

Network

NTU alumni... you're part of it

Spring 2017



**Meet Jon,
our
Alumnus
of the Year**

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**Absolute
stars**

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NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY





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Library photo by Kristine Vaivode, BA (Hons) Fine Art.

Kristine is currently working as part of NTU's Student Creative Radar project, a new initiative by the Digital Marketing and Creative Services team that offers paid creative opportunities to NTU students. Go to www.ntu.ac.uk/creativeradar to find out more.

Front cover: Jon Burgerman by Kirkby Design (see page 14)



Vice-Chancellor's Welcome

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the latest edition of our alumni magazine, packed with exciting news about recent developments at NTU and the successes of your fellow alumni. I hope that once again it makes you feel proud of the University. As one of our alumni, I hope that you feel that you are both an ambassador for and supporter of the University.

Teaching excellence is at the heart of everything we do. This has been recognised with a number of accolades over the last 12 months. I am pleased in particular to share the news that the University achieved a top 20 ranking for teaching quality in the most recent *Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide*.

This spring, our carbon-neutral Pavilion building – the latest addition at the Clifton Campus – claimed the Guardian University Award for Buildings that Inspire. At the same time, the ambitious development at Brackenhurst continues at pace (page 08) and plans are afoot for expansion of our City Campus.

These projects will help us to build upon our impressive sustainability credentials. These are highlighted by our position at the top of the prestigious People and Planet University League 2016, the UK's only comprehensive and independent green ranking of universities (page 09).

Looking forward, our University will be celebrating a number of important milestones and anniversaries in 2018. These show the breadth and depth of the contribution that NTU has made to our students, our communities and our region since our founding College first opened its doors in 1843. This history gives us one of the longest unbroken traditions of post-school education of any institution in the UK.

The Grade II* listed Newton building in the heart of our City Campus will turn 60, while our Brackenhurst Campus, home to our School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences, will mark its 70th year. Most importantly, we celebrate 175 years of learning and teaching excellence (page 20).

Our continued evolution is symbolised by the acquisition of Confetti Media Group, a specialist college providing higher and further education courses in the creative and digital industries for young people that has become our fourth campus in the heart of the Creative Quarter in Nottingham.

As I noted above, our alumni continue to make an important contribution to the success of NTU. One notable example is our innovative Alumni Fellowship Programme (page 12) which has proved very popular with many of your peers. Is this an initiative you would like to support?

Finally, with so much to celebrate, we want to hear from you. Please share your stories and photographs so that we can reflect together on all that we have achieved.

Best Wishes

Professor Edward Peck
Vice-Chancellor

Editor's note

Welcome to your 2017 issue of *Network* magazine. You will notice that our team has grown since this time last year as we expand our alumni relations activities across the University, including the Alumni Fellowship Programme (page 12).

Whether you are returning to campus to mentor or speak to students as part of the Alumni Fellowship Programme, attending an event or reunion, or just

want to reminisce about your time here, you are always welcome.

Did you know that the University is 175 years old next year? That's not all – Brackenhurst will be 70, and our Newton building turns 60. In the build-up to these special anniversaries we need your help! We'd love to hear your NTU memories and see your photographs (page 6). Send them in to us or share them on any of our social media channels. We want you to be part of our celebrations – we couldn't do it without you!

We hope you enjoy reading all the alumni stories we've gathered in this issue, as well as your favourite regular features. Remember to return your update form so that we can keep in touch with you. You never know, tell us what you are up to and you might see yourself in next year's magazine!

Your Alumni Relations Team

Tel: +44 (0)115 848 8777

Email: alumni@ntu.ac.uk



Photo by: Lottie Howard, Student Creative Radar project



Keep in touch

Once you have graduated from Nottingham Trent University you become a valued member of our global community of over 125,000 alumni – and the Alumni Association is here for you!

We can help you to stay in touch with your friends, network and make new contacts, and we'll keep you informed of the latest NTU news and developments via *Network* magazine and regular eNewsletters. You will also have access to a wide range of exclusive benefits and services such as discount on postgraduate courses, free library membership and use of the Employability service for three years after graduation. Whether you want to attend events, organise reunions, share your news or join our Alumni Fellowship Programme, there are also plenty of opportunities for you to stay involved with the University and continue your lifelong relationship with us.

What do you need to do? Just keep in touch with us! Follow us on our website and social media, and make sure you register with Venture Online, an exclusive alumni area of our website designed to keep us connected. You can update your contact details online every time you move on personally or professionally, and we can stay in contact with you – wherever you are in the world!



www.ntualumni.org.uk



Keeping in touch: Former Students' Union President Colin Barratt (above) enjoys a tour of Byron building, and the Theatre Design class of 1998 (below) reunite on the steps of the Waverley building.





every *Picture* tells a story

In 2018 NTU celebrates 175 years since the founding of the Nottingham Government School of Design.

Mergers with the Nottingham and District Technical College and the Nottingham Regional College led to the formation of Trent Polytechnic in 1970, which was amalgamated with Nottingham College of Education in 1975. NTU gained university status in 1992 and has continued to grow, merging with Brackenhurst College in 1999 and, more recently, acquiring Confetti Media.

