

# THE GRADUATE 2017

The magazine for  
graduates and friends of  
Queen's University Belfast

World-class Student Centre

What you love about Queen's!

Tributes to Professor Patrick  
Johnston

**PLUS** Brexit and Higher  
Education, Data Protection –  
Time to 'Opt In', and catch up  
with Class Notes



Queen's University  
Belfast

## PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME – **TRANSFORMING FUTURES**

Read more – Pages 8-10

# WELCOME TO THE GRADUATE 2017



The untimely and tragic death of our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston, in June of this year came as a huge shock, not only to his family but to the entire University community.

Paddy's loss is still being felt by those who knew him well and by all of his colleagues at Queen's. His passing will also reverberate in the cancer research fraternity and with those who benefitted directly from his pioneering achievements.

Much of the content of this issue of The Graduate reflects elements of Paddy's long-term vision for Queen's. You can learn about the many world-class facilities now available to our students, including the Computer Science hub (**pages 8-11**), find out about the leading-edge research currently being undertaken at the University (**pages 14-16**) and read about our ambitious plans for a new Student Centre (**pages 24-25**).

The Pathway Opportunity Programme, featured on **pages 8-10** and launched by Paddy in April, will boost the future prospects of talented young people who have the ability to study

at Queen's but who might require additional support.

And some of the many tributes to Paddy – received by the University from around the world – are contained on **pages 44-45**.

I hope you enjoy reading the 2017 edition of The Graduate. If you would like to share your views on this issue please get in touch with Communications Officer, Gerry Power ([editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk)) and tell us what you think.

Best wishes.

*Norma Sinte*

**Norma Sinte, BA Hons Modern Languages**  
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

**PS – If you are reading The Graduate for the first time, welcome to our worldwide family of 170,000+ alumni. The Development and Alumni Relations Office is your lifelong link to Queen's.**

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This magazine is available online for those who prefer a larger font size.  
Go to: <http://darq.qub.ac.uk/TheGraduate>

**Cover** — Students at the launch of the Pathway initiative in April 2017 (see P8-10)

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# UNIVERSITY NEWS

## Tackling food fraud

The Institute for Global Food Security at Queen's and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Chris Elliott (right) are leading a major €10m EU-China project to improve food safety and to tackle food fraud.



The EU-China-Safe project will involve key players in the food industry, research organisations and governments across two of the world's largest trading areas. The partnership is made up of 33 partners including 15 in the EU and 18 in China.

including a virtual laboratory will create a unique space to share and demonstrate best practice. The use of innovative technologies will result in improved detection of adulteration of food products as well as increased traceability and transparency of global supply chains.

The initiative will reduce food fraud, which is worth an estimated \$52 billion each year, and advance food safety through focusing on improving food legislation and inspection and increasing access to information across both continents. State-of-the-art technologies

Professor Chris Elliott, Pro-Vice-Chancellor at Queen's and project co-ordinator, said: "We are delighted that The Institute for Global Food Security at Queen's University will lead this important project, bringing together key stakeholders in the global food system across two of the world's largest trading markets."

## Asteroid warning

Once the realm of sci-fi writers and movie makers, a leading astrophysicist from Queen's has warned that an asteroid strike may just be a matter of time.

Professor Alan Fitzsimmons from the University's Astrophysics Research Centre has said it is a case of 'when' an asteroid collision will take place, rather than 'if' it will happen.



Speaking on World Asteroid Day (30 June) Professor Fitzsimmons said: "It is important to know that scientists and engineers have made great strides in detecting Near-Earth Asteroids and understanding the threat posed by them. Over 1,800 potentially hazardous objects have been discovered so far, but there are many more waiting to be found."

Professor Fitzsimmons is a member of the NEOshield-2 project, funded by the European Research Council to study how to deflect dangerous asteroids. The University is also a partner in the Pan-STARRS project in Hawaii – the most successful asteroid hunter currently in operation, as well as the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope project, which will provide a quantum leap in asteroid discoveries.

**"Over 1,800 potentially hazardous objects have been discovered so far, but there are many more waiting to be found."**



## Academics honoured

**Two leading Queen's academics – Professor Sir John McCann, who was awarded a Knighthood, and Professor Sally Wheeler an OBE, both in the New Year Honours – were presented with their insignia by HRH Prince Charles at an investiture ceremony in Buckingham Palace in June.**

Director of the University's Institute for Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (ECIT) and the visionary behind the Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT) and the NI Science Park, Professor McCann was recognised for services to higher education and economic development.

And he is no stranger to royal approval. In 2016, CSIT received a Queen's Anniversary Prize for strengthening global cybersecurity and protecting the online activity of billions of internet users around the world.

Professor McCann received Northern Ireland's first Regius Professorship in 2016, a rare and prestigious award bestowed by the Sovereign to recognise exceptionally high-quality research.

Professor Sally Wheeler, who is the Interim Head of the School of Arts, English and Languages and also Head of the School of Law, was honoured for services to HE.

An international expert on corporate governance and contract law, she is Adjunct Professor at Waikato University in New Zealand and Jilin University in China.

In 2013, she became the first lay member to join Northern Ireland's Lord Chief Justice's sentencing group. She is also a governor of Corpus Christi College in Belfast and edits the *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly*.

## One small step

A team of Irish-based researchers, including a number from Queen's, has been given the go-ahead by the European Space Agency (ESA) to develop and launch Ireland's first satellite.

Provided it passes stringent ESA testing, a satellite owned and built by a team comprising researchers and five spaceteck companies will be launched, called Educational Research Satellite-1, or EirSat-1, which will orbit the earth for 12 months.

Dr Gasser Abdelal from Queen's School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering is leading the design, manufacturing and testing of the EirSat-1 structure, mechanisms and thermal subsystems. He commented: "This is one remarkable step for academic staff on the project, and one giant leap for our aerospace degree students."



EirSat-1 inspiring the next generation

"This mission will allow students at Queen's and from across the whole island of Ireland, to advance knowledge in space science and engineering. The key objective of this mission is to inspire the next generation of students to study STEM subjects and address skills shortages in the space sector."

## BAFTA for Queen's Professor

**A Queen's Emeritus Professor – Dr Phil Scraton – who played a seminal role in getting to the truth of the 1989 Hillsborough disaster which claimed 96 lives, received a standing ovation at the Virgin TV British Academy Television Awards ceremony when he joined the team behind the documentary, *Hillsborough*, as they collected the 'best single documentary' award.**

The main author of the Hillsborough Independent Panel's 395-page report into the tragedy – who was the film's factual consultant – was visibly moved to tears as the production team picked up the award at the ceremony in May.

Speaking to The Graduate, Dr Scraton (pictured below) said: "Winning the Best Documentary BAFTA for *Hillsborough* was a tremendous tribute to the outstanding work of Dan Gordon and all at VeryMuchSo productions. It follows an EMMY nomination and the Broadcasting Press Guild award.

"As Factual Consultant and contributor to the film the challenge was to ensure that the detail of my book, *Hillsborough: The Truth*, my work on the Hillsborough Independent Panel and as consultant to the legal teams at the recent inquests was not compromised by the brevity of a two-hour film. It wasn't."



## Children's Writing Fellow appointed

**County Down Irish language author – Myra Zepf – has been appointed Children's Writing Fellow, a prestigious new two-year position created by the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry at Queen's and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in honour of Seamus Heaney and his contribution to literature.**

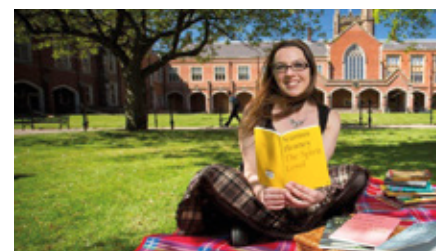
It is the first appointment of its kind and is one of a number of projects created by the two organisations to ensure the legacy of the Nobel Prize-winning poet, and to inspire and support current and future generations of creative writing talent.

The Children's Writing Fellow will perform a range of duties which promote an interest in reading and writing from an early age by encouraging creativity and engagement with books with children of all ages, from pre-schoolers to young adults.

Commenting on her appointment, Myra said: "I'm looking forward to tapping into that wonderful energy that is already there in the world of children's books, joining dots between organisations and individuals and forging new collaborations.

"It will be about shining a spotlight on the talent we already have in the local children's writing community and inspiring a love of reading and books far and wide.

"But most importantly of all, it will be about bringing the buzz of the creative process into schools to develop our youngest writers, sparking their imaginations and nurturing their confidence."



## Queen's Fellowship Programme

**In the past 18 months Queen's has been developing its Fellowship Programme, currently a small cohort of 14 Fellows, to create a network of influential, inspirational researchers driving systemic change locally, nationally and internationally.**

Since the initiative was launched, Queen's Fellows have led or collaborated on research projects worth £5.7m, published 12 books and four book chapters and co-authored an additional six book chapters. One Research Fellow, Julie Norman (pictured), from the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation & Social Justice, won the 2016 British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award.



The highly competitive Fellowships, which offer a guaranteed job at the end of the four-year period, seek to attract intellectually outstanding and ambitious individuals from around the world with established global connections, a capacity for leadership and a commitment to improving the lives of others.

Each successful Fellow will benefit from bespoke training programmes, access to the most advanced equipment, professional development and mentoring opportunities.

The new Queen's Research Fellows, who can be found in all three faculties of the University, include several who have relocated to Belfast from Canada, Luxembourg, Australia and America.

For more on Queen's University Research Fellowship Scheme go to <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/Fellowships>.



# FUNDRAISING UPDATE

## Transforming lives



With the University's 'Beyond' campaign completed, you might think that Queen's is no longer engaged in fundraising. This couldn't be further from the truth. Your gifts of time and money are as important now as ever. Support for priority projects is still necessary. Your contributions continue to transform lives; your backing is still needed today and in the future.

## Pathway to a world-class education

**Earlier this year, with support from Kilwaughter Holdings, Queen's formally launched a scheme to support local students.**

The Pathway Opportunity Programme targets young people in years 13 and 14 who have the potential to study at Queen's but who are less likely to attend, perhaps because they are the first person in their family to apply to university or because they are a care leaver. With the support of lead philanthropic partner Kilwaughter Holdings – and the backing of organisations like Dale Farm, Hovis,

Kainos, Gilfresh Produce, ABP Food Group, Herbert Smith Freehills and the Law Society – the prospect of a brighter future through education can now be offered to those who might not otherwise have considered going on to third level.

Providing admissions guidance and support to encourage progression to third level is an initiative that was enthusiastically backed by the University's late Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston. He saw Pathway as a route for 'talented young people' who had the ability to study at Queen's but who 'might require additional support'.

Part of the University's commitment to promote equality of opportunity and diversity among its students and staff, Pathway includes a structured series of workshops, masterclasses, seminars and events both at the University and online, as well as an assessed summer residential at Queen's. Through attending classes, meeting lecturers and spending time exploring the campus, students gain a real insight into what life at university – and indeed after graduating – might be like.

East Antrim-based Kilwaughter Holdings Limited manufactures and distributes innovative limestone-based products for the construction and agriculture sectors under its K-Rend and Kilwaughter Lime brands. The company is funding entrance bursaries – each worth an estimated £1,000 – for the first batch of Pathway students arriving in Queen's in September 2018 and for four years beyond that. Simon McDowell, Managing Director of Kilwaughter Minerals Ltd, said his company was delighted to support the widening participation programme.

