

THE graduate

UNIVERSITY OF TEESSIDE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2007



UNIVERSITY OF
TEESSIDE



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HELLO ALUMNI



I would like to congratulate all our 2006 graduates and honorary graduates.

This year, we have been busy collecting profiles on all our successful graduates for use in our marketing and promotional materials. If you would like to complete a graduate profile form then please drop us an email.

Thank you to everyone who returned the survey accompanying the last edition of the magazine. It is very important to ensure that all our data on you is up to date.

I hope you enjoy this issue. If you would like to get in touch or want to update your details then you can contact me via our website at www.tees.ac.uk/alumni.

Good luck in the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Jane Irving".

Sarah Jane Irving, Alumni Officer

We are delighted to share Sarah's recent happy news with our readers. Sarah gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Ellen Jane, in October. Ellen is the first child for Sarah and husband Tony. We're sure all our Alumni members join us in congratulating them on the new addition to their family.

HOW TO CONTACT THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Opinions expressed in *The Graduate* are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the University.

This publication is available in alternative formats on request. Please contact the Alumni Office.

welcome



Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, which opened in January

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy new year and say that I hope 2007 can, once again, be a year of great success and achievement for the University. And one where we continue the process of growing the reputation and standing of Teesside for the benefit of all our students, staff and you, our graduates.

For many of you, the University of Teesside in 2007 will bear little resemblance to the place where you studied, but the rapid growth of our campus, our student numbers and our reputation will nevertheless hopefully be a source of pride and benefit to everyone who has been associated with the institution since its establishment way back in 1930.

As you are probably aware, we are under continuing pressure from Government to further extend participation and achievement in higher education, whilst simultaneously enhancing standards and making learning more relevant to the needs of society and the economy. It is pleasing to report that most commentors and external stakeholders believe that our university has responded particularly well to this changing agenda and is well positioned to make an even greater contribution in the future. For example, following an excellent performance in the first National Student Survey in 2005, I am delighted to report that our success was repeated in 2006.

Teesside was ranked in the top 25 per cent of all universities nationally, its learning resources judged as joint top in the country and no less than nine major subject areas scored above the national average for student satisfaction.

The consequence of this success is that the University can look forward with great excitement to yet more students and more new buildings in the future. Indeed, in the last 12 months the University has acquired five new sites adjacent to the campus for further developments and 2007 will see completion of our next two buildings, namely the Institute of Digital Innovation and the Centre for Creative Technologies - buildings designed to further enhance the University's standing and achievement in the field of digital technology and media. These two new developments will mean that the University can boast nine new buildings and 11 major building refurbishments within the last decade, moving us to a position where most of our academic activity is now taking place in well-resourced, up-to-date facilities on a large and continually expanding modern university campus.

Although Middlesbrough has hosted the University, and its predecessors, for over 75 years it has only been in the last few that the town has started to fully recognise the value and contribution of the University, and to view Middlesbrough as a true university town.

This recognition has proved to be particularly timely as the town has begun to accelerate efforts to re-energise itself in response to a largely outdated, and increasingly undeserved, image. Indeed, the new investment that is currently being made in the town is simply fantastic and is a tribute to the aspirations and ambition of our community and civic leaders.

The pace of change in recent years in both the University and the town has been substantial and reflects the way in which the University and Middlesbrough Council work together for the benefit of everyone involved with the town and the wider Tees Valley. And so can I once again encourage you to take the time to come and visit the University and see for yourself how the place has moved on - a visit that I am sure will fill you with some pride as you reflect on your time with us. Contact us via our Alumni Office and we will be happy to make arrangements to show you around.

All the very best to you all.

Professor Graham Henderson
Vice-Chancellor

PRIZE DRAW WIN £££S

We need your up-to-date details to ensure accurate and speedy communication with you.

Please complete and return the survey on the reverse of the carrier slip accompanying this issue.

As a thank you, all completed surveys returned by 1 April 2007 will go into our prize draw to win £££s.

UNIVERSITY NEWS

campus developments

In May last year, work began on two new campus developments. These ultra modern buildings will make the University a premier location for digital media and technology and are due for completion in autumn 2007.

The £12m four-storey Institute of Digital Innovation will be the nerve centre of Teesside's ambitious DigitalCity project. It will include specialist digital sound studios and screening rooms as well as accommodation for digital technology companies and commercial space for University research and development teams and DigitalCity fellows.

The DigitalCity project aims to create up to 110 new jobs and 45 new companies within three years.

The £10m Centre for Creative Technologies will provide studio space for teaching and learning in digital design and allow computing, media and design students to work together in a first class environment. Facilities will include broadcast news studios, a newsroom and suites for 2D and 3D animation and for digital music creation.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Graham Henderson said, "These two buildings will make Teesside a premier location for both studying digital media and technology and for creating new digital businesses. They will put Teesside on the global map in the digital age."

For more information about DigitalCity contact Michelle Tanner, Project Officer at michelle@thedigitalcity.org or visit www.thedigitalcity.org



Artist's impression of the new Institute of Digital Innovation



Artist's impression of the new Centre for Creative Technologies

supporting business success

Your relationship with Teesside needn't end on graduation. In addition to the activities of the Alumni Association, we also offer a wealth of support for our graduates through the Department of Academic Enterprise.

Graduate Business Support Programme

If you have an idea for a business, we can help you get it off the ground. We offer business planning, expert advice on anything from financing to intellectual property rights, plus signposting to regional and national funding opportunities. We can put you in touch with independent professional expertise and even provide a range of subsidised business premises on the campus. The programme includes coaching, mentoring and training in business start-up.

Graduate Employment

We have a number of schemes to help companies recruit the right graduates and to help graduates find the right job. From Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, bringing businesses and high-flying graduates together, through to graduate placement and recruitment programmes, we can help make a real difference to your business.

Partnership and Consultancy

If you need business advice, our experienced staff can undertake consultancy projects of any size and can offer expertise in a wide range of disciplines. You can also access the skills, expertise and resources available in all the North East universities through Knowledge House.

