



Queen's University  
Belfast

# THE GRADUATE

## The Priests

Clerical chart-toppers win prestigious award



P32

Class of 2009



P10

New Library



P17

Ulster Bank Belfast  
Festival at Queen's

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## Editors' Welcome

Welcome to the 2009 edition of Queen's alumni magazine, *The Graduate*.

This issue features exclusive interviews with Queen's Chancellor, His Excellency Kamalsh Sharma who will be officially inaugurated in December and Mike Brown currently Chief Operating Officer of Heathrow Airport who will take up the post of MD of London Underground next year.

Norma Sinte (Director of Development and Alumni Relations) takes readers on a tour of the new library, which opened for business over the summer (see p10/11).

*The Graduate* also brings you the latest alumni news from around the world (see Class Notes p19-23). Plus you can read how

marine biologists are helping to conserve the endangered horse mussel (p6), find out how one student has given 'Twitter' its voice (p24) and learn how Queen's pharmacists are fighting MRSA (p29).

**For those who have received a copy of the Roll of Graduates Questionnaire, there is a new deadline of 30 November for those wishing to be included in a free prize draw for returning their completed survey.**

Alumni feedback on *The Graduate* is always welcome to: [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk). And remember, you can keep up to date with news from Queen's at: [www.qub.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.qub.ac.uk/alumni).

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Gerry Power and Tracey McKinney,  
Co-Editors**

## Message from the Director



*As The Graduate goes to print around 3,500 students have left home for the first time to embark on academic study. I congratulate them all; they have worked hard to achieve this*

*and I wish them every success.*

At Queen's we have always put our students first. From our new-look Students' Union to Queen's Sport (selected as a training camp for the 2012 Olympics) and our new £50m library, we offer some of the best facilities in the UK and Ireland.

We believe our students deserve the best Queen's has to offer, academically, culturally and socially. They can be our best ambassadors and we take pride in their achievements, achievements such as those of Lisa Collins, from Omagh, who set up a fundraising project for children in Uganda, and is this year's Queen's Student of the Year (see p12/13).

The majority of students enjoy their University experience and earn an excellent degree. Many make a positive contribution to Queen's and the South Belfast community, but we are fully aware, that a small minority engage in anti-social behaviour. This damages the quality of life of local residents, particularly our close neighbours in the Holyland area, and tarnishes the reputation

of the University and the student body as a whole.

Queen's is taking a tough approach to tackling this issue, while also addressing aggravating factors such as alcohol abuse. Students and staff work closely with a range of partners, including landlords, Belfast City Council, the PSNI and other academic institutions to make the affected areas better places to live, for local residents and our students.

In an address to parents in September, the Vice-Chancellor stressed that the University will not tolerate anti-social behaviour among any of its students. Several high profile campaigns warn about the dangers of excessive alcohol and ask students to show respect for themselves and their neighbours. Robust disciplinary procedures are in place and every complaint is investigated. As a result, many students were fined and some suspended last year.

A Belfast City Council community safety wardens scheme is in place, part-funded by the University, and we are also lobbying for additional powers for police and wardens such as on-the-spot fines, drink bans, and restrictions on parties in alcohol free zones.

It is crucial that the challenge of students' anti-social behaviour is met decisively to ensure that this year's freshers and local residents can enjoy the best 'Queen's experience' possible.

**Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations**

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# High Flier

For those who have to fly in and out of Heathrow on a regular basis the prospect of assuming responsibility for one of the world's busiest airports would probably be quite daunting. The words "poisoned chalice" spring to mind, yet taking on one of the major challenges in UK transport did not deter Queen's graduate **Mike Brown**, who was appointed Chief Operating Officer at Heathrow in September 2008. Alumni Officer **Gerry Power** caught up with the Belfast-born BSc (Econ) and MBA high flier on a recent visit to London.

'At the time the position became vacant, I had been running the operations at London Underground for five years,' said the affable Mike Brown over coffee in Terminal One. 'In truth, though I was happy there, the challenges were similar and I didn't want to regret not applying.'

Taking over just months after the embarrassing debacle that was the opening of Terminal Five, Mike Brown is now responsible for 7,500 staff, strategic relationships with dozens of national and international airlines, not to mention the 67 million passengers who pass through en route to over 180 destinations each year.



Heathrow Airport

'It is the first anniversary of the opening of Terminal Five this week,' said Mike, clearly undaunted in his role, 'and I am only too aware that we need to improve the perception of Heathrow in light of this and other issues. Given that we are spending £1 billion annually over the next five years in upgrading facilities, we need to ensure that we make every passenger's journey better every time.'

Responsibility for the world's third biggest (and the busiest international) airport is a far cry from his upbringing in South Belfast. Mike Brown attended Brackenber House, an old (now demolished) Victorian villa in Cleaver Avenue in the south of the city and a feeder school for Campbell College.



"When I was at school I didn't really know what career I wanted"

MIKE BROWN

'When I was at school I didn't really know what career I wanted. I suppose I had a passing interest in journalism and politics at the time but I didn't work hard enough at my A-levels to keep all of my options open. I have to confess that Queen's was fourth choice on my list of universities, but in retrospect I am really glad things turned out as they did.'

The middle of three children, Mike's older sister studied medicine at Queen's, while his younger brother followed the same profession after studying at Liverpool. Mike's late father was also a Queen's medic, and while his mother stayed at home to raise the children, didn't he feel under pressure to toe the family line?

'There was no pressure on me at all to study medicine; in fact my father was rather pleased that I had other interests!'

An economics degree at Queen's gave Mike the opportunity to develop his interest in a business career. Playing hockey for Queen's Seconds (where he says he was 'more committed than good') satisfied his sporting interests and involvement in the student version of the Alliance Party addressed his political curiosity.

'I guess I was a political activist of sorts when I was at Queen's, in the sense that I helped put up posters for an election in North Down. At the time, however, I couldn't ever see myself following a political career in Northern Ireland, certainly not before seeing a bit of the world and getting a real job at least,' said Mike, no doubt relieved at how things later panned out.

By the time he had qualified with a BSc Econ in 1985 and had started on his MBA, Mike Brown's career path was already taking shape, helped, he recalls, by a labour relations fact-finding trip to mainland Europe.

'I have some really fond memories of those years at Queen's, particularly of lecturers Professors RDC and Boyd Black, John Simpson and Frances Hill.

'My most vivid recollection however was of a wonderful economics society visit to the European Institutions in Brussels and Luxembourg made all the more enjoyable by the superb camaraderie among class members and several high-spirited evenings in various bars!'

'I also recall that we occupied one of the University's buildings on campus as part of a student protest when we heard that the MBA course at Queen's was to stop,' he added, 'but that is a story for another day!'

After completing the second part of his studies, Brown moved to Ealing in England with a couple of fellow Queen's graduates. A brief period in Brand Management with Rank Hovis McDougall was followed by 19 years in senior operational and customer service roles at London Underground, now a part of Transport for London (TfL), where he became Chief Operating Officer.

Brown was on duty, and one of the first to face a barrage of media interviews, in the aftermath of the explosions which killed 52 people and resulted in over 700 injuries on 7 July 2005 in London.

'After 9/11 the Tube was always on a high state of alert, but nothing - not even growing up during the troubles in Northern Ireland - could prepare you for what happened that day,' said Brown, clearly still moved by the trauma of the attacks. 'That said, the operations staff in particular, and of course the emergency services responded in an unbelievable manner. I am proud to say that London's response was to run a near full underground and bus service the following day.'

Heathrow Airport presents a different set of challenges. Mike Brown and his team are tasked with driving up passenger service standards across five terminals - and the Heathrow Express train service into Paddington - and on transforming the facilities provided for passengers and airlines.

A recent *Which?* UK airport survey suggested that Heathrow (which finished near the bottom in most categories) has a lot of ground to make up. Mike Brown is, however, clearly aware of the enormity of the task ahead.

'We have to continue to improve our services every day. Massive building work and facilities regeneration are underway right around the Airport and we need both to improve public perception and deliver a world-class travelling experience right across the board,' he suggested. Already the league table of airports worldwide is showing that Heathrow's position is improving above many other large European airports.

And what of the arguments surrounding the proposed third runway at Heathrow? Brown is candid:

'All our major international competitors have more runways than Heathrow. An additional landing strip would give us greater flexibility and of course passenger capacity. While we will continue to operate within strict environmental limits - by demanding quieter and cleaner aircraft - economically the arguments are compelling. It may still be eight to ten years away but if the UK is to compete worldwide and if we are to attract international companies to locate here, London certainly needs more runway capacity and Heathrow is the obvious location.'

Mike is married to Dundee graduate Barbara, who comes from Bangor and whom he met in London. Together they have a six year old son, Patrick, and the family regularly comes back to Northern Ireland to visit family and friends and for weekends at their second home in Newcastle.

What of his own longer term plans - where does Mike Brown see himself in five years?

'Heathrow is a massive turnaround challenge, but I like a challenge... and success, so that remains my current goal.'

Whatever lies in store, there's no doubt that this affable and determined Queen'sman, with a proven track record in change management, will make a major contribution to any organisation he might move to.

Since this interview, Mike Brown has been appointed as Managing Director of London Underground. Brown said, "In an ideal world I would have wanted to spend longer at Heathrow - but real improvement plans are in place and already delivering. Despite the downturn in the aviation sector, the airport had the busiest August in our history! I am really confident that the team I leave behind will continue to drive the performance higher and higher once I leave.

"The challenges of the Underground will be considerable - how to sustain and improve levels of service even as the system is rebuilt; and how to ensure that the public get real value for money as the investment takes place. I am very excited at the opportunity to be at the helm of the oldest and most important subway system in the world."

Mike Brown will begin his new role early in 2010.

Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

## Saving the Strangford horse mussel

Queen's is working on a three-year study to conserve and restore endangered horse mussel reefs in Strangford Lough.

Marine biologists based at the University's marine research and outreach centre in Portaferry, will provide scientific and technological research to map and monitor the species and undertake trials to restore it.

Horse mussel reefs are important to the marine environment because they are 'biological engineers' which improve water quality through filtering it when they feed and also because many other species depend on them for survival.

Funded by the Department of Agriculture and the Rural Development and the Department of the Environment, the project follows a multi-agency report in 2004 which said that the beds were in serious decline.

As horse mussels were one of the features used in the conservation designation of Strangford Lough, the UK government is obliged to protect them under European directives.

Dr David Roberts from Queen's, who is Principal Investigator on the study entitled Modiolus Restoration Research, said it was the first of its kind for the species.

He said: "Queen's has expertise in the restoration of the European native oyster, freshwater pearl mussels and a long history of marine research. The



Horse mussels in Strangford Lough

University is therefore ideally positioned to undertake research to develop techniques and recommendations for the restoration of horse mussel reefs in Strangford Lough.

"One year into the study we have found that horse mussel reefs are not as widely distributed as they were in the 1970s and that some beds have extremely poor mussel density.

"Mussels are very important to the marine environment as they act as biological 'engineers' in both freshwater and marine ecosystems. When they feed they filter vast quantities of water thereby improving water quality. They also provide habitat for over a hundred other species, serving as a nursery ground for species of commercial importance."

"Mussels are very important to the marine environment as they act as biological 'engineers'"

Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

## Pantridge Remembered

A portrait has been unveiled in memory of one of Queen's most famous graduates, Professor Frank Pantridge, who developed the portable defibrillator.

Former prisoner of war and Military Cross winner Professor Pantridge, who died in 2004, is credited with revolutionising cardiology around the world by introducing mobile coronary care.

The portrait was unveiled by rugby legend and Queen's graduate Dr Jack Kyle who was a friend and colleague of Professor Pantridge.

Members of the Frank Pantridge Portrait Fund, who secured almost 300 donations for the portrait from across the world, joined some of Professor Pantridge's family for the event in the Canada Room.

The three-quarter-length oil on canvas portrait, which now hangs in the Great Hall, was painted by Belfast-based artist Martin Wedge, a winner in the first Davy Irish Portrait awards last year.

The unveiling took place during a three day symposium at Queen's entitled *Frank Pantridge's Legacy*, which was attended by cardiologists from around the world.

"Professor Pantridge is credited with revolutionising cardiology around the world by introducing mobile coronary care"



Head of Alumni Relations Kerry Bryson, Dr Jack Kyle (centre) and Professor Alun Evans at the unveiling of the portrait of Professor Frank Pantridge

## Faculty Profile

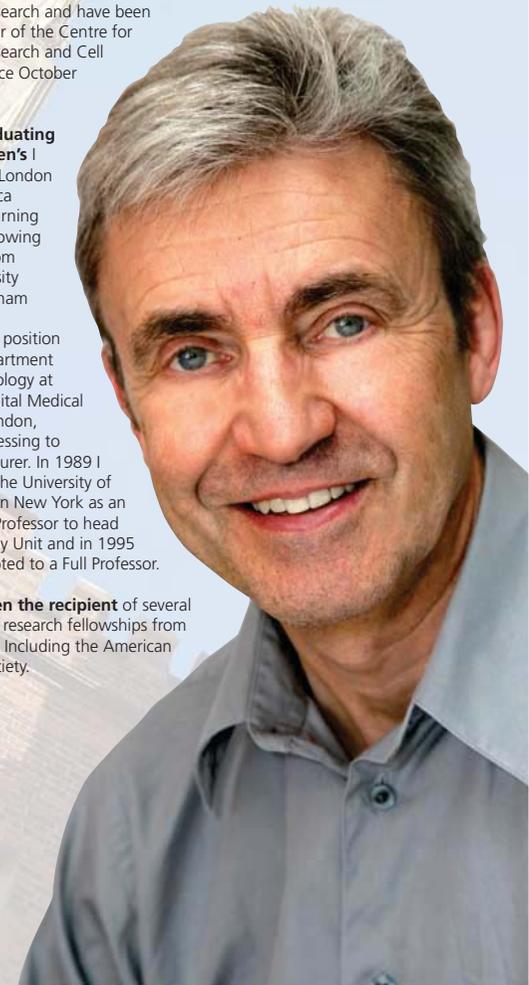
**Name:** Professor Dennis McCance  
**Position:** Director of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology

**My research work** has focused on how human papillomaviruses cause genital, especially cervical, cancers. Recent work examines head and neck cancers and investigates mechanisms of invasion.

