

**OUR ALUMNUS OF THE
YEAR AWARD WINNER
HAS BEEN NAMED**

**HOW YOUR ALUMNI
GIFTS ARE MAKING
A DIFFERENCE**

**CELEBRATING
100 PIONEERING
BRUNEL WOMEN**

**THE FAMILY KEY
TO UNLOCKING
SOCIAL MOBILITY**



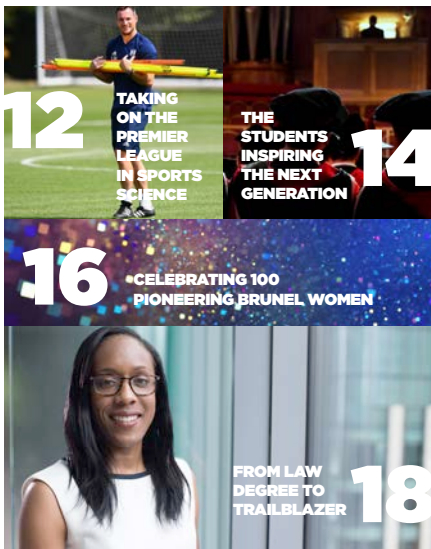
**BRUNEL
GETS
PEDALLING**

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WELCOME

From our Vice-Chancellor and President



I am delighted to welcome you all to your 2019 Link Magazine - a round-up of Brunel news, education, research and developments over the past year and a celebration of your many wonderful achievements.

As ever, our alumni community continues to grow and thrive - Brunel has been able to go from strength to strength with your continued support and the foundation you have helped to build. There has been so much happening at the University recently and so much of it is down to the support of our alumni. It is truly humbling to have such a network of supporters.

The donations you have made have supported life at Brunel academically, culturally, socially and have contributed to the campus environment as a whole, not least through helping us secure the Santander Cycles Brunel scheme and supporting our Global Opportunities Fund which helps students have an international experience as an integral part of the degree programme, something I am very keen to encourage. Of course, not all help is financial and I am delighted that we are once again able to recognise a fantastic team of mentors who regularly give their time to advise our students. Thank you also to all those who offer internships and placements, those that sponsor or take part in events and those who give back through placing their profiles online and delivering talks.

As always, we are available to support you in your time after graduation and are always eager to hear from you with news of your successes, career journeys and reunions following your studies with us.

Professor Julia Buckingham CBE
Vice-Chancellor and President

From our Development and Alumni Relations Team



Ahead of this edition of Link, we've been thinking about all that has happened this year and we're once again blown away by your support, generosity, engagement and achievements. You have shown the passion you all have for Brunel, but also for your fellow alumni and our current students, in the way that you

support and embrace our efforts here in the Alumni Office and across the wider University.

Thank you for all you do and for genuinely making Brunel a better place, with opportunities available to future Brunelians thanks to your contributions, inspiration and support.

We couldn't do what we do without you:

We are our alumni.

Contributors

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Brunel University London Archives

RECOLLECTIONS OF A BRUNEL STUDENT...

ANDY
(CLASS OF 1995)

"I was at Brunel for four years in the 1990s and I'm still amazed that no-one mentioned to me that 'A Clockwork Orange' was filmed there!"

IMRAN
(CLASS OF 2006)

"I still remember the construction of the Sports Centre and the halls (behind the Maths building) were being constructed. Still have memories of doing my final year exams with construction machine noises in the background and builders shouting at each other - lol!

Ahh those were the days. Best times of my life to date! Like others, so glad I went to Brunel!"

HANAN
(CLASS OF 2006)

"Met my husband at Brunel! Ten years on and we are still facing the world together with our 3 kids. Thank you Brunel!"

FRANCESCO
(CLASS OF 1993)

"Goose bumps thinking of my time at Brunel. Great times I'll never forget. My BEng has helped me enter the motorcycle world, with MV Agusta in Italy and working with Harley Davidson and BMW. Thanks Brunel!"

MICHAELA
(CLASS OF 2013)

"I met my now-husband at the Isambard Complex during fresher's week!"

FIONA
(CLASS OF 1989)

"Always thought the lecture theatre looked like it was built back to front!"

DARREN
(CLASS OF 1988)

"1980s legend had it that it WAS! According to the legend, the main Lecture Theatres were supposed to have been on the south(?) end towards engineering and that either the building was switched around due to foundation problems or that there were foundation problems because it was accidentally switched around?"

刘兆基

"I met my girlfriend at the Brunel Sports Centre and we are going to stay together for the rest of our lives."

VARUNRAJ
(CLASS OF 2006)

"The Kebab shop round the corner behind the Isambard building... late nights hopping over to the shop for a quick bite!"

DR SIMON
(CLASS OF 1993)

"I took a PhD in Materials Technology in 1992 here. The electron microscopy building & facilities were 'State of the Art!' What a privilege to be part of a great institution with such a superb, worldwide reputation! Some difficult days I remember, but they forged my foundations for me to grow into the person I am today! Thank you is not enough."

ALIKI
(CLASS OF 2002)

"Unforgettable memories from the Hamilton building and of course Fleming Hall, with the cherry trees and us climbing with baskets to collect them...."

JADE
(CLASS OF 1995)

"I'm half of another one of those [Brunel] couples! Dr Rod Badcock, now at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and I met in my second year and got married four months after my graduation!"

GAURANG
(CLASS OF 1999)

"My favourite places were the 'Refec' (The Refectory) & the Sports Centre! On campus, the HSBC branch was Midlands Bank back then. A Nourishment drink & a packet of McCoys crisps from the shop was sufficient between lectures and weekly CD purchases from the bearded gentleman were the norm! 'U' buses were great to get us to Uxbridge centre & back! Isambard Close was home with the occasional late night kebabs nearby. Remember dashing to get work printed & dashing to hand in before the deadlines ... after a late night chatting absolute nonsense. Loved my time there... made loads of lifelong friends!"

‘A GREAT THING FOR UXBRIDGE!’: BRUNEL BIKES GET HILLINGDON PEDALLING



Bright-red bikes will be a regular feature of Uxbridge and Hillingdon life after the area launched its first public cycle-hire scheme. Santander Cycles Brunel - affectionately-dubbed 'Brunel Bikes' - will initially connect six docking stations across Uxbridge town centre, Brunel University London and Hillingdon Hospital, with proposals being drawn-up to extend the network to West Drayton in the future. It's hoped the scheme - which has been described as a "great thing for Uxbridge" by local MP Boris Johnson - can give people in Hillingdon a convenient new means of getting about town, while encouraging exercise, easing traffic and reducing pollution.

Taking on a winning challenge

The new bikes come thanks to Brunel's winning effort in the Santander Cycles University Challenge, a national competition which tasked universities with raising funding for their own local cycle scheme. Backed by key partners such as Hillingdon Hospital, Brunel had just 33 days to raise operating costs of £48,650 - a target that was eventually smashed by more than £36,000 to raise over £85,000 in total thanks to donations from over 400 supporters, including local businesses and a host of current and former students. A further £100,000 of capital investment was awarded to the scheme by Santander.



The bikes are supplied by leading bike share operator nextbike, which has more than 200 schemes worldwide, including 10 in the UK. Membership to Brunel Bikes gives users access to the complete nextbike UK network, with worldwide access available on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Four of the docking stations have been installed around Brunel, with our single-campus university traditionally having been connected to our local tube station in Uxbridge by a bus service. The university's 14,000 students and 2,150 staff are now able to reach the station in under 10 minutes, at a cost lower than the bus fare. For a £30 annual membership, the daily cost of using a bike is as little as £0.09!



Gathering support

Supporting the scheme is local MP and former Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, who was famously in office when the first public cycle scheme, originally proposed by his predecessor, launched in the capital. "It's wonderful, I think Brunel have been pioneering," said Mr Johnson. "It's also a great thing for Uxbridge and the local community because what they are creating is not just a cycle scheme for the university but for the whole of the town centre. I've no doubt that it'll expand and this is the start of something really beautiful."

Launching the scheme, Brunel Vice-Chancellor and President, Prof Julia Buckingham CBE, said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to all to work together to promote a healthier campus, and indeed, a healthier community - something we're working very closely on with our NHS partners. "We need to give a huge thank you to our students, our staff, our alumni, local businesses and organisations, and the wider Hillingdon community."

Jason Seez, Deputy CEO of The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Hillingdon Hospital, said: "The Santander Cycle hire scheme is a great way for people to travel between Uxbridge station, Brunel University London's campus and our hospital in Pield Heath Road. It will help lots of people to get some exercise and, as a Trust, helps us deliver our Green Travel commitment by offering patients, visitors and our staff a way to use a combination of public transport and Santander's bicycles to get to the hospital, so removing a number of car journeys. I urge everyone to sign up."

The Santander Cycles University Challenge, launched in November 2017, tested universities' fund-raising talents by giving the five finalists just one month to raise enough money for a cycle scheme through a crowd funding campaign. Two universities, Brunel and Swansea, won £100,000 to put towards

their scheme, after narrowly pipping other universities with a flurry of late pledges.

Matt Hutnell, Director, Santander Universities UK said: "We're really excited to be bringing Santander Cycles to Uxbridge and Hillingdon after the amazing response we had from the local community to our Santander Cycles University Challenge. Over the past five years we've supported Brunel University London in a range of ways, from helping students start their own businesses to connecting students with local SMEs, supporting the local economy. We're delighted that the Santander Cycles scheme will ensure that both Brunel University London and the local community prosper even further from our partnership."



Krysia Solheim, nextbike UK MD, said: "The positive impact bike share can have on reducing congestion and carbon emissions, while improving and public health is well-documented and we're thrilled to be working with Santander to bring nextbikes to Brunel. We've currently got stations and bikes at seven other UK universities, so we know just how popular bike share is amongst the student population - we expect Brunel to be no exception."

