

The Graduate

2005

Celebrating

75
YEARS

Prime Minister praises Teesside
Campus for the future



UNIVERSITY OF
TEESSIDE

UNIVERSITY OF TEESSIDE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Hello Alumni

Welcome to the 2005 edition of *The Graduate* and congratulations to our 2004 graduates and honorary graduates.

As always the Alumni Office has had a busy year, and we are particularly interested to hear your views on reunion events. Please log on to the website and cast your votes so that we can plan our reunion activities for the forthcoming year.

This year I have become a member of the Alumni Association after graduating with a Masters of Business Administration.

I would be extremely grateful if you could complete the update form, which is enclosed with the magazine. All completed forms received by 1 March 2005 will be entered in to a prize draw to win a £100 shopping spree.

You can also visit our website to update your details or look up current events information at www.tees.ac.uk/alumni.

Best wishes for the year ahead.



Sarah Jane Irving, Alumni Officer



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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 Sarah Jane Irving on 01642 344255 or email s.irving@tees.ac.uk.

welcome

welcome

I am delighted to send you my greetings in the latest edition of *The Graduate*. Once again the University has experienced a good year, we have continued to make a distinctive contribution to the shaping of higher education in the North East and more widely in the UK and overseas.

The number of students within the University has now grown to over 20,000, and this combined with an ever growing reputation for excellence shows we are really going places.

Recent weeks have seen visits from the government's Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir David King and the General Secretary of the TUC Brendan Barber who were presenting the annual lectures at the School of Science & Technology and Teesside Business School respectively.

I was extremely pleased to welcome them and many other visitors to the University and I am always delighted at the strong and positive impression that the University leaves on our visitors.

I am sure however that those visitors would not mind if I drew particular attention to the opening event of the Olympia Building held in March 2004. The Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Tony Blair MP conducted the opening.

The PM spoke positively about the University, and naturally, his visit features prominently in this issue of *The Graduate* as do the developments on campus. The campus is a great University asset and a tribute to its custodians, our Board of Governors.

I also want to reflect on the major changes that are facing our higher education system.

I think there is a widespread consensus that higher education in our country needs continued and increased investment but there is not a similar consensus on how public funds should be made available to fund that investment. New government policy addresses the need to invest in higher education. Parliament has determined that, from 2006, variable 'top-up' tuition fees will be introduced. The key challenge for the University is therefore to ensure that the new fee regime allows us to continue our mission of extending opportunity on the basis of achievement and potential.

Our Board of Governors have already given a strong commitment to the introduction of a generous bursary and scholarship scheme and we are now working on the details of that scheme for submission to the newly formed Office of Fair Access for approval.

Whilst the introduction of variable fees is the headline element of higher education reform there are a number of other features. One of those is concerned with looking at other ways in which universities can raise funds to invest in the delivery of their mission, and I was lucky enough to join members of a government task force last year looking at the fund-raising experience of universities in the United States.



I would be very interested in the thoughts of our Teesside Alumni on this matter, as I am keen to explore any avenue that could lead to facilitating more people taking advantage of higher education and to provide them with the best possible student experience. Please email me at graham.henderson@tees.ac.uk.

In closing may I send all our Alumni my very best wishes. Keep in touch.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Henderson', with a horizontal line underneath.

university news

university news

PM praises University of Teesside

Prime Minister Tony Blair visited Teesside in the spring to officially open the University's new £6.5m Olympia Building. This new centre for sport houses not only the usual facilities such as indoor and outdoor sports pitches and squash courts but also specialist sport science laboratories and a state-of-the-art environmental chamber.

"Teesside is getting an increasing reputation, year by year, as a university that is going places, providing an increasing high standard and quality of education to students"

The Prime Minister said, "Teesside is getting an increasing reputation, year by year, as a university that is going places, providing an increasing high standard and quality of education to students. It is a university that combines a very high pure academic education with also a whole series of degree courses that are based on the work and activities that people intend to do when they leave university."

During the official opening, the Prime Minister visited the temperature-controlled environmental chamber, used for teaching, research and helping athletes to acclimatise themselves for competing in very hot or very cold temperatures. He met with several members of staff including Martin Pout, Senior Lecturer, Sport & Exercise.

Martin said, "The new laboratory will give Teesside the cutting edge and provide our staff and students with an excellent research resource. We will be able to control the environment from -20°C to +40°C with pinpoint accuracy and simulate the climate of almost any country in the world. This will enable us to 'transport' our sportsmen and women around the world in temperature terms – from running in Athens to climbing a mountain in the Arctic. It is an amazing facility."



Prime Minister Tony Blair speaking on a visit to the University to open the new centre for sport, the Olympia Building.

Tackling Obesity

Obesity is a growing concern and is taking its toll on the NHS through increasing treatment costs. Professor Carolyn Summerbell, Assistant Dean (Research) with the School of Health & Social Care is an expert in childhood obesity and says that fruit and vegetables must be made more accessible to poorer families. Prof Summerbell believes that high prices and inaccessibility of obtaining fresh fruit and vegetables are key factors in restricting the effectiveness of health promotion campaigns to encourage healthy diets.

Prof Summerbell has undertaken trials to find out whether the management of obesity could be improved by providing specialist training to family GPs. The researchers reported their findings in a paper published in the *British Medical Journal*. Several GPs taking part in the trial expressed misgivings about the need to devote so much time to obesity management; and according to Prof Summerbell this is part of the problem. She said, "Although cases of obesity are shooting-up and reaching epidemic levels, it is not considered a medical priority at the moment. It doesn't attract the same amount of research as heart disease or diabetes. I think this is partly because some people feel it is the individuals fault if they are obese and it doesn't get taken as seriously as it should by health professionals."

Prof Summerbell feels the media also has a major role to play and that a few hours advice from the family doctor on treating the problem has to be weighed against the mass of publicity about 'Wonder Diets'.

"It doesn't help when the media talks about 'fatties' and then prints pictures in adverts of slim people eating high calorie foods. It also doesn't help when they write feature articles about this or that easy diet. If dieting was easy then people wouldn't be suffering from obesity," said Prof Summerbell.

