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# Agrimag 2023 – Introduction from the Editor

Welcome to the 2023 edition of Agrimag.

Readers of Agrimag over the last four decades (!) will be aware that Professor Julian Wiseman's dedication to the publication has been both steadfast and exemplary. In the middle of 2023 Julian decided that it was time to hand over the reins, in his own words – "I have done my bit" – that is of course a massive understatement. On behalf of Agrimag readers, I thank Julian for all his work. This brief word of thanks is however not sufficient recognition for Julian's contribution and we will do greater justice to this in the 2024 Agrimag in a year's time – watch this space!

I wanted to briefly introduce myself to readers. I arrived in 1995 as a Lecturer in Management in the then Department of Agriculture and Horticulture, working alongside SB colleagues Martin Seabrook, Steve Ramsden and the Rural Business Research Unit (RBRU) – some Agriculture graduates will hopefully remember me! Having held various roles at SB throughout the last 28 years, most recently as Head of Biosciences from 2021-2023, I hope I am qualified to fulfil the role of Agrimag Editor – though I appreciate that Julian has left some very large boots to fill.

The 2023 Agrimag is packed with fascinating updates and insights from just about every corner of SB life. You fill find updates from my academic, administrative and technical specialist colleagues in the Vet School and Biosciences, including some introductions from new members of staff. Insights are also provided from the Farm, Sports Centre and the Residential Experience team. Of course, it would not be Agrimag without the all-important reports from the Guild, SB sports clubs and societies, travel reports and student awards. There is a sometimes perceived internal University view that SB is this sleepy little place removed from the City – well, anyone with this notion should read through Agrimag to see a fascinating snapshot of what goes on. Of course we also present some Alumni news, updates on OKA campus-funded projects, a look back through the Agrimag archives and dedications to colleagues and graduates who are sadly no longer with us.

Agrimag would be nothing without all its contributors – there are too many to thank individually! The massive task of bringing Agrimag together is undertaken by the brilliant Lorraine Sabin, and I thank her for the dedication and professionalism that makes Agrimag possible.

Happy reading!

Professor Paul Wilson Editor

# Welcome from the 2023/24 Guild Chair

Hi there!

I'm Emily, the Guild Chair for 2023/2024. I'm still fairly new to the role, but I'm really enjoying being such an important part of campus life, which – along with the rest of the Guild team (amongst many others!) – includes forming the Agrimag.

This year, we've included some of the exciting events that have taken place on campus over the last year, as well as reports from the different Schools on campus, various Society details, individual accomplishments and so much more!

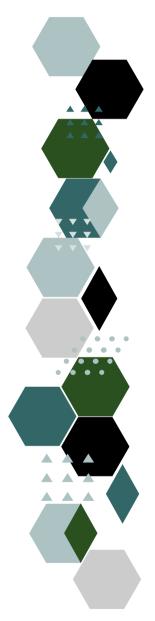
We hope everyone enjoys reading about the campus highlights from the past year!

Emily Whitehead Guild Chair





## **Prof Gary England** Dean of School of Veterinary Medicine & Science



The academic year 2022-2023 was another excellent and exciting year for us as a School.

It was a huge thrill to receive, once again, exceptional results in the 2023 National Student Survey (NSS). You will most likely be aware that we have been the top veterinary school in the NSS in every year since the school started. This year we were again the best veterinary school in the UK and the best school in the University of Nottingham. In fact this year we went one better to be the top of all university courses in the whole of England. This is a brilliant recognition of all of the work put in by our staff. I know that all the staff of the School are extremely proud of this achievement, and importantly, to have this level of support and recognition from our students means a huge amount to us.

We were all also really proud to hear that we were successful in our application for Silver Status within the Athena SWAN Charter. This is a framework which is used across the globe to support and transform gender equality within higher education and research.

During the academic year we had an accreditation visit from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and we are now fully accredited by AVMA, also receiving multiple commendations for our work.

We also were subject, along with all schools in the university, to an internal audit. Each school was audited across 6 areas (Processes, Students/Customers, Future Focus, Research, Staff and Finance). We were the top performing school across the whole university; receiving the highest recognition in three areas (Processes, Students/Customers, and Future Focus), the second highest recognition for two areas (Research and Staff), and the third highest category for Finance. This is another fantastic achievement for us and great to see our benchmarking against other schools in the university.

