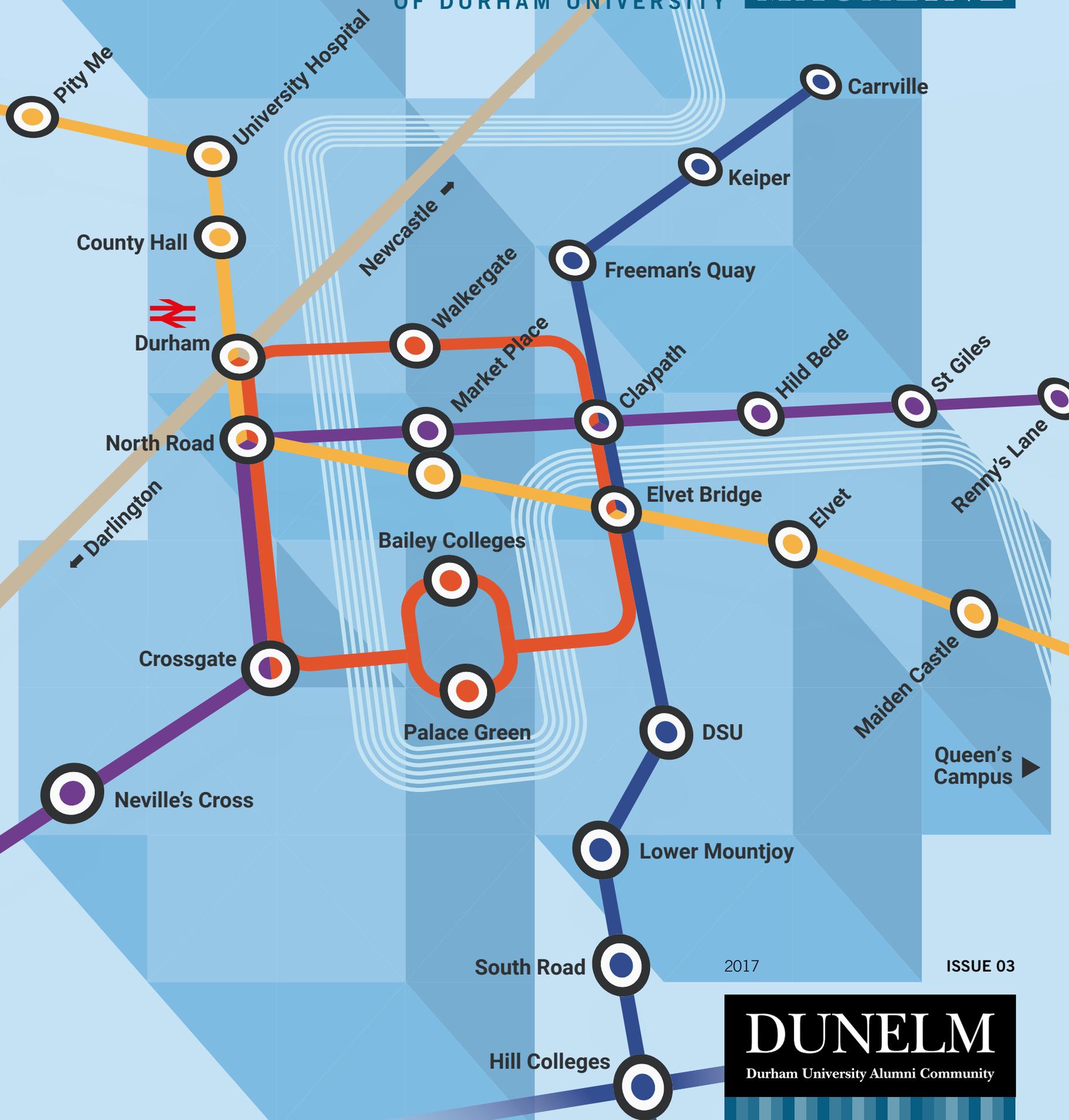


# dunelm

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF DURHAM UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE



South Road

2017

ISSUE 03

## Dear alumni

It is an exciting time to be part of, or connected to, Durham University. Durham is one of the world's great universities and one of the most distinctive. Our future is bright.

Nevertheless, we can do better and our new University Strategy 2017-2027 includes ambitious proposals to ensure our long-term sustainability and continued world-leading position in research, education and wider student experience. We remain committed to our core values, including our collegiate system, and will build on our strengths. But we are also prepared to make radical changes where needed.

For our alumni members, we are committed to building an offer that will match the top performers in the UK, while learning also from the US and around the world.

As part of the Dunelm community you will have improved access to the University's intellectual, cultural and employment-related resources, as well as bespoke products and opportunities for networking.

We will ensure that events are held in Durham, London, and around the world. And to allow you to connect with our current students, we will deliver over time a properly resourced system of peer to peer mentoring.

Much more information about the Strategy is now available online at [www.durham.ac.uk/strategy2017](http://www.durham.ac.uk/strategy2017), including a series of videos and a downloadable PDF of the Strategy summary document.

You have been an important part of our story to date. I would like to thank you for this but also to invite you to consider how you might partner with us in future. To deliver our ambitious University Strategy, 2017-2027, we need your support. We can do so much more together.

**Professor Stuart Corbridge**  
Vice-Chancellor and Warden

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The new Ogdan Centre for Fundamental Physics

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### LARGEST-EVER GIFT RECEIVED FROM AN ALUMNUS

Through collaboration between the Principal of Collingwood College and the Development and Alumni Relations Office, Collingwood has received a gift of £4 million (£5 million with Gift Aid) to establish a new 200-seater Arts Centre, a gym extension, a yoga studio, an enlarged JCR, and a Bar conservatory. This transformational gift has been generously donated by Collingwood alumnus Mark Hillery, *Engineering & Management, Collingwood, 1985-88* – an outstanding example of philanthropy from a loyal and engaged alumnus. This gift follows Mark's recent donation of £300,000 for the College's new multi-use games area (pictured above).



### DURHAM ENTERS PARTNERSHIP WITH ICONIC PALACE MUSEUM, BEIJING

Durham University and China's Palace Museum have signed an agreement, bringing together these two world-renowned centres of research and, for the first time, cultural excellence. The agreement is the first between the Palace Museum and an English university.

The new partnership has developed from research currently being undertaken between the University's Department of Archaeology and experts from the Palace Museum in Beijing, into early examples of Chinese porcelain found in

Europe. The research aims to reveal more about the trading history of China as far back as the 10th century AD.

### GLOBAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS PRAISED

Durham University has been ranked in the top 25 in the world for its strong global research partnerships in a prestigious Nature Index. Durham is ranked 23rd overall in the World Top 100 Collaborators in the Nature Index 2016 Collaborations supplement, which highlights the world's most fruitful research partnerships and collaborative institutions.

It is placed as the second-highest UK university in these latest world rankings, while in Physical Sciences Durham is positioned 18th in the World Top 50 Collaborators.

### HIGHEST-EVER NUMBER OF DURHAM SUBJECTS IN WORLD TOP 50

Durham University this year achieved its highest-ever number of subjects in the QS World University Subject Rankings 2017, with eight in the Top 50 and three in the Top 10. Theology & Religion at Durham has been ranked

third in the world, in the first year that QS has included rankings in this subject area. Archaeology has also increased its global ranking to fourth in the world, up one place on the previous year.

Geography at Durham maintains a position in the top 10, placed seventh in the world this year. Anthropology, English, History, Law and Earth Sciences are all placed in the top 50, while a further six subjects are ranked in the top 100. The achievements in these latest world subject rankings build on Durham's continued recent league table successes.

In the overall 2016-17 QS World University Rankings, Durham was placed 74th in the world and second in the UK for research citations. Durham was also ranked in the top 100 of the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for 2016-17.

Durham University has had success in national league tables as well, being placed fourth in *The Times* and *Sunday Times* Good University Guide 2017.

### HELPING BUSY HEAD TEACHERS

Two-thirds of head teachers in England now use the Teaching and Learning Toolkit, developed by Durham University and the Sutton Trust, to inform how best to spend their pupil premium funding, according to a recent survey. Professor Steve Higgins from the School of Education led the team of researchers who produced the toolkit, which has helped to ensure that billions of pounds worth of education spending is used effectively to support disadvantaged pupils. Since its introduction in England in 2011, the Toolkit has been adopted by authorities in Australia, has been recommended by Learning Wales, and is now in the process of being translated into Spanish and Portuguese for schools in Latin America. There is now also a version aimed at Early Years education, such as nurseries.



### DURHAM LAUNCHES ITS FIRST EVER MOOC

Durham University Business School has launched its first ever MOOC (Massive Open Online Course). If you're looking to find out all about open

innovation, then this new free online course could be for you!

In today's world, the development of new products and services is not confined within one organisation or indeed one country. To succeed, businesses must be willing to work with others, to spot and develop ideas – a model known as 'open innovation'.

*Hyolith image courtesy of Danielle Dufault*



### MYSTERIOUS SEA CREATURE PART OF A NEW FAMILY

One branch on the tree of life is a bit more crowded today as a team of scientists have revealed what a bizarre group of cone-shaped sea creatures actually are, as reported in *Nature*.

Known as 'hyoliths', these extinct marine creatures were long believed to belong to the same family as snails, squids and other molluscs, but the researchers have shown that they are instead more closely related to brachiopods – a group that has a rich fossil record but with only a few living species known today.

The research team involved palaeontologists from Durham University, the University of Toronto and the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

### NEW RESEARCH COULD INCREASE AVAILABILITY OF LIFE-SAVING DRUG

An effective treatment for a deadly strain of meningitis could become more readily available in less developed nations as a result of research led by Professor Graham Sandford of the Department of Chemistry.

Cryptococcal Meningitis (CM) is the leading cause of meningitis in sub-Saharan Africa and also accounts for 20% of HIV/AIDS deaths worldwide. Whilst in developed nations around 9% of those diagnosed with CM die, this figure rises to 70% in sub-Saharan Africa, where availability of suitable drug treatment is limited, due in part to cost. Now research by Professor Sandford and PhD student Antal Harsanyi has resulted in an innovative, simplified method of producing the vital drug flucytosine, which could significantly reduce costs.

### DURHAM UNIVERSITY WORTH £1.1 BILLION A YEAR TO THE UK ECONOMY

Durham University is worth £1.1 billion a year to the UK economy, an independent report has revealed. A major study undertaken by BIGGAR Economics found that the University generated £1.1 billion Gross Value Added (GVA) for the UK economy in 2014-15 and supported 13,600 UK jobs.

Other key findings of the report include:

- For every £1 that Durham University receives in funding, it generates £3.21 for the UK economy.
- The University has launched 25 spin-out

companies since 1997, supporting nearly 1,000 jobs. Examples include Kromek, P2i and Ikon Science.

- The University plays a crucial role in the tourism sector, attracting 231,270 people to its visitor attractions, including Palace Green Library, the Oriental Museum and the Botanic Garden, in 2014-15.
- Durham University students dedicated 14,000 hours a year to volunteering, including in many local schools and clubs.
- Research and knowledge transfer activities at the University generated £139.3million GVA for the UK economy, supporting 2,700 jobs. Examples include collaborations with Procter & Gamble, IBM and Dong Energy.

*The Ogden Centre for Fundamental Physics*



### ICONIC RESEARCH CENTRE CONFIRMS DURHAM'S INTERNATIONAL POSITION IN SPACE SCIENCE

Durham University has reaffirmed its position as a world-leading centre of research in astronomy and cosmology with the opening of the new £11.5million Ogden Centre for Fundamental Physics. The centre will house an international team of researchers investigating the mysteries of the cosmos, from the birth of the Universe through to the origin of galaxies, to the nature of dark matter and dark energy.

The building has been designed by the internationally renowned Studio Libeskind, the architectural practice behind the master plan for the World Trade Center redevelopment in New York. The development was made possible thanks to generous donations of £3.35million from The Ogden Trust, whose Chairman is Durham physics alumnus and entrepreneur Sir Peter Ogden, £1.5million from The Wolfson Foundation and a further £900,000 from a private benefactor. Additional funding was provided by Durham University.

### FIFTH LUMIERE LIGHT FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES RETURN TO DURHAM

16–19 November 2017 with installation of new permanent light work

The dates for the next Lumiere festival have been announced. Produced by leading arts charity Artichoke and commissioned by Durham County Council with additional support from Arts Council England, the UK's largest outdoor light festival will return to illuminate Durham for the fifth time this year. Lumiere has become a landmark event in the cultural calendar of the North East and is recognised around the world as a "must-see", on the international light festival circuit.



### DURHAM RANKED 4<sup>TH</sup> IN THE GUARDIAN UNIVERSITY GUIDE

Durham University has moved up to 4th in the UK, according to the Guardian University Guide League Table 2018.

This ranking is a move up from 6th place in last year's survey and is Durham's highest-ever position in this league table, reaffirming its standing as one of the UK's top universities.

As well as the University's overall improvement, the guide ranks Durham's Department of Archaeology as being top in the UK.

The University's School of Education was ranked in 2nd place and five subjects are ranked in the top three in: Chemistry, Earth Sciences, English, Geography & Environmental Studies, and Religious Studies & Theology.



### SAVING LEOPARDS FROM HUMAN THREATS

Leopard populations in part of South Africa are decreasing in greater numbers and at a greater speed than expected, due in large part to illegal killing by humans, according to new findings. A research team led by Dr Samuel Williams, an Honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology, conducted a long-term study of the leopard population in the Soutpansberg Mountains in South Africa and found that leopard density (the number of leopards per 100 km<sup>2</sup>) had decreased by 44% between 2012 and 2016 and by 66% since 2008. Dr Williams explained the significance of the decrease: "If the current rate of decline is not slowed down, then there will be no leopards left in the western Soutpansberg Mountains by 2020."



