

Winter 2008

# Network

NTU alumni... you're part of it

All aboard  
for our  
travel  
special



Welcome to our  
first Chancellor

Alumnus of the Year  
races to top award

Thanks for your  
Alumni Fund gifts

NOTTINGHAM  
TRENT UNIVERSITY



# Welcome to Network

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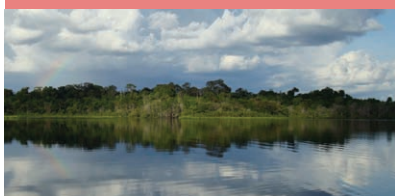


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Front cover: Cold comfort - the life of a snowboard photographer. Photo by Rick Caughey. See page 13 for the full story.

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Welcome to the latest issue of *Network*, your alumni magazine.

Our special greetings go to around 5,000 new graduates who have joined the Alumni Association

following this year's awards ceremonies. We have also welcomed a new member of staff to our Alumni Relations team - alumna Hannah Marmion (Human Services 2007). We are here to answer your queries, keep you in touch with the University and help you play a part in the NTU community.

As usual, the magazine is packed with news from Nottingham, your University and your fellow alumni. This issue recounts the experiences of alumni who have broadened their horizons through travel - from a daring expedition to Everest (see page 18) to close encounters with a volcano in Montserrat

(page 14). It also highlights some of the work undertaken by the University and our alumni to protect the environment.

We've taken this opportunity to remind you about the exclusive benefits you can enjoy as Alumni Association members and we bring you news of the latest addition - 20% discount on admission to two of Nottingham's top attractions when presenting your venture card, which was distributed with the last issue of *Network*.

As ever, we love to report on your success stories and we are delighted to feature the recipient of this year's Alumnus of the Year Award, Louise Holland (Sport Administration and Science 1988). Find out more about Louise and how she has helped raise over £300 million for cancer research on page 5.

We hope you enjoy reading your latest magazine. We are always happy to hear from you, so please keep sending in your updates, news and stories.

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## Message from the Vice-Chancellor



It's always a pleasure to welcome our alumni back to the University - and never more so than on a historic occasion such as the recent installation

ceremony for our first Chancellor. We're delighted that Sir Michael Parkinson CBE is set to play a key role in the life of NTU and we appreciate the fact that former students chose to share in our celebrations too.

As this edition of *Network* shows, there are countless ways in which alumni can refresh and strengthen their relationship with the University. Some of you, for instance, have already taken the opportunity to see at first hand how the transformation of our Newton and Arkwright buildings is

shaping up. The interest will undoubtedly grow next year as we unveil the stunning results of what has been the largest campus regeneration scheme in NTU's history.

And, for those of you who can't return to Nottingham, do take time to explore our new online community so you can keep in touch with our news no matter what part of the world you happen to be in.

Finally, I'd like to express my gratitude to those of you who have taken your enthusiasm for the University one step further. Read on to discover how alumni are providing invaluable support to enhance the learning experience of our current and future students. Whether you've provided career mentoring, assisted at an open day or donated to the Alumni Fund, your generous contribution is truly making a difference. Thank you.

Professor Neil T Gorman  
Vice-Chancellor



Above: Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman and Sir Michael at the official ceremony

# A great occasion

Nottingham Trent University celebrated a major milestone in its history when Sir Michael Parkinson CBE was installed as its first Chancellor.

Nearly 1,500 VIP guests, staff, students, alumni and other friends of the University attended the star-studded ceremony to hear Sir Michael confirm his commitment to - and enthusiasm for - his new role as NTU's most senior public face.

Sir Michael, the journalist and broadcaster best known for his TV chat show which was essential Saturday night viewing for millions, commented: "2008 has certainly been a year to remember. It started with a knighthood and ends with my installation as Chancellor of Nottingham Trent University - both accolades I am deeply honoured to have received.

"I am very much looking forward to starting this new chapter in my life and to being involved in a University where nurturing talent and helping people realise their full potential is seen as a priority."

The hour-long event at the Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham also saw a series of famous names added to the University's roll call of honour. Honorary degrees were presented to:

- Champion of farming and rural communities Baroness Hazel Byford of Rothley DBE, until last year the Shadow Minister in the House of Lords for Food and Rural Affairs.

- Kevin Cahill CBE, the creative and persuasive force behind the success of Comic Relief and Sport Relief in raising funds to combat poverty, disadvantage and injustice.
- Inspirational academic leader Professor Ray Cowell CBE DL, well known to many alumni through his role as Vice-Chancellor of the University for 16 years until his retirement in 2003.
- Celebrated journalist and broadcaster Mariella Frostrup, whose career has spanned PR for the music industry, literary criticism, current affairs and her own chat show.
- Bill Kenwright CBE, the man behind the world's most prolific theatre production company with shows such as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Blood Brothers*.
- England's most successful Test cricket captain Michael Vaughan OBE, one of the sport's great ambassadors who won 26 of the 51 Tests during his reign.

It was also announced that honorary degrees would be awarded to three of the UK's best-known celebrities - supremely gifted actress Dame Judi Dench CH DBE; unique comedy performer Billy Connolly CBE; and acclaimed broadcaster and *Top Gear* presenter Jeremy Clarkson.

Going forward, Sir Michael's role as Chancellor will include conferring degrees at awards ceremonies and representing the University on other special occasions.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman commented: "I can think of no-one better than Sir Michael to fulfil this important role as the figurehead of our University. He is a distinguished broadcaster and journalist revered for his integrity and charisma. I know he will be a wonderful advocate for us and will provide genuine inspiration to our University community."

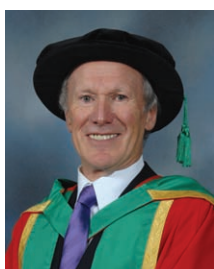
Share in the University's big day. A special video capturing highlights of the installation ceremony can now be viewed online, together with photographs and the full transcript of Sir Michael's acceptance speech. Just follow the links from our website at: [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk)



Champion of rural communities Baroness Byford of Rothley DBE



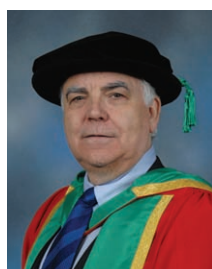
Comic and Sport Relief supremo Kevin Cahill CBE



NTU's former Vice-Chancellor Professor Ray Cowell CBE DL



Prolific journalist and broadcaster Mariella Frostrup



Theatre production pioneer Bill Kenwright CBE



Acclaimed cricket star Michael Vaughan OBE

# Treat yourself

Our travel-themed issue of *Network* wouldn't be complete without a look at some of the great discounts and offers available to help NTU alumni get out and about.

Whether you're looking for an entertaining day trip back to Nottingham - or planning a holiday further afield - we could have a special deal that's right up your street.

## Venturing out in Nottingham?

NTU alumni now enjoy 20% off entry to two of the city's best-loved attractions. Just present your venture card at the Galleries of Justice and the City of Caves to benefit.

Dare to take an atmospheric trip through three centuries of crime and punishment at the Galleries of Justice, a historic former court and prison in the Lace Market.

Witness a trial in the Victorian courtroom and glimpse the fate of criminals sentenced to the horrors of the cells and even the gallows. Along the way you can revel in the chilling stories of the 'prisoners' and 'gaolers' who act as your guides.

Thrills also abound at the City of Caves, where you can descend into the mysterious depths of Nottingham's cave network, exploring original Anglo Saxon tunnels and discovering how this underground world was a refuge for local people down the centuries. Don't be surprised to encounter some cave-dwellers during your adventure!

The offer is limited to six people per card per visit and doesn't include joint attraction tickets. See [www.cityofcaves.com](http://www.cityofcaves.com) and

[www.galleriesofjustice.org.uk](http://www.galleriesofjustice.org.uk) for opening times and more information. You will have received your venture card with the last issue of *Network* - email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) if you need a new one.

## From cottages to castles

Turn your holiday dreams into reality - with a fantastic 10% discount on holidays booked through Cottages4You.

The company offers intriguing properties throughout the UK, Ireland, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy, perfect for a short break or a longer stay. The portfolio ranges from gites and farmhouses to villas and castles - you'll struggle to choose between that cosy thatched rural retreat or that atmospheric fisherman's cottage by the sea.

See availability and claim your discount at [www.chooseacottage.co.uk/partners/NOT](http://www.chooseacottage.co.uk/partners/NOT) where you'll find exciting holiday offers to brighten up the winter or give you something to look forward to next summer. Alternatively, quote NOT10 when you call Cottages4You on 0870 191 7829.

## Delighting mind, body and sole!

Step this way for an exclusive 5% discount on rambling, hiking and trekking breaks amid the stunning scenery of Southern France. The Enlightened Traveller® offers



Going underground...you never know who you'll meet on your discounted trip to the City of Caves

self-guided and group walking tours as well as holidays which combine walking with cookery, painting or pottery.

Among new attractions are holidays along the beautiful route which inspired Robert Louis Stevenson to write the classic *Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes*. Another is an inn-to-inn trekking tour on the Regordane Way, once one of Christendom's most important pilgrimage routes.

Interested? Your journey of discovery should start at [www.enlightened-traveller.co.uk](http://www.enlightened-traveller.co.uk). When booking, just quote NTUAET0807 to benefit from the discount.

## Hit the open road

Get into top gear with a special deal on car hire - both in the UK and overseas. We have joined forces with Hertz to provide NTU alumni with a 10% discount.

To benefit, visit [www.hertz.co.uk](http://www.hertz.co.uk) and enter the details for your booking. Remember to click 'Yes' for the option 'I have a Discount (CDP) Coupon'. When prompted for the CDP number, you need to quote 588878.

If booking by phone - on 0870 599 6699 - don't forget to quote CDP 588878. All bookings must be paid for by credit card.

## Gym'll fix it!

Belonging to the Student Union can also take you further - with substantial discounts on using NTU's sport and fitness facilities.

By paying the £10 annual fee as an Associate Member of the Student Union, you can enjoy Sport and Fitness membership for only £99 for the academic year - less than half price! This gives you unlimited access to NTU fitness suites at the City site, free access to exercise classes, use of sports facilities at Bryon and Clifton, plus other options for your fitness regime.

For an application form to join the Student Union, email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)



For a full run-down of the many exciting benefits available to our alumni, visit: [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk)



# Racing ahead

The woman behind one of the UK's most phenomenal fundraising success stories has been chosen as our Alumnus of the Year for 2008. *Network* catches up with Louise Holland, who is still racing - and raising - for life.

Ever-modest Louise Holland couldn't have been more surprised when she heard she was Alumnus of the Year. Her instant reaction was: "But I'm only doing my job!"

That job just happens to be a role in which she has supported the battle against cancer by helping raise some £300 million.

For Louise is the motivating force behind 'Race for Life' - the annual women-only 5k run which has grown to become the largest fundraising series of its kind in the UK.

Such has been her impact in advancing a worthy cause that the BSc (Hons) Sport Administration and Science graduate won the Alumnus of the Year vote by a distance.

The award was launched last year to recognise alumni for their outstanding achievements, professional success and contributions to society.

Louise, who is Local Supporter Fundraising Director for Cancer Research UK, said: "I had to read the letter several times before the news sank in. I feel honoured, excited and privileged - especially as it's all come about because I'm simply doing a job I love."

She added: "I like to think the award reflects the dedication of everyone involved in our campaigns. I meet a lot of amazing, brave people who have suffered from or been affected by cancer. Their inspirational stories make me want to continue doing my job as well as I can."

Louise (née Richards), who graduated in 1988, was nominated by Principal Lecturer in the School of Education Doug Williamson. He supervised her dissertation on disability and sport in schools.

Doug said: "Always popular and sociable, Louise shone out amongst her peers

through her pure energy and focused approach. It's no surprise she has gone on to achieve so much for this worthy cause."

It was while working on her dissertation that Louise decided on her future career. She worked with the British Sports Association for the Disabled before joining Cancer Research UK in 1994 and taking over the running of 'Race for Life'.

Under her direction, the event has grown meteorically. This year it raised more than

£55 million as almost 700,000 women took part in 260 events countrywide. The money raised goes directly towards pioneering work to help find new treatments for cancer.

Now in charge of both national events and community fundraising, Louise admits her job is as challenging as it is rewarding. Her target is to raise some £110 million this year, a tough call even though she now has a 291-strong team as well as a cause which has captured the goodwill of the country.

She would love to see one million women taking part in 'Race for Life' one year: the record so far is around 750,000. The race concept is constantly developed - this year a 10k version was piloted.

Looking back at her NTU days, Louise said: "The learning I gained - together with the life experience of studying in Nottingham - helped make me who I am today. As for Doug Williamson, he's a great lecturer. If it hadn't been for him, I wouldn't have gone into my first job in disability sport."

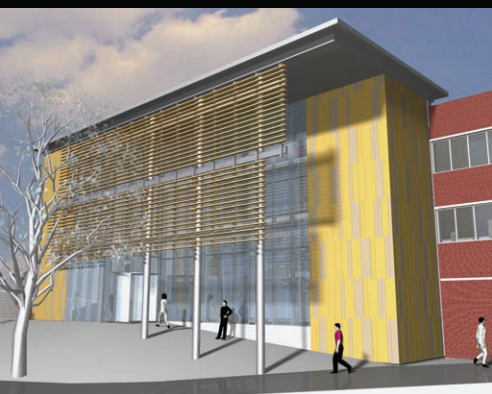
Who should follow in Louise's footsteps and become our Alumnus of the Year for 2009? It's not too early to make nominations for next year's award. For details on how to make a nomination, email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

"...I like to think the award reflects the dedication of everyone involved in our campaigns..."

From science to shopping, Nottingham is building on its reputation as a dynamic city. Here we highlight just a few of the developments making it a great place to live, work and study.

**Below:**  
Bright and modern, the new Chaucer extension

**Bottom:**  
Health Secretary Alan Johnson with mums and babies at the launch of the new cord blood bank



# Nottingham gets

Two major initiatives unveiled this autumn underlined our city's position as a hotbed of science and technology innovation.

In keeping with Nottingham's status as one of only six Science Cities in the UK, the developments have boosted research into life-threatening diseases and provided vital space for burgeoning bioscience firms. And NTU has played a central role in both cases.

The new Anthony Nolan Trust Cord Blood Bank and combined research institute has opened at Clifton campus, offering a lifeline to thousands of seriously ill patients.

The facility will store stem cells from the blood of new-born babies' umbilical cords for use in transplants and groundbreaking medical research. Health Secretary Alan Johnson, who performed the official opening, said the centre's work would have a global impact and reinforce the UK's reputation for research excellence.

“...new centre boosts life-saving research...”

Funded with the help of a £1.4 million grant from the East Midlands Development Agency (*emda*), the venture builds on The Anthony Nolan Trust's longstanding relationship with research teams at the University. The Trust expanded into cord blood banking five years ago and continues to pioneer work to help those with illnesses such as leukaemia, sickle-cell diseases and immune deficiencies.

Meanwhile, BioCity Nottingham - the UK's fastest growing bioscience incubator - celebrated the official opening of its Laurus Building, which provides 48,000 sq ft of office and laboratory facilities.

BioCity is now home to 60 companies, including R&D and business support services. The new Laurus Building was opened ahead of schedule to keep pace with demand for accommodation.

The facility represents a collaboration between the city's two universities, *emda*, BioCity and the European Regional Development Fund.

NTU Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman said: “It is very rewarding that the University's involvement is helping to raise Nottingham's profile as a Science City and contributing to the city's Eastside regeneration.”

Nottingham already supports 62,000 jobs in the science sector and this is set to grow by at least 15% over the next 20 years.

## New-look campus takes shape

NTU's own transformation scheme is gathering pace, creating unrivalled learning facilities and reinvigorating a distinctive part of the city centre.

The latest development is a smart new extension to the Chaucer building which will enhance the space that leads to the corner of Goldsmith and Chaucer Streets. The 'Pin' - as it is known - will include a stunning frontage as well as bright, modern interiors. A new TV studio and associated control room will also be created for the Centre for Broadcasting & Journalism.

