



The University of  
**Nottingham**

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# English@Nottingham

School of English Newsletter 2014-15



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# Welcome to the School of English

There are many things that are great about English at Nottingham – whether it's the diversity of texts you can study, tapping into the platform for debate and discussion, or opportunities to spend time abroad, as well as studying what you love with others as passionate about English as you are – all this is open to you, along with getting involved in amazing extracurricular activities. As a student editorial team, we have all thoroughly enjoyed our time at Nottingham and have got stuck into many of the activities highlighted in this newsletter. Whether you are an undergraduate, MA or PhD student, we hope you will find that Nottingham offers what you're looking for.

## Meet our student editorial team



**Eve Wersocki-Morris**  
BA English, graduated July 2014

Over the last three years I've directed three productions for the New Theatre, been Arts Editor for *Impact* magazine and enjoyed a placement at the Nottingham Playhouse.

**Favourite moment:** the first week of teaching in first year. Everything was wonderfully new and blissfully exciting.  
**Favourite module:** Screen Shakespeares – who wouldn't love a module when you get to watch *Gnomeo and Juliet* and call it background research?



**Harry Patte-Dobbs**  
BA English, final year

I love reading and writing and have enjoyed expanding my talents through many of the University's platforms such as StudentSoc.

**Favourite moment:** my first madcap workshop with theatre module convenor Dr Gordon Ramsay – the reason I chose to continue drama modules into my final year.  
**Favourite module:** Modern and Contemporary Literature 1910-Present – a great chance to read and study an eclectic mix of literature, from ultra-real science fiction to poetry anthologies.



**Lucia Scigliano Suarez**  
MA English Literature

I've just completed my dissertation on British Romanticism and hope to go on to do a PhD.

**Favourite moment:** volunteering at the ICAME conference. It was a great opportunity to meet renowned academics from the field.  
**Favourite module:** MA Literature and Identity, 1789-1914 – I loved reading Romantic and Victorian poetry and prose and studying how the texts reflect the construction of a personal and/or national identity.



**Radhika Chond**  
BA English and American Studies, third year

I'm crazy about Harry Potter, love Robert Frost's poetry and take pleasure in expressing my thoughts through blogging, tweeting and writing arts articles.

**Favourite moment:** watching Dr Matt Green spread out on the desk as he re-enacted a scene from the Gothic Novel *The Beetle*.

**Favourite module:** Literature and Popular Culture – an opportunity to explore well known and favoured literature in an enjoyable, interactive way.



**Bethan Wilkes**  
BA English Language, final year

I'm hoping to work in publishing after I graduate. I joined the editorial team so I could take an active role in publishing a project from the ground up.

**Favourite moment:** Dr Christina Lee declaring her 'liking for a Viking!'  
**Favourite module:** Literary Linguistics – it was fascinating to get into the nitty-gritty of the language and to look at why specific words have a certain effect on us.

### Congratulations to our 2014 student prize-winners

**University Prize for Best Student in the School of English**  
Georgina Dobie, BA English Language and Literature

**School Prize for Best Joint Honours Student**  
Samuel Rigby, BA English and History

**Undergraduate Dissertation Prize**  
Georgina Dobie – 'An investigation into Aphasia', BA English Language and Literature

**Lucy Edwards Prize for Outstanding Achievement in DH Lawrence Studies**  
Rachael Cooney, BA English

**Kirk White Poetry Prize**  
Felix Taylor, BA English with Creative Writing

**Head of School's Special Commendation Prize**  
Sarah Cresswell, BA English and History

**Best Students with the Highest Average Mark at Part I**  
Joshua Neal, BA English  
Olivia Rowe, BA English and Philosophy

**Bond Literary Essay Prize**  
First prize – Eleanor Hughes, BA English, for her essay on James Joyce

Runner-up – Georgina Palmiero, BA Art History and English, for her essay on theatre industry and theatre art

**Prizes for Outstanding Contribution to the Community**

First prize – Abigail Blaylock, BA English with Creative Writing, for her work with the Lakeside Literacy Project

Runner up – Helena Becci, BA English Language and Literature, for her placement at Nottingham Playhouse with Youth Theatre

**MA Prizes Highest Average Marks**  
Gavin Brookes, MA Applied Linguistics, and Annalise Grice, MA English Literature

**Distance Learning Prize**  
Fiona Lake, MA Modern English Language

## A peek at my week: Seven days in the life of an English student

### Liam Knight

**President of the English Society**  
BA English with Creative Writing, final year

#### Monday

Today I went to the drama workshop for my module Advanced Writing Practice. This semester we're looking at Jon McGregor's *This Isn't the Sort of Thing That Happens to Someone Like You*. Following this, I went to see my dissertation supervisor to talk through a few ideas – being on the creative writing course, my dissertation takes the form of an extended short story.