We had great success in the Lord Dearing Awards. These awards are given across the whole university to individuals and teams that enhance the student experience. We won a total of three individual awards with Adeel Khan, David Rutherford and Katie Woad all being recognised for their contributions to excellence in teaching and learning. Also in the awards given across the three campuses (Nottingham, China and Malaysia) we had some great wins. Laura Randall received a 'Highly Commended' award in the outstanding research supervisor category, Corinne Woodcock won the Dean Moore Scholarship for outstanding contribution to the research community, and Anna Harris received the Postdoctoral Research Staff Award also for outstanding contribution to the research community.

Nationally, Kate White and her co-workers were presented with the British Veterinary Association/Veterinary Record Impact Award. Mike Clark became President of the British Veterinary Poultry Association, and Madeleine Campbell became the Chair of the Animal Welfare Committee. Liv Bass was the recipient of one of the London Vet Show's new awards, '30 under thirty'. Liv was joined by Sophie Oliver (Year 5 and BSAVA senior student representative).

We also had great wins for our undergraduate and postgraduate students. Sol Elliot was awarded Highly Commended for her paper and presentation at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Fellowship Day; she was a finalist in the Young Fellows of the Future initiative run by the College. Heather Hemmingway-Arnold won the Farm Vet of the Future Award and Sophie Oliver received the Student Community Award at the RCVS Royal College Day.

Three of our undergrads and one post-graduate student received Nottingham Sports Scholarship Awards; these were Martina Van Gorp (Volleyball), Olivia Churcher (Rugby Union), Olivia Bates (Rowing) and Finley Old (American Football). And internationally in sport, Olivia Bates competed in the Lightweight Women's Single Sculls at the World Rowing Cup and won a bronze medal. Also related to sport, multi-Olympic Gold and multiple World, European and Commonwealth Champion swimmer Adam Peaty came to the school and spoke about sports psychology and mental health.

Not on the world stage, but the Staff won the staff:student football match 2:1 but then lost the rematch 1:2. They did however give the students a good thrashing in indoor hockey (although I think the referee was playing on our side!).

During the year, seven academic members of staff were promoted to Assistant Professor: Jenny Brignell, Louise Corah, Phil Hammond, Katie Lightfoot, Lisa Morrow, Bec Blanchard and Davide Messina.

Sarah Hewitt and Flo Hillen were promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor.

Erica Gummery was promoted to Associate Professor, and Sarah Cripps, Brad Hill, Kirstie Pickles, Laura Randall, Ginny Sherwin, and Aga Zoltowska were promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

Tania Dottorini and John Burford were promoted to Professor.

In our technical teams Rachel Brown, Jodie Brunt, Judith Jackson, Abbi Thomas, and Sophie Turner were regraded to Senior Technician and Cat Williams and Ceri Staley were regraded to Technical Specialist.

In our Administrative Teams Alex Foster, Rachael Humphries, Kirsty Middleton, Emma Palfreyman and Courtney Powell were all regraded to APM4.

Throughout the year we continued recruiting new staff associated with the dual intake, with 22 new joiners starting during the year. We continued our programme of building improvements and expansion, completing the new farm animal and equine clinical teaching buildings which immediately opened for student teaching. We did have a little problem with the heating; initially during the hot summer we were unable to turn off the heating, and then when it became cold, of course we were not able to get the building warm! The small animal clinical teaching building should be opened in December 2023. We also refurbished many of our facilities including several lecture rooms, student base rooms and small group teaching rooms. We improved our school gardens and installed the new café (The Busy Bee) in the garden just off the atrium. Also on the campus the Student Services Hub was completely renovated.

We provided funding to a number of our Clinical Associates to enhance clinical rotation teaching. In particular, the new Nottingham PDSA Hospital opened during the year, as did the RSPCA Woodside Veterinary Facilities in Leicester. One of our Clinical Associates, Pool House Equine Clinic, was awarded Equine Hospital Status in the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme.

During the year the fourth April cohort of students started their studies, and it was lovely to have students on campus throughout the summer.

There were some notable grant wins including amongst many others:

- A BBSRC grant for Jorge Vazquez Diosdado and Jasmeet Kaler as Co-PIs alongside Martin Green, Luke O'Grady, Laura Randall, Charlotte Doidge and industry partners for a project called 'Digital Platform for Sustainable Health: A Step Change In Reducing Endemic Disease In Dairy Cattle'
- A BBSRC grant called 'A UK Platform for the Control of Bovine Viral Diarrhoea: Application of a Novel Disease Simulation Model to Guide Programme Development and Policy Design' for Luke O'Grady with Martin Green, Marnie Brennan and Bobby Hyde
- An International Co-ordinator on Infectious Animal Diseases grant programme for Kevin Gough called 'Classical Scrapie in Iceland, a model for prion diseases worldwide'; the school work package is 'Improved understanding of animal-human-environment interface'
- A large Wellcome Trust grant, 'Mitigating against life-course complications of heat stress', led by colleagues at the University of Leeds involving David Gardner from the School and Kevin Sinclair and Ramiro Alberio from the School of Biosciences

