

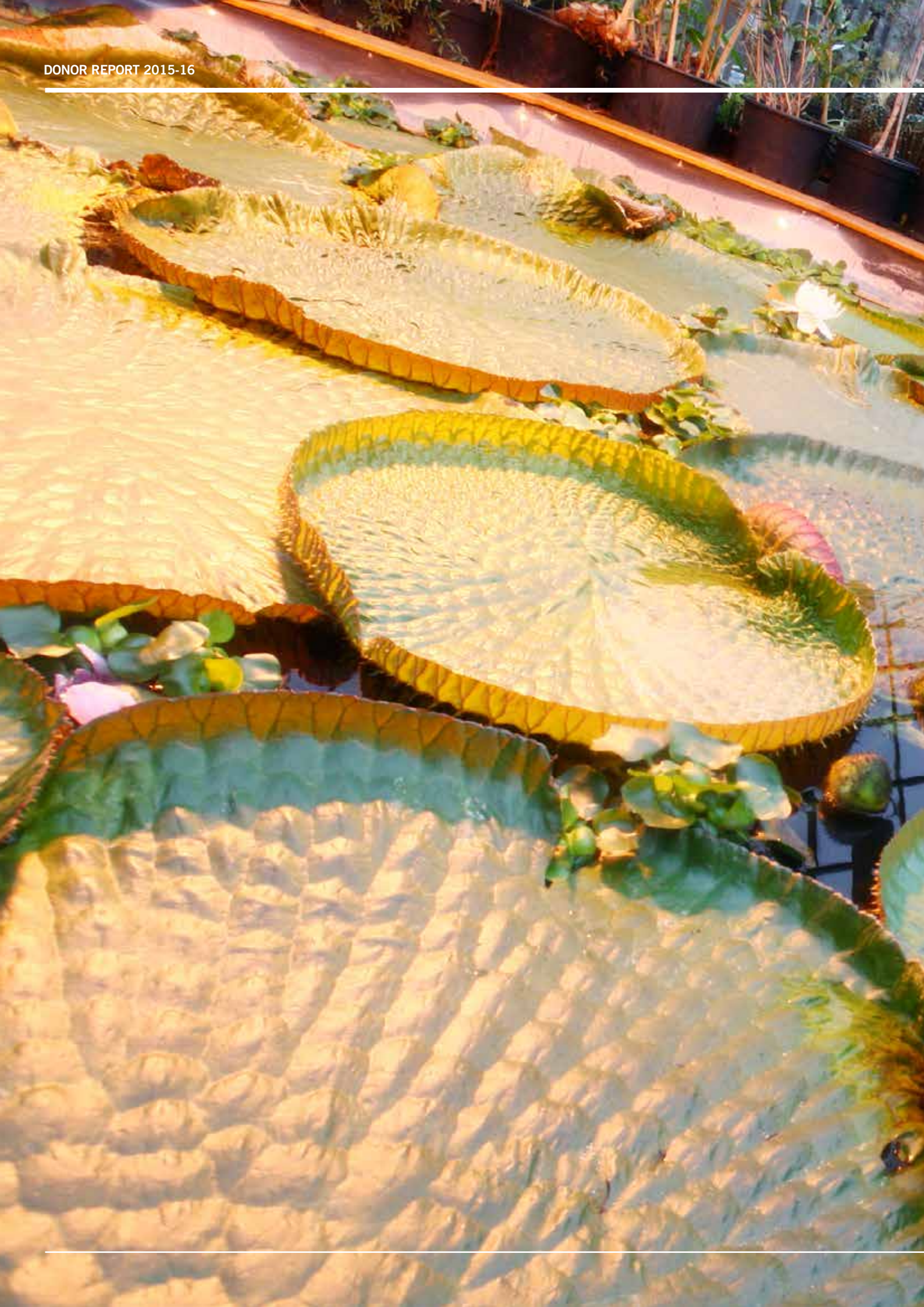


Durham
University

THANK YOU

DONOR REPORT
2015-16

DUNELM
Durham University Alumni Community



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For a full list of donors in 2015/16 visit www.dunelm.org.uk/donorroll



2016 has been a year of momentous change. The world as we know it is changing significantly, politically and socially as well as economically. The higher education sector is also changing rapidly and Durham cannot afford to stand still.

Our objective is for Durham to deliver the following: world-leading and world-changing research across all our academic departments and research institutes; education that is challenging, difficult, enabling and transformative; and a wider student experience to rival the best in the world. These goals are at the core of our new ten-year University Strategy, which has moved forward apace over these past 12 months alongside proposals to change the size and shape of the University.

In May, University Council approved the relocation of three academic departments currently based at Queen's Campus in Stockton, along with Stephenson and John Snow Colleges, to Durham City or nearby, beginning in the academic year 2017-18. The School of Medicine, Pharmacy and Health will transfer to Newcastle University. We remain committed to Teesside and are now seeking to repurpose Queen's Campus partly as an International Study Centre (ISC). The ISC will help generations of talented students to develop their academic study and English language skills ahead of entry to undergraduate courses at Durham or other UK universities. These decisions are significant ones for our University and region, and were taken only after extensive analysis and consultation.