**I joined Queen's in 2006** as Professor of Cancer Research and have been the Director of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology since October 2007.

**After graduating from Queen's** I worked in London and America before returning home. Following my PhD from the University of Birmingham I took up a lectureship position in the Department of Microbiology at Guy's Hospital Medical School, London, later progressing to Senior Lecturer. In 1989 I moved to the University of Rochester in New York as an Associate Professor to head the Virology Unit and in 1995 was promoted to a Full Professor.

**I have been the recipient** of several prestigious research fellowships from institutions including the American Cancer Society.



## Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

## Vision sciences

Queen's academics have helped develop an antioxidant supplement which may slow down sight loss in elderly people.

The supplement, which contains carotenoids - rich antioxidants found in fruit and vegetables - could help those affected by the leading cause of blindness in the Western World, age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

AMD is an incurable eye disease which causes blurring of central vision because of its effects on the macula, the central part of the retina.

When the eye disease progresses to late AMD patients are unable to read, watch television or recognise people's faces as they only have peripheral vision.

Professor Usha Chakravarthy, from Queen's Centre of Vision and Vascular Science (CVVS), co-ordinated the five-year study which involved over 400 people across Ireland.

The study found that in patients with early AMD the supplements helped sharpen vision. The intake of high levels of the carotenoids lutein and zeaxanthin preserved the macular pigments, slowing down the progression from early to late AMD.

Professor Chakravarthy said more research is needed to confirm the findings.

The antioxidant supplement was developed with the advice of Professor



Ian Young from the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences.

The study was funded by Dr Mann Pharma and Bausch and Lomb and sponsored by the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. It was co-designed by Dr Stephen Beatty, Head of Vision Research at Waterford Institute of Technology.

## Nursing launch new course on trauma



Denis Bradley, Consultative Group on the Past, at the launch of WAVE's new range of courses

Queen's and voluntary organisation WAVE has launched a new range of courses to try to help resolve the pain of the past caused by the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

Denis Bradley, Co-Chair of the Consultative Group on the Past, was among those at an event held by the School of Nursing and Midwifery to highlight the courses dealing with trauma.

The courses - a certificate, diploma and degree in Trauma Studies - are designed to bring people together to share their experiences in order to help healing in their communities.



WAVE Trauma Centre CEO Sandra Peake (left) with Denis Bradley and Professor Linda Johnston

They focus on both academic research and knowledge from those working in the field, providing a comprehensive insight into the theories of psychological trauma but also addressing how they are applied.

Professor Linda Johnston, Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Queen's, said: "We are delighted to have WAVE as the partner for these courses. We believe they address a real need in our society."



Sandra Peake and Marianne Moutray



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVOCATION

Clerk of Convocation  
Queen's University Belfast  
Belfast BT7 1NN  
convocation@qub.ac.uk

The Annual Meeting of Convocation will be held in the Great Hall in the main University building on **Thursday 12 November 2009 starting at 6.30pm**. Coffee/tea will be served from 6pm.

The business of the Annual Meeting will incorporate the Report of the Standing Committee, and any other relevant matters of which due notice is received not later than **30 October 2009**. Motions to be included on the Agenda should be submitted on the appropriate forms, which are available now from the undersigned or online.

The Annual Meeting will be followed by **Queen's Question Time**, which will give graduates an opportunity to put questions to local politicians on education and other matters.

The evening will also include the Annual Convocation Lecture, further details of which will be available online in due course.

All papers (including minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting) are now available at - [www.qub.ac.uk/convocation](http://www.qub.ac.uk/convocation)

Yours faithfully

Gerry Power  
Clerk of Convocation

LAST DATE FOR PROCEDURAL STEPS:

**Issue of this summons** - 17 September 2009 (online)

**Receipt of notice of business** - 30 October 2009

**Issue of agenda** - Thursday 5 November 2009

# The Library at Queen's - a place of light and learning

It cost £50 million to build, will provide 2,000 reader places and house over 1.5 million publications but, as **Gerry Power** found out from Director of Development **Norma Sinte**, the new Library at Queen's is not so much a book depository for past knowledge, as it is a legacy for future learning.



Norma Sinte

'The Library at Queen's is an awe-inspiring landmark building that, in the few short weeks it has been opened, has already become an integral part of the landscape of the University,' said Norma Sinte. 'With its picturesque setting in a leafy corner just off Botanic Gardens, it looks as if it has been there forever!'

The building blends the best features of a traditional library with the latest technology, to create a 21st-century environment for Queen's students and staff. It is the culmination of one of the most ambitious building projects, and the largest single fundraising initiative, in the University's history.

'The building is a wonderful structure both inside and out, and one that the wider Queen's family can be justifiably proud of. For the first time in a single location, students and staff will have access to a rich and extensive collection of written materials, two state-of-the-art language laboratories, extensive training areas, as well as up to 21 group study rooms,' explained Norma. 'And, in busy exam times, these facilities will be available 24 hours a day!' she added.

The fundraising campaign was spearheaded over five years by The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation, initially under the chairmanship of Sir Allen McClay and more recently, by his successor Tom Lynch, a former Queen's Student President. In addition to contributions from government and the University, over £30m of the funding for this impressive building came from philanthropic sources - trusts and foundations, individuals and companies, Queen's graduates and friends - not just locally but also nationally and internationally.

Tom Lynch explains: 'The Library is the centrepiece of a transformed campus and will help Queen's to fulfil its promise to provide a world-class educational experience for current and future local and international students. With over 2,000 donations ranging from £5-£10m, the Library is a living testimony to the power of philanthropic giving and a lasting investment in the intellectual capital of Northern Ireland.'

'The new Library owes much to the generosity of so many donors,' continued

"The Library is the centrepiece of a transformed campus and will help Queen's to fulfil its promise to provide a world-class educational experience for current and future local and international students"



Mr Lynch. 'In due course these contributions will be recognised publicly on a specially commissioned donor wall in the entrance foyer. In addition, a number of rooms and spaces will acknowledge our major donors,' he concluded.

Guarding the main entrance to the building is Eco, a large contemporary bronze sculpture by Marc Didou, depicting two faces, one the right way up, the other upside down. The intriguing work was purchased as part of Queen's Centenary celebrations in 2008 and was funded by the University's friends, supporters and graduate associations across the world.

'Having been involved in the project since its inception, it is wonderful to see how the concepts and ideas which we worked on several years ago have come to fruition,' explained Norma. 'from the multi-storey atrium which dominates and illuminates the building, to the overwhelming sense of space and the abundance of natural light. Studying in the Library will never again be a stuffy experience!'

Of particular note is the CS Lewis Room, situated in the tower on the first floor. This is the aspect of the Library which Norma Sinte is clearly most proud of. 'Given that Lewis' mother, Florence Hamilton, was one of the first women to study at Queen's, there is a real feeling that CS Lewis has been brought home. It is appropriate that we are able to recognise one of Northern Ireland's most notable writers in this way,' she said. 'From the locally designed and woven carpet featuring the head of Aslan, the visitor is drawn inextricably towards the replica wardrobe door and to the promise of the magical world of Narnia beyond,' added Norma.

A beautifully hand-carved cherry wood door opens onto an enchanting circular room

providing a pleasant, well-lit reading area, a centrepiece map of Narnia and excellent views across the University campus. The map, reproduced with special permission, is by English-born book illustrator Pauline Baynes and is a copy of the original held at Wheaton College in Illinois.

'It is, without doubt, my favourite aspect of the new building,' Norma said. 'The atmosphere and the cool winter colour scheme give the space a charm all of its own. A selection of quotes from his writings and frosted imagery of the landscapes which inspired his most celebrated works, provide distinct echoes of Lewis. It's a space I believe he would have loved,' she added.

While ground floor facilities include IT training rooms, a café, language centre and support areas, the upper storeys accommodate 1.2 million volumes, along with the University's Special Collections and a vast range of other printed works, over three extensive floors.

'From the outset, the Library was conceived as being not only for Queen's but also for the people of Belfast and Northern Ireland,' explains Norma. 'Feedback from donors and



CS Lewis Reading Room

others have helped shape the building that we have today, and we hope that people from far and near will visit the café and the CS Lewis space and make the Library their own.'

The huge construction project, which was spearheaded by the University's Estates Directorate, involved staff from all areas working together to ensure a world-class outcome. Integral to the design by Boston-based architects Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, who worked on the building in association with Robinson Patterson Partnership in Belfast, is the provision of secluded places for quiet study as well as areas for group work allowing students to choose their individual learning

environment.

The building will also stimulate and promote productive study with the accent on innovation and the pursuit of excellence, a view endorsed by current Student President, Shane Brogan.

'The new Library gives students an attractive, state-of-the-art facility and will quickly become the key resource for studying at Queen's,' said Shane. 'It will also go a long way in addressing student concerns around opening hours, catering and the Library's other services, and marks a commitment to continued development of the Library as an essential service.'

The designers of the Library were also very conscious of its green requirements.

'The building is a model of sustainable design,' Norma Sinte said. 'The latest technology is used to ensure the working atmosphere is carefully controlled, with thermal rods buried deep underground used to store heat in summer for use later in the year,' she explained. 'Natural light sensors and automatically operated windows will reduce electricity consumption and running

costs, while a rainwater recycling system for greywater will conserve water,' she added.

The Library also makes a distinctive contribution to the Belfast skyline and the aesthetic qualities of the Queen's Conservation Area, and is a tangible example of the ongoing renaissance of the city.

'The Library has already become an exciting and essential part of the student experience,' said Norma. 'Most importantly, however, it will provide invaluable resources for future generations of students and researchers, and is an investment which will benefit not just Queen's but the community it serves,' she concluded.

## GRADUATE AND STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

## Hitting the right notes

The annual Graduate and Student of the Year Awards, supported by First Trust Bank and now in their 10th year, were presented during summer Graduation Week.

Northern Ireland's clerical chart-toppers, **The Priests**, and an enterprising history student from Omagh, **Lisa Collins** who set up a fundraising project for children in Uganda, picked up their trophies in a packed Sir William Whitla Hall.

The Awards, which are run by the Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA) and the University's Development and Alumni Relations Office, recognise excellence, achievement and service by Queen's alumni and students, either to the University or to the wider community.

Of the standard of the 08/09 contenders, Eileen Sowney, Regional Director of the AIB Group, said: 'We are delighted with the quality of entries this year and I think that the achievements of our winners illustrate that. They are an inspiration to fellow students and graduates alike. This is a key event in our year and we are committed to continuing our support of the Graduate and Student of the Year Awards into the future.'

## Holy, holy, holy...

The Priests hit the musical headlines in April 2008 when they signed a £1m record deal with music giant Sony BMG. Fathers Eugene O'Hagan, 48, his brother Martin, 45, and David Delargy, 44, are all Queen's graduates of the 1980s and each has a busy parish in the diocese of Down and Connor. Though their success was overnight, the unlikely trio have actually been singing together for the past 35 years, since they were pupils in St MacNissi's College at Garron Tower, where they were known as 'holy, holy, holy' by their peers.

'Perhaps there has been just a little bit of divine providence involved too.

I certainly wouldn't rule it out,' Father David told *The Graduate*, when asked what he put their success down to.

Father Eugene graduated in Scholastic Philosophy in 1982 and his brother Martin followed three years later in Ancient History, when Father David also qualified in History.

In her citation, QGA President Oonagh Ferrity explained why The Priests had been singled out for this latest honour.

'It was primarily for their contribution to classical music and in recognition of their universal success in the last twelve months that Fathers David, Eugene and Martin received the Graduate of the Year Award,' said Ms Ferrity. 'Their warmth and charm as ambassadors for Northern Ireland and for Queen's also made them worthy recipients of this

"Perhaps there has been just a little bit of divine providence involved too. I certainly wouldn't rule it out"

FATHER DAVID DELARGY



Graduate of the Year Award winner Fr David Delargy and Student of the Year Award winner Lisa Collins (right), with Eileen Sowney, Regional Director of the AIB Group

honour from their Alma Mater,' she concluded.

Their first album *The Priests* was recorded last year with the Philharmonic Academy of Rome from St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican and spent 13 weeks at number one. Nominated for the 2009 Classical Album of the Year, it was the fastest debut selling classical album ever. They also topped the charts with their DVD - *The Priests, In Concert at Armagh Cathedral* - recorded in September 2008.

Father David, who collected the Award on behalf of his fellow priests, who were out of the country on holiday, spoke of the significance of the achievement.

'The Award came as a great surprise to us, but we are really delighted. While we don't seek awards or recognition, it is undeniably a pleasure to receive recognition for our music from Queen's. We are very proud of our association with the University.'

'When I graduated in 1985 we were washed out by the rain and had to run for the



The Priests - Fr David Delargy (centre) and Fathers Martin and Eugene O'Hagan - are joined by QGA President Oonagh Ferrity (second from left) and Queen's Head of Alumni Relations Kerry Bryson

shelter of the Social Sciences building! This time though, the sun shone and we had a perfect day'.

## Leadership promise

Share Uganda, the brainchild of 2009 Student of the Year Lisa Collins, seeks to improve lives in the landlocked African country, where half the population live below the international poverty line of \$1.25 a day. The charity aims to 'try to do something' for children who know what it is to 'feel hungry, to have lived life as a child-soldier, to have suffered from HIV and Aids or to have gained an education in the wrong things in life.'

Speaking to *The Graduate* Lisa said: 'The entire day was really special for both me and my mum who accompanied me; in fact it was one of the best days of my life!' She continued: 'It is a complete honour to be Student of the Year. I owe so much to my family - my father and mother, and my grandparents - and my friends, all of whom have directed me and been so inspirational.'