- A large BBSRC grant for Tania Dotterini and co-applicants called 'Monitoring the gut microbiome via AI and omics: a new approach to detect infection and AMR'
- A British Heart Foundation grant from the University of Nottingham (Chris Denning, School of Medicine and Vicky James, Vet School), together with collaborators at the University of Liverpool Vet School to study the complexities of human hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- A UK Multiple Sclerosis Society Grant (with colleagues from the neurology team at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham and at the University of Birmingham) for Rachael Tarlinton to study how Epstein Barr Virus and Human Endogenous Retroviruses trigger Multiple Sclerosis
- A UKRI and Defra grant for a One Health approach to vector-borne diseases in the UK for Janet Daly, Kevin Gough and Adam Blanchard
- Funding for Katie Lightfoot and John Burford to study the current Glanders outbreak which is occurring in Nepal
- And a prestigious Challenge Award for members of the School's prostate cancer research team from the Prostate Cancer Foundation. The award relates to their research to develop new therapies for advanced prostate cancer.

We ended the year with graduation of year 3, year 5 and post-graduate students on 19th July at the David Ross 'Graduation Hall'. During the ceremony it was wonderful to see the conferment of an Honorary Degree to Ms Ella Carpenter who is the Centre Manager at the RSPCA Radcliffe Animal Centre. Ella is responsible for raising all of the funds required to run the centre and she has recently been able to complete a multi-million-pound refurbishment supporting animal care and community education. Ella has been the lead person ensuring that our students have access to the facility for part of their year 5 clinical rotation training.

Graduation was followed by the RCVS membership ceremony held at SB in the Barn. We were very fortunate to have the RCVS President, Dr Susan Paterson, conduct the ceremony. Professor Malcolm Cobb presented our graduates to the President. It was wonderful to see our graduates become veterinary surgeons and then to see the awarding of academic prizes by Professor Kate Cobb. There was an additional exceptional prize awarded in the afternoon, with the 'Icarus Prize' being awarded to Jordan Taylor! After prize giving Dr Alison Anderson gave a super closing speech on behalf of the graduating class. We then retired to the 'Bandstand' for cream teas and fizz.

The following evening there was Graduation Ball held at Colwick Hall. After the meal many stories were told, and special awards were given to Clare McKeown and Harmony Goodwin, with the FBSM award being given to Georgios Vrettos and Michaelis Borakis. It was a fantastic but emotional evening, and ended in the traditional SB manner, with lots of drinking, singing and dancing.

#### **Professor Gary England**

## Prof Paul Wilson Head of School of Biosciences

This is my second Agrimag report as Head of School of Biosciences, providing me with the opportunity to reflect on the year that has passed, as well as looking ahead to the 2023/24 academic session.

Looking back to my last report in August 2022, we had all just come through an academic year disrupted by the ongoing challenges of Covid, and the adjustments and re-adjustments to on campus teaching and working. Thankfully our academic year just completed has had no such challenges; but with cohorts of students coming through the Higher Education system who have had their secondary, and in part, tertiary education impacted by Covid, getting back to normal campus life and learning will take a few years to work through. I think it is fair to say that like many areas of work and life, we are adjusting to a new normal with all the advantages and challenges that this this brings.

Some of the joys of academic life are the stopping-off points to reflect and celebrate successes. With a number of relatively newly promoted Professors in the School over recent years, we actively progressed a series of Professorial inaugural lectures. These are celebratory lectures where colleagues look back on their career and explain to their colleagues, family and friends the academic journey they have been on, and the scientific discoveries they have made along the way. With the dedication of Sam Kearn organising and encouraging colleagues to present these, we had the pleasure of hearing about the work (and life) of Professors John Brameld and Erik Murchie over the last year. We look forward to another set of inaugurals in the year to come.

In December (largely postgraduate) and July (largely undergraduate), we returned to our normal pattern of in-person graduations followed by prize-giving celebrations events at SB. We also celebrated the success of one of our Alumni, Dr Richard Munang, who received a 'Your Nottingham Alumni Award'. While we were not blessed with glorious sunshine for our July graduation event, one parent I chatted to noted the positives of a duller and rainy weather day in that it did not clash with combine harvesting! – something I am all too familiar with from my own background, and something I know will resonate with a number of Agrimag readers.