Centre for Enterprise

The Centre for Enterprise offers on-campus conference and meeting facilities. All meeting rooms are fully equipped with multimedia projection equipment and internet links and the venue is based on the ground floor for easy access. The Centre has its own barrier-controlled car park and catering is also available.

To find out more about any of the above services please call 01642 384577 or email cfe@tees.ac.uk.



Centre for Enterprise

childhood & maternal obesity

The University's Centre for Food, Physical Activity and Obesity is running a number of innovative projects aimed at tackling the different causes of obesity and its devastating consequences.



Two of the studies focus on children's lifestyle and eating habits. Childhood obesity can lead to a host of metabolic complications previously only seen in adults, including insulin resistance (a precursor to type 2 diabetes), high blood pressure and elevated cholesterol. In the *peas@tees* project, researchers are using computers to measure the physical activity and eating patterns of around 250 nine and ten-year olds from schools across Middlesbrough in an attempt to measure their attitudes to food, nutrition and exercise. In the second project, known as *TeesCAKE*, researchers have worked with over 80 nine and ten year old children trying to make small changes in their diet and physical activity levels.

The Centre is also turning its attention to the unborn child. Pregnant women who are overweight put their health and the health of their child at risk. They also put an additional strain on to the health service. Head of the Centre, Professor Carolyn Summerbell said, "We are not trying to blame or stigmatise obese pregnant mothers and we would certainly not recommend that these mums-to-be go on crash diets. But our initial findings show reasons for concern and there is a lack of weight management guidance and support available."

For further details visit www.tees.ac.uk/health&socialcare and click on Research Institute.

Honorary & Professorial Public Lecture Series

If you are still living or working in the local area then why not pop along to one of this year's free public lectures. They are held in the Centuria Building on the University campus on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm - 7.45pm. Light refreshments are available from 6.00pm. For more details contact the Alumni Office.

Geoffrey Muirhead CBE

Aviation - a people business

Wednesday 21 February 2007



Honorary graduate Geoffrey Muirhead CBE is Chief Executive of the Manchester Airports Group, owners of Manchester, Nottingham, East Midlands, Humberside and

Bournemouth airports. Aviation is a growing, global business with a huge variety of career choices, from corporate financiers and ecologists to retailers and town planners. His lecture will discuss the changing nature of the industry.

Professor Sir Liam Donaldson

Safety in healthcare: today's challenge

Wednesday 14 March 2007

Professor Sir Liam Donaldson is Chief Medical Officer and an honorary graduate of Teesside. His lecture will examine issues in ensuring the safety of patient care and will

provide an overview of the latest thinking on approaches to safety and the challenges that will face NHS leaders over the coming years.



Professor Zulf Ali

When little is big

Wednesday 9 May 2007



Professor Zulfiqur Ali and his colleagues at the University work on the development of miniaturised chip devices. His lecture will describe

how the processes that are used in the semiconductor industry are now being used to create devices that have vanishingly small features. Such devices will revolutionise industrial, medical and consumer products in the future.

Professor Janet Shucksmith

Mad, bad and dangerous to know?

Issues in recognising and responding to young people's mental health problems and concerns

Wednesday 6 June 2007

Professor Shucksmith is a social scientist whose work focuses on health issues, in particular, the health and well-being of young people. Her lecture will look at what has been seen as an alarming increase in mental health problems in the child and adolescent population.



HE delivery on Darlington doorsteps

Darlington College has recently relocated from its Cleveland Avenue campus to a new £34.5m showpiece development on Haughton Road. The new-build includes a higher education suite dedicated to bringing the University of Teesside to the people of Darlington.



Darlington College's Principal and Chief Executive, Sarah Robinson, is excited about the move to bring further and higher education closer together: "The higher education centre will create the sort of environment you would expect to find in a university. Adults and post-18 students need a different environment from our younger students. All our professional management courses will be taught in this area. I know an awful lot of people who do not aspire to go to university, so why not try to break down their resistance by bringing the University to them?"

Lynn Parker, Director of Educational Partnerships at the University, agrees: "What Darlington gives us is a very sympathetic environment to encourage people with busy lives to gain a valuable qualification on their doorstep. Many students are studying part-time and are mature with jobs and families. It makes a lot of sense for them to be able to do their day release or evening courses on their doorstep rather than make a 40-mile round trip to Middlesbrough."

If you are interested in finding out about higher education courses available at Darlington College please call 01325 503134 or email enquire@darlington.ac.uk.

commonwealth challenge

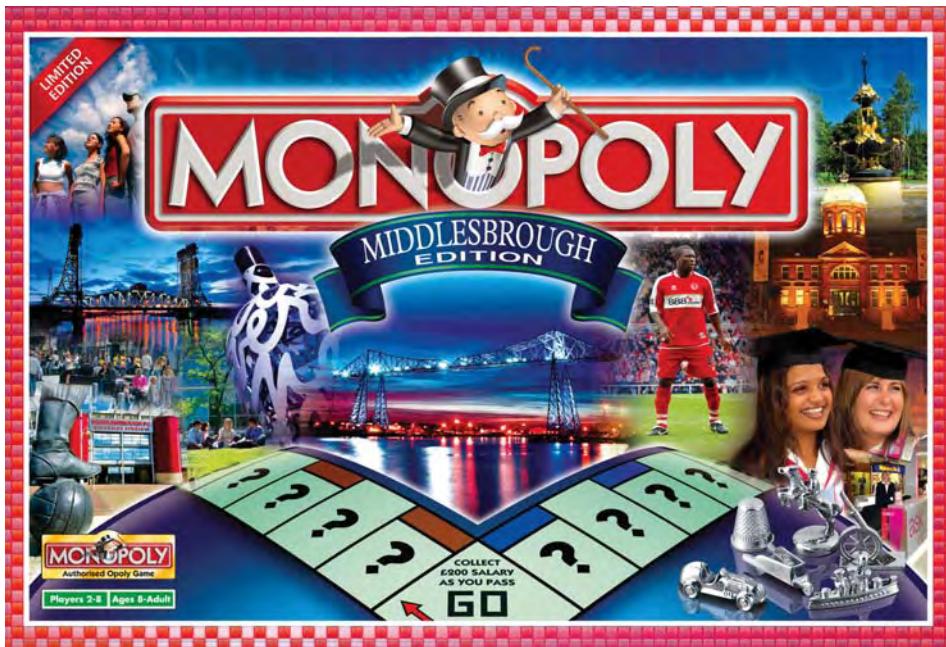
A student and a lecturer from Teesside took part in the Commonwealth Games in Australia last March.