The Masters student in History, who received a prize of £1,000 also helped set up the Queen's chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). SIFE is a global network of business executives, academic leaders and undergraduates dedicated to nurturing students' entrepreneurial skills in a way that benefits their careers and

the wider community.

Queen's SIFE was named Rookie Champion 2009 at national awards in London earlier this year, after only eight months in existence.

Shane Brogan, performing one of his first official duties as President of the Students' Union, acknowledged Lisa's volunteer work both on and off campus in his citation.

"The entire day was really special for both me and my mum who accompanied me; in fact it was one of the best days of my life!"

LISA COLLINS

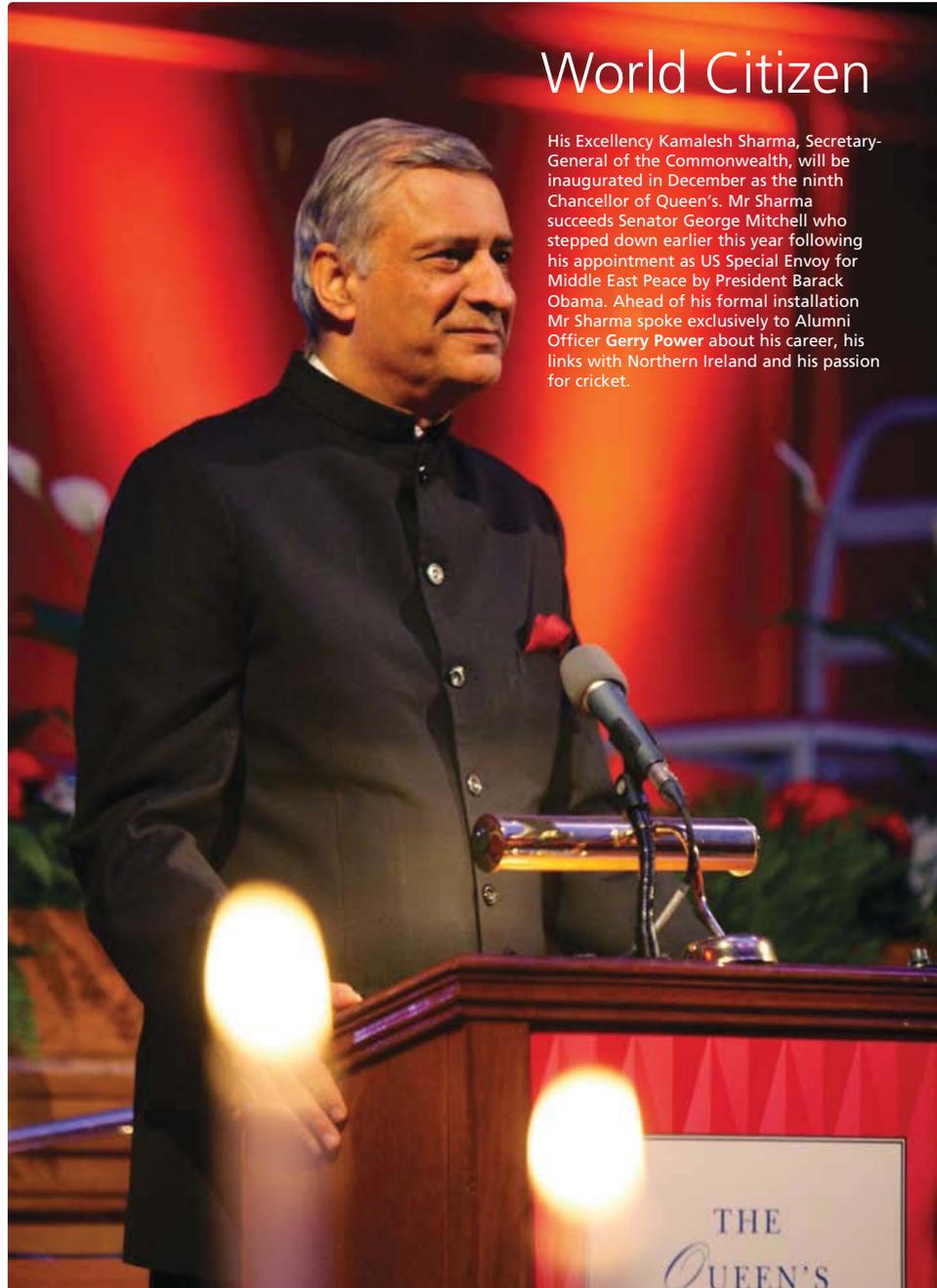
'Lisa has made several selfless contributions to life at Queen's - she took notes at lectures for some students with disabilities, curated a highly praised exhibition on slavery and worked as a student caller in the Development Office, contacting graduates to find out about their time at Queen's,' said Shane. 'Elsewhere,' he continued, 'Lisa has been a volunteer with the Spirit of Enniskillen for five years and more recently in the Belfast City Hospital Emergency Response Ward.'

And to round off an excellent year Lisa was recently awarded a prestigious Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship to study at Harvard University. Only six Fellows are selected from the UK each year with candidates chosen on the basis of 'future promise of leadership, strength of character, keen mind, a balanced judgment and a devotion to the democratic ideal.'

Perhaps not surprisingly, Lisa donated some of her prize money to her Uganda project. 'I also paid my flights to Boston where I will be studying next year, and gave some of it to my mum,' she said before concluding: 'I did however also go to Oxygen the same weekend!'

## World Citizen

His Excellency Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, will be inaugurated in December as the ninth Chancellor of Queen's. Mr Sharma succeeds Senator George Mitchell who stepped down earlier this year following his appointment as US Special Envoy for Middle East Peace by President Barack Obama. Ahead of his formal installation Mr Sharma spoke exclusively to Alumni Officer Gerry Power about his career, his links with Northern Ireland and his passion for cricket.



'I was absolutely delighted when Queen's offered me the position of Chancellor. It is a great honour to be following Senator Mitchell and it is a role I am looking forward to taking up formally towards the end of this year.'

Mr Sharma became Commonwealth Secretary-General on 1 April 2008. Already, in just under 18 months, he has been to almost half of the 53 member nations and plans to visit the remainder during his term in office. He was elected to the position during the biennial Commonwealth summit in Kampala, held in November 2007 and succeeded Sir Don McKinnon of New Zealand.

Mr Sharma was born in 1941 in Banaras (also known as Varanasi), one of the world's oldest cities, and often referred to as the religious capital of India. Banaras is located in the south-eastern part of the state of Uttar Pradesh in northern India on the west bank of the holy river Ganga (Ganges), and is one of the seven sacred locations for Hindus.

'I come from a very academic family,' he told *The Graduate*. 'I was one of seven; my father was a civil servant and my mother is a writer. I have one brother who is a professor in McGill University, Canada and a sister on the staff of the University of Maryland,' he added.

Educated at the Modern School, Barakhamba Road and St Stephen's College in Delhi, Mr Sharma later read Literature at King's College, Cambridge. He is a fellow at Harvard, a governor of the Ditchley Foundation (set up in 1958 to advance international learning) and was a former Director of the International Peace Academy in New York. He holds honorary doctorates from Middlesex and De Montfort Universities and in 2001 was awarded a medal for services to internationalism by the Foreign Policy Association of the United States.

A career diplomat, Mr Sharma previously served as India's High Commissioner to the UK for four years, during which time he visited Northern Ireland on several occasions.

'I had regular contact with Lord Diljit Rana - India's honorary consul in Belfast and an honorary graduate of Queen's - and with the local business community during my time as High Commissioner. I

wanted to make sure that India did not overlook Northern Ireland, just because of the short stretch of water between it and the rest of the UK,' he explained.

It was this responsibility for cementing relations between Northern Ireland and India leading to India's investment in Ulster business that first brought Mr Sharma to the attention of the University. He also gave an impressive address at the Centenary Charter Day Dinner in December 2008.

'I was flattered to be asked to make the keynote address at the Centenary Dinner,' said Mr Sharma, who was joined for the celebration by his wife Mrs Babli Sharma. 'It was a landmark occasion for the University and gave me a special opportunity to renew my acquaintance not just with Northern Ireland but also with Seamus Heaney, who was guest of honour.'

**"I was absolutely delighted when Queen's offered me the position of Chancellor. It is a great honour to be following Senator Mitchell and it is a role I am looking forward to taking up formally"**

HIS EXCELLENCY KAMALES SHARMA

The Secretary-General first met the Queen's Nobel Laureate during his time in New York. On the occasion of the United Nations Millennium Assembly, he was asked to edit a book of poetry *Mille Fleurs - Poetry From Around The World* - a publication for which Seamus Heaney provided the foreword.

Mr Sharma has been a member of the Indian Foreign Service since 1965, and has served at ambassadorial level in five missions. His special interests lie in the empowerment of young people,

the advancement of women's rights, eliminating poverty, and economic growth.

'There is a much greater emphasis on young people today than there ever was in my generation,' Mr Sharma added, returning to a theme from his Centenary Dinner address. 'Not only are they required to be responsible citizens of their own countries, but they are expected to be world citizens as well.'

It is a theme he would clearly like to advance in his new role: 'Children of the 21st century are born internationalists. With the growth of the internet they have wider and longer horizons than their seniors. The solutions to the many pressing problems of our time are increasingly being answered, not by the older generation, but by young people.'

A family man with two grown-up children, his interests include cosmology, Indian and Western classical music, literature (he says he is a 'compulsive reader') and jazz. More than anything, however, he loves cricket.

'I am hooked on cricket!' he said. 'Having played it from a very young age, and at a representative level at Cambridge, it's a sport I really enjoy watching.'

And of England's Ashes victory over Australia, the Secretary-General has his own view on what gave the home side the winning edge.

'This Ashes series was very evenly balanced. While the superiority of the Australian team is not as dominant as it once was, I think home advantage now plays a bigger part in matches than ever before.'

Mr Sharma will be inaugurated as the ninth Chancellor of Queen's University in December 2009. Speaking of the event, he said, 'I am very much looking forward to my inauguration and gaining the opportunity to work with Queen's unique and talented staff and students.'

Queen's University Culture and Arts



## Staff profile

**Name:** Susan Picken  
**Position:** Head of Queen's Film Theatre  
**Directorate:** Marketing, Recruitment and Communications

**I decided to join Queen's** as it was a once in a lifetime opportunity to run a cinema like the QFT and an opening that doesn't come along very often. I really didn't expect to get the job though so I was overjoyed when I did!

**I studied film** at college at degree and masters levels and since then I have worked more or less constantly in the film industry. I ran events at the British Film Institute for five years and worked on the London Film Festival. I also produced a couple of short films. More recently I worked in film marketing.

**I love going to the cinema,** and at some point I would like to make another short film. Otherwise, I read, go to see bands and live theatre - and I want to learn how to do the lindy hop once classes start again.

**The best thing about working at Queen's** is the wide variety of people who work at the University - it's very cosmopolitan. And it's based in a lovely part of Belfast.

## Queen's Film Theatre introduces '£3 for all Mondays' discounted ticket offer



Hot on the heels of its recently celebrated 40th anniversary, the University's own art house cinema, the QFT, has launched its new '£3 for all Mondays' discounted ticket offer.

Not only can film fans enjoy the latest releases and classic films at a budget price, but they can make a night of it relaxing on the comfy sofas of Belfast's only fully-licensed cinema bar.

QFT is open seven nights a week and presents the best of new and classic world cinema in a relaxed and friendly environment. It was the first cinema in Northern Ireland to showcase the work of Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino, the Coen brothers and Steven Soderbergh, among countless others.

In April 2009, QFT announced a new three-year partnership with BT at the BT Reel Genius Festival at the QFT, which ran from 30 April to 3 May.

Many other special events are planned for the year ahead including the Belfast Film Festival in March 2010.

For full information on all screenings and events, online booking, competitions and a regular e-newsletter, visit the QFT website at: [www.queensfilmtheatre.com](http://www.queensfilmtheatre.com)  
 Tel: +44 (0)28 9097 1097

## The Naughton Gallery

Events at the Naughton Gallery at Queen's show that it is living up to its reputation as the 2008 winner of the Times Higher Education Award for Excellence and Innovation in the Arts.

Abram Games produced some of the UK's most iconic images, including the 'Blonde Bombshell' ATS poster of 1941. An exhibition of his ground-breaking work, entitled "Maximum Meaning, Minimum Means", ran in the Gallery in October.

Following this, the work of Michael Brennand-Wood, one of the most

innovative artists working in textiles, was showcased in an Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's exhibition that ran until 8 November.

Also for local art lovers, the annual Visual Arts Lectures are being revived in a new partnership with National Museums Northern Ireland. Christopher Breward of the Victoria and Albert Museum will examine the hidden meanings of men's fashion over four centuries in three talks in the Ulster Museum Lecture Theatre from 23 to 27 November.



## Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's

Belfast came alive in October to the sights and sounds of Ireland's biggest international festival. Rich in drama and dance, music, talks, film and comedy, the Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's delivered 70 events in 16 days. Now in its 47th year, the Festival has an illustrious history, and the 2008 event broke previous box office records and enhanced local economic prosperity to the tune of £8 million - almost one in 10 of its audience came from outside Northern Ireland, boosting tourism.

Commitment to economic development is central to Queen's mission. So too is a commitment to cultural and social development. The entire community benefits from investment in this festival, and it is one of the ways in which Queen's shines as a beacon for public engagement. It is clear that the Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's makes a positive contribution to the image of the University and that of the city.

Highlights of the 2009 Festival included an outdoor production of Macbeth on motorbikes and stilts, Valery Gergiev with the Mariinsky Orchestra, stand-up from Sean Hughes, a performance by Imelda

May and Seamus Heaney and Michael Longley reading their work as they celebrated their 70th birthdays together in a concert with the Ulster Orchestra.

The 47th Ulster Bank Belfast Festival at Queen's was a particularly memorable one - here's to 2010!



## Watch out for QTV



QTV - the new online TV station - was launched by Zoe Salmon in September. The service showcases the latest news and events from around campus through six diverse channels. Speaking at the launch Zoe said: "QTV is a fantastic way to promote Queen's to a global audience and I am delighted to be its first guest presenter." Archive interviews with Nelson Mandela, Liam Neeson and Joanna Lumley can be viewed at [www.qub.ac.uk/qtv](http://www.qub.ac.uk/qtv)



QUEEN'S SPORTING EVENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH POWERADE

Caroline O'Hanlon, an Armagh medical student, has been rewarded for her dedication to sport at Queen's University's 2009 annual Blues Awards in association with Powerade.

Caroline, who has been a member of the University's netball, ladies football and Gaelic football teams while studying medicine, was named winner of the 'Special Contribution to Sport' Award.

Ninety students from across the University were awarded Full or Half Blues in recognition of their sporting success.

The Men's 1st XV Rugby team beat off stiff competition from the Waterpolo Club and the Men's Boat Club to claim the title of Sports Achievement Team Award, while hockey player Hannah McMillan won the Sports Achievement Individual Award.

## Blue-tiful night out



(l-r): Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Gregson, Paddy Murney (Powerade), Hannah McMillan (Special Achievement Award winner) and Jack Kyle (former Ireland Rugby international)

Guest of honour, rugby legend Jack Kyle, spoke about his time as a Queen's medical student and of his rugby playing days. He told students: 'Nature gives the ability and fate the chance to play. I got

a last minute call to go to a train station and when I arrived I was told someone had broken their leg! I was off to Dublin; it really was my lucky break. By the time he was up again I had established myself as a player.'

Praising the facilities and equipment available to the Queen's students Jack reflected on how little he was provided with as a national team member: 'When I played we had to supply our own socks and shorts, and we received one top that we had to return at the end of every match. On my first international away trip we were told to bring our own soap and towels!'

'We had very little training time together and you never knew until you arrived at a match who would be playing. I just worked out a few simple leg slapping signals and off we went.'

## 'Timely' addition to Queen's 5K



Queen's Athletics Club hosted their annual 5K 'Race Round the River' in association with Powerade on 1 April 2009, with some notable technological changes to their results service. To supplement online bookings, Chip-Timing was introduced along with an improved SMS text service.

John Saulters, Queen's 5k Event Co-ordinator, commented on the changes: 'The race is now in its sixth year and is widely regarded as one of the leading athletics events in Northern Ireland.'

We have continually tried to improve the quality of the experience - from the moment you register to receiving your all-important time.



We are delighted to be working in partnership with Powerade for a second year, as it is a brand that really understands the challenges and triumphs involved in sporting competition.'

Paddy Murney, Business Unit Manager for Powerade, said: 'We're delighted to continue our partnership with Queen's Sport through our support of the 'Race Round the River'. We are working with Queen's Sport and the University Development Office on a number of projects and are

committed to developing the talent of the future, as well as the sports stars of today. We recognise the 5K committee have taken great strides in turning this initiative into a major event and with the technology now used, this year's race was better than ever.'

Gareth Turnbull and Kerry Harty made the most of the calm conditions on the Stranmillis and Ormeau Embankments to take the top honours. The team prizes were picked up by St Malachy's AC (male) and North Belfast Harriers (female).

## Class Notes

### 2000s



Williams left Queen's in 1980 to assume his present position at the University of Western Australia.

**Peter James Williams**, BSc Applied Maths and Physics 2009, was joined by his father Robert James Williams, BSc Applied Maths and Physics 1982 and his grandfather Professor James Williams, former reader/lecturer in Physics at Queen's at summer graduations. Professor

**Janice Kernaghan** MA Drama and Performance Studies 2008, is an actor and theatre practitioner who launched *Living Tours Belfast* in June 2009. The company takes the form of a social enterprise, with the cast made up of both professional actors who gain exposure and experience of site specific theatre, and Queen's drama students who can gain accreditation on the Degree Plus programme at Queen's by taking part.

*Living Tours Belfast* is a cross between a walking tour and a piece of promenade theatre, where the audience get to meet the famous and not-so-famous residents of Belfast, past and present, as they see the city. The tour is supported by Queen's Enterprise SU, Belfast City Council and UnLtd Millennium Awards Scheme. For more, go to [www.livingtours.co.uk/](http://www.livingtours.co.uk/)



**Stephen Lamony**, LL.M 2008 is the Africa Outreach, Liaison and Situations Advisor for the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC). In addition to his Masters in Human Rights Law and Criminal Justice he has degrees in law and politics.

Stephen is also a reviewer on the International Journal of Transitional Justice and the Minority Rights Working Group's State of the World's Minorities reports.

Over a nine-year period, Stephen has accumulated a wealth of knowledge and experience in human rights activism and research. He has worked as a monitor/researcher and programme officer for Human Rights Focus in the Gulu District of northern Uganda and founded the Uganda Victims' Rights Working Group (now the Uganda Victims' Foundation). Stephen has written on peace and justice, victims' rights and traditional justice mechanisms in Uganda. Stephen can be reached by email at - [slamony01@qub.ac.uk](mailto:slamony01@qub.ac.uk)



Christine can be contacted at - [cmckeever06@qub.ac.uk](mailto:cmckeever06@qub.ac.uk)

**Nicola Sim**, BA Geography and Social Anthropology 2007 who now lives in Warrenpoint, recently got engaged to fellow Queen's graduate David Selfridge BSc Geography 2007. The couple are due to get married in December 2010.

**Debra Adams** (née Roderick), BSc Computer Science 2006 married fellow computer science graduate Conor Adams BSc 2006 in Belfast Castle on 11 April 2009. The couple had their reception in the Dunadry Country Club.

**Chris Kerr**, BEng 2005 married his 'American sweetheart' Jasmine in Santa Ana, California on February 27th 2009.

**Kevin McCaul**, BA Modern History 2005 has, since graduating, completed a spell as a supply teacher and is currently working in the library sector in Derry city. He can be reached at [knmcraul@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:knmcraul@yahoo.co.uk)



**Aveen Connolly**, (née McShane), BSc 2003 married Martin Connolly in October 2007. The couple now live in Whitecross, Armagh. Aveen qualified as a RNLD in 2001 and went on to complete a BSc in Health Studies. She is currently employed in Longstone Hospital, Armagh.

**Ruth Johnston**, BA Sociology 2003 spent two years employed as a youth worker before returning to study in 2005. By June of 2006 she had successfully completed a PGCE in Sociology and at present teaches Psychology and Sociology in Cambridge House in Ballymena. Ruth hopes to go back to study for her Masters one day!



**Cormac Neeson**, BA English 2002 (left) and Paul Mahon, BA Music 2002 (right) are members of *The Answer* a Northern Irish hard rock and blues-rock band from Newcastle and Downpatrick. The band played Canada and the US with rock legends AC/DC over the summer

and expect to perform in Belfast's Ulster Hall on 14 December.

*The Answer* achieved success with their debut album *Rise* selling in excess of 30,000 copies in the UK and Europe, 10,000 on day one in Japan and 100,000 worldwide.

Further details can be found on the band's website - [www.theanswer.ie/](http://www.theanswer.ie/)



**Daniel Reilly**, MA 2001 and wife Elizabeth had a son, Eamon Joseph Reilly, born 18 June 2009.



**Margaret Keys**, BEd Music 2001 has landed a four album recording contract with international music giant Universal Records. The teacher from Derry is now on the same label as *Bon Jovi*, *U2* and *Girls Aloud*.



After graduating from Queen's, Margaret was awarded a scholarship to study for a Masters degree in singing and performance at the prestigious Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. She has sung extensively throughout Ireland, Britain, New Zealand and the US and on live broadcasts for RTE and the BBC. Her high profile performances in Ireland include playing the leading role of Eliza in *My Fair Lady* in the Millennium Forum Theatre, Derry.

She has won numerous awards including the International Artists Profile Award, The New York Artist award, and The BBC Fame Academy Bursary. Margaret was also chosen as one of eight finalists in the RTE Young Diva of the Year and picked to play the role of Carrie in the RTE Production of *Carousel*. She has recently worked with Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and as a soloist with Queen's honorary graduate, Phil Coulter.



**Mark Pengelly**, BA Politics 2006, is currently Senior Staff Writer at *Risk* magazine in New York. He spoke recently to *The Graduate* about life in the US.

A little curiosity can go a long way. In my case, it took me to New York! Through journalism presented itself as a career opportunity. I spent two years in London writing about finance when I was asked if I would consider a position in the Big Apple.

Consider it? I nearly leapt out of my chair! After eight months, the novelty of living here still hasn't worn off. I can't wait to live in New York. It's the financial centre of the world and the city that never sleeps. For a financial journalist what better place to be reporting from during the most calamitous downturn since the Great Depression?

Socialising is important to my work. When I'm not sitting in my office overlooking the New York Fed building, I'm out enjoying a glass or two with contacts in some of the best places in town. Among the most memorable was an after-party several months ago, in a plush hotel 50 floors above Times Square. Only from there, it didn't seem like it was real at all, but a plasticine model - and one that left me feeling elated.

More importantly, it's hard to be stuck for things to do with time off. While I'm loath to admit it, America's convenience-oriented culture fits me like a glove. Whatever you're looking for - shopping, nights out, food, sport - you can get it when you want it.

If I sound enthusiastic about New York, it's because I am. But living and working internationally isn't just about one place. A greater gain is experiencing life in a different part of the world and another cultural perspective. This is a source of endless fascination and apparently makes you more employable. So if you've got curiosity, my advice is: follow it.

(Mark's full account of life in New York can be found online at *Class Notes Extra*.)

For more information and a chance to hear Margaret sing, go to [www.myspace.com/margaretkeys](http://www.myspace.com/margaretkeys)



**Simon Grattan**, BSc Physics 2000 was runner-up in the *Belfast Telegraph* Young Businessperson of the Year Award held at the Ramada Hotel in April. In June 2008 Simon was awarded the inaugural Robert's Enterprise Award for Innovation.

Award Scholarship by Queen's and came second in the 'Shell Young Entrepreneur of the Year' for Northern Ireland, receiving the 'Special Award for Innovation'.

Simon is currently managing director of Sengenita Ltd, a Queen's spin-out company, who are specialists in fibre optic sensors and offer a complete range of the latest state-of-the-art sensor reading equipment. In 2006 Sengenita was awarded runner-up in the Investment Belfast 'E25k Award' after completing a detailed 35-page business plan and a presentation to the selection panel. The following year they were Regional Finalists in the Intertrade Ireland Seedcorn competition. Simon can be contacted at - [s.grattan@sengenita.com](mailto:s.grattan@sengenita.com)

**Luis Lozano**, BA Humanities 2000 and his wife Elizabeth Hunter, BA Humanities 2000, have become



at first then it just blossomed over the years.'



can be contacted at - antoinefrancois@hotmail.fr

## 1990s



Shortly after he had completed his MA in Political Theory, Culture and Identity David was invited back to take part in the 'Champion of Champions' and was the first contestant to appear in the new revamped show with Jeff Stelling and Rachel Riley.

Of this experience David said: 'The production team were expecting a spike in the ratings. Fortunately, another contestant comforted me by saying, "they are just going to be watching the new presenter and Carol's replacement, and no-one will care about you getting thrashed in front of a few million people."



Party since 1994. Currently representing the Victoria area of Belfast, she was elected to Belfast City Council in 2001, and to the NI Assembly in 2003 and again in March 2007.

Naomi was born and grew up in East Belfast. She attended Mersey Street Primary and Bloomfield Collegiate schools, before studying Civil Engineering at Queen's. She practised for 10 years prior to her election to the Assembly.

Elected deputy leader of the Alliance Party in 2006, Councillor Long sits on several committees including Belfast City Council Road Safety Committee, Belfast District Policing Partnership - East Belfast Sub-Group and the Titanic Forum.

Naomi is married to fellow Queen's graduate Michael Long, BSc 1993 who is a dentist and a Castlereagh Borough Councillor.

The Lord Mayor can be contacted by email at - lordmayor@soffice@belfastcity.gov.uk

**Kam Weng Tham**, MSc 1997 is currently a Factory Manager in a manufacturing company in Malaysia. He obtained his second postgraduate degree in April 2009 (MBA in Strategy Management) and was delighted to have his wife and children present at the ceremony to share his joy. He would love to hear from former classmates via email - calvin.thamkw@gmail.com

**Adelyn Hanny**, BSc Pharmacy 1996, her spouse BK Choy and children Ewan (two years) and Aerin (six months) have relocated to Taipei. The Choy family is adjusting to the new environment and taking a crash course in Mandarin. Adelyn is a trainer and consultant in the area of clinical research. She would love to hear from her former pharmacy classmates and can be contacted at - achanny\_choy@yahoo.com

**Gareth Higgins**, BA Sociology 1996, PhD 2000 now lives in Durham, North Carolina where he is a Visiting Scholar at Duke University. He was a co-founder (in 1998) of the *zero28 Project*, a faith-based peace and justice initiative in Northern Ireland. Gareth has written and spoken widely on religion and conflict, art and spirituality and film, with his work appearing in *The Independent*, *The Irish Times*, *Sojourners*, and *Third Way Magazine*, among others.

Gareth appears regularly on BBC Radio, and he and Jett Loe co-present a film review podcast called *The Film Talk* which was nominated for best Arts and Culture Blog in Ireland, and is a 'battle of wits' between the hosts as they analyze new movie releases as well as old classics.

In 2003 Gareth published *How Movies Helped Save My Soul: Finding Spiritual Fingerprints in Culturally Significant Films* (Relevant Books)



information is available at <http://sponsojohn.com>

**Kong Hian Lee** MB BCh BAO 1995 recently got engaged and is due to be married in December 2009. He is currently doing a Master's degree in Radiology at the University of Malaya and can be contacted at - leekonghian@yahoo.com



with the Archbishop of Canterbury. For more info go to [www.churcharmy.org.uk/ceo](http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/ceo) or visit his blog - [www.russellmark.blogspot.com/](http://www.russellmark.blogspot.com/)

**David Humphreys MBE**, LLB 1994, has been appointed as Operations Director at Ulster Rugby, based at Ravenhill. The 72-times capped Ireland out-half who led Ulster to European Cup success in 1999, will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of team management and preparation of the Ulster senior team, the Ravens (Ulster A) and the under-20 squad. He will also work closely with senior administrative staff to build the profile of Ulster Rugby both in the province and within the business community.