**"The Programme has given our pupils the chance to experience student life at Queen's University as well as a choice about their future career pathways."**

"As a business we believe in the importance of providing people with opportunities to maximise their personal potential. We continue to see changing requirements in the workplace and the support of the Pathway Opportunity Programme helping people to adapt is important," said Simon.

"We truly believe this new bursary scheme has the potential to transform young lives and open up inaccessible personal development opportunities for the participants. We are looking forward to hearing of the success stories we're sure will follow."

Speaking at the launch in April, Ms Wilma Fee, Director of Academic and Student Affairs, said: "Queen's is committed to embracing a diverse student body that reflects our community. We understand that some students may face additional barriers in accessing university which is why we have developed this initiative, aiming to remove those barriers and support talented students from all backgrounds, giving them the opportunity to pursue a quality education.

"Over the summer, 60 'most able, though least likely' students took part in a residential week of activities at the University aimed at inspiring them to continue their education and to apply to Queen's.

Those who successfully complete the Programme will be offered a guaranteed place at Queen's with up to a two-grade reduction and financial support by way of a bursary. The more support the University receives for the Programme, the more students will benefit!

Mrs Martine Mulhern, Principal from St Cecilia's College where six pupils successfully applied to the Pathways project, said: "The Programme has given our pupils the chance to experience student life at Queen's University as well as a choice about their future career pathways.

"They can now choose to go to Queen's University Belfast, whereas it may have been only a dream before this programme. It is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to aspire, endeavour and achieve."

As part of the inaugural Pathway Programme Queen's has selected three discipline-specific course streams – Computer Science, Food, Microbiology and Environment, and Law.

To be eligible for Pathway applicants must be resident, and in attendance full-time at a school or college, in Northern Ireland. Among other criteria, neither parent should have attended university nor obtained an undergraduate degree or equivalent qualification in the UK or abroad.



Designed to help unlock potential and to lead to a more diverse student body at Queen's, the Pathway Opportunity Programme offers students who might not otherwise have had the chance to do so the prospect of accessing a world-class education, at a Top 250 Russell Group university, regardless of their social or financial background.

**"...this new bursary scheme has the potential to transform young lives..."**

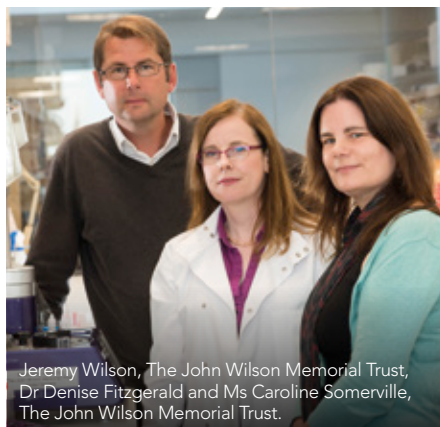
## Pathway gets HSF support

Fifteen students on the Pathway Opportunity Programme at Queen's joined staff at leading international law firm Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF) in Belfast as part of this year's Pathway residential scheme.

Accompanied by five mentors and three University ambassadors, the students spent a day with HSF staff – including two interns from Queen's who joined HSF on 3 July – to find out where a degree might take them after completing their studies.

Commenting on the Pathway day, Mary Napier, a Team Leader at HSF's Belfast office, said: "The students really enjoyed their day with us; they were really driven and asked lots of very interesting questions. Their interactivity with our staff – particularly over the end-of-day pizza networking (!) – meant the session was a huge success."

For further information on supporting the Pathway Opportunity Programme please contact: **Naomi King**, Development Manager (tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3101, email [n.king@qub.ac.uk](mailto:n.king@qub.ac.uk))



Jeremy Wilson, The John Wilson Memorial Trust, Dr Denise Fitzgerald and Ms Caroline Somerville, The John Wilson Memorial Trust.

## Support for MS research

More than £75,000 has been received this year to support Multiple Sclerosis (MS) research at Queen's. Northern Ireland has the second highest incidence of MS in the world with over 4,000 people locally and 100,000 in the UK living with the debilitating disease.

The John Wilson Memorial Trust, Ulster Carpets generously funded the purchase of a key piece of equipment, a RoboSep, to enable researchers to work more effectively and efficiently on the analysis of patient blood samples.

The MS research group at the University, led by Dr Denise Fitzgerald, is aiming to develop a new class of treatments for those with MS, improving the quality of life and, potentially, leading to restoring lost functions.

Dr Fitzgerald, said: "We are extremely grateful to the Trust for providing the funds to purchase the RoboSep. Already we can see the impact on our work and are speeding up the process of understanding the disease which ultimately will lead to new, more effective treatments for patients."

Mr Nick Coburn, Managing Director of Ulster Carpets and Chair of the John Wilson Memorial Trust, said: "We are delighted to have the opportunity to support the innovative research at Queen's in MS. Many of us have family members who are/have been impacted by this disease and it is encouraging to see the development of new treatments that will improve the quality of life for people with MS."

## Legal 'punch up'

A group of 24 legal eagles raised over £30,000 to inaugurate a memorial prize fund in the Institute of Professional Legal Studies (IPLS) at Queen's, to celebrate the life of one of Northern Ireland's trailblazing lawyers.

The Bar Library prize pugilists went toe-to-toe in a white collar boxing evening in memory of Her Honour Judge Corinne Philpott QC, who died aged 62 in June 2016.

A former pupil of Richmond Lodge Belfast and a graduate of Queen's, Corinne Philpott was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1977, practising as a junior barrister specialising in criminal and family law.

A pioneer for women that followed her at the Bar and on the bench – and someone who never lost sight of the ongoing difficulties facing young law graduates starting out in practice – Corinne was the first female and junior barrister to be elected Vice Chair of the Bar Council (1992), holding office for two years, going on to become only the second woman locally to become a QC (1993). The first female county court judge in Northern Ireland when she was appointed in 1998, Judge Philpott became Recorder of Londonderry four years later.

Speaking about the event, organiser Arleen Elliott said: "Raising funds in memory of Judge Corinne Philpott was a hugely worthwhile challenge but doing it by boxing was even more so! Beating our £30,000 fundraising target was a fantastic achievement – I am delighted that our efforts will help young lawyers in the IPLS. A huge thanks to my colleagues for taking part; all the training was certainly worth it!"



Pictured at the handover (L-R) event organisers Arleen Elliott and The Right Honourable Lord Justice Reginald Weir with Paul Mageean, Director IPLS.

Preparing for the boxing bout was no easy affair, but with the help of White Collar Boxing, and an intensive training programme delivered by former Olympic boxer Cathal O'Grady and European Silver Medalist Cathal McMonagle, the boxers made their target weights – and their fundraising total – when they topped the bill for the main event in May.

The memorial prize fund set up to honour Judge Philpott will fund two prizes each year to be given out to trainees in the IPLS in a new criminal law module.



## Future generations of computer experts

Queen's officially opened its iconic, world-class Computer Science hub on Belfast's Malone Road at the end of March. Signifying the University's commitment to global development in the field, the honours were performed by Queen's graduate Ian Loughran, Head of Americas Sales Operations at Google. The revamping of the former Sir Bernard Crossland Building was completed in nine months at a cost of £14m, which included generous support from The Garfield Weston Foundation, First Derivatives and Allstate.

The colourfully redeveloped Computer Science Building is home to the 1,000 students reading computing-related subjects, giving them access to the latest state-of-the-art facilities.

Spanning four floors it includes labs and break-out spaces, and provides a meeting place for creative learning and a new mode of teaching, while supporting the expansion of Computer Science, which is an institutional priority for the University.

The University hopes that by developing key skills, and fostering new ideas that drive innovation in tech and other fields, it will make Belfast an international IT hotspot and attract some of the brightest young minds in computer technology to Northern Ireland.

## NIE Scholars

The NIE Network Scholarship programme

**Now in its fifth year The NIE Networks Scholarship programme is open to first and second year electrical engineering students.**

The £25k award includes an annual bursary and book allowance, paid summer and one-year training experience, an NIE Networks engineering mentor and student membership of the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

With significant challenges facing the electricity industry and an emphasis on renewable energy and electric vehicles, NIE Scholars get 'hands on' experience, working on real projects, with a confirmed opportunity of employment and a career in a sector that is continually changing.



*This year's recipients are (L-R) Dean Morrow, Timothy Watt, Rowan Smyth, Shona Burns and Paul McCarron.*

## Santander – broadening the mind

Funding of £6,000 from Santander Universities UK for Widening Participation travel awards provided 12 Queen's students with £500 each to assist with travel and accommodation relating to study, research or work experience.

The awards were set up to support those who may encounter greater barriers in taking up internships and study abroad opportunities while at University, due to their personal circumstances. They also help to widen the participation of such groups in these activities.

This year the awards were open to those who are care experienced and to carers, students with dependants and mature students with dependants. While this was a once-off contribution, it has highlighted the need for funds to support this important area.



## Queen's Annual Fund

### Your support is changing lives

Over 90 applications for support were received and considered during the last 12 months. Thanks to gifts from graduates made to the Queen's Annual Fund, £53,000 was dispersed to 23 projects. These included:



If you would like further information on the **Queen's Annual Fund**, please get in touch with: **Meaghan Lyons** on tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3928

Find out more about the projects supported at:  
<https://dar0.qub.ac.uk/annualfund>

#### QUB Musical Theatre Society

**£5,000**

To bring a Broadway musical to the stage in Belfast, a production directed, managed and performed by Queen's students.

#### Men's and Ladies' Rowing

**£3,500**

To purchase a new powerboat which would lead to better coaching, efficient sessions, more training time on the water and – inevitably – better results.

#### Queen's Students' Union

**£4,300**

To establish a stock of communal equipment that can be loaned to student Clubs and Societies.

#### QUB Cheerleading Club (Queen's Knights Cheerleaders)

**£2,500**

To enable the club to compete at the BCA University Nationals.

#### QUB Mind Your Mood

**£1,985**

To train student volunteers to deliver a student-focused mental health programme to undergraduates, postgraduates, student societies and volunteer clubs at Queen's.

#### Queen's Robotics Society

**£1,000**

To provide a new type of learning for Queen's students and to allow them to apply the academic learning in a practical way.

#### Wakeboard & Waterski Club

**£655**

To encourage the continued progression of the younger beginners up to the same (or higher) standard as the advanced riders, so that the knowledge and skills can be passed down to the next generation of the club.

#### Queen's University Belfast Ladies Hockey Club

**£1,500**

To purchase a Bola Hockey Machine to use in the development of all our players in the senior training squads.

## RESEARCH NEWS

Pursuing excellence, impacting society

### Arsenic levels in rice

**Nearly 75 per cent of rice-based products marketed for infants contain more than the standard level of arsenic stipulated by EU law – with 50 per cent containing an illegal amount – according to the latest Queen's research.**

In January 2016, the EU imposed a maximum limit of inorganic arsenic on manufacturers in a bid to mitigate associated health risks. Researchers at the Institute for Global Food Security (IGFS) at Queen's have found that little has changed since this law was passed and that 50 per cent of baby rice food products still

contain an illegal level of inorganic arsenic. Rice, typically, has ten times more inorganic arsenic than other foods and chronic exposure can cause a range of health problems including developmental problems, heart disease, diabetes and nervous system damage.

