

# TEESSIDE GRADUATE

2009

TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**WE DID IT!**  
TEESSIDE IS THE  
**UNIVERSITY**  
OF THE YEAR

*Times Higher Education*  
**UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR**



Teesside  
University

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## HOW TO CONTACT THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

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





# HELLO ALUMNI

Congratulations to all our new graduates and hello again to all our old friends.

The Alumni team and the University have had a most exciting year – we won University of the Year in the *Times Higher Education Awards* – a most fantastic achievement.

As you can see the University has rebranded – both the logo and the name have changed (see page 5). We have also hosted our first alumni affinity group event to celebrate 21 years of our Master of Business Administration programme. The event was a fantastic success (see photos on pages 15-17). The University is expanding too with a new development on campus to house sport and health science (see page 9) and an entirely new site in our neighbouring town of Darlington (see page 7).

Despite all this, the Alumni team has still found time to ensure that we have supported you with all your requests to find friends, organise reunions and much more. We always love to hear from you, the heart of the association, and particularly in our forthcoming 80th anniversary year as we are collecting your old photographs for our web wall of memories (see page 31).

So do remember to keep in touch and let us know when you move house or get a new email address. This will be even easier when we launch our Teesside Alumni Online site in the new year (see page 34). We hope you enjoy reading the magazine and appreciate any feedback (alumni.office@tees.ac.uk)

Best wishes for the rest of the year and for 2010.



**Sarah Irving**  
Alumni Relations Officer



**Claire Pearson**  
Alumni Relations Assistant

#### Edited by Sarah Irving

Editorial contributions Sarah Irving, Claire Pearson, Huw Williams, Stephen Laing, Nic Mitchell, Michelle Ruane.

#### PRIZE DRAW

Thank you to everyone who returned our recent survey. The prize draw winner was Catherine Robinson, BSc (Hons) Nursing (Women's Health), 1999. Catherine won £100 of Marks & Spencer vouchers which she was delighted with and had great fun spending.





## Dear Alumni Association Member

**By now you will probably be aware that our University has been awarded the title *Times Higher Education University of the Year* and, as if that was not enough, we have also won the award for the top Employer Engagement Initiative of the Year too.**

Achieving the status University of the Year is fantastic in itself but is particularly pleasing because, in winning the award, we are the first ever modern university to achieve this highly prestigious recognition. I am sure you can understand it was a wonderful moment and a huge personal honour for me to accept the award on behalf of our University. Teesside has undoubtedly gone from strength to strength in recent years and the award represents the culmination of a huge amount of effort and achievement by everyone associated with the University. But it is still difficult to put into words how proud everyone here feels about having been given such an accolade.

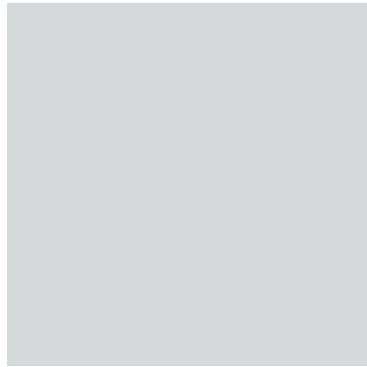
So, as the University community celebrates the success of 2009, I would like to pay tribute to all of my colleagues who have contributed to making it a place worthy of the title University of the Year. I hope that together we can continue to make you, our alumni, proud of 'your University' as we strive towards even greater levels of achievement in the future.

As the congratulations pour in about our success at becoming University of the Year, it is timely to reflect on our roots and the many tens of thousands of students who have passed through our institution since its inception in 1930. So we have decided the next edition of your magazine should focus on the 80 year life of our institution – from Constantine College to University of the Year – what an amazing journey!

Thank you all for your continuing support and friendship. It is greatly appreciated by us all.

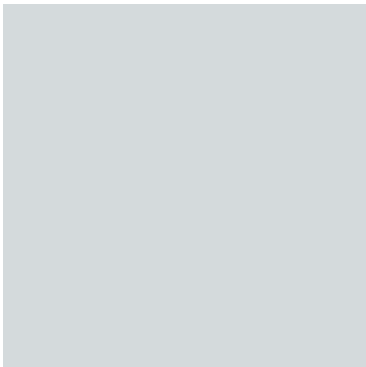
With my warmest best wishes

**Professor Graham Henderson  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive**

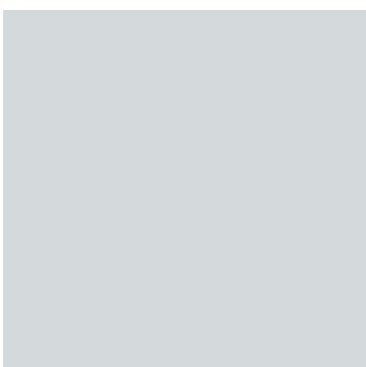
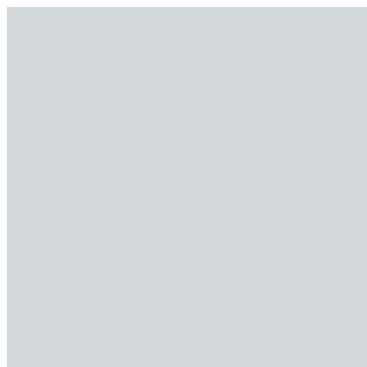


# A NEW LOOK

## THE STORY BEHIND THE BRAND



**The University** is a success story – regionally, nationally and internationally – and now we are moving forward into a new era, building on that success. So what is changing? Well, we are, all the time. Teesside University continues to go from strength to strength, growing and inspiring others to do the same. Our students have access to quality-tested courses, excellent facilities and committed staff with a real passion for enabling them to succeed. We tackle real world challenges and make sure our students gain the knowledge and skills to flourish in their chosen profession.



This has inspired us to create an energetic brand which signals to the outside world that we are embracing the future with confidence. Our new look will take us forward in the exciting times ahead as we grow, flourish and encourage others to do the same. The brand will be rolled out over a 12-month period and we are looking forward to embedding our values and image into everything we do. To find out more visit [www.tees.ac.uk/teesside](http://www.tees.ac.uk/teesside).

**What do you think of our new brand?** Email your comments to [alumni.office@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@tees.ac.uk) or enter the discussions at [www.facebook.com/teessidealumni](http://www.facebook.com/teessidealumni).



# CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS

# WE'VE WON

## - UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR

The champagne corks were popping across Tees Valley after we were named University of the Year by the *Times Higher Education* magazine. The award – the most prestigious in the national higher education calendar – was presented to Professor Graham Henderson, Vice-Chancellor of Teesside University, at a glitzy gathering of higher education leaders in London's Grosvenor House Hotel in October.

And the smiles just got bigger as we also picked up the Outstanding Employer Engagement Initiative of the Year award for our work with local business.

Award judge Dianne Willcocks, Vice Chancellor of York St John University, praised Teesside for its 'history of working with communities and businesses that makes it the public benefactor par excellence and truly a well-merited winner.'

*Times Higher* editor, Ann Mroz said, 'Teesside is a fantastic example of an institution that has put itself firmly at the heart of its community, embracing with zeal its mission of working with both individuals and businesses to help them achieve their full potential. Teesside is a very worthy winner of this year's top accolade.'

Professor Henderson said: 'Teesside is the first modern university to receive recognition as the University of the Year. It was therefore both an amazing moment and a huge personal honour for me to be able to accept this award on behalf of the University.'

Among the first to congratulate the University on its success was entrepreneur and *Dragon's Den* star Duncan Bannatyne, who said, 'It's absolutely fantastic that Teesside University has won the award of University of the Year from the *Times Higher*. As a Teesside Honorary Graduate, I offer my congratulations to the whole University community.'



# DISCOVER **DARLINGTON**

**The University** has announced plans to invest in a new £13m five-storey campus in Darlington.



Artist's impression of new building at Darlington College

The building, to be completed by June 2011, will be located beside Darlington College's building in Central Park, reaffirming the longstanding partnership between our partner College and the University.

