

Autumn 2017

# GRADUATE

Celebrating our alumni

A man with short brown hair, wearing a black leather jacket over a black t-shirt and black trousers, is crouching on a paved area. He is smiling at the camera. In the background, there is a modern building with large glass windows and a wooden facade. A large orange rectangular object is visible to the left of the man.

**AMAZING NEW  
COURSES WITH  
GEORGE CLARKE**

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**FURTHER PLANS FOR  
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS**

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**MIMA CELEBRATES  
TEN YEARS**

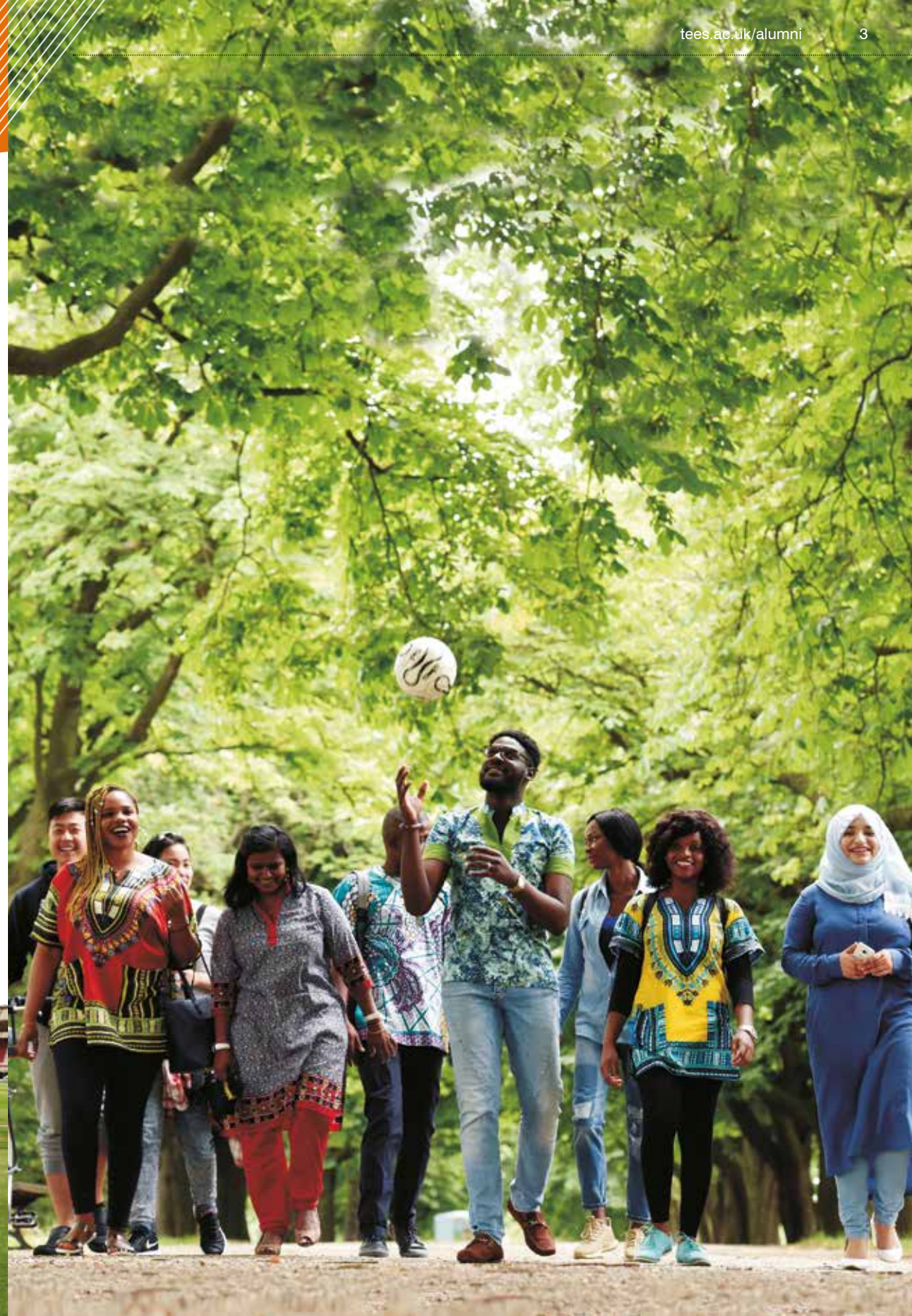
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# Welcome

## FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

It has been a fantastic year here at Teesside, with many successes celebrated.

**We are pleased to note that our achievements are being recognised in independent guides and by a number of highly-acclaimed awards across a range of disciplines. We are the top North-East higher education institution for graduates securing professional and managerial level jobs (Destination of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2015-16) and have significantly climbed *The Guardian* University Guide league table, with a number of subjects ranked in the top third of institutions.**

We continue to work closely with local industry, employers and yourselves – our supportive alumni – to produce graduates who are ready for their careers.

This has also been a year in which we've welcomed some new and returning faces on to campus. We have worked in partnership with renowned TV-architect George Clarke, who came to the University to launch a suite of ground-breaking new courses through his Ministry of Building, Innovation and Education initiative. We also welcomed Rob Smedley, Head of Vehicle Performance at the Williams F1 team, who returned to share his experiences and expertise with staff and students at our business exchange event at our Centre for Professional and Executive Development in Darlington.

Celebrations have also taken place at our gallery, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), as they commemorated their tenth anniversary with the launch of a permanent presentation of the Middlesbrough Collection – a display of art and craft from the mid-1800s to the present day.

Finally, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at events both on and off campus and encourage you to keep in touch with your University through your Alumni Association.

With best wishes

*Paul Gurney*



# Hello

## ALUMNI & FRIENDS

The campus is undergoing a transformation that will see the University evolve over the next ten years. With new buildings and planned repurposing there has never been a more exciting time to come back to visit your university.

Our reputation for excellence is, in no small part, down to the achievements of our alumni. Without you we could not have been the first modern university to win the Times Higher Education University of the Year in 2009 or awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2013.

Enjoy reading.

**With warmest wishes**

**Alumni Team**

More of you than ever are reconnecting with the University to share your experiences and time with today's students. As you get in touch we learn more about your successes and the value of a Teesside University degree.

### A chance to win up to £500

**Tell us** about your time at Teesside University.

How can we best connect with you, how we can keep in touch, and what can we do to make your relationship with the University more rewarding.

**Complete and return the enclosed survey before 1 December 2017 to enter.**

If you would prefer to complete your survey electronically please email [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk).

### CONTACT US

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**Opinions expressed in *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 Relations team.

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# CLASS OF 2016



Over 2,500 graduates celebrated their success in summer style in the annual awards ceremonies held on campus last July for the very first time.

Thousands of Teesside University graduates were welcomed back on campus to celebrate their academic achievements.

An honorary doctorate was also bestowed on John Barratt (pictured right), President and Chief Executive Officer of US-based global design consultancy TEAGUE. He received a Doctor of Business Administration.

