

QM YOU

MAGAZINE

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF
QUEEN MARGARET UNIVERSITY
Issue 79 | October 2014



**Kelpies launch in New
York and Scotland**

Research to delight tea lovers

**iQ Chocolate proves truly
'scrum'ptious**



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

Making Waves

Diane Stewart models 'Pour l'amour de Cheveux' a costume and headwear designed by Caitlin Lewis-Ogden, 2nd year Costume Design and Construction student. Caitlin's stunning piece of millinery took centre stage at QMU's Costume Showcase 2014.



Principal's Introduction

Welcome to another packed edition of QMYOU. Over the last few months we have enjoyed many successes and implemented numerous university events and initiatives. On top of this, I am delighted that QMU is performing well in the university league tables – moving up 10 places in the Complete University Guide and 12 places in the Guardian League Tables. We have also enjoyed positive feedback from our international students in the iBarometer with QMU ranked the top university in the UK for 'eco-friendly attitude' and top in Scotland for 'work experience'.

Our work in knowledge exchange is having a positive impact on organisations, businesses and communities. Our Media Practice Lecturer, Walid Salhab, has used his unique stop-motion/time-lapse filming technique to capture the build phase of The Kelpies, Scotland's largest arts project. Walid's breathtaking footage of the 30 metre high horses' heads attracted significant attention at the launch of The Kelpies in New York, and is helping to put Falkirk on the global tourist map. Employing our expertise in business and tourism, our business academics have worked with Borders Journeys, an ancestral tourism company, to further develop its strategic direction in this specialist tourism market to coincide with VisitScotland's Homecoming Scotland 2014.

Our research and knowledge exchange work in food and drink continues to delight businesses and to attract media attention. Recently, our scientists teamed up with an artisan tea company to offer consumers more nutritional information about the company's wide variety of speciality teas. In addition, our food researchers have discovered that IQ Chocolate, produced in Stirling, can improve the reaction times of Scotland's rugby players. You can read more about our work with etaket tea on page 18 and 19, and about the IQ Chocolate trials conducted with Scotland's rugby sevens on page 20 and 21.

Having recently presided over our graduation ceremony, I was delighted to hear from many students who had already secured employment even before attending graduation. QMU prides itself on its robust employability strategies which are designed to provide students with the skills, knowledge and attitude to secure jobs in their chosen field. We are pleased to share details of our Employer Mentoring Programme on page 8 and 9 and to demonstrate, not only the advantages for our students, but also the benefits to employers who share their valuable experience with mentees.

We always enjoy hearing about our graduate successes. I was delighted to hear how David Sharp, who is a graduate in International Management & Leadership, is reaping the benefits of his Masters qualification and enjoying great success with the Japanese conglomerate, Nichii Gakkan. See page 22.

If you are a QMU alumni, please share your career successes with our alumni team. If you are in business and feel that your company could benefit from our research input, please speak to our Research and Knowledge Exchange Unit. If you can contribute to the success of the University in any way or to the development of individual students through mentoring, internships or scholarships, we would really welcome your input.

Professor Petra Wend, PhD, FRSA
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh

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CONTACT:
Development and Alumni Team
E: alumni@qmu.ac.uk
www.qmu.ac.uk/alumni_and_friends
Marketing and Communications Team
E: marketing@qmu.ac.uk
www.qmu.ac.uk
Queen Margaret University,
Edinburgh, EH21 6UU.
T: 0131 474 0000

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NEWS IN BRIEF

QMU moves up the university league tables

QMU IS PERFORMING well in university league tables published this spring. The University moved up 10 places in the Complete University Guide 2015. QMU is one of only 10 universities nationally to have climbed ten or more places in the latest edition of the Complete University Guide and also moved up 12 places in the Guardian League Tables 2015. QMU is now sitting in 69th place out of 116 university level institutions in the Guardian guide. □

Finance team makes the finals of two national awards

QMU'S FINANCE team made it through to the finals of two national award schemes in June.

The team was shortlisted for 'Outstanding Finance Team of 2014' in the Times Higher Education Leadership & Management Awards. This is a great achievement for the team, as only six universities from throughout the UK were shortlisted for this award, and QMU was the only Scottish university to become a finalist.

The team was also shortlisted for 'Public Sector Team of the Year' in the Scottish Accountancy & Finance Awards 2014.

Commenting on the finance team's recent successes, Malcolm Cutt, Director of Operations & Finance at QMU, said: "To have become finalists in these two prestigious awards is a clear indication of how QMU's finance team has achieved significant success in supporting the development of the University's financial strategy in recent years and is being recognised for its achievements by its industry peers.

"This growing recognition also reflects the exceptional contribution made by all the members of the finance team."

Through the 'QM150' project, the University is currently defining its vision for 2025, the University's 150th anniversary, to inform strategic planning for 2015-2025. The project will provide new challenges for QMU's finance team, to transform the way it operates to provide additional support for long term strategic priorities. □

Top university for eco-friendly attitude and work experience

QMU HAS BEEN RANKED the top university in the UK for 'eco-friendly attitude' and top in Scotland for 'work experience'.

The news, which confirmed QMU's commitment to environmental sustainability and employability, was revealed in the International Student Barometer, Autumn Wave 2013 (ISB) which involved 53 university level institutions in the UK.

The ISB, which provides feedback from international students, also ranked QMU in first or second place in several categories amongst the nine Scottish universities that participated. These included 'learning spaces' and 'host friends on arrival'. QMU accommodation services proved to be a big hit, with international students rating the 'quality of QMU's accommodation' service as the best amongst Scottish universities and the 'accommodation office on arrival' and 'cost of accommodation' as the second top in Scotland. International students clearly showed their appreciation of the design and quality of QMU's modern campus development and the small class size, rating the campus building and class size as the second top in Scotland (both 7th in the UK).

QMU's focus on employability came to the fore as ISB results rated QMU's 'work experience' as the best in Scotland (25th in UK) and the 'opportunity to earn money' as the 2nd best in the country (7th in UK). □

Engaging with the community

BBC Radio 4 'Any Questions?' hosted at QMU



QMU WAS DELIGHTED TO welcome Jonathan Dimbleby to the university in March, to host a live broadcast of BBC Radio 4's 'Any Questions?'

The much loved topical discussion show allows members of the public to challenge politicians, policy makers, writers and thinkers. The programme is broadcast from a different location each week.

The guest panel for the broadcast from QMU included Angela Constance, Minister for Youth Employment in the Scottish Government; Helena Kennedy, Labour Peer and Barrister; Scottish Conservative Annabel Goldie MSP; and Michael Fry, historian and founder of 'Wealthy Nation', which favours independence for Scotland.

High demand for places resulted in many first time visitors to the campus. □

Children's ER offers hands-on learning

FOR THE THIRD YEAR running, QMU's School of Health Sciences extended the magic of the Edinburgh International Science Festival to over 400 local school children in East and Mid Lothian as part of a week-long science event on campus in May.

The fun-filled 'Broken Bodies' event offered pupils the opportunity to get real hands-on learning experiences by exploring QMU's range of healthcare specialisms including speech and hearing sciences, physiotherapy, podiatry, radiography, nursing, occupational therapy, dietetics and nutrition.

For the first year, a student and staff healthcare team also shared its expertise with children at the Dunbar Science Festival. Its 'Can You Build a Body?' event was a real hit with young children who enjoyed learning about human organs and their position within the body. □

Scotland's national poet gives Edinburgh Lectures a unique twist

A PERFORMANCE BY SCOTLAND'S celebrated poet, Liz Lochhead, provided a twist on the traditional formal lecture at this year's contribution from QMU to the Edinburgh Lectures Series.

Liz, the National Poet of Scotland and a QMU honorary graduate, delighted the audience by performing a poetry reading entitled 'Language, Community & Confidence'. The event was sponsored by QMU.

Showcasing her own unique style of delivery, the Scots Makar offered a personal, anecdotal view of the relationship between Scots, Scots English, 'dialect' and 'Standard English'. Liz's presentation was centred around the theme of this year's lectures – 'City, Community, Home'.

Professor Petra Wend, QMU's Principal, said: "We are always delighted to support the Edinburgh Lectures Series and to be part of a project that offers the public such a wonderfully diverse and interesting range of subjects and speakers." □

Getting a taste for Scotland's food innovation pioneers

IN MAY, QMU WAS the sponsor and judge of the 'Innovation' category at this year's Scotland Food & Drink Excellence Awards, in the year that the University launches the Scottish Centre for Food Development and Innovation.

