

DONOR NEWS

2019/20

The magazine for donors and supporters
of **Queen's University Belfast**

PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME **FOR MORE PROMISING FUTURES**

READ MORE – PAGES 18-19

Sport – Setting up
a life-changing scholarship

Volunteer of the Year –
Meet Professor Gerry Gormley

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UNIVERSITY
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RESEARCH

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VOLUNTEERING VALUE

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16,043

STUDENTS TO BENEFIT
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597

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SCHOLARSHIP INCOME

468

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GENEROUS
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TO THE QUEEN'S
ANNUAL FUND

WELCOME

Celebrating philanthropy

Welcome to the latest Donor News, the University's annual publication to say 'thank you' to our donors and supporters, and to celebrate your philanthropy.

Queen's is committed to creating a world-class university supporting outstanding students and staff, working in first-class facilities, conducting leading-edge education and research, focused on the needs of society.

Your support enables us to make an impact locally, nationally and globally and your continued commitment helps drive the University forward.

In Fundraising (pp4-7) and Health news (pp16-17) you can read how donations from individuals and organisations are supporting innovative research across the University.

And in the Volunteering (pp10-11) and Annual Fund (pp12-13) sections you can find out how gifts of time and money impact directly on student life, whether through Law alumni sharing career advice or the support you provide for student clubs and societies.

In this issue, former Irish rugby international Rob Saunders shares his motivation for setting up a scholarship (pp8-9). Rob's hope, truly an inspiration to us all, is to support a student from a challenging economic background who shares his passion for sport, to enable them to follow their dreams by coming to Queen's.

Whatever your motivations for giving, you are providing our students – now and in the future – with the best experience and finest education possible, and advancing research which will benefit so many.

One project I am passionate about is the Pathway Opportunity Programme (pp18-19), part of our Widening Participation initiative. Queen's is to the fore in making world-class education not just a possibility but a reality for so many talented young people, who all too often do not get the chance to prove themselves at university.

As a new donor to Queen's I am hugely grateful to all those who support this University.

I hope we can count on your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Ian Greer
President and Vice-Chancellor



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While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of printed information, readers should be aware that this magazine is not an official publication. Any views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the University or the editorial team.

Cover photo of Professor Ian Greer by Ivan Ewart and Daniel Smyth

FUNDRAISING NEWS



(L-R): Alan Moneypenny, Board Member of the Belfast Charitable Society and David Watters, Chairman of the Belfast Charitable Society with Queen's Outreach and Learning Development Manager Paula Moran.

ANDREW MARK GODDEN PRIZE

A three-times graduate of Queen's, recently appointed to the School of Law – who left secondary school due to bullying – has set up a prize to support a student from a 'widening participation' background.

Andrew Godden grew up on Belfast's Shankill Road, ranked consistently as one of the poorest wards in the UK. He left school abruptly following bullying by a teacher, and worked part-time as a cleaner when he was unable to find a full-time job.

Thanks to The Prince's Trust, Andrew returned to education. He achieved three As at A level and became the first person in his family to go to university, beginning a decade-long association with Queen's. He earned an LLB (First Class), a LLM (Distinction) and a PhD, and recently took up post as a full-time lecturer in the School of Law.

After his LLB, Andrew received a James MacQuitty Law Scholarship enabling him to graduate with his Master's and PhD, and to pursue an academic career.

“I can say with absolute candour, that I would not be where I am had it not been for the MacQuitty Scholarship.”

While a PhD student, he was closely linked with the Pathway Opportunity Programme (POP), the University's flagship widening participation initiative. “My time supporting the programme was incredibly rewarding,” said Andrew. “I wanted to be part of POP so that I could pass on my experience as someone who succeeded at university having entered through a widening access route.”

The Andrew Mark Godden Prize will be awarded to the graduate who achieves the highest overall mark in their degree in the most recent undergraduate cohort in the School of Law. The inaugural recipient, Jack White, was presented in October.

Welcoming the prize Professor Robin Hickey, Head of the School, said: “Andrew is to be warmly commended for his generous contribution. Having come up the hard way to earn undergraduate, Master's and doctorate degrees, his gift is even more poignant.

“He is providing tangible solutions that will help break down barriers and in the process, make a real difference to future generations of Law students.”

DONOR PIN MAKEOVER

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Queen's Gift Clubs, the University has struck a new-look donor pin.



Reflecting the vibrancy of the corporate brand, the 'more rounded' crest, in its distinctive 'Queen's Red' cloth bag, will be issued to Gift Club members in the coming weeks.

“Gift Clubs enable us to thank and recognise donors who have made a special commitment to Queen's,” said Donor Relations Officer, Jacqui McCormick.

“Members of our clubs – which include The 1845 Circle, The Vice-Chancellor's Circle and The Chancellor's Circle – commit to regular giving to the University and in return receive bespoke communications and invitations to special events.

“We hope club members will like the new pin, which is our way of thanking them for their generosity.”

BELFAST CHARITABLE SOCIETY AND BARBOUR FUND

Thanks to the Belfast Charitable Society (BCS) and the Barbour Fund, a number of students at Queen's have benefited from financial support for the second year of their studies.

A generous BCS donation to the Pathway Opportunity Programme, and the establishment of a new Barbour Fund bursary, enabled the first of these awards to be presented in Autumn 2019.

David Watters, Chairman of BCS commented: “Finance can be a major barrier to education for many. It can be an ongoing headache that can be the deciding factor for a young person in whether they should go to university and whether it's worth staying there.