The development will enable a significant expansion of the range of higher education courses available in Darlington by creating a strong University presence. Professor Graham Henderson, Vice-Chancellor, said, 'The University has a long history of widening access to higher education within the Tees Valley. The new initiative will provide an improved gateway for individuals and employers in the west end of the Tees Valley, South West Durham and North Yorkshire.'

We are now offering learning opportunities in Darlington. For more information visit our shop at 4 Post House Wynd – open Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays – or visit [www.tees.ac.uk/darlington](http://www.tees.ac.uk/darlington).

## D RAGON BECOMES OCTOR

**Duncan Bannatyne OBE**, entrepreneur and one of the stars of *Dragons' Den*, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Business Administration in our spring graduation ceremonies. The ceremonies, held in Darlington, were for Teesside graduates who gained their awards at Darlington College.



Duncan, whose company Bannatyne Fitness Ltd has its head offices in Darlington, said, 'I am very pleased and very honoured to be associated with Teesside University.' Duncan was born in Scotland and now has homes in Tees Valley, London and France. In 2004, he was awarded an OBE for his services to business and charity. During the last ten years, Duncan has expanded into health clubs, bars, hotels and property – Bannatyne's is now the largest independent chain of health clubs in the UK.





# A METEORIC RISE

**Meteor was first launched** by the University in 1999 to inspire local primary school children to think about further and higher education. It does this through a series of activities on and off campus, culminating in mini graduation ceremonies at Middlesbrough Town Hall. Since it began, thousands of young people have gone through the programme.

Originally aimed at Year 6 pupils at six schools in central Middlesbrough, it now includes 14 primary and 19 secondary schools from across the Tees Valley. It is in its tenth year and many of our alumni have worked as Meteor mentors over the years. Gary Crawley, Schools and Recruitment Manager, said, 'Meteor has grown enormously and has worked with many young people aged 11 - 16 from across the region. A big part of Meteor is the role of Teesside students who work with young people in their school, assisting them with their studies, and help raise awareness of further and higher education through our student worker scheme. This scheme has been an amazing success with extremely positive effects on the young people involved.'

## TEESSIDE OFFERS SUPPORT TO 'BEAT THE SLUMP'

**The University** has been commended for its work in helping individuals and businesses through the recession. Teesside's 16-step plan to help the region was one of three examples singled out for special mention in a report by Universities UK.



Measures include halving invoice turnaround time to help suppliers with cashflow, running future management masterclasses to help companies cope with the recession and offering generous bursaries to postgraduates and those new to higher education.

And now Teesside is building on this plan with a graduate internship scheme and other initiatives. Laura Woods, Director of Academic Enterprise, said, 'We can support companies to take on graduates who might otherwise be facing a period of unemployment. The University can contribute towards the extra salary costs for the first three months, thanks to grants from the Government. The schemes give graduates invaluable work experience, and the company can see the potential advantage of taking on a graduate full time.'

For further details of our 16 point plan visit [www.tees.ac.uk/businesshelp](http://www.tees.ac.uk/businesshelp).

For more information about the graduate internship scheme call **01642 384409** or email [j.harris@tees.ac.uk](mailto:j.harris@tees.ac.uk).



# NEW BUILD TAKES SHAPE

In our last issue, we mentioned plans to develop a new building for sport and health sciences. We are pleased to announce work is well underway on the £17m development, Centuria South.

The building will house a teaching and learning environment for students of our new dental education programmes and will also include sports therapy facilities, a series of laboratories, and biomechanic and hydrotherapy facilities. It is due to open at the start of the 2010 academic year, allowing the University to offer dental nursing and technology, and dental hygiene programmes to address a skills shortage in the region.



## BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

**In June** our first graduation ceremony took place for graduates of the Foundation Degree in Leadership and Management. This flexible programme was developed in partnership with the North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC). It was designed to meet the needs of businesses by allowing students to study on a day and a half masterclass basis, every 8-10 weeks over a two-year period.

Richard Bottomley, NECC's President and former senior partner with KPMG, said, 'This programme demonstrates that Teesside is at the leading edge of partnership between academia and business.'

Graduates were equally proud. Susan Finnigan, who works at NECC said, 'The course has given me the confidence and passion to develop the skills to reach my potential.' The programme has recently won the Outstanding Employer Engagement Initiative at the *Times Higher Education Awards*.





# culture

## ON CAMPUS

**This will be** our second year of the Culture on Campus initiative at Teesside which presents a fabulous range of free events every Wednesday lunchtime for students, graduates, staff and the general public, as well as a series of special evening events.

There have been musical performances such as jazz and opera, design and arts workshops and films about the region's heritage. Plus the University Choir and Rock and Soul Choir. The new Opera Theatre Group, which started last year, will also be meeting weekly and are seeking new singers.

Culture on Campus is expanding this year to include more performances, lectures and workshops plus some evening activities. There will also be dance sessions. Highlights will include an electro acoustic concert by Sebastian Castagna, performances by dance and theatre students and staff, and a Christmas concert by the Opera Theatre Group. Are you interested in performing? Please contact Janice Webster, Culture on Campus Co-ordinator, by emailing [j.webster@tees.ac.uk](mailto:j.webster@tees.ac.uk). And if you want to come along, please visit [www.tees.ac.uk/culture](http://www.tees.ac.uk/culture) for more information.

Pictured is Alex Gillett, lecturer and researcher in Teesside University Business School, who is guitarist in The Eruptors. They performed at the University in November.



## OBITUARY

Stan Olszowski passed away in June aged 89. He taught mechanical engineering at Teesside for many years, retiring in 1988 as Principal Lecturer in the former Department of Mechanical Engineering and Metallurgy. Few of his students knew that he was a much-decorated Polish war hero. He will be remembered with affection by colleagues, students and the people he helped in the local Polish community.

By Professor Thomas

## NEW DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR THE UNIVERSITY

**Professor Caroline MacDonald** has joined the University's senior management team as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Student Experience). Before joining Teesside, Professor MacDonald was Pro Vice-Chancellor at Glasgow Caledonian University. Caroline said, 'The University is full of energy and ambition and this is obvious from all the activity and new buildings on campus. My impression is the University is very much an institution where people work together.'





**One of the world's best-known dancers, Wayne Sleep OBE, is providing a £1,000 cash prize to promising Teesside dance students.**

# STUDENTS DANCE THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS



Wayne, who was awarded an honorary Master of Arts from the University in 1999, recently visited Middlesbrough to meet students on the new dance degree, BA (Hons) Dance. During his visit he watched students being assessed at Middlesbrough College's Middlehaven Campus, where all their practical classes are taken in the state-of-the-art theatre and dance studios.

Wayne, who was brought up in Hartlepool, gained a Leverhulme Scholarship to The Royal Ballet School when he was 12. He has gone on to achieve worldwide success as a dancer, choreographer and actor. The Wayne Sleep Prize will be given at the end of the first year to the best-performing dance student.

Ronan Paterson, Head of Performing Arts, said, 'Wayne's generosity, both with his time and in providing the prize, makes a huge difference to the opportunities we are able to offer.'

Our performing arts students also feature in a video to celebrate and promote Teesside University graduation ceremonies. The video has had thousands of hits on YouTube.

## NEW POSTGRADUATE COURSES

**Here are** a few of our new postgraduate programmes – some are available with a February start date. For further details and for other postgraduate programmes visit [www.tees.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.tees.ac.uk/postgraduate).



**MSc Advanced Sports Therapy and Rehabilitation Science** – This MSc has been designed to allow a sports therapist or physiotherapist to continue professional and educational development.

**MA Concept Art for Games and Animation\*** – The programme will provide you with the opportunity to develop the techniques and methods necessary to approach this subject and create effective and clearly-focused visual solutions.

**MSc Design** – This course offers a creative approach to design for engineering designers and recent graduates from

product design and technology backgrounds.

