

## THE NEW LIBRARY... THE STORY SO FAR



### LONGEST SERVING STUDENT CALLER GRADUATES



The Development Office would like to offer sincerest congratulations to Katie Mulholland who graduated this year with a first class honours degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. We wish her well in her new job in London at Bechtel, a global construction engineering company. Katie joined the student telethon team in 2000 and worked on over ten appeals and thankathons.

She has personally chatted to over 1000 donors over the last 5 years - some thing she claims will be one of her fondest memories of Queen's.

**The new library is not only the largest building project on campus but also has proved to be the most significant fundraising initiative in the University's history.**

The case for its support proved so compelling that 90% of the funding was pledged before the first architectural plans were drafted. In addition to government funding, more than 2,000 donations have been received locally, nationally and internationally ranging from £1 to £10 million.

In June 2004 Sir Anthony O'Reilly announced a donation of £4 million. At that time the cost of the library was £39.5 million. Whilst costs have increased to include an extensive tree-planting programme and a landscaped plaza, the fundraising plans are still on target and the appeal will be completed later this year.

In June 2005 a £15,000 gift by Barclays PLC became the 2000th donation to the campaign. The Barclays Room in the library will support the University's outreach activity.

Receiving the gift on behalf of the University, Queen's Foundation Board member Ed Vernon said: "The new library at Queen's will be the focal point of the campus symbolising the importance of scholarship. The Barclays gift will help us to achieve our fundraising target. Thanks to our 2000 donors, we will be able to build a state of the art library - one of the most modern in the world. We are within £100,000 of our fundraising target for this project."

### How will the balance of funding be met?

Queen's Director of Development, Aine Gibbons, said: "Earlier this year Queen's became one of the first organisations outside of London to receive an award from the United States based Kresge Foundation. The Kresge Foundation is an independent, private foundation created by the personal gifts of Sebastian S. Kresge in 1924. The award has taken the form of a \$1.4 million Challenge Grant where by Queen's must complete the funding for the project by October 2005. Our graduates, the business community and the many friends of Queen's locally and internationally are helping us meet the Kresge Challenge and reach our goal. The Adopt a Book Scheme in particular gave everyone an opportunity to participate.

The reason we are so confident of reaching our goal is that we have two major events planned for November and December. Already interest in attending these events has been tremendous and they are (almost!) sold out.

**\$1.4 Million Challenge Grant  
Bookmarked for New University  
Library at Queen's**

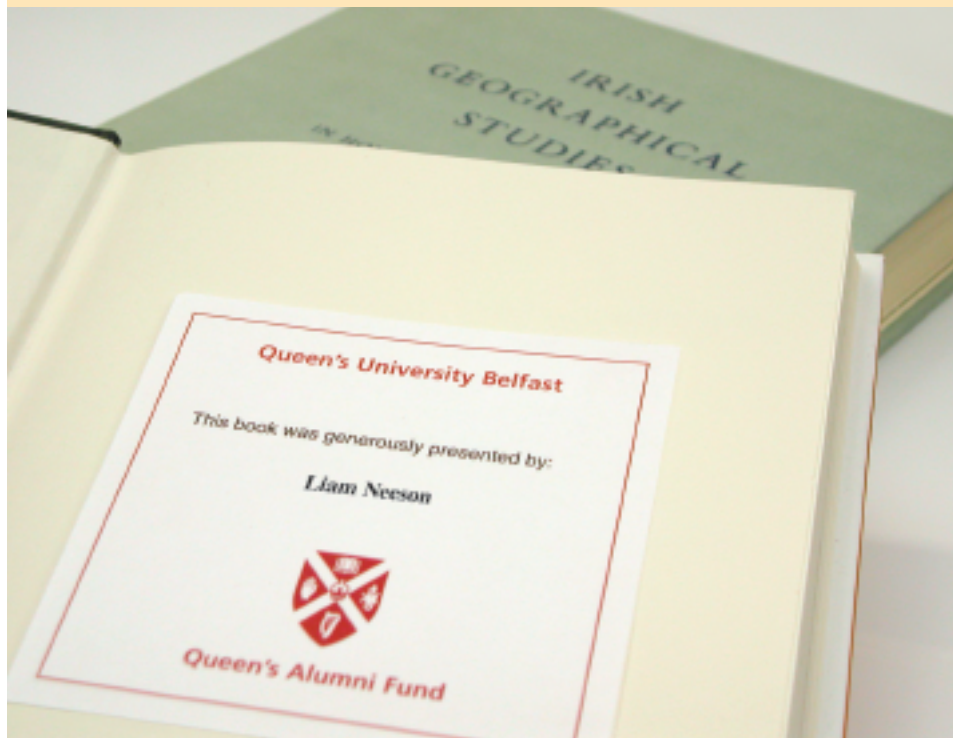
In November The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation is holding a dinner in the Court Room of the Bank of England. We are honoured to have been granted permission to use this prestigious venue by our host Sir John Parker, a member of our Foundation Board and a senior non-executive director of the Court of the Bank of England.