With 22 award categories celebrating excellence across the Scottish food and drink industry, the Excellence Awards showcased a broad spectrum of producers from around the country. In the course of their assessment of the entries, the judges tasted 115 food and drink entries and examined submissions for 154 entries from 102 businesses across all the categories.

The overall winner of the QMU 'Innovation' category was Rannoch Smokery from Perthshire. Rannoch Smokery produces some of Scotland's finest gourmet meats, having built an outstanding reputation as a dedicated meat and game smoker, including red deer and venison.

Winner of the 'Non-Alcoholic Drink' category was Cuddybridge Apple Juice from the Scottish Borders for its Cuddybridge apple juice and Scottish sea buckthorn variety. QMU worked with the artisan juice producer to develop a seasonal drink using berries from sea buckthorn, a bush which is often regarded as a weed and can normally be found growing in Scottish coastal areas near sand dunes, particularly in East Lothian.

QMU research confirmed that sea buckthorn is bursting with antioxidants, vitamins and essential minerals, making it a truly a Scottish superfruit.

The University will officially launch the Scottish Centre for Food Development and Innovation in December, building on its growing reputation in this area. The facilities for the Centre include test and development kitchens, a white room, and a food sensory suite, along with a range of laboratories. □

Creating Drama in the community

Making a drama out of John Muir celebrations

A GROUP OF COMMUNITY theatre students teamed up with Stoneyhill Primary School in Musselburgh in April to make a drama out of the John Muir Festival celebrations.

The QMU students worked with the primary school pupils to stage a one-off workshop event to celebrate the life and legacy of the Dunbar-born conservationist, who is recognised worldwide as the founder of America's national parks.

The event coincided with the official opening of Scotland's new national pathway, The John Muir Way, on 21st April, and with Earth Day on 22nd April.

The pupils created a range of puppets, flags, songs and improvisations, before parading their creations around the school. The school choir also took part in a procession up to QMU to perform a medley of Scottish songs for staff and students.

The students worked alongside local community drama group, the Prestongrange Players, which set the scene at the workshop with some John Muir inspired storytelling. QMU's Costume Design and Construction students also created a life-sized John Muir puppet as part of the project, which was used in the processions.

James Snowden, a Community Theatre student at QMU, said: "The workshop and processions provided a fantastic opportunity for the school to learn more about one of Scotland's most influential conservation figures. Through the creation of short drama scenes, and various puppets and flags, the pupils were able to explore John Muir's life and legacy in a fun, creative and engaging way." □

A Ned's Lament

QMU'S COMMUNITY DRAMA specialists joined forces with the Brunton Theatre to bring to the stage a moving musical black comedy about ned culture.

Following the success of the previous production 'The Battle of Pinkie Cleugh', the University was pleased to work again with local drama groups on this new community production - 'The Beggars' Opera - A Ned's Lament' by Ronan O'Donnell.

The production, which focused on a gang leader and his team of thugs, captured the essence of John Gay's satirical ballad play 'The Beggars' Opera'.

Irvine Allan, a Community Drama Lecturer at QMU, explained: "Through the creation of the set and the fabulous costumes designed and constructed by our costume design students, 'A Ned's Lament' skilfully fused the 18th century with modern day Scotland. The costumes captured present day fashion but with a hint of the old 'Beggars Opera'. The result was a hilarious and moving production which highlighted Scots' language and culture."

With a strong community focus, 'A Ned's Lament' involved QMU students and an enthusiastic team of people from the Brunton Players, the Brunton Senior Youth Theatre and the Prestongrange Players.

Irvine Allan, said: "It's wonderful to see our students working with a mix of community groups and people of all ages. The cast involves young people from the local youth theatre, as well as more experienced people who have spent many years in amateur dramatics. We were especially delighted to have East Lothian woman Kate Potter taking part. Kate, who is in her 80s, played the role of a young ned and she was absolutely fantastic. In addition, the music for the libretto was written by Jane Gardener and Hazel Morrison, both musicians from Portobello, which is situated next to Musselburgh. The libretto and the play were both written by Ronan O'Donnell, also from Portobello."

Irvine concluded: "This latest collaboration builds on the existing established relationship between QMU and the Brunton Theatre and it provides an excellent platform for community theatre to grow within Musselburgh and the surrounding area." □



Kate Potter, who is in her 80's, played the role of a young ned.

Journalist Kate Adie and international theatre director receive honorary degrees

The internationally renowned journalist, Kate Adie, joined influential theatre director, Eugenio Barba, to receive an honorary degree from QMU.

KATIE ADIE WAS awarded an honorary doctorate in recognition of her contribution to news reporting and our understanding of world events. The former BBC international affairs journalist was joined by Eugenio Barba, a theatre practitioner who has significantly influenced practice and critical thinking within the art form. Eugenio is director of Odin Teatret, a theatre company which he founded in 1964, and founder of the International School of Theatre Anthropology, both of which are based in Denmark. Both honorary graduates were acknowledged for the relevance of their work to society at large, reflecting the university's own commitment to enhancing lives in the communities it serves.

The University was delighted to award Kate Adie, one of the UK highest profile journalists, with a Degree of Doctor of Letters at the graduation ceremony held in Edinburgh's Usher Hall in July. Dressed in flak jacket, helmet and holding a microphone whilst crouching on front-lines, Kate Adie became an iconic figure associated with breaking news from some of the world's most dangerous conflict zones. She is particularly well known for her reporting of significant international events including the student uprising in China when she received a gun-shot wound to her elbow whilst reporting events in Tiananmen Square. She has also reported on turbulence and conflicts across the world such as in Northern Ireland, the Lockerbie bombing in 1988, the first Gulf War, the genocide in Rwanda in 1994, the 1997 uprising in Albania and the civil war in Sierra Leone in 2000.

Kate hung up her flak jacket and helmet in 2003 to become a freelance journalist. Since then she has written five books, been a regular presenter on BBC Radio 4's 'From Our Own Correspondent', and won numerous awards including an OBE in 1993.

As a leader in education for allied health professionals and the only provider of audiology education in Scotland, QMU was

particularly keen to honour Kate given her work with the charity Hearing Link. Kate is a patron of Hearing Link which supports people with hearing impairment and deafness.

The University also bestowed a Degree of Doctor of Letters on Eugenio Barba, an influential theatre practitioner, researcher and theorist who has enjoyed a 50 year career in the arts. Eugenio Barba has directed 76 productions, mostly with his theatre company Odin Teatret. The honorary degree recognises his influence on how we see and understand theatre and on the way drama is taught in universities and colleges.

Teatret have developed a unique style of working – one which trains actors who help communities discover their cultural voice, creating social interaction and breaking down barriers. Eugenio has also written over 20 books, contributes to academic publications and education, and has won numerous awards.

QMU's Principal, Professor Petra Wend, concluded: "Both Kate's and Eugenio's achievements in their specialist areas reflect the relevance of the university's work and its aim of serving communities and improving quality of life." □



To read the full honorary graduate article visit: www.qmu.ac.uk/marketing/press_releases/Honorary-graduates-2014.htm

Employer Mentoring Programme boosts graduate job prospects

“This internship has been an integral part in my successful achievement of a graduate role...”

Callum Shearer,
BA (Hons) Public Relations and Marketing

THE NEW EMPLOYER MENTORING Programme at QMU explores ways to strengthen students' employability and boost their confidence, helping their transition from academia to graduate employment.

Project Coordinator, Juan Garcia, believes that the initiative meets student employability expectations and creates a means to identify skills requirements in the region. It also meets regional business development needs by supporting local businesses which are developing their workforce through mentoring.

Juan explained: “Being involved in the Employer Mentoring Programme allows mentors to have a direct impact on our students' development and success. Apart from a real feeling of satisfaction and achievement, it also provides professionals with the opportunity to gain a range of valuable skills which they can utilise within their own organisations.”

The results from the new scheme have been extremely positive with the very first intern to work on the project securing a graduate level job in his specialist field.

“The Programme provides professionals with the opportunity to gain a range of valuable skills which they can utilise within their own organisations.”

Juan Garcia, Project Coordinator

Callum Shearer at the QMU Graduation - July 2014



Callum Shearer, BA (Hons) Public Relations and Marketing

Callum was selected as the first intern to work on QMU's first employer mentoring project and was so successful that he secured a paid graduate job in marketing and PR as Digital Communications Executive for Miiuu. Edinburgh-based Miiuu offers a new, fast and cost effective way of collecting video feedback from many audiences.

Colin Duffus, Careers Adviser, said: “Not only are we developing a dynamic project which will benefit future students, we are investing in our current students to help develop and run the project – therefore, keeping it student focused.”

