2013
ALUMNI, STAFF AND FRIENDS

HIGH SPIRITS
DEBATE ON MINIMUM PRICING ON ALCOHOL

A YEAR OF NATURAL SCOTLAND
CELEBRATING SCOTLAND’S HERITAGE

STIRLING GETS READY FOR 2014
NEW BANNOCKBURN VISITOR CENTRE

STIRLING

GIFT AID - MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR GIFT

Gift Aid is a UK government tax scheme. As an exempt charity, the University of Stirling can reclaim basic rate tax on qualifying donations from UK tax payers. This applies to donations you have made in the last four years and from the date of this declaration, until you notify us otherwise. To enable the University to reclaim Gift Aid, please sign and date the Gift Aid declaration below.

I would like the University to treat all qualifying donations as Gift Aid donations.
I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the University will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given in the last four years and from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise.

Signature _____________________________________________  Date ______________________________

Please notify the University if you: Want to cancel this declaration/change your name or home address/no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

I would like my gift amount to be anonymous            I would like my name to be anonymous
I would like information on how I leave a gift to the University in my will

YOUR GIFT - REGULAR GIFT
I would like to make a regular gift of £_____ per ___________(month/quarter/year) for a period of _____ years

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF

YOUR GIFT - SINGLE GIFT
I would like to make a single gift of _______________

I enclose a cheque made payable to the University of Stirling

Please debit my credit/debit card

Card number:          Mastercard          Visa          Visa Debit          Maestro

Security number (shown on reverse):                      Expiry date:              /

Issue number (if shown):                 Valid from date (if shown):              /

Name as it appears on card: ____________________________________________

The University of Stirling is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC 011159

Being an Alumni Ambassador is a great way to give back to the University, meet new people, gain experience and help students
For more information email jennifer.nicol@stir.ac.uk or visit www.stir.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-ambassadors

Become an Alumni Ambassador
Give something back
to the University
Independence debate
Academics helping to shape centre
Creating a buzz on campus
Striking sculptures add to collection
Honorary degree awarded
Successes and key developments

HERITAGE
Showcasing Scotland’s natural heritage

GETTING SCOTS TALKING
Independence debate

LEST SCOTLAND FORGETS
Remembering the Great War

RESEARCH ROUND UP
Stirling’s contribution

ALUMNI MENTORING PROGRAMME
First pilot scheme launched

CLASS NOTES
Find your friends

BENEFITS AND SERVICES
University Court update

MAKING THEIR MARK
Graduates tell their story

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Staff you may remember

EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY
Let us entertain you

THE STIRLING FUND
Donations and developments
Welcome to the 2013 edition of *Stirling Minds* which provides a glimpse into what has been a busy year for the University – from the continued development of the residences to the opening of the new Santander branch on campus. The University also achieved the highest global ranking for being ‘a good place to be’ according to the International Student Barometer 2012 survey.

*Stirling Minds* only provides a snapshot into recent successful developments at the University. I urge you to come back and visit the campus and see for yourself or check out the future events section on page 41.

We are grateful to international alumni Pehin Yahya Bakar (Minister of Industry and Primary Resources in Brunei) for sharing his inspirational career journey and to Ajay Augustine (MBA Corporate Finance, 2011) for his career advice to more recent graduates.

2013 is the ‘Year of Natural Scotland’, and our graduates Ben MacCorquodale, Leslie Davenport, Rebekah Mayhew and Susan Haysom share their career paths and the significance of the year for them.

We would like to thank all of you who responded to our call for alumni mentors to participate in our first ever mentoring project. We had an excellent response and the pilot has been a huge success and is set to continue. If we were not able to match you with a student, I hope you will take part in the next project next autumn.

If you would like to receive our three e-newsletters each year, please email alumni@stir.ac.uk and we’ll add you to the distribution list.

Please let us know if you enjoy reading *Stirling Minds* as your feedback is important to us. You can complete and return the mailing sheet or contact alumni@stir.ac.uk

With best wishes,

Kerry Bryson
Director of Development & External Affairs

---

10 reasons to keep in touch

With almost 50,000 Stirling alumni in 150 countries around the world, there are many reasons why you should keep in touch including:

1. Networking and connecting with alumni in similar fields, positions and locations.
2. Invitations to reunions, events, workshops, lectures and presentations.
3. Lost touch with your friends? Maybe we can help you find them.
4. Help the Alumni Office find its lost alumni and encourage your friends to keep their records up to date.
5. Continuing professional advice from the Career Development Centre.
6. Sharing your story via ‘class notes’ about your personal and professional achievements.
7. Availability of discounts – from the sports centre, library and campus accommodation.
8. Regular e-newsletters and *Stirling Minds* to stay informed about what is going on.
9. Get involved and share your expertise – maybe you could be a mentor or provide a career profile?
10. It’s fun and it’s easy – to find out more go to www.stir.ac.uk/alumni

---

Produced by Development & External Affairs.
Design: www.mortonward.co.uk
Contributors: Kerry Bryson, Khlayre Cairney, David Christie, Lindsey Donald, Adrian Maloney, Karen McIntosh, Peter Meech, Jennifer Nicol, Helen Tabel.
Printer: ScotPrint, FSC approved material from responsibly managed forests.
Photography: Tony Marsh Photography (cover), Mark Ferguson, Megan Kelland/Nutmeg Photography Explorations, Tom Main, Donald MacLeod, João Piedade, Kenny Smith Photography, Martin Sommerkorn, VisitScotland.

This publication can be made available in different formats. Contact Development & External Affairs for further information on externalaffairs@stir.ac.uk

The University of Stirling, Stirling, FK9 4LA, is recognised as a Scottish charity with number SC 011159.
University stages first ‘Japanese Week’

The University celebrated Scotland’s links with Japan during its first ‘Japanese Week’ in March. The event gave members of the University community and members of the public the chance to participate in Japanese-themed sessions covering culture, art, dance, calligraphy and film. Professor Gerry McCormac, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, said: “The University takes great pride in its diversity and international reach. At Stirling, we are dedicated to developing our engagement with communities and cultures worldwide and enhancing our collaborative links with international partners. Japanese Week is just one manifestation of this commitment and is also representative of the University's particularly strong relationship with Japan.” Click on http://stir.ac.uk/dd for more information and photographs.

Stirling athletes targeting gold in Glasgow

Passing exams may deserve a gold star, but it’s a gold medal many Stirling students are targeting at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. No fewer than 14 current and former students competed at the Delhi Games four years ago, graduate Colin Fleming winning gold in the Mixed Doubles tennis whilst Jak Scott, Andy Hunter and Lewis Smith teamed up to deliver a silver medal in the freestyle swimming relay.

One swimmer gunning for Glasgow is Ryan Bennett, one of more than 150 athletes nationwide who receive scholarship funding support from Stirling-run programme Winning Students. Ryan reached two finals in Delhi representing England and is excited by the prospect of racing against his Scottish team-mates. “Competing in Glasgow is always in the back of my mind, especially with it being in Scotland and it would be fantastic to win a medal,” said the 22-year-old Sport and Exercise Science student.

www.winningstudents-scotland.ac.uk
www.glasgow2014.com
03 Help out in the Hillfoots

The University is supporting the Ochils Landscape Partnership – which aims to increase access to the hills and glens of the Ochils, improve the quality of local waterways, and restore parts of the historic built landscape. The £2.26 million project, which runs until 2014, is core funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Stirling alumnus Clare Graham, (BA English and Media Studies, 1991) said: “The University is both one of the partners (and a member of the Executive Committee co-ordinating the project) and one of the funders. It’s also seconding a member of staff – historian Dr Kirsty McAlister.” Clare added: “I used to travel through the Hillfoots on my way to the University 20 years ago. It’s great to now be working on this PR campaign. I am really keen to hear from staff, students and alumni – who want to get involved. Check out the website www.ochils.org.uk for details."

04 Honorary graduates

The award of Doctor of the University was conferred on Sheikh Dr Ahmed Abdullah Al Ghazali (bottom right), founder of the Association of Private Arab Universities based in Jordan and Chairman of the Arab Network for Open Learning for recognition of his outstanding contribution to education in Oman. In 1996 he founded Muscat College and in 2003 established a partnership with the University of Stirling to provide degree courses for Omani students.

Mr Iain Macdonald (bottom left) received the award of Doctor of the University in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the international co-operative movement. In 2002 he was appointed Director-General of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) in Geneva. Since leaving the ICA in 2010, Iain has worked as a co-operative consultant, a board member of Co-operative Development Scotland and the New Lanark Trust.

Professor James Smith (top right) received the award of Doctor of the University in recognition of his outstanding contribution to our understanding of economic and health issues associated with ageing. Professor Smith led the RAND Labor and Population division, and has twice received the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Merit Award. He is a Fellow of the Society of Labor Economists and in 2011 Professor Smith was elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academies of Science.

Wildlife film-maker Gordon Buchanan, (top left) currently starring in the BBC series ‘Wild Cameramen at Work’, received the award of Doctor of the University in recognition of his outstanding services to conservation and wildlife film-making. He has been recently seen in the BBC series ‘The Polar Bear Family & Me’, ‘Lost Land of the Tiger’ and has contributed to many award winning BBC, Discovery and National Geographic wildlife series and documentaries.
**05 Nursing success at top awards**
The University notched up two successes at the Student Nursing Times Awards 2013. **Lorraine Armstrong** (below, second left), a student at the Stirling campus, won the ‘Student Nurse of the Year: Adult’ title in the prestigious UK-wide contest. The University’s School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health also won the ‘Teaching Innovation of the Year’ award. This recognised the work led by Teaching Fellow/Senior Student Support Officer **John Gavin**, supporting students with disabilities to achieve their potential in clinical placement. Five other students from the University made the finals of the competition, and the School was also shortlisted for two other awards.