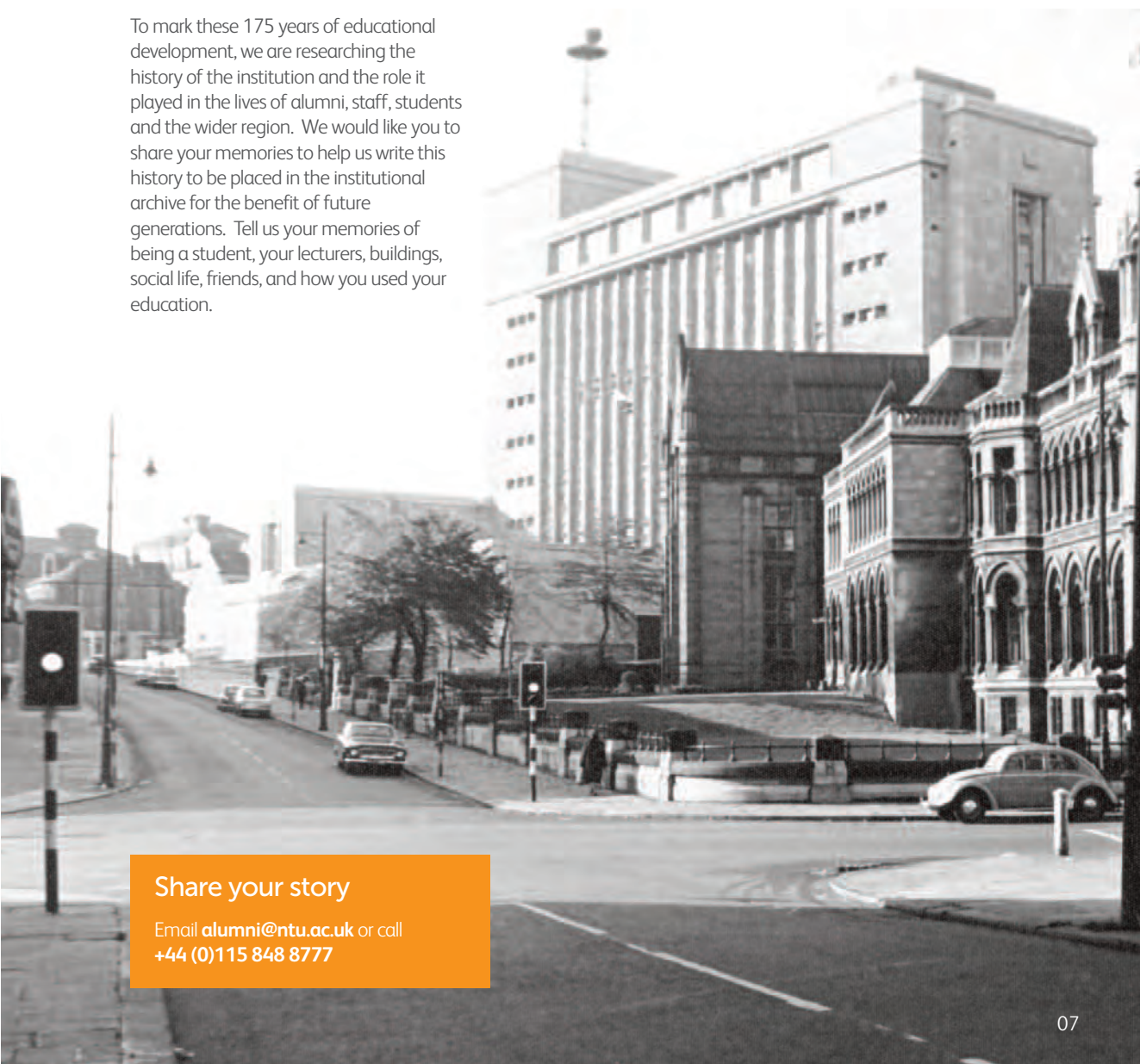
The story of the institutional development is reflected in the architecture of the present campuses – from the 19th-century Gothic stonework of Arkwright building, the classical, Italianate house and grounds at Brackenhurst, the art deco of Newton building, and the recently completed award-winning heart of the campus development at Clifton. Next year will see the anniversary of both the Newton building, which will be 60 years old, while our Brackenhurst Campus will celebrate turning an incredible 70!

The University thus has considerable pedigree stretching back through generations. The impact of decades of transformative teaching, learning and research on the cultural and economic life of Nottingham and the East Midlands, not only through the daily activities of the institution, but through the lives and work of the alumni, is both profound and immeasurable.

Photos provided by: Chris Johnston, Anna Lanaway, John Simpson, Roger Beach, Graham Biggs



To mark these 175 years of educational development, we are researching the history of the institution and the role it played in the lives of alumni, staff, students and the wider region. We would like you to share your memories to help us write this history to be placed in the institutional archive for the benefit of future generations. Tell us your memories of being a student, your lecturers, buildings, social life, friends, and how you used your education.



Share your story

Email alumni@ntu.ac.uk or call
+44 (0)115 848 8777



Brack to the future

It's all change at the Brackenhurst Campus. The redevelopment of Brackenhurst Farm earlier this year resulted in the creation of new student social space in the animal and equine area and a new larger teaching laboratory in the Bramley building.

If that wasn't enough the ever popular Orangery Students' Union building has also been completely refurbished. Meanwhile, designs are nearing completion for the campus' first major new building, the Reception and Environment Centre (REC), which will house the reception, exhibition space, new refectory, social areas and a retractable lecture theatre.

The REC will be built at the front of the Brackenhurst Campus – which celebrates its 70th

birthday next year – and will also contain an environment centre and a research lab, teaching rooms and computer cluster, as well as staff and PhD student offices.

New student residences and a car park will follow, and other projects at the discussion stage include replacement of the workshops with a new teaching and skills centre, extension of the library and initial plans for refurbishment of the Main Hall and enhancement of the animal and equine area.



A breath of fresh air

The new, eco-friendly, award-winning Pavilion building on the Clifton Campus is just one of the reasons why NTU has once again been officially recognised as the most sustainable university in the UK.



The carbon-negative building, which claimed top spot in the Buildings that Inspire category at the 2017 Guardian University Awards, also contributed to NTU topping the prestigious People and Planet University League 2016, the UK's only comprehensive and independent green ranking of universities.

Nobody embodies the commitment to sustainability at NTU better than Dr Petra Molthan-Hill, a lecturer within Nottingham Business School, who received the Sustainability Professional prize at the annual Green Gown Awards last year.

The award was a recognition of Petra's determination to ingrain sustainability into all of Nottingham Business School's

courses, as well as her leadership of NTU's Green Academy, which focuses on championing sustainability within all the University's courses.

Petra said: "It is a great honour to be presented with this award. The Green Academy team continually work hard on our sustainability projects, and it's great to be recognised for the direction we are taking our work.

"The Green Academy, initially a Higher Education Academy project, is one of the few dedicated teams among universities in the UK to be fully committed to green initiatives in the curriculum – this reflects NTU's dedication to making the University a greener place to work and study."



SAM'S SHADES OF SILVER



Find out more about one NTU alumna's brush with Hollywood...