A simulated galaxy is pictured, showing the main ingredients that make up a galaxy: the stars (blue), the gas from which the stars are born (red), and the dark matter halo that surrounds the galaxy (light grey). Image by A Benitez-Llambay and A Ludlow

### SIMULATED GALAXIES PROVIDE FRESH EVIDENCE OF DARK MATTER

Further evidence of the existence of dark matter – the mysterious substance that is believed to hold the Universe together – has been produced by cosmologists at Durham University. Using sophisticated computer modelling techniques, the research team simulated the formation of galaxies in the presence of dark matter and were able to demonstrate that their size and rotation speed were linked to their brightness in a similar way to observations made by astronomers.

### A DECADE IN THE TOP 10 FOR DURHAM

Durham University is ranked 6th in the UK according to the 2018 Complete University Guide – reaffirming its place in the top 10 since the Guide was launched. In addition to the overall ranking, three of Durham's academic departments are ranked first for their subject. Durham's English department, which has ranked top in the Complete University Guide for the past five years, has been joined in first place by the Music and Education departments. As well as the three top-ranked subjects, Durham makes the top 10 for 32 of the 33 subjects offered.

### MAJOR NEW COMMISSION ON CREATIVITY AND EDUCATION

Durham University and Arts Council England have announced The Durham Commission on Creativity and Education. Launching in September 2017, the Commission will investigate what happens when children experience arts and culture, and how this helps them to develop and thrive. The joint Commission will use the University's extensive research expertise to ensure that it is able to draw on international evidence and expertise to produce a report of academic rigour and independence. The Commission will produce a report in spring 2019 that will make recommendations addressing education policy and industrial strategy in England.

Ranked 9th in the world and 2nd in the UK

Financial Times Online MBA Ranking 2017

## THE DURHAM ONLINE MBA

Realise your potential

- At a glance**
- 2 year part-time programme
  - Personalise your programme to support your career goals
  - Flexibility – study fully online or complete some learning at Durham
  - Mentoring – by an alumnus, corporate volunteer or business professional

Find out more at  
[www.durham.ac.uk/online-mba](http://www.durham.ac.uk/online-mba)



# WHAT YOU SAID

## The 150th Anniversary Alumni Survey

**91%**   
OF YOU ARE STILL IN CONTACT WITH FRIENDS FROM YOUR DURHAM DAYS

### TOP INDUSTRIES THAT YOU WORK IN (BY NUMBER OF ALUMNI RESPONSES):

-  Education (Primary/Secondary)
-  Banking/Finance/Insurance
-  Law/Legal Services
-  Accountancy/Actuarial
-  Computing/IT Services

**8,833**  
ALUMNI RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY

**46%**   
ARE IN TOUCH WITH 6 OR MORE FRIENDS  
*WE LOVE TO HEAR THAT YOUR DURHAM NETWORKS ARE GOING STRONG*

**32%**   
OF YOU HAVE ATTENDED AN ALUMNI EVENT

You may have noticed that Durham is frequently recognised for our unparalleled student experience.

**THE TIMES**  
**THE SUNDAY TIMES**

**SPORTS UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2015**

In 2015 *The Times* and *Sunday Times* league table placed Extracurricular Activities at Durham as number one and awarded Durham *The Times* and *Sunday Times* Sports University of the Year.

## EVENTS



BBQ IN ATLANTA



SKI DAY IN FLUMSERBERG



DINNER IN BUCHAREST



CHANCELLOR'S RECEPTION IN TOKYO



PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING – ACCOUNTANCY AND INVESTMENT BANKING

Many of you said you wanted to attend an alumni event, but hadn't for various reasons:

### Not aware of events?

We base our event invitations on the addresses (home and business) which we have saved on our alumni database. If we still have an old address for you, or we don't have an address at all, you won't be picked up in the invitation lists for regional events. Keep us updated with your current location and contact details at [Dunelm.org.uk](http://Dunelm.org.uk), so we can let you know about events near you.

### Don't live in Durham/UK?

In 2016, there were more than 200 Durham alumni events – that we know of! Over 70 of these events took place outside the UK. The Vice-Chancellor hosted events in Dubai, Hong Kong, Beijing, San Francisco and Washington DC. The Chancellor hosted events in Munich and Tokyo. Travelling academics and staff hosted events in Ghana, Greece, Mexico and New Zealand. Alumni volunteers hosted a wide range of events across the globe, from Sydney, Australia, to Göttingen, Germany.

### Too expensive?

The majority of the University-wide events, organised by the Alumni Relations team, are free to attend. We charge a small fee for our professional networking events in London, otherwise all of our\* major events are free to attend.

### Not sure you are welcome?

All University-wide events are inclusive. Some networking events are targeted towards alumni who work, or are interested, in certain professions, and some events may be more suited to alumni of a

particular age group. However, we welcome former undergrads, postgrads, exchange students and those who didn't graduate, from all colleges and departments.

### Too old/too young?

Many respondents felt that they were too old or too young to attend an alumni event. Some events may be more suited to a particular age group, for example London events specifically aimed at recent graduates, but everyone with a soft spot for Durham is welcome at our events. From our experience, our recent graduates love to hear stories from the 'olden days', and some of our more senior alumni love to hear about recent stories and experiences of Durham.

### Worried that you will be asked for money?

The sole purpose of our alumni events is to reconnect with our alumni, to create opportunities for you to get together and to share your memories and experiences of all things Durham. Of course, there is a possibility that you may hear about a fundraising project while at an event, but please rest assured that unless the event invitation specifically states that the event is a fundraising event, we will not ask you for money.

### Upcoming events

See page 30-31

\*This does not include events organised by alumni associations, for example Dunelm Society and college associations or societies

  
**86%**  
OF YOU SAID YOU TOOK PART IN ONE OR MORE EXTRA ACTIVITIES WHILE AT DURHAM

**19%**   
OF YOU SAID THAT YOU MET YOUR PARTNER/SPOUSE AT DURHAM



*At my interview for the next training course – they said ‘We like people from Durham!’*

**Cilla Perkins Arabic, Marys, 1971-74**

*The number of interviews that started with... ‘you were at Durham too, which college?’. It was a major advantage of which I was previously unaware.*

**Paul Harrison Geology and Geophysics, Chads, 1984-87**

*The community spirit and sense of belonging that you experience while at Durham lasts longer than graduation, which is something I believe to be unmatched by other universities.*

**Hannah van Rooyen English Literature, Collingwood, 2011-14**

*I attended Durham for 1 year as a German foreign student on a grant. It prepared me for living abroad and loving it. I am married to an Englishman and we live in Dallas TX. Durham made it possible!*

**Eleonore Pieper Arts, Grey, 1988-89**

*The opportunities to attend events and meet the likes of the V-C, Chancellor and hear them take the trouble to give updates about the future development of the University are very valuable and much appreciated. I value greatly what I gained from being at Durham. The sense of continuity and belonging, which such events provide are treasured.*

**Chris Davidson German, Grey, 1966-70**

*I read a Masters Degree in Post Compulsory Education and Learning and then used my new knowledge to build a nationally recognised range of re-engagement strategies and opportunities targeting socially disadvantaged young people. My education delivered by Prof. Bill Williamson enabled me to win multi-million pound bids from an array of funders including EU. It impacted greatly on thousands of disaffected young people, helping them to overcome complex barriers to their success.*

**Andrew Pritchard Adult and Continuing Education, 1991-93**



### We asked you what you would like from us

We are working on some of these at the moment, but here are a few things that are available now:

A range of benefits for when you are visiting Durham are available on our website [www.dunelm.org.uk](http://www.dunelm.org.uk) along with other ongoing alumni benefits: [www.dunelm.org.uk/benefits](http://www.dunelm.org.uk/benefits)

Official Durham University merchandise is available from <https://shop.dur.ac.uk/>

For careers advice and support visit, [www.durham.ac.uk/careers](http://www.durham.ac.uk/careers) or check out our networking events on [page 20-21](#)

For reunions and other events, see [page 30-31](#)

Most of you found *Dunelm* magazine and the Newswire emails informative, which we were pleased about!

A few of you are engaging with our website and social media, but for the rest of you, why not check it out: [www.dunelm.org.uk](http://www.dunelm.org.uk)



### DONATING

Your top reasons for donating to Durham University are **‘I like to feel as though I am giving back to my university, my college, department or sport’** and **‘I want to support the next generation’**.

The top areas that you are interested in donating to in the future are:

**Your college, student hardship, your department and scholarships.**

*I think Durham is a fantastic environment to grow and mature as you make the transition from child to young adult. The intimate and magical nature of the place, its collegiate structure and the wide offering of extra-curriculars at all levels encourages participation and builds bonds as strong as I’ve known. Simply, Durham was a unique and special place for me and always will be.*

**Andrew McCulla Law, Hatfield, 2009-13**

*Feels like a family!*

**Avril Clark English Literature, Marys, 1964-67**

Share your memories of Durham at [www.dunelm.org.uk/endorse](http://www.dunelm.org.uk/endorse)



# 150 YEARS OF DURHAM ALUMNI

Last year, we celebrated a major milestone in the history of Durham alumni.

**2016** marked 150 years since the first Durham alumni society was formed in London on 31 May 1866, and which carries on today as the Dunelm Society. This major anniversary led the majority of alumni activity last year and was a perfect opportunity for the University to appreciate and thank all Durham alumni who continue to be involved in the life of their college, department and the University. There were a series of events throughout the year, in Durham, London, elsewhere in the UK and around the world, and we are pleased to report that we met many of you at these events.

## Chancellor's Reception in Munich

Saturday 25 June 2016

## Chancellor's Reception in Tokyo

Saturday 10 December 2016

Chancellor of Durham University and world-renowned opera star, Sir Thomas Allen, visited these cities to meet alumni and help them to reconnect with Durham, meet senior Durham staff, and find out about the latest developments and plans for the alumni network.

The Dunelm Society, in conjunction with the Alumni Relations Office, organised three major events in London.

## Reception at the Tower of London

Tuesday 22 March 2016

Lord Dannatt, Constable of the Tower and a Durham alumnus, hosted a reception in the Fusiliers' Mess.

## Reception at Apsley House (known as No.1 London)

Wednesday 20 April 2016  
The Duke of Wellington hosted an evening reception with the Chancellor, Sir Thomas Allen, in attendance



## The Annual Dinner at the Guildhall, London

Tuesday 8 November 2016  
Held in the magnificent crypt, which dates back to 1042, the Dinner was preceded by Convocation in the Livery Hall, which was led by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart Corbridge.



## Canada's Dunelm celebrates its centennial

While the Durham alumni community was 150 years old in 2016, Dunelm, the residence of Durham alumni **Gavin Murphy Law, Graduate Society, 1997-98**, celebrated its centennial. Built in 1916, Dunelm is located on Union Street in Canada's capital city of Ottawa and it is the only alumni residence, that we know of, so named outside the United Kingdom. Situated in the central neighbourhood of New Edinburgh and in the heart of the New Edinburgh Heritage Conservation District, Dunelm is so close to downtown Ottawa that Canada's Peace Tower, part of the Parliament Buildings, can be seen directly from there. Dunelm was originally built as, and continues to be, a duplex, meaning one housing unit is above another. It is part of a three door row, likely built to house factory workers during the First World War.

Dunelm is a mere city block from Rideau Hall, the residence of Canada's governor-general, who is the Queen's representative in Canada, while 24 Sussex Drive, traditionally the home of the prime minister, is only a short walk away. Gavin has owned Dunelm since 1984 but he is not the only Durham alumni in the neighbourhood. Just around the corner are Durham grads Roger Stacey and Paul McConnell.

Dunelm will once again host the local alumni chapter's Christmas knees-up. If there are alumni in the Ottawa area who wish to learn more about the local chapter, formally known as DunelmOTTAWA, feel free to contact Gavin at [gmurphy@dunelm.org.uk](mailto:gmurphy@dunelm.org.uk) and he will put you in touch with the chapter executive.

## VICE-CHANCELLOR CONTINUES TO MEET ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD

Following introductory events in the UK and the US, the Vice-Chancellor and Warden, **Professor Stuart Corbridge**, has continued to meet many of you as he shares his vision for the future of Durham

**A**lumni gathered in **Dubai** in February 2016 and in **Beijing** and **Hong Kong** in May 2016, the receptions serving as an opportunity to meet with fellow alumni and friends of the University from across the Gulf, in East Asia and further afield. For the first time in almost a decade, the Vice-Chancellor and Warden of Durham University went to the West Coast of the United States in July. Professor Corbridge was joined by a special guest speaker in **San Francisco**, alumnus Dr Neil Hunt *Computing & Electronics, Collingwood, 1980-83*, current Chief Product Officer at Netflix, one of the most successful visual entertainment companies in the world. We finished off the year with a Reception at the Residence of the British Ambassador to the United States, Sir Kim Darroch *Zoology, Hatfield, 1972-75*, in **Washington DC**.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Corbridge gave a summary of the ambitious plans that the University has set for its next 10 years. He reiterated that Durham is one of the world's best universities. He stated that the University is committed to:

- producing world-leading and world-changing research across all of its core academic units;
- providing its students with an education that is challenging, difficult, enabling, research-led and transformative;
- and providing its students through its Colleges,

Experience Durham and Durham Students' Union with opportunities for participation and excellence in drama, leadership, music, sports and volunteering that are world-leading.

With the Reception as an example, Professor Corbridge mentioned that Durham is committed to being an active and positive presence in the lives of its members throughout their lives, and would work hard to establish a culture of affection that binds together past, present and prospective future members in networks of mutual support and giving. The University will also seek to extend these networks of affection and support across the communities in which it is situated, in the process engaging and empowering – and learning from – a wide range of external stakeholders.