As a large, dynamic and successful School, we welcomed 39 new colleagues across all job families in the last year, while others have



moved on to new opportunities or retired. We also had a large number of colleagues who were successfully regraded to higher technical and administrative job levels, and a large number of academics promoted to Assistant, Associate and full Professor. Many readers will be familiar with some academic stalwarts who have moved on this year – Debbie Sparkes (Deputy Head of School) has moved on to a role in industry and Neil Crout (former Head of School) has retired. At a personal level I thank some of my senior colleagues who have taken on new leadership roles this year, in particular Fiona McCullough and Sacha Mooney (both as Deputy Heads of School), Dov Stekel (REF Co-ordinator) and Barry Lomax (Head of Division of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences). Sadly we recently lost Professor Ted Cocking (Emeritus Professor). Ted was a pioneer in plant tissue culture, protoplast fusion and the use of agrobacterium mediated transformation for crop plants. However, his main interest was in nitrogen fixation, and he remained actively involved in this area until his death; his legacy will live on for decades to come and his greatest contributions to science and society may yet be realised as the plant and crop science community builds on his research discoveries.

The School continues to go from strength to strength in terms of both research and teaching. In the most recent year we have been successful in attracting nearly £14m of external income to the School or University, and our applications to study with us are up substantially. Undergraduate applications have risen by 16% (and international applications by 29%), while at Postgraduate level, applications are up by 10% (international by 15%). We look forward to welcoming our new students to the School in September. All this success is due to the hard work and dedication of colleagues across the whole School and I thank everyone for the part they have played in making this another successful year in our long history.

#### **Professor Paul Wilson**

Head of School of Biosciences 4 August 2023



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### **Prof Barry Lomax** Division of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

2022/23 felt like the year that University life returned to what passes for normal. Teaching returned to being fully in person and the campuses across the University once more felt like thriving communities.

From a staffing standpoint, there have been a number of changes. On becoming School Lead for the next Research Excellence Framework assessment exercise, Dov Stekel has stepped down from leading the Division, being replaced by myself – Barry Lomax – and Christie Siettou has replaced Sofie Sjögersten as the Deputy Head of Division. After over 28 years at the University Debbie Sparkes has taken up an exciting new role with Diageo, focussing on leading their Agave Science Division. Neil Crout, after 34 years at the University, retired in September and Keely Harris-Adams moved on after 9 years at the University. We wish them well on their new chapters.

We have also welcomed a number of new academic staff to the team, some of whom are familiar faces. Nick Girkin and Hannah Copper have returned to the school as an Assistant Professor in Environmental Science and Agronomy respectively. Alex Burgess has become a member of the Agriculture team as an Assistant Professor, Roseanna Mayfield has joined the department as an Assistant Professor of Environmental Aquatic Science specialising in Lake Ecosystem Change and Tino Colombi joined the group as a Nottingham Research Fellow. There have also been a number of promotions, with Amanda Rasmussen being promoted to Associate Professor and Liz Bailey to Professor in Environmental Geochemistry; John Corrie was promoted to Senior Technical Manager and Laura Holt to Senior Technician. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their work throughout 2022/23, welcome new and returning staff to the team, and congratulate staff on their well-deserved promotions.



Teaching and research across the division continues to go from strength to strength, with the division teaching approximately a third of the School's undergraduate cohort. Within Environmental Sciences, Sarah Luke's module on Tropical Ecology and Conservation has proved very popular, forming a nice link to our colleagues on our Malaysia campus. From an Agriculture standpoint, particular highlights were our excellent NSS outcomes, which attest to the high quality degrees and student experience we offer, and our student success (a team of final year students led by James Drysdale – final year student in BSc Agricultural Business Management) in winning the Farmers Club Pinnacle Award. As ever our field courses remain popular with our current students and I hope that they remain as a lasting, happy memory of your time with us.

Looking at research, I experienced a brief moment in the media spotlight following the publication of a paper that provided the first direct evidence that elevated UV-B might have played an important role in the Permian Triassic mass extinction event which occurred approximately 252 million years ago. The press release was picked up by 280 media outlets across the World. As a team, we have been successful in attracting funding from numerous sources to tackle disparate questions. Highlights include work funded by the NERC led by Sofie Sjögersten to examine methane emissions from tropical peatlands, Christina Siettou via DEFRA looking at compensation schemes linked to bovine TB, and Salim Alam investigating air quality through monies awarded by the European Commission.

#### **Barry Lomax and Christie Siettou**

Head and Deputy Head of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



## **Prof Kevin Sinclair** Division of Animal Sciences

The past year (2023) has witnessed the Division functioning close to normal following the pandemic, with notable research successes in specific areas. It has, however, also seen the retirement of the one of the longest serving members of the Division, Prof Phil Garnsworthy, although Phil will retain an emeritus position for the foreseeable future.

Phil steps down formally after almost 44 years' service at Sutton Bonington. He graduated in Agriculture at the University of Aberdeen in 1977, and then undertook a PhD in Aberdeen which investigated the effects of body condition score on production efficiency and health in dairy cows. On the back of this work, Phil was offered a lectureship in Dairy Science at Nottingham University in 1980. During his career he was promoted three times; the last promotion to Professor of Dairy Science was in 2009. He also picked up a number of international awards over the years – most recently the 'Distinguished Service Award, European Association for Animal Production' in 2018, the 'Leroy Fellowship Award, European Federation for Animal Science' in 2019, and the 'Sir John Hammond Award, British Society of Animal Science' in 2022. He became an 'Elected Fellow of Royal Society of Biology' in 2019. During his tenure at Nottingham, he co-edited (with Prof Julian Wiseman) a very successful series of books, arising from the annual Nottingham Feed Conference, entitled 'Recent Advances in Animal Nutrition'. This ran until 2014. He published numerous scientific papers over the years, the most significant of which in recent years investigated enteric emissions of methane from dairy cows. Whilst we wish Phil an enjoyable retirement we know that he will continue to contribute to Divisional activities going forward in his Emeritus role.

On the teaching side, student recruitment onto our BSc Animal Science and MSc Animal Nutrition courses remains strong. We welcomed 40 first year students onto the Animal Science course in 2023. This was the first year that students could progress onto the 4th year to complete the MSci Animal Science. The Bioveterinary Science pathway remains popular with around 70% of Animal Science students choosing this option. In collaboration with the School of Veterinary Science and Medicine, this year also saw the first cohort of Animal Science graduates accepted for postgraduate entry into Year 2 of the Veterinary Medicine degree at Nottingham. These students will begin their studies in April 2024.

The Division has been successful on the research front in terms of multi-million-pound awards from the BBSRC, Wellcome Trust and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. These awards are investigating the generation of meat from cultured cells in the laboratory (beef, lamb and pig meat), the effects of elevated environmental temperatures during pregnancy on embryo loss, health and wellbeing of offspring in pigs (an excellent model species of human exposure), and generating sperm and eggs in vitro in order to significantly reduce the generational interval and so increase the rate of genetic improvement in farm animals. The Division continues to produce a range of high quality outputs, with some selected key publications from the Division published in PloS Biol (Alberio), Epigentics (Stöger), R Soc Open Sci; Development (Chara), Sci Rep; Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry (Stevenson), BMC Med Ethics (Millar), Front Endocrinol (Lausanne); Theriogenology; Environ Toxicol Pharmacol (Sinclair).

#### Kevin Sinclair

Head of Animal Sciences



### Dr David Gray Division of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

It's a pleasure to reflect on many success stories in the Division this year. We were delighted when our Food Science undergraduate teams overcame strong competition to take both first and second place in the 2023 Ecotrophelia UK competition, continuing a very strong Nottingham tradition in this prestigious new product development event. The winning Team PlanEat (Jess Stinton, Izzy Parks, Jess Kerr, Hannah Stodart and Jess Limb – pictured with UoN academics Gleb Yakubov and Ian Fisk) will represent the UK in the European finals in Cologne in October and we wish them all the very best with their delicious insect protein poppers!



We always enjoy hearing about alumni success stories too. Particular congratulations this year go to James Digva (2007) whose Sauce Shop sauces won 12 stars at the Great Taste Awards, Samuele Bruni (2007) (pictured below) whose Biobruni goat's yogurt, butter and kefir all topped their categories in the recent Top Italian Food awards, Holly Cuthill (2019, now at Britvic plc) who was nominated for the Food and Drink Federation Scientist of the Year, and Jared Spencer (2021) who was awarded UoN Impact Entrepreneur of the Year for his Caribbean snack business RIDDIM. Our alumni continue to support us through mentoring, guest lectures, our Professional Development module and outreach for our Cadets programme – one example was Abbie Pugh who helped us promote Food Science degrees in a UK Food Science webinar "Mince Pies Unwrapped". Outreach is vital to ensure continued strong undergraduate and postgraduate recruitment – if any other alumni would be prepared to help us with similar initiatives please do get in touch.