This is truly something special for the local community which demonstrates Brunel's commitment to supporting the local area and enhancing physical and mental wellbeing. Our return is on the legacy we have proudly created.

GET STARTED...

Keen to get cycling?

Learn more about the discounted membership rate for alumni and join the scheme at:

santandercycles.co.uk/brunel



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR 2019

Professor Yogesh Dwivedi

PhD Information Systems & Computing Research, 2006

MSc Information Systems, 2002

Once again, this year's nominations for our Alumni of the Year Award showcased the outstanding professional achievements of our graduates, along with their commitment to their community and ongoing contribution to Brunel through volunteering and advocacy. Our worldwide alumni community came out in force to vote for their stand-out finalist, naming Professor Yogesh Dwivedi as the 2019 winner for his many achievements, contributions and collaborations in teaching, research and academia.

On hearing of his win, Yogesh expressed: "I am truly humbled and delighted to hear this excellent news. Thank you Brunel for this recognition and award! I am grateful to all those who supported and voted for me."

Yogesh is currently based at the School of Management at Swansea University where he is a Professor of Digital Marketing and Innovation, the University Dean of Academic Leadership (REF Research Environment), Founding Director of the Emerging Markets Research Centre (EMaRC) and Co-Director of Research.

Throughout his career, Yogesh has successfully supervised more than 20 doctoral students to completion and has examined more than 70 doctoral theses at various institutions. In recognition of his efforts to provide supportive, stimulating and inspirational supervision, he was selected as one of the five finalists for the '2017 Outstanding Research Supervisor of the Year' Award as part of the prestigious annual Times Higher Education Awards, recognising his commitment to supporting scholars at all stages of their careers. Yogesh has published more than 300 articles in a range of internationally leading academic journals and conferences that are widely cited in addition to co-editing / co-authoring more than 20 books on technology adoption, e-government, information systems theory, e-word of mouth and social media. In recognition of his academic accomplishment, he has recently been bestowed with the 'Amity Global Academic Excellence Award.'

“I am truly humbled and delighted to hear this excellent news. Thank you Brunel for this recognition and award! I am grateful to all those who supported and voted for me”

One of the nominators for this award - Dr Anabel Gutierrez - recognises that during his career journey, Yogesh has "gone on to contribute to the development of future generations at different levels" commenting that "student feedback has always been outstanding and his supervisory style has been exceptional, contributing to the development of 20 doctoral students." Anabel also credits his "constructive and robust style for examination" where he has "mentored and coached new staff and colleagues, making a difference not only to students but to anyone in academia who is looking to improve their research skills" - overall citing his "solidarity to the academic community."



Indeed, Yogesh has helped and supported many people in a sincere and committed manner.

Dr Dhaval Thakker - who also nominated Yogesh for this award - explained how he is not only "a role model for someone working in academia" but also for "graduates looking to make academia and research leadership their career." Further nominations refer to Yogesh as a "pioneer in the area of e-commerce and management" (Dr Inderjeet Singh) and someone who is well known in both the Brunel Business School and Computer Science Department for his "continuous collaboration with Brunel staff in research, publications and grants" (Dr Wafi Al-Karaghoul). He is also known for his "great personality" and for being "very helpful to colleagues and students" (Dr Yousra Asaad).

Yogesh has achieved an extraordinary amount during his academic career and will no doubt strive to continue his good work. Regardless of what he has achieved, Yogesh retains a deep level of fondness for Brunel University London. As his close friends and colleagues will readily tell you, Yogesh frequently recalls his years of studying at the Uxbridge campus and always remembers where he first started his academic career - something that is very close to his heart.

Yogesh says: "Across four years of education, Brunel transformed me from a Natural Scientist to a Social Science Scholar and imparted invaluable research skills and competence that helped me to become a world leading researcher in relatively short period of time." He also added that "there were more than 100 Information Systems students in my doctoral cohort, and many of them have become leading academics occupying key positions in various institutions across the world," stating that he is "proud to be one of them" and is "indebted to Brunel for helping us to all reach where we are today."

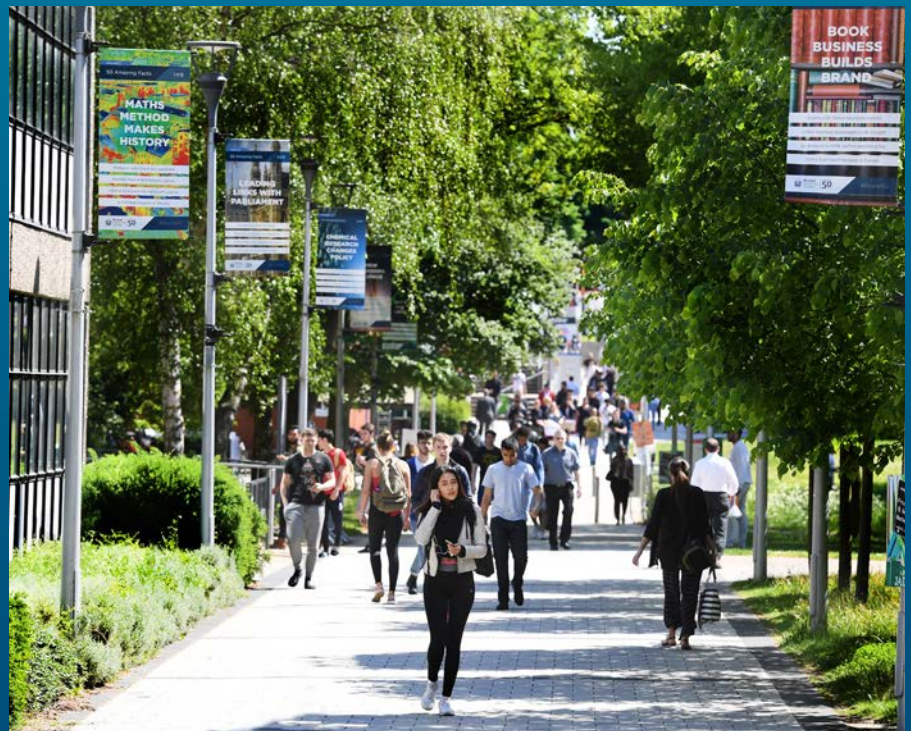
We congratulate Professor Yogesh Dwivedi on becoming Alumnus of the Year 2019 and for his ongoing contribution to Brunel and our alumni network.

BRUNEL NEWS

Double success for our Vice Chancellor and President

In December 2018, our Vice Chancellor and President - Professor Julia Buckingham, CBE - received her CBE from HRH The Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace. Professor Buckingham was honoured for services to biology and education, and in recognition of her distinguished career as a pharmacologist and academic leader.

This year has also seen Professor Julia Buckingham CBE elected as President of Universities UK (UUK), which represents and acts on behalf of 136 universities in the UK, stating: "It's a huge honour to have been elected to such a key post, particularly at this politically uncertain time when universities have so much to contribute as positive drivers of economic, social and cultural change and prosperity."



Brunel campus recognised as one of the UK's very best green spaces

For the second consecutive year, in 2018 our campus was recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best green spaces in the country - joining only 20 other UK universities awarded in recognition of their well-maintained campuses. The University is among a record-breaking 1,883 UK parks and green spaces that have received a prestigious Green Flag Award - the mark of a quality park or green space.

Queen's Awards for Brunel academics

Professor Valsa Koshy was delighted to receive her MBE from Her Majesty The Queen during a ceremony at Windsor Castle in March. The Emerita Professor of Education was awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours list in recognition of her distinguished contribution to education in a range of roles spanning four decades.

Former Brunel Sports lecturer, Bob Chappell, was also named in the Queen's New Year's Honours list. Bob's champion career in basketball netted him a British Empire Medal, awarded for outstanding hands-on service to the community.



New Sensory Room unveiled on campus

A new Sensory Room has been unveiled on campus, offering students with complex needs a place to go in order to limit or enhance their senses - giving a boost to their wellbeing and their capacity to learn.

The space is one of the first at a UK university, and is designed to benefit students with mental health difficulties such as autism and anxiety, or sensory processing issues: difficulties with organising and responding to information that comes in through the senses.

Brunel ratings successes

Our ground-breaking research into the exposure of people and wildlife to chemicals in their environment has been named as one of the UK's 100 best breakthroughs for its pioneering work and significant impact on people's everyday lives.

Brunel students are feeling sporty and job-ready, according to the results of the 2018 Which? Student Survey. Brunel was ranked as 'Top Rated' for its 'Sports Scene' and for 'Job Readiness' which judged how well the students felt their universities help them prepare for the world-of-work through career guidance, events such as career fairs, and the links that the University has with industry.

We're thrilled to have been recognised in the inaugural Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings, as 40th worldwide - and 9th in the UK - in the first global ranking to measure the social and economic impact of universities.

We're also proud to this year see our Professional Development Centre voted the fifth best careers service among UK universities in a ranking released by review website, Student Hut with an impressive score of 4.29 out of 5 stars for its careers support.





Brunel unveils its sports hijab

Brunel has become the first UK University to unveil a sports hijab for its Muslim sportswomen with the aim of bolstering traditionally-low sports participation amongst hijabi students.

“Brunel is one of only four UK universities to offer a free sports programme, and we noticed that there was a gap in female sports participation,” said Ranjeet Rathore, President of the Union of Brunel Students, who has driven the hijab’s introduction. “When we narrowed it down, we found the main gap to be in BAME female sports participation - specifically, we found there to be a barrier to Muslim women taking part in team sport.”

A 2017 study by Sports England reported that just 18% of Muslim women participate in regular sport, against 30% of the UK’s female population as a whole. Faith Al Saad, a Business and Management student at Brunel says “wearing the sports hijab makes [sport] ten-times easier, and I genuinely think it’s a lifesaver.” The Union of Brunel students now hopes that other universities will follow its lead and introduce their own sports hijab to further encourage greater participation.

