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THE MBA COURSES at the University of Edinburgh Management School were recently given top ratings in a special report carried by the Financial Times. The survey was based on student views collected from a sample of graduates from 1996 and information collected from 90+ management and business schools around the world.

The survey placed Edinburgh 35th out of the top 70 such schools in the world. The top three MBA providers in Britain were London Business School (ranked 8th), Cranfield (ranked 34th), and then Edinburgh. In effect, this rated Edinburgh as the finest Management School in Scotland and among the top ten in Europe. Edinburgh scored particularly well for internationalism and diversity of students, course materials and teaching, and the final destination of students. “We are delighted with this recognition of our progress towards being a world class management school,” said Professor David Hatherly, Director of the School. “The competition for students at this level is always hard and such a recommendation from such an international quality paper as the FT will help strengthen our reputation.”

THE HONORARY DEGREE of Doctor honoris causa has been conferred upon Her Majesty The Queen of Denmark Queen Margrethe II by the Chancellor of the University, His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

The degree of Doctor honoris causa is awarded for personal achievement and distinction in public life. There is a long history of cultural and economic links between Denmark and Scotland. The University of Edinburgh has its own particular historic link through King James VI of Scots, who granted the Charter founding the University. James was married to Anna of Denmark who was Queen Consort of Scotland for 13 years before becoming the first Queen Consort of Great Britain in 1603.

A TEAM OF researchers at the University working with specialists from NASA have made the first discovery in the UK of an archaeological site using imaging RADAR data gathered by the American Space Shuttle. The site consists of a network of previously unknown, and largely buried, ancient roads surrounding the island headquarters of the Lords of the Isles at Finlaggan Castle on Islay.

Gary McKay, a former U.S. Naval Research Laboratory scientist at NASA, now specializing in archaeological applications and working jointly in Edinburgh’s Departments of Geography and Archaeology, made the discovery using data from the Space Shuttle’s sophisticated multipolarimetric imaging RADAR. Gary said, “As soon as we had processed the image it was so obvious that something odd was present. At first I thought it was just a natural river course, but then realied that this ‘river’ ran up and over the hills completely ignoring the local geological structure - it just had to be artificial.” The detection of these roads (invisible on the ground) promises to throw new light on the economy of the early Mediæval Lords of the Isles. These roads are likely to provide new insights into the trade and transport systems on the island and appear to suggest that mining may have played an important role in the Lords’ economy far earlier than was previously thought.

For images of Islay from Space please go to: www.arcl.ed.ac.uk/islayimages/index.html
ROBIN HARPER MSP has been returned as the 46th Rector of the University in succession to John Colquhoun. His term of office took effect from 3 March 2000. The formal role of the Rectors of the four ancient Scottish Universities - Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St. Andrews - is to chair meetings of the Court, the governing body of the University.

In the past, Rectors have also taken an active part in many aspects of University life. The term of office is three years. Previous Rectors of the University include William Ewart Gladstone, David Lloyd George, Winston Churchill, Alistair Sim, Magnus Magnusson, and Sir David Steel. Robin Harper, who has fought elections for the Green Party at national, European and local level since 1986, was elected Scottish Green Party MSP for Lothians in May 1999 as the UK’s first Green parliamentarian.

PHOTOGRAFIED IN one of the recently completed consultation rooms at the new Hospital for Small Animals is King Charles Spaniel ‘Corrie’ who had been brought in by her owner with a very irritating case of harvest mites or ‘berry bugs’.

Harvest mites are tiny insects which live on grass and are often picked up by passing dogs. Thanks to diagnosis and treatment by the Director of the Hospital for Small Animals, Andrew Burnie, Corrie experienced a bug-free millennium.
First Chinese graduate remembered

AT THE INITIATIVE and with the support of the University's General Council, a plaque to Dr Wong Fun, the first Chinese graduate of the University of Edinburgh, has been erected on the wall of the Centre for Asian Studies in Buccleuch Place. It was unveiled by the Chinese Consul General, Wang Weiyang. Born in 1828 in the Heong-San district in Kwangtung (Guangdong Province) a few miles from Macao, Wong Fun received his education with the Morrison Education Society, which had been founded in memory of the missionary Reverend Dr Robert Morrison to set up schools at which native Chinese youths could be educated to a high standard and perhaps be sent to Europe or America to complete their education.

In 1847, Wong Fun left for America and, after graduating from Monson Academy, Massachusetts, he came to Edinburgh to complete his education under the patronage of, initially, Andrew Shortrede, the Scots founding editor of The China Mail, and, subsequently, the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society. He graduated MD from the University in the summer of 1855. In his address to the new graduates, Professor James Young Simpson made special mention of Wong Fun, referring to him as “the first Chinese, I believe, who has ever graduated at a European University”. He returned to China in August 1856 under the auspices of the London Missionary Society to take up a post as medical missionary at a hospital in Canton, and died on 12 October 1878.

Later this year the University is to erect a series of 25 plaques dedicated to eminent former students. They will positioned in a number of sites around the University as part of the University’s programme of events to mark the Millennium.

A vision of the future

THE VISTA Mentoring Programme, sponsored this year by Diageo Foundation and United Distillers and Vintners, has once again proved successful in matching students’ career aspirations with mentors’ career experience.

The programme aims to give penultimate year undergraduate students from various subject areas the knowledge and skills to help them plan their career to reach a high level of managerial responsibility. This year 35 students from the University of Edinburgh and 15 from Queen Margaret University College were matched - awareness of issues for career success. For the student, there is the opportunity to work shadow, network, and prepare for job seeking and employment; and for the mentor, the chance to build on existing skills. Pictured at the launch of the 2000 programme in UDV’s former building in Edinburgh is Programme Director Isabel Turnbull (centre), 3rd year University of Edinburgh Business Studies student Kathryn McCall, and her mentor Sandra Newman of Citibank.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor on the 2000/2001 programme or would like further information, please contact Isabel Turnbull on 0131 651 1538 or Isabel.Turnbull@ed.ac.uk

Decisive days

A NEW SERIES of historical videos, ‘Decisive Days of World War Two’, is now available from the University of Edinburgh Centre. The series is the outcome of a collaboration between David McWinnie’s Lamancha Productions Ltd, an independent film production company based in Newington, and the History Department’s Centre for Second World War Studies.

The series opens up the question of why, and how, Nazi Germany was defeated. In the course of six 30-minute filmed talks, illustrated with original archive footage, six leading historians each pinpoint a single day which, they personally believe, marked a critical turning point in the war.

Each historian places the day in the overall context of the war, describes in detail the events of that day, and explains why, in his or her view, these events were ultimately decisive in bringing about the downfall of the Third Reich. The six presenters and their ‘decisive days’ are as follows: Professor Brian Bond (King’s College London): 10 May 1940 - Churchill comes to power; Professor John Erickson (The University of Edinburgh): 27 March 1941 - The Yugoslav Coup; Dr David Stafford (The University of Edinburgh): 9 May 1941 - The capture of U-110; Professor Richard Overy (King’s College London): 23 January 1943 - The Casablanca Conference and the Combined Bomber Offensive; Dr Jill Stephenson (The University of Edinburgh): 18 February 1943 - Goebbels’ Total War speech; Professor Richard Holmes (Cranfield University): 25 July 1944 - Operation Cobra.
IAN RANKIN, the best-selling crime novelist, who is the current University of Edinburgh/Royal Bank of Scotland Alumnus of the Year, has formally opened the refurbished Edinburgh University Main Library concourse.

The Library, designed and built by Basil Spence, is a major 1960s building and the designs for the refurbishment were sensitive to the original design while taking account of the need for change. A substantial sum has been spent on improving lighting, enhancing fire safety, creating a joint resource centre help desk, and creating a new service desk and entry doors in the entrance concourse. The resource centre has been specially designed to be friendly to disabled people, and the new service desk, replacing the original, is better suited to the requirements of a highly automated library for the 21st century.

ON A RECENT visit to the University, the Chancellor, His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh visited the City Art Centre to see the University exhibition A Momentary View which was on show from January to March 2000. This striking collection of documentary photographs portrays an impressive range of activities behind the scenes at a major university.

As well as depicting common-place occurrences at the University, such as Freshers week, student elections, exams and graduations, the photographers have captured many activities that normally go unseen, including sports day at the nursery and work at the University’s new Hospital for Small Animals. Amongst the more exceptional events covered are crowds at the opening of the Scottish Parliament, student sky-gazers during the solar eclipse, and the filming of ‘Great Expectations’ in the University’s Old College Quad. A selection of the photographs can be seen on pp18-21.

Ian Rankin opens new Library concourse

And the winner is...EDiT

THE PREVIOUS - relaunched - issue of EDiT has won two major awards.

In February, the magazine won a Gold Award in the Alumni Publication category of the annual Higher Education Information Services Trust (HEIST) Marketing Awards. This is a UK-wide competition attracting entries from throughout the higher education sector. In May, there was further success when EDiT won the top award from judges in the External Magazine section of the Communicators in Business 2000 awards. This is the UK’s largest and most prestigious corporate communications competition, and allowed us to measure ourselves - successfully - against the commercial world.
Mistaken Identity
Jennifer Trueland talks to Professor Eve Johnstone about schizophrenia and a very special group of patients and their families.

Schizophrenia is one of the most common major psychiatric disorders and affects around one per cent of the population throughout the world. There are no tests for the condition as such - people are diagnosed on the basis of their description of their own mental experiences and according to whether they display characteristic forms of behaviour.

One of the saddest facts about the condition is the age at which it strikes. On average men are diagnosed age 23 and for women it’s 27. It was that, partly, which drew Eve Johnstone herself to psychiatry as a medical student in Glasgow - previously she had rather fancied neurology. But meeting patients with schizophrenia changed her mind and sparked what was to become a lifelong interest. “These people were the same age as me, about 21 at that time, and they had been hit by this dreadful disorder. It seemed to have come upon them out of the blue. It had a real effect on me. It was one of the most bizarre and frightening things that I had ever seen,” she says.

At that time perceived wisdom on schizophrenia was that it was a disorder quite possibly brought on by disturbed patterns of communication within the family. “This seemed wildly improbable to me - and nobody believes it now. You know they used to sometimes ban the mother from visiting, say it was her fault. I can imagine how I would feel if I was a mother in that situation.” Now, the prevailing wisdom is that schizophrenia, like so many other conditions, has an element of nature and nurture.

What we do know, however, is that it runs in families. In the children of one schizophrenic parent, the incidence is about ten per cent, as compared with just under one per cent in the general population. When both parents are affected, the chance goes up to about 40 per cent. About ten per cent of the brothers or sisters of someone with schizophrenia will develop the disease and this figure shoots up to about 50 per cent for identical twins, who are the nearest thing we have to a genetic double. It is with the background of the knowledge of the importance of family history in predicting who will develop the disease that Eve Johnstone was inspired to undertake her current research, which involves trying to find out what changes happen shortly before a person becomes ill - the aim being, of course, to facilitate the development of therapies which might lessen or even prevent that first psychotic episode which will herald, at the very least, a lifetime’s fear of a second or more.
The opportunity came up shortly after Eve Johnstone moved to Edinburgh. The Medical Research Council was calling for proposals for clinical research. She wanted to do something which would be uniquely possible in Scotland, with its less mobile, smaller and more family-oriented society. What she set out to do was find young people, aged 16 to 25, with a strong family history of schizophrenia (two close relatives or more), examine them and keep on examining them until they either became ill or passed the age at which the disease comes on. "Genetic work is difficult in London because people are more mobile. In Scotland people keep in touch with their families. They know where their sister is, how many children their cousin has."

