



University of
St Andrews | FOUNDED
1413



LINK

Issue 1
2018-2019

*The newsletter for families
of undergraduate students*

Welcome

Welcome to this semester's issue of *Link* – our bi-annual newsletter for the families of undergraduate students. My warmest wishes if you have just joined our University community. I hope your children – our new undergraduates – are enjoying their first semester and are settling in well.

I'm delighted to report that we have recently met the £100 million target of the 600th Anniversary Campaign. I hope you will enjoy reading about how this support will benefit current and future students. We have outlined our ambitious and exciting plans for the future below.

Please do contact alumni@st-andrews.ac.uk if you have any comments or suggestions for future issues.

Robert Fleming, Director of Development



Campaign success

Thanks to the generosity of over 15,500 alumni, parents, friends and donors from all over the world, we have met our £100 million Campaign target, almost doubled our endowment and built a legacy from which our current students, staff and members of the community will benefit.

Medical and Biological Sciences Building, North Haugh



Thanks to major donations from the Wolfson Foundation, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Robertson and Yelsel Trusts, St Andrews was the first university in Scotland to fully integrate research facilities across medicine and the sciences in one custom-built School.

The Richardson Research Library at Martyrs Kirk



The University bought the vacant Martyrs Kirk from the Church of Scotland in 2012 and transformed and refitted the iconic building as a much-needed postgraduate research library and Special Collections reading room.

Front cover image from left: Alex McMaster, Merlin Hetherington and Professor Frank Sullivan, Professor of Primary Care Medicine, University of St Andrews.

Refurbishment of St Salvator's Quadrangle



St Salvator's Quadrangle sits at the geographical and spiritual heart of the town. Over 1,500 alumni, family and friends from around the globe raised over £700,000 towards refurbishing the Quad by taking the opportunity to have their names inscribed on the new flagstones.

Redeveloped and extended Sports Centre



Students are now benefiting from a new sports arena and fitness suite and an enlarged strength and conditioning suite, as well as a state-of-the-art indoor tennis centre, climbing wall and renovated dance studio. We have a Sports Centre fit for the twenty-first century.

Plans for the future

Support for the Campaign has enabled us to have a far-reaching impact on our students, staff and the common good, but to go on being successful we cannot stand still. We still have to meet targets for the Scottish Oceans Institute, the Laidlaw Music Centre and MUSA, the University's museum, and we continue to make scholarships a priority.

Our plans for the future are exciting and ambitious and include the refurbishment of the Younger Hall, the creation of a New College at the Madras site on South Street and the development of a new STEM building for Mathematics and Biology, adjacent to Computer Science on the North Haugh.

Look out for news about these projects here and in our monthly e-newsletter – *St Andrews in the News*.

Please contact us to find out more about any of these exciting projects and how you can help to bring them to life. E: 600campaign@st-andrews.ac.uk T: +44 (0)1334 461916

Refurbishment of Students' Association



After two years of redevelopment, the Students' Association was transformed in time for its official opening during Orientation Week 2015. Since then, the building and its facilities have grown to be very popular with both town and gown.

Scholarships



As a result of the Campaign, over £27.5 million has been raised for scholarships and student support by 8,285 donors and the University has been able to set up over 500 new scholarships for disadvantaged students: these are life-changing figures.

Meet the Sabbaticals

We would like to introduce this year's Sabbatical Officers – six students who have taken a year out to work at the Students' Association and Athletic Union on behalf of their fellow students. They all worked hard during Orientation Week to ensure that first year students had plenty of opportunities to socialise and settle in quickly.

Paloma Paige

Paloma is Students' Association President and her role is to represent students at the highest levels of the University and on the national stage. She is focusing on issues such as student accommodation and tuition fees, widening access and outreach.



Nick Farrer

Nick is Director of Wellbeing, with responsibility for student welfare, Equal Opportunities, Saints LGBT+, Democracy and StAnd Together.



Fiona Murray

Fiona is the Athletic Union President, in charge of student sport at the University. Her role focuses on everything from competitive and recreational sport to wellbeing within sport and its role within the University's strategy.



Jamie Minns

Jamie is Director of Student Development and Activities. This means that he is responsible for the Students' Association extracurricular activities, including the many and varied student societies.



Alice Foulis

Alice is Director of Education and she is responsible for matters relating to education, postgraduate studies and employability.