Our friends and partners have been hugely supportive of the celebratory events marking the 150th anniversary of our first alumni society, established in London in 1866, and in providing philanthropic support for the various strategic projects mentioned in this *Donor Report*. This interest, encouragement and affection are very much appreciated: we will look to you in a spirit of continued partnership as we roll out our ambitious plans for Durham in the coming months and years.

Professor Stuart Corbridge
Vice-Chancellor and Warden

DEEPENING PHILANTHROPY

I am pleased to provide this report to our many friends and partners who have supported Durham during the period under review.

I write it during a year of unprecedented and inspirational change under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart Corbridge. It has once again been a successful year, during which philanthropic income has shown growth, but is nowhere near to what I know Durham's potential to be. I am grateful, however, for the generosity that has been shown by donors across the spectrum and look forward to engaging more robustly with our friends in the future. In establishing a number of projects to advance Durham's

strategic objectives, you have made a significant contribution to Durham's growth.

Our intention is increasingly to attract substantial philanthropic and other gifts. This is to ensure that our strategic objective of competing with other leading global universities is enhanced. To do so, we need to match their level of philanthropic support across the various components that make up our great University. The *Donor Report* provides a snapshot of the various projects that have been put in place, from capital projects, academic programmes, to scholarships, fellowships and Chairs. All of these projects are fundamental in driving the University's ambitions. These aspirations are set to grow and our

success is set to drive philanthropy towards Durham. These are heady and exciting times.

There is no doubt that 2016 has been a year of change and growth, and thus I am indebted to the Vice-Chancellor and his Executive, and to my senior academic and professional colleagues, and to my Development and Alumni Relations team and, of course, to you, our generous donors – both large and small, organisations and individuals, local and international who have supported us this year. Durham University is sincerely grateful for your support and interest.

Bruno van Dyk
Director, Development and Alumni Relations



DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY

VISION

To lead alumni engagement and philanthropic giving in support of Durham University becoming world-leading in research, education and the wider student experience.

MISSION

Our mission is to engage with and harness the goodwill of our alumni, volunteers, friends and partners in order to advance the development aspirations of the University. We achieve this by securing bequests, endowments, philanthropic grants and gifts that further the University's goals, satisfy the objectives of our partners and benefactors, and respond to societal, economic and technological challenges. In so doing, the Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO) strives towards making Durham world-leading in research, education and the wider student experience.

CORE PURPOSE

DARO is the official development and alumni relations office of Durham University, dedicated to advancing the goals of Durham by garnering philanthropic grants, donations and legacy gifts from alumni, stakeholders and other partners from within the United Kingdom and abroad. The core task of DARO is to engage with alumni, friends and partners on the one hand and to promote and seek external resources for the development of the University, on the other. This may be for the establishment of new research centres, new physical infrastructure, new chairs, new or existing scholarship and bursary schemes, new or existing curricula and academic programmes, new or existing internal and external service provision, and any other initiatives that serve to build and strengthen the University and assist it to make its alumni proud and meet its strategic goals.

OFFICES AND CONTACTS

Development forms an integral and essential part of the Development and Alumni Relations Office at Durham. The two components, development and alumni relations, complement, aid and encourage each other in achieving Durham University's strategic development objectives.

DARO is assisted in its activities by the development and alumni relations endeavours in the 16 colleges of the University and by Experience Durham, the office that coordinates University sport, staff and student volunteering and outreach, and – in partnership with Durham Students Union – student theatre and music. In addition, there are three volunteer boards based in London, the United States and Hong Kong, which support and assist DARO activities, and over 80 volunteers across the world who work with us to realise our mission.

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Lyndsey McCormick, Personal Assistant to the Director

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Supporter Engagement
Charlotte Kerr, Alumni Relations Officer
Deborah Wood, Colleges Liaison Officer
Lauren Storey, Alumni Volunteer Development Officer
Kirsten Swanston, Communications Officer
Carolyn Moralee, Alumni Relations Assistant

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Linda Forwood, Head of Development Services
Elaine Young, Stewardship Officer
Stuart Thompson, Senior Data Officer
Caroline Hancock, Operations Assistant
Luke Tinkler, Prospect Research Officer
Karen Batey, Prospect Research Officer
Jeremy Pidgeon, Annual Giving Officer
Lynn Reynolds, Annual Giving Assistant
Rebecca Wilbraham, Annual Giving Assistant

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

Andy Harston, Deputy Director for Development
Anna Abbott, Trusts and Foundations Officer
Dr Anne Allen, Development Executive –
Durham University Business School
Tim Guinan, Development Executive –
Centre for Catholic Studies
Dr Claire Molloy, Development Executive –
Faculty of Social Sciences and Health
Geoff Watson, Development Executive –
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Lauren Bradshaw, Development Executive –
Faculty of Science
Lesley Murray, Development Officer – IAS
Lynn Shipley, Legacies Officer (Maternity Cover)
Alex Bell, Leadership Gifts Officer
Katie Waugh, PA to the Deputy Director/
Fundraising Administrator

INCOME AND PLEDGES 2015-16

One-off gifts:
£3,289,699

New pledges:
£2,523,892

Recurring gifts:
£88,401

Pledge
instalments:
£4,644,911

TOTAL GIFTS AND PLEDGES:

£5,813,591
(New business)

£10,546,903
(Total business)

All business **12,569** gifts
from **2,787** donors

New business **1,915** gifts
from **1,607** donors

DURHAM UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES FUND

Each year thousands of our alumni and friends donate to the various appeals that colleges, departments and the central Development Office make. The vast majority of these donations are made at much lower levels than the major gifts highlighted in the remainder of this *Donor Report* but they are, nevertheless, greatly appreciated and combine together to enable the college, department or the central University to do great things.



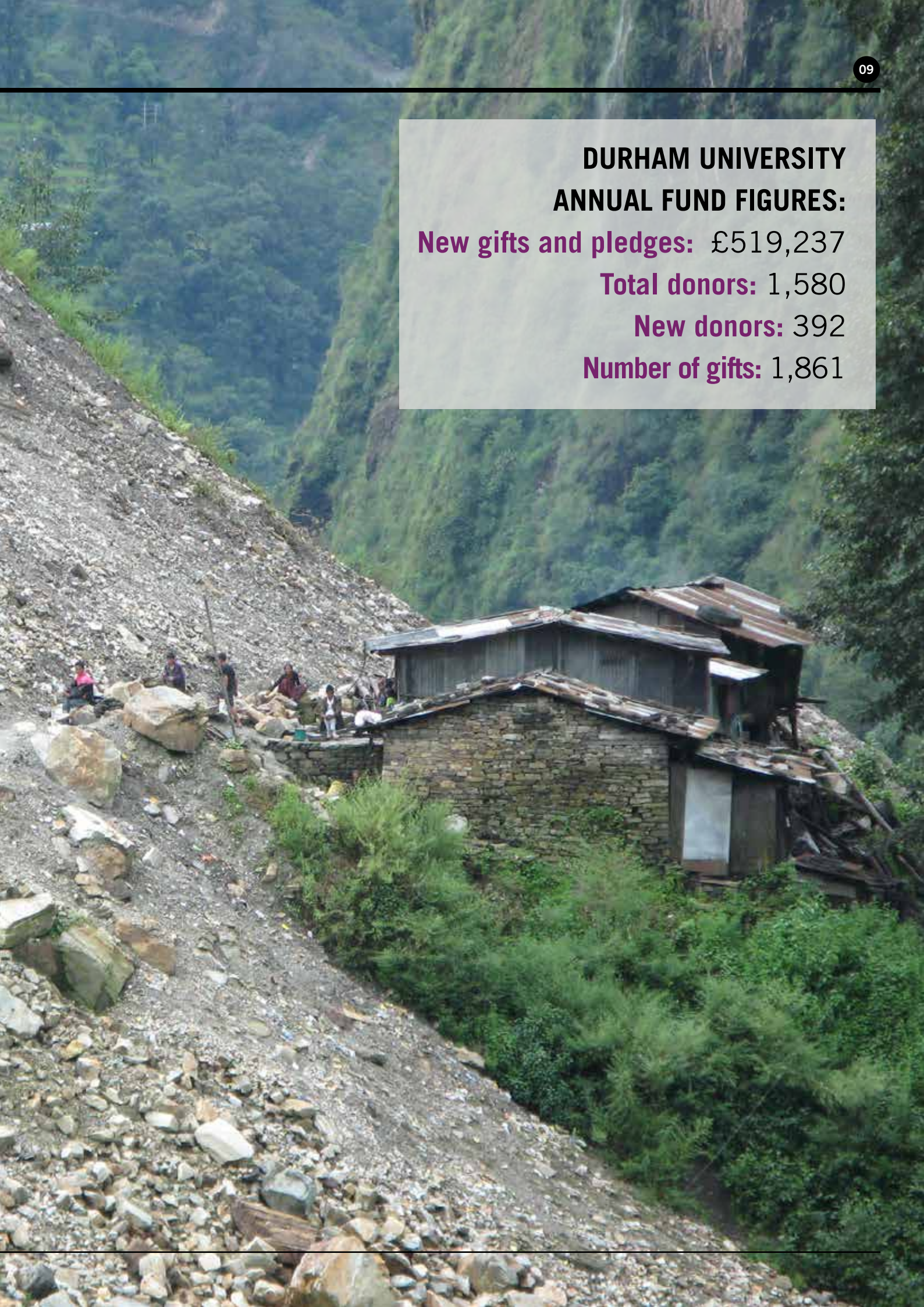
**DURHAM UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL FUND FIGURES:**

New gifts and pledges: £519,237

Total donors: 1,580

New donors: 392

Number of gifts: 1,861



CHANCELLOR'S APPEAL: ACTION ON NATURAL DISASTERS

This year the Development Office made a specific appeal to alumni to support the 2015-16 Chancellor's Appeal: Action on Natural Disasters centred on the exciting and world-changing work of the Institute for Hazard, Risk and Resilience (IHRR). The appeal was focussed on enabling more research into the long-term mitigation against the effects of natural disasters. While we all recognise the devastation that these events create, and the financial aid that flows from people around the world to address the immediate after-effects of a natural disaster, the work of the IHRR focuses on the wide-ranging and long-lasting impacts that each natural disaster brings to a region. Research is being undertaken that will enable greater resilience, and the ability to recover in those areas affected by natural disasters.