A special programme of graduation celebrations was held later in the year at Wynyard Hall. These ceremonies included health students and students from local further education partner colleges who completed Teesside University higher education awards.





# CLASS OF 2017



Summer graduation for thousands of Teesside graduates.

Graduates from all the University's academic Schools – Health & Social Care, Arts & Media, Social Sciences, Business & Law, Science & Engineering and Computing celebrated their academic success.

Eleven ceremonies took place at the University over five days in July. Achievement was celebrated at all levels, from PhD to higher education awards in a wide variety of courses including health and social care, design, journalism, dance, social sciences, business, law, engineering and computing.

Olympic gold medallist Katherine Copeland MBE (pictured right), acclaimed actress Dame Penelope Wilton, renowned computer games writer Rhianna Pratchett and self-made businessman Nas Khan OBE were awarded honorary degrees.





## MEET THE HONORARY GRADUATES 2017



**KATHERINE COPELAND MBE**

Doctor of Civil Laws

Katherine learned to row on the River Tees at just 14. In 2011 she won a gold medal at the U23 World Championships with a world record time and was one of the first ever British women to win a rowing gold medal at an Olympic Games.

She has since broken the world record in the lightweight double scull, won several gold medals at the World Rowing Cup series, a silver medal at the World Championships in 2015, and represented Team GB at the Rio Olympics in 2016.



**RHIANNA PRATCHETT**

Doctor of Arts

Rhianna is an award-winning writer for games, comics, film, TV and short stories. Her love affair with games evolved through her work as a journalist for *PC Zone* and *The Guardian*.

She has worked on titles including *Heavenly Sword*, *Mirror's Edge*, *Overlord* and *Tomb Raider*. Rhianna's work has received awards from the Writers' Guild of America, Writers' Guild of Great Britain, DICE, SXSW and a BAFTA nomination. She is currently writing film and TV projects with the Jim Henson Company, Film4 and O3 Productions.



**NAS KHAN OBE**

Doctor of Business Administration

Nas arrived in Britain aged 14 unable to speak English, but went on to become Managing Director of one of the North East's longest established, privately-owned and independent motor retailers – Jennings Motor Group.

Nas has received many accolades including an OBE for his charity work and contribution to the economy, and has been involved in setting up his own charity and fundraising appeal, The Emaan Foundation, which has recently funded the rebuilding of an entire village in Pakistan following the devastating floods of 2010.



**DAME PENELOPE WILTON**

Doctor of Arts

Dame Penelope was born in Scarborough and has had a successful and varied career in film and television. She has also worked extensively for over 50 years in the classical theatre.

Her film career includes roles in *The BFG*, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, *Calendar Girls* and *Shaun of the Dead*. Penelope's television acting career included several major TV roles starring opposite Richard Briers in *Ever Decreasing Circles*, playing Homily in *The Borrowers* and, more recently, for her role as Isobel Crawley in the ITV drama *Downton Abbey*. In 2015 Penelope won an Olivier Award for her performance in *Taken at Midnight*.

## FROM NEWCASTLE TO NEVADA

Newcastle-born Nick McCabe, class of 1999 graphic design graduate, has pursued a dynamic career within hospitality and entertainment since graduating.

After leaving Teesside University he moved to Miami to work as an interactive designer before launching a nightlife and lifestyle website, *cooljunkie.com*. Within four years it became one of the leading nightlife websites in the US.

Nick then worked with well-known brands including Pepsi, Bacardi and T-Mobile, splitting his time between Miami and New York.

In 2007 he formed his own music marketing company, The Big Idea, having organised a series of music festivals. He later joined a Las Vegas-based entertainment and nightlife company Angel Management Group as Vice-President of Strategy before moving into the role of President and Chief Operating Officer in 2013 as part of an acquisition by Hakkasan Group.

Nick was recently promoted to Chief Executive Officer for the Hakkasan Group, leading on the global expansion plans rising from 60 to 72 venues across four continents with openings in Waikiki, Jakarta, Bali, Mexico and Saudi Arabia. Their philosophy is to build restaurants, nightlife, day-life and soon-to-open hotels, resorts and residences into world-class hospitality brands, all with a focus on service, design, innovation and experience.

Khalifa Bin Butti, Chair of Hakkasan Group describes Nick as the natural choice to lead the company, as an invaluable asset with an international vision and at the cutting edge of new technological developments.

**'I couldn't be more proud to take on the challenge of leading the company that I've been both a fan of, and then a part of, for the past six years. I look forward to continuing to work with one of the most exciting hospitality companies in the world surrounded by a capable and ambitious team.'**





## JEFF RETURNS WITH EVEN GREATER CHARITY CHALLENGE

*Gillette Soccer Saturday* host Jeff Stelling has built on his amazing fundraising efforts of 2016, setting himself an even greater challenge this year.

**Jeff's March for Men saw him complete ten marathons in ten days last year, walking from Hartlepool's Victoria Park to Wembley.**

This summer he laced up his walking boots to walk a mammoth 15 marathons in 15 days – once again raising money for Prostate Cancer UK.

Setting off from Exeter at the beginning of June and finishing in Sunderland, Jeff was joined by dozens of fans, well-wishers and supporters along the way, as well as celebrity friends and people affected by prostate cancer.

His epic 400-mile hike saw him call in at more than 40 football clubs including his boyhood club Hartlepool United.

Jeff, who received his Doctor of Professional Studies from Teesside University in 2007, said, 'It makes me feel very humble but also very gratified that I'm in a position where I can do something.

'Prostate cancer kills one man every hour in the UK, and I couldn't sit back and do nothing about it. I can put one foot in front of the next and hopefully raise awareness and funds to help men beat this diabolical disease.'

Jeff is best known for his role as the anchor for Sky Sports' *Gillette Soccer Saturday*. He started his career as a journalist at the *Hartlepool Mail* before working as a Middlesbrough Football Club reporter with BBC Tees.

He also spent time as a sports reader for Channel 4 before moving to Sky in 1992.

**If you have raised money for charity, tell us your story:**  
[alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk).

## MOTHER AND DAUGHTER SHARE ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Most parents dream of being able to watch their children graduate but not many get to graduate together. Diane Cleves' graduation was extra special as she collected her academic award at the same time as her daughter.

Diane graduated with a Certificate in Education while her daughter, Kirsti Bushby, picked up her BA (Hons) Graphic Design. 'I am incredibly proud to graduate, but even prouder that Kirsti has gained her degree,' said Diane.

'Nobody from our family has ever been to university, so to collect our qualifications together was extremely special.'

Kirsti, who has progressed onto the MA Future Design, has ambitions to start her own design company, but first she wants to make the most of the opportunities at Teesside University.

'I'm interested in corporate branding and would love to start my own business one day. The course at Teesside University has been fantastic and I've learnt so much. Progressing to a postgraduate degree will allow me to build on my current knowledge.'

Diane has had a varied career, enjoying stints as a mechanical engineer and a DJ, but has always wanted to try teaching. She is currently putting her skills into practice as a full-time engineering lecturer at Middlesbrough College.