Adam Powrie

Adam is Director of Events and Services, and is responsible for events, commercial services and venue management.



The sabbaticals will be in office until July 2019. The elections for the 2019-2020 officers take place in March 2019. Until then, the 'sabbs' can be found in the Students' Association building and at the Sports Centre, and are available to help with all manner of student queries.

SaintsFunder and Tandem Africa

This year the University launched SaintsFunder – a brand-new crowdfunding platform – in response to demand from students and staff who wanted to fundraise for their societies, clubs and projects.

To date, more than £15,000 has been raised across three projects supported by the platform. To find out more about how you can support projects through SaintsFunder, please visit <https://saintsfunder.st-andrews.ac.uk>



The current project – Tandem Africa (or *Two boys on a bike for sight*) – is supporting R&A International scholars Merlin Hetherington (2018 Medicine graduate) and Alex McMaster (third year Biology and Geography student) on their 10,000km tandem-bike expedition from Cairo to Cape Town across Africa.

The boys will be distributing the ground-breaking Arclight medical device (pioneered in St Andrews) to equip and train local health workers for free and help in the fight against preventable blindness and deafness. Their aim is to deliver 2,000 of these solar-powered devices throughout their eight month cycle!

The fundraising campaign is live on SaintsFunder until January. Find out more at <https://spsr.me/tkDU>



Research

Climate migration grant

The Third Generation Project, a human rights think tank in the School of International Relations, has been awarded a National Geographic Society grant to develop a multimedia-oriented classroom curriculum on climate migration to be taught in schools.



Killer whale population threat

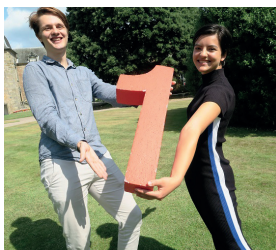
Academics from the Sea Mammal Research Unit have discovered that chemical pollutants in our seas could lead to the disappearance of half of the world's killer whales within 30-50 years.



University news

A round-up of the latest news from the University:

- *The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019* once again ranked St Andrews as the top university in Scotland and third in the UK, as did *The Guardian University Guide 2019* earlier in the year.
- In the *National Student Survey 2018*, 94% of final year students surveyed gave the University top marks for the quality of their learning and teaching experience, making us top for the tenth time in the past 12 years.
- To round off an excellent year of results, the *QS World Rankings* placed St Andrews in the world's top 100 universities, meaning the University is in the leading 10% of global higher education institutions.
- 2018 graduates Alexander Zagajewski and Laura Trad have recently been recognised as Global winners at the *Undergraduate Awards 2018* in the Mathematics and Physics and the Politics and International Relations categories. Lucia Hawkes was named the European Regional Award winner for Art History and Theory.
- According to a report by BiGGAR Economics, the University contributes more than £473 million per year to the Scottish economy and supports 6,990 jobs. For every £1 of public money invested in the University, £11.80 is returned to the Scottish economy.



- US golfing legend and honorary graduate of the University, Renée Powell, recently visited St Andrews to unveil a plaque celebrating the opening of a new student hall of residence in her name. Powell Hall will house just over 200 students and is just one part of a £70 million investment in student accommodation, creating 900 new bedrooms.
- The University has launched a Student Health Hub to help connect students to the correct service within the NHS or University. This forms a crucial part of the Student Healthcare Strategy, which aims to reduce doctor waiting times and improve student wellbeing support.
- Principal and Vice-Chancellor Professor Sally Mapstone has been named the first female President of the Saltire Society – an 82-year-old charity that champions Scottish culture and supports emerging talent.
- The first children to graduate from the University of St Andrews' nursery recently celebrated with their own ceremony where they were 'capped' with a giant duck and presented with scrolls bearing the University crest and a necklace made of shells from the Fife coastline.



You can see more University news at: <https://news.st-andrews.ac.uk>

Academic awards

Our academics regularly win awards for their outstanding work. Here are just a few who have been recognised recently:

- Dr Urska Demsar and Dr Katherine Roucoux (School of Geography & Sustainable Development) have been awarded grants totalling more than £700,000 by the Leverhulme Trust for their projects on bird migration and tropical peatlands respectively.
- The European Research Council has awarded a Synergy Grant of €2 million to a team led by Dr Vasilis Archontis (School of Mathematics & Statistics) as part of the Europe-wide *Whole Sun Project* to study the innermost workings of the Sun.
- The 2018 Harold Lasswell Award has been given to Bishop Wardlaw Professor Stephen Reicher (pictured) (School of Psychology & Neuroscience) for his contribution to psychology.
- Professor David O'Hagan (School of Chemistry) has been awarded the 2018 Prix Henri Moissan for his work in fluorine chemistry. The award is given out every three years and comes with a €15,000 prize.
- Physics Professor Kishan Dholakia has been awarded the International Society for Optics and Photonic Dennis Gabor Award 2018 for his use of dynamic and static diffractive optics, revolutionising nano-surgery and imaging.