**MA European History** – This degree emphasises concepts such as region and regionalism, nation and nationalism, modernity and urbanism with reference to the history of modern and contemporary Europe.

**LLM Criminal Law** – This programme aims to extend graduates' knowledge and central understanding of criminal law.

**MSc Strength and Conditioning** – This course reflects the growth of strength and conditioning as a profession in the UK. It has

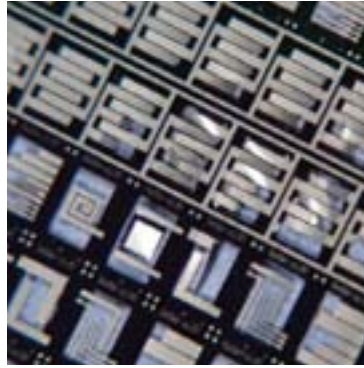
been developed in consultation with experts and employers to provide an exciting, challenging and current learning experience for recent graduates and established industry professionals.

**MSc Civil Engineering\*** – This course will be of interest if you are involved in construction and associated disciplines. It aims to deepen your knowledge in the core areas of civil engineering.

\*Subject to approval at time of print. Check website for latest information.

# NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTES LAUNCHED

Five new research institutes have been launched at the University with the promise from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Graham Henderson, that they will provide a clearer focus for research and development, and a platform for the University's growing reputation for research excellence.



The new research institutes are:

- Digital Futures Institute
- Health and Social Care Institute
- Institute of Design, Culture and the Arts
- Social Futures Institute
- Technology Futures Institute.

The official launch was held in September 2009 with the Director of the Leverhulme Trust, Professor Sir Richard Brook, as the keynote speaker. Guests met the directors of the five new institutes and saw examples of their work.

Dr Elizabeth Robertson, Dean of the Graduate Research School, said, 'It was good to share with our external stakeholders our research achievements and vision for the development of research at the University.'

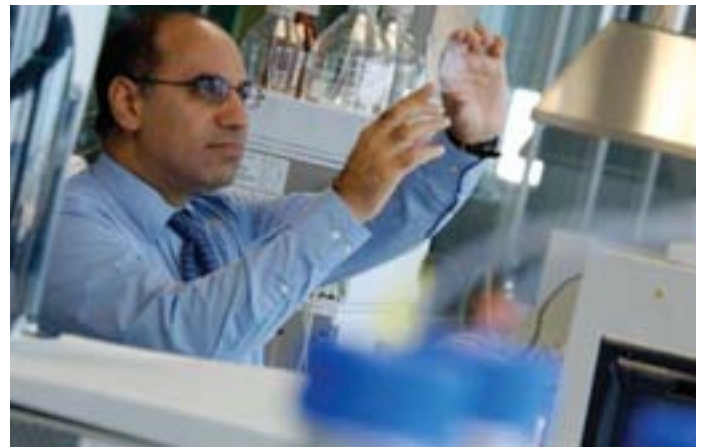




# DIAGNOSING DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS

**Work here** at Teesside, investigating new diagnostic systems for deep vein thrombosis (DVT), is cited as a good example of how public capital funding in higher education has supported the UK's dominant position in international research and produced many other benefits.

Professor Zulf Ali, Assistant Dean in the School of Science & Technology, is leading the research work. The work is testing a prototype fully-portable, automated device for accurate diagnosis of DVT which, along with related conditions, is the most common cause of unexpected death in developed nations. It is a condition in which blood clots form in one of the body's deep veins, often the leg, and can result in pulmonary embolism (when a clot lodges in the lung). Factors that might lead to DVT include obesity, immobility and old age, all of which are highly relevant in today's society.



Funding from the Government's second Science Research Investment Fund (SRIF2), the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, One North East and the European Union allowed Teesside to develop a top-class clean room facility to research miniaturised systems. The facility has been developed as a key regional and international infrastructure for developing miniaturised devices for chemical and biological processing.

Professor Ali is project co-ordinator for the project regarding diagnosing DVT (DVT-IMP project). He heads an international consortium of leading researchers from Germany, France, Spain and Hungary. For more information about his work visit [www.tees.ac.uk/technologyfutures](http://www.tees.ac.uk/technologyfutures).

## MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL - WHO IS THE FITTEST OF THEM ALL?



**Research led** by Daniel Eaves, Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader for Sports Psychology, has found that running on a treadmill in front of a mirror can improve your performance by making you more efficient.

Daniel and his colleagues, Nicola Hodges from the University of British Columbia and Mark Williams from Liverpool John Moores University, have been studying the effects on men running on a treadmill facing different images. The images were a normal mirror, a mirror with left and right reversed and a static image. Various performance factors were measured, such as oxygen consumption, heartrate, movement form and reaction time.

Daniel said, 'Our results showed that seeing a dynamic mirror image of yourself while running is

less energetically demanding than seeing a static image. The reversed image placed more demands on the thought processes. Many gyms have mirrors in front of treadmills and our research suggests they might help to stabilise your movement, allowing you to focus on running more smoothly.'

'If you are just getting into running, mirrors may be ideal for developing your style and performing a less demanding run. However, experienced runners who want to train harder may not benefit.'

# Legal eagle FLIES HIGH

**Joanna Tomkin** is now a high flying legal eagle currently pursuing her career in the Bahamas

First impressions can be hopelessly misleading, as Joanna Tomkin will tell you. 'When I first arrived at Teesside in 2003, I hated it. It was a complete culture shock. I wasn't in University accommodation. I went back to Huddersfield most weekends.'

It took her three or four months to adjust. 'I began to realise what a friendly, lively town Middlesbrough is. I joined various sports clubs and started to feel more integrated into University life. By the end I really loved it.'

Joanna graduated with an LLB (Hons) in 2007 as well as the Sweet and Maxwell Prize, awarded to the student judged to have contributed most to the course. And her 5ft 11½in frame made her a force to reckon with on the netball court. 'Don't let anyone tell you it's a non-contact sport. I used to come back from matches with more bruises than my rugby-playing flatmate.'

'I enjoyed being part of the netball team. We were Teesside Students' Union Club of the Year in my final year. We helped train people for the Paralympic Games and played charity matches. And I managed to get a £3,000 sponsorship deal for a new team look – new kit, balls, equipment, everything.'

Most of all, Joanna left University with an appreciation of the law staff. 'The lecturers were second-to-none, giving real care and attention. Personal tutors were never too busy to see you. And there were opportunities to watch the law in action in local courts and to learn through mentoring schemes.'

Next she studied for her Master's in International Law in Leeds as she didn't feel ready to train as a barrister. Her training for the Bar Vocational Course (now known as the Bar Professional Training Course) was done as a member of the Inner Temple – one of London's four Inns of Court. Not many people would see a resemblance

between an ancient landmark with its Oxbridge-style dining hall and Teesside, but Joanna does. 'They're both small communities within a larger place, where you know everybody and they know you.' She enjoys her strong rapport with Inn staff.

Joanna, who intended to run for a post in the Middle Temple Students' Association elections, was persuaded by a friend to stand for President at the last minute. 'She helped write my speech in 20 minutes and I stood against 21 other candidates. At 6.00pm I wasn't even a candidate, yet by 11.45pm I'd been elected.'

She was taking a risk with her education – her responsibilities ran alongside a fearsome course incorporating 13 exams in less than a year. Despite failing two papers, she believes it's been worthwhile preparation for a profession where being recognised matters. 'Who you know and who knows you, is vital.'

Being the Association's first black female President makes her notable, but Joanna's achieved much more. 'We introduced speed mooting, which gives a lot more people chance to take part without having to do huge amounts of preparation. We've had 160 people involved so far and I managed to get sponsorship from TM Lewin, a men's shirt retailer. I'll miss it all when it stops.'

After an attachment in the Attorney-General's office in the Bahamas, Joanna will start hunting for a pupillage – the final stage of training to be a barrister. 'There are about 3,000 students every year, plus 2,000 from the previous year, competing for 350-500 places.'

If a chambers takes four pupils, it may only have one tenancy to offer. You have to be outstanding, plus there's an element of luck.' Steep odds certainly but, if being able to make your own luck counts for anything, Joanna will be making as much an impact in her chosen profession as she has as a student.





# CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF OUR MBA

Dozens of graduates and current Master of Business Administration (MBA) students gathered at Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima) in June for the MBA's prestigious birthday party.



Guests were greeted with champagne, canapés and live music. There was an opportunity to catch up with old friends and reminisce about their time at Teesside, plus a caricature artist, guided tours of mima exhibitions and, of course, the obligatory birthday cake.



# CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF OUR MBA

'The event was a great opportunity to catch up with other students from my year who attended and, even though I now work at the University, reconnect with the School. mima was an excellent venue choice and provided a unique setting for the 21st celebration.'

**Elizabeth Dewings, MBA (Public Management) 2004**



'I am very proud to have been awarded my MBA by Teesside University Business School and absolutely honoured and delighted to have been asked to speak at the 21st birthday party. Graduating with an MBA made a considerable difference to my career – I always encourage young people and employees to consider a master's degree because I believe that it helps to consolidate an established career path and crystallise ideas and concepts that can be applied in the work place.'

**David Bowles, MBA, 1995**

'Just wanted to thank you for organising the MBA celebrations evening. The food was lovely and I was most impressed by my caricature which I thought had a true likeness to myself! The tour of mima was informative so, all in all, I would like to congratulate the University for planning and holding this event.'

**Lesley Jackson, MBA, 2002**





# CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF OUR MBA

'I really enjoyed the event – it was good to bring people together to celebrate the success of the course. It was positive for me to review how far I have come, both professionally and personally, since my MBA. It has helped open doors that have enabled me to move forward in my career.'

**Eve Holder, MBA, 2004**



'It was a brilliant night. So many success stories from the attendees were relayed and so many happy memories of studying were revived. It was great to meet graduates from other years and get to know them, as well as colleagues from our own years. The tour of the exhibits was fascinating, a thoroughly enjoyable evening.'

**Margaret Steel, MBA, 2004**

'I was pleased to attend this celebratory event, which was very enjoyable and inspirational. Not only did it afford me a great opportunity to catch up with fellow students and course tutors, but the setting was fabulous and I was able to toast the University's success with a glass of champagne! There was an added bonus for me – winning the prize draw, an all-expenses overnight stay at Lumley Castle, which my husband and I are looking forward to with great delight.'

**Glyn Snowden, MBA (Public Administration) 2006**



# STRONG AS STEEL

Graham (right) with John Hutton, Secretary for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, on his visit to Sheffield Forgemasters. Behind them is the company's 10,000 tonne forging press.

**For Graham Honeyman**, Chief Executive of Sheffield Forgemasters International, coming to Teesside as a doctoral student in the late 1970s felt like coming home. 'I was born in Northallerton, North Yorkshire, and spent part of my childhood in nearby Hutton Rudby,' he explains. He had already completed a first degree and master's at Aston University.



But his attraction to Teesside extended beyond childhood memories and the draw of Middlesbrough Football Club (where he remains a season ticket holder). 'This was a more practical course than I'd found elsewhere, with a focus on developing technology rather than masses of theory.'

Graham's doctorate was sponsored by the Ministry of Defence. He worked hard, developing a new weld metal for armour plate for them. He vividly remembers the farm cottage in Skutterskelfe he shared in his final year. 'It was reputed to be haunted – and I think it was. One night I was there alone trying to light a fire. It was perpetually freezing – we actually wore overcoats in bed sometimes. As I knelt by the fire, I heard someone tapping on the window. I went to the door but couldn't see anyone, so I locked it. Then I heard someone walk up the stairs and across the landing. When I went to investigate there was nobody there either. It was quite unnerving – I'm not irrational but I still can't explain that evening's occurrences.'

Graham graduated with warm memories of his supervisor, Trevor Towers. 'He had a very direct

approach which worked well for me. He was uncompromising but fair – and taught me that I needed to work for my PhD, it wouldn't be gifted to me.

'The doctorate was critically important and I immediately secured my first job with NEI Parsons, a subsidiary of Northern Engineering Industries in Newcastle'. From there Graham progressed to Sheffield Forgemasters. He became Managing Director in 1999, but later left and was then recalled in an attempt to rescue the company. 'In 2002 we didn't know where we would find the money to pay people – we were fighting bankruptcy daily.'

Sheffield Forgemasters didn't become fully stable until a management buyout in 2005. Since then it has earned a clear reputation for its commercial success and commitment to apprenticeships and training. 'We have 63 apprentices within our 800-strong workforce. For me, the most important asset of any business is its staff. Invest in them, build good teams and maintain open communication.'

Graham believes that old, established industrial centres like Sheffield and Middlesbrough still have an economic future.

'They have a wealth of industrial knowledge that has formed the framework to base our success. Our older engineers train the next generation of apprentices. There's a fantastic sense of pride in these communities that needs to be preserved – strong communities have a great capacity to overcome adversity.' The success of that philosophy recently earned him an Institute of Directors' lifetime award. He says, 'Winning industry awards is always a great accolade. I was actually saying something to the person sat next to me when the announcement was made and got caught completely by surprise, so my brief speech to the assembled guests may have appeared a little nervous'.

He has no doubt that there's a future for steel. 'But not in trying to compete in bulk steel production with India and China – they have huge advantages in energy and labour costs. Our future is specialising, seeking out new markets and adapting. We're 200 years old but we're at the forefront of technical excellence in a global market. Our edge comes from investing in technology, staff, plant equipment and apprenticeship training. We never sit still – the company constantly evolves.'





It was steel that brought George Rafferty to Teesside, like so many of the region's incomers. He's still here and, thanks to the University, has been able to develop his career in other industries.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ENERGY BOSS

Today George, 54, is Chief Executive of NOF Energy, a Durham-based business development organisation serving the oil industry. He lives in Coulby Newham, in the same house that he bought after arriving from his native Scotland in 1988.

'I worked for British Steel and moved down to take a job in Stockton. But in 1991 I decided I wanted to leave – I'd worked in the industry for 23 years and didn't think it was offering the career path I wanted. So I set myself the target of getting out by 1994. To help achieve it, I decided to start studying and eventually aim for an MBA.'

And so George began a part-time Postgraduate Diploma in Management at Teesside University. 'I had to study, work and maintain my family life at the time. It was the same for the other students – mid-career people from various industries who were studying part-time with a lot of other commitments.'

It proved well worth the effort. 'My diploma gave me a much wider perspective on

business. The overall standard of lecturing was good and the support we received was excellent.'

George achieved his goal, a year ahead of target. 'In October 1993 I was appointed the first project manager of Business Link Teesside. The downside was that I couldn't study the extra year to convert my diploma into an MBA. I had the pressures of a new position and a start-up – something had to give.'

He stayed with Business Link Teesside (later renamed Business Link Tees Valley) until 2000, and then became Regional Director of the National Federation of Builders. He took his post at NOF in 2005.

But didn't George simply swap one declining industry for another? 'It's a common misconception. Oil is still a major contributor to the British economy and there are more oil and gas reserves left in the North Sea than have been taken out – they're in smaller fields that are more difficult to make profitable. And there are global opportunities for UK

companies in the industry.'

His own company is making its contribution. 'Our members show that we've helped secure £10.5m in extra business in the first half of 2009 and more than £50m over the past three years. The real total is probably much more than that.'

Though George left Teesside University in 1994, his various jobs have kept him in regular contact. 'There's a real desire to engage with local business. A lot of universities talk about it, but can't deliver or can't find a language that small and medium-sized businesses understand. Teesside has put a lot of effort into making sure that it does.'

And he has no doubt that he continues to benefit from his studies. 'I'm not consciously thinking 'that was something I learnt at Teesside', but it has given me many insights into the business world and its dynamics. It's all still there in the background.'