“Queen's Widening Participation Programme is one such vehicle and we are only too delighted to be able to help ensure that those 'most able but less likely' get the chance to continue to higher education.”

In thanking BCS and the Barbour Fund, Queen's Outreach and Learning Development Manager Paula Moran said: “Widening Participation is of course very important to the University but it's even more important to the students who get the opportunity to study in higher education thanks to this programme and the philanthropic gifts that fund it.”



Jean Crawford Cochrane

NO BARRIER TO SUCCESS

The inaugural recipient of the Jean Crawford Cochrane Scholarship is Seanna Turner, who graduated last summer.

“I first attended university after school at the age of 18 when I still lived with my parents. I had no idea of the financial difficulty that would come with returning to university as a 25-year-old mother of two,” said Seanna.

“At times the colossal cost of childcare almost forced me to give up my place on the social work degree that I had worked so hard for.

“The support from the Jean Crawford Cochrane scholarship meant that I had finances to buy books and other resources to help with my studies. Having just graduated from my degree, I believe it would not have been possible to reach this point without their support.

“I believe that everyone should have the same right to education and that social status should not be a barrier to success.”



CHOICE HOUSING

Lawrence Jackson (right), Group Director of Corporate Services at Choice Housing – one of the largest independent housing associations in Northern Ireland – has handed over prizes totalling £3,000 to three students who achieved the highest overall marks in their respective faculty Level 1 exams.

Lawrence is pictured with Assistant Director (Fundraising) Helen Surgenor (left), and (L-R) Megan Sommerville (Medicine, Health and Life Sciences), Andrew Barber (Engineering and Physical Sciences) and Gavin Johnston (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) at the University.

GOOD SPORT!

Jonny Bramley graduated from Queen's with a BSc in Computer Science (1987) and joined the BBC in London shortly afterwards as a computer graphics programmer. He soon realised that his talents lay in producing and after two years moved into sports production, from where he's never looked back.

After winning a BAFTA in 2005 for his coverage of Matthew Pinsent's performance at the 2004 Athens Olympics, Jonny was responsible for the BBC's output (across all media) for London 2012. He has gone on to cover every Olympic Games since and is looking forward to Tokyo in 2020.

Jonny has always maintained a close relationship with Queen's as well as with his family in Holywood, and in 2016 was selected as the First Trust Bank Queen's Graduate of the Year.

Keen to recognise the part Queen's played in his development, Jonny has chosen to support students on the Broadcast Production degree programme. His generous donation will help fund a final-year project focussing on a sporting event, helping the most talented students to produce their best work without financial constraints.



ACTUARIAL PRIZE

When Peter Derby graduated from Queen's in 1961 in Applied Mathematics he had no idea what his career would be. Chancing upon the actuarial profession he joined Scottish Widows in Edinburgh and became a student of the Faculty of Actuaries, qualifying as an actuary in 1965, only the second person from Northern Ireland to do so.

Peter is therefore particularly pleased that his alma mater now has a thriving Actuarial Science and Risk Management programme within the Queen's Management School.

In recognition of the great start he received at Queen's, Peter has made a generous donation to fund a team prize for Financial Risk Modelling which he hopes will be both a reward for success in the present and a spur for the continued development of Actuarial Science.



Pictured are (L-R): Aoife Macauley, Ciara O'Neill, Valerie and John Maxwell, Sarah Minford and Stephen McNicholl.



(L-R back row): Bogdan Golumbeanu (QSMF COO); David Finn (Head of UK Multi-Asset Portfolios, Davy); Robert Cunningham (QSMF Chief Economist); Cory Armstrong (QSMF CFO); Matthew Bain (QSMF CIO) Front: Megan O'Hanlon (QSMF CEO); Chris Power (Director and Chartered Wealth Manager, Davy)

DAVY GROUP

Davy Group have generously supported the Queen's Student Managed Fund (QSMF) for a second year as Gold Sponsors, providing students with the opportunity to manage and operate a real-money investment portfolio.

Established in 2012, the QSMF transitioned to a real money fund in April 2016. Students currently manage funds in excess of £35,000 through Davy Group, Ireland's leading provider of wealth and asset management, capital markets and financial advisory services.

The fund aims to develop skills, provide practical experience, and enhance career opportunities. Using the FinTrU Trading Room, students make all investment decisions with guidance provided by the faculty Oversight Committee.

Davy also support QSMF by hosting a Pitching Event where investments are pitched to a panel of senior Davy staff, including QSMF alumni.

Queen's is one of only a handful of UK and Irish universities offering students such an experience, ensuring they have more of an edge in the global jobs market.

THE JOHN PB MAXWELL SCHOLARSHIPS

At the John PB Maxwell Scholarships dinner last year John surprised guests by announcing his decision to double the value of the scholarships – a most generous and hugely impactful decision.

It is clear how genuinely significant the scholarship, designed to recognise young barristers who 'distinguish themselves in the course of their postgraduate training', has been for the first four recipients.

Aoife Macauley noted:

“John Maxwell has created a family within the Bar of NI through the JPB Maxwell Scholarships. The award is gratefully received by all scholars and comes at a pivotal time in any young barrister's life.”

Ciara O'Neill said: “The JPB Maxwell Scholarship affords newly qualified barristers the opportunity to fully embrace life at the Bar – something which, without John Maxwell's generosity, many would not be able to do.”