- Drs Ruth Bowness (Medicine), Jonathan Fraser (Mathematics & Statistics), Ellen Garland, Nathan Bailey (both Biology), Giuseppe Pezzini (Classics), Amanda Seed (Psychology & Neuroscience), Claire Cousins and Heidi Burdett (both Earth & Environmental Sciences) have been named RSE Young Academy of Scotland members.
- Professors Sharon Ashbrook, Douglas Philp (School of Chemistry) and Uli Schwarz-Linek (School of Biology) have been awarded a £1.4 million grant to study molecular structures using leading-edge technology.
- A multidisciplinary team from across the University, led by Professor Matthew Holden (School of Medicine) has won a £2.8 million Global Consortia Grant by the Medical Research Council to investigate antibacterial resistance.
- The Orbital Diagnostics team in the School of Medicine has won the Innovation Award at Scotland's Life Sciences Awards for the development of the Scattered Light Integrated Collector (SLIC), which reduces the time taken to test bacteria for antibiotic resistance.

**RSE YOUNG
ACADEMY
OF SCOTLAND**



Love from Home

Our *Love from Home* service offers you the chance to send cakes, chocolates and gift baskets to your students as a little bit of encouragement or on special occasions. Order online at <http://bit.ly/sta-love-from-home>



Please see online for terms and conditions.

The Eden Residence Club



The Eden Residence Club is an invitation only private members club and as a proud supporter of the University of St Andrews, we're offering Family Programme members the opportunity to join the Club at a special rate. As part of this offer your membership will also include a complimentary night stay in a two bedroom residence at Pittormie Castle, St Andrews and the Club will make a donation to the University of St Andrews.

As a member, you will have access to thousands of fully serviced luxury residences in hundreds of iconic locations around the world – all of which are designed, furnished and managed by five-star operators. Members can stay and enjoy world-class amenities at the finest private residence clubs, destination clubs and luxury resort developments at special members rates, bringing together millions of dollars' worth of partner memberships and benefits all in one place.

For more information on the club visit: www.theedenresidenceclub.org

Username: UoSA10 Password UoSA10 or email enquiries@theedenresidenceclub.com



Forthcoming semester dates 2018 – 2019

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/semesterdates

Revision Period: Commences Monday 3 December 2018

Graduation: Thursday 6 December 2018 and Friday 7 December 2018

Examinations: Monday 10 December 2018 – Friday 21 December 2018

Christmas Vacation: Saturday 22 December 2018 – Sunday 27 January 2019

Candlemas Semester: Monday 28 January 2019 – Friday 31 May 2019

Spring Vacation: Monday 18 March 2019 – Sunday 31 March 2019

Revision Period: Commences Monday 29 April 2019

Examinations: Saturday 11 May 2019 – Friday 24 May 2019

Graduation: Monday 24 June 2019 – Friday 28 June 2019

LINK is published by:

Development

University of St Andrews

Crawford Building

91 North Street

St Andrews, Fife KY16 9AJ

T: +44 (0)1334 467194

E: alumni@st-andrews.ac.uk

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/alumni

alumni

If you would like to support St Andrews you can find more information on how to donate at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/development/support or contact develop@st-andrews.ac.uk



Produced by Print & Design, University of St Andrews, November 2018

Photographs: Callum Hyland, Glen Kennedy, Harry Gunning and Oli Walker, Tilted Frame Photography and University of St Andrews Students' Association.

Printed on 140gsm Oxygen Offset 100% recycled paper

Details on how we make use of your personal data and protect your privacy are available in our Development Privacy Notice: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/development/your-data-and-privacy

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC013532

Facebook: @ustaalumni

Twitter: @ustaalumni

Wordpress: IncomparaBubble

A forum for US parents of current students can be accessed on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/StAUSParents

Latest news and other information about the University can be viewed at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk