show.



The Graduate and Student of the Year Awards, now in their 12th year, were launched in 1999 by the Queen's Graduates' Association and the University's Development and Alumni Relations Office, with the support of First Trust Bank.

To nominate for next year's awards, please contact Gerry Power, g.power@qub.ac.uk

### Queen's Vice-Chancellor 'honoured and humbled' by knighthood

Queen's University Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Peter Gregson said he was both 'honoured and humbled' to be awarded a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June.

Professor Gregson said the honour recognised Queen's pivotal role as an international centre of academic excellence rooted at the heart of Northern Ireland.



He said: "It is enormously humbling to receive this honour. Throughout my career I've been inspired by successive generations of students and by my peers around the world. Any contribution I have made has been through the magnificent teams of people with whom I have been privileged to work, and with the support of my wife and family."

Educated at Imperial College London, Professor Gregson was formerly Professor of Aerospace Materials and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Southampton. He has received the Donald Julius Groen Prize of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Rosenhain Medal and Prize of the Institute of Materials.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Irish Academy of Engineering and a Member of the Royal Irish Academy. He is a Non-Executive Director of Rolls-Royce Group plc, Northern Ireland Science Park and the Universities and Colleges Employers Association.

# QUEEN'S AT THE HEART OF BELFAST'S TRANSFORMATION



Slap-bang in the middle of Belfast's Titanic Quarter is Queen's University's Institute of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT), a base for trailblazers of technological excellence.

In this article Claire McNeilly, Consumer Correspondent at the Belfast Telegraph, looks at how ECIT is playing a leading role in the rejuvenation of our flagging economy. She investigates how ECIT is spearheading technological advances that place Northern Ireland as a world-leader in information and communication technology, attracting global businesses to set up in Belfast.





## ‘Once again the Titanic Quarter has become a bastion of the ‘precision engineering’ that made its forefathers from Harland & Wolff legendary - Queen’s ECIT is at the heart of this transformation’



In the blockbuster movie *Minority Report*, Tom Cruise plays a cop who uses cutting-edge technology to predict future crimes and prevent them happening.

A far cry from reality? Not so, for at Queen’s University’s Institute of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT), scientists are in the process of pioneering electronic systems that could change the face of airport security within a decade.

The days of tedious queues and ‘remove your shoes and belt’ requests may soon be a distant memory thanks to sophisticated tracking systems being developed at ECIT’s Titanic Quarter base.

For the last eight years, ECIT has been the anchor tenant at the Northern Ireland Science Park, whose companies now employ over 1,800 people.

Not so long ago this was a bleak, empty eyesore of a place; a sad, painful 185-acre reminder of the demise of Belfast’s world-famous shipping industry which spawned the doomed RMS Titanic.

Now the area, known as the Titanic Quarter, has been transformed. Once again, it has become a bastion of the precision engineering that made its forefathers from Harland & Wolff, among others, legendary.

This is the cyber era and the Titanic Quarter, situated on the waterfront, is Belfast’s answer to California’s Silicon Valley.

Sitting slap-bang in the middle of it is ECIT, a base for trailblazers of technological excellence, whose goals include the rejuvenation of our flagging local economy through innovation, major industrial links and the creation of new companies.

ECIT is spearheading the development of technological advances that allow Northern Ireland to lead the world in areas such as cyber security research, wireless communications and capital markets engineering.

It has also helped attract organisations from across the world to the Ulster port bookended by the mighty yellow cranes Samson and Goliath - and the spot, a stone’s throw from ECIT, where Titanic left Belfast for the first and last time a century ago.

For instance, US giant Citi Group picked the revamped Titanic Quarter as a base for its product development and trading systems support - a decision no doubt influenced by the province’s world-renowned telecommunications infrastructure.

‘Project Kelvin,’ which was completed last year, established a new high-speed submarine cable link that means communications between here and North America are routed directly instead of going through London.





That makes Northern Ireland highly attractive to companies such as financial conglomerate NYSE Technologies because it provides faster broadband and direct international telecommunications connectivity to the rest of the world.

Thanks to the influx of multinationals such as these Northern Ireland, as one magazine recently put it, has moved from hulls to high tech.

Part of ECIT is CSIT, the UK's National Centre for Secure Information Technologies, which is one of the world's leading research centres in cyber-security.

CSIT was created in 2008 to build on ECIT's pioneering research and one aspect of their work is to help make the internet of tomorrow a much safer place by stopping malicious or threatening content before it reaches its target.

It was fitting - and a huge feather in CSIT's cap - that the seminal World Cyber Security Technology Research Summit was held there in March this year.

That summit came just weeks after the Government announced that cyber crime is costing the UK economy £27 billion every year.

ECIT Commercial Director Stephen Wray believes Northern Ireland has the ability to lead the world through cutting-edge technology.

"Our speciality is event prediction and pattern recognition, whether it's CCTV or the internet, so we can highlight a virus in real time and stop it... highlight there's going to be a crime and help to provide the information that could stop that too," he said.

The sort of mind-blowing technology they're working on requires "breakthrough research", and, according to Mr Wray, ECIT is the first in the world to demonstrate video analytics software capable of gender recognition and age profiling.

"The idea is to have secure transport corridors so, for example, you can walk onto a plane without having to go through security - and that could happen in ten years," he said.

"You will be tracked and scanned as you move through the airport. You will be matched against an expected profile and your behaviour will be monitored. The system will be able to determine if you're behaving strangely, for example if you leave a bag somewhere and walk away . . ."

Success breeds success, but when Queen's set up 'QUBIS' in 1984 to commercialise its research and development activities through the formation of 'spin-out' businesses, even they could not have predicted how impressive results would be.

Sales for 2011, for instance, are estimated at £116m, and the QUBIS reputation is boosted by good-news stories such as that of the world-leading Andor, which was founded by a QUB physics graduate who developed new imaging technology - and whose business is now worth £195m.

From the ECIT building, you can see the impressive shell of the new Titanic Belfast visitor centre, a £97m work of art that will commemorate the centenary of Titanic's loss, when some 1,500 people perished after the ship hit an iceberg on its maiden voyage in April, 1912.

The old Harland & Wolff shipyard that spawned it still exists; these days, it manufactures offshore wind turbines, and its cavernous paint hall has been used as a film set for American megabucks productions such as *Game of Thrones* and *City of Ember*.

Who would have thought that this area of Belfast would not only become a major tourist attraction, but a symbol of technological excellence and achievement, driven by science?

Well, it has happened and today the word 'Titanic' is synonymous with success; as Belfast folk will tell you, the ship was fine when it left us!

ECIT, Queen's electronic communications and IT research centre: [www.ecit.qub.ac.uk](http://www.ecit.qub.ac.uk)

For details on the Titanic Quarter development: [www.titanicquarter.com](http://www.titanicquarter.com)

Titanic Belfast opens at Easter next year, 2012. For more details contact: [www.titanicbelfast.com](http://www.titanicbelfast.com)



**'Queen's ECIT is spearheading the development of technological advances that allow Northern Ireland to lead the world'**



# Queen's links to a world-class port

## TITANIC PORT by Alf McCreary

Alf McCreary, writer and Queen's graduate, has written the comprehensive illustrated history of Belfast Harbour in his book *Titanic Port*, which was published in November 2010.

It traces the dramatic story of the development of the harbour and also of the city from its establishment by King James I in 1613. It also relates how the Ballast Board, dating from 1785, and its successors on the Belfast Harbour Board, formed in 1847, turned a mudlocked inlet into one of the most important seaports in the world! They did so by continuous dredging, the reclamation of land from the sea, and the construction of new wharves and jetties.

The book also traces the rise and decline of shipbuilding in Belfast, and describes vividly the triumph and tragedy of the RMS Titanic, one of the most famous vessels in maritime history, and the story of HMS Belfast, Canberra and other famous vessels built by Harland & Wolff.

The book is a significant work. It is a history not only of the harbour, but also the story of the social, industrial and political development of the city of Belfast, and its people. Queen's connection with the port continues today. The Belfast Harbour Commissioners have given their support to the new Postgraduate and Executive Education Centre at Riddel Hall.

Whilst writing his book Alf had exclusive access to the extensive collection of documents, paintings and pictures in the archive of the Belfast Harbour Commissioners. Designer Wendy Dunbar and the production editor Dr Claude Costecalde also worked on the book.

Copies from [titanicport.com](http://titanicport.com) or in leading bookshops priced £25.

Pictured below is Alf McCreary, second left, signing a copy of his book for President McAleese. Far left is Harbour Board Chief Executive Roy Adair, and on the right is the Chairman Len O'Hagan. All four are Queen's graduates.



# Poignant Titanic Connections

## The Queen's connection.....

Thomas Andrews Jr. (7 February 1873 - 15 April 1912) was a member of the Andrews flax spinning dynasty of Comber. He chose to follow a career in shipbuilding at Harland and Wolff in Belfast. He made exceptional progress within the company reaching the post of Chief of Design and Managing Director in 1905, aged just 32. He was in charge of the plans for the liner Titanic and, whilst travelling on its first transatlantic voyage, went down with the ship after it hit an iceberg on 14 April 1912. He was just one of the 1,517 people who perished in the disaster.

Queen's graduate, Clive Scoular, has a wide knowledge of the Andrews family history. He is the biographer of John M Andrews, (brother of Thomas), who was Northern Ireland's second Prime Minister from 1940-1943. In his book 'John M Andrews, Northern Ireland's Wartime Prime Minister' (available from [clive.scoular@virgin.net](mailto:clive.scoular@virgin.net)), he writes about Thomas and his career in the shipyard alluding to his honesty and charisma. Clive also wrote short biographies of the other brothers. The third brother was James who was the Province's Lord Chief Justice from 1937 until his death in 1951. The fourth brother, Willie, was an outstanding cricketer and administrator. All the Andrews boys were students at 'Inst' in Belfast with just James proceeding to university at Trinity in Dublin.

## Titanic: Built in Belfast

Belfast is preparing to commemorate the maiden voyage of Titanic in April 2012. The focal point of these commemorations will be the opening of Titanic Belfast® visitor attraction, a £97 million visitor attraction which will uncover Belfast's maritime and industrial heritage. The building aims to attract up to 900,000 visitors annually. For more information visit: [www.titanicbelfast.com](http://www.titanicbelfast.com)

## TV reporter's poignant connection to story



Susie Millar, a former UTV journalist who reported on the Troubles for 20 years and who studied English at Queen's, has a personal connection with the Titanic story.

Susie's great grandfather, Thomas Millar was a Harland and Wolff engineer. When his wife died at the beginning of 1912, he joined the White Star Line as a sea-going deck engineer and his second posting was on board Titanic. The plan was that he would make a home in New York and fetch his five-year-old son and his older brother when he was ready. It never came to that because he was one of the 1,500 souls who perished with Titanic's sinking on 15th April 1912. Before he boarded Titanic, he gave Susie's grandfather two new pennies with the firm instruction not to spend them until the family was all together again.

Because of what happened to Titanic, Susie's grandfather never did see his father again - but he was true to his word. He kept those pennies all of his life and Susie has them to this day. Indeed they form the kernel of the fascinating Titanic tour she now operates. To find out more visit [www.titanictours-belfast.co.uk](http://www.titanictours-belfast.co.uk)

You can also read more about this story in her book, *The Two Pennies*. Not only is it a true story, it is also a poignant one which brings home the effect of Titanic's loss on an ordinary Ulster family. [www.thetwopennies.com](http://www.thetwopennies.com), cost £8.99





# QFT

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## AUTUMN/WINTER 2011 HIGHLIGHTS

Fri 21 Oct - Thurs 3 Nov



### WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN

Tilda Swinton stars in the big screen adaptation of the best-selling book by Lionel Shriver.