Sarah Minford stated: “It is an honour and privilege to have been awarded a Maxwell Scholarship. Becoming a Scholar has enabled me to join a network of fellow recipients, and the generous gift which John Maxwell has given so graciously has supported, and will continue to support me in the commencement of life as a junior practitioner at the Bar.”

And Stephen McNicholl commented: “The JPB Maxwell Scholarship has been invaluable in making the transition from the IPLS to pupillage and eventually legal practice.”

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSITY

visit the Queen's Foundation website
<http://dar0.qub.ac.uk/Foundation>

or get in touch with Aoife McNabb
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FOLLOW THE DREAM

Rob Saunders was one of Ireland's youngest ever rugby captains, winning 12 caps for his country between 1991 and 1994. He has enjoyed a standout career at the very top of the financial world at Morgan Stanley and Deutsche Bank. And now he wants to make his mark by giving back – to his alma mater, to Northern Ireland and to someone who might not otherwise get an opportunity to go to university.

Rob was born in Nottingham. His Scottish parents came to Northern Ireland when Rob, an only child, was just four years old.

His father lectured at what was then the Ulster Polytechnic (now Ulster University) and his mother was a lecturer in Psychology. Both tried out for Scotland – one in hockey, the other in rugby – guaranteeing Rob's sporting DNA.

“For my folks, education was free. Without that they might not have gone on to university or achieved the careers they did. We are all born equal; in terms of healthcare and education it shouldn't really matter where you come from.”

Rob attended Whiteabbey Primary School and then BRA (Belfast Royal Academy) where he had trials in soccer, was Ulster Schools shot put champion, and excelled at both cricket and squash.

Attending Queen's between 1987 and 1990, not surprisingly, rugby and rugby related-people – including Coach Robbie Moore and friend and housemate Mark McCaul, the current Director of Rugby at Saracens – occupy his abiding memories of university life.

Leaving with a BA in Politics in 1990 Rob went to London, to work first with merchant bankers Robert Fleming & Co., and later with Morgan Stanley. Most of his career – almost 22 years – was spent at Deutsche Bank, before he moved to Jefferies in 2018, where he is Managing Director.

It is, however, for rugby that Rob Saunders will be best known. Captaincy roles for Ulster and Ireland schools, Queen's, the Irish Universities and Irish Exiles – along with the Ireland U21 side – all suggested that he might, at some point, skipper the senior side.

In a short-lived but eventful career, Rob broke new ground when, uncapped and born outside Ireland, he made his test debut playing at scrum-half – and as captain – in the Ireland v France match at Lansdowne Road on 2 February 1991.

A member of the Ireland squad at the 1991 Rugby World Cup, his last test was to be against the French at the Parc des Princes, almost three years later (15 January 1994).

That August, despite being named in an upcoming training squad, Rob announced that he was stepping down from representative rugby, citing the high level of commitment involved.

“By that time I had a ‘full on’ day job and knew I couldn't fulfil both. Rugby, for years my dream, was never going to be my career (the game only turned pro in 1995) and it offered no guarantees.

“It took me time to come to terms with it but I threw all my efforts into work. With hindsight I would have liked to have played a couple more seasons, but it wasn't to be.

“I was extremely privileged to captain Ireland. It was a real honour to do so but by then I was working for Morgan Stanley, which included spending time in New York, and I knew that the world of finance was going to be my serious career.”

Sport – including playing rugby at Queen's – certainly stood him in fine stead, but Rob has rarely had to call upon the content of his Politics degree in the interim.

“A university degree really helps with critical thinking and enabling you to articulate more clearly. Banking requires a diverse mix of skills and talents and university sharpened my thought processes and allowed me to meet a wonderful cross-section of society from diverse social backgrounds, which is a plus in any job.”

No stranger to supporting charitable causes, Rob says he rarely felt that someone benefitted directly from his backing and that often he himself didn't get anything out of making a philanthropic gift.

All that is about to change. A chance telephone call from Viv Harris, Queen's Development Manager, has led Rob to the point where he has set up a generous award at his alma mater. The Rob Saunders Scholarship aims to change the life of a student joining Queen's in 2020.

Rob acknowledges that he took a lot away from his time at Queen's and says that, after almost 30 years of minimal contact with the University, he feels the time is right for him to renew the connection with the province. And to give something meaningful back.

“While I am opposed ideologically to paying for tertiary education I recognise that the likelihood of carrying huge debt forward after university is a determining factor for many people and is often the reason they don't even apply in the first place.”

For Rob, setting up the scholarship is about offering someone from a challenging economic background a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to undertake a fantastic degree at a world-class university and to follow their dream.

“The sporting side is important. For me, though, the overriding thing is to find somebody who is bright and ambitious but who is apprehensive about the financial risks involved.”

“I want to help them out of that social background, to show them that there is life outside their local community, to offer them the whole university experience.

“Sport is great – it is healthy and sociable and allows you to meet lots of different people. But I want the Scholarship to do more than that. I want it to be life changing and to allow someone to flourish.”

Living in Cobham in Surrey and married to Jennifer for 28 years, Rob is no longer involved in rugby, apart from following it passionately from the sidelines and on television. They have three children: Ryan (26), who works in sports marketing; Rebecca (24), who went to Nottingham University and is now a personal trainer; and Niall (21), who plays rugby professionally for Harlequins.

