



UNIVERSITY OF  
**EXETER**

TO ALL OUR 2015/16 SUPPORTERS  
**THANK YOU**

See how your support is impacting your  
University, its students and the wider world





## A MESSAGE FROM JANICE KAY

As we reach the close of the University's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, it is wonderful that the University was able to celebrate this historic milestone from such a position of strength. We are ranked in the top 1% of universities globally and firmly placed in the UK top ten. In addition, we continue to score highly for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey (NSS) and are currently first for student satisfaction amongst the Russell Group.

While this year we have celebrated our history, anniversaries such as our Diamond Jubilee also encourage us to look to the future. The current landscape for universities is a very challenging one. We know that to remain competitive we must continue to invest. Last month saw the completion of our new Living Systems Institute, a £52 million world-class facility dedicated to interdisciplinary science, designed to revolutionise the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Support from alumni and friends has proven crucial to the creation of the Institute and we are extremely grateful to the founding benefactors and the many donors who

have provided funding, donors like Philip Booth, whose story you can read in this report.

Last year 953 of you volunteered over 10,000 hours of your time to support Exeter and our students. 2,948 of you chose to support the University financially with donations totalling £5.1 million. We also received 22 pledges of support from people who have chosen to remember Exeter in their Wills. Your support is vital and has contributed to the success of the University and is enormously appreciated by us all. I hope you enjoy reading about the life-changing impact of your support. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Professor Janice Kay**  
Provost

# FACTS AND STATISTICS

A REPORT ON PHILANTHROPY AND VOLUNTEERING IN 2015/2016

THANKS TO GENEROUS SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU MORE THAN

££ ★★ **£5,100,000** ★★ ££

HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE UNIVERSITY IN THE LAST YEAR

**2,948** DONORS SUPPORTED THE UNIVERSITY  
INCLUDING **2,198** MEMBERS OF EXETER'S ALUMNI COMMUNITY

**953** ALUMNI VOLUNTEERED LAST YEAR TO SUPPORT EXETER STUDENTS  
**DONATING MORE THAN 10,000 HOURS OF THEIR TIME**



**2010**

GRADUATING CLASS HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF DONORS



**2014**

GRADUATING CLASS HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS

**56% REGULAR GIFTS**

**44% SINGLE GIFTS**

**£915,744**

the amount raised through legacy support

**26** NEW PLEDGES OF SUPPORT FROM INDIVIDUALS who agreed to support Exeter in their Wills

# CHANGING LIVES

Your support nurtures individual talent and potential. Finding sufficient support to pursue academic development, career aspirations and high level academic research can be exceptionally difficult. For students at Exeter this has been made possible; thanks to you. Each has their own inspiring and motivating story.

## **LUCY PALMER (CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY MSC, 2016) THE ANNING MORGAN BURSARY**



Growing up in Cornwall I never imagined I would have the opportunity to pursue a career in conservation that would take me to destinations all over the world. The Anning Morgan Bursary has allowed this to become a reality.

After completing my undergraduate degree in Biology, I returned home to Cornwall with a hunger to develop further my knowledge but was concerned how I would afford to continue my studies. I was delighted when accepted to undertake a Masters degree in Conservation and Biodiversity at Exeter's Penryn Campus, and even more delighted when I received the Anning

Morgan Bursary. The Bursary allowed me to fully concentrate on my studies without any financial concerns; I believe this contributed greatly to the high grades I achieved throughout my studies.

The Bursary also enabled me to attend a field trip to Kenya during my studies. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity and allowed me to not only see and understand another culture, but to learn how conservation methods are put into practice on a large scale – an opportunity which would not have been possible without support from the Anning Morgan Bursary.

I am incredibly thankful for the opportunities afforded me through the Anning Morgan Bursary, without this support my Masters degree would not have been possible. Thank you.