As babies are growing they are known to be more susceptible to the damaging effects of arsenic, which can inhibit their development and cause long-term health problems.



**50%**

**OF BABY RICE FOOD PRODUCTS STILL CONTAIN AN ILLEGAL LEVEL OF INORGANIC ARSENIC**

### Bowel cancer breakthrough

**Research led by Queen's has discovered how a genomic approach to understanding bowel cancer could improve the prognosis and quality of life for patients.**

Working in collaboration with the Universities of Oxford and Leeds, scientists discovered that there are different subtypes of bowel cancer. This research identifies robust gene

signatures that can be used to inform patient management.

Over 41,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with bowel cancer each year. A number of treatment options are available but mortality rates remain high, with bowel cancer the second most common cause of cancer death.



### Discovery paves way for smaller electronic devices

**Queen's researchers have discovered a new way to create extremely thin electrically conducting sheets, which could revolutionise the tiny electronic devices that control everything from smart phones to banking and medical technology.**

Through nanotechnology, physicists Dr Raymond McQuaid, Dr Amit Kumar and Professor Marty Gregg from Queen's School of Mathematics and Physics have created unique 2D sheets, called domain walls, which exist within crystalline materials.

The sheets, which are a few atomic layers wide, are almost as thin as the wonder-material graphene. However, they can do something graphene can't – they can appear, disappear or move around within the crystal, without permanently altering the crystal itself.

This means that in future, even smaller electronic devices could be created, as electronic circuits could constantly reconfigure themselves to perform a number of tasks, rather than just having a sole function.

### Tackling global health challenges

**The European Commission has highlighted the significance of a multimillion pound research project, led by Queen's, in tackling multidrug-resistant infections.**

Antibiotic resistance is an urgent global health issue, killing hundreds of thousands annually, a figure expected to rise to over 10 million by 2050.

The lack of antimicrobials and antiviral therapies combined with the very few new drugs that have entered the market in the past number of years emphasises the need for novel effective therapies.

**"Antibiotic resistance is fast becoming one of the major scientific and health issues of modern times."**

In recognising the urgency to address this global threat, the European Commission provided €4 million in funding to Queen's to co-ordinate INBIONET (Infection Biology Training Network).



INBIONET brings together leading scientists across Europe from a range of disciplines including microbiology, immunology, cellular biology and biochemistry to tackle infections in their whole complexity.

Professor Jose Bengoechea, Director of the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine at Queen's and the project lead, explains: "Antibiotic resistance is fast becoming one of the major scientific and health issues of modern times. That is why consortia like the INBIONET are so important in bringing together researchers across Europe to bring their expertise to the table in tackling this global challenge."

## Sharing cancer data to save lives

**A coalition of global leaders in cancer research, led by Professor Mark Lawler from CCRCB at Queen's, has called for the worldwide sharing of cancer data to increase survival for cancer patients.**

The Global Alliance for Genomics and Health argues how the 'freeing of data' for a disease that knows no borders will enable researchers to find better treatments to increase survival and improve quality of life for cancer patients.

Professor Mark Lawler from the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology at Queen's said:

"Current restrictions on data sharing across borders limit the data that can be used by researchers to carry out a comprehensive analysis of cancer.

"This is particularly pertinent when researching rare types of cancer. If data is limited to a particular region or country, low patient numbers can make clinical research impossible. But it can also pose challenges with common cancers such as breast cancer, which is made up of different subtypes. We need as much information as possible to help develop new diagnostic tests and treatments for these different subtypes."

## Exploring the role of early childhood development

**An international research network, led by the Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation at Queen's, in partnership with UNICEF, Yale, Harvard and New York University (NYU), has been launched to support the growth and evaluation of early childhood development (ECD) services in low and middle income countries.**

Evidence shows that poverty has a major impact on a child's development.

There are approximately 250 million children (43 per cent) under five years old in low and middle income countries at risk of not achieving their developmental potential and this is worsened for those children living under the cloud of conflict.

It has been estimated that the overall cost to society of these developmental delays is double the amount that most lower and middle income countries pay annually on their health services nationally.



Find out more about the latest research at Queen's by visiting:  
[www.qub.ac.uk/Research/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/Research/)



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVOCATION

Thursday, 16 November 2017 at 6pm in the  
Canada Room / Council Chamber  
The Lanyon Building

A wine reception will welcome guests from 5.30pm.

Hot nibbles will be served.

At this meeting a new Chair and Deputy Chair will be elected.

The agenda, motion submission and nomination forms for the Annual Meeting are available online at <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/convocation>

### Convocation Lecture

**The Convocation Lecture will follow the business of the Annual Meeting of Convocation.**

**Please visit <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/convocation> for details on the Guest Speaker.**

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

Please contact the Clerk of Convocation to indicate your intention to attend.

### Meaghan Lyons,

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Email: [convocation@qub.ac.uk](mailto:convocation@qub.ac.uk)

# The importance of staying in touch



**At the end of each Queen's graduation ceremony, there are good wishes from the Vice-Chancellor and an appeal to everyone celebrating that day – Please stay in touch. We want to hear from you.**

Ian Moore, Head of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, echoes the call: "We really love to hear from Queen's graduates, wherever in the world they are and whatever they've been doing since they left. When alumni share their news and achievements with us, it allows us to inspire others in the wider Queen's family."

But new laws governing how we manage your data and communicate with you are being introduced. These will have a bearing on how we keep in touch.



The main effect is that in future you will need to be more involved and specify your preferences more clearly.

Ian Moore says: "At a time when the rules and regulations are about to change, I can assure our graduates that Queen's has always kept their details safe and secure and only ever uses them for University business. And we're now encouraging graduates to take even greater control over their personal data."

All over the world, Queen's alumni are helping to open doors of opportunity for the students of today and tomorrow – through support for fundraising, by mentoring, by providing placements and through international networks such as the Queen's alumni associations in Malaysia, USA, China, Hong Kong and Jordan as well as those closer to home in Ireland and the UK. We want to keep that kind of contact going.

**"It's worth reminding everyone that they are still part of the Queen's family, there's still lots on offer"**

Ian adds: "Make sure you let us know what you want so that we can continue to support you. Why not go online (<https://dar0.qub.ac.uk/DataProtection>) or complete and return the tear-out slip in this issue of The Graduate. Once we hear from you, we'll sort things from there.

"Alumni sometimes believe that once they graduate – that's it. Their days at Queen's are over. They drift off and don't tell us where they go or what they are doing. But it's worth reminding everyone that they are still part of the Queen's family, there's still lots on offer for them – access to discounts and campus facilities, like the McClay Library and the Physical Education Centre, not to mention hearing the latest news from Queen's and being invited to reunions and events worldwide.

"In short, it's a lifelong relationship. And that's what we want to maintain."



## Benefits of opting in:



**Keep up with all the latest news from Queen's**



**Only receive the messages that you want to receive**



**Help shape the future of YOUR University**



**Opportunities to make a difference**



**Benefits - events; offers; networks; reunions; discounts**



**Update your own details from anywhere in the world**

**Remember:** To continue receiving news, updates, invites and network access please let us know how we should keep in touch with you.

To register your mailing preferences and to find out how we protect your data, go to:

<https://dar0.qub.ac.uk/DataProtection>

## Brexit and Higher Education

Access to the European Union is a necessity!

With the United Kingdom scheduled to leave the European Union on 29 March 2019, the challenges posed by Brexit across specific sectors are starting to pull into sharper focus. Professor Lee McGowan looks at the likely fallout for education, the impact on tuition fees and the issues around the free movement of students, graduates and staff.



The timescale for the negotiations is incredibly short. Pressure is intensifying on the government in London to reach deals on firstly, the terms of the UK's departure and secondly, the country's new relationship with the European Union.

Brexit poses serious questions for a vast array of policy sectors, including universities. Immediate concerns centre on the ability of UK scholars to access research programmes such as Horizon 2020, on its impact for existing and future EU (non-British) staff based in UK universities and on student recruitment from across Europe. Future staff and student participation in exchange programmes such as Erasmus+ is also of concern.

The government needs to be encouraged to be far more active in its approach to fostering an environment that promotes the value of higher education and one that brings benefits for students, university staff and society at large.

### What do we know?

Students who start their degree programmes between now and 2018/19 in England, Scotland and Wales will be subject to the current rules in relation to their eligibility for loans and their fee status for their entire programme of study even after the UK leaves. We are still awaiting confirmation from government on the situation for 2018/19 in Northern Ireland.

With agreement on a transitional three-year period looking ever more likely as part of the negotiations, the current arrangements could be extended further until 2022. Thereafter, however, EU students will be expected to pay the higher fee that currently applies to non-EU students.

Given the UK government's determination to curb free movement, it is to be expected that future EU students may be required to secure a Tier 4 student visa. UK students will not be immune from the Brexit fallout and will face similar issues if they wish to study in the EU.

To ensure that British universities remain world leaders in providing first-class research and teaching, the UK government needs to ensure that:

- Students can avail of Erasmus opportunities
- Staff can access research funding schemes
- Current EU staff (and their dependants) are guaranteed the right to work in the UK after 2019
- Employment prospects across the EU for the UK's graduates are not hampered by red tape post Brexit.

This all implies direct payments into the EU budget (which some Brexiteers may strongly resist) but is there any other way ahead?

Lee McGowan is Professor of Politics and International Studies in the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics at Queen's.

For more on the UK's withdrawal from Europe visit the University's online Brexit Resource Guide: <https://qub.ac.uk/home/EUReferendum/Brexit-resource/>



## YOUR LEGACY

your greatest gift



### Carol's donation to cardiovascular research

*The Lanyon Society*

#### The Thomas Crozier Fund

**The Donor:** Carol Crozier, graduate and daughter of Queen's staff member and physician, Dr Thomas Crozier.

**The Legacy Gift:** £3.2m endowed, to support cardiovascular research at Queen's.

**The Impact:** The largest legacy gift ever received by the University, this immense endowment will fund a future Chair in cardiovascular research. The Chair will direct a team of hundreds of staff working at Queen's and around the world on globally relevant and ground-breaking research into cardiovascular disease, one of the biggest causes of heart attacks and strokes worldwide.

In 2007, local artist and Queen's graduate Carol Crozier was the main beneficiary of her brother's estate.

Given the family's strong links with Queen's, Carol decided to vary the terms of her brother's will to include a legacy gift to the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences for the benefit of cardiovascular research. The gift was made in memory of their late father, Dr Thomas Howard Crozier, an eminent physician at both the Royal Victoria and the City hospitals in Belfast.

In 2016, Carol passed away and left her estate as a legacy gift, to support the fund she had secured during her lifetime. The impact of this gift to cardiovascular research will be considerable. The work being carried out in this field by staff in the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine has brought international renown and has attracted research students, post-doctoral scientists and academic leaders from all over the world.

131

people have pledged a gift in their will to support the future of Queen's

## Professor passes on the gift of education

### The Dunwoody Scholarships

**The Donor:** Professor Emeritus James Dunwoody, alumnus, staff member and recipient of a scholarship which enabled him to attend Queen's.