### Samuele Bruni (2007) at the Top Italian Food awards

Photograph published with the kind permission of EcorNaturaSI: https://www.naturasi.it/notizie/top-italian -food-2023

We have welcomed several new faces to our academic team. Laura Birch and Dorothy Balhatchet joined the Dietetics team, Molly Muleya took up a post as Assistant Professor in Nutrition, and Kateryna Dugina joined us on a two year Ukrainian Researchers at Risk Fellowship from the British Academy. We have recently said farewell to Richard Worrall who led our Food innovation Centre since 2016, having previously been Director of the Food and Drink Innovation Network. Under Richard's leadership, the team has worked with hundreds of food and drink SMEs and initiated many valuable research projects and industry connections. We are grateful to him for his contribution.

This year has seen the welcome return of inaugural lectures for new Professors in the School of Biosciences – including Professor John Brameld who gave an entertaining Inaugural Lecture in May, entitled "Jack of all Tissues, Master of None!" The commitment and dedication of other team members has also been recognised, with two colleagues winning Lord Dearing Awards for their contribution to teaching – Kathy Lawson (Senior Placements Administrator for Nutrition and Dietetics) and Fiona McCullough (Director of Education and Student Experience for the Faculty and a member of our Dietetics teaching team).

Aside from teaching, our research continues to be ground-breaking and internationally recognised. One example is Ravinder Anand-Ivell and Richard Ivell's work on the INSL3 hormone which offers an early marker for predicting age-linked disease – their research, published in Frontiers in Endocrinology, was picked up by the BBC and more than 50 global news sites. We are looking forward to future research opportunities – including working alongside the new University of Nottingham Food Systems Institute (led by Jack Bobo).

Please do follow the University of Nottingham School of Biosciences LinkedIn group to keep up to date with all that is happening – and don't hesitate to come and visit!

#### **David Gray**

Head of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

## **Prof David Cook** Division of Microbiology, Brewing & Biotechnology

This was the first full year post-Covid when operations returned to something approximating normal – perhaps another 'new normal'. Sometimes looking back on those Covid times it all seems like a distant memory. Now we start to see the true impacts of Brexit, in terms of our research collaboration, supply chains and international travel.

It has been another year with much to be proud of in MBB. The Division delivers a huge amount of teaching across Microbiology, Brewing and Biotechnology – such that the successful completion of another year is no mean feat in itself and something to celebrate! It was, however, a difficult start to 2023 when all colleagues were shocked and saddened to learn of the untimely death of Nikki Cummings – Senior Technician in Microbiology and Food Safety, who had been part of the team at Sutton Bonington for more than 20 years. Later this Spring it was poignant and most fitting to see a commemorative tree planted on campus in her honour.

I am proud to note the following achievements of our academics this past year: Rod White (right) was announced as winner of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group 'Brewer of the Year' Award at an awards dinner on 4th July. This is recognition for his work spearheading delivery of the Level 4 National Brewing Apprenticeship program.

Nagamani Bora has developed teaching partnerships in Biotechnology with Amity University in India, with an agreement sealed at an event attended by the Faculty PVC for Science and the PVC for Internationalisation. Ivan Campeotto celebrated becoming a Fellow of the Higher



Education Academy (FHEA). Ivan is co-inventor of a prototype malaria vaccine that was patented in Oxford and is currently undergoing human trials in Gambia and Burkina Faso. This has been licensed to the Serum Institute of India.

In April, the NCMH formally unveiled the painting by Owen Epps of the Creeth model of DNA, at an event marking the 70th anniversary of the Nature publication by Watson & Crick reporting the helical structure and bonding of DNA.

Postgraduates from Microbiology and Food Safety have been amongst the awards this year. Both winners of the Biosciences Demonstrator of the Year awards were from MBB. Catherine Evans won the academic-nominated category with Albert Huynh winning the Techniciannominated category. Adam Lee (supervisor Ken Mellits) won the prestigious Dean Moore Scholarship award for Research at the Tri-campus Awards. Biotechnology remains a strong recruitment area for the School of Biosciences, with 22-23 seeing our largest intake of students to date on the MSc Biotechnology. At UG level, final year Biotechnology students scored highest across the School of Biosciences and were awarded three prizes to mark academic achievements.

Lastly, I would like to thank all colleagues in MBB, whether or not I found space to individually recognise your achievements, for your contributions and ongoing support.