She is joining forces with the University of Teesside's Professor of Public Health, John Wilkinson, to address this and other important public health issues. One project is looking at ways in which supermarkets and other shops stock and market fruit and vegetables at prices everyone can afford.

"We already have the example of one of the Scandinavian discount supermarkets offering a third off all fresh fruit and vegetables; but people still need a car to get to most of their stores which are usually situated just outside main shopping centres.

"The presence of obesity is more likely to be found in areas where people don't have access to a car and have to rely on a corner shop that probably only stocks a limited range of fruit and vegetables and at prices that many people simply can't afford. So whatever family GPs and newspaper articles say, they can't get hold of fruit and vegetables at prices they can afford. That's one of the major problems in tackling obesity."

Dr Carolyn Summerbell



TWIN LOSSES FOR TEESSIDE

Sadly last year the country lost two footballing legends, who were also honorary graduates of Teesside.



Brian Clough

Brian Clough who received his honorary award in 2003 and George Hardwick who received his award in 1999.

Professor Graham Henderson, Vice Chancellor of the University said, "Brian Clough was a Teesside legend and all of us at the University will never forget the emotion in Middlesbrough Town Hall as he received his Honorary Doctor of Science degree. Our thoughts and sympathy are with his wife Barbara and their family."

He also said "George was an outstanding footballer and captained both Middlesbrough and Great Britain during his career; he thoroughly earned the nickname 'Gentleman George' for his professionalism throughout his career. All of the University community extend our deepest sympathy to George's widow Jennifer and their family."

Campus for the

As our readers are aware there has been much building work and refurbishment going on at the campus over the last decade, over £70 million has been invested. This year we celebrate 75 years since the foundation of the institution and we thought you might like to see how the campus has developed since your time here.

The new buildings are slick and professional and give the whole town an air of 'we mean business'.

This comment from Suzannah Clarke, one of our alumni sums up the effects of the campus wide developments:

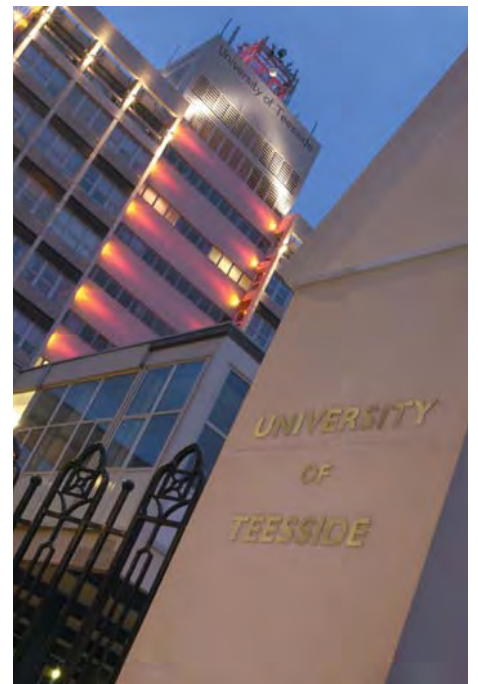
"As I was visiting Middlesbrough late one evening I looked up and saw the name of the University lit in beautiful coloured lights on the top of the Middlesbrough Tower building. The new buildings are slick and professional and give the whole town an air of 'we mean business'. I am delighted to see these fantastic changes to the campus."

Suzannah is an internationally renowned opera singer, she is an alumnus of Teesside Business School and was also awarded an honorary degree from the University in 2003.

Right: The Learning Resource Centre



The Olympia Building



Middlesbrough Tower



The Victoria Building



The Students' Union Building



Student Union Terrace Bar

future



STOP PRESS

- n Teesside is one of the top performing universities in England when it comes to widening access to students from state schools and less well-off neighbourhoods. The University either met or exceeded Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) benchmarks in nearly every category and is now amongst the top English universities for attracting young full-time first degree entrants from state schools.
- n **A new degree course specifically for working Crime Scene Investigators was launched last year. The BSc (Hons) Forensic Investigation degree is designed to further a Crime Scene Investigator's understanding of the processes applied to evidence both at the crime scene and back in the laboratory. For further information, contact Ian Pepper on 01642 342499 or email i.pepper@tees.ac.uk.**
- n The University once again awarded DigitalCity Fellowships and an exhibition of winners work was held in the Spring. The Fellowships were launched in 2002 with the support of the European Social Fund, One Northeast and University of Teesside, to encourage graduates across the University to develop intriguing new digital concepts with a view to commercialisation and further research. Grants of up to £6,000 were made available to encourage talented graduates to live, work and start up their own businesses in the region.
- n **The University has been given the green light to expand its student numbers by over 800 over the next three years. The extra student numbers come from a development fund set up by the HEFCE to support the expansion of foundation degrees in universities and further education colleges.**
- n A team of four Teesside students won an annual quiz organised by the British Computer Society, the industry body for IT professionals. The team took part in the Computer Challenge 2004 Quiz, and after three qualifying rounds beat Bradford University in the final. The team were Dirke Budke from Germany, James Decraene from France, Vasanth Manickem from India and Brian Bailey from the UK.
- n **The University's BA (Hons) Public Relations degree has received the official approval of the Institute of Public Relations (IPR), the professional body which works to raise standards within the PR industry. For further information about the Public Relations degree call 01642 342807 or visit www.tees.ac.uk.**
- n A pioneering project designed to help clean up contaminated brownfield sites has been launched by the University's Clean Environment Management Centre (CLEMANCE). The Bioremediation Programme offers low cost specialist technological consultancy to local companies wishing to restore and redevelop former industrial sites. For more details call 01642 342408 or email clemance@tees.ac.uk.
- n **The University has just launched a compulsory part-time course for police officers joining Cleveland Constabulary. The two-year course covers forensics, law and psychology. It is intended that the mix of academic and practical skills will give recruits a broader perspective producing 'fully rounded' police officers.**

Search for Nemo ends here

Oscar winning Directing Animator of the internationally successful animated film, *Finding Nemo*, Mark Walsh visited Teesside recently to speak about his work. Mark flew in from Pixar's studios in California to give a lecture about the making of *Finding Nemo* at the Animex Festival.