#### Tuesday

On Tuesdays I have my Screen Shakespeares film screening. This module combines film studies with the close analysis of Shakespeare's works, something that I never expected to study here at Nottingham. This week, we were looking at Kurosawa's *Ran*, a samurai epic based on *King Lear*.

#### Wednesday

As President of the English Society, I hold regular committee meetings to organise socials, theatre trips, book swaps, coffee and cake afternoons, and everything in between! In this role I represent the student body at the School's Learning Community Forum, where representatives from across the school discuss issues or ideas we have relating to teaching and learning.

Last year I wrote, directed and produced a short play, *Cracked China*, in the student-run Nottingham New Theatre's fringe season. This year, I'm hoping to stage a much larger play so I attended the fringe meeting to gain an insight into what they're looking for this time.

#### Thursday

Today I had my Twentieth-Century Dystopias seminar on Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* which was a pleasure because it's quite possibly my favourite book ever. That's what's great about the final year modules – you can choose to study what you enjoy most.

#### Friday

I updated the English Society's social media and web pages and had another meeting with the committee to plan the Annual Ball. Socials like this allow our members a great opportunity to relax, dress up and be treated like royalty for an evening!

Later we headed over to the Students' Union bar to meet the first years. This gives us a chance to make sure that they know who we are as a society, while giving them the chance to talk to older students about their first few weeks at university.



Liam Knight, President of the English Society.



Lucia Scigliano Suarez, MA English Literature.

### Lucia Scigliano Suarez

MA English Literature

#### Monday

I started my day with a Pilates class at the Fitness Centre. Then I went to my weekly seminar on Modernism where we discussed *Jacob's Room* as a critique of war. Following this, I had a briefing for the Writers' Conference, where volunteers received important information about the event. Later I attended the lecture of the Tradition of Critique module, which allows postgraduate students to apply critical thinkers' theory to their own research area.

#### Tuesday

At today's Literature and Identity seminar, we studied ways in which Victorian poetry reflects national identity. I also participated in the PhD student-led postgraduate seminar which provides information about postgraduate life.

#### Wednesday

As a student ambassador, I was involved in helping at an open day where prospective students can meet staff and current students. My day ended with a lecture on identity and biology, part of a series which brings departments together to highlight different approaches to the same topic across various research areas.

#### Thursday

I went to a careers talk for arts students. Afterwards, I met up with some linguist friends who I worked with to put on ICAME, a school research conference. Nottingham's volunteering opportunities are great for getting to know students from other research areas.

#### Friday

I joined a Latin study group, started by researcher Brent Lapidula to offer a relaxed and exam-free environment where you can learn the language.

#### Saturday and Sunday

On Saturday, I spent the day volunteering at the Writers' Conference. It was a great event which enabled me to meet local authors. I occupied my time on Sunday by writing a paper to present at a conference.

# More than simply studying

Going to university isn't only about studying. Extracurricular activities offer the chance to apply skills and knowledge you've gained during your degree and they look great on your CV. A few students tell us about their experiences.

## Impact magazine

Antonia Paget, Editor-in-Chief

Working for *Impact* alongside my English degree has been a great experience. Juggling my academic and extracurricular commitments has helped me develop my time management skills and my writing styles. I'd recommend it to anyone. My role includes managing a team of more than 50

editors and commissioning, editing and writing content. Editor-in-Chief is responsible for both the management and editorial side of the publication, so it's a great way to gain experience of running a group, no matter what your career plans.



The *Impact* Editorial Team 2013-14. Image: Andreas Billman.

## Student blogs

The School of English encourages its students to build up their own writing portfolios, for example through online blogs. Two of our current student life bloggers explain more.

Eve Wersocki-Morris  
BA English, graduated 2014

For the last year I've been a student life blogger. It's been an enjoyable test of imagination to think up a creative idea every week. The blogs have been a platform for me to express my eccentricities. My topics have included how to explain Christmas to an alien; several exciting uses for leftover plastic bags; the dangers of walking while listening to an iPod; Oscar Wilde's impenetrable witticism; and why more people should take showers together. It's been a wild run and I am very sorry to say goodbye to the role.