**The Legacy Gift:** £100,000 endowed, supporting two students annually from the Christian Brothers' Schools to study at Queen's.

**The Impact:** Recipient student, Eoin McGread

Professor Dunwoody set up an entrance scholarship in 2012 to support future generations of Engineering and Physical Science students during their study at the University. The gift was funded through lifetime gifts and augmented, as necessary, through a gift in his will.

During his lifetime, Professor Dunwoody explained the reasons why he decided to support the University in this way:



"Initially I wanted to inspire pupils from my old school to think about a career in Engineering, Mathematics or Physical Science. In addition, Queen's played a very large part in my professional and personal life. As the beneficiary of a Scholarship myself, I understand first-hand the benefits of helping gifted students who may not have the resources to support a university education, so I wanted to give something back."

Student Eoin McGread is one of the recent recipients of the Dunwoody Scholarship. He expressed his gratitude for the support:

"I was delighted to learn that I was selected as a recipient of the Dunwoody Scholarship. As a student at the CBS Omagh, the dream of the Dunwoody Scholarship motivated me to work harder and to strive for excellent 'A' Level results.

"The Dunwoody Scholarship has helped me immensely by reducing my education expenses. Furthermore, it has enabled me to devote more time to studying so that I can make the best use of my opportunity to study at Queen's. In the long term I hope that the skills and knowledge I acquire at University will help me to contribute more fully to society and to the field of engineering in particular.

**"I understand first-hand the benefits of helping gifted students who may not have the resources to support a university education, so I wanted to give something back"**

"The Dunwoody Scholarship has not just been financially rewarding – it has also inspired me to encourage other students into the field of engineering. I feel truly honoured and grateful to have received this prestigious award. Thank you."

Eoin is currently employed in Deloitte Digital, Institution of Engineering and Technology.



# 1,205

**people have expressed an interest in leaving a gift to the University in their will**



## Frank's legacy to support research into diabetes-related blindness

**The Donor:** Frank Collins, legacy donor

**The Legacy Gift:** £5,000

**The Impact:** Supporting research into diabetes-related blindness at Queen's.

Frank wasn't an alumnus of Queen's, but in his will he expressed a wish to support research into the growing global problem of diabetes-related blindness. His gift was gratefully received by the team at the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine at the University.

The valuable funding will assist the team of scientists and clinicians who are working to develop a gene therapy approach, with the aim of potentially reversing diabetes-linked

blood vessel damage to the retina – the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. Ultimately, the team hopes to prevent disease progression and restore visual function.

Diabetes-related blindness, or diabetic retinopathy, is a global challenge affecting more than 90 million people and is one of the leading causes of 'new' blindness in working-age adults in the UK.

The research is exciting because it harnesses stem cells, which have the ability to repair blood vessels in the damaged retina. Our thanks go to Frank and his family for this much-valued charitable gift.

We are extremely grateful to the many individuals who have left a gift to the University in their wills. Each and every legacy helps invest in world-class research and inspire the greatest minds to in the quest for solutions to our most urgent global challenges.

Your legacy gift will be free from tax and 100 per cent will go to your chosen area.

# £3,216,796.17

**has been received this year from seven legacy gifts.**

**This will be used to support:**

- Medical research (cancer research, cardiovascular, pain management research, and diabetes-related blindness); and
- Student academic development and scholarships



If you are considering supporting Queen's with a gift in your will please contact:

**Susan Wilson**, Legacy Manager,  
Development and Alumni Relations Office,  
Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3162  
email: [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk)

# STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Plans for a new world-class centre

## Preparing for a new era

**The landscape of Queen's is changing with dramatic developments on the horizon to enhance our position as a world-class university.**

One of the most exciting, announced this year, is a new Student Centre, including a new Students' Union facility. The project, which will be built on the site of the present Students' Union on University Road, will enhance the student experience and support the growth of the knowledge economy in Northern Ireland.

Work on the new multi-million pound development, which will start in 2019 and will open in 2021, will be funded through the University's Capital Development Plan and philanthropic giving.

The scheme is another milestone in the commitment to provide world-class facilities for students and staff. It follows successful developments such as the McClay Library, the Graduate School, the Law School building, the new Computer Science Building and the expansion of the Health Sciences campus.

Work is also continuing on the School of Biological Sciences, which will house the Institute for Global Food Security, while in the city centre the University has invested in an additional 1,200 high-quality student accommodation places that will be open in September 2018.

The new Student Centre will consolidate all student services under one roof, alongside a vibrant new Students' Union facility, and will create a heartbeat for life on campus. It will support enhanced student wellbeing, learning, development, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, as well as being a social hub for the University campus.



**5,500**  
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS



**220**  
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



**12,000**  
ACTIVE MEMBERS

It will also be the place where students can take up innovative learning and personal development opportunities which will help them build and support their employability skills, critical to the needs of today's graduates.

The Centre will also have a wider impact in supporting the growth of the knowledge economy in Northern Ireland. Professor James McElnay, Acting Vice-Chancellor, says: "Our vision is that this project will bring the University and the community it serves closer together, in line with our Social Charter.

"In Northern Ireland, our people are our greatest resource and this project underlines the commitment of Queen's to invest in our future leaders and to strengthen the region's developing knowledge-based economy, in line with the aspirations of the Programme for Government."

**"This project will bring the University and the community it serves closer together, in keeping with our Social Charter."**

Through all stages of the project the University will be engaged in consultation with its stakeholders including students, staff, alumni, local residents, businesses and community groups.

The facility will be the centrepiece of student activities which have an impact on wider society.



## The facilities

**The President of the Students' Union, Stephen McCrystall, says:**

"The Students' Union are delighted to take forward this project in partnership with the University and Students' Union Council which represents an opportunity to provide an unrivalled student experience. The current Students' Union building is 50 years old and was designed for a student population of 5,000, and although it has served us well for many years, it is now ill-equipped to address the needs of today's 24,000 students or the future student body."

"As a Students' Union, we pride ourselves on providing the strongest possible student experience and a new facility will support further student development through enhanced representation, advice, volunteering, entrepreneurship, and clubs and societies opportunities."

"As we move forward, the student voice will be at the centre of this project. We look forward to consulting with our members in creating a new accessible and vibrant Students' Union facility which will be a legacy for future students at Queen's."



For more information on supporting the Student Centre at Queen's contact Head of Major Gifts, **Helen Carrick** (h.carrick@qub.ac.uk) on tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3403.

# Top 10 things you love about Queen's

## So how was it for you?

Queen's is changing rapidly. There are new buildings with exciting new facilities. There are more people – 24,000 students and 3,700 staff – from Northern Ireland, GB and all over the world. And there are new challenges as we widen our contribution to global research and society.

But some things never change – the campus buzz, the commitment of the staff, the value of a Queen's degree, friendships that will last a lifetime.

So we asked our alumni about their memories of their student days, both long ago and more recent, and what they love most about Queen's.

## 01 Lanyon Building

"The magical Lanyon Building, with the late afternoon sun shining on the red brickwork – it's a really breathtaking place!"

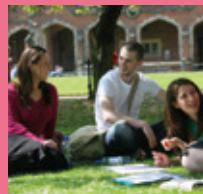


## 02 The Craic

"What I enjoyed most was the craic and being away from home for the first time. I met people from all over the world and made great friends – that's 40+ years ago – and they're still friends today."

## Beautiful Campus

"While the buildings make for breathtaking viewing during the day, there is something surreal about walking through the quad at night – the clash of age-old and modern architecture taking on a new life under a moonlit sky."



## 03

### The Union

"The Students' Union was the hub of my student experience...and while I'm glad to hear there are plans for a new and improved Student Centre, the one I knew will always have a fond place in my memory."

#### Official Zoe Salmon

 @Zoe\_Salmon

Ever since I was a little girl I thought @QueensUBelfast was the most magical building. I knew then I wanted to study there #LoveQUBGrad



## 05

### World-class Research

"The culture really encouraged and fostered world-class collaboration. Queen's is at the cutting-edge of so much great research – in food security, global health, peace, security and justice and cyber security."

#### Mark Simpson

 @BBCMarkSimpson

After 3 years at Queen's in the mid-1980's, I came away with a degree, a career & friends for life. Oh yes, and a wife #QUBTop10



## 07

### My Degree

"The acquisition of a degree in order to get a good job was firmly in focus for me. And it opened the door to other opportunities as well. My career took me around the world and having worked at 'uni' with people from other countries helped me a lot."

## 09

### QFT

"I had the opportunity to work there part-time. It's steeped in history and has been at the forefront of Belfast's cultural scene since the 60s. And I met Mark Kermode and Kenneth Branagh."

## 06

### The Graduate School



"Along with the McClay Library, the Graduate School is what drew me to Queen's to pursue my Master's – the cutting-edge facilities and the communal atmosphere; it's hands-down the most beautiful of any academic building I've ever been inside."

## 08

### The Staff

"What I loved most is the friendly and supportive attitude of the staff, the quality of the teaching and the accommodation that allowed postgrads with families to settle during their first year of relocation to Belfast."

#### Peter Dickson (voice of the X Factor)

 @peterdickson

Well I studied there because @QueensUBelfast is simply one of the best universities in the world and now in the prestigious Russell Group.



# 10

### Openness

"The openness to discussing and exploring the opportunities and benefits realised by qualifying with, at least, one degree."

**If, according to Thomas Jefferson, every human mind feels pleasure in doing good to another, then the 2017 Graduate Volunteer of the Year, Seán Hunt, must certainly be enjoying living out the mantra of the American Founding Father.**



Managing Director of TFC Investment Management in London, Seán holds a BSc in Business Administration (1984) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (1985) from Queen's. He is a Chartered Accountant and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

It is for his prominent role in the University's City Leadership Group (CLG) that Seán is to receive the prestigious Graduate Volunteer Award at the Charter Day Dinner in the Great Hall at Queen's on 24 November.

The Volunteer of the Year is awarded to the Queen's alum who makes an exemplary impact on a current student through a voluntary activity or who demonstrates the impact of volunteering and in doing so, inspires a current student towards future success.

One of its founders, Seán has been a leading figure in the London City Leadership Group which supports the University's City Scholarship Programme in the capital. Seán and his fellow CLG board members fund generous financial awards, provide practical support and advice, facilitate tailored networking, stage professional development events and provide current Queen's students with a unique opportunity to access the skill base and experience of the City Leadership Group.

Seán's sustained commitment to the programme over the last five years includes a

willingness to speak at City Scholar events (for those who have graduated from the scheme) and a determined passion for refining and improving the programme year on year.

And he has personally secured the highest number of placements for the scheme by providing internships in his own company and laying on additional opportunities via personal contacts in other top city firms.

Current BSc International Business student Joanna Montgomery from Magherafelt, Co Londonderry spent a week as a City Scholar at TFC Investment Management in London. "I had a wonderful time at TFC Investment Management during my placement in June 2015. Mr Hunt and his team were very approachable and made me feel very welcome during my time there," said Joanna.

"Thanks to his leadership and guidance I feel I gained lots of new skills – and more personal confidence – and learned loads about oil and gas investment, high yield bonds and capital markets.

"It truly was an invaluable experience which has helped me gain additional work placements during my time at Queen's!"

