



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

# bulletin\*

AUTUMN 2019

STAFF MAGAZINE



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Our staff supporting Edinburgh's festivals

### All about that Bayes

A central hub for our data science and AI activities

### Hot off the press

70 years of Edinburgh University Press

### Cross-campus connections

Staff share their mentoring experiences

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Win a five-class pass to Tribe Yoga

# Welcome to the autumn

**edition of your staff magazine. Our cover star this issue is Janet Archer, our new Director of Festival, Cultural and City Events. She is one of the many members of staff that work in collaboration with Edinburgh's festivals. On pages 14 and 15 we recognise their dedication.**

Last year the Bayes Centre officially opened its doors. We show what the centre has been working on since then, and how it will help the University remain at the heart of data-driven innovation and artificial intelligence. Read more on pages 10 and 11.

After its most successful year ever in 2018, Edinburgh University Press is celebrating its 70th birthday. We look back at some of its highlights on pages 12 and 13.

On pages 8 and 9, testimonials from staff members involved in the Mentoring Connections Programme reveal what they've learnt from the scheme. Plus, read our lunch mates feature on page 19, and don't forget to try our competition on page 20 for the chance to win a great prize.

📧 If you would like to submit ideas or feedback to *bulletin*, please contact us at [bulletin@ed.ac.uk](mailto:bulletin@ed.ac.uk) or +44 (0)131 650 6508.

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Cover image: Sam Stills

## Making our campus hedgehog friendly

Edinburgh has joined an initiative helping to make the University more hedgehog friendly. Easter Bush and Pollock Halls are now part of a nationwide project looking to address modern day threats to the hedgehog population, such as road traffic, poisoning, litter and lack of access to food and water. This summer, a small team of volunteers gathered to carry out hedgehog surveys which involved installing tunnels across the two sites for five days at a time. This allows the team to track hedgehog footprints showing if any have made a home in the local area, which can then inform the creation of habitats where the creatures can feed, shelter and breed. Already prints have been found in three different locations at Easter Bush and six locations at Pollock Halls.



Kristin Mason; Elizabeth Vander Meer; Chris Closs; Paul Dodds

# Building our community

by Professor Peter Mathieson, *Principal and Vice-Chancellor*

The start of a new semester seems to bring with it a sense of renewed optimism and also of relative calm after the excitement of the festivals over the summer months. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome staff and students, both old and new, to the beginning of another academic year.



It seems fitting at this time in the University calendar to consider this year's National Student Survey (NSS) results. The University scored 78.5 per cent on the top line measure of 'Overall Satisfaction' – that is a one per cent increase over 2018. However, this was still well below the 2017 overall satisfaction figure of 82.6 per cent, and also still well below the Russell Group average score for overall satisfaction which is 84 per cent. As ever, the picture on a School-by-School basis is very varied. A handful of Schools have seen really impressive increases this year: well done to them, and I hope the trends continue in future years. In many areas, there is still much to be done.

It is no surprise to me that we have not seen major improvements despite the many workstreams we have initiated in our holistic approach to addressing the student experience here at the University of Edinburgh. I have always said that student satisfaction is like moving an oil tanker – progress is

slow and steady but we will get there. We have only just got started on the culture change that is required. Patience is needed and we should resist the temptation to minutely dissect each iteration of the NSS and short-term trends in the various categories.

We are looking forward to Professor Colm Harmon joining us as Vice-Principal Students in October to continue the work to improve the student experience. He will need your help: student satisfaction is everyone's responsibility. Ultimately, my senior leadership team and I will be accountable for leading the delivery of the changes, but everyone associated with the University needs to ensure that encouraging, supporting and caring for our students and staff is at the heart of what we do.

A staff experience workstream chaired by Vice-Principal Sarah Smith has now begun. The University should be a place where staff feel valued, respected and able to achieve excellence in all that they do. We want to foster a community where people feel safe to speak out if things are not right. It is because of this that we are taking a close look at the way we handle instances of bullying and harassment – this is not an issue from which we are going to shirk.

I'm very much looking forward to what the next year may hold and the ways in which our staff and students will continue to make our University community the most welcoming it can be.

## Teaching and academic careers

In May 2018 a University task group set out to improve the recognition, reward and support of teaching in academic careers. In semester 1 of 2018/19, a set of principles to guide the University's approach was developed. By the end of semester 2 an initial phase of work to reflect these principles in University policies and practices was completed.

One important change is a revised version of the Exemplars of Excellence in Student Education. This document sets out examples of achievement in teaching that can be used to support cases for promotion (including exemplars for promotion from Grade 7 to Grade 8). The exemplars make it clear that academic staff whose roles focus on teaching have a career path available from an initial Grade 7 appointment through to Grade 10. In principle this has previously been possible, but practices across the University have varied. The revised exemplars now give clear guidance with

suitably challenging criteria for promotion in place across the whole University.

In addition, recommendations to further enhance professional development in teaching have been approved by the University Executive. These include a commitment to increase the proportion of staff with a teaching qualification or accreditation, and to provide practical training and support linked to specific roles and career stages. Schools will be supported to develop a strategy and plan for professional development in teaching during 2019/20.

The University Executive has also approved a further phase of work to address a series of linked activities to ensure the newly optimised career path functions effectively. Together these steps will further underpin a University culture that values and recognises high-quality teaching.

 [edin.ac/teaching-promotions](http://edin.ac/teaching-promotions)

## Strategy 2030

An ambitious new strategy for the University will be launched this month which sets out a clear vision for what we expect to achieve over the next 10 years. Its direction is led by a distinctive, honest and realistic set of guiding principles and goals.

The vision to deliver excellence in 2030 is rooted in a defined set of values, with a focus on four key areas: people, research, teaching and learning, and social and civic responsibility. The strategy fully supports efforts to improve staff and student experience.

We can all help to shape the future. Read the strategy online and find out how to play your part in helping us to reach our goals: through new initiatives, giving us your suggestions or becoming a champion.