If you were one of the many who supported the Chancellor's Appeal, thank you. Your donation helped create a new interdisciplinary PhD programme dedicated to educating the experts who will lead the international teams that are responsible for anticipating and responding to natural disasters, wherever they may occur.

In total this appeal raised more than £580,000 (including major gifts) and this is being used to create scholarships for this programme and to support these scholars in their studies. More than 40 applicants from around the world applied to the programme and your donation, and the donations of other alumni like you, has created a fund to support four fully-funded PhD students through the programme. These four scholars will be working

within a research theme of 'Earthquake-induced landslides in Nepal' and each will undertake a separate project. Each project will address the theme from a different but complementary perspective across all three University faculties.

The project titles are:

1. Rapid detection of Earthquake-triggered landslides using satellite radar (Earth Sciences)
2. Impacts of road construction on land-sliding in Nepal (Engineering and Computing Sciences)
3. Communicating risk to increase resilience to landslide dam bursts (Geography)
4. Developing simple rules to minimise co-seismic landslide hazard (Philosophy)

Together, these research projects will constitute a multidisciplinary study that will deliver real, tangible benefits to those at risk from landslides in Nepal and elsewhere. They span from engineering- and science-based approaches for preventing and detecting landslides, through to improving the resilience of communities at risk from landslide hazards. This multidisciplinary approach will create a better understanding of the interaction between the areas of science, engineering, social sciences and humanities and the impact on the lives of the population in the aftermath of natural disasters. Perhaps most importantly of all, the students who graduate from this programme will have a uniquely broad perspective on hazard and risk, and will be ideally equipped to become leading researchers and practitioners within this field. **To find out more about the project visit www.durham.ac.uk/ihr/graduate-study/natural-disasters and to find out about the students visit www.durham.ac.uk/ihr/students**

Gopi Basyal has worked for twenty years for the National Society for Earthquake Technology in Nepal; about the Action on Natural Disasters Programme he says:

“I wanted to do meaningful research in communities which could benefit - I feel proud to be one of the Action on Natural Disasters (AND) award recipients”. About how communities will benefit from his research he says: “I am confident that I can serve Nepal in a more meaningful way once I gather my experience.”

Sheena Ramkumar says of her wish to study on the programme and her scholarship “I have always wanted to undertake a course of study and do work that is meaningful and helpful in some way. Securing the funding has been the best opportunity to enable me to do just that. I am elated and thoroughly grateful.”



Appeal	New Business (Incl. Gift Aid) £	No of Gifts
Colleges	216,502	808
Departments	22,456	58
Experience Durham (Sport, Music, Theatre)	25,520	102
Research	51,446	38
Scholarships, Prizes and Awards	83,724	78
University General	38,871	81
Student Opportunities Fund	1,411	20
Total (excluding Chancellor's Appeal: Action on Natural Disasters)	439,930	1,185

As well as the support we received for the Chancellor's Appeal, we also received many more gifts towards other appeals, and to these donors we also extend our heartfelt gratitude. Every gift that is received, plus any Gift Aid that is also given, is directed to your chosen area of support; so many areas that it is not possible to give you all of the information on the impact that your gifts have had in this Report, but the table shows where these new gifts and pledges were donated across the University.

OPENING OF DURHAM UNIVERSITY'S NEW OGDEN CENTRE FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS



Following two generous gifts from Sir Peter Ogdon and the Wolfson Foundation back in 2014, the new £13m development to house Durham University's Ogdon Centre for Fundamental Physics has progressed at pace, and is on the verge of opening its doors at time of writing.

The new building has been designed by world-renowned architect Daniel Libeskind, and will accommodate Durham's Institute for Computational Cosmology, Centre for Extragalactic Astronomy and Centre for Advanced Instrumentation. This state-of-the-art facility will support these groups to continue developing, while securing their positions at the very forefront of research in fundamental physics, cosmology and astrophysics for decades to come.

The new building and its generous benefactors will be celebrated throughout a two-day programme of events in March 2017, including a public science and art symposium, a celebratory dinner and a grand opening ceremony.

Professor Carlos Frenk, Director of the Institute for Computational Cosmology and Ogdon Professor of Fundamental Physics, welcomes the opening of the new building as a signpost for the Centre's next phase of development:

"Our wonderful new building was specifically designed to provide an ideal environment for our research into the origin, structure and evolution of our universe. It facilitates interaction amongst resident and visiting scientists and also provides private space for thinking. Its unique architecture captures the essence of our way of working, and will serve as an inspiration to those fortunate enough to work in it. With the new building now complete, our campaign to fund scholarships and fellowships for young researchers continues, with the aim of fostering a new generation of talented scientists to continue the quest to answer some of the very biggest questions about our universe."