Earlier this year the world got to see the stunning masquerade masks that are the work of NTU alumna and creative businesswoman Samantha Peach (BA Hons Communication Studies 1991) in one of the biggest films of 2017.



The second instalment in the Fifty Shades of Grey trilogy, *Fifty Shades Darker*, saw lead character Anastasia Steele attend a masquerade ball held by her lover, Christian Grey, clad in one of Samantha's intricate designs.

Samantha, who sells her products online and has customers all over the world, said: "At first I wasn't made aware that the order was for the film, but later I was contacted by the producers. The costume designer asked for dozens of our Silver Lace Goddess masks to be rushed over to

Vancouver for filming. My wildest dream was that the character wearing it would be Anastasia Steele, and I was super-excited to see the mask used in both the movie trailer and on the promotional poster."

Samantha's masks are in demand and have been featured on *Strictly Come Dancing*. She's also previously featured in *Network* after providing masquerade masks for Wayne and Coleen Rooney's wedding reception in 2008.



Photography by: Ursula Kelly Photography (BA Hons Photography 1997)

Fantastic Fellows



Our successful Alumni Fellowship Programme continues to grow, and we want you to get involved and use your knowledge and experience to enhance our current students' employability.

Following a successful pilot project in Nottingham Business School, where we now have 250 alumni fellows, we've rolled the programme out in the School of Arts and Humanities; the School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences; and Nottingham Law School, too.

By volunteering for 15 hours over an academic year, you can help students studying within these Schools to develop their skills through activities including:

- mentoring;
- guest lectures;
- employability workshops;
- mock interviews; and
- work-based learning.

Some Schools also have more unique opportunities – for example, at Nottingham Law School you can supervise cases in our award-winning Legal Advice Centre!

You need to have two years' experience in your industry to get involved as an Alumni Fellow, but in return, you'll be given access to NTU's library resources, get priority invitations to certain NTU events and benefit from discounted membership to RSViP – a Nottingham-based, members only networking group.

As well as giving something back, by helping current students with their first steps up their career ladder, you'll also be developing your own skills and experience, making you or your company stand out from the crowd.



"The education I had and friends I made at Brackenhurst shaped my future which is why I chose to become an Alumni Fellow and share my knowledge and experience with others."

Richard Kay (National Diploma Agricultural Merchandising 1986)



"The Alumni Fellowship Programme is a great way to keep up-to-date with developments at NTU, meet other Alumni Fellows and, most importantly, support current students. I'm really looking forward to getting involved!"

Alastair Turner (BA Hons Broadcast Journalism 1998)

Visit www.ntualumni.org.uk/alumni_fellows to find out more and submit an application.

kirkbydesign
x
Jon TinkerMan.



LIFE'S A DOO



NTU's Alumnus of the Year 2016 award was presented to Jon Burgerman (BA Hons Fine Art 2001).

The UK-born, New York City-based illustrator has exhibited internationally and features in the permanent collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) and Science Museum, London.

Known for his instantly recognisable pop-art cartoon aesthetic, his works exist across a multitude of forms, including canvases, large-scale murals, sculpture, toys, colouring books and more.

Jon said: "In stopping and thinking about the last 15 years, reflecting on why I might be given such an honour from the University, I realise I've actually gone quite far. I'm extremely humbled and honoured."

In 2008 Jon first entered the public consciousness when his 300-page monograph – *Pens Are My Friends* – was published by IdN. That same year he appeared on BBC TV's *Blue Peter* to create a mural 'doodle' live on set. He has won awards and collaborated with numerous global household brands, including Samsung, Pepsi, Coca-Cola, Nike, Sony, Sky, and the BBC.

In 2010, he relocated to New York to develop his practice and in 2015 he exhibited work in the White House. Today Jon regularly performs at events, conferences and universities internationally, delivering keynote lectures and running creative workshops.



DDLE



Be inspired

Our Distinguished Lecture Series continues to bring exciting and thought-provoking talks to Nottingham.

Now in its twelfth year, lectures tackle a wide variety of fascinating and topical subjects head on. The lectures are free to attend and all our alumni and friends are welcome to join us.

So far in 2017 we've heard from Chair of the government-appointed Social Mobility Commission The Rt Hon Alan Milburn, Research Professor of Cognitive Science at the University of Sussex Margaret Boden and Director-General of the National Trust Helen Ghosh.

Later this year we welcome Chief Executive of the Electoral Reform Society Katie Ghose and broadcaster and former politician Trevor Phillips OBE. Next year's programme includes Professor of Social and Architectural History at St John's College, Oxford, Professor William Whyte whose lecture will coincide with our special anniversary year (page 06).

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/distinguishedlectures for a full list of speakers and to find out more.

Creative short courses at NTU



There are a range of ways you can continue your personal and professional development with NTU.

During the summer holidays there are courses in fashion knitwear, e-textiles and CAD skills. There are also software courses for animation, product design and graphic design, as well as courses in creative writing, fine arts and photography. We can also provide bespoke training for your business at any time of the year.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/creativeshortcourses or, to ask about special discounts for alumni, email creativeshortcourses@ntu.ac.uk or call +44 (0)115 848 2813.



working with you...

...practical business support

Nottingham Trent University has a long history of successfully engaging with businesses to drive innovation and growth. We are proud of the significant role we play in the Midlands economy. Between 2014 and 2016 we engaged with over 1,000 Midlands businesses, working in partnership with organisations of all sizes across the region (and beyond) to help them grow and develop.



Nottingham Trent University's goal is to develop mutually beneficial strategic partnerships with key Midlands employers.

Building on the award of a Queen's Anniversary Prize for research excellence and achievement, our focus is on six areas of strength where our teaching, learning and research activities drive a range of opportunities for partner organisations:

- Cultural, Creative and Digital
- Energy, Low Carbon and Sustainable Futures
- Life Science, Health and Wellbeing
- Materials and Engineering
- Professional Services
- The NHS

Talent

We make recruitment easy and cost-effective by providing a pipeline to work-ready students and graduates. We have well over 26,000 students, with over 9,000 talented graduates entering the marketplace each year.