 [www.ed.ac.uk/strategy-2030](http://www.ed.ac.uk/strategy-2030)

## Updates to guaranteed minimum hours contracts

The University and the University and College Union (UCU) have reached an agreement to enhance the employment conditions of research and teaching staff on guaranteed minimum hours and fixed-term contracts after eight months of negotiations. After a formal claim submitted by UCU in February 2018 asked to readdress the insecure nature of guaranteed minimum contracts, the University has now agreed a set of principles that will be rolled out across the institution. The University is fully committed to fair employment practices and to creating as stable and secure an environment as it can for all its staff.

[edin.ac/guaranteed-hours](http://edin.ac/guaranteed-hours)

## Work on new finance and HR system begins

More than 250 experts from across the University have formally begun work to get a new Core System for HR and finance up and running.

After an in-depth selection process, the University has chosen two world-leading technology partners who will work with us to design and deliver a brand new system and improved processes.

Oracle will provide an intuitive cloud-based system, with Inoapps helping design straightforward processes to marry up the new system's capability with plans already underway to transform ways of working.

The aim of the Core Systems programme is to deliver simple and easy-to-use services alongside a modern, user-friendly system. This will help the University streamline the number of individual systems it uses, seamlessly join up functions through an easy-to-use

interface, reduce duplication of effort and in turn, make life simpler and easier for both staff and students.

The changes will make it easier for all staff to access and manage HR and finance information in their jobs; from booking leave to claiming expenses, recruiting staff and more.

Over the next few months our university-wide experts and the Service Excellence Programme Core Systems project team will work hand-in-hand to design straightforward processes and ways of working that maximise the benefits of the new system. They'll also look at where training and support are required, and engage and communicate with people across the University about the changes.

The Core System will go live in three phases over summer and autumn 2020.

[edin.ac/sep-news](http://edin.ac/sep-news)

## Academic chairs sign the Professorial Roll

Every year, new professors are invited to sign the Professorial Roll – a recording of all academic staff awarded chairs at the University. More than 100 new professors were invited to add their signature to the roll in June. The Principal hosted the special ceremony in the Playfair Library where he opened events by signing the roll himself.



Paul Dodds, Sam Silis, Charlotte Davidson

# Access Scholarship launched

As part of its commitment to attracting and supporting students from widening participation backgrounds, the University is launching a new scholarship for students from across the UK, worth between £1,000 and £5,000 per year of study. Coming into effect from 2020 entry, the Access Edinburgh Scholarship replaces several existing scholarship schemes. It has simple criteria: any student from a lower income household or who is care

experienced or estranged will receive a scholarship. There is no separate application form; students just need to give permission for their funding body (SAAS, Student Finance England, etc.) to share their household income data with the University. Students are free to spend the money they receive as they choose. An unlimited number of scholarships are available and it is expected that more than 3,000 undergraduates could benefit from the scheme.

## A European university

The University of Edinburgh has stood proudly for 436 years and it will continue to be a beacon of excellence – with a determinedly international outlook – for generations to come.

Regardless of the outcomes of Brexit, the University will remain a strong European institution with a global reputation built on excellence in research, teaching, knowledge exchange and civic engagement. We will continue to reinforce links with universities in Europe and beyond, and enhance our commitment to fostering a community in which all staff and students feel valued and welcome.

The University has robust contingency measures in place to ensure there is minimal disruption to our critical activities. Further advice and support for staff and students will be made available over the coming months.

 [edin.ac/eu-news](http://edin.ac/eu-news)

## Rainy Hall renovations complete

An eight-month restoration project at the School of Divinity has been completed by Estates. The gothic revival-style dining hall in New College, Rainy Hall, has had a full upgrade which included restoring and repainting the original decorative paintwork on the hammerbeam ceiling and the heraldic crests which adorn the timber panelling on the walls. Other changes include new furniture and the installation of new lighting along with increased accessibility to Rainy Hall with a new chairlift and electronic push pads for the original timber doors.

The renovations also made space for a commercial kitchen, which will host a new Social Bite Café. Social Bite is a well-known Edinburgh charity that uses its profits to help people affected by homelessness. The cafe will serve a



selection of hot and cold food and will also offer a pay forward opportunity that lets students and staff pay a little extra for hot drinks and meals to be available to those experiencing food poverty or homelessness.

## News in brief

### Community grants scheme

The University's latest round of community grants has enabled a range of organisations to make a difference in the city and beyond. The projects include: The Yard Scotland, adventure play services for disabled children and their families; SCOREScotland, an arts and wellbeing organisation for young people in west Edinburgh; and Edinburgh University Black Arts Collective, an exhibition featuring the work of black artists in Edinburgh.

Since October 2017 the scheme has awarded £180,000 to more than 40 projects in Edinburgh and its surrounding areas. The next round of applications will open during the autumn.

 [www.ed.ac.uk/local](http://www.ed.ac.uk/local)



### Doors Open Day

This year the Law School will join 20 other University buildings taking part in Doors Open Day on 28 and 29 September. Visitors will be able to book tours for 28 September to see the results of the recent £35 million refurbishment, including the spectacular Senate Room in the new Law Library.

 [edin.ac/doors-open-day](http://edin.ac/doors-open-day)



### GP Practice wins award

Mackenzie Medical Centre, a GP practice owned and run by the University, has been awarded a Gold Pride in Practice certificate in acknowledgment of its work to become more accessible to the LGBT community. This award recognises the practice's commitment to creating an inclusive patient-centred service for the LGBT community allowing patients to receive effective and welcoming support. Mackenzie Medical Centre is one of the first practices in Edinburgh to receive this award.

# research in focus

## Drones aid study of Arctic coastal erosion



Arctic coastlines are eroding at a faster rate than previously thought according to a new study. An international team of researchers, led by the University, used drones to map the coastline on Herschel Island in the Canadian Arctic during the summer of 2017.

Frozen ground, known as permafrost, on the coastline in the Canadian Arctic is being washed away by storms when it becomes exposed as the sea ice melts during summer months. As a warming climate means longer summer seasons, the coastline is exposed for longer, therefore presenting more opportunities for storms to cause damage.

The scientists used drone-mounted cameras to map the area over 40 days. Their results showed that the coast had retreated by 14.5 metres during this period. Compared to surveys dating from 1952 until 2011, the rate of erosion in 2017 was more than six times the long-term average for the area.