**Stuart MacDonald**, MB BCh BAO 1993 competed in this year's final of the BBC quiz show, *Mastermind*. Answering questions on the Ryder Cup Stuart, who lives in Hillsborough, chose Genghis Khan and SAS founder Blair Mayne as his specialist subjects in previous rounds. Regarded as the most rigorous and intellectual British quiz show, *Mastermind* was first aired in 1972.



Mind mapping is a unique creative thinking tool, which is a whole brain alternative to linear thinking and note taking. Mind mapping is a powerful graphic technique which claims to provide a universal key to unlock the potential of the brain. A mind map integrates features processed by both the left hemisphere of the brain (words, details, analysis) and by the right (colour, images, fantasy, association) allowing it to focus better on the information.

Ann, who is an independent Change Management Consultant and an accredited Project Management Professional (PMP), has used Mind Mapping in business for over 20 years. Her aim is to bring the creative thinking tool to businesses, schools and universities throughout Ireland via tailored Buzan Mind Map training courses.

Ann is a member of the Institute of Directors and Project Management Institute and can be contacted on +44 (0)7974 016503 or by email at [ann@orchys.co.uk](mailto:ann@orchys.co.uk)



Previously Samantha served as the Head of LandIT Strategy and Planning at CAC; the Head of Customer Solutions Delivery at CAC; as well as the Head of Customer Services at Infrastructure Technology Services (formerly the office of the Corporate Chief Service Delivery). Originally from Northern Ireland, she came to Ontario in 1996.

**Philip Robinson**, BEng Civil Engineering 1991 is the Chairman of the Institution of Highway and Transportation - NI Branch. Since graduating from Queen's he has been working in the civil engineering industry in the private and public sectors. Most of his career to date has been spent with DRD-Roads Service, however he has recently taken up a post as Senior Engineer with the Department for Regional Development's newly formed Rapid Transit Division, responsible for bringing the £150m Bus Rapid Transit Project to Belfast.

## 1980s

**Vanessa Lane**, BSc Physiology, 1989 writes: 'I can't believe it has been 20 years since I graduated from Queen's. A lot has happened in that time including a PhD from Cambridge, living in America and raising a family of three wonderful boys. I now run my own company of medical writers and support the pharmaceutical industry, producing a wide variety of educational and support material for health care professionals. For those who enjoy wiring or communicating in science or medicine, it is a great career path and not one that many think about while at University.'

For those interested in medical writing, Vanessa can be contacted via email for further information or advice - [vanessa@medicalwritingtld.co.uk](mailto:vanessa@medicalwritingtld.co.uk)



**Orla Corr**, BSc Accounting 1988 was inducted into the Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame in 2007. The McAvoy Group Director was the first woman to join the Hall of Fame, which is organised by Invest Northern Ireland. She received Northern Ireland's foremost business accolade in recognition of her business achievements and for her entrepreneurial leadership.

A qualified chartered accountant, Orla gained experience with several international companies before joining the Dungannon-based McAvoy Group in 1995 to develop a defined accounts department. She was appointed financial director in 1998 and managing director in 2000. Outside the business, Orla is mother to four children under the age of 11.

**Mary Lewis**, LLB 1987, LLM 1992 gave birth to a second son, Patrick, on 30th April 2009 - a little brother for Joseph, who will be three in September. Mary can be contacted at - [mla6767544@aol.com](mailto:mla6767544@aol.com)

**Niall McCaughan**, BEd 1987, is now General Manager of The Playhouse in Derry - reputed to be Northern Ireland's largest community art centre. Situated in the heart of the historic walled city, The Playhouse boasts a state-of-the-art auditorium with seating for up to 200 delegates with additional break-out and training rooms available.

The Playhouse has just opened after a £4.6 million refurbishment and is famous not only for being featured in the BBC programme *Restoration*, but for having the province's largest education department and the most extensive international programme. For further details go to - [www.derryplayhouse.co.uk](http://www.derryplayhouse.co.uk)

**Viv Bell**, LLB 1984, set up the Umbrella Foundation - a children's charity based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Since it was set up, the Umbrella Foundation has rescued over 350 Nepali children living in destitute conditions and provided them with a safe home, education, and access to medical attention. Umbrella focuses on rescuing, housing, and educating trafficked children; after the civil war ended the charity started reuniting children with their families or, when reunification was not possible, providing them with education and vocational skills. For more, go to - [www.umbrellanepal.org/](http://www.umbrellanepal.org/)

**Richard Mason**, BA French 1982 has been living in Belgium with his family since 1997. He is currently dealing with passenger ship safety within the European Commission's Maritime Safety Directorate. Email Richard at - [family.mason@scarlet.be](mailto:family.mason@scarlet.be)

**Gary McKee**, BSc Anatomy 1982 is an ENT specialist at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast and at Lagan Valley Hospital in Lisburn. Married to Trisha, with three sons, he enjoys tennis and travelling. He can be contacted at - [gary.mckee1@ntlworld.com](mailto:gary.mckee1@ntlworld.com)

**David Howe**, BA Geography 1981 has been living in Munich, Germany, for the last eight years, having moved there from Toronto, where he completed an MA in Environmental Studies. David lived in Canada for just under two decades, working as an employee of the Ontario provincial government, assisting with the building of non-profit housing. He now works in a small patent law office in Munich. He can be contacted at - [DavidHowe@gmx.de](mailto:DavidHowe@gmx.de)

**Bill Neely**, BA Modern History 1981 won a BAFTA in April for coverage of the devastating Chinese earthquake in the province of Sichuan. International Editor for ITV News, Bill was part of the team which won the Award for its exclusive, compelling footage of the earthquake, filmed just seconds after it struck.



In his time as ITN's Europe Correspondent, Washington Correspondent and now International Editor for ITV News, Bill has won a string of accolades, including an RTS award for his coverage of the violence between football fans at the Euro 2000 tournament.

He has also covered two US Presidential elections, the Waco siege, the death of Pope John Paul II and the Asian Tsunami.

**Daniel Rafferty**, BSc Zoology 1981 spent over 10 years in the US developing and manufacturing commercial influenza vaccines. For the past three years he has been Senior Life Science Consultant at BioVisability in the Bay Area of California. Daniel is also a European Commission Research Directorate Expert. He recently passed the US Patent Bar exam and is now a registered Patent Agent at the US Patent and Trademark Office. Daniel would love to hear from old friends and acquaintances at [drafferty@biovisability.com](mailto:drafferty@biovisability.com)

## 1970s

**Seamus Boyd**, BSc Pharmacy 1979 captained the Gaelic football team to Sigerson victory in 1981 during his time at Queen's. After graduating, he worked in the pharmaceutical industry and is currently VP Global Head Regulatory CMC for Sanofi-Aventis having spent 23 years with the company. He is currently completing his qualifications/certification for personal/professional coaching. Married for 25 years he has two children aged 16 and 12. You can reach Seamus at [bodus@comcast.net](mailto:bodus@comcast.net).

**Iris McLroy**, BSc Pharmacy 1979 has been working part-time in Antrim Hospital since it opened. Initially responsible for computerisation of the hospitals in the Trust, she then set up and developed the medicines information service. To relax, Iris loves reading, skiing and travelling.

**Ivan Blemings** BSc Electrical Engineering 1977 and **Sandra Blemings** (née Loane) BA 1978; PGCE 1979, moved from Ballymena to France with the Michelin Tyre Company in 1994 and have been living near Clermont-Ferrand in the Auvergne region since 2001. Ivan is currently the Quality Director of Michelin's Tyre Mould Division while Sandra is responsible for the Primary section of the "Ecole Bilingue Internationale" in Clermont-Ferrand.

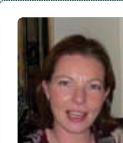
Both are also involved in the activities of the "Eglise Evangélique Baptiste" church in Clermont. They both enjoy travelling, walking and music, and would be happy to hear from former Northern Ireland friends and colleagues at [ivan.blemings@wanadoo.fr](mailto:ivan.blemings@wanadoo.fr)



eruptions may play in impacting climate variations.

A UMF faculty member since 1996, David has been involved at every level of the UMF Department of Geology. He has worked extensively with students in the field from the Pacific Northwest through Maine, the Canadian Maritimes, Ireland and Scotland.

**Arthur Acheson**, BSc Architecture 1971 is a chartered architect and chartered town planner,



Priests - at the 2009 Graduate and Student of the Year Awards at Summer Graduation in July.

Oonagh also recently organised a 30-year reunion at Queen's for her classmates. For those thinking of arranging a reunion here are a few tips:

Set the date early - key venues get reserved well in advance; I booked 12 months prior and managed to get a Friday night;

Finding classmates - the hardest part! The Development Office will have most of the names but remember: the more in your year, the more help you will need to find them;

Catering - the easiest bit! Food and wine were sorted out in no time;

Menus/place cards - Queen's Events provide templates for your use. It couldn't be simpler!

Music - a must at the pre-dinner reception. We had an excellent trio who helped provide a relaxed party atmosphere;

Old photographs - essential! We had a great display which caused amusement, created a sense of nostalgia and broke the ice among those who hadn't seen each other in a while;

Email - even if some classmates can't attend they can still send short messages on where they are and what they have been doing, which can be read out after dinner;

Photographer - we now have an official snap of the wonderful event for our 40th reunion!

Remember, now is the time to get started! For advice, or just a general chat, you can email Oonagh at - [qqa@qub.ac.uk](mailto:qqa@qub.ac.uk)

For general information and guidance on organising reunions contact Adele McMahon, the Events and Reunions Officer, at [a.mcmahon@qub.ac.uk](mailto:a.mcmahon@qub.ac.uk)

and a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment for Northern Ireland, which advises the Minister for Culture Arts and Leisure. Arthur was founder chairman of Belfast Civic Trust ([www.belfastcivictrust.org.uk/](http://www.belfastcivictrust.org.uk/)) and is presently a committee member of the Trust. He can be contacted at - [arthurcheson@hotmail.com](mailto:arthurcheson@hotmail.com)

**Liam Scott**, MB BCh BAO 1970 was formerly a GP in Holland. His wife, **Dr Jennifer McClelland**, MB BCh BAO 1970 is a GP in Donaghadee. Liam is now retired and living in Bangor; he and Jennifer have two children, Carolyn and Christopher.

## 1960s

**Maureen Halliday** MB BCh BAO 1969, retired in June 2008 after working for the Cinderella speciality of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care in the Western Trust in Omagh. Dr Halliday has been an active campaigner for the Independent Health Coalition in West Tyrone, fighting for health services for rural areas.

**Sir Brian Kerr**, LLB 1969 has been appointed to sit in the UK's highest court of appeal, the House of Lords. He took up the role at the end of June following the retirement of Lord Carswell. Sir Brian will become Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom when it is launched in October.

Sir Brian was called to the Bar in Northern Ireland in 1970, to the Bar of England and Wales in 1974 and became a QC in 1983. He was appointed a High Court Judge in Northern Ireland in 1993, the same year he was knighted, and in 2004 he was appointed Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland.

**Lorna Mairs**, MB BCh BAO 1969 has retired from medicine but is heavily involved as a trustee of Burma Children's Fund ([www.burmachildrensfund.org.uk](http://www.burmachildrensfund.org.uk)) travelling regularly to Africa. Lorna can be contacted by email - [lornamairs@btinternet.com](mailto:lornamairs@btinternet.com)

**Christine McClure** MB BCh BAO 1969 retired from family practice in December 2007. She enjoys working part-time in Public Health and loves to travel, play golf and read.

**Dr Claire Hill**, MB BCh BAO 1968, helped organise a 40-year medical reunion at the Deerhurst Resort Hotel, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada in September 2008. The occasion was attended by 45 graduates and their spouses and a full report can be found on the alumni website - [www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Alumni/) by following the links via Events and Reunions.



**William Wallace**, PhD Botany, 1966 retired from the Department of Plant Science, Waite Campus, University of Adelaide in South Australia in 2002. He was Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies in Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences from 1996-2001. Bill would be pleased to hear from former classmates at - [billwallace01@gmail.com](mailto:billwallace01@gmail.com)



**Norman Barwin**, MB BCh BAO 1965 has received the degree of Doctor of Laws, from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the fields of medicine and public health.

**John M Kennedy**, BSc 1965, MB BAO 1966 Psychology, has been awarded the title of University Professor by the University of Toronto. The University recognizes exceptional scholarly achievement and pre-eminence in a particular field of knowledge through the designation of University Professor.



Professor Kennedy's doctorate was on perception. He devised a theory of perspective's influences on visual and tactile perception, and showed that the sense of direction available to the blind allowed them to draw objects and scenes in perspective.

His work has supported major changes in practice in education, publication, and museums and galleries throughout the world.

**Robert Dunbar**, BA English 1961 was recently (July 10, 2009) awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Education (DED) by Trinity College, Dublin, in recognition of his services to children's literature and, in particular, for his role in establishing children's literature as an academic discipline in Ireland and beyond.

Formerly Head of English at Rainey Endowed School, Magherafelt he moved to Dublin in 1980 as Head of English at the Church of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, a post from which he retired in 2005. Additionally, Robert taught on the BEd course in the School of Education at Trinity and on the MA in children's literature at St Patrick's College, Dublin.