"A fitting climax to the Library Appeal will be the glittering All-Ireland Premiere of the Chronicles of Narnia film: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, followed by a fundraising dinner. The much anticipated Walt Disney-Walden Media film of CS Lewis's book will be on general release on 9 December and features some of Hollywood's biggest stars including Liam Neeson, Ray Winstone, Dawn French, Rupert Everett and Jim Broadbent. Already it is tipped to break all Hollywood's box office records. The design of the wardrobe doors used in the film is being donated to Queen's because of Lewis's Northern Ireland connections. They will form the entrance to a Reading Room in the new library's central tower, a room which will be named after CS Lewis."

The full CS Lewis story will be featured in the September issue of a new alumni magazine, *Queen's Today*.

## THE LIBRARY BOOK FUND APPEAL

### Is there a book that means a lot to you?



Support for the Adopt a Book scheme continues to grow. Over 2000 books have now been adopted through the scheme. For every £30 donated Queen's records that support by placing a bookplate in a book relating to a chosen subject. Donors are sent details of the book together with the reference number should they wish to visit it in the library. Kerry Bryson, Head of Alumni Relations, outlines why she thinks the scheme has been so popular.

#### Who is adopting the books?

"Graduates, staff and friends. Liam Neeson, PD James, Seamus Heaney, Maeve Binchy, Lord Eames, Marie Jones, Nick Ross, Emma Thompson and Michael Palin are just a few of the more well known donors – the scheme continues to capture people's imagination and all the proceeds are helping the University raise the final amount of money needed to build the new library"

#### What sort of books are being adopted?

"The books are mostly academic tomes but poetry, literature and history books are very popular. The Vice-Chancellor has adopted one of the best known books in stock – Roget's Thesaurus!"

#### Why are books being adopted?

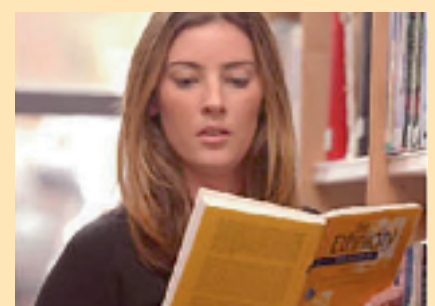
"Often donors have chosen to dedicate their books in memory of a loved one, friend, colleague, or an inspirational teacher or professor. Much to our surprise

we are now receiving enquiries about adopting books to mark a special occasion, a friend's birthday, a christening or a retirement."

"Whilst most of the books being adopted are new to the library shelves it is possible to adopt a specific older book that means something very special to the donor – often this gives us the chance to have a book restored."

Many people have requested anonymity and we are respecting that. These names will not be published on a donor list but they can still have a poem, message or dedication inscribed on their bookplate.

So if there is a book that has inspired you or a book with some uniquely personal significance to you, consider adopting a book and in doing so, help complete the funding for the new library appeal. Please contact Kerry Bryson on 028 9097 5322 for more information.