Callum Shearer, QMU alumni, commented: “I have gained a wide range

of experience while undertaking the internship for the Employer Mentoring Programme and I am thankful for receiving this opportunity. I can, without doubt, say that this internship has been an integral part in my successful achievement of a graduate role and has further enhanced my employability in a difficult job market.”

Benefits for the mentor

Project feedback suggests that mentors can use this unique training and support opportunity to develop their coaching and mentoring skills, gain greater self-awareness, and enhance their managerial and leadership skills. Martin Allen, Account Director at Grayling, found the experience to be extremely rewarding. He mentored final year student, Maria Seisdedos-Diaz, from Spain.

Becoming a mentor

The QMU Employer Mentoring Programme is now looking to hear from business professionals and companies, including industry experts from film and media, broadcasting, public relations and psychology, that would be interested in becoming a mentor to a QMU student.

If you are a professional and/or QMU alumni who would like to know more about this programme visit: www.qmu.ac.uk/jobshop/becomeamentor.htm, follow us on Twitter @QMentoring, or contact Juan Garcia at the QMU JobShop on E: employermentoring@qmu.ac.uk or T: 0131 474 0000.

You can also read more case studies, including one from Beth Noble, BSc (Hons) Nutrition student, who was mentored by the Development Manager (Food and Health) with NHS Health Scotland, at <http://www.qmu.ac.uk/jobshop/casestudies.htm>



Professor Petra Wend, QMU Principal, with Maria Seisdedos-Diaz

Maria Seisdedos-Diaz, BA (Hons) Public Relations and Marketing

Maria found out about the QMU Employee Mentoring Programme through the University's Job Shop and was matched with one of the country's leading public relations and public affairs consultancies, Grayling, in Edinburgh.

Maria said: “The programme is a great way to get a clearer idea, from experts working in your field, about your chosen career path and how to move forward in the right direction.

“I'm really grateful to Grayling Scotland for its continued support. My mentor showed me how to analyse real PR cases and strategies, as well as how to maximise the impact of my CV in the current PR job market and the work areas that are relevant to me.

“The whole experience allowed me to rediscover my own strengths and boost my confidence in my own capacities.”

Martin Allen, Account Director at Grayling, said: “The mentor experience was very fulfilling. Having not undertaken anything like that before, there was certainly an element of the unknown and also responsibility, knowing that someone might shape their future on my words!

“Maria, my mentee, was an excellent match and we were able to quickly develop a good working relationship. This meant the experience was very rewarding and I'll certainly be happy to help out again.” □

Kelpies time-lapse film launches in New York and Scotland

A STUNNING STOP-MOTION FILM of Scotland's major new cultural landmark – The Kelpies in Falkirk – was launched in New York and in Scotland in April.

Created by QMU's award-winning filmmaker, Walid Salhab, the striking time-lapse/stop-motion film captures the four-month construction phase of Andy Scott's Kelpies structures which form the centrepiece of the £43 million Helix land transformational project between Falkirk and Grangemouth.

The 30 metre (100ft) high sculptures of two horses' heads are the world's largest equine sculptures and are expected to play a key role in The Helix attracting an additional 350,000 visitors and adding around £1.5 million in additional annual tourism spend in the area.

Contracted by the Helix to produce the film, Walid is the only filmmaker to have had access to the complete build phase of the monumental Kelpies structures – thereby visually documenting a period in Scotland's history. It is believed that his unique portrayal of The Kelpies will capture the attention of a global audience putting Falkirk on the international tourist map.

Walid and his technical support partner, Bill Annua, spent months on the construction site using a unique combination of hand-held, slides, tracks and static cameras to capture the build. 1000 hours of filming and editing went into creating the final seven minute film. Over 120,000 photos were taken with 12,000 making it into the final cut. The result is a fascinating mechanical portrayal of the build phase followed by

a mesmerising portrayal of the finished Kelpies in all their glory.

Walid explained: "Shooting stop-motion/time-lapse photography involves taking actual photos to create the illusion of movement, rather than using film or video. It's a painstaking, complicated process with a very low success rate, in that much of the footage is discarded. The Kelpies are built in a very unique way. There are no text books to refer to for shooting in this environment and we therefore had to develop and apply a totally new filming technique.

"What makes the film different from most time-lapses of new buildings is the significant movement of the camera within the construction site while the build was taking place. One tiny clip - for example - the adding of the horse's jaw - could take up to eight hours to film."

Walid continued: "The construction phase was the most challenging to capture as there were no second chances. We therefore had to double the amount of filming to cover any camera failures. It was almost a 24-hour process with editing necessary every night following filming to ensure that there were no technical issues."

One of the key elements of The Kelpies is their capacity to reflect light. Walid explained: "Andy Scott has crafted beautiful structures which reflect their environment. The second part of the

film celebrates the majestic nature of the completed Kelpies. Kelpies are supposed to be 'shape-shifters'. These sculptures do indeed have a mystical quality about them as well as a tremendous capacity to reflect the sunset, clouds and moon. Their position between Falkirk and Grangemouth often results in a very distinctive backdrop of changing skies – enhancing their unique quality."

Audiences may be surprised to learn that no special effects have been used in the film. Walid said: "Absolute minimum colouring is used. We wanted the final result to be as genuine as possible to demonstrate the true reflective nature of the metal structures. Ninety-five percent of the camera movement was achieved by re-positioning the camera on a tripod manually – inch by inch and foot by foot. The film is like a Persian carpet – stitched together by hand, frame-by-frame."

Walid concluded: "Filming The Kelpies has been the most difficult but most rewarding experience of my life. I hope that the film will now encourage other photographers, filmmakers and visitors from all over the world to visit Falkirk and experience the brilliance of Andy Scott's Kelpies."

Watch Walid's Kelpies film at: <http://vimeo.com/90747645> □

The Kelpies Enflammer

WALID SALHAB WENT on to produce another dramatic Kelpies film. The three minute time-lapse 'The Kelpies Enflammer' captures the pyrotechnics display at the international launch of the Kelpies.

The amazing pyrotechnics were staged by Groupe F, the specialist company famous for lighting up the Eiffel Tower during the Millennium firework display.

Walid worked with a crew of five which included the team from Smart Film Production (Marcin Walczak and Ondrej Lodes) and Raw Film Productions (Michael Grant and Agata Jagodzinska). Smart Film and Raw Film Productions are fledgling video production companies run by QMU film graduates. The team shot more than 15,000 photos during two three hour performances.

Walid said: "We were unsure if the combination of stop-motion photography and slow-motion video would work on this project. We also had the challenge of condensing the three hour event into a three minute film without losing any of the drama. The Kelpies make a magnificent centre piece for a unique pyrotechnic show like this and I hope our footage helps to share the stunning performance with an international audience."

You can view 'The Kelpies Enflammer' at <http://vimeo.com/92907697> □

Costume Showcase is 'pure theatre'

This year, students from QMU's Costume Design and Construction degree took the University's annual catwalk event to new heights with a truly theatrical show.



WITH THE THEME of 'pure theatre', the 2014 show was even bolder and more inventive than in previous years.

Held in May, the event showcased an impressive array of costumes created and modelled by performing arts students. The breadth of work reflected the Costume Design and Construction students' portfolio and included large scale works as well as smaller pieces including masks, millinery, puppetry and illustration.

The show introduced the audience to the world of courtiers and royalty, as well as ethereal fairy-stories and backstage glamour. Historical, mythical and literary creations took centre stage, and so guests were treated to costumes from the period of Edward VII, creations from the play 'Orpheus and the Underworld' and a Queen Elizabeth I costume.

A focal point of this year's event was an exquisite range of tweed themed outfits. The beautiful tweed fabric, kindly donated by Lovat Mill in Hawick, was crafted by students to create bespoke outfits for a forthcoming student film 'Hound of the McBaskervilles'.

Dr Richard Butt, Dean of the School of Arts, Social Sciences & Management, said: "This event is always a highlight in the QMU calendar as it provides a platform for us to celebrate creativity and allows students to unveil costumes they have worked on over the last year."

Sarah Paulley, Costume Design and Construction Course Leader, said: "This year, a much expanded exhibition of original design work and sketch books, together with masks and headaddresses, were available to view after the show. This provided guests with the opportunity to meet the designers and makers, and to get an insight into the research, creativity and skill that goes into developing these creations."

Dr Butt continued: "We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to Lovat Mill in Hawick, for providing the beautiful tweed. It is always a privilege for our students to work with such high quality material and it was a real thrill to see the bespoke tweed creations, in particular the large scale hound puppet, that the students created for Costume Showcase and the 'Hound of the McBaskervilles' film."