Skills

Renowned for creating flexible and vocationally-focused courses, we can offer bespoke programmes, tailored to your organisation's needs. We also offer Degree Apprenticeships, which come with the added benefit of government funding.

Innovation

We can provide access to the expertise and facilities you need to make your ideas successful. Our real-world research can help you develop products and ways of working that boost profitability and efficiency.

Contact us

Tel: +44 (0)115 848 8899

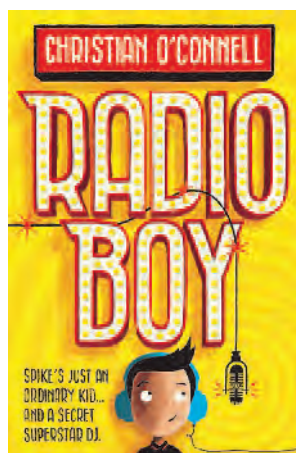
Email: workingwithyou@ntu.ac.uk

www.ntu.ac.uk/business



Ab

solite stars



Alumnus, comedian and award-winning Absolute Radio breakfast presenter Christian O'Connell (BA Hons Communication Studies 1995) has now added 'author' to his list of achievements with the launch of his first children's book *Radio Boy*.

Aimed at middle-grade readers, and receiving great reviews, *Radio Boy* comes with a big-hearted message – every child has a secret super power!

The story follows awkward 11-year-old Spike who, after losing his job on hospital radio, sets up his own studio in his garden shed, and soon takes over the airwaves.

Christian said: "It was the hardest but most rewarding thing I've ever done. My daughters were my editors. I would give them chapters that they would just destroy and tell me where I'd gone wrong."

"I hope kids find *Radio Boy* inspirational, but most of all I hope they laugh very hard. I did some of the jokes in stand-up to pressure test them."

Meanwhile BAFTA winner, fellow NTU alumnus and the voice of Absolute Radio, Matt Berry, found himself back on the City Campus last November after almost 20 years away.

Matt (BA Hons Contemporary Arts 1997), who was in town with his band, The Maypoles, for a gig at the nearby Rescue Rooms, jumped at the chance to tour



NTU and see just some of the changes that have taken place since he graduated.

He said: "Like me, I know that students will reflect on their time at NTU as the best years of their lives – they just don't realise it yet!"



NTU celebrates teaching excellence

NTU's commitment to teaching excellence is central to everything the University does, evidenced by an outstanding top 20 ranking for teaching quality in the *Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016*. Hopefully as alumni you have your own experiences that attest to this!

Other recent examples of our teaching excellence include NTU scooping Teaching Excellence and Business Partnership accolades at the Guardian University Awards 2015 and the amazing staff members featured here.

Our annual Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Awards are further recognition of our own amazing lecturers and teaching staff. As alumni you can get involved by nominating any NTU staff who've contributed to your success! Look out for news on our website and social media later this year.

Innovative teaching reaps rewards

An inventive approach to the use of technology coupled with exceptional teaching ability has led to two prestigious awards for Matthew Homewood.

Matthew, who is the acting Head of Postgraduate Programmes as well as the Learning and Teaching Coordinator at Nottingham Law School, claimed the National Teaching Fellowship accolade in December last year. He has also been recognised with a 2017 Global Legal Skills Award and is among six finalists short-listed for the national Law Teacher of the Year Award 2017.



Sam claims her place among equestrian's elite

Senior lecturer in equine science, Sam York, has been recognised for her expertise with the award of The British Horse Society Fellowship, one of the highest equestrian honours. Only 84 members of the world's elite in the field have achieved a Fellowship since the award began in 1949.

Sam said: "I am passionate about training horses and riders and I hope this will open new doors to enable the wider dissemination of novel training research and practice in the industry."

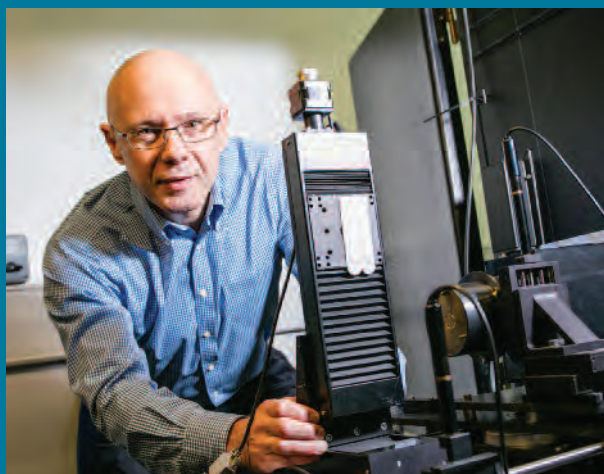


Keeping our skies safe

Professor Paul Evans has received an illustrious Times Higher Education Award for Outstanding Contribution to Innovation and Technology.

The prize was the latest in a string of accolades for his research, which has improved the way airports scan for explosives, weapons and other contraband, ensuring our skies remain safe for all.

It was the continuing refinement and dedication to the work – which has also earned a multimillion-pound grant from the US Department of Homeland Security – that impressed the judges, highlighting NTU's ongoing commitment to research excellence.





A new era for education at NTU

Since the formation of our new Nottingham Institute of Education, staff have been busy consulting with students, partners and organisations in our plan to build a vibrant and unique centre of excellence.

Can you help?

If you can provide an opportunity for our students to put theory into practice, or want to submit a graduate profile for our website, find out more at: www.ntualumni.org.uk/getting_involved

All of our undergraduate students already get the chance to put theory into practice with work-based learning as an integral part of their course. Whether it is spending a few weeks with a literacy project in Thailand, or a year-long experience with a UK company, placements enhance their cultural awareness of childhood, learning and development, and provide that real-world knowledge that employers want. These opportunities will be expanded by extending our international links and building on our enviable reputation to engage with partners who serve the local community.

Reviews are in place to examine current courses to ensure they are at the forefront of educational knowledge. With academic expertise, world-leading research and the insight of practising professionals underpinning all of our courses, students will address the key social issues of today and explore some of the most challenging questions facing modern society.

**Nottingham
Institute of Education**



Bringing history to life

A defused wartime shell will be taken into classrooms in Nottinghamshire as part of a new project to help pupils learn more about World War One.