He thoroughly enjoyed working on the movie and said, "To be a great animator, you are not only an actor and an artist you also have to be an observer of the world." Whilst working on *Finding Nemo* all the animation team spent a great deal of time studying marine life, in fact this began to take its toll on Mark, "I would go and eat sushi, wondering what kind of fish I was eating and I'd start to feel really guilty" he said.

Mark enjoyed his visit to Teesside, he commented, "Animex is fantastic, it is bringing animators from all over the globe together. It is also fantastic to get the chance to see what the students here are doing".

For more information on the annual Animex Festival visit www.animex.net.



Tasty tea



Nitin Seetol

A nice cup of tea is one of the world's oldest and most popular drinks and is enjoyed by millions of people world wide – however that is not to say such an old favourite can't be improved upon and scientists at Teesside are trying to do just that.

Dr Liam O'Hare and fellow scientists in the University's Centre for Applied Science are working with colleague Professor Siromi Samarasinghe a food chemist from Sri Lanka who came to Middlesbrough for a six-month sabbatical last year. The team are looking at measuring and maintaining the quality of compounds distinct to Ceylon tea.

Tea exports are valuable to Sri Lanka and the quality of tea is currently measured by highly skilled people called graders who can detect even small variations in quality, however training these individuals takes a considerable amount of resources. So the development of robust and inexpensive technology to carry out this activity would be invaluable to the small producer.

The team are using nanotechnology to explore the possibility of building an 'electronic nose' to distinguish between the aroma of different teas and an 'electronic tongue' to measure taste and strength. Nanotechnology is the science of the small – which relates to structures and features that can be measured on a nanometer scale (about 100,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair).

Dr O'Hare is also working with Nitin Seetol a PhD student from Mauritius to investigate green tea qualities. Green tea is becoming increasingly popular in the UK tea market. Nitin has developed an ammonia sensor for use in analysing the fluorescence of tea giving information about the taste.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

John McCarthy, film maker, broadcaster, writer and former Lebanon hostage visited the University to give a talk as part of the University's Social Futures Institute Conference 'A Place to call Home'.



John examined how many people, often for reasons beyond their control, find their home lives are unstable or fractured by outside events such as war or disasters. He talked about his life after coming home to Britain, and revealed insights in to the way that he had to rebuild his life after five traumatic years of captivity. John spoke with humour about his relationship with Brian Keenan, fellow hostage, and even his guards – in spite of the fear, boredom and psychological challenge of surviving such an ordeal.

Dr Tony Chapman, Assistant Director (Research, Sociology and Criminology) and Director of the Social Futures Institute said, "We were delighted to secure such a high profile speaker as John McCarthy for this conference. The aim of the conference was to help delegates from a broad area to gain an understanding of the importance of the home and the wider community. John's lecture was fascinating and thought provoking and was an emotionally uplifting end to the two day conference."

Dazzling designs



This year's Design Degree Show as always had some fantastic work on show from all the final year degree students on design courses.

Pictured is the work of Ismini Yekalaki, a student on the BA (Hons) Entertainment Design Crafts course which is taught at the Hartlepool Campus of Cleveland College of Art & Design and validated by the University. This degree equips graduates with skills in set design and construction, costume, props and effects.

The Design Degree Show is open to the public and is held annually in June for more information call 01642 384019 or email arts@tees.ac.uk.

Homeworking – an easy option?

Dr Jeanne Moore is a senior lecturer in Psychology in the School of Social Science & Law and has undertaken extensive research into the effects of homeworking on home and family lives, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Her study received widespread media interest when launched recently by the ESRC, including coverage by Sky, BBC news, the *Independent on Sunday* and Radio 4.

Dr Moore found that homeworking has an impact on family and home life. Working with researcher Dr Tracey Crosbie, Dr Moore contacted over 100 homeworkers, mostly in the north of England and in Wales. Their results showed that home working is a double edged sword as it gives workers flexibility but can encourage working 'out of hours'.

The research also showed that the sexes have different experiences of homeworking. Women in professional or managerial roles who saw their home and work responsibilities as equally important tended

to experience more tensions between home and work life than men. Homeworkers with young children at home found it most difficult to balance home and work responsibilities especially if they were unable to afford childcare.

In conclusion Dr Moore found that homeworking was an unequal experience largely shaped by the type of work carried out and the financial and spatial resources available. The greater control over working life and reduction of stress were found to be key to those individuals who enjoyed homeworking. The majority of those surveyed agreed that homeworking was a positive experience. This research offers a valuable insight in to homeworking for anyone considering the change.

Dr Jeane Moore found homeworking impacts on family life.



Awards 2004

As usual the annual Academic Awards Ceremonies took place between 23 - 26 November and were the culmination of years of hard work by both students and staff. In ten individual ceremonies the University's Vice Chancellor, Professor Graham Henderson presented over 4,000 awards at Middlesbrough Town Hall. We would like to pass on our congratulations to everyone who received an award.

During the final ceremony honorary degrees were awarded to five leading figures that the University considers to have made a significant contribution to society.

Professor Sir Liam Donaldson (honorary Doctor of Science). Is the Chief Medical Officer, prior to this post he was Director of the NHS Northern Region and was knighted in 2002. Sir Liam was born in Teesside.

The University would like to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals and organisations who sponsor/donate prizes at the Academic Awards Ceremonies to be given to students to acknowledge individual achievement. If you are interested in finding out more about prizes please contact the Vice-Chancellors office on 01642 342002 or email m.white@tees.ac.uk.



Elizabeth Estensen (honorary Master of Arts). Teesside-born actress Elizabeth is a regular on Emmerdale. She has made extensive television appearances throughout her career and is a former student of Stockton and Billingham College of Further Education (now Stockton Riverside College).