# G

## GENEROUS GRADUATE GIVES BACK

**Teesside alumnus, Professor James Caldwell**  
has gone on to have an illustrious career.  
And he's putting more back than just his  
good wishes.

Professor Caldwell was awarded his PhD in applied mathematics from Teesside in 1974. After graduating, he took up various teaching posts in the UK before moving to Australia as Head of Mathematics at the University of Southern Queensland.

He then returned to the UK to teach at Sunderland University, and worked in lecturing and research posts at numerous UK universities. In 1990 he took a position at City University of Hong Kong where he is still an Adjunct Professor, Department of Mathematics.

Professor Caldwell received a Higher Doctorate (DSc) from Teesside University in 2007. It was awarded in recognition of his significant body of scholarly work on Mathematical and Numerical Solution (including Modelling) of Physical Problems with Emphasis on Partial Differential Equations arising in the area of Heat Transfer, Magnetic Fields, Fluid Dynamics,

Vibrations and Stresses. It was judged to be an original and significant contribution to advancing or applying knowledge, making him a leading authority in his field.

In parallel to his academic career, Professor Caldwell worked for a number of large organisations including Head of Modelling for Unilever Research UK. Through his research work, he has published hundreds of articles and conference papers, and more than a dozen textbooks and theses.

He has fond memories of his time at Teesside and is keen to support other students in pursuing a PhD. So much so that this year he has kindly part-sponsored a full-time Research Doctoral Scholarship within the University's School of Computing. 'I'm in the fortunate position of being able to give something back to my former institution. I'm delighted to be able to support a student with further study.'

The PhD scholarship is open to Teesside's School of Computing graduates. It will be awarded to the most deserving student based on their academic achievement. The scholarship will be aligned to areas of research strength within the Digital Futures Institute, intelligent virtual environments or formal methods and programming. If you are interested in making an application, please contact Martin Leyland [m.leyland@tees.ac.uk](mailto:m.leyland@tees.ac.uk).

If you are interested in giving something back to Teesside, contact our newly-created Development Team on **01642 738321** or email [alumni.office@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@tees.ac.uk).

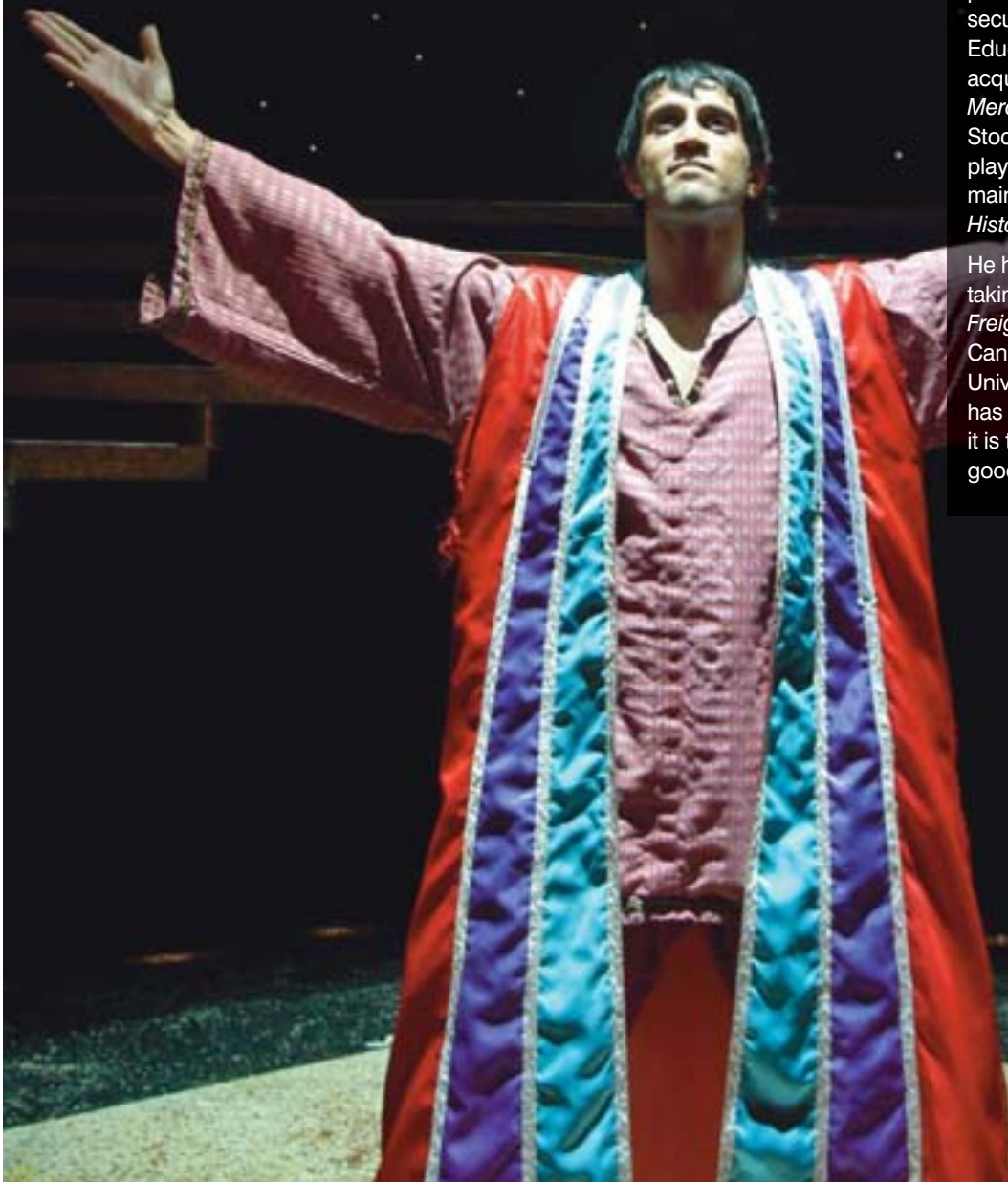


# FROM TEESSIDE TO HOLLYOAKS HUNK

**Stephen Uppal**, BA (Hons) English, 2002 is best known to over five million viewers as jack-the-lad Ravi Roy in the popular Channel 4 teen soap, *Hollyoaks*.

After graduating from Teesside, Stephen pursued his acting dream in London and secured a place at the prestigious Arts Educational Institute. In his final year he acquired a small role in the film *Red Mercury*, starring Pete Postlethwaite and Stockard Channing. He then went on to play numerous stage roles including the main character in Alan Bennett's *The History Boys* in the West End.

He has just returned to *Hollyoaks* after taking a break to film his second film, *Freight*, which was premiered at the Cannes Film Festival. Stephen visited the University in August. 'Teesside University has changed so much since I graduated – it is taking over Middlesbrough in such a good way.'





## HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

# HELPING HAND

**Now working** as a substance misuse nurse in Darlington, Rebecca Thompson has put her MSc Health Science (Public Health) to good use. Rebecca graduated in 2008 and has recently started working in substance misuse. 'My work can be very challenging but I really enjoy it', she said.

On leaving Teesside Rebecca worked in a hospital specialising in treating HIV and tuberculosis. She found it tough but felt her course had equipped her with the skills to succeed. 'It is not for everyone but I find it an incredibly rewarding career and am keen to continue working with hard-to-reach populations.'

# GRADUATE PROFILES CAN YOU HELP?

**We are always** looking to celebrate the success of our alumni by featuring graduate profiles in our publications and on the web. If you would like to provide a profile, please contact the Alumni Office on **01642 384255** or email **[alumni.office@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@tees.ac.uk)**.



**It is only with your support** that we can continue to inspire our future students – thank you.





# PRETTYFUL THINGS



**Natalie Robinson's** new career as a business owner may seem a million miles away from her studies but she says the level of discipline required to study has been very helpful. Natalie studied for an HND Social Sciences, 2003 then went on to a BSc (Hons) Criminology, 2005 and, most recently, a Postgraduate Certificate in Forensic Investigation, 2006.