Praise for Brunel’s pledge on mental health

Student support services have made it their mission to make sure mental health comes first both for students and staff with the launch of a made-to-measure masterplan to prioritise wellbeing.

“There has been a definite shift in how we speak about mental health at Brunel,” said Lesley O’Keeffe, Head of Student Services. “This strategy demonstrates how Brunel is putting students and their wellbeing at the heart of everything we do. And if it helps just one student, then it’s been a success.”

“Brunel is not only an exemplar in its student support,” said Universities UK’s John de Pury, Assistant Director of Policy, “but it has also played a leading role in efforts to set out a new approach to mental health in higher education.”



Placement students join Lombok earthquake relief effort

They thought they'd be spending their 2018 summer break helping athletes with disabilities on the idyllic Indonesian island of Bali, but six Brunel students halted their once-in-a-lifetime placement and joined the effort to get aid to remote areas of the country left devastated by earthquakes in August 2018.

The students were in the country to assist the Bali Sports Foundation (BSF), but suspended their eight-week programme to deliver food and supplies to affected areas in Lombok and Gili after the area was struck by a series of deadly earthquakes, with tremors of up to 6.9 magnitude.

To support relief efforts, the students purchased goods from supermarkets and wholesalers in Bali and helped with loading them onto the Bluewater Express - a boat company who sponsors BSF - before completing the four-hour passage to Lombok, where they're unloaded again at BSF's facility. From there, the goods were distributed to remote villages by BSF co-founder and Brunel alumnus, Chris Pardey, with the assistance of local relief workers.

To complement their efforts on the ground, the team also began fundraising, reaching out to local businesses and setting up a GoFundMe page for online donations, with every donation received being put towards the relief effort.



Sanctuary Scholarship waives tuition fees for refugees

Brunel has unveiled its new Sanctuary Scholarship: a full-fee waiver for five full-time students identified as refugees. "Its introduction is an extremely important step towards enabling people who have fled persecution and are seeking asylum in the UK to be given the opportunity to attend higher education," said Karen Western, Widening Access Officer at Brunel.

As well as a full tuition fee waiver, successful applicants will receive free single-occupancy accommodation in Brunel's on-campus halls of residence.



Universities Minister Chris Skidmore praises Brunel's disabled student experience

Chris Skidmore MP, the Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation, visited Brunel University London earlier this year to explore the support students with disabilities can access while living and studying at Brunel.

During a tour led by Brunel's Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Julia Buckingham CBE, the Universities Minister also experienced Brunel's new sensory room and one of our specially adapted student flats here on campus.

In an article published in The Guardian, the Universities Minister wrote about the award-winning disability and dyslexia service at Brunel, and how universities like ours have long been leading the way in improving the disabled student experience. "I want institutions like these to no longer be the exception, but the norm," he added.

TAKING ON THE PREMIER LEAGUE IN SPORTS SCIENCE

With Fulham FC making a return to the most recent Premier League season, Head of Sports Science for the team and Brunel Sports alumnus – **Alastair Harris** – has been putting the players' fitness to the test.



Having graduated with a hat-trick of Brunel qualifications - securing a BSc Business Studies & Sport Sciences in 2009, a Postgraduate Diploma in Sport Sciences (Human Performance) in 2011 and MSc Sport Sciences (Human Performance) in 2015 - we chatted to Alastair about his time with the club, career highlights and his advice for future graduates.

Responsible for the physical performance and conditioning of the First Team, Alastair began his journey with Fulham FC in 2010 as a Sports Science Intern, making his way through the ranks to his current role in 2015 where he is now responsible for the physical performance and conditioning of the First Team.

"I have worked at Fulham FC for eight seasons; starting out for a season on work experience, then being fortunate enough to get a paid consultancy contract for the following season. The following year I was employed as a full time member of staff, with the responsibility to plan and deliver the physical programming of the 16's-9's programme. Halfway through this season an opportunity became available at first team level and I was successful in my application. Since then I have progressed to the Head of Sports Science role and have been doing this for the last three seasons."

When it comes to the working day, Alastair says that each day is completely different.

"It very much depends how far we are from or to a competitive match. In summary, the first part is planning, then the rest is filled with delivery - physiological / subjective monitoring info, pre training activation sessions, training, post training gym based sessions etc. - then finally the analytic side where we review the data collected and plan for the next day / week."

Since working at the club, there have been plenty of highlights for Alastair.

"As in any elite sport there have been plenty of ups and downs. I genuinely love my job and one of my favourite aspects is having to form a different relationship with 25 completely different individuals in order to get the most out of each of them every day. As for one moment, I'd have to say the playoff final last season. It was an incredible experience and to gain promotion back to the Premier League in that setting was something I will never forget."

Having chosen to continue his studies with Brunel from undergraduate to postgraduate level, Alastair explains how Brunel helped him to get where he is today.

"Brunel gave me the academic platform to embark on the career I am doing today. It was always the goal to gain employment within professional



football prior to starting my studies. Fortunately, I have been able to experience and achieve that and the underlying principles of Physiology and Biomechanics I learnt at Brunel have served me in great stead. It has also given me the foundation to continue my educational development by starting a PhD in February 2018, which I hope will provide me with a broader knowledge base and allow me to develop further as a practitioner."

Why was Brunel the university for you?

"I was looking for a London based university that excelled in my chosen course and Brunel obviously has a great reputation as a sporting University. When I came for the Open Day and saw the facilities, I was certain that I'd enjoy my time there, and the rest was a formality."

"I really enjoyed being part of the football team. It was a fantastic social network where I have been fortunate enough to make friends for life. There is a group of about 20 of us that are still in regular contact and try and meet up as much as is feasible. I'm not sure this is a regular occurrence for most students and I feel very lucky to have this."

When it comes to advice, Alastair has some wise words for new students and fellow alumni as they begin their graduate career journey.

"Find a course you are passionate about; choose something that you want to learn about and immerse yourself into it. Enjoy learning the theory and then on top of that seek as many opportunities as you can to gain valuable work experience whilst you are completing your studies. Before I started my course I had seen a job advertised online for a Sports Scientist at a professional football club - I looked at the criteria required and went about trying to fulfil this by the end of my undergraduate course."

"[For new graduates] know exactly the profile of candidate that is required for the job role you wish to obtain. Do everything you can to tick off all of this required criteria and, where possible, align yourself with a mentor in the industry you wish to gain employment in. Making industry contacts is invaluable from an opportunity side, but also from a practical side too - there is a huge difference between the theory you learn at university and the practical delivery that takes place in elite sports."

THE FAMILY KEY TO UNLOCKING SOCIAL MOBILITY

THE STUDENTS INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Students who are the first in their family to go to university are pivotal to encouraging under-represented groups to consider studying for a degree, says a study that highlights the effect on brothers, sisters and parents. The research says these students have a social-mobility “slipstream effect” on those close to them, which can help to successfully widen access to university education.

Instead of thinking they're risky and likelier to drop out, universities should see first-generation students as gatekeepers to engaging under-represented communities and role models, who can positively challenge perceptions of higher education.

That's the suggestion from sociology and education experts who found first-in-family students have a social mobility slipstream effect on people close to them. “In higher education's drive to engage people who might think university snobbish, elitist, or ‘not for them’, our work shows family ties matter more than is realised,” said Dr Emma Wainwright.

Family links

More students from less privileged backgrounds go to university now than ever before. In 2016, for the first time the number of students whose parents did not go to university matched those from wealthier academic backgrounds, UCAS figures show. And while there's growing research into parents' influence on student's choices, little is known about the links between home, family and university.

Researchers here at Brunel University London studied first-generation undergraduates, focussing on their transition to university and its influence on close family. The majority, they found, inspire siblings and sometimes even parents to also get a degree. This, they say, highlights a need for universities to look more at family ties and engage whole families in their outreach work.

Becoming an educational role model

First generation university student, John* is from a working-class, single-parent family living on a council estate. “I'd probably class myself as really academic,” he said. “I'm not trying to sound big-headed, it's just what I enjoy. So, when I got the chance to make choices, it was fairly natural. I really wanted this. I suppose my brother will now have to do a degree as well. He's much cleverer. I'll probably give him a lot of support. It will make it a hell of a lot easier for him than it was for me.”

Paula*, who is also the first in her family to go to university, says that her brother and mother are now also thinking of going to university as a consequence of her going. “He is interested in my experiences, in what I'm doing,” she said. “I tell him about the lab sessions we have, then he gets really excited because, obviously, it's in a lab and it's

like sciencey stuff.” Paula also told the researchers that her mother is re-taking a GCSE so she can do her A-levels and study occupational therapy or physiotherapy. “She is quite worried about money,” she said. “Then I told her about getting a bursary from the NHS. Then she really was interested.”

Thinking to the future

The research is based on a year-long project where researchers carried out in-depth interviews with eight first-generation students, concluding that these students have the potential to become educational role models for family members.

Dr Wainwright and co-author Professor Mike Watts urge universities, the HE sector and government to rethink their ideas about first-generation students. “Universities need to engage more thoroughly with the families - parents and siblings - of their students,” they said. “These institutions should become sites for learning interaction, experience and role-modelling based on the family unit, however it is configured.”

* The Brunel research did not publish participants' real names.

BRUNEL FAMILY DISCOUNT

If you graduated from Brunel University London or one of our predecessor colleges and have a direct family member - including a spouse, parent, child or sibling - who is keen to study with us, they may be eligible for a 10% discount on their tuition fees for each year of study.