**06 Plain packaging stubs out cigarettes’ appeal**
Women say they get less satisfaction and enjoyment from smoking cigarettes that come in plain, standardised packs, according to University researchers. The study included 187 young female smokers from across Scotland who used plain brown cigarette packs as they went about their daily lives. **Dr Crawford Moodie**, lead author from Stirling’s Institute for Social Marketing said: “Our research shows the importance of packaging. It offers an insight into how packaging could be used to help reduce the appeal of tobacco products.”

**07 Former student’s film success**
A moving film adaptation written by Stirling alumnus, **Malcolm Campbell** (BA (Hons) Film & Media Studies, 1996), scooped the prestigious London Evening Standard British Film Award for Best Screenplay. ‘What Richard Did’ follows a group of privileged Irish teenagers over the course of the summer between the end of school and the beginning of university. The screenwriting was commended by the judging panel for its power, with panelist **Anthony Quinn** describing it as ‘screenwriting of a very high order’.

**08 First recipient of the Kevin Clarke Prize**
The Kevin Clarke Prize was created to mark the retirement of the University Secretary after 17 years of service. Kevin (far left) was in one of the early cohorts of students, graduating with an Honours degree in Philosophy in 1975. He spent his career in University administration, and his last post prior to retirement was University Secretary of the University of Stirling. As the first generation of his family to attend University, Kevin is a strong supporter of the role universities can play in transforming people’s lives. **Graham Legate**, BA (Hons) English Studies 2013 is from the first generation of his family to attend University. Graham’s winning essay on his personal experiences at the University resulted in him being awarded the £1,000 first prize.
Management Centre’s honour

Stirling Management Centre at the University of Stirling has scooped another honour. The centre won the ‘Conference Venue Award’ at the Scottish Hotel Awards in Glasgow. The competition attracts the cream of hospitality industry in Scotland. Karene Aitchison, the Centre’s sales and deputy business manager, said: “This award acknowledges the exceptional staff, services and facilities we offer. The award is great news for us.” Earlier this year, the Executive Chef at the Centre, Raymond Thomson (below), notched up a silver award in the ‘Scottish Chef of the Year’ competition.

New partnership with College

The University of Stirling and Forth Valley College have joined forces to offer two new undergraduate degree courses. The partnership has launched a BA (Hons) in Heritage and Conservation Management and a BSc (Hons) in Applied Biological Sciences from August 2013. Both courses are linked to key growth areas for Scotland, and will offer increased employment opportunities. Students will primarily spend the first two years studying at either the College’s bases at Falkirk or East Kildean, and complete their studies at the University’s main campus.

Kathleen’s poetry honour

Professor Kathleen Jamie was presented with the 2012 Costa Poetry Award. Kathleen, who is Chair in Creative Writing at Stirling, won the award for her collection ‘The Overhaul’, which the judges described as being the ‘collection that will convert you to poetry.’ The collection, which beat 83 other entries, was Kathleen’s first since her award-winning ‘The Tree House’ was published in 2004. Kathleen said: “It’s a marvellous thing to see poetry in its proper place – central to our culture, and acknowledged alongside the other genres.”

University start-up scoops £50,000

A start-up company supported by the University of Stirling has won £50,000 from the Scottish Government to develop its business. Talking Mats – which is based at the University’s Innovation Park – won the cash in the Scottish EDGE awards: a ‘Dragons’ Den’ style competition, aimed at supporting entrepreneurial activity in Scotland. The company has developed a communication framework called Talking Mats. The framework uses mats and symbols to help people with communication difficulties express themselves. The award win is being used to market new digital mats, produce new communication symbols and to develop training courses for people using its products.
One of the UK’s best loved film stars and a key supporter of the Dementia Services Development Centre, Dame Judi Dench collected an honorary degree from the University at the end of June. The award of Doctor of the University was conferred in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the Arts in general and to film in particular.

One of Britain’s most well-loved stars of film, theatre and television, Judi Dench began her career on stage and established herself as one of the most significant theatre performers in Britain playing some of Shakespeare’s iconic heroines. She moved into television in *A Fine Romance* and *As Time Goes By*, and her film roles include Queen Victoria in *Mrs Brown*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Chocolat*, *Mrs Henderson Presents* and *Notes on a Scandal*.

In 1995, she was cast as the first female ‘M’ in the James Bond films and starred in the latest Bond film *Skyfall* in 2012. Her many awards include eleven BAFTAs, two Golden Globes and an Academy Award (Oscar).

In addition to Judi Dench’s stellar career on stage and screen, the University recognises the important role the star has played in highlighting dementia through her performance in *Iris*. She is Patron of the Dementia Services Development Centre and is offering her support to the continuing campaign to improve the care of older people in our society.

Dame Judi said: “I am delighted to receive this award from the University of Stirling – an institution which is recognised internationally for its outstanding dementia research and support services.”

Professor Gerry McCormac, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University said: “We are delighted to welcome back Dame Judi Dench and honoured to confer her with this award, in recognition of her extraordinary talent and contribution to the Arts.

“Dame Judi is one of the greatest stage and film actors of her generation and her long and distinguished career is an inspiration to us all. The University of Stirling has a world-class reputation for its work and research in the field of dementia. We are grateful to Dame Judi for her continued support of our Dementia Services Development Centre and delighted that, in sharing this special day with our graduates, she has highlighted the importance of the Centre’s work.”

Dame Judi officially opened the Iris Murdoch Building a decade ago, giving a terrific boost to the Dementia Services Development Centre of the University. Her moving Bafta-winning performance depicting a woman with dementia in the classic film *Iris* is still one of the Centre’s best resources in helping everyone understand the value of every person with this condition.
“Dementia is an issue close to my heart. Playing Iris Murdoch was one of my most challenging roles, but also one of the most important as it broadened my understanding of the issues facing those who develop dementia.”
A Celebration of Nature – the Year of Natural Scotland

Ben MacCorquodale
BA (Hons) English Studies 2001
Events Production Manager, VisitScotland

When I was a student, I wanted to work in theatre. I was an usher at the macrobert before becoming box office manager. Event management was a ‘happy accident’ career decision and a great one.

Currently my work is predominantly with tourism companies, providing them with a promotional platform to market their business. At VisitScotland we endeavour to provide the route for people to experience Scotland for themselves.

I love what I do now and I hope that I can continue to work for Scotland. Seeing Scotland through the eyes of others is a constant reminder of just how fortunate we are to live here.

I’ve managed some high profile events such as Tartan Week in New York and the G8 Summit at Gleneagles. Recently I’ve been responsible for refreshing and re-introducing Scotland’s national tourism awards, the Scottish Thistle Awards, the Oscars of our industry.

One of our great successes was the film Brave. The whole organisation was involved in some shape. We recognised Mark Andrews, the film’s director, by creating a special Scottish Thistle Award for services to Scotland.

It’s an honour to be a part of the Year of Natural Scotland, recognising the outstanding natural beauty of the country. Nature-based activities are worth nearly 40 percent of all tourism spending in Scotland.

Right now, I am working on the campaign Scotland Welcomes the World, which leads us to next year’s Commonwealth Games, Ryder Cup and Homecoming. It will be a huge year of events for Scotland. I’ll be working across Scotland promoting 2014 as well as managing a number of business travel trade events in London and an exhibition in Barcelona.

Studying at Stirling encouraged my curiosity and I still like to learn new things. I’ve created campaigns from scratch, closed New York’s 42nd Street, been surrounded by snipers guarding the US president and met Greg Norman at the Open.

I’m a Stirling lad, and Stirling is still my home, so I get to return to the campus all the time. As a student, I loved working at the macrobert, especially the student comedy nights (we entertained a young Bill Bailey and Dylan Moran). The library was a great place to study/hide. I love the new facilities but I do pine for the old study rooms. The University was a fantastic place in which to grow and learn, and I envy the undergrads that are just starting to discover it for themselves.”

“I’ve managed some high profile events such as Tartan Week in New York and the G8 Summit at Gleneagles.”
Leslie Davenport
BA (Hons) English Studies 2007
and MRes Humanities 2008
Seasonal Steward, Historic Scotland

I work as a permanent seasonal steward, doing guided tours at Elcho Castle near Perth. It is single-manned, in the middle of farmland beside the River Tay. In 1999 Historic Scotland replanted the orchard with over 100 apples, pears and plums, mainly of old and local varieties.

The Year of Natural Scotland will be both an opportunity and a challenge for me. I’ve nearly always lived and worked in wonderful environments but am guilty of taking them for granted and looking no further than the grand prospect. My goal this year is to be able to identify the different types of British bee so vital to the pollination of the orchard trees yet declining in numbers.

Elcho Castle was built around 1560, probably by one Sir John Wemyss, on land previously occupied by a Cistercian nunnery. My MRes was based around the Middle Scots literary texts mentioned in the Complaynt of Scotland (1549) as being everyone’s favourites (along with the hottest tunes of the time). So I feel I have a pretty good insight into what went on in the Great Hall of an evening, when the castle was an architectural Grand Design for a family on the make.

At Stirling I learned more about history and how to evaluate texts, historical and otherwise. I learned to question and analyse sources and to value my own judgement, which is always useful. The same techniques used in the critical analysis of a piece of writing can also, I believe, be applied to architecture, thinking about genre, context, subtext and form.

My bread-and-butter job is with a housing association but on my day ‘off’ I like to help out at a local garden shop. I particularly enjoy displaying plants. Sadly, none of these happy combinations are possible in my own garden where everything is eaten by deer or rabbits. Sometimes Scotland is a little too natural for my horticultural ambitions.

My favourite activity is forestry: my flowerless garden includes a bit of woodland and I love a good tidy up of fallen trees and branches after a gale, followed by a bonfire and a few beers. Conservationists say that brush breaks down naturally after about 20 years, providing a valuable habitat for wildlife. Nevertheless, clearing some of the debris is a useful and sociable activity, when I can co-opt friends or family.