Radhika Chond  
BA English and American Studies, second year

In my spare time I contribute to my independent blog whilst writing creative and informative pieces for *Impact Arts* and *Jabberwocky*, whether it be a quick poem or a theatre review. These forums are perfect places to express your thoughts in a creative and non-assessed way, making the process both enriching and enjoyable. I also held the position of AmeriCan Society's Welfare Officer and worked on hypnotist and former Nottingham medicine student, Aaron Calvert's PR Team. Maintaining my various roles and responsibilities helped provide me with invaluable experience and made my second year an enjoyable whirlwind of opportunities that I wouldn't have found elsewhere.

Find out more:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/blogs](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/blogs)



## University Radio Nottingham (URN)

Ben Hollands  
URN Drama Editor and script writer

Organising all of URN's drama output over the last two years as Drama Editor has been more rewarding than I ever could have hoped. I've had the pleasure of working on some brilliant radio drama as well as meeting some very talented people. Highlights include writing and laughing with the sketch guys and building a sitcom, from writing and casting to recording and editing.

## Nottingham New Theatre (NT)

Chloe Bickford  
NT actor

I know it's a cliché, but Nottingham New Theatre is like one big family. The support and opportunities on offer are incredible and, from a five-minute sketch in the freshers' fringe as a weatherwoman, to a 70-year-old Mancunian, I've played a range of roles. There's been a strong link between my course and my work with NT and the two complement each other continually. The time commitment is up to you – I choose to spend a lot of time at the theatre because I want to get stuck in, with acting, tech and stage management. After spending my summer in a production at the Edinburgh Fringe, I'm very excited about what my final year holds.



Students on stage at Nottingham New Theatre.

# Careers and employability



Students on placement at the Nottingham Playhouse.

## Students celebrate placement success

We celebrated the generosity of our placement providers and our students' successes at the school's first placement event in May. Professor Josephine Guy and Dr Kevin Harvey introduced the evening and Eve Wersocki-Morris, a final-year undergraduate student, also gave a short speech about her placement at the Nottingham Playhouse:

"I was the assistant to the Nottingham Playhouse Critics' Circle – a group of young people from Nottingham schools who are invited to press nights at the Playhouse and then asked to write a response.

"I like watching and reviewing theatre and editing, but the placement would also have been perfect for someone interested in teaching. It was a great experience."

## Students and social media

As part of their placements, some students were responsible for writing and publishing online blogs. Take a look at The Mouthy Poets blog as an example:  
[www.mouthypoets.wordpress.com](http://www.mouthypoets.wordpress.com)

# Graduate profile:

## Peter Cary

Assistant Editor for Literature/Theatre and Performance,  
Palgrave Macmillan

BA English, graduated 2011

I've been lucky enough to pursue a mix of full-time employment and my own creative projects in the past couple of years, going into publishing, which has always fascinated me, and writing plays in the evenings, which have been performed in cities across the UK.

Macmillan has been a fantastic company to work for and my current role in academic titles with Palgrave means that I get to work with many of the people who guided me in my own writing back when I was a student – the same academics who taught me to write, and whose research encouraged me to think.

My years at Nottingham were among the happiest of my life and my greatest advice to anyone applying to study is to make the most out of your time there.



Peter Cary, Assistant Editor at Palgrave Macmillan.

## Helping you plan your career

The University's Careers and Employability Service has a dedicated Faculty of Arts team that can help with any careers queries that School of English students may have.

From CV-writing to interview skills, to finding a placement, the team is very approachable and actively helps English students with every aspect of their career and employability journey.

In addition to regular services, last year they hosted their extremely successful 'Futures Festival'. The aim of the festival was to help students begin thinking about their career and future direction after university and gave them the opportunity to speak to alumni and employers about potential career, work experience and volunteering options.

Final-year Nottingham student Amy said: "I had a truly inspiring and enjoyable time advising peers at the event which also provided me with an opportunity to network with publishing and teaching representatives."

Find out more at [www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers/arts](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers/arts) or visit our careers blogs at [blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/careers](http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/careers)

You can also follow [@UoNCareers](#) on Twitter.

### Top five careers for our English graduates:

1. Education
2. Public Relations
3. Marketing
4. Media
5. Human Resource management

In 2013 91% of our graduates gained employment or went on to further study within six months of graduation. This is according to the official Destination of Leavers of Higher Education Survey of 2012/13 graduates.

## Congratulations to London Grammar

London Grammar started at The University of Nottingham when Hannah Reid (BA Art History and English, 2011) met fellow band member Dan Rothman (BA Economics and Philosophy, 2011) while they were both staying in Ancaster Hall.