Apply at: brunel.ac.uk/family-discount



CELEBRATING 100 PIONEERING BRUNEL WOMEN

◀ Iran Adil-Smith
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2011; former Head of Health and Safety

Eniola Aluko ▶
Brunel graduate, 2012 Olympian

▶ Emma Ania
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olympian

▶ Janet Al-Karaghoul
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2017; former IT Procurement Officer

▶ Margaret Baguley
Brunel/WLIHE, Honorary Fellow 2001; former PA to VC

▼ Natasha Baker
Brunel Fellow, Honorary Graduate 2013; 2008 Paralympian; Paralympic medallist

▶ Shani Anderson
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olympian; Brunel gradu

▶ Moira Black
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2018; former member of Council

▶ Anita Asante
Brunel graduate, 2012 Olympian

▶ Cathy Aymer
WLIHE/Brunel, Former Director of Social Work

▶ Professor Julia Buckingham CBE ▶
Brunel, Vice-Chancellor and President

▶ Sheila Banner
Brunel graduate; former Director of Student Serv

▶ Marjorie Bunn
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2000; former Human Sciences administrator

Jo Brand ▶
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2006; writer, comedian and actor

▶ Ruth Caleb O
Brunel, Former Head of Counselling

▶ Professor Celia Brackenridge OBE
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2014; former Director of Brunel's Centre for Youth Sport and Athlete Welfare

▼ Sheila Clayton
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2001; former Assistant Registrar

Anne Jemima Clough ▶
BRC, Teacher; promoter of higher education for women; first principal of Newnham College, Cambridge; Borough Road College graduate 1849

▶ Dr Eva Figes
Brunel, Honorary Graduate 2002; former Creative Writing Fellow at Brunel University

▼ Catriona Cuddihy
Brunel graduate, 2012 Olympian

Lady Chisholm ▶
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2008; former Director of Development

▶ Lesley Chisholm
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2010; former Assistant Faculty Officer

▶ Christine Craik
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2013; former Director of Occupational Therapy

▶ Gillian Collins
BFSS, Honorary Graduate 1998; former Principal, Saffron Walden 1965-1977

Sue Curley ▶
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2012; former Head of Alumni Relations

▶ Linda Cording
Brunel, Former Director of Planning and Communications

▶ Annabel Czajka ▶
Brunel, PA to Vice-Chancellor

◀ Julie Dearsley
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2010; former Systems Officer

▶ Perri Shakes-Drayton
Brunel graduate, 2012 Olympian

▶ Angela
Brunel/Honorary former Law ad

▶ Marianne Elliott
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2005; former Accommodation Officer

▶ Professor Lorraine DeSouza
Brunel, Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor – Equality, Diversity and Staff Development

▶ Maria Grey
Educationalist; founder of Maria Grey Training College

▶ Patricia H
Maria Grey Colle Honorary Gradu

▶ Heather Fell
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olympian; Olympic medallist

▶ Montell Douglas
Brunel graduate, 2008 and 2018 Olympian

▶ Julie Hollman
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olym

▶ Sarah Grady (nee Burrett)
Brunel graduate, 2004 and 2012 Paralympics

▶ Carol Gregg
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2007; former Secretary to Academic Registrar

▶ Veronica Johnson
Brunel, Research Administrator, CBASS

▶ Dr Kings
Brunel, Gra 2001; Pro-Ch

▶ Eglantyne Jebb
Stockwell College graduate; Co-founder of Save the Children Fund

▶ Barbara Jenks
Brunel Honorary Graduate 2013

▶ Professor Susan Jobling
Brunel, Director, Institute for the Environment

Dr Sonia Jones ▶
Brunel, Academic – helped develop PAP test for early detection of cervical cancer

▶ Jane Kelly
Brunel, Honorary Graduate 2018; Pro-Chancellor; former Chair of Council

▶ Professor Suzanne Leroy ▶
Brunel, Academic – helped uncover the Ancient Greek city of Helike

▶ Professor Alison McConnell ▶
Brunel, Academic – inventor of POWERbreathe

▶ Dr Iris Turner
Brunel/WLIHE, Associate Lecturer in Geography; BFSS member

▶ Professor Jean Millar
Brunel, Former Head of Department of Continuing Education

▶ Professor Maureen Moran
Brunel/WLIHE, Former Head of English

▶ Professor Valsa Koshy
WLIHE/Brunel, Professor of Education

Lesley Mortimer ▶
Brunel, Former Widening Participation officer

To mark the 100th anniversary of the 1918 General Election - the first time women could vote - this collection from the Brunel University London Archives celebrates 100 pioneering women through the years who have helped shape Brunel into what it is today.

Sharon Beswick
Brunel graduate; first female President of the Students' Union 1979

Juliet Weale
Brunel, former Secretary and Registrar; former BFSS Trustee

Dr Sandra Naylor
Brunel, Deputy Dean Academic Affairs (CHLS); Reader

Marianne Bevis
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2012; former Head of Publications

Grace Robertson
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2007; Brunel graduate

Kelly Sotherton
Former student and 2009 Honorary Graduate, 2004 and 2008 Olympian; Olympic medallist

Elizabeth Grove
London School of Occupational Therapy; Honorary Graduate 2002; Occupational Therapist

Karen Roberts
Brunel graduate, 2000 Olympian

Beth Rodford
Brunel graduate, 2008 and 2012 Olympian

Professor Sue Capel
Brunel, Former Head of Sport and Education

Professor Linda Thomas
Brunel/BFSS, Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Quality; BFSS Trustee

Kathy Smallwood-Cook
WLIHE graduate, 1984 and 1988 Olympian; Olympic medallist

Ann Cater
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2008; former PA to Vice-Chancellor

Marcia Richardson
Brunel graduate, 2000 Olympian

Beverley Crooks
Brunel, Former Widening Participation Officer

Dame Janet Trotter
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2004

Alice Woods
BFSS, Former Principal of Maria Grey Training College

Pam Ellir (Tilnery)
Maria Grey College graduate, former Head teacher

Tracy Strachan
Brunel, Honorary Fellow 2018; former Director of Commercial Services

Laura Turner
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olympian

Jo Ellis
Brunel graduate, 2008 Olympian

Shelina Permalloo
Brunel graduate, Winner of MasterChef 2012

Adrienne Finch
Brunel, Lecturer / Practice Learning Co-Ordinator

Abi Oyepitan
Brunel graduate, 2004 Olympian

Liz Woodward
Brunel/WLIHE, Honorary Fellow 2015; former Head of Events

Dr Rosa Scoble
Brunel, Director of Planning

Sally Trussler
Brunel, University photographer

Professor Mariann Rand-Weaver
Brunel, Vice-Provost (Education)

Marie Jahoda
Brunel, Social psychologist, former Research Fellow

Helen Sharman
Brunel University Honorary Graduate 2010; first Briton in space

Wendy Sterling
Brunel Honorary Graduate 2002

Teresa Waller
Brunel, Director of Research, Support and Development Office (RSDO)

Vicki Hansford
Brunel graduate, 2008 Paralympian; Paralympic medallist

Kate Richardson-Walsh OBE
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2017; 2000-2016 Olympian; Olympic medallist

Dr Joanna Metais
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2000

Margaret Maidlow
WLIHE/Brunel, PA

Professor Fay Weldon
Brunel, Author; former Chair of Creative Writing at Brunel

Pauldy Otermans
Brunel, Students' Union President 2017/18; Brunel graduate

Rosie Mayglothing
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2014; Brunel graduate

Archie Panjabi
Brunel graduate, Honorary Graduate 2011; Actor

Ann Wild
Brunel graduate, 1988-2008 Paralympian

Catherine Murphy
Brunel graduate, 2000 Olympics

Anne-Marie Maggs
Brunel, former PA

Tryphenia Sparks
Stockwell College graduate; cousin of Thomas Hardy

**FROM LAW
DEGREE
TO MULTI-
AWARD
WINNING
TRAIL
BLAZER**



As she approaches her 10 year anniversary since graduating from Brunel, **Khalia Newell (LLB Law, class of 2010)**, is flying high with a FTSE 100 company. Now the Vice President in Barclays' Chief Controls Office, Khalia spoke to us about transitioning to the world of financial services, the art of networking and what makes an effective leader.

How did you go about making the transition from your Law degree to your current role in financial services?

"After graduating my intention was to go to Law School. I had secured a place; however, I had not secured a training contract at the time. Following my listing in the Future Leaders List by Powerful Media, I was invited by the magazines sponsor (Barclays) to come to an insight day where I could learn more about the Bank. During the course of the opening speech by one of the Managing Directors, I asked questions and made suggestions on how things could be done better. He subsequently asked me to shadow him and one of his direct reports, Ben Eason, who offered me a role at Barclays.

“What I learnt through this process was that while my route into Finance was unorthodox, it was successful because I focussed on my strengths”

Since then I have continued to work within and I have been incredibly fortunate to have Ben as a mentor to provide me with guidance at each stage of my career. What I learnt through this process was that while my route into Finance was unorthodox, it was successful because I focussed on my strengths - staying true to my values and beliefs, building relationships with people and improving things so that I always left things better than I found them."

What skills developed during your studies stand out for you as being key to your career journey?

"Having the willingness to learn and the confidence to ask questions. I also learnt resilience and knowing the importance of never giving up (especially after experiencing final year)."

You were featured on the Future Leaders List by Powerful Media which recognised BAME graduates or students with high potential. How did this come about and how would you say it has supported your career?

"Shortly after graduating from University, a few of my peers nominated me as a 'Future Leader' due to my extra-curricular activities both at Brunel and outside University. Had it not been for this listing by Powerful Media, I would not have had the opportunity to attend the networking event, which led to me being hired at Barclays."

Why is it so important for graduates to learn the art of networking and building connections for industry?

"There is a saying - 'it's not what you know but who you know.' What I have learnt personally over the last few years is that what you know will get you through the door; who you know will keep you and help you accelerate there."

You have a passion for giving back and are very involved with mentoring - what's the most valuable piece of advice you've been given by a mentor?

"One invaluable lesson I learnt was how to be politically smart and get things done in a big organisation. I learnt that big decisions aren't always made in big meetings; but in coffee shops and bars."

What advice would you give to any graduates looking to follow in your footsteps and achieve a senior position?

