Welcome to Voic:E

Welcome to the June 2016 edition of our alumni ezine. We love to hear from our alumni to find out what you are doing now so if you have any news or stories you think would interest the rest of the Aberdeen family, please let us know. To view pictures from last week's summer graduation ceremonies, check out our Facebook page.

Benefit of the month

University of Aberdeen alumni are eligible for up to 10% off in airport transfers and taxi services with BookTaxiBarcelona in over 4,000 locations worldwide.

Stay in touch and update your details on the alumni hub.
Alumni Focus

Rt. Hon Lady Dorrian appointed Lord Justice Clerk

A University of Aberdeen Law School graduate has been appointed to one of the highest legal offices in Scotland.

The Rt. Hon Lady Dorrian has been appointed Lord Justice Clerk by Her Majesty the Queen, becoming the first woman to hold the position. More...

University alumni honoured in Queen's birthday honours list

The following alumni of the University have been honoured in the most recent Queen's birthday honours list: Sir Ian Clark Wood, CBE, Knights Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire; Professor Susan Margaret Black, Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire; Professor David Alexander Syme Fergusson, FBA FRSE, Officer of the Order of the British Empire; Lady Joan Catto, DL, Member of the Order of the British Empire; Miss Barbara Lena Mcfarlane, Medallist of the Order of the British Empire. Congratulations to all our distinguished alumni who received these well deserved honours.

University alumnus receives ONZM for services to forestry

Dr Andrew McEwen who graduated from the University's then School of Forestry in 1968 was made an ONZM (Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit) in the Queen’s New Years Honours in New Zealand. Dr McEwen is only the second recipient of this award in the NZ forestry community and both awards have been made to Aberdeen graduates, the first in 2004. More...
University alumna to feature on new banknote

Nan Shepherd, one of the first women to graduate from the University, has been selected to appear on the Royal Bank of Scotland's new £5 note when it comes into circulation later this year.

Ms Shepherd graduated in 1915 having completed a degree in Arts and continued on to have a very successful career, shaping what is now the University's School of Education. During her career, Ms Shepherd went on to write three novels and a collection of poems, all of which are set in the North East and incorporate the landscape and environment of the region into their fabric. More....

French reunion - the year we turn 60!

The French class of 1982 are hoping to hold a reunion in 2019, the year most will turn 60 for those who graduated in French/joint honours French in 1982, or who started courses in French in 1977. If this applies to you and you would be interested in reuniting with your former classmates, please email Linda Bruce née Stewart to express your interest. Further information will be forwarded in due course.

Wartime letters from Aberdeen medic published for first time

Letters written by a World War One medical officer from Aberdeen who fought in East Africa are being published online for the first time. Captain Alexander Wallace revealed to fiancée Ethel how the British army defeated German forces in the face of food shortages, disease and heat. The letters tell how sickness killed far more men than battle itself. His letters are being published online as part of the National Army Museum's Soldiers' Stories series. Capt Wallace was born in 1885 in Aberdeen, and was educated at Robert Gordon's College and the University of Aberdeen, qualifying in medicine in 1906. More...
Chapter and Group Focus

First alumni chapter launched in Africa

The Lagos chapter was officially launched on Saturday 5 March. Professor Seth Kunin, the then Vice-Principal for Internationalisation and Professor Alfred Akisanya, the Dean for Sub-Saharan Africa hosted the event alongside the chapter leader, Dr Oyefeso.

The event was attended by over 40 alumni. This was the first of many events for the Lagos chapter. Since the launch the chapter leader has changed from Dr Oyefeso to Mr Ifeanyi Enebeli. If you would like more information on the Lagos chapter, or if you would like to discuss setting up a chapter, please email the Alumni Relations team.

Aberdeen Connect Summer Programme 2016

We are delighted to share with you details of the Aberdeen Connect summer programme. Aberdeen Connect provides members of our local Aberdeen alumni community with a range of inspiring opportunities to stay connected. Over the next few months we will host a business networking event, tour of the Rowett building and tour of the beautiful Cruickshank gardens. Full programme and booking details are available here.

Jakarta law conference hailed a success

The event, held on 20 April, was attended by key figures from the Indonesian parliament, the state oil company Pertamina, and national energy regulator SKK Migas.

The conference represented an ambitious effort by the University to pilot a new model of cooperation with an alumni chapter. Commenting on the conference, Professor John Paterson - Vice-Principal for Internationalisation at the University of Aberdeen - said: "The conference was a timely opportunity for key stakeholders to exchange ideas about the proposed reforms to Indonesia’s oil and gas sector. The discussions were characterised by well-informed perspectives, candour and good humour, and many of those involved said that it was by far the best event of its kind that they had attended." To view photos from the day as well as video content, please see our dedicated conference page.