## Trialling video GP surgeries shows potential

New research has found that video GP surgeries may be a suitable alternative to face-to-face appointments in certain situations. A trial, led by the University, in partnership with the Universities of Exeter and Warwick, involved 45 patients and six GP practices in Edinburgh and the Lothians. Patients were sent a link that would take them to Attend Anywhere, a Skype-style online programme. Doctor and patient could then converse as they would in a face-to-face appointment.

Researchers conducted interviews with the patients, doctors and nurses who took part and looked at both the content and duration of the video consultations. They found that technical problems were common, showing improvements are needed before the scheme can be fully utilised. Doctors reported that conventional face-to-face visits are more appropriate when they are talking about more serious health issues; patients also preferred to speak in person about more private concerns.



Despite these issues many patients found the video consultation to be helpful, in particular, those with mental or mobility problems, younger patients and those who didn't need a physical examination.

## Benefits of yoga for older generation



Yoga can improve both physical and mental health in older adults, research suggests. A team of scientists at the University investigated 22 studies that looked at the effects of yoga and used statistical analysis to combine the results. It showed that those who practised yoga later in life had improved leg strength, flexibility, balance, sleep quality, vitality, depression symptoms and perceived mental and physical health – compared with no activity.

The academics say that not only does this review help us to understand the benefits of yoga, it also shows we should include yoga in physical activity guidelines for older adults.

# teaching in focus

## The University's Learning and Teaching Conference

### Building academic communities



Building academic communities at the University is an important aspect of the student and staff experience, and ultimately leads to greater success in teaching, learning and research. Initiatives have been springing up across the University (face-to-face and online), inviting students and staff to gather together informally to create effective relationships that can last throughout the student journey. All have had positive feedback. Students appreciate the opportunity to meet with and talk to academics in their Schools in a relaxed setting, while staff enjoy conversing with individuals about their subjects or course options more informally.

From pairing up staff and students for coffee and cake trips, to a customised game of Guess Who with images of the academic staff in the School of Chemistry, read more about how different Schools are coming up with various ways to build these communities and encouraging them to thrive on the Teaching Matters Blog.

Stories based on posts from the Teaching Matters Blog. To read more, visit [www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk](http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk)



The University held its annual Learning and Teaching Conference on 19 June. More than 300 delegates were welcomed by the Principal, Professor Peter Mathieson, and the incoming Vice-Principal Students, Professor Colm Harmon. The morning keynote speaker was Professor Peter Felten, Assistant Provost and Director of the Center for Engaged Learning at Elon University, USA who presented on *Relationships matter: moving relationship-rich experiences from the periphery to the center*. In the afternoon the keynote speaker, Dr Camille Kandiko-Howson, Associate Professor at the Centre for Higher Education Research and Scholarship, Imperial College London, challenged the audience with her presentation exploring *The value and values of learning gain data: evidence, ethics and enhancement*.

More than 100 staff and student presenters shared their research and practice with colleagues across the University. The wonderful weather enabled delegates to make the most of the beautiful grounds at the John McIntyre Conference Centre. It was an incredibly positive event, which can be seen in some of the feedback describing the conference as “an excellent day”, “inspiring”, “thought-provoking” and “enlightening”. As the conference was fully booked within 48 hours, the organisers were sorry to have to disappoint many people who wanted a place. However, videos, presentations and posters from the conference are available on the Learning and Teaching website.

[edin.ac/learning-teaching-conference](http://edin.ac/learning-teaching-conference)

### Widening participation outreach in languages

As modern languages are dramatically declining in secondary schools, students in the School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures (LLC) have come together with staff working on widening participation outreach to become language ambassadors in local schools to try and change the negative perception of language studies.

LLC has developed numerous student-led projects to engage local secondary schools. One very successful event is the ‘speed date a language student’ initiative. This invites schools to come and spend a morning talking to current language students. A careers service advisor is also there to answer any questions.

Not only does this benefit the visiting pupils, but the language students also learn key communications and problem-solving skills. This is recognised through a workshop with the Careers Service and a ceremony at the end of the year where they receive an LLC certificate in recognition of their hard work.

The Mentoring Connections programme seeks to connect colleagues from across the University to support them through their career pathways. Through digital community Platform One, staff can find support and guidance regardless of grade or background. Here, three staff members share their experiences of the scheme.

# Cross-campus connections



Paul Dodds



### Abdul Majothi

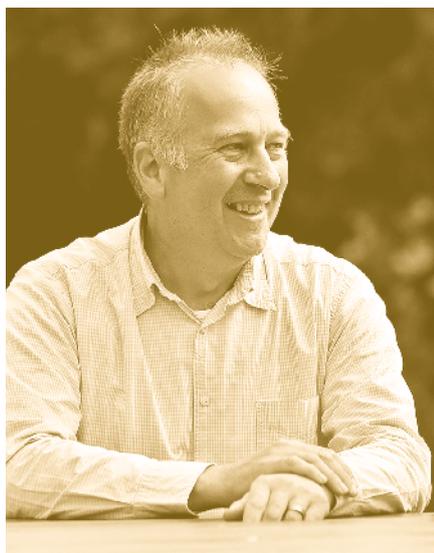
*Head of Relationship Management in Information Services*

**Since volunteering, I have been paired with three mentees from completely different fields in the University to the one I operate in.**

I have learnt from the mentees all about the challenges they experienced and, I hope, have added value by giving them practical advice, encouragement and support on their personal development journey. It has enabled me to make new friends across the University and we still keep in touch.

As a mentor, I have had exposure to fresh perspectives, ideas and approaches from my mentees. This has helped develop my personal leadership and coaching styles. I have learnt that, as a mentor, you have to be authentic and have an open mind. Above all you must listen actively and show empathy, to enable detection of the real issues being brought up in the conversations with your mentees.

My advice to potential mentees is to be honest and know the matters being discussed are in strict confidence; a mentor cannot help you on your journey if they do not have the full picture of your goals, ambitions and objectives. It's a richly rewarding and satisfying experience. I highly recommend it if you like helping people.



### Jon Turner

*Director of the Institute for Academic Development*

**Key benefits of the Mentoring Connections programme are the opportunity for mentees to test ideas and approaches with a trusted and experienced colleague,** and for mentors and mentees to learn from colleagues based in other areas of the University. As a mentee I have benefited from being able to discuss challenges and get advice at several points during my career. I wanted to hear about different contexts, issues and opportunities from someone with direct experience. This motivated me to become a mentor myself.

As a mentor I have gained new perspectives and approaches to problem solving; insights to different roles and areas of the University; and active listening skills. I have learnt that to be a good mentor you must be trustworthy, open, non-judgemental, and a good listener and sounding board. It's important to ask questions that prompt useful reflections but definitely try not to talk too much.

I would advise mentees not to look to mentors for solutions. Test and develop your own ideas and approaches through your mentoring discussions. Try to have some specific objectives and points you want to discuss or get feedback or perspectives on.



### Christine Love-Rodgers

*College Lead for Library Academic Support*

**I've been both a mentor and a mentee through the University's Mentoring Connections Programme.**

I was drawn to the scheme initially as a mentee for the opportunity to learn from someone outside my own area, and particularly being able to benefit from more senior experience. Now, being a mentor has offered me the opportunity to develop staff management skills in coaching and development.

I started out at the University mentoring a colleague working in my professional services area, but in a very different team. Now he's moved on to a promotion elsewhere, I have a new mentee who I'm encouraging to develop skills which are outside of her current role, and to understand the bigger picture in her sector.

I've always felt that I gained as much as I gave from mentoring relationships where I've been a mentor, learning as much from them as they do from me. As an experienced member of staff, mentoring someone can remind you of what it was like to be new and encourage you to look at your work with fresh eyes. Also, you realise that you know more than you think, and what is just everyday knowledge to you can be completely new and valuable to a mentee.

 To find out more about what is involved, or to sign up as a mentor or mentee, visit [edin.ac/mentoring-connections](http://edin.ac/mentoring-connections)



All about that

# Bayes



Last summer the University proudly opened the Bayes Centre as a new central hub for many of its data-driven innovation projects. One year on, the Bayes community is harnessing data science to explore and address real-world challenges. *bulletin* reports.

**N**amed after the statistician, philosopher and minister, Thomas Bayes, the £40 million Bayes Centre has become a one-stop shop for technical data science and artificial intelligence (AI) expertise at the University. Since its opening, the centre has been filled with University colleagues, external partners, researchers and industry experts.

Formally opened by HRH The Princess Royal, Chancellor of the University, in October 2018, the vision for the Bayes Centre focuses on the University's data-driven innovation (DDI) activities. Many of these build on expertise from the College of Science & Engineering (CSE). In 2017, CSE won a total of £145 million in research awards, with a large portion going into data-intensive science. Bayes looks to support colleagues in growing these activities by identifying and supporting working relationships between University staff and external partners.

This Bayes community has involved more than 450 people to date, including scientists, PhD students, industry experts and innovation support professionals, and is still growing. Through multidisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration, they will advance data technology and apply it to real-world problems.

Professor Michael Rovatsos, Director of the Bayes Centre, explains: "Working with data has become essential for all academic disciplines. Bayes should be the one-stop shop for external organisations that want to access the University's technical data science and AI expertise, but successful projects will require connecting our 'deep tech experts' with other parts of the University to bring in expertise in medicine, the arts, humanities or social sciences."

### Research excellence

The Bayes research community includes staff and students from University Schools, the Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre, and the International Centre for Mathematical Sciences. Bayes has also enabled the University to strengthen its partnership with Heriot-Watt University as part of the City Region Deal, through collaboration in mathematics PhD programmes and the joint Edinburgh Centre for Robotics.

Professor Finn Lindgren, Director of Research, explains: "There is an abundance of expertise in

Bayes should be the one-stop shop for external organisations that want to access the University's technical data science and AI expertise.

**Professor Michael Rovatsos**

*Director of the Bayes Centre*

data-centric research across the Schools and Colleges, with a broad range from fundamental methodological research to innovative industrial applications. The Bayes Centre provides a unifying platform for connecting researchers across disciplines to address new challenges, as well as leveraging existing expertise by taking advantage of the common 'critical mass' of researchers with common interests."

### Growing education

Sharing and teaching this talent is another core focus of Bayes. The education team has already expanded online learning via the Data Science, Technology and Innovation suite of online postgraduate programme offerings, and, with colleagues in the Information Services Group, are looking to develop a new MicroMasters programme. In addition, the recently established Data Science Education Centre of Excellence will support all current and planned data science and training across the University as a whole.

Teresa Ironside, Director of Education, says: "The Data Science Education Centre of Excellence gives us a fantastic opportunity to work across the University, including with all DDI hubs, to expand upon existing high-quality data science education and training. Working together, we will consider new ways of delivering data science training at all levels to help build on the region's awareness and capabilities in order to drive the most value from data, personally and professionally."

### Linking with industry

Boasting this huge array of research and education expertise, Bayes has attracted industry partnerships with global companies including the Royal Bank of Scotland, SAS Software, Huawei and the NES Digital Service team working on a national platform for digital health services within the NHS. The mix of start-ups (such as those incubated in the AI and

Blockchain accelerator run by Wayra, a subsidiary of Telefonica and sponsored by Cisco), small- and medium-sized enterprises and national and international corporates is an essential part of the philosophy of Bayes; bringing the breadth of industry and public sector challenges to the University to collaborate with our staff and students in situ.

Jim Ashe, Director of Innovation, says: "Bayes has established itself as a key innovation catalyst in delivering national and international data-driven innovation business partners with deep tech research and supercomputing solutions for leading edge industrial challenges."

### Strong foundations

Having established a firm grounding, Bayes is now starting its first academically-driven projects, for example working with the Schools of GeoSciences and Biological Sciences on the Edinburgh CityScope – an initiative working to make the city into an interactive learning environment through the use of a smart phone; with the School of Engineering on Fastblade – a project to build a data-driven manufacturing facility in collaboration with Babcock in Rosyth; and with the Schools of GeoSciences and Physics & Astronomy on a new Space and Satellite Data Centre.

Professor Rovatsos concludes: "We are only at the start of a journey for the University to translate its excellence in research and education into real-world impact through collaboration with partners that will help address important problems using data technology, for the benefit of all. Within less than a year since the first of us moved into Bayes, we have made great strides at bringing partners into the centre and building structures and capacity in collaboration with many University colleagues – there is still a lot of work to do, building on this foundation." 🇨🇦

 [www.ed.ac.uk/bayes](http://www.ed.ac.uk/bayes)



# Hot off the press

After a milestone year in 2018, Edinburgh University Press is celebrating its 70th birthday. *bulletin* looks back at the past seven decades of one of the leading university presses in the UK.