"While there is no harm in wanting to achieve a senior position, I would really think about why graduates want the senior position. Quite often people are motivated by money or status but ultimately being in a senior position is about service and caring for those who work for you. These are the most effective leaders."

You're part of a drive with Barclays to attract and develop talent, with diversity and inclusion a key focus. What positive change in industry have you seen in recent years?

"We have certainly seen a big increase in the number of diverse candidates on our internship and graduate schemes in recent years. However, we still have a long way to go to ensure this pipeline of talent is reflected in more senior levels of our organisations."

“I learnt that big decisions aren't always made in big meetings; but in coffee shops and bars”

You've successfully achieved many awards during your career - which of them are you most proud of and why?

"Last year being listed in the Financial Times twice as the #3 Future BAME Global Leader and #4 Future Female Leader was certainly memorable due to the scale; but from a personal perspective winning the Black British Business Awards was quite touching as it was priceless to be acknowledged by my own community."

ALUMNI NEWS

We love hearing all about your successes and achievements - here are just a few highlights from a wonderful year.

ALLY SCOOPS STANNAH AWARD AT NEW DESIGNERS



An innovative device developed to help those overcoming sexual assault has been recognised with the Joseph Stannah Award at New Designers 2018. Ally, developed by **Josh King (BSc Product Design, 2018)** during his final year, scooped the award after impressing judges with its well-considered design and 'excellent use of prototyping and visualisation.'

"It's a great honour to receive this award," said Josh. "Given that only the top 11 from our year were selected to exhibit at New Designers, that in itself was exciting for me - so to win an award and be recognised nationally is a real privilege."



ALUMNUS WINS 'RISING STAR' HONOUR

Sam Ajilore (BSc Sociology & Media, 2009 / MSc Media & Communications, 2011) is the Founder and Editor of That Grape Juice - one of the internet's premier Urban Pop Culture websites that has become a front-runner in the online urban music arena. In 2018, Sam was awarded the Rising Star in Arts & Media honour at the Black British Business Awards and says that "Brunel has been such an integral part of my journey."

DOUBLE WIN FOR BRUNEL ENTREPRENEURS AT MAYOR OF LONDON'S COMPETITION



Brunel's talented graduates took home two of the three £20,000 prizes at the final of this year's Mayor of London's Entrepreneur Competition. More than 500 students entered the competition, which was open to all students and recent graduates from London universities to submit their smart ideas for one of three categories: Environment, Creative Industries and Tech.

Civil Engineering alumnus, **Hassan Ahmad** - who is currently completing his Engineering PhD at Brunel - won the £20,000 Environment award for his project NanoShift: a patented technology for producing nano-sized material from green waste. Hassan said: "I am delighted to have won this award and could not have done it without the support of the staff at Brunel's Innovation Hub and my team: Professor Mizi Fan, Barry Read and **Kariem Ali** (MSc Marketing, 2018)."

Product Design graduate **Lauren Bell** won the £20,000 Creative Industries award for her project Cosi Care, a business dedicated to creating products that offer instant relief to children suffering with eczema. Lauren said: "Winning the award is such a massive honour and the money will allow us to exhibit at the Allergy and Free From Show in London this year, work on our website and brand, refine the prototype further and take us to the next exciting stages. Winning an office space for a year was incredible too, and in such a brilliant location. A very exciting year ahead for Cosi Care!"

Lauren also scored success with the project at the Venture Competition finals - run by the Brunel Innovation Hub - securing the top prize of £5,000 to take her business to the next level, generously provided by the Brunel Alumni Fund and Santander Universities.

Brunel has an established legacy of transforming students into entrepreneurs, and the success of its students and graduates in these competitions reflects this.

STUDY UK ALUMNI AWARDS FINALIST

Dr. **Fahad Alnaim** (MA Education, 2012) was selected as a finalist for the Study UK Alumni Awards 2019 in Saudi Arabia for his work as a champion of special needs education. Finalists were selected for their outstanding achievements as business professionals, entrepreneurs and community leaders, and for contributions in strengthening collaborative ties between the UK and Saudi Arabia.



ALUMNUS NAMED IN THE TOP 100 BAME LEADERS

Engineering alumnus and CEO of GeNNex Solar, **Nathaniel Peat** (BEng Mechanical Engineering, 2001 / MSc Advanced Manufacturing Systems, 2003), has been recognised as one of the Top 100 BAME (Black, Asian, Minority, and Ethnic) Leaders in the UK Technology sector.

On being recognised in the list, Nathaniel said that: "Myself and my co-founder are passionate about using technology as a force for good, and more importantly, to be role models within our community to show black and other ethnic groups that they too can achieve and become achievers in the Tech space. This is indeed a great honour to be listed and I hope it inspires young people who will be tomorrow's engineers and scientists."

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLING ALUMNA ANNOUNCED AS SPORTS COLUMNIST WITH THE GUARDIAN

International footballer, **Eniola Aluko (LLB Law, 2008)**, has been named as a new sport columnist for The Guardian. Eniola has made 102 appearances for England and joined Juventus from Chelsea in the summer of 2018. While at Chelsea, she won two league titles plus two FA Cups and was named player of the year in 2015. Speaking with The Guardian, Eniola said: "I am really pleased to be doing a regular opinion column with The Guardian and sharing all my views and experiences on women's football, the Premier League, the EFL and football administration."



MEDAL GLORY FOR SPORT SCIENCES ALUMNAE

It was medal success for our alumnae and former Sports Scholars at this year's European Indoor Athletics Championships held in Glasgow, with **Shelayna Oskan-Clarke (BSc Sport Sciences, 2011)** storming into Gold medal position in the 800m and **Melissa Courtney (BSc Sport Sciences, 2014 / MSc Sport & Exercise Psychology, 2017)** securing a PB and Bronze medal in the 3000m.



ALUMNA STARS IN BBC ONE DRAMA

Alexandra Afryea (BA Drama with Film & Television Studies, 1999) starred opposite Sheridan Smith, Alison Steadman and Sinead Keenan in Jimmy McGovern's CARE; a BBC One drama on our screens back in December. Having recently returned from the UAE where she was filming for Netflix, Alexandra will be in rehearsals for Macbeth, playing Lady Macbeth, in 2019.

GROUND-BREAKING SANITATION TECH CLAIMS SANTANDER AWARD



A Brunel PhD researcher claimed the prestigious Santander University Entrepreneurship Award in November for his ground-breaking modular wastewater treatment system. **Tom Fudge** - who graduated with a MSc in Sustainability, Entrepreneurship & Design at Brunel before moving on to his PhD - fought off stiff competition to collect the £25,000 award on behalf of his company WASE, whose treatment cells could soon be producing thousands of litres of clean water a day for some of the world's poorest communities.

"We couldn't believe it when they called out our name," said Tom. "Winning the Santander Entrepreneurship Award is a fantastic achievement for the team as they have put in such hard work over the last six months to get us to this point. I can't wait to see where we are in the next six months with the extra funding and traction that we have got from the last two weeks."



IN BRIEF

SPORTS ALUMNUS NAMED AS PRESIDENT OF THE RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Former Arsenal and England captain **Tony Adams MBE (Sport Sciences, 2006)** is to become the new president of the Rugby Football League, taking up the position in the summer of 2019.

LAW ALUMNUS NAMED AS UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR

The Raja Muda Kedah Tengku Sarafudin Badlishah Sultan Sallehuddin (LLB **Law, 1990**) has been named as the new Chancellor of Management and Science University (MSU).

PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR BIG SHAQ COMEDIAN

Michael Dapaah (BA Theatre & Film & Television Studies, 2014) - actor, rapper and comedian best known for portraying the fictional rapper, Big Shaq and his comedic rap "Man's Not Hot" - was honoured at the GRM Daily Rated Awards in September, winning the Personality of the Year Award.

BRUNEL ROMANCE SPARKS ROMANTIC ENGAGEMENT

Love is definitely in the air as a once-student romance at Brunel sparks a romantic engagement atop the roof of Rochester Cathedral for two of our alumni! Congratulations to **Joel Shopland (BSc Sport Sciences, 2104 / MSc Sport Sciences - Human Performance, 2016)** and **Joanna Hay (BSc Physiotherapy, 2016)**.

ENGINEERING ALUMNUS APPOINTED AS VICE CHANCELLOR

Professor Jean-Noël Ezingard (MSc Advanced Manufacturing Systems, 1991) has recently been named as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Roehampton. Professor Ezingard has previously held leadership positions at Brunel University London, Manchester Metropolitan University, Kingston University and Henley Business School.

DESIGN ALUMNA SECURES BOOK AWARD

Harriet Kelsall (BSc Industrial Design & Technology, 1993) - Founder and Chair of Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design Ltd - was named as the winner of the 'Startup Inspiration Book 2019' honour at the Business Book Awards for her book 'The Creatives Guide to Starting a Business: How to Turn your Talent into a Career.'

MUSIC ALUMNA TOPS THE BILL AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Music alumna, singer-songwriter, DJ & producer - **Emmavie Mbongo (BA Sonic Arts, 2013)** - has appeared on the bill for a special Late Night Jazz session as part of the Unstoppable Voices season at the prestigious Royal Albert Hall.

DAZZLING AUDIENCES ON THE WEST END STAGE

Stephenson Ardern-Sodje (BA English & Creative Writing, 2012) has been singing and rapping on the West End stage since 2017 as a cast member of the multiple award-winning musical, Hamilton.

DOUBLE OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST JOINS CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE CREW

Double Olympic gold medallist and former rowing World Champion, **James Cracknell OBE (MSc Sport Sciences, 1999)**, was selected for the Cambridge Boat Races team for the annual rowing contest between crews from Oxford and Cambridge University Boat Clubs - a rowing competition tradition that started in the 1820s.

