

To all our 2018/19 supporters

THANK  
YOU



Celebrating philanthropy  
and volunteering at the  
University of Exeter

MAKING THE  
EXCEPTIONAL  
HAPPEN

The University of Exeter Campaign



# A message from the Vice-Chancellor

## Happy New Year from the University of Exeter.

I'm delighted to share some highlights of the past 12 months with you.

Our Campaign – 'Making the Exceptional Happen' – has reached an outstanding 93% of our goal; more than £56,000,000 has been given to support University of Exeter research projects and students.

During the past year alone more than 2,800 alumni have donated, and over 1,100 have given 11,000 volunteer hours.

Thank you so much for your fantastic support.

Your generosity is changing lives, not just here in Exeter, but around the world. It is helping us to seek solutions to climate change, to understand and treat diseases, and to support talented young people to achieve their potential.

This report details just a few examples of the difference you have made. All gifts of time and money, both large and small, have an impact.

We are delighted at the continuing success of our Career Mentor Scheme thanks to alumni volunteers; donations to the Alumni Annual Fund are transforming the student experience, and legacy gifts and pledges help us to secure Exeter's future for subsequent generations. In addition, major philanthropic gifts have ensured we can launch significant new scholarship programmes and crucial research projects.

This is my final report to you; I shall be retiring from the University of Exeter in July. It has been a privilege to be Vice-Chancellor for the past 18 years and I know Exeter is in a strong position and will continue to thrive long into the future.

Exeter's community of alumni and supporters is vital for Exeter's sustained success. I look forward to hearing news of the University's continued achievements as a fellow donor and a member of this community. I do hope that you continue to be involved in the years to come.

With my very best wishes for the future.



Steve Smith

Professor Sir Steve Smith  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive



Henley Regatta Alumni Reception, 6 July 2019



Alumni Social, Brussels, 20 June 2019



Thank You Reception, Churchill War Rooms, London, 19 March 2019



Thank You Reception, Churchill War Rooms, London, 19 March 2019



Alumni Business Breakfast, Singapore, 14 June 2019



Alumni Reception, Vancouver, 1 June 2019

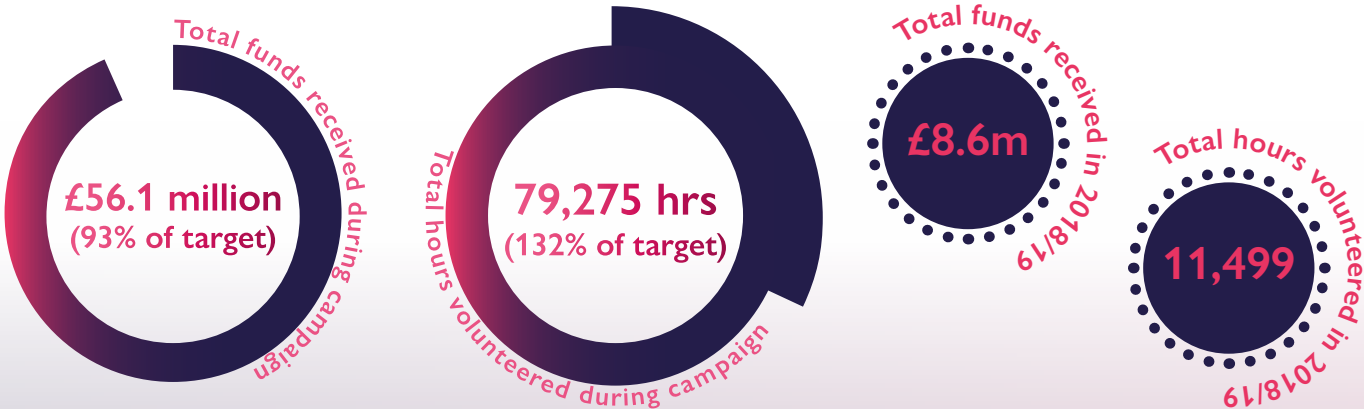


Thank You Reception, Churchill War Rooms, London, 19 March 2019



# Your support in numbers

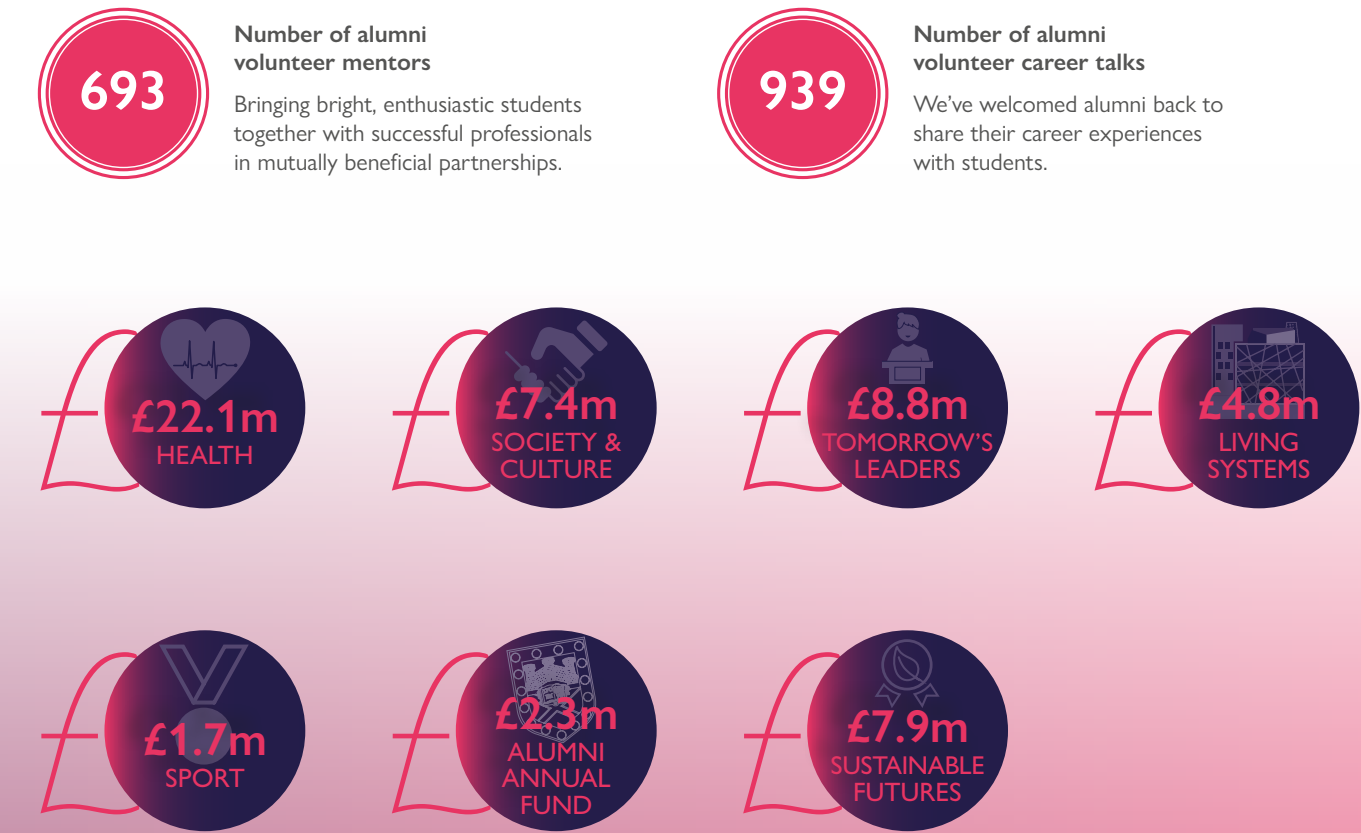
We are incredibly grateful to all our alumni and supporters whose gifts of time and money have made the University of Exeter Campaign ‘Making the Exceptional Happen’ such a success. Your generosity has already made a massive difference. Your ongoing support will continue to transform lives into the future.