The study, which became known as the Edinburgh High Risk Project, began in 1994. Originally there were sceptics. Concern was expressed that she wouldn't find enough recruits and that those she did sign up would drop off, particularly if they became ill. But that wasn't the case - even if she did have to spread her net Scotland-wide to come up with enough families. Sounding almost matter-of-fact, she explains: "We knew there was a 10-15 per cent risk, we knew we needed 20 to 30 cases, so we needed a minimum of 200 people. To wait for people to become ill may sound cynical, but we cannot at present stop that illness from developing and the study gives us a real opportunity of extending our understanding of the basis of the illness so that we can find treatments which will work."

Eve Johnstone has tremendous respect for the families who were approached to take part. Recruitment involved asking families of known patients if there was anyone in the right age group, then asking the parents, then finally asking the young people. The majority said yes. "These people know they have schizophrenia in their family. One woman told me that..."
The implication is that individuals who are liable to develop schizophrenia may be identifiable before the onset of symptoms.

whenever a new baby was born, she would look at it, wondering if the baby would be affected. They know this research may be too late to help them, but that it might help others in the future."

The study, helped by substantial funding from the Medical Research Council and by generous donations from a trust, facilitated by a grateful father of a former patient, has involved carrying out sophisticated magnetic resonance (MR) scanning of the subjects' brains to ascertain if the brain abnormalities associated with schizophrenia are present in high risk people. Tests on cognitive function are also carried out. The study concluded that people at high risk of developing schizophrenia for genetic reasons have several abnormalities of the brain before symptoms of the illness appear, brain abnormalities similar to those in patients with the disorder. The implication is that individuals who are liable to develop schizophrenia may be identifiable before the onset of symptoms.

The results also suggested that the structural brain abnormalities in individuals at high risk of schizophrenia are largely due to the genetic make-up. It appears that high risk individuals with the smallest AHC (amygdala-hippocampal complex) or thalami, or both, are those who are most likely to become ill in the next five to ten years. The amygdala is increasingly acknowledged to have an important role in the recognition and expression of emotion, and the hippocampus is integral to preserved memory function - both are impaired in schizophrenia. It's also assumed that the characteristic auditory hallucinations, the 'voices' of the disorder, are associated with dysfunction of the temporal lobe, part of a distributed neural circuitry that may include the thalamus.

VE JOHNSTONE has recently been awarded further substantial Medical Research Council funding over a 5 year period to study the development of schizophrenia in those from high risk families. This will involve using the new brain scanner at the SHEFC (Scottish Higher Education Funding Council) Brain Imaging Research Centre for Scotland at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. It provides 'functional' scans - images of the blood flow in the brain in response to movement or mental acts - and will allow the investigators to see what happens to the connections between the different parts of the brain as illness develops and mental acts become less organised. The continued study will mean an on-going relationship with the subjects - some of whom have now displayed lesser or greater signs of the condition, some have been actually diagnosed, and others are entirely well.

Eve Johnstone's empathy with her study subjects, their families and her patients is clear. When the first results of the project were to be published in the Lancet, the researchers felt they wanted to share them with those taking part and their families, before they were put into the public domain. With the Medical Research Council’s approval, they organised 'soirées' where the participants were taken through the results. “They went down very well,” she smiles.

Jennifer Trueland is Health Correspondent on The Scotsman and graduated MA Honours in English Literature from The University of Edinburgh in 1998.
Did you enjoy being a student?
I think I was a bit bewildered in first year. But the rest of it I loved. Almost all my memories are positive ones - they were formative, exciting, turbulent years full of idealism and hope and expectation. And a lot of laughs.

In which extra-curricular activities did you indulge?
There was a general election in my first year (1979) and I got involved in student politics. I did a sabbatical year as Honorary Secretary of the Students’ Association, which was very satisfying and sometimes hilarious. I dabbled nervously in student journalism (not very well) and acted a few roles in the Theatre Society, and once directed a play.

What is your best memory of University?
I’m too shy to tell you. But my best memories concern a small number of people who became friends for life. I think the people you meet and become friends with at that time change your life and help define who you will be for the rest of your life. I was blessed.

What is your worst memory of University?
Initially I felt surrounded by people who seemed cleverer and better educated than me. I now know this is a common experience. You quickly learn that overbearing self-esteem does not translate itself into good exam marks, though!

If you could choose again, which subject would you study?

Did any member of staff have a lasting influence?
Chris Fyfe taught African history and began by challenging and over-turning many of the conventions and assumptions that underpin Europe's traditional view of Africa - and of the whole way in which history in general is taught and studied. Until recently African history meant no more than the history of colonialism - in other words the history of Europeans in Africa. Chris Fyfe swept all that away. In his classes you felt like a real pioneer - forging new ways of thinking about the past. He was a real inspiration. Now, when I report from Africa for the BBC, I often wonder whether Chris Fyfe is hearing or seeing my despatches and I wonder whether I’m being true to his vision. Chris Fyfe was the colonial archivist in Sierra Leone before independence. Earlier this year I was in Freetown and discovered that he is still remembered there with affection and respect. I hope he knows this!

Did your degree prepare you for the world of work?
When I started in journalism a lot of employers saw a degree as a positive handicap. They favoured my contemporaries who, by the age of 22, had already chalked up 5 or 6 years’ work experience. I think that attitude has died now. My degree? I couldn’t put a value on it. The intellectual discipline you acquire while studying is at the heart of what you do as a journalist - it is a continual process of a assessing information, interpreting, making judgements about what matters, what doesn’t and why.

What advice would you give to new students?
Study for its own sake and not for the job it might get you. Study what excites you and moves you. Enjoy your teachers and respect them, but don’t regard them as a separate species. Make friends with them - teaching is only another form of learning. And in your class-mates, don’t think the ones with the most self-confidence are necessarily the brightest.

What advice would you give to new graduates?
Get a job but don’t hurry. If you haven’t already done it, take a year off and travel. Don’t stop reading books just because you’ve got no more exams to pass. Never forget that you’ve had access to the knowledge of the ages - and that you’ve been part of a tradition that nurtures the idea of the free mind. That’s not available everywhere. Cherish it and honour it all your life. And never be cynical about the debt you owe the University, or about the ideals that inspire the people that make it what it is.

What single word sums up your University experience?
Liberating.
Downstream
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT when I went to Katie's for tea the first time and found that she had a House: that is, her family owned both of the main floors, also the attic and the cellar, and these levels were reached by way of stairwells which they didn't have to share with any other family. The first time I went round I couldn't believe Katie didn't spend more time on the stairs. She always asked what I wanted to do because her mother had told her to. Her mother had obviously also told her that having found out what your guest had in mind you steered them towards some more suitable activity. Katie, as a result, weasled out of me the most uncouth suggestions possible and encouraged the playing of them with as much noise and as many props as possible. So she mountaineered to the attic lashing the piece of string round her waist to the stair-roses. I, the cook at the base-camp, watched on, always aware of the groaning and creaking of the glacier ice and terrified that it would bring different steps, her mother's down the hall from the front room, to underneath the bannister where she spied on our activities with the same pugilistic concern for Katie's purity as a mother superior in a convent school. It was just like being at Hopetoun House for my birthday every year: invisible but tangible thick red ropes cording off all the rooms except the playroom which had the same clean coldness as an operating theatre. Once Katie dared me into the front room. There were drawers on the big chest that weren't really drawers - they were just beaded to look like you could open them. Katie said she had a secret compartment behind there and if I could find the hidden mechanism she'd show me treasures from her short employment as a cat burglar. But there was never time to look properly. Her mother was always tapping around the ground floor, or else that Siamese that never seemed to find the hidden mechanism she'd show me treasures from her short employment as a cat burglar.

WHEN WE WENT in I had to sign my name in the guest book and that was yet another contract to perfect behaviour. No shouting, no splashing, respect for others partaking of the leisure facilities at all times - a catechism fierce as the Word of God reminded me at regular intervals along the walls. Like her mother, Katie talked religion a lot; but not like you were meant to. She said, "Oh God!" and "Jesus Christ!" and when her mother heard her she hissed, "Katie: blasphemy!!" with a dreadful and cryptic glower. I wasn't sure what blasphemy meant but I could tell it deserved worse than a smack by the tone of her mother's voice, and by the way that Katie went /——

I WOUL D'VE PREFERRED to spend my afternoon in the Dean, but Katie wasn't allowed. However, every third Thursday Katie took me as her guest to the Dean swimming baths and when we walked through the village she asked me what games we'd play once she was allowed. I told her we'd do medieval France in the sandstone closes, when we crossed the bridge I showed her how we'd send Jungle Explorers down the Water of Leith, hugging my thin sausage of towel between my skirt and the damp lichen on the stone so I could lean over and show her without getting green on it. But none of this compared with flying for Katie. She told me, "Oh you'll never understand, you not having staircases, and all, but I fly downstairs every morning. You can only do it when no-one's looking of course and just as well, I'd only get you-know-who riled." That's what it was like comparing with flying for Katie. She told me, "Oh you'll never understand, you not having staircases, and all, but I fly downstairs every morning. You can only do it when no-one's looking of course and just as well, I'd only get you-know-who riled." When she wanted most from Dean was the long cobbled hill from the main road to the river. "That'd be a record. That'd be the furthest I'd ever flown: I bet if I got my speed up on that hill I could make it to Leith. Then I could get a boat." I checked the clock on the church. We had to get to the baths.

EDIT and Polygon support student writing. The University of Edinburgh has already produced a string of talented writers. To encourage the next generation, Polygon - the fiction and poetry imprint of Edinburgh University Press are kindly sponsoring the award of a prize to the best short story submitted to each issue of EDIT by a current undergraduate at the University of Edinburgh.

To begin the series, Jennifer Hadfield, a 4th year Honours student of English Literature, writes for EDIT.
alive with dryness and static inside a witch ring of flat plastered toffee. Someone set light to your head, I always thought, but never dared say.

IN THE POOL I slid as decorously as possible down the wooden ladder. I avoided the gutter that ran around the pool. The worst I’d find would be dead plasters and the usual sliminess of tiles but that was enough to make me panic. I also avoided the vent for warm water. You could crouch in the shallow end in front of the vent and the water pulsing through felt good in a way you knew didn’t agree with the ten commandments on the walls: it was hot as urine. Katie told me this. I pretended to prefer my circuits of breaststroke, trying to say a polite good afternoon to the old ladies through a moustache of water: half otter, half minister. When they installed the swing-hoops over the little pool Katie was ecstatic. I refused to swing but as I was Katie’s guest I had to follow her to the other pool. I was daring enough, in my new and reassuringly tight black swimsuit, to practise being a floating mushroom. Katie was desperate to make it across the full line of hoops but she was always having to divebomb me off a pendulum. When she landed on the tiles her arm was still hooked under her side. I was laughing already because she panicked, she just dropped hickory dickory like a mouse off a pendulum. When she landed on the tiles her arm was still hooked under her side. I was laughing already because she was about to bounce up and down on her haunches gibbering. I could see the blue veins on her forehead, and an awful colour seeping suddenly onto the tiles, I could see her flat plastered dark hair and the pink bathing hat and she wasn’t bouncing up and down on her haunches. I kept thinking someone set fire to your head as the attendants rushed up and they carried her away and I think they took her to the Western General. Someone told me to get dressed and then forgot about me. I didn’t know what to do. Wait with her clothes, take them home, or what? I didn’t want to walk out with them because one of the commandments said ‘no stealing’ and stealing was what it would look like. It was horrible, I was a guest without my host, it was like something out of the Bible.

IN THE END I just bolted, towel and costume damp in an armpit that was clenched with fear. And then I spent an evening waiting to be summoned. The summons didn’t come and I spent the night awake, and the next day with no appetite, waiting for my encounter with the blasphemy stare and wondering what Katie’s mother was going to do to me. But that summons never came, just Katie finally, one August evening before we started at our new school. She still wasn’t allowed to play in the Dean Village so there was nothing for us to do but sit decorously in her playroom. She grumbled that by the time she was allowed to play with me there I wouldn’t want to and I fibbed of course I will, of course I will. But I couldn’t bear the thought of her running down those stone steps worn into uneven basins, hurtling full tilt towards the slippery mud by the river. Each time I thought about it my eyes were stung by that white scar above her left cheek. She got tired of me asking her if she was alright; she said, “Why do you want to play nurses?” and when she tackled me to the ground I yelled stop it, stop it, stop it. So I wasn’t surprised when I heard her, in our new high school, telling the other girls I was an uncommon scaredycat. I wasn’t surprised when they started feinting and jabbing around me, seeing if they could make me cry. (They could.) My mother had always said Katie would be a beauty; but dressed in cruel brown uniform with her big shoulders and the fearsome prestige of her bits you didn’t dare look too long at the colours of the hair and skin and irises. But every time she came near me the first thing I saw was that white scar like a Cheshire Cat’s smile. It blazed when she was hot and red-faced, white as her teeth. I hid in the toilets for ten minutes every day after school so she wouldn’t think I was trying to walk back with her. But one day she must have walked slowly too - because when I got to the bridge in the Dean she was there, leaning over the water. I could hear from the top of the cobbled hill the crack as she bit into her apple from lunch. Her mum had her on a diet and she was always complaining she was hungry so I wasn’t sure why she didn’t eat it at lunchtime. But with the relish she bit into it I assumed eating outdoors in public was still forbidden. I snuck down the little close from the main road to the bridge and watched her. It was a Granny Smith. She didn’t wipe her mouth and her chin was getting enameled with the drying juice. All the strength in her long bully’s shoulders and tennis thickened calves went into cracking chunks of green flesh off the apple like she was pickaxing ice off a glacier. She ate the stem and the core and then she spat the pips she’d prised out of the tough centre pockets into the Water of Leith. She grabbed handfuls of twigs and hurled them in, and then from her school bag a crisp packet, and with a small splosh her lunchbox. And then she just stood, regardless of the lichen stains on her skirt, watching the whole freight disappear into the little rapids and down the water to the docks.
A Momentary View

Edinburgh,
The University in the City

photographs by
Tricia Malley and Ross Gillespie
Even when the brain shrinks severely, it is more likely to go on functioning unimpaired if it once passed a university degree.
Earlier this year, a striking collection of new photographs by University photographers Tricia Malley and Ross Gillespie was on show at Edinburgh’s City Art Centre. Tricia and Ross were commissioned to document the life of the University in the last year of the 20th century, and the images reflect the broad range of activities at the University and the people who make it all happen. ‘A Momentary View’ showed the public face of an institution in the heart of the city, as well as life behind the scenes. The commonplace and the exceptional, the familiar and the unnoticed were combined to celebrate an ending and a beginning.

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The Talbot Rice Gallery in Old College is the Art Gallery of the University of Edinburgh. Opened in 1975, it was named after David Talbot Rice, Professor of Fine Art at the University from 1934 to 1972. The gallery has two main spaces; the Red Gallery devoted to showing part of the University Torrie Collection of Old Master paintings and bronzes; and the White Gallery showing approximately seven temporary exhibitions per year.

**JIM HAROLD**

*Twilight Enclosures*

**Ainslie Yule**

*Wall Sculptures*

**Bruce McLean**

*Place, Performance, Pose, Predict, Position, Project, Political*

**Vael**

by *Alistair MacLennan*

**Jim Harold** used the University’s own collection of classical casts as the basis for this unique exhibition. The idea of the casts having their own existence and a relationship to one another was suggested by a large wooden construction in the main floor of the gallery which housed the busts of four philosophers. Harold’s own beautiful photographs and some smaller casts completed the installation.

**Ainslie Yule**

left Scotland to work in the south nearly twenty five years ago. And although in those intervening decades he has continued to work very creatively and has exhibited widely, he has not exhibited very much in Scotland. Indeed this exhibition was his first one-man show in his native country for more than ten years. In that time, therefore, although his work may not have been seen very much in Scotland, it has not been forgotten, nor indeed have its central concerns changed: finding the significance that can inhabit a form, not because of any association, but simply because of an inherent, mysterious poetry that resides in shape, texture and colour. Sometimes this poetry is reached by a process of visible construction, and in this exhibition there are strange, laminated wooden objects, beautifully made, apparently almost functional, but whose function is enigma. Over the years he has been very consistent and some of these constructions are reminiscent of works that he made before he left Scotland.

The Gallery opened the new century with a major project on the work of **Bruce McLean**. His quixotic energy was exemplified by several large canvases, his performance work documented in photographs, and his interest in education and innovation demonstrated by his huge conceptual model for a “Pythagorean” Primary School. This model, constructed from cast iron, took the form of three giant open cubes containing and supporting school desks surfaced with copper, glass and sand, and bearing engravings which put forward the artist’s visionary ideas. As part of the exhibition the Talbot Rice Gallery hosted a major symposium on this educational concept.

Vael is **Alistair MacLennan’s** response to the University’s Hope Scott collection of 20th century paintings - particularly the important group of works by William J. Irvine. The exhibition gave birth to a symposium and MacLennan used items from the Hope Scott Collection together with other illustrative props to create an ‘actuation’ within the Gallery.
In the summer the Gallery played host to three exhibitions running concurrently:

**COLLECTING CITIES** in the White Gallery provided an opportunity to view the fascinating collection of paintings and drawings which belonged to the Edinburgh philosopher and polymath Patrick Geddes; **LIP SERVICE** in the Red Gallery took a millennial look at disability issues through the medium of seven different art projects; and **TARPOT** - a garden about Scotland in the Round Room was a documentary exhibition from the conceptual garden created for the international Chaumont sur Loire Festival.

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**The Matthews Architecture Gallery**

The Matthews Architecture Gallery, housed in the University’s Department of Architecture at 20 Chambers Street, has a varied series of architecture-related exhibitions throughout the year, covering contemporary and historical work as well as associated disciplines such as design.

The Gallery is open during term time from 10am-8pm Monday to Friday, and from 10:30am-2:30pm on Saturday and Sunday. (10.30am-4.30 pm Monday to Friday outwith University term-time). For information on forthcoming exhibitions, Tel: 0131 650 2306

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**The Historic Instruments Collection**

The University maintains Scotland’s leading collection of historic musical instruments which are on display in the Reid Concert Hall in Bristo Square. On show are around 1,000 items from around the world, representing the instrument maker’s art over the past 400 years. Normal opening hours are from 3-5pm on Wednesdays and from 10am-1pm on Saturdays. (and 2-5pm, Monday to Friday, during the Edinburgh International Arts Festival). Tel: 0131 650 2423

The Interactive Sound Laboratory, a unique, new attraction in Britain, has opened within the Historic Instruments Collection. Developed by the University in partnership with museums in Brussels, Leipzig and Paris, the Laboratory provides a ‘hands-on’ demonstration of how musical instruments work using the latest interactive computer technology. Visitors will be able to see how a trumpet works and play notes on a real trumpet using artificial lips. They will, with guidance, be shown how to play a violin, an assortment of other string instruments, and use interactive computers to explore the sounds of instruments.

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**The Russell Collection of Early Keyboard Instruments**

Housed in the 18th century St Cecilia's Hall, on the corner of the Cowgate and Niddry Street, the Russell Collection is one of the world's most important collections of early keyboard instruments, including pianos and harpsichords, ranging from the 16th to 19th centuries. The Collection is open 2-5pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays (except public and University holidays) and Mondays - Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm during the Edinburgh International Arts Festival. Admission and guided tour, £1.00 (conc. 50p). Catalogues and a Guide to the Collection are on sale. Tel: (0131) 650 2423

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**The Natural History Collection**

This extensive teaching collection of specimens and models of all kinds of animals can be seen by prior arrangement during Easter and Summer vacations. Enquiries to the Institute of Cell, Animal & Population Biology, Ashworth Laboratories, King's Buildings, West Mains Road, Edinburgh, EH9 3J T. Tel: Dr Pat Preston (0131) 650 5477 or Dr B.E. Matthews (0131) 650 5474.
15 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh
Oct. 23rd [1869]

My dearest Aunt,

Your kind letter was most welcome and encouraging, coming when it did in the midst of difficulties with professors &c. I am always glad to get the good wishes of those whose opinion I value, and it pains me extremely when I find that some of those I love cannot agree with me, though I am quite sure that if they thought about it as long and carefully as I have done they would come to see that it is a right and good step. You may be sure if I had not seen it to be not only the right path, but absolutely the path of duty, I should not have attempted anything which for the first year at least, will be attended with much disagreeable opposition besides the great dislike I have to doing anything which must bring me at all prominently forward. You will be glad to hear that all our class passed the exam which took place last Tuesday and Wednesday, and I believe I may say I did not disgrace the cause. Our papers I believe were much above the average & we had very good marks in all. Now I think there is less chance of their refusing us admittance. The Council meets in a few days & their decision will do much towards deciding our fate. We have two classes arranged for the first term, Physiology and Chemistry & we mean to do well in both. I am determined there shall be no handle for the Opposition on that score.

Has Sarah returned to you yet? I have not heard from her at all since we parted: I suppose she has not felt equal to writing & I have been too busy to write to her. She made a sort of half promise to come and see me before she left England but I am afraid it would not do. The winds here are so bitter & they say they are worse in the Spring.

I am living with another student who has a house here - Miss Jex-Blake the originator of the movement to whom we owe all; and I assure you it requires no ordinary woman to be the prime mover in a movement like this. She must make up her mind to bear rudeness & coarseness from many making high profession of gentility.

Will you please give my love to Mr. Cransbrough & all my cousins. I shall be very pleased if Emily will send me a few lines now & then to say how you all are.

Ever dearest Aunt
with much love
Yr affectionate niece

Edith Pechey

The daugher of the Baptist minister at Langham, near Colchester in Essex, EDITH PECHEY (1846-1908) was one of the four women who joined Sophia Jex-Blake in applying for and insisting on admittance to the University of Edinburgh in 1869 to study medicine. They were the first women medical undergraduates in a British university; but, in spite of great success in their studies, they were not allowed to graduate. Pechey should have had the Hope Scholarship in Chemistry in 1870 but Professor Alexander Crum Brown was barred from awarding it to her because she was a woman; 20 years later Philippa Fawcett was placed above the Senior Wrangler in the Mathematics Tripos list at Cambridge, but her gender too barred the University from offering her the award. Pechey eventually obtained her MD from the University of Bern, as well as the LRCP Ireland in 1877. She worked at the Cama Hospital, Bombay and was elected a Fellow of the University of Bombay. She married Mr. H. M. Phipson of Bombay in 1890, retaining her own name as Pechey-Phipson.

This letter was written shortly after the group of five had passed the Matriculation Examination and were awaiting the decision on their admission to the University.
A research team in the Department of Psychology at the University of Edinburgh is searching for the secrets of a mentally and physically healthy old age. Brown paper packages tied up with string turned out to be one of Professor Ian Deary’s favourite things.

Growing Old: SAGACIOUS or SENILE?

About four years ago a colleague and I unearthed a near-forgotten collection of Scottish data that promise to answer some of the trickiest questions in the psychology of growing old.

Populations in the West are shifting towards a greater proportion of older people. In tandem with the better-known physical changes of age, the brain grows old too. Some, but not all, mental skills decline, especially from the seventh decade. The quality of life in old age is affected by how well mental ability is maintained. A healthy mind begets, to a degree, a healthy and happy, not to say serene, old age. But some people’s thinking skills stay relatively sharp while others’ are blunted. These differences in the ageing of the brain’s functions have become a priority in recent research. Irritatingly, one essential datum is almost always missing from studies trying to discover why people differ in cognitive ageing: the way they were. The high scorers might always have scored highly. The low scorers might always have been practical rather than cerebral; common-sensical rather than brainy. The interesting people are those who held steady or even improved their thinking skills with age. And those who have slid down the slope into cognitive disability are interesting too, though more poignantly. To find out the extent to which people have altered in their thinking skills one must know their former level. The problem is that studies of old people’s intellectual functions rarely have access to mental ability test scores from earlier in life. Such data are of a value that is hard to overestimate. That is why the rediscovery of the Scottish Mental Survey data will be so important for this area of research.