FORBES 30 UNDER 30 SUCCESS

Bola Adegbulu (BEng Aviation Engineering, 2012), co-founder of Predina Tech, has been named on the 2019 Forbes 30 under 30 Manufacturing and Industry list. **Laura Kampis (BSc Computer Science, 2015 / MA Digital Games, 2016)** also featured in the prestigious Forbes 30 under 30 listings for her work as a creative games designer and her support of developer outreach programs.

BRUNEL CHAMPION TO FIGHT FOR RIGHTS OF DISABLED CONSUMERS

Marianne Waite (MA Design & Branding Strategy, 2011) has been appointed as the UK Government's Disability Champion for the Brand & Design sector. Marianne is the Founder and Director of Think Designable and Inclusive Design Consultant for Omnicom and has featured on the Forbes 30 Under 30 2017 list, winner of a 2017 Women of the Future Award, the IPA Women of Tomorrow Winner 2018 and named in the BIMA (British Interactive Media Association) 100 for 2018.

SUPPORTER NEWS

Our wonderful alumni and supporters help Brunel in all kinds of ways. From delivering talks, writing profiles or becoming a mentor to making financial gifts to support our student scholarships and help develop our research and campus projects. Here are just a few of the ways that your support is making an impact

Your gifts are making all the difference

Thanks to generous donations from our alumni community and supporters, our students have the opportunity to receive a range of scholarships. Your kind donations are making all the difference to our students.

Katie is in the final year of her Law degree and has been the recipient of an **Undergraduate Academic Excellence Scholarship**, something she says was “so valuable, especially to students like myself who come from a low income family. Your donation is appreciated more than you’ll ever know.” Margarida, a first year Creative Writing student has also received the Academic Excellence Scholarship, allowing her to “study a course I enjoy abroad regardless of financial means” and “make the most of my course and university life.”

Kishan, a final year Law student, has received both the **Brunel Bursary** and **Placement Scholarship** during his time as a student. “The scholarships are so valuable as they have given me financial assistance without having to rely on my family, which is why I am very grateful for those that have donated to the scholarship funds.”

For Lorenzo, an MSc Physiotherapy student and recipient of a **Postgraduate Academic Excellence Scholarship**, the financial support has “supported my accommodation fees for several months.”

As a mark of academic achievement, Lorenzo also feels that the scholarship is “an award of my academic efforts, which has given me the confidence to pursue my career goals.”

For final year Civil Engineering student, Stefany, the **Thomas Gerald Gray Scholarship** - a specialist Engineering award - has funded a large proportion of her tuition fee, helping her to “achieve my academic aspirations and future career goals.” Stefany says that scholarships show that “the University is investing in its students” and giving them “another reason to strive to be the best versions of themselves.”



The value of volunteering

As a Patron of the Teenage Cancer Trust and a retired Solicitor, Dr John Matlin (BA American Studies, 2004 / MA American Politics, 2005) studied at Brunel as a mature student. John is new to our volunteer programme, and cites the benefits of volunteering for both the students and the volunteers themselves.

“When I taught at a University, once a week I’d give one or two lectures and four seminars. I felt I’d contributed. That was exactly how I felt after attending the event. Thank you for inviting me - it’s a privilege to come to Brunel and give back.” John returned to Brunel to provide advice and guidance to our students at a Careers Uncovered event and give an insight into his experience of the charity sector.

A summer school experience with support from Santander Universities

As part of its ongoing efforts to increase the number of students spending time abroad during their time at Brunel, our international summer school programmes - run by the College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences - provide the perfect opportunity to embrace a new culture, participate in industry visits and observe first hand business practices. Financially supported by donations and funding from Santander Universities, students can choose to take up a place in countries including India and China.

Business and Management student, Sophie, attended the China summer school programme during the penultimate year of her degree in 2017 and described the trip as an opportunity to “develop a range of skills and experience things I never would have done. The activities we were doing included Mandarin lessons, trips to Chinese businesses and cultural lessons - I thought these were not only things that could benefit my course but also improve my CV and future career.” Sophie graduates from her course this summer and plans to use the skills learnt to enhance her graduate applications.



Crowdfunding for the future

Thanks to your generous donations, our Crowdfund platform and support for projects created by our students, university faculty, and staff members is going from strength to strength. Your gifts have led to the successful launch of various projects on campus, including:

- The £2,300 raised in 2017 enabled the installation of new equipment for the Outdoor Gym, set to engage thousands of Brunel students and members of the local community in physical activity and encourage a healthier lifestyle.
- Wheelchair Basketball is the fastest improving Sports Club at Brunel, and in 2017, your gifts helped to raise £515 for sports wheelchairs, enabling the team to compete in the University Championships and contribute to the legacy of disability sport at Brunel.
- In 2018, the Brunel Ahlulbayt Society - a religious, humanitarian, and social society - successfully raised £625 to fund their events programme.

Other projects that you have also been supporting include: a Team Brunel Abroad trip to Bali to volunteer with the Bali Sports Foundation; funding to support a full Brunel PhD studentship in leukaemia research;

and support for developing a competitive national league for the Brunel Bulls wheelchair basketball club.

In addition to your kind donations, Brunel also offers match funding, matching every donation £1 of £1 up to £250 for every approved project.

GET INVOLVED

From making a gift to inspiring our students and alumni through talks, profiles and mentoring, your generous support makes such a difference.

Find out more about how you can get involved at: brunel.ac.uk/giving

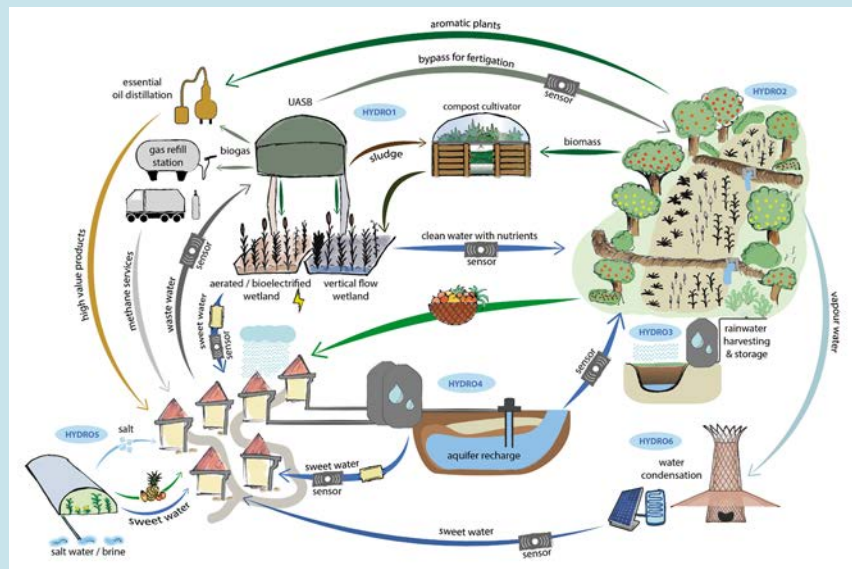
RESEARCH

HYDROUSA project aims to douse Mediterranean drought

Drought-prone Mediterranean islands could soon be awash with recovered water, thanks to a new multi-million-euro project launched in Athens.

Led by researchers at Brunel University London and the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), the €12m HYDROUSA project aims to close the 'water loop' by demonstrating how nature-based technologies can be used to recover fresh water and nutrients from wastewater, groundwater and water vapour.

Funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, the 54-month, 27-partner project will see experimental sites set up on the Greek islands of Mykonos, Lesbos and Tinos, with replication sites set up at a further 25 locations worldwide.



Potential markers identified for early detection and prevention of liver cancer

Liver cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related mortality worldwide, claiming 700,000 lives each year. Most cases are discovered too late for a cure, but now a study offers hope of early detection, and targets for new treatments.

Published in *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*, the results show a dramatic increase in expression of sugar-burning 'glycolytic' enzymes in precancerous cirrhotic livers. This increase is associated with a significantly higher risk of developing hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) - the main type of liver cancer - and could lead to a biomarker which identifies those at risk of malignancy.



Brunel builds smart bridges

An intelligent road bridge being developed at Brunel University London aims to thrust the technology its Victorian engineer namesake championed into the digital era. The Welding Institute, construction giants James Fisher, and the engineering-led institution named after Isambard Kingdom Brunel, are working on a smart bridge.

But unlike Isambard's iconic iron-and-stone constructions, such as Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol, their bridge is a 'digital twin' of a real-life working road and rail bridge in Watford. The physical bridge which carries London Underground's Metropolitan line over the A4145 to Rickmansworth will be embedded with sensors to monitor safety, wear and tear. This data is fed via the cloud into algorithms that analyse the bridge's structure and condition and map it in real time onto an exact virtual model, or digital twin.

"A working digital twin of a structure such as this is cutting-edge," said Dr Miltiadis Kourmpetis at Brunel Innovation Centre. "The technology is still relatively new."

The smart bridge will also help engineers head off potential problems before they strike by predicting how the real bridge will react to different weather conditions, amounts of traffic, ground vibrations and even if it's hit in a collision.

To read these stories in full and explore our range of research articles in more detail, please head to: brunel.ac.uk/news-and-events

WE NEED TO PLAY FOR MORE TIME

By Dr Kate Hoskins (Brunel University London) and Dr Sue Smedley (University of Roehampton)

While a new research project reveals that the Froebelian principles of play are more relevant than ever, the authors also discovered that pressures associated with 'school readiness' are getting in the way. Dr Kate Hoskins (Reader in Education, Brunel University London) and Dr Sue Smedley (Head of Undergraduate Taught Programmes, University of Roehampton) explained more in an article written for the Early Years Educator (EYE) – reproduced with permission.

The important role of play in developing children's understandings and experiences of the world is well established in the early childhood education and care (ECEC) sector. Despite this, the current context is focused on ensuring young children achieve 'school readiness' and this has contributed to academic pressure in early years provision in England. The term 'school readiness' is expressed in England's early year's curriculum as 'Children reaching a good level of development in the prime areas of literacy and mathematics'. This academic pressure has, we argue, resulted in children in early year's settings having less time to play.