Sun 18 Dec



### BOLSHOI BALLET LIVE IN HD: THE NUTCRACKER

The perennial Christmas favourite of toys who come to life at night - with magical music by Tchaikovsky.

# QFT

THE HOME  
OF INDEPENDENT  
CINEMA

Tues 8 Nov



### THE NATIONAL GALLERY: LEONARDO LIVE

Leonardo Live will see the opening night of the National Gallery's landmark exhibition Leonardo da Vinci: Painter at the Court of Milan transmitted live to cinema-goers.

Thurs 1 Dec



### NT LIVE: COLLABORATORS

A new play by John Hodge (screenwriter of *Trainspotting*, *Shallow Grave*, *The Beach*) directed by National Theatre Director Nicholas Hytner.

Queen's Film Theatre  
20 University Square  
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[www.queensfilmtheatre.com](http://www.queensfilmtheatre.com) | follow us on:

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# Career support goes on after graduation!



Belfast Telegraph journalist John Laverty gives a humorous account of his experience of 'careers advice' and highlights how things have changed for the better at Queen's.

My first experience of careers advice was not, it has to be said, an overwhelming success.

Man (smiling): "Sit down young lad and tell me what sort of career you're interested in."

Me: "Well, I was rather hoping to get into journalism..."

Man (smirking): "Oh, I wouldn't recommend that. No siree. Very stressful, no security, limited

opportunities. So, what about the civil service?"


Me: "er..."

The last time I bumped into this individual was in a Belfast bar three years ago. I was celebrating 25 years in journalism - and he was busy telling fellow pensioners that Twitter would never take off. Yes, I guess I was one of the lucky ones way back then (early Eighties). After being diagnosed

with a chronic lack of talent for professional football, I defaulted to what I believed was the next best career path and stuck to it, despite the aforementioned gentleman's attempts to railroad me into public duty.

He meant well, of course. And, to be fair, there's nothing wrong with seeking a career in the civil service.

But this 'advisor' was a product of his time, a time when careers advice

A large, warm-toned photograph of a young man and a young woman sitting and talking. The man, on the left, has short reddish-brown hair and is wearing a red and white plaid shirt. The woman, on the right, has long dark hair and is wearing a dark red top. They are both smiling and looking at each other. A semi-transparent blue banner with white text is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

'Queen's career support is so fluid, so varied, that you can get out of it exactly what you want - which, hopefully, is a rewarding career'

was a rather unruly beast, guided by 'what was out there' rather than the aspirations of the student in question.

Things have changed, however, and for the better.

That half-hearted, 20-minute 'guidance session' I experienced nearly 30 years ago couldn't happen now. Not when you have, at your disposal, bodies such as the Queen's University Careers, Employability and Skills Service.

See? Even the name itself lets you know that this lot mean business (although, for practicality's sake, 'CES' is an easier mouthful). This is an in-house operation dedicated to preparing students for successful careers once those textbooks have been put away for good. It's really good if you know what you want. It's more than helpful too if you don't. In any case - and, in these challenging times - it has become virtually a necessity.

As CES head Jean Stirrup told me: "In the current climate, merely getting into university is not enough to prepare a student for what comes afterwards. Obtaining a degree is the least a modern-day student needs - not the be-all-and-end-all. It's the whole university experience that prepares them for future employment, and that's where we come in."

The signs are that quite a few are listening to Jean and her team. How many are in it? "Not enough," she quipped, and she's probably right. After all, between October 1 last year and May 31 this year, over 2,400 students participated in one-to-one duty/guidance interviews - and over 13,200 student email guidance queries were answered.

Not bad for a team which you need to add the part-timers to to reach double figures. But they're gluttons for punishment, this lot, and they want to see and help even more of you.

The duty/guidance interview is only the start; for instance, there's the University's Degree Plus Award

programme. Now, what's that when it's at home?

Well, it's a scheme which - and here's a juicy bit - provides official recognition of extra-curricular activity and achievement. So you get an extra award alongside your degree when you graduate, and that's bound to tickle the fancy of potential employers. After all, they'll be looking for written proof that candidates can display teamwork, leadership, communication and commercial awareness.

It's open to full-time and part-time students, plus postgraduates taught during the 2010/11 academic year, and has proved to be extremely popular, with over 2,500 students registered.

If that isn't your bag, the CES can also provide employment opportunities via place/internship and graduate jobs. And they are continually engaging with graduate employers on campus through careers fairs, workshops, business games, etc.

Between last October and this May, over 4,500 students attended ten recruitment fairs - involving over 300 potential employers.

Jean said: "We want to dispel the myth that there's nothing out there. In fact, we have witnessed something like a 30% increase in job opportunities and placements over the past year."

But she added: "It's important that, when the time comes, students hit the ground running and maximise their potential. There isn't an infinite amount of jobs out there - and students shouldn't go around thinking the world is waiting for them!"

It's advisable, if you excuse the pun, to take advantage of careers advice early in university life. Not mandatory though; indeed, the CES will help former students for up to two years after they graduate. Please note too that any graduates who have not decided on postgrad study or who haven't landed a job can avail of this service.



It's never too late, but it's better being early. And, remember, you're not alone if you're not sure what you want to do. Neither are you alone in not being fully aware of your own skills and strengths.

It's the CES's role to help bring these out, so start off by calling in (at the Student Guidance Centre reception) to see a duty advisor for an initial 15-20 minute consultation. A 45-minute interview is available for all graduates - with a careers advisor specific to the student's particular school - which could include a mock interview and/or information on available jobs.

This support is available for two years... but after that time has elapsed you can still drop in for a session (15 minutes) to, say, brush up on interview technique or review your CV.

One more thing: a popular recent development at Queen's is 'Careers for the Clueless', which is a one-day course featuring individual, group work and 'psychometrics' tests which will teach you a thing or two about yourself! This whole CES thing is so fluid, so varied, that you can get out of it exactly what you want - which, hopefully, is a rewarding career.

There's no pressure, just encouragement. As Jean Stirrup says: "We're not trying to frog-march people into sharp suits." That's something my old friend should have thought about saying, nearly three decades ago...

For more information, contact; +44 (0)28 9097 2727



# My Time at Queen's



## Ian Armstrong, Chemistry, 1988

I studied Chemistry at Queen's graduating in 1988. I recall one of my first visits to the undergraduate labs in the David Keir Building when I noticed a large brown stain on the ceiling above one of the benches where some previous student's experiment had obviously gone spectacularly wrong. I wonder if it's still there? I also recall completing research projects under Dr Brian Walker and Dr Galway both of whom were true gentlemen. Favourite place on campus....the back door of the David Keir Building....it led straight to The Egg! (That's the Eglantine Bar...is it still there?)

## Liam Gallagher, Russian Language and Literature, 1978

I always look back on my time at QUB as the best four years of my life! The Russian and Slavonic Studies department, under Professor Marcus Wheeler, was a kind of refuge. The centre of the universe, however, was the Halls of Residence. I spent my four years in Alanbrooke Hall. I had a single room, but there was a good crowd on the floor. It was there that, thanks to Jim Bradley, I became a Pink Floyd fan. Jim had the latest B&O stereo at the time, with huge speakers, and on more than one occasion the warden showed up on our floor asking us to keep the sound down. And there was many a weekend that Jim and I would heat up a

tin of beans, make some toast and listen to his records. On my next trip home, I intend to retrace my steps.

## Ian Elliott, Arts General, 1976

I recall the graffiti on the back of a toilet door in the 'Old' (tower block) Library which had lines added over the years by philosophers and wits as follows:

- 'To be is to do' Aristotle
- 'To do is to be' Jean Paul Sartre
- 'Do be and do bee' Miss Helen (your readers will have to be able to recall a local 1960s children's programme called Romper Room here!)

I also remember doing what many country boys did in 1973 and being drawn to joining the QFT membership by the opening film attraction 'Last Tango in Paris'. Once inside and paid up, we were told by Mike the QFT Manager, that the tape had not arrived from London and that we were going to see John Wayne in 'Rio Bravo' instead! You have never heard such a collective sigh of disappointment ever in a theatre. But after 37 years we still love the unique QFT.

## Jennifer de Sonnevile, English, 1973

In 1969 I went up to Queen's - the only girl that year from Strabane Grammar School (SGS). For me, it was a huge step from a provincial school. I had





accommodation at the Presbyterian Hostel in Howard Street, an impersonal, barrack-like building!

My most vivid memory was of Seamus Heaney's lectures. We would sit in the front row to hear his every word and discuss his quirky and provoking remarks afterwards. My year had a student poet, Paul Muldoon, who had already published his first volume! 1969-73 was the time of the Troubles. We would be studying in the library when suddenly the alarm would resound. Another bomb scare. It became a normal occurrence at that time - an integral part of our student lives!

I left Queen's in 1973 and went to teach English in Papua New Guinea as a volunteer for VSO. Later I lived and worked in Indonesia, Mozambique and Kenya before settling in the Netherlands, where I now teach at the University of Leiden!

#### **Alan Davis, Geography, 1967**

The memory that springs immediately to mind was attending a Jimi Hendrix Experience concert in the Whitla Hall c.1967. I was in the second row of the balcony, facing the stage and I was physically assaulted by the sound, forced back into my seat - the closest thing to the chest pains of a heart attack I have yet

experienced. Even take-off in Concorde ten years later was a gentle breeze in comparison with that hurricane of sound. P.S. I also recall seeing Nina Simone at the Whitla Hall and the Hollies playing at a Spring Ball. Those were the days!

#### **James Dooley, Economics, 1964**

It is over 44 years since I graduated, and my time at Queen's was so action packed that it is not surprising that some memories are a little dim and hazy. My vivid memories are of people, particularly friends I made. As a resident of Queen's Elms I remember friends from USA, Canada, Persia (it was then), Malaya, Uganda (before Amin), Norway and Nigeria.

Queen's Elms had less than 100 residents in 1962, so the atmosphere was friendly. As a "foreigner" from Liverpool, I was made very welcome. I see myself as an honorary Ulsterman today! I was lucky to have had my time at Queen's, and to have made so many friends, including people as renowned as Seamus Heaney.

*Thank you to everyone who contributed to **My Time at Queen's**. More recollections are available on our website*

*<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/Reconnecting/MyTimeatQueens/>*

# perks<sup>★</sup>



## The Perks of being a Queen's Graduate

You know very well that you're going to be paying for Christmas right through January, and maybe after that too, but what can you do? Well actually, you can do something, and it doesn't involve ignoring your family and friends!



### Christmas Shopping List

*Argento*  
10% discount

*Old Bushmills*  
One free admission

*Madame Tussauds/Alton Towers/Legoland*  
Savings from 25%-55%



*Avis Car hire*  
10% discount

*QFT*  
2 for 1 on Sundays

*Virgin Wines*  
£20 off case of wine



*Hastings Hotels & Restaurants*  
See Perks Directory for special rates

Every paid-up member of a Queen's graduate association receives the exclusive Perks discount card - every year. Giving access to a full range of discounts and offers across Ireland and the UK, including those listed above, it could be your financial saviour this Christmas.

For information on how to get your Perks discount card today please email: [g.power@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.power@qub.ac.uk)

# INNOVATION IS IN OUR DNA



**‘The global impact of research is a defining feature of Queen’s University’**  
Professor Sir Peter J Gregson

‘Innovation is in our DNA - it is embedded in our people and in our organisation’, says Scott Rutherford, Director of Research and Enterprise at Queen’s.

The following pages are a snapshot of some of the University’s inspirational work that is changing society for the better.

## Medical understanding leaps forward

'The aim of our work at Queen's is to unlock the potential of the natural world to alleviate human suffering'

Professor Chris Shaw



Scientists at Queen's University Belfast have discovered proteins in frog skins which could be used to treat cancer, diabetes, stroke and transplant patients by regulating the growth of blood vessels.

The award-winning research, led by Professor Chris Shaw at Queen's School of Pharmacy identified two proteins, or 'peptides', which can be used in a controlled and targeted way to regulate 'angiogenesis' - the process by which blood vessels grow in the body. The discovery holds the potential to develop new treatments for more than 70 major diseases and

conditions that affect more than one billion people worldwide.

Professor Shaw said: "The aim of our work at Queen's is to unlock the potential of the natural world to alleviate human suffering."

The Queen's researchers received the Commendation in the Cardiovascular Innovation Award at the Medical Futures Innovation Awards in London on June 6, 2011.

## The spoken word has more power than C.S. Lewis ever imagined!

Mobile phone key pads could soon become as antiquated as the typewriter thanks to an EPSRC-funded project designed to allow people to interact with their devices using natural continuous speech.

Comprising computer scientists and electronic hardware designers, the research team from the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has developed a basic demonstrator

to prove their innovative concept works. They have plans to set up a spinout company to exploit its significant potential, possibly by partnering with a speech recognition vendor.

Project leader Roger Woods is an internationally recognised expert in the fields of programmable system-on-chip and high-level digital signal processing design techniques.



## Bringing the aircraft of tomorrow alive today... literally

Dr George Irwin, from School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, is applying his expertise to help develop novel technologies that could greatly benefit airlines, passengers and the environment.

George, who is Professor of Control Engineering and Research Director of the University's Intelligent Systems and Control group, believes that one big difference could be that they have their own 'nervous systems' to greatly increase their performance, profitability and safety.

And to prove that concept is feasible, he and colleagues at the School's Institute for Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT) and the universities of Sheffield, Leicester and Warwick, have recently completed work on two EPSRC projects awarded on behalf of a leading aircraft manufacturer.

That work showed that using 'active skin' technology devised at Queen's could result in savings of up to \$3m per aircraft each year and an average reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of more than 12 per cent.



'The work at Queen's could result in savings of up to \$3m per aircraft each year and an average reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of more than 12 per cent'



## SpermComet! - the groundbreaking male infertility test

A groundbreaking test for male infertility, which has the potential to save time, money and heartache for couples around the world, has been developed at Queen's University Belfast.

The medical breakthrough is known as the SpermComet and has resulted from more than a decade's research by Professor Sheena Lewis, who leads the Reproductive Medicine research group at Queen's.

The SpermComet provides unique information that no other test offers. By measuring damaged DNA in individual sperm, it can predict the success of infertility treatments and fast-track couples to the treatment most likely to succeed, leading to significantly reduced waiting times and improved chances of conception. Professor Lewis, in partnership with Queen's venture spinout company, QUBIS, has set up a new company to market the test, which is already available through a number of fertility clinics in Glasgow, Dublin and Galway.

Further details can be found at [www.lewisfertilitytesting.com](http://www.lewisfertilitytesting.com)



## Absorbing all there is to know about concrete structures



Professor Muhammed Basheer, School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering, and his team are now world-leaders in the technology of concrete structures, how to test them and how to monitor changes.

He had more than a passing interest as he watched the Beijing Olympics on television three years ago. The technology and instruments developed by him and his colleagues at Queen's had contributed to the successful building of the concrete structure that has become one of the 21st century's most iconic images, the Bird's Nest Stadium.

He says; "Currently I have two EPSRC projects related to testing concrete structures. One focuses on durability, to develop performance specification which

will help us make structures last longer. The second is to see how these technologies can become widely known in China and elsewhere."



## A cure for premature baby blindness in sight?

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Scientists from the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences are teaming up to develop a cure to an illness that can lead to blindness in premature babies, thanks to funding from children's charity Action Medical Research.

Two teams from the Centre for Vision and Vascular Science at Queen's are taking different approaches to a condition called Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP). The condition can lead to blindness in premature babies, putting the youngest, sickest and smallest babies most at risk, including over 3,000 babies who are born more than 12 weeks early each year in the UK.


ROP is caused by blood vessels in the eye growing abnormally and causing damage to the retina - the light-sensitive inner lining of the eye.

The first team, led by Dr Denise McDonald, has the aim of tackling the disease at a very early stage, which will minimise the damaging effects of ROP. The team is exploring a key step in the early stages of the disease process by looking for possible new treatments which will protect the retinal blood vessels from the effect of high oxygen.

Dr Denise McDonald and her colleague, Dr Tom Gardiner, were awarded a two-year research grant from Action Medical Research for the project.

The second team, led by Dr Derek Brazil, is investigating whether stem cells from babies' own umbilical cords might have the power to repair their damaged eyes and save their sight.

Dr Brazil and his colleagues Dr Michelle Hookham, Dr Reinhold Medina and the Centre Director Professor Alan Stitt, were awarded a two-year grant by Action Medical Research, to undertake this important work.



'Laser treatment can save the most important part of a baby's vision'

## Scientists in 'space mission' to unlock secrets of the Universe

Scientists at Queen's University have won almost £2 million in grants for a range of world-leading projects to unlock the secrets of the Universe.

The astronomers - who are all based in Queen's University's Astrophysics Research Centre (ARC) - have been awarded £1.8 million from the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC).

The funding is for research ranging from the search for new planets, probing the mysteries of supernovae, thought to account for all the chemical elements in the Universe and to enhance our understanding of the Sun - the most important astronomical object for humankind.

The work includes the identification of exploding stars (called supernovae) and asteroids in potentially hazardous orbits, using the Pan-STARRS Survey telescope in Hawaii, which is generating the largest ever multi-colour survey of the cosmos.

It also involves observations using the Queen's Rapid Oscillations in the Solar Atmosphere (ROSA) instrument, installed on the Dunn Solar Telescope in New Mexico, the prime US facility for ground-based solar observations.

The Head of the University's School of Mathematics and Physics, Professor Francis Keenan, is Principal Investigator for the STFC funding package. He said: "At a time when resources from the STFC and other research councils are very limited, these grants acknowledge the world-leading work being carried out by astrophysicists at Queen's."

The research centre has also attracted a prestigious Royal Society University Research Fellow, Dr. Justyn Maund. A graduate of Cambridge University and currently a fellow at the University of Copenhagen he has won one of the Europe's elite young researcher funding competitions which is run by the UK's Royal Society. Prof. Stephen Smartt, Director of the Astrophysics Research Centre said; "Justyn is one of the brightest young researchers in UK astronomy and we are delighted he chose to bring his fellowship and funding to Queen's."

Further information on Queen's Astrophysics Research Centre is available online at <http://star.pst.qub.ac.uk/>





## The downside to a cleaner environment



Reducing atmospheric pollution has helped create purer air in our towns and cities.

What isn't so well known is that a cleaner environment, combined with changing weather patterns, is still doing major damage to some of our most historic buildings.

Sadly, a growing number of these buildings, whose stonework had deteriorated only gradually over centuries, are now undergoing unpredictable, rapid and sometimes catastrophic decay.

Professor Bernard Smith, a UNESCO world heritage evaluator who had been involved in the conservation of some of Belfast's best-known buildings including the Albert Clock and St George's Market, has won funding under four separate EPSRC projects designed to establish why this should be and what can be done about it.

He says: "The expertise we have developed should now help ensure that the hundreds of millions of pounds spent annually on preserving the built heritage in the UK and Ireland will be used in the most effective way possible."



## Cystic Fibrosis breakthrough

An international research team led by Queen's University has developed a ground-breaking treatment for Cystic Fibrosis sufferers. News of the drug, which will benefit sufferers who have the 'Celtic Gene', a genetic mutation which is particularly common in Ireland, was announced in June.



The study, which was carried out by scientists at Queen's University Belfast, the University of Ulster, the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and teams of researchers in Europe, USA and Australia, found significant improvement in lung function, quality of life and a reduction in disease flare ups for those receiving the new treatment.

Stuart Elborn, Centre Director in the Centre for Infection and Immunity at Queen's University and co-leader of the study said: "The development of this drug is significant because it is the first to show that treating the underlying cause of Cystic Fibrosis may have profound effects on the disease, even among people who have been living with it for decades."

The drug is expected to be available to patients early next year.

# Students challenge dev



In June five final-year pharmacy students travelled to Durban, South Africa to work in an outpatient Aids Hospice. One of the students, Jonathan Clarke, reflects on the experience

Our job was to assist Aids patients by assessing their medication status and help them to find ways to actually remember to take their medication! My fellow team mates, Gareth Peeples, Paula Savage, Oonagh Diamond and John Hennessey also provided labour to help hospice staff.

The visit was a life-changing experience for us all. We were able to see a completely different side to healthcare delivery and the challenges facing patients around the world.

We gained greater insight into the impact of illness from a patient's point of view and witnessed the contrasting impact of medication on patient's lives. The experience has shaped our perspectives of healthcare and we have learned lessons and skills that no classroom or text book could teach.

Khanya Aids hospice has always struggled financially so before going on the trip we ran social events through the Queen's Pharmaceutical Society to raise cash. Clear Pharmacy very kindly allowed us to distribute collection tins in their 21 stores. Other fund-raising efforts involved taking part in the Belfast City marathon.



In total the team was able to raise £5,660 which was presented to the Khanya aids hospice upon arrival.

We were also supported by the Queen's Annual Fund which donated a total of £5,000 cash to our project.

Now, as graduate pharmacy students we are better equipped to help those within our own community and we are inspired to continue to help the people we met in South Africa.

**'The Queen's Annual Fund donated a total of £5,000 cash to the project'**

# astating impact of Aids



## Paula recalls tragic victims

During our time volunteering we encountered many heart-rending situations. On the first day we met a woman who weighed 28lbs but yet we listened to her repeatedly saying how happy she was. We also came across a hit-and-run accident in which one woman had died and another woman could not move her lower body. We could only watch while the nurses we were with did what they could to help.

On another occasion we met a man called Robert who was severely underweight and drifted in and out of consciousness throughout our visit. My fellow team members, John and Jonny, had to carry him down a hill in a blanket so that he could be transported to the clinic. However, when he arrived the doctor said he would be better off at home at this stage and did not admit him.

These experiences have influenced us a great deal and have given us a different outlook on life. We have seen how difficult life is for some people and we truly understand how lucky we are.

All of the team have entered into their pre-registration year working in either a community pharmacy or hospital pharmacy. Jonathan is working in a community pharmacy for one year, Clear Pharmacy Shankill Health Centre, one of the sponsors of the trip!

For more information on what the team completed during their volunteering experience please see their blog:  
<http://www.qubpharmacystudents.blogspot.com/>



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you are interested in making a donation to the Queen's Annual Fund, which supports a number of projects aimed at enriching the student experience, please contact Natasha Sharma, [natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk](mailto:natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk) or +44 (0) 28 9097 3928.



# Queen's Sport - where exceptional is the name of the game

Since the University's foundation it has had a reputation for sporting excellence.

Queen's now has a number of Academies including GAA, Rugby, Soccer and Rowing with over 120 scholarships available every year. With a strong heritage and innovative alumni network, Queen's attracts significant financial support from former students keen to ensure that the University can maintain its high standards.

Queen's Sport also supports students competing at a high level in a range of competitions including Irish University Championships, British University Games and the World Student Games.

## Rugby Academy (Est. 2002)

The Rugby Academy was developed in association with the Ulster Branch, Irish Rugby Football Union. The team is now established as one of the top sides in the All Ireland League Division 2.

The team has also continued to defeat Ulster and All Ireland League Division 1 sides and, as a result, 2010 was recognised as the most successful Queen's Rugby year since 1982. Rugby continues to provide excellent coaching to all players and has a reputation for producing some of the greatest players Ireland has ever seen. The scholarships are named after Ireland legend and former British Lion, Jack Kyle.

Queen's Rugby Union Club has a proud history. It's the second oldest Rugby Union Club in Northern Ireland with a long list of alumni who have represented Ireland at full international level.