## Supporter numbers:



## Your impact:



To help the ‘Making the Exceptional Happen’ Campaign reach its goal, get involved at [exeter.ac.uk/exceptional](https://exeter.ac.uk/exceptional)

# Celebrating volunteers: 2018/19

  
**1,131**  
HOURS OF  
YOUR TIME

Thank you to all of our alumni who volunteer their time to support a variety of life-changing projects. From offering career guidance to hosting alumni events, our volunteers are vital to the Exeter community.

This year's 'University of Exeter Alumni Volunteer Awards' went to two very special alumni volunteers, whose time, skills and enthusiasm over this past year, has had a real impact on our students and alumni.

The Debbie Hill Award for exceptional support of students was awarded to Natasha Bellinger (LLB Law, 2011) for her long standing and committed support for law students at Exeter. Natasha said: "I feel honoured to have been chosen and was completely taken aback at being shortlisted. It is an absolute delight volunteering with the University."



Natasha Bellinger  
(LLB Law, 2011)

The Nicholas Bull Award for exceptional support of the alumni community was awarded to Archit Garg (MSc International Management, 2014) for his enthusiastic and committed support of both the MSc International Management cohort across the world and the wider alumni community in India. Archit said: "Associating with the University has been a wonderful learning experience. I enjoy liaising with local alumni, helping to arrange business and social events and answering the queries/questions of prospective students."



Arhit Garg  
(MSc International  
Management, 2014)

  
**156**  
CAREERS TALKS  
DELIVERED  
BY ALUMNI  
VOLUNTEERS

  
**11,499**  
VOLUNTEERING  
HOURS  
THANK YOU!

# Alumni mentoring makes a difference



Alumnus and mentor Andrew Brittan  
(Managerial Statistics, 1993)

The Career Mentor Scheme celebrated its 10th birthday in 2018. It provides a unique opportunity for students to be matched with an experienced professional to gain one-to-one careers advice, support and guidance into their profession and sector for up to six-months.

Since launch, more than 2,590 students have been through the scheme and nearly 600 alumni have given their time to become a mentor. Students participating in the scheme are 7% more likely to be in a graduate level job six months after graduation than those not taking part. A significant margin in today's competitive graduate job market.

Students are hugely positive about the programme with 94% of last year's participants saying they would recommend the scheme to a friend, 90% saying their career knowledge has increased, 92% reporting improved employability skills and 92% saying it helped their job applications.

We're also pleased to hear our alumni enjoy the experience too, with 92% of mentors in 2018 saying they would recommend becoming a mentor to someone they know. Of all alumni mentors who have joined the scheme over its ten year history, half are still volunteering with us this year and the average returning mentor has four years' experience of the scheme.

The scheme has been so successful that, in 2018, it was opened up to new graduates for the first time, extending the amount of support available to those entering work.

## Feeling inspired?

If you'd like to get involved, please visit [exeter.ac.uk/volunteer](https://exeter.ac.uk/volunteer) to find out more information.

“The mentor scheme allowed me to explore various career paths and identify the skills which I needed to get there. It gave me a direction to go in after University and meant I was equipped with the skills I needed for the world of work and to enter the heritage sector. Above all else it helped me to build my confidence in myself and my abilities.”

Emma Down (History, 2012)

Professor Janice Kay, CBE, Provost (left), Andrew Pardey, Chief Executive Officer, Centamin, (centre) and Lord Myners of Truro, CBE, Chancellor



We would like to thank all of our supporters for generously supporting the University of Exeter. Please do have a look at our roll of honour (available online at [exeter.ac.uk/oursupporters](http://exeter.ac.uk/oursupporters)) which recognises the contribution of all our supporters during the last year. We would like to give a special thanks to the donors below who have contributed at the highest level over the course of the Making the Exceptional Happen Campaign.