'This is something I've always wanted to do and the course has given me so many opportunities. The whole experience has been amazing. We've both enjoyed university life so much and are thrilled to stay on to continue our journey together.'



Diane Cleves and Kirsti Bushby





Honorary graduate, Bill Murray OBE returned to the campus with his friends and colleagues from the Probus Club to take in a tour of some of the University's outstanding facilities. A group of 25 retired business people and professionals, many of whom attended Constantine College and Teesside Polytechnic, were shown around the Schools of Computing, Media & the Arts and Science, Engineering & Design.

In addition to touring the teaching and learning resources the group met with current students and enjoyed talking to them about their learning experiences at Teesside University.

'It's wonderful to see so much happening at the University. The facilities are first class and some of the things the students are doing are incredible. I trained as an engineer so loved going back to the Orion building and breathing in that workshop smell. We thoroughly enjoyed the visit and came away with a renewed and intense pride in our University.'

To arrange a reunion visit on campus email: [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk).

## Retired professionals go back in time



## Unforgettable overseas placement for Catherine

**Catherine Thompson's nursing degree provided an opportunity to complete an unforgettable work experience placement at a hospital in Kenya.**

The BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies (Learning Disabilities) graduate said, 'I was privileged that my course offered scope to undertake an international placement.'

During her trip to Kenya, Catherine also spent time working with organisations helping street children and orphans.

She was also shortlisted in the *Nursing Times* Awards in the Student Nurse of the Year (Learning Disabilities) category during the final year of her degree. 'I was honoured to be nominated. It was an amazing experience and I was humbled, surprised and very happy to have made it to the finals.'

Mum-of-three Catherine, 37, from Stockton always wanted to follow a career in nursing. 'I'm a huge advocate for meeting the physical and emotional needs of those with learning disabilities. Since completing my studies I've started a job in the same place I did my management placement, working in respite care for adults with learning disabilities.'



# A STUDY THAT SHINES THE SPOTLIGHT ON FACE BLINDNESS

Researchers at Teesside University are raising awareness of a rare developmental disorder and examining the psychological impact it has on people's lives.



The team has also set up a screening centre, believed to be the first of its kind in the region, so that people can be tested for prosopagnosia, commonly known as face blindness. Face blindness is an inability to recognise people by their faces alone and, in extreme cases, people can't even recognise their family and friends. It affects around two in every 100 people in the UK.

PhD student Laura Sexton is carrying out research into face blindness, investigating how people with developmental prosopagnosia differ to typical recognisers. She has set up the screening centre with her supervisor Dr Natalie Butcher, Senior Lecturer in Psychology in the School of Social Sciences, Humanities & Law.

Laura said, 'Prosopagnosia affects people in different ways and, due to a lack of awareness, some don't even realise it is a legitimate condition. Many find it difficult to cope which leads to anxiety, stress, embarrassment and feelings of guilt.



Dr Natalie Butcher and Laura Sexton

'Screening allows us to develop a better understanding of the condition and to rule out any other underlying issues. We then examine the severity of each case and find out people's coping mechanisms and how it affects them psychologically.'

People with face blindness often use non-facial cues to recognise others such as their hairstyle, clothes, voice or distinctive features. Many describe a fear and avoidance of social situations, such as family gatherings or meetings at work. Long-term consequences can include a dependence on others, limited employment opportunities, a loss of self-confidence and restricted social circle.



An award-winning forensic scientist has traded a career in a Californian forensic lab to pursue his research at Teesside University.

## Forensic expert lands at Teesside University



**Kent Matt Adamson is working with renowned anthropologist Professor Tim Thompson to examine early structural changes to bones in mass graves.**

Matt has also been awarded the prestigious Forensic Science Foundation Henry C Lee International Scholarship for his work reviewing digital stringing for bloodstain pattern analysis.

Matt was a contract criminologist in New York and a forensic scientist in Ventura County, California before opting to develop his academic study at Teesside.

'I really enjoyed working in the field but I wanted to further my research and Teesside is the perfect place for me. My main interest is in human rights and mass grave investigation – looking at the changes in bone structure during the early stages of decomposition. I heard about a project that Professor Thompson had planned and it was exactly what I wanted to be doing.

'It is more than just case work – you get the opportunity to make a real contribution to the wider profession.'

As well as working on his PhD, Matt also lectures part time at the University. His award from the Forensic Science Foundation is in recognition of his research around bloodstain pattern analysis using an intricate method known as digital stringing.

Matt is aiming to reduce some of the inaccuracies often associated with stringing by bringing together new digital techniques. 'It is something I have been interested in for quite a while, but I was really surprised to receive this award for my work. It is further recognition that coming to study at Teesside University was the correct decision as I am able to explore different areas of forensics – working with some amazing academics.'





## Research highlights alcohol issues in the criminal justice system



Professor Dorothy Newbury Birch and Dr Emma Giles

Three quarters of people in the UK criminal justice system have a problem with alcohol and are almost ten times more likely to be dependent on alcohol compared with the general population, research at Teesside University has found.

**This applies to those who have been arrested in police custody, in a probation setting and those in the prison system. Those classified as having a problem with alcohol are people whose pattern of drinking increases the risk of either physical or psychological problems. Dependency implies the person has a cluster of physiological, behavioural and cognitive patterns which conform to the alcohol dependence syndrome.**

The research was led by Professor Dorothy Newbury-Birch, Professor of Alcohol and Public Health Research at Teesside University assisted by Dr Emma Giles. 'This study was the first of its kind to synthesise what we know about risky drinking in the criminal justice system in the UK. It shows that alcohol dependency and risky drinking are prevalent throughout all stages.'

The research found that up to 88% of adults in the police custody setting, 69% in the probation setting and 86% in the prison system are risky drinkers. Using adults' risky drinking limits, 64% of young people aged between 11 and 17 in the criminal justice system were risky drinkers. The study also found that up to 38% of people in the police custody setting, 33% in the probation setting and 43% in the prison system scored positive for dependency.

'This work is so important to the field. It gives us the information we need to develop appropriate interventions in the criminal justice setting for those with alcohol problems,' said Professor Newbury Birch.

## BUSINESS GRADUATES PROSPER

**New courses and continued partnerships with employers at Teesside University Business School are helping graduates meet the needs of the modern day business.**

Every student in the School is guaranteed the opportunity of work-related learning – from shadowing and mentoring to work placements and internships – to ensure they are ready for the world of work when they leave University.

Masterclasses and workshops delivered by national business leaders are part of an improved offer from the new-look Teesside University Business School.

Courses cover a variety of business disciplines for undergraduate, postgraduate and part-time study. They include a new degree in sports management and marketing, developed in partnership with Middlesbrough Football Club, and others in business management and economics.

The new vision for the School is reflected in Teesside 2020, Teesside University's strategy which has pledged to provide a stimulating learning environment by collaborating with employers and organisations to develop graduate skills, work experience and relevance to ensure real-world impact.