□

Students used exquisite tweed fabric to craft costumes for the film 'Hound of the McBaskervilles'.

Film and Media students help make the world 'Happy'

QMU FILM AND MEDIA students have been spreading their own special brand of happiness around local businesses and across the globe, as part of their 'Working in the Media' module.

Each year, the QMU students undertake a project with external clients that involves the production of a media product such as a film, website or social media campaign. Often the client is a small business, charity or community group, some of which don't have the expertise needed to produce specialist promotional media. The result is therefore a win-win situation – our students gain excellent practical and technical experience working on a live project, and the client gets the chance to develop their promotional material.

2nd year students on the BA (Hons) Film and Media degree, Siril Borgersen, Anine Rygg and Sophia Saheicha, teamed up with Clifton Hall School in Edinburgh this Easter to create an energetic short video set to the chart-topping single 'Happy' by singer Pharrell Williams.

The fun film 'Clifton Hall Does Happy' demonstrates the dancing skills of staff and students at the school and has such a great feel-good factor that it is now being used on the institution's website and YouTube to show the happy ethos of the school.

The feel-good factor has already spread beyond Scotland with many views taking place as far afield as California.

To watch 'Clifton Hall Does Happy' visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0TbLjYLRU



Student group selfie with REdesign director Fiona Lambert. The students built a new social media network to boost REdesigns membership and online presence.

ANOTHER GROUP OF film and media students has teamed up with an East Lothian home improvement network to help it attract more members and to give its social and digital media presence a boost.

The REdesign network offers furniture up-cycling and refurbishment services for house-proud residents in East Lothian, as well as staging a range of creative upcycling workshops, pop-up shops and local community group events throughout the year.

QMU level two students, Stuart MacKenzie, Connor Mullan, Blue Rainbird and Roni Simpson, worked with REdesign to build a new social media network, linking together Facebook and Twitter, as well as photo and video sharing channels - Instagram, Vine and Pinterest. The students also created a new image and logo for REdesign, by advising on a new style of photography to reflect the network as it develops.

The results of the students' work are already having a positive impact on REdesign's membership and online presence. □

If other East Lothian and Edinburgh businesses and voluntary organisations are interested in getting involved in QMU's film and media client projects they should contact Denny Collie, Lecturer in Creative Enterprise, E: dcollie@qmu.ac.uk

Who do you think you are?

Business specialists identify opportunities in ancestral tourism

WITH THE RECENT INTEREST in programmes such as the BBC's 'Who do you think you are?' and the continuous enthusiasm from people in North America in tracing their ancestry, it is no surprise that Scottish businesses are seeing the potential in ancestral tourism.

Borders Journeys, a small tourism business based in the Scottish Borders, has been promoting the stunning, but often neglected, Scottish Borders and Dumfries & Galloway regions as travel destinations since 2012. In addition to sightseeing, owner/director Ian Walker has been inviting ancestral enthusiasts to connect with their Scottish roots and to explore their ancestry across the Borders and Dumfriesshire's towns and countryside. With an excellent knowledge of Scotland, Ian specialises in tailor-made tours which share the beauty, history and culture of his homeland with visitors from home and abroad.

However, with a passion for all things Scottish, Ian was struggling to decide whether to concentrate on the specialism of ancestral tourism or to broaden his focus to encompass Scottish tourism in general.

Dr Claire Seaman, Director of the Scottish Forum for Family Business Research at QMU, said: "Ian felt he needed a clearer strategic vision for his company. He particularly wanted to establish if there was a large enough market to merit him spending the majority of his time focusing on ancestral tourism."

She continued: "As specialists in tourism, QMU was delighted to get involved in this project. Small businesses can often reap the benefits of having a fresh eye on their work. With a strong track record in hospitality, tourism and family business, we were able to conduct research and look at government policy which would help Ian determine a clear future direction for the development of Borders Journeys."

Dr Seaman said: "Tourism can transform local economies, and research has shown that there is a growing interest in ancestral tourism at home and abroad. A recent VisitScotland publication predicted that ancestral tourism could bring around £2.4 billion to Scotland over five years.

"Aside from the USA and other international markets which generate visitors who seek bespoke personal tours focusing on family ancestry in Scotland, there is also a growing home market, possibly fuelled by programmes such as 'Who do you think you are?' and a growing older population."

Dr Seaman and Professor Joe Goldblatt, from QMU's Division

of Business, conducted research into the ancestral tourism market in Scotland, estimating the market size, and looking at the characteristics of ancestral tourism within Scotland and with the Scottish diaspora.

Professor Goldblatt explained: "A recent scoping study for VisitScotland highlights that the current value of ancestral tourism is around £101 million and that the likelihood of ancestral tourists becoming returning tourists in Scotland is high across all countries."

VisitScotland also estimates that there are approximately 28-40 million people of Scottish ancestry who live permanently outwith of Scotland. In addition to these ancestral Scots, a 2009 study conducted by the American Scottish Foundation (ASF) identified tens of millions more individuals who have an affinity with Scottish culture.

Professor Goldblatt continued: "With the increased priority being placed on ancestral tourism by the Scottish Government and opportunities presented by large scale events such as the Commonwealth Games and Scotland's Homecoming, and links with the clan associations, there is significant scope for the development of ancestral tourism."

Dr Seaman concluded: "Our report suggested that, to avoid over-reliance on Ian as the main business expert within the business, the company could grow parallel stands of business, one of which could allow additional expertise to be brought into the company as appropriate.

"However, importantly, our research, and the marketing opportunities we identified with diasporan Scots, confirmed that the future is indeed bright for Borders Journeys and that there is a substantial market to merit its further development in ancestral tourism."

The three month long research project was supported by Interface through a £5,000 innovation voucher from the Scottish Funding Council. Interface provides a central point of access to the expertise available in Scotland's higher education and research institutions and helps match businesses with the right academic expertise.

Ian Walker from Borders Journeys, said: "The advice and support provided by the QMU academic team has been invaluable. Building on the project's findings, Borders Journeys has built new relationships and contacts worldwide in the ancestral history and tourism market. This year we have seen a significant increase in clients contacting us regarding ancestral research and tours."

"Building on the project's findings, Borders Journeys has built new relationships and contacts worldwide in the ancestral history and tourism market."





First Macmillan Supporters help cancer patients with nutrition

IN MAY, A TEAM of cancer survivors in Glasgow celebrated after successfully completing a course to become Scotland's first fully trained Macmillan Supporters.

The new Macmillan Supporters, who are all volunteers, have either had a personal cancer experience or cared for someone with cancer. Each of the volunteers completed comprehensive training in nutrition, which was credit rated by QMU, to equip them with the skills and confidence to listen, support and provide advice to cancer patients.

The new initiative from Macmillan Cancer Support, which is delivered in partnership with QMU and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, provides cancer patients in the West of Scotland with the opportunity to meet with, or talk over the phone, to someone who has experience of cancer. The Macmillan Supporters are now equipped to talk through issues such as treatment, managing changes in appetite and body weight or simply offer a listening ear.

Cancer patients will be matched with a supporter who has experience of a similar type of cancer to ensure they can provide relevant and practical advice in approaching and dealing with a range of issues. Their personal experience, coupled with comprehensive training, allows patients, carers and the healthcare community to be assured that a Macmillan Supporter will act safely and effectively to improve the cancer treatment experience for patients and their carers.

Trisha Hatt, Macmillan Senior Development Manager, said: "Receiving a cancer diagnosis and going through treatment will be the toughest fight many people will face. Having family, friends and health professionals for support is essential. However, we know that speaking to someone who has gone through the same experience is highly valued by those affected by cancer.

“speaking to someone who has gone through the same experience is highly valued by those affected by cancer.”

"Sharing concerns, problems and issues with someone who has gone through something similar not only helps cancer patients to feel they are not alone and but can also give them much needed hope during an uncertain time."

Dr Fiona Coutts, Dean of Health at QMU, said: "It is essential that individuals with cancer are offered sensible and helpful nutritional information in order to maximise their health. We are therefore delighted to utilise our expertise in nutrition and dietetics to credit rate this important module in nutrition. We are also proud to be involved in an initiative which offers an innovative approach to supporting people with cancer and ultimately improves quality of life." □

New scholarships help address Scotland's shortage of therapeutic radiographers

WITH CANCER CASES on the rise across the globe, health authorities face the significant challenge of ensuring that there are enough therapeutic radiographers and specialised equipment to meet the growing demand for treatment and patient care.

Demand for therapeutic radiographers is at an all-time high.