Meanwhile, major progress has been made with the £70 million redevelopment of the Newton and Arkwright buildings. Steel construction is now underway for the central court, link building and new entrance. Plans are also well advanced for the one-stop-shop which will provide a single point of access for student support.

The two existing buildings, Newton and Arkwright, have been stripped out and will be revitalised to provide much-needed general purpose teaching space, a range of lecture theatres and conference suites.

Escorted tours for current and potential donors are now being organised, with several alumni - including Simon Holden (Quantity Surveying 1990) - taking the opportunity to check on progress.

“...creating the UK's finest city campus...”

Simon commented: “The project is hugely impressive and is on a scale which needs to be seen to be believed. It is a complex scheme which succeeds in sensitively merging different styles of outstanding listed accommodation with new cutting-edge architecture of the highest quality.

“In bringing to life the previously hidden space between Arkwright and Newton, the scheme will radically transform the impact of the city campus and will raise the quality of NTU's accommodation even higher than it is today. I have no doubt that this flagship scheme will be a huge success.”

# noticed

A brochure is available detailing how the transformation will help create the UK's finest city-centre campus - and highlighting how the University's alumni and wider community of friends and partners can play their part. For a copy, ring 0115 848 8809 or email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

## Share the vision for our city

NTU alumni are being urged to help promote Nottingham as a great place to live and work. Vision Nottingham, the inward investment agency for the city, is keen to engage with former students as part of its work to ensure the city's economic development continues to thrive.

Vision Nottingham would like to hear from alumni who could act as ambassadors for the city. The role may involve attending promotional events or providing personal views on the city's strengths. It may also open up business opportunities for alumni keen to set up their own enterprises.

“...alumni could act as ambassadors...”

There is no doubt that Nottingham is on the up, with a workforce of over 300,000 and an economy of over £11.2 billion.

Specsavers recently chose Nottingham over Seville, Bratislava, Birmingham and Manchester as its preferred location, creating 300 new jobs. The company joins global businesses like Experian, Boots, Capital One, Speedo and Games Workshop already based in the city.

Nottingham is also now ranked fifth for retail in the UK, with big names such as Vivienne Westwood, Ted Baker and Hugo Boss adding to the quality shopping experience symbolised by the flagship store of world-renowned fashion designer Paul Smith, one of the city's favourite sons.

If there is any way you can support the inward investment team's work, contact: [enquiries@visionnottingham.com](mailto:enquiries@visionnottingham.com)

## Read all about it

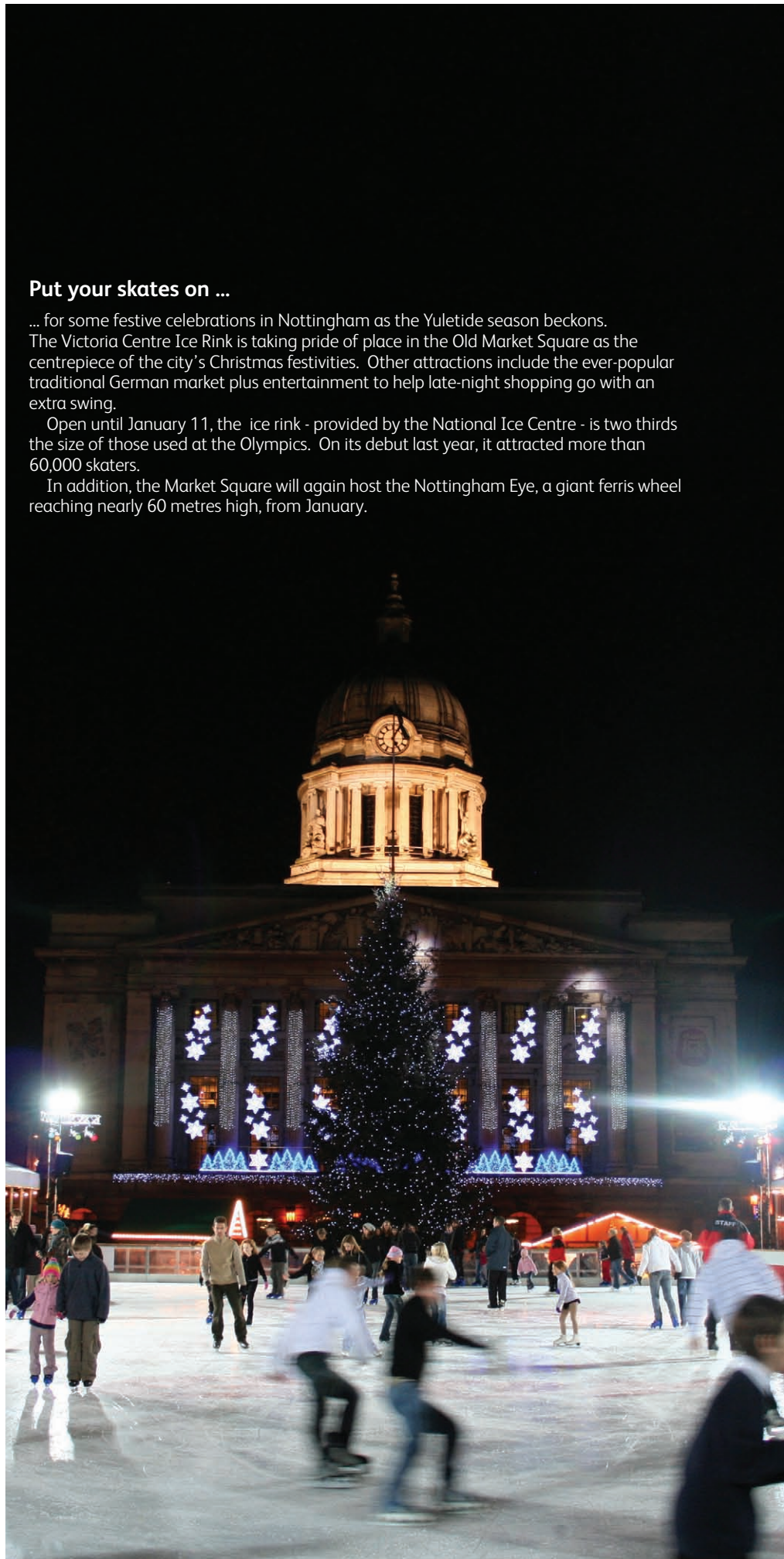
Keep up-to-date with developments via *Notice Nottingham*, an e-bulletin from the City Council. To have it delivered directly to your inbox, visit: [www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/noticenottingham](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/noticenottingham)

## Put your skates on ...

... for some festive celebrations in Nottingham as the Yuletide season beckons. The Victoria Centre Ice Rink is taking pride of place in the Old Market Square as the centrepiece of the city's Christmas festivities. Other attractions include the ever-popular traditional German market plus entertainment to help late-night shopping go with an extra swing.

Open until January 11, the ice rink - provided by the National Ice Centre - is two thirds the size of those used at the Olympics. On its debut last year, it attracted more than 60,000 skaters.

In addition, the Market Square will again host the Nottingham Eye, a giant ferris wheel reaching nearly 60 metres high, from January.



# How you can help us

If you enjoyed your time at Nottingham Trent, spare a thought for today's students - and how you might lend them a hand in their future careers.

## Mentoring with meaning

Could you devote some time to sharing your professional experience and expertise with students via email? A group of generous alumni volunteers have been doing just that - thanks to our inspirational online careers mentoring programme.

This successful service enables alumni to provide current students with one-to-one advice, guidance and support on careers.

Mentoring volunteer and alumna Lisa Gibson (Strategic Human Resource Management 2001) - Head of HR for the BMJ Publishing Group - said: "Support from an excellent person was fundamentally important in my approach to my own career. I wanted to be part of the NTU mentoring programme so that I could offer this sort of support back to somebody else."

Third year English student Emma Sparks liaised with Lisa via the programme because

she was interested in publishing as a long-term career choice. She said: "Lisa recommended me for work experience and gave excellent advice about what the work involved and an idea of the organisation's overall structure. I gained experience in different sectors which helped me realise the areas in which I want to be involved."

Another alumna who found mentoring to be rewarding and worthwhile is educational psychologist Tasnim Kapasi (Psychology 2000). She commented: "It's nice to be able to share my experiences and for it to be valuable to other students at NTU. As a former NTU student, it means a lot to me."

## What a difference a day makes

Remember the nerves and excitement you felt on your first visit to University? Did it help you to talk to others who knew what higher education was like?

Why not share your own experiences of the University with prospective students? We're always on the lookout for volunteers to help at the open days we hold throughout the year at all our campuses.

## Why NTU means business

If you're an employer keen to offer placements to undergraduates, look no further than NTU. Many firms view the University as the ideal choice for finding confident, accomplished individuals with the right professional skills.

Taking a student on placement could help you to develop new business ideas, research niche markets, solve technical problems, improve profitability and advance projects otherwise sidelined due to lack of time.

If you're looking for high-calibre graduates, the University's Careers Service runs recruitment events throughout the year and is always interested in hearing from potential exhibitors. Please see the Careers Service website for more details: [www.ntu.ac.uk/careers/employers](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/careers/employers)

## Open a science placement door

Calling all science alumni... do you remember the time that you were out on placement? We're sure that you learned something beneficial from the experience.

Now it could be your chance to help the science students of today to change their lives positively too.

Professional Placements Manager for NTU's School of Science and Technology, Dr Ray Wallace, is hoping to increase the range of industrial, government and commercial opportunities available to our science students. In particular he is looking to forge partnerships with medium and small size companies interested in taking an NTU student for a sandwich year.

He said: "SME opportunities are often difficult for us to source and quite often such firms have never even thought about the possibility of taking a sandwich student. That's where our alumni might be in a position to help sell the benefits."



Olympic gold medallist Steve Trapmore MBE turned in a winning performance for the latest students joining NTU. Steve (Electronics and Computing 1997), part of the men's eight which rowed to victory at Sydney 2000, delivered an inspirational talk full of valuable advice during Welcome Week. He even handed his gold medal around members of the audience.

Interested in mentoring, helping out at open days or offering placements? Email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)



# Aiming higher

Let NTU take you to another level. Just like the two alumni featured here, you'll find our exciting and expanding range of postgraduate and professional courses can put you on the path to success.

MBA graduate Peter Robertson has won one of the UK's most coveted business awards - thanks to his energy-saving device which helps people say goodbye to standby!

The company he founded, OneClick Technologies, received the Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation in recognition of his success in developing a mains adaptor which dramatically cuts electricity usage on consumer electronics.

Peter advanced the idea for the IntelliPlug while studying for his New Business Venture assignment at Nottingham Business School. IntelliPlug is designed to make life easier at home and in the office by automatically switching off computer or television equipment when it is not in use.

Peter, who graduated in 2002, said: "The ethos of our company is based on the fact that electronic equipment left on 'standby' 24 hours a day is literally costing the earth. Our products provide effective solutions, helping people make a difference to the environment and their bank balance."

After attending a Buckingham Palace event to mark his achievement, he added: "As a firm with just 12 staff, we were delighted to beat off competition from every part of British industry to win the Queen's Award."

\* Nottingham Business School's suite of programmes now includes a part-time, full-time and Extreme MBA.

## Material gains for Joy

Textile artist Joy Butters has woven her own postgraduate study success story - and is now embarking on research focusing on the University's unique lace collection.

Joy has just completed her MA Fashion and Textiles by Registered Project or Thesis, which has enabled her to re-evaluate the concepts on which her artwork is based.

A Nottingham-based artist, Joy produces wall art, large-scale screens and installations using traditional techniques such as felt making, pleating and machine embroidery.

Her distinctive creations are delicate organic landscapes which play on the use of layers and light. Her MA investigations enabled her to follow a process of capturing these ethereal pieces using hard materials such as resin, plaster and concrete.

Said Joy: "NTU has extensive technical facilities, which gave me the opportunity to learn new skills and gain a greater understanding of process."

She has now started research for a PhD, working with NTU's important lace collection which boasts over 75,000 pieces, some dating back to the 1600s.



Find out about our postgraduate and professional courses at: [www.ntu.ac.uk/postntu](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/postntu)

Top left: Award-winner Peter Robertson  
Above: Joy's stunning work on show

## Where have you got to?

Did you complete your higher education qualification at NTU in 2004/05? Then your experiences may be invaluable to the students following in your footsteps.

You may recall filling in a survey some six months after completing your course about where your studies had taken you.

The Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey - undertaken for the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) - gathered vital information about graduate experiences. It has enabled NTU to keep current students up-to-date about employment opportunities.

Now there is another chance for some of you to let us know what you have been doing since gaining your qualification. A new survey, the DLHE Longitudinal Survey, is currently underway to find out more about your activities since you graduated.

The survey is being conducted on behalf of HESA by IFF Research, who may contact you by email, post or phone with a new questionnaire. Please take time to

complete the survey. Your participation is important as any information you provide will help in reviewing and promoting courses and giving current students an insight into early career progression, as well as providing input to government policy development and review.

You will be able to see the results of this survey on the web next summer. The results of the survey of 2002/03 graduates have already been published and can be accessed at [www.hesa.ac.uk](http://www.hesa.ac.uk) within the 'Publications and Products' section.

If you do not wish to be included in DLHE surveys, please let us know at: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) and we will ensure you aren't contacted in future.

# Going for gold

It's been a triumphant sporting year for NTU students past and present... from glory in Beijing to the first winner of our new Alumni Fund award.

## Jacqui makes a splash

Talented rower Jacqui Round is on the crest of a wave after racing her way to a special sports award - created thanks to the NTU Alumni Fund.

Twenty-one-year-old Jacqui, who has represented Great Britain at both Junior and Under 23 level, is the first athlete to receive this new award aimed at promising sportspeople joining NTU as students.

The £2,000 award package will help her balance her studies with the rigours of training to ensure she keeps ahead in her sport. She enthused: "I want to say thanks very much to everyone who contributes to the Alumni Fund: I hope I can make them proud. This grant will help me so much - it means I can focus more on my training rather than having to worry about money."

Jacqui embarked on her sporting career at the age of ten when she joined St Neots Rowing Club. She's not looked back since, winning 12 gold and silver medals between 2001 and 2005 as she perfected her skills in school and junior competitions. An early highlight was winning bronze in a quad scull at the World Junior Championships in 2005.

Two years later she was selected for the GB squad at the Youth Olympic Festival in

Sydney, where she won two gold medals. This year she notched up her first medal at the Under 23 World Championships, taking bronze in a coxless four.

Her ambition this season is to break into the senior team and be selected for the Senior World Championships. She is also aiming for gold at the Under 23 World Championships. "I hope to be a successful senior athlete for as many years as possible. My ultimate dream is to succeed at the London Olympics in 2012," she said.

Now that she has started her BA (Hons) in Sport, Leisure, Psychology and Education, the Alumni Fund award could not have come at a better time, easing the pressure on her parents who have supported her rowing over the years. The funding will help her meet

the costs of training camps, races abroad and rowing club membership fees as well as new sculls and speed coach equipment.

Karen Boag, NTU Sports, Recreation and Activities Manager, said: "Jacqui was chosen for the award because she has real potential to take the big step from the GB Under 23 squad to the senior squad. We hope the extra assistance from the Alumni Fund will help ensure she can compete and perform at the highest possible level."

"...thanks very much to everyone who contributes to the Alumni Fund..."

## Why we're such good sports

NTU is setting the pace after winning an accolade as the 'most improved university' when it comes to sporting success.

It achieved the special award from the British University Sports Association (BUSA) after climbing an impressive 17 places to 26th position in the BUSA league table - in the space of just one year.

Comprising 149 universities, the BUSA league table reflects the success of each institution in a variety of sports, with league points awarded for individual and team achievements throughout the year.

## Cheer us on to Varsity victory

This year's Varsity Sports Series was just champion for NTU - as our talented teams regained the crown from their close rivals, the University of Nottingham.

NTU emerged 6-3 victors with wins in men's and women's football, ice hockey, netball, women's basketball and men's hockey. The most important winner, however, was the Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind - which received over £9,000 as this year's Varsity charity.