Antony Gormley (honorary Doctor of Letters). An eminent installation artist Antony is most famous locally for creating the Angel of the North.

Andrew Lomas (honorary Master of Arts). A graduate of the MSc 3D Computer-Aided Graphical Technology Applications course at Teesside. Andrew is the creator of innovative digital effects in Hollywood and is Head of Computer Graphics at ESC Entertainment, Los Angeles.

Hazel Pearson OBE (honorary Master of Laws). Chair of Middlesbrough College, Acklam Grange School and Kader School. Hazel has worked tirelessly as a Middlesbrough Councillor for 33 years and was awarded the Freedom of Middlesbrough last year.

Honorary & Professorial Public Lecture Series

Last year's lecture series was a phenomenal success, in particular the lecture by the pioneering animator Dr Ray Harryhausen was extremely popular. We are delighted that once again a host of high-profile professors and several of our own honorary graduates have kindly agreed to take part in this year's series. The lectures began in November but there are a number of sessions left which you can still catch.

Wednesday 9 February 2005

Professor Mike Smith – Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise)

'The New Image: Medical Imaging'

Wednesday 9 March 2005

Alan Smith – Former Physiotherapist for England Football Team and honorary graduate.

'The England Job'

Wednesday 11 May 2005

Professor John Wilson – Dean of Teesside Business School

'A Third Way To Nowhere? New Labour and Public Services'

Wednesday 8 June 2005

Wally K Daly – Internationally renowned playwright and honorary graduate.

'All the World's a Stage'

EVERYONE'S WELCOME

All lectures are held in the Centuria Building 6.30pm – 8.00pm and light refreshments will be served from 6.00pm. For more details contact the Alumni Office on alumni.office@tees.ac.uk or call 01642 384255.

Professor Harry Mcleod Currie

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the death of Professor Harry MacLeod Currie who was Head of the Department of Humanities until 1993 and remained an Emeritus Professor of the University. Su Reid, Director of Higher Education Projects said, "Harry brought a distinctive academic expertise to the Polytechnic and worked hard to establish the foundations of the humanities department. He was highly respected by his colleagues".

leading the way

Success grows on trees

Gareth Mitchell graduated with a BA (Hons) Design Marketing in 2000, but little did he realise that his Christmas gift dilemmas would result in him running a successful business.

Gareth explained, "I wanted to buy my parents a Christmas gift with more meaning than a CD or box of chocolates, when I came up with the idea of buying them a tree as a gift that could grow and last for years." After searching the internet, he realised that he couldn't find a company that could supply trees as a gift.

So he decided to launch his own company and revolutionise the UK gift market, www.tree2mydoor.com. The website was set-up in 2003 and provides alternative gifts in the form of fine quality trees and wildflowers, and it has been an incredible success.

The website is unique as it explains the ancient meanings behind the UK's native trees. The 'Ancient Wisdom' tree range focuses on how the Celts used trees and highlights their ancient magical properties as well as detailing what zodiac sign the trees belong to.

"I have worked very hard to get Tree2mydoor off the ground and I'm looking forward to growing the business over the coming years. I hope to work with businesses and organisations located all around the UK in a bid to encourage tree planting. I want to be able to influence consumers to spend their disposable income in the UK's rural economy too."

Gareth was delighted when his company won the UK Gift Association's Gift of the Year Award in June 2004. The Gift Association strives to promote excellence in the UK gift industry and it was a great honour for Gareth to receive the award after such a short time in business.

*Gareth Mitchell Managing Director
Tree2mydoor Ltd*



STAYING IN THERAPY



When Carly Johnson, BSc Sport Therapy graduated in 2003 she initially continued with her part-time job, as a school Sports Assistant and Football Coach. She was unsure whether to continue with her studies or go straight in to full-time employment, however when she saw a vacancy at University Hospital of North Tees she knew it was the opportunity she was looking for.

Carly is now a Specialised Therapy Assistant in the Intermediate Care team at North Tees. She works in the community assisting patients who have just come out of hospital who are eligible for a six week course of rehabilitation and care in their homes. Carly initially meets with patients with the Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist and together they plan the treatment programme. She then visits patients to work towards their goals and independence, sometimes several times a day.

She is really enjoying her role as it uses much of her academic studies and the opportunity to get out and about in the community and learn new skills from the rest of the team is fantastic. She now hopes to undertake further study to become a physiotherapist.

As for her spare time, Carly is very busy then too. She enjoyed her initial post coaching so much that she's continuing with that during evenings and weekends.

Beach Cruiser

BA (Hons) Industrial Design student Ray Donnison graduated in 2004 and hopes his final year design project will help wheelchair users enjoy days at the beach with a unique attachment.

The Beach Cruiser is designed to fit underneath a wheelchair, and its large wheels that don't sink in to the sand allow the user to be pushed along the beach. Plus the Cruiser can easily fit into the boot of a car.

Ray said, "There are specific beach-wheelchairs available, but they are very expensive. I thought there was a clear advantage in designing an additional unit, which would prevent the user from having to buy another chair. After lots of extensive research and testing, I designed the Beach Cruiser.

"It is still only a concept at the moment, but I think there is a lot of potential for it. It could easily be adapted to make it usable for grass and snow. It would be great to see my design developed into a real product." Ray now wants to go in to a career in teaching and is currently studying for his PGCE at Sunderland.



Marital bliss

Christine Thompson (now Parry), BSc (Hons) Chemistry, 2002 had two reasons to be cheerful at her wedding last year. Not only was it the happiest day of her life, but a familiar face was performing the wedding ceremony.

Dr Julie Watson a former lecturer from Christine's degree programme, is now an ordained priest and Christine's wedding was the first wedding ceremony Julie had performed. Revd Dr Julie Watson said, "It was so exciting that Christine and Nicholas were my first wedding, a way of bringing my old and new roles together. I didn't realise Christine was a former student until I met her at the wedding interview, but it was a pleasant surprise."