## GAA Academy (Est. 2004)

The GAA Academy was established in 2004 and has continued to promote and develop Gaelic Games through recreational, performance and community-led projects. The Gaelic Football team has been one of the most successful university teams over the last 10 years winning the Ulster Bank Sigerson twice, Ryan Cup twice and more recently reaching the final of the McKenna Cup in 2009.

The club is noted for nurturing talent and has always put player's welfare first in terms of academic study and other playing commitments.



### Camogie Team

The Camogie team continues to bring home silverware as they have now claimed two Purcell Shields and two Purcell Cups in the last four years with several players attaining Colleges All-Star awards.

### Soccer Academy (Est. 2007)

The Soccer Academy was established in 2007 with the aim to secure the Queen's first team's position in the Irish Intermediate league. The team now attracts players who would normally have chosen the top sides in Irish League football with an attractive scholarship package. The team will aim for future success with further investment planned in coaching and facilities.

### Rowing Academy (Est. 2009)

Rowing at Queen's entered a new era with the initiation of a new Academy in partnership with their alumni association, Lady Victoria.

The first stage of the Academy was to recruit a full-time coach, Mark Fangen-Hall who has brought unprecedented success to the club.

The appointment has brought Queen's Rowing in line with other successful rowing universities such as Durham, Reading, Oxford and Cambridge - all of whom employ top level professional coaching staff. The benefits have become immediate with the club experiencing its most successful year to date winning multiple Irish National and British Championships.

### Facilities

With the recent multi-million pound investment in outdoor facilities at Upper Malone, Queen's can now confidently offer a state-of-the-art 'World Class' University sporting platform that will host major events.

The facilities are only one part of the jigsaw of achievement. Queen's is also committed to investing in people with the recent appointment of two Academy Development Officers for rugby and GAA in partnership with Ulster Branch and Ulster GAA.

For more information contact:

Mark Fangen-Hall  
Rowing Head Coach  
headcoach@queensrowing.com

Aidan O'Rourke  
GAA Development Officer  
a.orourke@qub.ac.uk

Robert Ford  
Rugby Development Officer  
r.ford@qub.ac.uk

For more information on supporting sport at Queen's please contact Natasha Sharma, [natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk](mailto:natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk) or on +44 (0) 28 9097 3928.



# Queen's unrivalled cultural offering

Queen's Naughton Gallery celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2012. Shan McAnena, the Gallery's award-winning curator looks forward to a busy year ahead and is convinced that the number of visitors will continue to grow.

Since 2001, The Naughton Gallery at Queen's has become one of Belfast's most sought after and exciting visual arts platforms, featuring a rolling programme of works from the University's own collection, touring exhibitions and shows by local and international artists. Next year marks the tenth anniversary of the Gallery and, in recognition of quality and integrity of its work over the last ten years, the Arts Council of Northern Ireland has gifted 23 works to the University, some of which will be on display as part of the Gallery's ten year anniversary celebrations in 2012. A series of talks by visiting curators, artists' workshops and pop-up exhibitions are planned across the campus. Please keep an eye on the What's On at Queen's calendar ([www.whatsonatqueens.com](http://www.whatsonatqueens.com)) for details.

Next year we will showcase the first solo exhibition by local emerging artist Christopher James Burns, who was selected by a panel of artists drawn from the contributors to our ever-popular biennial *Wish You Were Here...*? postcard sale. A major historic exhibition on the theme of commemoration, with works drawn from the Imperial War Museum's extensive collection, will be curated by academics from History and Irish Studies.

Over 20,000 visitors enjoy the programme of temporary exhibitions held at the Gallery each year, often in collaboration with Schools and Departments across the University. The forthcoming programme includes the best of cutting-edge contemporary craft practice as once again we host the Jerwood Makers Prize, the UK's leading exhibition in its field, as part of the Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's. The Gallery will also be co-ordinating the Festival's city-wide visual arts programme across Belfast during October and November.

The Gallery team takes care of the University's extensive art collection comprising over 1,000 objects acquired as gifts, bequests and purchases since the foundation of Queen's College in 1845. These include major works by leading Irish artists from Lavery and Luke to Blackshaw and Flanagan.

A major site-specific sculpture by Michael Brennan-Wood was recently installed in the McClay Library. *'If it is all so black and white, why is it such a mystery to me'*, includes words and phrases contributed by library staff and is part of the growing collection of art on display in the library. The wall-mounted sculpture

echoes a flower head with the pages of a book suggesting petals and the ideas bursting out like seeds - literally a flowering of knowledge. The work explores notions of the library as a hothouse, an educational seed bank filled with all manner of information, open to endless cross pollination and hybrid fusions of new ideas and connections. Users of the library can see it every day and appointments can be made for members of the public to enjoy the work.

The portrait of Sir Allen McClay, by Ian Cumberland, whose work has been selected for the 2011 BP Portrait Awards hangs in the foyer and three exquisite etchings by Gemma Anderson, made during her residency in the Galapagos Islands, have recently been installed.

In November, two new portrait commissions will join the display in the Great Hall: former Chancellor Senator George Mitchell by Hector McDonnell and Professor Edna Longley by Jeffrey Morgan.

The Gallery, which is an accredited museum, won the University's first ever Times Higher Award, for Excellence and Innovation in the Arts in 2008.

It is open to the public from Tuesday to Sunday from 11am to 4pm and full details of past and future shows, together with information about talks, workshops and other events, can be found on our website. Works in the permanent collection not on public display can be seen by appointment. Please contact the Gallery team for any further information and if you would like to receive regular updates on all our activities, please complete the form on the website.

Tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3580 Email: [art@qub.ac.uk](mailto:art@qub.ac.uk)  
[www.naughtongallery.org](http://www.naughtongallery.org)





**‘The Arts Council of Northern Ireland has gifted 23 works to the University, some of which will be on display as part of the Gallery’s ten year anniversary celebrations in 2012’**



Piece: Rowan Marsh - Untitled 08  
Show: The Jerwood Contemporary Makers 2010



# Convocation Lecture

**Thursday, 17 November 2011 at 7pm in the  
Canada Room / Council Chamber**

**Speaker:** Professor Patrick Johnston MD PhD FRCP FRCP  
Dean, School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences,  
Queen's University Belfast.

Professor Patrick Johnston is Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences and Director of the Institute of Health Sciences at Queen's University Belfast. He is also the Founder and Director of Almac Diagnostics. He received his MB BCH degree in Medicine with distinction from University College Dublin in 1982 and attained his PhD in Medicine in 1988. Professor Johnston has published over 220 peer review articles and co-edited five textbooks in the area of pharmacogenomics, personalised medicine and drug resistance in colorectal cancer. He sits on a number of national and international scientific advisory boards and is on the editorial boards of several leading international oncology journals.

Tea/Coffee will be served from 6.30pm.

## Notice of Annual Meeting of Convocation

The Convocation Lecture will be followed by the Annual Meeting of Convocation.

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting and the forms to submit a motion to the Annual Meeting are available on the Convocation website and from the Clerk.

Further details and all relevant papers are available from the website:  
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/Associations/Convocation/>

All graduates of Queen's University Belfast are welcome to attend.

Please contact the Clerk of Convocation to indicate your intention to attend:  
Dr Heather Anderson, Clerk of Convocation, c/o School of Pharmacy,  
Medical Biology Centre, 97 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7BL  
Email: [convocation@qub.ac.uk](mailto:convocation@qub.ac.uk)

## Convocation

### WHAT IS CONVOCATION?

Convocation is the entire graduate body of the University so, once you graduate, you are automatically a life-long member of Convocation. As a graduate you should consider, not only attending the Annual Meeting, but also taking an active part in the affairs of Convocation to ensure that the voice of former students is heard.

### WHAT DOES CONVOCATION DO?

- Convocation has a unique role because it represents the views of graduates at Senate and the motions raised by members and passed at the Annual Meeting have a formal status.
- The affairs of Members of Convocation are managed by a Standing Committee which is authorised to act on behalf of Convocation by the Annual Meeting. This year the Annual Meeting takes place on 17 November 2011.
- Notice of the Annual meeting and how to submit a motion to the meeting is circulated to all graduates by mail and email. You should also look out for a notice of the meeting in the local press.
- Notice of elections to Standing Committee are also circulated to members and nominations from interested graduates are always very welcome.

### EVENTS:

Convocation runs several events every year for graduates. Look out for:

- Convocation lectures
- Joint events with the Students' Union

### DID YOU KNOW THAT..?

- 'Convocation' comes from the Latin convocare and means 'calling together'.
- Convocation includes all graduates, the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors, Vice-Chancellor and members of Senate.
- Convocation is involved in the election of the Chancellor.
- Convocation returns two members to Senate, which is the highest governing body of the University.
- Convocation has the right to 'discuss and pronounce' on any matter relating to the University.

### CONVOCATION STUDENTSHIP

Convocation awards a studentship annually up to the value of £5,000. Further details can be found on the Convocation website: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/Associations/Convocation/>

### HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday 17th November 2011 in the Canada Room / Council Chamber, Lanyon Building.
- Stand for election to Standing Committee
- Submit a motion to the Annual Meeting
- Attend one of the many events organised by Convocation
- Apply for the Convocation Studentship.

### FACEBOOK

Find us on Facebook at 'QUB Convocation'



## Santander Universities, working with Queen's funding scholarships, research and awards!



Worldwide, 945 universities belong to the Santander Universities network - an organisation committed to supporting higher education as a 'means to contribute to the development and prosperity of society'.

Santander Universities began its activity in the UK in 2007 with a firm commitment to supporting higher education. Since then they have signed agreements with 48 universities throughout the country.



Santander Universities began its activity in the UK in 2007 with a firm commitment to supporting higher education.

Santander Universities and Queen's University Belfast signed their agreement in May 2008. Through this, Santander provides funding for undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships, awards for students and staff, as well as support for entrepreneurial activities, such as the Dragons' Den event!

Santander also opened a branch in the Students' Union Building where Branch Manager Colm Quinn and his team offer exclusive products to students, staff and graduates of the University. To find out more visit the branch at the Students' Union Building, Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN.



# Class Notes

*Thanks to everyone who took the time to contribute to our Class Notes section. Unfortunately we are limited by the space available so apologies if your entry has not been included. However, class notes are posted on our website:*

[www.qub.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.qub.ac.uk/alumni) - follow the links via Keep in Touch.

## 2000s

### John Gibney, LLB, 2005

Since graduating John has spent time travelling and working as a paralegal. He moved to Manchester in 2009 and completed the LPC at the College of Law, Manchester in June 2010. He is currently a trainee solicitor working for Fentons Solicitors, specialising in personal injury, Human Rights and Court Protection Law.

### Sean Hogan, Masters, Organisational Management, 2004.

As a recent recruit to the readership of this magazine, Sean thought it was about time he expressed his gratitude to the University and his pride in having completed his Masters Degree in Organisational Management back in 2004. He said: "I was appointed as Chair of the Agri-food & Bio Science Institute in 2006 and I was also appointed Chair (Designate) of the Education & Skills Authority in 2009. In March 2011, I was appointed Chair of NI Water, an organisation that has come through some very trying times of late, and is also in change mode."

### Natasha Sharma, BA, Economics & Philosophy, 2002

Having developed a career in advertising, Natasha set up an Advertising Agency in India. She married Sandeep from Punjab and they moved to NI when their baby boy, Akash, was born. Having joined Queen's Development and Alumni Relations Office as



the Annual Fund Manager, Natasha explains: "It's the range of marketing activities that will drive me the most." Natasha will also oversee the dispersal of the Annual Fund, which funds programmes that enhance the student experience. For more information, please contact [natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk](mailto:natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk)

### Ryan Padraig Kelly, BSc Accounting, 2002

The highlight of Ryan's career so far has been working in the Northern Bank's anti money-laundering unit in Belfast. He has also travelled to many parts of the world including Connecticut, Boston, New York, across the UK and Ireland, Saint Jean de Monts in France, Moscow, Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Dubrovnik.

