

To all our 2017/18 supporters

THANK  
YOU



Celebrating philanthropy  
and volunteering at the  
University of Exeter

MAKING THE  
EXCEPTIONAL  
HAPPEN

The University of Exeter Campaign



# A message from Professor Janice Kay

2018 was a truly exceptional year for Exeter, I would like to extend my thanks to all of you for your support of Exeter.

Thanks to your commitment and generosity we have made great strides in our 'Making the Exceptional Happen' Campaign.

In February we passed our target for volunteering hours two and a half years early – a staggering 60,000 hours given by you to support our students, our staff and our alumni. In the last year alone, nearly 1,000 of you donated more than 11,000 hours of your time to help us do even more.

In the spring we were honoured to receive the largest ever single donation to the University of Exeter, £10 million from the Dennis and Mireille Gillings Foundation to support dementia research, cancer diagnosis and new Professorships.

Over 3,200 of you chose to support the University financially, resulting in the most successful year for philanthropy in the University's history with more than £15 million in contributions.

The impact of your support is felt across the University. It helps us to research solutions to global problems such as climate change and disease, to help support talented students from all backgrounds to attend Exeter, and to offer the best possible student experience and career support.

Of course, we never rest on our laurels and are working on key priority areas that will help us achieve even more. You can learn more about each of these themes via our Campaign website: [exeter.ac.uk/exceptional](http://exeter.ac.uk/exceptional)

Your support is vital for Exeter's continuing success, and we appreciate every single one of you and what you bring to our community. I hope that you enjoy reading just a few of the stories made possible by your generosity.



*Janice Kay*

Professor Janice Kay, CBE  
Provost



Alumni Gala Dinner, Drapers Hall,  
London, 10 May 2018



Alumnae Reception, University's Women's Club,  
London, 11 April 2018



Alumni Golf Day, St George's Hill Golf Club,  
18 August 2017



Rugby Varsity, Sandy Park, Exeter,  
14 February 2018



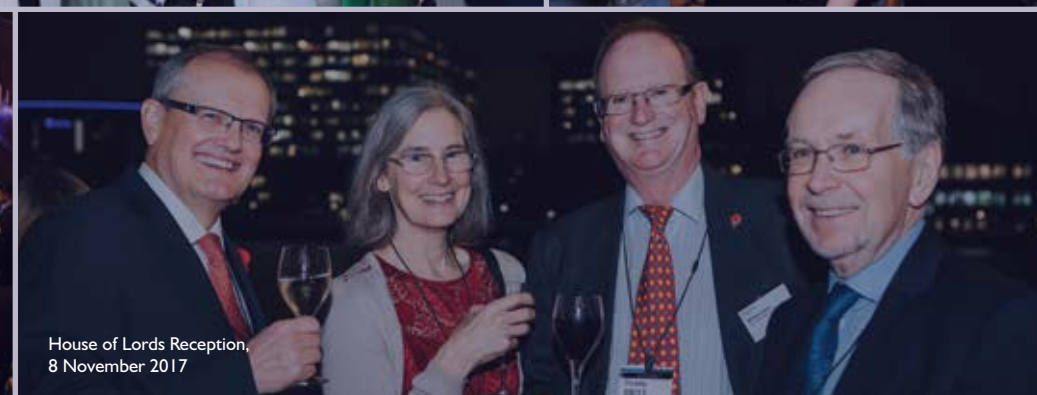
Thank you Reception, Innholders' Hall,  
London, 26 September 2017



House of Lords Reception,  
8 November 2017



Thank you Reception, Innholders' Hall,  
London, 26 September 2017



House of Lords Reception,  
8 November 2017



# Largest single gift for the University of Exeter



Mireille and Dennis Gillings

**A £10 million donation from the Dennis and Mireille Gillings Foundation will fund a brand new imaging centre at the University to transform dementia research and diagnosis.**

The Mireille Gillings Neuroimaging Centre, will be located at the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (RD&E) site and will accelerate clinical trials for potential dementia treatments over the next five years.

Fifty million people around the world suffer from dementia but currently there are less than thirty phase 2 or phase 3 trials for disease-modifying therapies for Alzheimer's worldwide. The new Centre should double the number of dementia drugs in development through the innovative use of brain-scanning technology and, has the potential to save thousands of lives.

The gift will also be used to help improve early stage cancer diagnosis by GPs and to fund two new professorial fellowships that will assist the next generation of Exeter scientists to excel in medicine, leadership and business.

“As a neuroscientist I understand that the application of new scanning technology and techniques has the potential to transform neurological research. This new, state-of-the-art imaging centre will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in the molecular understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of Alzheimer's and other neurological disease.”