The School's programmes and employability opportunities are influenced by the international companies in the region including SABIC, Nissan, Samsung and Hitachi, and big employers such as Sage, Northumbrian Water, Proctor & Gamble and Virgin Money. Major brands including Siemens, the NHS, Visualsoft, Amec and Greggs plc have worked with Teesside University Business School as it plans for further growth nationally and internationally.

There is also a strong focus on entrepreneurship. Teesside University has helped more than 300 graduates launch new businesses through its on-campus support, and in 2014-15 a total of 49 new businesses were launched with help from initiatives such as the DigitalCity programme, more than any other university in the region.

Teesside University Business School Associate Dean Dr Keith Hurst said, 'At Teesside University we have a fantastic track record of working with our partners in industry to meet their needs. The courses and work placements offered by the School equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the demands of the world of work. Businesses can be confident that Teesside graduate talent will help their company to grow and prosper.'

**Find out more:** [tees.ac.uk/businessschool](http://tees.ac.uk/businessschool)





# A TOP CHOICE for international students- it's official!

International students at Teesside University have one of the best student and learning experiences in the UK, according to the world's largest survey of international students.

**I-graduate's International Student Barometer surveyed international students from 182 higher education institutions around the globe in autumn 2016.**

Teesside University recorded the highest overall average satisfaction levels, placing us in the top 6% of participating world universities. Teesside University was ranked number one in the UK and in the world's top ten for satisfaction with the quality of teaching.

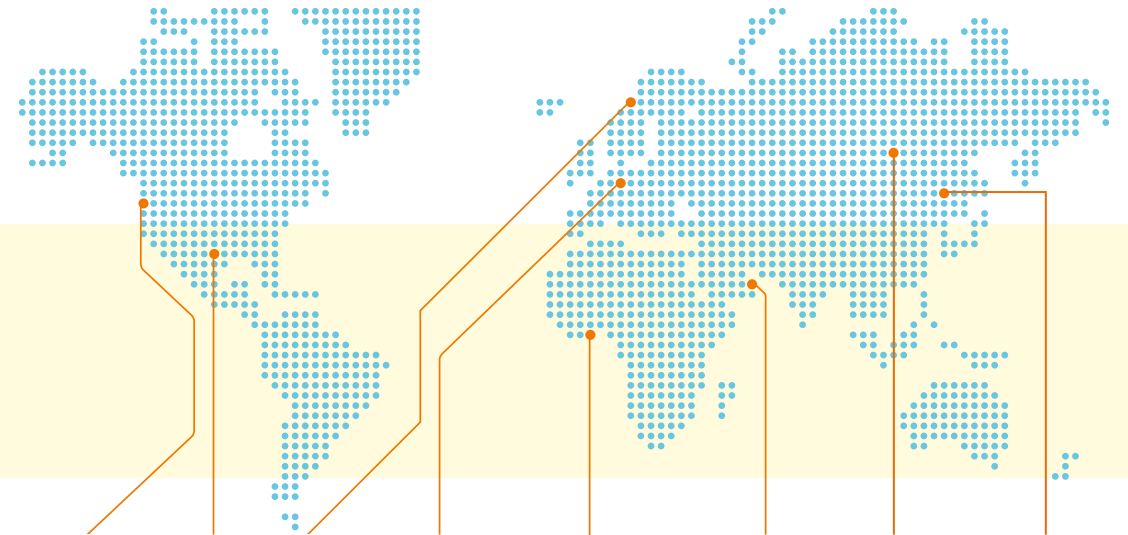
The University was also ranked number one in the UK for careers advice and employability, cost of accommodation and social facilities. The careers service was ranked highest in the UK and second globally, while satisfaction with catering ranked number one in the UK and in the top five globally. Teesside was also in the top three globally for clubs and societies. In addition, satisfaction levels with the Students' Union, campus buildings, quality of lectures and performance feedback were among the highest levels in the UK.

Dr David Bell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), said, 'Teesside University is a particularly desirable place to study for our international students because of our emphasis on creating a first-class student and learning experience.'

Srijith Jalapathy (pictured right middle) is one of many international graduates who have benefitted from this support. He travelled from India to change career direction and study film and television at Teesside University. He was studying engineering in his native India but, after hearing about the courses and facilities on offer at Teesside, he made the bold move to switch his plans.

'I went to an educational fair in India and spoke to a Teesside University representative who inspired me to change direction. Although I was already studying engineering, I wasn't passionate about it. I have always been interested in telling stories and film and television.'

Srijith went on to study BA (Hons) Film and Television Production and worked on a film during his studies which won prestigious professional industry awards. The film, *Shed*, which examines the themes of love and loneliness, won two accolades in the 2017 Royal Television Society North East and Border Awards.



**USA**  
**DAVID ROBERTS**

**BA (Hons) Business Studies**  
Head of Marketing  
Goodwill Industries of  
the Columbia Willadette



**USA**  
**RUTH MASSINGILL**

**PhD Management,**  
Associate Department  
Chair and Associate  
Professor  
Sam Houston State  
University



**NORWAY**  
**INA PETTERSEN**

**BA (Hons) Human Resources Management**  
Vice President and  
Head of HR  
Frontica



**GERMANY**  
**DOMAREEN FOX**

**BA (Hons) Computer Character Animation**  
Art Director  
Studio Sol



**GHANA**  
**PROVIDENCE ANTWI**

**MSc Petroleum Engineering**  
Training and  
Development Officer  
Kinross Gold  
Corporation – Chirano  
Gold Mine



**UAE**  
**JOHN JEFFERS**

**MBA**  
Group Director, SNC  
Lavalin Abu Dhabi



**MONGOLIA**  
**SHILLEPAGAM BYAMBADORJ**

**BA (Hons) Business Management**  
Director  
UM Tech Service LLC



**CHINA**  
**JING ZHAO**

**BA (Hons) Television and Film Production**  
Producer  
China Intercontinental  
Communication Centre



Staff from partner universities and international study organisations travelled from India, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei, Indonesia, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Lebanon and Jordan for the Teesside University International Agent and Partner Conference.

Organised by the University's Department for International Development, the conference provided an opportunity for participants to experience Teesside's world-class student facilities first hand.

Delegates met a range of academic and support staff and took part in interactive taster sessions including dentistry and textile printing. They also had the opportunity to test drive the University's flight simulator.

Dr David Bell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), said, 'Teesside University consistently ranks as one of the best institutions in the UK for international student satisfaction and our international agents and partners have now found out why this is the case.'

Delegates also saw some of the local area, with a tour of Middlesbrough Football Club and a visit to Whitby. 'We hope this experience encourages some of the highest quality students from around the globe to come and join us at Teesside University.'



Representatives from educational institutions around the world visited Teesside University in March 2017 for an international showcase event.

## SHOWCASE EVENT for our international agents and partners



## A NEW PARTNERSHIP

Teesside University has teamed up with Middlesbrough Football Club as an official partner

**The two organisations are working together to promote the University's education and business expertise to national and international audiences, as well as the ambition and sporting excellence of the football club.**

Plans are also in place to enhance the learning experience of the University's students through engagement with all aspects of life at the club.