A total of 101 people sat looking at the same test questions 66 years on, I read out the same instructions, and the same time limits were maintained.

Such a parcel of data in a nation

On Monday 1 June 1932 all children born in 1921 and attending school in Scotland sat a mental test - 87,498 of them! This exercise was called the Scottish Mental Survey 1932. The suggestion to conduct the survey originated from the first Professor in my own Department, James Drever. The proportion of the population who missed out was so small that it hardly matters. The test was a version of one of Sir Godfrey Thomson’s Moray House Tests, as used in the English 11-plus examinations. He, the Professor of Education at the University of Edinburgh, was a member of the testing committee and the exercise was run under the auspices of the Scottish Council for Research in Education (Robert Rusk was the Director at that time). Scotland’s 35 Education Committees, and the Directors of Education, consented to the study. Teachers administered and scored the tests. The purpose of the exercise was to discover the distribution of the ability of the age group, and to use the data as an aid in formulating educational provision. The same exercise was repeated in 1947, involving 70,805 people born in 1936. This was the 1947 Scottish Mental Survey.
AT THE TIME and for some years thereafter, the Scottish Mental Surveys were internationally renowned. The data on mental ability and demographic, educational and physical factors had academic and practical worth. But researchers have a short attention span, and research agendas move on. As the eleven year olds of 1932 celebrated their half-centuries and passed through retirement and into their three score years and ten, and more, the Scottish Mental Surveys were known to few of the younger researchers in the field of mental ability differences. But, during 60 years of changes and flitting to three different Edinburgh addresses, the Scottish Council for Research in Education farsightedly retained the data from the Surveys. The ledgers and brown-paper-tied-with-string parcels of data, recorded in copperplate writing, were safely stacked and locked away, maturing to a research resource of unparalleled richness.

Unlocking the treasure chest

SOME TIME IN 1996, Professor Lawrence Whalley of the Department of Mental Health at the University of Aberdeen called me to ask whether there might be some mileage in administering mental tests to the Aberdeen Birth Cohort from 1921. This medical study cohort was studied for cardiovascular disease. Not really, I replied, because, without prior mental test data, information on current mental ability could not give information about relative changes in cognition as a result of disease. Coincidentally, at that time, I was reading a book which referred to a study conducted by the Scottish Council for Research in Education on people born in 1921. I called Professor Whalley back; the Aberdeen cohort might indeed be worth retesting, because many of them had had their mental ability tested at age 11 years! The data were tracked down to a safe bunker in the Council’s offices in St John Street, Edinburgh.

Professor Whalley’s interests in dementia and mine in human intelligence - and a shared interest in cognitive decline - combined well in envisaging and realising the potential of the Scottish Mental Survey data. Now, a few years on, a study of the Lothian Birth Cohort 1921, funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, and parallel studies in Aberdeen are under way. People in their late 70s, from the 1932 Survey, and in their early 60s, from the 1947 Survey, are coming back to be retested. The purpose is to discover the social, educational, medical, psychological and genetic factors that assist people, over a lifetime, to preserve their mental abilities. In other words, to find the secrets of a sagacious and successful old age.

Still stable after all these years

WITH CURRENT RESEARCH underway on a study that began in the Scottish Council for Research in Education’s offices in 1932, there should not be too much of a rush to anticipate results. Hundreds of people in their late 70s have been tested at the University’s Welcome Trust Clinical Research Facility at the Western General Hospital; many more have yet to be contacted and seen in the laboratories in Edinburgh and Aberdeen. Nevertheless, the studies progress in the knowledge that, because of the Scottish Mental Surveys, there exist valid mental test data on an entire population, now old, and that Scotland can be the source of some first-rate research on the determinants of differences in cognitive ageing.

SOME DIVIDEND, THOUGH, has come through already. On 1 June 1998 the Aberdeen participants in the 1932 survey came back for a mass-retesting on the Moray House Test at the Music Hall in Aberdeen’s Union Street. At this memorable meeting, and a smaller one a few weeks later, a total of 101 people sat looking at the same test questions 66 years on, to the very day. I read out the same instructions as those teachers from 1932, and the same time limits were maintained. The results: first, that the
70-somethings scored quite a bit better than they did at age 11; second, that mental ability differences are pretty stable from age 11 to age 77; with some interesting exceptions, the high scorers did well and the modest remained so. This is by far the longest follow-up study of mental ability differences in the scientific literature. It is the first of many high quality publications that will arise out of Scotland's epoch-making surveys in the first half of the last century.

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Realising the potential

It is important that the full power of the Scottish Mental Survey data is realised by researchers. Professor Whalley and I have built up our research team with biologists, sociologists and experts in public health. The discovery of the Surveys has changed my whole research programme. In the field of cognitive ageing nothing like this has been available before and we owe it to the Scottish researchers of the 1930s to appreciate the legacy we have from them.

Ian Deary is Professor of Differential Psychology at the University of Edinburgh and President of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences.
Visitors to Old College often ask about ‘The Peabody of the East when they pass the small bas-relief sculpture of him on the wall beside the doorway which leads from the foot of the Grand Stairway to the Raeburn, Carstares, Lee, and Lord Provost Elder rooms.

The Parsee businessman and philanthropist Sir Cowasji Jeehangir Readymoney (1812-1878) appears to have had no direct connection with the University of Edinburgh. Born into one of the wealthiest Parsee families in India, he was the son of Jehangir Readymoney of Bombay, and financed much of the University of Bombay and many other public buildings, as did other Parsee families, notably that of Jeejeebhoy. He was a member of the University’s Faculty of Civil Engineering and Senate, and a life-size statue of him by Woolner stands on the University campus. He acquired the nickname ‘The Peabody of the East’, seeing himself as the Indian equivalent to the American philanthropist George Peabody who endowed universities and other charitable institutions in the USA and Europe. On 14 August 1869 Punch noted that ‘Parsee money, was better far than parsi-money’, after the Princess Teck had opened Readymoney’s gift of a drinking fountain to Regent’s Park in London to mark the gratitude of the Parsees in India for the protection which they received under British rule.

The bas-relief sculpture by Thomas Woolner (1825-1892), one of the leading portrait sculptors of the 19th century, is more a memorial to Sir George Birdwood (1834-1917), who presented it to the University. Born in Bombay and an Edinburgh medical graduate (MD 1854), Birdwood held professorships of anatomy and physiology and of botany and materia medica at the Grant Medical College, Bombay, and was appointed Registrar of the University of Bombay when it was founded. Birdwood also became curator of the government museum in Bombay, and was one of the founders of the Victoria Botanical Gardens and the Victoria and Albert Museum in Bombay. After his retirement to England in 1902 he devoted himself to the study of Sanskrit and of Indian art and philology, and to the Tory party; he is credited with popularising the association of primroses with Lord Beaconsfield’s memory.

Peter B. Freshwater
The EDiT Prize Letter
As John Knox Intended

FLORA WATKINS' LAMENT on the financial strains on Scottish undergraduates of the late 1990s (EDiT, Autumn 1999), while reminding me of how lucky I was, worries me greatly. And I am not reassured by Alice Brown's description a few pages later of the high aims of the new Scottish Parliament that that august body is really determined to promote equal opportunities for all - at least not in access to what "in my day" was thought to be the right to a good, and free, education.

I am admittedly prejudiced. When I was a boy of about 10 my mother embarrassed me by asking my primary school teacher, Mrs Logie - herself a proud holder of an Edinburgh MA from the 1930s - if I could achieve my long expressed ambition to become a doctor. Her concerns encompassed my intelligence and our finances. While I wanted for nothing, we lived as a family of 3 in a ground floor but 'n ben: one cold water sink, damp walls, a toilet down the close and an outside washhouse that was also my bath. My father, a driver, kept us well in food and clothes on a low income. Mrs Logie gave all the reassurance my parents needed - apparently I had the "brains", and, unlike "in her days", there would be a grant to keep me. They never worried. Neither did I. Kirkcaldy High School provided a good Scots education and the lad o' pairs went - as, we're told, John Knox intended - to university. Grants were forthcoming and supplemented by Christmas work as a postie or sorting out phone bells for GEC and summer work in the local hospital. Later electives in India (supported by Edinburgh University Travel Scholarships) and the short vacs of medical school put paid to paid work. Of course the family helped enormously, but the state, to which my father (and subsequently I) paid taxes ensured that lack of financial resources in a working class family did not discourage or deter a child, with the ability to match ambition, to achieve his potential.

The rot set in when undergraduate loans were introduced. The then Secretary of State for Scotland seemed, in responding to my tirade against such a retrograde move, almost to concede it could not be fair to all. Or perhaps I read too much between his lines.

Now in the 1990s the Parliament guarantees equality. The melodrama of cold water but 'n bens is a thing of the past. No able child in a single parent family in Pilton or from a low income family in Craigmiller could be deterred from or denied a university education in their own city because of financial worries. Surely not?

Parental Sacrifices

BOTH MY wife and I were students at Edinburgh from 1938 - 1942 and we read Flora Watkins’ article almost with disbelief. How things have changed since our days.

When were we at Edinburgh there were no grants either for fees or maintenance and we were both wholly supported by our parents, neither of whom were - to use Flora’s words - “comfortably off”. Sending a child to university meant considerable hardship for both our sets of parents but they gladly made sacrifices for us and I think we appreciated it although perhaps not at the time.

Am I right in thinking that the parents of today are not prepared to make sacrifices to help their children? Most are, I’m quite sure, relatively much better off than our parents were. As a pensioner who retired over 20 years ago, I’m staggered at the amount of money people seem to be earning and both parents working which was seldom the case in our student days.

Flora speaks of “parental disapproval” of their child getting into debt - surely the remedy is in their own hands. If, for instance, they gave up their annual holiday in Florida or cruising in the Mediterranean there would be no need for any debts.

£13,880 over 4 years (accumulated debt quoted by Flora) is not a very large sum and represents about 10% of the amount two parents might have earned over the same period.

Perhaps, as we see it, the saddest thing is that Flora seems to condone and even approve debt as a way of life. Ourselves, we have always believed in Mr Micawber's philosophy, but then we are so old fashioned!

Ian and Katharyn Callan

PS My room in Cowan House cost £72 per term and included 3 excellent meals each day! My wife paid slightly less for her room in Masson Hall.

PPS It would be interesting to find out who are the oldest Edinburgh graduate couple - we have 57 years!

Ian Callan, BSc 1941
Katharyn (née Shaw) Callan, BSc 1942

Professor Alan Rodger
BSc(Med Sci)1968; MBChB 1971
Professor of Radiation Oncology
Monash University, Victoria, Australia

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Parental Sacrifices
The Burden of Debt

HOW VERY sad, Flora Watkins’ article on the heavy burden of debt imposed on every British student. Surely governments ought to realise that it is their duty to invest in the education of youth, their country’s future?

The present system must tend to force graduates into unsuitable work which pays well. What of those who want to follow a vocation in the Arts, travel the world, “climb every mountain”, start some small business. The bold, the risk takers, the imaginative, have no place in this money driven system.

I came to Edinburgh in 1939, when the four year honours Geology course cost £100, £25 per year. £100 was worth a lot more then! In those days, as a woman, virtually all interesting jobs were for men only, or paid very little, so I became and remain, a free lance writer and photographer. You couldn’t do that sort of thing with a burden of debt.