The howitzer shell is being presented alongside other historic items in a number of specially designed crates to bring wartime stories to classrooms.

Distributed by Culture Syndicates – a heritage business at The Hive, NTU's centre for enterprise and entrepreneurship – each crate tells the story of three individuals who experienced the war.

One of the three boxes explores the tragic story of Fanny Taylor, who worked in the Chilwell munitions factory with 4,000 other women, who were dubbed the "canary girls" after exposure to TNT left their skin yellow with jaundice.

Her crate includes the defused shell, shrapnel balls from the Battle of the Somme, and leather gloves similar to those used by the canary girls.

Alumna and Director of Culture Syndicates, Charlotte Pratley said: "The project empowered local people to share the stories of their ancestors with school pupils. It has been incredibly inspiring to help the Life Lines members realise their ideas, and great to see their reactions when artist Claire Witcomb unveiled their completed crates."



This is just one of the successful businesses at The Hive – NTU's purpose-built Centre for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise. Find out more about The Hive at www.ntu.ac.uk/hive

A portrait of a smiling man with short dark hair and a goatee, wearing a black polo shirt. He is holding a piece of white dough in his left hand, and a cloud of white flour is being tossed into the air from his right hand. The background is a dark, neutral gradient.

SELASI COOKS UP A STORM

Photography by NTU alumnus Pal Hansen (BA Hons Photography 1999)

NTU now has two star bakers among its alumni.

In 2013 it was Frances Quinn (BA Hons Textile Design 2006) who triumphed, and last year Selasi Gbormittah (BA Hons Economics and Financial Services 2008) came agonisingly close to another victory for NTU in the BBC's *The Great British Bake Off*.



But Selasi – who developed his passion for cooking at university baking cupcakes and making pizza for his friends – is taking it all in his stride, insisting: “I’m not a celebrity, just somebody who enjoys baking.”

In fact, laid-back Selasi doesn’t even know where his love of baking comes from. He says: “Ghanaian men are culturally seen as the breadwinner, and don’t tend to spend much time in the kitchen. However, baking came naturally to me and I wanted to be a chef as I was growing up.”

Studying Economics and Financial Services at NTU took his career in a very different direction however, and despite his Bake Off success, he is still happily doing his day job as a corporate banker, where his lucky colleagues get to be the guinea pigs for his new recipes.

However, Selasi says NTU gave him friends for life. He still fondly recalls nights out at Ocean and playing Varsity basketball and captaining the second team. In fact he claims to still have a soft spot for his NTU hoody, which he now wears to the gym.

If it was NTU that helped Selasi to discover his ability in the kitchen, there’s no doubt it was getting involved with *The Great British Bake Off* that took his culinary expertise to the next level.

He said: “I already knew my way around a kitchen, but I learned so much from being on the show. I gained a real knowledge of how ingredients actually worked. I loved the feedback and criticism and genuinely feel like I learned from my mistakes.

“I had the best time. The judges, presenters, crew and my fellow contestants were all so lovely. We’d try each other’s bakes and helped each other out. It was so much fun.”



Bravo for Sue



After undergoing a mastectomy and twice beating breast cancer, alumna Sue Pringle was inspired to create the millie, a bra designed especially for women who are breast cancer survivors.

Sue (FdSc Horticulture 2006) set up Millie lingerie – named in honour of her grandmother – to develop the bra, and is working with designer Laura Stanford, previously of Marks and Spencer, Debenhams, and Agent Provocateur, who says the millie is the “most challenging and inspiring design” she’s ever created.

Tony Jarvis, former Sales and Marketing Director at Triumph UK and MD at Gossard UK, has also joined the millie team and provided advice and support.

Sue said: “Last year we held a focus group for women who have all been treated for breast cancer. They loved our first design. I’m determined to see that we all get fabulous, comfortable bras to wear, that help to reduce some of the impacts of breast cancer treatment, and restore some self-confidence.”

The millie is now tantalisingly close to launch. Visit www.millielingerie.com for more information.



Hitting the high note

Alumni donations are music to the ears of two current students, Beth Martin and Chris Brown.



Beth, a second year Biomedical Sciences student, is increasing her confidence musically by playing a brand new piccolo, while third year Criminology student Chris is enjoying the opportunity to try the soprano sax.

Beth and Chris will not be the only students to benefit – after graduation the instruments remain at NTU for future students to enjoy. In fact, the soprano saxophone was originally purchased in 2008.

Beth, who plays flute to Grade 8 standard, said: “I’m excited to have use of this professional piccolo and want to thank donors for this unexpected reward.”

Chris, who originally started playing the saxophone because “Lisa Simpson made it look cool”, said: “It’s an unbelievable opportunity to be able to play the soprano sax. I’d never even seen one before and don’t know anybody else who has got one. It’s great that students get chances like this without having the financial burden.”

Director of Music, Matthew Hopkins, said: “It’s wonderful to see young talented musicians blossom through the support of our alumni, and I’m so grateful.”

Making music

Did you know that alumni are welcome to join NTU Music, including the orchestra and choir? Email music@ntu.ac.uk for more information.





Funding new opportunities

The Alumni Fund continues to support projects and advance student learning, with recent funds having gone towards the building of a CNC router.

Since 2008, the School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment has received over £10,200 from the Alumni Fund to support various projects designed to enhance the student experience.

This year, the school successfully secured £1,500 towards the development of an interdisciplinary technical mentoring approach to student learning. In line with the recent trend of “maker clubs”, students and staff meet outside of formal University hours to collaborate on a joint project – specifically the building of a CNC router.

We got reactions from a number of Product Design students:

Chloe Fish said: “It’s great to have the opportunity to do something outside of my course.”

Henry Hearn agreed: “There aren’t many extracurricular classes where we can learn about computers, electromechanical systems, wiring, numerical engineering or electric systems, but this project has them all!”

And Arjun Singh Assa wanted to thank alumni. He said: “I’d like to thank donors. This is a great learning and networking opportunity. I hope future students will also benefit from projects like this.”

Having spent an afternoon with this bright bunch of students, we can vouch for their overall engagement and passion for this collaborative project.