Christine now works at the University of Teesside as a Project Officer in the Clean Environment Management Centre (CLEMANCE). The centre provides clean technology advice and solutions to small and medium local businesses with environmental problems.

Flower power



Russell Sawdon graduated with a BA (Hons) in Business Administration in 1996 and followed a career in retail management with a number of leading high street retailers such as Uptons, McDonalds and B&Q. That was until 2003 when he decided to use his extensive business experience to set-up on his own.

Russell now owns and manages the 'Flowerhouse', a florist shop in Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees. This may seem like a strange change of direction, but Russell had some knowledge of the flower industry from his mother, an experienced florist.

Russell said, "I decided upon a florist's because it is an industry dominated by artists and not retailers. I wanted to put a retailer's view to the industry and challenge the way that things were being done. A year later and we seem to be getting it right and are looking for a second shop."

Russell had some basic training as a florist himself and the shop is going from strength to strength, now employing seven staff and with a number of key contracts to supply flowers to local businesses. Russell and the team may soon be on a high street near you!

Would you like to feature in the next edition of The Graduate? All you need to do is submit a short article (200 words max) which includes: your course title and year of graduation; details of what you are doing now and any other information on you that is relevant.

We also need a really good photo of you preferably relating to your article either a hardcopy photograph or alternatively a electronic image (contact us for specifications), or if you're local to the University our photographer may be able to pay you a visit!

The magazine is circulated to over 32,000 alumni across the globe and it is a great opportunity to promote both yourself and your organisation.

Teesside treasure

Martin Ings, BSc (Hons) Sport Science with Criminology, 2002, is the retiring president of the University of Teesside's Students' Union (UTSU).

Whilst working for the UTSU Martin always maintained a keen regional involvement with the National Union of Students (NUS), serving as a regional representative on the National Council and through the Board of Directors of NUS Services Limited.

This commitment has paid off as he is now taking his first step on the career ladder as full-time Treasurer on the NUS National Executive Committee. Martin is the first ever officer from Teesside to be elected to a full time position.

He said, "Being elected to National Treasurer was a great moment. During my two years as President of the UTSU I and the team managed to do a lot to enhance the student experience, being awarded Students' Union of the Year in 2002 was the icing on the cake.

I am really grateful to the students, my fellow executive members and the staff of the University for all their support and advice during my time there. I hope that I can go on to make significant achievements in my new role."



Life on the ocean wave

Ben Beasley, BA (Hons) Marketing, 1999 now works as a National Account Manager for Sony UK but he has still found time to take part in the Global Sailing Challenge 2004 - 2005.

Ben had very little experience of sailing in the past apart from a work team building exercise at the Sony Industry Challenge, an eight-hour race around the Isle of Wight. But this was not an experience he enjoyed, he said, "After that I vowed never to go back on a boat again, it wasn't a pleasant experience."

But he enjoys a challenge and decided to try out for the Sony Global Challenge despite his initial reservations. Fortunately, Ben was lucky enough to be chosen from the thousands of applicants and has become one of the 180 hand-picked crew. The Global Challenge involves ten months on some of the world's toughest seas. Ben had to find over £25,000 to cover his costs for the event and attend numerous training courses covering all aspects of sailing.

He has worked for Sony for four years, working his way up from Marketing Assistant to his current role, selling IT to the grocery and office industries. During his trip Ben will be acting as ambassador for the company on his various ports of call around the world.

Ben said, "I'm grateful to Sony for allowing me to take on a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity like this but I'm sure that the experiences I gain throughout the ten months on the seas will be invaluable to me both personally and professionally." Ben's journey began at the end of 2004 and he expects to arrive back in Portsmouth in July, you can follow his journey at www.kunachi.com.



Ben is pictured with Ellen McArthur, yachtswoman.

DESIGNED FOR THE TOP

A clear idea of what she wanted from a career helped Ruth Blair (now Cochrane), BA (Hons) Industrial Design, 1999, to build the foundation of a promising career.



As Head of Product Design for Linn Products in Glasgow Ruth is actively using the expertise she developed while at Teesside. She runs the mechanical design department and manages a team of seven people. Although Ruth has to tackle mountains of the dreaded paperwork she still has the opportunity to indulge in her favourite part of the job, designing.

Ruth initially worked in Edinburgh after graduating, in package design for a plastics company and then as a product design consultant. This experience helped Ruth to secure her current role, which she loves.

Ruth also loved her course at Teesside and has fond memories of her time at University. She rates the friends she made as one of the best things about her course but also maintains that Teesside is by far the best place to study Industrial Design.

Treading the boards

Tristan Alltimes graduated with BA (Hons) Marketing in 2001 and is now following a career in the theatre but not on the stage – promoting it!

Tristan is the Marketing Officer at York Theatre Royal. He looks after the theatre's advertising and direct mail campaigns and has implemented a few interesting new approaches.

Tristan established the theatre as the first regional theatre to incorporate SMS mobile phone technology in to marketing campaigns. A text messaging service sends information out to customers who in turn can book theatre seats via their mobile phones. This service has been very well received by theatre patrons.

He was also instrumental in setting up links with local volunteer organisations to supply volunteers to the marketing department. This scheme has proved invaluable for volunteers in increasing their employability and has provided precious additional staff resources to the theatre. Tristan thoroughly enjoys his career and finds it both challenging and rewarding.



graduates around the globe

Special effects

Andy Lomas graduated from the MSc 3D Computer Aided Graphical Technology Applications (CAGTA) course in 1992 and since then has forged a phenomenally successful career in Computer Generated Effects.

Andy was initially employed by FrameStore in London where he worked on a host of animation projects, most notably the BBC television series *Walking with Dinosaurs*. Andy was Senior Technical Adviser and Software Developer on the series which won Emmys in 2000 for Outstanding Visual Effects and Best Animated Program, and the 2000 Royal Television Society Award for Design and Craft Innovation.