# EARLY BENEFACTOR PROFILES

## Launch of New Gift Clubs

At the end of the Campaign we will publish a salute to all our donors but in the meantime the donor roll of honour has been launched on the alumni website. In order to help us manage our stewardship better we have established a number of giving clubs. In addition to The Chancellor's Circle (donations over £25,000), The Vice-Chancellor's Circle (donations between £10,000 and £25,000) and The Director's Circle (donations between £2,000 and £10,000), it is fitting to name some of the clubs after early Queen's benefactors.

You are invited to test the donor roll on-line (see address below) and offer feedback. Of course, if you notice any errors please contact us immediately.

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/CampaignforQueens/DonorRoll/>

Dear Benefactor  
**Thank You!**

Welcome to the second issue of our annual update for donors. I hope you enjoy reading it. The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation would like to thank everyone who has invested in our future. Whether you have supported a capital project, the Queen's Alumni Fund, the Book Fund, one of the sport funds, or an in-memoriam appeal you are helping the *Campaign for Queen's* transform the campus. By valuing the role of higher education in our society you are playing your part in contributing to our efforts to make a difference.

Not surprisingly most of our resources this year have concentrated on completing the funding for the New Library. In doing this we are celebrating the efforts of the whole Queen's family. It is therefore fitting that we thank each of you for your part in our success and hope you will find the enclosed magnetic bookmark very useful!

One of the first projects supported was the refurbishment of the Great Hall and we are delighted to announce the completion of this project earlier this year with the installation of a restored pipe organ. Built in 1857 by Thomas Robson, the instrument was restored with the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund. The first public recital will be later this year and I hope many of you will join us for that occasion.

The Foundation will seek to complete the Campaign over the next two years focusing on Sport, Scholarships and the refurbishment of the Students' Union. These exciting plans will be revealed shortly in the new alumni magazine *Queen's Today*. We want to enhance our position as a university of international standing. Our continued success in the 21st century will have everything to do with achieving the standards of excellence we set for ourselves in research, teaching and learning. With your continued help and support the success of Queen's can be guaranteed.

Yours

*Keeney Bayson*



## THE SIR OTTO JAFFÉ CLUB

Donations between £1,000 - £1,999

Sir Otto Jaffé was Lord Mayor of Belfast. He was one of the first contributors to the Better Equipment Fund in 1901 but it was his second gift to Queen's in 1905 for which he is famed. He stepped in at the last moment with a second gift of £3,000 which capped an appeal and allowed the College to realize the challenge grant issued by Sir Donald Currie. Photograph reproduced thanks to Belfast City Hall.



## THE SIR DONALD CURRIE CLUB

Donations between £500 - £999

Sir Donald Currie was a Scottish shipbuilder who spent his schooldays in Belfast. At the turn of the 20th century, Queen's College was expanding at a rapid rate but additional funding from the Treasury was not forthcoming. The College President, Thomas Hamilton, realised he would have to raise the funds from private sources and launched the Better Equipment Fund in 1901. Backing was initially slow but in 1905 Sir Donald Currie breathed new life into the Fund with a gift of £20,000, if a matched sum could be raised by Christmas. Given that it had taken four years to raise £3,000 this was a huge challenge. Appeals for graduate and public support were issued through the Belfast press and £17,000 was raised by Christmas.



## THE SIR ROBERT HART CLUB

Donations between £250 - £499

Sir Robert Hart graduated from Queen's in 1853. He retained a strong interest in his old College and responded generously to appeals in the 1890s and 1900s. After his retirement he became Pro-Chancellor of Queen's University. In 1971 his family presented the University with a set of elaborate table silverware, the Empress of China's Silver. The silver had been presented to Hart in 1908 to mark his 43-years of service as Inspector-General of the Maritime Customs in China.



## THE SIR WILLIAM WHITLA CLUB

Donations between £50 - £249

Sir William Whitla endowed the Chair of Pharmacology at Queen's and in his will left his home at Lennoxvale to become the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge. The Sir William Whitla Hall and the statue of Galileo in the "black and white hall" are manifestations of his generosity and serve as a fitting tribute to him.