The search will commence later this year for the inaugural recipient of the Rob Saunders Scholarship.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FUNDING A SCHOLARSHIP AT QUEEN'S

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VOLUNTEERS GIVE CAREER INSIGHTS

In July 2019, three Law graduates came together to talk to students on the Pathway Opportunity Programme (POP), the flagship widening participation project at Queen's. As Natasha Sharma, Alumni Officer (Volunteering), reports, around 40 Law pathway students received some very important and valuable advice.

The School of Law has been involved with POP since it was launched in 2017. The programme aims to help the 'most able but least likely' A level students from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain a place at university.

Volunteering their time to provide personal career insights were John Leckey, LLB (1971), LLM (1992), Jason O'Neill, Law and Politics (2011) and Dr Conor McCormick, LLB (2013).

In addition to the session with Queen's alumni – all of whom had opted to go into non-legal roles after finishing their studies – the students visited a number of law firms in Belfast, to gain insights into the variety of employment options open to them.

Tutors and academic guides joined the POP students at the informal event to hear how studying Law at Queen's had helped the three volunteer graduates in their careers. The simple objective was to dispel the perception that a Law degree only led to a law career, and to encourage students to pursue an LLB with that in mind.

First to offer his recollections was John Leckey, who was appointed full-time coroner for Greater Belfast in 1992. At that time the Greater Belfast coroner was the only full-time appointment. He went on to become Senior Coroner for Northern Ireland from 2006 to 2015.

In 2015, Ulster University conferred on him the degree of LLD (Honoris Causa) and he was awarded the First Trust Bank Queen's Graduate of the Year in 2015, for his contribution to public service.

The shock in the room was almost palpable when today's students learned how times 'used to be' when John was a student. He explained that in his first year at Queen's in the late 1960s, there were 60 men and only six women on his course. John went on to recall that homosexuality

was still a very controversial topic at the time, culminating in the law that decriminalised it in 1967 – but only in England and Wales.

What was John's top advice for the students? "Don't be shy about asking for advice," he said. "And if at all possible, discuss the issue under consideration with peers and seek other perspectives before reaching a conclusion."

“That often pays dividends as it makes you consider views contrary to your own.”

Former Students' Union President (2011-13), now entrepreneur, Jason O'Neill was next to speak.

Jason recalled some of the many opportunities that law had given him, beyond the obvious degree. He had the chance to travel to London in his second year, where he was able to visit the city's top 10 law firms.

Through his experience at Queen's, Jason realised the value of learning from those further on in their career journeys and the importance of knowing 'how to play the game' when it came to graduate recruitment.

After graduating, he moved to London on a leadership trainee scheme in Sainsbury's head office, where he expected to become a senior manager within six years. Because of unexpected health issues, however, he had to return home to focus on his recovery.

During this time he joined the Alliance Party and stood as the party's North Belfast candidate in the 2015 general election, achieving the highest number of votes by an Alliance candidate in the constituency for almost 30 years.

During his convalescence Jason realised that he actually wanted to work with people and to make an impact for the better. He set up his company Connectco which offers alumni relations and development services to a number of schools in Northern Ireland.

Jason's advice to the Pathway students? "You will encounter unexpected challenges – that is normal. But be aware that unexpected challenges can lead to unexpected opportunities. Your 'plan A' will not always work out but that doesn't mean that 'plan B' or 'plan C' may not be better."

“Life is about balance,” he added. “So balance your studies, your clubs and societies, your part-time job...and your socialising!”

Dr Conor McCormick graduated from Law in Queen's in 2013 before taking up a position in Los Angeles, working in the Federal District Court for two judges. This competitive opportunity is available to all final-year law students, and is set up through the generosity of alumni funding the programme.

In his role, Conor had to sift through a range of appeal applications, and suggest which ones should be granted and dismissed on the basis of legal technicalities.

Conor then saw an advert for an LLM (at Ulster University) about access to justice, which he pursued. After his LLM, he worked at the Law Society of Northern Ireland, conducting further research on this and other issues with a real-world impact.

By this stage, he realised that research was what he loved most, so he returned to Queen's to undertake a PhD in 2015, where he had the opportunity to travel and network with people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Today a lecturer at the University, Conor works hard to ensure the continued availability of the unique opportunities he himself once benefitted from. His advice to students: if you like both sides – i.e. working with people and books – then think about a career in academia!

Greatly appreciated by the students present, the common thread in the very different graduate journeys described by the three alumni – none of whom pursued a legal career – was to expect the unexpected.

FOR MORE ON VOLUNTEERING

go to <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/qubvolunteer>

or get in touch with **Natasha Sharma**

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VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This year's Volunteer of the Year is Professor Gerry Gormley, Queen's medical graduate (1995) and Clinical Professor in Simulation and Clinical Skills in the Centre for Medical Education at the University.

Qualifying as a GP in 2000, Gerry has a doctorate in Medicine (2005) and began his academic career as a Clinical Teaching Fellow. He was recently promoted to a Clinical Professorship in Simulation and Clinical Skills.

Constantly striving for excellence, he has been working on the development of a new simulation learning centre at the University for the past three years.

When it opens, the Centre will be one of the few in the UK to truly champion simulation based education. It will promote excellence through an interprofessional approach that drives safe, effective and collaborative patient care.

Gerry's enthusiasm and commitment for the project have played a vital role in making this vision a reality.

Tireless in his support for the Development and Alumni Relations Office fundraising team, which has raised £2m for the initiative, Gerry has attended events at weekends and in the evenings, given tours and hosted visits to the existing clinical skills centre, and led a London showcase for potential donors.