Benefits of outdoor play

The pressure facing early years settings in England to show 'school readiness' is part of an increased drive to bring early years into accountability. In their recent research project, Dr Kate Hoskins and Dr Sue Smedley, interviewed 33 early years practitioners in six settings, working with pre-school children aged between two-to-four-years-old. They wanted to gain insights into their understanding of Froebel's concept of learning through play and explore if they had the time to encourage and enable play. Their findings revealed that providing

the time required for play is a key component of successful, rich opportunities for children to develop autonomy and self-esteem.

Creating tensions

All of the practitioners who were interviewed valued play as a way to enhance the social, emotional and academic development of children, yet they reported that they had limited time for providing play opportunities due to the target-driven and academically orientated early years policy context in England. It was found that having sufficient time for children to play is a key issue for these practitioners, but so too is the professional confidence and understandings of enacting Froebelian informed play. A further necessary ingredient to enable play to flourish is a supportive parent or carer who appreciates the importance of play for all aspects of child development, but this support was not always forthcoming for our practitioners.

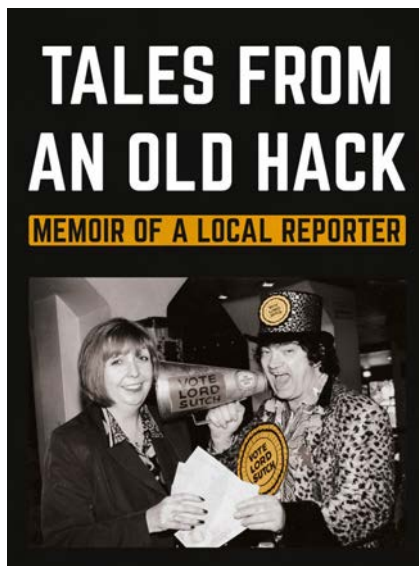
The importance our practitioners attached to play, along with the difficulty of providing time to play, created a tension in the settings. The tension is also fuelled by having to enact government policy which emphasises school readiness over and above other areas of child development.

The future

The authors argue that the need to provide children with time to play is worthy of placing further policy pressure on the English government to understand its importance and to legislate for time and appropriate well-stocked spaces to play.

The original research, 'Protecting and extending Froebelian principles in practice: exploring the importance of learning through play', is published in the Journal of Early Childhood Research.

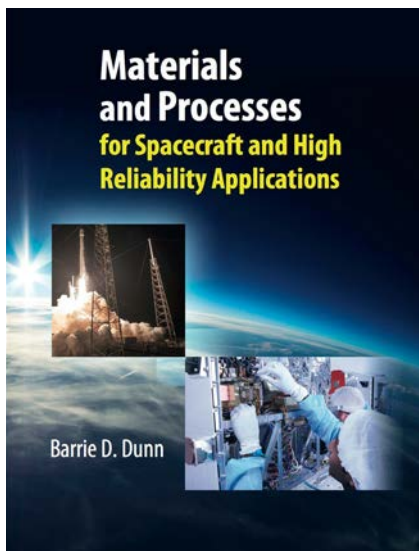
BRUNEL IN PRINT



Barbara Fisher (MA Creative & Professional Writing, 2012)

Tales from an Old Hack

Tales from an Old Hack is a funny, poignant and sometimes surprising memoir of how Barbara, a teacher, took on her second career as a full-time journalist in West London. Barbara reminds us of the glory days of the local press before the internet, where fake news hadn't been invented.



Barrie D. Dunn

Barrie Dunn (BTech Metallurgy, 1968 / MPhil Metallurgy, 1984 / PhD Materials Technology, 1986)

Materials and Processes for Spacecraft and High Reliability Applications

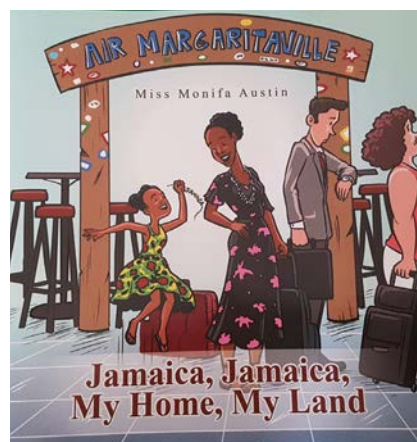
In this book, Barrie demonstrates how materials science and manufacturing technology can assist scientists and engineers select the ideal material or process for spacecraft and terrestrial applications.



Harriet Kelsall (BSc Industrial Design & Technology, 1993)

The Creative's Guide to Starting a Business: How to turn your talent into a career

This book is for people with a creative passion for making beautiful objects who are wondering whether they can take the next step and turn their creativity into their career. The book offers easy to follow advice on establishing a rewarding start-up and shares case studies from successful creatives within different fields.



Lianne Austin ('Miss Monifa Austin') (BSc Psychology & Sociology, 2015)

Jamaica, Jamaica, My Home, My Land

When seven year old Shania returns back to Jamaica, her homeland, for the first time in three years, she is reunited with her family and meets her cousin, Tamika. Together, the inseparable pair make mischief in the parish of St. James and at the last minute she decides she wants to stay. Will her mother get her back in time before their flight leaves?



Seffie Wells (MSc Psychological & Psychiatric Anthropology, 2010)

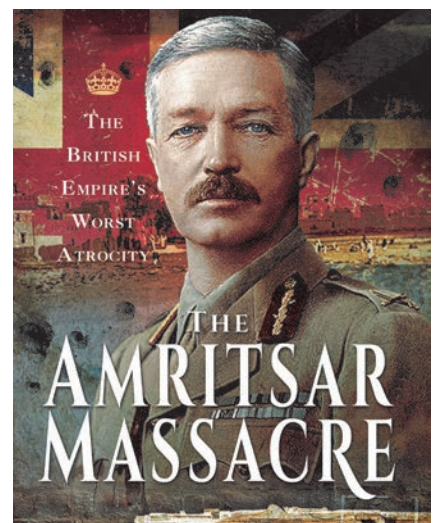
Raising Babies

Part 1: How to Support Your Newborn Baby's Development

Part 2: Your Baby's First Year: Month-by-Month Developmental Stages

Part 3: Early Developmental Stages: Step by Step Stages of your Baby's Psychological Development

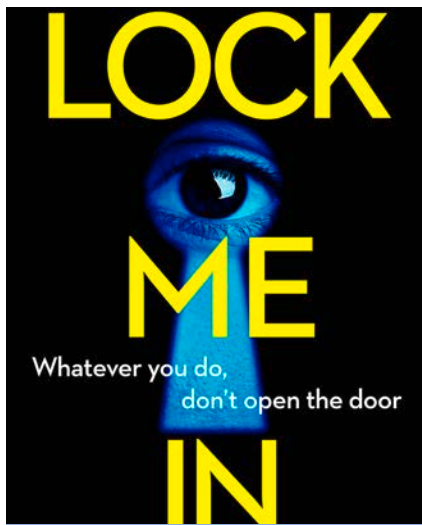
In this book, written using key principles in Child Psychology, Child Development and Anthropology, we take a detailed look at your baby's development throughout their first year of life, preparing you to help support your baby's growth and development and strengthen and nurture your bond as parent and child.



Vanessa Holburn (Communication & Information Studies, 1992)

The Amritsar Massacre: The British Empire's Worst Atrocity

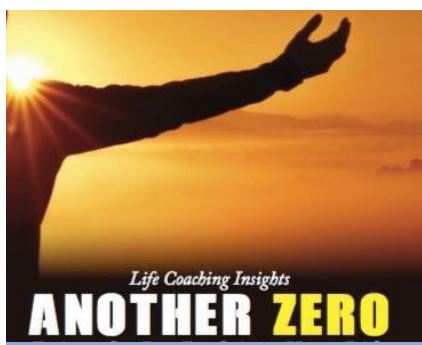
The shocking massacre of 379 unarmed Indian civilians in the enclosed Jallianwala Bagh by British Officer Robert Dyer on 13 April 1919 is considered a brutal example of colonial abuse. The infamous event went on to galvanise the nationalist movement, making independence from India inevitable. This book examines the context in which the shooting took place - and discusses its aftermath. Ultimately, it asks why something that took place 100 years ago remains so controversial - and why an official apology is needed.



Kate Simants (MA Creative Writing: the Novel, 2008)

Lock Me In

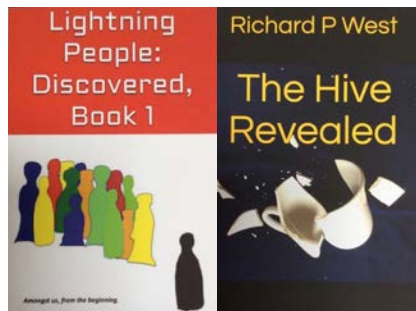
A night she can't remember. A boyfriend she can't find. A body she can't control. By day, Ellie Power is coping fine. She has a stable home, a loving boyfriend, a future. But it's the nights that are hard. Since childhood, Ellie has suffered from fugues: periods of unconscious wakefulness that she can't remember the next day. By night, she speaks, moves and acts with a different personality: she is angry, unpredictable, and violent. With the help of her mother and some vigilant security, the fugues had been contained. Until the day Ellie wakes covered with injuries. She is streaked with mud. The locks on her door are smashed from the inside. And her boyfriend Matt is missing. DS Ben Kwon Mae is no stranger to the Powers. When Ellie's best friend disappeared six years ago, it was Mae who headed the investigation. Now, when it falls to him to find out what's happened to Matt, he starts to suspect there's more in Ellie's history than she's willing to share.



Giselle Marrinan (MSc Applied Immunology, 1991)

Another Zero

Another Zero offers a simple, yet powerful, path to reaching our full potential in a safe, non-prescriptive, non-judgemental way at our own pace, outlining exercises to raise awareness and encourage self- assessment.