Professor Corbridge highlighted his tri-pronged focus on excellence in education, research and the student experience. He mentioned that while all universities competed in the same educational and research space, what is distinctive about Durham is its quality of student experience, which is only emulated by a few universities in the UK, and in fact the world.

There is no doubt that Durham is a world-leader in, for example, cosmology, the humanities and business studies. To remain competitive, however, it will have to invest substantially in certain academic programmes that could be improved and in physical parts of the University. A number of

other strategic issues, such as, how best to review Queen's Campus, were mentioned. In the realm of education, it is indisputable that students at Durham are receiving first-class instruction and that they are sought after all over the world for the quality of their performance in the workplace.

The Vice-Chancellor also emphasised the fact that Durham's collegiate system is a jewel in Durham's substantial crown and that it adds significant value in building our communities of affection.

As we enter a new era, the Vice-Chancellor invites all alumni and friends to join him on a journey to ensure that Durham remains competitive and relevant in an increasingly globalised higher education sector. We have to ensure that we attract top academic talent to teach and inspire the best students from around the world here on our unique historic estate – making the most of our exceptional facilities and contributing passionately to both university and collegiate life at Durham. To do this would require engagement, participation and, more particularly, philanthropy, as is typical for all of the world's great universities. Please join us as we grow and develop the Vice-Chancellor's inspirational and aspirational vision.

Photos from events can be viewed online on the Durham Flickr page at: <http://bit.ly/FlickrDunelm>

### BEIJING



### DUBAI



### HONG KONG



### SAN FRANCISCO



Alumni around the world organised their own events as part of Dunelm Days: a series of volunteer-led events that were focused around the 31 May anniversary itself.



**Dunelm Days in Cape Town**

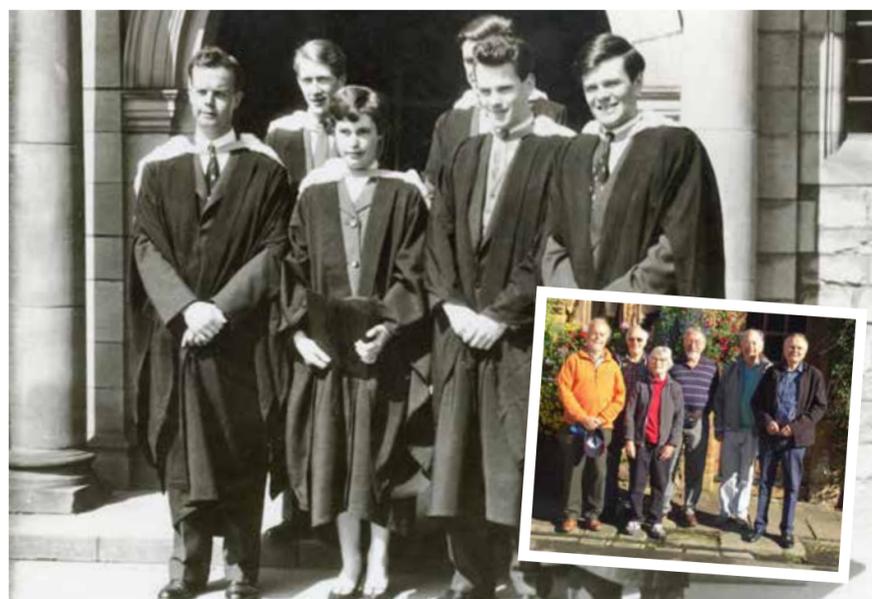
A report from event organiser **Robin Palmer** *Anthropology, Van Mildert, 1967-70*:

**Geoff Coles** *Geography, Castle, 1967-70* and I arrived at the same time and quickly found that we had travelled to the venue similar longish distances from opposite directions, which is why we arrived early for fear of being late. We shared the same dates at Durham, though we were in different colleges, mine having been Mildert. While we didn't meet in those days, we discovered we had a friend in common. With craft beers in hand, on the best chairs in a corner of the pub, we reminisced cheerfully until the others arrived.

**Dean Kayton** *Civil Engineering, Hild Bede, 2008-13*, **Matthew Scarborough** *Archaeology, Hatfield, 2010-12* and **Jayne Boyd** *Chemistry, Collingwood, 1987-90* arrived at the appointed hour or soon after. Dean was accompanied by his cousin, Tara, not a Dunelmian. Although they were all much younger than Geoff and me, we all got on splendidly and the three hours we spent together passed rapidly.

The fortune cookies that Alumni Relations sent over provided much needed 'blotting paper' as well as amusement, and at a certain point we did the Durham quiz that was included in the package. We could identify our own colleges' crests, but none of the others – Collingwood, Ustinov and Snow didn't exist when Geoff and I were at Durham! We scored nil on the mottos, including our own mottos, and on Durham's twinned cities; but we knew all about The Sanctuary Knecker, the early founding of the Regatta, the century Castle was built, and the names of the recent chancellors. All good clean fun! We enjoyed the evening and everyone thought it would be good to meet again.

**There were many other reunions across the world of different Durham groups**



A report from **Peter Goldsborough** *Zoology, St Cuthbert's, 1956-60* on the Zoology Class of 1960 reunion:

A rather unusual group of six Durham alumni met at Lumley Castle with their partners, three of whom they met in Durham. The six are the complete class of Honours Zoology graduates of 1960. Three had completed National Service before entering the course, which required three cognate subjects leading to selection into two-year single honours. Zoology was then a separate department headed by Professor J.B. Cragg in the Dawson building on the Science site conveniently close to a supply of excellent sticky buns which encouraged intense intellectual discussions! Elizabeth Bowdan (née Segal) lived in the almost new buildings of St Mary's College. Bill Block, Trevor Brough and myself are St Cuthbert's men. Mike Tribe and John Whittaker spent their second year at Lumley Castle (then part of University College) and spent a final year in Durham Castle.

All six were involved in extra-mural activities some of which can be mentioned here: Elizabeth, a skilled violinist, spent much time in the School of Music, in the old building on Palace Green. Bill, Mike and John were active members of the University (then including King's College) Exploration Society. Bill was President 1959/60. Peter was Captain of University athletics and he (javelin) and Mike (middle-distance running and cross-country) represented the UAU and were members of a very successful University European tour. Mike was President of DUAU.

The grounds of Lumley Castle were then the venue for an annual road relay for colleges and other Northern clubs. Trevor rowed for St Cuthbert's and still enjoys running 700 miles annually. As a keen ornithologist Trevor helped Dr John Coulson with

his classic population studies on kittiwakes and other seabirds. Thereafter he remained in ornithology at the Worplesdon laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (now Defra). Mike and Peter did a PGCE year at Cambridge, where they continued their athletics, both became teachers. Mike returned to Durham for his PhD just after John and Bill (and his botanist wife May (née Watt), St Mary's), completed their doctorates at Durham. Peter became the head of a large secondary school. His son is also a Durham biology graduate and his son has also applied to follow the same course.

Bill, John, Mike and Elizabeth remained in academia. Elizabeth took her doctorate in the States, where she stayed in university life. Bill joined the British Antarctic Survey as Head of Terrestrial Biology research section and spent several seasons South gaining a Polar Medal. Mike joined the school of biology in the new University of Sussex. John took his first post at Oxford then moved to another new university, Lancaster, becoming Professor of Ecology and Head of Biological Sciences and President of the British Ecological Society. John and Bill were awarded the Durham DSc in the mid 80s.

The reunion at Lumley allowed us to renew our friendships established in the late 50s bringing back so many recollections of life, fellow students and tutors. The group departed with a promise to meet up again in four years' time, Zimmer frames permitting, to celebrate their diamond jubilee of graduation.

No one ever forgets or regrets the privileges of their time in this ancient, highly regarded University.



# VOLUNTEER EVENT

For the very first time we put on a Volunteer Weekend to celebrate and thank our alumni volunteers who generously give their time to contribute towards the University's future.

Thank you again, to you all.



# DUNELMENSIS AWARD

The Dunelmensis Award is given by the University's Senate to a Durham alumnus or alumna for meritorious and exceptional service in support of the University, particularly for our institutional advancement and for enhancing the University's reputation, nationally and internationally.

## Dunelmensis Award Recipients 2016

To mark the 150th year three Dunelmensis Awards were conferred throughout the year. On Friday 13 May, at the Vice-Chancellor's Reception in Beijing, **Ocean Wang** (pictured below with the Vice-Chancellor) *Business Administration, Ustinov, 2008-09* became the youngest alumnus, and the first Durham University Business School graduate, to be presented with a Dunelmensis Award. Ocean is recognised as Durham University Business School's most dedicated ambassador. A Durham MBA and Chair of the School's International Committee in China, he has been instrumental in connecting the University with our Chinese alumni, who are our largest population outside the UK. On Saturday 4 June the University hosted the first ever Celebration of Alumni Volunteering. The event,



held during National Volunteer Week, saw the second Dunelmensis Award of 2016 conferred on **Patrick Salaun** (pictured below with the Vice-Chancellor) *Law with Economics, Hatfield, 1964-67*. Patrick has supported Durham in a variety of roles for a number of decades: first as a Dunelm Society committee member, as Chair during the nineties, and most recently as President. Patrick was the familiar figure sitting at an un-tented table on Palace Green during graduation week in the eighties, encouraging alumni to sign up to the Society. It was this single stall that eventually developed into the voluminous marquee that greets new graduates today. Patrick also created the database of names that formed the basis of the alumni database that the University still holds. **Lilian Groves** (pictured below right, accepting her



award) *Education, Hild Bede, 1973-75* continues to be active in College 70 years since she first arrived here: she is a member of the Boards of the Hild Bede Trust and the Caedmon Ceolfrid Trust, a member of College Council and Vice-President of the Alumni Association. Lilian has an outstanding record of service to the College of St Hild and St Bede and to the University, of whose core values she is in many ways the embodiment. By her activity in fields that were unusual for women at the time and her continued involvement with the Cathedral, she has done much to promote the College, University and City on a national and international level. It is particularly fitting, given the long history of her service to the education of women, that she is the first woman to receive the Dunelmensis Award.



## UNIVERSITY STRATEGY 2017-27

As you all know well, Durham is a world top 100 university with a global reputation and world-class performance in research and education, but the global higher education market is increasingly challenging and competitive.

**P**rofessor Stuart Corbridge, the Vice-Chancellor and Warden, is leading a new strategy for the University, spanning the next 10 years. The main aims of this Strategy are to deliver:

- world-leading and world-changing research across all core academic departments and institutes;
- education that is challenging, difficult, enabling, research-led and transformative;
- through our Colleges, Experience Durham and Durham Students' Union, a wider student experience to rival the best in the world.

It includes strategies for the Faculty, Education, Wider Student Experience, Research and Engagement, Internationalisation, People, the Durham Delivering Operational Excellence Strategy (Durham DOES), Finance, and the Estate and Estate Masterplan. It also incorporates our Vision and Values and our plans for the re-purposing of Queen's Campus and the transfer of the School of Medicine, Pharmacy and Health to Newcastle University.

Further details on the Strategy are available on the University's website. More developments will become available in the coming months, so keep an eye on the University's website for updates. Our Strategy builds on Durham's consistently highly ranked reputation to secure our academic success and leading position on a sustainable basis in an increasingly competitive market environment. As part of this, the University has developed an Accommodation and Estates Masterplan, which

identifies potential areas for investment to support our vision.

We have alumni of Durham at the forefront of our minds as we continue to improve Durham's standing in the world, as well as retaining and enhancing our spirit and heritage. Alongside this, we are committed to being closely engaged with local and regional stakeholders in the public, private and voluntary sectors, as well as local residents, thus fulfilling an important role within Durham, Stockton and the wider North East.

Investment in the estate is needed to accommodate growth and to help improve the collegiate experience. The next 10 years will bring many changes and there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved and to help shape new developments. Look out for these at alumni events and keep your eye on Newswire and other communications from the Alumni Office.

Major investments are being made in building new departmental space, teaching space, residential accommodation and student facilities. We aim to have an increasing proportion of students in college-affiliated accommodation and to continue to invest in our existing academic and residential buildings. This new plan will be delivered in phases, following full consultation and subject to planning permission.

We hope that the result of all the work will be transformational both for the University and for the wider community.

See pages 18 and 19 for more on two of the upcoming projects.

### PHASE 1 DELIVERY BY 2017/18

Work underway to improve facilities, and to accommodate early growth and the transfer of activities from Queen's Campus, includes:

- Ustinov College moving to Sheraton Park (delivery by 2019-20)
- New Centre for Teaching and Learning at Lower Mountjoy
- New sports park at Maiden Castle (extensions and improvements)
- Remodelling the peninsula to support growth in Arts & Humanities
- New colleges at Mount Oswald (delivery by 2020/21)
- New building for Maths and Computer Science

### PHASES 2 AND 3 DELIVERY IN STAGES 2020-27

- A new Business School at Elvet Waterside
- New development at Elvet Riverside (Arts and Humanities Departments)
- Leazes Road – School of Education refurbishment
- Law School/Palatine Centre remodelling
- Upper Mountjoy – new chemistry/science facilities
- Lower Mountjoy new build
- Lower Mountjoy – Library development
- Super-route infrastructure
- Cultural hub, including music venue

*The next 10 years will bring many changes and there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved and to help shape new developments.*

At the time of writing, we are consulting on two priority projects: a new Centre for Teaching and Learning at Lower Mountjoy; and extensions and improvements at Maiden Castle Sports Park.

You can find more detail on both projects and the full estates masterplan on the University website, [www.durham.ac.uk](http://www.durham.ac.uk)

## CENTRE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



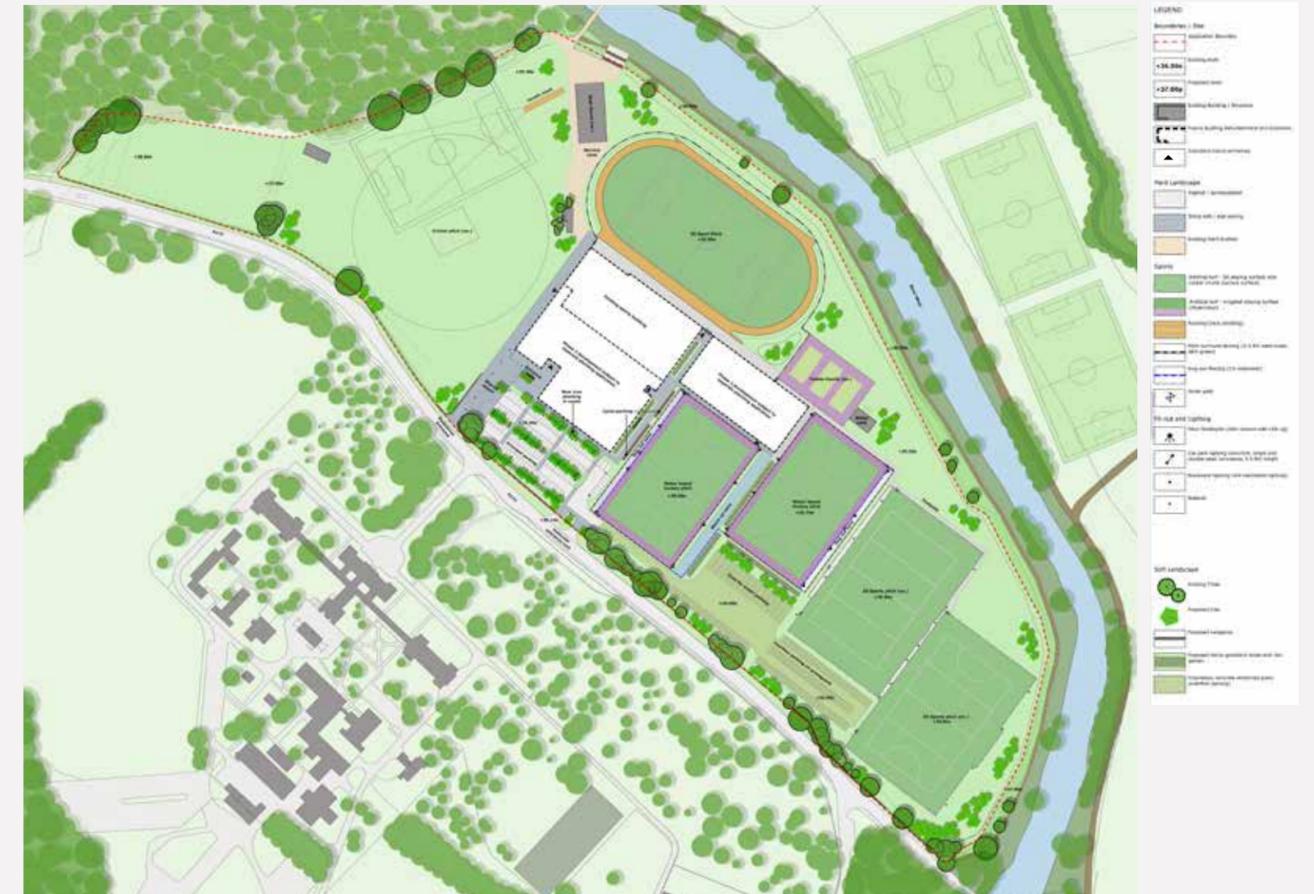
### The new facility is needed to:

- support the University's Strategy for growth in student numbers;
- provide facilities to support student numbers transferring from Queen's Campus to Durham;
- support academic disciplines to be accommodated on the Mountjoy site under the University's new Strategy;
- support developments in teaching practice and provide facilities which are sufficiently flexible to respond to future change.

The new Centre for Teaching and Learning will be sited off South Road, close to the Bill Bryson Library and a number of academic departments. It will house state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities, including: lecture theatres, teaching rooms, seminar rooms, education labs for developing new teaching and training methods, student learning zones and catering facilities. It will also be capable of hosting major academic conferences, further supporting the economy of Durham City and the wider region. The shape, size and layout of the building is to be developed to minimise the impact of the development on key views to and from the World Heritage Site and the Durham City Conservation Area.



## MAIDEN CASTLE SPORTS PARK



### The new facility is needed to:

- support the University's Strategy to develop the wider student experience;
- provide additional facilities with students transferring from Queen's Campus to Durham;
- support the growth of College Sport, University Sport and broader recreational activity;
- provide additional capacity to develop Maiden Castle's role as a hub for community sport and physical activity.

This reconfiguration of the site is to include a new 3G football/rugby pitch inside the existing running-track and two new water-based hockey pitches. There will also be an extension to, and remodelling of, the existing building.



Find out more at [www.durham.ac.uk](http://www.durham.ac.uk)

Together with Durham University Business School, the Alumni Relations Office runs a series of professional networking events. Inspired by Durham's success in a set of employability rankings published by LinkedIn, these events gather together professionals in specific industries and sectors of the economy, offering opportunities to make new connections across the Durham network and to hear the latest thinking from leading Durham figures in the profession.

**Events in 2016 included:**

- Renewable Energy and Finance *March 2016*
- Accounting Professionals *April and November 2016*
- Investment Bankers and Finance Professionals *July 2016*
- Media, Broadcasting & Journalism *September 2016*

For events coming up, see page 30-31.

Any future invitations will be issued via email to alumni we believe to be working in the relevant industries. To ensure that you receive your invite, please update your business details via the Edit my Profile section of Dunelm.org.uk

Alternatively, please contact the Alumni Relations team via email to [alumni.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:alumni.office@durham.ac.uk) to register your interest now.

**MEDIA** Featuring John Ryley, Head of Sky News Arts Combined, *Hild Bede, 1981-84*

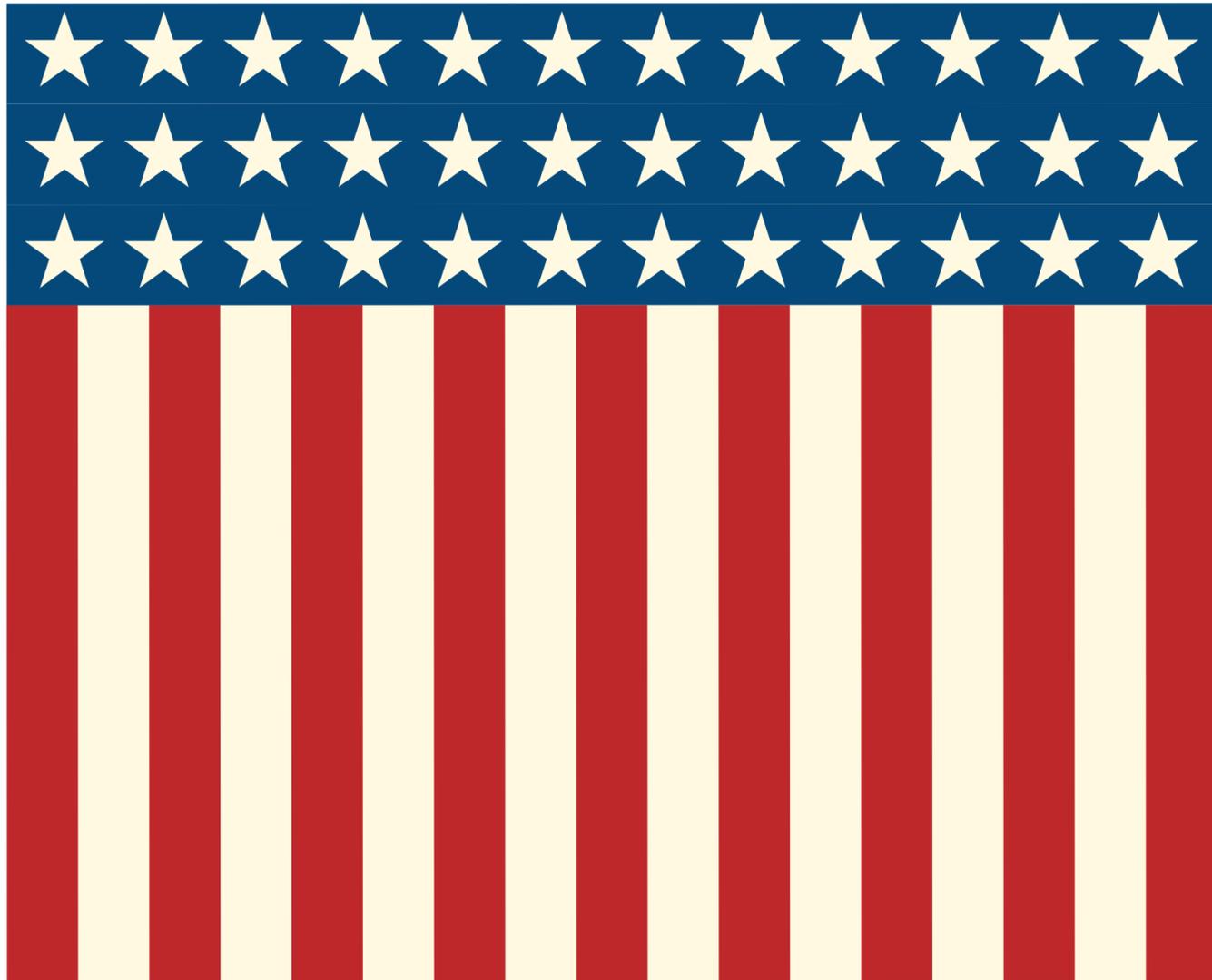


**ACCOUNTANCY** Featuring Michael Izza, CEO of the Institute of Chartered Accountants *Law, Cuths, 1979-82*



**INVESTMENT BANKING** Featuring Robert Gillespie, Non-Executive Director RBS Group and Citizens Financial Group and current Chair of Durham University Council *Economics, Grey, 1974-77*





## MEET THE NEW CHAIR OF THE DURHAM NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**Zoe Scheinman** *Chinese, Trevelyan, 1984-88* is the new Chair of the Durham North American Development Board, one of two official development boards supporting the University in key regions of the world. (The other is in Hong Kong.)

David Williams, Head of Alumni and Supporter Engagement, talks to Zoe about her Durham journey and why she volunteers to support the University's work in the US.

“

I credit Durham with giving me the wonderful life I have had," Zoe says.

She came up in 1984. She remembers the cobblestones in the foyer at Trevs, and the cheese toasties on sale outside the bar. She lived in, and then out, on the short, pretty street of houses called Pimlico which overlook the peninsula from the west bank of the Weir. Her landlady was Dame Enid Russell-Smith, who had been honoured for setting up the NHS; and the rent was £9 a week – "a fantastic deal in the mid- 80s".

Her father was a Durham alumnus. He went to King's College, Newcastle (afterwards the founding college of Newcastle University). Her mother was a student nurse from Gateshead, and Zoe was born near Morpeth in Northumberland. The family moved to Derbyshire, where Zoe's father got a job working for the Peak District National Park. Her family is still there, but although she loves going back, she always knew she wanted to work abroad.

"When I was very little, my granny had this tiny black chest," she says. "I didn't know if it was Chinese or Japanese at this point, but it had all these little intricate drawers and things like that, and it just fascinated me and so I got interested in oriental art because of it. All of a sudden the Far East became very exotic to me and I just knew I wanted to study Chinese and that the place I should do that was Durham. I'm so glad I chose Durham, because I really benefitted from the small class sizes and the caring and knowledgeable faculty."

She met her husband on her year abroad in China. "We were based in Beijing, at the People's University, where they did a lot of training of communist political leaders. The occasional tank parade would rumble past. We all lived in a foreign students' dormitory. There were 60 students from all over the world: Russians, Japanese, British and Americans. My husband-to-be and a couple of his classmates were on an exchange programme from Duke University Law School. The dorm was basic. To prepare for winter, there would be cabbages piled up outside the windows up to about the third-floor level and they put a tarp over the top and then just took a cabbage out as they needed it through the winter. The bathroom had trough-style sinks and hole-in-the-floor toilets. There was a communal hot water tap for making tea. And just like Durham, there was a doorkeeper. Everything had a ticket, a "piao", and you needed a licence plate on your bike because there were so many of them. I remember pedaling against the wind blowing in from the Gobi Desert.

"But it was a great time. There was no internet; Chinese TV was all about pig production and crop yields, so our entertainment came from the stories that you would tell each other or the characters that you would meet.

"Everyone who went has been impacted by it for the rest of their lives. Many of my classmates are still out in China or they work overseas.



They just became global people."

After their year together, Zoe's husband-to-be went back to Duke Law School in North Carolina. They corresponded "in a good old-fashioned way", decided they were right for each other, and realised they should get married. The wedding took place in Nottingham a month after Zoe graduated.

"Everyone was surprised, because we were so young, but some decisions are easy to make!" They went to live in Hong Kong for a year, before moving to the US. Zoe worked for Jones Lang Wootton the chartered surveyors, in Hong Kong, then worked in financial planning when she arrived in the States, took an MBA at Berkeley, and then worked for a manufacturing company in

San Francisco as a product manager.

The two marriages, her parents' and her own, and Durham's role in each is the reason for her saying that Durham gave her her life. But it is her husband who has influenced her wanting to give something back.

"I am so proud of having gone to Durham," Zoe says. "I'm in such great company! Everyone that you will meet from there has these great stories. "After my MBA, I was part of the Berkeley alumni club and I began to think I should be part of the Durham one too, so I became involved. We didn't get together very much but when we did, we seemed to have a pretty good time, so we organised some events and then the >



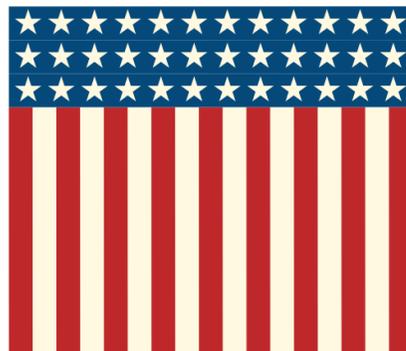
The North American Development Board - Washington DC, December 2016

Development and Alumni Relations Office started to support us and visit.  
 "My husband is a very kind, thoughtful man, who has an idea of what he wants his legacy to be. He wants to pay back what he has been given and pay something forward, and that approach has rubbed off on me. Following his example, we set up a scholarship for students from Trevis who wanted to study in China and then donated to a programme at Durham to support learning Chinese.  
 "They are only small amounts, and although big philanthropists can just hand over wads of cash, I can't do that, so my time and my interest comes along with it, and I really feel like I am a partner with the University. I have been given the immense honour of being part of this development board over here and continuing work that has been done as a labor of love by my predecessors. Our work in the US is really threefold" says Zoe.  
 "We aim to raise money to support students and faculty research and programmes at Durham

through our status as a charitable foundation (501c3). We aim to support the thousands of Durham grads who currently live in the US. And we aim to broaden the wonderful reputation of Durham University with a goal of attracting excellent students from the US to study at Durham.  
 "It is a great time to be involved, and I can see the huge potential of a globally orientated Durham.  
 "We have members of the North American Development Board who are passionate about their Durham experience, and who are excited to be part of that vision and we are working hard to support the University over here, and having a great time doing it."

If you want to learn more about the work of the North American Development Board, go to [www.dunelmusa.org](http://www.dunelmusa.org)

*"I am so proud of having gone to Durham. I'm in such great company!"*



ADAD-sponsored group of Dorset sixth-formers en route from Durham.

## INTRODUCING THE ASSOCIATION OF DURHAM ALUMNI IN DORSET



Left to right: Les Gardner, Geoffrey Smart, Mike Cleaver, Jill Lidgley, Huw Lawford, Minette Walters, Isobel Smart and Mike Williams plus Minette's two golden retrievers.

**D**urham alumni in Dorset are invited to find out more about ADAD, the Association of Durham Alumni in Dorset. Although Dorset is 400 miles from Durham, ADAD is dedicated to giving sixth-formers in the county the opportunity to find out about Durham University and to offer those who are interested an all-expenses-paid, two- or three-day visit to Durham, in order to attend the University's Open Days and to find out more about Durham student life. The aim is to provide them with the opportunity to visit a university that they might otherwise have considered to be too far from home. As part of the visit, ADAD feels that it is important to allow the students from different schools the opportunity to form early friendships, so that they are ready for the wide variety of students they will meet in Durham. ADAD also places importance on encouraging students to aspire and to be enthusiastic about the university they choose.  
 Working in conjunction with Durham University since 2012, ADAD has brought up to Durham almost 100 students from state and independent schools throughout Dorset. The ADAD committee comprises Durham graduates who come from a wide variety of backgrounds and careers, and who have come together in a voluntary capacity to encourage and assist the best Dorset students to attend Durham University. Every alumnus or alumna in Dorset is welcome to join it at any time. As ADAD says, "It's voluntary, it's fun, and extremely worthwhile".

If you would like to find out more, please contact Jill Lidgley, the ADAD Liaison Officer: [jill.lidgley@gmail.com](mailto:jill.lidgley@gmail.com)

## URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO SAVE PRIMATES FROM EXTINCTION

### And you can help

**A**n international group of primate conservation experts is calling for urgent action to protect the world's dwindling primate populations. Some 60% of recognised primate species worldwide are now threatened with extinction, and 75 per cent have declining populations, say the experts in an article in *Science Advances*.

They are an essential component of tropical biodiversity, contributing to forest regeneration and ecosystem health, and they play important roles in the livelihoods, cultures and religions of many societies.

There are possible solutions, if governments, NGOs, businesses and organisations, researchers and the public mobilise behind the cause.

#### How you can help

- Avoid buying tropical timber or food products containing palm oil, as both destroy tropical forests.
- Think before you buy, because every consumer decision we make has global implications.
- Don't keep wild animals as pets.
- Support efforts to tackle global poverty, so that people do not need to rely on hunting primates for food.

Professor Jo Setchell from Durham University's Department of Anthropology is one of the article authors. She said: "This is a dire situation. We must prevent the mass extinction of our closest biological relatives. And it is possible.

"If we can reduce the unsustainable pressures we are putting on primates and their habitats, and make this a global priority, we can stop this downward spiral towards the destruction of these irreplaceable and fascinating species. I can't imagine a world without other primates, but if we don't act soon, we will soon be faced with one." Non-human primates, such as lemurs, monkeys and apes, are our closest biological relatives and offer unique insights into human evolution, biology, behaviour, and the threat of emerging diseases.

The experts from the US, Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa say that the threat of extinction is the result of escalating and unsustainable pressures that humans are exerting on primates and their habitats.

These include extensive forest loss in response to global market demands through the expansion of industrial agriculture, large-scale cattle ranching, logging, oil and gas drilling, mining, dam building, and the construction of new road networks for resource extraction in primate range countries.

Professor Setchell added: "This situation will only get worse unless we take immediate action. "Most primates live in regions with high levels of human poverty and inequality, so we need to take immediate action to improve health and access to education, develop sustainable land-use initiatives, and preserve traditional livelihoods that can contribute to food security and environmental conservation. We know all this. It's time to put it in place.

"If we continue to degrade habitats to the point where they are unsuitable for our primate relatives, these habitats will eventually become unsuitable for us too."

#### ORANGUTAN 'KISS SQUEAKS' POINT TO THE DAWN OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE

In other primate news, Dr Adriano Lameira of the Department of Anthropology led new research that may help to unlock the mystery of why and how our evolutionary ancestors first combined a consonant with a vowel to make the first word.

The study has analysed over 4,400 individual recordings of voiceless consonant-like calls, or 'kiss squeaks', from 48 orangutans in four different populations. Orangutans are unique among non-human primates, as their predominant call type, the 'kiss squeak', is voiceless.

The aim of the research was to understand whether these voiceless calls, which can also include lip-smacks, clicks and raspberries, could transmit similar information to voiced calls, which more closely resemble vowel-like sounds.

The team believes that understanding what information these consonant-like 'kiss squeaks' contain would help to piece together how and why the earliest combinations of vowel-like and consonant-like sounds may have occurred.

Read more online and listen to the orangutan 'kiss squeak!' <http://bit.ly/KissSqueak>

*"I can't imagine a world without other primates, but if we don't act soon, we will soon be faced with one."*

Image credit: Tim Laman



# LEADER OF THE ACCOUNTANTS

**Michael Izza** *Law, Cuths, 1979-82* is CEO of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). But he is not the archetypal accountant of myth. He has run a pub chain, trained people for McDonald's, been a nightlife entrepreneur, organised two attempted management buyouts and met with prime ministers. In fact, he argues, chartered accountancy prepares you for everything and anything. David Williams, Head of Alumni and Supporter Engagement, interviews him about his career.

**M**ichael Izza's business career started at school. He did the expected leadership stuff – debating society, captaining the second eleven football team, representing the school at cross-country. But he also cornered the local market for school discos. (For younger readers, a disco was a seventies and

eighties phenomenon involving dancing to Soft Cell in village halls.) "We made a fortune," he says. "We were clearing perhaps a couple of hundred quid every fortnight. We booked a DJ, hired the hall, sold tickets and ran the bar, well, a soft-drinks bar with a food offer. It paid for us to go on summer expeditions to Norway and Iceland.

"It was probably at that point looking back on it that I made a decision in my mind that what I was really interested in was running a business." At this point, Michael wanted to be a lawyer. However, he had just started reading Law at Cuth's when another opportunity came along. A few weeks into his time at Durham, the social secretary resigned. Michael put himself forward and, by the

end of his first year, he was social secretary for St Cuthbert's Society. The discos therefore continued. Alumni from the era may remember the Green Machine, which was available for hire for private parties and which earned money for the Cuth's JCR. He ended up JCR President and then became President of Durham Students' Union (DSU).

His career post-Durham was equally meteoric. Instead of law, he trained as a chartered accountant with Coopers and Lybrand. After qualifying, victory in a business game saw him being asked to move to London with the firm, where one of his big clients then poached him. The huge Canadian conglomerate Labatt's brewery owned a baseball team, TV stations and a dairy, and it wanted to build a European drinks business. Within three weeks of joining, Michael had been offered the opportunity to become finance director of their new Italian acquisition Birra Moretti. A year later, and now aged 30, he was asked to become the youngest Vice-President in Labatt's history. And by the age of 32, he was managing director of the third-largest independent pub chain in the UK, with 536 pubs and 2000 staff to transform into a new chain of free houses. When a buyer started looking at Labatt's, Michael tried to organise a management buyout, but when it didn't succeed, he walked away to find something else.

"It is tough to walk away," he reflects, "particularly when you have the responsibility of family and for putting food on the table. The worry of leaving secured employment, going freelance and looking for another job, that was tough. It's much tougher than those business moments that seem tough, like having to sack somebody or having to make a difficult business decision."

His next move was to become managing director of Spring Skills, a vocational training business that offers NVQs and SVQs to 23–35,000 young people. The business had 120 offices around the country and it made its money through government funding. It was an operating model rife with the potential for corruption, and Michael's chartered accountancy background gave him both the audit skills and the ethical values to drive through a zero-tolerance approach.

"People can be very snuffy about vocational training," he says, "but it is very rewarding. It is often about training people who have not done well at school and this may be the first qualification they have ever received and perhaps the start of something new for them. McDonald's is a good example. It is not always positioned as a great place to work, but if you start flipping burgers and you show that you are good at organising things, you can end up running an outlet with a £1 million turnover by the time you are 25. Some of the people we were training were experiencing their first responsibility for their own success and it was very moving. I was just the CEO from London handing out the certificates, but seeing the pride they and their families took in the presentation was very rewarding."

It was following Spring Skills that Michael was headhunted for a role at ICAEW.

"I never really thought that I wanted to work for a professional body," he says, "but it was such an opportunity to bring a commercial approach to a massive operation." He joined as Executive Director Finance and Operations in January 2002. In 2004 he was made Chief Operating Officer and in 2006 he became CEO. ICAEW has a £100 million revenue, 700 staff people and 147,000 members around the world.

"Now people might think that professional bodies are not very interesting, a little bit dull. I would say that this is probably the most diverse and fascinating place I've ever worked in. We are training the chartered accountants of tomorrow so we set the examinations and the standards. We are the regulator; we license 12,600 member firms in the UK. We have an inspection team who go round and look at the work that those firms do and make sure that the public is getting the right quality of service. If people aren't doing what they're supposed to do, we have a conduct department who takes conduct cases through and seeks to give either redress to people who have had a bad service or in extreme throw those people out of membership. We have a technical department who do the thought-leadership work (we work with Durham University Business School) and we are at the cutting edge of some new thinking in the business accountancy

finance space. We offer member support and member services. We have a commercial area that is developing new services. We have become an international body with offices in Brussels, China, Malaysia, Singapore and the Middle East. And then there's everything that a CEO does to raise the profile of the organisation and the profession and be present in global and national policy debates. We are the only professional body that goes to the World Economic Forum in Davos for example. We regularly speak to the media and when a political party wants to make a high-profile economic statement they often ask to use our facilities."

During the last election in 2015, Miliband launched his economic pledges at ICAEW (famously enshrined on the 'Ed stone') and when David Cameron rolled up his sleeves to show his energy and passion, that was at ICAEW too. "Chartered accountancy allows you to do anything you want and the proof point I can give you for that is that among our 147,000 members we have journalists, clergy, politicians, chairs of boards, CEOs, lawyers, and sole practitioners. We cover all of aspects of human endeavour but the thing they have in common is that they have the financial training that gives them a life skill that they will never forget and which they will constantly use. None of which makes them boring accountants."



*"I would say that this is probably the most diverse and fascinating place I've ever worked in."*

# Events 2017

**We hold regular** events all over the world. They are perfect opportunities to meet up with old friends, to make new ones, and to reconnect with all things Durham.

This is only a selection of the events for this year. To see more, visit: [www.dunelm.org.uk/events](http://www.dunelm.org.uk/events)

## JUNE

**Saturday 17**  
Cuth's Day, 12 South Bailey, Durham

**Saturday 24**  
Trevelyan Recent Graduates Reunion, Trevelyan College

**Friday 30 – Sunday 2 July**  
Hatfield Association Reunion Weekend and The Master's Retirement

## JULY

**Friday 7 – Sunday 9**  
St Aidan's Reunion Weekend, St Aidan's College

**Friday 7 – Sunday 9**  
St Cuthbert's Society Alumni Weekend, 12 South Bailey, Durham

**Thursday 13**  
Recent Graduates London Summer Social, venue tbc

**Friday 14 – Sunday 16**  
St Mary's College Summer Alumni Weekend, St Mary's College

**Friday 14 – Sunday 16**  
Durham Castle Society Reunion, University College, Durham

**Saturday 22 – Sunday 23**  
Josephine Butler Summer Alumni Weekend, Josephine Butler College



## SEPTEMBER

**Friday 1 – Sunday 3**  
All Years Summer Reunion, St John's College, Durham

**Saturday 2**  
St Chad's Alumni North BBQ, Wirral, venue tbc

**Friday 15 – Saturday 16**  
Alumni College Day, including 'Decade Reunions' for Graduation Years ending in 7, College of St Hild and St Bede

**Friday 15 – Sunday 17**  
5 Years On Reunion (graduation year 2012), St John's College, Durham

**Saturday 15 – Sunday 17**  
Grey 20th Anniversary Reunion for 1997 matriculating class, Grey College, Durham

**Friday 22**  
Grey Association London Drinks, venue tbc

**Friday 22 – Sunday 24**  
St Chad's Decades Reunion for Matriculation Years ending 5, 6, 7, 8, St Chad's College, Durham

**Saturday 23**  
St Chad's Horsfall Society Lunch, St Chad's College, Durham

**Saturday 30**  
Odinians' Dinner (class of '59), College of St Hild and St Bede

## OCTOBER

**Thursday 12**  
Welcome to London – Recent Graduates Networking, venue tbc

**Saturday 21**  
St Chad's Alumni Choir singing Evensong, Leicester Cathedral

**Friday 27 – Saturday 28**  
Old Boys' and Girls' Sports Weekend and Formal Dinner, College of St Hild and St Bede

## NOVEMBER

**Sunday 19**  
St Hild's Day Service, College of St Hild and St Bede

**Thursday 23**  
Convocation and Dunelm Society Annual Dinner, HQS Wellington Temple, London

## DECEMBER

**Sunday 10**  
St Chad's College Advent Procession, Durham Cathedral

**Wednesday 13**  
St Chad's Alumni Advent Carol Service, Grosvenor Chapel, Mayfair, London

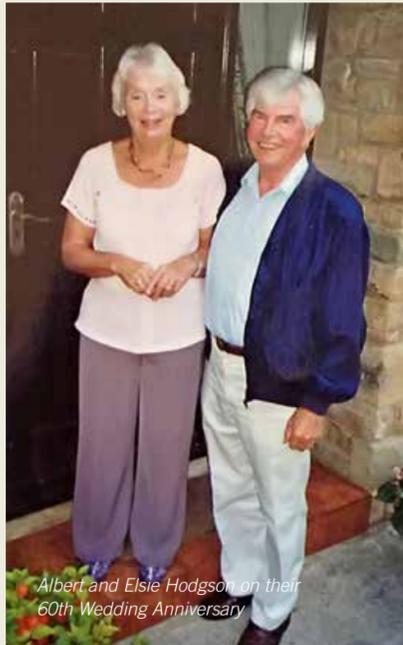


Look out online for more events near you and see photographs of previous events on Flickr: <http://bit.ly/DunelmFlickr>

# CLASS NOTES



Albert and Elsie Hodgson, Graduation Day, 28 June 1956



Albert and Elsie Hodgson on their 60th Wedding Anniversary

## How could I forget?

Albert Hodgson recalls: "On the Thursday, 28 June 1956, was Graduation Day in the Great Hall of Castle, Sir James Duff presiding, photographs on the 'hallowed turf' of Palace Green ('Keep off the Grass' enforced by the University Police); the police would have been overrun by new Grads and families! "On the Saturday, 30 June 1956, our wedding in a County Durham village. Best Man **Ian Nichol Hatfield**, Bridesmaid **Joan Gregory Mary's**, honeymoon two days at Roker Hotel, Sunderland, because our real honeymoon was to travel to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where we had emigrated in the confident hope of obtaining employment in the oil industry. We travelled five days across the Atlantic on *MS Carinthia* (Cunard), no regular flights in those days, and then three days and two

nights (sleeper bunks) from Montreal to Calgary arriving at 8am. First stop Job Centre (we didn't have jobs to go to!); stop no. 2 was Sun Oil Co. The Chief Geologist had heard of Durham University and took me without hesitation. My wife was a professional Chartered Librarian and she also was well received with her qualifications and employed. We had agreed to meet back at the railway station at lunch time and we were both rejoicing. We hadn't any accommodation arranged or anybody we knew in Calgary but the Chief Librarian invited us to stay at his home for the duration of the summer. What a wonderful welcome. Our lives are full of miracles aren't they? We are thankful for our time at Durham University, as the opportunities for character development gave us an assurance to do 'crazy things' like this and come up smiling. Thank you to all concerned." **Albert V Hodgson** *Geology, Cuths, 1952-56* and **Mrs Elsie Hodgson** *ALA*.

Recent graduates **David Allison** *Computer Science Hild Bede, 2013-16* and **Frank Ryan** *Natural Sciences, Grey, 2012-16* were both Highly Commended by The Undergraduate Awards 2016 programme for their Computer Science projects.

**Oliver Balch** *History, Hatfield, 1995-98* published *Under the Tump: Sketches of Real Life on the Welsh Borders* in May, a book which raises important questions about home and belonging, community, and modern country life.

**Tom Barfield** *English, St Cuthbert's, 2001-04*  
**Rachel Quayle, née Anderson** *Anthropology,*

*Castle, 2001-04* and **Elliot Grainger** *Politics, Ustinov, 2005-06* have set up a charity that works with Iraqi refugees near Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan: the Ankawa Foundation.

**Margot Esther Borden** *Counselling, 1994-97* is proud to announce the release of her new book, *Psychology in the Light of the East*.

**Richard Carter** *Software Engineering, Collingwood, 2006-09* is celebrating the 10th anniversary of his web design agency Peacock Carter, which he started in 2006 while he was an undergraduate. Richard has grown the company from working from

his student digs in Durham City to occupying premier office space in Gateshead's flagship Northern Design Centre.

**Zoe Chiverton** *English Literature, St Cuthbert's Society, 2000-03* was 'highly commended' at an awards ceremony celebrating 'best in class' in internal communications worldwide.

**John Collins** *Engineering, Grey, 2003-07* has recently been awarded the Young Engineer of the Year by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

**Juliet Conlin** *Psychology, Ustinov, 2002-06* is delighted to announce that her second novel has been published: *The Uncommon Life of Alfred Warner in Six Days*.

**John-Mark Cunairun** *Management Studies, 2005-08* has self-published his book *Boost your Career* (self-coaching guide).

Triathlete **Shirin Gerami** *Philosophy, Politics and Economics, St Chad's, 2008-11* was nominated for Individual Role Model in the #BeAGameChanger awards.

**Emeritus Professor David Greer** has been awarded the C. B. Oldman Prize 2017 by the International Association of Music Libraries for his *Manuscript Inscriptions in Early English Printed Music*.

**Matthew Griffiths** *English Literature, Ustinov, 2009-13* recently published his first full poetry collection, *Natural Economy*, with North East-based publisher Red Squirrel Press.

**Joseph Colin Hall** *Education, Bede, 1941-43* has been awarded the Légion d'honneur for his naval services on D-Day in 1944.

**Sandra Hyslop** *Natural Sciences, Collingwood, 2008-11* is Whitewater World Champion.

**Beth Kempton née Nicholls** *Japanese and Management Studies, Collingwood, 1995-99* has published her first book, *Freedom Seeker: Live more. Worry less. Do what you love*.

**Susan Kung'u** *Anthropology and Sociology, St Mary's, 1968-71* is proud to announce the release of her autobiography, *Life is a Gift*.

**William Oldroyd** *Theology, St Cuthbert's, 1999-2002* has directed a new film, 'Lady Macbeth', which opened in cinemas nationwide in April.

**Marcus Paul**, *Arts Combined, St John's, 1970-73* has published *The Evil That Men Do*, a counter-cultural look at some of the darker, more controversial periods of Christendom (Crusades, Inquisition).

**Dr Samantha Philo-Gill** *Geography, Van Mildert, 1993-96* is the author of *The Women's Army Auxiliary Army Corps in France 1917-1921: Women Urgently Wanted*, published by Pen and Sword Books Ltd.

**Rachel Rivers Porter** *Education, Graduate Society, 1981-82* has had her debut novel *Kiss of the Tsunami* published and long-listed in *The Times/Chicken House Children's Fiction Competition 2016*.

**Daniel Shaw** *Philosophy, Grey, 1997-2000* released the song *Brave*, and the video, made in collaboration with NGO World Wide Tribe.

A new £2 billion mine is to be co-named after alumnus **Rick Smith** *Geology, Van Mildert, 1967-74* who has played a key role in its development.

**Mohamed Soliman** *Business Administration, Ustinov, MBA, 2006-07* won the Entrepreneurial Award at the UK Alumni Awards Ceremony 2017.

**Adam Usden** *English, Collingwood, 2008-11* has written an Afternoon Drama, *The Book of Yehudit*, which was broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

**Francis Wattiau** *Management Studies, Ustinov, 1970-71* is the author of *Le Ciel et la Terre selon les sciences et les religions*, (Editions Academia).

**Tim Weaver** *Philosophy and Politics, St John's, 1999-2002* has published his book *Blazing the Neoliberal Trail*, with UPenn Press.

**Dr Anthony Wells** *History, St Cuthbert's, 1965-69* has published *A Tale of Two Navies: Geopolitics, Technology, and Strategy in the United States Navy and the Royal Navy, 1960-2015*.

**Dean Pete Wilcox** *History, St John's, 1981-84* has been announced as Bishop of Sheffield.

**Henry Wilson** *Geography, St Cuthbert's, 2011-14* CEO & Founder of Perfect Daily Grind, received the Specialty Coffee Association's Young Entrepreneur Award 2016. He launched Perfect Daily Grind two years ago, while still living in his student accommodation.

**John Wilson** *Engineering (Aeronautics), Castle, 2006-11* set up Supplycompass, an online platform which links UK brands with international manufacturers.

## THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS 2016

**Baroness Valerie A Amos CH** *Honorary, 2012* For services to the United Nations and emergency relief

**Mr Christopher R Ball BEM** *Engineering, Grey College, 1973* For voluntary and charitable services in Chertsey, Surrey

**Dr David Grant Knighthood** *Engineering, Graduate Society, 1974* For services to Engineering, Technology and Skills in the UK

**Miss Rachel M Medill MBE** *Anthropology, Collingwood College, 1986* For services to Young People

**Mr Benjamin W Medlock MBE** *Computer Science, St John's College, 2002* For services to Technology

**Mr Bryan G Morton CBE** *Business Administration, 1996* For services to the Healthcare Industry

**Rev Monica J Newsome MBE** *French & Russian, St John's College, 1977* For services to HM Prison Service and voluntary services to the community in Lichfield, Staffordshire

**Mr John J Parkinson CBE** *History, Hatfield College, 1986* For services to Transport and to Diversity in the Workplace

**Mr Guy R Salter OBE** *History, Hatfield College, 1982* For services to the Economy

**Dr Ben W Schofield MBE** *Mathematical Sciences, Ustinov College, 2005* For services to national security

**Mr Raymond Spencer BEM** *Geography, College of St Hild and St Bede, 1973* For voluntary services to the MS Society and Kingsland School, Wakefield

**Professor Peter T Unwin CMG** *Geography, Graduate Society, 1980* For services to the Commonwealth

**Professor Stanley W Wells Knighthood** *Honorary, 2005* For services to Scholarship

**Dr Rowan P Whimster MBE** *Archaeology, St Cuthbert's Society, 1980* For services to Heritage and Conservation

**Mr Colin N Wrigley MBE** *Natural Sciences, Van Mildert College, 1968* For services to education in Pakistan

## THE QUEEN'S NEW YEAR HONOURS 2017

**Dr William P Aspinall CMG** *Physics, Hatfield College, 1967* For services to the Government and community in Montserrat

**Ms Sheila A Battersby OBE** *Psychology, Trevelyan College, 1973* For services to Civil Society and Community Action in the North West of England

**Mrs Marianne L Black MBE** *Classics, Hatfield College, 1997* For services to British international education

**Mr Timothy J Colley MBE** *Natural Sciences, Collingwood College, 1987* For services to Anguilla

**Mrs Helen K Dicker MBE** *Engineering, Trevelyan College, 1986* For services to Education

**Mr Ronald V Emerson FRSA CBE** *Management Studies, Graduate Society, 1970* For services to International Banking and the Financing of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

**Mr Ian Gray OBE** *Applied Physics & Electronics, Hatfield College, 1971* For services to UK-Egypt trade relations

**Mrs Davinder Kaur BEM** *Business Counselling, Graduate Society, 2003* For services to Women's Enterprise and the community in Sandwell, West Midlands

**Mr Michael D Keigwin MBE** *Business Administration, 2006* For services to African wildlife and conservation

**Professor John A Pyle FRS CBE** *Physics, Grey College, 1972* For services to Atmospheric Chemistry and Environmental Science

**Dr Luke P H Rittner DCL CBE** *Honorary, 2006* For services to the Arts particularly Dance

**Mr Peter W Rowley OBE** *Organisational Consulting, Graduate Society, 2002* For services to Sports Administration

**Dr Adrian M Simper OBE** *Mathematics, Van Mildert College, 1988* For services to the UK nuclear industry in Japan

**Mr Geoffrey E G Stock MBE** *Education, St John's College, 1967* For services to Young People and the community in Horfield, Bristol

**Professor David G Vaughan OBE** *Geophysics, Hatfield College, 1988* For services to Glaciology

**Mr Colum G M Wilson OBE** *Engineering & Management, University College, 1989* For services to Humanitarian Relief

**Miss Qurratul A Zaidi BEM** *Community & Youth Work, Hatfield College, 2007* For services to Football Coaching



MUSIC AND THEATRE HIGHLIGHTS

It has been another fantastic year for both theatre and music at Durham.