Senior Lecturer in Physiotherapy, Julie Sparrow, worked in her professional capacity as a physiotherapist. As well as running the holding camp where athletes prepared for the games she also supported competitors throughout the event. Julie's experience at previous Commonwealth and Olympic Games stood her in good stead to assist the British team. Julie said, "I have been involved in international sports since 1988 and it is always exciting."

Johanna Jackson is studying for a BSc (Hons) Creative Digital Media. She competed in the 20km race walking event - her first major competition. She said, "The Games were an amazing experience. I definitely want to be there again in four years time." Johanna received financial support from the University's Elite Athlete Fund.



Monopoly Middlesbrough



A Monopoly Middlesbrough edition is now available. The game reflects the essence of the town and all the well-known landmarks are represented, including the University, the Football Club, the Transporter Bridge, the Bottle of Notes and the Captain Cook statue. These replace the traditional London streets such as Mayfair, Oxford Street and Old Kent Road. The game itself is identical in spirit, shape and colour to the original monopoly - the only difference is the local flavour!

The game's creator Mark Marriott said, "We are absolutely delighted the University is on board. It was one of the very first landmarks we considered. In a public vote on who should appear, the University came out loud and clear."

The Monopoly Middlesbrough Edition is available from the University by completing the merchandise order form at the back of this magazine or via our website.

But one lucky graduate can receive a free edition. Simply send us your name, address and email address on a postcard marked 'Alumni Monopoly Competition' and answer the following question: How much do you receive for passing go? Postcards should be sent to the Alumni Association address given at the front of this magazine.

STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS

The University's Food Technology Centre has won a special award for its success in bridging the gap between industry and academia in North East England. The Centre was set up with the support of the University of Teesside, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund. By recruiting industry specialists to work within the University to support food and drink companies in the region, the Centre has been able to help businesses to develop new products and processes and train their staff. The Centre also gives advice on legislation, product development and food hygiene. For more information contact Dr Leo Guevara on 01642 384625 or email.v.guevara@tees.ac.uk.



Sian Fergusson, Food Technologist; Rebecca Clements, Administrator and Dr Leo Guevara, Head of the Food Technology Centre.

A number of new courses are now available at Teesside including MSc Advanced Clinical Practice with specialist pathways, BSc (Hons) Mobile and Pervasive Computing, BA (Hons) Graphic Design (Multimedia and Web Publishing), BA (Hons) Product Design (Industrial and Transportation), Doctorate in Health Psychology (taught) and BSc (Hons) Psychology and Education Studies.

Our Student Services Department has received the prestigious Matrix accreditation - the Department for Education and Skills' quality standard for information, advice and guidance providers. Student Services encompasses accommodation, careers and finance advice, health, chaplaincy, counselling, and sport and recreation. Garry Toulouse, Director of Student Services, said, "The whole department worked hard to meet the standards laid out by Matrix. Earning the accreditation is proof that our service meets, if not exceeds, the needs and expectations of our students."

Radiography students at Teesside are the first in the world to train using a virtual radiography room. Students are able to work in a computer-assisted learning environment that accurately and safely simulates the conditions of an x-ray room. The software was developed over several years by students in the School of Computing.



Last summer's Design Degree Show, which showcased the work of final year design and media students, was extra special. Teesside graduate Marek Reichman, BA (Hons) Industrial Design, 1989 - now Design Director for Aston Martin - returned to the University to officially open the show and talk to students. Marek has worked on some of the world's most prestigious cars. More recently he designed James Bond's Aston Martin for the movie *Casino Royale*. During his visit, Marek presented the first Marek Reichman prize for the best overall design student to Keith Bradley, BA (Hons) Industrial Design, 2006. Marek said, "This is only my second time back in Middlesbrough since graduating 17 years ago. My design degree has been the foundation for my career and a significant influence in my subsequent success." Marek was awarded an honorary degree by the University in November.

A surgical care degree at the University of Teesside is the first in the UK to receive accreditation from the prestigious Royal College of Surgeons of England. The BSc (Hons) Surgical Care Practitioner Care is a two year part-time degree aimed at nurses and allied health professionals.

Representatives from the Royal College of Surgeons visited the University and The James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough as part of the accreditation process. They were extremely impressed with both students' work and the facilities available.



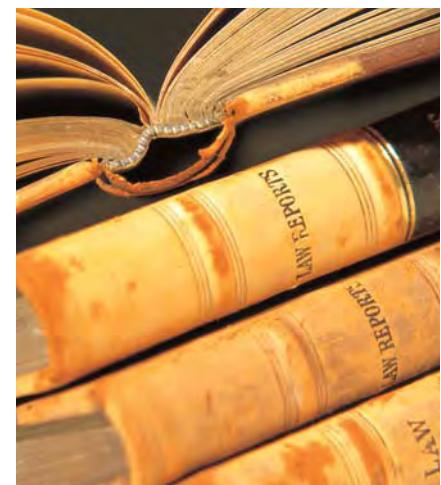
Marek Reichman presents Keith Bradley, BA (Hons) Industrial Design, with the award for best design student 2006

ALUMNI INSPIRE FUTURE LEGAL EAGLES

Andrew Scott, LLB (Hons) Law, 2001 and Ian Pennock, LLB (Hons) Law, 2000 now work as barristers in the same chambers in Leeds. The pair decided they wanted to give something back to their Alma Mater so they both decided to sponsor awards in their name.