The A. G. Leventis Foundation	Mr Gerry Brown and Mrs Clemencia Posada-Brown	The Garfield Weston Foundation	The J P Moulton Charitable Foundation	The Royal Society
The All Saints Educational Trust	Mr Nicholas Bull	Dr Dennis Gillings, PhD, CBE, Hon DSc	Mr Wol Kolade	Santander Universities UK
American Asthma Foundation	The Camborne School of Mines Trust	Dr Mireille Gillings, Hon DSc	The John Oldacre Foundation	Mr Dominic Scriven, OBE
Mr Howard Appleby	Professor Michael Cartwright (D)	The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation	Lightfoot Solutions	Simons Foundation
The Arcadia Fund	Centamin Plc	Dr Leslie* and Mrs Claire Halpin (née Dobson)	The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust	Mr Nigel and Mrs Sara Tozzi (née Cornish)
AXA Research Fund	The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust	The Halpin Trust Foundation	Museum of the Bible	Ms Sarah J Turvill
The Ayudar Foundation	The Daphne Jackson Trust	Dr Stuart Handley (D)	His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan	University of Exeter US Foundation
Mr Barry Bateman and Mrs Christine Bateman	The Dennis and Mireille Gillings Foundation	Mr Stephen and Professor Jennifer Harrow (née Armes)	Sir Christopher Ondaatje, Hon DLitt	Velux Stiftung
The Bateman Family Charitable Trust	Ms Elsie Burch Donald	Mr Neil Harvey	Ms Carlota Palmer (D)	The Waterloo Foundation
The Bill Douglas & Peter Jewell Charitable Trust	Mr Steve Edge	Mr Ian Henderson, Hon LLD (D)	Mr Ric and Mrs Dianne Piper	The Wellcome Trust
The Blavatsky Trust	The Education Endowment Foundation	The Heritage Lottery Fund	His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan Bin Mohamed Al Qasimi (PhD, Hon DLitt)	The Wolfson Foundation
Mr Philip Booth (D)	Mr Josef el-Raghy	Mrs Judy Hiles (D)	The Ronald Duncan Literary	Mr Hugh Young
Mr Adam G Boyden	Mr Roger de Freitas	Mr Norman Ho	The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews	
BRACE				

\* (D) Deceased

# Scholarship programme established in honour of Mining alumnus



Scott Campbell, Richard Osman Scholar 2018-19

“Overall, this year has been fabulous and quite simply would not have been possible, nor as rewarding, if it wasn’t for the kind generosity of all the donors who honoured Richard’s memory. I am incredibly grateful.”

The late Richard Osman (MSc Mining Geology, 1999), a graduate of the Camborne School of Mines (CSM), has been honoured by friends and former colleagues who have set up a scholarship in his name.

£700,000 has been raised from individual and corporate donors including Centamin PLC, Capital Drilling, Altus Strategies, and Ariana Resources. Their generosity will support generations of distinguished Richard Osman Scholars.

Richard’s employer, Centamin PLC, was the founding donor to the scholarship, which will support 40 scholars over the next 20 years. During the 2019 summer graduation ceremonies Centamin PLC was inducted into the University of Exeter’s College of Benefactors, the highest honour Exeter can bestow upon its donors.

Each year, two talented CSM students studying MSc Mining and Geology will receive a bursary covering their tuition fees in full as well as a significant contribution to living costs. The first Richard Osman Scholar, Scott Campbell, graduated this summer and two scholars, Shane McQuillan and Kiara Brooksby, began their studies this autumn.

Thanks to the scholarship, Scott was able to make the most of his time at CSM, visiting large mining operations in Australia, the Sukari Gold Mine in Egypt, and tin works in Cornwall.

Richard grew up in Wales before coming to Cornwall to complete his Masters and then working in the mining industry in Australia, Africa and the Middle East. Whilst working with Centamin PLC in Egypt, Richard was one of the main driving forces behind the Geology and Mining department that took the Sukari gold mine to a resource of +15moz Au with a production profile that now ranks in the top 20 gold mines in the world. In May 2016, Richard lost his life in a plane crash at just 40 years of age. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

The University of Exeter is also honouring Richard’s memory with the establishment of the Richard Osman Geology Teaching Laboratory on its Penryn Campus.



# £1 million donation for project to examine the price of birdsong



Economics and conservation are often seen as unrelated, but a new project at the University of Exeter seeks to place an economic value on biodiversity so it can become part of individual, corporate and governmental decision making.

Exeter and investment group Dragon Capital have together committed £1.6 million over the next five years, to fund a newly appointed 'Dragon Capital Chair in Biodiversity Economics'.

Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of Dragon Capital, Dominic Scriven OBE (Sociology and Law, 1985) said: "How can markets price the absence of birdsong? How much are people willing to pay to maintain the existence of, or be compensated for the loss of, biodiversity in all its forms? It has never been more important for businesses and individuals to understand the impact they are having on society to ensure the conservation of our planet.

"I've been interested in conservation for as long as I can remember and I've been lucky enough to be able to explore many different areas including protection of habitat, illegal wildlife trade, rewilding, and conserving endangered species.

"I regard sustainable development as a fundamental aspect of business management, and it is core to our values at Dragon Capital. I feel privileged to be able to make a difference through supporting research and look forward to working with the University on this important project."

“I regard sustainable development as a fundamental aspect of business management...”

*Dominic Scriven OBE (Sociology and Law, 1985)*

# How the Alumni Annual Fund was spent in 2018/19



Thank you to the thousands of supporters who gave to the Alumni Annual Fund this year.

  
**11,751**  
STUDENTS  
INVOLVED  
IN PROJECTS  
SUPPORTED  
BY YOU

  
TOTAL OF  
**£118,000**  
WAS DISBURSED

TOTAL OF  
**£195,000**  
FUNDS RAISED  
IN 2018/19

**87**  
STUDENT  
PROJECTS  
SUPPORTED  
ACROSS THE  
UNIVERSITY

**100**  
STUDENT  
CALLERS



SHARED OVER  
**2,751**  
CONVERSATIONS  
WITH ALUMNI

THROUGH THE ALUMNI  
ANNUAL FUND'S  
**TWO CALLING  
CAMPAIGNS**  
DURING 2018/19

## Highlights of the year



Bogdan Chiva Giurca and Navin Nagesh raised funds for the project to help people with cancer share their personal inspirational stories



"Talk Cancer" was launched 24 May 2019

### Talk Cancer – using art to tell patient stories

For the last three years, a group of University of Exeter Medical School students have worked alongside FORCE, a cancer charity based in the South West, to promote open conversations about cancer. Their project was supported by the Alumni Annual Fund and they launched a book – *Talk Cancer* – in May 2019.

The book is written by local cancer patients with stories, poems and illustrations highlighting their individual journeys.

Final Year Medical Student Navin Mukundu said: "This book hopes to promote honest conversations about cancer amongst loved ones, friends and to normalise the 'C' word. The work alongside FORCE has really helped us to develop a supportive resource for people who are newly diagnosed. This wouldn't have been possible without the amazing work of everyone involved, especially the patients."

Fellow student Bogdan Chiva Giurca said: "We're all incredibly proud of the outcome of this book. The students involved would like to thank the Medical School wholeheartedly for the support and inspiration for this project. Thank you also to the donors to the University of Exeter Alumni Annual Fund."

Bogdan and Navin, were recently awarded the Furness Prize for Science Communication by the Royal College of Pathologists for their book on the experiences of cancer.

One patient participant, who wishes to remain anonymous, said: "Spending time with the young medical students who lovingly gave their time and attention was actually a very therapeutic experience for me. They were sensitive, respectful and asked me the right questions to allow my voice and story to be heard in the best light. I felt a sense of happiness knowing that the future generation of doctors will be kind and considerate."

*Talk Cancer* is available in stores around the country.

### The Little Bean Enactus Food Poverty Project

A group of students from the University's Social Enterprise society, Enactus, created The Little Bean. Their aim was to establish a social food shop to combat hidden food poverty within Exeter and fill the current gap in the market between food banks and supermarkets, by selling 'rescue' food at a price far below normal retail value.

The project, supported by the Alumni Annual Fund, enabled students to engage with the local community and develop valuable entrepreneurial skills, including financial and time management, presenting, pitching and interviewing. It also gives students the opportunity to volunteer through working shifts at the shop and gain work experience.

“ Alumni support has helped to make a positive impact on an issue that currently lacks visibility and provision. Even though we are still in the early stages of our project, we are rapidly progressing and have built a team with members from different years ensuring we can continue into the future. ”

Lucy Muan, Project leader,  
The Little Bean



We would like to thank all those who have pledged a legacy gift to the University of Exeter. In recognition of your support, our roll of honour contains the names of everyone who has pledged a legacy to the University between 1 August 2018 and 31 July 2019.