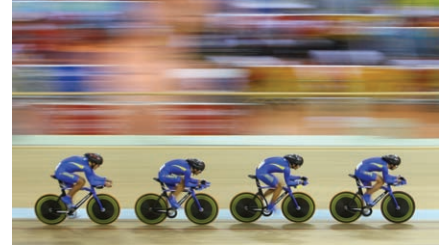
Each fixture was played in an electrifying 'derby' atmosphere with thousands of fans cheering on their sides and hoping to gain bragging rights for the year ahead.

Dates for the 2009 Varsity events will soon be announced. If you'd like to support NTU at some nail-biting showdowns, email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) for more information.





Jacqui Round has rowed her way to the first-ever sports award created via the Alumni Fund



Prize-winning photographer Julian Finney of Getty Images chronicled the sheer spectacle of the Olympics

## Gold rush in Beijing

In the last issue of *Network*, the National Coach for British Cycling's disability squad Chris Furber told us how he had to strive to be "the best in the world" at what he does.

Now - following his team's exceptional performance at the Paralympics - there can be little doubt that he has achieved his goal.

Chris (Sport Administration and Science 1999) returned triumphant from Beijing after an incredible week's action which saw the GB cyclists take a record-breaking 17 gold and three silver medals.

Equally at home on the track or the road, his team dominated the competition to top the cycling table, setting several world records along the way.

Star athletes included Britain's most successful individual competitor Darren Kenny, with four golds and a silver, as well as Rachel Morris (*pictured below left with Chris*) who made history as Britain's first Paralympic hand cycling champion.

A delighted Chris - who had originally set his team a target of five gold medals - said: "It was a fantastic team effort and better than we could have ever imagined. Riders and staff all pulled together and the atmosphere in the camp was buoyant."

He added: "Our success is due to a combination of factors including Lottery Funding, the system in place at British Cycling whereby the athletes - both able-bodied and Paralympic - all train together and the unwavering determination of everyone involved. Bring on London 2012!"

## Medal for comeback king

Despite having once retired from athletics, Chris Martin (Computer Studies 1994) threw himself back into his sport with such enthusiasm that he brought home a silver medal from the Paralympics. In fact, the discus thrower only narrowly missed out on gold in a dramatic climax to the F33 class.

Beijing represented a remarkable comeback for business analyst Chris, who had previously reached the pinnacle of achievement at Sydney 2000, scooping a gold medal for discus and a silver for the javelin. After finishing just outside the medal placings in Athens four years later, he retired from sport - only to start competing again last year with impressive success.



## Glorious moments captured

One sports enthusiast who gained an enviable close-up of the Olympics action this summer was award-winning photographer Julian Finney.

Working for photo agency Getty Images, Julian (Photography 2004) captured some of the key moments defining both the triumph and the despair of Beijing 2008.

"Covering the Olympics was amazing. I was expecting it to be great and it didn't fail," he enthused. "It was incredible to see the world of sport joining together and competing for the ultimate prize."

Julian covered a vast range of sports and travelled to a different venue each day. He was lucky enough to take shots representing two of the biggest success stories of the Games - swimmer Michael Phelps who now has a record 14 gold medals, and sprinter Usain 'Lightning' Bolt who set three awe-inspiring world records.

"My highlights included shooting Bolt in the 200m final as he won by such a distance," said Julian. "Another was the weightlifting heavyweight final, won on the very last lift of the competition."

He added: "The 'bird's nest' was amazing up close. I don't think I have ever seen a better stadium anywhere. It's just so unique!"

Julian's camera lens is now turned mainly onto football and rugby, with the occasional tennis tournament. "My long-term goal now is to photograph a winter Olympics," he concluded.

# A community that truly clicks

Want to catch up with friends online, look through some photos from yesteryear or sign up for your own NTU alumni email address? Then just turn your browser towards [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk)

Have you joined our new-look online community yet?

Since it was launched in May, alumni have been logging on to [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk) regularly to make the most of the wide range of benefits and services on offer.

## Rekindle your friendships

While online, you can search for someone by name or look up a whole class list. Your own personal information remains secure and no other site-users can view your contact details unless you give permission.

For example, if you want friends to be able to contact you directly, you can choose to display information such as your email address or telephone number. You can even add some personal notes to tell them what you are doing now.

We also provide a message-forwarding service. So, if you are trying to make contact with somebody who has not published their details, send us your message and we'll pass it on.

Alumni Officer Clare Oswin says: "We are now in touch with more than 85,000 former students worldwide so our online community is the ideal way for friends to 'find' each other again."

## Show your affiliation

Many of you have signed up for an NTU alumni email address, which can be valuable when applying for jobs so you can show your professional affiliation with NTU. It can also be used on social networking sites.

Please note that this is an email forwarding service and doesn't provide

an email account or storage space. You must have an existing email account for the service to work.

## Onto a winner

To coincide with the launch of the online community, we ran two competitions this summer. Winner of the prize draw for logging in before the end of July was Carlos Gil Rodriguez (Mechanical Engineering 1994) from Spain, who will enjoy a luxury weekend break at the Lace Market Hotel.

He said: "I am very excited about coming back to Nottingham. I'm arranging a break in the UK for the New Year and will enjoy revisiting some of the places from my University days and remembering the wonderful time I spent in the city."

The winner of our competition for 2008 graduates was Kayleigh Farrell (Youth Studies 2008) who will spend her £50 worth of Amazon gift vouchers on the latest music releases.

## Join up today!

Of course we can't guarantee that you'll win a prize, but you will find plenty of up-to-date news, networking opportunities and announcements about reunions and events in the online community.

New members should go to [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk) and register as a new user. Select "Log in/Register", click on the link to "Register as a new user" and complete the form.

Remember, it's YOUR online community so do keep your news and photographs coming in!



## Where are they now?

That's the question which regularly puzzles your Alumni Association. While membership of the Association is free for former students, we're totally reliant on having up-to-date contact details for them.

And this is where you come in. Can you help us in the search for some of our 'lost' alumni?

It's now easier than ever for you to play your part. The 'lost' directory in our alumni online community contains the names and education details of people who aren't currently in touch with the Alumni Association.

If any of these are friends with whom you are still in contact, then we'd love to hear from you so we can invite them back into the University community to enjoy the same benefits that you do.

To view lost alumni in the online community, you must first log in. If you are a new user of the site, go to [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk) and follow the instructions.

You can then also enjoy all the other attractions the online community offers.



Does this photograph trigger any memories? Does it feature you? If so, why not visit our online directory to see if we are still trying to get in touch with your friends? If we've lost contact with them, perhaps you can help us renew our acquaintance!

# Brave new worlds

For our nine-page special on travel, we talk to the alumni who have gone to great lengths - and heights - to follow their dreams.



What more could a snow sports enthusiast want than a job that takes him from the ski resorts of New Zealand to husky sledding and reindeer safaris in Lapland?

Rick Caughey, once a stalwart of the NTU Ski and Snowboard Club, swapped his office life to become a tourism photography consultant on the other side of the world.

And the Information Systems graduate admits: "Best of all I get to play in the snow all season... on my days off of course!"

Rick has been splitting his time between managing a team of photographers on the ski slopes of Queenstown and setting up a tourism photography operation in Finland where the work covers snowboarding, skiing, snowmobiling, reindeers, huskies - and even the 'real' Santa!

His snowbound career is a long way from the job he took in a local authority finance department after graduating in 2005. Everything changed when a Kiwi friend posted a Facebook group inviting people to New Zealand for the ski season. Said Rick: "I was having a particularly bad day at work and just hit the 'accept' button!"

When he arrived in Queenstown last May, he seized the opportunity to combine two of his passions: photography and snowboarding. Sheer persistence gave him a foothold in the freelance photography

market. He "pestered" ski field managers for work and, having been taken on for a trial day, was offered a job on the spot.

Within half a season, he had become a site supervisor managing photographers covering two ski fields, Coronet Peak and The Remarkables, and taking a variety of images from action shots to family groups.

Said Rick: "Generally my working day involves getting my team up the mountain and making sure we're out there taking awesome photos all day long."

The company for which he works, Magic Memories, actually takes around 45,000 photos a day and has more than 6.5 million photos archived online.

As the New Zealand ski season came to an end, Rick was heading back to Finland this November to set up a similar operation to capture the holiday memories of the many tourists who go there for snow sports and the authentic Christmas atmosphere.

Although it seems that he's diverged from his degree subject, Rick says: "My IT skills are invaluable for my work in Finland as I'm tasked with the set-up and maintenance of all the hardware and software."

As for long-term career plans, he adds: "I have none at the moment. I like to take things as they come - it's more fun that way and it's worked so far for me!"



Above: Rick makes friends with the huskies  
Top: Capturing holiday memories to last a lifetime - photograph courtesy of Rick Caughey



Living in the shadow of an active volcano may not be everyone's idea of home sweet home. But for landscape photographer Carolyne Coleby, it is a small price to pay for being on one of the world's most idyllic islands.

With its impressive rainforests, serene beaches, unspoilt reefs, rare wildlife and dramatic mountains, Montserrat is a photographer's dream. And the brooding volcano - source of such destruction in the past - only adds to an environment which offers endless inspiration.

Now Carolyne (Photography 1993) is hoping that even more people can enjoy the stunning scenery which she encounters every day. She is playing her part in a concerted campaign to lure more travellers to experience this fascinating destination for themselves and to help rebuild a once-burgeoning tourism industry.

"There is a general perception in Europe that Montserrat is just a big pile of ash and nobody lives here, but it simply is not true," said Carolyne. "There is an abundance of beautiful and awe-inspiring landscapes which you just won't find elsewhere, complete with a volcano which provides an ever-changing scenario."

Given its name by Christopher Columbus on his trip to the New World in 1493, Montserrat is often dubbed the Emerald Isle of the Caribbean due to the Irish descent of many early European settlers. It enjoyed a reputation as a jetsetters' haven in the 1980s after Beatles' producer George Martin opened his Air Studios there, regularly attracting celebrity visitors such as Paul McCartney, Eric Clapton and Sting.

All that was to change, however, with two disasters which ravaged the island. In September 1989, Montserrat fell victim to the full force of Hurricane Hugo, which left virtually all its 12,000 residents homeless and wrecked the agriculture and tourism industries on which the island depended.

A fragile and tentative process of recovery began but six years later the Soufrière Hills Volcano erupted for the first time in recorded history. The island's capital, Plymouth, was buried in more than 12 metres of mud, the airport and dock were destroyed and the entire southern half of the island became uninhabitable. More than half the population fled to the north or overseas.

When Carolyne herself arrived in Montserrat it was almost a decade after the volcano eruption had wrought such havoc and she was deeply impressed by the resilience of the islanders. "They survive disasters with a real sense of humour and determination," she said. "During crises, the community pulls together and today there is an air of quiet optimism that the economy will pick up."

It was a "nomadic lifestyle" which brought her to the island. After graduating, she travelled extensively and lived in Holland and Australia for a while. Heading back to Nottingham, she took administrative jobs, completed a TEFL course, started teaching

# In the shadow of the volcano

Devastated by two natural disasters in the space of just six years, the Caribbean island of Montserrat is gradually rising from the ashes. *Network* talks to an islander who is using her skills as a photographer to help revive tourism in this unique location.



Clockwise from top left: Beautiful Rendezvous beach, accessible only by hiking, kayak or boat; the old Brambles airport destroyed by the volcano; ashfall coating foliage; and the glorious hibiscus which adorns the island.



Spectacular ash clouds from the volcano can reach 50,000 feet

and worked for a basic skills agency. A friend who had gained a posting at the Montserrat Volcano Observatory happened to invite her to visit - and within six months she had moved out there for good!

Only in Montserrat has photography become the basis for her career. "Cartier-Bresson talked of the 'decisive moment' in terms of taking photographs. For me, my decisive moment for photography was moving to Montserrat," said Carlyne.

She now runs a guesthouse which doubles as a gallery; her images are used extensively by a variety of agencies to promote the island's tourism potential; and she is planning a book about the island.

She has also launched photography workshops, giving visitors the chance to improve their skills while providing marketing material for the island. The next event in April, delivered with leading fine art photographer Matthew Murray, will focus on the 'abandoned landscape'. The deserted capital of Plymouth - often likened to a modern-day Pompeii - is bound to provide some inspiration!

The workshops form part of a general trend slowly reinvigorating tourism on Montserrat. A new airport opened in 2005 and a new capital, Little Bay, is being constructed - well out of reach of volcanic activity - along with a marina, yacht club and hotel complex. At the same time, every effort is being made to ensure the island's lush wildlife remains undisturbed. A biodiversity centre is being created while the central mountains are being designated as a national park.

As for the volcano, Carlyne views it with a combination of fascination and respect. During activity, there are pyroclastic flows - mixes of superheated ash, rocks and gases travelling at speeds of about 120 mph and sending up ash clouds reaching 50,000 feet. At night hot rocks falling down the volcano make it appear as if it is glowing, a vision she describes as "like Dante's Inferno."

The majority of the population now live in the 'safe zone' so the only real problems in the event of an eruption are caused by ash which can sometimes cover the landscape for weeks.

Carlyne says: "It can be a little unnerving to wake up in the middle of the night and hear the volcano rumbling away, particularly if there's a thunderstorm accompanying it. I have been through one dome collapse and two partial collapses since moving here and it's certainly dramatic, though over quickly."

She recalls her NTU days with great fondness - especially staff members such as Philip Stokes, Richard Woodfield and Ted Martin. She also appreciates the fact that her studies enabled her to combine photography with travelling - she undertook an exchange to what is now RMIT University in Melbourne and enjoyed a three-month photographic project in China and Russia.

Having travelled the world, however, she feels that her beloved Montserrat is her best destination yet. As she says: "Where else can you go out at night for a drink with a volcano glowing in the background?"

\* For more information about the photography workshops, see: [www.turtlebayapartments.com](http://www.turtlebayapartments.com)

# Traveller's tales

When Valery Collins embarked on a career break from the legal profession, little did she realise quite how far it would take her...

The law lecturer swapped her legal textbooks for travel guides and embarked on what she thought would be a 'year out' leading tour groups abroad.

Twelve years - and 60 countries - later, Valery (LPC 1996) is just as captivated as ever by the adventure and discovery of travel. The security of the legal profession has long been abandoned for a more precarious life as a freelance tour manager.

And now she is sharing some of her experiences in her first book, set against the stunning backdrop of her favourite destination in the Italian Dolomites. Although she has traversed the planet from Alaska to Zanzibar, it is to the unique mountain resort of Madonna di Campiglio that she has the deepest attachment.

The book, *Spirit of the Dolomites*, goes

beyond the tourist veneer of the classy resort and behind the scenes of the remarkable Hotel Lorenzetti which has extended a warm welcome to Valery over the years.

It lovingly weaves together insights into the region's people, history, landscapes, legends and wildlife with the humorous confessions of a tour guide dealing with often disparate and sometimes challenging groups of travellers.

Most of all, however, it recounts Valery's own adventures walking amid the stunning scenery of the Dolomites - often accompanied by Tabata the hotel dog, an endearing rascal

who leads her into endless escapades.

The book is a far cry from Valery's previous excursion into publishing. While working at Nottingham Law School as a lecturer - between 1977 and 1996 - she



wrote a book on *Recreation and the Law* and produced copious journal articles as part of the research team. Having taken the LPC on a distance learning basis, she fully intended to further her legal career and had gained a job with a firm of solicitors - but her 'year out' to travel changed all that.

She explained: "I found that I loved travelling so much that a decision had to be made. Did I quit law all together and become a freelance tour leader? There was naturally quite a lot of opposition from parents and friends but I felt this was an opportunity that would never come again.

"There had to be a lot of scaling down and it was very strange to have no regular pay cheque but then you develop the philosophy that something will turn up."

Ironically, Valery's legal training has since come in handy - for arranging contracts, negotiating in tricky situations, and recording incidents like lost luggage.

And it was her painstaking approach to record-keeping which sparked her enthusiasm to become an author. The notes she kept developed into a personal diary charting the places she had seen. Then Christmas newsletters to friends, along with an article for a tour operator's magazine, received such a positive response that she put her mind to writing a book.