### Dr Afifi al-Akiti, History and Philosophy of Science and Scholastic Philosophy, 2001

Dr Afifi al-Akiti, Lecturer in Islamic Studies at the Faculty of Theology, University of Oxford, Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, and Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, has been appointed as a Privy Councillor to the State of Perak, Malaysia. He received the instrument of appointment (watikah) last year from the Crown Prince of Perak, HRH Raja Dr Nazrin Shah. One of the main duties of the Privy Council is to advise on the exercise of prerogative powers assigned to its constitutional monarch, the Sultan of Perak, in matters pertaining to the Islamic religion and Malay custom, in one of the oldest royal states of Malaysia. As one of Queen's famous sons, he graduated in 2001 with a First Class Joint Honours BA degree and was valedictorian for that year, receiving the Monsignor A.H. Ryan Award.



### Jennifer George, BSc Mathematics, 2000

Jennifer graduated from Queen's in 2000 then returned to complete her PGCE. This led to a job as a teacher of Mathematics at Haileybury College, Hertford, England. There she met her husband and they have just emigrated to Perth, WA with his two sons. She plans to continue her life there as a teacher.

She says: "If it was not for Queen's and the fantastic lecturers I would not be where I am today. Thank you so much!"

#### John Nicholl, CERT, Educational Technology for Teachers, 2000

John was recently appointed as Vice Principal of Larne High School. In the field of Indoor Bowls, he has represented Ireland at international level for 17 years and was awarded his 50th cap at the British Isles Indoor International Championships in Stanley, England in March 2011.

## 1990s

#### Sarah Al-Nuaimi, LLB, 1998

Following graduation Sarah went to Bristol University to complete a Legal Practice Course. She gained a training contract with Osbourne Clarke in Bristol and qualified as an Employment Solicitor in March 2000. After four-and-a-half years of practising Employment Law she's taking a career break to raise her young family.

#### Carolyn Jess-Cooke, BA, 1997

Carolyn completed a BA (1st class Hons), MA, Creative Writing, and PhD at Queen's University between 1997 and 2004. Previously an academic, she is now a full-time writer. Her novel, *The Guardian Angel's Journal* released in April, was described by *Living North* as 'a powerful novel from a talented new voice' and is being published in 20 languages around the world.

#### Patrick Hicks, Master of Arts, 1995

Patrick Hicks has recently edited a new book entitled, *A Harvest of Words: Contemporary South Dakota Poetry*, which was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and is currently a finalist for the High Plains Book Award. Patrick is also the author of *Finding the Gossamer* and *This London*, both from Salmon Poetry. He is the Writer-in-Residence at Augustana College in the USA.



#### Jonathan Chambers, BSc Psychology, 1995

Jonathan now works in Microsoft's US Education Sales and Marketing team as a Specialist Sales Manager covering, as he puts it 'shiny new cloud services offerings!' He is married to Debbie and has two lovely boys, Joseph (6) and Lewis (4). The boys are fluent in 'Norn Iron' and US English dialects! He is hoping that they can go to Queen's some day and enjoy some of the same great times he had here!

#### Sharon Noonan, BA Hons French and Business Administration, 1995

It was a wonderful Mother's Day this year for Sharon Noonan (maiden name Devlin) as it marked the arrival of her beautiful daughter Hannah. Sharon would like to say a big thank you to fellow alumnus, Dr Yau Thum (graduated 1994 Medicine) of the Lister Clinic in London, for helping and supporting her and her family through this pregnancy. Pictured is baby Hannah Noonan with Mervyn Farrell (former Queen's employee) and Brenda Carabine (Communications & External Affairs) on her first visit to Queen's.



#### Alan McCague, Podiatric Medicine/Podiatry, 1995

Foyle Hockey Club, established in 2008 and based in the northwest city of Derry/Londonderry, has recently received sponsorship from the local Waterfoot Hotel. The Club's founder, former Queen's student Alan McCague says; "The Club welcomes players from all sections of community and various sporting backgrounds. Current or past players of golf, cricket and hurling will have a skill advantage but the message is come and give it a test drive." New members should make enquiries through the Foyle Hockey Club website or contact 07764499495. For more information visit [www.foylehockeyclub.co.uk](http://www.foylehockeyclub.co.uk) Email - [a\\_mccague@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:a_mccague@hotmail.co.uk)

#### John Girvan, MSc, Organisation and Manpower studies, 1994

John has accepted the role of Software Architect at Sports Fusion with responsibility for all aspects of software development, with a brief to create a software development team in Belfast.

### Sunil Passi, BEng at QUB in Mechanical Engineering, 1993

After graduation Sunil completed an MSc in Manufacturing Systems Engineering and gained employment at Jaguar Cars in Coventry. In 2004 Sunil 'went contracting in Germany and India'. Sunil is now married and back in the UK. He is a firm believer that 'life doesn't stop at 40!'

### Megan Minogue, Psychology, 1991

Megan is currently a Community Services Manager with the Youth Justice Agency, where she has worked since graduating. She currently works in a job share capacity. The rest of the week she runs her own business, Sign2Music, the only Northern Ireland based 'baby signing' company. She says: "Even though I pack so much into every week, I still have time to spend with my children (Eoghan and Aine, twins aged 15 and Cara, 4). Setting up Sign2Music in Northern Ireland has been a dream come true."

### Karena Vaughan, BEd, Educational Studies, 1991

Karena is working as a Director, Europe for Invest NI, responsible for securing foreign investment from Europe. In 2010/2011 her team was responsible for bringing the first legal processing operation and the first fund services operation to Northern Ireland, providing high quality graduate jobs.

### Dot Adams, BSSc Social Anthropology, 1991

Dot taught part time for two years after graduation and then opened the first 'nanny' agency in Northern Ireland. She was appointed onto the fair Employment & Industrial Tribunals in 1996. She is now pursuing a career in Employment Law - currently studying for an LL.M in Employment Law with the University of Leicester (2010 - 2013).

## 1980s

### Donna McCullough, BA Hons, English Literature, 1989

Donna is now working in Queen's Development and Alumni Relations Office as a Communications Manager and is responsible for the production of this publication. If you want to get in touch please email d.mccullough@qub.ac.uk

When she is not at work Donna is busy with her two children Sarah, 7 and James, 5.



### Paul William McCoy, BSc Electrical Engineering, 1986

Paul is a Client Manager for Invest NI working closely with Queen's University and the University of Ulster on a number of collaborative research initiatives. Recently this led to the establishment of a Capital Markets Network involving both universities, along with NYSE Technologies, Citi, Fidessa, First Derivatives and Singularity. Invest NI is keen to promote key sector initiatives in Northern Ireland to the Queen's and UU Alumni - particularly those who have left Northern Ireland and are keen to keep in touch with developments back home. Please contact Paul if you are interested in the Capital Markets Network, including opportunities in the sector. paul.mccoy@investni.com

### Julie Jordan, BA Psychology, 1984

Julie is Chairman for the Northern Ireland Region of the Riding for the Disabled Association which has 28 groups over Northern Ireland. She is always looking for volunteers and donations and would be delighted to hear from any alumni who would be interested in supporting the charity at kilmorehouse@hotmail.com

### Ralph Robinson, BSc Zoology 1980, PhD Helminthology, 1984

Ralph is Professor of Parasitology, and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences on the Mona Campus of The University of the West Indies (UWI), Jamaica. After completing his studies at Queen's, Ralph undertook a two-year 'post-doc' to study parasite cellular immunology at Keele University, Staffordshire. In 1985, lured by the prospect of sun, sea and parasites!! he departed temperate shores for the Caribbean.



Ralph's area of research at UWI involves the relationships between humans, animals and the environment as they relate to health and parasitic disease in Jamaica and the Caribbean Region. Ralph is happily married to Sobeia with whom he shares two children Kyle (14) and Caitlin (12) pictured.



## Jonathan Allison, BA 1980, PGCE 1981

Queen's graduate Jonathan Allison (BA 1980, PGCE 1981) has published *Letters of Louis MacNeice* with Faber and Faber. The book was launched by the QUB School of English at the Welcome Centre at Queen's. Remarks were given by Michael Longley, Paul Keegan (Poetry editor, Faber and Faber) and John Thompson (former Head of the School of English). A message of greeting from Corinna MacNeice, the poet's daughter, was read.

## 1970s

### Geoff Hill, Arts General, 1979

Queen's graduate and writer Geoff Hill's latest book has hit the shelves - this time with accompanying DVD and a planned TV documentary. *Oz: around Australia on a Triumph*, is co-written with fellow journalist and biker Colin O'Carroll.

Geoff is now extremely worried that he only wrote half this book, but it's selling twice as fast as his earlier books! He now plans to write a quarter of the next one to see if the trend continues. Geoff is a critically-acclaimed author and award-winning feature and travel writer based in Belfast. In a previous life, he was Ireland's most capped volleyball player.

He's motorcycling correspondent for *The Sunday Times*, the *Metro* series of newspapers and the *Irish Times*, making him the most widely-read bike columnist in the UK and Ireland.



Geoff is a tutor with the writing school *Mightier Than The Sword*, where he teaches the art of great writing to journalists, PR and marketing professionals and speechwriters.

He lives in Belfast with his wife Cate, a cat, a hammock and the ghost of a flatulent Great Dane. His hobbies are volleyball, flying, motorbikes, skiing and worrying about the price of fish. He is a qualified pilot, international volleyball coach and advanced driver and motorcyclist. He's a member of Mensa - for, as he says, no good reason he can think of!

### Dr Ken Addley, MB BCh BAO, 1979

Dr Ken Addley, a medical graduate, and currently Director of the NICS Occupational Health Service, has been awarded the title of Visiting Professor by the Ulster Business School, University of Ulster. This is in the Department of Management and Leadership and is in recognition of his work in the area of employee and organisational health and wellbeing.

### Patricia Knowles, BSSc, Social Sciences, 1977

Patricia was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2010 for services to Health. The award was presented by Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace in Jan 2011.

### Bernadette Dogherty, BA Arts, 1977

The sun continues to shine for Bernadette Dogherty who is still living and working in Spain!

### Desmond Mairs, BSc Aeronautical Engineering, 1973

During his Aeronautical Engineering course Desmond became interested in the world of structures. He has since worked on a variety of projects from aircraft structural design in Shorts through to Millennium bridges in York and Lancaster. He has also been responsible for a diverse selection of building structures from the British Embassy in Dublin, to the Ferrari World them park in Abu Dhabi. He is currently a director with the new London consultancy Davies Maguire & Whitby.

### Samantha Liscio, BSc Geography, 1972

Samantha Liscio has been appointed to the position of Corporate Chief Strategist for the Government of Ontario. Samantha brings to this position her extensive strategy and planning background, as well as her knowledge and experience as a Chief Information Officer (CIO) of Central Agencies Cluster (CAC). Samantha's strategic leadership skills, her commitment to innovation and her passion for developing leaders will be instrumental to her success in this role.

### Ivor Greer, BSc Economics, 1970

Ivor is living and working in Siem Reap, Northern Cambodia as Pastor of the Christian Fellowship of Siem Reap (CFSR). In June 2011 (41 years after his Batchelor's degree) he obtained his Masters - MTh from Bangor University (through Mattersey Hall Graduate School).

## 1960s

### Elizabeth Anne Doughty, BA Geography, 1969

Elizabeth has written eleven novels all set in Ireland, eight of them tracing the social and economic history of Ulster through the story of a fictional family. For more information please go on-line to Amazon.

### Denise O'Neill, BA Hons French, 1968

After working for 20 years for Grenoble Chamber of Commerce in the Adult Training Centre as a Project Manager for Language Courses, Denise is about to retire. She says: "It has been most interesting working with the local companies such as Schneider or Capgemini or our Nuclear Research Centre.