*Dr Mireille Gillings (Hon LLD, 2017)*





# Thank you to our exceptional volunteers



An alumnus/a has been  
**volunteering**  
every hour  
every day  
every year  
since the start of the Campaign

  
**1,875**  
working days  
of strategic  
advice



Supported us from  
**80**  
countries  
across  
the world

Thank you to each and every one of our wonderful volunteers who generously offered their time, skills and experience since the start of our Making the Exceptional Happen Campaign.

Thanks to your generosity, we reached our volunteering target an amazing two and half years ahead of schedule.

The University has benefited from **60,000** alumni volunteering hours over the last six and half years. Gifts of time come in many shapes and sizes, but they all make a massive difference at Exeter.

“60,000 volunteering hours in six and a half years is an incredible gift. It equates to one of our alumni volunteering for the University every hour of every day, every year since the start of the Campaign.

Exeter is a dynamic and innovative University that strives to give future generations the ability to change the world around us. We are working hard to make the exceptional happen but we could not achieve what we do without you – thank you.”

*Professor Sir Steve Smith,  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, University of Exeter*

  
**60,000**  
VOLUNTEERING  
HOURS  
THANK YOU!

# Winners chosen for the inaugural Alumni Volunteer Awards

In celebration of all of our amazing volunteers, and to say thank you to those exceptional individuals who do so much to support us all, we launched our inaugural 'University of Exeter Alumni Volunteer Awards'.

We named them after a pair of exceptional alumni volunteers, whose commitment of time, skills, advice, energy and enthusiasm have had a huge impact on our institution.



Debbie Hill,  
Drama, 2006

**The Debbie Hill Award for exceptional support of students** – named in honour of Debbie Hill (Drama, 2006), Head of Volunteering at Marie Curie, in recognition of her invaluable advice and guidance on the development of our alumni volunteering programme.

This was awarded to Duncan Goldsworthy (Chemistry, 1977) for his long-standing and committed support of a wide range of student employability activities. He said: "I am absolutely delighted to have received the Debbie Hill award and so pleased to think that my efforts have been appreciated. Sometimes it is difficult to know whether you are doing the right thing and I am very conscious about the 35-40-something year age gap between myself and my mentees. However, I am so glad that I am able to continue to be of use to the students at Exeter University and I will continue to provide as much support as I possibly can."



Nicholas Bull,  
Chemistry, 1973

**The Nicholas Bull Award for exceptional support of the alumni community** – named after Nicholas Bull (Chemistry, 1973) who has been volunteering his time and expertise for the University of Exeter for almost two decades and has worked tirelessly to engage alumni in support of the University.

This was awarded to Wenjie Li (Msc Accounting and Finance, 2012) for his pioneering development of the Exeter China Alumni Association. He said: "It is my privilege and honour to receive the Nicholas Bull Award. I appreciate the encouragement and guidance from University of Exeter and all you have done to supporting alumni development in China."



Steve Edge (centre) and his daughters, Charlotte (far left) and Katherine (far right)



Professor Sir Steve Smith, Vice-Chancellor and Steve Edge

# Recognising alumni support



The Steve Edge Seminar Room recognition plaque

**A seminar room has been named after alumnus Steve Edge (Law, 1972) honouring his commitment and generosity to Exeter.**

Joined by his daughters and granddaughter, Steve unveiled a plaque in front of family and friends at a ceremony that recognised his loyal support over many years. Steve has volunteered his time, and provided financial support, to the Department of Law, the Business School and the Medical School.

After graduating from Exeter in 1972, Steve joined Slaughter and May in 1973 becoming a Partner of the firm in 1982 and subsequently Head of the Tax Department. Considered a leader in international corporate tax affairs, Steve has spoken and advised extensively in Europe and the US on international tax issues.

A member of the Alumni Network Group since its inception in 2006, he became Chair in 2013. Steve's leadership was instrumental in the University reaching our volunteering target two and a half years ahead of schedule.

He has also held positions on the Making the Exceptional Happen Campaign Board, the Law Advisory Board, and advised the Business School's Tax Administration Research Centre. Steve was awarded an Honorary Degree in 2012 in recognition of his extraordinary generosity in supporting the Law School by leading on their alumni relations activity.

“Steve Edge has been a committed and loyal supporter of the University of Exeter for many years. I'm delighted to pay tribute to Steve and to recognise the impact that he has had on the University of Exeter.”

*Professor Sir Steve Smith,  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive*





# Helping GPs diagnose dementia more accurately

Thanks to funding from the Halpin Trust, research at the University will improve early diagnosis of dementia and reduce pressure on health services.

Timely diagnosis is key to ensuring people with dementia get the right treatment and support. Although more than 800,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with dementia, many more are never diagnosed, or are diagnosed too late in the progression of the condition for any action to be effective.