And according to Ian Moore, Head of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, in addition to securing placements and providing funding, Seán has also championed the scheme and

gone out of his way to ensure it is a success. "Seán has personally driven the development of formal feedback processes, participated in student selection, attended launch events in Belfast and has worked in close partnership with the Development and Alumni Relations Office.

"In addition, he has shown personal commitment to the students he has hosted by continuing to mentor them long after that placement ends, supporting them to secure

**"I believe that every human mind feels pleasure in doing good to another"**

Thomas Jefferson  
(3rd US President, 1801-09)

international placements in subsequent years, and helping them succeed in their chosen professional career."

A dedicated volunteer, Seán has shown commitment to the broader vision of Queen's by using his networks to make corporate introductions for senior academics in the Institute for Global Food Security and, more recently, offering his time to support the University's domestic recruitment team with their strategy for UK recruitment, with a specific focus on London.

**As Queen's seeks to provide life-changing experiences for its students, alumni volunteers increasingly play an instrumental role in helping the University achieve these important opportunities.**

Natasha Sharma, the University's Alumni Relations Officer who has responsibility for graduate volunteering, says: "Volunteering for Queen's provides the opportunity for our students to meet some extraordinary people and develop new employability skills, which are so critical to the needs of today's graduates.

"And volunteering enables our graduates – who obviously know very well the full benefits of studying at Queen's – to change lives and to have a huge influence on current and indeed prospective students.

"Alumni volunteering also helps graduates expand their personal networks and develop their professional skill base. And, of course, it gives graduates first-hand access to current student talent," added Natasha.

The impact that alumni volunteers like Seán Hunt have on Queen's students is immeasurable. As ambassadors and advocates promoting the mission and core values of the University, volunteers champion the student experience, showcase all that is great about Queen's, boost the CVs of countless students, and make a positive contribution both to the University and to those they mentor and support.



For more information on alumni volunteering visit our website

<https://dar0.qub.ac.uk/QUBVolunteer>

## 'Hands up' for Queen's!

**More and more students from outside Northern Ireland are choosing to study at Queen's both at undergraduate and at postgraduate level. The University's Domestic Recruitment and Events (DRE) team has responded to the growing needs of the GB market; there is also a very important and influential role which could be fulfilled by alumni.**

The DRE team at Queen's provides a dedicated recruitment service to schools in the home and EU markets, with an emphasis on Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Great Britain and the Islands (GB).

Enrolling a GB or EU student never displaces a student from Northern Ireland but rather allows for a greater mix of individuals to study and live together, enhancing the overall Queen's student experience.

At present, around 300 undergraduates from GB come to Queen's each year and as more students arrive and have a positive experience, more are interested in making Belfast their first choice as a university destination.

Recruitment activity involves working directly with schools to deliver talks, advice, guidance and information on living and studying in Northern Ireland. Attendance at careers events and recruitment exhibitions is also important. The involvement of alumni in this activity adds a very important extra dimension.



"The power of hearing the actual journey of a successful alumnus is enormous and something which really encourages a potential student to choose Queen's," says Una Reid, Head of Domestic Recruitment and Events.

"In the GB market the endorsement of alumni lets a student see that they can study in Northern Ireland and either develop a career there or return home to work successfully. And a graduate can really help an undecided student understand what this University has to offer, what sets us apart and what made that graduate choose Queen's in the first place.

"When alumni come along to recruitment events and information sessions and present their journey – or even just mingle and chat with students and answer their questions – it is hugely valuable," added Una.

**"This past year has been amazing and I have loved every second of it. I love Belfast, I love the University, and the course was excellent!"**

At postgraduate level the key question for all potential students is – is it worth investing in a higher degree from Queen's? The opportunity that a Master's or a PhD from Queen's will provide in terms of enhanced employment prospects and career progression is much more credible and authentic when it comes from someone who has followed that path, such as law graduate and solicitor, Paul Dougan.

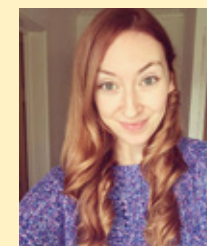
Paul kindly volunteered his time at a postgraduate recruitment fair held over the summer in Queen's world-class Graduate School. Paul, who has an LLB (1996), a Master's in Law (1997) and a Diploma in Professional Legal Studies (1999), shared experiences of his Queen's journey, which began back in 1993.



Having him speak at the event and network with potential students gave those considering Queen's a real, personal insight into that journey, no doubt helping many to make their final decision.

One student who put Queen's top of her university postgraduate bucket list was Rhianne Morgan from Aberdare in South Wales, who is studying for an MA in History. "While I took my primary degree in Plymouth I always wanted to try somewhere different – and Queen's was top of my wish list!" said Rhianne.

"This past year has been amazing and I have loved every second of it. I love Belfast, I love the University, and the course was excellent!"



"Deciding to give Queen's a go is a choice I am so glad I made. It has given me amazing opportunities and I just can't wait to see what the future brings."

Graduates are the authentic voice when it comes to influencing recruitment, considering that every former student, no matter where they now live, is a potential Queen's brand ambassador.

Queen's would love to hear from some of our many enthusiastic alumni supporters who have an undoubted wealth of first-hand, trustworthy knowledge to share with prospective students.

"Engaging recent graduates in the recruitment process really does help to add authenticity and a unique perspective that potential students will be keen to hear," said Anthony McGrath, Student Recruitment Manager.

"Peer-to-peer sharing is a powerful approach, with prospective students more willing to trust information they receive from past students, rather than simply accepting our word for it.

"And graduates are able to address prospective student concerns about all the stages of their Queen's – and Belfast – experience, from their original application right through to getting and living here, in a language that they understand."

So, 'hands up' if you would like to share your experiences of life at Queen's with a prospective student from the Republic of Ireland or GB, or if you'd fancy helping out at a University recruitment event!



To find out more about volunteering in Queen's GB and ROI recruitment programme please contact **Natasha Sharma** (Alumni Relations Officer) – [natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk](mailto:natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk) (telephone +44 (0)28 9097 3135)

# MY TIME AT QUEEN'S

Lions Special

In April, Queen's Rugby Club hosted a unique event - a Gala Dinner to celebrate former players who have represented Queen's and the British and Irish Lions. In all, the University has provided 22 international tourists, more than any other club in Ireland.

In this special edition of My Time at Queen's, some of those illustrious rugby greats look back at their glory days at University.

## Dick Milliken

BA Geography 1972

Lions Tour 1974 v South Africa

I studied geography at Queen's and have one lasting impression of my first lecture. Professor Kirk put up the famous picture that results in some people seeing an old witch and others a beautiful young woman. The class was split 50:50 – it was a salutary lesson to a young undergraduate that there are two sides to every argument and things are not always as they appear.

Memories include playing for Queen's Freshers alongside guys I had once lined out against! Long-standing rivals became team mates – and drinking buddies – as we discovered the freedom of being undergraduates and the delights of the Eg and the Bot.

Playing for the Lions as a 23-year-old trainee accountant was fantastic. We had a squad of 30 and played 22 matches, including four Tests. It was wonderful to play in all four with some of the best, including Edwards, Bennett, and McBride. Winning the series in the Third was special because of the historical significance.

I had great experiences at Queen's and though Northern Ireland had erupted into terrible violence, my many friends from academia and sport helped me to have huge regard and respect for all members of society.

## Trevor Ringland

LLB 1982

Lions Tour 1983 v New Zealand

My best memory of Queen's was making new friends and, for four years, playing a style of rugby that was open, flowing, exciting and successful. That, and the craic we had on and off the pitch.

The ethos was – and remains – about friendship and it is important, as rugby continues down its professional path, that those who play it understand and apply that ethos. My friend Keith Crossan argues you should have to buy your opposite number a drink after every game and in the short time you spend talking you will build a relationship that will last a lifetime.

Life at University was fun, despite the difficult times in Northern Ireland. If I have learned anything from then it is that we should challenge all those who promote division. For instance, in 1982 the IRA attempted to murder a police inspector who was studying law in my year, while he was sitting his finals, and just after I left, law lecturer Edgar Graham was brutally murdered.

However, Queen's was generally a time of enjoying oneself, studying and growing as an individual and of course, there was the all-Ireland dimension that came through rugby which enabled us to make friends with students in Trinity, UCD, UCC and Galway, many of which remain to this day.

## Nigel Carr

BSc Chemistry 1981, PhD 1984

Lions Match 1986 v 'The Rest'

I was fortunate to play in a golden era with four subsequent Lions, three further Irish internationals and a backbone of Ulster players. Perhaps the abiding memory is of the fun we had maturing as players to club, provincial and international champions.

Backs had greater scope to display their electrifying pace, shimmies and side steps back then. In contrast, forward play was refereed by the duel laws of rugby union and the more clandestine and unwritten law of the jungle where a stumble to the bottom of the ruck left you exposed to a painful 'shoeing'.

Lions back row opponents included Mark 'Cowboy' Shaw, affectionately nicknamed as he was rough, ready and quick on the draw – as Australian lock Steve Williams found out when a Shaw left hook gave him a broken jaw.

My greatest successes (and disappointments) were shared with teammates. These include club cup and league titles with Alan Irwin and Ricky Stewart; Provincial Grand Slams with Kenny Hooks; Ulster's defeat of Australia thanks to Philip Rainey's penalty; touring Japan with Brian McCall; Triple Crown and 5 Nations titles with flatmates Phil Matthews and Trevor Ringland, and an injury in a bomb en route to an Irish training session with David Irwin.

## Phillip Matthews

BSc Zoology 1982, PhD 1986

Lions Tour 1989 v France

I was lucky to be part of a Queen's team that won senior leagues and cups and that had internationals and interprovincial players; we played 15-man rugby and knew we could beat anyone.

Living away from home for the first time – the independence, the social life and doing what you love – they were some of the best years of my life. Having the privilege of growing up with little or no responsibility other than for my studies and for the things that interested me, life was pretty simple...study, rugby, craic!

It was great winning my first Irish cap while at Queen's. And I'll never forget one of my Zoology lecturers, a huge rugby fan (and a Welshman) asking if I could pop over to him and the lads at halftime to say hi. To be clear, this was in Cardiff Arms Park, 1985 Wales v Ireland and I was playing for Ireland! I laughed and then when I saw he was serious, I politely declined!

I scraped the grades to get into Queen's – but once there I thrived. The University learning environment suited me and I ended up completing a PhD. Queen's gave me time to grow up and a belief in my ability to think and learn. Without the whole third-level experience, I'm not sure where I would have ended up, but I'm quite sure it wouldn't have been here.



# Visit Belfast

– visit Queen's global conference campus

**Every day, coaches line up on University Road, decanting tourists captivated by the lovely Lanyon Building at Queen's. They come from all over the world, many of them arriving on the enormous cruise liners which have made Belfast a popular destination.**

But some days there are other visitors on different coaches – many wearing name badges of global societies and organisations. For not only has Belfast become a must-visit tourist city, it is gaining a reputation as an international conference venue and Queen's is playing a vital role in that success.

One 'satisfied customer' is Professor Ian Montgomery, Chair of the International Mammalogical Congress, recently held here, who says: "I don't know of any other UK or Irish university where the three essentials of a good conference – delegate accommodation, conference space and service – come together so effectively."

