

PROM

100 years
of INTERNATIONAL
POLITICS

*Fighting
Malaria*

Blending
Geography
and Biology

*Sioned
Wiliam*

Alumna Interview

OLD COLLEGE
Appeal

Be part of our vision



NEW-LOOK PROM

We are incredibly grateful to the many alumni who completed last year's survey. It was wonderful to hear your suggestions and views on **PROM** and its contents. We hope you enjoy reading this new-look edition with its mix of news and information from Aber, as a complement to our popular monthly e-newsletter.

It is particularly pleasing to send you **PROM** as a bi-lingual magazine to reflect the distinctive nature of Aber's bilingual community and one of the many special reasons that thousands of alumni all over the world call Aber 'home'.

As ever, we look forward to hearing your feedback and suggestions.

Dylan Jones

dej20@aber.ac.uk

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Remember to keep your contact details and preferences updated, visit alumni.aber.ac.uk

PRIVACY POLICY UPDATED

Our privacy statement has been updated which gives additional information on the data we hold on you, how it is collected and processed, what we do with that data, and your rights under GDPR. You can read the new privacy statement in full here www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/data-protection



Welcome to this edition of **PROM**, where we share with you the latest stories and successes from Aber.

Like me, I trust you will have been thrilled to read that 2018 saw further recognition of the University's high teaching standards, with the institution awarded Gold in the UK Government's Teaching Excellence Framework and named University of the Year for Teaching Quality by *The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide* for a second consecutive year. Our student satisfaction levels were also among the highest in the UK so there is much on which to build in 2019.

Following hot on the heels of Geography and Earth Science's centenary, this year marks 100 years of plant breeding at Aberystwyth as well as a century of the world's first Department of International Politics (see page 6-7). The work of our academics in these and other departments continues to make a real impact in Wales and the wider world.

Scientists such as Dr Andy Hardy (see page 10-11) are helping to make further advances in the fight against some of the world's deadliest diseases; our researchers are helping to inform policy-making in Wales and other countries involved in promoting minority languages, and our work on climate change and food security is more important than ever.

In the run up to our 150th anniversary in 2022, I am pleased to report good progress on the University's three major capital projects - the Aberystwyth Enterprise Innovation Campus, Neuadd Pantycelyn and the Old College. You can read more about our plans for the restoration and transformation of Old College on page 4-5 as we invite you to join together in support of our fundraising appeal for this unique Grade 1 listed building.

We are working on detailed plans to secure support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, charitable trusts and government funding but we also need your help. Our ambitious proposals will safeguard the future of Old College, which has stood proudly on the promenade as a symbol of the importance of higher education for all since 1872. I hope you will join me in supporting this crucial appeal.

Professor Elizabeth Treasure, Vice-Chancellor



MR. DAVID DAVIES, M.P.



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AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

University of the Year for Teaching Quality



Aberystwyth was named University of the Year for Teaching Quality in *The Times* and *Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019* for an unprecedented second year running.

TEF Gold



The University was awarded Gold in the 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) in June, for delivering consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for students, of the highest quality found in the UK.

Top for student satisfaction



Aberystwyth was rated the top university in Wales for overall student satisfaction by the National Student Survey (NSS) 2018, outperforming the sector in the UK and Wales in all nine areas covered by the NSS.

Highest climber

Aberystwyth University was the highest climber in the 2019 edition of *The Guardian* University Guide, up 36 places into the top 50 in the UK, and second position in Wales. The latest league table also puts Aberystwyth 2nd in the UK for student satisfaction, 3rd in the UK for satisfaction with feedback and 6th in the UK for satisfaction with teaching.

Stonewall Top 100

The Workplace Equality Index published by Stonewall listed Aberystwyth University as one of the UK's top 100 employers for inclusivity in the workplace; the 9th best employer in Wales. Aberystwyth was also ranked 8th best university in the UK and 3rd in Wales.

What Uni Student Choice Awards 2018



The University won the Postgraduate category in the What Uni Student Choice Awards 2018, and picked up a silver award in the International category for the second year running.

Refurbished Hugh Owen Library

The University has invested more than £1 million in a major refurbishment of Level D of the iconic Hugh Owen library, transforming the space to meet the needs of 21st century students.

Students using Level D of the library are now able to make use of two new group study rooms, a variety of study spaces with access to power and WiFi, more seating, a vending area for the purchase of refreshments and stationery, and additional gender neutral toilets. The main entrance to the library has also been relocated to the piazza, home to Aberystwyth Arts Centre and the Students' Union.



New volume explains the significance of place in Keats's poetry

A new book edited by Richard Marggraf Turley, Professor of Romantic Literature in the Department of English and Creative Writing, explores the significant locations across Britain which shaped the writing of the English Romantic poet, John Keats.

Writing in the introduction to *Keats's Places*, Professor Marggraf Turley challenges the common view that the apparent timelessness of Keats's writing in some way implies placelessness; claiming that in fact location and place informed and shaped Keats's poetry.

The volume features a collection of essays by internationally renowned Keats scholars, in which they discuss a selection of places which featured in Keats's creative life and helped mould his authorial identity.

The locations featured range from the claustrophobic stands of Guy's Hospital operating theatre to the boneshaking interior of the Southampton mail coach; from Highland crags to Hampstead Heath; from crowded city interiors to leafy suburban lanes.

The book also investigates the relationship between Keats's real and imagined places.



Mohamed Cheggaf, who works as a porter at the University, is among those to benefit from the higher rate.

Real living wage accreditation for University

Aberystwyth University has been officially accredited as a Real Living Wage employer, one of 174 employers in Wales who have signed up voluntarily to pay the Real Living Wage.

Professor Elizabeth Treasure, Vice-Chancellor said: "Aberystwyth University is one of the biggest employers in Mid Wales, and the dedication and commitment of our staff underpins the success of our institution. Our decision to adopt the Real Living Wage reflects our principles and values as an ethical employer."



Katie Miles and Professor Bryn Hubbard flying the Aber flag at drill site three on the Khumbu glacier near Everest Base Camp during the 2017 expedition

Ice temperatures warmer than expected on world's highest glacier

Aberystwyth glaciologists are part of a project which has shown that ice temperatures inside the world's highest glacier on the slopes of Mount Everest are warmer than expected.

Polar-medal holder Professor Bryn Hubbard and postgraduate researcher Katie Miles from the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences travelled to Khumbu Glacier, Nepal, in 2017 and 2018 as part of the EverDrill research project.

Working at heights of up to 5,000m, the team became the first to successfully drill to the base of the glacier using a specially adapted car wash unit. They were also the first to record temperatures below the seasonally affected surface layer of the glacier.

The measurements showed a minimum ice temperature of only -3.3°C, with even the coldest ice being a full 2°C warmer than the mean annual air temperature.