I started doing part-time evening classes at Stirling before doing my degree. My graduation day was one of the best days of my life. It represented the culmination of a period in which horizons broadened and possibilities abounded. And the sun shone. Perhaps mature students are best placed to get the maximum out of university. It certainly was the case for me.”
Rebekah Mayhew

BSc Ecology 2012
Capercaillie Project Assistant, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Scotland

My ambition was to have a career that involved the outdoors, ecology and conservation. This is my first job since graduating last year and involves providing estates with site-specific advice on how to manage their forests best for capercaillie.

I think it’s been a very exciting year for wildlife conservation and great to see our natural environment being recognised on the national and world stages. The RSPB views this as a golden opportunity for our government to prove it is serious about protecting the natural environment and investing in it for the future.

My current job focuses on searching woodland sites where we either know there are capercaillie present or where there is a good chance that they might be. This enables us to pinpoint exactly where the birds are hanging out so that when it comes to the lek counting season (when the males gather to display to the females in large groups for mating) we know where to go to count the population.

Typically I will visit woodlands for part of the week in Speyside, Deeside or Moray either looking for capercaillie or assessing habitats for their suitability. The rest of my week is spent in the office writing up capercaillie management plans for specific woods or carrying out mapping analysis and maintaining the database.

I decided that if I was ever going to do a PhD it would be a good idea to gain more experience in ecological research beforehand. In the autumn I will begin a 12-month research assistant post at Cambridge University on their long-term Kalahari Meerkat Project in South Africa. The opportunity to work in a location such as the Kalahari and with meerkats is thrilling. I’m also very excited about the opportunity to work alongside a range of people involved in research, including PhD students, post-docs and lecturers.

In the future I would like to work in the RSPB conservation science department. They do a lot of really exciting and relevant research into current species’ declines and habitat health and it would be great to be involved in this one day.

I’d advise new ecology graduates to get experience outside of their degree. I volunteered with RSPB, SNH (Scottish Natural Heritage), my local bird ringing group and at the University. I was also lucky enough to be employed as a research assistant on various summer ecology projects. This made all the difference when applying for jobs in conservation.

When I’m not working I go hill walking, climbing, kayaking, skiing, camping – anything in fact that involves being outdoors! Otherwise I like to read or watch a good film.”
Dr Susan Haysom
PhD Ecology 2002
Policy and Advice Officer, Ornithology,
Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

As Policy and Advice Officer, Ornithology, I often spend time in the Borders, the Lothians and at SNH’s Stirling office.

Having gained a BSc in Ecological Science in 1994 from the University of Edinburgh I wanted to do a PhD. I did some voluntary work in the Seychelles for a few months and put my research proposal in place. The Stirling PhD was particularly attractive, as it was about applied research and not purely theoretical.

“I get a buzz out of acting as an expedition supervisor and it fits in well with my work routine.”

I’m involved in a national scheme monitoring black grouse that uses volunteers. Citizen science has a vital role in scientific research and education. The National Survey is carried out every 12 years, but over the last two surveys the number of black grouse has declined by 69%. The research from our volunteer study groups means we can react more quickly and effectively.

SNH (www.snh.gov.uk) is the nominated lead partner agency working with the Scottish Government, EventScotland and VisitScotland to develop the Year of Natural Scotland. It’s a great opportunity to showcase the country’s landscape, pathways and animals, helping to boost Scotland’s reputation for outstanding natural beauty.

SNH has just launched www.scotlandsprotectedplaces.gov.uk, which lets you explore the natural and historic places in Scotland through an interactive map. And since May ‘View from the Train’, a mobile phone application for commuter tourists, allows you to look at the attractions around you on your journey, whether it’s a nature reserve or a castle.

Since 2008 I’ve been running an outdoor course at Glenmore Lodge near Aviemore for visually-impaired young people doing their Duke of Edinburgh award. I get a buzz out of acting as an expedition supervisor and it fits in well with my work routine.

I’m now training to become a mountain leader, able to supervise silver and gold level Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. I’m doing the five-day assessment in October, which consists of night navigation, river crossings, security on steep groups, environmental knowledge and first aid outdoors.

I’m also a student mentor at Edinburgh Napier University. It’s great to see my student change and grow and it’s been a chance for me to ‘give something back’.

It’s really competitive to get into the environmental field. To a new graduate I’d say: don’t be disheartened, just go for it. Get some volunteering experience – I’ve been doing this since I was 13. Build up your skills and abilities and make contacts. Even if you go for an interview and don’t get that job, you’ve still made a valuable contact. Also get feedback on your interview technique – you never know how close you came. And remember, not all jobs are advertised!”
The University has installed 15 striking stone sculptures around its Stirling campus. They were created by Japanese artist Hironori Katagiri and his Scottish wife, artist Kate Thomson. The beautiful pieces, in granite and marble, are on long-term loan to the University’s art collection, which now contains more than 500 pieces.

The sculptures – three by Thomson and 12 by Katagiri – are mainly located in areas in and around the Cottrell and Pathfoot buildings. They were previously on show at Mellerstain House in the Scottish Borders. If you would like to see the art collection, visit www.artcol.stir.ac.uk.

“This collection builds on our links with Japan and showcases many of the University’s links. One of our ambitions is to dedicate each of the 17 courtyards in Pathfoot to an artist, and the new zen gardens featuring Katagiri and Kate’s work has launched this initiative.”

Jane Cameron
University Art Curator
Creating a buzz

Finlay creates bee-theme sculptures

Stirling’s Artist in Residence is creating a real ‘buzz’ on campus. Alec Finlay (BA English Studies, 1988) has been creating bee-themed sculptures for the University art collection – as well as writing new poetry inspired by the science and art of bee-keeping.

“Stirling is renowned worldwide for its scientific bee research, particularly its work on the destructive impact of insecticides on wild bee populations, so I will be able to draw on this expertise and use it to inform my work,” he said.

Funded by the Leverhulme Trust, Finlay is working with Stirling’s Schools of Natural Sciences and Arts and Humanities to do background research.

“My research will consider both the ‘social’ honeybee and ‘solitary’ bees and wasps – whose numbers are in steep decline despite their crucial role as pollinators. Of the 254 species of ‘solitary’ bee found in the UK, 25 percent are now in the Red Data Book of endangered species – a concern of which I hope my work will raise awareness.”

The Artist in Residence’s research at Stirling is wide-reaching: exploring the symbolism of bees in ancient myth and philosophy, and the recurring motif of the bee in accounts of politics, economics and society.

Finlay’s also looking at contemporary scientific studies of bee communication, cognitive behaviour and honeycomb construction. And he’s considering bees’ relevance to a diverse range of subjects – including architecture, Systems Theory, informatics and social networks.

Alec is being hosted by the University’s Chair in Creative Writing, multi award-winning poet, Professor Kathleen Jamie.

Of Finlay’s work she said: “thought-provoking artworks and new channels of public engagement are a tremendous asset to the University.

“His project reinforces Stirling’s reputation for multidisciplinary research and cross-cultural innovation, as well as its longstanding commitment to making art an integral part of the everyday campus experience.”

www.alecfinlay.com

Some of the new sculptures are taking on a dual role as bee nests.
2014 is a big year for Stirling: Commonwealth Games, Ryder Cup, second homecoming, 700th anniversary of Bannockburn


Academics and alumni from Stirling are helping to shape the new-look Battle of Bannockburn visitor centre. A £10 million project is helping to revamp the site near Stirling and use the latest historical research and hi-tech tools to bring the famous battle to life. The new visitor centre, a joint project between the National Trust for Scotland and Historic Scotland, will officially open on 24 June 2014, the 700th anniversary of the historic battle.

Four members of staff from the University have been supporting the project. Dr Richard Tipping, a senior lecturer in environmental science, has been studying the landscape of the battle – and the elements facing the Scottish king, Robert the Bruce, and his English opponent, King Edward II. Dr Tipping’s research is assisting to recreate the battle site within the new visitor centre.

Two others – Professor Richard Oram and Dr Michael Penman from the history department – are part of an academic panel advising the National Trust. This group is tasked with ensuring the new interpretation at Bannockburn is “strong and academically sound”, based on acceptable and authoritative research and thinking.

A fourth Stirling academic – Professor Kathleen Jamie – has written a new poem about Bannockburn, which will be inscribed on the timber ring which crowns the site’s Rotunda Monument. The poem was selected by the public and an independent group, including Scots Makar Liz Lochhead.
Ms Lochhead says: “Kathleen Jamie’s poem impressed me with its clarity and condensed language – the right language for an inscription and for reflection.”

Dr Tipping was granted nearly £120,000 by the Leverhulme Trust to research the topography of the Carse of Stirling so that the landscape surrounding Bannockburn could be recreated in the new visitor centres. He says: “All sorts of environmental issues affected the battle – for example, how many trees were there, where were they positioned and was Robert the Bruce hiding among them? The terrain was crucial to Edward’s cavalry – was it peaty, a bog or well cultivated and drained farming land?”

Two former Stirling students are also heavily involved in the Bannockburn scheme: Scott McMaster, the Property Manager at Bannockburn, who also sits on the academic panel, and Callum Price, the Learning Manager at Bannockburn. Callum is currently involved with a highly successful education outreach programme.

Kate Mavor, chief executive of the National Trust for Scotland, says: “Bannockburn is one of the most significant sites in Scotland. We know that when it comes to the battle, plenty of people have heard the myths; we want the new centre to be the place where you get the facts. The Trust takes pride in ensuring that the story of the battle is told accurately and compellingly, giving every visitor the chance to learn more about this critical point in history.”

Find out more about the new visitor centre and the Bannockburn project at www.battleofbannockburn.com

“The Trust takes pride in ensuring that the story of the battle is told accurately and compellingly.”

Kate Mavor, chief executive of the National Trust for Scotland

A NEW POEM FOR THE BANNOCKBURN ROTUNDA

Here lies our land: every airt
Beneath swift clouds, glad glints of sun,
Belonging to none but itself.

We are mere transients, who sing
Its westlin’ winds and fernie braes, Northern lights and siller tides,
Small folk playing our part.
‘Come all ye’, the country says
You win me, who take me most to heart.

Kathleen Jamie, 2012
High spirits

The UK is seeing an increase in alcohol-related deaths.

Minimum pricing for alcohol – or rather a price hike to cut consumption – has been agreed by the Scottish Parliament, but its implementation has been held up by Scottish and European challenges. Meanwhile, other parts of the UK are considering similar legislation.

Health campaigners say curbs on alcohol are long overdue and will reduce health disorders and crime. But others say it’s evidence of a ‘nanny state’, hitting responsible customers, particularly those on low incomes.

Here two Stirling academics give their contrasting views.
Professor Linda Bauld has led the development of a new strategy calling on the UK Government to support minimum pricing of alcohol.

She says: “There is strong support for this strategy not just from the numerous organisations who have endorsed it, but also from the public.

“A UK survey that we conducted with YouGov showed that the majority of people think our relationship with alcohol is unhealthy and are aware of the significant impact it has on health, crime and disorder and the NHS.

“We found support for introducing warning labels on bottles, minimum unit pricing, restrictions on advertising and access to support and treatment for people addicted to alcohol. There is clearly an appetite for change, and our report sets out what needs to be done.”

The strategy document, published by the University on behalf of 70 organisations, sets out a series of no-nonsense recommendations to tackle the harm caused by excess drinking. The partners believe their ideas will reduce both drinking levels in individuals and damage to communities caused by alcohol.

Andrew Langford of the British Liver Trust says: “The UK is seeing a year-on-year increase in alcohol-related deaths, especially liver disease, and what makes this worse is that the average age of people dying from liver disease is decreasing. We must all do something now to start to tackle this avoidable ‘epidemic’ and reverse a trend that sees well over ten thousand people a year dying prematurely because of alcohol-related harm.”

Political philosophy lecturer Dr Ben Saunders says 19th century reformer John Stuart Mill would have opposed proposals for minimum pricing.

Saunders argues: “The minimum pricing policy represents an unjustified curtailment of individual liberty by the government. Those of a liberal outlook ought to favour overturning this policy, unless its proponents can offer better justification for it than they have hitherto.”

The foundation for this claim is the argument posed by the work On Liberty (1859). In it Mill claimed that competent adults should be able to make decisions over their own lives, provided they do not harm anyone else.

“From a Millian viewpoint, if the Scottish Government was concerned simply with drinking leading to violence or harm to others, then limited restrictions targeted at problem cases would be legitimate.

“However, they seem to be primarily concerned with individuals damaging their own health through excessive drinking. This is the sort of justification for intervention Mill opposes. Suicide is no longer a criminal offence, so why should the state be able to stop competent adults from choosing to drink?”

Dr Saunders points out whilst Mill would be prepared to endorse a number of restrictions on the sale of alcohol – including age restrictions, mandatory health warnings, and even Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) for those guilty of drunken violent crime – he is clear the state has no right to prohibit alcohol.

John Stuart Mill endorsed state taxation of alcohol for the purposes of raising revenue. However, Dr Saunders says, “the government has been very clear that minimum pricing is not a tax but rather an effort to deter drinking”, and to increase the cost of alcohol for the purpose of deterring drinking would for Mill, he says, “differ only in degree from outright prohibition.”

www.stirlingminds.stir.ac.uk / 19
Getting Scots talking about independence

As the countdown to the referendum on Scottish independence approaches, Stirling academics stimulate new debates.
Dr Hames, is an expert on Scottish literary nationalism. Curiosity inspired him to write the book, when he wondered what contemporary writers would say if they were provided with an unrestrictive platform for expressing their views on Scottish independence, without fear of being shoe-horned into pre-existing agendas.

He says: “What independence might mean – in and for – Scottish culture is the book’s recurring focus, and that question hasn’t featured much in the mainstream debate thus far.”

He adds: “I’m very curious to see which essays generate a reaction. Some of these writers are household names, even icons, so people will take note of what they say because of who they are. But some of the most challenging, exhilarating and tough-minded essays come from writers with no public halo to think of and writers with an ambivalent sense of their own Scottishness.”

Unstated: Writers on Scottish Independence, published by Word Power Books, is out now, and available from good booksellers.

Professor David Bell has been awarded a research grant of £300,000 to investigate the likely effects of independence on Scotland’s economy. He will be talking about his findings at public events this autumn.

Professor Bell’s research, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), has been focusing on the fiscal aspects of constitutional change and exploring how people’s attitudes might affect the way they are likely to vote. He’s also been looking at taxation and spending and the implications for both in the event of independence.

Professor Bell says: “It’s very exciting to be working on a project which is central to the whole argument of the most historic decision made in Scotland in over 300 years.”

ESRC chief executive Professor Paul Boyle comments: “It’s crucial that the best possible independent research evidence should be available to inform those who need it, such as Scottish voters, and individuals and organisations inside and outside Scotland who are making decisions which may be affected by the vote process and outcome.”

Meanwhile, English Studies lecturer Dr Scott Hames has published a new book collating the thoughts of Scotland’s most talented and celebrated writers on what independence means for them. Dr Hames has published Unstated: Writers on Scottish Independence, sharing the diverse views of leading Scots writers on the ‘indy’ question.

Alasdair Gray, Janice Galloway, James Kelman, Denise Mina, James Robertson and Stirling alumnus Alan Bissett all contributed to the book. The publication also includes an essay by Kathleen Jamie, poet and Chair in Creative Writing.

“What independence might mean – in and for – Scottish culture is the book’s recurring focus, and that question hasn’t featured much in the mainstream debate thus far.”

Dr Scott Hames
Lest Scotland forgets
Remembering the
Great War

2014 marks the 100th centenary of the First World War or “Great War”. The conflict claimed the lives of 16 million people and affected citizens around the globe.

Special events and exhibitions are being planned for next year. A website has also been established by the Imperial War Museum at www.1914.org. In the run-up to the anniversary, the University launched a display, A Stirling 100, presenting photographs and biographical information about 100 local servicemen.

Staff have also been working with local communities to build up a digital catalogue about war memorials and other forms of ‘memorialisation’ to the 1914-18 conflict. This larger project – Lest Scotland Forgets – is online at www.lestscotlandforgets.org.uk.

A Stirling 100, which finished its run in February 2013, was inspired by research work undertaken by Dr Jim Smyth and Dr Michael Penman from the University’s History and Politics department.

Scotland’s Veterans’ Minister Keith Brown MSP, who opened the exhibition, said: “Scotland’s contribution to the Great War was significant and the impact it had on our communities must never be forgotten. One hundred years on, it is right and fitting to mark this important part of our nation’s history and to remember the role and sacrifice of Scottish servicemen and women and their families.”

“Scotland’s contribution to the Great War was significant and the impact it had on our communities must never be forgotten.”

Keith Brown MSP
LIEUT. SYDNEY E. BRODIE, R.F.

Mr. Peter Brodie, baker, Clifford Road, Stirling, has received official information that his fourth son, Sec. Lieut. Sydney E. Brodie, Royal Fusiliers, has been wounded and is missing. It appears that he went out with a patrol and did not return. Lieut. Brodie enlisted in 1915 in the Public Schools Battalion at Ross, and was a year at the front as a private when he received his commission. He went back to France in January. In civil life he was a baker in the employment of his father. He is the third son of Mr. Brodie's who has been in the casualty list during the past month. His son, Lieut. Walter H. Brodie, Royal Scots, was killed on 9th ult., and Private Colin A. Brodie, A. and S.H., another son, was wounded the same day.

The following is a copy of a telegram received on Monday from Buckingham Palace, with reference to Lieut. Walter Brodie:—

Mrs. Brodie, 1 Clifford Road, Stirling.—The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you and the Army have sustained by the death of your son in the service of his country. Their Majesties truly sympathize with you in your sorrow.—Keeper of Privy Purse.
MONKEY BUSINESS

Helping discover the evolution of language
A Stirling researcher has identified between 20 and 30 manual gestures used by a community of wild chimpanzees to communicate with others in a range of activities including nursing, feeding, sex, aggression and defence. At least a third of these gestures may be shared with humans and these similarities may help us to discover how humans evolved language.

Postgraduate researcher Dr Anna Roberts found that chimpanzees use arm beckoning gestures to make another approach them, flail their arms to make another leave, use begging gestures to make others pass food and clap their hands to express excitement.

The study is the first to show that wild chimpanzees are so close to humans in terms of their communicative abilities. These gestures suggest that the common ancestor of humans and chimpanzees must have used similar manual gestures.

Dr Roberts says: “If chimpanzees learn the precise structure of their gestures from others, this means that the fundamental cognitive skills required for language evolution are already present in our closest living relatives.”

http://stir.ac.uk/bb

WE CAN WORK IT OUT

The keys to fitness success
What’s the secret to exercise success? Mixing high and low intensity training sessions, according to a new Stirling study. Dr Stuart Galloway explains: “It is a case of training smarter. We found that if you can make the hard sessions harder and the easy sessions easier then you will likely see better progress. Amateur athletes tend to spend a lot of their training in a moderate intensity bracket, which in our study showed much smaller improvements.

“For the wider public, most people were advised to do moderate-level intensity exercise for around three hours a week. More recently, high intensity bouts of exercise, such as spin-cycling classes or interval running, have been presented as the best option. We would suggest that while high intensity is still important, it’s the combination with low intensity which has the biggest impact.”

http://stir.ac.uk/ba
SOWING SEEDS OF DISCOVERY
Stirling researcher finds new plant species
A scientist at the University has discovered a new species of plant on the bank of a Scottish stream which has evolved extraordinarily as the result of overcoming infertility.