The World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) estimates that cancer cases will rise from 12.7 million to 21 million by 2030. However, in the UK, there is a shortage of qualified therapeutic radiographers. Not surprisingly, the 7.6% average vacancy rate for these qualified professionals in the UK is prompting major concern about the future sustainability of cancer services across the UK. With new oncology care centres opening in Tayside and the west of Scotland, and three additional treatment units being built in the north of England, demand for therapeutic radiographers is at an all-time high.

However, recruitment and retention of suitable students to courses which train therapeutic radiographers is a major challenge to the radiography workforce. Without the qualified staff, it is impossible for the NHS or private practice to service the expansion of radiography services.

In addition to its four year undergraduate programme, ten years ago, QMU responded to the high demand for qualified therapeutic radiographers by developing an innovative two year pre-registration postgraduate diploma in radiotherapy and oncology. The aim was to fast track graduates already qualified in science or other health disciplines. Initially, the Scottish Government provided funded places for students on the fast track postgraduate programme, but funding ended and students had the challenge of paying for their own fees.

Dr Coutts, Dean of Health at QMU, stated: "The PgDip/MSc in Radiotherapy and

Oncology is the first of its kind in the UK. It is flexible, thereby allowing a quicker response to the increased demands on the service, and it encourages suitably-qualified individuals to join a much-needed profession."

Dr Coutts continued: "The demand for qualified therapeutic radiographers remains high and the postgraduate course at QMU has a 100% employability rate. However, at a cost of £8240 a year, the financial burden of self-funded postgraduate study is a major barrier for many students. This situation limits the number of graduates in Scotland available to work as radiographers, which has a direct effect on services to patients with cancer."

The University was therefore delighted that Santander, through its Santander Universities Global Division, helped ease the situation by providing scholarships which part-funded three students on the fast track programme in 2013 and 2014.

Due to the expansion of radiography services and the urgent demand for a skilled workforce, QMU has been determined to encourage more students to prepare for a career in this specialist field. QMU's efforts have been rewarded by the successful funding from the Scottish Government of 16 fee-paying scholarships for students studying the PgDip/MSc in Radiotherapy and Oncology in 2014/15. Students will receive full fee funding for both years of the programme.

Dr Coutts concluded: "We are very grateful to Santander Universities and to the Scottish Government for providing this much needed funding. We also greatly appreciate the support of Scotland's Radiotherapy Service Managers, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer Scotland, the AHP Federation Scotland and many others for their assistance in helping us secure these important scholarships." □

Fresh blend of research informs Britain's tea lovers

QMU'S FOOD AND drink scientists have teamed up with one of the UK's leading artisan tea companies to offer consumers more information about the contents of their tea cup.

eteaket, the loose leaf speciality tea company based on Edinburgh's Frederick Street, aimed to expand its range of speciality teas for the UK and overseas market. It also wanted to provide customers with more detailed nutritional information about caffeine and antioxidant levels to assist them in choosing the best tea variety for their personal requirements.

With a strong research background in supporting the development of Scotland's food and drink businesses, eteaket identified QMU as the academic partner with the widest skills and knowledge for analysing the science behind its range of 30 loose leaf teas.

Researchers at QMU have extensive experience of identifying the antioxidant content of a wide variety of food and drink products, including undertaking a number of studies which have assessed the nutritional and health benefits of antioxidant rich drinks.

Varying levels of caffeine and antioxidants found in everyday food and drinks products such as tea, coffee, chocolate and energy drinks have a number of health benefits as well as some physiological effects. Some studies have revealed that caffeine has anti-inflammatory properties and has an impact on neurological function.

Dr Mary Warnock, Senior Lecturer in Microbiology at QMU, discussed the findings: "Tea contains numerous different natural chemicals which act as antioxidants, including vitamin C (ascorbic acid) and tannins. Antioxidants play a valuable role in maintaining good health. They can help protect cells from damage and are important in the fight against disease.

"Our research showed that some of eteaket black teas have a high caffeine level but some tea enthusiasts might be surprised to learn that it is those teas that also have a high antioxidant level. eteaket's English breakfast black tea variety had the greatest antioxidant content and the Silver Needle variety of white tea had the least. eteaket's Oriental Oolong and English Breakfast teas contained the highest levels of caffeine while Decaf Breakfast and Big Red Rooibos contained no or negligible amounts.

"Even though black teas have a relatively high amount of caffeine, it is still only about half the amount that is found in coffee and energy drinks."

Dr Warnock concluded: "Hopefully this information will be really helpful to consumers who are interested to know about the nutritional content of their tea. So for example, those who are looking to reduce caffeine in their diet could choose to select eteaket's Decaf Breakfast or the Big Red Rooibos varieties."

Erica Moore, Founder of eteaket, added: "We're passionate about tea and have been rekindling the British love for proper leaf tea since 2008.

"The latest scientific data from QMU is helping us develop product information contained on our website, online shop, promotional materials and labelling. We're really pleased that we can now offer our customers and tea connoisseurs, across the UK and overseas, detailed consumer information about the contents of their tea cup.

"Importantly, the valuable information we now have on caffeine and antioxidant levels across our product range is also helping us increase sales and identify other business opportunities."

Consumer information on the full range of eteaket's teas will soon be available from the company's online shop www.eteaket.co.uk □



Erika Moore outside the eteaket tearoom on Fredrick Street, Edinburgh

To read more about this research visit: www.qmu.ac.uk/marketing/press_releases/eteaket-tea.htm





Clockwise from top left: Suzanne Zarembka, QMU researcher; Kate Hamilton, iQ Chocolate; Richard Chessor, Lead Nutritionist, Scottish Rugby; Jane Shandley, iQ Chocolate.

iQ Chocolate proves truly 'scrum'ptious

Researchers and Scottish Rugby tackle the 'superfood' value of chocolate

NEW QMU RESEARCH has shown that an artisan chocolate made in Scotland has the potential to improve the reaction times of Scotland's toughest rugby players.

QMU scientists teamed up with one of Scotland's leading chocolate makers and Scottish Rugby in a bid to unwrap the superfood value of the popular snack. Stirling-based iQ Chocolate enlisted the help of QMU and 12 of Scotland's toughest rugby sevens players to put the product through robust scientific analysis and up against the extreme physical demands of these sporting giants.

In addition to seeing a marked trend in reaction times of rugby players, the research also showed that iQ Chocolate has a greater antioxidant level compared to other leading chocolate brands assessed.

The results of QMU's research have gone some way to dispel the myth that all chocolate is an unhealthy indulgence. The results of the mental function study also confirmed the rugby squad displayed

a marked trend towards faster reaction times after eating the iQ brand.

With a strong research background in supporting the development of Scotland's food and drink businesses, iQ Chocolate identified QMU as the academic partner with the widest skills and knowledge for analysing the science behind its premium product.

Researchers at QMU have extensive experience of assessing the antioxidant content of a wide variety of food products, including undertaking a number of studies which have identified the nutritional and health benefits of antioxidant rich foods such as sea buckthorn and tea.



Cocoa is a very concentrated and valuable source of antioxidant in the diet, along with certain fruit and vegetables and red wine. Varying levels of antioxidants found in these everyday products can have a positive effect on heart health and mental function.

The most widely consumed source of cocoa is chocolate, which is often perceived as an unhealthy food. Most chocolate available on the market is highly refined, with high sugar and fat content, as well as relatively low cocoa content. Bearing this in mind, iQ Chocolate wanted to create a chocolate that challenged this negative image.

iQ Chocolate is a raw, organic, bean-to-bar chocolate that has a high 72% cocoa content. It is produced and formulated in a particular way to retain specifically high antioxidant level.

With help from QMU researchers, iQ Chocolate wanted to provide customers with more detailed nutritional information about the antioxidant properties of its products and its positive health benefits, especially for those people who take part in regular intense exercise and sports.

QMU and iQ Chocolate decided to test the product on the Scottish Rugby Union sevens squad. Rugby performance is influenced by physical activity levels, but also relies heavily on tactical behaviour and decision making. Since rugby is one of the most tactically complex sports, a high antioxidant intake on a regular basis, specifically before a match, offers the potential to provide additional benefits for players in terms of both physical and mental function abilities.

QMU researchers assessed the antioxidant function of three different

chocolate brands, including iQ Chocolate, to investigate the effect of each on the rugby squad's post-training mental performance. The project was a single-blinded randomised controlled trial that assessed both the speed and accuracy of the squad's mental responses.

After just a short period of chocolate consumption, the results of the mental function study confirmed the rugby squad displayed a marked trend towards faster reaction times after eating the iQ brand. These small changes could be significant in the sporting world where reaction and response time to stimuli is crucial.

The research also confirmed that iQ Chocolate has a unique and greater antioxidant level compared with the other leading chocolate brands assessed.

The potential link between high antioxidant levels and faster reaction rates revealed in

the study is now allowing iQ Chocolate to better inform its customers about the nutritional content and physiological benefit of its product. Inclusion of this information on food labelling could assist and encourage consumers to differentiate between brands and help them make healthier food choices.

iQ Chocolate is now being successfully marketed as a superfood with the aim of repositioning its range of premium chocolate products as naturally healthy food. iQ Chocolate is particularly suited to the sports market, as it is fuel rich and a healthy alternative to other high energy snacks.

Scottish Rugby currently now recommends iQ Chocolate as a post match snack to its players due to its high antioxidant content. □

To read more about this research visit: www.qmu.ac.uk/marketing/press_releases/QMU-research-tackles-superfood-value-of-chocolate.htm

For more information about QMU's Research & Knowledge Exchange Development Unit and how it can benefit your business, contact Miriam Smith, Business Development Manager at QMU on T: 0131 474 0000 or E: MSmith3@qmu.ac.uk

Interview with David Sharp, Area Supervisor with Japanese conglomerate, Nichii Gakkan



David Sharp, MSc International Management & Leadership, 2012 (distinction)

David Sharp works for Japanese conglomerate Nichii Gakkan in Japan. He has quickly risen up the ranks over the past year, having been promoted and finally securing a tenured position as Area Supervisor in 2014.

He was seconded to two of his company's training teams and to their international corporate sales team where he led a product demonstration to the CEO of a large Chinese company.

What is your current job title/role?

I'm an Area Supervisor responsible for staff training and product quality at nine worksites. I have 60 employees reporting directly to me. I'm also responsible for liaising between head office and operations staff, and provide cross-cultural dispute resolution consulting to nine managers, three branch managers and a division head.

Do you feel your QMU degree has been important in helping you get to where you are today?

The real employment value in management degrees such as the MSc International Management & Leadership is that it helps you stand out from colleagues when promotions are being decided. I was selected to be on a 10-person shortlist from over 200 colleagues, and was finally chosen as one of the final three for promotion. During my MSc, human resources was broken down into four or five separate subjects. This gave me a real in-depth knowledge when it came to workplace psychology and change management. I used this knowledge while working in my company and it helped me stand out in interviews. Very few non-Japanese people ever receive a tenured position in a Japanese conglomerate, and it was my QMU management degree that made all the difference.

How easy was it for you to secure your current job?

It isn't a matter of hard or easy. It is a matter of consistently being ready for opportunities. My time at QMU, doing projects, and being a member of the Student Parliament, representing my fellow MBA and MSc cohort, as well as the academic work, gave me a good understanding of the need to always be ready, to always say yes to a challenge, and to go the extra mile.

Any tips for current QMU students?

Don't get too star-struck by specific subjects like marketing or supply chain, they may or may not be useful. The business and workplace psychology subjects like organisational behaviour, leadership studies and reflective practice, are just as useful. Understanding how organisations and people work is a vital skill that will help you get work and get promoted. It will give you confidence when dealing with clients, colleagues, subordinates and bosses because you know that you aren't just making decisions on a whim, you are acting, deciding and working with an awareness of the most up-to-date science on how different kinds of behaviours, incentives and organisational structures affect those around you.

What made you choose QMU?

The course was extremely attractive because it integrates an international angle into all of the subjects studied and because of the sheer breadth of subjects on offer.

I came to QMU with extensive overseas experience but absolutely no education in business or management. The degree allows you to explore so many different management and business disciplines, whilst also letting you decide your own essay or report topic. This combination of a broad education that is also specifically tailored to each student's needs is what made me choose QMU.

What aspects of your QMU degree do you still use?

The great thing about my QMU masters is that it didn't just give me general transferable skills - it gave me real, practical business and management knowledge and a solid grasp of the theory behind that knowledge.

My approach to staff evaluation and feedback sessions is heavily based on what I learned in my Organisational Behaviour and Reflective Practice classes.

In discussions with my own boss, I am able to contribute intelligently to larger projects because of what I learned in the QMU Strategy and Finance class. The hands on Theory Into Practice project is integral to the QMU MSc International Management & Leadership because it gives you a real chance to be a leader. □



Alumni Ambassador for the 'Trees of Life' Campaign

Barbara Prater, a recent BA (Hons) Psychology graduate from 2013, became a donor to the 150 'Trees of Life' campaign. The aim of the campaign is to create a special grove of trees on the campus to commemorate the 150th anniversary of QMU in 2025.

Barbara said: "QMU is such a friendly university. I learnt so much and made such great friends during my time there that I wanted to give something back in return. By donating and planting a tree, I am ensuring that, in years to come, future students will be able to stroll along this beautiful tree lined avenue - and I will have helped

in its creation. My tree will improve the biodiversity of this amazing campus by offering birds, butterflies, moths and furry creatures a place to live."

Barbara recently endorsed the 'Trees of Life' campaign by making a video to help raise awareness of the project - please see the website <http://www.qmu.ac.uk/treeoflife/> for details.

If you would like further information about the 'Trees of Life' campaign or to discuss further opportunities for giving to QMU, please contact the Development team on E: development@qmu.ac.uk or T: +44 (0) 131 474 0000. □

New bursary aims to improve communication of children from disadvantaged backgrounds

THE MULTI-DISCIPLINARY *CASL Research Centre at QMU, which promotes research into speech and non-verbal communication, has recently received a generous donation from Speech and Language Therapist, Mrs Carol Spragge.

The four year funding will support 'The Carol Spragge Dissertation Bursary', a MSc project which will explore communication difficulties and intervention in children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

The project's focus is to assess the communication skills of primary school children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and provide them with targeted speech and language therapy to consolidate and improve their communication skills. It will be carried out by a newly qualified Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) who has recently graduated from QMU's PgDip Speech and Language Therapy.

As part of the bursary, the successful student will register for a further qualification, the MSc in Speech and Language Therapy. The opportunity to undertake a funded MSc dissertation project will be of immense benefit to the student who is chosen to carry out the work. Data gathered by the student will enhance the breadth and depth of the study, whilst the learning opportunities open to the chosen student will be greatly enhanced by working alongside professional practitioners in a challenging and rewarding clinical environment. The work carried out will also result in the student contributing to academic publication, which is crucial to the early career development of those wishing to impact significantly on practice within the field.

If you would like to discuss different ways of supporting student development at QMU or to support other aspects of the University's work, please contact Lisa Gillespie, Development and Alumni Manager, on E: lgillespie@qmu.ac.uk or T: 0131 474 0000

(*CASL - Clinical Audiology, Speech and Language)

International management scholarship honours memory of mother



Mrs Bishop on her 70th birthday in 2010

IN JANUARY 2014, QMU celebrated the unveiling at Atholl Crescent of a Historic Scotland plaque to commemorate Louisa Stevenson and Christian Guthrie Wright, founders of Queen Margaret University. One guest, who travelled from Washington DC to join the celebration, was Mr Desmond Lacton Bishop. He was joined by a relative and friend, Harold Ezzidio and Eugene Beckley. Mr Bishop made the journey to Scotland as he wanted to see for himself where his late mother, Victoria Christiana Bishop (nee Sawyerr), had studied over sixty years ago.

Mrs Bishop attended the institute that is now QMU at Atholl Crescent between 1954-57 on a scholarship from Sierra Leone, West Africa.

After her time in Edinburgh, Mrs Bishop returned to Freetown, Sierra Leone and enjoyed a long and successful career in the world of business and

hospitality management. Her many successes included working for the British Commercial Development Corporation, which then ran some of the best hotels throughout British West Africa. She went on to become the General Manager of the famous Paramount Hotel in Freetown. Later, she served as the designated consultant for state visits, looking after the highest level of dignitaries including heads of state and prime ministers. Among the highlights of her career was the state visit of then Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in January 1972, and co-ordinating the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Kent in 1987. She received the highest honour of the land, the Member of the Order of the Rokel, for her dedicated service to her country immediately after Sierra Leone hosted the 1980 OAU conference.

Mr Bishop said: "My mom travelled from Western Africa to Scotland at the age of 21.

She was a young woman who took an opportunity to broaden her horizons and learn a profession that she would enjoy for the rest of her life. She stayed with a Scottish family and studied at Atholl Crescent for three wonderful years. The skills and lessons she learned at the Edinburgh School of Domestic Science shaped her career for almost 30 years. We are incredibly proud of her determination and achievements."