Andy won two other Emmys for his work on visual effects for *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Odyssey*. Whilst at FrameStore he was also Supervising Animator on the feature film *Lost in Space* starring Matt Le Blanc and Senior Animator on the James Bond title sequences for *Tomorrow Never Dies* and *Goldeneye*.

He then moved to the US to work for ESC Entertainment where he became CG Supervisor on the *Matrix Revolutions*. The ESC Company was initially set-up three years ago from a core team of people who worked on the effects for the Matrix trilogy. It is one of the worlds leading digital effects studios, based in California. The projects that the company has just completed include feature films *Catwoman* starring Halle Berry and *Constantine* starring Keanu Reeves.

Andy has very fond memories of his time at Teesside, although he loves his new life living in the United States, especially the fantastic scenery.

To top all his achievements off Andy was awarded an honorary degree from Teesside in 2004.



CANADIAN CONNECTION

Stephan Rauch graduated in 1992 with BA Business Studies and after three years working in the UK for Rank Xerox he has now returned to his native Canada.

Stephan decided to return home where he initially secured a role as a salesperson for Future Electronics, he has worked his way up the organisational ladder over the past few years and is now General Manager of Future Electronics, Montreal, a role which he is enjoying.

Stephan enjoyed studying at Teesside, in particular the countryside and the people. He believes that experiencing another culture whilst studying was invaluable and added to his overall studying experience.

Teesside to seaside



In 1993 Heather Luckarift graduated with a BSc (Hons) Process Biotechnology, now 11 years later her career has led her to the sunshine state.

Her first job was a research technician at the University of Warwick, where she completed a PhD in Microbiology in 1999 and then went on to hold two post-doctorate positions. Heather's research work focused on biocatalysts, which is using bacteria to catalyse novel reactions that are difficult to achieve using classical chemistry.

On leaving Warwick in 2002 she got married and moved to Florida and a new job at the US Air Force Research Laboratory. Heather still works in biocatalysis (using microbial enzymes to synthesise new compounds that are useful for making high-performance aerospace materials).

Heather finds her work very rewarding, especially knowing that her research could one day make a difference. She feels incredibly lucky to have the opportunity to live and work overseas. The laboratory that Heather works in is located less than one mile from a beautiful beach, where she spends her lunch breaks watching dolphins playing in the Gulf of Mexico - a definite motivation to go to work every day!

Darlington to Dubai

When Paul Gregory graduated in 1995 with a BEng (Hons) Civil Engineering he spent a further two years working for the local consultants with whom he had completed his engineering technician training prior to commencing his degree course. He then worked for Whessoe in Darlington for three years and achieved Chartership with the Institution of Structural Engineers whilst working in the UK, Europe and the West Indies.

Paul then moved on to work for K Home Engineering in Thornaby where he now works as Site Senior Structural Engineer based in Dubai. Paul is working on the design of a multi-million pound extension to an aluminium smelter complex. He finds his role rewarding and varied and says Dubai is a great place to live and work. The city has a large, young expatriate community and the year round sunshine is fantastic.





Marcelle's on Madison Avenue

When Marcelle Irving graduated with a BA (Hons) Interior Design in 1993 she could not have dreamed of her new life in the Big Apple.

After graduating Marcelle went travelling to the Far East and then returned to her native Liverpool and worked as a freelance designer. She then moved to London to work for a small interior design company and then in 2000 made the trip across the Atlantic to New York.

Marcelle now works for Brennan Beer Gorman Monk Interiors as an Interior Designer, this large company is based on New York's famous Madison Avenue and specialises in hospitality interior design. Marcelle thoroughly enjoys the variety of her job from selecting fabrics to drafting designs on computer. She has also developed an extensive knowledge of related issues such as architecture and engineering.

The most rewarding part of the job for Marcelle is seeing the paper design become a reality. One of her most recent projects was working on the refurbishment of the Elizabeth Arden Spa on Fifth Avenue which was a fantastic project.

BELGIAN TACKLE

Jo Wilkinson graduated in 1996 with BA (Hons) Marketing and now works as a Senior Consultant for IDPP in Brussels, Belgium. Alongside her professional career Jo still finds time for the other love she developed whilst at Teesside, Women's Rugby.

Jo was a committed member of the University Women's Rugby team and regards it as her all-consuming passion. She now not only captains her club side the Brussels Barbarians she was also selected to captain the national Belgian Women's Rugby team.

Jo plays as second row for the national team and has now held the captaincy for two fixtures against the Netherlands and Sweden. Before accepting the post as captain she had a few concerns about not being Belgian, but her teammates love her enthusiastic vocals on the pitch.

Jo loves living in Brussels, especially in the summer as it has great countryside, live outdoor music events and a real buzz about the place. She has no plans to return to England at the moment as she is enjoying life so much on the continent, but she does miss her family and friends.

International recruitment 2005

Our International team will soon be starting their international recruitment for 2005. We'd like to thank those of you who came along last year, and invite those of you living abroad to come along and meet the team when they are visiting your country this year.

For exact dates, times and venues please contact Elke Tinnacher on +44 (0) 1642 384281 or email international.office@tees.ac.uk.

February	Oslo, Norway
February	China
March	Penang and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
April	Athens and Thessaloniki, Greece
August	Athens, Greece Penang and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
October	China
October	Cork, Ireland
November	Germany



alumni news

Past v Present

SPORTS TOURNAMENT

The thirteenth annual Past versus Present Sports Tournament took place on Saturday 27 November, and the Past teams were competing to try and regain the Vice-Chancellor's Cup from last years winners the present teams. This year's overall winners were the Past team who stormed to victory. The Professor Derek Fraser Cup for outstanding achievement was awarded to Rachel Shakespeare for her hard work and enthusiasm in supporting the event organisation as Students' Union Societies & Recreation Officers, and for her participation in the netball competition.