Dr El Shaarani at a reception for the Institute of Advanced Study at the House of Lords in 2016.

EL SHAARANI ETHICAL FINANCE RESEARCH CENTRE

A generous gift from the El Shaarani Group to Durham University Business School has facilitated the establishment of a new international research centre, which brings together researchers and professionals in the fields of ethical finance, accountability and governance. The gift, over five years, will support the recruitment of research posts and the dissemination of new research under the leadership of Professor Omneya Abdelsalam. The donor, Dr El Shaarani, originally trained as a medical doctor, before establishing and growing the El Shaarani Group, which has diversified from medical technology and healthcare solutions into construction management, solar energy, shipbuilding, building management systems, and hospitals.

MONMODU JAMIU OYAWOYE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP – POSTGRADUATE EARTH SCIENCES

A new scholarship to support Nigerian postgraduate students studying Earth Sciences at Durham was established in 2015 with a generous gift made by the Monmodu Jamiu Oyawoye Foundation.

The scholarship recognises the importance that Earth Sciences plays in the interests and industries of Nigeria, the significant financial outlay involved for students who would like to pursue studies in this field at Durham, and the difficulties some individuals may have in meeting these costs.

The scholarship of £5000 is awarded annually. It is offered to help the recipient pay for tuition fees and/or living expenses during their time at Durham.

In 2015, four PhD students at Durham benefited from partial scholarships, each receiving funding to help cover research and conference costs.

The establishment of this scholarship helps to support the training of future leaders in a field that is critical for the future of Nigeria, and to ensure that this training is available to those who might not otherwise be able to afford it. Durham University and its scholars would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the Monmodu Jamiu Oyawoye Foundation for its generous support.



Durham University represented by Andrew Harston and Sr Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ at Conrad N. Hilton Foundation grantee convening; Huntington Library Conference Center, Pasadena, CA; November 2015

RECORD US DONATION TO SUPPORT RESEARCH ON SISTERS

Following the 'Project Spotlight: Vitality in Religious Life' piece in last year's *Donor Report* (p24-25), the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation has made a grant of c.\$1M – the largest University donation from the US to-date – to support the second phase of the 'Vitality' project.

This second phase of the collaborative project – between Durham University, the Religious Life Institute, and Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology – is exploring two main areas: the lives and activities of religious working within various contexts in Africa; and also the experience of post-millennium entrants to religious life, predominantly in UK and Ireland.



Professor Paul Murray, Dean of the Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS), has said:

“This second donation from the Hilton Foundation was achieved through the merits of the research work completed by Sr Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ (RLI, Heythrop College) and Catherine Sexton (MBIT, Cambridge) – the Co-Directors of the Vitality Project.

The CCS has a well-established track record of partnering with women religious – both in the UK/Ireland and in the US – to open opportunities and create the capacity to pursue some of the most significant theological and religious research questions for our time. Various communities have generously supported endowed professorial posts, scholarships and research projects – indeed the Chancellor’s Circle of donors includes many of these generous benefactors. Hence the relationship between the work of the CCS and the future of women religious is inextricably linked and inter-related.

The Hilton gift provides an excellent opportunity both to pursue ground-breaking academic research with innovative methodologies and focus groups, and to put something back into the flourishing of these communities which are so important to us.”

According to a 2014 study completed by CARA at Georgetown University (a conversation partner with this project) the number of Catholic Sisters in the world has reduced from c.185, 000 in 1965 to < 50,000 in 2014. However, against this backdrop of numeric decline, there are demographic and geographic shifts occurring which change the nature of religious vocation and community life – including the nature of the multitude of ministries lived and enabled by religious (e.g. education, healthcare, social justice). This is a unique moment in which to examine theological and social-scientific phenomena related to the future of religious life and what it looks like for individuals and communities in various global contexts.

THE SHATTOCK FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMME

We hear first-hand from a donor on his motivations for giving.

Matt Shattock (Politics, St Chad's, 1980-83) explains his motivations for giving to Durham:

"I first re-engaged with the University in November 2012 when my wife Sue and I were asked to attend a reception hosted by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor in Chicago. While I hadn't heard much directly from Durham since my graduation, I had followed with interest the exceptional progress being made in global rankings, the employability of fellow Durham students, and the more concerted effort being made by the University to reach out to alumni.

"Following the Chancellor's reception, the team in the development office brought the former Principal of St Chad's – the late Professor Joe Cassidy – to meet with me and we discussed the idea of our family supporting a scholarship programme enabling talented students from lower-income families to enjoy the full, rounded education delivered in tandem between the departments and colleges of the University. I was convinced that this was a very worthy cause and it led to the creation of a scholarship programme to supplement those without the full means, but with the unquestionable ability, to benefit from the collegiate education which has shaped my own life and career indelibly. I had the benefit of a fully funded education at Durham and this turned out to be a life-changing experience for me. I hope to contribute to the same opportunity for others.