Whilst visiting Edinburgh, Mr Bishop and his family took the opportunity to look around the QMU campus at Musselburgh. He said: "I've learnt so much about QMU and how it has developed and transformed from Atholl Crescent to the unique place of learning that it is today."

Following their trip to Scotland the Bishop family has created a special scholarship in honour and memory of their beloved mother and aunt. 'The Victoria C M Bishop Scholarship' is a five year scholarship providing support, each year, to a student in QMU's MSc International Management and Leadership with Hospitality.

If you are interested in creating a scholarship to help current students, our Development and Alumni Manager, Lisa Gillespie E: lgillespie@qmu.ac.uk would be delighted to discuss the opportunities available with you. □

Mrs Bishop as Assistant Manager, at the Paramount Hotel, Freetown, Sierra Leone in 1972



Graduate donation improves opportunities for current students

Thorben Grosser, a QMU graduate in Events Management (2012), has recently gifted a generous donation of 500 euros to the Student Development Fund.

Shortly before his graduation, Thorben, together with six fellow students and QMU's Professor Joe Goldblatt, attended the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) conference in San Diego. In response to this trip, Thorben was offered a job with EventMobi, a multinational company which produces mobile apps for events, conferences and tradeshows that enhance the attendee experience. Thorben is now Business Development Manager for EventMobi in Berlin, Germany.

Thorben said: "The 2012 student trip to San Diego resulted in me securing my current position. I want to make

sure future students have the same opportunities I had at QMU. Coming to QMU changed my life because of all the practical experiences and training, and valuable career contacts that I made. I am still fairly new to this job, so making this contribution means I need to cut back on some things for a few months to afford this donation. However, I am happy to financially support QMU students who I hope will enjoy similar experiences and successes that I have had since graduating from QMU."

Thorben's donation helped sponsor a dinner in Boston in January 2014. Nine QMU Event Management students had the opportunity to meet two event alumni - Micha Brooks and Yasha Bergmann, both successful event planners in Boston and Germany. The evening gave students the opportunity to gain invaluable careers advice and important contacts for the future. □



Students enjoying their time in Boston

Front row: student Dominique MacNeil, Fenway Park Ambassador/Tour Guide, student Rebecca Hay.

Second row: Professor Joe Goldblatt, students Leigh Ward, Laura Zambon, Florencia Gago, Sophie Macleod, Lars Van Veen

Back row: student Hannah MacDonald, Boston Red Sox Pitching Coach Juan Nieves, student Katie Logan.

The Vice Chancellor's Fund giving students an international perspective

The Vice-Chancellor's Fund was set up in 2010 with the sole aim of supporting students who wish to take part in study or research abroad. The Fund continues to assist in a wide range of overseas projects. These projects are made possible through the generous support of individual donors, such as Mr Ivor Guild, who supports QMU on an annual basis.

In 2013, Paulo Nunes de Moura, Associate Student on the MSc Social Justice course, applied for funding to attend an accredited summer school programme at the University of Amsterdam. Paulo said: "The programme 'Global Poverty & Inclusive Development' started focusing on poverty in low and middle-income countries. Thanks to the knowledge I had acquired on the Poverty and Social Exclusion programme at QMU, I was able to suggest that we should also talk about pockets of poverty in developed countries, such as Scotland and the Netherlands, which the facilitators agreed to include in discussions.

Paulo added: "I'd like to thank QMU, for facilitating this opportunity, which is not usually afforded to part-time students, and Dr Eurig Scandrett for his support with my grant application which allowed me to go on the programme."

Katie Gardner and Amy Westby, currently PgDip MSc students in Speech & Language Therapy, travelled to Dehradun in Northern India in October 2013 to work with the Latika Roy Foundation. The Foundation runs four schools in the city which provide educational and pre-vocational placements for children with a range of additional needs and physical difficulties. Katie and Amy provided support and discussed possible strategies and interventions with staff in order to maximise the pupils' communicative potential. Discussing their placement, they said: "We are extremely grateful for the financial help that QMU provided. This assisted us in fulfilling our goal of working in India. It was a fantastic trip which is allowing us to grow in confidence as speech therapists. The experience will continue to guide and influence us throughout our professional careers."

If you would like further information on the Vice-Chancellor Fund, including details of how to give or how to apply for a grant, see www.qmu.ac.uk/alumni_and_friends/VC_fund.htm or E: development@qmu.ac.uk. □

GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

By Maureen Paterson, Graduates' Association President

MEMBERSHIP

The QMUGA is open to all members of QMU and associated educational establishments. A one-off payment gives life membership which allows you to attend informal lunches which usually take place on the last Saturday of each month from September to November and from January to April. Members are invited to attend the AGM in June which will give you the opportunity meet old friends and make new ones. In addition, members have all year round access to Madras Lodge, the seaside house at Gullane, East Lothian.

Membership is open to graduates and staff and normally costs £35 at graduation or £45 for staff and alumni members. In 2014, to celebrate the 100th anniversary, membership is being offered at £20 for the first 100 members.

President's Report

On the 30 April 2014, I attended the funeral of long standing member, Mary Ogilvie. Her niece said that she has been delighted to be invited to the 100th anniversary.

On Friday 23 May, the 100th anniversary celebration took place in The Piano Bar at QMU. Some 40 members and guests attended. Members had travelled from Banchory, St Andrews, Crieff and Cockermouth. We were delighted to welcome three members who had graduated in the 1940s and they included Jean Butchart from Banchory, Anna Ross from St Andrews and Constance McArthur from Edinburgh. The afternoon began with a glass of fizz followed by a welcome from Professor Petra Wend, QMU's Principal and Vice Chancellor. We were then entertained with a performance of 'Life at The Edinburgh College of Domestic Science to the present day at Queen Margaret University' by three Drama students who gave a magnificent performance which was enjoyed by all. Following the afternoon tea, the event concluded with the cutting of a ribbon at the 'Tree of Life' which was donated by the QMUGA.

On behalf of QMUGA, I'd like to extend our thanks to QMU for its assistance and support with the anniversary celebration. Without QMU's input, the afternoon would not have been such a success.

The AGM took place on 7th June 2014 at The Edinburgh New Town Cookery School. Several members attended. One nomination was received for the Committee for Elaine Acaster, who we are pleased to welcome. An update on progress was given by Malcolm Cutt, Director of Operations and Finance at QMU. Many thanks to Malcolm for his informative report.

In July, I attended QMU's graduation ceremonies at The Usher Hall which was followed by a Champagne reception at QMU. This year, as it was the 100th anniversary, the Atholl Crescent prize was awarded to two students - one to Lewis Gail, BA (Hons) Business Administration and, the other, to Daria Janus, (Hons) PR and Media.

Also in July, members of the QMUGA held a joint event with the Edinburgh University Graduates' Association at The Meadows Croquet Club where afternoon tea and croquet was enjoyed by all who took part. Many thanks to Alison Ross, QMUGA member, for organising this event. QMUGA won the match!



QMU Graduates' Association celebrates 100th anniversary

An Afternoon Tea event was held on Friday 23 May to celebrate the centenary of the Queen Margaret University Graduates' Association, 1914-2014.

Over 50 guests attended the 'walk down memory lane' which included afternoon tea and a display of artefacts and memorabilia from the Archives Department. In addition, a short play was written and performed by current QMU students showcasing the three locations of QMU over the past 100 years.

The first meeting of the Association - then Guild - was on the 30th May 1914. The Guild was founded by Miss Ethel de la Coeur, who was President from 1909-1931. The purpose of the Guild was to preserve contact

between staff and students after leaving college. The Guild was managed by a Committee. The Principal was President and there were representatives from each department. At that time, there was an annual membership fee of 2/6 and a reunion was held each year in the summer term.

The afternoon celebrations concluded with a tree planting ceremony. This wonderful occasion was marked by members sponsoring a 'Tree of Life' in the name of QMU Graduates' Association. □

GA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas Lunch - Monday 8 December 2014, at the Edinburgh New Town Cookery School, Queen Street, Edinburgh. Please contact Social Secretary by Monday 24 November 2014 if you wish to attend.

Lunch - October and November 2014. Please contact Social Secretary. Telephone contact preferred.

Join Edinburgh University Graduates' Association (EUGA) events
QMUGA is invited to attend several EUGA events which involve lunch at the Playfair Library Hall, Old College, Edinburgh.

Date: Wednesday 29th October 2014

Speaker and talk: Frances Toolis, will give an illustrated talk about the Scottish Mathematical Physicist, Clerk Maxwell, the man who changed everything and was then forgotten.