She now owns her own boutique, Prettyful Things, in Norton village which stocks a range of vintage-inspired gifts and women's wear. Natalie said, 'I realise this is far away from my studies but it was always my ambition to own a boutique. I stock local designers so I'm helping them achieve their dreams. University gave me the confidence to achieve and it gave me skills like determination, planning and working to timescales. I hope that my business will flourish and I will be able to help more local designers reach a wider audience.' Natalie also has an online store at [www.prettyfulthings.com](http://www.prettyfulthings.com).

# GRADUATE IN GOTHAM THEN THE TARDIS!



**For BA (Hons) Industrial Design, 1993 graduate Dan Walker, the last few years have been an exciting journey from working in the car industry for Ford and Jaguar, to designing the Batmobile interior for Warner Brothers' *Batman Begins*, to working on *Doctor Who*.**

After graduating from Teesside, Dan gained an MSc in Transportation Design at the prestigious Royal College of Art. He won the external examiner's prize for his major project, which led to a job as a product designer at SeymourPowell, one of the world's foremost design consultancies.

Having gained a great deal of experience on a variety of projects, Dan began freelancing in 2003. He was contacted to design the Batmobile interior and his career has gone from strength to strength. He worked on both the TARDIS and sonic screwdriver for BBC's *Dr Who* and has since worked on *The Dark Knight*, *The Golden Compass* and Disney's forthcoming movies, *The Prince of Persia* and *John Carter of Mars*.

Dan visited Teesside in May to open our Design Degree Show and gave a guest lecture. 'I always had ambitions to work in the film industry but it's notoriously difficult to break in to. Working as a concept artist is a dream job and has taken me all over the world, working alongside many talented people. But the biggest satisfaction always comes from finally seeing your concepts come to fruition on the big screen.'



# HELL OF A Pensioner

**When Kathleen Lockwood** visited the University in 1994 she did not expect to be leaving three years later with a degree. Kathleen, BA (Hons) Human Studies, 1997 had always been interested in education but her childhood background of fostering and attending eight different schools meant that this was not meant to be.



Kathleen never gave up on education and went on a number of short courses, but she never dreamed she could study a degree. However, after a conversation with a lecturer at a local college and a visit to Teesside, she ended up with a degree and truly enjoyed the experience. She said, 'Having taken early retirement I was keen to use my time

fruitfully. Studying for my degree was amazing, a truly selfish experience allowing me to make up for lost time. Whilst I obviously did not intend for it to benefit my career prospects, it has certainly exceeded my expectations in terms of personal development. I am more confident – it has improved both my wisdom and my powers of observation and perseverance.'

Kathleen now feels equipped to pursue her lifelong passion of writing. She has even had a short sketch performed at a local theatre. Whilst she says her writing may not be published, she is happy and active in her local community. She says she strives to be 'a hell of a pensioner' but we think she already is!

## MULTIMEDIA TO MEDICINE

**Combining IT and medicine** may seem unusual but they have proved to be a winning combination for Dr Colin Saysell.

With an academic background in chemistry and a working background in IT, Colin came to Teesside when he was made redundant as an IT Analyst in London. He felt he ought to gain some formal IT qualifications to help him in the job market. Colin gained an MSc Information Technology, 2002 and then a

temporary position at Walker Hall Associates.

However whilst searching for an IT position within the NHS, he came across the graduate entry medical degree. Because of his recent experience at Teesside, he successfully applied. He is now a junior medical doctor at the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle.

But he has still put his IT skills to good use. Colin said, 'Computers form such an integral part of any job these days. My time at Teesside has equipped me with an appreciation of IT applications which I put to good use.' His career has been varied, but Colin says, 'In the current uncertain times, a good education will last you a lifetime.'





Rachael relaxing with her son Mark at Blackpool Zoo.

# FOOD

## for thought

**Rachael Mason**, MSc Food Technology, 2001 was working in the food industry when she decided to return to university to study for her master's, to progress her career. Since graduating she has worked in Scotland for a large food manufacturer. Her current role is as a food technologist.

Rachael is involved in developing new dishes as well as improving existing ones. She works on the main accounts and ensures the smooth transition of products from kitchen approval through to product launch within the factory trial process. She liaises closely with production and technical departments, and customers. Her working week is split between the office, development kitchen and factory floor.

In the last few years Rachael has successfully launched five fish ready meal dishes, various patés and a Pacific smoked salmon for a new customer. 'My role is really varied, no day is the same and I enjoy that. I also love working with food which helps!'

## rewarding

# THERAPY

**Senior** Occupational Therapist, Alison Pugh (previously List), BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy, 2000 thoroughly enjoys her current role. She specialises in working with children with learning disabilities, autism and sensory integration difficulties. She said, 'My role includes assessing and treating children within the home, school and clinic environment who have a variety of difficulties associated with their condition. These difficulties include anything from handwriting, dressing and cutlery skills to other everyday activities.'

On leaving Teesside Alison worked for five years for Sunderland Social Services in adaptations and equipment. She then moved to her current post in Gateshead. Not only is Alison keen to support others in becoming active but she is also very active herself. Whilst at Teesside she did archery and rowing, and now enjoys keeping fit, reading and walking.







# FORGING LINKS

## with industry

**Part-time study** allowed Steven James Rooney, HND Manufacturing Engineering, 2004 and BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering, 2008, to combine real work experience with academic knowledge. He believes this has been the key to his success. 'My qualifications from Teesside have allowed me to progress rapidly up the career ladder. In a relatively short period of time I have moved from tradesperson, to quality inspector to engineer.'

Steven is now a welding engineer at Heerema (Hartlepool) Ltd. He explains, 'My role involves reviewing client specifications at the tender stage and throughout construction to identify all welding-related technical requirements. Then I qualify the appropriate procedures so that all welding activities are carried out to the specification and relevant national standards. And I ensure the required mechanical and metallurgical properties are achieved in production.'

He enjoyed his Teesside experience so much that he now volunteers as a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) ambassador. This involves taking part in events and activities, and promoting STEM careers to young people.

If you are interested in getting involved with STEM, which seeks to increase young people's choice and chances through science, technology, engineering and maths, find out more at [www.stemnet.org.uk](http://www.stemnet.org.uk).



## DAWN'S

### DEGREES OF SUCCESS

**Dawn McCartie**, BA (Hons) Business Studies, 2001 chose to study at Teesside because she was keen to do a degree with a sandwich year to gain practical business experience. She wholeheartedly believes it was the right decision. On graduating, Dawn worked initially as a product manager, then as business development manager for Northern Rock. She took voluntary redundancy in 2008, returning to Teesside to gain an MSc Marketing Management, 2009.

Dawn now works as Business Development and Marketing Manager for the North East office of Vantis, an accounting, tax and business recovery and advisory group.

She said, 'Surprisingly my redundancy has worked to my advantage and provided me with many opportunities. I have been able to return to University and take on an exciting new career. My current role involves me working with client partners, managing marketing communications within the region and overseeing the external marketing agency. The role is varied, challenging and very enjoyable.'

# CARING COMMITMENT

**Lisa Darby**, BSc (Hons) Nursing Studies (Child), 2009 has just graduated and has already secured a post working on the Treetops Children's Ward for University Hospital of North Durham. Lisa said, 'I am delighted that all my hard work has paid off and I am now working in my dream job. It is very interesting and I am enjoying the challenge of being a fully-qualified children's nurse. It is a great experience.' As well as looking after ill children, Lisa's duties involve supporting their families too.



She credits her experience looking after her terminally ill daughter Sophie, who sadly died aged just 18 months, as the inspiration behind her career change. She was a mature student with a young son and daughter, and appreciates that the support of her friends and family has helped her succeed.

Lisa was a member of the University's Passport scheme whilst studying an Access course at Hartlepool College. The scheme recognises the achievements of its members at an awards ceremony and, in 2005, Lisa was awarded Passport Student of the Year, receiving a £1,000 scholarship. This was in acknowledgement of her academic success on the course, her commitment to volunteering at a local hospital whilst all the time balancing her studies with work and looking after her young family.