Claire Baxter is Head of Eventus, Culture and Arts, the University's event managing unit, marking its 10th anniversary this year. She says: "We want to do more to establish Belfast as a truly international city and Queen's as a global conference centre."

Landmark events have included President Bill Clinton delivering the inaugural address at the University's William J Clinton Leadership



Institute in 2014. The following year the speaker was former South African President F. W. de Klerk. And in 2016 Senator George Mitchell launched the Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice.

This summer, Queen's welcomed 500 delegates for the annual six-day conference of L'Arche Internationale, the organisation which supports people with learning disabilities, helping them to lead fuller lives. And Eventus managed the European Physical Society's five-day conference on plasma physics, attended by 670 international participants in Belfast's Waterfront Hall. And on top of all this there is Graduation – 16 ceremonies each year, also managed by Eventus, involving 5,500 students and their families. Claire Baxter says:

"It's our job to make sure they have a wonderful day. To give you some idea of the scale, we serve 15,000 bowls of strawberries and use more than 9,000 teabags."

"As you can see, no challenge is too great. We've got the professional staff and experience and we have the most wonderful setting and facilities you can imagine. Queen's has it all."

## At graduation...



**WE SERVE**  
**15,000**  
**BOWLS OF**  
**STRAWBERRIES**



**WE USE OVER**  
**9,000**  
**TEABAGS**

Business tourism is big business in Belfast. In the last five years, the team at Visit Belfast, working with partners, has brought prestigious conferences and events to the city, bringing 135,000 delegates and generating over £186 million for the economy. However, this can't be done without the help of local Ambassadors: experts and advocates who help the city attract these events.

Bringing a conference to the city can help you further develop your professional career, establish relationships with colleagues and institutions, and show off your research or product on your own doorstep.

Visit Belfast provides free and impartial support and advice on all aspects of holding an event in the city and works for you on behalf of Belfast, including bid

preparation, hosting site visits and designing bespoke delegate offers.

If you are considering bringing your conference to Belfast, Sheila would love to hear from you ([sheilageary@visitbelfast.com](mailto:sheilageary@visitbelfast.com)) to discuss the benefits of bringing a conference to Belfast and the free support available.



**Sheila Geary**

Queen's graduate Sheila Geary (BA Economics 2005) is Ambassador Programme Manager at Visit Belfast with specific responsibility for European and International Sales.

## CLASS NOTES

Thank you to all who have contributed to Class Notes. Regrettably we are limited by the space available, so apologies if your submission has not been included here. All class notes can be found at <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/QUBClassNotes>

## 2010s

### Mary Conlan BEd (2016)

Mary graduated from St Mary's College (a Queen's affiliate college) in July 2016 before moving to New Zealand earlier this year. Since then she has been completing her first year of post-primary mathematics teaching in Auckland.



### Ronan Brennan MSc (2016)

Recently won the CIPD NI Outstanding Student of the Year award, which recognises someone who has brought their academic knowledge into the workplace and made a substantial impact.

Ronan works for the charity Inspire, which looks after service users with mental health and learning disabilities as well as providing counselling through workplaces and organisations such as Queen's.

### Gordon Brown

#### MSc Medicinal Chemistry (2015)

Gordon has successfully completed an MSc in Chemical Biology at the University of Geneva. He recently won a National Centre of Competence in Research poster prize enabling him to travel to any conference in the world; he also works for Boston University as a residency assistant, looking after exchange students at CERN and the UN.



He will be joining the doctoral programme at New York University in the autumn of 2017 to undertake a PhD in Chemistry with a MacCracken Fellowship.



### Professor Françoise Meunier DMedSc (Honoris Causa) 2015

Françoise is Director Special Projects at the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC),

having been Director General for 25 years. During this time she has contributed to and witnessed the massive improvement of anticancer treatment which has transformed cancer from a 'death sentence' in the 1970s to a chronic disease for most patients nowadays. Currently she devotes herself to research on long-term survivorship issues together with her team at the EORTC.

### David Galbraith, BSc Computing Information Technology (2012)

David used his tech know-how to set up SWIG – a worldwide online luxury hip flask brand (<http://swigflasks.com>). He's now shipping personalised hip flasks to over 40 countries from his workshop in Belfast! An alum of the New Entrepreneurs Foundation (Class of 2013), he spent a year working with a successful entrepreneur and their senior management team, gaining valuable insight into how business works.



### Mark Ferguson

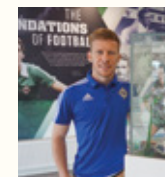
#### BMus (2012)

Mark is a wildlife sound recordist/audio specialist, who, with the permission of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, embarked on a 12-month/350-hour sound recording project around one of the UK's most important wetland reserves – WWT Slimbridge. Mark's finished work captures a series of brief, audible glimpses or 'sound portraits' that can be heard online at [www.markfergusonaudio.com/slimbridge](http://www.markfergusonaudio.com/slimbridge)

## 2000s

### Stephen Garrett BSc (2008)

Stephen, who graduated from Stranmillis College (a Queen's affiliate college) in Health and Leisure Studies, became Education and Heritage Centre Manager at the Irish Football Association (IFA) in October 2016. Formerly the IFA's Volunteer Development and Policy Officer, he is also a part-time lecturer in sport in the South Eastern Regional College in Lisburn.



### Heather Wright

#### BMus (2003), MA Composition (2004)

Heather has been Sales and Marketing Manager at the Irish Football Association (IFA) since 2015, prior to which she worked as Fundraising Manager at Queen's University and Funding Manager at the Ulster Orchestra.

Currently responsible for fan-facing commercial elements, Heather manages the Association's partnerships with Ticketmaster, JD Sports, Panini and Konami, and works with partners including Adidas and Vauxhall.

### Irvine Grey

#### BTh (2008), MPhil (2012)

Irvine travelled to Kenya last November to speak at the Africa Nazarene University in Nairobi, the School of Religion in Pwani University, Kilifi and at the Bishop Hannington Institute Anglican Seminary graduation ceremony in Mombasa.

Born and brought up in Killadeas, Co Fermanagh, he received his Master of Philosophy degree for his research into the 2x2 movement, which investigated the history, sociology and theology of a religious movement that had its beginnings in Co Tipperary, Ireland, in 1897.



### Mark Pengelly BA Politics (2006)

Mark was elected a Councillor last year for Mount Hermon ward in Woking Borough Council, London. In May 2017 he was named a Member of the Executive with responsibility for Leisure and Cultural Services and as a representative on Woking Youth Council.

Mark is a Digital Content Leader for S&P Global Platts, a market insights company providing information and benchmark prices for the commodities and energy sectors.

### Simon Maltman

#### BA Philosophy (2003)

Simon published *A Chaser on the Rocks* last year, through Solstice Publishing in the US. For more, go to [www.facebook.com/Simonmaltmancrimefiction/](http://www.facebook.com/Simonmaltmancrimefiction/)



# 1990s

## Dr Wejdan Abu-Elhaija PhD (1999)



Dr Abu-Elhaija has been appointed Vice-President for Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan. Formerly Professor in Electrical Machines at Princess Sumaya University for Technology, she was the first female Dean of Engineering in Jordan.

Honoured with the US Department of State's 'Women in Science' Hall of Fame award (2012), she received an honorary Doctor of Science in Engineering from Queen's (2013) for her outstanding services to Engineering.

## Dr Ahed Al Wahadni PhD (1997)

Dr Wahadni, who is Vice-President, Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), has recently been appointed Jordan's Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education.

Having published several books and over 50 scientific papers, Professor Wahadni was named Distinguished Researcher by Jordan's Ministry of

Higher Education and is a part recipient of the Shouman Prize for Arab scientists.



## Martyn McGeown

BA French and German (1998)  
Martyn worked in Dublin before moving to the Protestant Reformed Seminary in Grand Rapids, MI, USA, from where he graduated in

2010. He was ordained the following year and now has a ministry in Limerick ([www.limerickreformed.com](http://www.limerickreformed.com)).

In 2017 he published *Called to Watch for Christ's Return*, available in Ireland from the CPRC bookstore ([www.cprc.co.uk](http://www.cprc.co.uk)) or from the Reformed Free Publishing Association ([www.rfpa.org](http://www.rfpa.org)) in Michigan, USA.

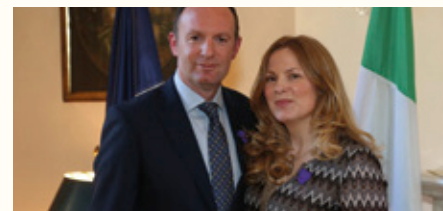


## Tim Murnane

BEng Civil Engineering (1997)

Tim has been awarded a Fellowship of Engineers Ireland (CEng FIEI) – the highest accolade conferred on members by Engineers Ireland and reflecting the ultimate level of distinction in the area of Engineering.

Tim (pictured top) received the accolade from Dermot Byrne, President of Engineers Ireland, at a conferring ceremony at Engineers Ireland in Dublin, where he now lives and where he is a Director of PUNCH Consulting Engineers.



## Peter Gallagher

MSc Opto-electronics and Optical Information Processing (1996), PhD Astrophysics (2000), and his wife

**Professor Emma Teeling**, PhD Molecular Phylogenetics (2001)

Peter and Emma were invested as Chevaliers des Palmes Académiques (Knights of the Order of Academic Palms) in May 2017, at a special ceremony in the French Ambassador's Residence in Dublin.

Peter is Professor in Astrophysics/Associate Dean of Research at Trinity College Dublin, while his wife, Emma, is Professor in Zoology at University College Dublin.

The honour is one of the highest accolades France bestows on academics and researchers.

## Albert (Berrie) S J O'Neill

BA General Studies (1996)

Albert has written a biography of the Edwardian songwriter, poet, artist and entertainer Percy French, entitled *Tones That Are Tender – Percy French 1854-1920*.

Published by The Lilliput Press and produced in association with The Percy French Society, the biography gives a fascinating insight into the life of one who brought laughter and enjoyment to so many as an artist, author, civil engineer, journalist, poet, parodist, songwriter and entertainer.

Born in County Galway, Berrie enjoyed a long career with the Bank of Ireland in Dublin and Belfast and served a term as President of the Irish Association for Cultural, Economic, and Social Relations. He is now President of the Percy French Society in North Down, and lives in Belfast with his wife, Gladys.

## Zara Duffy

BSc Accounting (1992),  
MAcc (1994)

Zara was appointed the first Head of Chartered Accountants Northern Ireland in May 2017 and now represents and manages services for over 4,000 local chartered accountants.

Zara previously held the position of Director of Finance and Operations with Employers for Childcare and has significant experience at senior finance director and board level. A Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland, she began her career with Price Waterhouse, specialising in small business audit and advisory services.



**Bernie McGill**

BA Italian and English (1990),  
MA Irish Writing (1991)

Bernie had her latest novel – *The Watch House* – published by Tinder Press in August. Set on Rathlin Island at the end of the 19th century, the story occurs at the time of the Marconi wireless experiments between there and Ballycastle.

Born in County Derry but now living in Portstewart, Bernie has written for the theatre (*The Weather Watchers*, *The Haunting of Helena Blunden*) and has published a short story collection, *Sleepwalkers*. Her previous novel, *The Butterfly Cabinet*, was singled out by Julian Fellowes as his Book of the Year in *The Guardian*.