The band was completed when Dominic Major (BA English, 2012) joined them. Staff and students in the School of English wish to congratulate the band on their success to date, which includes a Brit nomination and an Ivor Novello award.

Follow London Grammar on Twitter via [@LondonGrammar](#)



London Grammar.

# Volunteer to make a difference

## Peer mentoring scheme

Launched last year, our peer mentoring scheme is already proving a success. Second and final-year students sign up to mentor and support incoming first years and students from our Ningbo campus in China.

Second-year English Language and Literature student Bethany Foxon is one of our peer mentors. She said: “The idea is that students can approach us with problems that they might not want to mention to tutors. Hopefully I've managed to give my mentees the support they needed to get started at university, particularly with things like how to reference an essay.”

This year the school started a similar scheme for postgraduate students, with PhD students volunteering to mentor masters students.

## Literacy Support Project

The School of English offers opportunities for students to support literacy in the wider community through volunteering in one of five primary schools, or at the Nottingham University Samworth Academy (NUSA).

The project has had a definable effect on volunteers, who have described it as “a positive and rewarding experience.” It is also a great way for those interested in teaching to gain work experience.

Of course the schools benefit too, with a 2012 Ofsted report from NUSA crediting the support of staff and students from the University with dramatically improving their results.



An English student on placement at the Nottingham University Samworth Academy.

## Vikings for Schools

This outreach project by the Centre of Studies for the Viking Age (CSVA) has led to a fun and successful series of workshops over the past year. Postgraduate and undergraduate volunteers have been planning and running activities both on campus and in primary school classrooms. The children enjoyed learning to read and write in runes, finding out how the Vikings lived and fought, and even meeting 'real-life' Vikings!



Congratulations to Emma Vosper who successfully bid for funds from the Faculty's pARTicipate scheme to buy replica artefacts, craft items and clothing. She said: “Like me, many of the student volunteers participating in the project love their subject and revel in any opportunity to explore it further outside of academic study. Vikings for Schools provides just such an opportunity in a fun way that is academically and professionally advantageous.”

## First Story

In a bid to encourage creativity and self-confidence in GCSE pupils throughout the East Midlands, non-profit organisation First Story is running a series of creative writing workshops where acclaimed writers can motivate and enthuse pupils, encouraging them to hone their own creative craft and love of literature. Students from The University of Nottingham are able to shadow and collaborate with the professional authors as part of the project. The creative writing event held by First Story earlier in the year was a huge success, with students, staff and volunteers awed by the high quality of work produced by participating pupils.

## Letters Page

Described as ‘a literary journal with a difference’, the Letters Page is based in the School of English, under the direction of Professor Jon McGregor. Each issue comprises letters – sad, happy, moving and funny – covering diverse subjects from first kisses to time travel and in doing so, reviving the idea of letter-writing as a connection between people. The journal offers editorial, production and publicity roles for those wanting to undertake a project-based dissertation and gives students the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the publishing and editing world.

Find out more:  
[www.theletterspage.ac.uk](http://www.theletterspage.ac.uk)

## The Brilliant Club

Our PhD students are involved in working with The Brilliant Club – a newly launched opportunity for students to inspire and coach students from state schools which have traditionally seen low numbers of university applications. In these student-led workshops, the pupils are encouraged to develop the knowledge, skills and ambition that will help them secure places at top universities.

Find out more:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/community](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/community)

# Stepping into the world of dissertations

## Undergraduate project-based dissertation

The project-based dissertation offers students the chance to focus on a practical case study. Kirsty Meakin describes her experience at Nottingham Lakeside Arts:

“For my project-based dissertation I analysed an adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, designed for children and families. I enjoy watching and analysing theatre and I'd been fascinated by Susan Bennett's work on theatre audiences which I encountered on a second-year drama module. In addition, I'm training to be a teacher in September and felt this dissertation would give me a useful insight into how theatre can be educational.

“I attended creative team meetings, held interviews with Lakeside staff, and attended some production rehearsals and several performances. Being able to observe every aspect of the life of a professional production was amazing.”

## Undergraduate subject dissertations

Megan Davies, BA English, tells us below about her dissertation, 'Revolution! and not a drop of blood spilt or a shot fired!: Exploring the role of language in creating the fictional working-class worlds of *Love on the Dole* and *Living*'.

“I guess what I liked about doing a subject dissertation is that the only pressure came from me. I really enjoyed my books so I didn't have to force myself to read them and when the argument came together I could read it back and enjoy knowing that I'd made these links and it was all my own thinking.”