Daphne D.C. Pochin Mould
BSc 1943, PhD 1946
Aherla, Co. Cork

The Biologe

THE TWO letters in the Autumn edition of EDiT, recalling University societies, set me thinking about the Biologe (properly the Biological Society). I believe that it no longer exists which seems a great pity: it gave enormous pleasure to its members during my time at Edinburgh in the 1950s.

The Biologe met in King’s Buildings to hear talks on various biological topics. I am sure these were interesting at the time but it’s our social activities that have stuck in my mind. Beer and Skittles nights were a regular event; these were held either at the Sheep’s Heid at Duddingston or the Maybury

Roadhouse at Fairmilehead; unlike almost everywhere else they admitted women. We had hops at KB - I can’t remember if we provided our own music but I do remember that one of the Office Bearers, as Keeper of the Morals, wore a label on his chest saying ‘Morals Kept Here’. Talking of music - the Biologe had a tune to which it sang the words ‘Boyling - Boyling, Boyling, Boyling’; some years after I left Edinburgh I discovered it was called Over the Waves and was frequently played on boats going ‘doon the watter’. We went to all the Internationals at Murrayfield and yelled ‘Feet Scotland’ - though it didn’t seem to help much when the Springboks won 44-0. A cartoon in the next edition of the Evening Dispatch (or possibly the News) showed a notice reading ‘Wanted 15 strong men, no experience necessary. Apply Scottish Rugby Union’.

Most University sports teams had matches on Wednesday afternoons when science students were immured in labs doing practicals. To compensate for this, the Biologe had its own mixed hockey team which played matches on Saturdays against other scientific societies, including the Chem Soc. We generally played at Harrison Park next to Murrayfield; the changing facilities were virtually non-existent but the small café round the corner welcomed us, mud and all, for our post-match refreshments (usually twenty-one cups of coffee, one cup of tea and twenty-two Blue Riband biscuits). The match that stands out from the rest was one played against the College of Agriculture. Their hockey team had a double booking: rather than leave us without a game they thoughtfully sent their all-male shinty team.

The highlight of the year was the Society expedition to one of the islands during the Summer Vac - Unst, Hoy, South Uist, Eigg and Raasay among them. We did as much or as little science as we wished. The botanists botanized and bird watchers watched birds (in one case comic turns, rather than terns, when they came across a group of us playing peever on South Uist’s temptingly smooth sands). Mostly, though, we walked, climbed, explored and fished. We went to local ceilidhs; on Eigg we rescued a party of nuns who, on turning round from admiring the view, found their way barred by an inquisitive Highland bull; on Raasay we played darts in the pub with a group of salmon netters who beat us hollow. We had more success when they took us mackerel fishing: we lived on our catches for several days. Some of the culinary experiments were interesting - a semi-cooked steamed pudding for twenty six made in an enamel bucket and a seagull that was boiled for hours to remove the taste of fish, and every other taste it might have had.

Another recollection - Rag Day when the Biologe always took part in the parade along Princes Street. One year the society was represented by a very fine caterpillar who laid an egg in front of the Lord Provost. She was named Elsie because she was made from the roll of hessian that was used to screen the Elsans® (chemical loos) on island expeditions. And that evokes a final memory. We had a bit of a domestic crisis on one trip when supplies of Elsanol®, the vital chemical, ran dangerously low. A telegram went off addressed to Dougal who was due to join the expedition. As he stepped off the McBrayne's ferry, a can of Elsanol® in each hand, he was greeted by a local onlooker saying ‘And you’ll be Dougal, I’m thinking’.

Dr Ann Silver, BSc 1953, PhD 1961
Cambridge
MY WIFE and I were interested in the letter from Philip Cowan (Autumn issue) in which he gave some details about the origins of the Cosmopolitan Club. We were both active in the club during the fifties, for some of that time being Secretary and President respectively. Perhaps that linkage between our courtship and Cosmop, as everyone called it, may partly explain the ‘golden mist’ that covers our recollections of those years. But there is more to it than that.

Student living conditions were austere by current standards, exams had to be passed and scholarship committees had to be satisfied but essentially they were happy, carefree years because our generation never doubted that jobs and good careers would follow graduation. There was still a postwar optimism that world problems were soluble by political reform (the end of the Empire), by rational applications of Science and, of course, good will. We saw Cosmop as an introduction to a ‘world view’ of informed and ethical ‘high thinking’ to which we could contribute.

Cosmop met on Sunday evenings during term, first, at a splendid room on Queen Street and later at a less spacious room near to Greyfriars Bobby. We tried to get distinguished speakers on topics like colonial liberation, nuclear weapons and population growth. Discussion was nearly always very lively, perhaps more so than the speakers expected but, by overwhelming consensus, polite and open minded - political harangues were out. There were occasions when this liberal consensus was sorely tested, particularly in 1956 during the Anglo-French invasion of Suez and the Soviet invasion of Hungary. The Arts were not ignored and securing a talk by Compton McKenzie was regarded as a great coup. There were also student talks; we recall one by a Burmese post-graduate on Buddhism. Following the meeting there was coffee, usually at a café where the proprietor had to agree to tables being rearranged to suit our continued discussion. After coffee, girls were escorted back to their ‘digs’ although streets were very safe compared to today. There were occasional extra ‘bright ideas’ like climbing Arthur’s Seat in the snow.

There were other ‘fun’ events ... Cosmop’s Christmas dance was always a great success. At Easter, along with similar societies in Glasgow and St Andrews Universities, we organised a four day East-West Conference at a comfortable ‘country house’ where, while ostensibly discussing some suitable ‘high minded’ topic like ‘world food problems’, we got to know each other better. Some life time friendships and marriages resulted from this international mix, for example, I came from Jamaica and my wife-to-be (née Kamala Naidoo) came from South Africa. The atmosphere at these conferences may be judged from one episode. The first speaker at a morning session was Dr. Barney Woolf from the Genetics Department. As the audience filed into the lecture room they were dismayed to find the blackboard covered with mathematical equations and the lecturer trying to squeeze in more at the bottom left corner. When the rather subdued audience was seated Barney reminded us that it was April Fool’s Day!!

We have visited Edinburgh many times since 1959 but have lost touch with our Scottish friends from Cosmop; we are thinking of Hamish Henderson, Moira Wilson and Johnny Gregg. Hopefully, one of them might see this letter!

H.G. Coore, BSc 1956, MB ChB 1959
Birmingham

You don’t build a reputation like the University’s for no apparent reason. In fact, we believe that it’s our devotion to quality and excellence for the last 400 years that has gained us this position. It’s a position we are proud of and one we will do everything to respect. Especially these days, with more and more emphasis on quality, the University remains committed to excellence above everything else. Take a look at any item from the unique University of Edinburgh Collections, for example. We only source from the best suppliers, whose devotion to producing the finest matches our own. So when you take home any item from the Collections, you can be assured that it is a University exclusive, because we’re never prepared to settle for second best.

Available at The University of Edinburgh Centre, 7-11 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9BE, Scotland or order over the phone on + 44 (0) 131 650 2089 or online at www.giftshop.ed.ac.uk

The Cosmop
Getting Physical

I WAS greatly interested by Catherine Semeonoff’s letter (Autumn 1999) with its account of meetings of the ‘English Lit’ society in the 1930s.

As a ‘Fresher’ embarking on an Honours course in English in 1936 I felt it incumbent to join the society. The first meeting was held in some gloomy hall (my memory is of a basement); three gloomy senior students read gloomy contemporary poems that were quite incomprehensible to me. At one entitled ‘Sheets’ a young lad in the back row either fainted or had a fit - I did not wait to find out, left precipitately and never returned.

Totally different was my experience of the Physical Society, to which I was introduced by a friend studying Physics. The meetings were held in the old Nat. Phil building in Drummond Street on Wednesday afternoons, starting with tea attended by members of staff and students mixing informally and followed by a talk by either an expert in the field of Maths or Science or a research student. Even to a lay person like me these talks were invariably interesting. Then came the business meeting, like those described by Mrs Semeonoff, full of points of order and debating technicalities. Prominent in this field were Francis Dick, Andrew Purdon, Nancy Walls and Marjorie Tong.

From the first I was co-opted to the catering committee, and by my fourth year rose to be convener! The teas cost 6d each and we were expected to provide three kinds of sandwich, a bun and slices of cake. Even so I managed to make a profit, which was expended in a grand Burns Supper.

Like the ‘Eng. Lit.’ we also played mixed hockey in the Meadows against other societies, went on hikes over the Pentlands, had picnics at Edgelaw Reservoir and held debates with other societies. I remember one particularly with the History Society for which Freddie O’Brien and John (?) Bowman were prominent.

My other affiliation was with the Musical Society, introduced by Jim Macgillivray who had abandoned an English Honours course to follow a musical career as an oboist. (He later donated his collection of early woodwinds to the University).

The main activity of the society was preparing for the annual concert. I was a humble member of the choir and greatly enjoyed the choral works we produced, among them Dyson’s Canterbury Pilgrims and a Mozart Gloria. But I was not a natural musician and had difficulty in following a part if I had no strong singer to follow. On a foggy night one November we were to sing an eight-part madrigal and it was not until we filed on to the platform that I discovered that the three other second altos were missing. Dr Greenhouse Allt, who was conducting, spotted my panic and sang my part along with me.

Our only other activities were mixed hockey matches and an annual party. I have a vivid recollection of Professor Tovey perched on the edge of a chair with a bun in one hand and a cup of tea in the other, looking bemusedly from bun to tea and back again as if not sure what was expected of him.

May G. Williamson, MA 1940
Edinburgh
InformEd for Edinburgh graduates world wide

Groups & Clubs

University of Edinburgh alumni across the UK and around the world get together to network and socialise. To find out what's happening in your area, simply request a copy of our Alumni Contact booklet using the Information Please form on page 48.

Edinburgh University Club of London

In October 1999 Dr Stuart Blackie, a consultant pathologist, completed his three-year term of office as President of the London Club. He was warmly congratulated by the members for almost doubling the size of the Club's membership and instituting wide-ranging improvements to the Club's social programme. He has been succeeded by Mr Norman Rose, Director-General of the Business Services Association, who promised to build on the many successes of his predecessor.

The new President believes that the Club must use its effort and imagination to grasp the opportunities that will present themselves as we enter the new millennium. The Club has enjoyed remarkable success with large, prestigious events which have attracted many young graduates as new members. There is now a well established annual programme comprising a Burns Supper in January, a theatre outing in March, an Annual Dinner in May, an informal Dining Out in June or July, a major reception to attract new graduates in September, and the AGM with a buffet and following event in October.

All correspondence and enquiries should be directed to: peter.stephenson@sutton.gov.uk

Alumni in Atlanta

A survey of alumni in Georgia indicated that alumni are keen to get together and to keep in touch with the University, and would be happy to participate in any events which would enable them to do this.

To this end, the group recently held a social evening which included a slide show on recent building developments at the University, and the opening of the Scottish Parliament. This encouraged much discussion, from the Queen's 'PC' heather-coloured dress and her inevitable handbag, to a comparison between the new Small Animal Hospital in Edinburgh and the one at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. Of course, it did everyone's heart good just to see the McEwan Hall and Arthur's Seat again in full colour.

There was also a visit to Atlanta in the summer by Mr Ray Footman, the University's Director of Communications and Public Affairs. Mr Footman addressed the alumni group in the replica Burns Cottage built in Atlanta in 1910.

In October, it is hoped that there will be an alumni presence at the Stone Mountain Highland Games, with a booth for alumni to meet, to pick up information about the University and to buy souvenirs. For further information, please email Harriet Haskins-Abrahall on hh-aa@mindspring.com

The University of Edinburgh Alumni Association of New South Wales

The Association's AGM and annual dinner took place on 27 October 1999 at an Italian restaurant with 26 alumni and partners attending. Dr Ven Yee Foo (MSc 1967) was elected President and Ms Lorna Mackellar (MA 1972) became the Secretary/Treasurer.