Valery now spends about four months a year in Italy, mostly in Madonna di Campiglio. She says: "I love walking in summer and ski-ing in winter so it's perfect."

She adds: "Being a tour leader is much harder than people realise. We're like swans floating serenely on the water but paddling like crazy below. Sometimes clients ask me what it's like being on holiday all the time. My answer is 'I wish I knew!'"

\* Illustrated with Valery's own photographs, *Spirit of the Dolomites* is published by Vanguard Press.

## Nikki's chair takes off



The sky is the limit for high-flying design graduate Nikki Davis whose furniture concepts now feature in the new British Airways Terminal 5 at Heathrow.

Nikki created the 'Captain's Chair' for the first class lounge as part of her final-year project in collaboration with her placement company, Davison Highley Ltd.

Her striking design was based on thorough market research with industry specialists and 'commercially important passengers'.

The chair has a long uplifting base which hints at the angle of aircraft taking off, along with visual cues suggesting shapes found in Concorde and other BA planes.

Nikki's concepts were so well received that BA requested a re-sized and developed version of the chair which was ordered in large numbers for the new lounge. Davison Highley have since taken up the option to manufacture and market the original.

Having completed her BA (Hons) Furniture and Product Design, Nikki has been on a round-the-world trip - hopefully she'll have chance to see the Captain's Chair taking pride of place when she returns!

# Roaring success

A company named after a lion cub is giving volunteers the chance to 'do something amazing' by supporting vital projects in Africa.



A career break working with lions in Africa convinced Gemma Whitehouse to give up her high-flying marketing job... and offer other people the chance to enjoy life-changing experiences too.

She has now set up a travel company specialising in arranging volunteering opportunities on community and conservation projects throughout Africa.

Gemma launched Amanzi Travel in November 2006, naming it after the lion cub she helped to rear during her own career break in Zimbabwe. The aim is to give people "the experience of a lifetime" whether they are looking for a gap year, career break or holiday with a difference.

Said Gemma: "At some point in life, everyone needs a break when they can take stock and do something amazing - something truly worthwhile that can make a real difference to other people living in less fortunate circumstances.

"As I discovered myself, it puts your life in perspective and gives you time to reflect on what is really important."

Having graduated from NTU with a BA (Hons) Design Studies in 1998, Gemma eventually obtained a position with KPMG as a Graduate Recruitment Marketing Manager. Despite thoroughly enjoying her dynamic role with a well-respected organisation, she decided to take three months out to broaden her

horizons. Having always been fascinated by wildlife conservation and the African landscape, she travelled to Zimbabwe to help market the world's first lion breeding and rehabilitation programme.

"Everything just seemed to fall into place," she said. "It was a fantastic experience and gave me the idea of setting up my own company. I wasn't at all daunted - I was just passionate about what I was doing."

Her Bristol-based business has gone from strength to strength, enabling more than 200 volunteers to work in Africa with projects in dire need of help - from wildlife conservation to teaching, medical work to caring for orphans.

Gemma explains: "Responsible tourism is very high on our agenda so we strive to invest in projects whose ideas match our own and where we can foster self-sustaining communities. We even offer our volunteers the opportunity for carbon off-setting their flights."

She feels her time at NTU gave her many transferable skills - such as marketing and website design - which helped the business. However, she would urge other would-be entrepreneurs to do careful groundwork - and be prepared to work 14 hours seven days a week!

"Having the support of friends and family is essential too. For me, it was great to build a family business where my husband, my mum and my best friend are all involved in various ways."

\* Find out more about Amanzi Travel at: [www.amanzitravel.co.uk](http://www.amanzitravel.co.uk)



## Bags of ideas

Clever travellers could go a long way with an award-winning bag devised by alumnus Joe Craffy. His 'Metamorphic Shoulder Bag' can quickly transform into a pull-along wheeled case, increasing its storage capacity six-fold.

Joe came up with the idea while struggling to carry all his extra books as he worked on his dissertation for the BSc (Hons) Product Design last year.

His aim was to offer a solution to the portable storage needs of today's students - with a bag which could not only carry everyday essentials to lectures but also transport larger and heavier items, ideal when travelling home.

Once the folding mechanism is locked into place, the bag can even be used as a mobile seat for on-the-go relaxation.

In another design twist, Joe explored how his prototype could be improved with photonic textiles, featuring LEDs displaying graphics and messages.

His ingenuity earned him top prize in the 18-25 Year category of the Industrial Trust's Technical Textiles Competition. The award, which included £1,000 to further his knowledge in technical textiles and an adventure day out, was presented by HRH the Duke of York.

## Designer links

Global clothing label Paul Smith is sponsoring an exclusive study exchange programme aimed at aspiring fashion designers from Nottingham and Japan.

The agreement will enable students from NTU - plus Bunka Women's University and Musashino Art University in Tokyo - to experience the design practices and theories of another culture.

Under the Paul Smith Japan/UK Scholarship Scheme, two scholarships will go to Japanese students to enable them to embark on the MA Fashion Futures at NTU. Meanwhile, four NTU students will attend Bunka Women's University for ten weeks for an insight into the Japanese fashion industry.

Paul Smith said: "This is hopefully an exciting opportunity for the students. One of the most important experiences in life is travel, and the way it can open your eyes to the world."

# Top of the world

Mountaineer Lee Farmer is no stranger to scaling the heights of achievement. As the “ordinary guy doing extraordinary things”, he has just fulfilled a lifelong ambition to reach the summit of Everest.



#### Pictured top:

The Cholatse mountain framed by two of the many memorials to fallen climbers and sherpas who lost their lives in their summit attempts

#### Pictured right:

Lee achieves ‘every mountaineer’s dream’ perched atop the world’s highest peak

As a boy, Lee Farmer was thrilled by story books and Christmas annuals charting the tale of Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing conquering Mount Everest.

As a teenager, he went along to a Scout weekend where Sir Edmund was giving a lecture, an inspirational speech urging the assembled youngsters to grasp life’s opportunities as they came along.

Now - 20 years after that memorable encounter with his boyhood hero - Lee has taken that advice to heart and followed in Hillary’s footsteps all the way to the top of the highest mountain on earth.

He achieved his long-held ambition this May during a three-month trip to Nepal. Climbing unguided, his was a gruelling journey fraught with danger: around one in ten people lose their lives in the attempt to scale the 8,850m peak.

The South East Ridge route negotiates

infamous sections such as the Khumbu ice fall as well as countless crevasses. There was a constant risk of avalanches, not to mention the potential for snow blindness, hypothermia and acute mountain sickness.

Despite treacherous -75°C winds, a malfunctioning oxygen mask and a 16-hour stretch of exertion without a drop of water, Lee was one of only two members of his eight-strong expedition to make it to the top. Even the famous explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes, making a summit attempt at the same time, did not succeed in what was appalling and unpredictable weather.

From Everest Base Camp, Lee and his fellow adventurers made several shorter climbs up the mountain to higher camps, each time returning to lower levels before redoubling their efforts. In that way they gave their bodies the chance to adapt to the altitude, especially before venturing into

what is known as the 'Death Zone' - above 8,000m where supplementary oxygen is needed - to make the final summit attempt.

It was at 5.37 am on May 24 that Lee finally reached his goal. He said: "The wind at 30-40 mph was so strong and the cold so painful that I felt like I was in an acid bath. But looking around, I was blessed with an awesome view. Clouds below me, with only snowy mountain tops poking through - like some newly-discovered alien world."

There was no time to revel in the precious moments of triumph, however. Lee spent only around ten

minutes on the summit before starting the exhausting descent.

"They always remind you that reaching the summit is only half the journey," he explained.

"Many people are so exhausted once they've reached the top, and so

overwhelmed by the thought of what they need to do to get back

down, that they just sit down and die. This is why Everest is littered with so many bodies - I passed two myself while I was up there - but you just put it out of your mind and press on.

"I was exhausted, and suffering from dehydration, but I just took the descent one step at a time. Being very fit was crucial to my success, but I was also mentally very strong, which is half the battle."

In fact, Lee returned from his Himalayan odyssey suffering from little more than slight nerve damage to his fingers and toes. It was only with hindsight that he realised what he had achieved: "I took my boyhood dream and dared to walk in the footsteps of my heroes: Hillary and Tenzing. It was a

truly wonderful, humbling and inspiring mountaineering experience."

Conquering Everest is a far cry from Lee's 'other life' in the land and development industry. After graduating from NTU's BSc (Hons) Residential Development in 1996, he worked for five national PLCs and became Head of Residential Land at leading real estate practice Knight Frank. But, when the chance came along to take part in a private invitation-only expedition to ascend Everest - "every mountaineer's dream" - he decided to take time out from his career.

For his arduous preparations he would carry up to 80 lbs of water on his training route - or even pull a tractor tyre! More importantly, he raised thousands of pounds in sponsorship to cover essentials for his trip.

Though Lee's goal is to climb the highest peaks in all seven continents - and he has just two left - the lure of Everest remains strong as ever.

He now hopes to stage another summit attempt from the north next year, this time following the route taken by two more of his heroes, Mallory and Irvine, on the doomed 1924 ascent from which they never returned. If successful, Lee will be only the fifth Briton ever to reach the summit twice.

Until then, he is again seeking sponsorship but is also in demand for public appearances, after-dinner speeches, media work and his role as a motivational speaker, bridging the worlds of mountaineering and business with advice on issues like team-building and goal-setting.

\* For more information about Lee's exploits, see: [www.leefarmer.co.uk](http://www.leefarmer.co.uk)

“It was a truly wonderful, humbling and inspiring mountaineering experience”



Lee's family, friends and supporters tracked his progress through live dispatches which he wrote on a PDA and transmitted to his website via a satellite phone.

Extracts from the diary of his incredible journey tell an enthralling tale of human endeavour:

### May 23

"Fear began to rise up in me, as night began to take over from day. Then I remembered that people close to me believe in me - believe I can climb the highest mountain in the world. I turned these beliefs into my own strengths and the fear slowly dissipated. Maybe for the first time in my life, I was ready, focused on the Herculean task ahead. I felt like a gladiator in the Colosseum, the snow being the sand of my arena. Ready for anything that was going to come out of the blackness of night at me."

### May 24

"There, 50 feet away, was the summit. I was tired, I wanted to stop and rest, but I was aware of someone behind me. Sluggishly I raised each foot, gaining a little more height in a Herman Munster style. Suddenly I felt a huge slap on my back and a hand grip my arm; it was the person behind congratulating me for summiting. I pulled myself out of the drunkenness of exhaustion and realised I was actually here. At 5.37 am on 24th May 2008, I was on top of the world! I grabbed his arm and shook it back, congratulating him also."

### June 3 (back at the hotel)

"I realise now that when I reached the summit, I was numb. Numb with the painfully freezing cold and numb emotionally. I was on top of the world but didn't feel elation, happiness or satisfaction. We were in too much of a dangerous situation, with frostbite and death our potential bedfellows looming on the next freezing gust of wind."



# Survival instinct

*Network* reports on a mission to safeguard the flora, fauna and tribal traditions of the Ecuador forest - and how NTU has played its part.



NTU lecturer Phil Sargent ventured deep into the Amazonian jungle as part of a scientific expedition taking vital support to an ancient tribe fighting to preserve its way of life.

Land and engineering surveyor Phil crossed the Andes at 4,000 metres, dropped down to the Amazon forest and took a seven-hour canoe journey to reach the 130-strong community who are the last surviving members of the Cofan tribe in Ecuador.

Although the Cofan nation is one of the oldest intact cultures in the Americas, the 17 families who remain in Ecuador are struggling to preserve their traditions, livelihood and environment in the face of forest clearance and pollution from oil exploration.

At the same time, they are striving to promote eco-tourism fully aware that they are surrounded by largely unexplored forest, home to almost 1,000 different species of mammals and birds.

To support their endeavours, a 17-day mission was organised this summer by the UK-based Scientific Exploration Society (SES) and led by its founder, the famous

explorer John Blashford-Snell.

Phil and the 19 other intrepid travellers selected to take part completed a wide range of projects - from installing a clean water supply to providing medical treatment and school materials - to benefit the Cofan village of Zabalo as well as a Quichua community further down the Aguarico river.

The team also undertook detailed research on the area's botany, wildlife, archaeology and anthropology to gather information which will form the basis for an eco-tourism guide promoting the area. To contribute to the guide, Phil helped produce maps of the area and its forest trails via compass and GPS.

Despite long arduous days in wet and humid conditions, sustaining three injuries and being constantly alert to the risks of encountering rabies-infested vampire bats or highly venomous frogs, Phil described his experience as "simply incredible".

"I just feel privileged to have been a member of this expedition and to have played a very small part in helping the Cofan in their struggle to survive," he said.

The numerous highlights of his trip

included the overwhelming sights and sounds of the jungle, learning about the herbal remedies used by the local shaman, and treating bemused village elders to a traditional Burns' night supper!

He found the Cofan to be "wonderfully warm and extremely likeable" despite their tough living conditions. "They have little and yet in many ways they have far more than we do," he explained.

One of the most important outcomes of the expedition was that the Cofan now have clean drinking water for the first time in many years, helping to protect them from disease. However, as Phil says, the benefits go far beyond material aid.

He commented: "The Cofan and other indigenous groups are not just fighting to retain their traditions, their way of life and their homeland, they are fighting to safeguard forests which are vital to the whole globe and to conserve species of flora and fauna which could otherwise be completely wiped out. It is very important for them to know that the outside world values the work they are doing."

\* For information about the Scientific Exploration Society, see [www.ses-explore.org](http://www.ses-explore.org)



Photographs courtesy of Jonathan Hood and Phil Sargent

# Paradise lost?

A new study is exploring how travel destinations can weather the storm of climate change.



Coastal erosion, rising sea levels, floods, windstorms, coral bleaching... the effects of climate change are slowly but surely making their mark on some of the world's most idyllic travel destinations.

Islands where the economy is heavily dependent upon tourism are battling to safeguard the scenic splendour which has proved such a draw for visitors.

Now the severe challenges faced by countries bearing the initial brunt of global warming are being explored in a study by NTU researcher and alumna Rachel Welton (Marketing Management 1996 and Social Science Research Methods 2005).

Her work has raised complex issues surrounding the idea of sustainable tourism, especially at a time when long-haul travel is being targeted by campaigners for increasing greenhouse gas emissions.

"While it's the Western world which has tended to produce more of the greenhouse gases that have led to global warming, it's the developing countries which are often on the sharp end of the impacts of climate change," said Rachel.

"From the perspective of countries where tourism creates jobs and alleviates poverty, it is all too simplistic to say that long-haul travel is wrong. They are arguing for a much broader outlook, taking into account the social and economic impact as well as

the environmental impact of tourism."

The springboard for Rachel's study was a UN World Tourism Organisation conference. She was inspired to look at small island developing states which are trying to ease the effects of global warming but feel powerless in the face of decisions taken outside their own lands.

"...some countries feel it's all too simplistic to blame long-haul travel..."

She has visited Sri Lanka, the Seychelles and the Maldives to undertake in-depth interviews with a diverse range of public and private sector stakeholders, from government ministers and tourist board heads to hoteliers, tour operators and managers of visitor attractions. She has also joined tourist excursions and travelled independently to gather her own evidence.

Said Rachel: "It may sound like the perfect

project, visiting 'paradise' islands, but it's hard work when I'm there. Not only are there extreme time pressures but the issues I'm exploring are very complex politically, environmentally and economically."

Examples of problems caused by global warming include coastal erosion which means sand has had to be pumped in to preserve pristine beaches; sea level rises which cause damage to exclusive water bungalows; and disruption to marine life. The coral surrounding all three islands has suffered bleaching as the temperature of the sea has increased. Overall, dramatic changes in weather patterns also mean that visitors can be left disappointed by the lack of sunshine at certain times.

Concerted efforts are now being made on all three islands to adapt to changing climate conditions via practical measures and environmental laws.

Sri Lanka has launched 'Earth Lung', a drive to make the island a carbon neutral destination through re-forestation and alternative energy sources. Education is also a key tool, with improved information for tourists so that they can opt for environment-friendly activities to reduce their carbon footprint during their stay.

Rachel's research will form the basis of a PhD but will also be shared with tourism industry leaders to help in future planning.

## Sharing ideas

An NTU academic is heading for Tokyo to gain an insight into the Japanese approach to education for learners with special needs and disabilities.

Dr Gill Richards, Director of Professional Development in the School of Education, has been awarded a grant to further her research into inclusive education.

The funding was provided by the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation as part of a

scheme designed to promote greater interaction between the UK and Japan through initiatives such as educational exchanges and research travel.

It will enable Gill to spend time at the National Institute of Special Needs Education in Tokyo, a centre of excellence dedicated to improving the quality of education for children with disabilities.

Said Gill: "The Institute undertakes an

impressively wide range of research which influences national policy relating to inclusive education as well as offering high-calibre teacher training which has shaped classroom practice in Japan.

"As we know very little about the Japanese perspective on this vitally important area of education, the visit should provide me with fresh insights and promote the sharing of expertise and thinking. In the long term, I hope it will pave the way for further partnership projects."

When she travels to Tokyo in May, Gill will be accompanied by Fiona Hallett from Edge Hill University, who collaborates regularly with NTU's School of Education.

# Greening up our act

A series of environment-friendly projects at NTU is keeping the sustainability agenda to the fore.



Nottingham Trent University has reinforced its 'green' credentials - by reaching the finals of a prestigious industry competition.

It was shortlisted for the 'outstanding contribution to sustainable development' prize at this year's *Times Higher Awards*

The accolade reflects NTU's success in leading the EcoCampus initiative, which encourages universities to address environmental issues. The University has also shown serious commitment to reducing its own carbon emissions - cutting waste by 100 tonnes in the last six months and increasing recycling by almost a half.

All electricity used on the City campus over the last year has been from renewable sources; a sustainable purchasing policy has been adopted; and a sustainability website has been launched.

Meanwhile, the Students' Union has also won national recognition for 'green' action. It scooped a bronze prize in the latest Sound Impact Awards which celebrate best environmental practice in Students' Unions.

\* For information on NTU's environmental action, visit: [www.ntu.ac.uk/ecoweb](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/ecoweb)



Top: Our millionth Unilink customer Jennifer Hall  
Middle: Campaigning for more greenery  
Bottom: NTU research could ease flood chaos

## Transport of delight

NTU's inter-campus bus service has proved to be just the ticket - a million times over!

Earlier this year, the No. 4 Unilink service between the City and Clifton campuses celebrated its one millionth customer.

The landmark journey was made by student Jennifer Hall, who said: "I use the Unilink all the time. It's great that it runs so regularly, and the buses are clean and safe. It's the ideal way for me to get to lectures."

Developed through joint investment with Nottingham City Council and a partnership with Nottingham City Transport (NCT), the service uses a fleet of five "bendy" buses. They run every 15 minutes in term time, reducing the number of car journeys made by students, cutting congestion and tackling climate change. As the millionth customer, Jennifer won a term's free NCT travel.

## Tree research takes a bough!

NTU researchers have branched out to support an exciting initiative which is bringing more greenery to inner city areas.

Experts from the School of Social Sciences have joined forces with independent charity Trees for Cities, which is stimulating a green renaissance through tree planting and the re-landscaping of public spaces.

The NTU team is undertaking research into the effects of urban vegetation on communities. Its findings will help underpin the charity's work to enrich the urban landscape, improve quality of life and promote greater social cohesion in cities.

Issues being studied include how shared green spaces can have a positive effect on the health and wellbeing of individuals, strengthen social ties and help reduce problems such as crime and vandalism.

The research is led by Dr Belinda Winder who was a co-founder of Trees for Cities back in 1993. Originally launched as Trees for London, the organisation is so successful that it has extended its reach worldwide and its activities encompass educational work, vocational training and campaigning.

Belinda said: "Our studies will feed into the design of actual planting projects for the charity as well as influencing its forward planning. Ultimately we also hope to see a 'Trees for Nottingham' initiative launched."

The research has already won support through the Stimulating Innovation for Success (SIS) programme and further funding sources are being explored.

Graham Simmonds, Chief Executive of Trees for Cities, added: "Thanks to a can-do attitude and a creative approach, our organisation has come a long way - but in recent years we've recognised the need for more academic research to underpin our development and bolster our campaigning. The collaboration with NTU is therefore bringing a new dimension to our thinking."

\* More detail at: [www.treesforcities.org](http://www.treesforcities.org)

## Flood barrier makes waves

At a time when floods have again wrought havoc across the UK, a team from NTU is developing an innovative product which could help reduce the risk of damage and destruction from a deluge.

A low-cost self-erecting flood barrier has been devised by researcher and geotechnical engineering expert John Greenwood to help combat the effects of growing instability in our weather patterns.

"In England and Wales, almost two million properties housing five million people are situated in flood risk areas," said John. "Barriers currently available are costly to install and maintain, too complex in their design and not self-erecting. Our design fills a vital gap in the market."

Based on a flexible geomembrane, the barrier can be installed where a permanent flood defence scheme might be too costly or might spoil the waterside landscape.

The NTU project has already attracted the attention of developers, local authorities and water authorities and could also be made available for individual home-owners.

The initiative represents a three-way collaboration between the University and industrial partners PAGEotechnical Ltd and Faber Maunsell Ltd.

## Bird flu study advanced

Groundbreaking research to enable rapid diagnosis of bird flu - including the deadly H5N1 strain which can be fatal if passed on to humans - is being developed with the help of NTU scientists.

The School of Science and Technology is playing a key role in a European project to create portable machines capable of identifying the disease instantly, potentially saving countless lives.

The Portfastflu project, made possible with €3 million of EU funding, would cut the diagnosis time from up to a week to just two hours as it would eliminate the need for samples to be sent to a testing laboratory.

Able to identify both human and animal influenza, the technology could prove vital in the fight against bird flu, making it possible to set up exclusion zones and cull infected birds much faster, before infection spreads. This preventative measure is seen as absolutely crucial as there is still no definitive vaccine to treat the virus.

Led by the French company Genewave, the research team consists of universities, research organisations and businesses.



# As right as rain

Meet the husband-and-wife alumni team generating a storm of interest with their pioneering recycling business...

Michael and Lisa Farnsworth have given a whole new meaning to the idea of saving for a rainy day - as their company has become the UK market leader for designing and manufacturing rainwater harvesting systems.

The firm, called Stormsaver, helps clients to store rainwater recovered from their roof, filter it and then re-use it in place of mains water. The result is lower water bills and a lighter carbon footprint.

Their environment-friendly concept is now in use at more than 450 industrial, educational, commercial and domestic sites across the country. The company has won awards for innovation and aims to be turning over £10 million a year in the not too distant future.

Michael and Lisa believe they have tapped into a watershed moment for sustainable design in the UK, a time when rainwater harvesting is increasingly included as standard for new buildings.

Through their system, a free, plentiful and sustainable resource - rainwater - can be used for everything from WC flushing to landscape watering, vehicle washing to irrigation.

Said Michael: "The market for rainwater harvesting has developed dramatically. We've succeeded by showing our system is not just about ticking the water efficiency box but it's about real sustainability and savings."

"From early beginnings when we ran

the company from our spare bedroom, it has grown to a point where we have three office units, a manufacturing warehouse, 16 staff and a portfolio that includes Asda, B&Q and HM prisons."

The Stormsaver concept began its life as Michael's final-year project on the BA (Hons) Furniture and Product Design. He went on to the Postgraduate Diploma in Enterprise and explored the commercial viability of his ideas in The Hive, NTU's enterprise development centre.

Since the launch of Stormsaver in 2003, the milestones racked up: their first £50,000 order, recruiting their first engineer, and reaching their first £1 million annual turnover in 2006.

Not that there haven't been dark clouds on occasion. "We have had to learn a lot of lessons about trusting ourselves and our gut instincts," said BA (Hons) Theatre Design graduate Lisa. "Managing cash flow has also been a challenge and we've had to make a lot of personal sacrifices."

Michael and Lisa actually met at NTU, started dating just before they graduated and got married two years later. They now have two children, five-year-old Tom and three-year-old Lucy. Said Lisa: "I remember the induction speech on our first day when we were told many of us would meet our future partners at University. I thought it would never happen to me - but it did!"



# Brack to the future

At a time when the University is strengthening its 'green' credentials, we take a look at some of the latest exciting initiatives launched by the NTU School which has always had environmental commitment at its heart.



Above: The Shetland garden scooped gold - and a BBC 'People's Favourite' award - at Chelsea



Our royal guest meets Dean Professor Jenny Saint and Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman

Brackenhurst campus entered pastures new in its 60th anniversary year - celebrating a string of enterprising projects as well as top awards for staff, students and alumni.

Home to the School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences, the campus is flourishing in its work to create a nurturing environment for learning and research.

Dean of the School, Professor Jenny Saint, said: "Over the years, generations of students have come to appreciate not only our portfolio of specialist courses but also the idyllic rural setting of Brackenhurst and the friendly campus atmosphere.

"We can be justifiably proud of what we - and our former students - have achieved but we will not rest on our laurels. Having just enjoyed a successful year, we are now pursuing a range of ambitious projects to improve our learning provision further still."

## Royal visit crowns successful year

HRH the Earl of Wessex gave Brackenhurst the royal seal of approval when he officially opened the new Veterinary Nursing Centre and Animal Unit.

The state-of-the-art facilities enable students to hone their practical skills as well as offering people working in the veterinary and animal-related industries a range of career advancement opportunities.

The building is the base for courses accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, which has hailed the facilities as the "best in the country". The adjoining Animal Unit allows students to experience the daily challenges involved in running an animal enterprise.

The £1.5 million project was supported by the East Midlands Development Agency.

## Golden opportunity seized

There was a rich harvest for a Brackenhurst team who showed how gardens can flourish in harsh conditions. They took a gold medal at the Chelsea Flower Show for a garden inspired by Shetland's desolate beauty.

The Shetland Croft House Garden highlighted how many plants can thrive amid unpredictable weather conditions and harsh salt winds. It featured rare species donated by Shetlanders themselves.



Ex-photographer Andy Tudbury is now presenting just the right image in garden design



Brackenhurst campus is the setting for a whole range of initiatives to boost the rural economy



Professional courses for the food industry are a vital ingredient in future plans

The Chelsea success was a triumph for NTU lecturer Sue Hayward, who happens to be an alumna, having progressed from the National Certificate of Horticulture to a Foundation Degree and then the BSc (Hons) Landscape and Heritage. Sue, who led the team of staff and students creating the garden, said: "We were all absolutely over the moon at being awarded gold."

An original Shetland croft façade showed how gardens can be shielded from the wind. Walls were topped with turf to protect against weather erosion, the garden path comprised stone washed up on beaches and the fence was made of driftwood.

A walking stick against the wall underlined the inspiration for the show garden: Motor Neurone Disease Association co-founder Martin Anderson MBE suggested the idea.

The win was also celebrated by lecturer Caroline Thomas who joined Brackenhurst as a student 19 years ago and took several courses before training as a teacher and joining the staff. This year she topped up her RHS Diploma with a BSc (Hons) Environment Design and Management.

She made a major contribution to the project by bringing on or holding back the plants so they were in perfect condition for the show. "It wasn't easy, with the plants being used to growing so much further up north - but it was well worth it," she said.

### Swapping shots for plots

A dramatic career change lent an exciting new focus to the life of photographer Andy Tudbury (FdSc Horticulture 2006) - and now he is winning plaudits for garden design.

Enrolling on a course at NTU at the age of 43 was a real turning point for Andy, who had been a photographer for 25 years but had always enjoyed gardening as a hobby.

"It was a natural progression - both trades are centred around the need to understand composition," he says. "But to succeed in such a career change you need to have faith in yourself, accept it will be tough and be prepared to make sacrifices. For me, it would have been much more difficult without the help I had from Brackenhurst."

The gamble has paid off for Andy, who now runs Halcyon Days Garden Design and whose work has even won royal attention.

This year's success story began when he won a £5,000 grant in the NS&I Growing Gardens Today competition to devise a creative space for growing vegetables. His ideas went on show in the 'grow your own' area of BBC Gardener's World Live and earned him an RHS Knightian Medal.

When he reworked his design for the Royal Sandringham Show, Andy was delighted to receive another bronze medal as well as the royal seal of approval from Prince Charles - plus a personal invitation to Highgrove! "It was a career highlight. Prince Charles spent over ten minutes chatting to me and was very positive," said Andy.

Now he is invited to return to both shows next year and is seeking a sponsor to help him present his concepts on a grander scale.

He describes the show gardens so far as "indulgences to experiment with new ideas and push the boundaries". It is, however, his work for clients that really enthuses him. He says: "The great thing about being a garden designer is that you are working with clients to provide them with a financial and spiritual asset that will grow for years to come."

Ambitious plans have been unveiled to transform Brackenhurst further still to help galvanise the rural economy. NTU is now seeking support to generate most value from its own investment in the campus.

### Library plan speaks volumes

Development of a new specialist library and IT suite forms the cornerstone of proposals to enhance the learning environment. This will bring vitally needed improvements, extra space and state-of-the-art resources at a time when the School's courses are growing in popularity: in recent years the campus population has more than doubled to around 1,000 full and part-time students.

### Boost for rural business

Reflecting the drive to re-invigorate the rural economy, Brackenhurst is extending its services to rural businesses. A Rural Knowledge and Enterprise Centre is being established to provide a one-stop-shop for support, training and networking opportunities. Rural enterprises will benefit from practical courses in areas like business planning and market testing.

### Centres of attention

Ambitious plans have been drawn up for a new Centre for Farming, Food and the Environment to house courses up to PhD level in areas like agriculture, food production, geography, countryside management and horticulture. The aim is to develop the centre on sustainability principles, with a biogas converter for renewable energy production.

Alumni support can help to turn this vision for the future of Brackenhurst into reality. A fundraising campaign has been launched and a new brochure detailing some of the proposals - and how alumni can contribute to help enrich the lives of countless students - is now available from the Development and Alumni Relations Office. Call +44 (0)115 848 8775 or email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)



# Moving up, moving on

## Exciting chapter for Sue

NTU's Director of Libraries and Knowledge Resources, Professor Sue McKnight, has won national recognition for her work to enhance the student learning experience.

Sue has been awarded a coveted National Teaching Fellowship from the Higher Education Academy under a scheme which celebrates excellence in higher education. Winners receive £10,000 towards their personal and professional development in learning and teaching.

Sue, who became NTU's first Professor of Knowledge and Learning Management this year, said: "While this is an individual award, I have wonderful staff who really care about the student experience, so it reflects positively on the whole team."

## Ann advances her career

Alumna Ann Allen, who has helped NTU gain a national profile for career education and guidance, is the new Associate Dean of the School of Social Sciences.

Ann (née Clarke) completed a Diploma in Careers Guidance at Trent Polytechnic in 1980. Having worked in various careers advisory roles, she returned to the University as a senior lecturer in 1993.

In her 15 years at NTU, she led the Diploma course from which she herself had qualified, before steering the development of the current Qualification in Careers Guidance as part of a national pilot.

She said: "I'm delighted to have become

Associate Dean at the institution which helped me develop my own skills and knowledge. In my new role, I hope to build on the School's excellent work in offering the same high-quality learning experience to present and future students."

## Surveying stalwart bows out

Colin Yarwood, who helped hundreds of surveying students to career success, has retired after 18 years at NTU. He is well known to alumni not only through his role as a lecturer but also via his contribution as placement tutor, professional training tutor and then placement manager.

He is also an alumnus, having gained a PGCHE and an MA during his time with us.

He said: "It has been an enjoyable 18 years, especially as I originally only planned to stay for a year's sabbatical! It gave me a chance to pass on what I could in the way of skills to another generation of surveyors."

"My involvement with placements gave me a continuing contact with surveying friends old and new, in practices in the UK and much further afield."

"It is also with immense satisfaction that I've seen my idea of placing surveying students in other European lands for their sandwich year develop to such an extent that there are many NTU alumni practising abroad as chartered surveyors today."

Now a consultant, Colin is proud to report that a number of alumni in leading roles in the profession have asked him for help in recruiting graduates and sandwich students.

He added: "So I may well still be seen around NTU, albeit wearing a different hat!"

## Pioneering role in knitwear design

Brenda Sparkes, who devoted much of her career to developing NTU's unique knitwear design provision, has said a fond farewell after 35 years at the University.

She originally joined Trent Polytechnic in the early 1970s as a part-time lecturer, going full-time in 1974 and then becoming part of the dynamic team which pioneered the fashion knitwear design course.

She took over as course leader in 1990 and ten years later moved on to run the MA before being appointed Academic Team Leader for Fashion Marketing, Management and Communication three years ago.

She takes great pride in NTU's excellent international reputation for fashion knitwear design. "The industry knows we produce highly creative professionals who have their feet on the ground and are, above all, nice to work with," she said.

After a trip to Singapore and Bali, Brenda has plans to "do something creative" and promises she will never be bored.

Alumni from graduation years dating back to that of the first knitwear design cohort in 1978 attended her farewell party. Brenda concluded: "It's been a privilege to work with such fantastic colleagues and students. There have been enormous changes on the way, but I'm pleased to say I've managed to remain sane!"



Top: Sue McKnight, recipient of a National Teaching Fellowship

Above: (left to right): New Associate Dean Ann Allen and long-serving members of staff Colin Yarwood and Brenda Sparkes who have both just retired

# Wedding news

## Jo Hough | English 2002

Married Ray Workman in the Chapel at the Luxor in Las Vegas on 20 August 2008.

It was a small ceremony with immediate family and a couple of friends. The day after the wedding they drove from Las Vegas to Los Angeles for a "mini-moon" - and travelled to Venice later in the year for their official honeymoon. When they got back home from the US, Jo and Ray had a reception in Nottingham for friends and family who couldn't make it to the wedding. Other alumni who attended the reception included Rebecca Robinson (English 2002 and Teaching Adult Literacy 2005) and Kim Ackroyd (Psychology 2002).

## Sharon Sheffield | Primary Education 2007

Married Steve Barwell at Makeney Hall in Derbyshire on 20 July 2008. Following a wonderful day among family and friends, the couple spent their honeymoon in Bali and Singapore. Alumni attending the wedding included Steve Saunders (Science 1996) and Sarah McClenaghan (Primary Education 2007).

## Toby Bartlett | Business Studies 2002

## Laura Coleman | Business Studies 2002

Married in Windsor Guildhall on 12 July 2008. The reception was held at The Edwardian Marquee in Bray-on-Thames. Other alumni at the wedding included Jack Poynter and Jonathan Morley as best men along with Robin Hindle, Peter Powell, Graham Mackenzie and Ed Hall. The couple enjoyed a wonderful relaxing two-week honeymoon in Crete. Toby and Laura have been together since their final year at the University and now live in Burnham, Buckinghamshire.

## Aymi Richards | Graphic Design 2006

## Neil Dowling | Applied Chemistry 1999

Married on 5 July 2008 in The Old Library, The Custard Factory, Birmingham. They went to Vienna and Berlin for their honeymoon and are now living in the West Midlands between working as chef/host couple in a posh chalet in the French Alps over the winters. The couple say: "We intend to settle in Birmingham after the next ski season and get proper jobs." Other alumni who attended the wedding were best man Neil Pritt, bridesmaid Jenny Spencer, Adam Broomfield, Tim Parkinson, Pamela Jarvis, Lee Clarke, Anna Rigby, Karen Vance and Hannah Williams.

## Carol Galvin | Psychology 2004

## Ben Nixon | Law 2005

Married on 14 June 2008 at St Peter's Church, Bishopton village. The wedding was followed by a reception at Headlam Hall near Gainford. The couple enjoyed a wonderful two-week honeymoon at Lake Garda. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Matthew Allen (Computer Science 2005) and Nick Payne (Law 2005).

## Caroline Porter | Interior Architecture and Design 2000

Married Iain Johnston at Larmer Tree Gardens near Tollard, Wiltshire on 6 June 2008. They enjoyed a honeymoon on safari in South Africa and now live and work in London. Other alumni who attended the wedding included Caroline's brother Stephen Porter and his wife Laura Porter (née Williams).

## Sarah Watson | Modern Languages 2003

Married Stuart Davey on 31 May 2008 at All Saints Parish Church in Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire. The reception was held at Cotgrave Place Golf Club. Other alumni at the wedding included Sarah's sister and bridesmaid Lucy Watson, best man Andrew Hill, and Damian Frendo. The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Mauritius. Sarah and Stuart met after their A-levels and now live in Cotgrave. Stuart is in the RAF and Sarah works in Sales and Marketing in Coalville, Leicestershire.

## Emma Parker | Law 2005, Legal Practice Course 2006

## Philip Batten | Business Studies 2005

Married on 21 July 2007 in Lowestoft, Suffolk and had their honeymoon in Kenya and Zanzibar. The couple met at the University whilst living in The Maltings Halls of Residence. Many NTU alumni attended the wedding including Edward Bolingbroke, Katie Samways, Nick Le Mare, Dan Gwynne, David Atkinson, Becky Hobbs, Jen Bowyer, Chris Brown, Steve Whiteside, Claire Clarke and James Barber.

## Jack Saunders | Software Engineering 2003

Married Professor Dr Eva Sotoniakova in Vienna. The wedding reception was held at a wine tavern in Grinzing on the outskirts of Vienna after a register office ceremony. They now live in Vienna where Jack is an English teacher and develops Linux software. Eva is a Professor of Social Science.



Pictured from top on their special day: Sharon and Steve; Sarah and Stuart; Aymi and Neil; Laura and Toby; and Carol and Ben

# Let's get together

As part of its work to help you keep in touch with each other and the University, the Alumni Association has been busy hosting some memorable events - and there are even more in the pipeline for 2009.

## Happy birthday Brackenhurst

There were many happy returns - literally - when Brackenhurst staged a celebration to mark the 60th year since its first students enrolled.

Former students, some of whom studied there back in the 1950s, were among the 300 guests who gathered for a reception, campus tours, barbeque and dancing.

"The evening was a fantastic trip down memory lane. It's super to see such a positive spin on agriculture and rural enterprise," said Charlotte Penrose (née Forbes-Bell) from the class of 1989.

As well as sparking recollections of the past, the event saw the launch of a fundraising campaign designed to help even more generations of students enjoy a learning experience to remember.

A prize draw was held to kickstart the campaign - and support from generous donors ensured that several delighted winners went home with some sought-after items. Prize highlights included a Burberry bag kindly donated by the Chairman of NTU's Board of Governors, John Peace; a painting by local artist Penny Veys; tickets to West Midland Safari Park; and a meal for two at the Waggon and Horses in Halam.

## Drapers' Hall: date for the diary

The Alumni Association is planning a reception at The Drapers' Hall in London on Tuesday June 16 when it is hoped our new Chancellor, Sir Michael Parkinson, will attend. More details will be announced in the New Year but to register your interest in advance, just email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

## Capital choice of venue

About 100 alumni and guests enjoyed an evening reception which gave them a glimpse of the ultimate corridors of power.



Thanks to alumna Hazel Blears MP, the Alumni Association secured an iconic London venue, the Terrace Marquee in the House of Commons, for the event.

It was a great opportunity to meet other alumni and hear about latest developments at NTU. Canapés and refreshments were served amid the magnificent setting alongside the River Thames.

Alumnus Victor Okrafo-Smart (MA History and Gender 2000) said: "It was a social occasion I'll always remember. It was obvious that a lot of hard work was invested in making the event such a success."

Tom Coales (Communications Studies 2004, PG Cert Social Science Research Methods 2005) added: "It's a great venue and I enjoyed meeting other members of the alumni community."

## Memorial rugby match kicks off

Trent Polytechnic alumnus Pete Mote (Creative Arts 1984) was a popular and talented rugby player, playing for local side Moderns RFC after graduation. He sadly passed away 15 years ago after a match during a New Zealand tour. Every year since, his former team mates from Trent Poly Rugby Club have played a match against Moderns in Wilford Village.

The Pete Mote Memorial Match has been run by David Hargreaves (Urban Estate Surveying 1985) for 14 years, with players



Above: Cheers to Brackenhurst at the 60th birthday celebration  
Top right: Victor Okrafo-Smart at the House of Commons reception  
Visit [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk) to see more photos from these events

such as John Kornjaca, Paul Morgan, Gary Hartley, Mark Chapman, Andy Maddock, Craig Marks, Vic Hodge, Mick Hancock, Simon Welsh, Neil Taylor, Ant Mitchell and Alex Capstick having all taken part.

Now the 'Trent Poly Old Boys' are hanging up their boots and will play their 15th and final Pete Mote Memorial Match next April.

David said: "Although it's our last match, it is hoped a Moderns RFC Under 21s side and a team of current NTU students will continue to play for the Pete Mote Memorial Trophy each year. We'd like the final match to be a celebration and invite as many alumni as possible along, especially those who remember Pete. There will be children's entertainment and a barbeque."



The match will kick off at 2.30 pm on Saturday April 25 2009 at Moderns Rugby Football Club, Wilford, Nottingham. For details, contact David at: [davidh@fhp.co.uk](mailto:davidh@fhp.co.uk)

### Licensed to Party!

Nottingham Business School was shaken not stirred as it chose a James Bond theme to celebrate ten years of the BA (Hons) Business Management (In-company). Former students, employers and staff got together to mark the occasion. For the full



story about this and other recent reunions, visit: [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk)

### Our distinguished friends

NTU's Distinguished Lecture Series for 2009 features some high-profile guest speakers - and alumni and their friends are very welcome to attend. Key dates include:

- February 18: Lord Puttnam of Queensgate, the Oscar-winning film producer, politician and NTU honorary graduate.
- March 4: Mark Jones, Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.
- March 24: The Lord Krebs FRS, a world-renowned expert in zoology.
- December 2: Professor Lord Winston, scientist, politician and TV presenter.

All the lectures are free but will be ticketed. To book, email: [events.team@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:events.team@ntu.ac.uk)

### Designs on a royal award

If you're a Fashion Knitwear Design graduate, you could play a part in helping NTU gain royal recognition for its work.

Information is needed on what knitwear graduates are doing now and how they are contributing to the design industry. The aim is to gather evidence to support a bid for the Queen's Anniversary Prize. The appeal also marks the 33rd anniversary of the first

students enrolling on the course. Send your career news to [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) or log into [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk) to update your employment details online.

### New angle on anniversary

Calling all photography alumni - could you help us celebrate a milestone? The course team is planning an alumni exhibition to mark the 75th anniversary of photography teaching at NTU.

Senior Lecturer Andrew Cantouris - who is organising the event with his colleague Linda Marchant - said: "We are keen to highlight our graduates' exceptional achievements over the years. We want to make our anniversary really exciting and rewarding for everyone involved."

It is proposed that the exhibition will be staged in November 2009, along with educational workshops and presentations. It is also hoped to set up a web gallery highlighting graduates' work.

At this stage the team is looking for representations of interest from photography alumni. So, please email: [ART.Photo75@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:ART.Photo75@ntu.ac.uk) with details about yourself and your photography.



This stunning image of the Olympics opening ceremony was taken by photography alumnus Julian Finney of Getty Images



### Ghost of a chance!

Fancy a reunion which REALLY raises spirits? Why not combine visiting your old 'haunts' in Nottingham with a special ghost tour?

For those who feel daring, the Alumni Association is planning an after-dark visit to the historic Galleries of Justice. As well as enjoying a buffet and drinks, you will be taken on a tour of the former court and prison to learn more about the unexplained ghostly encounters which have set spines a-tingling there.

Whether you believe in ghosts or not, it will be a fun night for all.

To register your interest in attending this event - which is set to take place in late 2009 - please email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

To find an 'old' friend or obtain a Reunion Pack, please contact us at [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) or call +44 (0)115 848 8777

**Sarah Abdy (née Holtham)**, Humanities 1993 and PGCE 1994; **Eric Adjaidoo**, Health Studies 1995; **Anthony Allgood**, Public Administration 1994; **Jacqueline Almond**, Law 1993 and Legal Practice Course 1994; **Paul Anderson**, Quantity Surveying 1976; **Harriet Armstrong Viner (née Armstrong)**, Humanities 1993; **James Aubrey**, Construction Management 2000; **James Avery**, Construction Management 1995;

**Rajinder Bahra**, Applied Chemistry 1992; **Steven Barker**, Quantity Surveying 1981; **Simon Barnes**, Quantity Surveying 1995; **David Barringham**, Social Work 2002; **Stellan Barton**, Furniture and Product Design 1999; **James Bashford**, Business and Quality Management 2001; **Louise Batt**, Graphic Design 1992; **David Baxter**, Industrial Management 2001; **Laura Beardsworth**, Accounting and Finance 2003; **Damien Beattie**, Sport (Science and Management) 2005; **Alan Bednall**, Mechanical Engineering 1962; **James Bennett**, Urban Estate Surveying 1993; **Martyn Bentley**, Humanities 1997; **Louise Berger**, European Business 1998; **Barbara Bevin (née Darley-Osmar)**, Education 1972; **David Birch**, Town and Country Planning 1974 and Landscape Design 1978; **Julia Booth**, Creative Arts 1985; **Roger Boucher**, Quantity Surveying 1974; **Donal Brannigan**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1998; **Deirdre Bray**, Business Studies 1996 and PGCE 1997; **William Brennan**, Maths/Physical Science/Design and Technology 1992; **Mary Brettle**, Civil Engineering 1997; **Julie Bromell**, Primary Education (Specialist) 2000; **Julie Brookes**, Primary Education 1997; **Timothy Bryant**, Business and Quality Management 1997; **Howard Buckley**, Textiles 1999; **Andy Bukavs**, Master of Business Administration 1996; **Vijiya Buljeean**, Education (Further and Higher Education) 1991; **Richard Bullock**, Law Society Finals 1969; **Neil Burman**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1983; **Pete Burnett**, History 2000; **Lisa Butterworth (née Spencer)**, Graphic Design 1994;

**Catherine Caley**, Occupational Health Nursing 1993 and Health Studies 1995; **Simon Calvert**, Social Sciences 1991; **Roderick Campbell**, Law 1982; **Carolyn Capner (née Stacey)**, Science (Chemistry) 1988; **Clare Chacksfield (née Taylor)**, Theatre Design 1997; **David Chadwick**, Master of Business Administration 2001; **Lakbinderjit Chahal**, Electronics and Computing 1999; **Bryan Chambers**, Applied Chemistry 1977; **Martin Charlesworth**, Quantity Surveying 1970; **Yufun Cheung**, International Business Administration 2006; **Manmohan Chohan**, Industrial Management 1998; **Kai Fook Choi**, Public Administration 1981; **Nadia Chowdry**, International Relations and Global Politics 2003; **Susan Clark**, Business and Finance 1993; **Tim Cobb**, Economics 1982 and Marketing 2003; **Charles Cole**, Advanced Litigation 2003; **Philip Collis**, Graduate Diploma Law 2003 and Legal Practice Course 2004; **Mandy Collison**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering with Management 1995 and PGCE 2002;

# Thank you!

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who made a gift to the Alumni Fund during the last academic year. Over the next four pages we pay tribute to those of you who have given so generously - and we highlight just a few of the many exciting projects made possible thanks to your support.

The Alumni Fund makes a real difference to the student experience at NTU. Your gifts help improve resources and facilities right across the University.

On these pages, we are pleased to list the names of all those who made a gift to the Alumni Fund between August

2007 and July 2008. We would also like to give our thanks to those donors who preferred to remain anonymous.

Please help us to continue opening the doors of opportunity to future NTU students - by adding your name to the donor list for the coming year.

## Gallery collaboration helps trainee teachers get the picture

Teacher training students are discovering how a picture speaks a thousand words when it comes to enjoyable learning experiences - thanks to a successful collaboration with the National Gallery.

'Take One Picture' is the Gallery's countrywide scheme for primary schools. During a course at the Gallery, teachers are given a print of a painting to use in the classroom, both as a stimulus for artwork and for activities in more unexpected curriculum areas.

Each year NTU students join the Gallery's Education Department in London to experience 'Take One Picture'.

So that all our trainee teachers can learn from this project, the Alumni Fund has now helped to purchase 12 good quality reproductions of paintings for use with students during workshops.

Third year student Alice Holifield said: "I now see how paintings can tell a story without the need for words and how they can be highly supportive to teaching by taking children down a range of learning avenues."

Kate Warren, Lecturer in Primary Teacher Education, added: "This way of learning can be inclusive of all children and all subjects."



## Two new awards are music to the ears of talented students

Donations to the Alumni Fund are set to strike a real chord with music students at NTU - as an important new award makes its debut.

A £2,000 Alumni Fund Award for Music will be given on an annual basis to the Music Department to buy a high-quality instrument which can be played to a professional level.

This will be presented to a student who shows great potential and commitment to musical life at NTU. Once they have completed their studies, the instrument will remain the University's property.

Auditions for this year's award were taking place during the autumn term - look out for a report on the successful student and their selected instrument in the next issue of *Network*. Any money left will help buy music for an NTU ensemble, such as the choir, and will be used for a special event or concert.

NTU's Director of Music, Matthew Hopkins, said: "I'm delighted the Alumni Fund will help us purchase quality music and instruments over the coming years. It will encourage more students with an interest in music to take part in activities whilst at University. I'd like to thank the donors who made this possible."

Meanwhile, a special scholarship has been launched in memory of a lecturer who played a key role in the musical life of Trent Polytechnic.

Clifford Beck was a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the Polytechnic from the mid 1960s to 1985. When he wasn't teaching, he enjoyed playing the organ and performed at the Christmas carol concert on several occasions as well as at the 1984 graduation ceremony.

After his death in 2007, his wife and daughter asked NTU to set up a regular memorial donation in his name. From the start of the 2008/09 academic year, one student per year will receive the Clifford Beck Music Award which will provide a 50% scholarship to go towards music lessons. In return they will give their commitment to an NTU music ensemble.

Mr Beck's family are pleased to be able to help students develop their musical talents at NTU.

They said: "Cliff had many happy years at Trent Polytechnic and we know that he'd be delighted that students will get to enjoy music alongside their studies."



## Making a song and dance about child development

An intriguing project known as Oogly Boogly will help NTU students take a fresh look at themes such as child development and communication.

Oogly Boogly is a unique piece of theatre in which dancers follow and echo movements and sounds made by 12 to 18-month-old babies.

Donations to the Alumni Fund enabled our Psychology team to purchase videos of a theatre group performing Oogly Boogly. The resources will be used for a Masters module in Observational Methods.

The videos show how - although each child is different - there is usually a point at which observers can see the child

reach an understanding of the 'game'. When the children discover that they are 'controlling' the dancers by what they do, they respond individually. Some increase their range and amount of movement while others become still and silent. Some react joyously, while others find the situation a little more daunting and take time to be comfortable.

Psychology Lecturer Anne Emerson said: "These fascinating performances, captured on video, provide innovative, challenging and absorbing data for students. They are a perfect vehicle for discussing themes to do with child development, motor development, social engagement and communication."

**William Corkery**, Civil Engineering (Commercial Management) 1999; **David Couldwell**, Computer Studies 1993; **Russ Coulter**, Master of Business Administration 1994; **Benjamin Coward-Talbott**, Business Studies 1999; **Susan Crabtree**, Master of Business Administration 1998; **Paul Cullinan**, Quantity Surveying 1984;

**Robert Dale**, Building 1978; **Celia Daniels (née Copestake)**, Law 1993 and Legal Practice Course 1995; **Nicola Darby**, Modern European Studies 1995; **Matthew Dasilva**, Economics 2001; **Chris Dawe**, Industrial Management 1993; **Paul Deal**, Building Engineering Services QS 1992 and Cost Management of Building Engineering Services 1994; **Gareth Devine**, Engineering Surveying 1995; **Mark Diaper**, Real Estate Management 2003; **Kieran Donaghey**, European Business 1995; **Charlotte Dore**, Creative Arts 1990; **Steven Doughty**, Cost Management of Building Engineering Services 1999; **Simon Drohan**, Integrated Engineering 1996;

**Steve East**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1990; **Sarah Edom**, Textile Design 1998; **Tony Edwards**, Accounting and Finance 1985; **Bridget Edwards**, Social Work Studies 2000; **Sonia Eldredge (née Garner)**, English 1999; **Lynn Elliott**, Education 1963; **David Ellis**, Computer Studies 1989; **Shaun Ellis**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1995; **Tessa Evans**, Building Studies 1993; **Melville Evelyn**, Design and Technology 1996;

**David Farmer**, Engineering (Electrical and Electronic) 1993; **Richard Farnham**, Land Administration (Estate Management) 1989 and Urban Estate Surveying 1992; **Katie Farrar**, Humanities 1995; **John Farrell**, Business Studies 1979; **Andrew Fawcett**, Chemistry 1959; **Simon Finch**, Financial Services 2000; **Iain Finlay**, Contemporary Arts 2002; **Paul Fisher**, Accounting and Finance 1994; **Benjamin Flynn**, Fine Art 2001; **Yvonne Forman (née Cutting)**, Textiles/Fashion (Textiles) 1982 and PGCE 1995; **Joe Forster**, Marketing 1981; **Fiona Fowkes (née Beattie)**, Communication Studies 1992 and CIM Advanced Certificate in Marketing; **Sian Freestone-Walker**, Broadcast Journalism 1999; **Dominic Fryer**, Construction Management 1993;

**Anne Gartside**, Modern European Studies 1997 and Cinema Studies 1999; **Sharon Gasson**, Magisterial Law 1994; **Cherian George**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1995; **Lindsay Gladwin (née Stevenson)**, Applied Food Studies 2000; **John Glendenning**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1994; **Ashwinkumar Gosrani**, Business Studies 1969; **Pamela Gow**, Management in General Practice 1996; **Stephen Green**, Economics 1993; **Darren Griffiths**, International Studies 2002; **Jenny Grodzicka**, Business and Hospitality Management 2001;

**Jonathan Hall**, Fine Art 2004; **Roslyn Hamlyn (née Payne)**, Law 1990; **Dianne Handley**, Business and Finance 1990; **Stephen Hardy**, Master of Business Administration 1991;

**Catherine Hare (née Rosie)**, Occupational Health and Safety Management 1999; **David Hargreaves**, Urban Estate Surveying 1985; **Jim Harley**, Business Studies 1983; **Jondaniel Harris**, Business Studies 2002; **John Hartshorne**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1977; **Neil Harvey**, Master of Business Administration 1994; **Mike Haslam**, Mechanical Engineering 1990; **Michael Hatchwell**, Legal Studies 1984; **Crispin Heath**, Social Sciences 1995; **Clare Heeley (née Myers)**, Applied Biology 1998; **Victoria Hemsell (née Guy)**, Government and Public Policy 1997 and Legal Practice Course 2007; **Anthony Hennessy**, Chemistry 1996; **Fiona Henry**, Education 1995; **Allison Herkes-Peck (née Herkes)**, Modern European Studies 1996; **Paul Heslop**, Building 1994; **James Hickey**, Business Studies 1996; **Nick Higgins**, Applied Chemistry 1985 and PGCE 1988; **Michelle Hillary (née Quest)**, Business Studies 1977; **Alex Hills**, Business Management 2003; **Stuart Hiron**, Computer Studies 1997; **Johnathan Hobson**, Applied Biology 1981; **Catherine Hope**, European Business 2000; **Lee Howard**, Accounting and Finance 2002; **Edward Hunnisett**, Legal Practice Course 2002; **Helen Hunt**, Primary Education 1994; **Alex Hunter (née Wilton)**, Law 2002; **Simon Hurlbatt**, Accounting and Finance 1990; **Sheila Hutchinson (née Story)**, Primary Education 1970;

**Philip Jackson**, Accounting and Finance 1998; **Ceri Jenks**, Quantity Surveying 1995; **Jeetendra Jethwa**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1993; **Trio Johnson**, Business Studies 1987; **Kirsty Johnson Cox (née Johnson)**, Sport (Administration and Science) 1992; **Nathan Jones**, Modern European Studies 1999; **Ralph Jones**, Building 1972;

**Elaine Keeton**, Primary Education 1993; **Paul Kennedy**, Urban Estate Surveying 1994 and PhD 1998; **Bryan King**, Business Studies 1972; **Nicholas King**, Business Studies 1988; **Steve Kirk**, Mechanical Engineering 1994; **Sarah Kitchen**, Law 1997; **David Knight**, Business Studies 1983; **Tony Kockelbergh**, Business Studies 1974; **Peter Kosmalski**, Secondary Education 1996; **Bernice Kozlowski (née Gleadle)**, Textiles 1952;

**Rebecca Lalor**, Sport (Administration and Science) 2000; **Melanie Lang (née Farmer)**, Fashion Knitwear Design 2001; **Neil Lawler**, Residential Development 1990; **Peter Leach**, Humanities 1998; **Anthony Lee**, Accounting and Finance 1994; **Robert Lee**, Engineering (Manufacturing) 1995; **Claire Lenihan**, Business Management 2004; **Paul Lester**, Mechanical Engineering 1972; **Esther Lewis**, Science (Applied Biology) 1996; **Thomas Lindop**, Print Media Management 1986; **Alan Lo**, Social Work Studies 2000; **Jeffrey Lofts**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1991; **Adam Longney**, Legal Practice Course 2002; **Graham Lovering**, Law 1999; **Claire Lowe (née Barclay)**, Legal Practice Course 2003; **James Luker**, Civil Engineering Studies 1994 and Civil Engineering 2003; **David Lytton**, Law 1998 and Legal Practice Course 1999;

## New equipment helps students cook up a learning treat

Donations to the Alumni Fund are a vital ingredient in a project which will serve up food preparation skills to schoolchildren.

The School of Education has used the money to buy COOKITs - a unique range of high-quality equipment and utensils suitable for teaching cookery in primary schools or in cooking clubs designed by the Focus on Food Campaign.

These new resources will provide practical hands-on experience for Primary Education students as they teach cooking skills and food-related knowledge to pupils, helping them

prepare a range of dishes from fresh ingredients. They will receive similar training to that being offered to schools within the Food Partnership Scheme, a government-backed initiative.

Primary Education Lecturer Annette Bindon said: "With growing awareness of obesity and poor nutritional standards in the diets of children, the government is actively promoting food preparation skills in schools. This equipment will not only enhance our students' learning experience but also benefit teachers and pupils in the schools in which they train."



## Other resources purchased thanks to the Alumni Fund include:

- Mobile equipment for PE students in the School of Education. These resources will be accessed by hundreds of students each year.
- Thirty MP4/MP3 players to provide a portable form of learning across the University Language Programme (ULP). This marks a radical transition in the use of audio both inside and outside the classroom. The purchase of portable powered speakers will also guarantee that all ULP tutors can make use of the MP3 players in class.
- A digital spectrometer to enable latest technology to be incorporated into PGCE courses, keeping students in the School of Education ahead of the field.



- 3D molecular modelling kits for chemistry and forensic science students. The kits will enable them to create models in their own time and work with academic staff to aid understanding of spectrochemistry.
- Two portable projection screens for use by Theatre Design students on

the Cosmos Project. This initiative represents an art and science collaboration by Narrative and Interactive Arts with Dragon Breath Theatre, NTU's Centre for Effective Learning in Science, Leicester Theatre Trust and other regional partners. After the project, the screens will be used to display students' work.

- Twenty five webcams to be used by students on the part-time MA in the School of Education. The equipment will enable them to enhance their learning experience by using computer conferencing tutorials, creating video entries for reflective journals, and recording 'talking head' presentations.
- Additional laboratory equipment to help students on animal and equine science programmes to learn about cell microscopy.



- Two game console style interactive coffee tables for Waverley Building to showcase multimedia students' work.

## A perfect match

Your gifts to Nottingham Trent University now go even further towards helping future generations of students - thanks to a new drive to promote giving to higher education.

Since August the government has been providing matched funding for private donations to universities. Under this scheme, running for an initial three years, we can claim £1 for every £3 donated to NTU.

Even better, the Gift Aid scheme is being matched too. Overall, this means that someone making a gift of £30 a month will now see the value of that gift rise to £50.

Tim Cobb, Head of Development and Alumni Relations at NTU, said: "The new matched funding scheme will strengthen both the impact and the reach of our fundraising efforts. For alumni, it means there's never been a better time to support your University - and choose where some of that income tax you've paid ends up!"

## Where there's a Will...

... there may be a way to help your University. More and more forward-thinking alumni are now choosing to leave a gift in their Will to Nottingham Trent University with the aim of making a real difference to the learning experience of tomorrow's students and advancing research that will help to save lives and enrich society.

A new brochure from NTU outlines how you can inspire the future by remembering the University in your Will. You can contact us for a copy on 0115 848 8809 or by emailing: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

## Making a donation

For information on how to make a contribution to the Alumni Fund, including how to give shares, please contact us on 0115 848 8775 or email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

Remember, you can make even more of a difference if you Gift Aid it! If you are a UK tax payer and you agree to Gift Aid your donation, it will be worth 25 % extra to the University.

Find out more about the Alumni Fund at: [www.ntualumni.org.uk](http://www.ntualumni.org.uk)

**Colin Machin**, Agriculture 1967; **Eileen Maddison**, Careers Education 1998; **Austin Madu**, Chemistry 1979; **Anca Mandleson (née Manolescu)**, Master of Business Administration 2002; **Abigail Marshall (née Cleeton)**, Primary Education 1997; **Pretash Maru**, Business Economics 2005; **Sarah Mawdsley**, Modern European Studies 1994; **David Mawer**, Applied Biology 1990; **Roz Mayes**, Criminology 2000; **Christine McAlinden (née Bell)**, Applied Biology 1990; **Kaye McBlain**, Chemistry with Year in Industry 2004; **Noel McConkey**, Law 1997; **Sally Meadowcroft**, Computer Studies 1999; **Robert Merrett**, Graphic Communication Management 2004; **Janet Metcalf (née Smith)**, Rural Economy 1959; **Laura Metcalfe (née Kirkbride)**, Chemistry 2001; **Farah Mohammed**, Biomedical Sciences 1998; **Sue Moore**, Master of Business Administration 1997; **Emma Moores (née Martin)**, English and Environmental Studies 1998; **Polly Morgan**, Legal Practice Course 2003; **Delyse Morley**, Agriculture 1957; **Stephen Morley**, Craft Design and Technology 1990; **John Morris**, Primary Education 1992; **Godfrey Moustache**, Management Initiative Programme 1999 and Occupational Health and Safety Management 2003; **Tony Mowles**, Accounting and Finance 1991; **Craig Moxham**, Primary Education 1995; **Fiona Mundy (née Boswell)**, Applied Biology 1991; **Daryl Murray**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1994; **Chris Murton**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1981;

**Peter Nash**, Applied Biology 1990; **Patrick Nelson**, Computer Studies 1980 and Business Studies 1984; **Joanna Nicholls**, Psychology 2001; **Tendai Nyabango**, English 2001;

**Patrick O'Brien**, Environmental Science 1999; **Victor Okrafo-Smart**, History and Gender 2000; **Mark O'Leary**, Building Studies 1994; **Andria Oliver**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1995; **Joanne Onions**, Manufacturing Systems Engineering with Management 1996; **Ian Orrill**, Law 1997 and Corporate Law 2001;

**Stephen Paget**, Building 1993; **Yaz Parkar**, Construction Management 1992; **David Parker**, Design and Technology 1993; **Yvonne Parker**, Business and Technology 2003; **James Peacock**, Estate Surveying 1998 and Real Estate Management 2001; **Jessica Pearce**, Media and Cultural Studies 2006; **Dean Penford**, Social Sciences 1992 and Careers Guidance 1994; **Graeme Perkins**, Humanities 2000; **Malcolm Perrins**, Master of Business Administration 1996; **Andrew Perry**, Civil Engineering 1999; **Nathalie Picard**, Modern European Studies 1993; **Kim Pilcher**, Politics 2003; **Vincent Poole**, Secondary Education 1993; **Geoffrey Poyzer**, Civil Engineering 1991; **Daniel Preddy**, Legal Practice Course 1997;

**Paul Ramsden**, Electrical Engineering 1987; **Majid Razaq**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1995; **Jeremy Rennie**, Business Studies 1982; **Paul Richardson**, Real Estate Management 2001; **David Richmond**, Estate Surveying 1964; **Samantha Rigby**, Chemistry in Europe 1998; **Rebecca Riley**, English 2001; **Paul Rivlin**, Common Professional Examination 1994;

**Joanne Robinson**, Business Administration 1998; **Fiona Russell (née Gerber)**, Environmental Health 1998;

**Christina Saccob**, Politics 2002 and PGCE 2003; **Jim Scholes**, Textiles 1976; **Kerry Self**, Primary Education 1999; **Michael Shaw**, Humanities 1997; **Katy Shepherd (née Ellson)**, Accounting and Finance 2000; **Anna Sherrin**, European Business 1996; **Christopher Shilham**, Social Sciences 1998; **Sobarabonye Simon-Hart**, Legal Practice Course 2006; **Iona Sinclair**, Legal Practice Course 1997; **Balwinder Singh**, Biomedical Sciences 1998; **James Sladin**, Applied Chemistry 1992; **Barbara Sloman (née Haslam)**, Agriculture for Women 1975; **Jocelyn Smith**, Combined Studies in Sciences 1997; **Steven Smith**, Electrical and Electronic Engineering 2000; **Scott Snell**, Business Studies 1997; **Francine Southall**, Social Sciences 1999; **Martyn Southall**, Construction Engineering Design and Management 2002; **Kirsten Sparrow**, Legal Practice Course 1999; **Philippa Spencer**, Socio-Legal Studies (Children) 1999; **Rosemary Stamp**, Marketing Management 1996; **Philip Stanton**, Business Information Systems 1995; **Esther Stapleton**, Business and Finance 1990 and Business Studies 1994; **Linda Stein**, Applied Chemistry 1995; **Louise Stoakes**, Fashion Business 2003; **Neil Stockall**, Law 1991; **Umeshkumar Suthar**, Product Design 2004; **Adrian Swain**, Accounting and Finance 1995;

**Kathleen Tatlow**, Primary Education 1970; **Dilys Taylor**, Law 1996 and Legal Practice Course 1997; **Penrose Taylor**, Social Sciences 1990; **Sau Tiu**, Electrical Engineering 1997; **Paul Towers**, Sport (Administration and Science) 2000; **Malcolm Townroe**, Legal Practice Course 1994; **Matthew Trimmell**, Financial and Project Management in Construction 2005; **Kirsten Tuck (née Williams)**, Law 1994 and Legal Practice Course 1995; **Adrian Turner**, Applied Biology 1990;

**Andrew Walker**, Computing (Visualisation) 2002; **Karen Walker**, Master of Business Administration 1991; **Martin Walker**, Accounting and Finance 1987; **John Walster**, Agricultural Merchandising 1957; **Mark Ward**, Biological Sciences 1991; **Jackie Warner (née Travers)**, Hotel Catering and Institutional Management 1993; **Paula Warnock (née Bower)**, Law 1996 and Legal Practice Course 1997; **Malcolm Watford**, Applied Biology 1974; **Rachel Watson (née Hunt)**, Humanities Accelerated Intensive Route 1996; **Mark Watts**, Occupational Health and Safety Management 1998; **Lilian West**, District Nursing 1990 and Further Education 1994; **Sarah Wilkinson**, Sport Science 1998; **Gareth Williams**, Quantity Surveying 1995; **Geoff Williams**, Civil Engineering 1977; **Melanie Williams**, Accounting and Finance 2003; **Timothy Wilson**, European Economics 2000 and Social Science Research Methods 2001; **Craig Wood**, Applied Chemistry 1993; **Alison Worthy**, Communication Studies 1990 and Careers Guidance 1991; **Paul Wright**, Industrial Studies 1990; **Sarah Wright**, Accounting and Finance 1993;

**Mark Young**, Applied Biology 1998

# Past and present

## Fifties, sixties and seventies

### Alison Gowland | English and Drama 1966

I have been married for over 40 years and have two sons and three grandchildren. I practised as a Primary Teacher until 1987 then moved with my family to Midland Michigan, USA and later to The Hague in The Netherlands, returning to England in 1995. I became an Advanced Skills Teacher with the Advisory Service and worked as a Diocesan Inspector for Primary Education. I retired from full time work and was co-opted onto the Cathedral Education team as an independent consultant encouraging creative teaching skills using Drama and Language as well as Art and Design which I still love! I'm currently doing research at Oxford as a Farmington Fellow, trying to ensure that creativity is brought back into the curriculum!

### Bernard Bligh | Quantity Surveying 1975

After graduation, I went into private practice for seven years and then had two years with a major brewery company. I set up my own practice in 1984 as Bernard Bligh & Partners. I left in December 2007 to set up Bernard Bligh Limited.

## Eighties

### Shirley Fisher | Agriculture 1986

After getting work on an old-fashioned dairy farm in Sheffield, I damaged my back so went on to do some medical secretarial work. I have an allotment and four chickens and have adopted numerous animals, including a thoroughbred horse with a leg injury. I have a faith, which is very important to me, and I believe it has helped me through some very hard times.

### Steve Tunstall | Building Studies (QS) (Build Services Surveying) 1986

I've been living in Asia now for several years on and off - Hong Kong, Philippines, Singapore and now back to Hong Kong. I am married to Lin from Singapore and we have a son and a daughter.

### Eileen Clements | Secondary Education 1988

I am now living in Sydney, Australia, with my partner Marc and three children, and I'm loving it! I am doing two days a week teaching and that's plenty - there are too many other things to do!

## Nineties

### Dagfinn Skoglund | MA Knitwear and Knitted Fabric Design 1990

What fun to read about Simon Starling and his success! He did the photos for my MA Knitwear collection in 1990! At the moment I'm trying to establish closer relationships between NTU and my college, KHIO in Oslo.

### Helen Dimmock (née Bourn) | Secondary Education 1991

I married Ian Dimmock, also BEd Hons on the same course, in April 1994. We had a little boy at Christmas 2007. We are both still teaching, both Heads of Department. We live south of Lichfield.

### Christopher Garton | Creative Arts 1991

I'm an actor when I get the work, having done TV, theatre and radio. I'm also a fitness instructor and personal trainer. I'm working towards my gold level in fencing as it has long been my dream to be a swordsman: it is the actor in me longing for the era of chivalry! I've also toured in the play *Cold Light Singing*, the Pendle witch story.

### Ian McSherry | Chemistry 1991, Industrial Studies 1991, PhD Chemistry 1996

Just moved from the North East of England to the West Midlands to take up a position as the UK Safety Manager for Rockwood Pigments.

### Sharon Grayshon | Building Studies (QS) (Build Services Surveying) 1993, Cost Management of Building Engineering Services 1996

Qualified as a Chartered Surveyor in 1999 and now run a successful luxury loo hire company and a rental villa in Tenerife.

### Anders Timms | BEng & MEng Manufacturing Systems Engineering with Management 1993

I have worked as a Manufacturing Engineer in various aerospace and automotive companies. Two years ago I moved into Learning, Training and Development and as a result I am setting up my own company. I have been married to Elizabeth for six years and we have twins, Annalise and William.

### Paul Gray | Computer Studies 1995

I have been raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care and participated in a trek on the Inca Trail in Peru in May to raise more.

### Katherine Thorp (née Stevens) | Science (Chemistry) 1996, Chemistry 1998

I've been a teacher of Science and Chemistry since 2000 and was appointed Head of Chemistry at Arnold Hill School in 2007.

### Dan Carpenter | Computer Studies 1998

After working for Anglian Water for nine years, I am now based in Dallas working for Axon Solutions implementing SAP IS-Utilities Billing Systems.

### Amanda Hodey (née Switzer) | HND Business Administration 1998, Business Administration 1999

I'm now professionally qualified in HR with MCIPD membership. I trained in HR at English Heritage before spending three years at Zurich Financial Services and two years at Crown Manufacturing. I moved to Nationwide Building Society in June 2006. I got married to Matthew Hodey (LLB 1999) in June 2004 in Hawaii. We have a beautiful baby girl, Lilia Alamea.

### Joanne Lloyd (née Murphy) | Combined Studies in Sciences 1998

I got my PGCE Secondary Science in 2001. I'm Head of Biology at Maesteg Comprehensive School, Bridgend, South Wales. In 2004 I married John and have two fabulous daughters - Olivia and Amelia.

### Clare Pearson | Graphic Design 1998

I am now married, living and working in Dublin as a Design Editor at the *Irish Independent*, overseeing the design of various magazines.

### Jonathan Todd | English 1998

After graduating, I completed an NCTJ Pre-entry Certificate in Journalism and landed a job as a staff writer on a PC magazine in Exeter. In 2000 I moved to another PC games magazine in London.

where I have lived ever since. In 2004 I moved to a PlayStation magazine where I am now Disc Editor. I am currently re-training as a football coach. I passed my FA Level 1 Club Coach badge in November 2007 and hope to become a full-time football coach.

#### **Sally Taylor (née Fisher) | Accounting and Finance 1999**

After graduating I spent 18 months in industry gaining experience in the finance department and then went into practice. I joined GT in 2000 (audit) where I qualified in 2002 (ACCA) and transferred to Corporate Finance. In July 2007 I transferred to the rather unique department of Special Projects where I provide bespoke services to companies.

#### **Simon Worfolk | Building Surveying 1999**

Moved jobs within the same company a year ago from a Surveyor/Site Inspector in Development to a Project Manager in the Asset Management Team working on generating a future planned maintenance programme, populating a new asset management database, carrying out processes to dispose of unviable properties and undertaking many Stock Condition Surveys.

## Noughties

#### **Andrew Mason | Industrial Management 2001**

I've worked for the family business, a sheet metal fabrication company, since leaving the University. I was married in September 2006 to Aimee Donaldson. We had our first born, Tomas, in December 2007. Fortunately late nights and early mornings at Uni prepared me, to an extent, for a lack of sleep!

#### **Jane Harding | Psychology and Educational Development 2002**

Moved to New Zealand last year where I am studying for a Graduate Diploma in Primary Teaching at the University of Canterbury. My husband, Richard Harding (HND Computing and Electronics 2000), is currently cycling on his own from the UK to New Zealand for a charity that gives children and disabled people the chance of a tall ship adventure. See [www.giftme.biz](http://www.giftme.biz) for more information.

#### **Kirsten Thompson | PGCE Further Education 2002**

I taught A-level Film and Media Studies for five years at High Pavement Sixth Form College, NCN, and Huddersfield New College. In August 2007 I joined the University of Leeds where I am working on the two-year Virtual Learning Environment Implementation Project. I've also worked as an examiner and coursework moderator and published teaching resources. I occasionally work freelance delivering INSETs at the National Media Museum in Bradford.

#### **Mark Hall | Business Studies 2003**

I've been working at the University of Sheffield since 2004 and am now based in the International Office where I help promote the University across the Middle East and North Africa. I'm also studying an MA in Management by Distance Learning at Durham University.

#### **Zoe Stevens | Business Studies 2003**

I recently completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Relations via The Chartered Institute of Public Relations and achieved a merit. I completed the London Marathon in 2007.

#### **Vicky Jones | Criminology 2004**

I'm working for NACRO, which is just amazing. It's the organisation I looked to for much of the research for my Criminology dissertation and which - alongside inspirational lecturers like Mike Ahearne, Roger Moore and Lorna White-Sansom - gave me a lifelong interest in the rehabilitation of offenders. I'm now their employee in a job I adore!

#### **Richard Barrow | Psychology 2005**

I worked at Perfect Motion Sports Marketing for two years. Having played rugby for Nottinghamshire, I represented Notts, Lincs and Derby in the county championship 2007. I have now returned home

following a job offer and knee surgery (tore ACL playing rugby). I have fond memories of NTU and return to Nottingham regularly.

#### **David Simpson | International Relations With Politics 2005**

I got married in 2004, between my 2nd and 3rd years. We bought a house in 2006 and I oversaw its renovation and extension, whilst our first daughter Mia was born in October. When my wife went back to work, I stayed home to look after Mia and Sofia was born in January.

#### **Sophie Milton | Interior Architecture and Design 2007**

I have taken a sort of gap year. I worked for a few months after graduating and then went on a programme where I worked in France for three months. I'm next hopefully going to Togo to volunteer for six months. I will then look for a job in interior design.

#### **Therese Moran (née Delee) | PGCE Post Compulsory Education 2007**

I'm working as a secondary teacher for post-14 learners (Health & Social Care) which I enjoy very much. I loved the PGCE and made some great friends. I'm currently working towards an MEd at NTU.

#### **Antony Moran | Design Management for the Creative Industries 2007**

After starting as a labourer on a building site, I was promoted to assistant foreman and now work as the marketing executive in Sheffield for WhizzGo pay-by-the-hour car club. I aim to put Sheffield on the map for environmentally friendly and affordable transport, reducing the city's CO2 emissions.

## In memoriam

#### **Martin Loughlin (Economics 1977)**

Martin died in July 2004 following a short illness and was buried in Newcastle where he was born and grew up.

Whilst living in Nottingham, Martin contributed greatly to the arts scene of the city by writing and producing two plays - one of which was performed in the caves underneath Broadmarsh Shopping Centre. He was also involved with Nottingham Playhouse and a variety of drama courses and workshops. Martin was a man with a great many skills and talents - in business, IT, sport and the arts, writing both plays and music. He also undertook charity work for Headway and Cancer Research.

Martin married his wife Agata and moved to France shortly before his death. He was a sociable and popular man who is still missed terribly by his many friends.

## Obituaries

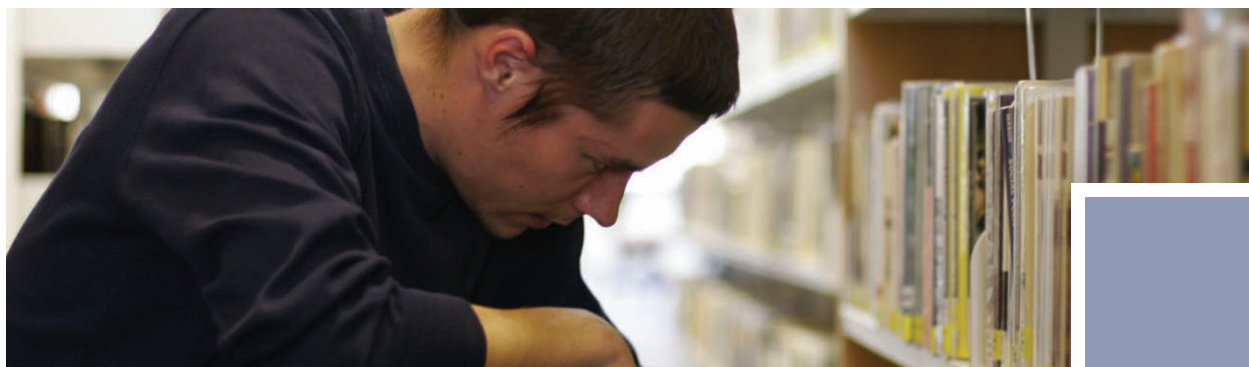
#### **Jason Carney (Psychology with Social Sciences 2005)**

Jason was a normal, healthy young man before being diagnosed with cancer in January 2008, following treatment for fluid on his lung. Jason was very brave during his illness, but unfortunately passed away on 1 July 2008. He was a sociable man who enjoyed a full and varied life. Jason's family would like to thank all his friends for the cards and letters they received, which they found to be a great source of comfort after his death. Jason will be sadly missed.

#### **Ronan Dirrane (Cert Management 2001)**

Ronan passed away in July 2007 after suffering from cancer. Prior to his illness he was a fit and active man who regularly visited the gym and played Gaelic football and rugby. He also ran in Nottingham's Robin Hood Marathon a few years ago. Ronan leaves his wife Melinda, one daughter and three sons. He is sadly missed.

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