Presented at the Medical Donor Winter Reception, Gerry received the Alumni Volunteer of the Year accolade for going 'above and beyond, giving of his time freely, always maintaining a cool sense of calm'. Described as an engaging and passionate speaker, Gerry was also recognised for his enthusiasm for, and commitment to, simulation based learning, which, said Helen Surgenor, Assistant Director (Fundraising), was 'infectious'.



Volunteer of the Year, Professor Gerry Gormley, (centre) pictured with Helen Surgenor (left) and Professor Pascal McKeown, Dean of Education and Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences.



LGBT+ Society



Lawn Tennis Club



Judo



EECS VR Lab

The Queen's Annual Fund (QAF) exists thanks to generous support from former students. It provides life-changing opportunities for current students through scholarships and bursaries, support for clubs and societies and much more. In 2019/20, £59,000 was disbursed to 49 different projects across the University.

“The club has flourished and recently had All-Ireland success, hopefully the first of many gold medals for Queen’s this season!” said Mark McDonnell, Queen’s GAA Handball Annual Fund recipient 2018/19.

YOUR DONATION, YOUR IMPACT

Your support is providing life-changing opportunities for students – thank you!

To find out more visit: queensfoundation.com/AnnualFund



SU International Buddy Scheme



Film Society



QUB Fencing



Wakeboard and Waterski Club



GP Society



Skydiving Club



Queen's Radio



QUB Gender Network



Scrubs



Student Nurse Mental Health Support Network

HEALTH FUNDRAISING NEWS



PATRICK G JOHNSTON CENTRE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

The Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology at Queen's has been officially renamed The Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research, to honour the life and work of the University's former Vice-Chancellor, who died in June 2017.

Paddy Johnston, a world-leading cancer researcher who was passionate about patient care, had his name added to the international centre regarded as one of his major achievements, at a special naming ceremony attended by his widow, Iseult and sons Seamus, Eoghan, Niall and Ruairi and members of the extended family circle.

The decision to acknowledge Professor Johnston's immense contribution to life at Queen's was made public last July by his successor, Professor Ian Greer.

"The establishment of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology represented the realisation of Paddy's long-held ambition around transforming cancer services in Northern Ireland," said Professor Greer.

"He saw the potential of Northern Ireland becoming a global leader in cancer care and the benefits that would bring, and he ensured that potential became a reality. In recognition of his impact on cancer services, the CCRCB building will be renamed The Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research."

Pictured at the retitling event held in January are (L-R) Professor Chris Scott, Director (Acting) of the Centre, Iseult Johnston and Professor Ian Greer.

This edition of Donor News will use the former name of the Centre, as this was its name when gifts were received.

THE KN CHEUNG SK CHIN INTERSIM CENTRE

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni and friends, we have raised the £2m needed to start work on the new clinical skills training centre. The centre will be named the KN Cheung SK Chin Intersim Centre, in celebration of the parents of our lead donor – himself a Queen's medical graduate – who supported him and his four siblings as international students through the University.

Opening in autumn 2020, it will be a cutting-edge training facility for all Queen's Medical, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Nursing and Midwifery students.

BBQ RAISES £60K FOR CCRCB

Limavady woman Julie Loughery, with the help of her family and friends, held a charity BBQ, auction and stock judging night and raised a staggering £60,000 to be used to support breast cancer research at the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) at Queen's.



Diagnosed with breast cancer in May 2018, Julie is, after a difficult journey going through chemotherapy and eventually a mastectomy, now loving life again.

Julie said: "I had hoped the BBQ would raise a substantial amount, but I have been blown away by the generosity of local people. I was delighted to be able to visit CCRCB and see what the researchers at Queen's are doing with the money, so that I can tell everyone who supported me what a difference their donations are making."

RESEARCHING CERVICAL CANCER

Dr Lesley Anderson from the Queen's Centre for Public Health has received over £19,000 in memory of Lynsey Courtney, who lost her fight against cervical cancer in September 2018, aged 30.

Dr Anderson and her team aim to reduce cervical cancer and improve outcomes by investigating the awareness of HPV among women in Northern Ireland.

Throughout Lynsey's diagnosis and treatment she inspired everyone who knew her with her sheer grit, determination and positive mind set, even on the toughest of days. It was Lynsey's wish that further research take place to prevent others having to go through what she endured. The team at Queen's are proud to be a part of her legacy.

MEDICAL WINTER RECEPTION

Almost 100 donors, guests and staff gathered for the annual Medical Donor 'Thank You' event at Queen's at the start of December.

The evening was hosted by Professor Pascal McKeown, Dean of Education and Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences. Professor McKeown acknowledged donors to the School, saying: "Thanks to your philanthropic support, we are able to improve medical education by making it more accessible to students from different backgrounds, by offering them a better experience and more advanced teaching, as well as supporting them through hardship should they need it.

"One hundred percent of your generous gifts goes directly to improving our medical research, providing seed funding for new projects and speeding up the process of taking new lab discoveries and translating them into new treatments for patients.

"Your support is impacting outcomes for patients locally and beyond."

Among other speakers were Dr Richard Turkington, who gave an overview of research into gastro-intestinal cancers, Professor Mike Shields, who outlined work covering childhood respiratory disorders, and PhD student Natalie Fisher, who gave a presentation on her research into bowel cancer.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Evelyn Kyle generously chose to support multiple sclerosis research at the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine at a recent 'significant' birthday – raising a wonderful £1,100.