Teesside University Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Professor Paul Croney said, 'This partnership represents a unique opportunity to promote the University and all that it has to offer nationally and internationally.'

'We are also exploring opportunities for our students in areas on and off the pitch to enrich their education through work-related learning and shared knowledge and facilities.'

The partnership has already resulted in developing a new degree in sports management and marketing which is delivered by Teesside University Business School in conjunction with the club – and there are further plans to enhance the University's sports journalism and sports therapy courses. Other opportunities include research collaborations and student work placements and internships within the club.

Neil Bausor, Chief Executive at Middlesbrough Football Club, added, 'We are excited to welcome Teesside University to the club as our official partner. It is great that we have been able to formalise our already strong links with the University and we are confident that working together we can continue to promote the region on a global stage.'

The partnership was cemented with the visit of the club's Vice-Captain George Friend to open the University's £2.75m gym.

In addition Kirsty Gibbon, a Teesside University BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy graduate, works full time at the club as a physiotherapist supporting with the academy players.



# Alumni return to share their expertise with students

Teesside University Business School students challenged their thinking in a series of masterclasses delivered by graduates.



Kumu Kumar



Honorary graduate Steve Cochrane

- University donor and class of 1987 graduate, Peter Atherton helped students prepare for work placements and the graduate interview process.
- Class of 1994 graduate and Director of Risk Engineering at Zurich Insurance Plc, Kumu Kumar gave insights into the modern job market and how to succeed in a changing world.
- Honorary DBA and founder of fashion empire Psyche, Steve Cochrane talked about the value of an entrepreneurial approach to life and business.



Peter Atherton

## THANK YOU

to all the graduates and friends who came forward to help Teesside University Business School students in 2016-17.

- **Carl Ditchburn**, Chief Executive, Community Campus 87
- **Mark Easby**, MSc Graduate Enterprise in Multimedia, class of 2001
- **Katherine Hierons**, MBA, class of 2010 and University donor
- **Ian Kinnery**, Coach, Team Massive Results
- **Hugh McGouran**, BA (Hons) Public Administration, class of 1997
- **Jane Reynolds**, Business Development Manager, Northstar Ventures
- **Emily Bentley**, Marketing and Business Development Manager, Evolution LLP
- **Kieron Sharp**, MA Fraud Management, class of 2014
- **Bill Scott**, Honorary DBA, class of 2012

Fancy delivering a session to our students?

Email: [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk)

# E-MENTORING PROJECT SUCCESS

A pilot e-mentoring programme has formally matched alumni with current students so they can share their skills and experiences. US-based honorary graduate Steve Penrose has been sharing a career's worth of expertise with master's student, Emma Edson.

Emma said, 'I really can't thank the University and Steve enough. The e-mentoring programme is a brilliant idea. I hope in the future I'm able to help a student in my position like Steve has helped me.'



Are you interested in becoming an e-mentor?  
Email [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk) to log your interest and learn more.



# HALF A CENTURY OF SUCCESS FOR OUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

One of the country's oldest university computing departments has celebrated half a century of delivering world-leading courses and developing high-quality graduates.

**Teesside University's School of Computing marked its 50th anniversary last year with a celebration involving more than 100 staff, student ambassadors, alumni and former employees.**

The School was founded in 1966, as part of the then Constantine College, to serve the growing demand for graduates to work in the nascent computer and digital industries.

In the following 50 years, alumni from the School of Computing have worked for major technology companies as well as Hollywood studios in the US. Many graduates have also gone on to found their own technology businesses and provide employment to other Teesside University graduates.

Teesside was the first university to offer the ground-breaking MSc Computer Aided and Graphical Technology Applications in 1989, which blazed a digital trail for the School.

Since then the School's reputation for animation and visual effects has become world-renowned, ranking as one of the top 20 places to study animation in the world by *3D World magazine*.

Alison Brown, Associate Dean (Marketing and Recruitment) said, 'The longevity and achievements of the School of Computing are testament to the talent and hard work of our staff and students. It was fantastic to invite so many of them to share in this success and to see so many of our alumni and retired staff engaging with the University.'

'It was also an excellent opportunity to showcase the ongoing work of the School, highlight our cutting-edge research and reinforce our commitment to meeting the needs of industry and developing work-ready graduates.'



Ken Jenkin and his friends, who all enrolled on computing courses in 1966 and 1967, returned for the celebrations. 'What a great day we had. I've been reflecting on what Teesside University did for me. It provided me with a wonderful education, a degree, four years of enormous fun, a lifetime of employment, a wife, four daughters and, most recently, a grandson.'

**Do you fancy visiting us or organising a reunion?**  
Email: [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk)

The University has launched a suite of ground-breaking courses in partnership with renowned and respected TV architect George Clarke, through his Ministry of Building, Innovation and Education initiative.



## AMAZING NEW COURSES LAUNCHED WITH GEORGE CLARKE

George is kick-starting a fundamental change to the building industry, attracting new generations into the profession. In partnership with Teesside University, he has developed a suite of multidisciplinary courses at all levels to attract new and innovative ideas and people into the building industry.

George said, 'The Ministry of Building, Innovation and Education is about training, retraining, making, building and creating innovative 21st-century homes that genuinely improve the way people live. We need to teach a new generation of students how to think differently, to challenge the norm and look for new ways of doing things.'

'The slow and antiquated method of building new homes is painful and, fundamentally, we still build homes the way we did hundreds of years ago. Whilst technology corporations, telecommunication companies, the automotive and aerospace industry are advancing at incredible rates, the house building industry is stagnant and it's genuinely time for systematic change.'

'There is a need for exciting innovation, opportunities to push the boundaries of what we build and how we build that will attract bright new minds in to the industry.'

Teesside University has developed a suite of courses in advanced home construction – Higher National Certificate and Diploma, an undergraduate degree programme BSc (Hons) Advanced Home Construction (Top-up) and a postgraduate degree course – MSc Advanced Home Futures.

The courses take a new look at the building industry and offer a broad-based practical approach, which aims to attract learners from different disciplines, not just traditional architecture and enable students to explore a variety of specialisms.

Students will engage with industry and explore the concept of home, different aspects of living spaces, and digital solutions to create innovative approaches to address the issues of the built environment.

Professor Jane Turner Pro Vice-Chancellor (Enterprise and Business

Engagement), said, 'Here at Teesside University we are continuously seeking opportunities to work with partners who have exciting and innovative visions for the future, requiring access to our research expertise.'

The courses offer the added advantage of working closely with industry and with some of the University's specialist facilities including mima which is looking at social issues such as housing and a dedicated workshop on campus to allow students to make and test items.

**Find out more:**  
[tees.ac.uk/advancedhome](http://tees.ac.uk/advancedhome)

**OUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTING IS NOW KNOWN AS THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, MEDIA & THE ARTS**





# A NEW FUND ENRICHES STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES

Many students are realising their dreams thanks to Teesside University's student experience fund, which allows students to access grants for specific projects or activities which enhance their learning experiences and make a wider positive contribution.