#### David Cook

Head of Microbiology, Brewing and Biotechnology



The MSc Biotechnology course has recruited high numbers this year. Above are the students and Course Director, Nagamani Bora, on an industrial visit.

## **Prof Rupert Fray** Division of Plant and Crop Sciences

The 2022-2023 academic year saw the sad loss of Professor Edward (Ted) Cocking FRS. Ted joined the University Botany Department in 1956, becoming Professor and Head of Department in 1969. After his retirement, he continued to maintain a lab and remained actively involved in research until just before his death aged 92.

2022 also saw the well-earned retirement of Professor Matt Dickinson. Matt has had a massive influence both as an academic and as Head of Division, particularly getting us through the COVID pandemic. We wish him the very best and hope that he will find some time to enjoy his golf! He will be a very hard act to follow. The year also saw new appointments with Hadrien Peyret (plant virology and biotech) joining us, and John Atkinson moving from Fellowship to Assistant Professor.

Following the move of Plant Sciences teaching to University Park, and the recruitment and outreach work led by Susie Lydon, we saw continued growth in our undergraduate student numbers. Once again, there were some excellent results for our graduating final year students, with a high number of first class degrees and we wish them all well for the future.

There have been more notable successes in obtaining research funding within the Division, and the research environment continues to thrive and grow. Malcolm Bennett and the Roots research team were awarded two BBSRC grants, and Rahul Bhosal, Mike Holdsworth and Rupert Fray also obtained significant BBSRC funding for work on root architecture, plant oxygen sensing and RNA methylation research respectively, and there were other grant successes within the Division from charity and industrial sources to help support the PhD and postdoc community. Many colleagues have also had research papers accepted, including papers in Science, PNAS and Nature.

I am sure that the 2023-2024 academic year will, as always, bring its own challenges, but the Plant and Crop Sciences Division is hopefully in a strong position to meet these, and we look forward to the coming year.

**Rupert Fray** Head of Plant and Crop Sciences



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# **Plant Growth Facilities**



The Plant Growth Facilities consist of more than 40 glasshouse compartments and over 40 controlled environment (CE) compartments which are run by a dedicated team of 4 staff (fte). We have the core glasshouse facilities, some pictured above, Phytotron building CE rooms, South Lab Annex (SLA) CE rooms, Gateway CE rooms and some CE in the back of the Plant Science building too.

Our technical team have decades of experience and a versatile skill set which supports the provision of teaching and research for numerous schools across our campuses and to external partners too. Perhaps our most unlikely internal customer is the Vet School, who we grow and maintain plants so that they can develop plantbased vaccines.

Our primary users are from Plant Science, Crop Science, and Agricultural and Environmental Science. We also work with Food Science, Geology, Geography and Engineering amongst others.

The facilities range in sophistication from unheated and unlit, to high-end units with  $CO_2$ , humidity, temperature and lighting along with the



ability to run in real time following the readings of a weather station placed anywhere globally.

In an ever-challenging environment we are a team who never has one day the same as the next. We support our users, maintain their plants and the facilities, build bespoke systems for the projects and advise on a wide variety of topics and much more!



Increasingly we are adapting our pest and disease control (P&D) in response to the reduction in available chemicals. The use of biological control with both predators and biocides has been particularly successful in minimising the impact of P&D last season.

We are in the process of changing our facilities to be more peat-free and drawing on all our experience to modify how we grow our crops with the challenges associated with this.

We also support teaching by providing plant material for practical classes both here at SB and at UP campus.

**Catherine Tomlinson** Technical Manager (acting) Plant Growth Facilities



Use this QR code to link to our webpage.





# From the Farm Management Team

#### ARABLE

The 2022 wheat and oat harvest were reasonable for our light land under seasonal drought stress with 8.39 t/ha and 6.08 t/ha yield respectively.

Drilling in the autumn was delayed due to various reasons include poor performance of glyphosate product on stale seedbeds, availability of Ag-Lime from the haulage industry, recruitment/retention issues and the usual array of machinery, available labour and wider non-farm University issues adding to an unfortunate time-consuming mix. However, all the wheat was drilled eventually by 14th November and the average seed rate was 183 kg/ha across the season.

The Maize was harvested and was poor due to, again, delayed drilling because of matters out of our control in the spring and subsequent drought once planted.

Cover crops were also drilled in the autumn and destroyed in January before Maize cultivations in spring 2023.

February saw the start of fertiliser season with both slurry and Nitrasol applied across the farm. March may as well have not bothered, with awful weather, but this did allow for some farm walks for students with Joe and the agronomist, Chris Tolley. April and May were busy months, with fertiliser and crop-protection programmes in full swing, playing catch up, preparing land for spring crops and reseeding new leys.