Collaborators on the EverDrill project are Dr Duncan Quincey (project leader) and Dr Evan Miles from the University of Leeds, and Dr Ann Rowan from the University of Sheffield. Both Dr Quincey and Dr Rowan are alumni of the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences.

Aber High Sugar Grasses considered one of the UK's best breakthroughs

Pioneering Aberystwyth University research that has led to the production of new varieties of high sugar grasses features as one of the UK's 100 best breakthroughs.

The work features in the *UK's Best Breakthroughs list: 100+ Ways Universities Have Improved Everyday Life*, compiled by Universities UK (the umbrella group for UK universities), in recognition of its transformational environmental and economic benefits.

The development of Aber High Sugar Grasses (AberHSG) for feeding livestock is carried out at the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS), which celebrates 100 years of plant breeding in 2019.

These grasses, developed in close collaboration with industry partner Germinal, drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from livestock while at the same time increasing the yield from livestock products, so helping to feed the world's population more sustainably.

New life for Old College:

be part of our vision



Jim O'Rourke,
Old College Project Manager

The journey so far

After studying Geography in Aberystwyth and spending a year as student president in 1978-79, I moved on to a career in youth work and project management. So for me, having moved back to live in Aber in 1997, it is a very exciting opportunity to manage this hugely significant renovation project and to help deliver the University's ambition for a new life for Old College by our 150th anniversary in 2022/23.

As a former student myself, it has been hugely productive and rewarding to have consulted with so many alumni on the vision for Old College and how we can develop this unique Grade 1 Gothic building of fascinating shapes and spaces, which has provided the backdrop to so many stories and transformations in young lives over almost 150 years. Having worked with the Heritage Lottery Fund on previous heritage projects, I am grateful to the Fund for funding our Development phase and inviting a bid for our Delivery phase in 2019-2023 as well as for their expert advice. Perceptive advice has come too from our Arts Centre, along with our main project partners - the National Museum Wales, Hay Festival and the National Library of Wales.

Having joined the project in December 2017, I set to work on four key considerations, namely how to:

- redevelop the building in the context of current expectations for access and facilities for students and our community whilst respecting the rich heritage
- find a parking solution for this part of the town
- deliver ongoing revenue streams which will enable the building to be viable and sustainable as a valuable University asset
- find a design solution to provide an attractive front door onto the promenade.

Our vision and plans

As a result of these ideas and further advice, I am fully confident that our vision of a centre for learning, culture and enterprise at Old College can provide prestigious facilities for our students and staff, as well as for our local community and for 200,000 visitors from all over the world, including our alumni.

All of our visitors will be able to enjoy a wide range of activities, events and festivals in 143 rooms across seven floors in ways that foster an interest in learning and promote the significance of Old College in the history of education in Wales.

Our four inter-related zones are Culture, Community and Visitors; Meetings and Dialogue; A World of Knowledge, and Enterprise and Innovation. Art Galleries, a Science Centre, exhibition and collection spaces and two bespoke lecture theatres will tell the stories of the University's development over 150 years, showcasing its ground-breaking research over the decades across a range of departments and subjects. Spaces for dialogue and debate are central to our vision and focussed around a Centre for Dialogue, offering an in-the-round space for 60 people.

Our plans and designs can be found online at www.aber.ac.uk/en/oldcollege

More than half of our students live in town, not far from the Old College, and have been actively involved in the shaping of these plans and designs. They will benefit from new teaching, research, 24-hour study and meeting spaces. There will be spaces too for societies, activities and lifelong learning classes including languages, creative writing, art and drama. Music will remain a major feature at the Old College, with new rehearsal spaces for the University and local orchestras, choir and band and for performances. All of us know that the bridging of town and gown is central to the unique and rewarding student experience at Aberystwyth. Our students are therefore very enthusiastic about the opportunity to fully open up Old College to the community and the public with shared hospitality facilities. Students will also benefit from the opportunity of 12 new Business Enterprise Units for Creative Industry start-ups and spin offs and from 5 Artist Studios spaces planned in the tower.

A major development in design terms has been to include the two Georgian villas which sit between the Old College and the Cambria (the old Theological College). These Grade 2 listed houses built in 1810 are owned by the University and are actually older than the Old College. Our new design retains their frontage and interior features, whilst allowing for the addition of a new glazed porch entrance to provide access through a reception area to a foyer and four storey atrium behind the houses. This significantly improves accessibility in allowing lift and stair access to all floors of Old College. It also increases opportunities for catering and hospitality, including a café-bistro on the ground floor, a bar with sea-views on the first floor and a stunning rooftop function room with panoramic sea views above the atrium. This function room will cater for 120 diners or 200 conference or party guests. Together with 32 bedrooms graded 4*, the catering and accommodation will provide a strong foundation for our business plan.

We have worked with our Local Authority, Town Council and local businesses in developing our proposals, and we are submitting applications for planning consent in February 2019. We look forward to working further with them to develop Old College as a major catalyst for regeneration and tourism, with the prospect of 40 new jobs and skills development through 400 volunteering opportunities for our students and the community.



OLD COLLEGE APPEAL



The total costs of this transformation will be £26.2 million. As you will have read in the Vice-Chancellor's letter, we now need to raise the matched funding required to achieve our vision and help unlock the full £10.5 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund in autumn 2019. The support of alumni is crucial and I do hope you will join me in donating to the appeal www.aber.ac.uk/en/appeal

All gifts will be important and hugely appreciated.

Thank you

Centenary celebrations

for the world's oldest Department of *International Politics*

The 2018/19 academic year marks the centenary year of Aberystwyth University's Department of International Politics. Established in the bitter wake of the First World War, it was the first department of its kind in the world.



A E Zimmern

Ahead of further celebrations during 2019, including the Alumni Reunion weekend this June, Director of Centenary Celebrations **Dr Jan Ruzicka** and Head of Department **Professor Richard Beardsworth** look back on the history of this world-leading centre of excellence in the study of international relations.

In November 1918, as the Great War finally ground to a halt, among the millions killed in action were more than one hundred students of the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth. A truly unique effort to commemorate their sacrifice quickly gathered pace with the support of the Old Students Association. Less than a month after the armistice, Major David Davies (the future Lord Davies of Llandinam) wrote to the President of the College with a most generous offer that would eventually make Aberystwyth the global centre of learning and research on international politics.

David Davies began his letter with the following, memorable words: 'It has occurred to my sisters and myself that the University of Wales, and the Council of the College may be willing to allow us to found a Chair of International Politics at Aberystwyth in memory of the fallen students of our university.' Members of one of the most famous families in Wales - their grandfather being the great industrialist David Davies (Former Treasurer and Vice-President of the University and major benefactor) and sisters Gwendoline and Margaret being best known for their important art collection now housed in the National Museum in Cardiff - were ready to commit as much as £20,000 (today's equivalent would be about one million pounds) towards the cause and suggested that the Chair be named in honour of the American President Woodrow Wilson.