## Postgraduate taught dissertations

At postgraduate level, you're expected to write a 14,000-word original piece of work under the supervision of an academic whose expertise is related to your research area.

The School of English offers a number of modules to prepare you for such demanding, yet rewarding, work, and the University hosts excellent resources to help you.

Well-equipped computer rooms, the Hallward Library and research facilities specifically designed for postgraduates are complemented by dissertation writing sessions and informative seminars led by the school's academics.

## Research centres

- Research Centres offer a place for staff and students who have common research interests to meet, collaborate, share and host research events and activities. Our school is linked to a number of them, including:
- Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics (CRAL)
  - Centre for Regional Literature and Culture (CRLC)
  - Centre for the Study of the Viking Age (CSVA)
  - DH Lawrence Research Centre
  - Institute for Name-Studies (INS)
  - Institute for Medieval Research

Find out more:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/research](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/research)

## Top five School of English dissertation titles

- Isobel Davidson (Year 12 work experience student in the School of English) selects her favourite titles from the school:
- The American road trip as form of travel writing – Charlotte Bezant
  - The 'dirty' orphan: moral and physical grime and cleanliness in *Oliver Twist* and *The Water Babies* – Georgina Charles
  - Performance art and theory: a case study of Lady Gaga – Megan Clark
  - Language associated with crime in the media – Kathryn Burgoyne
  - Tolkien's use of Old English for creating characters in *The Lord of the Rings* – Ellen Fisher

## Top tips

## Formulating your dissertation topic

- Top tips from Dr Mike Rodman-Jones, Undergraduate Dissertation Convenor:
- Start thinking about a potential topic or research area early in the spring semester. Think about areas of study you've enjoyed and found most intriguing.
  - After identifying your theme, contact an academic whose research matches your interest – they will be able to help you refine your idea.
  - The proposal is your chance to show a potential supervisor what your initial ideas are. Try to be specific – include details like specific texts you want to start working on and if any scholars have influenced your thinking already.
  - Make the most of regular meetings with your supervisor: always prepare in advance and pay close attention to the feedback you receive.

Find copies of recent undergraduate dissertations:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/innervate](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/innervate)

## Event

## Showcasing research

The PhD students in the school hold their annual symposium in May as the intellectual and social centrepiece of the PhD academic year. It brings together the school community in a series of presentations and research posters with prizes awarded for the best presentation.

Plans are also under way for the school's first ever undergraduate and masters symposium.

The event will enable our students to clarify and explore their own research ideas and gain experience in presenting them, as well as benefiting from the questions and comments of those in attendance.

# Trips to enrich

# Study abroad

During their second year, our students have the option to spend a semester abroad studying either at one of our international campuses in China or Malaysia or at one of the U21 and Erasmus institutions in Canada, Germany, Italy, New Zealand or the USA.

Not only will this opportunity stand out to future employers, but it will allow you to develop both personally and academically.

English and History student Emma Graham spent a semester at University of Connecticut, USA. She said: "Studying abroad offered the best of both worlds; I had the opportunity to experience both the British and American college experiences. I cannot recommend studying abroad enough – it will be so much more than you ever expected and is a chance to make new friends and memories which will stay with you forever."

Find out more:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/studyabroad](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/studyabroad)



## Reading the runes in the Isle of Man

Students on the MA Viking and Anglo-Saxon Studies went on a field trip to the Isle of Man to hone their runological skills.

This small island is unique in having 31 stones with Scandinavian runic inscriptions from the Viking Age, as well as a good range of other Viking sites and artefacts. Led by Professor Judith Jesch, the trip enabled students to produce their own readings of each inscription and discuss the difficulties of reading and interpretation.

Student John Gallagher said: "Much of what we know about the Vikings comes from reading their literature and trying to conceptualise this very distant culture in our minds. The opportunity to examine the artefacts gave us a hands-on experience of the Vikings."



Spelling out 'runir' at Maughold on a field trip to the Isle of Man, 2014 © J.J. Gallagher.

## Slavery trip enriches understanding

Undergraduates on the module Representing Slavery had the opportunity to visit the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool to learn more about the untold stories of enslaved people.

Organised by Dr Abigail Ward, the trip also involved a slavery memorial walk around the city centre to see the importance of slavery to Liverpool's past and present.

Student Alice Ratcliffe said: "It was a fascinating trip that enriched my understanding of Britain's part in the slave trade and made me think about how such a difficult past can be appropriately remembered."