Since 1949, Edinburgh University Press (EUP) has been a leading academic publisher, producing more than 2,300 journals, 22,000 articles and 10,000 book reviews. 69 years later, 2018 was the most successful year for the press yet. After publishing 200 new books for the first time, EUP reached a turnover of £3 million, showing that the world of academic publishing is only going to continue growing.

Starting life at 22 George Square, and with Archie Turnbull as Secretary from 1952 to 1987, publishing at EUP flourished with a small, dedicated team driven to disseminate the highest quality research in the humanities, with particular strengths in literary studies and Scottish history. Now, with increased investment in people across the books and journals business, EUP employs 39 permanent members of staff specialising in nine different subject areas, from law to politics and film studies to linguistics. Excitingly, the team is set to expand even further with two new people joining the sales department this autumn.

## From the archive

This year Edinburgh University Press will be reintroducing some of its bestselling gems that have made a lasting impact on research and teaching. Here are 10 of its favourites:

*The End of the Roman Republic 146 to 44 BC: Conquest and Crisis* by Catherine Steel

*The Cultural Politics of Emotion* by Sara Ahmed

*Introducing Sociolinguistics* by Rajend Mesthrie, Joan Swann, Ana Deumert and William Leap

*Recovering Scotland's Slavery Past: The Caribbean Connection* edited by Tom M Devine

*The Crusades: Islamic Perspectives* by Carole Hillenbrand

*From Pictland to Alba, 789–1070* by Alex Woolf

*Assemblage Theory* by Manuel DeLanda

*Film Genre: Hollywood and Beyond* by Barry Langford

*Modernism: An Anthology of Sources and Documents* edited by Vassiliki Kolocotroni, Jane A Goldman and Olga Taxidou

*Scottish Education* edited by TGK Bryce, WM Humes, D Gillies and A Kennedy

EUP works closely with the experts on their doorstep at the University. Dr Alex Thomson, Convenor of Press Committee, explains how the publication process works: “On its way to publication, every EUP project has to meet the approval of the Press Committee. Bringing together a group of senior academics with expertise across the fields in which we publish, the Committee provides two services: rigorous critical scrutiny, which ensures that every new book and journal meets the high academic standards associated with the University of Edinburgh and we also offer expert advice to commissioning editors, ensuring that EUP remains at the leading edge of contemporary research in the humanities and social sciences. A space of true scholarly exchange, the Press Committee provides a unique cross-disciplinary perspective on each and every EUP project.”

The 70th festivities will see EUP celebrate its milestone publications, from Carole Hillenbrand’s 1999 multi-award winning *The Crusades* – the first book in English to reflect the Crusades from a Muslim perspective – to Tom Devine’s illuminating collection *Recovering Scotland's Slavery Past*, hailed by the *Guardian* as “one of the most important books to be published in Scotland this century”.

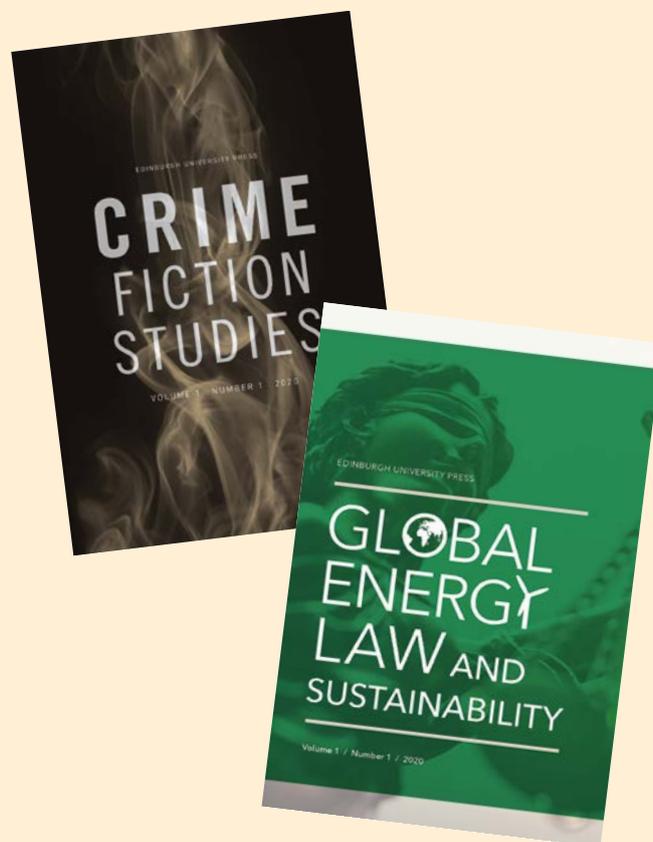
Having published world-leading scholars and thinkers such as Graham Harman, Catherine Belsey, Giorgio Agamben, TC Smout, David Martin-Jones and Ingrid Piller, Head of Books, Nicola Ramsey, is striving to continue to attract top academic talent. “Our books programme continues to go from strength to strength”, she said. “Our team of eight commissioning editors will be working hard to bring another 300 or so new authors into the EUP family. Book highlights for 2019/20 include *The Edinburgh Companion to the Gothic and the Arts*, the beautifully-illustrated *Bayana: The Sources of Mughal Architecture*, an edition of Walter Scott’s *Shorter Poems* and a revamped edition of our classic text *The Making of Classical*

*Edinburgh*. We are also committed to playing a role in the Open Access landscape and are working with the University of Edinburgh and other partners to ensure we meet the needs of our authors in this area.”

Another birthday the Press will be celebrating in 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the *Innes Review*, one of EUP’s most highly regarded journals, which examines the part played by the Catholic Church in Scottish history. Now a publisher of almost 50 journals, EUP’s collections – with particular strengths in literary studies, philosophy and Scottish studies – are world renowned. The most downloaded article of the past year is ‘A famine in Surat in 1631 and Dodos on Mauritius: a long lost manuscript rediscovered’ published in *The Archives of Natural History* – which happens to be EUP’s longest running journal (first started in 1936 and published by the Press since 2008). Head of Journals, Sarah McDonald, discusses the development of the journals programme for the coming year: “2020 will see the launch of two new journals: *Crime Fiction Studies*, which fills a much-needed gap in crime fiction as an academic subject area and supports our expansive list in literary studies, and *Global Energy Law and Sustainability*, an international journal dedicated to research in energy law and policy which boosts our law offering.”