**“** *The Bursary allowed me to fully concentrate on my studies without any financial concerns; I believe this contributed greatly to the high grades I achieved throughout my studies.* **”**



“ *My time volunteering at Exeter was a truly valuable experience, I am grateful to have been able to engage with current students and work with them on such an important issue.* ”

LUCY ASHTON (HISTORY AND ANCIENT HISTORY, 2007)

**LUCY ASHTON**  
**(HISTORY AND ANCIENT**  
**HISTORY 2007)**  
**SENIOR YOUTH EDUCATION**  
**MANAGER AT THE RNLI**



I have been a strong supporter of the Liberal Arts Think Tank module since it began in 2012 and I was delighted to be able to return to Exeter last year to pose an exciting

challenge to students. The theme of the challenge was how to tackle the problem of coastal drowning around the UK's shores, especially focusing on young men who make up a high proportion of those deaths. My time volunteering at Exeter was a truly valuable experience, I am grateful to have been able to engage with current students and work with them on such an important issue.

Seminar tutor, Des Atkinson, says "With Lucy's support the team of students who took on the issue have helped the RNLI to shape their policy and tactics, and we are pleased that the RNLI have returned to Exeter again this year to pose a new challenge. We are very grateful to Lucy and her team for allowing our students to work with such an important organisation as the RNLI."

**MADELINE MEACHER**  
**(FLEXIBLE COMBINED HONOURS**  
**WITH STUDY ABROAD, 2016)**  
**SANTANDER TRAVEL GRANT**



Receiving the Santander Travel Grant helped me a huge amount. It enabled me to travel to Argentina to undertake a three month work placement at Elebaires, a specialist language School, located in the heart of Buenos Aires. The grant supported my travel and accommodation and gave me the opportunity to develop my language skills and to gain a valuable insight into working abroad. During my time at Elebaires I was responsible for developing the School's social media networks and online marketing, I wrote daily blogs about my time in Buenos Aires, the school's activities and other useful topics for the students. I feel this gave me the chance to bring my Spanish to a level where I would be confident to work in an international company with other Spanish speakers. I also believe that having acquired a second language provides an advantage when entering the job market. I am extremely grateful to Santander Universities for their generous support.

# YOUR SUPPORT IN PICTURES

Here are a few examples of what has been made possible thanks to your generous support.



## Celebrating the 'America Room'

Staff and students joined alumnus and President of the University of Exeter US Foundation Board, Graham Hill (Economic & Political Development, 1992) at a special room naming event hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Steve Smith. The 'America Room' located in The Forum, at the very heart of Streatham Campus marked the first anniversary of the Foundation's establishment which has raised in excess of \$1.1 million and recognises the exceptional generosity and commitment of the inaugural Board.

A recognition plaque was positioned outside of the room and includes a brief narrative about the US Foundation's establishment and the contribution of the Board. The event was streamed via Skype to enable the wider Board to attend remotely.



GUESTS ARRIVING AT THIS YEAR'S POLTMORE FESTIVAL

## Gifts enable Community Arts Festival to Flourish

With thanks to support from the Annual Fund, the 2016 Poltmore Festival was a huge success attracting over 2,000 guests. The Poltmore Festival is a place for students and the local community to come together and share music, poetry and drama. The one day festival, held in June, featured a huge variety of performances from both local and student groups and attracted thousands of guests.

The committee, made up largely of Exeter students, are now hoping to make it just as successful in the years to come. "Funding from the Annual Fund made the festival possible," explained Tristan Gatward, Festival Director and Exeter graduate.



STUDENTS FROM THIS YEAR'S 'INTERNATIONAL WEEK'

## International Week Exeter

With thanks to support from the Annual Fund, students from across the University took part in the 2016 'International Week'. The student led initiative provides opportunities for Exeter students to host visiting students from more than 25 partner universities from across the world. During the week long programme participants have the opportunity to attend lectures hosted by university professors, visit local businesses, tour the area and build a network of contacts from all over the world. This year saw 10 students from across the partnership, including Germany, Sweden, Japan and Israel visit Exeter.



RIGHT TO LEFT: JAHANGEZ CHAUDHERY, JON GODFREY, MATT CONDREN AND JAMES WINTERMAN

## Golf Day

This year's event, the eleventh overall and the fourth to be played at "St George's Hill Club", saw record numbers in attendance with 82 players, spanning six decades of alumni and a number of current students, teeing off in the shotgun start. More than £7,000 was raised from the annual auction to support University golf; our thanks to all who bid for prizes and donated prizes.



LEFT: FORMER CHAIR, GILLIAN REEVES  
RIGHT: INCOMING CHAIR, EMMA PAYNE

## New Chair for Recent Alumni Group

Exetra, the University's recent alumni group, has said farewell and thank you to their former chair and dedicated volunteer, Gillian Reeves (Politics 2004) and have welcomed Emma Payne (Archaeology, 2011) to the post.

