



Issue 6, September 2020

Welcome back Hatfielders, with the sixth edition of the Hatfield Association newsletter! We hope that you and your families are all doing well during these uncertain times and we are thinking of all those of you who have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Once a Hatfielder Always a Hatfielder

With the unofficial motto *'Once a Hatfielder, Always a Hatfielder'*, the Association captures the sense of belonging that's at the heart of the legendary Hatfield Spirit. Over the summer months some of the members of Hatfield Association executive committee came together over Zoom to put together a short film trying to capture some of the famous Hatfield Spirit. We are hoping that it will inspire some of our new students to tell us a little bit about who we are, at time when it is so difficult to meet in person. [Click here](#) to see the video.

Welcoming Grace Norman, our new Development Officer and an Honorary Director of Hatfield Trust

Hello there! My name is Grace Norman and I was delighted to join the Hatfield College community this Spring. I managed to sneak in just before the Lockdown came into force in March, giving me 2 weeks in the office to receive a warm Hatfield welcome! Educated at the universities of St Andrews and Newcastle, I ventured into the world of advancement, alumni relations and project management upon graduation and have spent my time there since. We have been very busy at the Trust during the last few months awarding grants and scholarships, and setting up Hatfield Horizons- a programme of career support for our students. Whether offering internships, volunteering as panellists for our Virtual Careers Conversations or sharing kind words of wisdom, we could not be more grateful for the support of our alumni. Though we may not be able to meet in person, I have been very lucky to have met some of our community over Zoom and would love to meet many more! Please do get in touch at hatfield.development@durham.ac.uk.

Hatfield College - we're here for our students in this time of crisis

The past few months brought together much uncertainty for the College community and our alumni alike. As COVID-19 approached in the latter part of the Epiphany Term, facilities and events closed down and many of our students returned home. This has been especially difficult for our closely knit community, which cherishes coming together and for many of those who graduated over the summer and those who joined us only a few days ago for the beginning of the new term. In early April Hatfield opened its doors and accommodation to critical care workers to support the Local Resilience Forum. Our whole team of porters, housekeepers, chefs and food services staff undertook the enormous task of packing up student possessions from 125 rooms, and moving more than 500 boxes to storage, piled high in the Burt Room and the Birley Room, just in time as our first NHS guests arrived.

A new copy of the Hatfield record available to view

You can now see the latest copy of the Hatfield Association newsletter on our website—hot off the press!



Back in March, we were delighted to welcome Grace Norman, our new Development Officer and Honorary Director of Hatfield Trust



Here are some images of the amazing Hatfield staff working hard to prepare the accommodation for the Local Resilience Forum.



Alumni and current Hatfield students rowing during last year's Association Reunion. The Photo features Geoff Cullington and Syd East, who very sadly passed away earlier this year. Our deepest condolences to Syd's family.

Hatfield Association Reunion—cancelled

Given the current uncertainty brought by the COVID-19 crisis, we took a difficult decision to postpone our annual Reunion Weekend. We really look forward to seeing all of you, once we are able to gather up safely, without putting those most vulnerable members of our community at risk.

Farewell to Cynthia Connolly

After 47 years of loyal commitment to the College Community we said farewell to Cynthia Connolly during the annual Winter Dinner. Cynthia came to Hatfield as the Master's Secretary in 1972 and following her "retirement" from that position in 1999 she has continued to provide outstanding support to the Hatfield Trust as Assistant Director, and to the Hatfield Association as Assistant Secretary. It was a splendid occasion and we were thrilled to welcome and reconnect with so many of our alumni. Cynthia was very moved by her gift and a memory book with warm wishes from our Hatfield community, prepared especially for the occasion.

Careers Conversation Dinner

Our first *Careers Conversation Dinner* took place in December 2019. Three alumni/friends of College conversed with some twenty students about careers in accounting - from general questions to the career paths available. This was followed by a round-table discussion. College and SHAPED are working together to create even more opportunities for Hatfielders and we would welcome contributions, visits and ideas from alumni. If you are interested in attending a dinner, or holding drop-in sessions or a talk, please email hatfield.development@durham.ac.uk.

Unveiling of the Lioness Sculpture

Throughout 2019 Hatfield College Celebrated 30 years since admitting women to the college. Throughout the year the celebrations focused on championing equality and diversity in the college and culminated with the unveiling of the Lioness Sculpture in October 2019. The sculpture, officially welcomed to the Hatfield community by a prominent Hatfield alumna, Dr Nicola Candlish, will complement the sculpture of "Timba" in the Dining Hall.

The White Lion Club

The 2019 Association Reunion weekend officially welcomed a new "chapter" of the Association, the White Lion Club. The club engages with the College's oarsmen and women after they graduate, creating a network for sharing updates and hosting alumni events across the country. The chapter looks to keep members involved with events outlined in the annual calendar with highlights at Henley and Durham Regatta. If you would like to find out more and get back out on the water at a reunion weekend, join our mailing list by emailing thewhitelionclub@gmail.com.

The chapter has shared termly newsletters, full of club updates, event information and even some historical gems from college archives. The editor's favourite story related to Edward Arkless and Thomas John Holt signing a deal with Robert Anthony Burrell that secured the usage of a wall to support the boat house.



Cynthia Connolly has been a true star of Hatfield College, above are the pictures of Cynthia in the College Bar and Cynthia with Hatfield alumni during 2018 Hatfield Association Reunion.



Hatfield alumna, Dr Nicola Candlish, unveiled Hatfield's new Lioness Sculpture to mark 30 years of All Male No More at Hatfield!

Support Hatfield Students:

With the job market being highly uncertain and career opportunities greatly reduced, this has been a particularly difficult time for our students. If you would be in a position to help out through a virtual discussion group, by directing students to useful resources or in other ways, please email your suggestions to hatfield.enrichsupport@durham.ac.uk

Please see [our website](#) and our social media channels for the latest updates:

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