## THE RIDDELL CLUB

Donations up to £49

In 1913 two wealthy and charitable sisters, Eliza and Isabella Riddell, established a residence for women students of Queen's University. A magnificent building set in 11 acres of land on the Stranmillis Road was opened two years later. For generations of female students Riddell Hall was characterised by three things: a strong feeling of community among its residents, a good standard in all its undertakings and a devoted staff to continue the tradition.

# PROJECTS THAT HAVE BENEFITED FROM GRADUATE SUPPORT

Queen's Alumni Fund supports projects that enhance the Queen's student experience. Seventeen projects received support this year including Queen's Radio Club and Society, the QUB Big Band, the refurbishment of Mourne Cottage, Film Drama Studies, and various scholarship and sporting initiatives.

## Hitting the Right Notes - QUB Big Band



Formed in September 2003 to broaden the range of music which people can become involved in at Queen's, the jazz ensemble used their

award to purchase much needed equipment – a baritone saxophone, electric string bass, specialist latin percussion items, an electric piano, amplifier and lighting systems. The Band dedicated their concert in May 2005 to all the Queen's Alumni Fund donors, when the audience enjoyed classics such as Moonlight Serenade, Over the Rainbow and the Stan Kenton Band's showpiece You Gotta Try.



## Easy Listening - Queen's Radio Club

Queen's Radio Club was reformed in 2001 with the aim of setting up and maintaining a broadcast student radio station in the University. The following year the Club secured a small room in the Students' Union building to use as a studio which set the foundation for their steady growth in terms of membership, technical expertise, streaming and broadcasting, production, presentation and management of the studio. By 2004 they had achieved a level of professionalism required for AM/FM broadcasting. The Queen's Alumni Fund helped the club purchase equipment to enable it to broadcast online radio programmes in the Students' Union and to purchase a radio mast transmitter necessary to gain a broadcast licence. Queen's Radio Club is currently on a summer break. In the meantime you can listen to archived programmes by logging onto <http://quis.qub.ac.uk/radio/>

## Race Around the River - Queen's Athletics Club



Queen's 5k was founded in 2003 and is organised entirely by students. The event includes a Family Fun Run in aid of charity and the main 5k race, the official warm-up race for the Belfast City Marathon. With over 500 people participating, the density of finishers overwhelmed the time keepers and it was not possible to record the finishing times of every individual. Queen's Alumni Fund helped the Club purchase essential health and safety equipment to manage and speed up the finish process of the Queen's 5k and other competitive races. As a result over 700 people were able to participate in this year's event. The equipment is also being used at boat races and swimming galas.

## Film Students' Talents on Show



Queen's Alumni Fund helped to fund the work of budding film makers. Actor Stephen Rae and guests were treated to a special screening in June which showcased the talents of the students. *Karalja* tells the moving story of a young Irish student who discovers from his Finnish grandmother the tragic story of the expulsion of the Finns from Karelia during World War Two. *Bush Comes to Belfast* is an irreverent look at the US President's visit to Hillsborough. *Homesick* is a fictional piece dealing with difficult choices faced by a student, who on finishing his studies in England, is reluctant to return to his conservative home.

# NEWS FROM STUDENT CALLERS



## WEDDED BLISS

Two graduates returned to Queen's this summer, but it wasn't to study. Instead, Limavady man Martin O'Kane (27) and 26 year-old Nasrin Khosravinezhad, from Gilnahurk, became the first couple to marry at the University.

Martin was one of the first student callers employed to raise money for Queen's Alumni Fund. He helped Nasrin fill in an application form for a job – she may not have been successful, but she certainly managed to impress Martin!

The couple married in the Harty Room in a Baha'ai ceremony. Afterwards the guests gathered for a reception in the Quad and a wedding banquet in the Great Hall. Explaining their decision to marry in the University, Martin said they wanted to return to Northern Ireland for the wedding because both families are based here.

"Given that we met at Queen's it was the obvious choice. Having worked for the Development Office at a time when we were raising money to refurbish the Great Hall I knew it was available for wedding receptions and we both realised the University would be a good venue." he said.

The couple are based in Edinburgh. Martin works for the Royal Bank of Scotland, while Nasrin is a podiatrist.

Requests for further information on articles covered in this newsletter, as well as views and comments, should be sent to:

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