Students visiting the International Slavery Museum.

# Staff in the School of English

## Profile: Dr Jem Bloomfield

### Personal tutor and Assistant Professor in early modern literature and drama.



Many staff in the school act as a personal tutor to a small group of students. Part of this involves fortnightly tutorials with our first-year group in which we discuss some of the bigger questions surrounding the subject. We talk over questions such as the ethics of research, and the ways our work can affect the world around us.

Meeting in small groups means we can open up these questions to intensive discussion and the conversation can go in some fairly unexpected directions. Last year my tutor group came pretty close to proving that books didn't exist, and mounted a strong argument for replacing Shakespeare with Spiderman on the university syllabus!

As a personal tutor I'm also available to chat to them individually about any pastoral issues they might be facing, and give them the appropriate help and support. We're all part of the shared academic and pastoral life here and our work as personal tutors helps to reinforce that.

Read Jem's blog, Quite Irregular:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/about/blogs.aspx](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/about/blogs.aspx)

### Staff news

## How to Read a Mind

Professor Peter Stockwell's free, open online course How to Read a Mind was taken by 18,000 students across 140 countries in 2014. Run as a two-week Massive Open Online Course, or 'mini-MOOC', the programme was a very short introduction to cognitive poetics. The global response was so good that Peter will run the MOOC again in December 2014.

Find out more:  
[www.futurlearn.com/courses/how-to-read-a-mind](http://www.futurlearn.com/courses/how-to-read-a-mind)



## How to Read Your Boss

Director of Business Engagement in the School of English Dr Louise Mullany recently ran a free, open online course. How to Read Your Boss is the second in a series of courses presented by applied linguists, discourse analysts and literary critics in the School of English. This course helps us assess the effectiveness of our communication styles and how to use and identify the type of communication culture in different places of work.

Find out more:  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-read-your-boss](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-read-your-boss)



## Raising money for The Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre

Professor of English Language and Applied Linguistics Svenja Adolfs (far right) joined a team of volunteer cyclists from The University of Nottingham to raise money for children's brain tumour research. Despite not riding a bike since her schooldays, Svenja cycled 1,400 miles taking in the four corners of Great Britain, from Land's End to John O'Groats via Dover and Durness! She rode in memory of Camilla Hildyard from Nottingham who died from a brain tumour in 1987 aged two years old.



Svenja Adolfs (far right) and the LifeCycle team arrive safely back on campus after a gruelling 1,400 mile journey.

# Celebrating success

## And the Oscar goes to...

Congratulations to two of our staff members on being awarded University Staff Oscars: Dr Joe Anderton, in the category of Best Feedback, and Dr Peter Kirwan, for Best All-rounder for teaching.



Dr Peter Kirwan and Dr Joe Anderton pictured with two of our students who nominated them, Georgina Pearce and Caroline Dale.

## Best Thesis Award

Dr Michael Rodgers was awarded the Best Thesis prize by the Applied Linguistics Association of New Zealand.

## Lord Dearing Award for Excellence in Teaching

Dr Jem Bloomfield was awarded one of the University's most prestigious teaching awards for excellence by staff and students at the University. Jem's award follows a long line of Lord Dearing Award winners in the school.

## 100 Heroes for Nottingham

To celebrate the centenary of the Students' Union in 2014, an exhibition of 100 heroes for Nottingham was held. Nominations came from students, alumni, staff and members of the local community for their contributions to life at Nottingham and their impact on the student experience.



Dr Kevin Harvey, Assistant Professor in sociolinguistics, and Mathilda Branson, PhD student in the school, were recognised.

## English Society Spring Ball

The English Society's annual ball acts as a monumental send-off for final-year students. This year, the Park Plaza Hotel in Nottingham was transformed into the magical forest of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

The annual ball is also a welcome reminder of the financial and social benefits of becoming a member of your course's society, with a reduced ticket price for members. What better way to say farewell to the society's third years and hello to our freshers than to eat, talk and dance the night away?

Find out more about the English Society:  
[www.facebook.com/uonenglishsociety](http://www.facebook.com/uonenglishsociety)



Students enjoying candy floss at the ball.

## Don't forget to write!

We love to keep in touch with our students after graduation. Our new Alumni Facebook page is a place where staff and students can keep in contact and share news, photos and stories. We've also set up a LinkedIn profile to help our alumni develop their professional connections before and after graduation.

 [Uonenglishalumni](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uonenglishalumni)  [uonenglishalumni](https://www.facebook.com/uonenglishalumni)

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