The dinner was enjoyable and certainly memorable since the last one was held 12 years ago in 1987. The group published the first issue of its quarterly newsletter in December with printed copies sent to alumni not using Internet/email. The alumni are delighted that Professor Sir Stewart Sutherland, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, kindly sent greetings for the newsletter to all alumni in New South Wales. The next annual dinner will be held in October/November. Focus in the coming year will be on business networking and increasing the membership from 44 to a target of 75.

For further information, please email Ven Yee Foo on vyfoo@ozemail.com.au

Law Alumni On-Line

It is well worth visiting the new look Edinburgh Law School web pages (http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/). The Law pages have been redesigned to provide a range of information invaluable to students, past and present. Use them to find links to the latest electronic research resources - Scottish, UK or international - to make contact with staff, or even to check out the weather forecast. One section has been given over to news on alumni. Brief biographical and contact details are arranged by year group to make it easier for graduates to make contact with their friends. Many alumni with cyber sense have already signed up with the Law pages. An on-line form will be available soon, but in the meantime, if you would like to be included, the Law School will be happy to post an old-fashioned paper subscription form to you. Please contact Myra Reid, email m.reid@ed.ac.uk or write to her at the Edinburgh Law School, The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH8 9YL.

Archaeology Alumni Association

Arrangements are progressing to establish the University of Edinburgh Archaeology Alumni Association (EUA3). In order to gauge interest in such an Association it would be helpful if our alumni, or other interested parties, would take a few minutes to fill in a questionnaire about needs, expectations, interests and opinions on the proposed Association.

The questionnaire can be found on the Department of Archaeology web site at http://www.arcl.ed.ac.uk/alumni/index.html where a list of proposed facilities can also be found. (Paper copies of the questionnaire are also available on request.)

If you are an Archaeology alumni of the University of Edinburgh living in south Scotland and are interested in assisting to set up the Archaeology Alumni Association please contact Ian Morrison by email or by letter to: Ian Morrison, Alumni Association, Department of Archaeology, The University of Edinburgh, The Old High School, Infirmary Street, Edinburgh EH1 1LT

France

With over 500 University of Edinburgh alumni currently living in France, one might imagine that an alumni club here would be one of the most active and vibrant! It had however lain dormant for quite some time. Fortunately, and in great part due to the determined initiatives of the Alumni Services Manager in Edinburgh, Maureen Clowe,
the club is making a comeback. And in response to a mailing to all alumni in France, a reassuringly large number have expressed an interest in participating in a revival of the club.

In the presence of Professor Geoffrey Boulton, Vice-Principal (International Relations) of the University, a first meeting was arranged, not in a conference hall, but in much more congenial surroundings, the only Scottish pub in Paris, the Auld Alliance. However, even the Vice-Principal had not been able to reschedule the World Cup rugby match which crowds had come to watch on the pub TV and which inevitably made every effort to upstage the meeting in hand! French resident and Scottish Internationalist, Gregor Townsend, had sent his apologies - he was busy elsewhere.

Despite the periodic cries of “Allez les bleus!”, it was really encouraging to discover that alumni had travelled from Biarritz, Montpellier, Chamonix as well as the Paris region to attend a reunion. Moreover, many indicated that they would be keen to participate actively, whether as committee members, newsletter editor, events coordinator or as secretary, and these offers of assistance will be gratefully followed up.

Efforts are currently underway to establish a legal standing for the association, after which it will be possible to organise the various events and activities which most interest potential members. According to information available, interest centres mainly around the organisation of social events to develop contacts with other alumni, the development of networking opportunities for professional reasons, provision of graduate employment advice, contact with Erasmus students, academic discussion groups, and visits to places of interest.

For further information, please contact Development & Alumni Services on development@ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh University Alumni Rifle Club

Two members of the Edinburgh University Alumni Rifle Club won a Gold medal in the Commonwealth Shooting Federation Championships which were held last November in Auckland, New Zealand. Donald McIntosh and Martin Sinclair, both BSc 1988, took the Gold for Scotland in the Men’s 3-Positions Small-bore rifle pairs event, with India taking the Silver and England the Bronze.

Three other members of the club participated in the championships, Cliff Ogle (BSc 1977) representing Northern Ireland, and Susan Bell (MA 1995) and Patricia Littlechild (MB ChB 1989) representing Scotland.

The Edinburgh University Alumni Rifle Club was formed in 1986 and is based at the Centre for Sport & Exercise at the Pleasance. It shares the rifle range with the student Rifle Club. Since its formation, it has become one of the top clubs in the UK and members have gone on to represent their country at various competitions up to World Championship level (no Olympics yet!) and have won many national and international titles and medals.

Alumni interested in joining the club should make contact through the Scottish Small-bore Rifle Association, Tel: 01324 720440, Email: secretary@ssra.co.uk

Emmanuel College Chapel Windows Project, University of Queensland, Australia

Emmanuel College, founded by the Presbyterian Church in 1911 as the first university college of the University of Queensland, Australia, has enhanced the beauty of its chapel in recent years by installing a number of stained glass windows.

The culmination of the project was the installation of a set of stained glass windows above the entrance to the chapel depicting the coats of arms and insignia of a number of institutions with which the College has links. The design for the top set of windows includes the coats of arms of the universities from which the seven Principals of the College first graduated: Glasgow (2), Cambridge, Sydney, Queensland, Melbourne and Edinburgh.

Not only is the current Principal, Mr Angus Edmonds (MA 1966, Dip Ed 1973) an Edinburgh graduate, but one of the two founding fathers of the college, The Rev Dr James Gibson, was also a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. He graduated with an MA in the 1880s, and was then awarded a Doctor of Divinity by his alma mater in 1935.

Another Edinburgh alumnus and the contact for our alumni in this part of the world, Dr Tom Bell (BSc 1969, MB ChB 1973) was able to represent the University at the ceremony to mark the completion of the windows project last year. The ceremony included a welcome by the Emmanuel College Pipe Band and an address by the Governor of Queensland.
Events & Reunions

2000 Reunion Programme

1941 MB ChB Reunion Lunch
Friday 1 September 2000, Raeburn Room, Old College, 12.30pm. Contact: Dr Margaret J P Fleming, 17 Graham Park Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4BH

1950 BSc (Veterinary Medicine)
22-25 September 2000
Contact: Mr Graham Wight, Easter R rabbits, 31/6 Hermitage Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 6BY

1950 MA (Geography)
Saturday 2 September 2000, Raeburn Room, Old College, 12 noon. Contact: Mr J ohn R Barclay, 11 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh, EH10 4DX Tel: 0131 229 3084 Email: j.ohn@barclay.finet.co.uk

1960 MB ChB
1 - 3 September 2000, Peebles Hydro
Contact: Dr Thomas M Kennedy, Four Winds, 7 Hillside Crescent, Langholm, Dumfriesshire DG13 6EE Email: bklangholm@aol.com

1964 MA (Geography)
13 - 15 October 2000, Riccarton, Edinburgh
Contact: Mrs Anne Campbell, South Lodge, Birkhatch Lane, Retford Common, Cheimsford, Essex, CM3 6EP

1965 MB ChB
Friday 25 - Sunday 27 August 2000, Peebles Hydro. Contact: Dr Lucie MacLeod, The Haing, Woodlands Park, Livingston, EH54 8AT

1980 MB ChB
November 2000, Peebles Hydro
Contact: Dr Carolyn Thompson, 11 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LS Email: dyson@zetnet.co.uk

1990 BSc (Maths & Statistics)
Saturday 23 September 2000, Edinburgh
Contact: Miss Diana Holgate, 3F2, I Tay Street, Edinburgh, EH11 1DZ

1994 - 95 MBA Reunion
21 and 22 October 2000
Contact: Susanna Teinila, Chemin des Laurelles 56, 1196 Gland, Switzerland

History Graduates’ Association Reunion Lunch
Saturday 2 September 2000, The Playfair Library, Old College, 12.30pm

As this event is taking place during the ALUMNI 2000 weekend, it is hoped that many History graduates will be able to attend. Partners are also welcome, and the event is not confined to members of the History Graduates’ Association. For further details, please contact Camilla Cowie, 20 Blackett Place, Edinburgh, EH8 1RL. Following the lunch, Professor Robert Anderson, current Head of Department, will give a brief talk on the past, present and future of the History Department in the new Kirkpatrick Library, William Robertson Building, George Square at 3pm.

1950 Faculty of Arts “Golden” Reunion
Friday 1 September 2000, Royal Overseas League, 100 Princes Street, Edinburgh, 8pm

DONT MISS your final chance to book for ALUMNI 2000 and join in the University’s weekend of millennium celebrations from 1 - 3 September 2000. A full programme of events and activities has been organised, from the Friday through to the Sunday afternoon.

Highlights of the weekend include:

- Welcome Reception in the Playfair Library.
- Grand Gala Dinner at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, with guest speaker the Rt Hon Baroness Young of Old Scone (MA 1970). Formerly Chief Executive of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Baroness Young is now Chairman of English Nature and was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the BBC in 1998. Discounted price for reunion tables.

- Scottish Parliament Forum, introduced by Vice Principal Alice Brown and chaired by Sally Magnusson (MA 1978). Panelists will be: Dennis Canavan (BSc 1967) (Independent Labour), Member for Falkirk West; Susan Deacon (MA 1987, MBA 1992) (Labour), Minister for Health and Community Care; David McLetchie (LLB 1974), Member for Lothians and Leader of the Scottish Conservative Party; Nicol Stephen (Dip Legal Practice 1981) (Liberal Democrat), Deputy to the Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning; and John Swinney (MA 1986), SNP Spokesperson on Enterprise and Lifelong Learning.

- Presentation ‘Here is the weather forecast’ by Heather Reid (BSc 1991, MSc 1992).

- Exhibition of work of Elizabeth Blackadder (MA 1954, Dr hc 1990).

And with talks, tours, exhibitions, a jazz evening and much, much more, there is something of interest to everyone. We are delighted that all of the contributors to the weekend’s programme are either alumni, current members of staff, or students. This really is a weekend by alumni and for alumni.

For a copy of the full programme, and to register for the weekend, please contact the ALUMNI 2000 bookings hotline:

Tel: +44 (0) 131 650 2240 Fax: +44 (0) 131 650 2239
Email: Development@ed.ac.uk
Development & Alumni Services, The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH8 9YL
THE SKILL of a surgeon at the Dick Vet’s Hospital for Small Animals inspired a grateful dog owner to set up a £12,000 fund for one year to help people who cannot afford operations for their pets. Shep, a 9-year-old male Rough Collie was referred to the Orthopaedic Surgery Service at the Dick Vet, as a last resort by a vet in Newcastle.

Shep had ruptured ligaments in two of his legs and was unable to walk. Vets undertook 4 surgical operations to repair the ligaments and treated problems with joint infection and an underactive thyroid gland. This, combined with extremely dedicated care by his owners during his long convalescence, means Shep is now able to walk on all four of his legs.

The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, explained. “I asked my own vet where the best place in Britain to get treatment was, and he told me to come to Edinburgh. When Shep had problems after surgery, I got an appointment with Dr Barbara Kirby at 3 hours’ notice, and she saved his life. I have the utmost respect for Dr Kirby and her colleagues. She is extremely skilled, very compassionate, and lets people know exactly what is going on. My dog now has a quality of life which has made it all worthwhile.

“The stress was bad enough, but if I hadn’t been able to afford the treatment I don’t know what I would have done. It must be devastating for those who can’t afford it. I wanted to provide money so it would go straight where it is needed most.”