He has edited, or co-edited five books for young readers, has published numerous academic articles on children's literature and is a regular reviewer of children's books on RTE radio and in the *Irish Times*. He would be delighted to hear from any of his

Queen's contemporaries, especially those who daily climbed the stairs of 1 University Square - [rdunbar@eircom.net](mailto:rdunbar@eircom.net)

**Mike Douse**, BSc (Econ) 1960, Dip.Ed. 1961, was the first Director of Australia's Disadvantaged Schools Programme. For the last two decades, he has advised the EU, UNESCO and other development partners on the design, implementation and evaluation of major educational programmes. In recent months Mike has worked in Burma/Myanmar, the Sudan, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe and Swaziland; he is currently advising Bangladesh's Directorate of Primary Education and may be contacted at - [MDouse@gmail.com](mailto:MDouse@gmail.com).



**John McCurdy** MB BCh BAO 1960 (from Brampton, Ontario) and **Kenneth McNeilly** MB BCh BAO 1963 (Kingsville, Ontario) have clearly retained their Queen's connections! Their cars (the Acura is John's while the Cadillac belongs to Ken), proudly display 'personalised' Queen's number plates.

## 1950s

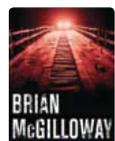
**Dr R Brian Lowry**, MB BCh BAO 1956 was awarded a People First Lifetime Achievement Award by the Calgary Health Region in 2007.

Dr Lowry, who is Emeritus Professor in the Departments of Medical Genetics and Paediatrics University of Calgary, is an internationally renowned specialist in the fields of medical genetics, surveillance and public health. His involvement with congenital anomaly surveillance dates back to 1965; first with the British Columbia Surveillance Registry, and later, in 1982, with the Alberta Congenital Anomalies Surveillance System.

Brian was also recognised by the Alberta Medical Association and College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta as one of 100 'Physicians of the Century' for his significant contributions to patients and communities.

**Professor Desmond Burrows**, MB BCh BAO 1953, was awarded the Sir Archibald Gray medal for outstanding services to British Dermatology in July 2009. The Medal is the highest award of the British Association of Dermatologists.

## Books



**Brian McGilloway** BA English, 1995 has just released his third book, *Bleed A River Deep*, published by Pan MacMillan. The book's central character, Inspector Benedict Devlin, is stationed in Lifford in Co Donegal and is not your average fictional detective.

After leaving Queen's Brian taught in St Columba's College in Derry where he is currently Head of English.

His first novel, *Borderlands*, published by Macmillan New Writing, was shortlisted for the CWA New Blood Dagger 2007 and was hailed by *The Times* as 'one of (2007's) most impressive debuts.' The new Devlin novel, *Bleed a River Deep*, was published in April 2009. Brian lives near the Irish borderlands with his wife and their three sons.

His second, *Gallows Lane*, released in 2008, was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards' inaugural Crime Fiction prize.

**Chris Agee** MA English 1987 has published his third collection of poems entitled *Next to Nothing* (Salt, 2009). Chris reviews regularly for *The Irish Times* and is the Editor of *Irish Pages*, a journal of contemporary

writing based at the Linen Hall Library, Belfast.

Born in San Francisco, Chris grew up in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York. He attended Harvard University and since 1979 has lived in Ireland. His two other collections of poems - *In the New Hampshire Woods* (1992) are published by the Dedalus Press, *First Light* (2003); he is also the editor of *Scar on the Stone: Contemporary Poetry from Bosnia* (Bloodaxe Books, 1998), *Unfinished Ireland: Essays on Hubert Butler* (Irish Pages, 2003) and *The New North: Contemporary Poetry from Northern Ireland* (Wake Forest University Press, 2008). Chris can be contacted at - [irishpages@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:irishpages@yahoo.co.uk)



**Cahal I. Dallat**, BSc 1974 Computer Science and Statistics has recently published another anthology of poetry entitled *The Year of Not Dancing* (Blackstaff Press, 2009). *The Year of Not Dancing* is an autobiographical collection dedicated to his mother, who died when Cahal was eleven. Her death is the focus for an exploration of family relationships across three generations.

Cahal, who has lived in London since 1974, is married to poet Anne-Marie Pyle; they have two children. He has worked in television, radio and publishing, plays several instruments including bandoneon, and mando-fiddle, and writes on Irish fiction and drama for a range of literary journals including the *Times Literary Supplement* and *The Guardian*.

Cahal has been a regular panellist on BBC Radio 4's weekly arts magazine, *Saturday Review*, since its inception in 1998.

**Narinder Kapur**, BA Psychology 1971, has published four books - *Memory Disorders in Clinical Practice*, *Injured Brains of Medical Minds*, *The Irish Raj* and *The Cambridge Memory Manual*. Dr Kapur is a Consultant Neuropsychologist and Head of the Neuropsychology Department at the world famous Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

**Charles Sell**, BSc Chemistry 1970, MSc 1971, last year published *Understanding Fragrance Chemistry* (Allured Publishing). Previous publications included *The Chemistry of Fragrances* (Royal Society of Chemistry, 2004) and *A Fragrant Introduction to Terpenoid Chemistry* (RSC, 2003).

After studying at Queen's, Dr Sell went to Canberra where he graduated with a PhD in 1974. He now works at fragrance company Givaudan UK, in Kent.



**Bryan Gallagher**, BA English 1956 published *Barefoot in Mullineey*, (HarperCollins) in 2005. The book is a collection of stories from his childhood which Bryan, who is a retired headmaster living in Co Fermanagh, told on BBC Radio 4's *Home Truths* with the late John Peel.

**Kathleen Rankin** (née Lilley), BSc Chemistry 1950 has had two books published by the Ulster Historical Foundation - *The Linen Houses of the Lagan Valley* (2002) and *The Linen Houses of the Bann Valley* (2007).

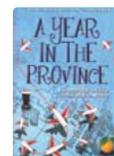
Dr Rankin, a former lecturer at Lisburn Institute, provides a glimpse of the past, drawn from the first hand accounts and private collections of occupant families found along the length of the Upper Bann Valley from Annsborough in Co Down to Cookstown, Co Tyrone.

**Queen's University Officers' Training Corps** (OTC) marked its centenary with the publication of a short history. The OTC is one of the oldest clubs in Queen's with early recruits coming mainly from among medical students. The present Honorary Colonel is **Brigadier Brian McCall** BSc Mechanical Engineering, 1961 who is a former Irish rugby international.

The history has been compiled by John Hughes, a former officer cadet and commanding officer. Copies may be obtained (price £5) from the Adjutant, QUBOTC, Tyrone House, Belfast BT9 6SG. Email [UOTCQueens-CC@mod.uk](mailto:UOTCQueens-CC@mod.uk)



**Vincent McBrierty**, BSc Physics 1962, former Professor of Physics and fellow Emeritus of Queen's University, Dublin, and former President of the Queen's University Association Dublin, published *Hawth through the eye of the artist* (Trinity College Dublin Press) in 2005. Reflecting an abiding interest in local history in general and the Howth area in particular he had previously published *The Howth Peninsula: its History, Love and Legend*.



**Christopher Marsh**, who is Reader in Early Modern History in the School of History and Anthropology at Queen's, recently published a book entitled *A Year in the Province* with part of the proceeds going to Queen's RAG charities. The names have been changed, so any resemblances to Queen's University are purely co-incidental!

## Obituaries

**RDC Black**, DSc Econ 1988, died on 7 December 2008.

Professor Robert Black joined Queen's in 1945 as assistant lecturer. In an illustrious academic career he went on to become head of the department of economics for 23 years from 1962 to 1985. He was also Dean of Faculty (1967-1970) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (1971-75).

After his retirement in 1985 he became Emeritus Professor of Economics at Queen's. He spent time researching and lecturing in Japan and in America, notably at Yale where he was Visiting Professor of Economics, and at Princeton, where he held the position of Rockefeller Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellow. Professor Black authored or edited over 70 publications including *Economic Thought and the Irish Question* (Cambridge, 1960), *The Economic Writings of Mountfort Longfield* (New York, 1971), and *Economic Theory and Policy in context: the Selected Essays of RD Collison Black* (Aldershot, 1995).

Professor Black received a number of honorary awards, including a Fellowship from Trinity College, Dublin. He chaired the Committee of Inquiry into Angling in Northern Ireland, and the Commission of Inquiry into the establishment of a Wages Council in the catering industry, Northern Ireland, as well as being a member of the Industrial Court for Northern Ireland.

**Iolo ab Ithel (Iol) Davies**, BPharm (Lon) died on 13 January 2009.

Best remembered as a well-respected academic pharmacist, Iol Davies transferred to the School of Pharmacy at Queen's in 1979 from a Lectureship in Medicinal Chemistry at Leicester Polytechnic. He worked at Queen's until his retirement in 1998.

Within the School of Pharmacy Iol's teaching interests were the biochemical/immunological aspects of pharmaceutical chemistry. His approach to lecturing was always to challenge students to think for themselves and to take responsibility for their own learning. Research interests included tumour immunology and pain management control.

In 1985 he was rewarded with a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Medicine.

When he came to Queen's, he joined a number of choral and instrumental groups both inside and outside the University. It was through this mutual love of music that Iol met his wife Mary. For 20

years he played the violin with the Studio Symphony Orchestra and participated in several music groups, playing a range of instruments.

**Richard Ferguson**, LLB 1955 died on 29 July in London, aged 73 years.

The Northern Ireland-born QC featured in some of the most high-profile criminal cases of the last two decades. Among his headline-making court appearances were the trials of Rosemary West — wife of mass-murderer Fred West — and of Ernest Saunders in the famous Guinness conspiracy case.

Originally from Derrygonnelly in Co Fermanagh, Ferguson was both a politician and a barrister before he moved to London, taking a seat in 1968 for the Ulster Unionist Party in the then Stormont parliament.

After his home was damaged in an explosion he quit politics to concentrate on law, he took silk in Belfast in 1973 and in London in 1986. By the mid 1990s he was chairman of the Criminal Bar Association and by 2003 he was the top-earning criminal defence barrister, with more than £800,000 in that year.

He is survived by ex-wife Janet, wife Roma and by four children from his first marriage, Catherine, Richard, William and James, and a son, Patrick, from his second.

**Keithley Ivor MacDonald Heath**, MB BCh BAO 1952 died 3 April 2009.

Born on 16 August 1926, Ivor was a well known and greatly respected doctor in Antigua where he practised and where he was responsible for starting up a maternity unit with his colleagues.

In a medical career which spanned over thirty years Dr Heath served as Chief Surgeon at Holberton Hospital, was a founder of the Adelin Clinic and was President and Medical Director of the Antigua Planned Parenthood Association. Such was his contribution to the development of health care in Antigua and Barbuda that the government accorded him an Official Funeral.

He is survived by wife Patty, his first wife Myrtle and their children Sean, Margaret and Roderick.

**Norman Robert McCammon** BSc Civil Engineering, 1956 died on 11 June 2009 in North Vancouver, in Canada.

Norm, as he was known to many, had an extensive professional career focusing on the geotechnical engineering aspects of a wide range of civil and mining projects. His work allowed him to travel to many parts of the world including Greece where he spent three years. In Canada, some notable projects he was involved in were the Alex Fraser Bridge, Confederation Bridge (PEI), and more recently the Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project.

He will be fondly remembered by his wife Jean, sons Alan and Neil, his sister Joan and brother John and their families, sister-in-law Leny, and daughters-in-law Sharon and Rita.

**Joseph Brian Millar** BSc 1952, died on 10 August 2009.

Brian was educated at Methodist College and Ballymena Academy. He studied at Queen's part-time as a Post Office Youth-in-Training from 1946 to 1952, graduating with a BSc in Electrical Engineering. After a career in the Post Office, later British Telecom, he retired in 1983 as Controller of Planning and Service for Northern Ireland, and member of the Northern Ireland Board of BT.

During his career he worked in many fields, specialising in microwave aerial design and installation. He was involved in the first successful television link to the US via the Telstar satellite. He was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers (now IET) in 1977.

Brian is survived by a daughter and granddaughter.

**Dr Victor Milligan**, BSc Civil Engineering 1951, MSc 1952, DSc 1993 died on 4th March 2009.

Born in Northern Ireland, Victor Milligan immigrated to Canada in 1955 and worked for Gecon Ltd., where he rapidly rose to the position of Chief Engineer. In 1960, at 30 years of age, he partnered with Dr Hugh Golder to found Golder Associates. He was recognized throughout the world as an expert in geotechnical engineering and especially in the fields of dams and embankments and soft ground tunnels. He worked on in excess of 150 separate dam projects and wrote extensively, with over 50 published papers.

In addition to his honorary doctorate from Queen's Dr Milligan was also recognised by the University of Waterloo in Canada. He also received a number of prestigious awards including Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC) and Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in the UK, where only 70 such persons are allowed from overseas.

Victor Milligan was always interested in amateur athletics. In his younger years, he was a world-class middle distance runner. He was captain of the Northern Ireland team at the 1954 British Empire Games in Vancouver, and ran in the 'Miracle Mile', coming in fourth and just yards behind the two great miles, Roger Bannister of England and John Landy of Australia.

He is survived by his wife Donna, and sons Jeffrey and Michael (wife Bobbi) and his grandson Alexander.

**Thomas George Nicholson**, BA Geography 1966 died suddenly at his home in St Catherine's, Ontario, Canada, on November 2, 2008.

George was born in Minterburn, Co Tyrone, on 9th October 1943, the eldest son of Thomas and Connie Nicholson. After attending Minterburn PE School, he moved to Dungannon Royal School and from there to Queen's. In the summer of 1966, he emigrated by tramp steamer to Canada, where he earned his MA at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, followed by his PhD at Penn State University, USA.

George retired as Associate Director, Policy/Implementation after 30 years with Niagara Region Planning Department, having spent recent years developing the Greater Niagara Circle Route, a recreational facility which will be a lasting memorial to him. Outside work, he was an avid cyclist, often seen riding the trails of Niagara and had a keen interest in both Irish and Philatelic history.

Pre-deceased by his parents, George is survived in Canada by his wife Wynne, sons Scott and Tyrone, and in Northern Ireland by his brothers Jim, Harry and Mervyn, and his six nieces.