In the theatre world – we are thrilled to announce that once again we have had great success at the National Student Drama Festival, with three shows being selected to perform there: Piccolo's *Swallow*, Battered Souls' *Hidden*, and Durham University Light Opera Group's *Ordinary Days*. Likewise, Music Durham continues to make huge leaps in brass bands, winning the Unibrass Festival 2017 competition. Both Durham Student Theatre (DST) and Music Durham are now looking forward to the annual Durham Festival of the Arts, taking place on 2–23 June 2017. The festival, organised by Music Durham and DST, features a whole host of events from concerts to masterclasses, plays to photography exhibitions and so much more, in a number of venues across the City. Particular highlights include the festival opening celebrations incorporating four main events: Land of Hope and Glory – a celebration of British music

in Durham Cathedral; *Around the World in 80 minutes* – an evening of world music and food in Durham Castle; *Arts on the Green* – an afternoon of music and theatre on Palace Green; and *The Canterbury Tales* – a DST production in the Gala Theatre. Durham Festival of the Arts is for all of Durham to enjoy, with plenty of opportunities to get involved for students and the local community alike. With a number of strands including music, opera, theatre, comedy and workshops, the festival is a huge celebration of music and theatre, with something for everyone to enjoy.



Both Durham Student Theatre and Music Durham are now looking forward to the annual Durham Festival of the Arts, taking place on 2–23 June 2017.



Top: Men's Lacrosse. Above, left to right: Women's Lacrosse, Men's Water Polo and Women's Volleyball

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The 2016/17 academic year has been quite simply breathtaking for the Palatinates.

National Championships are extremely hard to win, whoever you are and no matter what sport you play. With that in mind, to have won 15 titles and reached the final in a further seven, is an achievement that every student, member of staff and volunteer should be very proud of. Team Sports have become an area of particular focus for Durham in recent years and, therefore, it is hugely pleasing to be able to report that we have retained our Number One Team Sport title by a record margin. Furthermore, the Palatinates have also secured second place in the overall BUCS Table for the sixth year in succession – quite an outstanding achievement. The year has also been notable for the ongoing rise of some of our developing clubs. The Sailing Club won the Yachting Championships for the first time in their history; Women's Rugby reached a major final (Sevens) for the first time ever; while Women's Fencing and Women's Table Tennis both reached national championship finals for the first time in many years. The season will also be remembered for our Women's Volleyball Club. Winning University Championships is hard enough, but winning championships at the highest level of English elite

club sport is even harder and, until May 2017, a Durham side had never achieved that. With that in mind, it is extremely pleasing to be able to report that Women's Volleyball are the Champions of England and also now occupy a little bit of unique history in Palatinates folklore. As ever, we have been blessed with the opportunity to support and work with a large number of international athletes. Over 40 Durham students have represented their country this year, while a further four have gone on to secure professional playing contracts when they graduate – congratulations to them all. It has, as always, been another action-packed year for College Sport, with over 650 teams now representing their College across 20 sports! Collingwood is once again going to take the College Sport Points crown, but is being pushed harder than ever. The College Festival of Sport, a one-off multi-sport day involving 3,000 students all at Maiden Castle, will once again be a highlight, as was the College Varsity victory over York, where Durham's Colleges took back the Varsity title they had relinquished to York in 2015/16. As is always the case, our College Sport programme could not work without the commitment of student coaches

and officials. Over 200 students have taken the time to get qualified and then give their time to supporting College Sport on a weekly basis – a huge thanks to them along with the 2,000-plus club executive members, without whom neither University sport nor College sport would take place.

University Team of the Year:  
**Women's Volleyball**

- BUCS Champions
- England Volleyball Super Eights Champions

University Club of the Year:  
**Tennis**

- Men's and Women's National Championship Winners
- Men's and Women's National Trophy Winners
- Men's and Women's Individual Championship Singles and Doubles Champions

Performance of the Year:  
**Men's Lacrosse**

- Defeating the Senior England Team 13-11

College Sport Overall Champions:  
**Collingwood College**



## DURHAM RESEARCHERS IN FIRST REAL DEMONSTRATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTING COMMON BIRDS



Above left: Bee-eater, Harvey van Diek, Sovon  
Above: Willow Tit, Harvey van Diek, Sovon  
Left: Bee-eater, RSPB

**D**urham University scientists have shown for the first time that common bird populations are responding to climate change in a similarly pronounced way in both Europe and the US.

An international team of researchers, led by Durham University's Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, found that populations of bird species that were expected to do well due to climate change had substantially outperformed those expected to do badly over a 30-year period from 1980 to 2010.

This is the first real demonstration that climate is having a similar, large-scale influence on the abundance of common birds in widely separated parts of the world, the researchers said. The research, conducted in collaboration with the RSPB and the United States Geological Survey (USGS), was published in the journal *Science*. The study was only made possible by the dedication of thousands of volunteers who survey birds on the same survey plots using the same rigorous methods every year. This huge effort is co-ordinated by the European Bird Census Council in Europe and by the USGS in the US.



Above: Chiffchaff, RSPB  
Left: Wren, Steve Willis, Durham University

### Woodland and garden birds

Among the species showing pronounced effects of climate change are common woodland and garden birds such as the wren, in Europe, and the American robin in the US.

The scientists characterised the climates favoured by different bird species to find out whether recent changes in climate should have positively or negatively affected common breeding birds. Using climate records for the period 1980 to 2010, they split species into two groups based on whether climate had been getting progressively better or worse for each species. Using data from the same 30-year period for 145 common bird species in Europe and 380 common bird species in the US, they contrasted average population trends of species in the two groups.

The team found a clear difference in the average population trends of bird species either advantaged or disadvantaged by climate change in both continents. Populations of species predicted to have been favoured by changes in climate had, on average, substantially outperformed those expected to have been disadvantaged, the scientists said.

### Changing climate suitability

Populations of bee-eater and Cetti's warbler, species with a southerly distribution in Europe, have increased in recent years, whilst more northerly distributed species such as willow tit and brambling have been declining in the same period. Differences in population trends due to changes in climate can also be seen within the same species of bird across different geographical areas. For example, in Europe, species such as the wren have been increasing in northern areas where

winters are becoming milder, but declining in some southern countries where summers have been getting hotter and drier.

The UK population of the Dartford warbler, which used to be limited to Dorset, has increased eightfold since the early 1980s, whilst declining in Spain, as predicted from changes in weather relative to the species' preferences. The American robin, a familiar species across much of continental US, has declined in some southern states such as Mississippi and Louisiana, but increased in north-central states, such as the Dakotas.

These changes are consistent with changing climate suitability within those areas, the researchers said.

Other factors, such as the size of the birds, the habitats they live in and their migratory behaviour, all affect bird populations, but did not differ systematically between groups advantaged or disadvantaged by climate change.

### Bees, butterflies and dragonflies

The study's lead authors, Dr Stephen Willis and Dr Philip Stephens, of Durham University's School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, said the findings showed there was a large-scale, consistent response by bird populations to climate change on two continents.

Dr Stephens said: "If there was no impact of climate change, you would expect the average population trend of species in the two groups to be the same, but the differences expose the fact that recent climate change has already favoured one set of species over another."

Dr Willis added: "These findings represent a new climate impact indicator for biodiversity. The same

approach could also be applied to species such as bees, butterflies and dragonflies, which are well monitored and highly susceptible to changes in climate.

"This helps us to understand where climate change is affecting populations, and to understand the causes of population changes of common birds that might also be affected by factors such as habitat loss and agricultural intensification."

### Bird conservation

RSPB author Dr Richard Gregory said: "This study allows conservationists and decision makers to track the response of bird populations to ongoing climate change. Such indicators are an important guide to the scale of the impacts of global climate change on the natural world and a check on whether government policies are making a difference. The large quantity of data and wide geographical scope of this indicator make it one of the best currently available."

USGS scientist Dr John Sauer said: "We are fortunate to have a rich trove of information in the North American Breeding Bird Survey, dating back to 1961, and its European counterpart.

"Long-term data sets are very valuable in ecological research, but it can be a challenge to figure out how best to use them to shed light on important conservation questions. This paper does that, and provides us with new indicators of change that we hope will be useful in bird conservation." The researchers said their methods could be applied to tropical or sub-tropical regions or the southern hemisphere, but bird monitoring has occurred in fewer places and for shorter periods in those regions. They hope that the research could lead to expanded monitoring in these areas.

Putting a gift in your will enables you to remember your time at the University and leave a lasting, positive impact on future generations of students.



Legacies really are essential to Durham's advancement and they place committed alumni at the forefront of our development as a modern University, one that is responding to the world's societal, economic and technological challenges. As you give back to the University that nurtured you, you become a vital member of the Dunelm community.

Your gift can be directed towards a variety of causes and aligned with the aspect of your time at Durham which you treasure the most.

Whichever cause you choose, when the time is right to make your decision, please contact Louise McLaren, Legacies Officer on **0191 334 6313** or email [louise.mclaren@durham.ac.uk](mailto:louise.mclaren@durham.ac.uk)

**DUNELM**  
Durham University Alumni Community

## HONORARY GRADUATES

Alongside our class of 2016 graduates, we had a number of honorary graduates at Congregation last year.

### Summer Congregation 2016

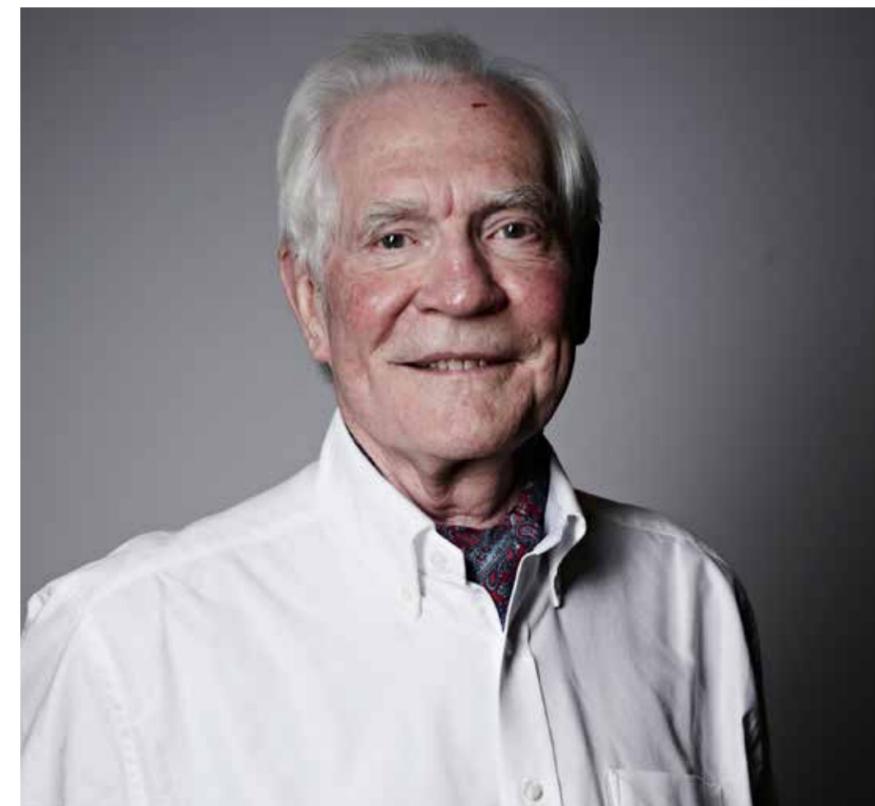


**Professor Sir Robert Burgess** *Sociology, Hild Bede, 1965-71* former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester and a major force in the UK higher education sector. He is a specialist in the sociology of education and was a major influence on the use of qualitative methods in social science research. Professor Burgess has held a number of roles in national higher education organisations, including chair of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) board, and chair of the Higher Education Academy. As chair of the Universities UK/GuildHE Teacher Education Advisory Group, he strongly defended the importance of the role of universities in teacher education. He trained as a teacher at Bede and studied Sociology at Durham University, where he met his wife Hilary, graduating in 1971 from the College of St Hild and St Bede. He was knighted in 2010 for services to higher education, locally and nationally.



**George Garlick** was Chief Executive of Durham County Council until he retired in January 2016. He joined the Council in 2008 and led the successful merger of eight local authorities into one unitary authority, creating the fifth-largest unitary council in England. Under his leadership, County Durham attracted significant investments such as the Hitachi train factory, worth over £82 million, as well as major cultural events, including Lumiere – the UK's largest light festival. George graduated with a BA in Philosophy from the University of Hull in 1978, and after studying law at Guildford College of Law, he worked as a solicitor for various English councils, before becoming Assistant Chief Executive with Cumbria County Council. From there he became the first Chief Executive of Stockton Borough Council, before moving to Durham. In 2007, George was awarded an OBE for services to local government. In 2014, Durham County Council won the Local Government Chronicle Council of the Year award.

### Winter Congregation 2016



**Professor John C Taylor OBE** is a world-renowned inventor and entrepreneur perhaps best known for designing thermostat systems. After 20 years working for the family business Otter Controls, Professor Taylor left to build his own company Strix Ltd, which received four Queen's Awards. He is an eminent horologist, with a renowned collection of early English clocks and watches. Professor Taylor designed the Chronophage clocks, which have been exhibited in a number of museums. The one on the outer wall of the Taylor Library at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge has become a major tourist attraction. In 2011, Professor Taylor was made an OBE for services to business and horology. He is a visiting Professor of Physics at Durham and has generously supported research in the Department of Physics.

**Kathryn Tickell OBE** is an acclaimed performer of the Northumbrian pipes, as well as a renowned folk musician, composer and recording artist. Her work is rooted in the North East of England, inspired by its places and people. She released her first album at 16 and has since recorded 14 more; she has performed in the BBC Proms and collaborated with Sting on a number of projects, including his music theatre show *The Last Ship*. She founded The Young Musicians Fund, which has raised £100,000 for young people in the region, and initiated The

Festival for the North East. Kathryn has a strong association with Durham; she has performed and recorded in Durham Cathedral and performed at Ushaw College. Her father was born in Durham, and her grandfather was a County Durham pitman. In 2009, she received the Queen's Medal for Music and an OBE for services to folk music in 2015.



## NEW RESEARCH FROM DURHAM

# THE PAIN AND PLEASURE OF A SAD SONG



## Does listening to sad music make you sad?

Sad music can provide enjoyment, comfort or pain for different people. New research has been looking at the effects of melancholy songs on the emotions.

**R**esearchers at Durham University and the University of Jyväskylä in Finland said their findings could have implications for how music therapy and rehabilitation could help people's moods. The musicologists looked at the emotional experiences associated with sad music of 2,436 people across three large-scale surveys in the UK and Finland. They identified the reasons for listening to sad music, and emotions involved in memorable experiences related to listening to sad music.

Writing in the scientific journal *PLOS ONE*,

the researchers said that the majority of people surveyed highlighted the enjoyable nature of such experiences, which in general led to clear improvement of mood. The researchers said that listening to sad music led to feelings of pleasure related to enjoyment of the music in some people, or feelings of comfort where sad music evoked memories in others. However, a significant proportion of people also reported painful experiences associated with listening to sad music, which invariably related to personal loss such as the death of a loved one, divorce, break-up or other significant adversity in life.

Lead researcher Professor Tuomas Eerola, Professor of Music Cognition in the Department of Music at Durham, said: "Previous research in music psychology and film studies has emphasised the puzzling pleasure that people experience when engaging with tragic art.

"However, there are people who absolutely hate sad-sounding music and avoid listening to it. In our research, we wanted to investigate this wide spectrum of experiences that people have with sad music, and find reasons for both listening to and avoiding that kind of music.

"The results help us to pinpoint the ways people regulate their mood with the help of music, as well as how music rehabilitation and music therapy might tap into these processes of comfort, relief and enjoyment.

"The findings also have implications for understanding the paradoxical nature of enjoyment of negative emotions within the arts and fiction." Study co-author Dr Henna-Riikka Peltola from the University of Jyväskylä, in Finland, said that sad music led to mixed emotions.

Dr Peltola added: "There seem to be two types of enjoyable experiences evoked by sad music listening.

"In these instances, music is typically the central source of these experiences, and aesthetic qualities were very much involved in the experienced pleasure.

"Alternatively, sad music is also associated with a set of emotions that give comfort to the listener, and where memories and associations play a strong part of making the experience pleasant. These experiences were often mentioned to confer relief and companionship in difficult situations of life.

"However, a large number of people also associated sad music with painful experiences. Such intense experiences seemed to be mentally and even physically straining, and thus far from pleasurable."

The three types of experience associated with listening to sad music (pleasure, comfort and pain) were found across the different surveys.

Experiences of enjoyable sadness were not affected by gender or age, although musical expertise and interest in music seemed to amplify these feelings. Older people reported stronger experiences of comforting sadness, while strong negative feelings when listening to sad music were more pronounced for younger people and women.

Each type of emotional experience associated with sad music could be connected to a distinct profile of reasons, psychological mechanisms, and reactions, the researchers added.

Professor Eerola added: "We think that this demonstrates well the functional nature of these experiences.

"Although the positive experiences seemed to be the most frequently associated with sad music, truly negative experiences are not uncommon in any of the samples in our research."

Commenting on the study, Professor Jörg Fachner, Professor of Music, Health and the Brain, at Anglia Ruskin University, said: "This study confirms that

music therapists can work with authentic experiences when using music representing the sorrowful and painful content of sad life events such as the death of a spouse or child.

"Some people enjoy sad music and derive a lot of comfort out of such music in certain situations but when a particular piece of music becomes a container for a negative emotion related to a personal or environmental challenge, a music therapist would carefully start working on its representations.

"A skilful, trained music therapist can sense and adapt to the individual meaning of the sad music representing negative experiences and memories as described in this study."

### Happy or sad – why do some songs get stuck in your head?

**N**inety per cent of us get a song stuck in our heads playing on an endless loop at least once a week. But why do certain tunes have the 'stick factor'?

The first large-scale study, led by Dr Kelly Jakubowski Department of Music at Durham, may have some answers to this musical stickiness.

The study has shown that songs that get stuck in your head – called 'earworms' or 'involuntary musical imagery' – are usually faster, with a fairly generic and easy-to-remember melody but with some unique intervals such as leaps or repetitions that set it apart from the 'average pop song'.

It is often assumed that songs that get more radio time and that have featured more recently in the charts are more likely to be reported as earworms. This study has also confirmed this idea by testing it scientifically for the first time.

However, there has previously been limited evidence about what makes the actual song catchy regardless of popularity or how often people may have heard it.

Dr Kelly Jakubowski, said: "Our findings show that you can to some extent predict which songs are going to get stuck in people's heads based on the song's melodic content. This could help aspiring songwriters or advertisers write a jingle everyone will remember for days or months afterwards. "These musically sticky songs seem to have quite a fast tempo along with a common melodic shape and unusual intervals or repetitions like we can hear in the opening riff of *Smoke On The Water* by Deep Purple or in the chorus of *Bad Romance* by Lady Gaga."

The study, published in the journal *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity and the Arts*, was conducted by researchers based at Durham University, Goldsmiths, University of London and the University of Tübingen in Germany with funding from the Leverhulme Trust.

The current study found that the tunes most likely to get stuck in people's heads were those with more common global melodic contours, meaning they have very typical overall melodic shapes commonly found in pop music.

An example of one of the most common contour

patterns in Western music is that heard in *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* where the first phrase rises in pitch and the second falls. Numerous other nursery rhymes follow the same pattern, making it easy for young children to remember. The opening riff of *Moves Like Jagger* by Maroon 5, one of the top-named earworm tunes in the study, also follows this common contour pattern of rising then falling in pitch.

In addition to a common melodic shape, the other crucial ingredient in the earworm formula is an unusual interval structure in the song such as some unexpected leaps or more repeated notes than you would expect to hear in the 'average pop song'. The instrumental riff of *My Sharona* by the Knack and *In The Mood* by Glenn Miller both have this unusual interval structure.

Dr Jakubowski added: "We already know that recent and frequent exposure to a song makes it more likely to get stuck in your head and people who sing and listen to music a lot tend to get earworms more often than others.

"We now also know that, regardless of the chart success of a song, there are certain features of the melody that make it more prone to getting stuck in people's heads like some sort of private musical screensaver."

The researchers asked 3,000 people for their most frequent earworm tunes and compared these to tunes which had never been named as earworms in the database but were a match in terms of popularity and how recently they had been in the UK Music Charts. The melodic features of the earworm and non-earworm tunes were then analysed and compared. Songs were limited to popular music genres, such as pop, rock, rap, rhythm & blues.

Studies of earworms can help to understand how brain networks, which are involved in perception, emotions, memory and spontaneous thoughts, behave in different people.

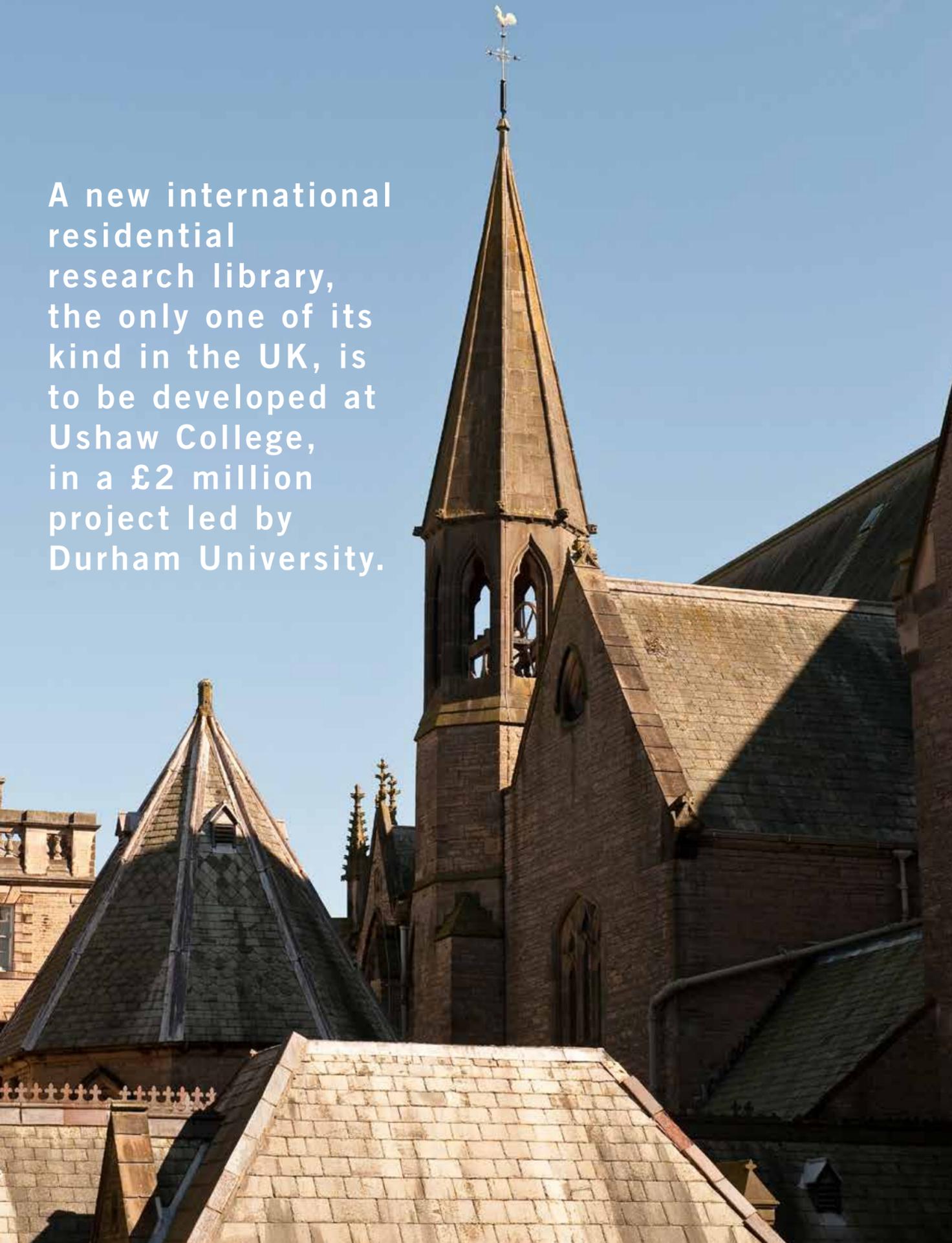
### TOP EARWORMS

These songs were most frequently named in the study as songs which get stuck in people's heads.

**Bad Romance** by Lady Gaga  
**Can't Get You Out Of My Head** by Kylie Minogue  
**Don't Stop Believing** by Journey  
**Somebody That I Used To Know** by Gotye  
**Moves Like Jagger** by Maroon 5  
**California Gurls** by Katy Perry  
**Bohemian Rhapsody** by Queen  
**Alejandro** by Lady Gaga  
**Poker Face** by Lady Gaga

*The data for the study was collected from 2010 to 2013.*

A new international residential research library, the only one of its kind in the UK, is to be developed at Ushaw College, in a £2 million project led by Durham University.



It is intended that leading researchers from around the world will visit Ushaw to study and work with its outstanding collections, along with those of Durham Cathedral and the University's Palace Green Library, enhancing the thriving scholarly community that already exists in and around Durham City. Visiting researchers will be able to reside at the 200-year-old establishment and, as well as using the library resources, contribute to a growing public engagement programme, including public lectures, cultural events and learning opportunities. Work on the refurbishment of the library, in order to equip it to welcome international visitors, will begin during the academic year 2017-18. The partnership will make Durham the first UK university to offer such a residential research library and will raise the profile of the collections at Ushaw, the University's Palace Green Library and Durham Cathedral. Professor David Cowling, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Arts and Humanities) at Durham University, said: "This new international residential research library will see Durham University lend its world-class research expertise to the stunning collections at Ushaw, and further strengthens a partnership that has developed over a number of years. "We are excited by what visiting researchers will discover in the Ushaw library and our support further demonstrates our commitment to North East England, in this case in conserving

and enhancing our shared heritage." Peter Seed, Director of Operations at Ushaw, said: "We are excited at the prospect of welcoming researchers from across the world to Ushaw to explore the fantastic collections we have here. We have a successful and growing arts and education programme, and this project is further evidence of the positive future Ushaw has as a cultural destination." Ushaw was founded as The English College, a Roman Catholic seminary in Douai, now north-east France, in 1568. Its communities were expelled from France in the 18th century, and Ushaw College, four miles west of Durham City, was purpose-built between 1804 and 1808. Its library includes around 30,000 early printed books and a major collection of archives and manuscripts, some of which formed part of the medieval monastic library of Durham Priory. There is a strong emphasis on theology and church history, as well as large numbers of books on more secular subjects, including art, architecture, philosophy, archaeology and early travel. Many works are extremely rare and internationally significant. Durham University and Ushaw's partnership dates back to the 1960s, when Ushaw students began studying at the University, and University staff and students continue to work and study on site. Under a separate agreement, as part of the delivery of its new Strategy, the University will continue to lease Ushaw's East Wing until 2027.

**The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett, the Dean of Durham, said:**

*"Durham has been a seat of learning for almost a millennium, a tradition which will undoubtedly be enhanced by the developments at Ushaw College. Durham Priory Library represents the best-preserved, best-catalogued Benedictine library in the UK and Ireland, with manuscripts surviving in the collections of Durham Cathedral, Durham University and Ushaw College. It will be a privilege to welcome researchers from across the world who are resident at Ushaw College to Durham Cathedral to study the remarkable manuscripts held here, and we look forward to hearing about the new discoveries which will be enabled by this exciting new development."*