Dr David Llewellyn and his team at Exeter are working with Devon Partnership NHS Trust to improve diagnosis. They have developed a clinical decision support system called DECODE to help identify which patients are most likely to benefit from a full dementia assessment. It will help GPs with the difficult task of assessing which patients should go on to memory clinics within the short consultations available to them.

This system could potentially increase the number of people with dementia who could be diagnosed within a two-year period by over 20%. At the same time, a large proportion of cognitively healthy people could be picked up by the DECODE triage system, and these full dementia assessments could be reduced by up to 400%.



“We are incredibly grateful to the Halpin Trust for their continued support which has made all the difference. It’s been an exciting journey so far, and initial feedback about DECODE from clinicians and patients has been very positive.”

*Dr David Llewellyn*



# The Alumni Annual Fund



The Exeter experience goes beyond studying and our Alumni Annual Fund supports the extra-curricular activities that make our University such a fantastic place to be.

Funded by thousands of alumni and supporters of the University, donations are used to support sports clubs, societies, music groups, theatre productions, student conferences and community outreach projects, to name just a few.



**TOTAL OF  
£127,706  
WAS DISBURSED**

**TOTAL OF  
£129,660  
CASH RECEIVED  
IN 2017/18**

**184  
PROJECTS  
SUPPORTED  
ACROSS THE  
UNIVERSITY**

## New Access for St Luke's Swimming Pool

Alumni Annual Fund donations have funded a Pool Hoist for disabled swimmers to access the pool on our St Luke's Campus.

This will not only improve participation in sport for students with a disability, but will also support elderly and disabled members of the local community to take part in swimming.



St Luke's swimming pool.

“Miranda's talk inspired me to make bold decisions, be brave and keep going. She also really encouraged me to help the younger generation embrace and enjoy nature and the wild.”

*Tirion Dowsett, 3rd Year  
Bioscience student*

“We are very grateful to the Alumni Annual Fund and its donors for giving us the opportunity to host such a successful event.”

*Sophie Corrigan, President,  
WildDocSoc*



Miranda Krestovnikhoff and members of the WildDoc Society

## WildDocSoc

The WildDocSoc, based at the Penryn campus, provides an opportunity for students to interact with experts in the wildlife filmmaking industry, from producers and presenters at the BBC Natural History Unit to independent filmmakers. Guest speakers give talks to the students about their experiences travelling around the world to capture some of nature's most unique and special moments, while also providing workshops and small group discussion sessions.

Having this exposure to successful individuals in the industry is invaluable for students from a range of courses, from bioscience and geography to filmmaking and photography as it gives them an insight into the various routes to get involved in wildlife filmmaking, and provides important networking opportunities.

Thanks to the Alumni Annual Fund, WildDocSoc were able to secure renowned television presenter Miranda Krestovnikhoff to meet students. Miranda shared her adventures in getting into the industry as well as tips and advice. She answered many questions from our students and informed them about her role as president of the RSPB.

## Engineers Without Borders

Student society Engineers Without Borders are part of a national charity aimed at removing barriers to development through engineering. Thanks to funding from the Alumni Annual Fund, they were able to run their Sustainability Project.

The first part, the V3 Power Project, was a workshop where team members built a wind turbine from scratch and donated it to those in need after its completion. It provided a great opportunity for students to get a hands-on experience of the renewable energy industry while also working for a good cause.

The second part, the Bamboo Workshop, taught students how to build bicycles and furniture using bamboo. They have then connected with refugee camps abroad and are teaching refugees how to build the same constructions while they are waiting for legal help and rehoming.

# Expanding access to Exeter

“Exeter Scholars has pushed me out of my comfort zone which benefited me hugely as it made me more confident in myself but also much more confident around other people.

Due to the programme I realised that I had the capability to achieve the grades I wanted and I was given an insight into university that I wouldn't have known otherwise.”

*Participant from the Exeter Scholar's Programme*

“Your kindness has affected my future so positively, my time at Exeter will be more focused on taking in as much knowledge as I possibly can. I can focus on developing my potential rather than being distracted by financial anxiety.”

*Munanga Mubiye, 1st year LLB Law  
Sara and Nigel Tozzi Scholar*

**The Exeter Scholars programme gives academically able students from under represented groups the opportunity to progress to higher education.**

Participants in the programme have the opportunity to find out more about university, develop a passion for a chosen subject and gain first-hand experience of student life at the University of Exeter.

As well as being able to seek advice from academics who are passionate about the subjects they teach, participants gain an exciting insight into the type of research carried out by universities and the impact it can have on our everyday lives.

In 2017/18 just over 500 individuals entered the programme.

The programme is designed to overcome the attainment barriers participants face. Participants who go on to meet the grades detailed in their standard University of Exeter entry offer receive an Exeter Scholars Attainment Award of £1,500 to support their first year of study at Exeter.

The programme is supported by a number of generous donors to the University who have made scholarships available to participants who succeed in becoming Exeter Senior Scholars and choose to study at Exeter.

**64%**  
of participants  
Said the programme **INCREASED THEIR CONFIDENCE** in their ability to succeed at a leading university

**73%**  
of participants  
Said the programme **INCREASED THEIR MOTIVATION** in their current studies

**64%**  
of participants  
felt that the skills they **DEVELOPED** were useful in aiding their school based studies

**70%**  
of participants  
Said the programme helped them make **INFORMED CHOICES** about whether to go to university

“Ensuring that the University of Exeter continues to diversify its student body and offer opportunities for all academically able young people is extremely important. The Exeter Scholars Awards recognise individuals for their academic attainment and their background. They open up opportunities to recipients as well as motivating them to do their best in their school studies and in their degree. These awards are only possible thanks to the generosity of donors.”

*Mel Ruddock,  
Exeter Scholars Programme Manager*



# Reaching the top

“ Having a sports scholarship for the 2017-18 academic year enabled me to train and perform consistently and effectively in both my studies and chosen sport. I strongly believe that the scholarship and support system I've received has made a positive impact on the success I've had this year. ”

*Lagi-Lagi Tuima, BSc  
Exercise and Sport Sciences*

Thanks to support from alumnus Phil Drury (Politics, 1994) and his wife Megan, three top rugby players have been able to attend Exeter with sports scholarships to develop their skills.

This year the support has helped Sports Sciences student Lagi-Lagi Tuima to reach the Senior England squad. She made her international debut at Twickenham in the Autumn Internationals, before also being called up for the Six Nations. Her first international try followed in the 43-8 victory over Scotland. Lagi-Lagi plays nationally in the Premiership for Bristol and had only been there for two months when she received her first call up.

In addition, Lagi was part of the winning Exeter team in the BUCS final against a tough Hartpury side, beating the opposition 35-32. The final was played at Twickenham, the home of English rugby. Lagi-Lagi said “The chance to play rugby at Twickenham made my entire 1st year and university experience memorable and unforgettable”.



“ Rugby at Exeter was a major part of my university experience and has always helped me through life. This is our opportunity to give back to the University and the sport that I hold in such high regard. ”

*Phil Drury, Politics, 1994*



# Legacy donation enhances student accommodation

Anne Van Geyzel was a local Exeter resident and former Secretary to Vice-Chancellors Sir David Harrison and Sir Geoffrey Holland until her retirement.

When she passed away in February 2017, she left a gift of £1,000 to support the maintenance of the University grounds. Thanks to this legacy, 25 new trees have now been planted at Birks Grange. These trees contribute to biodiversity and allow University buildings to sit in, rather than dominate, the landscape.

Legacies make a tremendous difference. They are incredibly important to our work and provide a vital source of income for our teaching and research as well as ensuring we can provide an exceptional student experience. All gifts, of all sizes, are appreciated - for example just one percent of your estate could make a real impact.

If you would like to find out more about leaving a legacy and the long term influence it can have, please contact Clare Pearce at [legacies@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:legacies@exeter.ac.uk)



Grounds at Birks Grange, Student Accommodation.

# Museum celebrates 20th Anniversary with new donation

The Bill Douglas  
**CINEMA  
MUSEUM**

“The fund will allow the museum to grow and develop into the future so that even more people can experience the wonderful artefacts and learn about moving image.”

*Dr Phil Wickham, Curator of the Bill Douglas Cinema Museum*

**The University is the custodian of the Bill Douglas Cinema Museum, the UK's foremost museum of moving image history. During the year Exeter benefited from a further donation of £180,000 from one of its founders, Peter Jewell.**

The collection was gifted to Exeter 20 years ago, and this further donation supports the Museum's long term development. It has established an endowment fund to support the Museum across a range of curation and research activities, including PhD studentships, acquisitions, exhibitions, conservation and filmmaking.

Thanks to the support of the Bill Douglas and Peter Jewell Trust we were able to offer two visiting scholar stipends to enable research using the collections at the Museum. One stipend is available to academic and postgraduate researchers based in the UK, and is worth up to £500. The other is for international scholars (academics or postgraduates) and is worth up to £1,500.

Amelia Seely, who studied for an MSc in Film Curation at the University of Glasgow before coming to Exeter, was appointed to the Bill Douglas PhD studentship.



Peter Jewell at the BDCM 20th Anniversary event, 2 November 2017



## 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)

## Contact us:

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