So the future looks bright, and all staff and students at the University of Edinburgh can keep up to date with EUP’s new research in the University Main Library. Many of EUP’s new books can be found on the shelves and ebooks and journal articles can be accessed through library platforms. Start browsing now. 🇨🇭

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



# The festivals and us



David Duffy is a Community Support Assistant in Accommodation, Catering and Events. He assists with routine maintenance at Holland House (pictured) in Pollock Halls, which is home to performers in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo during the summer.

Kerry Cheek is the Projects Coordinator for Sustainability and Festivals in Social Responsibility and Sustainability. Along with her team, she helped organise the University's first Sustainability Hub at the Festival Fringe, to encourage everyone to consider their environmental impact.



Gwen Orr is a Festivals Coordinator in the Festivals Office. She currently manages the festival tenants in Bristo Square, McEwan Hall, Medical School Quad, George Square Gardens and Adam House, liaising with the different companies and making sure their performances run smoothly, while maintaining the University estate.

The University plays a huge part in Edinburgh's festivals and staff from across the institution are involved in the many partnerships. Here *bulletin* shares a small selection of colleagues who contribute to the city's busiest season.



Janet Archer is the University's newly appointed Director of Festival, Cultural and City Events. Her role provides University-wide leadership to create new opportunities for partnerships across Edinburgh's festivals, as well as extending our wider relationships in the city to support the University's research, education and service ambitions throughout the year.



Dr Patricia Erskine is Head of Stakeholder Relations in the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences. She manages the University's collaborations with the Edinburgh International Festival. The new three-year partnership on the You Are Here programme is led by the Edinburgh Futures Institute.



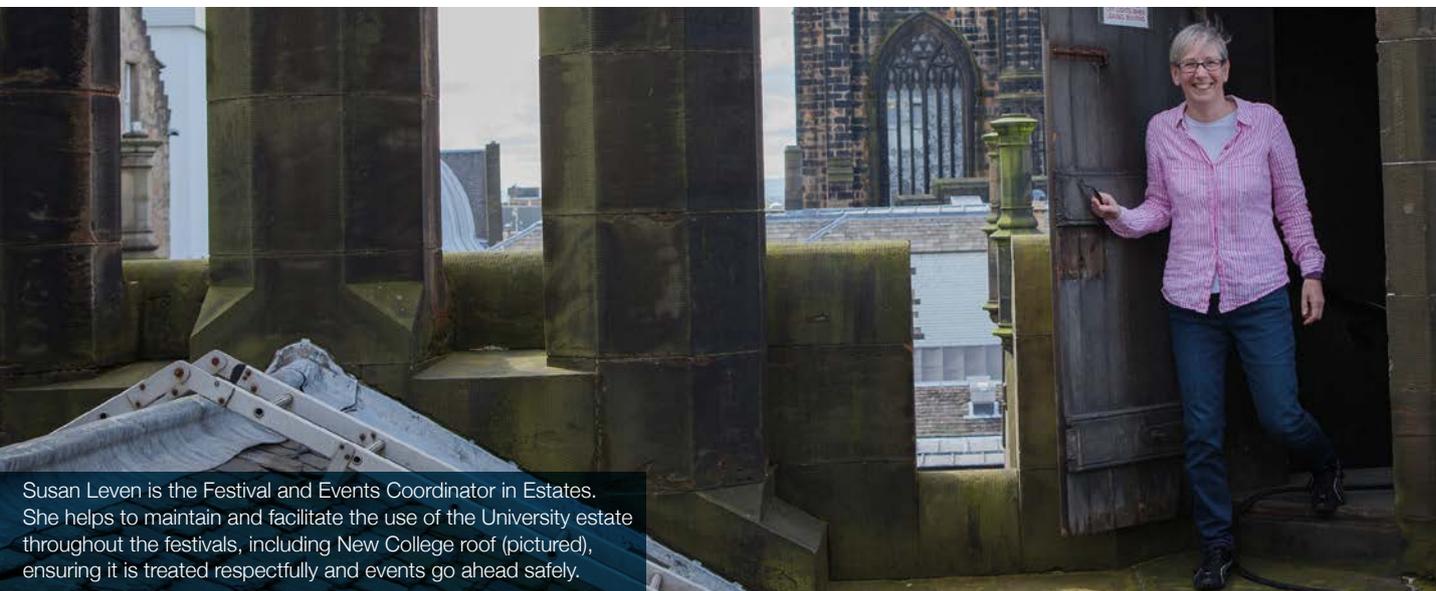
Matthias Schwannauer is Head of School for Health in Social Science and Professor of Clinical Psychology. This is his third year taking part in the Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas (CoDI), where his show *Dumbing Down Trauma?* shares his academic research.



Sandra McGhee is a Cleaning Operative in Estates. She is part of the team that keeps festival venues clean and tidy, including the VIP bar which is a pop-up venue for the Festival Fringe in the David Hume Tower (pictured).



Dr Simon Cooke is a Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Literature in the School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures. He is a Judge for the James Tait Black Biography Prize, which is part of Britain's oldest literary awards and presented at the Edinburgh International Book Festival.



Susan Leven is the Festival and Events Coordinator in Estates. She helps to maintain and facilitate the use of the University estate throughout the festivals, including New College roof (pictured), ensuring it is treated respectfully and events go ahead safely.

# people news

## Vice-Principal Students appointed

Professor Colm Harmon will join the University as its Vice-Principal Students in October. He moves on to the post from Vice-Provost (Academic Performance) and Professor of Economics at the University of Sydney.

Professor Harmon said: “Joining the University of Edinburgh at this time, with such commitment from the institution to ensuring our student experience is in line with our world-leading research activity, is tremendously exciting for me. Students from all over the globe come to Edinburgh because it stands for something, an experience, a sense of belonging to a community of excellence. I will work hard to make sure we deliver that experience for our students and I look forward to shaping plans for this in the coming months in collaboration with colleagues from across the University and, critically, with the students themselves.”