Breaking news: Jakarta alumni chapter chair, Rene Hutauruk, and vice-chair, Aldy Harjoto, have been appointed to the Great British Alumni Association in Indonesia for the 2016 - 2019 period (known as Ikatan Alumni Britania Raya or IABA). Rene and Aldy will be heavily involved in media communication and social media activities for events held by IABA and also building and managing the image and branding of the organisation.
**Bangkok alumni chapter off to a flying start**

Bangkok alumni chapter chair, Piti Eiamchamroonlarp, has kicked off an ambitious programme of events at the University's first ‘bricks and mortar’ alumni chapter office. Since the official launch on 23 April, the chapter has hosted a seminar by Mr Jo Monteiro of Timor Leste, which was attended by 15 alumni. In the next few months, the chapter will also host seminars on English for Lawyers, Arbitration in Asia Pacific and on 25 June a four hour session on survival tips for those planning to study in the UK. Check out the Bangkok chapter's official Facebook page for more information.

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**University Focus**

**The stakes in the European referendum**

With voters going to the poll on Thursday 23 June, Michael Keating, Professor of Politics at the University of Aberdeen, shares his thoughts on the four big issues that have featured in the debate about the UK’s membership of the European Union and the present referendum campaign: the economy; sovereignty; migration; and keeping access to the European single market. [More...](#)

**Appointment of General Council Assessors on Court**

Congratulations are due to Mr Iain Percival and Mrs Jenny Shirreffs who have been appointed and reappointed respectively to serve as General Council Assessor members of Court from October 2016. Their appointment follows a nominations process which resulted in their two nominations being received for the two vacancies arising and which under the regulations meant that no election was required.

Mrs Shirreffs, who is re-elected as a General Council Assessor on Court for a second term of four years, has been a prominent volunteer and contributor to the charitable sector in Aberdeen over many years. She has also remained close to the University, serving on the General Council Business Committee and the Alumnus Association Management Committee among many others.

Mr Percival joins Court following a global career of over 30 years in the oil and gas industry, latterly with Shell and as an independent consultant. In recent years he has dedicated substantial time to assisting the University in an advisory capacity with regard to its oil and gas related teaching and research.
Opportunities for Alumni

Five years and over 700 students…Aberdeen alumni continue to help current students via the Career Mentoring Programme

"What a fantastic programme - I wish this had existed when I was a student! Both the student and the mentor get so much out of the relationship. It's a great thing to be involved with." Julia Harvie-Liddel, Global VP - Head of Resourcing, BP

Work Placement and Mentoring Officer, Julie Bakewell, has been involved with the Programme since its launch in 2011, "I work with a group of fantastic graduates already, but we are always looking for more Aberdeen alumni to volunteer their time and expertise. Graduates from all backgrounds are welcome, but in particular for the 2016/2017 session we are looking for those with accountancy/finance, HR and charity and voluntary sector experience. If you are interested in registering to become a mentor, please email us.

AUSA are looking for alumni volunteers to join the Freshers Week team!

There are some exciting opportunities coming up to get involved with Freshers Week, which runs 3-11 September this year. You could be a: volunteer, team leader, or part of the events and operations or PR team! Sign up here.
Development Focus

Team Aberdeen braves wild weather to raise over £14,000 for GASTROCAN

On Saturday 23rd April, 70 hardy and dedicated fundraisers took part in the annual Run Balmoral event on Royal Deeside to raise funds and awareness for stomach and oesophageal cancer research at the University of Aberdeen. Read more here.

Alumna donates new missal stand for King’s College Chapel

On Wednesday 11th May, a new missal stand was installed in King's College Chapel thanks to a generous donation from alumna Helen Dark. University Chaplain Rev Marylee Anderson led a celebratory blessing to mark the occasion and to recognise Helen's beautiful contribution to the 15th century building. To read more click here.

University recognises £150,000 raised by local man for dementia research

In March, 50 guests and staff gathered at the University's Foresterhill campus to celebrate dedicated dementia research donor Charlie Bain’s fundraising successes. The event enabled Charlie and the University to thank supporters for their donations as well as the vital part they have played in Charlie’s achievements. During the event, Apache North Sea announced further funding of £45,000 for the University's dementia research. To read more click here.

£1.2million donation secured from Kirby Laing Foundation for Divinity

The Kirby Laing Foundation is a long-term supporter of the University and this extremely generous gift will be used to create a new Postdoctoral Fellowship in the School of Divinity. The funds will enable the Fellowship to continue for many years and will enhance the University’s research and teaching in Divinity, which is ranked amongst the best in the world.
Development Trust afternoon tea party recognises donor generosity

The University of Aberdeen’s third annual celebration of philanthropy, which this year took the form of an afternoon tea party, was hailed a huge success with approaching 100 donors attending. Held in conjunction with the May Festival, guests were able to find out more about what their money is enabling throughout the University. To read more click here.