**Robert Colin Parkhill**, BSc (Electrical Engineering) 1961, died of cancer on 29 December 2006 at his home Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA, aged 69.

Born in Dublin, Colin was educated at Portora Royal School and Methodist College, Belfast before coming up to Queen's. He rowed for the Queen's Junior VIII in 1958 when they were Irish Amateur Champions.

Colin began his career as a field engineer with the BBC and RCA (Radio Corporation of America) (Great Britain). He immigrated to the USA in 1965 with his new wife where he continued his career with RCA in Camden, New Jersey as a product engineering specialist for television stations.

He moved to Alexandria, Virginia in 1974 as broadcast sales representative for RCA in Washington DC and Northern Virginia. He continued his career as technical engineer with Phillips Television Systems Inc, BTS, Sony, King Video Associates and Communications Engineering. He was a Member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

Colin is survived by his wife Ann and daughters Caroline and Diane, brothers Brian and Alan and sister Anne.

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

## Musical instrument drums up YouTube hit

A video of a new musical instrument created by a Queen's student has attracted over 1.5 million hits on the internet.

PhD student Peter Bennett, from Stevenage, England, made the video to demonstrate the BeatBearing - his electronic musical instrument that uses ball bearings to create different drum patterns.

The BeatBearing has been created as part of research into the use of 'tangible interfaces' for new musical instruments. The research is being led by Sile O'Modhrain within the University's renowned Sonic Arts Research Centre (SARC).

The BeatBearing acts as a rhythm sequencer - a red line sweeps across the grid, playing a sound whenever a ball bearing is encountered, "like an updated version of the old piano-roll" according to Bennett.

Peter is studying for a PhD in the SARC at Queen's and the BeatBearing is just one of many interesting projects in the department.



Peter Bennett

## Giving twitterers a 'new voice'



A Queen's student has come up with a unique way of keeping track of what people across the world are up to throughout the day.

Mark McKeague, from Culdaff in Donegal, has invented a radio which broadcasts messages, or 'tweets' posted on social networking site, Twitter.

Thanks to Mark's invention, which uses an old fashioned radio to receive 'tweets', pop icons and celebrities including Lily Allen, Stephen Fry, Jonathan Ross and Ashton Kutcher can now be heard on radio stations such as 'Happy Twitter' and 'Sad Twitter' based on the tone of their tweets.

Mark, who developed the radio while studying the BSc Music Technology course in the School of Music and Sonic Arts, has created an interactive version that allows fans to listen to Twitter messages posted on the website in real time so they can keep up to date with friends, celebrities and even complete strangers.



Mark McKeague

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

## Raising the curtain on Brian Friel Theatre

Queen's has named a state-of-the-art theatre and research centre after renowned playwright Brian Friel.



The Brian Friel Centre for Theatre Research includes a 120-seat studio theatre and will provide world-class facilities for the University's performing arts students. The playwright was guest of honour at a special event to mark the occasion, involving student performances of excerpts from some of his most famous plays.

Brian Friel said: "As an honorary graduate of Queen's, I have a long-standing relationship with the University, and I am delighted to receive this honour.

"For the last 10 years, Queen's has successfully prepared students for careers in the theatre and the performing arts. I hope the Brian Friel Theatre and Centre for Theatre Research will enhance the already excellent facilities available to Drama Studies students here, and help nurture their talent and develop the skills necessary to succeed on the stage and screen."



Brian Friel and Seamus Heaney at the opening of The Brian Friel Centre for Theatre Research

## Faculty Profile

Name: Dr Ian Sansom  
School: School of English  
Position: Lecturer, Creative Writing

I have rather toplofty and idealistic views about the importance of higher education - about helping others to achieve their potential, about the importance of digging down to the roots of one's subject, about confronting the very essence of life and about adding one's own small voice to the conversation of mankind. Working at Queen's offers me the opportunity to do all that, and more.

I was educated at the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford and have worked as a gardener, a farm labourer, a TEFL teacher, a bookseller, a lecturer, a Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, a painter and decorator, a literacy and numeracy tutor, a journalist for *The Guardian* newspaper, a novelist, Writer in Residence at the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry and a lecturer here at Queen's.

I am currently working on the fourth in my series of Mobile Library mystery novels, to be published later this year; a new series of novels set in the 1930s and various acts of literary criticism and literary journalism.

Tennessee Williams once remarked that 89 per cent of his life consisted of work and worry over work, 10 per cent was the struggle against lunacy, and 1 per cent was for friends. Unfortunately, this leaves little time for developing hobbies and interests.

I can't think of one single best thing about Queen's: there are only best people: My colleagues at the Heaney Centre and in the School of English, the students, Jean who cleans the Heaney Centre, and the library staff. If literature teaches us anything, it is the extension of ourselves and our sympathies to others.



For a chance to win a set of Ian's mobile library mystery novels, please refer to the mailing cover sheet.



Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

# MBA Association



Tommy Elliott

Links between graduates of Queen's Executive MBA are set to grow with the relaunch of the programme's Alumni Association.

A new committee has been appointed, under the chairmanship of Tommy Elliott (above), to take forward the work of the MBA Association in helping to build on contacts made during MBA study and to develop a robust network of professional relationships throughout all sectors of the business community within Northern Ireland and beyond.

In a recent interview for *Queen's Now* Tommy said: 'I am very proud of my association with Queen's and of the friendships I made during my time here. I am confident that Association activities will offer a wealth of networking opportunities to all MBA graduates.'

Those interested in finding out more about the Association - or the Executive MBA programme - can email [mba@qub.ac.uk](mailto:mba@qub.ac.uk), or visit [www.qub.ac.uk/mba](http://www.qub.ac.uk/mba)



Dr Joe Allen

## Learning to get ahead

Last year saw a phenomenal increase in the number of applications for part-time courses at Queen's.

The School of Education offers over 40 part-time courses across a range of areas from Management to Community Development to Counselling.

Part-time learning is ideal for anyone who wants to widen their skills base, but doesn't have the time or resources to invest in full-time education, as Teaching Fellow Dr Joe Allen explains.

"When I left school I started work in the family landscape gardening business along with my father. When he retired I decided to embark on a career that I could build for myself, rather than something I had inherited. Having been out of formal education for almost a decade, I signed-up for a part-time course at Queen's, and soon got bitten by the part-time learning bug.



"It had been my lifelong ambition to become a teacher, so I embarked on a Postgraduate Certificate in Education and spent six years teaching electronic engineering, maths and computer programming in schools and colleges.

"I eventually returned to Queen's - but now I'm the teacher rather than the student."

Joe teaches people from all walks of

life who have returned to education to help themselves on the way to a career change, a promotion or to fulfil a personal goal. He says: "My students are in the same position as I found myself in all those years ago. It's incredibly rewarding to be part of their learning journey, and I hope that part-time study at Queen's proves as invaluable and life-changing for them as it was for me."

For a list of all upcoming courses, log on to [www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofEducation/ProspectiveStudents/OpenLearning](http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofEducation/ProspectiveStudents/OpenLearning)

Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

# QUESTOR/QUILL celebrate milestones

Two of Queen's leading research centres QUESTOR and QUILL celebrated milestones recently.

The contribution that the QUESTOR Centre has made to research over the past 20 years was acknowledged at a special anniversary dinner in the Great Hall, while QUILL was also praised for pushing the boundaries of science at an event to mark the Centre's 10th year.

During the QUESTOR event Director Dr Wilson McGarel, and founding Director Professor Jim Swindall were honoured with Excellence Awards by Dr Alex Schwarzkopf the American National Science Foundation.



L-R: QUILL Co-Director Professor Jim Swindall, QUESTOR Director Dr Wilson McGarel, Arlene Foster (MLA), Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Gregson and Dr Alex Schwarzkopf, Nation Science Foundation (USA)

QUESTOR was the first Industry/University Cooperative Research Centre in Europe and is now a global leader in environmental and sustainable technologies.

"I can't think of anywhere else in the world where industrial partners and competitors work together"

Dr Wilson McGarel, Director of QUESTOR, said: "I am very proud that our research has developed so much in the last twenty years. Environmental issues have never been more sharply in focus and our work can help companies maximize the many commercial opportunities that are arising in this area."

Over 100 people from around the world, including Queen's staff and industrialists also gathered at Queen's for QUILL's three-day tenth year anniversary event. Celebrating the Centre's contribution to the world of chemistry over the past decade, those present took a look back at the achievements of the past 10 years and also attended a lecture by special guest Roger Highfield, the editor of *New Scientist*.

QUILL was founded in 1999 and aims to promote collaborative industry-university research into ionic liquids.

Martin Atkins from BP and chairman of the IAB attended the event. He said:

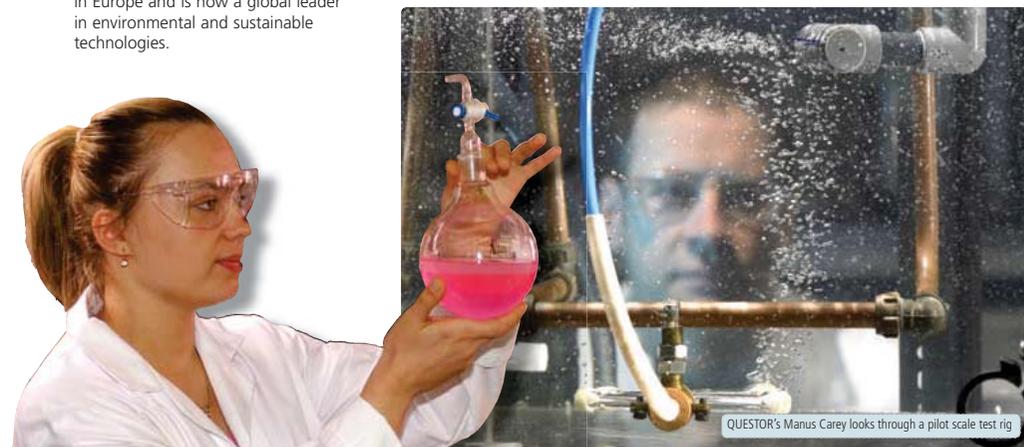


QUILL staff at the celebration of their 10th anniversary at Hillsborough Castle

"QUILL is a unique forum. I can't think of anywhere else in the world where industrial partners and competitors work together. We have gained fundamental knowledge we could never have done on our own. Ten years down the line we are learning more. QUILL goes from strength to strength and new applications keep coming out."



Auto-sampler for a Gas Chromatograph



QUESTOR's Manus Carey looks through a pilot-scale test rig

## Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

## Renewable energy

The likelihood of the UK being able to produce widespread energy from wave-generated power has been given a vital boost by the School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering.

Aquamarine Power Limited, a leading marine energy company, has agreed a new five year research partnership which will develop the next generation hydro-electric wave power converter. Already the partnership has created the Oyster® wave power device which has been designed to capture the energy found in amplified surge forces in nearshore waves.

Led by Professor Trevor Whittaker, Queen's Wave Power Research Group is

regarded as being among the best marine renewable energy groups in the world.

The first prototype of Oyster®, a hydro-electric wave power converter, is being launched at sea for the first time this summer at the European Marine Energy Centre off the coast of Orkney.

The latest five-year deal will see Aquamarine work alongside the Environmental Engineering Research Centre at Queen's. The team from Aquamarine will model several devices in the state-of-the-art wave tanks in the University's Civil Engineering Department and at the Marine Biology Centre at Portaferry.



Portaferry

## Arsenic-free water

A team of scientists at Queen's University has been chosen to lead a top research and training programme to prevent groundwater poisoning in India.

More than 70 million people in Eastern India and Bangladesh experience involuntary exposure to the poisonous chemical arsenic, from consuming

water and rice. It is estimated that for every random sample of 100 people in the Bengal Delta, at least one person will be near death as a result of arsenic poisoning, while five in 100 will be

experiencing other symptoms.

Last year Queen's scientists created low-cost technology that provides arsenic-free water to affected areas. The technology was developed by a team of European and Indian engineers led by Dr Bhaskar Sengupta from the University.

Queen's has now been announced as a provider of training to thousands of people who will learn how to use the equipment and improve environmental conditions.

Dr Harold Johnston, Director of Education of Civil Engineering at Queen's, also helped develop the training programme in Kolkata and Jamshedpur.

The programme is supported by the British Council under the prestigious Development Partnerships in Higher Education Programme (Delphes).

Dr Sengupta, who is co-ordinating the project, said: "This initiative will help to train more than 1,000 people over the next three years in Eastern India in a novel chemical-free arsenic removal method.

"Arsenic poisoning is behind many instances of ill health in Asia, including a number of cancer cases. Developing



Arsenic treatment system

a low cost method of decontaminating groundwater that is laced with high levels of arsenic is a key challenge for sustainable agriculture in the region."

"The training programme developed by Queen's is the only method which is eco-friendly, easy to use and deliverable to the rural community user at an affordable cost."



Arsenic in its natural form

Dr Bhaskar Sengupta

## Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

## Fighting the Superbugs

Experts from the Schools of Pharmacy and Chemistry have developed new agents to fight MRSA and other hospital-acquired infections that are resistant to antibiotics. The fluids are a class of ionic liquids that not only kill colonies of these dangerous microbes, they also prevent their growth.

The development of these new antimicrobial agents was carried out by researchers from the Queen's University Ionic Liquid Laboratories (QUILL) Research Centre

from antiseptics, disinfectants, and antibiotics.

Earle said: "We have shown that, when pitted against the ionic liquids we developed and tested, biofilms offer little or no protection to MRSA, or to seven other infectious microorganisms. Our goal is to design ionic liquids with the lowest possible toxicity to humans while wiping out colonies of bacteria that cause hospital-acquired infections."

Gilmore said: "Ionic liquid-based antibiofilm agents could potentially be used for



MRSA biofilm segment

and the School of Pharmacy. The team was led by Brendan Gilmore, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics and Martyn Earle, Assistant Director of QUILL.