The University Passport scheme provides information and support to any student studying Level 3 qualifications and considering higher education. For more information visit

[www.tees.ac.uk/passport](http://www.tees.ac.uk/passport).



# aranke

## INVESTIGATES



**Aranke Spehr**, MSc Forensic Investigation, 2006 came to Teesside from Hamburg because her subject was not offered in Germany. She said, 'My goal was to become a psychologist specialising in

'My job involves developing, co-ordinating and supervising a research model project on juvenile sexual offenders in Hamburg. The purpose of my work is to develop models from scientific results on risk and protective factors. The results can be used to inform preventative actions by the youth welfare service. I enjoy my work and have found my studies incredibly useful.'

She remembers her time at Teesside very fondly. 'It was the most interesting time of my university life – there are great facilities, all the staff were very helpful and I made great friends.'

forensics and criminology. I wanted specific knowledge and practical experience.' She has now achieved her dream, working as a project research assistant in the Department of Sexual Research and Forensic Psychiatry at the University Medical Centre Hamburg-Eppendorf.

## PARISIAN POST

Since graduating Sylvain Ounfana, MSc Marketing Management, 2005 has returned to his native France to take up a post as an IT consultant for a small company in Paris. He enjoys his role but still has ambitions to work in a more marketing-focused environment. Sylvain chose to study at Teesside to improve his English.

He enjoyed many things about his time in Middlesbrough, in particular the spiral fries in the Students' Union and the parties, as he says the atmosphere is not the same in France. 'Since I came back from England, I want to move abroad again. I am planning to live in South America as I want to learn Spanish.'



## SEE FOR YOURSELF

If you're in the region for business or pleasure, why not drop in and find out for yourself how much the University has changed? Contact [alumni.office@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@tees.ac.uk) to arrange a tour.

# ALUMNI UPDATES & DESPERATELY SEEKING

## 2008

**Mark Etheridge**, MA Fraud Management, wrote his dissertation on postal vote fraud has now started to develop a good practice guide for police investigators on the subject. He currently works as a police officer for Thames Valley Police. Old friends can contact him at [mark.etheridge@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mark.etheridge@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk).

## 2007

**Sally Farley**, Advanced Diploma Nursing (Children) is now working as an RNC at South Tees NHS Trust.

**Simon Raper**, BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design, runs his own company – he is a Design Director for 360 Design (UK). Simon has recently received a Fellowship of the Chartered Society of Designers, the highest accolade in the design industry which has been the highlight of his career to date. His ambition is to complete a master's course at Teesside and eventually look into lecturing in his specialist field of interior architecture.

## 2004

**Leon Smith**, HND Music Technology, now works in media operations for Ascent Media (The Discovery Channel). Leon is concentrating on building his career in the media industry and hopes to work within post production or transmission in the future.

## 2003

**Ashok Gopalkrishna**, BSc Computer Studies, returned to his native India after graduation and works for IBM as a verification and test analyst. He regards his graduation as one of the most memorable moments in his life and remembers his time at Teesside with great fondness. He would like anyone that knows him to get in touch at [ashok\\_1408@yahoo.co.in](mailto:ashok_1408@yahoo.co.in).

## 2002

**Sofia Maldonado**, BA (Hons) Media Studies, married Adam Booth, BSc (Hons) Criminology in the spring. Sofia and Adam met at Teesside. Sofia has good memories of living in Linthorpe Halls during her first year and they really enjoyed their time at Teesside. They both now work in education and would be delighted to hear from old friends. Their email address is [sofiabooth@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sofiabooth@hotmail.co.uk).



## 2001

**Toni Glover**, graduated with a BA (Hons) Human Resource Management and a Postgraduate Diploma Management Studies in 2007. She now works as a human resource manager at Insitu Services. During her time at Teesside, Toni worked in the LRC and would love to hear from a colleague called Diane who was studying MA Human Resource Management. If anyone can help, please email [tonimglover@hotmail.com](mailto:tonimglover@hotmail.com).

## 2000

**Katherine Murnan**, BSc (Hons) Applied Science and Forensic Measurement, 2000 married Daryn Dobson-Bailey, BSc (Hons) Politics, 2001, at the top of Whistler Mountain in Canada in March 2006. Katherine and Daryn chose to marry there as they both love to snowboard. They met at Teesside and love blossomed. Katherine now works for West Midlands Police as a forensic scene investigator and Daryn, who was known as Moe at University, is an accountant. They would be thrilled to hear from old friends via [katdb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katdb@hotmail.co.uk).



## 1999

**Lynn Thatcher**, BA (Hons) History, has been teaching since graduating. A wonderful opportunity came along last year where she took a year out to work in Sudan. Lynn's teenage daughters also went along and worked as teaching assistants in reception classes. They all had a terrific time.



## 1998

**Lisa Welch**, BA (Hons) Photography, is now a secondary teacher of art, design and photography. Lisa loves her job and recently implemented the GCSE in photography where the school achieved 100% A-C grades in its first year. Lisa continues to strengthen her passion for teaching and is now facing the challenge of starting photography at AS level.

## 1995

Sadly **Susan Evans**, who achieved BSc (Hons) Business Quantitative Methods, 1995 passed away in July. Our deepest sympathies are with her family.

## 1995

**Steven Swift**, BA (Hons) Public Administration, now works in the health industry as head of cancer services at Chesterfield Royal Hospital. He would love to hear from anyone who knew him during his degree by emailing [steven.swift@chesterfieldroyal.nhs.uk](mailto:steven.swift@chesterfieldroyal.nhs.uk).

## 1982

**Susan Moradi**, BEng Chemical Engineering, would very much like to reconnect with her friends from 1977 -1982 who studied chemical engineering. Susan works as a senior production engineer for the National Iranian Oil Company and is keen to hear from Zahid Mahmood, Nada Hamoui, Abdul Bojalab, Firoze Cassim and Riaz Zain. She would also be delighted to hear from anyone who may be looking for her at [susanmoradee@gmail.com](mailto:susanmoradee@gmail.com).

**Malcolm Smith**, BSc Computer Science, has great memories of his time at Teesside and would like anyone who remembers him to get in touch. You can reach him at [malcolm.smith@dragondrop.com](mailto:malcolm.smith@dragondrop.com).

## 1981

**John Han**, BSc (Hons) Computer Science, now works in the financial services industry as an operations manager in Malaysia. John is still in touch with some of his University friends. You can browse some of John's photos on the Alumni Association Facebook page of graduation and old classmates from 1981. If you remember John, he would love to hear from you at [john.han@sc.com](mailto:john.han@sc.com).

## 1980

**Swee Khoo**, BA Business Studies, is chief executive officer of his company Swee Khoo Associates in Malaysia. He would like to hear from any old classmates he has lost touch with, in particular Targut Kazim. You can email him at [sckhoo27@gmail.com](mailto:sckhoo27@gmail.com).

## 1979

**Haldun Ersanli**, HND Business Studies, would like to get in touch with any former classmates during 1977 - 1979. His email address is [hersanli@ersanli.com.tr](mailto:hersanli@ersanli.com.tr).

## 80th anniversary appeal

**Next year** the University is proud to be celebrating 80 years of higher education in Middlesbrough. Our predecessor institution, Constantine College, was officially opened on 2 July 1930 by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales who was greeted by crowds of thousands of people.

We have many plans to celebrate this milestone, but we need your help. We want to create an online wall of memories as part of the alumni website. We have started the wall with this image of the official opening but would like you to add to it. Do you have pictures of the University and its predecessors over the last 80 years? Just visit [www.tees.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.tees.ac.uk/alumni) and click on the link.