Mr Anthony Allen, CBE

Mrs Virginia Chichester (née Ansell)

Mr Benjamin Hunter

Mrs Ann Hurley (née Dunford)

Mrs K MacDonald

Mr Daniel Masters

Mr Peter Symes

Mrs Janice Thomson (née Wilson)

Professor P G Young

We are also very grateful to our many supporters who have requested anonymity.

## A lasting tribute: Exeter Forever



The Stuart Handley Teaching Laboratory recognition plaque

To find out more about leaving a legacy and the impact it can have, please contact [legacies@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:legacies@exeter.ac.uk)

When he passed away in 2016, alumnus Stuart Handley left a legacy of £1.3 million to support the Exeter Forever Fund, an endowment which will provide unrestricted funding to support Exeter in perpetuity.

Stuart's generosity, along with other donors who have supported the Fund, means that Exeter will be able to support vital projects, in areas such as dementia, diabetes and marine plastics both now and in the future. It will also ensure talented students have the opportunity to come to Exeter and realise their full potential, irrespective of their financial background.

Stuart was a Physics student at Exeter in the late 1960s, completing his undergraduate degree in 1967 and then returning for his PhD in 1971.

He was a committed and loyal supporter of the University, volunteering his time as a member of the Alumni Annual Fund Disbursement Panel, and making regular gifts to support student societies as well as sporting projects.

In recognition of Stuart's legacy and long-term support, a teaching space in the Physics building was named in his honour at a special event. The Stuart Handley Teaching Laboratory is designed as a space for faculty and students to be inspired by learning. A group of Stuart's friends, including alumni who graduated alongside Stuart, joined staff from the Physics department at the opening.

Legacies make a tremendous difference. They provide a vital source of income for our teaching and research, as well as ensuring we can provide an exceptional environment for our students and academics. All gifts of all sizes, are appreciated – just 1% of your estate could make a real impact.

“The Stuart Handley Teaching Laboratory is a key space in the Physics building, designed to support both students and academics. Students and researchers at all levels will be able to use this space for study and we hope they will take inspiration from the man it is named after. It gave me great pleasure to unveil the commemorative plaque and officially open the Student Handley Teaching Laboratory.”

*Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) Professor Tim Quine*



# Alumni support high performance sport



Alumna Freya Davies (Law, 2017)

Alumni support helped the University of Exeter enjoy success in the 2018/19 British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) campaign, placing 5th out of 165 UK institutions overall.

An anonymous gift of £125,000 to High Performance Sport will help to develop facilities at Exeter, allowing even more talented student athletes to achieve their potential in their chosen field. The Performance Programme offers a comprehensive package of support services including state-of-the-art training facilities, expert coaching, strength and conditioning, physiotherapy, sports psychology, performance analysis and a range of performance athlete workshops.

Thanks to donations 11 students are currently supported on the Sports Scholarship scheme. This programme celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019 and many of our graduating scholars have progressed to a professional level in their chosen sport and represented their respective countries on the global stage.

Alumni Stephen and Jennifer Harrow (History, 1967 and Politics, 1968) supported Exeter in a unique Women's Cricket Super League.

Since Western Storm were formed four years ago, they have won the Kia Super League title twice, including in 2019. Having finished runners up in the other two years, this makes them the most successful side in the league. Western Storm used University of Exeter Sport as their training home: staying in University accommodation and utilising the cricket pitches at Topsham; the Sir Christopher Ondaatje Indoor Cricket Centre; the Russell Seal Fitness Centre and the Athlete Development Centre (ADC) for their training requirements.

A number of Exeter alumnae have been represented in the squad over the years including Freya Davies (Law, 2017), Lissy Macleod (Philosophy, 2016), Rebecca Silk (English and Spanish, 2018) and Amara Carr (Exercise and Sport Sciences, 2016).