Notable gift: A generous donation from a graduate who, although not a Music student, enjoyed using the Music Faculty’s practice pianos, enabled the Faculty to purchase three new pianos for current students to use. Stephen Miller, 3rd year Music student, puts one of the new pianos through its paces.

Legacy for the Polish School of Medicine Memorial Fund

LEGACIES TOTALLING £200,000 from Dr and Mrs Wiktor Tomaszewski have boosted the endowment of the Polish School of Medicine Memorial Fund, which provides scholarships for young doctors from Poland to study at Edinburgh. This fund was established in 1986 by graduates of the Polish School of Medicine, which operated at the University of Edinburgh between 1941 and 1949. The School was established during the Second World War after the enforced closure of universities in German-occupied Poland and the arrest and execution of their professors. Students in the Polish armed forces came to Edinburgh for medical courses taught mainly by their countrymen in their own language. Altogether, 227 Poles graduated MB ChB and 19 received MD diplomas. The newly graduated doctors rejoined their units and took part in the fighting until the end of the war.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Access Bursaries and LEAPS

A STRONG TRADITION of Scottish education is to provide opportunity for all who are able to benefit whatever their means. Edinburgh’s commitment to this tradition was reinforced by its introduction, two years ago, of a bursary scheme aimed at qualified students. Now thanks to a £100,000 contribution from the Royal Bank of Scotland, the University has been able to expand this scheme further.

The Royal Bank of Scotland has agreed to provide bursaries for 4 years to school leavers from the Lothians area to participate at the established Lothian Equal Access Programme for Schools (LEAPS) Summer School. LEAPS (in partnership with the four local higher education institutions including the University of Edinburgh, the four Local Authority Education Departments, and Career Development Edinburgh and Lothians) focuses on young people of ability and potential to encourage them to enter degree or equivalent courses at higher education institutions. This generous contribution will help improve access for students who might otherwise not have the opportunity to attend university. The University anticipates continuing development of its own bursary scheme.

Help for our Friends

A dog's best friend: Shep and Dr Barbara Kirby, specialist in orthopaedics and soft tissue. In gratitude for her and her colleagues’ work, Shep’s owner has established a fund to help others who cannot afford treatment for their pets.
1920s - 1930s

Dr Christina C Miller BSc 1920 PhD 1924 Recently celebrated 100th birthday.  
Mrs Isobel L Nicolson née McIntosh MA 1932 MB awarded for services to the community of Plockton.

1940s

Dr Henry D Powell MB CHB 1944 Visited Malawi for 3½ time in November 1999 to help in a paediatric department, responsible for 6 million people.  
Professor Dame Barbara E Clayton MA 1946 PhD 1949 Has been awarded the Gold Medal for Distinguished Merit by the British Medical Association.

1950s

Mr Alastair J Fordyce MA (11 years), Dundee (21 years) and Aberuthven 
Professor Emeritus Ronald Gardiner MA 1956 BSc 1958 After services as (inaugural) Dean of Science & Engineering and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), retired from full-time employment at Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in July 1996. Since then, has had a number of part-time appointments and a consultancy at QUT.  
Dr Bridget M Wicken née Buchanan MB CHB 1956 Still working 10-10plus-hour days, in genetic metabolic medicine, and just completing a term as President of the Human Genetics Society of Australasia.

World service


1960s

Professor David I Newboll BSc 1962 MB CHB 1965 Recently appointed to Foundation Chair in Surgery at the University of Sheffield School of Medicine.

Dr Alan R Procter BSc 1962 PhD 1965 Consultant in Technology Management and Future Studies. Visiting Adjunct Professor at University of British Columbia.

Dr Joseph A McLaughlin BL 1963 After a career in tertiary education, education administration and latterly as secretary of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce (1990-98), now works as a consultant in Central / Eastern European countries advising on problems of transition to market economy conditions and WTO and EU accession.


Dr C Christopher Smith MB CHB 1965 Twinning days of early retirement with a return to university to do something different!

Dr Jeffrey C Stone MA 1959 BSc 1965 DIP 1969 Retired August 1998, having been Principal Teacher of physics for almost 30 years.  
Mrs Iver B Frigaard MA 1959 BSc 1965 Retired 1st July 1999, after a distinguished career in education.  
Mr Alan P Liebling BSc 1959 DIP 1966Developing multiplexed hybrid car that does 0-60 in 3 seconds and 600m in city traffic with expected 400% reduction in city pollution, patented applied for, Swiss firm handling development. Also, may have cracked the elusive “Theory of Everything”.

Dr Donald C Smith BSc 1962 PhD 1965 Spent three months at the Chula University, Bangkok. 

Mr William D Myles MA 1951 BCom 1953 Married with wife, from Aberdeen to Melbourne in February 1991 - thoroughly enjoying life there. Is Vice-President of the Chess Club. Recently visited UK and Switzerland, but did not get to Edinburgh.

1970s

Mrs Lisa L Maguire MA 1965 BSc 1971 After a career in education, education administration and latterly as secretary of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce (1990-98), now works as a consultant in Central / Eastern European countries advising on problems of transition to market economy conditions and WTO and EU accession.

Dr B K Tallman BSc 1962 MA 1965 MA 1968 BCom 1965 Retired in 1998, having been Principal Teacher of mathematics for almost 30 years.

Professor Sir John Pounds MA 1962 MB CHB 1965 Had a month’s holiday in New Zealand, travelling through North and South Islands.

Mr Iver B Frigaard BSc 1959 DIP 1965 Retired 1st July 1999, after a distinguished career in education.

Mr William G Macalpine BL 1963 MB CHB 1965 Twinning days of early retirement with a return to university to do something different!

Mrs Helen J Gillespie BSc 1964 Recently retired from 25 years of full-time teaching and is now enjoying supply teaching. Has three children, all of whom are parents now, and has five grandchildren.

Mr Michael J Barry BSc 1958 DIP 1960 Following 20 years in Berkshire, raised 3 children (all now graduates in arts subjects) taught science, then Technical Editor in computer field, bought a farm in Devon - not an SSSI yet. Plans to move to New Zealand with rare breeds of sheep and cattle and restore old barns as craft workshops/environmental centre.

Mr Daniel Mclean MA 1966 After graduation from the University of Edinburgh, started own IT consultancy and ran a software company.  
Mr Christopher Smith MB CHB 1965 Twinning days of early retirement with a return to university to do something different!

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Professor David I Newboll BSc 1962 MB CHB 1965 Recently appointed to Foundation Chair in Surgery at the University of Sheffield School of Medicine.
Ms Moira Vaughan MA 1968 Embarked on her career after teaching, international student officer, physiotherapist in rehabilitation of visually impaired, hoping to work in Scotland. Ms Ilona Aronovsky MA 1969 Co-author of “Indus Valley - KS2 History” pupil activity pack on the ancient Indus Civilisation, published 1996, which has been cited as approved resource in new guidance on primary history issued by the QCA (England). Also associated with the hanappa Website (http://hanappa.com).

Mr Ian Lamb MA 1969 Recently became Manager, Finance and Business, of newly created electricity transmission company Transend Networks Pty Ltd, in Tasmania, Australia.

Mr John G Langlands BSc 1969 Working from a home base in Edinburgh as Senior Geologist with ACA Howe International Ltd, which is a company specialising in mineral exploration, mineral resources, exploration, evaluation and evaluation.

Mr Hugh McPherson BSc 1966 Retlocated own company from near Edinburgh to Tarbert, isle of Harris, showing it is possible to run a high-tech business in such a location.

Dr Phyllis L Pitt-Miller MB ChB 1969 Head of Department of Clinical Surgical Sciences, School in June 1998 after nine years as Professor to run the new Department in Arts and Humanities.

Mr Roger L Price MA 1966 MSc 1976 Since August 1981, has been administering business programmes and teaching communication skills at Ryerson University - the only privatised university in Holland.


Mr Andrew G Webb BComm 1969 BCom 1970 Happy to send sample of learning language system for businessmen learning German to anyone interested, or explanatory brochure.

1970s

Mr Graham C Bathgate MA 1970 Continuing to enjoy very hectic life in Tokyo teaching English and organising school unions and activities as President of the Student Union of Japan Association of Language Teaching. Also trying to use nearly 30 years of travel to write articles.

Mr Donald T Campbell BSc 1970 Moved back to engineering and planning consultancy and a manager of a local office for a major Norwegian consultancy, involved in several water rehabilitation projects in Bosnia financed by a Norwegian development aid programme.

Mr Timothy R Davis BSc 1970 Became Quality Manager for Rolls Royce Australia in November 1998.

Professor Alexander Forrest BSc (M) 1970 MB ChB 1973 Appointed Professor of Forensic Toxicology at the University of Sheffield from 1 November 1998.

Mr Neil G Kerr BCom 1970 Now roving Europe improving international paints warehouse and distribution networks, first 2 (of 3) children at, going next year to EU!

Mr Nicholas Rowell BSc 1970 Working on £150M PFI project for DSS - Redevelopment of two sites in Tyne and Wear to produce £150M new office HQ for DSS whilst current operations maintained.


Dr Lewis T Waters PhD 1970 After graduating, was appointed Director of Urban Studies at the National Capital Planning Commission, Washington DC. Left to join Peace Corps and worked in SE Asia 2 years. Returned to DC as Director of Systems Planning for the City and worked in energy and environmental consulting. Joined US Department of Energy and now works as energy and international development consultant in DC.


Dr Peter W Harland PhD 1971 DSc 1996 Chair in Chemistry, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.


Rev Dr William Campbell PhD 1972 Appointed Reader in Biblical Studies at the University of Wales, sct October 1972.

Mrs Bibiana Munyaradzi BSc 1972 In charge of quality assurance in a company that produces and sells tobacco seeds in Zimbabwe.

Mr D E D Nicolson BSc 1972 Retired at 48 to look after growing menagerie. Irrelevant as ever but mellowing (still don’t know what I want to do when I grow up). Four more years in Stratford then off to the west coast seeking a castle or “camus fearna”, or both.

Mr David G Venner BSc 1972 After 25 years in project management (for Countyside Commission and local authorities) retained in rural tasks and is enjoying working outdoors, as own boss.

Dr Rohan H Wickramasinghe PhD 1972 Consultant on Environmental Protection and Landscaping to Sri Lanka’s Central Cultural Fund (i.e. principal archaeological sites). Also, advising Mayor of Colombo on matters relating to environmental protection.

Professor Rosemary A Crow MA (SS) 1973 PhD 1978 Still a Professor of Nursing Science and busy and working in Clinical Research.

Dr Christopher G Pollock BSc (M) 1973 MB ChB 1976 Returned to the Romantics and Chamber music gala!

Mr Ian L Williamson BSc 1973 As well as construction work in the North East of Scotland, employer has been involved in the Falkland Islands so has been “commuting” there for the past 10 years.

Mr Alexander G Young MA (SS) 1973 Moved to Kyle Academy in August 1996.

Ms Jane E Bache-King BA 1974 Living in Austin, Texas, Mom of two: 19 yr old and 14 yr old. Loves job as gets to talk about food all day!

Mr Terence M Parker MSC 1974 Has taken early retirement and expects to take up painting, writing and producing a booklet on marketing.

Dr Michael A Patton MB ChB 1974 MSc 1976 Appointed Professor of Medical Genetics Nov 1999.

Miss Jacqueline D Stokes BA 1974 Uses French, acquired at Edinburgh, every day and Russian to aid understanding of students’ problems. Teaches Computer Engineering to Eastern European immigrant women and occasionally politicians and multinationals, especially Japanese.

Mr Richard D Winter BComm 1974 After working with Deloittes in Nairobi and Edinburgh, arrived in Hong Kong in 1985, to specialise in Corporate Finance, firstly as a manager in the Corporate Advisory Service Dept of Ernst & Whinney and for the last 12 years in the Corporate Finance Dept of Standard Chartered Asia Limited, now as Managing Director.