"We are delighted to be supporting St Chad's and Durham in this way and hope that like-minded alumni will give similar time and thought to requests made of them – as I know many already do."



THEATRUM MUNDI: BRINGING MEDIEVAL DRAMA TO DURHAM

The streets and venues of Durham came alive with dramatic spectacles from the region's distant past during July 2016. Theatrum Mundi - loosely translated from Latin as 'the theatre of the world' - was a summer festival that celebrated the rich theatrical heritage of the North-East through a range of public performances of medieval and Renaissance drama.

Highlights included a six-metre stage dragon prowling Palace Green and the town centre, a Dance of Death, a singing boy bishop, Renaissance ballet and an enactment of Britain's oldest surviving play - the eight-century Lindisfarne *Harrowing of Hell*. The festival and its associated workshops brought together a cast of performers, University students,



schoolchildren and the local community to work with professionals in choreography, theatre and theatre history, costume design and prop making.

With support from Arts Council England, Theatrum Mundi recreated some of the performances unearthed by the team behind the Records of Early English Drama North East initiative. REED N-E is part of a major international research project that is revolutionising the study of dramatic heritage in Britain and Ireland by assembling and publishing a complete survey of records of medieval and early-modern performance in the two countries. Durham University hosts the North East arm of the initiative, which aims to locate and study an estimated 10,000 surviving records of drama, secular music, popular festivity and ceremony in the region from the 9th century up until the outbreak of the English Civil War in 1642. The project's scope goes well beyond just plays for the theatre to include Church rituals and street performances.

The festival has enabled the REED N-E team to conduct research in an innovative and practical way, providing new insights into dimensions of medieval and Renaissance drama that many scholars consider to have been irrevocably lost, whilst also reviving dramatic traditions for a modern-day local audience. Professor Barbara Ravelhofer, who led the Theatrum Mundi project, confirms:

“Our research and festival have enabled us to engage the wider community of the region with their very earliest cultural heritage. We will return in 2018 and hope that many more people will enjoy Theatrum Mundi, or even better, become part of it.”



Supported using public funding by
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ENGLAND**



CELEBRATE SCIENCE

Over 7,000 members of the public attended Celebrate Science 2015, Durham University's science festival for children and their families, generously supported by the Reece Foundation and by Business Durham.

Celebrate Science 2015 presented a varied programme of engaging science-themed events and activities for families, located in a 1,400m² marquee situated on Palace Green in the heart of Durham, and at various University locations around the City. Activities included investigations of human and animal skulls, mindboggling visual illusions and an inflatable planetarium. Children were invited to create inventions, measure their fitness and explore the wonderful worlds of sound and light.

The aim of Celebrate Science is to stimulate an interest in science, inspiring young people to study science, while putting the University at the heart of a fun, high-profile community event. It provides a unique opportunity for Durham University and its supporters to promote science to a general audience, with a key target audience of 7-11 year olds and their families.



More than 200 staff and students took part in this year's festival. External participants included Cancer Research UK, the Institute of Physics, Proctor & Gamble, the University Hospital of North Durham, North Pennines AONB and Reece Group Ltd.

Visitor feedback was once again overwhelmingly positive, with numerous requests made for Celebrate Science to be repeated in the future. The festival featured widely in local media, including *ITV Tyne Tees News*, *The Northern Echo* and *The Durham Times*.

Previous Military Scholar Tom Wilde (Theology, St Cuthbert's Society, 2010-14)



The Durham University Military Scholarship programme went from strength to strength this year. Generous gifts made by a number of trusts, foundations and individuals allowed scholarships to be awarded to two very deserving candidates joining Durham in 2016:

Andrew Murray, reading Archaeology, is the recipient of the D S Smith Military Scholarship, funded by the D S Smith Charitable Foundation. Andrew spent 15 years in the army, serving in Northern Ireland, Afghanistan and Iraq, carrying out bomb disposal and training.

Matthew Abbott, reading Politics, is the recipient of the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation Military Scholarship, funded by the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation. Matthew was medically discharged from the army with prior service in Sierra Leone.

Generous gifts were made by the Reece Foundation, Greenwich Hospital and the Sir James Knott Trust, to support the military scholarship programme. The programme continues to be supported by a number of other trusts and foundations, including ABF The Soldiers' Charity, Walking With The Wounded, Borrows Charitable Trust, 3Ts, Lt Dougie Dalzell Memorial Trust, and the Stuart Halbert Foundation.

A hugely successful event was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, generously supported by Durham alumnus Edi Truell. Hosted by Durham's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart Corbridge, supporters and friends enjoyed the opportunity to meet each other, celebrate the programme's achievements, listen to the personal stories of recent scholar, Tom Wilde, and current scholar, Stephanie Atkinson, and hear plans for its ongoing success.

The Durham University Military Scholarship provides recipient scholars with £5,000 per year. Eligible students are former members of the British armed services who have become wounded, injured or sick as a result of their service, who have won a place to study at undergraduate level at Durham. This provision recognises the huge contribution to society made by servicemen and women, and their families, and the challenge that the transition to civilian life following years of military service can present. Scholarships are also open to eligible dependants.