Many types of bacteria, such as MRSA, exist in colonies that adhere to the surfaces of materials. The colonies often form coatings, known as biofilms, that protect them

a multitude of medical and industrial applications. For example, they could be used to improve infection control and reduce patient morbidity in hospitals and therefore lighten the financial burden to healthcare providers. They could also be harnessed to improve industrial productivity by reducing biofouling and microbial-induced corrosion of processing systems."

**Ionic liquids**, just like the table salt sprinkled on food, are salts. They consist entirely of ions - electrically-charged atoms or groups of atoms. Unlike table salt, however, which has to be heated to over 800°C to become a liquid, the ionic liquid antibiofilm agents remain liquid at the ambient temperatures found in hospitals.

One of the attractions of ionic liquids is the opportunity to tailor their physical, chemical, and biological properties by building specific features into the chemical structures of the positively-charged ions (the cations), and/or the negatively-charged ions (the anions).

## Faculty Profile

**Name:** Dr Karen Keaveney  
**Position:** Lecturer  
**School:** Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering

**I came to Queen's** four years ago while I was completing my PhD in NUI Maynooth. I had been aware of my colleagues' research since my undergraduate days in Galway and I felt privileged to get the opportunity to work with them.

**I teach Spatial Planning**, with the main focus of my teaching being Geographic Information Science (GIS) and spatial literacy for planners.

**I have been working with the** Joint Centre for Housing Studies at Harvard University, looking at how post-colonialism affects attitudes towards land ownership, housing and planning.

**In my spare time** I enjoy swing dancing, reading, playing the guitar and singing.

**I love the fact that** Queen's campus is part of the city. It's great being able to nip over to Botanic Gardens on my lunch-break and to generally benefit from the buzz of city life. Belfast itself has so much to offer.



## Queen's International!

At the heart of the University's current Corporate Plan is an expansion in the number of international students. Building on existing strategic partnerships and by developing connections with the world's best research institutions, the University is now poised to enhance further its international reputation. Spearheading the initiative is Queen's International - a new department bringing together the activities of the existing International Office and domestic recruitment initiatives - which aims to strengthen links in priority areas such as China, India, Malaysia and the USA.



Pictured at an event for the INTO agents and regional managers are Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Gregson (left) and Chairman of INTO Andrew Colin

The Vice-Chancellor Peter Gregson, said the initiative will give added momentum to Northern Ireland's ambition to be a global player.

The Partnership launch was the latest in a series of developments which saw Queen's continue to raise its international profile during the past academic year.

Also in June, the University honoured the former President of India, Dr Abdul Kalam.

During his visit to Queen's, the internationally-renowned space scientist was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws for distinction in public service.

The event further strengthened Queen's connections with India, with which the University has recently forged several dynamic academic partnerships. These include research partnerships with the National Institute of Immunology, Delhi, with the University of Hyderabad and



Professor Gregson (seated) with the University of Malaysia's Professor Datuk DR Gauth Jasmon, Sir Reg Empey (Minister for Employment and Learning) and YB Datuk Ir. Hj. Idris Haron (Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Malaysia)



Dr APJ Abdul Kalam (centre) with Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Gregson, Dr M Satish Kumar (far right), postgraduates and members of Queen's South Asian Students Society

with Bengal Engineering and Science University, Kolkata.

The previous month, Queen's signed a series of research and education agreements with leading Chinese universities. The partnerships were created under the £2.3 million Science Bridge initiative which underpins technology transfer and wealth creation in both Northern Ireland and China.

The new agreements, with 14 universities, will play a crucial role in enhancing Queen's longstanding relationship with the Far East.

Perhaps the country with which the University enjoys the most historic links is Malaysia. In February, the University honoured the King of Malaysia, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, in recognition of his support for higher education and the links his country has shared with Queen's over the last 50 years.

These include research agreements with the University of Malaysia, with which Queen's has

**"In 2010 Queen's hopes to welcome students from Georgetown University in Washington and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell"**

set up the Centre for Population Health in Malaysia; Petronas, the National Petroleum Company of Malaysia, the Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) and the University of Kuala Lumpur.

Looking to the west, Queen's is also forging closer relationships with institutions in the United

States. In 2010 Queen's hopes to welcome students from Georgetown University in Washington and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. Meanwhile, discussions on possible future collaboration are well under way with universities and colleges in Iowa, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Illinois.

The appointment of the University's new Chancellor, international statesman Kamalesh Sharma, will help Queen's and the region continue to establish deeper and richer global relationships which bring real benefits to Northern Ireland.

His Excellency Kamalesh Sharma is currently Commonwealth Secretary General and former Indian High Commissioner in London.

When his appointment was announced, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gregson, said: "Building global networks is central to economic regeneration in Northern Ireland and expansions of its academic

horizons, and, rightly, that is a primary objective of the Programme for Government."

"The wealth of experience and diverse interests which Kamalesh Sharma brings to the role of Chancellor will resonate with many areas of the University."

## Staff profile



**Name:** Joan Reilly  
**Position:** International Director and Head of Student Recruitment  
**Directorate:** Marketing, Recruitment and International

**I chose to join Queen's** in 2008 as International Director and Head of Student Recruitment because of the University's excellent reputation and its commitment to internationalisation.

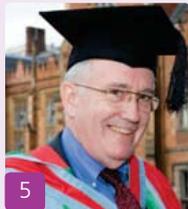
**I graduated from Nottingham Trent University** and returned to Northern Ireland after completing my postgraduate Law examinations. I worked as a Personnel Manager in the linen industry and later joined the University of Ulster focusing on their domestic and international recruitment strategies.

**The key focus of my work** is partnership development, especially in China, India, Malaysia, and the USA. I place great importance on the building of relationships and the development of partnerships with institutions and organisations.

**The best things about Queen's** are its people - the students and staff.

**My hobbies and interests** are sport, travelling, reading and gardening.

Honorary Graduates



# Congratulations Class of 2009!

Once again it was celebrations all round for those collecting their degrees during summer graduation week.

Joining graduates from across Queen's were famous faces from stage and screen and notable figures from the worlds of medicine and science, the arts, broadcasting, business and commerce, education and public service who received honorary degrees.

Among those recognised for their outstanding contributions and achievements were BBC journalist Orla Guerin (DUUniv for services to broadcasting), UK Ambassador to the Holy See Francis Campbell (DUUniv for distinction in public service) and Belfast-born Hollywood actress Geraldine Hughes (DUUniv for services to the performing arts).

Earlier in the year the University awarded honorary degrees to the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, King of Malaysia, the international peacemaker and educationalist Daisaku Ikeda, Northern Ireland actor Liam Neeson and the former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

Over 4,000 graduates collected their degrees at 12 ceremonies before joining thousands of family members and friends at the traditional afternoon garden parties.



## Suits, Heels and Handbags... the Class of 2009 'dress to impress'!

Monday



Emma Cummings, BSc Psychology

Tuesday



Peter Gordon, BA Modern History

Wednesday



Charlotte McAuley, BA French

Thursday



Ali Alizadeh, MB

Friday



Gillian Gallagher, LLB

Honorary Graduates: 1) Liam Neeson, 2) Daisaku Ikeda, 3) Martin Murphy, 4) King of Malaysia, 5) Amos Smith, 6) Michael Ryan, 7) Lord Kerr of Tonaghmore, 8) Ruth Lynden-Bell, 9) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, 10) Geraldine Hughes, 11) Francis Campbell, 12) Neville Isdell, 13) Jason Smyth, 14) Orla Guerin, 15) Gerhard Ertl, 16) Dame Marilyn Strathern, 17) Dame Janet Nelson, 18) Minze Stuiver, 19) Edna Longley.

Honorary Graduates



## Perks Profile

'I am like a lot of my friends,' says Head of Alumni Relations, Kerry Bryson, 'I know my Perks directory can save me money, but it spends a lot of time at the bottom of my handbag.'



Every member of Queen's Graduates' Association receives a Perks directory but it shouldn't stay shiny and new! Get it out, use it, and save money on everything from nights out to new clothes and from golf days to getaways. Whether you are buying your first home or spending time with your grandchildren, Perks' savings are a recession-busting way to make your money go further.

So, Kerry decided to get right down there, to the bottom of her handbag, and try out her Perks directory. Here's what she found.

*'I'm amazed. I made an effort to use my Perks card and I saved over £100! Why didn't I do this before?'*



**Name:** Kerry Bryson  
**Age:** Right side of 40 (only just)  
**Family:** Married. Twin boys aged six and a daughter aged two

### Kerry's Perks savings included:



Purchased one Manchester United top and one Chelsea top

10% Saving



Birthday presents

10% Saving



2 bicycle helmets, 4 knee pads and 4 elbow pads

15% Saving



Airport parking

10% Saving



Shoes (my turn for a treat!)

10% Saving



Family meal for five

15% Saving

Every month the latest offers can be found on the exclusive Perks members' website - [www.perksdirectory.co.uk](http://www.perksdirectory.co.uk). The Perks package is managed by the Queen's Graduates' Association, so you need to be a member of an association to benefit. There are a limited number of 2009 Perks directory's left so sign up today and save on your Christmas shopping! To join a graduate association, simply complete and return the Reply Slip opposite.

## Keep associated!

From the West Coast of the USA, to the East of Belfast, to the Far East, Queen's graduates are staying in touch, through graduate associations. There are now eight associations, at home and overseas, offering member benefits, events, the chance to network and meet old friends, and news on what's happening at Queen's.

The idea of graduate associations has really been catching on, with new and old graduates joining up in Northern Ireland, Dublin, London, Scotland, USA (East and West Coasts), Canada and Malaysia.

Old friendships have been renewed, and new ones forged. Across the globe, there's a growing programme of events: dinners, cinema and theatre evenings, drinks receptions and very special trips to exclusive venues, like the House of Lords in London and the UN Building in New York.

At golf days, wine-tasting evenings, table quizzes, debates and educational lectures you will

meet people with whom you share something very special: your student days at Queen's.

Even if you can't attend very many of the events, there are email bulletins, news on the web, and social networking for Association members, so you're always in touch with what's happening.

There are also good financial reasons for joining. Queen's exclusive 'Perks' benefits give you money off at home and abroad on car rental, ferry travel, healthcare, golf and fitness, financial services, restaurants and hotels, high street shops and more besides.

Associations have also been in the forefront of helping provide scholarships and mentoring programmes, so if you want to be active in making your contribution to Queen's today, the associations are for you.

To join, complete the form below.

### Reply Slip (tick as appropriate)

I wish to join an association in Belfast (£10) [ ]  
 Dublin (€15) [ ] London (£15) [ ]  
 Scotland (£10) [ ] USA (\$25) [ ]. Cheques should be payable to Queen's University Belfast.

Please return this reply, and the correct membership fee, to the address below.

Name

Address

Postcode

Year of graduation

Degree

Email

Telephone

Return this slip to - Alumni Officer, Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland

\* Subject to the customer being claims and convictions free and resident in Northern Ireland; receipt of their renewal notice by Avanta and the policy being comparable to ours on a like-for-like basis. Guaranteed home offer is only for private dwellings occupied by insured, owner and family (excluding students). The guaranteed car offer applies to drivers with a UK driving licence and excludes 17 to 24 year olds. Equity products do not apply.

## Miscellanea

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		3	6		8	5	
			4	1			
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	4			2	1		

## Quiz

Which record label are The Priests signed to?

- .....
- A7 .....
- C4 .....
- J6 .....
- L10 .....
- N6 .....
- T4 .....

### Reply Slip

Name:

Address:

Year of Graduation:

Email:  Telephone:

Preferred Prize (please tick):  Queen's Welcome Centre Gift Voucher  Queen's Bookshop Token

The first correct entry drawn for each of the Sudoku, teaser and quiz drawn at 12 noon on Friday 11 December 2009 will receive a signed copy of *The Priests* first album. Please return your entry/entries, along with your name and address, to arrive no later than 12 noon on Monday 7 December - The Editor, *The Graduate*, Development and Alumni Relations Office, Queen's University, Belfast BT7 1NN or email to - [editor@qub.ac.uk](mailto:editor@qub.ac.uk)

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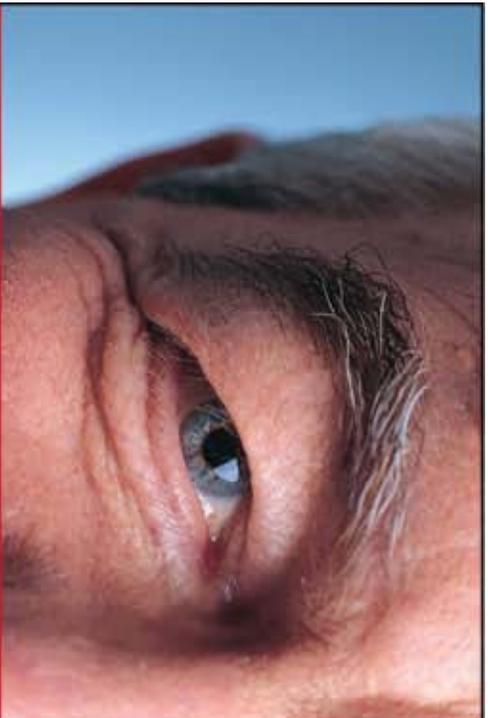
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celebrating

[the past]



living

[the present]



creating

[the future]



The Queen's University of Belfast  
Foundation

## LEAVING A LEGACY

Queen's University has changed your life... the lives of your family and your community. A legacy to Queen's helps us continue to change lives; funding medical research, endowing fellowships and scholarships, building library resources, supporting capital projects and promoting student welfare. Even the most modest legacy can make a difference, ensuring Queen's has the resources to maintain its world-class standing and meet the challenges ahead. Leaving a bequest to Queen's, after providing for family and friends, is the highest honour the University can receive. For those who have done so, it was their way of thanking Queen's for giving them so many opportunities. Your gift can create opportunities, too.

If you are thinking about making a will and would like more information, please contact Kerry Bryson, Head of Alumni Relations, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, BT7 1NN on 028 9097 5322 or [k.bryson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:k.bryson@qub.ac.uk)