Date: Tuesday 18th November 2014

Speaker and talk: Nadia Ellingham, the owner of Edinburgh company Thinking Chocolate. Nadia will talk about the history of chocolate and will bring samples of cocoa beans and other ingredients for guests to sample.

Cost: Each of the EUGA events above is priced at £22.

Booking of EUGA events: contact the Honorary Secretary, University of Edinburgh Graduates' Association, 18 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9LN. Tickets will be sent by email wherever possible. Please enclose a cheque a SAE. Cheques made payable to Edinburgh University Graduates' Association.

Best wishes, Maureen Paterson, President

Where are you now?

Sian Downes - QMU graduate named one of the UK's top event planners of 2014



Sian Downes, a recent PR and Media graduate, was 'Highly Commended' as one of the top four event planners under the age 30 in the UK and the only 'Rising Star' in Scotland, at the 2014 Event Awards in London in October.

The annual Event Awards is the only industry awards ceremony in the UK that celebrates the creative, experiential and supplier sectors in the live events sector.

Sian, who works as the Events Manager for the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, said: "I'm thrilled to have been named one of the UK event world's 'rising stars' this year. My QMU degree has certainly equipped me well for my chosen career path by offering lots of practical opportunities as well as building my academic knowledge. I really thrive on working in such a dynamic environment and have enjoyed taking on the challenge of boosting the profile of Chamber events and working alongside the members." □

Q.M.U.G.A.

CONTACTS

Bookings Secretary for Madras Lodge

Anne Yokes
T: 07817 328035
E: mlbook@qmuga.org.uk

Social Secretary

Dorothy Finlayson
4 Brunstane Road North
Edinburgh
EH15 2DJ
T: 0131 669 5341
E: alanfinlayson@virgin.net

Membership Secretary

Sylvia Northcott
22 Waulkhill Drive
Penicuik
Midlothian
EH26 8LA
T: 01968 674161
E: sylvia@thenorthcotts.net

Committee and General Communication

Maureen Paterson
Fettes Court
5/2 Craighill Road
Edinburgh
EH4 2DL
T: 0131 332 0047
E: maureenlpaterson@gmail.com

Kaiza secures marketing position with Contini Events

Congratulations to Kaiza Magnusson, an Events Management graduate from 2012, who started a new job in the summer as Event, Sales and Marketing Assistant for Contini Events, part of the Victor and Carina Contini restaurant and catering business. Contini Events offers fresh, simple Italian and Scottish food for parties and celebrations at its two restaurants: The Scottish Café and Restaurant based at the National Gallery of Scotland on The Mound (serving sustainable Scottish food) and its Italian restaurant Contini Ristorante on George Street, Edinburgh.

Kaiza was grateful for all the support she has received from QMU staff, particularly Professor Joe Goldblatt, Director of QMU's International Centre for the Study of Planned Events. Sharing the good news of her recent job offer, she wrote: "Thanks for being an excellent professor and giving me a great education and fantastic support during and after university. Now I am going to put my skills to good use!" □



Actor's 'Road to Change' campaign raises awareness of child abuse

Acting graduate and professional Scottish actor, Matthew McVarish, has launched a personal campaign, 'Road to Change', to help stamp out paedophilia in Europe.

Matthew is walking 16,000 kilometres to each European capital to try to convince local governments to adopt harsher paedophilia legislation.

With only the shirt on his back and two kilts to wear, Matthew has already been walking

for over 11 months and has reached out to millions of people across Europe. He has appeared on TV, radio and in newspapers in every country on his route. Bucharest is the 18th city he has visited.

Matthew's 'Road to Change' campaign has already brought this sensitive and controversial subject to the attention of government officials and policy makers around Europe, but Matthew is continuing to make further ground. He now plans to continue his epic journey to Sophia, Athens, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily, Rome, Slovenia, Croatia and Romania.

Matthew is being sponsored by American non-governmental organisation - 'Stop the Silence: Stop Child Sexual Abuse'. □



Louise E. Knowles, co-produces the Edinburgh and Glasgow 48 Hour Film Projects

'Louise's play is a sell out at the Traverse

'Listeners Beware' written by Louise E. Knowles, was recently performed to a packed audience at Edinburgh's Traverse Theatre. Louise, who graduated in 2002 with a BA (Hons) Playwriting, and again in 2004 with an MFA Screenwriting, won a commission from director Caitlin Skinner and funding from Creative Scotland to develop the play. The 45 minute production centred around characters in a North East of Scotland radio station 'Fittie FM'.

In its inaugural year, Louise was selected as a mentee of the Playwrights' Studio Scotland 2004/2005. Performances of her plays include 'Intransit' (GRV), co-written in collaboration with The Actors' Kitchen. Louise is also a founding member of The Village Pub Theatre collective and regularly writes for evenings at The Village Pub in Leith.

In addition to writing, Louise co-produces the Edinburgh and Glasgow 48 Hour Film Projects with husband Sam Goldblatt. Sam is a QMU graduate in Cultural Management and is currently Marketing Campaign Officer at the King's and Festival Theatres in Edinburgh. In March of this year, Louise and Sam travelled to New Orleans to attend 'Filmalooza', the 48 Hour Film Project's international festival, where their winning Glasgow film was selected to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival.

Produced as part of the programme of new writing for The Village Pub Theatre playwright collective, 'Listeners Beware' prompted uproarious laughter, cheers and thrills from an enthusiastic audience. Louise was delighted when the play received a four star review from Scotsman theatre critic, Joyce McMillan.

things you might not know about QMU

- is enjoying university league table success. Recently, it climbed 10 places in the Complete University Guide 2015 and 12 places in the Guardian League Tables 2015.
- is soon to launch the new Scottish Centre for Food Development and Innovation to support Scottish food and drink firms with their business and product development.
- houses a Business Gateway, run by East Lothian Council, which provides support for local businesses and entrepreneurial graduates.
- Matt Baker, BBC's 'The One Show' presenter, and Edith Bowman, Radio 1 DJ and broadcaster, are QMU graduates.
- students and graduates were heavily involved in Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games taking on both paid and volunteering roles.
- has a Consumer Insight Centre which has launched an accredited complaint handling qualification for public service staff. More details at: www.qmu.ac.uk/be/Research/cic.htm
- Public management experts have worked with councils to develop a high impact masters programme that will improve the delivery of public services across the country.
- Santander's internship programme has provided QMU students and graduates with the chance to gain invaluable experience in the workplace. A variety of paid internships have been offered in PR, sales, marketing, event management, creative industries and healthcare.
- is capitalising on its international reputation for cutting-edge stop-motion/time-lapse filming by developing a new kinetic centre. This will include a knowledge exchange hub for the production of short promotional film projects for commercial organisations. For details E: wsalhab@qmu.ac.uk or mgrant@qmu.ac.uk
- is committed to supporting to the development of small and medium sized enterprises. The Research and Knowledge Exchange Unit is continuing to develop mutually beneficial links with the wider business community. For further details about research and development contact Miriam Smith on E: msmith3@qmu.ac.uk

PR graduate shortlisted for 'Rising Agency Star' Award

QMU graduate, Lisa Addie, was shortlisted for this year's Marketing Society Scotland 'Rising Agency Star' Award.

The prestigious Marketing Society Scotland Star Awards is firmly established in setting standards of excellence across all aspects of marketing and sectors. The awards also help build Scotland's reputation as world leading marketing community and a great place in which to study, work and invest.

Lisa graduated in 2012 with a BA (Hons) PR & Marketing (first class) and is now a PR and Brand Executive for threebrand in Edinburgh, an independent creative branding agency with a specialism in food and drink.

Lisa's client management role is split across two key disciplines within the agency, namely PR and branding - a diverse role, which spans a range of clients from different sectors and which demands a flexible and proactive manner and approach.

Not only does this unique dual-role entail developing specific knowledge and insights across a breadth of categories, it also requires a high degree of organisation, client management, and ability to deal with multiple projects all with extremely tight deadlines at the same time - not a job for the faint hearted!

2013 was a steep learning curve for Lisa. Key areas of achievements included developing her experience across fashion, retail, tourism and luxury brands.

DATES for your diary

Event: **Postgraduate Open Evening**
 When: Wednesday 26th November 2014
 Time: 5.30pm - 7.30pm
 Where: QMU

Event: **Official opening of the Scottish Centre for Food Development and Innovation**
 When: Tuesday 9th December 2014
 Contact: E: msmith3@qmu.ac.uk

Booking for open day events is not essential but interested parties are advised to register at www.qmu.ac.uk close to the time of the event.