The offer was enthusiastically accepted at the Council meeting on 13 December 1918, making the Woodrow Wilson Chair in International Politics the oldest professorship of its kind in the



Major David Davies and his sisters Gwendoline and Margaret Davies

“It has occurred to my sisters and myself that the University of Wales, and the Council of the College may be willing to allow us to found a Chair of International Politics at Aberystwyth in memory of the fallen students of our university.”

world and, concomitantly, marking the beginning of the first Department of International Politics in the world. A search was swiftly organised, leading to the appointment of an eminent historian and a member of the Foreign Office, Alfred Zimmern, as the first Wilson Professor. Together with lecturer Sydney Herbert, they began their tenure on 25 April 1919, delivering lectures on the burning issues of the day such as the League of Nations Covenant. Zimmern ultimately left for Cornell University in the United States and then returned to England to become a Professor of International Relations in Oxford, which finally caught up with Aberystwyth by endowing its own chair a full eleven years later.

Over the past hundred years, the Department of International Politics at Aberystwyth has grown considerably, yet its core mission remains as its founders envisaged it when they stipulated 'the need for considering all the peoples of the world as one.' Towards this end, it was in their view entirely appropriate that a Welsh university should devote itself to 'the encouragement of a truer understanding of civilisation other than our own.' For as the founding memorandum between the College and the Davies family noted, 'research is universal and depends upon zeal and opportunity, and not altogether upon the place.'

Today, this internationalist mission exists both thanks to the zeal of the founders and the generations of staff and students who have come through the Department over the past century. The study of war and peace is accompanied by research and teaching in political leadership, global health and other planetary challenges, state-building, political economy, and international organisation. The Department also covers analysis of many regions of the world and is unique in placing Welsh politics in an international perspective.

UPCOMING EVENTS

One of the key duties of the Wilson Professors, and of the Department as a whole, has always been intensive engagement with the general public. As part of the Centenary celebrations the department launched the Centenary Speakers Series featuring high-profile speakers from the worlds of practice and the study of international politics. The programme includes workshops with policy-makers, academic conferences and the alumni reunion - please see the upcoming events of 2019 at Aberystwyth (many are filmed and can be viewed via the Centenary website):

5 MARCH 2019

Professor Steve Smith (Vice-Chancellor, University of Exeter and Former Head of Department)

28 MARCH 2019

Gideon Rachman (Chief Foreign Affairs Commentator, *Financial Times*)

25-27 APRIL 2019

David Davies Memorial Institute (DDMI) Conference, 'Davies intellectual legacy'

2 MAY 2019

Professor John Ikenberry (Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs)

3-5 MAY 2019

Alumni Centenary Crisis Game at Gregynog: "Eyeball to Eyeball: Russia, NATO and the Baltic States"

18-20 JUNE 2019

Academic Conference, 'Aber Legacy and future of International Relations'

21-23 JUNE 2019

Alumni and Former staff reunion weekend in association with the Old Students' Association. All alumni welcome to attend.

Register your place:
www.aber.ac.uk/reunion2019

Please see the www.aber.ac.uk/en/interpol/about/centenary for further details and up to date information on our events.



International Federation of League of Nations: 1926 visit to Aberystwyth

Old Students' Association



Aber am byth!

by Gwenda Sippings
OSA President 2018-19

These are exciting times for Aberystwyth University, and the Old Students' Association (OSA) is enjoying being involved. Through the Development and Alumni Relations Office, we work closely with the University, but remain a separate organisation, contributing our thoughts and experience as an independent voice. All graduates are enrolled as Associate members of the OSA, but as President I hope that more will convert to Life Membership* to be assured of a voice in the Association's support for the University, and confirm their loyalty to Aberystwyth for ever. "Aber am byth"

The Association promotes links between past and present members of the University. Many former students meet up in Aberystwyth from time to time, and those who are members of the OSA can benefit from help in arranging visits and meetings at the University. The OSA holds a programme of events around our AGM as part of an annual Reunion, often enabling past students from all disciplines to find out more about different departments. This year it is the centenary of the study of International Politics and also of the study of plant breeding at Aberystwyth, and we are especially looking forward to events celebrating both of these milestones. We hope to welcome a group who are planning to return to Aber from Malaysia, and former students who will be celebrating 50 years since their time in Aber. Why not join us on 21 - 23 June 2019?

I would like the OSA to remember and celebrate the work of departments which have changed, merged or are no longer part of the University, as all of them have played an important part in our history. Let us know if you'd like to see something with a particular theme at a future Reunion.

The OSA was formed to support the University in difficult times. Starting with a rescue package to the University in the 1890s, the OSA's contribution has included helping to fund the playing fields, the Sports Centre, Penglais campus, the Assembly Rooms (soon to be the Music Centre), the war memorial and the chimes in the Campanile of the Great Hall. Wouldn't it be great to hear those rung again in 2019? We are particularly proud this year to be supporting the Old College Project. The use of this iconic building for a mix of academic, community and commercial enterprises is a worthy future for a building that became a University through the generosity of the people of Wales. Branches of the OSA are still involved in socialising, fundraising to support students or specific projects, and volunteering their time.

As President I'd like to ensure that the relationship between the Association and the University continues to flourish with its historic generosity on both sides, and that we are clear about the support we each give to the other. The space we enjoy for an OSA meeting room and office in the Old College is being continued in the current plans for the redevelopment. The success of the OSA relies on the love of Aberystwyth as a place and as a University felt by former students and staff who have benefitted from their time here, and their desire to stay connected to it as Life Members. Long live the "Aber Spirit".

1 JUNE 2019

OSA Llandoverly Lecture,
Llandoverly College

21-23 JUNE 2019

OSA Reunion and AGM, Aberystwyth

22-25 JULY 2019

OSA and Aberystwyth University at the
Royal Welsh Agricultural Show

3-10 AUGUST 2019

OSA and Aberystwyth University at the
National Eisteddfod of Wales

*Find out more about becoming a Life Member of the OSA at:
www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/osa
See the OSA Annual on:
www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/osa/the-annual

@Aber_OSA

Aber Abroad



by Louise Jagger
Director, Development and Alumni Relations

Aberystwyth is now in touch with over 63,000 alumni living across 158 countries.

The support of our international alumni continues to grow, and together with our International Ambassadors, we receive invaluable voluntary support on a range of activities including student recruitment events, academic partnerships and welcoming visiting academics.

In 2018 we held reunions and meetings in Vancouver, New York, Washington DC, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore and another planned in New Zealand. We are grateful to all those who attended and for the help in organising these events and developing our global network.

Malaysia

In December, we hosted a special dinner for our eight distinguished Honorary Fellows along with a major reunion attended by 140 alumni across 7 decades, organised in partnership with the Aberystwyth University Alumni Club of Malaysia.