Mr P Bankier LLB 1975 Specialised in Corporate Law, moved into industry via own independent management and firm. Director of four public companies and other substantial private concerns.


Mr David A Stewart BSc 1977 After 18 years working for British Telecom, three children, single again (divorced). Having a quiet, happy life in the Cotswolds.

Mr Nicolas E Sunderland BSc 1977 Job goes well. Hobby is organic production with 5 hectares and 20 sheep. Active squash player, plus some golf. Relatively happy with life.

Dr Michael D Winter BSc (M) 1977 MB ChB 1980 Appointed as Medical Director of Lothian Primary Care NHS Trust.

Mr Stuart Black BA 1978 With wife, Donna McGhee, snowboards in the winter and windsurfs in the summer.

Dr Caroline E Gardiner MA 1978 Appointed Professor to run the new Department in Arts Management, South Bank University, London.


Mr Stephen Atkins BMus 1979 Senior Manager in Hong Kong’s largest primary school. Currently involved in research on Scots medieval liturgical music and is studying for the degree of MEd with the University of Nottingham.


Dr Irwin S Goldstein PhD 1979 Promoted to Professor. Continues to present papers at various national and international conferences and to publish in journals in philosophy.

Mr J B Hepburn BSc 1979 1995 Setting up a business - “Aquavision” - taking agriculture towards sustainability.

Dr Malcolm Irving BSc 1979 Recently moved to Wellington, New Zealand.

Mr Alan C Rose BComm 1979 Following 8 years at Shell, graduated with an MBA from...
World service

Dr Hazel D Farkas MB CHB 1962 Retired from full-time practice of psychiatry in New York state, January 1999 and enjoying warmth of climate and people in Williamsburg, Virginia. Time for church activities, grandchildren, newcomers gardening and tennis clubs, sightseeing and travel.

Columbia Business School (New York) and now is a Partner at strategy consulting firm Booz, Allen & Hamilton, specialising in the energy industries.


Mr Michael A Smith BCom 1979 Started office furniture company in 1993, $6 million in sales in 1999, selling throughout North America. Recently giving up working in insurance broking world to look after family. In addition, now carrying out general secretarial work in connection with husband’s business.


Mr Michael J Birrell BCom 1961 Moved from the Medical Research Council, Edinburgh to Australia to work in biotechnology at the University of Western Australia. Working to start up research team in the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research which has recently opened.

Mr Robert A Dunn BSc 1961 Head of British Telecom Radio Structures.

Mr David W Gordon BSc 1961 Senior Scientist within Discovery Chemistry Department at Pfizer Research, Kent, discoveries of (amongst other drugs) Viagra!


Mr James T Macdonald BSc 1981 Moved to become Chief Executive of Wesleyan Financial Services Group, having been Managing Director of River Cars UK.

Mr David Nussbaum MTh 1981 Appointed (non-executive) Chair of Traidcraft, the Christian based Fair Trade organisation. Continues to work as Finance Director of Oxfam, and with Kathy to bring up four children.

Ms Eileen C Walker BSc 1981 Heads up the Mergers and Acquisitions team at Deloitte and Touche in London but still has her pharmacy degree, since also has responsibility for the Pharmaceutical Sector Group nationally.

Mr John S Bremner BD 1982 Returned to UK in 1998 after 6 years with the Waldensian Church in Italy.

Mr Gavin B Inglis MA 1982 Moved to US in 1993. Would be thrilled to hear from anyone who knew him well enough to care to get in touch.

Dr Rebecca A Johnson MPPhil 1982 Recently awarded a $500,000 research grant from US National Institute of Nursing Research for study “Relation of Ethnic Elders: Decisions and Sequelae.”


Dr Barbara J Newman PhD 1982 Two children, one boy and one girl. Living in Champaign as husband is there for one year.

Miss Sarah J Blair MA 1982 Twenty years after leaving Edinburgh, career is now speckled with interesting changes but none so exciting and satisfying as full-time parenthood.


Mr Michael J Birrell BCom 1961 Moved from the Medical Research Council, Edinburgh to Australia to work in biotechnology at the University of Western Australia. Working to start up research team in the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research which has recently opened.


Mr Edward Buxton (Chemistry graduate, 1985) Specialist in the paper industry and has studied at a university in Singapore. Lived in Canada in 1990-99. Would be thrilled to hear from anyone who knew him well enough to care to get in touch.

Dr Hazel D Farkas MB CHB 1962 Retired from full-time practice of psychiatry in New York state, January 1999 and enjoying warmth of climate and people in Williamsburg, Virginia. Time for church activities, grandchildren, newcomers gardening and tennis clubs, sightseeing and travel.

Columbia Business School (New York) and now is a Partner at strategy consulting firm Booz, Allen & Hamilton, specialising in the energy industries.


interpretive and educational programs of the cultural and natural history of the United States.

Mr Robert S Preston MBA 1987 Recently appointed MD of AXA Management Services in NY. Robbie, age 2, (Roberton Sheffey appointed MD of AXA Investment Managers)

Mrs Annamaree W McCaffrey née Welsh BDS 1988 Married (1993) and has one child (Molly). Reappointed Professor of Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies at Inverne Academy and Associate Lecturer in World Religions with the Open University.

Mr Samuel Nygure MSc 1988 Has a private primary school in Uganda, and invites practising and retired teachers to come and offer the school voluntary service, during which time which we could exchange ideas! invites any alumni or students on holiday to visit. Would provide free accommodation and traditional meals.

Mrs Susan M Oliver MED 1988 Writing up thesis for PhD (Children's Dance) at Moray House. Also, doing choreography of stage musicals for various arts groups - "Fringie" debut with Godspell in August 1996.

Dr Lauren B Sickels-Taves PhD 1988 Working as the architectural conservator at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, and teaching historic preservation at Eastern Michigan University, USA. Two books were published in 1999: "The Use of and Need for Preservation Standards in Architectural Conservation" and "The Lost Art of Tabby Redefined: Preserving Ogelthorpe's Architectural Legacy".

Ms Jane S Thomas MSc 1990 Has completed MA in management of professional sport, and is working as a business consultant in the UK.

Mr Neil Hume BM&MSc 1988 Son born 10/01/99, George William, a brother for James Alexander. Started a new job in 1998. Mr David A Laing BSc 1988 Married to Fiona (née Duthie, a fellow alumna), living in Edinburgh and teaching at the Evangelical Theological College in Addis Ababa, has assisted in the establishment of the Women's Leadership Learning Center in Ethiopia. Very grateful for the value of the MTh earned at New College.

Mr Joseph S Turner MA 1990 Called to the Bar at Gray's Inn 1997; now working as a Naval Barrister at the Fleet Headquarters.


Mr Andrew B Thain MSc 1989 1991 MBA 1990 Looks after marketing and business development. Since 1990, has worked as an independent feature "The Quarrymen".

Mr Jonathan M Harris BSc 1991 PhD 1995 Established partnership, Edinburgh and subsequently with Wilde & Partners, now as Guardian. About to move to Northern Ireland. Teacher at Orwell Park School, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Mr Nigel M Leishman BSc 1989 Promoted to the senior research officer with the Natal Game Board. Joined aircraft manufacturer Airbus Industrie in Toulouse as a software engineer in 1998. Currently living in Somerset.

Mr Andrew P Mahaffy BSc 1989 Married and working as a Journalist for a newspaper in Canada. Leishman's love of France started with a school exchange between George Watson's College and the Lycee Henri IV in Paris in 1993, when he lived "en famille" for two months in the Boulevard Raspail. "It was a mind-blowing experience" he said, "and I never looked back".

Professor H Keith Moffatt BSc 1952 Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Cambridge. Has received an unusual honour in France: an engraved Napoleon sword from the Ecole Polytechnique, where he has taught for seven years as a visiting Professor de Mécanique. The first Briton to have received this Honour in the 200-year history of this famous Grande École, Keith has also been elected a Foreign Member of the French Academy of Sciences. The Times has described his work as "one of the most important advances in our understanding of the structure of the universe".

Mr Carl C Wiltgen BSc 1989 Son born 14th August 1989. Married to Gelise, with 1 boy called Bryn. Mr Eneko Agirre BSc 1989 MSc 1990 MBA 1990 Has a private consulting firm in Brazil, but majority of work at present in Brazil, where he has taught for several years as a visiting Professor of Economics. Mr Robert M Frame BSc 1989 MBA 1990 MB ChB 1991 1996. Appointed Director, Customer Service, in an independent feature "The Quartermen".

Dr Jehu J Hanciles MSc 1990 PhD 1995 Received this Honour in the 200-year anniversary of the University.Received a PhD in Engineering in 1995; appointed Director, Customer Service, in an independent feature "The Quartermen".
qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 1998, now with Grant Thornton Corporate Finance. Please get in touch!


Dr Julia A Smith BCom 1991 Conducting research with Dr James Foreman-Peck in the Institute of Economics and Statistics at the University of Oxford. The work examines the determinants of entrepreneurship in France and the UK.

Dr Fiona S Stewart PhD 1991 Although still operating as consultant, currently carrying out a PhDIP study in Hydrographic Surveying at University of Plymouth to augment Geographical qualifications. Also relocated business to UK from Norway.


Mrs Justine Geyer née Crowe BSc 1992 Had a baby daughter, Anna Geyer, on 22nd April 1998.


Dr Stephen J Leslie BSc 1992 Had a daughter, Imogen C Russon in 1999. Now training individuals with their skills, interests and talents to act as Braseroists and fellow workers.

Thank you to everyone who sent in news for publication. We are also pleased to forward letters to people listed here. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors.
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Calling all Moray House alumni

The Faculty of Education was formed in Autumn 1998 when the Moray House Institute of Education merged with the University of Edinburgh. The Moray House Institute of Education had been formed from earlier mergers in 1981 with Callander Park College of Education in Falkirk, and in 1987 with the Dunfermline College of Physical Education at Cramond.

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do this will be sent to you with your Card.

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Meal to remember

“...I was not fazed by raw fish and octopus in coconut cream, sea urchins, or the Palolo reef worm”

A Little Local Delicacy

A PLAIN SUBURBAN house in Auckland may not seem a particularly exotic place to have a memorable lunch, but the circumstances were a bit unusual. We had just disembarked for the day from the P & O liner ‘Oronsay’ on our way to Fiji and the Polynesian island of Samoa. (It used to be called ‘Western’ in those days. Remember the Welsh rugby quip? - ‘It’s a good job we are only playing Western Samoa and not the whole of it.’)

My wife’s auntie wanted to be the first to introduce me to Polynesian hospitality: to meet the extended family and savour some of the island delicacies. As guest of honour I was conducted around the table. Each dish was given a name and a brief description of what it contained. I was not fazed by raw fish and octopus in coconut cream, sea urchins, or the Palolo reef worm that spawns in the moonlight one night in the year. I knew about breadfruit and taro even though the latter had been described to me as looking and tasting like boiled concrete. I knew about chop suey, sweet and sour, egg fu yong, baked fish, curry, suckling pig and turkey, cranberry sauce, roast beef and lamb - but all together?

And then my host, with a twinkle in her eye, directed my attention to the one remaining dish, the ‘pièce de résistance’ served in a beautiful cut crystal bowl - corned beef straight out of the tin and raw onion!

After lunch my uncle took me for a drive over the harbour bridge. “One or two things I thought you ought to know,” he said. “This extended family business, can be a bit of a pain. Let me pass on some advice. When you get to the Islands put on a party. Invite the lot of them. Don’t skimp on the booze. They’ll expect you to make a speech. Tell them how happy you are to meet them. Explain that as they know what you look like, and you know what they look like, they can now all clear off.”

Good advice? - or bad? I do not know. But we are still here and frequently have taro and corned beef for lunch.

JOHN AHERTON, MB ChB 1964
Apia Samoa