"Recruiting people from all over the world to teach for us has also been very interesting. Our teachers come from Japan, China, Georgia, the Ukraine, all over the British Isles. However, surprisingly, in 20 years I have never had a candidate from Queen's wishing to teach English. Don't people from Queen's travel anymore?"

### John Moore, BSc Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, 1965

The School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering was founded in 1912. To mark its centenary a book, which will record the highlights of the century, is at the planning stages.

John Moore, who graduated in 1965, is looking for reminiscences from other engineers over the period which could include photos or stories. He can be contacted at [johnmoore317@btinternet.com](mailto:johnmoore317@btinternet.com)

### Virginia Aitken, BA in English, Spanish and Social Anthropology, 1964

Virginia Aitken's [nee Goodwin] new novel *Mary Bennet's Chance*, a sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, was published this year.

The book is available through high-street bookshops, eBook and Kindle. Virginia gives talks about her writing. She can be contacted at [vaitken@btinternet.com](mailto:vaitken@btinternet.com)

### Rosemary Balsam-Schwaber, Medicine, 1963

Rosemary teaches at Yale Student health services and is a very involved senior psychoanalyst. She quips: "As long as I can keep my marbles I can practise - even if the body crumbles, it adds to wisdom!" She's married to a Lit prof, and her daughter has just had gorgeous twins!

### Alf McCreary, BA Hons, Modern History, 1963

Well-known journalist and Queen's graduate Alf McCreary's book 'Titanic Port - the Illustrated History of Belfast Harbour' was published by Booklink in November 2010. Alf is currently writing his autobiography with the working title 'Behind The Headlines'.



### Tony Gibbs, BSc Civil Engineering, 1961

Tony Gibbs is a civil engineer specialising in structures. He works in the Caribbean and elsewhere. He completed his undergraduate studies at Queen's and was a Commonwealth Scholar at The University of Leeds. His engineering career has been extensive. He is now a consultant with Consulting Engineers Partnership Ltd with active offices in four Eastern Caribbean islands. In 2010, he was named a Caribbean Icon in Science, Technology & Innovation by the National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (Trinidad & Tobago).

## 1950s

### Edward McLaughlin, BSc Chemistry, 1953

After leaving Queen's in 1954 I went to Imperial College in London to do a PhD in the Dept of Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology. I then joined the faculty in the Department and stayed there until 1970. I then moved to Louisiana State University Dept of Chemical Engineering and eventually became Chairman of the Dept, then Dean of the College of Engineering from which I retired in 1997.

Consulting work kept me busy after that until the spring of this year when I really retired. In 1956 I married Aine Friel (Derry). We have a 264 acre tree farm in a remote area of Baton Rouge where we grow hardwood and pine for lumber and pulpwood with a wildlife population of the usual plus armadillo, turkey, deer and feral hogs.

## Class Notes Submission

Thank you for sending us your class notes. Unfortunately we have not been able to publish all contributions received. You can find a listing of our class notes on our website: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/KeepinTouch/ClassNotesExtra/>

# Obituaries

Noel Rankin, BA 1956, Christmas day, 2010

(Obituary by his wife Joyce)

My husband, Noel Rankin, who died aged 76, was a journalist, idealist, atheist, linguist and socialist. He could recite Russian poetry or sing a bawdy Spanish bar song. He revelled in Irish rugby and delighted in speaking in his Ulster Scots dialect whilst drinking a glass of Bushmills. He spoke French, Spanish, Russian, Greek and just a bit of Polish and German. He was great craic!

We met in 1982 in Argentina at the start of the Falklands war. The BBC sent us both to work

undercover in case the "British" got kicked out. I was a freelance American TV broadcaster from Washington. He posed as an Irish professor of linguistics from Trinity College Dublin, but in reality co-ordinated the BBC's Buenos Aires coverage.

After "pond-hopping" for 15 years, Noel and I were finally married in New York in 1997.

Born near Bushmills, Co Antrim, Noel spent his youth living in a thatched cottage with no electricity, running water or indoor lavatory. The youngest of three brothers, Noel always carried a certain sadness. In May 1944 his eldest brother, William, was killed

on a bombing run to Germany. The middle brother, Ian, left to travel the world at an early age and disappeared without trace in 1973.

Noel was awarded a scholarship to Queen's University, Belfast. After graduating he travelled through Franco's Spain teaching English. He moved to France, attending the Sorbonne in Paris, and then taught English in Cannes.

In 1962 he joined the BBC's monitoring service and then moved to BBC TV news. In 2008 Noel was diagnosed with bowel cancer. He is survived by me and his cats, Tarapuss and Snapper.

Professor Sir Bernard Crossland,  
17 January, 2011



Queen's Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Peter Gregson has paid tribute to one of the University's most distinguished former members of staff, eminent engineer Professor Sir Bernard Crossland, who died on January 17 at the age of 87.

A former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University, where he was Head of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering from 1959 to 1982, Sir Bernard enjoyed an international

reputation as a research pioneer in high pressure engineering and explosive welding.

He was, however, perhaps best known for his role as an expert investigator of national accidents, and as a powerful advocate of strong integration between industry and education.

Professor Crossland lectured and published extensively throughout his career, and published his memoirs, 'The Anatomy of an Engineer', in 2006.

He served on, and chaired, several Government Committees in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and received many awards in recognition of his service to his profession and to higher education.

Sir Bernard was a Fellow (and former Vice-President) of the Royal Society, a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, a Member of the Royal Irish Academy and President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers from 1986 to 1987.

In 1987 he was made a Freeman of the City of London, the city of his birth, and in 1990 he was knighted for services to education and industry. In June 2009 he was awarded the Royal Academy of Engineering's Sustained Achievement Award.

David I H Simpson, MD MB BCH  
BAO, 4 September, 2010

A former Professor of Microbiology at Queen's University, Belfast, David Simpson passed away peacefully at Belfast City Hospital after enduring Multiple Sclerosis for many years - 'cheerfully borne and without complaint!' He was the beloved husband of Cintra, father of Andrew, Alexandra, Gawain and Jonathan; father-in-law to Janet and Dani and grandpa to Alun and James.

Professor Kevin Boyle, Christmas Day, 2010

Kevin Boyle, an academic who stood at the centre of the Civil Rights movement in Northern Ireland, died on Christmas Day, 2010 following a long battle with cancer. Emeritus Professor of International Human Rights Law at the University of Essex, he was



a key player in early campaigns seeking democratic reform through peaceful means and an end to discrimination against Catholicism. Originally from Newry, County Down, Professor Boyle was a young lecturer in law at Queen's University when he got involved in the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s. He served on the executive of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association and as a member of the solidarity group People's Democracy.

Professor Boyle spent the first decade of his career at Queen's, before joining the National University of Ireland, Galway in 1978 as Dean of the Faculty of Law. He wrote extensively on peaceful resolution of the Northern Ireland conflict, and set up a human rights centre at the institution.

Before taking up a new post at Essex in 1989, he was the founding director of the charity Article 19, which campaigns against censorship. Professor Boyle is survived by his wife, Joan, and two sons.

#### Dr Chin Fah Yap, MB, BCh, BAO, 26 February, 2011

Born in Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia on 16 March, 1951 Dr Yap passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer in Canton, China, on Saturday 26 February 2011. Dr Yap touched many lives with his kindness, generosity of spirit and all-round decency. In 1971 he was admitted into Queen's University Belfast's Medical School, graduating in the summer of 1977.

After his houseman's year in Manchester, England, he returned to serve in the Malaysian Army as a medical officer. On leaving the Army he entered private practice in Ipoh, where he worked for several years before eventually settling



in Perth, Australia in 1989 as a general practitioner. Sadly, Dr Yap lost his dear wife, Fee Sim Leong to cancer in 2002. Fee Sim was also a Queen's University graduate. Dr Yap is survived by his son Ben (31) and daughter Melanie (29), his elderly mother (89) and ten siblings.

#### Maureen Owen, BSc Hons Experimental Physics, 5 April 2011

Maureen Owen, a pioneering researcher and leader in the field of bone biology, died peacefully in Oxford, aged 83, on 5 April 2011. Maureen was an Honorary Member of the Bone Research Society and was an extraordinary mentor. Many benefited from her tuition and expertise over the years and she instilled the joy of science to all those who were fortunate to work with her. Maureen was born in Northern Ireland and gained a first class BSc Hons degree in Experimental Physics at Queen's University, Belfast in 1948. Maureen worked at the MRC Bone Research Laboratory from 1974 and she retired in 1993. Our deepest sympathy to her daughter, Stephanie, and son-in-law and her three grandchildren.

#### Esther Davis, MB, BCh, BAO, 5 April, 2011

Queen's Alumna Esther Davis died on the 5 April 2011 at the age of 91. She graduated in 1943 and, after some time in general practice in Portadown, went as a missionary doctor to Nigeria with the Qua Iboe Mission (now Mission Africa) in 1948.

For a period of 50 years she was involved in medical work in various hospitals, specialising in the care and treatment of leprosy. She became an authority in the disease and was awarded study fellowships by the World Health Organisation to acquire new skills at centres in India and Ethiopia. On her return to Portadown she was awarded the OBE for services in the treatment of leprosy. Up until a few years ago she paid regular return visits to the Ekpen Obum Hospital.

#### Father Michael Hurley, 15 April, 2011

A prominent champion of harmony among Christians, Father Michael Hurley died on April 15, 2011. A co-founder of the Irish School of Ecumenics, he was 87-years-old. In 1981, during the inter-communal violence that accompanied the republican hunger strikes, Father Hurley conceived the idea of an ecumenical community of Catholics and Protestants living together in Northern Ireland.

In 1983 he co-founded the Columbanus Community of Reconciliation in the Antrim Road in North Belfast. He lived and worked there for ten years. He has written extensively on the subject of ecumenism.

A native of Ardmore in Co Waterford, he was educated in University College Dublin and Egenhoven-Louvain, before completing his doctorate in theology in the Gregorian University in Rome. He received an honorary doctorate from Queen's University Belfast in 1993, and from Trinity College Dublin in 1995.

#### Dr John Edgar Galway, 6 May, 2011

A former hospital consultant, who brought the first and only diving recompression chamber to Northern Ireland, died peacefully after a long period of illness on May 6.

Dr John Edgar Galway, born in 1936, enjoyed a distinguished career as a consultant anaesthetist at Craigavon Area Hospital; he worked in the Intensive Care Unit and, with a colleague, set up the Pain Clinic. He introduced the first recompression chamber to the province. Located at Craigavon Area Hospital, it is still the only one in Northern Ireland and treats divers who have suffered the 'bends' or decompression sickness.

Dr Galway, who lived in Derryhale, also played an active role in his local community, setting up

Derryhale Residents' Association which he chaired for many years, taking great pride in maintaining the area and cultivating a community spirit. He began his degree in 1959 at Queen's University, Belfast and graduated in 1965. Following several years of study and work in the Royal Victoria Hospital and Belfast City Hospital in anaesthetics he applied for a consultant's post in the new Craigavon Area Hospital.

Dr Galway died peacefully at home after an extended period of illness. He is survived by Norma, his wife of over 46 years, and his children Neil and Kim.

#### **Dr Anne Duffield, 27 May, 2011**

Dr Anne Duffield died peacefully at home in Vancouver, British Columbia August 3, 2011. A graduate of Queen's University Medical School, Dr Duffield specialised in anaesthesia. She was the only child of Max and Brigid Duffield. Dr Duffield is survived by her husband Dr Charles Paris, four children Max Paris (Jean Beard), Andre Paris, Deborah Paris and Eugenie Porter (Chris Porter) and six grandchildren Kurtis Paris-Foody, Duffield Paris, Bradley Porter, Edward Paris, Marcus Porter and Alice Paris. 'Dr Duffield was blessed with a hand that healed the sick, a tongue that skewered the foolish and a profound love for all those who she held dear'.