2019 was a significant year for Freya Davies who gained her first full central contract with England Cricket and made her senior England debut against Sri Lanka in the first T20I in March. She also played a huge role in Western Storm's winning the Super League 2019 season by taking the most wickets of any bowler in the league, finishing on a total of 19 wickets across the competition. Freya will be in action again soon with England and as part of London Spirit during The Hundred.

If you would like to learn more about supporting Exeter Sport please contact Simon Tyson  
[s.tyson@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:s.tyson@exeter.ac.uk)



# Innovative research into dementia treatment funded by alumnus

“I support the Medical School and Katie’s work for many reasons. The first is in memory of my wife Joyce, who I loved dearly. She had vascular dementia for six years and it was sadly only diagnosed at the very end of her life. Joyce was a surgical nurse and was initially trained at the RD&E. Nursing was something that was hugely important to her; she would have loved to know someone was working to find a cure and improve early diagnosis.

I also do it in memory of my wider family, in particular my Uncle Stanley, who was a very good doctor, even though at heart, he would probably have preferred to have been an artist. There is also no doubt that the RD&E saved my life when I had acute pancreatitis and so supporting medical research in Exeter Medical School is very important to me. I think the work that Professor Lunnon is doing is fascinating and it is a pleasure to support it.

I enjoyed doing my second degree at Exeter very much and have always felt it important that Exeter do more STEM, and I am a great supporter of that. I hope my contribution will help to progress the great work that is happening at the Medical School and assist the next generation in gaining further knowledge. I enjoy hearing about the work and I feel that it is a fitting way to honour Joyce’s memory.”

*John Slate (History and Archaeology, 1986)*

Alumnus John Slate (History and Archaeology, 1986) is a long-term supporter of the University and has pledged a legacy to the Medical School. Following a meeting with Dr Katie Lunnon setting out her outstanding work on dementia, he elected to cover the purchase of specialist equipment, and to fund the John Slate Studentship in the area of Epigenetics in dementia.

Epigenetics refers to the addition of chemical tags to genes, which can switch them on and off, and can be influenced by the environment. The study of epigenetics is growing in importance and an area of excellence for Exeter Medicine. Katie leads the only team looking solely at epigenetic mechanisms in dementia in the UK. Her work has provided some of the first evidence of differences in epigenetic tags in the brains of people with Alzheimer’s, opening the door to a much-needed new approach to tackle the disease. Katie was awarded the Early Career Investigator of the Year Award at the Alzheimer’s Research UK Conference 2017; this year she won the prestigious international Cavanagh prize for her contribution to this field.

John’s philanthropy has enabled her to expand her team. Although Katie’s team has shown there are different levels of these epigenetic tags in the brain of someone with Alzheimer’s disease, they do not know if these are causing the disease, or are a consequence of it. The John Slate PhD Scholar is using state-of-the-art genetic engineering technology in cell models to alter the levels of the epigenetic tags on specific genes that they know are altered in Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias. It is a very exciting line of research in dementia as epigenetic changes are potentially reversible, so they could represent promising targets for future treatments.

PhD researcher Michael Schrauben is the recipient of this funding. He said: “Dementia plays such a significant role in our ability to properly interact with our loved ones. Although ageing and death are certainly a part of every individual’s life, a dissipating consciousness and the gradual loss of the essence of being, shouldn’t be. And yet, despite the advances of the 21st century, the frontiers of medicine leave us with no remedy in sight. Science can be a force for good in this world and this is all made possible through the philanthropy of individuals like John. I intend to honour his goodwill by investigating the processes that lead to dementia and I hope to advance our understanding of this disease.”

Please contact Tania Hutt [t.hutt@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:t.hutt@exeter.ac.uk) if you would like to learn more about supporting Exeter’s vital medical research.



## How you can show your support


If you would like to make a gift to support the University of Exeter please visit: **[exeter.ac.uk/donate](https://exeter.ac.uk/donate)**

To learn more on how you can leave a gift to Exeter in your Will please visit: **[exeter.ac.uk/legacy](https://exeter.ac.uk/legacy)**

To volunteer your time and expertise please visit: **[exeter.ac.uk/volunteer](https://exeter.ac.uk/volunteer)**

## Contact us:

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