Accompanied by her husband James, Evelyn came to Queen's to meet the MS research team, whose work is enhanced thanks to generous philanthropy from supporters of the Queen's Foundation.

FAMILY FUNDING FOR BRAIN CANCER

Margaret Oliver raised an incredible £15,000 for research carried out at Queen's by Dr Tom Flannery into brain cancer, something that has touched her personally.

She raised the funds through coffee mornings, stalls at fairs and a number of other events in Castlerock.

In addition to Margaret's inspirational efforts, the Castlerock Charity Crafters donated £2,000, plus friend Noel Drain generously gifted £1,000 upon his retirement as Provincial Grand Master of 50 Masonic Lodges in Londonderry and Donegal.

HOLSTEIN NI OPEN DAY

Holstein NI's 4th annual open day raised £7,500 for CCRCB, bringing the total raised for charity over the last four years to a staggering £90,500.

The money from this year's event, generously hosted by the Mitchell family from Banbridge and their team of volunteers, has been divided equally between three nominated beneficiaries – CCRCB, Friends of the Cancer Centre, and Cancer Fund for Children.



OPEN GARDEN RAISES FUNDS FOR ALZHEIMER'S

Kaye Campbell once more opened her private gardens which surround the historic Donegore Moat in County Antrim over the summer.



Professor Peter Passmore from the Centre for Public Health was delighted to accept £5,682 towards his research into Alzheimer's disease.

COPD GETS BACKING FROM SIXTH FORMERS

Leanne Stewart and her friends (pictured below) organised a Quiz Night to raise £1,020 for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) research. COPD is a progressive and incurable disease which is becoming more and more common, but thanks to research at Queen's, we now understand the causes and how to reduce the symptoms associated with it.



SPORTING IMPACT

FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER

HELEN'S BAY LADIES SUPPORT OVARIAN CANCER

The immediate past Lady Captain of Helen's Bay Golf Club, Linda Wilson – accompanied by current Lady Captain, Barbara Edwards, and Lady Vice-Captain, Helen Baird – visited Queen's in April to hand over a cheque to CCRCB, the University's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology.

The proceeds, part of Linda's year as Lady Captain, will fund ovarian cancer research at Queen's.

The gift was received by Dr Nuala McCabe, a researcher in CCRCB, who along with Dr Eileen Parkes, Academic Clinical Lecturer from the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, is undertaking the research.

"Our research aims to harness an individual patient's immune system to fight their own cancer through the use of immune checkpoint inhibitors," said Dr McCabe.

"While this approach has been successful in other cancers it is a relatively new concept in ovarian cancer. It is our hope that, following the publication and peer review of the research findings, this will lead to early phase clinical trials."

GAA SUPPORTS PROSTATE RESEARCH

The president of the Ulster GAA Council, Oliver Galligan, has pledged support to the Queen's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) as part of the Association's 'Supporting Prostate Cancer Research' campaign throughout 2019/20.

Dr Aidan Cole from CCRCB said: "The prostate cancer research team at Queen's is delighted to form this strategic partnership with the Ulster GAA Council to improve education, diagnosis and management of men diagnosed with prostate cancer in our communities."

"We are proud of our strong links with the GAA community and endeavour to provide our patients with the best treatments available and lead in clinical trials that can transform the treatment of prostate cancer in the future."

The Prostate Clinical Research Team at Queen's comprises a team of clinical research and NHS consultant oncologists, coupled with expert scientific research from the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology.

T:BUC JUNIOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Funding from the Executive Office T:BUC Camps Programme, administered by the Education Authority, enabled Queen's to deliver three two-week Junior Leadership Programmes last summer.

The programme brought together 60 young people from diverse community backgrounds to gain skills and knowledge in leadership, coaching and good relations.

Mandy Jones from the Executive Office said: "The Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) strategy was published in May 2013 and reflects the Northern Ireland Executive's commitment to improving community relations and continuing the journey towards a more united and shared society."

"One of the headline actions in the strategy is the T:BUC Camps Programme, which Queen's Sport received funding from to deliver their Junior Leadership Programme. This cross-community programme provides an exciting opportunity for young people aged 14-17 to develop their skills in conjunction with Queen's Sport."

Teenagers had training in leadership, good relations and coaching skills in various sports to enable them to provide a range of activities for younger children from divided parts of the community attending Queen's Sport's annual summer scheme.



SOCCER ACADEMY ANNOUNCES DEAL WITH SCAN ALARMS

Newtownabbey-based Scan Alarms and Security Systems Ltd became sponsors of Queen's Soccer Academy in September 2019, ahead of the Football Club's inaugural season in the Northern Ireland Football League Championship division.

A joint venture set up in 2007 between Queen's Sport and Queen's Football Club, the Academy aims to create a high performance environment for student athletes in their pursuit of academic and sporting excellence.

Scan Alarms MD Stuart McQuiston said: "The dedication and attention to detail within the Queen's team are second to none – their league-winning form and subsequent promotion at the end of last season prove that."

"That commitment to continually improve mirrors the same high standards we set ourselves at Scan. As a leading locally based service provider we aim to continually develop our staff and push ourselves to exceed the expectations of our customers."

Over the last two years Queen's University Football Club has experienced the most successful period in its history culminating in winning the NIFL Intermediate League and Intermediate Cup before making their first foray into senior football.