#### **Professor Dato' Ahmad Nawawi Ayob, BSc Botany, 18 July, 2010**

A familiar face at the Institute of Biological Sciences at the University of Malaya, Professor Nawawi, one of Malaysian botany's best known sons, died aged 73.

He gained not just one, but two DSC conferments. Queen's awarded him a DSc in 1991, and the University of Portsmouth awarded him an honorary DSc in 1994.

Professor Nawawi pursued an illustrious career, first serving as a botanist/pathologist with Malaysia's Ministry of Agriculture in 1966-67. Then in 1967 he joined the University of Malaya which would become his research base for the rest of his career.

He was appointed Professor of Botany in 1978, and served as Head of the Botany Department, then as Dean of Science and as Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Professor Nawawi's publication record includes more than 100 papers.

He is survived by his wife, Helen and two children.

#### **Sir Oliver Napier, 2 July, 2011**

Sir Oliver Napier, the first leader of Northern Ireland's cross-faith Alliance Party, died on 2 July at the age of 75.

Sir Oliver helped found the Alliance Party, which was designed to appeal to both Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland's divided political scene, in 1970. He went on to become its first leader in 1973, and later served as a minister in the 1974 powersharing parliament. The Alliance Party is now the fifth largest party in Northern Ireland.

Sir Oliver was born in Belfast and raised as a Catholic. He became a lawyer at his father's firm before going into politics. He is survived by his wife Briege, nine children and 23 grandchildren.

Sir Oliver's son John Paul Napier said his father had never let threats of violence against him deter him. He said: "Despite entering politics in Northern Ireland's darkest hour, he was eternally optimistic that a meaningful partnership between both sections of the community was possible if people had the courage to reach for it."

#### **Alastair Lowry Macafee, MB BCH BAO, MD, FRCS, 26 July 2010** by Professor David Hadden.

I first met Alastair when we both enrolled as medical students at Queen's in September 1953. He had



only to walk across from his parent's house, No 18 University Square, where both his father and grandfather had lived and practised as Professors of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. But the rest of us did not hold that against him! Alastair was always one of the group, always part of what was going on. He had been sent to a boarding school in Scotland, which he enjoyed greatly - he talked of running up and down the hills and glens, and seemed to have had an entirely happy experience.

Following an uninterrupted medical student career, Alastair qualified with honours, and was appointed to the house staff at the Royal Victoria Hospital. After obtaining the MD degree for research on blood he progressed rapidly through surgical training and became Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the newly built Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, and other hospitals. His professed insistence on strict asepsis and the no touch technique, which was to result in his remarkable lifetime achievement of over 1,000 hip replacement operations without any failure due to sepsis can be traced back to both of his surgical forebears who had learnt that lesson in earlier days.

Later he became involved in hospital management, and found time to serve as a governor of Bangor Grammar School. His chief love was his family - his wife Audrey and children Jeremy, Margaret, David and Barbara.

# Books

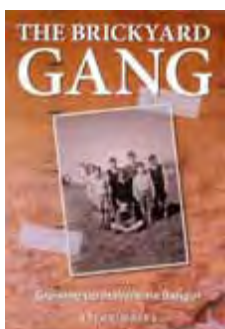
Edited by Donna McCullough



## **The Butterfly Cabinet by Bernie McGill**

The Butterfly Cabinet is an intricately layered book. In a big house in Victorian Ireland, a child dies and a mother is taken to jail. Only 70 years later is the truth of what happened finally revealed through a prison diary and a former nanny's testimony. Bernie McGill's assured debut is an intense exploration of maternal love

and guilt. Available from bookshops, £7.99 or order online. It can also be downloaded as an ebook from Amazon from £4.79.

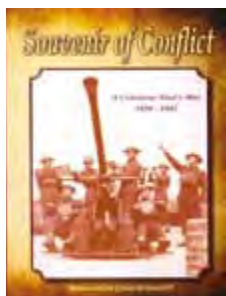


## **The Brickyard Gang by Brian Mairs**

This is an account of the activities of a group of boys growing up in the 1940s in wartime Bangor, Country Down.

This book covers the effects on their lives of World War Two, the preparations for war, the austerity of 'the rations' and the bombs that fell on Bangor in April 1941.

An account is also given of the arrival of the American soldiers and how they integrated with the locals. It's a fascinating look back on an era that may soon be forgotten! Copies from Amazon £6.99.



## **Souvenir of Conflict: A Coleraíne Man's War 1939-1945 Researched by Diana Kirkpatrick**

From diary notes and a chronological log which lay hidden and forgotten for over 60 years, Souvenir of Conflict follows the progress of a Coleraíne-born Gunner, Harry Cummins, who volunteered for military service in 1939.

destined to complete his service with 40 Battery of 14th West Lothian Royal Scots Regiment in the Italian Campaign of 1943-45. He experienced intense heat in the desert, extreme cold of the Italian winters, the death of comrades and illness. Letters and newspapers sent news to him from home.

This fascinating story pieces together information using carefully researched archive Battery and Regimental Diaries in support of Gunner Cummins' notes. The book is well illustrated with photographs, maps and also colour memorabilia.

Published by Impact Printing 2010, £9.99. Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Army Benevolent Fund.



## **Mud On My Boots - The Memoirs Of A Civil Engineer by Philip Donald**

A 40-year career in civil engineering is depicted in this excellent book. Author Philip Donald gives us a fascinating insight into projects such as the building of the Maze prison and its associated problems. For security reasons, many of the men working on the project

back then never told their wives! Instead they said they were working on a building-site near Lisburn.

Philip graduated in Civil Engineering from Queen's in 1960. His book depicts his varied career, working on the M4 motorway to Heathrow, and other far-flung parts such as a major dam project in Argentina. The book also takes us through a number of other interesting Northern Ireland projects he worked on during the Troubles including the Foyle bridge, the Central Railway in Belfast, Ballycastle harbour and the M3 Cross Harbour Bridges. After retirement in 2000 Philip still continued with his work building bridges in West Africa. To purchase the book email Donald. cranmore@ntlworld.com, cost £8.

## **Iggy McGovern, Safe House, A Collection Of Poetry**

Ignatius (Iggy) McGovern, PhD 1977, has published a second collection of poetry 'Safe House' (Dedalus Press 2010). Born in Coleraíne and now residing in Dublin, Iggy is Associate Professor of Physics at Trinity College. His debut collection, 'The King of Suburbia' (Dedalus Press 2005), received the inaugural Glen Dimplex New

Posted in 1940 with the Coleraíne Light Anti-Aircraft Battery unit to the desert war in North Africa, he was



Writers Award for Poetry. He has read his poetry at international festivals in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and most recently at the 2010 Belfast Festival at Queen's. Amazon £10.50.



### Queen's University Golfing Society's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Brendan Cashell, John Hanna and John Neill

The Queen's University Golfing Society (QUGS) was formed in the autumn of 1961.

A book is being written to celebrate the Society's first 50 years. The U S Open Champion of 2009, Graeme McDowell, has kindly agreed

to write a foreword for the book.

A book launch will be held in the Canada Room on 4 November, followed by a formal dinner in the Great Hall. There will be a gala golf competition at Royal County Down Golf Club in April 2012, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bertie McVeigh's inaugural Captain's Day.

### Catholic police officers in Northern Ireland: voices out of silence by Mary Gethins

Spanning the RUC and early PSNI years this ground-breaking study provides an insightful account of the challenges and rewards facing Catholic officers in policing Northern Ireland.

Gethins draws illuminating lessons from strong empirical evidence provided by intrusive (though voluntary) in-depth interviews with 70 retired, serving and trainee officers. Catholic police officers emerge as being atypical of the general Catholic population of Northern Ireland and best explained by the concept of fragmented identity. Balanced and written in easy style, this book is readily accessible to a general readership as well as to those professionally interested in policing divided societies.

Published by Manchester University Press (2011)  
Copies are available from the author (mary23@btinternet.com) in hardback at £27 (including postage and packing).



## The Welcome Centre at Queen's

The newly refurbished Queen's Welcome Centre is a Northern Ireland Tourist Board Local Information Office for South Belfast. It hosts a regular programme of exhibitions and serves as an information point for visitors and tourists, as well as offering a varied selection of souvenirs and gifts.

Information on over 2,500 events organised by Schools, Departments and Directorates is available at [www.whatsonatqueens.com](http://www.whatsonatqueens.com)

There are free campus tours daily at 2pm and at other times by appointment.

**Opening hours:**  
Term time - 9am to 9pm  
Vacation - 9am to 5pm  
Weekends - 11am to 4pm

Email: [queens.welcomecentre@qub.ac.uk](mailto:queens.welcomecentre@qub.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.qub.ac.uk/welcomecentre](http://www.qub.ac.uk/welcomecentre)  
Tel: 028 9097 5252





# Businesses pledge over £1m support for Queen's Graduate and Executive Education Centre

Leading companies from across Northern Ireland have pledged more than £1m to Queen's University's Graduate and Executive Education Centre which has opened for business at Riddell Hall on Belfast's Stranmillis Road.

With the economy a top priority for the Assembly, this transformational project fills a gap in the market for quality business and leadership education and will be critical to the economic future of Northern Ireland. The companies that are supporting the project, its Founders' Club members, have access to Queen's international networks in Malaysia, China, India, the Americas and Europe. With this comes the opportunity to raise Northern Ireland's profile and develop business opportunities in these areas.

The Founder members\* are Andor Technology, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, BT, Clear Pharmacy, Carillion Energy Services, Dow Chemical Company Ltd, Gem, Greiner Packaging, Kainos, Liberty IT, MJM Group, Phoenix Natural Gas, SHS Group, Tayto, Tughans and Ulster Bank.

These businesses have each made a £50k commitment.

The Riddell Hall project brings together leaders and CEOs who will work to ensure that companies here get a good deal from local government. And, working as a unique group of influencers outside these shores, they will guarantee that Northern Ireland companies are in a position to extend their influence world-wide.

The quality of the education on offer at Riddell Hall is world-class. Professor Matthias Beck, an expert in Public Sector Management and Professor Ernst Verwaal whose expertise is in International Business, are amongst those who have taken up posts at Riddell. They will be working with companies offering bespoke courses aimed at solving specific business challenges for individual companies.

This exceptional business campus has first-rate facilities. An auditorium, four lecture rooms, two executive lounges, nine syndicate rooms and a covered courtyard - Riddell Hall is an excellent place for doing business.

If you want to find out more about courses, contact Denise Falls, QUMS, +44 (0) 28 9097 4200

If you would like to know more about the Founders' Club, contact Marcus Ward, +44 (0) 28 9097 3403

# Second time around for Businesswoman of The Year

Darlene McCormick got so much out of her time at Queen's that after 25 years she's back!

But this time round she's not a fledgling student embarking on a course in Spanish and English. Instead, she holds the accolade of Northern Ireland Businesswoman of the Year and she'll be studying for an MBA at the new jewel in the Queen's crown - the Postgraduate and Executive Education Centre at Ridell Hall.


Darlene says: "No matter what you achieve in business there's always more you can learn. I'm going to be one of the first students at the new centre and I'm very excited about it."

It's hard to see just how much more successful Darlene can be. Her first ambition when she left university in 1990 was to become a journalist but after a brief spell at BBC Northern Ireland she found her career path taking her towards public relations.

It was the right direction. At the age of 26 she became the youngest-ever general manager in the world's biggest PR agency, Fleishman-Hillard, establishing their first office in Belfast.

Later Darlene started her own company Life Communications. She recently sold that to the big UK group, Freshwater. She is now a director of that company, its director of development, heading a re-launch of the agency's consumer, retail and lifestyle business.