We are especially grateful to Dato' Nasharuddin bin Hussin, President of the Aberystwyth University Alumni Club of Malaysia, and his Committee, for their exceptional support this year, and to former Old Students' Association President Steve Lawrence who continues to help develop our fellowship with alumni in Malaysia and strengthen the bonds between them and the University.

Our Chancellor Lord Thomas presented two prestigious lectures, firstly at the North American Festival of Wales in August at the invitation of alumni in Washington DC. Then in December at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in Kuala Lumpur at the invitation of

We will be announcing news of our international activity in the New Year which will include events in China, where we want to grow our network in the coming years to support both student recruitment and academic partnership ambitions. We would particularly welcome ideas and offers of help at the contact details below.

For further information on our international activity and plans, please contact:

alumni@aber.ac.uk



Alumni Reception New York, August 2018

UKM's Chancellor, Aberystwyth alumnus and Honorary Fellow HRH Tuanku Muhriz, to coincide with the signing of a collaboration agreement between the Universities by Vice-Chancellor Professor Elizabeth Treasure.

Below: Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UKM and Aberystwyth University
Below Left: Senior Dignitaries attending the HRH Tuanku Muhriz annual lecture delivered by Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd





Blending Geography and Biology in the Fight Against Malaria

Words by
Dr Andy Hardy,
lecturer in remote
sensing in the
Department of
Geography &
Earth Sciences
(DGES) at
Aberystwyth
University

Ranging over the curve-of-the-earth-flat Zambezi floodplain in Western Zambia is an off-road pick-up truck bound for a distant health facility. Despite the hours of travel the cab is alive with commentary on the movement of the Zambezi river, leaving behind a succession of pools of water, alongside observations on the ecology of the mosquitoes that spread diseases like malaria and the public health challenges facing the people that live in this remote malaria region.

I've been working closely with colleagues in the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) for a number of years, often targeting the same goal: where do malaria mosquitoes breed? By finding the water bodies that malarial mosquitoes use to lay eggs, we can help to map malaria risk and help direct resources where they are needed the most.

Malaria remains a very real global burden. Despite great advances in controlling the disease, a recent World Health Organisation report shows that malaria was responsible for an estimated 435,000 deaths in 2017, with a large proportion of these taking place in sub-Saharan Africa. But how are we helping to tackle this global challenge?

My journey began back in Tanzania in 2011 when I joined Aberystwyth University as a post-doctoral research assistant on a project led by Professor Chris Thomas (Pro Vice-Chancellor - Research, Knowledge Exchange and Innovation) that aimed to draw a link between hydrology (the processes that control water movement through the landscape) and malaria. This ground-breaking study identified the complex link between the physical geography of the landscape and the ecology of the malarial mosquito and ultimately demonstrated the need for ecologists and geographers to work together to provide solutions to help tackle this important disease.

What followed over the years was a number of significant developments in the use of satellite imagery to map pools of water where malarial mosquitoes breed, combined with sophisticated ecological modelling techniques. This collaborative research has helped make Aberystwyth University a world leader in this area, with the potential to have huge impacts on the health and wellbeing of people living within regions burdened by malaria.

One of the current focuses for our joint DGES-IBERS team is the tropical islands of Zanzibar, off the coast of Tanzania. Zanzibar is at a very exciting stage of their malaria



Drone image over a mosquito habitat in Stone Town, Zanzibar.



Rice paddy in Mwera Zanzibar these and other watery sites are perfect spots for mosquitoes to lay eggs

control programme and are very close to eliminating the disease from their islands. Working closely with colleagues at the Zanzibar Ministry of Health the aim is to harness innovative technology to actively detect and destroy malarial mosquito habitats.

On Zanzibar, malarial mosquito habitats can be difficult to detect due to their small size or the presence of rice crops within the pools of water. Here, our team, together with colleagues in IBERS are looking to drones and smartphones for the solution. By carrying out drone surveys in malarial regions we can pinpoint the exact location of potential breeding sites. This information is uploaded to a bespoke smartphone app that members of the local community will use to navigate their way through the landscape, just like a 'sat nav', find the pool of water and treat the water with low-toxicity larvicide. By doing so, we should be able to reduce the number of malarial mosquitoes biting humans and passing on the disease.

A core ambition of this kind of work is to translate scientific research into tangible benefits for public health. As such, the project we have designed in Zanzibar specifically aims to make use of low-cost, available technology. In this respect, our app (developed by project partners Sight-DX, Israel) is specifically designed to work on cheap smartphones. Equally, the drones that we are using are widely available off-the-shelf. By combining this low-cost technology together with close engagement with local communities and partners we can help generate real impacts.

By harnessing the latest technology, alongside the thorough understanding of both physical geography and ecology, innovative solutions are being developed to help make malaria elimination a reality for places like Zanzibar.



WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

Malaria - Key Facts

219 million
cases of malaria
in **90 countries**



435,000
Malaria deaths reached
435,000 in 2017

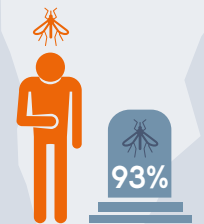
303,000



Children under 5 are at high risk of malaria

(In 2015, **303,000** African children died before their 5th birthdays)

Africa was home to **92%** of malaria cases and **93%** of malaria deaths



92%

Malaria is caused by plasmodium parasites, spread by the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes



In 2016, an estimated **US\$2.7 billion** was invested in malaria control and elimination efforts globally



Sioned Wiliam

Commissioning Editor for Comedy
at BBC Radio 4 and Radio 4 Extra

Interviewed by
John Gilbey
(gilbey@bcs.org.uk)

It was Founders' Day at Aberystwyth University, and after the early morning gowned ceremonials and a walk to 'kick the bar', speeches and breakfast celebration in Old College I talked with Fellow and alumnus **Sioned Wiliam** - Commissioning Editor for Comedy at BBC Radio 4 and Radio 4 Extra - about her education, career and influences. Perhaps appropriately, we met up in the Theatre Bar of the Aberystwyth Arts Centre.

Sioned was an undergraduate at Aberystwyth from 1979 to 1982. "I wanted to go to a Welsh speaking town and live a proper Welsh speaking life - go to gigs, meet other students from all around Wales, live in Pantycelyn and have this particular kind of social life. It appealed enormously and it was great fun, I had a glorious time for three years".

Her choice of course was carefully considered, and played a major part in her subsequent career. "I wanted to work with Emily Davies and Professor Elan Closs Stephens who were running the department at the time, so I did a degree in drama through the medium of Welsh. It was a Golden Age, I was incredibly lucky to be there then, because they were brilliant and they invited people in to work with us who were also brilliant, so it was a fantastic opportunity".

While rooted in the Welsh language, there were a range of wider collaborations. "A lot of people came to work with us - we had European companies from Denmark and Czechoslovakia. We felt European, and there was a real sense of being allowed to tell our own story through our own language - even though we were a small country, our story was as valuable as anyone else's".