Pictured above (L-R): Stephen O'Reilly (Queen's Development and Alumni Relations Office), Stuart McQuiston (Scan Alarms), Ronan Young (Soccer Academy), Karl Oakes (Queen's Sport) and Tom Glasgow (Scan Alarms).

BOWLED OVER!

Members of Malone Bowling Club in Belfast have raised over £4,000 through a charity bowling event in their third year of supporting life-changing Parkinson's research at Queen's.



In aid of
Malone Bowling Club
 Charity Event

PARKINSON'S™ CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

A PATHWAY TO HOPES AND DREAMS

Greater numbers of disadvantaged students are getting on track to a university education. The Pathway Opportunity Programme, now in its third year, is growing in both depth and breadth, providing a route to Queen's for those from difficult backgrounds who are capable of studying at university but may not even apply, as Ted Jensen, Outreach Officer in Queen's Widening Participation Unit, reports.

One of a series of Widening Participation initiatives, the Pathway Opportunity Programme focuses on students from the more deprived neighbourhoods in Northern Ireland, primarily from low-income families, or who are young carers or who have experienced foster or residential care.

Michelle Edwards from Holy Cross College Strabane is studying Common and Civil Law with Hispanic Studies. "Pathway was amazing!" said Michelle. "I especially loved the residential as I was able to experience life in student accommodation and study some of the material that is covered in first year.

"It also included loads of fun activities, enabling me to meet loads of new people and make friends. As a result my transition to student life has not been as hard as I was expecting. Plus I am less nervous of what is to come and already know people on my course."

Pathway also opens up a range of often unforeseen possibilities, as Michelle explains. "The Programme has given me even more opportunities, creating links to prestigious law firms which will undoubtedly help me in the future. Plus I now have a job, working with the Widening Participation Team supporting next year's Pathway students!"

Through a range of on-campus events, online coursework and a week-long residential summer school, Pathway students focus on one of a number of subjects. Ultimately, they can expect to receive a guaranteed conditional offer to study at Queen's on a course in their Pathway. And they might even be eligible for up to a two-grade reduction in their A level grade offer.

Importantly, students receive the support of the Pathway Team and Learning Development Service when they arrive at Queen's, to assist with their transition to university.

They also receive a £1,000 bursary generously funded by Kilwaughter Minerals, Larne, and in their second year a further £1,000 bursary funded by our alumni and other corporate supporters.

Jessica Rogers, from Cambridge House Grammar in Ballymena, is now studying Computer Science at Queen's. "I am incredibly grateful for the Pathway Programme and the £1,000 bursary and owe a huge thank you to Kilwaughter for supporting Pathway students."

The prospect of support funding encouraged Jessica to work even harder to secure a place at Queen's. "The bursary was another huge push regarding how hard I was determined to work to get into university.

"It is going to be a great help assisting me in buying textbooks, as well as allowing me to feel less pressure and stress regarding handling finances on top of university work."

For Law student Kayleigh Edgar from St Cecilia's College in Derry/Londonderry, the bursary allowed her to move away from home and purchase an important extra.

"The £1,000 has provided me with the financial stability that I needed to move out of my family home and enjoy a vital part of student life – gaining my independence.

"As my student loan was going towards my accommodation, the bursary enabled me to apply for accommodation knowing that I could also afford to live in Belfast and enjoy my time in the city.

"And although I had already bought my textbooks before receiving the bursary, it has allowed me to purchase a laptop which is essential for my studies at Queen's."

The initiative is valued by more than just successful students. "The Pathway Programme was brilliant," one parent commented. "It gave my child the confidence to proceed with the view to further education in university.

"And I really appreciated the opportunity to visit Queen's on their graduation day. It made me realise that anyone – regardless of their background – can have the same hopes and dreams of their ideal career."

In September 2019, the University welcomed almost 50 Pathway undergraduates – 35 new students and 12 returners from the year before – so the initiative is clearly working.

And the breadth of the programme is also expanding with four new academic pathways included for 2020 in Engineering, Biological Sciences, Natural and Built Environment (covering Architecture, Planning, Geography and Archaeology) and Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences.

From an initial intake of just 12 in 2018, the current cohort has grown to 166 students and we are targeting 250 for the 2020 programme.

The future is now much more promising – and hopefully not just as stressful – for all those capable of studying at Queen's.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT WIDENING PARTICIPATION AT QUEEN'S,

please contact **Viv Harris, Development Manager**

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E: v.harris@qub.ac.uk



LEGACY GIVING

CHANGING LIVES LONG INTO THE FUTURE

LEGACY DONOR PROFILE:

Moira Isobel Dunbar
OC, FRSC, glaciologist (1918-1999)

Throughout an exceptional career as a distinguished Arctic scientist, Moira Dunbar broke through barriers traditionally placed on her gender and blazed a trail for women in science and research.

Moira Dunbar was born in 1918, in Edinburgh, Scotland. Although she earned a BA in Geography from Oxford University (1939), she initially worked as an actress, travelling around Europe with a theatre troupe throughout WWII. She later recalled: "I was hopeless as a young ingénue. I was what is known as a character juvenile, which meant playing a long string of comic maids."

In 1947, Moira travelled to Canada on a visitor's visa, and while there heard that the Canadian government was looking for trained geographers. Moira successfully applied for a position and began working with the Joint Intelligence Bureau of Canada, editing a book on Arctic sea ice.

BREAKING DOWN GENDER BARRIERS

Hoping for a more hands-on role, Moira applied for a position on an Arctic icebreaker. Despite her having the qualifications and experience, a man was contracted from England because naval vessels would not take a woman. Moira was persistent, and in 1955, the Deputy Minister finally approved her request.