Andrew said, "Ian and I are very pleased to sponsor prizes for the next generation of Teesside law graduates. The University gave us the opportunity we never had earlier in our lives. We both came to Teesside as mature students. I was a nurse and Ian was a newsagent. We are delighted to be able to support and inspire graduates in this way."

The 2006 winners were Kate Thirkell, who was awarded the Andrew Scott prize for Criminal Law, and Sara Robson, who won the Ian Pennock prize for Excellent Achievement in the Law of Evidence.



GRADUATION 2006

Teesside's top for widening participation



The University is once again one of the top universities in the country for widening participation according to performance indicators published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency.

The Higher Education Performance Indicators were introduced to track how well universities are doing in attracting students from poorer neighbourhoods. The latest figures relate to 2004/05 and show that Teesside's student intake had:

- 98.3% of young full-time undergraduates from state schools or colleges (national average 87.2%)
- 43.4% of young full-time undergraduates from socio-economic groups 4 to 7 (national average 28.7%)
- 29% of young full-time undergraduates from neighbourhoods with traditionally low participation (national average 14.4%)
- 27.1% of mature full-time undergraduates with no previous HE experience and from low participation neighbourhoods (national average 16.2%)

Over 4,500 awards were presented at the 2006 Academic Awards ceremonies held at Middlesbrough Town Hall in November; the culmination of years of hard work by both students and staff. There were ten individual ceremonies, with graduates receiving their awards in front of family, friends and VIP guests. We would like to pass on our congratulations to everyone who received an award - well done!

As usual, during the final ceremony, honorary degrees were awarded to six leading figures in recognition of outstanding achievement in their field, their contribution to the region or society at large, or their service to the University.



Richard Griffiths, Doctor of Letters. Richard was born in Thornaby and studied drama at Stockton & Billingham College. His distinguished stage, screen and television roles include Uncle Monty in *Withnail and I* and Uncle Vernon Dursley in the Harry Potter films. His television series include *Pie in the Sky* and the critically acclaimed version of *Bleak House*. At the time of going to print Richard was nominated for an award by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts for his portrayal of Mr Hector in the film adaptation of the Alan Bennett play, *The History Boys*. Richard has already won a clutch of awards for his performance in the stage version. We're confident his success will continue at the BAFTA ceremony which will be held in London on Sunday 11 February.



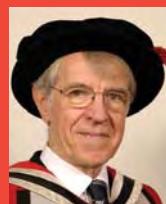
Steve McLaren, Doctor of Professional Studies. Steve was Manager of Middlesbrough Football Club from 2001-2006, before leaving in June 2006 to become Head Coach of the England Football Team. Under his management, Middlesbrough FC won the Carling Cup and qualified for Europe twice, reaching the UEFA Cup Final last season.



Marek Reichman, Master of Science. Marek Reichman graduated from Teesside Polytechnic in 1989 with a BA (Hons) Industrial Design. Marek began his career with Rover Group and then became Senior Designer at BMW Designworks/USA. In 2005, Marek became Director of Design for Aston Martin in the UK. He designed James Bond's car, the DBS, for the new Bond film, *Casino Royale*. Marek also met actor Daniel Craig, the new Bond, during location filming in Prague.



Moira Britton OBE, Doctor of Professional Studies. Moira was Chief Executive of the Tees and North Yorkshire NHS Trust from 1999 to 2006. She was awarded the OBE in 2003 and served as Chair of the County Durham and Tees Valley Workforce Development Confederation. She also served as a member of the Executive Group of the National Mental Health Partnership and in 2006 won the Kate Smythe 'Making a Difference' Award by the Partnership.



Professor Sir Alan Wilson, Doctor of Laws. Sir Alan was educated in Darlington and is now the Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Before this, he was the Director General of Higher Education, the Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University and Assistant Director of the Centre for Environmental Studies. He is a passionate believer in widening participation.



John Hackney, Doctor of Laws. John Hackney was Chair of the University's Board of Governors for ten years. Before this role, he served as a University Governor for many years. In addition, he was Chief Executive of the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority and Chair of the Post Office Users' National Council.

The University would like to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals and organisations who sponsor/donate prizes at the Academic Awards ceremonies.

If you would like more information about sponsoring a prize please contact the Vice-Chancellor's Office on 01642 342002 or email m.white@tees.ac.uk.

LEADING THE WAY

Top class hospitality

Garin Davies has had an exciting career in hospitality management since leaving Teesside in 1990 with a BA (Hons) in Business Studies.

He has held various posts with both the Holiday Inn and Crowne Plaza Hotel chains and more recently was appointed to the role of General Manager (Development) for Macdonald Hotels. In his current position he was responsible for a new hotel in Sheffield, from design and build to operation.

The £20m Macdonald St Paul's Hotel houses two restaurants and a Vital City Spa and Leisure Club.

Garin said, "My role constantly evolved as we took the hotel from the drawing board to a well-operated and profitable business. I was able to get involved with a range of disciplines. In the future, I hope to continue building hotels - I already have a project in Manchester, which is due to open in August. The most important thing is that you enjoy the work you do. If you are successful and well paid that is a bonus."

It was his placement whilst studying at Teesside that first kindled Garin's interest in the hotel industry. He worked at a

Sheffield hotel and found this type of management role both challenging and interesting.



Marketing Manager is business leader of tomorrow

Laura Bishop, MSc Management, 2003 now works as Marketing Manager at Country Valley Foods in Darlington. She was initially employed through a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP). KTPs are part-funded by the Department of Trade and Industry and run by the University.

In March last year, Laura won the national title 'Business Leader of Tomorrow' and the prize included a trip to Vancouver, Canada. She said, "Canada was a fantastic opportunity to meet other KTP Associates along with our Canadian counterparts. I learnt more about global business issues and the importance of knowledge transfer across a diverse range of projects."

In addition to her full-time role Laura also teaches the Introduction to Marketing course at Teesside Business School. She said, "I really enjoy the opportunity to give something back to the University that has given me so much. I think students benefit from having someone with current practical experience of marketing."

In the future Laura will continue to work at Country Valley Foods in a permanent position, but first she is taking a few months off to travel around Australia.