Exetra is run by a committee of dedicated alumni volunteers who organise professional networking and career focused social events for recent graduates in London. More than 700 individual alumni have attended Exetra events since 2009.

Gillian said "I really enjoy volunteering for the University, being able to pass on my knowledge and experience gained during my career so far. It is also a great opportunity to make new friends and contacts!"





## THE TREVOR AND DOMINICA YANG BURSARY PROGRAMME

Prior to starting her studies, Erin Ma worked as a Fraud Investigator in China and began saving for her MBA. Through the generous support of Trevor and Dominica Yang, Erin has been able to travel from her home in Shenzhen, China to Exeter and can concentrate on her studies without any financial concerns.

Erin is the first recipient of the Trevor and Dominica Yang One Planet MBA Bursary at the University of Exeter Business School. Established in 2015, the Bursary stems from Trevor and Dominica's interest in the protection of the world's natural environment, and the need to foster talent in this field in Hong Kong and mainland China. Trevor and Dominica have supported philanthropic causes globally for many years. Through their generosity, a further four MBA students at Exeter will benefit from their support over the next four years.

Erin was excited by the MBA's core idea around 'sustainability' and 'change for good', and she hopes to be able to take the skills she has learnt to develop more sustainable ways of working in the business world, helping to protect the planet.

"The Trevor and Dominica Yang One Planet MBA Bursary has been a life-changing opportunity, I shall never forget their generosity. I feel that I will be better placed to become a leader inspiring innovation and change to make the banking sector more sustainable and socially responsible".

Following her graduation, Erin would like to undertake volunteer work for a not for profit organisation, such as the Red Cross, WWF or Greenpeace, and hopes by working for them, she can learn more about crisis management, sustainable economics and environment protection.

The MBA programme is designed for professionals and aspiring leaders, who wish to leverage their strengths, acquire cutting edge knowledge, update their skills and develop a worldly mind-set to transform themselves and benefit from new opportunities.





## A LASTING LEGACY

The memory of Philip Booth, a committed and generous supporter of the University, is continuing thanks to his decision to bequeath a legacy to the University of Exeter in 2015.

Philip, a long term supporter of the University first made contact with Exeter in 1995, following his attendance at a British Mycological Society workshop organised by the former Head of Biosciences, Professor John Webster. Philip's knowledge and enthusiasm for fungal biology and plant disease led to him supporting Professor Webster's mycological research at Exeter.

In consideration of his own interests and education, Philip went on to support a number of projects in Biosciences and Engineering at Exeter spanning almost 20 years, including establishing the Philip Booth Prize in Engineering, an award for the best project among final year engineering students. His donations to the University delivered transformational impact in helping stimulate research in Biosciences and Engineering.

He generously left a significant bequest to the University to enhance the study of Mathematics, Physics and Engineering at Exeter, taking his total donations towards Exeter to £1,000,000.

There could be no more fitting use of his generous legacy than in the development of the Living Systems Institute building, the centre of interdisciplinary research at the University of Exeter. The Institute, which opened its doors in November, will pioneer a new approach to treating the world's most serious diseases and bring together biologists, mathematicians, physicists, biomedical scientists and engineers.

In recognition of his exceptional generosity 'The Philip Booth Seminar Room' located within the new Institute will be a space for inter-disciplinary research, exchange and teaching. The room will be used by students and thought leaders from a range of disciplines.

Professor Philip Ingham, Director, Living Systems Institute said: "The Philip Booth Seminar Room defines all that is exciting about inter-disciplinary working at Exeter. The space enable students and academics to share their findings, host international conferences, and most importantly be a 'forum' for academics to work together to advance discoveries in disease".

# SUPPORTER NEWS

## UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES LOCAL AUTHOR

A celebratory event was held by the University's Special Collections Department to recognise the impact and generosity of the Ronald Duncan Literary Foundation and to thank trustees of the Foundation for their wide-ranging support.