## US philosophy expert joins Edinburgh



In July the School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences welcomed Professor Tommy J Curry as Chair of Africana Philosophy and Black Male Studies. He joined the team from Texas A&M University. His work focuses on xenophobia, the black male experience, Africana philosophy and the systems that underpin the rise of right-wing movements in the US and Europe.

“I am excited to join Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh at this pivotal juncture in history,” said Professor Curry. “The rise of white supremacy, racism, and xenophobia in the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe means that the investment universities have in racial and ethnic diversity, the decolonisation of disciplines and anti-racism must become central to how institutions of higher learning disseminate and produce knowledge. I look forward to working with students and faculty in support of the University’s efforts to promote equality and pluralism.”

## New Head of ECA

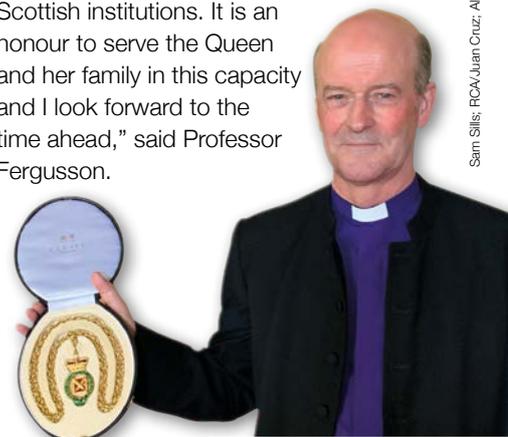


Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) has appointed a new principal. Professor Juan Cruz has joined ECA this September from the Royal College of Art in London, where he was the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities. Professor Cruz is a trustee of the John Moores Liverpool Exhibition Trust, a member of the Tate Liverpool Council and a Director of the International Awards for Art Criticism.

## Professor awarded royal appointments

The Very Reverend Professor David Fergusson has been appointed Dean of the Chapel Royal and Dean of the Order of the Thistle. Professor Fergusson is the holder of the Chair of Divinity and was appointed a Chaplain to the Queen in 2015.

“I am very pleased to be succeeding Professor Iain Torrance as Dean of the Chapel Royal and Dean of the Order of the Thistle, both of which are distinguished Scottish institutions. It is an honour to serve the Queen and her family in this capacity and I look forward to the time ahead,” said Professor Fergusson.



Sam Sillis, PICA/Juan Cruz, Alan Inglis Photography

# Lead appointed for equality, diversity and inclusion

**S**arah Cunningham-Burley, Professor of Medical and Family Sociology and Dean of Molecular, Genetic & Population Health Sciences, has been appointed as University-wide Lead for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Professor Cunningham-Burley said: "I very much look forward to working with students and staff across the University to accelerate our efforts to promote equality, diversity and inclusion. There are many who are already actively engaged in this effort and their commitment, experience and expertise are invaluable – thank you. Yet, it is everyone's responsibility to challenge the practices, processes and structures that perpetuate inequality and discrimination. I hope everyone will rise to the challenge."



## Edinburgh First's commercial excellence celebrated



Accommodation, Catering and Events' (ACE) commercial brand Edinburgh First was awarded Commercial University of the Year at the College and University Business Officers (CUBO) awards in July. In 2018 the team organised more than 1,600 events for around 132,000 delegates within University venues as well as accommodating more than 42,000 guests across the University's hotels and apartments.

Richard Kington, Director of ACE, said: "This award is for the many staff who have helped us achieve some outstanding results. We are grateful also to the many customers who recognise the service we provide but also that our efforts support directly the wider aims of the University of Edinburgh. We really are so proud to achieve this recognition at such a prestigious UK-wide awards event."

## Queen's Birthday Honours

Four staff members have been recognised in the Queen's birthday honours list. The awards have been given as part of the celebrations for Her Majesty's 93rd birthday.

**Amanda Amos**, Professor of Health Promotion, was appointed OBE for services to public health.

**Dr Jane Haley**, Neuroscience Scientific Coordinator, was appointed MBE for services to scientific engagement and education.

**Hector MacQueen**, Professor of Private Law, was appointed CBE for services to legal scholarship.

**Vice-Principal Professor Dorothy Miell**, Head of the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, was awarded OBE for services to higher education and psychology.

## In memoriam: Paul Smith

The University regrets to announce the recent tragic death of our colleague, Paul Smith.

Paul was a much-loved and quiet member of the Information Services Group Applications Service Management team. He had a wonderful talent for making everyone feel important and he always wanted to help people solve their problems. No problem, big or small, was given anything other than his full commitment.

His death came as a result of a shocking incident on the streets of Edinburgh and our thoughts and sympathies go to his family and friends, who have been left devastated by these tragic circumstances.

The University hosted a memorial service for Paul in the Playfair Library in June attended by friends and colleagues.

# health & wellbeing

## Wellbeing app wins award

This summer the University won the Supporting Student Wellbeing Award at the Herald Higher Education Awards 2019. The accolade recognises the University's work with the Foundation for Positive Mental Health to provide free access for all staff and students to the Feeling Good app which helps users to deal with mental stresses and strains on a daily basis.

Work also continues on the £8 million Health and Wellbeing Centre in Bristo Square, which is set to open in 2020. The centre will bring together the Student Counselling and Disability Services with the medical practice and pharmacy, providing a hub of support for both staff and students.

[edin.ac/feeling-good-app](http://edin.ac/feeling-good-app)

## Rugby varsity tickets on sale

The 2019 Royal Bank of Scotland Scottish Varsity Rugby Matches will take place on **Saturday 21 September** from 3pm. This fantastic spectacle will see the University of Edinburgh men's and women's rugby teams take on their ancient rivals from St Andrews on the International Pitch at BT Murrayfield. This really is an event not to be missed. Tickets are only £5 for students and under 18s and £10 for adults.

University staff members can:

- Use promotion code SV19UES and receive 50 per cent off the price of adult tickets for the family stand.
- Bring up to eight under 16s FREE with every full priced adult ticket purchased for the family stand.

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

# Trio enters University's Sports Hall of Fame



The Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Peter Mathieson, presents Judy Murray with her Sports Hall of Fame award.