When I asked if any student productions stood out in her memory, Sioned smiled. "I remember doing 'King Lear' with Emily, all just in very plain dress, and we created the wind, the storms, ourselves - it was really exciting. Alun ap Brinley, who is now in S4C's 'Pobol y Cwm', was Lear and I was the Fool! It was wonderful".

"We used Stanislavski's methods so we did a lot of voice work, and worked a lot on Chekov as well. It was a really rounded education, and on top of that there was a fairly hard-hitting academic part to the degree where we studied mythology, expressionism and naturalism - all the great 19th and 20th century theatrical forms. And a course what has stood me in good stead was analysis of script, which has been the cornerstone of my career since".

After graduating, Sioned went on to study at Oxford University and took part in the Oxford Revue. "I was very lucky to be there with Armando Iannucci and David Schneider, it was an amazing group of people. I did a lot of performing there, then started performing on Radio 4 and became a producer. After a month long training course you were plunged straight into making programmes, it was very exciting! I got to do things like 'Week Ending', lots of sit-coms, sketch-shows and stand-up. It was brilliant, a fantastic place to work!"

“... I wanted to work with
Emily Davies and Elan Closs Stephens
through the medium of Welsh...
it was a Golden Age.”

"I was there for two or three years then went to work in television. It was made much easier by having been in the Oxford Revue and being with all these amazing, talented people". I did the *Jonathan Ross show* for a year, which was 'live' three times a week, then went to

Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones' company 'Talkback', followed by 'Hat-Trick' where I worked on 'Drop the Dead Donkey' and 'Game On'".

After working as a freelance, like so many people in the field, and receiving her Honorary Fellowship from Aberystwyth University in 2008, Sioned took the role of Commissioning Editor for Comedy at BBC Radio 4 and Radio 4 Extra three years ago. I asked her how she viewed the future of radio comedy today. Can you still have satire in a world where there is so much uncertainty?

"Yes! We certainly have it every Friday night at 6.30 - it's hugely popular. Our listening figures are going up, possibly because radio is very portable, and the audio revolution has really helped us. So many people are used to listening as they walk or commute, with millions of downloads of Radio 4 comedy in the past year and our podcasts are regularly at the top of the charts - so it's growing. We do 260 hours a year, I think we probably make more comedy than anybody else in the world. It is going from strength to strength, and it's a fantastic honour and privilege to be part of it".

Alumni Profiles

We are always interested to discover what our alumni are doing now and where their Aber education has taken them – here's a snapshot of a few from around the world.

For longer versions of the profiles visit:
www.aber.ac.uk/en/development/alumniprofiles



Cathy Alexander
BSc Zoology 2013

Cathy works as a Biodiversity Monitoring Ranger for the Department of Conservation in New Zealand.

"I became really interested in animal conservation after having studied several conservation modules in the third year at Aber. My interest grew after that and I volunteered for a few conservation projects around the world which gave me the experience I needed for the job here. The work I do here is part of a national monitoring project, which mostly involves flying to remote parts of the country, counting deer and possum poo, doing birds counts and monitoring possum presence with chew cards."



Tom Nordheim
BSc Space Science & Robotics 2009

Tom is currently working as a research scientist in the Planetary Chemistry and Astrobiology group at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

"A major focus of my work is to investigate the possibilities for life on icy worlds in the outer solar system using data returned from space missions. In addition to this I work on new types of instruments and robots that we use to explore extreme environments on Earth, with the aim to prepare for future space missions."



Gareth Lanagan
BSc 2004. MSc 2006
PhD 2011 Mathematics

Gareth is currently the A Level Manager at Coleg Meirion Dwyfor moving to this role after having been a maths teacher. "Aber was a beautiful place which struck the best balance between hard work and playing hard. The support received from staff gave it a family feel. There was someone on hand to help. I don't believe I would have received the pastoral or academic support at any other institution. Also the sporting experiences were unbelievable and we always punched above our weight!"



Audrey Siew
LLB Law 2008

Following her undergraduate degree at Aberystwyth, Audrey worked in the voluntary sector, before securing a position in a medico-legal company in Manchester. After 2 years' experience in the UK, she returned to Kuala Lumpur and began her career as an Associate with Ernst & Young in their Advisory Services department.

"Despite not practising law in Malaysia, I have been able to apply the problem solving and logical reasoning skills acquired to assist my clients in successfully designing an effective and implementable project delivery plan, whilst ensuring proper governance is adhered to. The skills gained from reading law at Aber have provided me with a solid foundation and served as a stepping stone for me to successfully embark on my career thus far and have prepared me to deal with different walks of life in the working world."



Zoran Tihomirovic
MA International Relations
2014

Zoran briefly volunteered with the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre, before working as a desk officer for the Russian Federation within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia. Since 2016 he has been working as a teaching assistant for the Chair of Russian Literature within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb, Croatia. "The analytical skills I acquired studying International Relations in Aberystwyth proved invaluable for my current job, as well as earlier governmental jobs. It allowed me to expand my Russian language and sociology degree and skills, and transition them into the realm of international politics."



A cut above: hair and beauty app wins InvEnterPrize 2018

A mobile app designed to revolutionise bookings in the hair and beauty sector was the winner of Aberystwyth University's InvEnterPrize for 2018.

Developed by student team James Bryan, James Stone and Howun Lam, Clipr is designed to bring hair and beauty salons and barber shops closer to customers and enable them to run their businesses from their smartphones.

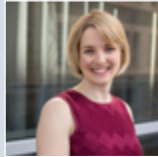
"The app is Airbnb meets Uber for hair and beauty", explained James Bryan, who came up with the idea whilst looking for a hair salon open on a Sunday in Aberystwyth.

Along with the title of InvEnterPrize winners, the team received a £10,000 prize. Provided by alumni via the Aber Fund, the prize enables the winner to invest in equipment, facilities or professional services to turn the invention or business start-up idea into reality.

James Bryan said: "Winning InvEnterPrize is a huge boost and will enable us to develop an iOS version for Apple smartphones as it currently only exists in Android. We are also looking at making it possible for the businesses who are part of the project to take digital payments safely."

The finalists presented their business proposals to a panel of judges in a Dragon's Den style event, on 19 March 2018. All seven judges are graduates of Aberystwyth University.

Giving to Aberystwyth University in 2017-18



Hayley Goddard
Individual Giving
Officer

Your donations in support of our students and the University have once again helped us achieve so much this year. You have changed lives and supported a record number of new projects across the University, none of this would not have been possible without your help.

Alumni donations are the bedrock of our fundraising and accounted for £823,413 of the total £998,585 received in 2017/8. £162,530 was raised through grants, including £138,996 from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the first year of the Old College development phase.

Thank you very much to all our donors, now listed and thanked online in our annual donor list at: www.aber.ac.uk/thankyou

Your giving in 2017-18 across our three fundraising priorities



- The Old College Appeal
- Research and Academic Developments
- Student Support

"I would like to personally thank the Aber Fund for all the help and support in creating this amazing opportunity. It was incredibly rewarding to find myself in such a professional environment. I feel eternally grateful, because it showed me that my career goals are even closer than I imagined. Thank you for making it possible."

Agata Rafalska (BA Television and Film Studies, 2018).
Travel Bursary Recipient, Tribeca Film Festival, New York

You have funded 41 student projects

Helping students take part in new projects that would not have been possible without your help.

Supporting over 1400 students

To alleviate student hardship; support student wellbeing; and enhance the number of student opportunities open to all students.

OUR COMMUNITY OF DONORS

You gave
£823,413
during 2017-18



Largest gift **£18,750**

Average regular monthly gift **£22**

Average single gift donation **£412**

Legacies **£696,312**
Providing invaluable support towards research, PhD scholarships and the University's future

Gift from outside the UK **12**

Individual donors **471**

Looking to the future

Your support continues to be crucial to the student experience at Aberystwyth and our strategy to grow the University and compete in a challenging time for Higher Education.

Working together we aim to significantly increase our fundraising income for the priorities below, to make even more of an impact and difference to our students and the University.

RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENTS

With your help, we will further develop and undertake research with impact and world-leading quality. Your support will lead to increased PhD scholarships for students to advance our knowledge and understanding on some of the most difficult and important global challenges facing communities today.

THE OLD COLLEGE APPEAL

Your support of our Appeal will help secure the future of Old College and transform this iconic and much-loved Grade 1 listed building for the University and the town by our 150th anniversary in 2022-23.

"As I look back I often feel I owe all my life's experiences to the wonderful time spent in and around the Old College, a building that deserves all the protection it can get"

Hugo Baetens-Beardsmore (French, 1967)

STUDENT SUPPORT (THE ABER FUND)

By donating to the Aber Fund, you will support projects that directly enrich the lives of our students within the areas of Student Hardship, Student Wellbeing, and Student Opportunity. In awarding grants across academic and key support departments, the Aber Fund touches over a thousand students' lives each year.

SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSITY

You can make a difference by donating

- **Online:** you can give regularly or a single gift at: www.aber.ac.uk/give
- **Post:** set up a regular gift through our donation form, or single gift by cheque
- **Overseas:** international supporters can give in conjunction with our partners: SWIFT System; American Fund for Charities (AFC); and British Schools & Universities Foundation (BSUF).

For further details or to discuss a donation, please contact **Hayley Goddard** in the Development and Alumni Relations team on: 01970 622083 or hvg@aber.ac.uk

Computer Science at Aberystwyth University



In my career as a science writer, I've interviewed computer scientists from Edinburgh to Stanford, and visited research-intensive campus facilities from the Diamond Light Source to the Googleplex. Each site very much generates its own feel – the way staff interact, the ephemeral contents of the white-boards and the nature of the surrounding environment all help describe the sense of community in a high-technology department. But to be asked to discuss your own University is somehow different, and writing this account of Aberystwyth University's Computer Science department – which I have been associated with in one way or another for twenty years or so – is both a privilege and an opportunity to analyse what is unique about it.

The threads of research undertaken by the Department indicate how, aside from achieving academic excellence through publication in high-level journals, there is an emphasis on connecting with other disciplines and the wider world. The Advanced Reasoning group, for example, works partly on the automated diagnosis of failures in vehicles – seeking novel algorithms to analyse failure reliably in sophisticated technical systems. Needless to say, this results in significant and productive interaction with industrial partners both within Wales and much further afield.

These research themes often carry significant cross-over between them, to everyone's benefit.

The Bioinformatics and Computational Biology group, which looks at the complex issues around big biological datasets, genomics and biomedical informatics, shares many

by John Gilbey*
(gilbey@bcs.org.uk)

*John Gilbey is a science and science-fiction writer – and a part-time tutor in the Department of Computer Science, Aberystwyth University. His credits include *The Guardian*, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *Times Higher Education* and the *International New York Times*.

 @John_Gilbey.

Right: ExoMars
Below right: The autonomous model yacht at the Department of Computer Science

interests with the Vision, Graphics and Visualisation team, whose work includes medical image analysis and the interpretation of complex visual information – which collectively has huge potential in human health diagnostics.

The Intelligent Robotics group, one of the largest and best-known robotics groups in the UK, develops hardware and software designed for operation in unconstrained environments – the “real world”. This includes systems which between them can be effective across the whole range of terrestrial and marine environments. Significantly, the group is extending its reach beyond Earth – and working with researchers in the Department of Physics is contributing calibration systems and other expertise to the ESA/Roscosmos ExoMars rover mission which is due to launch in 2020.

At the heart of the department, in every sense, is the

“...significant and productive interaction with industrial partners”

coffee room – a space for discussion where you can get a real sense of the diversity and extent of the collective experience held by the community. Sitting here, listening to the multi-threaded conversations between folk who are specialists from wildly different backgrounds and nationalities, gives an insight into just how effective Computer Science at Aberystwyth is at collating and building on joint expertise to achieve common goals.

Academic outreach by the department is expressed in a variety of ways. Some are based within the wider profession, such as the iOSDevUK conference which brings 200 developers of Apple software to Aberystwyth from around the world during a week in September each year – with the inevitable exchanges of ideas and experience. Others, such as evening “Show and Tell” sessions, often run in collaboration with BCS, the chartered institute for IT, help spread debate between disciplines and build relationships with other departments. In the wider community, the Aberystwyth Robotics Club – a joint venture with the Physics department – draws in membership from local schools and helps give young teenagers a practical sense of what can be achieved in truly interactive computing.

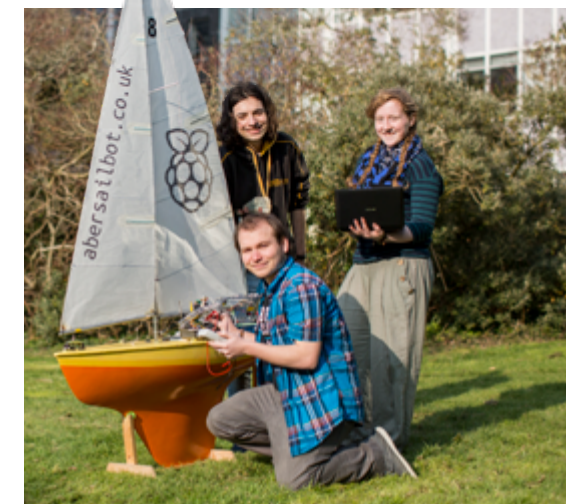
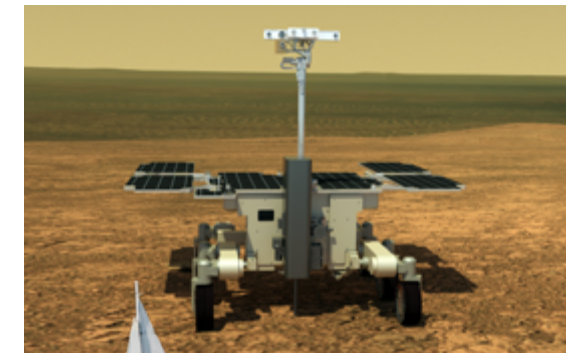
Working with industry is core to much of the research portfolio, but also extends into the teaching environment. Several undergraduate courses offer an Industry Year, where students compete for placements with a range of organisations working in professional software development. In preparation for their job applications with these collaborators, second year students can attend a weekend event at Gregynog, the historic house

“...the diversity and extent of the collective experience”

and conference venue near Newtown, where they are interviewed and given advice on their CVs by recruiters from major, in many cases global, IT companies.

One impressive aspect of this exercise is seeing students in the middle of their placement returning to present to the next cohort, having gained significant additional skills and experience in the workplace. To see students pitching the experience to their successors, with their industry mentors – many of them Aberystwyth graduates – looking proudly on, is an arresting moment and illustrates just how transformative this integrated experience is for them. This may, of course, help explain the excellent employment rates for Aberystwyth Computer Science graduates.

Established in 1970, the Department of Computer Science at Aberystwyth is rapidly approaching its half-century. In that time it has built a diverse, inclusive and robust presence in academia, community and industry. The next fifty years look set to be just as exciting, fast-moving and productive as the last, with the world becoming more and more reliant on technological advancements.



Honours

A number of individuals were honoured by the University as part of the graduation ceremonies in July 2018.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIPS



Professor Ann Sumner
- art historian, exhibition curator and museum director



Bonamy Grimes MBE
- web entrepreneur and co-founder of flight price comparison website Skyscanner



Euryng Ogwen Williams
- broadcaster and seminal figure in Welsh media



John Dawes OBE
- former international rugby union player and coach



Professor Menna Elfyn
- award-winning poet and playwright



His Honour Judge Milwyn Jarman QC
- leading judge



Author and scholar the late **Professor Meic Stephens** was presented with an Honorary Fellowship on 3 May 2018 at a special ceremony in Cardiff. Sadly, Professor Stephens died on 3 July 2018.

HONORARY DOCTORATE



John Thompson
- technology entrepreneur and software designer.

HONORARY BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE



Eric Harries
- retired Aberystwyth Fire Station Manager who organised and led 50 humanitarian missions to Eastern Europe to help the innocent victims of war.

HONORARY BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE



Sue Jones-Davies
- actor and singer, town councillor and former Mayor of Aberystwyth.

Achievements

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Congratulations to all of the winners at the AberSU Celebrates Staff and Students Awards 2018, including **Professor Matthew Jarvis** from the Department of English and Creative Writing who was awarded Lecturer of the Year; **Stephen Fearn** from the Institute of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science who was awarded Support / Service Staff Member of the Year; **Dr Berit Bliesemann de Guevara** and **Professor Milja Kurki** from the Department of International Politics who won the title of Supervisor of the Year (Postgraduate) and **Dr Simon Payne** from IBERS who was crowned Supervisor of the Year (Undergraduate). Mathematics was named Department of the Year 2018.

Professor Ken Booth from the Department of International Politics was presented with the British International Studies Association (BISA) Distinguished Contribution Prize, recognising lifetime contribution to the promotion of excellence in the discipline of International Studies.

Dr Tudur Davies, lecturer in the Department of Mathematics, was presented with the Eilir Hedd Morgan Memorial Prize by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol in recognition of his work in promoting mathematics through the medium of Welsh.

Dr Hannah Dee, senior lecturer in the Department of Computer Science has been selected for *Computer Weekly's* Most Influential Women in UK IT Hall of Fame. She was also one of eleven leading female mathematicians and computer scientists to be recognised at the Suffrage Science Awards for Mathematics and Computing, which celebrate women in science and encourage others to enter science and reach senior leadership roles.

Ruth Fowler, Communications and Equality Officer in the University's Human Resources Department was named as one of the 40 most influential LGBT+ people in Wales. Ruth, who coordinates the University's staff lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender network, featured as a "rising star" in WalesOnline's Pinc List which celebrates the people who have contributed to LGBT+ life in Wales over the last year.

Professor Michael Hambrey, Emeritus Professor of Glaciology at the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences was awarded the prestigious 2018 SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research.



From top: Professor Ken Booth, Dr Tudur Davies, Dr Hannah Dee, Professor Michael Hambrey, AberSU Celebrates - Department of the Year, Mathematics.



Dr Rhianedd Jewell, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's Lecturer in Professional Welsh at the Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies, was presented with the Learned Society for Wales Dillwyn Medal for the Creative Arts and Humanities. Dr Jewell's current research considers translation, women's literature, and the European dimension of Welsh literature.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 Aberystwyth University Gŵyl Dewi Awards, which recognise the contribution of students and colleagues to the Welsh language: Exceptional Learner (staff) - **Lucy Hodson**, Promoting Welsh in the Workplace - **Branwen Davies**, Welsh Medium study - **Stephanie Davies**, Welsh Language Champion (student) - **Delyn Fritter**.

Student team **James Bryan**, **James Stone** and **Howun Lam**, were the winners of InvEnterPrize 2018 for their Clipr mobile app designed to revolutionise bookings in the hair and beauty sector. *Read more on p.15.*

A team of students from the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) defeated 13 other university and college teams to lift the 2017 NIAB Agronomy Cup. The winning team of agriculture degree students were **James Bradley**, **David Casebow**, **Anna Crockford**, **Rosie Francis** and **Hannah Hinchliffe**.

A collection of essays on hearing loss by an Aber creative writing student was hailed the winner of an award hosted by literary magazine New Welsh Review. *Fiction as a Hearing Aid* by **Ed Garland**, expertly examines how literature can provide comfort and clarification to those with hearing difficulties.



ALUMNI

Honorary Fellow Dr Hywel Ceri Jones, was awarded the International Award for Vision and Leadership by the European Association for International Education in Seville.

Gruffudd Owen (Welsh and Celtic Studies, 2007) won the National Eisteddfod of Wales Chair at the 2018 Cardiff National Eisteddfod, and fellow alumna **Catrin Dafydd** (Welsh, 2003) won the Crown.

A film by Aber graduate **Meleri Morgan** (Theatre Film and Television Studies, 2017) was one of five winners at the 2018 Royal Television Society Wales Centre Student Television Awards. *Dwy Chwaer a Brawd (Two Sisters and a Brother)* was the winner in the Factual category.

Congratulations to **Cennydd Jones** (Agriculture, 2018) on winning the title of Wales YFC Senior Member of the Year 2018.

Esteemed author **Hayley Long** (English Literature, 1992) was the winner of the 2018 English language Tir na n-Og literature prize for young adults for her novel *The Nearest Faraway Place*. Organised by the Welsh Books Council, the Tir na n-Og award celebrates the best English-language title with an authentic Welsh background.

Dr Jittipat Poonkham, a PhD graduate from the Department of International Politics, was presented with the Educational Award for Excellence in Humanities and Social Science at the Anglo-Thai Society Awards 2018. The awards celebrate the exceptional talent of Thai PhD students studying at UK universities.



Hayley Long, 2017 NIAB Agronomy, winning team members, Dr Hywel Ceri Jones, Catrin Dafydd

Appointments

Professor Tim Woods - Pro Vice-Chancellor of Learning, Teaching & Student Experience

Professor Neil Glasser - Pro Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Earth & Life Sciences

Professor Qiang Shen - Pro Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Business & Physical Sciences

Dr Anwen Jones - Pro Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

Dafydd Rhys - Director of Aberystwyth Arts Centre

Robin Halley - Director of Marketing & Recruitment

Professor John Goddard - Head of Aberystwyth Business School

Dr Thomas Jansen - Head of Department of Computer Science

Dr Anoush Simon - Head of Information Management, Libraries & Archives

Dr Guy Baron - Head of Department of Modern Languages

Professor Phillipp Schofield - Head of Department of History & Welsh History

Steve Walsh - Head of Planning

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we record the loss of alumni, fellows and members of staff, past and current, of whose passing we have been informed during the last year. Our sincere condolences go out to the family and friends of those listed here.

**Denotes OSA member*

FELLOWS

Jones, Professor Ieuan Gwynedd, died June 2018*

Stephens, Emeritus Professor Meic (French, 1961), died July 2018

(Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics), died August 2017

Bromley, Dr Alan Victor (Geology, 1959), died October 2017*

Brown, Professor Eric Herbert (Geography, 1949), died January 2018

Davies, Mr Peter E (1969), died December 2017*

Davies, Mrs Ruth Elizabeth, née Williams (Geography (Arts), 1959), died April 2018*

Davies, Mr David Cyril (Geography (Arts) and Anthropology, 1950), died December 2017

Edwards, Mrs Carole Linda, née Heyes (Agricultural Food Marketing, 1987), died May 2018

Grooms, Dr Chris (1988), died April 2018*

Guppy, Mr Tony, died January 2018

Harris OBE, Mr Melville, died July 2018*

Housley, Mr Lance Dickinson (English, 1974), died April 2018

ALUMNI & SUPPORTERS

Archer, Mr Douglas Milton (Zoology, 1954), died July 2018*

Barton, Professor Simon Fraser (History, 1983), died December 2017*

Bevan, Mr Philip Keith

Hughes, Mr John Gwyn (Law, 1946), died 2018*

Jones, Mr Adrian Wynn (1965), died May 2018*

Jones, Mr Emrys Wynn (Geography and Geology (Science), 1953), died April 2018*

Jones, Mr Richie, died February 2018

Lewis, Mr Gareth (1951), died July 2018*

Long, Mr Peter David (International Politics and History, 1979), died January 2018

Martin, Mrs Iris Mary (Chemistry), died April 2018

Matson, Mr Ian David Neill (Biochemistry, 1977), died December 2017

Morgan, Professor Philip Graeme (Environmental Biology, 1979), died January 2018*

Osborne, Mr Stuart Anthony (Education, 1989), died September 2017

Pring, Ms Gillian Floret, née Evans (Visual Art and English, 1979), died June 2018

Pritchard, Mr Thomas Emyr (1953), died January 2018

Ramsbottom, Mr John Edmund (Agricultural Botany, 1967), died December 2017*

Rawlins, Mrs Josephine Parry, née Thomas (Geography, 1948), died January 2018*

Simpson, Mr Tony (Librarianship), died October 2017

Soanes, Mrs Concordia Anne, née Jones (French and German, 1984), died December 2017

Thomas, Mr Haydn H (Welsh Language and Literature, 1947), died March 2018*

Treharne, Mrs Lola Elaine Gwynne, née Davies (Thomas) (History, 1962), died November 2017*

Vanston, Mrs Marjorie Edith, née Lott (French, 1946), died December 2017*

Watts, Ms Marion Enid Elizabeth (History, 1981), died 2018

Williams, Dr Haydn Murray (1948), died October 2017*




Wray, Mr Barry Leonard David (Economics, 1971), died September 2017

If you know that our information is incorrect, or would like to report the death of an Aberystwyth University graduate, please let us know by emailing: alumni@aber.ac.uk

Atgofion RAG Memories

Roedd myfyrwyr Aber yn enwog ledled Prydain am godi symiau anferth i elusennau lleol a chymdeithasol yn ystod yr wythnos RAG. Yn y 1970au a'r 1980au, Aber oedd yn dal y record am y cyfanswm mwyaf o arian a godwyd y pen o blith holl brifysgolion Prydain. Mae'r awydd hwnnw i wella ar berfformiad y flwyddyn flaenorol wedi creu atgofion melys i lawer o gyn-fyfyrwyr.

Isod, ceir blas o'r eitemau a gedwir yn archifau'r Brifysgol. Rydym bob amser yn cadw llygaid allan am ragor. Ymunwch â'r sgwrs a rhannu'ch profiadau â ni:

-  @AberUniArchives
-  archives@aber.ac.uk
-  Aberystwyth Alumni | Cyn-fyfyrwyr Aber

Aber students were known throughout the UK for their ability to raise huge sums of money for local and national charities during RAG week. In the 1970's and 80's Aber held the record for collecting the most money per head than any other UK University. The ambition to surpass previous years created unforgettable memories for many alumni.

Below is a taste of the items held in the University Archives. We are always on the lookout for more - join in the conversation and share your memories with us:

1920



RAG 1925

Cychgrawn RAG Magazine Keezlewacka 1957 & Oats 1973

Keezle Wacca 1929
Ystyri'r mae hwn yw cylychgrawn RAG cyntaf Aber

Pryd y cafodd ei newid o 'Keezle Wacka' i 'Oats'?

Thought to be Aber's first "real full blown, live RAG magazine"

When did it change from 'Keezle Wacka' to 'Oats'?

1940



Achosion Liys, 1948 | Law Trials, 1948

1950



Fflot RAG Cymdeithas India, 1952
Indian Society RAG float, 1952



Garnest cart geibio, 1958-59
"Soapbox derby", 1958-59

1970



Fflot RAG Cymdeithas Ffiseg
Physics Society RAG float, 1974



Fflot Knave of Hearts (1971-74)
Knave of Hearts float (1971-74)

1980



Digwyddiad 'gwthio'r Mini' 1977
Push the Mini event, 1977



Ras tŷyr i dŷyr | Tower to tower race



Cnys-t 'Oats' y tu allan i'r Undeb, 1986
Oats t-shirt outside the Union, 1986

Cystadleuaeth Bwyta | Eating competition