The Knowledge Transfer Partnerships programme offers graduates the opportunity to study for a higher qualification whilst working full-time in a placement organisation and earning a competitive salary.

For more information see www.ktponline.org.uk/graduates or contact Emma Detchon, KTP Officer on 01642 384407 or email ktp@tees.ac.uk.



Energetic Ertugrul

Ertugrul Partal came to Teesside as a mature student and studied BEng (Hons) Electrical Engineering, graduating in 1998. He now works for EDF Energy as a Network Planning Manager.

EDF is one of the largest power distribution companies in the UK and Ertugrul is responsible for technical advice and network studies from 11Kv to 132Kv voltage levels.

He said, "I really enjoy my role. It is challenging and very demanding as it requires detailed work on design stages for power distribution networks. I would like to continue in this role for a number of years and might expand into nuclear power generation in the future."



DAMARIS MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Drugs Counsellor and Health Worker Damaris Perry graduated in 1997 with a BSc (Hons) in Psychology. She feels that much of the work she carries out with clients is underpinned by the different psychological approaches she learnt on her degree programme.

Damaris now works for the Albert Centre in Middlesbrough providing care-planned counselling for clients with substance misuse problems. She often deals with issues such as depression, anxiety, abuse, loss and other trauma. She said, "The work is emotionally draining but also very rewarding, particularly when clients manage to remain drug free and make changes to their lives."

Damaris hopes to further her interest in psychology and mental health problems by undertaking an integrative psychotherapy course, which will in turn benefit her clients.



Wedding belles

Enterprising graduates Lucy Owens, BA (Hons) English, 2000 and her sister Sophie Owens, BA (Hons) Photography, 2004 recently set up their own business So Photographic, based in Middlesbrough.

The majority of their business is wedding photography, with a difference. Lucy said, "We had talked to a lot of friends and noticed that there was a gap in the market for a wedding photography service that was specifically tailored to individual needs. For example, many brides nowadays prefer low-key candid photographs rather than the traditional family group shots. Sophie is an experienced photographer and she is able to create some fantastic shots without encroaching on the

couple's day. We are always up for a new challenge and happy to talk to the bride and groom about their exact requirements."

Sophie looks after the photography side whilst sister Lucy uses her business experience to look after the company's marketing, finances and booking system. Lucy said, "It is an exciting venture and we are building up the business steadily. We hope to establish a long-term relationship with our customers - beyond the wedding day clients often wish to record other family occasions or capture that special moment with a simple portrait."

The overall aim of the business is to deliver original photographs of the highest quality, which will be treasured for years to come.



Healthy ambition



When Luke Walker, BSc (Hons) Sports Studies, 2002 graduated he knew that some day he wanted to own his own health and rehabilitation studio. His determination and hard work has certainly paid off. Last year, Luke became the proud owner of Bawtry Health & Fitness Studio in Doncaster.

On graduating, he secured a job as a part-time fitness instructor at Rotherham Council and went on from there to work as a remedial massage therapist for Rotherham United Football Club. Luke still finds time to work for Rotherham United on match days, a role that he loves.

His fitness studio offers 33 stations including a wide range of cardio vascular and resistance equipment, as well as changing facilities and saunas. The studio is perfectly set in an old Methodist chapel, complete with balcony and original wooden beams. Luke also offers injury rehabilitation clinics. He said, "My degree gave me an insight into all aspects of sports studies and has been invaluable to my career. Over the next few years I aim to finish off my diploma with the Society of Sports Therapists and build the health club up to a very high standard that the people of Bawtry and the surrounding area can be proud of."

Worldwide IT support

Nick Bloomfield has had an interesting career in IT since leaving Teesside in 1984 with an MSc in Information Technology. He held a number of key roles at a variety of organisations including Scicon (part of the BP Group) before securing his present role at EDS (Electronic Data Systems), one of the world's leading IT service companies.



Nick is a Business Consultant at EDS looking after Europe, Africa and the Middle East. He is a specialist in quality and environmental management, responsible for advising teams from around the world and ensuring that business management plans are put into operation. He said, "I particularly enjoy the opportunities my role gives me to liaise with different people within the organisation, and the travel, especially around Europe. In the last couple of years I have visited France, Spain, Germany, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates."

It's a while since Nick visited Middlesbrough, however, he has fond memories of his time at Teesside and made many friends that he is still in contact with over twenty years on.

Call centre to corporate video

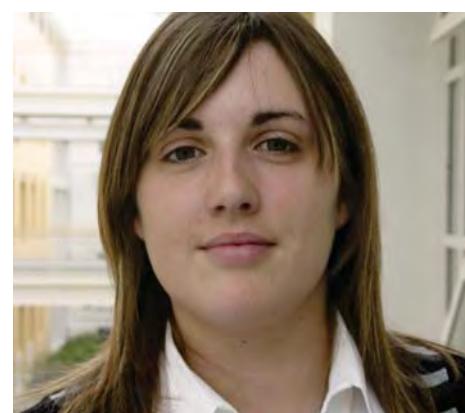
BA (Hons) Television Production Professional Practice graduate Jemma Harris left Teesside in 2005 and went straight to work at the local Barclaycard call centre. Her potential was soon spotted and she was transferred into the internal communications area where she used her skills to make training videos.

Since then, her flair and hard work has been further acknowledged and Jemma has been promoted to Digital Media Specialist for Barclaycard in both the UK and internationally. She commissions corporate videos and plans strategies for the use of new technology. Jemma said, "The job is fantastic. It includes everything from camera right up to editing. I am so happy to have secured a position that uses all the skills I learnt on my degree programme."

Jemma is also working on strategies to build a new TV channel and develop communication

technologies for the Barclays Group. She said, "I work between Northampton and Canary Wharf in London. It is an excellent position as I am now working with a variety of production companies in London and getting to meet a few celebrities on my travels."

Jemma hopes that over the next couple of years her role will become more global. She loves her job, particularly the exciting people she gets to meet every day and being involved in the creation of a new phase of communications for the company.