Three leading sporting figures have been inducted into the University's Sports Hall of Fame. Edinburgh alumni Judy Murray, Chloe Maclean and Corrie Scott have been honoured for their success at the highest level.

Judy Murray has shaped performance and participation levels of tennis across Scotland and the world. She won 64 Scottish titles over the course of her competitive playing career.

Having studied French and business studies at Edinburgh, Judy helped coach her sons Jamie and Andy to huge successes.

Judy has advised a range of organisations on their tennis development plans, and was Scottish National Coach and Team Captain for the British Federation Cup Team.

Dr Chloe Maclean has enjoyed success in both karate and her studies. After obtaining a First in undergraduate sociology, she gained a masters and PhD, graduating in 2018.

Chloe was crowned British Champion nine times, secured two Senior Commonwealth Championship titles,

and won four Senior European 'Wado' Championships.

Corrie Scott swam at three Commonwealth Games, beginning in Delhi in 2010, before undertaking a masters degree in chemistry.



At the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, Corrie secured a bronze medal in the 50m breaststroke, setting a new Scottish record. In 2018, she returned to the Games on Australia's Gold Coast, competing in the medley relay and 50m and 100m breaststroke.

Corrie has been a key member of the University's Performance Swimming Programme, and was recipient of the Eva Bailey Cup for Female Athlete of the Year in 2014, and a University Blue in 2017.

Jim Aitken MBE, Director of Sport & Exercise, said: "It's an honour to welcome these three inspiring women into our Sports Hall of Fame. Each has contributed immeasurably in their chosen fields and helped establish the University's place as a leading destination for gifted students wanting to pursue their academic and sporting ambitions."

[www.sport.ed.ac.uk](http://www.sport.ed.ac.uk)



# lunch mates

Our latest lunch mates sees **Gordon Dow**, Account Development Manager in Accommodation, Catering and Events (ACE), meet **James Broomfield**, Security Manager in the Estates team. Their lunch took place at Levels Café and Lounge.

## What were your expectations before meeting your lunch mate?

**GD:** We are such a large organisation, I was excited for an opportunity to talk to a colleague I hadn't had a chance to meet yet.

**JB:** I have always enjoyed meeting new people and I particularly like looking at areas where we can add value to each other's roles. It always amazes me how there are usually crossovers and I was looking forward to discovering them!

## What did you talk about?

**GD:** We mainly chatted about our backgrounds and current roles. James's background is in operational management and I was interested to find out more about this.

**JB:** I enjoyed gaining more insight into how conferences are set up. I was surprised to hear that Gordon provides a service which actively engages and promotes conferences and then organises them.

## Can you tell us a little about your lunch mate's role?

**GD:** James works within security and for the past two years has been leading this team. They provide a 24/7 response around the five campuses. The security, safety and the wellbeing of the University community is the heart of what they do. The red jackets are to help them be more visible and they welcome the opportunity to engage and help.

If you'd like to take part in lunch mates, please email your details to [bulletin@ed.ac.uk](mailto:bulletin@ed.ac.uk)



James Broomfield, left, with Gordon Dow.

**JB:** Gordon works within the Conference and Events team and is responsible for supporting academics and staff in hosting conferences within their respective fields. He also researches and encourages new business opportunities from external organisations, often working in partnership with city and national partners. The support offered by Gordon and the team includes assisting with conference bids, sourcing venues and accommodation at the University and a full event management service. Allowing our academics to concentrate on the important content of the conference, leaving the management and administration to the conference team.

## Are there any synergies between your roles?

**GD:** Yes, even though we have our own team in Pollock Halls, we do as a department manage conferences in other central venues. Our Festivals team also take over our buildings each year. All of this requires insight and guidance from James and the Security team.

**JB:** Gordon and his team do sometimes have to coordinate security details for the conferences they manage but for the bigger events, like the festivals, my team are more heavily involved.

## Can you think of how you might work together in future?

**GD:** Directly I know who to call if I have a major security question for one of my conferences! I have also found out the ACE Community Support team and University Security are looking at ways to work smarter together.

**JB:** We discussed if Security could assist when our students and staff visit other conferences around the world, sharing best practice for their own safety; perhaps

a handout could be developed or added to our website with relevant links.

## What's the best thing about your lunch mate's role?

**GD:** James particularly likes knowing that his team can really help each student to have a positive experience throughout their time here. Graduation is particularly rewarding knowing what his team have contributed.

**JB:** Gordon loves attracting national, European and international conferences to the University and the positive footprint these conferences leave. He enjoys being the go-to support for academics when they are looking to showcase their work and the city.

## How does your lunch mate commute into work?

**GD:** Usually a 15-minute bus journey and a 15-minute walk across the meadows. A beautiful way to start and finish your day.

**JB:** Gordon enjoys a 30-minute walk to and from work next to Holyrood Park.

## What's your lunch mate's favourite lunch place?

**GD:** At work a special treat is a bento box, but out of work he likes Fishers in the City.

**JB:** We both enjoyed Levels Café where we met as they do a fantastic lunch and the staff are super friendly. Gordon's favourite outside of work is Polentoni as they have an amazing brunch.

## Did you find you had any hobbies or out-of-work ventures in common?

**GD:** James enjoys his rugby and swimming and mentioned that he has started running. I have just come out a two-year retirement of running and am loving it again.

**JB:** We're both quite active – I've begun running, alongside my other sports, which Gordon also enjoys.

# spot the difference

# Win five classes at Tribe Yoga

Spot the difference and win a five-class pass at Tribe Yoga. With three studios across Edinburgh, one of which can be found on Porters Walk, Quartermile, Tribe Yoga offers a wide range of yoga classes for all abilities. For your chance to win, circle the five differences in the two images opposite and send your entry to us by **Friday 8 November**.

You can post your entry to *bulletin* Competition, Communications and Marketing, 5 Forrest Hill, EH1 2QL or email it to [bulletin@ed.ac.uk](mailto:bulletin@ed.ac.uk). The draw will be made and the winner notified on Monday 11 November. For full terms and conditions visit:

[edin.ac/bulletin-competition](http://edin.ac/bulletin-competition)

Last issue's prize was won by Meg Grozier, Acquisitions Assistant.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Paul Dodds