FUNDI

Going global

Thanks to alumni funding NTU is able to extend its offer of extracurricular activities to students.

One popular activity is our Language Café— currently operating out of the Global Lounge on the City Campus. Here students and staff can meet in a relaxed environment and practise languages they are learning outside of their academic courses.

This project would not be possible without alumni funding, which last year donated over £1,000 to promote and develop the scheme further.

Director of NTU Global, Stephen Williams, said: “Language Cafés help integrate and internationalise the student body, fostering long-term friendships between UK and international students who share a common interest. Our own Language Café will be extended across three NTU campuses to reach as many students as possible.”

Second year Nottingham Law School students Chien Chi Lee, Masooda Maori and Zara Rabina are currently learning Mandarin. They said: “The Language Cafe provides us with a casual environment where we can practice holding conversations and learn about different cultures. It’s really good to have so many opportunities to do extracurricular activities.”



NG CHANGE



Lights, camera, action

Last year we welcomed a new addition to the NTU family with the acquisition of Confetti Media Group (CMG) – a further and higher education college that offers young people a direct route into the creative industries through practical, hands-on teaching and training.

CMG – which also includes creative companies Spool Films, Constellations, Denizen Recordings and the Antenna Media Centre – has now become NTU's fourth campus, expanding our presence in Nottingham city centre and our course provision for 16-18 year olds.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Edward Peck, said: "This new partnership with CMG is absolutely in line with the

University's new strategic plan, bringing together two successful organisations with ambitions and skill sets that complement each other."

Founded in 1994, CMG began as a specialist facility for those wanting to develop a career in the music business as producers, sounds engineers and technicians, but has now expanded to cover games, TV, film, music and live events education, and is home to 1,300 students.

It's based in Nottingham's Creative Quarter, and packed with cutting-edge technology, studios, and equipment.

Visit www.confetti.ac.uk to find out more.



confetti
institute of creative technologies



ROYAL recognition

We would like to congratulate all NTU's former colleagues, honorary graduates and alumni who were recognised in the Queen's New Year Honours List.



Former Nottingham Law School Principal Lecturer, Jo Boylan-Kemp (LLB Hons Law 2002, Bar Vocational Course 2003 and PGCert Higher Education 2010), said: "I'm so honoured to be appointed an MBE for my services to higher education. The fact that it was for my work at NTU makes it even more special."

Former Academic Team Leader for the School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences, Vic Hird (Education (Further and Higher Education) 1989), received a BEM for services to land-based education. He added: "I'm delighted Brackenhurst is such a fantastic place to work."

Others recognised include:

Sir Richard Eyre CBE (HonDLitt 1992) received the Companion of Honour for services to Drama. Prison Governor at HMP Whatton, Lynn Saunders

(HonDSocSci 2015), received an OBE for public and voluntary services to prisoners in the UK and abroad.

Former president of the British Chamber of Commerce in Spain, Roger Cooke (BSc Hons Urban Estate Surveying 1980), received an MBE for services to British business in Spain and British-Spanish trade and investment, and an MBE also went to Claire Lomas (HonDUniv 2016) for charitable and voluntary services to spinal injury research.

Olympic gold medallists, Crista Cullen (BA Hons Business Studies 2007 and HonDUniv 2016), and Dr Hannah MacLeod (PhD 2009 and HonDUniv 2016) got MBEs for services to hockey and Head of Welbeck Primary School, Carol Norman (BEd Education 1982), received an OBE for services to education.

Announcement of the Queen's Birthday Honours List coming soon!

Creative award opens doors for Rebecca

Talented writer and NTU Theatre Design student Rebecca Constable scooped a top prize at the 2016 Nottingham Young Creative Awards.

Despite only finding out about the awards two weeks before the deadline for submissions, her short story *Impact* claimed the top prize.

The story deals with Rebecca's own struggles with dyslexia and her burning desire to conquer the difficulties and stigma surrounding the condition.

The award has led to some amazing opportunities for Rebecca, including work experience with a local magazine, appearing on Notts TV and a book deal with Dayglo Books, a specialist publisher of books for dyslexic readers.

Rebecca said: "I'm so grateful to everyone who helped put this competition together. It's opened so many doors for me and given me a lot more confidence, not only in writing but also public speaking."

Rebecca continues to blog about her experiences of living with dyslexia, her writing career and her life as an NTU student – visit <https://rebeccaconstable.wordpress.com> for her latest updates.



Local creativity

The Young Creative Awards are an annual creative competition open to all 13-24 year olds, working, living or studying in Nottingham.

Visit www.youngcreativeawards.org to find out more.

Amnesty award for Temitope's film

Amnesty International has awarded a prestigious prize to alumna Temitope Kalejaiye (MA Broadcast Journalism 2015).

Temitope's short film, entitled *Almajiri is Begging* and produced as coursework for her Masters, is a documentary about children trapped in a cycle of poverty and extremist influences as part of the Almajiri Islamic education system in Nigeria.

It scooped the student award in the annual Amnesty Media Awards, which recognise excellence in human rights reporting and acknowledge journalism's significant contribution to the UK public's awareness and understanding of human rights issues.

Temitope, who plans to travel back to her native Nigeria to progress her career, said: "While spending a year in the UK doing my studies, I was struck by the absence of children begging for money and food. In Britain they were conspicuous by their absence and this stark difference between the developed and developing world in terms of the most vulnerable members of our society gave me a pressing use for my film-making skills."

The story has been picked up for distribution worldwide by Journeyman Pictures and has already been viewed more than 6,000 times on YouTube, sparking comments, blogs and individual debate about the plight of the Almajiri.



Alumni around the world

Did you know we have a number of official alumni ambassadors who help us run networking groups around the world? Visit www.ntualumni.org.uk/alumni_in_your_country to find out if there is a group where you are. If not, email alumni@ntu.ac.uk to ask how you can become an International Alumni Ambassador.



Nottingham has it all



Why not return to Nottingham this year for a trip down memory lane and to revisit your old haunts?

Not only could you relive your time on campus, but you could also tie in your visit with some of the amazing events held in the city each year. From Splendour, Nottingham's favourite family festival held in the beautiful setting of Wollaton Park, and the Nottingham Riviera this summer, to Christmas markets and ice skating this winter.