She praises Queen's for becoming a world leader in enterprise education, with entrepreneur skills becoming part of every course.



**'The motivational guidance I received at Queen's helped me develop as a person and become a success.'**



# The life-changing impact of legacies



Legacies are all about making plans to provide for the people and causes you care for. They are a way of investing in the future, changing lives and helping the next generation. Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer at Queen's explains more.

Since its foundation Queen's has benefitted from many generous legacy gifts. And, as the University sector faces tough times, legacies will be even more vital in ensuring Queen's continues as a top-ranking, research-led institution which is focused on its students.

In the year 2010-2011, the University received over £520,000 in legacy gifts, ranging from £500 to £450,000. Their impact has been enormous – supporting students in their studies, investing in pioneering medical research and safeguarding important historical artefacts.

On behalf of the students and staff at Queen's I would like to thank those who are considering leaving a gift to Queen's in their wills, or those who have already done so.

For more information please contact me at the Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN. Phone: 028 9097 3162 Email: [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk)

## Leslie and Hilary Morrison, Patrons of the Lanyon Society

The Lanyon Society is a unique group of individuals who have chosen to, or who are considering, leaving a gift to Queen's in their will. Professor Sir George Bain has been Patron of the Lanyon Society since 2004 and in the summer of 2011 decided to hand over the mantle of patronage to Queen's Graduates, Leslie and Hilary Morrison.

Leslie and Hilary are both Arts graduates and met at Queen's during their student days. Over the years they have remained in close contact with the University and are delighted to join the Queen's family to meet and thank our legacy donors.



**Legacies to Queen's can be large or small. All gifts will make a difference.**

A legacy of **£2,000** can buy equipment to help fight cancer

A legacy of **£5,000** can fund undergraduate student bursaries

A legacy of **£10,000** can buy specialist books or new sports equipment

A legacy of **£50,000** can refurbish a teaching space or fund scholarships

## Inheritance tax law change aims to boost giving

In March 2011 The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the introduction of a lower rate of inheritance tax for those leaving a gift in their will to charity (from April 2012).

It is hoped that this new legislation, which will apply to estates over the £325,000 threshold where 10 per cent or more has been left to charity, will encourage more people to consider leaving a legacy.

Susan Wilson explains: "Making a will is an intensely personal matter, and after proper provision has been made for family and friends, a gift to charity can be transformational.

"This is how it works. If your estate is worth £500,000 and you choose to leave 10 per cent (of the taxable balance of your estate over the £325,000 threshold) to charity, the donation is worth £17,500. This means you also reduce the amount of tax payable on the remainder of your estate from 40% to 36%. Your beneficiaries will receive £425,800, whilst the charity benefits by £17,500.

"£17,500 makes a huge difference to the work carried out at Queen's. For example, it means we can buy a machine that copies a gene within a cell, allowing our scientists to study the genetics of cancer."

## WIN A TWO-NIGHT BREAK IN BELFAST

Queen's graduate associations are a fabulous way to continue your links with your University. We're celebrating associations with a competition, and The Graduate, in conjunction with its Perks partners, is offering some VERY special hotel accommodation prizes to the lucky winners.

All you have to do is come up with a witty caption for this Rag Day photograph taken outside the front door of the University in 1895. We have included our best suggestion below – but we know readers of The Graduate can do much better!

Whilst entering, why not join a graduate association by responding to the advertisement on the inside back cover page. You'll attend events (not like the one above, we imagine), meet fellow Queen's grads, and also benefit from exclusive discounts through our Perks discount scheme.

The best caption wins two nights' accommodation (plus full Irish breakfast for two people sharing) in Jury's Hotel in Belfast. The runner-up will win two nights' accommodation (including breakfast) in the Station House Hotel, Letterkenny.



***When the other doctors told James to come wearing theatre gowns, this wasn't what he had in mind!***

Closing date for entries – 12 noon on Wednesday 30 November 2011. Mark your envelope/email 'Caption Competition' and send your suggestion(s) to The Editor, The Graduate, Development And Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University, Belfast, BT7 1NN or email your entry to - [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk).

Please make sure to include your name, address, year/subject of graduation and a current email address. For a copy of the competition rules please contact - [alumni@qub.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@qub.ac.uk)

# EVENTS

A REVIEW OF THE YEAR BY ADELE MCMAHON

## NOVEMBER 2010

### Charter Day Dinner 2010

Famous singing trio The Priests helped make the 2010 **Charter Day Dinner** another enjoyable and successful evening!

The event is organised annually by Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA), to mark the founding of Queen's as a College in 1845, and as a full university with the granting of its Royal Charter in 1908.

Vice-Chancellor and President Sir Peter Gregson commented that dinner was just like Christmas – it comes around more quickly every year!

Former Graduate of the Year winners The Priests, Fathers Martin and Eugene O'Hagan and Father David Delargy, delighted the audience with four wonderful songs. Indeed dinner guests joined in at the end – a rapturous ending to a wonderful evening!



## JANUARY 2011

In January, Queens' graduates attended a **New Year party** in The Porterhouse in Covent Garden, London for graduates from universities across the island of Ireland.

There were over 100 graduates of all ages at the

event and conversation was flowing whilst a drink or two was enjoyed! The Acting Deputy Head of Alumni Relations, Ian Moore was there to greet the Queen's graduates. This is an annual event in London attracting between 70 and 200 attendees a year.

## FEBRUARY 2011

On the 18th, The **Queen's University Association Scotland's** Annual dinner was a resounding success. Guests had the opportunity to hear from Conor O'Clery, author and foreign correspondent with the Irish Times.

The dinner, which was held on February 18 in the Holiday Inn, Glasgow, was hosted by Una Gordon, President of Queen's University Association, Scotland. Over 50 attendees joined her for the event including graduates from as far back as the 1930s.

On 23 February, over 150 alumni from **Russell Group Universities**, including several from Queen's met in Cambridge. These events provide a chance for alumni living near Russell Group institutions to meet other graduates from their own, or other universities. Contact Adele McMahon for more details.

On the 26th, the impressive surroundings of the **Hong Kong Club** was the backdrop for an alumni reception hosted by Norman Lyle from the Queen's Foundation Board. Government Ministers, senior business figures and Queen's alumni had the opportunity to meet with Norman, Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Vice-Chancellor Sir Peter Gregson and International Advisor, Trevor Newsom.





## APRIL 2011

Over 40 members and guests of the **QGA** were treated to a special guided tour of one of Belfast's most loved landmark buildings – the City Hall. The tour took in the Grand Staircase, the Whispering Gallery, the Council Chamber and the Great Hall before finishing with a buffet supper in The Bobbin, which was added as part

of the recent £11m refurbishment.

A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all with members agreeing that the City Hall was once again a fitting venue to welcome visitors from all over the world.

## MAY 2011

### A slice of poetry in the Big Apple!

Alumni were welcomed by Norma Sinte, Queen's University's Director of Development, and Honora, wife of Noel Kilkenny, Consul General of Ireland at a reception held in their New York residence.



The evening's special guest was poet Paul Muldoon, an honorary graduate of Queen's who, since 1987, has lived in the United States. Paul recited some of his poetry to a delighted audience.

Guests were invited to explore the spacious penthouse apartment (previously the home of legendary performer, Luther Vandross) and the art collected by Noel and Honora during their world travels.

The **Medical Class of 1970** celebrated their 40th (+1) reunion at the Radisson Hotel Limavady. A total of 61 graduates attended the two-day event which included tours, talks and toasts over dinner!



Over 30 recent graduates attended an event facilitated by **Billy Dixon** on the 31st May at the Brian Friel Theatre. The event was aimed at improving recent graduate's job prospects by helping them with their personal confidence, appearance and networking skills.



## JUNE 2011

On the 11th, almost 30 families attended the **Young Archaeologists Club** (YAC) event where YAC members and Queen's alumni learnt about the development and use of mosaics through time by different civilisations from the Greeks and Romans to the Byzantines. Each child had the chance to get involved creating their own unique mosaic to take home. In addition to this everyone contributed to making a special large mosaic for display in the Archaeology and Palaeoecology Building.



On the 25th June, the **School of History & Anthropology** hosted their first alumni day. About 30 alumni, with graduation dates ranging from 1955 to 2008, attended the inaugural event in the Great Hall and enjoyed meeting students and staff and hearing presentations on the Schools activities.

The **Medical Class of 1961** held their Golden Reunion at Slieve Donard Hotel in Newcastle, Co. Down. Once again this proved to be a very happy and successful gathering of colleagues and spouses from Canada, Mauritius, England and Ireland, North and South.



The **1961 Civil Engineering grads** celebrated their Golden reunion in Belfast over 3 days including a campus tour and visit to the David Keir Building led by Professor Adrian Long and a dinner at Deanes with guest Sir Peter Froggatt. Almost 40 graduates attended this great opportunity to catch up!

## SEPTEMBER 2011

On the 3rd September the **Class of 1966** celebrated their 45th anniversary in Salem, Massachusetts.

On the 13th September, **new graduates** were invited to enjoy a free film preview at QFT with a drinks reception sponsored by Santander. It proved to be a very popular event and we hope this is the first of many events our new graduates will attend!

On the 16th and 17th September the **Medical Class of 1971** celebrated their 40th reunion in Belfast.

Another medical reunion was held at the end of September, this time a 35 year celebration for the **Class of 1965**.

### Lots more to come....

There's lots more events planned for the remainder of 2011 and 2012.

Not all dates have been fixed so please keep an eye on the website and make sure to sign up for our quarterly e bulletin to keep informed of all the events!

### 2011

**October 15th**  
**November 4th**

1991 Law Reunion, Great Hall  
QUGS 50th Anniversary  
Dinner, Great Hall

**November 19th**

School of English Alumni  
Day, Great Hall

**November 25th**

Charter Day Dinner, Great Hall

### 2012

**May 10th**  
**May (TBC)**

1962 Medical Reunion  
Recent graduates careers  
workshop

If you would like to find out more abouts events at Queen's, please contact Adele McMahon [a.mcmahon@qub.ac.uk](mailto:a.mcmahon@qub.ac.uk) or visit our website at [www.qub.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.qub.ac.uk/alumni)

More information on up and coming events is provided in our quarterly e-bulletin.



# It's not us, it's you!



## The things you got up to as a student!

Just like in the photograph above, your experience is unique.

Being a Queen's graduate is about that first day you came here, about the day you graduated, about that Saturday morning outside the Union, about dodging water bombs at Queen's Elms. About first love, and nights with the lads, or a team to be proud of. It's about you, your experience.

And it's something you recall warmly. That's why we have Queen's graduate associations in Ireland, north and south, and throughout the world.

And that's why we give something back. As a graduate association member you'll benefit from great retail discounts through our Perks discount scheme, as well as news, graduate events, and a real sense of belonging.

Return the form at right, or send an email to [alumni@qub.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@qub.ac.uk) to learn more.

### Graduate associations? Tell me more.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return to:



Gerry Power, Alumni Officer,  
Development and Alumni  
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Queen's University  
Belfast BT7 1NN



celebrating  
[the past]

living  
[the present]



creating  
[the future]



The Queen's University of Belfast  
Foundation

## LEAVING A LEGACY

Queen's University has changed lives.

For over a century Queen's has been recognised as a centre of excellence in teaching, learning and discovery.

A legacy to Queen's helps us to continue to change lives; funding medical research, endowing fellowships and scholarships, building library resources, supporting local culture and arts and promoting student welfare.

Leaving a bequest to Queen's, after providing for family and friends, is the highest honour the University can receive. Even the most modest legacy can make a huge difference, and costs nothing during your lifetime.

**If you would like to discuss in confidence any aspect of leaving a gift to Queen's in your will, please contact Susan Wilson, Legacy Manager on +44 (0)28 9097 3162 or email [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk).**