A recipient of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's inaugural ACES (Artists' Career Enhancement Scheme) Award in association with the Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's, Bernie has been nominated for numerous awards for her work, and in 2008 Bernie won the Zoetrope: All-Story Short Fiction Award in the USA.



Credit: Jane McComb

**Dr Rozana Ahmad Huq**

BA (1990), MSc (1994),  
PhD (2008)

Dr Rozana Ahmad Huq has written a new book which looks at the complexities of worker enablement, giving insights from employees and managers and highlighting the positive and negative aspects of employee empowerment.

Published by Routledge, *The Psychology of Employee Empowerment – Concepts, Critical Themes and a Framework for Implementation* investigates the concept by combining themes from the disciplines of management and social work.

Visit [www.rozanahuq.com](http://www.rozanahuq.com) – leadership coaching, stress management, building resilience, positive thinking and personal development courses. Discount available for Queen's staff and alumni.



# 1980s

**James Gareth (Gary) Cooper**

BEd (1985)

James, who graduated from Stranmillis College (a Queen's affiliate college), has been awarded an OBE (appointment as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to children with special educational needs.

Gary has been Chief Executive of Middletown Centre for Autism since it was established in 2007 by the Department of Education, Northern Ireland and Department of Education and Skills, Ireland. The Centre provides training, research, learning support and assessment and advice to parents, family members and educational professionals.

**Graham Carson**

BEng (1986)

Graham has received a prestigious award for his accounting practice – Inca – which he owns jointly with his wife, Lesley. The company, which is based in Oxford and Henley-on-Thames, was awarded the prestigious Investors in People Silver Accreditation, and is one of only 11 accounting practices to hold this honour. The company followed this up in April by being a finalist for Best Company Culture in the Business Excellence Forum Annual Awards.

**Paul Parker**

MB BCh BAO (1985)

Paul has been appointed Senior Lecturer within the NATO SOF Development Initiative at University College Cork. He continues to work, training and operating in small surgical teams in remote austere environments and directs the Royal College of Surgeons of England's Damage Control Orthopaedics Trauma Skills Course.

# 1970s

**Geoff Hill**

BA English (1979)

Geoff has just published his third novel, *The Butler's Son*, an action-packed saga of love and death set before and during the First World War.

Geoff, who is in discussion with BAFTA-winning London producer Sam Brown about movie possibilities, is a bestselling author and award-winning feature

**Dr Øystein Fardal**

BDS (1981), MDS (1987), PhD (2002)

Øystein has been awarded an honorary Professorship by the Court of Aberdeen University in the Institute of Education for Medical and Dental Sciences within the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition.

A past president of the Norwegian Periodontal Society, and the Scandinavian Society of Periodontology, he runs a practice specialising in periodontology and implantology in Egersund, Norway.



and travel writer whose 11 books give accounts of epic motorbike trips, including a recreation of Carl Stearns Clancy's journey (he was the first person to take a motorbike around the world 100 years ago) which Geoff did complete with Clancy's original boots!

More at [www.geoff-hill-adventures.com](http://www.geoff-hill-adventures.com)

**Ann Kearney**

BEd (1976)

Ann got in touch to advise that all five members of her family are Queen's graduates – husband **Terry**, BEd (1976), and children **Stephen**, BA English and Drama (2005), **Marie-Claire**, BA Drama and Music (2008), MA Drama and Performance (2009), and **Conor**, BSc Environmental Planning (2011), MSc Spatial Regeneration (2013)!

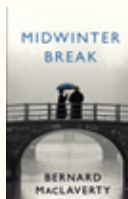
Stephen is Head of Drama in Glasgow, Marie-Claire is teaching in an international school in The Hague and Conor is managing a waste recycling facility in Abu Dhabi.

Ann was a school principal for 22 years while Terry taught for almost 30 years. The family members are all proud of the “start that Queen's gave us” and “fly the Queen's standards across the globe”. Ann added: “Queen's has always been a beacon of hope in our city and has given so many opportunities to its citizens.”

**Bernard MacLavery**

BA (1974)

Bernard has recently published his fifth novel, *Midwinter Break*, 16 years on from his previous major book! Now living in Glasgow, he has written five collections of stories and four other novels, including *Grace Notes* which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and won the Saltire Scottish Book of the Year Award.



The former medical laboratory technician and mature student at Queen's has been Writer-in-Residence at the Universities of Aberdeen, Liverpool John Moores, Augsburg and Iowa State.

# 1970s

## cont'd

**Rosamund (Roz) Goldie**

BSSc Social Studies (1974), PhD Law (2008)

Rosamund launched her novel – *The Missing Tenant* – at Queen's University in October 2015. Set in Belfast, it tells the story of independent radio producer and hapless amateur detective, Veronica Pilchard, who takes digs in a house behind the university in Belfast.

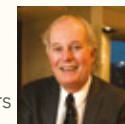
When she's not writing books, Roz's research interests are in the law, governance and the politics of equality and good relations. She taught public service management at Queen's and evaluated projects funded by the Big Lottery and the Atlantic Philanthropies until 2014.

Her career includes academic research, broadcasting and programme production and management in the public and voluntary sectors.

**Colin McClatchie**

BSc Econ (1971)

Colin received a CBE in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to music and voluntary service in the West of Scotland.



He worked for the *Belfast Telegraph* from 1971-76. A former Managing Director (Scotland and Ireland) of News International Newspapers, he retired in 2008. He is a past Chairman of Scottish Opera where he was for seven years, a Public Interest member for the Institute of Chartered Accountants Scotland (ICAS), a non-executive director of Scottish Enterprise, Dunfermline Press Group and Beattie Media, and still runs Prescient, his own mentoring consultancy.

In 2014 Colin was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE). He is currently compiling a memoir, which is due for publication in 2018.

# 1960s

**David S Crawford**

BA, Dip Lib Stud (1966)

David has been honoured by the Canadian Health Libraries Association/ Association des bibliothèques de la santé du Canada (CHLA/ABSC), who named the honorary life membership award the David S. Crawford Honorary Life Membership Award (Membre honoraire à vie David S. Crawford).



David emigrated to Canada in 1971, working first at the W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library at Dalhousie University in Halifax before moving to McGill University in Montreal where he spent thirty years as Assistant Director and then Director of the Medical (subsequently Health Sciences and then Life Sciences) Library.

**Mike Douse**

BSc Econ (1960), Dip Ed (1961)

Mike continues to advise the European Commission on its support for education internationally. In recent months this has taken him to Somalia, South Africa, Bangladesh, Swaziland and Belize. *Gone to Ground*, his second collection of poems, was published in 2015.

This autumn he hopes to speak at the Literific at Queen's, some 62 years after first doing so.

# 1950s

**David O'Dowd**

LLB (1957)

joined the world of business after graduating. His company transferred him to Australia (Brisbane) in 1978 and he has lived there ever since. In 1994 he graduated with an LLM from Queensland University of Technology in International Trade Law.



For a complete change he turned, in 2006, to music and became an announcer in the local station Classic FM 4MBS ([www.4mbs.com.au](http://www.4mbs.com.au)). David can now be heard 'on air' most Thursday and Saturday mornings.

**Professor Roy Taylor**

BSc (1971)

Professor Taylor was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. A professor of Ultrafast Physics and Technology at Imperial College London, Roy is from Carrickfergus and was educated at Larne Grammar School before going up to Queen's in 1967 to study physics.

Professor Taylor is widely acknowledged for his influential basic research on and development of diverse laser systems and their application. His many and diverse contributions have been recognised by the Ernst Abbé Award of the Carl Zeiss Foundation, the Thomas Young Medal of the Institute of Physics and the Rumford Medal of the Royal Society.



If you would like your news to appear in Class Notes, please contact **Gerry Power**, (Editor, The Graduate): [g.power@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.power@qub.ac.uk) or go to <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/QUBClassNotes>

## TRIBUTES AND OBITUARIES



It is with sadness that we include obituaries and appreciations of some of those graduates and former members of staff who are no longer with us.

### Paddy Johnston An inspirational leader

**The sudden death of our President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Johnston, on 4 June was a devastating loss to Queen's, to the world of higher education and to cancer research.**

Born in Derry and educated at St Columb's College and UCD, he was appointed Vice-Chancellor in 2014, having previously been Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences and Director of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology. He was regarded as one of the world's leading cancer researchers and in 2012, the University was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Prize for his leadership in reorganising cancer services in Northern Ireland.

His time as Vice-Chancellor will be remembered as a period of a renewed focus on Queen's as a world-class international university, supporting outstanding students and staff and for focusing on the needs of society.

He is survived by his wife, Iseult, and sons, Seamus, Eoghan, Niall and Ruari. Hundreds of people attended the funeral at St Brigid's Parish Church, Belfast, and there have been many tributes to his life and work:

**The Chancellor, Dr Thomas Moran:** "His impact was because he genuinely cared about each person and what he could do to make a difference to the lives of so many people around the world."

**Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McElnay:** "Encouraging others to reach their full potential was a cornerstone of his leadership. He wanted Queen's to work at the highest level."

Registrar and Chief Operating Officer, **James O'Kane:** "He was a modest, yet truly inspirational leader who never accepted second best and who inspired those around him to dream no little dreams."

DUP leader and former First Minister, **Arlene Foster:** "He was a dynamic Vice-Chancellor. His loss will be felt not just at home but right around the world where he was hugely respected."

MLA and former Finance Minister, **Máirtín Ó Muilleoir** praised his "commitment to leveraging the strength of the university he loved and led on behalf of all the citizens of Belfast."

**Professor Mark Lawler**, Chair of Translational Cancer Genomics at Queen's and Vice-President of the European Cancer Concord: "It was one of the proudest days of my life when the Dubliner and the Derry man stood shoulder to shoulder at the European Parliament and launched the European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights – testament to Paddy's vision of always putting the patient first."

**Professor Paul Workman**, Chief Executive and President of the Institute of Cancer Research: "He leaves a lasting legacy of world-class cancer research, improved treatment and high-quality training and I have no doubt that if Paddy's model is followed these important activities will continue from strength to strength in Belfast in the future."

Chairman **Dick Milliken** and Chief Executive **Norman Apsley** of Catalyst Inc (formerly NI Science Park): "He put Belfast on the research map, changed the cancer outcomes for our people and built the beginnings of a local economy bringing these benefits to the world at large."

In 2015, Queen's established a partnership in Dubai to support the development of the **Mohammed Bin Rashid University** of Medicine and Health Sciences. It commented: "His imprint is everlasting. We will always be thankful for his kinship."

Local IoD Director, **Linda Brown** said Professor Johnston had "made a major contribution to the organisation both in terms of attending and speaking at events over recent years. His ambitious plans to raise the University's international appeal and grow income through research showed tremendous vision and leadership, the results of which will make a real difference to the future economic prosperity of Northern Ireland as a whole."