Official opening of Constantine Technical College by the then Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VIII, 1930

## reunion ROUND-UP



**Melanie Gardner**, BSc (Hons) Criminology, 2001, organised a reunion event for a group of graduates who all started at Teesside in 1998. The 19 graduates who were studying a variety of subjects, all met up for their first official reunion in October 2008. The weekend was reminiscent of their time spent at the University, visiting the Students' Union bar and old haunts in Middlesbrough.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and, although there have been changes on campus, they felt like they had never left! Melanie's friend, Leanne Roberts (nee Moore), BA (Hons) Psychology, 2001, helped her organise the event which was supported by the alumni team. Melanie said, 'It was fantastic to see everyone again and to see the changes on campus – thanks to everyone for making it happen.'

## WHAT'S ON

### 80th anniversary Honorary and Professorial Public Lecture Series

Wednesday 2 December 2009	Dr Margaret Fay OBE	Preparing the region's economy for growth
Wednesday 24 February 2010	Professor Matthew Rampley	State of the art
Wednesday 17 March 2010	Dr Maria Olea	Developing sustainable chemical technologies
Wednesday 21 April 2010	Alan Smith	Getting physical with World Cup football
Wednesday 12 May 2010	Professor Tony Chapman	Is it ideal to strive for the perfect home?
Wednesday 9 June 2010	Linda Polley	Building a university: a history of architecture and education



Lectures are free of charge and open to everyone. They are held on the University campus in the Centuria Building with refreshments available from 6.00pm. For further details or to reserve a place, call **01642 342887**, email [alumni.office@tees.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@tees.ac.uk) or visit [www.tees.ac.uk](http://www.tees.ac.uk).

## PAST VERSUS PRESENT

Saturday 28 November 2009

**The 18th annual** Past versus Present Sports Tournament will once more see teams of graduates compete against current students. Sports currently on offer are men's basketball, women's basketball, climbing, cricket, football, Gaelic football, golf, hockey, netball, rugby and squash. If your sport isn't on the list, let us know – we're open to suggestions. For more information call 01642 342267 or email [sport@tees.ac.uk](mailto:sport@tees.ac.uk).



Don't forget, all graduates are welcome to come along to the Past versus Present Tournament, even if you are not participating. So why not come along as supporters and take a walk down memory lane.



# YOUR FEEDBACK

Here we share with you some of the letters and emails we have received this year.

## Dear Alumni Team

'It is hard to believe that it was way back in September 1981 that we first arrived at sunny Teesside, eager fresh-faced 18-year-olds keen to enjoy our first taste of freedom. On reading through my last alumni magazine I was impressed by how much the University has grown and developed since we were there, the facilities look amazing. This got me thinking about the 'old days' and wondering what everyone is doing now. Just how did we manage without all the modern facilities like the internet? I remember having to do tedious library searches for references that took hours. I went on to join the health service, and now work as Head of Cancer Services in an NHS foundation trust, a post which I absolutely love. I am married with a 16-year-old daughter who is about to enter sixth form. I would be really interested to meet up and organise a reunion at Teesside. It would be good to see if the old haunts are still there or if they have been turned into wine bars.'

**Steven Swift, BA (Hons)  
Public Administration, 1985**



## Hi Sarah

'Just wanted to say thank you for organising the MBA celebration evening. I had a most enjoyable time. I was met by a most helpful member of staff who told me that one of my old colleagues had enquired whether I was attending. She then escorted me to my friend which I was most grateful for, particularly as I hadn't seen any of my student friends for seven years.'

**Lesley Jackson, MBA, 2002**

Here's a sample of some of your responses to the news that Teesside is the winner of University of the Year at the Times Higher Education Awards.

Well done. Fantastic news. Makes me very proud to be a Teesside graduate.

**Hilary Pearson, MSc Information Technology, 1994**

Many thanks for this. I'm very proud of my old University. Congratulations – well deserved!

**David Lloyd Roberts, MSc Criminal Investigation, 2004**

I am very happy and proud of my University that received the honour University of the Year. I always remember my university days. I would like to congratulate all the University staff, students and also others from my heart.

**Ashok Gopalkrishna, BSc Computer Studies, 2003**

Great news about University of the Year. From an ancient graduate.

**Ilse Cornwall, BA (Hons) Humanities, 1978**

Wow! Well done Teesside, it's good to see a good university getting some recognition for the excellent work it does.

**Carol Harrison, HND Business Administration, 1997**

Wow this is fantastic. I remember all the changes taking place when I attended and it's great to see.

**Adam Gee, BSc (Hons) Media Technology and Production, 2001**

Congratulations, that is fantastic news and very well deserved. Please pass on my congratulations to everyone involved and I hope that we can help celebrate the success of the University. I for one feel extremely proud.

**Dominic Lusardi, BSc Visualisation, 2001**

I always knew it was the best! Well Done everybody!

**Sumayya Ahmed, BA (Hons) Social Work, 2006**



As I graduated in the class of 1997 I would have been amongst the first to have studied at and graduated from the University of Teesside and I extremely proud that Teesside has been recognised for the fantastic place it has always been.

**Dave Kelley, BSc (Hons) Psychology, 1997**

So proud of being a Teesside alumni!

**Bruce Chen, MSc CAGTA, 1996**

Fantastic news for my old university – on the day I finish my latest degree in Sydney! Well done Teesside!!!

**Sandra Fowler, BA (Hons) English, 1998**

## ORGANISE A REUNION

Want to catch up with your old classmates, sports team or year group? Then organise a reunion with our help. We can get in touch with your friends, help you to find a venue and local accommodation, and even arrange a campus tour to bring back all those happy memories. Contact the Alumni Association for more information.

# ENGAGING ENTERPRISING ALUMNI



**This year** saw the launch of the Enterprise Alumni Affinity group. This special interest group is for graduates who are self-employed or aspire to become self-employed. It aims to help support and bring together these entrepreneurial graduates by sharing information, special events and access-to-training sessions.

The first activity was to complete an initial survey. The lucky winner of our prize draw was Sumayya Ahmed, BA (Hons) Social Work, 2006 who won £75 of Marks & Spencer vouchers. Sumayya runs her own social work company, Sumsha Ltd, which works with a number of regional health authorities.

If you are interested in joining the group please contact Sarah Terry on **01642 738175** or email **s.terry@tees.ac.uk**.

## TEESSIDE ALUMNI ONLINE

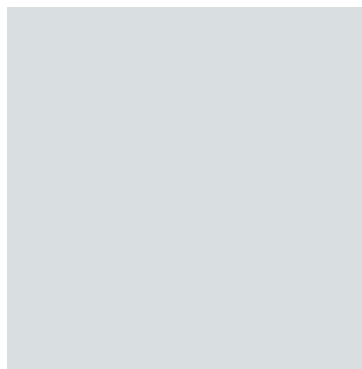
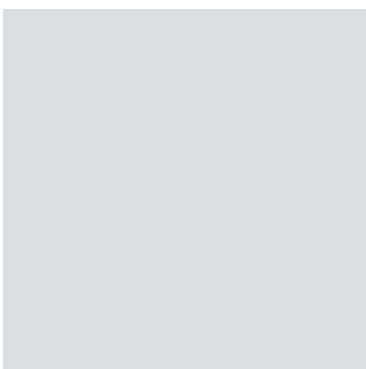
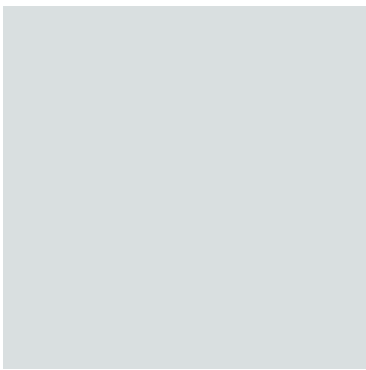
**In the New Year we will be launching Teesside Alumni Online**, an exciting new service which will replace our alumni reunited directory. It will offer more services including the opportunity to search for friends, register for events, update your details, share news, and join affinity groups with others who studied the same field as you or work in the same professional area. All members who have provided us with their email address will automatically be sent log-in details so, if you have not already done so, send us your contact email address to **alumni.office@tees.ac.uk**





# merchandise

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