And there's more to come...

An exciting £30m redevelopment of Nottingham Castle will see the construction of new galleries – including space dedicated to the legend of Robin Hood – as well as a range of improvements to the attraction's existing facilities.

The project, which has received £13.9m in funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, will begin in 2018, and is due to be completed by 2020.

The Broadmarsh shopping centre is also being transformed and will be turned into a modern destination for customers to shop, eat, relax and socialise.

This £75m redevelopment will include a cinema, shops and restaurants and is part of a total £250m regeneration plan to improve the area around the Broadmarsh centre.

Nottingham has cut carbon emissions by 33% and over the next few years, the city will become even greener, with improved cycling routes, electric vehicle charging points and a completely electric bus fleet – so you've got no excuse not to head back for a visit!

Visit

www.experiencenottinghamshire.co.uk

to see what's happening in the city this year.



Invest in Nottingham

Do you remember the iconic Robin Hood statue, Sherwood Forest, Nottingham Castle, meeting by the Left Lion, amazing nights at Climax and the city's exciting night life?

Well Invest in Nottingham wants to remind you why you fell in love with our city, and give you some new reasons to consider Nottingham as the home for your business, or the place to develop your career.

As part of a year-long campaign to raise Nottingham's profile in London, Invest in Nottingham – the city's inward investment agency – is aiming to encourage business owners and entrepreneurs who attended university here to consider Nottingham as the perfect place to base themselves and their businesses.

They would be in good company, too. From E.ON to Experian and Boots to Capital One, Nottingham is home to a diverse range of multinational organisations, while creative and technology businesses are flourishing in the city thanks to the innovative BioCity and Creative Quarter developments.

Throughout 2017, Invest in Nottingham will be hosting and attending a number of events in London which will promote Nottingham as the perfect place to live, work, and do business.

Visit www.london.investinnottingham.co.uk to find out more about these events and discover business and career opportunities in Nottingham.



Going for gold



NTU alumni were amongst the medal winners at last year's Olympic Games in Rio.

After achieving the bronze medal at London 2012, golden girls Crista Cullen (BA Hons Business Studies 2007) and Hannah MacLeod (PhD 2009), were part of the team who secured Team GB's first ever gold medal for Olympic Hockey after a dramatic penalty shootout. They also collected honorary degrees from NTU in December, and were appointed MBEs in the Queen's New Year Honours List.

Also celebrating was Richard Hounslow (BSc Hons Sport (Science and Management) 2003), who got a silver medal in the Canoe Slalom alongside partner David Florence. Other alumni involved with Team GB at Rio 2016 included Head Coach of GB Canoeing Paul Ratcliffe (BSc Hons Combined Studies in Sciences 1995), and Disability National Performance Director for British Swimming Chris Furber (BSc Hons Sport (Administration and Science) 1995), who led his team to 47 medals in the Paralympic Games.



Winter wonderland

Five talented students competed at the World University Winter Games 2017 in Almaty, Kazakhstan this February – thanks to support from alumni who helped cover some of the costs of competing. Joe Gretton and Tom Hovell joined the Great Britain men's hockey team, Lucy Kendall and Holly Steeples were on the women's hockey team, and Ryan Rathbone joined the squad as assistant coach to women's hockey. Charles Parry-Evans competed as the only athlete to represent the UK in the figure skating competition.

She said yes!

NTU was really excited to be involved in a special day for two alumni over Valentine's weekend.

Happy couple, Govinder Singh Sandhu (BEng Civil Engineering 2015) and Harprit Gill (BA Hons Sociology and Politics 2013) got engaged on the City Campus – where their love story began.

Unbeknown to Harpit, Govinder had contacted the Alumni Office to arrange special access to the Newton building where he got down on one knee and proposed.



Tying the knot

Congratulations to all our alumni who have celebrated their wedding recently...

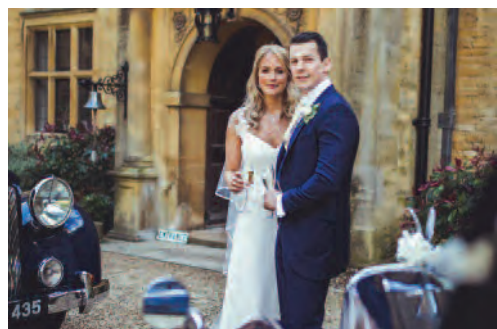
Cherie Amner (BA Hons Fashion Marketing and Communication 2008) and Nick Laughton (BA Hons Furniture and Product Design 2008)

Emma Claridge (LLB Hons Law 2012) and Laurence Vickers (BSc Hons Building Surveying 2011 and MSc Construction Management 2012)

Amanda Eason (BA Hons History 2009) and Phill Monk (BA Hons Human Geography 2008)

Sarah Wynne-Jones (BA Hons Childhood Studies 2008) and Chris Priestland (BSc Hons Computer Studies 2009)

Annamay Simpson (BSc Hons Animal Biology 2013 and Andrew White (BSc Hons Geography (Physical) 2014)



Past and present

Sixties

Hazel Priestley-Hobbs (nee Pengelly) | Cert Primary Education 1966

After teaching in Canada for many years, and more recently in England, I have now retired. Fond memories of NTU include a tour made by final year music students in May 1966, soon followed by our graduation ball with the Moody Blues!

Darryl Gregory | Cert Ed Secondary Education 1969

After retirement I was a special education needs adviser for a VSO in Rwanda. I am now a trustee for Village Rwanda UK – a UK registered charity supporting the remote village of Gasundwe on the shores of Lake Kivu, Western Rwanda.

Seventies

Richard Bagley | BA Hons Law 1977

Retired from mainstream practice I now act as a governance consultant and a trustee for several charities. I am a keen supporter of Nottingham Law School's Legal Advice Centre and continue to support the University as an NLS Alumni Fellow.

Eighties

Duncan Chapple (nee Chapple) | HNC Electronic Engineering 1988

After almost 30 years I am back at school, firstly as an NTU Alumni Fellow and secondly as a doctoral researcher at the University of Edinburgh focusing on how new businesses communicate at pitches.