RESULTS:

	Past	Present	Winner
Badminton	4	6	Present
Cricket	2	0	Past
Golf	3.5	2.5	Past
Horsriding	1	2	Present
Men's Basketball 1	51	49	Past
Men's Basketball 2	59	54	Past
Men's Fooball 2	4	6	Present
Men's Football 1	5	4	Past
Men's Hockey	8	0	Past
Netball	37	22	Past
Squash	4	0	Past
Women's Basketball	52	71	Present
Women's Football	2	2	Draw
Women's Hockey	0	7	Present
Men's Rugby Union	18	10	Past
Men's Rugby League	46	18	Past

If you are interested in taking part in the tournament next year please email alumni.office@tees.ac.uk.



Pictured: Mari Bloom, Ruth Kirkby and Laura Hake

PRIZE WINNERS

We would like to say a big thank you to all of you who completed the questionnaires in the last issue. The response was excellent and hundreds were returned in time to be entered into the prize draw. Each of the winners named below won £100 in Debenhams vouchers.

Caroline Banner, BSc (Hons)
Physiotherapy, 1998

Josephine Berry, CIM, 1997

Claire Compton, BA (Hons) Criminology
with Social Policy, 2002

REUNION ROUND-UP

BEng Civil Engineering 1995/6

Paula McMahon and Nick Bond organised a reunion event which was held in Middlesbrough on Saturday 20 March 2004. The group met up for a meal then went on to their old student haunt the Star and Garter on Southfield Road. Everyone had a fantastic evening and they all agreed it hardly felt like any time had passed since their student days.



Alumni updates & desperately seeking

1946

Mac Stenson, *Engineering Cadets Group III* aged 78 is now retired and living in Canada. He worked for most of his life for Rolls-Royce in the UK and the US and ended his career as a Powerplant Engineer at Air Niugini. Mac has very fond memories of his stay in Teesside during the war years. He loves to be kept up-to-date with goings-on at the University and keeps in touch with all of his surviving colleagues from his course.

1986

Diana Burtinshaw, *BA Humanities* lives in London and works as the Development Office Manager and Personal Assistant to the Director of Development at Brunel University.

1990

Jonathan Jones, *BA Humanities* has now left the Northern Echo where he was employed for several years as Business Editor. He is currently Product Editor for Cobweb Information Ltd in Gateshead. To get in touch with him email j.jones@cobwebinfo.com.

Amjad Bashir, *BSc Mathematical Sciences*, is now an Accountant. He would like to hear from any of his old class mates and friends. His email address is uk_amjad@hotmail.com.

1991

Ravi Dass, *BA (Hons) Humanities* attended the Institute of the United States Studies in London and now works for Centrica in the Chief Executive's office. He lives in Southampton and his email address is available via the online e-directory at www.tees.ac.uk.

Anil Patel, *BSc Computer Science* currently works as a Senior Software Testing Analyst for a financial services company in London and is most impressed with the way the campus now looks. He would love to hear from any old classmates, email patel_anil@hotmail.com.

1992

Francis Mokone, *BEng (Hons) Instrumentation and Control Engineering* now works as an Engineer for De Beers in South Africa. He would love to hear from any former classmates, email fmokone@debswana.bw

1997

Simon Douglass, *BA (Hons) English* lives and works in London for www.google.com in advertising operations. He is also a stand up comedian on the London comedy circuit and appeared last year at the London Comedy Festival Allstars Competition. He can be contacted at www.simondouglass.co.uk.



Richard Gledhill, *BA (Hons) English* married **Jayne Halliwell**, *BA (Hons) Social and Public Policy* last August. Richard works as Deputy Head of English at a secondary school in Wigan and Jayne works in Manchester for the Department of Work & Pensions.

Ramin Javanmardy, *BEng Computer Engineering* currently works in the United States as Chief Executive Officer of Javvo Inc. Old friends can contact him at ramin.javanmardy@javvo.com.

Hugh McGouran, *BA (Hons) Public Administration* is now working as a Business Development Director for Pertemps People Development Group. He is involved in project delivery across Merseyside, Glasgow and the North East. Hugh would love to hear from old friends, email hugh.mcgouran@ppdg.co.uk.

GRADUATE PROFILES – CAN YOU HELP?

We are also working hard at obtaining graduate profiles from as many alumni as possible to find out your opinions of Teesside and what you are up to now. If you would like to provide a profile, then please contact the Alumni Office on **01642 384255** or email alumni.office@tees.ac.uk.



1998

Damian Clement, BA (Hons) Interior Design and Architecture has just returned from travelling. He has been working in Australia for a year designing bar and club interiors.

1999

Stuart Kelly, BA Business lives and works in Luxembourg for an Asset Management Company. In his spare time he plays rugby in the French leagues and International rugby for Luxembourg. Old friends can contact him at stuart.kelly@jpmorganfleming.com.

Shaun Ingyon, BA (Hons) History has been teaching History and English and has just taken up the post of Head of ICT at The Meadows School in Spennymoor.

2000

Adel Al-Daqal, BEng Chemical Engineering returned to his native Qatar on graduation and now works as Ammonia Plant Engineer for the Qatar Fertilizer Company (QAFCO).

2001

Shahda Khan, BSc (Hons) Social Policy now works for Middlesbrough Borough Council as their Community Cohesion Officer and would love to hear from old friends, her email is khan_shahda@hotmail.com.

Dorothy McCarthy, BSc Psychology and MSc Health Psychology worked in the Students' Union café whilst studying at Teesside and now works as a Psychologist in Dublin. She hopes to open her own private practice in the next two years.

Fiona Gifford (now Taylor), BSc (Hons) Multimedia now works for IBM in Farnborough as an IT Specialist.

Sarah Stead, BA (Hons) Marketing works for Brahm, one of the leading marketing and communication agencies in the north. She specialises in advertising and is currently Account Executive for Persimmon Homes.

2002

Andy Sayer, BSc Food Science is currently working as a manufacturing graduate for Kerry Foods in Durham which produces chilled ready meals. He is responsible for a large team and two production lines. He is currently considering a move to lecturing.

Colin Geoffrey Saysell, MSc Information Technology is now studying medicine.

MD Faizal Mohammad, BSc (Hons) Applied Rehabilitation is now working at the National University Hospital of Malaysia as Head of the Occupational Therapy Unit.