The support of the Foundation ensures students, academics and the wider local community have the opportunity to learn more about the varied works of Ronald and how his work connects with other local authors and artists. In recognition of this the University has established an annual lecture associated with Duncan's interests and a literary prize, awarded to an exemplar student within Art History and Visual Culture. The Foundation has also supported the 'Ronald Duncan' PhD Studentship within the University's world class English Department, enhancing the already excellent research capability of this respected department.

The 'Ronald Duncan Reading' room was opened on 17 August 2016, by Trustees of the Foundation.



## JACKSON-GRIME- DAVIES PRIZE AWARDED TO TOP NATURAL SCIENCES BSC STUDENT

The Jackson-Grime-Davies prize for outstanding academic excellence in the new discipline of Natural Science was awarded for the first time this year to Ellen Lawrence, a graduating BSc Student whose project investigated how light can be potentially used to diagnose disease.

The prize was established thanks to the support of alumnus Dr Mick Jackson (Chemical Engineering, 1979) in recognition of his PhD mentors Professor Tom Davies and Barry Grime. It aims to encourage continued collaboration between students, industry partners and academics. In the late 1970s, Professor Tom Davies pioneered a new collaboration with a Cornish mining company and established research programs together with the company's Engineering Department led by company director Barry Grime. Dr Mick Jackson was amongst the beneficiaries of the initiative, gaining a PhD at Exeter in 1984.

The inaugural prize was presented by Kay Grime, Barry's widow. Ellen achieved the highest mark for her interdisciplinary research project study and was ranked in the top three for her degree, overall.



## ALUMNI SUPPORT PROVIDES MAJOR BOOST IN WOMEN'S CRICKET

The generous support of Exeter alumni Professor Jenny Harrow (Politics, 1968) and Stephen Harrow (History, 1967) is providing a major boost to women's cricket in the region. Jenny and Stephen have been generous supporters of cricket at Exeter for many years and their latest gift, supporting the University's involvement in the Women's Cricket Super League, will drive student and community participation while also helping to develop some of the country's brightest talent.

The Super League is a £3million initiative launched by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) to support greater participation and encourage

higher levels of performance by attracting the world's best players to compete alongside future stars. Exeter is a leading UK university for cricket and provides opportunities for students of all abilities. With thanks to Jenny and Stephen, Exeter was successful in becoming a host venue for the league. Their gift will contribute towards the training and support services the athletes will require.

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## ALUMNI VOLUNTEERING HITS A NEW HIGH AT THE BUSINESS SCHOOL

Exeter alumni have given more than 1,000 volunteering hours to support the Business School and its students throughout the last year, with volunteers supporting more activities than ever before, both in the UK and internationally.

In Exeter, graduates returned to campus to give guest lectures, conduct mock interviews and take part in student led events. Ten alumni from different industry sectors attended the 2016 Business and Finance Society's annual dinner, hosting a table of students working towards a future career in the same industry. Volunteers also flew the flag for Exeter overseas, with international alumni ambassadors volunteering their time to speak to Exeter applicants at Offer Holder Visit Days, and others hosting regional events for fellow alumni.

Thank you to our many volunteers whose advice, access and support is truly invaluable, we are incredibly grateful for your time and commitment.

## ALUMNI MENTORS BUILD STUDENT CONFIDENCE AND EMPLOYABILITY



2015 was another hugely successful year for the Career Mentor Scheme, with more than 430 partnerships between mentors and students.

Students who take part in the scheme are more likely to be in graduate level employment six months after graduating. 87% of students participating said they would recommend the scheme to a friend. Gerard Rhodes, fourth year LLB law student, achieved all of his mentoring objectives, including receiving first-hand insight into his profession of interest. He shared with us some of the highlights for him, which included: receiving application form tips and corrections ahead of applying for vacation schemes, arranging to meet his mentor at their office and gaining a valuable contact in a career sector which is important to him.

If you are interested in finding out more or participating please email us at [careermentorscheme@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:careermentorscheme@exeter.ac.uk).

## How you can show your support

If you would like to make a gift to support the University of Exeter please visit:

**[www.exeter.ac.uk/donate](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/donate)**

To learn more on how you can leave a gift to Exeter in your Will please visit:

**[www.exeter.ac.uk/legacy](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/legacy)**

To volunteer your time and expertise please visit:

**[www.exeter.ac.uk/alumnisupporters/volunteering](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/alumnisupporters/volunteering)**



## Getting in touch with us:

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