The discovery of the new monkey flower by Stirling’s Dr Mario Vallejo-Marin, whose research has been published in the open access journal, PhytoKeys, represents a rare example of a species being found to have originated in the wild within the last 150 years. Whilst thousands of other wild species and crops are thought to have originated in similar ways, including wheat, cotton and tobacco, only a handful of examples exists in recent history.

Dr Vallejo-Marin, a plant evolutionary biologist within the School of Natural Sciences, says: “Our discovery will help enable scientists to understand how new species form. Finding examples of the process in action is rare, so this is an exciting opportunity to study evolution as it happens.”

http://stir.ac.uk/bc

BIODIVERSITY AT RISK
Tropical ‘protected sites’ under threat
Many of the world’s tropical protected areas are struggling to sustain their biodiversity. That’s the finding of a new study, involving more than 200 scientists, including Stirling’s Katharine Abernethy.

With advancing deforestation, protected areas are increasingly becoming final refuges for threatened species and natural ecosystem processes. However, many reserves in tropical areas are themselves vulnerable to human encroachment and other environmental stresses.

Researchers found the areas affected most were those poorly protected, suffering encroachment from illegal colonists, hunters and loggers. Deforestation is advancing rapidly in tropical nations and most reserves are losing some or all of their surrounding forest.

“A better job needs to be done in protecting the protected areas,” says Dr Abernethy. “That means fighting both their internal and external threats and building support for protected areas among local communities. Such efforts will help ensure protected areas are more resilient to future threats such as climate change.”

http://stir.ac.uk/bd

COLD COMFORT IN GREENHOUSE STUDY
How expanding forests could actually increase carbon dioxide
The Arctic is getting greener as plant growth increases in response to a warmer climate. Some believe this ‘greening’ results in more carbon dioxide being absorbed from the atmosphere, thereby reducing the rate of global warming.

However, Stirling-led research in Arctic Sweden shows that by stimulating decomposition rates in soils, the expansion of forest into tundra areas could actually result in a net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Professor Philip Wookey, who led the team conducting the research, says: “We compared carbon stocks between tundra heath and neighbouring birch forest and discovered that the two-fold greater carbon storage in plant biomass in the forest was more than outweighed by the smaller carbon stocks in forest soils.”

He adds: “If birch woodlands expand onto tundra and peaty soils there may actually be a net release of carbon dioxide, thus accelerating the greenhouse effect.”

http://stir.ac.uk/be
A scheme involving alumni mentoring students was piloted in the School of Arts and Humanities in spring 2013. With 25 students matched with experienced alumni, the scheme has been a huge success.

The University of Stirling Pilot Alumni Mentoring Scheme was aimed at third and fourth year students in the School of Arts and Humanities. It was designed to provide additional support to them as they progress both during their studies and then from University into their desired professions.

Students and alumni were matched based on career interests of the student, course of study and gender as far as was possible. With guidance from the School and the Career Development Centre, mentors helped the students with the following:

- Identifying their skills, abilities and qualities
- Career options and choices
- Advice on graduate recruitment schemes
- Preparation for interviews and writing CVs
- An insight into the world of work and a particular industry
- And for some, introductions to their business networks for future opportunities.

Karen Hendry, a fourth year Law student was delighted to take part in the project. Before commencing on the pilot, Karen expressed an interest in joining the police force.

She said: “The alumni mentoring project is a great opportunity to explore future career paths in more detail. Through taking part I have gained a valuable insight into the career I would like to pursue, learning from the experience of my mentor. I am now much more informed about the real life aspects of what the job entails.”

Karen was matched with Martin Gallagher, a Philosophy graduate from 1994 who is an Inspector working at Executive Support, Police Scotland Headquarters, Tulliallan Castle. Martin said: “When I was contacted by the University I didn’t hesitate to offer my services. It was great to be able to provide advice to assist a fellow Stirling student with their move into the workplace, while also finding I was able to dispel a number of myths.”

We are looking for more alumni from all academic backgrounds to take part in another mentoring project for the autumn semester. Would you like to be one of our alumni mentors? Do you have a minimum of two years’ experience in your chosen field? Visit http://stir.ac.uk/dg for more information or email jennifer.nicol@stir.ac.uk for an information pack.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Thank you for sending me your class notes. If you have news to share, email Jennifer Nicol, Alumni Relations Manager, at: jennifer.nicol@stir.ac.uk

Where are you working? What have you been doing since you left the University? Who would you like to get in touch with? Let us know and we’ll spread the word in the magazine and online.

2010s

DR ERIC CAMBRIA, PHD 2012
I have been invited to give a tutorial on sentic computing (my thesis topic) to three international conferences this year, namely the IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence, World Wide Web Conference, and IADIS International Conference WWW/Internet.

JUNE ADAMS, BSC PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 2012
My business, CherryTree Electrolysis, has grown steadily since 2006 but its greatest and strongest growth has been since my graduation and completing the dermatology foundation module with Stirling. These have given me confidence and focus and I am now considering further modules or a Masters. This is my business at www.CherryTreeElectrolysis.co.uk

DEREK KENNEWAY, BA (HONS) BUSINESS STUDIES & MARKETING 2012
I began a two-year scheme in September as a graduate management trainee with the NHS. By the end I will have a Masters in Human Resources and Postgraduate Certificate in Leadership and Service Improvement.

ANDREW BREEDLOVE, MSC MEDIA MANAGEMENT 2011
I got married to Abby Morris on 9 March at Northside Community Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Guests in attendance included Elizabeth Nelson (MSc Strategic Public Relations 2011) and Jordis Guther (MLitt Media and Culture 2011).

KARTHIKEYAN KUMAR, MBA 2010
After my dissertation I started working for Jones Lang LaSalle, an international property consultancy firm. I’ve been there for the last two and a half years and I enjoy it very much and am well rewarded. Thank you very much Stirling and – saving the best to last – Mr Frank Martin!


2000s

LOUISE TROW,
BA (HONS) FILM & MEDIA STUDIES 2002
AND PG CERT PROFESSIONAL ENQUIRY: CREATIVITY 2008
I recently became the creative economy development officer at Fife Cultural Trust.

SAGAR KENDRE,
MBA INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS 2006
I’ve been married to Aparna for the past four years and I’m a proud daddy to a baby boy born on 13 April 2013.

YASSIR PITALWALLA,
MSC MEDIA MANAGEMENT 2004
I have recently moved to JSW Steel, India’s largest steel maker by capacity, as Vice President Knowledge & Learning. In my new role I will be engaged in policy analysis and research to generate actionable business intelligence for businesses across the wider $11 billion JSW group.

KEITH WHITE,
CLASS OF 2001
The things I learned on my course still resound strongly in my day-to-day role. When I left university I found my marketing career took me south until I ended up in Brighton working for a small stag-do planning business, The Stag Company. I have evolved the company into an all-encompassing events group, which organises group travel and corporate events. Eventa Group has been recognised in the Virgin Fast Track Top 100 fastest growing UK companies. My email is keith@theeventagroup.com

OSCAR CHAN,
BA (HONS) FILM & MEDIA STUDIES 2001
I’m a freelance producer/director of specialist factual and drama documentaries for BBC, ITV, Channel 4, FIVE, Discovery, The History Channel and PBS. I’m based in London and am also company director of Dusklight films. My corporate clients include Greater London Authority, Guys and St Thomas Hospital, and The British Museum.

SARAH MITCHELL,
BA (HONS) HISTORY 2000
I got married on 13 July at Hetland Hall near Dumfries to my fiancé, Martin Clark.

1990s

DR CRAIG AAEN-STOCKDALE,
BSC (HONS) PSYCHOLOGY 1999
My wife, Anne Aaen-Stockdale, BA (Hons) Film & Media Studies 2001, and I have now emigrated to Norway with our two children, Aurora and Magnus. Anne is working as a study consultant in the Faculty of Maths & Natural Sciences, University of Oslo, and I am working as a senior consultant in human factors and ergonomics for Lloyd’s Register.

MICHELE AAEN (NÉE JAMES),
BA FILM & MEDIA STUDIES/MARKETING 1998
I’m working at Trinity Mirror Group PLC in Glasgow as the head of business and events for Scotland. I’m married with a son and living in Lanarkshire.
DAMIAN POCKNELL,  
BSc Psychology & Sociology 1998  
I missed the winter edition – for understandable reasons – and would like to announce the birth of our first child, Ethan, with Yvonne Pocknell (née Glinwood). Ethan was born on 8 October 2012 and has been keeping us very busy and filling our lives with love and joy every day. Best wishes to all those alumni I knew and still know.

DOUGLAS BAXTER,  
BSc (Hons) Management Science & Marketing 1993  
I spent five years working in construction materials testing in Glasgow, then for Kodak in Wimbledon, Leeds, Glasgow and Walsall before landing again in Scotland with FedEx. After this I went back to construction materials, producing special shaped bricks, before redundancy led to the formation of The Special Brick Company in May 2012. We produce special shaped bricks for most main Scottish house builders and building contractors. I live in Hamilton with two children aged five and eight.

DR JAY SHAKASHITA,  
PhD Japanese Studies 1998  
My wife and I met while we were both postgraduate students at the University. We were married at the Holy Trinity Church in Bridge of Allan the day after I passed my PhD defence. We now live in Hawaii and have two children. This July marks our 15th wedding anniversary and we are planning to celebrate with our first trip back to Scotland since our wedding day.

JOHN TEMBO,  
MBA 1993  
I have been appointed Malawi Deputy High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.

STAN SHIRES,  
BA (Hons) Marketing 1994  
I have been working at Citroen UK for 10 years. I would gladly retire tomorrow if my numbers came up and ride my motorbike around the world. I am married, don’t have any children and am in touch with many of my fine Stirling friends who are spread far and wide. I have just started to learn to fly and have recorded my first song on iTunes. We are hoping to have a 2014 reunion in Stirling in August, so find me on Facebook if you want to come along.

MARK NORTHWAY,  
Bacc Accountancy 1992  
In June last year I published my first novel, Sigma –The Touch. It’s available in paperback and download for Kindle on Amazon. It’s a short thriller/spy novel. So far I have had over 1,000 downloads of the book and at one point it reached No 2 in the free download section of Kindle thrillers. If you would like more information, email me at menorthway@aol.com or visit www.amazon.co.uk/Sigma-The-Touch-ebook/dp/B008BHRRTG/ref=dp_kinw_strp_1

Graham Wood,  
BA (Hons) Philosophy 1992  
I work at the Australian College of Physical Education (Sydney Olympic Park), lecturing in professional ethics, leadership in sports business, and research methodology.
ANDREW TAIT,  
BA (HONS) BUSINESS STUDIES 1991  
I am now married with two kids and living in Edinburgh. My weeks are spent travelling around the UK as sales and marketing director for Bibby Financial Services. It would be good to hear from old buddies from our student days.

LIBBY (ELIZABETH) MORRIS,  
BA (HONS) MARKETING & FRENCH 1991  
I moved to San Francisco, California, and am working in marketing strategy for a biotech firm, Genentech.

1980s  
HAMISH HAMILTON,  
BA (HONS) ACCOUNTANCY 1989  
I was honoured by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts at its Craft Awards. I’ve been responsible for directing Madonna and Beyoncé’s half-time performances at the 2012 and 2013 Super Bowls, the 2010 Academy Awards and the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2012 London Olympics. I’m absolutely thrilled and it’s great to be recognised for work that surrounds me with so many talented friends.

BENOIT PARNET,  
MBA MARKETING 1988  
My roller hockey club, HC Dinan Quévert Côtes d’Armor (www.hcdinan.com), won the French Championship title in 2012. We play the European Champions League this season. We fell in the ‘group of death’ with three professional clubs, including FC Barcelona. At the moment we are third, with one win (first time that a French club beats a professional Portuguese team) and two defeats.

ANNIE PARK,  
BA (HONS) FRENCH 1982  
I have been living abroad and teaching English as a foreign language to adults since I graduated, after a DipTeil course then MA Tefl – Asia, North Africa, Europe. I’ve been in the Canary Islands since 1997 (I came for two years!) and am now a Spanish civil servant teaching in Official School of Languages. I would love to hear from any classmates from the French department. My email is annejeanpark@gmail.com

TIEN-BENG CHEAH AND AIK LEE LEOW,  
BA ACCOUNTANCY 1981  
We met and became good friends while at Stirling. Following graduation, Tien-beng migrated to Canada and has been residing in Toronto whereas I moved to Australia and have been living in Sydney. We lost contact with each other until a few years ago, but thanks to the help of the Alumni Office we managed to get in touch.* We had the chance to meet in December 2012 when Tien-beng and family went to Australia and New Zealand for holiday and met up with me in Sydney. After 31 years, it was an overdue reunion and we both had a great time catching up with each other and reminiscing about those fun days at the University of Stirling.  
*Note from Editor: That’s what we’re here for!
KATE MOLLINSON,
BA (HONS) ECONOMICS 1981

I spent the 1980s and 1990s working in advertising. I was lucky to be able to travel widely to some exotic and interesting places including Hong Kong, Taipei, Bangkok and Sydney. When I was 40, I retrained as a psychotherapist and went back to study at Strathclyde University. Since then I have been living and working in Glasgow, where I live with my partner, and our eight-year-old daughter. I run my own counselling and coaching business at www.resilient-mindset.com

PETER JEFFRIES,
MSC AQUATIC VETERINARY STUDIES 1981

I was appointed chief executive officer of GALVmed in April this year. I’m a veterinarian and worked in England before setting up a veterinary clinic in Zambia. I’ve more than 30 years’ experience in the animal health sector and have held management roles in regional marketing, global marketing and business development in Zambia, Kenya, France and the United States.

1970s

PETER LLOYD,
BA ACCOUNTANCY/BUSINESS/ECONOMICS 1976

Following a career in local government finance, I retired to Malta with my wife and golden Labrador, Rory. I am busy setting up Malta Microfinance (based on the Grameen Bank) to give small loans to the poor, targeting women and migrants.

Contacting friends

MARY DRUMMOND,
BA DIPED ENGLISH & EDUCATION 1979

would like to get in touch with Michelle Maxwell, BA DipEd Spanish & Education 1981, and William Stableford, BA Politics 1981. Mary’s email is mary_drummond@hotmail.com

SUE VESZPREMI (NÉE PETTIT),
BSC PSYCHOLOGY 1977

would like to get in touch with Joan Fraser, BSc Psychology 1977. Sue’s email is sue.veszpremi@hotmail.co.uk

SUZANNE SITZES MERSCH,
VISITING STUDENT 1986

is looking for Caroline Davies, BA (Hons) Hispanic Studies 1986, and Leslie Grant, BA Business Studies 1988. Suzanne’s email is suzanne_mersch@dell.com

VIVEK SRIVASTAVA, MBA BANKING 1992

would like to get in touch with Judy Chu, MBA Management Information Services 1987. Vivek’s email is viveksrivastava660@gmail.com

MINAKSHI GHOSE,
MBA INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS 1995

is looking for David Tua, MBA 1995. Minakshi’s email is minkssen@hotmail.com

If you know their whereabouts, drop us an email at alumni@stir.ac.uk
Condiolences
The University regrets to announce the following deaths:

PTE. ROBERT MURRAY HETHERINGTON, BSC ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY 2010

LAURA MACKAY, BA (HONS) PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (SECONDARY) 2010

MARTIN ROSSI, BA SPORTS STUDIES 2009

ROBERT MCCALL, CERT TQFE 2004

GILLIAN WALLACE, DIPLOMA SOCIAL WORK STUDIES 1999

KELLY MULLAN, BA FILM & MEDIA STUDIES 1998

PROFESSOR DONALD HARRIS, DUNIV 1998

PROFESSOR PETER WALKER, DUNIV 1987

PROFESSOR JOHN CAIRNEY, BSC (HONS) BIOLOGY 1983

SCOTT BOLIVER, VISITING STUDENT 1983

DR IAIN BANKS, BA ENGLISH & PHILOSOPHY 1975

NICK KEIR, BA ENGLISH 1974

PROFESSOR CHINUA ACHEBE, DUNIV 1974

PROFESSOR JAMES MUIR, FORMER MEMBER OF STAFF

REV MORGAN PHILLIPS, FORMER CHAPLAIN

PROFESSOR JAMES TRAINER, FORMER DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

MAUREEN PEDRICK, MEMBER OF STAFF, POLICY, PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

Updating your details
Remember to let us know when you change address! You can do this by completing the form at http://stir.ac.uk/dh or by emailing alumni@stir.ac.uk

Keeping in touch
You can also catch up with old friends on our social networking groups. Simply follow the links from: www.stir.ac.uk/alumni

Stirling University Alumni

University of Stirling Alumni

University of Stirling Alumni – California Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Central Scotland Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Cyprus Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Edinburgh Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – France Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Germany Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Glasgow Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Greece Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Illinois Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – India Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – London Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Malaysia
University of Stirling Alumni – New York Chapter
University of Stirling Alumni – Nigeria
Stirling Grads Down Under!
University of Stirling from the early 80s
University of Stirling from the late 80s
Update on University Court

In August this year my second term as the President of the Alumni Association and Representative on University Court comes to an end. It has been an interesting and rewarding experience, not least in the past year as the new residence project got under way and we were required to respond to government proposals for University governance. I am delighted to congratulate Kevin Condron on his appointment as the new alumni representative on Court. I look forward to working with him as I continue for a further term as a lay member.

Harry Adam
BA (Hons) History & Politics 1980

The University has made a huge amount of progress since I was a student (1985-90) and there is something very unique about Stirling. The spirit that captivated me as a student still prevails and I feel strongly that it must be nurtured and preserved.

Joining University Court and representing the views of our 50,000 alumni is an enormous privilege for me and I hope to carry on the great work that Harry has started during his tenure. I have much to learn from him and it will be a great benefit to have him on hand as I learn the ropes!

Kevin Condron
BA (Hons) History 1990

BENEFITS AND SERVICES FOR ALUMNI

Did you know you’re in a community of almost 50,000 graduates in over 150 countries worldwide? As a former student, you’re entitled to a wide range of benefits and services including invitations to reunions and lectures; access to the Career Development Centre; and campus discounts. Here, we answer some of the frequent questions we receive about using our facilities:

Q Can I join the gym or library or visit the students’ union?
A Yes. Go to the reception desks in the Gannochy Sports Centre or library, give the member of staff your date of birth and student ID which will verify you as a former student. If you have forgotten your student ID, this can be obtained from the Alumni Office on +44 (0)1786 466051 or email alumni@stir.ac.uk

Q Can I stay in campus accommodation?
A Yes, and you qualify for a discount when staying in campus accommodation. Email holidays@stir.ac.uk, remember to tell them you’re a graduate and give them your student ID.

Q I just graduated in June and I received an email from the Alumni Office – can I use this as proof?
A Yes, you can show it (on a smart phone) and present to either of the reception desks at the gym, library or students’ union.

Q I don’t have an email address – how can I prove I studied at Stirling?
A You can contact the Alumni Office on +44 (0)1786 466051 and we will check your student ID and date of birth.

Following a review of alumni membership cards and a survey to gather alumni feedback, we will no longer be issuing cards. You will still be able to use the campus facilities by following our guidance above and all our services can be found at http://stir.ac.uk/di. I hope you enjoy making use of our facilities and look forward to welcoming you on campus soon. If you have any questions please feel free to contact jennifer.nicol@stir.ac.uk

Kevin Condron
Harry Adam
AJAY AUGUSTINE
MBA Corporate Finance 2011
Business Manager, Martin Group of Companies, India

When I left Stirling I wanted to join the Graduate Programme with Mercedes-Benz. I was interested in working in Business Development & Corporate Relations, and especially in an organisation with core values I could relate to. Around the same time I was fortunate to receive an offer that brought me back to India.

I work as the Business Manager based in Coimbatore and our organisation spans over several business lines such as construction, property development, real estate, textiles, hotels, educational institutions, renewable energy and media. My role involves corporate development in ensuring that key processes run unhindered, while enhancing the organisation’s profile through organising and conducting training programmes as well as ensuring good corporate relations.

We are currently in the planning stage for a variety of new projects in each business line. This includes new residential housing projects in the Property Development division, the implementation of a new career-skills development programme for our medical college, as well as a simultaneous brand-building exercise for our upcoming hotel.

I have always been passionate about motivational speaking, I feel the best way to help people is to help them help themselves. I used to focus on motivating people to do things they thought they weren’t capable of. I started helping friends who were struggling to cope with their own issues. As I refined my skills I began to deliver talks at schools and universities. For the last few years, I’ve been working with many corporations to deliver training seminars and workshops.

My parents continue to inspire me because they have always been an example of how two different personalities can be so harmoniously compatible and inspire the best out of each other. They have always been the Sun and Moon in my life, the Yin and Yang. They have stood by me whenever I needed strength, and have always been my greatest fans. What really inspires me the most is the fact that I’ve started to build my life from somewhere, but they’ve made it all their life from nowhere – and this is something that many from my generation do not appreciate.

If you really believe in something, never give up on it. It’s what you’re looking for that really defines you. If you’re looking for a job, then there’s plenty out there, provided you know where to look. But if you’re looking for a career, then you will have to fight your way to it.

Both Stirling and life on campus have given me many memories and experiences that I will always cherish.

There are three pieces of advice I’d offer new graduates:

- Have the vision to plan ahead
- Stay confident and stay brave
- If you really believe in something, never give up on it
Making their mark
IN BUSINESS

Pehin Yahya Bakar

BA Economics 1979
Minister of Industry and Primary Resources,
Brunei Darussalam

I began my career as an economics lecturer. But when my country was looking for administrative officers to prepare for independence in 1984, I successfully applied for a post in the Foreign and Diplomatic Services. I subsequently rose to head the Economics Department of the Foreign Ministry before becoming the Private and Confidential Secretary to the Foreign Minister.

Having been transferred to the Prime Minister’s Office as Permanent Secretary I was appointed Minister of Energy in 2005. In a reshuffle in 2008 I became Brunei’s Minister of Industry and Primary Resources (www.bruneimipr.gov.bn). I have served the Government for the last 30 years in various capacities, including heading the country’s Anti-Corruption Bureau and chairing various statutory boards and agencies.

I’m heavily involved in the Heart of Borneo initiative of the three Borneo Island governments (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia) to commit to conserve and preserve the fast disappearing tropical rainforest on the island of Borneo. I chair the National Council of the Heart of Borneo for the Brunei chapter. The World Wide Fund for Nature has been active in this initiative.

My degree has helped me in many ways throughout my career. Stirling’s modular course structure allowed me to cover diverse subjects, from business law to sociology. The option to audit other courses also gave me the chance to attend non-examinable but relevant subjects.

I usually cycle to work around 6.00am, arriving before anyone else. At weekends I go on field trips to agricultural areas or visit reserves or marine/dive sites. I’d like to undertake a biology or microbiology degree and help the country to become less dependent on oil. I would also like to raise awareness of the need to conserve nature and wildlife at a national and regional level.

I have lovely memories of Stirling – the serenity, the sunset and sunrise, the study environment and the people. I still reminisce about the cold and snowy December months. I met my wife at the University – we had the same surname and were among the few Malay students then at Stirling. I have lost the chance to visit and stay at Murray Hall before its demolition but I plan to come back to the campus with my family.

There are a couple of Stirling friends I’ve lost touch with – perhaps someone can help me find them. I would like to trace Gordon (on the left) and David (in the middle) of this photo taken at the garden party after graduation on Friday 29 June 1979. You can find me at www.facebook.com/yahya.bakar.9?ref=tn_tnmn
Where are they now?

Alumni often ask whatever happened to tutors, professors, porters and cleaners – people across the university that made the Stirling experience special.
Peter Meech
Communications, Media and Culture 1970 – 2009

Back in 1970, with the University still in its pioneering phase, there was a real spirit of camaraderie among staff and students. In those days class sizes were small enough for teaching to take place in our offices, making it much easier to get to know each student.

To start with I joined the German Department but transferred in 1982 to the fledgling Department of Film & Media Studies. In both I count myself lucky to have had great colleagues and keen and talented students. My favourite courses? Teaching Fontane and Thomas Mann, advertising and print journalism.

I was very fortunate in having colleagues like the inspirational Professor Philip Schlesinger, who conducted my first staff appraisal during a research trip – in Barcelona, in a hotel, before breakfast. And working alongside the late Alastair Hetherington, the former editor of the Guardian, was a huge bonus. In his memory I organised an annual lecture for ten years, attracting media celebrities such as Jon Snow, Joan Bakewell and Alan Rusbridger to the campus.

I enjoyed editing the Department’s alumni magazine The Intelligencer from 1993 to 2008. I’m still in touch with several former students including Catherine McDonald, Mark Daly, Shelley Jofre and Professor Donn Tilson.

My membership of the student Sub-Aqua Club brings back happy memories. After months of training in the pool and in sea lochs I eventually qualified as a sport diver, aged 60, only to discover that I had high blood pressure and could never dive again!

Now retired, I’ve been spending much of my time sculpting, gardening, writing for and helping to edit the Bridge of Allan Times and Stirling Minds and joining in SURSA (Stirling University Retired Staff Association) activities. But in May 2013 Hilary and I finally left Bridge of Allan to move to a new home in Sherborne, Dorset, just a couple of hours from our two beautiful granddaughters and their parents.

Reflecting now on almost 40 years of lecturing I’m acutely aware of what a privilege and pleasure it was to spend most of my career at Stirling.”
Professor Douglas Brownlie
Management Education Centre
School of Management

Professor Brownlie joined the University 19 years ago as Reader in Marketing. He previously worked at University College Cork, National University of Ireland.

“I’ve got a wide range of teaching interests and experience at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Now I mostly teach marketing negotiations, strategic marketing, consumer behaviour and marketing theory on the MSc Marketing programme.

I’ve taught around 1,000 students at Stirling. I enjoy seeing the excitement of students as they embark on their research projects. We work alongside central Scotland businesses and assign each student to a project that suits their own learning goals.

The course has been very cosmopolitan over the years with students from the USA, Germany, Sweden, Hong Kong, Greece, Taiwan and the UK. I remember a charity dinner at the Dunblane Hydro and all the men, including me, were wearing kilts. I recall in the mid-1990s Bridge of Allan was even known by some as Bridge of Athens.

On another occasion the students were busy on a business simulation when one, from Hong Kong, hacked into the system to see the other students’ bids, marketing strategies etc. Then we held a ‘court of ethics’ in class, where he was accused of commercial espionage and found guilty. His punishment was just – he had to buy the class some chocolate!

I’m in touch with many former students from as far afield as Mexico, Lithuania and Melbourne.”
Jim is Programme Director for the Teaching Qualification in Further Education, the Teaching Qualification in Adult Education and the MSc Professional Learning and Leadership.

“...When I joined the University on 2 August 2001 the Misty Isles Pipe Band were practising on campus for the world pipe band championships. I remember thinking a simple ‘hello’ would have been fine. I had been a senior lecturer in adult education at Falkirk (now Forth Valley) College before I started with Division of Academic Innovation and Continuing Education (DAICE), in Airthrey Castle.

I left school at 15 and worked as an electrician and telephone engineer with BT in the 1970s. Facing redundancy, I saw an advert for trade union studies at LSE in 1984 and decided to do it. Since then I’ve had a passion for unions and am now the University and College Union (UCU) president, having been branch secretary.

The best thing about my job is the interaction with students. I try to enthuse them in a number of creative ways such as using mime, acting out plays, or on one occasion we did a rap.

I’ve probably taught around 1,500 students and have some great memories. There was a Student of the Year on the last access course who had been born in Airthrey Castle 50 years before.

I also have fond memories of previous staff. Eric Laird, who just retired as a porter, had been on an access course before graduating from Stirling in 1995. He later worked in Airthrey Castle.

I’m in touch with a group of graduates who are now teachers and that makes me really proud. Donna Diamond studied psychology at Stirling and then graduated with distinction in TQFE (Teaching Qualification Further Education). She was – and is – an absolute star, now teaching at Forth Valley College.”
Events for your diary

FORTHCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Glasgow ‘sub’ crawl – Wednesday 7 August 2013
Join our group for a visit to some of Glasgow’s west end bars using the underground! Email Douglas Baxter and Amanda Mutch on stirlingalumnigl@gmail.com for more information.

North Carolina, USA – Saturday 7 September 2013
Andrew Breedlove is organising an event to take place in Raleigh, North Carolina. Email him on j.andrew.breedlove@gmail.com for more information.

Tokyo, Japan – TBC November 2013
Details for this event will be confirmed in due course. Contact Dr Taeko Seki for details on taeko_seki@ybb.ne.jp

Class of 1994 reunion – Mid-June 2014
Alumnus Chris Hudson is organising a 20th anniversary reunion for those who graduated in 1994 to be held in St Peter Port, Guernsey. Guests can either stay in the Pandora Hotel or the Marton hotel. Discounted accommodation is available if booking before September 2013. If you’re interested, email Chris on mindzeebeez@me.com

Class of 1993 – 1996 reunion – August 2014
Stan Shires, BA (Hons) Marketing 1994 is in touch with many Stirling friends from 1993 – 1996 and is planning on a visit to some pubs in Bridge of Allan, and reminiscing in the Meadowpark. Find him on Facebook if you’d like to meet up.