James Ding, BSc (Hons) Applied Science and Forensic Measurement is a Platoon Commander in the British Army. He is currently serving in Northern Ireland and in addition to his operational role guides the careers of youngsters aged between 17 and 27. He looks after all aspects of their day to day fitness, education and training. If you would like to contact James he can be emailed at jim3011@hotmail.com.

2003

David Singh, BA (Hons) Marketing now works as the Business Development Manager at the award winning North Eastern Tyre and Exhausts. He thoroughly enjoys his role there particularly the travel abroad. If you would like to get in touch with him please email davids@nete.co.uk.

Nick Howard, BEng Chemical Engineering currently works at Wylfa Power Station on Anglesey. Old friends can contact him at nhoward@mitsuibabcock.com.

John Harman, BA (Hons) English and History



found his graduation ceremony an interesting parallel. His grandfather was a former Mayor of Middlesbrough and hosted a civic luncheon at the Town Hall when King George VI visited Middlesbrough. John borrowed his grandfather's mayoral pendant and OBE for his graduation ceremony as a tribute to his family. He is now working as Co-ordinator for the Journalist (Media) Network for North East England.



We need you!

Each year the University undertakes a national recruitment tour and the staff attending these events are always delighted to receive a visit from our alumni. After all, who better to give advice about studying at Teesside! If you can spare some time to come along then please contact the Schools & Colleges Liaison Team on 01642 342275 or recruit@tees.ac.uk for further details.

NATIONAL RECRUITMENT EVENTS 2005

March	Manchester, Isle of Man, Sussex, Bath, Harrogate, Lancaster, Leicester
April	Bournemouth, Leeds
June	Staffordshire, Hertfordshire, Durham, Newcastle, Suffolk, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Liverpool
July	Hull, Sheffield, Carlisle
August	Kilmarnock
September	Dumfries, Dundee, Aberdeen, Galashiels

The University's main Open Day will be held on **Wednesday 14 September 2005**.

The next step . . .

This section of *The Graduate* focuses on a topic we think will be of particular relevance to our alumni. In this issue, we look at upgrade² the University's programme of on-campus business incubation units which are used by graduates to set-up their own enterprises.

Seed Animation Studio moved in to an incubator unit in the recently refurbished Victoria Building. Morgan Powell, Neil Kidney and Rob Womersley all graduated from MA Computer Animation in 2003, and as they worked so well as a team and generated good ideas they decided to set-up their own company producing computer animation for client requests. Their first job was a pilot of a children's television show which is currently being presented to TV networks. The support of the upgrade² programme has been invaluable to them, Rob Womersley said, "Setting-up your own venture is hard and the bottom line is that the Graduate Business Unit set-up at the University is an incredible package that gives new businesses every opportunity to succeed."



Stuart Burns a graduate of BA (Hons) Media Studies, 2003, is also a recent arrival on campus. His company **Guisborough Town Crier Media Group** produces a quarterly community magazine and several specialist magazines about early life in Guisborough. He also tours local schools and heritage exhibitions with a collection of farming tools and implements from yester-year giving presentations to school children. He was recently awarded a heritage grant from the Tees Valley Community Foundation for his work in this area. Stuart says of the support he has received from the University in setting up his business, "It is second to none and has allowed me the space and freedom to expand the business. It has given me the opportunity to educate youngsters about farming circa 1950."

Another business that originally started in the incubator units and has now expanded is **YuZu** which provides visual and creative solutions to companies wanting to make their presence on the internet more effective. John Corner and Liam Dawson who own YuZu are both graduates of Teesside's BSc Media Technology and Production course. They began their business in 2003 with the support of the upgrade² scheme in one of the campus incubator units. They recently expanded, taking on two new graduates, and moving to premises close to Middlesbrough Railway Station. They both feel that the initial support provided by upgrade² was integral to the success of their business.

Music production company **Imagewave Audio** is also part of the upgrade² programme. The company was set-up by Renato Uccellini, MA Creative Arts, 2003, and his colleagues Lee Codrington and O.D Loveless. They produce picture-sync music for films, television and digital media, and Renato believes that the Tees Valley is the perfect location to set-up this business as costs are low yet technology allows him to communicate with clients across the globe at the touch of a button.



Graduates from any university or discipline can gain assistance in setting-up their own business venture. To date over 50 new companies employing almost 90 people have been created.

upgrade² provides subsidized office space for the first year, PC and internet access, a phone line and office furniture. Plus business advice and guidance via a mentor and access to free workshops. To find out more contact the Enterprise Team on 01642 384400 or email upgrade2@tees.ac.uk.

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

Then the Alumni Office 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.

Just email us
alumni.office@tees.ac.uk

University Gifts

Prices include postage and packaging

Golf Umbrella £14.40

White Mug £4.00

Keyring £4.00

Business Card Case £10.50

Notebook/Pen Set £11.80

Nickel Paperweight £14.00

Tie Pin £2.30

Tie £10.00

Parker Steel Vector Pen (in silver) £14.00

White T-Shirt (s, m, l, xl) £10.20

Hooded Sweatshirt with Zip - Grey/Black (s, m, l, xl) £22.80

Hooded Sweatshirt - Navy (s, m, l, xl) £20.40

Square Coaster £7.95

Order Form

Item	Size/ Colour	Quantity	Price Per Item	Total Price
White Mug			£4.00	
Keyring			£4.00	
Tie			£10.00	
Nickel Paperweight			£14.00	
Golf Umbrella			£14.40	
Hooded Sweatshirt - Navy (S, M, L, XL)			£20.40	
Hooded Sweatshirt with Zip - Grey, Black (S, M, L, XL)			£22.80	
White T-Shirt (S, M, L, XL)			£10.20	
Tie Pin			£2.30	
Parker Steel Vector Pen (in silver)			£14.00	
Square Coaster			£7.95	
Notebook/Pen Set			£11.80	
Business Card Case			£10.50	
Total Price				

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