Natasha joins the navy

Royal Navy Air Engineering Technician Natasha Ferrary started her career at Teesside. She graduated in 2001 with an Extended Foundation Degree in Engineering and Science.

Natasha said, "I have always wanted to be an aeronautical engineer and I thought a good foundation qualification in engineering would be a solid base before joining the armed forces. Being in the navy is a great experience - in addition to my role I have also joined the voluntary band."



Natasha is one of a small number of female air engineering technicians. Over the next few years she hopes to become a fully qualified engineer on the new Merlin helicopter and gain promotion to leading hand. Natasha also hopes to travel. Countries likely to be included on her list of destinations are Iraq and Afghanistan. She is currently based at Gosport, Hampshire.

Top tuition

Joanne Benford, Postgraduate Certificate in Design, 2004 believes her qualification has given her the confidence to pursue her dream career.

Joanne now teaches creative writing for the Open University and runs her own tuition business teaching English, piano, singing and creative writing. She said, "The best thing is being able to help my students achieve their goals, doing things they thought were impossible."

She also continues to work as a freelance writer and illustrator and now has eight books in print. In the future, she hopes to combine writing with her art and design experience even further and move into the creation of handmade artist's books to be displayed and sold in galleries.



Graduate profiles - can you help?

We'd like to celebrate the success of our alumni by featuring graduate profiles in our prospectuses and other promotional literature. If you would like to provide a profile, please contact the Alumni Office on 01642 384255 or email alumni.office@tees.ac.uk.

SUPPORTING WOMEN

Now a Development Officer for the Women's Support Network, Rukhsana Rauf left Teesside in 2004 with a BSc Combined Studies in Health.



She feels her degree has given her a good grounding to look holistically at the needs of women and put in place strategies to safeguard their health and well-being. Rukhsana's role offers emotional and practical support to women who have suffered abuse or domestic violence. At times the role can be extremely stressful and requires a great deal of stamina, however, seeing women move on and make personal achievements both inspires and motivates Rukhsana.

She also runs a group for women who are refugees or from the black minority ethnic community. The group, called 'Culture Club', gives women the opportunity to make new friends and explore issues such as empowerment. It has been a great success, with a number of women attending regularly. As a spin-off, Rukhsana has set up a social group that organises trips and has undertaken photography and poetry projects - the poetry group even performed at last year's Middlesbrough Mela.

Rukhsana said, "I am really enjoying my current role and in the future I would like to run more women's groups, activities and events."

Lauren's in the scrum



Lauren Woolley, BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy, graduated in 2005 and immediately secured positions as a chartered physiotherapist at Huddersfield & Calderdale NHS Trust and for a rugby league team.

In her NHS role Lauren works in four-month rotations split between inpatients and outpatients. She said, "At the minute, I am still not sure what specialised area I want to work in, so I'm just enjoying something different every four months. So far, I have completed placements in the areas of musculoskeletal and medical elderly and am currently working in the respiratory area."

In her spare time Lauren is on hand at Castleford Tigers Rugby League Club to support their academy players. She said, "I love

working for the club. My role involves looking after the Under 18s, developing my pitch side skills and dealing with post-injury rehabilitation. I have learnt so much from the other physiotherapists in the team and participated in the Rugby Football League's medical management course for physiotherapists. In the future, I would like to develop my skills both for the NHS and for Rugby League. There is still so much to learn but one day I would like to head a team of physiotherapists within a sports-related setting."

GRADUATES AROUND THE GLOBE

CORFU CONNECTION

Janet Darbey emigrated to Greece after graduating from Teesside with a BA (Hons) English in 1994, and hasn't stopped since. Having spent the first five years working as a teacher of English as a foreign language at Miranda Zoula School of Languages, Corfu, she decided on a complete change of career and set up a rock and roll cabaret show with her husband, John, which they still perform during the tourist season.



Most of Janet's time is now spent working as a freelance travel writer. She writes regularly for international travel magazines and creates online content for travel and tourism

websites worldwide. She also has three books going to print. Two are about buying real estate in Greece and the third is a fantasy novel called *The Sea Dragons of Corfu*.

Janet says, "The only low about the writing career is that it can take so long for publishers to pay my invoices. Sometimes they take as long as a year to send me the cheque! The high is definitely seeing my work in print. Most of my work is for American publishers and websites."

Janet loves life on Corfu. She said, "The best things about living here in Greece are the laid back lifestyle and the endless peace and quiet during the winter months. I can sit for hours on the terrace looking at fabulous views and dreaming up my next book."

MASTERING MUNICH

When Peter Freudenberger left Teesside with an MSc in Information Technology in 2005 he returned to Germany and gained a position at Siemens AG in Nuremberg as a Software Developer.

He believes his excellent education at Teesside gave him a flying start in his career. He is currently part of the postal automation and parcel service and he loves the teamwork and friendly atmosphere.

He wanted to study for a master's in the UK and the School of Computing's excellent reputation persuaded him to come to Teesside. Peter said, "The course has enhanced my career prospects significantly. It also impresses potential employers that I gained my MSc in the UK and that I have excellent English skills."

In the future, he wants to broaden his knowledge and to take more responsibility. He said, "As Siemens AG is a worldwide company, there are lots of opportunities for career development."



PSARRAS IS PRESIDENT

Nikolaos Psarras, BEng (Hons) Chemical Engineering, 1998 is now president of his own engineering company in Athens.



After graduating, Nikolaos went on to further study in the UK before returning home to Greece. He got a job in the chocolate manufacturing industry and then went on to work in the USA on projects related to process energy saving.

Nikolaos returned to Greece and established his own company, AID Engineering based in Athens. The company works mainly in the fields of heat recovery, process integration, waste water treatment, environmental engineering and geothermal applications. Nikolaos spends much of his time travelling in the USA and Europe. He enjoys working with people of different cultures and having the opportunity to sightsee.

He said, "I really enjoy the demands of being president of my own company. We are only a small operation but the business continues to develop. We are opening another department in Patrai, Greece, where we are working on heat recovery projects for hotels and restaurants. Future goals include developing the business all over Greece."