All future events are listed at http://stir.ac.uk/dk

RECENT ALUMNI EVENTS

Football reunion – Saturday 16 March
The reunion was a celebration of 40 years of football at the University. Twenty ex first team players from 1967 – 1973 attended the event, watching the University first team beat civil service strollers 6-2. They enjoyed pre and post-match hospitality before adjourning to the student union bar. The day was most enjoyable and they became better players as the evening progressed! Old friendships have been rekindled and a reunion for players from 1974 – 1976 will be followed up.

Discover what lies beneath the Royal Mile – Thursday 4 April
The Edinburgh Chapter enjoyed an interesting and informative evening exploring the depths of old Edinburgh when they went on a tour of Mary King’s Close. They had the chance to explore the hidden closes, learn about some fascinating tales and get the sense of the underground as it was inhabited from the 1600s. After this, they met other alumni at The Advocate Pub and it was great to see some more new faces join the group.

Mumbai, India – Sunday 14 April
The third Mumbai reunion took place at San Churros. It was a day of excessive eating and coincidences. Two of the guests were born and brought up in Calcutta while two others were from the same school and took the same school bus! The evening ended at Priyadarshini Park, Malabar hill, overlooking the sea.
American Football Weekend,  
Friday 3 – Sunday 5 May
The weekend saw Stirling’s current American Football team host a reunion of the 2003 Clansmen National Championship winning side, as they celebrated their 10th anniversary of this momentous event. It included a showing of the championship winning teams’ highlights in the macrobert filmhouse, a game between the alumni v present team (in which the present team won) and an awards dinner.

Class of 1997 reunion –  
Saturday 22 – Sunday 23 June
The weekend saw an unusual 20 year reunion take place as alumni got together in the wake of the changes to campus accommodation to reminisce about their time at Stirling. People travelled from across the UK and northern Europe to spend a weekend on campus and relive good memories in some of their old haunts in Stirling with a stack of hilarious photos to help them.

Alumni in the City – Monday 24 June
More than 50 graduates from all decades enjoyed an informal drinks reception at the Caledonian Club in London. A brief presentation, including an update on the residences project, was shown to guests. We were delighted with many offers to get involved in our mentoring project and providing testimonials and hope this event will be the start of more London gatherings.

SIRE Symposium – Friday 13 September
Financial incentives in motivating socially desirable behaviours: when are they effective and when are they right? The two keynote speakers are:

George Loewenstein – his work on visceral influences on behaviour has shaped behavioural economics.

Peter Ubel – medical doctor, professor of business, and experimenter in ethics.

Two questions the symposium will address are:
1. What factors make monetary incentives effective in promoting socially desirable behaviours, and what factors compromise their efficacy?
2. Paying people to engage in socially desirable behaviours might have implications for ethics and the formation of norms. What do we know about these issues?

Venue: The Court Room, Cottrell Building, University of Stirling.

For more information: david.comerford@stir.ac.uk

MACROBERT EVENTS
Betrayal – Wednesday 11 September
Harold Pinter’s enthralling and provocative look at the end of an affair.

Educating Ronnie – Saturday 14 September
macrobot’s Fringe First Award-winning hit opens its national tour.

Glamorous Nights – Sunday 20 October
Join the Stirling and Bridge of Allan Operatic Society for ‘Glamorous Nights’, featuring the music of Ivor Novello.

Beauty and the Beast –  
Wednesday 27 November – Sunday 5 January
Scotland’s King of Panto, Johnny McKnight, returns for the 2013 panto!

Visit www.macrobert.org for booking information

For more information, visit www.stir.ac.uk/events
Thank you to all our alumni who very generously donated to the Stirling Fund during our five-week telephone fundraising campaign this spring. Around 30 enthusiastic student callers worked on this year’s campaign helping to raise £35,000 for the Fund. Two of the students wanted to share what being part of the campaign meant to them:

“I have really enjoyed being part of the alumni telephone campaign. I have heard a number of interesting stories from former students and have even been given career advice from others! I wasn’t surprised to hear many people speak very fondly of the campus that was once their home. “I am soon to complete my Master’s and I will miss being part of the student community here at Stirling. I have really enjoyed my time here both as an undergrad and a post grad, but look forward to future opportunities that being a student here has helped provide.”

Andrew McLeod, MSc TESOL student

“I fell in love with Stirling on my first visit and being part of this campaign allowed me to give something back to the University. It was wonderful to speak to alumni who feel the same about Stirling. I enjoyed hearing what the University meant to them hearing anecdotes from their times as a student.”

Fanny Schmidt, fourth year English and Media student

THE UNIVERSITY’S PORTFOLIO OF FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

We are currently fundraising for a variety of projects across the University.

Scholarships. Scholarships or prizes can be at any level and can be tailored to suit the donor and named after the donor or their family.

Heritage. The University has four listed buildings in need of restoration. Garden Cottage is of particular value, as it was the Principal’s home in the early years, and is an iconic building on campus.

Art & Culture. The University Art Collection is predominantly held within Pathfoot building and across the campus. We have exciting plans to develop the courtyards within Pathfoot, showcasing our art, whilst creating individually-themed areas for students, staff, visiting alumni and the public.

Health and Well-being. The number of people suffering from dementia is expected to increase dramatically in the coming years. We are fundraising for a number of dementia-related projects, including a ‘24/7’ project which acknowledges and supports home-care family members.

Sport. Golf is one of the core sports and we are currently helping to boost the scholarship programme, upgrade the existing facilities and in time to create a commercial golf academy on campus.

Media. The Division of Communications, Media and Culture are top in Scotland (Complete University Guide 2012) and rated UK top 10 (National Student Survey). Research has demonstrated that employers within the sector are increasingly recruiting production-based graduates. We are now seeking support to upgrade the TV studio to better equip our students for the workplace.

If you would like further information about any of these projects, contact:

Khlayre Cairney, Head of Fundraising Development & External Affairs
University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA
T: + 44 (0)1786 466675
E: k.l.cairney@stir.ac.uk  W: www.stir.ac.uk
The Stirling Fund is the collective effort of Stirling alumni and friends

The Stirling Fund is a source of vital, unrestricted funding to enhance the quality of the Stirling experience. We believe our students should have the opportunity to develop their talents to the highest possible level and benefit from a well-rounded experience that will help them secure employment following graduation. Thank you.

THE IMPACT OF THE STIRLING FUND

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

“Support from the Stirling Fund has enabled us to promote mental health awareness amongst students. Events and publicity materials have focused on eating disorders, stress, depression, self-esteem issues, bereavement and suicide. Events have been very well attended and we have built relationships with a variety of organisations from NHS Forth Valley, Breathing Space and the Samaritans.”

Christina Andrews, Vice President, Education and Engagement

Ladies Football Team

“The Stirling Fund has enabled us to improve the quality of the Stirling experience. With its support, we have been able to travel to away games and compete in the league! We have also been able to pay for professional referees and some key training equipment. With the continued support from the Stirling Fund we are going from strength to strength.”

Robyn Spice, Ladies Football Team

AirTV

“With our new HD equipment funded by the Stirling Fund, we can now produce sharp and exhilarating footage covering everything from action-packed University sporting events to annual student elections. A number of our members are interested in a career in film making post-University and they are all benefiting from the use of our much improved resources.”

Esme Rankin, AirTV

Zambia Project

“This award from the Stirling Fund will allow nursing students to volunteer as health care providers in the Zambia IDEALS project. Students will assist in the delivery of a variety of much needed health care advice and information to local communities. It is not only local people that benefit from this project, the experience stays with our students throughout the rest of their careers.”

Pat Bradley, Senior Teaching Fellow, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s) Account Holder(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank/Building Society account number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch Sort Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To: The Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank/Building Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcode</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service User Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 0 0 6 7 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to support The University of Stirling with a regular gift of:

£ ___ per _________ (month/quarter/year) for ___ years

Please debit my Bank/Building Society account starting on:

4th/15th _________ (month) _________ (year)

Please allow 15 working days to set up your Direct Debit Instruction before your first payment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction to your Bank or Building Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please pay The University of Stirling Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with The University of Stirling and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This guarantee should be detached and retained by the Payer

**The Direct Debit Guarantee**

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit the University of Stirling will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request the University of Stirling to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by the University of Stirling or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society – if you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when the University of Stirling asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.
Stirling Fund Donation Form

YOUR INFORMATION

Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Telephone

GIFT AID - MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR GIFT

Gift Aid is a UK government tax scheme. As an exempt charity, the University of Stirling can reclaim basic rate tax on qualifying donations from UK tax payers. This applies to donations you have made in the last four years and from the date of this declaration, until you notify us otherwise. To enable the University to reclaim Gift Aid, please sign and date the Gift Aid declaration below.

I would like the University to treat all qualifying donations as Gift Aid donations.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the University will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given in the last four years and from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise.

Signature _____________________________________________ Date ______________________________

Please notify the University if you: Want to cancel this declaration/change your name or home address/no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

☐ I would like my gift amount to be anonymous  ☐ I would like my name to be anonymous

☐ I would like information on how I leave a gift to the University in my will

YOUR GIFT - REGULAR GIFT

I would like to make a regular gift of £_____ per ___________(month/quarter/year) for a period of _____ years

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF

YOUR GIFT - SINGLE GIFT

I would like to make a single gift of ____________

☐ I enclose a cheque made payable to the University of Stirling

☐ Please debit my credit/debit card

Card number: ____________________________

Type of card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Visa Debit ☐ Maestro

Security number (shown on reverse): ________ Expiry date: _______ / _______

Issue number (if shown): _______ Valid from date (if shown): _______ / _______

Name as it appears on card: ____________________________

The University of Stirling is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC 011159
Give something back to the University

Being an Alumni Ambassador is a great way to give back to the University, meet new people, gain experience and help students.

For more information email jennifer.nicol@stir.ac.uk or visit www.stir.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-ambassadors