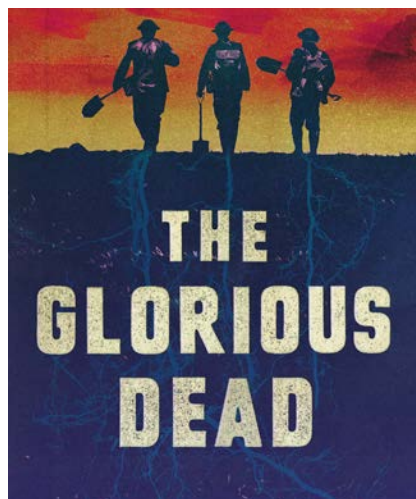


Richard West (BTech Mechanical Engineering, 1971)

Lightning People: Discovered, Book 1 / The Hive Revealed

Lightning People: Discovered, Book 1 - In 1903 Kenneth's life was transformed. He could see our Auras. We can't see anything different about him. But even he did not realize the full extent of the changes he had endured. Then he discovered the Lightning People. Although not immortal, they have long lifespans vastly greater than ours. But amongst the Lightning People are Rogues who are selfish, cunning and dangerous.

The Hive Revealed - David falls off a step ladder and breaks a coffee cup. That is not all that is changed that day. Somehow this opens up a link to a telepathic alien species, who live far far away.



Tim Atkinson (PGCE Secondary Education, 1987)

The Glorious Dead

It's 100 years since the Great War ended. But when the guns fell silent there were over 150,000 bodies unburied on the Western Front. Three years later, 918 British War Cemeteries containing 580,000 named and 180,000 unnamed graves had been created. Never before had any nation gone to such lengths to find and bury its war dead. Yet the details of how and why it happened is one of the great untold stories of British history. The men who dug the graves.



Philip Tew (PhD Creative Writing: The Novel, 2016)

Afterlives

Afterlives is the funny and moving revised version of the fictional element of Philip's doctoral thesis, about an ageing academic trying to write a novel about his past and the numerous creative and bizarre people he once knew, all of whom have since died prematurely.



Oliver King (MA Design Strategy & Innovation, 1999) & James Samperi (MA Design Strategy & Innovation, 2001)

Customer-Driven Transformation

The book, co-written with Engine Service Design co-founder Joe Heapy, is a practical guide to leading a transformational programme within businesses using design thinking to change how services are created and ensure everything is beautifully designed, elegant in use and brilliant in customer-mindedness.



Dr Jack Van Minden (PhD Henley Management College, 1999)

The IQ Trainer

This book provides a practical guide to IQ tests, packed full of practice tests and advice on how to complete them.

LOLA DE LA MATA

MA Experimental Music, 2017



Lola has just been appointed Composer-In-Association with Nonclassical - the new music promoter, record label and events producer. She is a London-based

French composer, artist and multi-instrumentalist who is particularly interested in how the physicality of sound can be embodied within her music. Over the next year, she'll be writing new work and curating a Nonclassical night.

EMMAVIE MBONGO

BA Sonic Arts, 2013

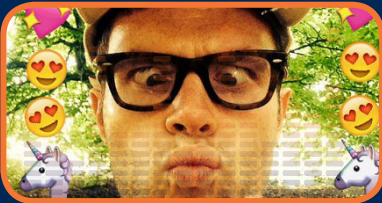


Emmavie is a London-based singer-songwriter, DJ and producer. She recently headlined at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the Unstoppable Voices series. She

specialises in what she describes as 'limitless, soulful, future RnB.' She was awarded BBC Radio 1Xtra's 'Best of British' for a song from her new album, 'Honey.' The video for her new song 'Rather Be' has just been released.

JACK GOLDSTEIN

BA Music, 2016



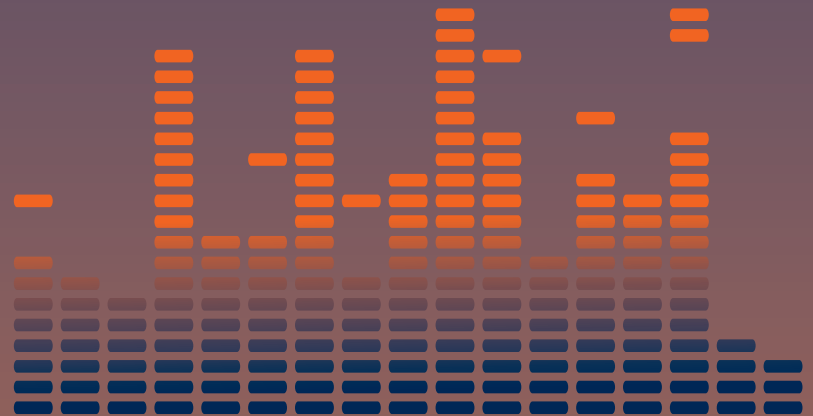
'Answer to the Problem of Human Existence' is an inspired collage of found sound energized by live guitar, bass, synths and his trademark shaker, topped with layered Beach Boys vocals and lyrics that express the true unadulterated joy of feeling a deep and meaningful connection to everything.

MATT LONDON

Music Research PhD, expected end 2019



Matt was recently nominated for a British Composers Award for his work - 'Rituals.' He has a unique approach to composition, designing works that channel free improvisation. This individuality is reflected in his successes, having also recently secured funding from the Arts Council England for his group, Ensemble Entropy.



PLAYED IN BRUNEL

DANILO WALDE

BA Music, 2002

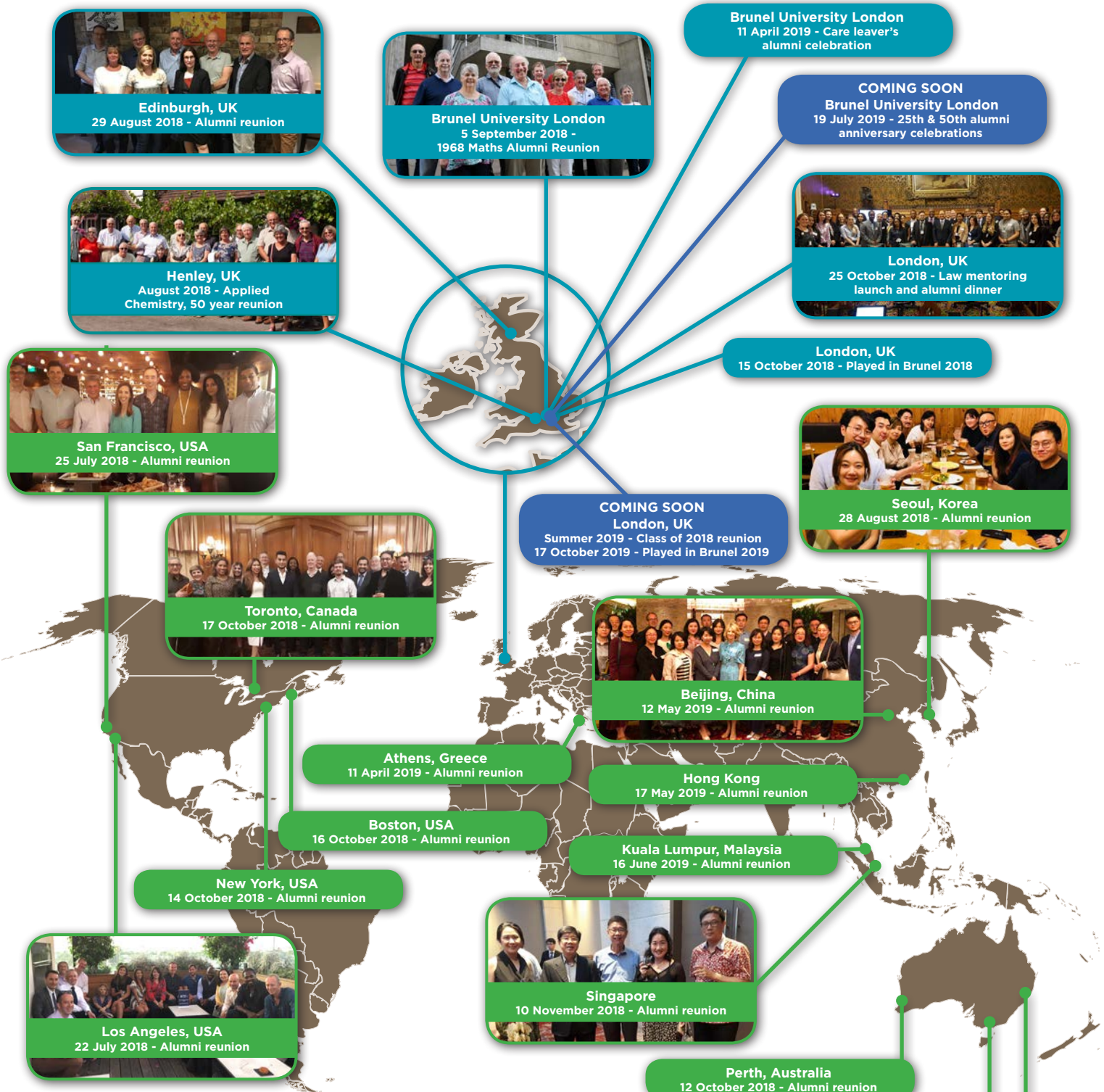


Danilo is a DJ and performer from West London. He has created for theatre, film and dance for the likes of ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the English National Ballet, and in 2012 DJ'ed in front of a worldwide television audience for the London 2012 Paralympics opening ceremony. He has just composed a soundscape for the English National

Ballet's new production 'She Persisted' - performed at Sadlers Wells Theatre, London. Danilo also works as an artist-tutor, running music-based projects for various charities and institutions, including The Roundhouse, Mousetrap and Ministry of Stories. He is a regular performer and leader for Some Voices choir.

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Planning a reunion?

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