Nikolaos says that his current role requires not only his engineering ability but also managerial and marketing knowledge and he believes that Teesside equipped him with academic knowledge, cultural awareness and the skills to run his organisation effectively.

Dawn down under

Dawn Simpson, BA (Hons) Business Administration went straight to Australia after graduating in 1996. Initially, she signed up with a secretarial agency and worked for a number of different organisations including the Royal Botanical Gardens in Sydney.

Following on from this, Dawn took a temporary assignment for the New South Wales Department of Health and has since secured a permanent position with them as a Training Development Officer. She is responsible for running a postgraduate-level work-based training programme in public health. She loves working with the trainees and finds her role very rewarding, despite the long hours.



Dawn, far right, exploring Australia with friends

She said, "I love living in Australia. My favourite thing is the weather (of course) as well as the laid back lifestyle and rich cultural diversity. In the future, I hope to undertake some postgraduate study and start a family."



LIVING IN LIBYA

Project Co-ordinator Hisham Safar graduated from Teesside in 2003 with an MSc in Advanced Manufacturing Systems. He returned to Libya where he now works for Techint Group as Project Co-ordinator and Site Manager.



Hisham's job involves supervising logistic work and managing materials co-ordination. He also gets involved with translation and public relations activities. Hisham teaches part-time at the local college, something which he is really enjoying.

He wanted to study in the UK because of the reputation of the British education system, particularly in the field of engineering.

**Do you live overseas?
Would you like to share your
story? We would love to hear all
about you - email us at
alumni.office@tees.ac.uk.**

Athens auditor

Ioannis (Yannis) Nikolaou graduated from Teesside with an LLB (Hons) Law in 1997. He went straight on to study for his master's before accepting a post at Ernst & Young in Greece. He then decided to gain further qualifications and studied for an MBA in the USA.

On qualifying, Yannis took up the post of Senior Consultant for Business Risk Services (Internal Audit Outsourcing) for Ernst & Young Lake Michigan Area. In 2005, he transferred back to the Athens office in the same role.

Yannis recently joined Coca Cola in Athens as an Internal Auditor and is really enjoying this new challenge. He said, "Studying at Teesside was a

unique experience and I would recommend it to anyone. The lecturers were warm and patient and I certainly appreciated all their guidance."



The old port of Fira on Yannis' favourite island, Santorini

Ina recruits the best

BA (Hons) Human Resource Management graduate Ina T Pettersen left Teesside in 2003. Since then, she has worked in a number of different roles both in Norway and in the UK and is currently employed as a Management Consultant at Mercuri Urval in Oslo, Norway.

Ina said, "I work in a consultancy environment where the focus is on changing behaviour in organisations through the recruitment and selection of the right people. It's a fantastic job that constantly challenges me and gives me the opportunity to learn something new every day."

She feels her UK education and work experience has given her an insight into global issues and the international differences in working culture. Ina said, "Working in an international organisation with a local presence in more than 20 countries and a large range of international clients, I have a clear understanding of the challenges of the global marketplace."



International recruitment 2007

The University will soon be starting its international recruitment visits for 2007. We'd like to thank those of you who came along last year and invite those living abroad to come along and meet the team when they are in your country this year. For exact dates, times and venues please call the Centre for International Development on +44 (0) 1642 384281 or email international.office@tees.ac.uk.

March	Penang and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Cologne, Germany
March/April	Athens and Thessaloniki, Greece and Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar
April	Oman
June	Isle of Man
September	Dublin, Ireland and Berlin, Germany
October	Cork, Ireland and Munich, Germany
November	Athens, Greece and Germany
January	Oslo, Norway
February	China, India

Correct at time of publication, subject to changes and additions.

If you would like us to organise a reunion event or set up a sub-group network of Teesside graduates in your city then please contact the Alumni Office.

ALUMNI NEWS

Time travel through the attic for Edgar

When Edgar Readman, graduate of the Senior Motor Engineering programme, 1950 read in his local newspaper that the University of Teesside was celebrating its 75th anniversary since the opening of its predecessor Constantine College, it jogged his memory and led to a trip into the attic.

Edgar's mother, Violet, had given him some memorabilia passed down to her by her father Charles Ruff. Charles worked in Middlesbrough in the 1930s and had been invited to attend the opening of Constantine College on 2 July 1930, by the then Prince of Wales Edward VIII (who later abdicated). The event was a huge occasion in Middlesbrough with thousands of people turning out to see the Prince. Charles kept his formal invitation and brochure from the event and passed them on to his daughter.

Prompted by the article, Edgar went up into the attic and retrieved his copy of the invitation and brochure then contacted the University. Very few of the invitations and brochures are still in existence so we were delighted when Edgar kindly lent us these precious documents to have reproduced for our archives.



Alumni updates & desperately seeking

1970

Kenneth Jenkin, BSc Computer Science now runs his own business in executive coaching and training. 40 years on from when he wrote his first computer program in Constantine College. He'd like to hear from his old friends at ken@kenjenkinassociates.com

1981

David W Atkinson, BSc Civil Engineering now lives in Calgary, Alberta where he works in Project Management and Industry Relations for the City of Calgary local government. Old friends are warmly encouraged to get in touch at david.w.atkinson@shaw.ca

1988

Graham Davis, BA Humanities now has a wife and two children and lives in Spain where he runs his own business importing and exporting British food. He's interested to hear from people who were on his course and old friends and can be contacted at grahamdavis@telefonica.net

1991

Rachel Teoh, BEng (Hons) Computer Engineering would love to get in touch with old friends at rachelteoh2004@yahoo.com

1995

Stephanie Green, BSc (Hons) Sociology now works for Macmillan Academy as Head of Sociology. She'd love to hear from old friends at s.green@macmillan-academy.org.uk

1998

Steve Corbett, BA Business Studies, married **Shelley Larsen** BSc Sport Science, in September 2006 in Sutton Coldfield. The wedding was attended by many Teesside graduates including Becca Fortunato (Chief Bridesmaid), James Doyle, Nick Langford and Carolyn Langford, Dipesh Patel and Jamie Hearse. The couple embarked on a three week honeymoon in New Zealand where they really got into the adventurous spirit of the country by braving a tandem bungee jump!