Durham University and its Military Scholars are extremely grateful to all of the donors and supporters who make this programme possible.

EDUCATION WITHOUT FRONTIERS: AIMS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS IN MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES



Mark and Tara Freshwater with their children James & Abigail

For the last ten years, colleagues from Durham University's Department of Mathematical Sciences have been working alongside AIMS, the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences, spending weeks at a time teaching in centres across Africa to deliver the highest quality training at a low cost.

The talented students who graduate from AIMS go on to study at Masters and PhD level at universities both in Africa and abroad, returning home to strengthen Africa's developing economy through the enrichment of its research, government and industry.

In 2015 we were pleased to enhance this partnership through the support of our first post-AIMS scholar, Arnaud Andrianavalomahefa, who joined us from Madagascar and successfully completed his MSc in Elementary Particles, Strings and Cosmology.

Since then we have been delighted to be able to offer a second scholarship with the generous support of our alumni and Trevelyan College, and were pleased to welcome our newest student, Kunda Kambaso, from AIMS-Ghana in October 2016.

We are hugely grateful to a Van Mildert couple based in the US and to Mark Freshwater (Mathematics, Trevelyan,

1993-96) along with his wife Tara, who have made Kunda's journey to Durham possible with their generous contributions towards the AIMS Scholarships Programme. Mark works as a Vice President in the New York offices of Goldman Sachs, demonstrating the considerable impact that our prominent US alumni can make to the Durham community.

"My MSc programme itself is incredibly challenging and well-crafted, with various topics covering the full breadth of high-energy physics in both the mathematical and phenomenological aspects. I bet there are not many programmes as such in any other place. What I have gained here is by far beyond my foremost expectations."

Arnaud Andrianavalomahefa, Durham's post-AIMS Scholar.



SCHOOL PENALTY FINES AND AUTHORIZED ABSENCE - (Mr David Hanson in the Chair)

IMPPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

The association between high school attendance and academic performance reveals that this association is stronger when the link between school attendance and academic performance is stronger (Sheppard 2011) in public schools. This shows to be a link used in the studies.

SEARCH QUESTIONS

LEGACY SPOTLIGHT

Donations of all kinds are always warmly welcomed by the students and staff of Durham but a gift in a will carries an added, poignant dimension. It speaks of a person's ability to think beyond themselves to look ahead and consider future generations - students and researchers they will never meet but who will be profoundly grateful.



In the period under review, philanthropic income from legacies amounted to just over £2.1m from the estates of 16 former students and friends of Durham. This extraordinary sum is enabling us to push further towards becoming world-leading in research, education and the wider student experience. Our research capability is strengthened; more of the talented, hard-working young people in our communities can achieve their dream of studying at Durham; our Colleges receive that vital injection of income to improve students' facilities and opportunities; and our historic buildings receive the means to both conserve and modernise, thereby attracting ever-increasing numbers of visiting academics and members of the public.

Recent legacy gifts have included a cherished collection of books of personal rather than financial value and a portfolio of wealth exceeding a million pounds. Obviously very different in nature but what connects the two is the donors' motivation: that desire to remember Durham, and to help it flourish in the future.

A bequest received this year included a gift to Experience Durham. Here, Jessica Lawrence, Head of Music Development, talks about the impact that such gifts have:

***“Durham attracts a remarkable pool of talent. Not only are our students high-flyers academically, they often come with a high level of ability in sport, music, and drama that contributes massively to the region’s cultural life. The University and its Colleges do all they can to encourage our students to develop their skills, and to try new things – sometimes this leads to a new passion in life, and sometimes they learn what they don’t enjoy, but all are given the chance to try.*”**

“We were delighted recently to receive a gift towards the development of music and drama. Students self-manage 16 musical societies and 27 theatre companies in the University, in addition to the breadth of activity in the Colleges. Each of them relies on financial backing from Experience Durham and any sponsorship and voluntary donations they can attract. This legacy gift will be a much appreciated contribution to our costs, and will enable us to continue to offer unparalleled opportunities to our students, and a professional standard of production to our audiences.”