Nineties

Bruce Webb | BA Hons Communication Studies 1995

I have produced nine feature films and have directed several TV series and two feature films.

Marie Walsh (nee Jones) | LLB Hons Law 1996

I set up my own legal practice in Leeds which has always been my ambition. I'm in touch with nine girls from my course and we met up recently to celebrate 20 years since graduation.

Zayarat Maqsood | BEd Hons Mathematics 1998

I really enjoyed my time at NTU. I am currently Head of Mathematics in a large mixed school in Bradford, West Yorkshire.

Noughties

Alexander Orr | HND Architectural Technology 2000; BSc Hons Construction Management 2002

In December 2014 I joined Barnsley College as their project manager for a £10.8m new construction college and a £17m new sixth form college. I manage a variety of projects, from new access roads to refurbishments and decant projects.

Robert Fieldsend | BA Hons History 2006

After many years in production and sales, I am now using my degree at Loughborough College promoting history A-level. I teach 16-19 year olds, and it's amazing.

Sarah Swift | BSc Hons Psychology 2008; MSc Psychology Research Methods 2009

I am an Educational Psychologist at Newcastle University. It is my dream job and I firmly feel that my studies at NTU put me in a great position to progress my career and I made lifelong friends along the way!

Robin Thorpe | BSc Hons Sport Science with IT 2008; MRes Sport Science 2009

I received my PhD from Liverpool John Moores University in 2016. I have also won the FA Cup as support staff with Manchester United FC.

Teenies

Samuel Marshall | BA Hons Multimedia 2011

Recently designed the Pizza Hut websites across the world, and also helped design the McDonald's ordering kiosks.

Lucy Gornall | BA Hons Print Journalism 2012

After travelling and interning at various publications, in July 2014 I became the showbiz writer at Now magazine. In Feb 2016 I became the lifestyle editor, and I love it.

Chloe Mabbutt | BSc Hons Equine Sports Science (Equestrian Psychology) 2012; MRes Equine Health and Welfare 2015

I lecture in Equine Studies at both college and degree level, and aim to complete a PhD soon. I also aim to get my Masters research published soon with NTU lecturer Kelly Yarnell.

Emily Slater | BA Hons Health and Social Care 2012

I work with both alcohol and drug users, providing fully comprehensive assessments and psychosocial interventions, as well as support to help them address their problems. I meet up with five friends from my course every six months.

Obituaries

Steve Cappa (BSc Quantity Surveying 1980 and MBA 1991)

Steve died on 25 March 2016, aged 59. Steve remained fond of NTU and returned in the late 1990s to teach on the MBA course, and more recently as an Alumni Fellow. He worked in Nigeria for four years and later in life revisited to promote trade with the UK as the Vice Chair of the Nigerian British Chamber. He held various MD, CEO and non-Exec roles within blue chip companies and SMEs and became a Chartered Director in 2006 and an active committee member of the Institute of Directors' Cheshire branch. A former UK Taekwondo Champion, Steve set up the NI TKD Federation and was a founder member of the first NI / UK coaching academy. His enthusiasm for life was infectious. Even after he was diagnosed with first stage cancer in 2009 it didn't stop him carrying on with his life, but unfortunately cancer returned in 2015 and he lost his fight in March 2016. Steve leaves behind wife Elouise, three daughters and grandchildren. He influenced many, but he was foremost a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather who is continuously missed by many.

Pearl Delderfield nee Choppen (Cert Education 1963)

Pearl passed away in December 2015, aged 74, after a lengthy illness. Hailing from Hadleigh, Essex, Pearl was one of the first intake of students at Clifton in 1960 where she was involved in many college activities including hockey, tennis and drama. Her main academic subject was Maths, which she taught at the same school for most of her career. Post-Clifton she studied for a BEd, BA and a DipPsych which allowed her to teach A-level Psychology. She enjoyed 12 years of retirement travelling with Bob, gardening and watching tennis before falling ill. Pearl leaves husband Bob, who she met at Clifton, and daughter Lynn.

Barry Squirrel (Agricultural Merchandising 1970)

Barry George Squirrel died peacefully on Sunday 27 November 2016 at Queen's Hospital Romford, aged 68. Barry was a very much loved, and admired husband, dad, brother, grandad, great grandad, and exceptional friend to many. Family and friends were devastated by his sudden passing. Barry's sense of humour, sincerity, understanding, caring, and modest ways will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Jean Hancock nee Ware (Cert Education 1963)

Jean passed away on 13 April 2016 after battling cancer. Jean was in the first intake of students when Nottingham Teacher Training College opened in September 1960, where she studied Music with a special emphasis on piano accompaniment. In her final year she produced a performance of the Gilbert and Sullivan Opera *The Gondoliers*. After marrying husband Graham in 1965, Jean moved to Bournemouth where she was Head of Music at a local secondary school. Jean and Graham welcomed two sons and she returned to work after a ten-year career break teaching pupils with behavioural and learning difficulties until taking early retirement in 1997. Jean had a lifelong devotion to Gilbert and Sullivan Opera and was the accompanist for the Bournemouth G&S Society for 31 years. She was a very highly regarded lady who is sadly missed.

In memoriam

Melissa Macaulay (BA Hons English 2006) 24 November 1984 to 28 July 2008

Melissa tragically died on Monday 28 July 2008 as a result of injuries from a quad bike accident in Skiathos while on holiday with friends. She suffered critical injuries and passed away as she was being transferred from the Medical Centre in Skiathos to Volos Hospital in Athens. Her time at NTU was truly the best time of her life. She loved living in West Bridgford with her best friends, and working at The Monkey Tree. After graduation Melissa worked as a teaching assistant at a local autistic school on the Wirral and had been offered a place at Liverpool John Moore's University to study for a PGCE. Melissa is survived by her parents Elizabeth and Malcom Macaulay; her younger sister Rebecca Macaulay, nephews Sebastian Macaulay and Elliot Bestwick and her grandparents Harry and Esme Macaulay. Nine years on she is still very much missed. She was a kind, loving young woman. Her close friends and family continue to keep her memory alive and treasure every moment they were privileged to spend with her.



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