## Amy's dream trip to India

Amy Jury, BSc (Hons) Dental Hygiene and Dental Therapy, was one of the first recipients of the fund. She spent two weeks in India with the charity Schoolhouse, providing voluntary dental care and education to children in schools and orphanages.

Amy was desperate to take part in the trip but struggling to raise enough funds. She raised some money herself before successfully applying for £750 to help pay for the charity visit.

'The placement enhanced both my clinical and interpersonal skills and abilities. I gained a vast amount of experience in a very unusual and challenging setting which I believe has made me a better dental therapist. It also enabled me to learn more about global health issues and dental traditions in other countries.

'There's no government dental programme in India, but there are lots of private dental practices. Many can't afford treatment or the travel to access it, leaving them with untreated dental problems.'

Amy was part of a group of students and graduates who visited schools and orphanages, treating over 1,300 children during the duration of the dental camp and providing dental education.

Now employed at Coxhoe Dental Practice, she said, 'My experience in India was a truly enriching and unforgettable one, which developed me professionally and personally. We had to adapt to very different conditions which were sometimes uncomfortable but very empowering at the same time. The student experience fund is a great initiative which provides access to fantastic opportunities such as this.'



## POWERLIFTER RECEIVES A FINANCIAL BOOST

Sport and exercise graduate Andrew Richardson's dreams came true with a grant from the student experience fund that enabled him to represent Ireland at the World Championships in Texas and the World University Championships in Belarus.

He was unable to finance the trip himself while studying BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise (Applied Sports Science) and feared his dreams of competing were over.

The fund allowed Andrew to travel to Texas where he worked as an assistant coach for the Irish team while also competing. He then travelled to Belarus for the World University Championships where he secured a top-five finish with two individual third places.

'I'm really grateful for the assistance I received. It has given me the opportunity to represent my country on two occasions and to work as a coach. This has done wonders for my employability and I have developed key skills in coaching, organisation, time management, managing multiple athletes and developing athlete profiles.

'I am confident that this experience will help me to stand out in job interviews as I progress in my career.'

Are you interested in supporting this funding stream?  
Visit: [tees.ac.uk/giving](https://tees.ac.uk/giving)





# AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR OUR UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

The University has unveiled headlines from its new £300m estates strategy and campus masterplan which give an overview of planned campus developments over the next decade.

**The strategy enables a high-quality student and learning experience while responding to increasing competition and student requirements.**

Key developments include a new student life hub on the site of the Brittan building, rationalising parking space on campus to facilitate School zoning and developments, and redeveloping the Student Centre to house the new Teesside University Business School.

There are also proposals for a campus information point in front of Middlesbrough Tower, general purpose teaching and conference space, and new student accommodation.

The masterplan builds on investment totalling more than £270m over recent years.

In the last year a £6m refurbishment of the library has been completed. This has seen the first floor undergo a substantial refit to improve technology and learning spaces, and provide an enhanced learning environment. Work on the second and third floors of the library is underway.

A new £2.75m gym, which opened last year, is proving extremely popular among staff and students. The new facility provides state-of-the-art cardiovascular and resistance fitness and free weights areas, a sprint track, multipurpose studios, and a specialist treatment area.

Earlier this year the University bought the former *Evening Gazette* premises on Borough Road. This building is undergoing an extensive refurbishment to create a corporate and professional services hub.

In March 2017 the University's very own art gallery, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), celebrated its landmark tenth birthday. Over 1,000 people visited to take part in the celebrations, see new exhibitions, get involved in talks and discussions and tour mima's decade-long history.

## mima celebrates

The event also saw the launch of the *Middlesbrough Collection* – a new, permanent presentation which features works selected by gallery users, constituent groups, visitors, curatorial staff and stakeholders. The collection houses artworks inherited from the Middlesbrough Art Gallery and the Cleveland Craft Centre, which closed in 2003, and the Cleveland Gallery, which closed in 1999.

Featuring a wide range of artworks from local, national and international artists, the *Middlesbrough Collection* includes drawings, paintings, sculptures, films, ceramics and jewellery dating from the 1900s to the present day.

**Entry to mima is free so pop in to see the Collection and exhibitions.**

[www.visitmima.com](http://www.visitmima.com)



LS Lowry *The Old Town Hall and St Hilda's Church, Middlesbrough*



*From me*

TU

Some of you may have benefited from a scholarship or bursary or taken a placement year during your time at Teesside University. We encourage our graduates to consider giving back so that another student can benefit from the range of opportunities available in the University.

With your support we can provide prizes, scholarships and bursaries, specialist equipment and improved facilities to transform the lives of current and future Teesside University students. Philanthropic gifts help us contribute to new knowledge, provide our students with the best possible learning experience and continually improve our campus facilities.

They also allow us to respond flexibly to areas of need or areas which reflect your own concerns, passions and interests.

These are challenging times for higher education in the UK. However, with your support, we ensure that ability – not affordability – is the determining factor in students' decisions to make Teesside their university of choice, across the region and beyond.

We would like to invite you to consider supporting Teesside University. We would welcome your generosity in sustaining and enhancing our work in whatever ways you can.

**Donate today:** [tees.ac.uk/giving](https://tees.ac.uk/giving)

The generosity of our alumni, friends and supporters is vital. With recent government changes we increasingly look to philanthropic gifts to make a difference.

### Student Futures

**You can help in other ways by giving back your time and sharing your experiences, and we are here to support you in your journey.**

- > If you are looking to start your own business, or if you would like to act as a mentor to other business start-ups get in touch with Teesside Launchpad, [startupteesside.co](https://startupteesside.co)
- > If you can offer an internship, would like to get involved in the University mentoring scheme or provide a graduate profile please contact [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk).
- > The Careers Service continues to support your career development for up to two years after graduation. Contact them on 01642 342260 or visit [tees.ac.uk/careers](https://tees.ac.uk/careers) if you would like their support.

# A GENEROUS DONATION FROM LADY BRITTAN

A generous donation in memory of a former chancellor will provide exceptional students with additional support throughout their studies at Teesside University.

**Lady Brittan has generously donated two new scholarships in memory of her late husband, The Rt Hon The Lord Brittan of Spennithorne PC QC DL. Lord Leon Brittan was the first Chancellor of Teesside University with his 1993-2005 tenure coinciding with great achievements for the institution.**

The Brittan scholarships will enhance student learning by supporting the cost of living and providing access to additional or extracurricular activities. They are open to students from non-traditional backgrounds with exceptional talent. Each scholarship, worth £7,500, is paid across the students' full programme of study.

Lord Brittan was elected to parliament in 1974 to represent Cleveland and Whitby. His career saw him hold a number of key cabinet roles during the 1980s including Home Secretary from 1983-85. He went on to serve the European Commission with distinction from 1989-99.

Lady Brittan, herself a prominent figure in public life, said, 'Leon was very aware of the importance of higher education. He took his role as Chancellor of Teesside University very seriously and enjoyed it enormously.'