## Curriculum Vitae

- 1982** Graduated from UCD; Houseman in Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin
- 1987** Won fellowship to National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Bethesda, Maryland, USA
- 1991** Senior investigator, NCI
- 1996** Appointed Professor of Oncology at Queen's; led development of Centre for Cancer Research & Cell Biology (CCRCB)
- 2002** Co-founded Almac Diagnostics
- 2004** Appointed Director of CCRCB (until 2007)
- 2007** Honoured by President Mary McAleese at BioLink USA-Ireland Conference in New York for leadership, contribution and commitment to global life science community
- Appointed Dean of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
- Led development of a new international Medical School and Institute of Health Sciences at Queen's
- 2008** Alumnus Illustrissimus award from St Columb's College
- 2011** Appointed Chair of the Translational Research Group of the Medical Research Council
- 2012** Won Diamond Jubilee Queen's Anniversary Prize for reducing cancer mortality rates in Northern Ireland
- Elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences
- 2013** Won international Bob Pinedo Cancer Care Prize for work in translating discovery science for benefit of cancer patients
- 2014** Appointed President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast
- 2015** Launched Vision 2020
- Established partnership with Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences in Dubai

**Among other graduates & members or former members of staff who have passed away are:**

**Dr Louise Clowes** 10.07.14  
Doctor, fundraiser and lecturer

*A full version of this abridged appreciation (provided by her daughter Annie Sheaf) can be found online.*

Dr Louise Mary Elizabeth Garfit Clowes, MB BCH DPH 1949, former President of the Queen's University Association, London, died on 10 July 2014 aged 87.

From a very early age, we all knew that Mum never sat still, always doing things whether it was organising social events for my brothers and me, going off to clinics (she was a paediatrician and then a Surrey GP) or lecturing around schools on the dangers of smoking and drugs. She also put in an incredible amount of time for her two favourite charities — QEFD and later, The Children's Trust.

When I went to boarding school, my mother decided that children of her friends who did likewise needed to socialise in the holidays so she arranged for someone to teach us Scottish dancing and badminton. It began with classes of five children (with all proceeds going to charity) but years later these classes had reached thousands of children around Surrey, Kent and Sussex as they were so successful and everyone wanted their child to join.

She was a terrific grandmother who always had time to chat and help her grandchildren and spend time with them. "Granny doctor", as she was known to some, took them skiing and (with all of us!) on an amazing, once in a lifetime safari in Kenya.

Mum was amazing and when she died from cancer, her friends said she was brave, courageous, a fighter, a person with a great sense of humour, fun, party animal, loyal and a great inspiration.

**Patrick Reid** 05.12.15  
Soldier and civil servant

William Adrian Lockhart (Patrick) Reid, LLB 1948, died at the age of 91 on 5 December 2015 in Vancouver.

Born in Belfast in 1924, Patrick grew up on a farm in County Donegal. At 15 he entered law school at Queen's University but didn't graduate until 1948, as he had enlisted in the British Army when he was 16.

In 1944 he graduated from Royal Military College in Sandhurst as top cadet. He saw action with the North Irish Horse unit in Italy, where he was wounded twice and awarded the Military Cross for bravery.

He became the youngest major in the British Army when he was just 21. Reassigned to the war in the Pacific, he was involved in the liberation of Malaya, and was appointed Commander of the Military Police in Singapore (1945-47).

In 1954 he emigrated to Kingston, Ontario in Canada before moving to Vancouver (1956) to work in advertising, where he married his wife, Alison (1958). The couple went on to have two children, Amanda and Michael.

From there the family moved to Ottawa (1962) where Patrick joined the Civil Service. In 1964, while Director of the Canadian government Exhibition Commission, he was called upon to oversee the design of the new Canadian flag.

During a successful career he held several high-profile positions, including Minister in charge of Canada House in London and Consul-General in San Francisco.

**Dr Alastair Ian Orr** 29.09.16  
Doctor

Dr Alastair Orr, MB BCH BAO 1954, died at the age of 88 on 29 September 2016 in Scotland.

Born in December 1927 in Clough, County Down, the family later moved to Ballymoney where his father, the Reverend Charles Orr, was Presbyterian minister.

He attended Coleraine Academical Institute where he was Head Boy, after which he went to Queen's in 1947 to read medicine. While there he met his future wife, Roberta (Betty) Thompson, also a medical student, although a few years behind.

Finding it hard to obtain work in Northern Ireland after graduating he worked first in Goole, then in Penkridge, Staffordshire, before joining a general practice in Walton, Liverpool. Initially, there were just two doctors but the practice expanded over time and for many years also included another Queen's graduate, Dr Kenneth Loane.

Alastair and Betty, who set up home in Blundellsands to the north of Liverpool, raised four children – Heather, Clare, Susan and Richard. On retirement, Alastair and Betty moved to Scotland and for over 20 years lived happily in Banchory on Royal Deeside until his death from prostate cancer.

He is survived by Betty, four children, 15 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

**Dr Mary Hall** 18.12.16  
Doctor

Mary Crawford Hall (née Armstrong) MB BCH BAO 1955, died in December 2016 aged 85.

*A full version of this abridged obituary (provided by R Brian Lowry) can be found online.*

Mary was born in 1931 in Belfast, the only daughter of two doctors, Edward and Olive Armstrong. Educated at Ashleigh House where she represented Ulster Schoolgirls at Hockey Mary followed her parents

into medicine at Queen's. She graduated in 1955, interned at the Royal Victoria Hospital (1955-56) and followed this with a year of paediatric residency at the Montreal Children's Hospital and some short-term paediatric work in Saskatchewan.

She returned to Northern Ireland and married a fellow classmate, Henry Hall, who predeceased her in 1991. They emigrated to Canada in January 1959 and initially settled in Ormstown, Quebec, but a year later moved to Brampton, Ontario, where they raised four children, Alison, Ian, Alan and Andrea.

Mary also went into general practice and in the later part of her professional life she worked for the Public Health Unit of the Peel Health Region in Ontario, served on committees for the Peel Memorial Hospital and was instrumental in setting up a number of programmes including a palliative care one for which she received a Community Award.

Henry and Mary had a lakeside cottage close to Brampton where they enjoyed swimming, canoeing and sailing and it became a favourite retreat for Mary after she was widowed.

**Augustine McEvoy** 20.01.17  
Author, teacher and researcher

The scientific author, teacher and international researcher Dr Augustine (Gus) McEvoy, BSc 1963, died in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Born on 22 August 1942 in Larne, County Antrim, to James McEvoy, a grocer's assistant, and Margaret (née McNally), who taught piano, he was the first of four sons. After completing secondary education at St MacNissi's College, Garron Tower, Gus proceeded to Queen's University Belfast, graduating in 1963.

Awarded a Fulbright scholarship to the Catholic University of Washington DC,

he subsequently took up appointments in Maynooth College, the University of West Indies and University College Cork. A distinguished academic, he worked at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission in Ispra (Italy), and then in Hamburg before joining the faculty of École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland in 1985, where he remained until retirement in 2007.

Gus authored (or co-authored) 180 scientific publications primarily on photovoltaics and fuel cell technology including The Practical Handbook of Photovoltaics (2011).

He is survived by his wife, Colette (née Gilleece), daughters Brenda, Caitriona and Fiona, sons-in-law Cyril and Flavio, grandchildren Columban, James and Seán and by his brothers Patrick (Derry) and Peter (Dublin). He was predeceased in 2010 by his brother Rev Prof James McEvoy.

**Dr C K Gorman** 10.05.17  
Endocrinologist and research fellow

Dr C Ken Gorman, MB BCh BAO 1956, died in Canada aged 84.

After graduation Ken was invited by Dr Charles Best (co-discoverer of insulin) to the University of Toronto to join his research team. Later he was accepted to the Joslin Clinic in Boston as a Trainee Fellow in Diabetes. Returning to Toronto, Ken earned his Fellowship in the Royal College of Physicians: Endocrinology and Internal Medicine.

He was part of the team that built the Scarborough Grace Hospital where he ultimately served as Chief of Staff and Medicine for many years. A past president of the Canadian Diabetes Association, Ken's interest in the subject was also personal, having been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes as a two year old.

In 2015 the Joslin Clinic awarded him the Lifetime Achievement Award for living with diabetes for 80 years, one of only five recipients of this medal and the only Canadian.

Ken was married to the late Margaret and he has a son, Andrew, and daughter, Rachel.

#### We were also notified of the following:

- **Dr Michael McCrudden**, MSc Physics 1965 (01.10.15)
- **Francis Vincent Macaulay**, MB BCh BAO 1948 (21.03.16)
- **Paul McKenna**, MB 1958 (13.04.16)
- **James T Lunn**, MB 1951 (10.09.16)
- **Norman W Weir**, MB BCh BAO 1949 (06.10.16)
- **Kathleen Cuthbert**, BA, MA French & German 1942 (01.11.16)
- **Cecil Victor Wales**, LDS 1951 (22.11.16)
- **Mary Olivia (Olive) Lennox (née Kerr)**, BA English 1964 (28.12.16)
- **Harold Porter**, BSc Physics (17.03.17)
- **Emmett McNally**, BSc Industrial Management 1995 (05.05.17)
- **Antoinette Curran**, LLB 1960 (07.06.17)
- **Dr Bernard J Rooney**, MB BCh BAO 1968 (12.06.16)
- **Reverend Ian McIlroy**, BSc Philosophy and Psychology 1990 (01.08.17)



For further obituaries and appreciations:  
<https://daro.qub.ac.uk/pages/daro/news/news---obits-header-list>

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Queen's Affinity Card – a distinct MasterCard carrying an image of the iconic Lanyon Building and offered to graduates and staff through Bank of Ireland UK – celebrates its 25th birthday this autumn.

Since its launch, over 5,000 people have availed themselves of this exclusive card which immediately identifies them with a world-class Russell Group university and strengthens ties with their alma mater. And since 1992, proceeds from the Card have helped dozens of postgraduates complete their studies.

In celebration of this milestone, Bank of Ireland UK has increased its contribution to Queen's for every new card taken out. Earlier this year, it also offered a special 'free draw' as an incentive to others to acquire – and use – the Card. And the Bank is continuing to provide the University with income based on regular usage of the Card, funding additional Alumni Postgraduate Awards.

The current Award holder is Brad Campbell from Londonderry, who is undertaking a PhD in Geography at the School of Natural and Built Environment.

"The Alumni scholarship has enabled me to undertake research to address the question of whether Protestants and Catholics moved

apart or together between 1981 and 2016. A key finding has been the growth in the proportion of those moving to mixed areas in the post Good Friday Agreement era, which has helped reduce residential segregation.

"I am extremely grateful and humbled to have been awarded the scholarship and would like to thank the generosity of everyone who has a Queen's Affinity Card."

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Cardholders are invited to continue using Queen's Affinity Card to support students like Brad and Mark. And those graduates who don't yet have the Card are encouraged to obtain one to ensure that they too can offer exceptional opportunities to brilliant postgraduates for years to come.



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# My legacy

*Des Clarke*

Queen's graduate in Mechanical Engineering (BSc 1968)

Helping to engineer leading cancer treatments.



When Des Clarke lost his wife to cancer, and after making provision for his family, he decided to leave a gift to support the School of Engineering and the work of world-renowned researchers in the University's Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB).

«I hope there is an opportunity for the CCRCB and my old faculty to combine their research and innovation skills to develop a simple and effective pain management system to alleviate the discomfort associated with cancer. That's my gift for the future.»

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If you would like further information on legacy gifts to Queen's, please contact **Susan Wilson**, Legacy Manager, Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University, Belfast BT7 1NN  
T: +44 (0)28 9097 3162 E: [susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk)

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