Gareth Evans, BSc Media Technology, works for the HSBC Bank as a Project Manager. If you would like to get in touch, email thechiefjedi@ntlworld.com.

2000

Michelle Carey (now Dignam), BSc (Hons) Applied Science and Forensic Measurement married **Ian Dignam**, BSc Business Information Studies, 1997 in September. Michelle is now a DNA Team Leader for The Forensic Science Service and would love to hear from old friends at indian_summer@hotmail.com



Luke Sullivan, BSc Psychology and Criminology now works as an Assistant Psychologist for South London and Maudsley NHS Trust. Old friends can contact him at ifdolphinsweremonkeys@hotmail.com

2001

Alison Margetts (now Brooks), BSc (Hons) Sociology married **Thomas Brooks**, BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology, 2000 in November 2005 at Huddersfield Town Hall. Alison now works as a Higher Executive Officer for the Home Office and Thomas is a Senior Customer Service Adviser for Lambeth Council. They can be contacted by old friends at alisonjbrooks@hotmail.co.uk



2002

Lisa James (now Baker), BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology married **James Baker**, MA Creative Multimedia, 2004 in March 2006. Lisa now works for Northumberland Care Trust and James works for Pearson Digital as a Web Designer. Old friends can get in touch at lisa_teesside@hotmail.com and jammie30@hotmail.com

Alumni reunited

Our password-protected online directory - Alumni Reunited - lists many graduates' email addresses so you can get directly in touch with old friends directly. All you need to do to gain access is register via the online form. Go to our website www.tees.ac.uk/alumni and click on register online. Give us a click today!



Past versus Present Sports Tournament

Shannon Eastwood (now Hobson), BSc (Hons) Psychology married **David Hobson** BSc (Hons) Sports Studies (Coaching) in April 2006 and they are now expecting their first baby. All their old friends they met at the University of Teesside attended the wedding. Shannon now works for the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and David has been successfully running his own landscape gardening business for two years.



2005

Stephen Doran, BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise (Coaching Science) is now Head of Sports at John Scottus Secondary School.

The 15th annual Past versus Present Sports Tournament took place on Saturday 25 November. The Past teams were competing to retain the Vice-Chancellor's Cup, which they did comfortably, ending up 11 - 6 winners on the day. The Professor Derek Fraser Cup for outstanding achievement was awarded to the Past squash team for their continued support of the event. The team has attended every year since the first tournament and the award recognises their dedication. A new award was presented by the parents of Matt Hepburn, a Teesside student who passed away in September. A valued member of the rugby and American football teams, Matt, or 'Warhorse' as he was affectionately known, will be sadly missed by his fellow students and team mates. The Warhorse trophy will be awarded every year as part of the tournament. This tournament's trophy was awarded to the Present men's rugby union team.

Thank you to all who participated in the event. We are always looking for new sportspeople and are open to suggestions of sports to include. Contact us by email at alumni.office@tees.ac.uk.

Results	Past	Present	Winner
Men's Basketball 1sts	68	67	Past
Men's Basketball 2nds	62	51	Past
Women's Basketball	62	49	Past
Climbing	292	240	Past
Cricket	4	3	Past
Men's Football 1sts	1	2	Present
Men's Football 2nds	5	2	Past
Women's Football	6	1	Past
Women's Gaelic Football/Women's Rugby			Present
Men's Hockey	4	4	Draw
Women's Hockey	0	5	Present
Netball 1sts	38	37	Past
Netball 2nds	21	25	Present
Men's Rugby League	44	36	Past
Men's Rugby Union	21	22	Present
Squash	5	0	Past
Ten-pin Bowling	1587	1590	Present
Badminton	6	2	Past



Reunion round-up

Kris Jepson made use of the Alumni Association's letterbox service to organise a September reunion for graduates of BA (Hons) Media Studies, 2003.

Although no longer based in the North East, Kris held the event in Middlesbrough and took the opportunity to visit old haunts from his student days. The graduates enjoyed a great night catching up and reminiscing about their time at Teesside.

**Would you like to
organise a reunion for
your course or year?**

**Then the Alumni
Association can help.**

We can contact all your old classmates and help you to select a venue and arrange access to the campus should you require it. We can also recommend local hotel accommodation.

Chris Ewart organised a reunion in Middlesbrough for his Business Studies classmates in October. There were also graduates from Chemical Engineering and Physiotherapy making up the party. Rather unusually, they were celebrating the 20th anniversary of the year they started their studies at Teesside, 1986.

The celebrations started in the Tavern on Linthorpe Road and continued all day before ending up in the Students' Union, just as in their student days! Chris said, "There were 15 of us, which is a great turn out. Some of us hadn't seen each other in 17 years, but we all still appeared to be the same. Many were amazed at the changes to the University but equally amazed at how many familiar venues were still there, including an old favourite, Gi Gi's pizza shop, complete with the same guy serving behind the counter as in the 80s!"

Graduates travelled from all over the UK including London, Wales and Birmingham, with a



couple of people flying in from overseas to join the party. Chris said, "We were also joined by Adrian Evans, one of our former lecturers, and Colin Blair from the sport & recreation department who kept us on the straight and narrow in the early days!"

The reunion was declared such a success that the group agreed to repeat it in a few years time. Chris said, "We've decided the next event will be the 20th anniversary of our graduation as this was an enrolment party." Any excuse!

Keep an eye on the alumni website for details of this and other future reunions.

PRIZE WINNERS

We would like to say a big thank you to all who completed the survey in the last issue. The response was excellent and thousands of surveys were returned in time to be entered into the prize draw. The winner and two runners-up are named below; their prizes were Marks & Spencer vouchers.

Sharon Lamb, BSc (Hons) Psychology, 2001

Mark Gawthorpe, HNC Chemical Engineering, 1996

Sarah Pearce, BA (Hons) Business Management, 2003

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