When asked about her experience on icebreakers, Moira explained: "I think they regarded me as some sort of cross between a delicate flower and a dangerous disease... I think they expected me to go around seducing all the men, or something." (The Herald, 1999)



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Funding world-class research

This treatment was only temporary, and soon Moira was regarded as an integral member of the team.

Throughout her career, she conducted her research primarily from icebreakers; however, she also realised the benefit of studying ice from above, and began to lobby to be permitted to fly with the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Once approved, Moira became one of the first women to fly over the North Pole. She clocked up almost 600 hours in RCAF aircraft – a considerable achievement – studying ice formations from the air.

Moira also collaborated with a well-known RCAF navigator, Wing Commander, later Air Commodore, Keith Greenaway, in 1956 to write *Arctic Canada from the Air*. The book described the first airborne geographical study of its kind, and is still in demand today.

She published many papers throughout her career, and even learned Russian in order to better understand Soviet research on Arctic ice. In 1971, Moira was awarded the Massey Medal from the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, becoming the only woman to have achieved this distinction since its inception in 1959.

When Moira retired in 1978, she had received the Order of Canada and was a governor of the Arctic Institute of North America, and the director of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, amongst other accolades. She was on the cutting-edge of research for the majority of her career – a pioneer in glaciology, breaking down every barrier she encountered along the way.



“ I THINK THEY REGARDED ME AS SOME SORT OF CROSS BETWEEN A DELICATE FLOWER AND A DANGEROUS DISEASE...”

HER LEGACY TO QUEEN'S

Moira, who never married, was pre-deceased by her brother, Maxwell, a marine biologist, and survived by her sister, Elizabeth Jenkins. She died on 22 November 1999, at the age of 81. Given her love of geography, it should come as no surprise that, in her will, Moira chose to leave seven acres of property she owned in Limavady, County Londonderry, to the Queen's Foundation.

Moira's gift to Queen's is hugely charitable, as Legacy Manager Susan Wilson explains: "Moira had no direct connections to Queen's or to Northern Ireland that we know of, apart from the land in the northwest.

"Somehow, though, she recognised the huge impact the University has on the province, through its life-changing research and educational opportunities.

"Through her legacy, Moira is continuing to push boundaries which enable Queen's to tackle global challenges that affect people here – and further afield – and which will no doubt change lives long into the future."

If you are thinking about leaving a legacy gift to support a cause you are passionate about at Queen's, whether

it is education or research, buildings or sport, the opportunity to ring-fence a gift of property in your will is a possibility.

Other ways to shape your gift include:

- A cash gift (remember to ask your solicitor to advise you on protecting a cash gift from inflation over time)
- A percentage gift
- Gifts of stocks or shares
- A body bequest (to support future medical education or research)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

on the wording of a gift, or how best to shape a gift in your will to support an area of research or education at Queen's which means something special to you,

Please contact **Susan Wilson, Legacy Manager**

T: +44 (0)28 9097 3162
E: susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk



Andrew Godden with parents Linda and Andrew Godden



Benefactors' Lunch Isdell Courtyard



Brian Cheung, Barbara Mothershaw and Kevin McNeary



Geirry Power, Judith Eve and Laurence Clancy



Abby Andrews, Helen Surgenor and Liz Andrews

BENEFACTORS' LUNCH 2019

"The annual Benefactors' Lunch is our chance to say 'thank you' to our key donors and volunteers who so generously support the work of the Queen's Foundation.

"Gifts of time and money impact enormously on our students, our research and our campus but most importantly on the lives of so many people living in Northern Ireland and around the world.

"This year's lunch was my first – and it was superb! Getting to meet so many of our most loyal supporters was truly inspiring. Thank you to all those who helped make this past year yet another special one for Queen's".

Nathalie Trott, Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Queen's University Belfast.

Thank you!

“YOUR GIFTS REALLY DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”



Naomi King with Stephen and Jacqui Shaw



Jonathan Hill, Lotte Rietveld, Stuart Campbell, Lavinia Boyce



Carol McCluney, Eileen O'Connor, Teresa Sloan and Patricia Napier



Audrey Parr, Professor Ian Greer, Eileen and Norah Conway



Mary Hamilton, Graham McKelvey, Christine Hamilton and Aoife McNabb



Liz Andrews, Nathalie Trott, Abby Andrews, Michael and Joanna McDonnell



Nathalie Trott, Director of Development and Alumni Relations



Sarah Gilbert and Anisile Doran



Professor Joe O'Sullivan

Professor of Radiation Oncology, Queen's University Belfast
Consultant Oncologist, The Northern Ireland Cancer Centre,
Belfast City Hospital

BECOME PART OF THE SOLUTION

The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation is a registered charity which helps fund local research, staff, equipment and clinical research trials that change lives here in Northern Ireland.

Gifts in wills are a simple way you can support this vital work in the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology at Queen's. This research is used to help improve outcomes and quality of life for patients in the Northern Ireland Cancer Centre at Belfast City Hospital.

We understand that the causes closest to your heart are often personal, which is why you can choose to give to the area of research that means the most to you.

When you choose to leave a charitable legacy, you become part of the solution.

You inspire the greatest minds and invest in world-class research.

You change lives.

Contact Susan Wilson Legacy Manager
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www.queensfoundation.com/legacygifts

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