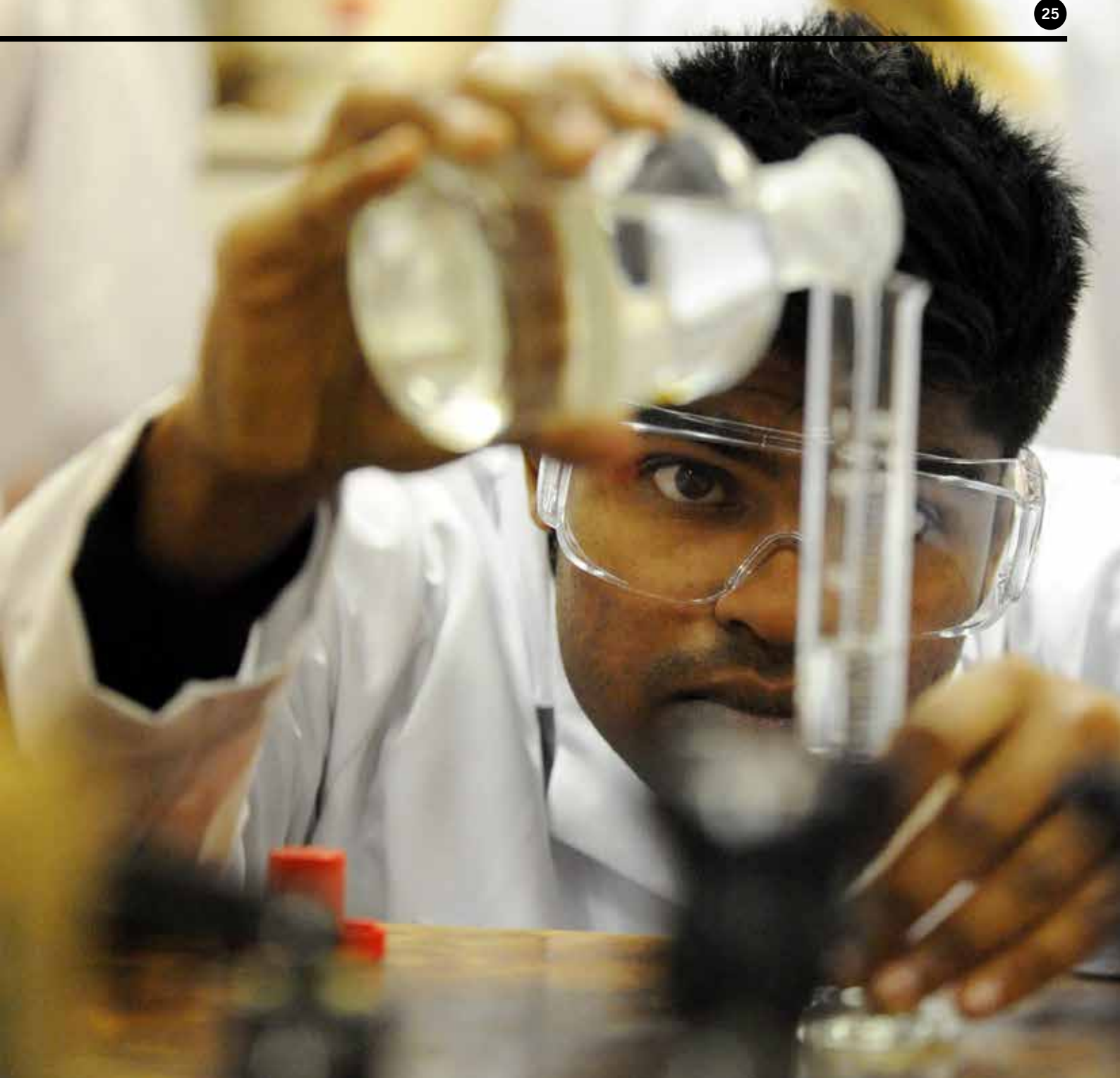
COLLINGWOOD UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

2016-17 will be the fifth academic year in a row when Collingwood College has the enormous privilege of being able to offer its students paid internships within any department of Durham University, thanks to the generosity of one particular alumnus.

Four internships are available per academic year, for Collingwood undergraduates who have approached their department and found an existing or forthcoming project that their supervisor is happy for them to get involved with. Thanks to Gift Aid, last year we were able to offer a fifth internship with the University's Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM). This project was concerned with widening participation for year 12 and 13 students, who are academically able and interested in a career in law, but come from a non-privileged background.

Every intern, over the years, has reported how rewarding and worthwhile their experience has been, allowing them to develop both academically and personally, so Collingwood is delighted that, thanks to the renewal of this gift in 2015-16, we can continue to offer these opportunities for the foreseeable future.





From English to Chemistry, these internships have spanned the whole University. For example, James Mok (pictured), supervised by Dr Adam Benham of the Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, investigated MHC class II molecules of the immune system, and how they influence health and disease. James commented

“The skills and experience I have gained from working alongside a world-class research team will be invaluable and informative in my Biomedical Science degree and in the future as a doctor.”

CHANCELLOR'S CIRCLE EVENT

In April 2016, Durham University launched the Chancellor's Circle at a special gala dinner in London. The Circle is a special affinity group comprising the University's leading philanthropic benefactors who have each given transformative donations to a number of initiatives across the University.

The Chancellor's Circle is called such to recognise the direct and vital impact of major philanthropy on the University's advancement; its activities are carried out under the patronage of the Chancellor and convened by the Vice-Chancellor on behalf of the University's leadership. Each year, new donors will be inducted into Membership at an annual dinner attended by senior University staff and major supporters brought together to discuss the University's strategic development priorities and celebrate successes enabled through philanthropy.

Each inductee, who becomes a life member, was given a framed certificate and a Chancellor's Medal.





WITH THANKS

Durham University expresses its sincere appreciation to all of its friends, partners, benefactors and grant-makers for the support that has been provided during the past year.

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