'I want these scholarships to encourage talented students, who may decide against university for financial reasons, to focus purely on making the most of the opportunity.'

**Find out more about details of full criteria and our other scholarships:** [tees.ac.uk/pg/scholarships](https://tees.ac.uk/pg/scholarships)

**If you would like to support scholarships or create a named opportunity at Teesside University email:** [development@tees.ac.uk](mailto:development@tees.ac.uk).



A Teesside University graduate has been breaking boundaries working on the world's first commercially available flying car.

# THE SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR DOUGLAS

**Douglas MacAndrew, class of 1990 HND Computer-aided Engineering graduate and AeroMobil's Chief Technical Officer, worked with a core team to design a small plane that transforms into a street-legal vehicle. It was launched at the world's most exclusive supercar show in Monaco in April 2017.**

Priced from £1.2m - £1.5m, depending on final customer specifications, only 500 units will be produced. It is expected to go into full production with the first deliveries by 2020.

Douglas said, 'This is a triumph of engineering and design, requiring all our creativity, imagination, passion and technical expertise to deliver an innovative product that is truly ground breaking.'

A chartered mechanical engineer, Douglas was appointed as Fellow of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in 2007. He holds several global patents for innovation within vehicle safety and occupant protection. We caught up with Douglas during his travels between Slovakia and Monaco earlier in the year.



## How did Teesside University prepare you for your career?

I really enjoyed my time at Teesside – the course and tutors provided invaluable academic knowledge which I've used throughout my career. The tutors have industrial experience, giving me a grounding in pragmatic and structured thinking. I also gained an inquisitive attitude to engineering and design.

My career has been really interesting – developing world-first technologies and solutions, and working with some amazing, creative and knowledgeable individuals.

## What advice would you give to others?

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics are some of the most important skills in today's economy. They open up a world of opportunities. I would encourage anyone to explore these areas if they're interested in creating innovative solutions to today's challenges.

## Best thing about your course?

The course was tough with long hours, but it quickly gave me an insight into working life. My favourite parts were the creative elements – drafting, 3D modelling and analysis – but I also developed a good grounding in business activities, which I use at work every day.

## What inspired you most?

Technically driven endeavours have inspired me – Formula F1, Concorde or the space race – they all show what is achievable when we challenge ourselves to do things that are uncertain and difficult. The draw of designing cars ultimately pulled me in the direction I took.

## Tell us about your social life at Teesside University

I certainly embraced the bars and restaurants but was also really focused on sports – playing football, American football and rugby. I enjoyed exploring the local area – Saltburn and Whitby are interesting weekend locations by the sea.





A broadcasting icon, Formula 1 engineer and Chief Executive of Arts Council England were among some of the prestigious guests to visit Teesside University this summer, offering their insight and expertise to staff and students.

**TV and radio journalist Dr John Sergeant received an honorary degree from the University in 2010. This year he returned for the annual Journalism Awards, presenting prizes to students for their exceptional work.**

## FAMOUS FACES on campus

John Sergeant



Darren Henley

A distinguished broadcaster and political author, Dr Sergeant worked as the BBC's Chief Political Correspondent for eight years and as ITN's Political Editor. After retiring from political journalism, his TV appearances included chairing *Have I Got News For You* and a surprise stint as a celebrity contestant on BBC One's *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Formula 1 Race Engineer Dr Rob Smedley was also the recipient of an honorary degree in 2009 and a recent guest at the Business Exchange, a networking event attended by business leaders from throughout the region. He is most well-known for his race engineer partnership with Felipe Massa at Ferrari. The pair achieved cult status and were often interviewed together. Their close working relationship saw Dr Smedley follow Massa from Ferrari to a new role at Williams. He moved on from the race engineer role to become Head of Vehicle Performance for the team.



Rob Smedley

Darren Henley OBE was announced as Chief Executive of Arts Council England in 2014, having previously worked as Managing Director of Classic FM. He was invited to the University to officially open our annual Creative Teesside degree show which showcases the work and creativity of students from disciplines including performing arts, design, filmmaking, history and fine art.

India Willoughby, Britain's first openly transgender TV newsreader, visited Teesside University to present her unique story of transition and working successfully in the media, both as a presenter and as the subject of news stories. She shared her experiences with staff and students in a public lecture.

India, who currently works for ITV, is a newsreader, reporter and presenter who has appeared on numerous television and radio programmes including *Lorraine*, *Loose Women*, BBC's *Inside Out* and BBC 5 live.

India Willoughby





# CLASS NOTES



## JOHN COULSON

**BA (Hons) Media Studies**

My time at Teesside University was absolutely priceless. I graduated in 2007 before going to work at *The Independent* and *The Guardian* newspapers and then as a Senior Account Director at the US-based digital marketing company Conversant. In 2015 I decided to build a brand of my own.

ParmStar is a street food business, based in Teesside but trading nationwide. My partner and I ran a food blog when we lived in London and spent a lot of time exploring the street food scene there. We wanted to create a fun brand, serving quality, fresh food and we wanted to do it in the North East.

Our main dish, The King of the North, is something we like to think of as the world's first truly portable parmo. We use fresh Yorkshire chicken and panko breadcrumbs together with our secret béchamel sauce recipe, served in a fresh-baked brioche bun. There's been a real explosion in the popularity of street food on Teesside and it's great to be a part of that.

## LESLIE CURVIS

**BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise  
(Coaching Science)**

I came to Teesside University after moving back to the area to pursue a career change.

While studying I won a major award for my voluntary work. Without Teesside University my career would be very different. I now have two inspiring jobs – one at Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation, where I co-ordinate the building better opportunities programme using the power of football and the club to raise aspirations in the local community. The second is working for the Premier League on the academy games programme where I work with elite-level football clubs and players to prepare young players for a future career in professional football.



## SUZANNE COSTELLO

**BSc (Hons) Applied Sports Therapy**

I've worked in sport and exercise throughout my career and decided to study at Teesside University through distance learning so I could carry on working.

I've worked for many five-star holiday resorts worldwide and am currently working for the largest private residential ship in the world, The World Residences at Sea. We help our residents stay active with fitness classes, personal training, kayaking, hikes, biking, diving and snorkelling, and I manage the on-board fitness centre.

My passion is exercise and travel. Over the last 20 years I have worked in Sardinia, Corsica, Switzerland, Dubai, Bermuda, Bahrain, Dubai, Spain and Singapore. During each four-month contract I will see up to 70 places – I have been to 78 different countries so far.



## BERYL ROBINSON

**BA (Hons) History and Politics**

I worked in the civil service for 22 years but, when I retired in 2009, I decided to pursue my passion for creative writing. Eight months later I completed my debut novel *A Life of Consequence*.

Set in the 1860s, it tells the story of Hannah, a 16-year-old girl married to a brutal drunk, whose actions have consequences for the rest of her life. Published through Billingham-based Indie Publishing, it has five-star reviews on Amazon. I'm currently working on the sequel.

Since retirement I've volunteered with many different charities. I enjoy working in village schools and orphanages, teaching children to read and helping them learn about animals and how to protect them.

I have been scuba diving with sharks in Australia, white water rafting on the Zambezi and walked with lions in Zimbabwe. My life is an adventure.

I'm currently raising funds for girls in Zambia who leave school when they reach puberty because they do not have access to sanitary wear.

We're thrilled to announce that Beryl is now a Writer in Residence at mima and will spend the next nine months writing her next novel *The Linthorpe Potter's Daughter*.

Buy a girl power charity bracelet for £1 to support Beryl's Gambia appeal.

**Get in touch: [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk)**







## MARY'S RISE TO THE TOP

City of York Council Chief Executive Officer and Teesside University graduate, Mary Weastell is the perfect example of how a Teesside education can help you get where you want to be.

Mary began her career straight from school as an apprentice with Middlesbrough Council. She studied part time while working full time, undertaking a business administration qualification at the University. After completing her legal qualification, she went on to work in local government as a lawyer for 16 years.

'Teesside University and Middlesbrough are the reasons I'm here today – I have so many fond memories of the place. It's where I come from and my family are all still in the town.'

'I am passionate about apprenticeships. My studies were all sponsored so I want to give back to help the next generation. I mentor young people through the Prince's Trust and spend time talking to and encouraging the apprentices we have at York Council.'

A keen sportswoman, Mary has taken on a number of charitable challenges involving distance running, cycling and swimming. Her next ambition is to complete a triathlon for charity.

'I'm a workaholic and sometimes need to be asked to take a rest – but I love it and I'm enjoying myself. I don't want to take a break!'

This ethos has served Mary well and she is never afraid to take a planned risk along the way. 'I thrive on change and have charted my career by taking on lots of new roles whenever the opportunity arises.'

'My advice to today's students and graduates is to not be afraid. Give that opinion, ask that question, make that contribution – because they all make a difference.'

Share your success: [alumni@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@tees.ac.uk)



Dr Emma Foster at her graduation with Dr Barbara McReddie

## GRADUATION PRIZE HELPS CAREER PROGRESSION

Psychologist Dr Barbara McReddie has helped a Teesside University graduate follow her own path to a career in psychology.

Doctorate in Counselling Psychology graduate, Dr Emma Foster is now working as a Counselling Psychologist with Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust in Leeds. Her role involves working with children, young people and their families to provide psychological assessment and support.

Emma was presented with the Barbara McReddie Outstanding Achievement Award for Counselling Psychology at her graduation, acknowledging work during study and the significant contribution this could make to practice.

During her degree, she completed placements with an NHS trust neuro-rehabilitation team, NHS trust chronic pain service, primary school counselling service, third-sector domestic abuse service and University counselling service during her degree.

Dr McReddie, herself a Teesside University graduate, provides coaching and counselling psychology to individuals and organisations across the North East and Yorkshire, and supervises Teesside University doctoral students.

'As someone who has set up in business, I am delighted to be able to sponsor an award. This year the result was unanimous and Emma was a very deserving winner.'

Emma, originally from South Yorkshire, said, 'I feel really humbled and appreciative to have won the prize. My experience at Teesside University was really positive. I enjoyed a very rewarding three years, learning so much and making some great friends.'

'I really enjoyed the course – it was great that the team are also clinicians so we could learn from their practical experiences. I enjoyed having the opportunity to share experiences and learn from my peers, and I liked learning in different ways, through lectures and seminars and on placement. The course was flexible, allowing me to choose placements based on my own interests.'

Location was also a factor for Dr Foster, who was based in Sheffield while studying at Teesside. 'It was an easy commute, which was helpful as I have family commitments.'

Dr McReddie added, 'I would highly recommend Teesside University. It is a very friendly place with so many amenities, great courses and a great campus – all help to make its graduates highly employable. Returning to study at Teesside University was an obvious choice for me. The doctorate was excellent, providing the right amount of academic input and rigour with a very solid foundation in key psychological models, research and up-to-date practices coupled with the opportunity to undertake varied placements. The academic staff are friendly, approachable and incredibly supportive.'

Donate today: [tees.ac.uk/giving](https://tees.ac.uk/giving)

# OBITUARIES



## ASA BRIGGS

Honorary graduate Lord Asa Briggs died in 2016 aged 94. A prominent social historian, he was the first historian to devote serious attention to the history of Middlesbrough in his book *Victorian Cities* (1963). He studied at the University of Cambridge where he gained a first-class degree in history and economics. During the war he was recruited to work at Bletchley Park where he worked alongside the pioneering mathematician Alan Turing. After the war he returned to academic life and in 1961 began his long association with the University of Sussex. He was also Chancellor of the Open University from 1978 until his retirement in 1991.

## MAURICE DAWSON

Local businessman and honorary graduate Maurice Dawson died peacefully in his home in Hutton Rudby, surrounded by his family in December 2016, aged 75.

The Middlesbrough-born chairman of AV Dawson Ltd was a respected figure in the Teesside business community. Maurice's father founded the company in 1938, and Maurice became Managing Director in 1971. Four decades of hard work saw the family business grow into a major Teesside employer and the establishment of award-winning facilities at Dawson's Wharf.

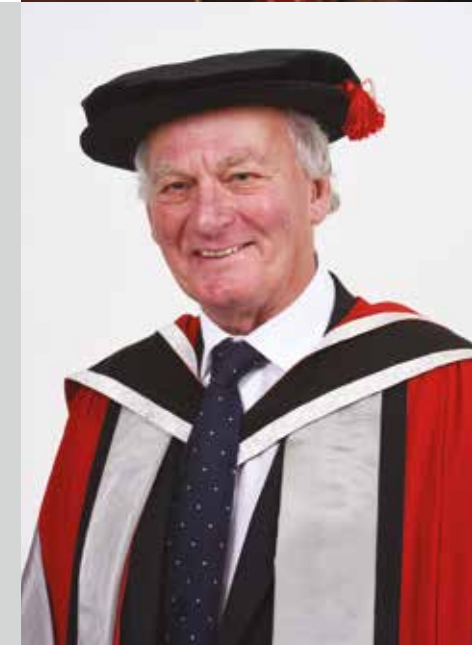
In recognition of his outstanding achievement in business, Maurice became an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration in 2016.

Maurice was the much-loved husband of Barbara, loving father of Steven and Gary, a dear father-in-law of Kate and Justine and a dearest grandad of Georgina, Hannah, Sarah, Freddie and Rose. He leaves a legacy of a business that has been part of our industrial landscape for over 80 years and will be sadly missed.

## VIN GARBUTT

Honorary graduate and folk hero Vin Garbutt passed away in June 2017, aged 69. Vin, affectionately known as the Teesside Troubadour, enjoyed a music career spanning nearly 50 years as he toured the world with his unique brand of Teesside-inspired folk music.

Vin was born in South Bank and was originally taken on as an ICI apprentice at Wilton but, at the age of 21, became a professional singer-songwriter – a career move which prompted the Teesside public to take him to their hearts.





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