Between three and five cuts, depending on the field, were taken of grass silage between April and August, with Rye whole cropped in May and Wheat in July.

Maize establishment was again tricky but largely seems to have caught up with itself; we await harvest of that.

Cereal harvest was down in 2023 against 2022. The jury is still out but the funny weather, lowish inputs and July storms flattening the heavy crops are all conspirators.

#### SHEEP

Lambing went better than ever in all aspects and was generally enjoyable for staff and students. This year we have introduced 2 new Rams to the flock – Leonard and Mike. Both were selected based on their EBVs including excellent lamb growth rates, great performance from grass-based diets and high carcase quality.

	UoN Lambing Data	Industry Standard
Lambs scanned	74	
Scanning percent	194.7%	190%
Scanning to birth losses	6.8%	<7%
Lambing percent	181.6%	
Scanning to turn out losses	10.8%	
Birth to turn out losses	4.1%	<6%
Turn out percent	173.7%	

#### DAIRY

A new youngstock handling system was installed in the autumn with a raised platform, fully adjustable crush, weigh scales and an animal-free working zone. The new system will provide an excellent teaching environment for students, a safe working area for operators and allow recording of growth and development of youngstock.

Over the winter months the Youngstock team were challenged with a highly contagious disease in the calves. As a result, the calves were individually housed until they reached an age where they were not as susceptible to the disease. The team, with the help of our student workers, did an exceptional job at overcoming the disease and keeping it a clean environment for the calves!

In spring the milk price started to fall from 48 ppl and is now around 37 ppl. Although milk prices reduced, input costs remained high. Concentrate feed price per tonne has increased from £374 to £429 in April, averaging £400/t over the year.

Throughout the year, the CDSI has hosted numerous student tours and visitors from a range of agricultural organisations. We enjoy opening our doors to visitors and being able to showcase the great work and research we do here!

#### CDSI Data August '22 - July '23 Averages:

Cows in Milk: 330 Yield: 35.6 l/day/cow Butterfat: 4.14% Protein: 3.26% Milk Price: 44.32 ppl Concentrate Use: 0.39 kg/l Feed Cost: 15.75 ppl Margin over purchased feed: £3311/cow

# FROM THE SPORTS CENTRE

There has never been a better time to get healthy and active at Sutton Bonington Sports Centre.

Alongside the delivery of over 400 individual club sessions for students, our campus-based fitness facility offers a fully-equipped gym with lifting racks, functional training rigs, cardio machines and studio space for a wide range of exercise classes.

The Sutton Bonington Sports Centre is central to supporting the wider community of Sutton Bonington, with many public members benefitting from fitness classes and making use of our squash and badminton courts.

From gym inductions for new starters to get you up to speed with our equipment, to a comprehensive group exercise class programme, there really is something for everyone.

Our motivated and dedicated trainers specialise in helping you to achieve your goals, utilising our state-of-the-art facilities. Personal fitness programs are available to all of our UoN sport and fitness members at no additional cost and programmes are fully tailored to the member.

To measure this success, we have introduced a Boditrax machine which is an amazingly clever system that assesses your body and, very quickly, delivers 14 different measurements, such as your ideal weight, your BMI and your metabolic age, as well as your fat and muscle mass.

#### Lauren Barker

Centre Manager Sutton Bonington Sports Centre





# Residential Experience Team (ResX)

In the last year, the Residential Experience (ResX) Team's successes have allowed the team to expand and have a full-time Residential Officer work on Sutton Bonington and representing the department to our Campus Living Village (CLV) residents. Along with our Officer, our Health and Wellbeing team makes regular visits to check in with students living in halls, helping all those who are struggling to adapt to campus life whilst they're away from home. The ResX Team aims to ensure that the students who reside at Sutton Bonington have a positive experience during their time here. Partnering with CLV, we host a wide range of activities every night, allowing students to socialise and make new friends, flex their creative outlets, engage with different cultural activities, and learn how other cultures operate differently from their own.

Since the beginning of the year, ResX has organised various events and activities across the University. For Sutton Bonington, we hit the ground running, kicking the term off with a welcome brunch and a pizza-making party which over 100 students attended. Later into Welcome Week, we teamed up with the student-led Hive Live to host an evening of live music in the student bar, The Barn. This granted students the opportunity to try something new, get to know the campus' social spaces, and enable them to relax in an unfamiliar environment.

Over the first term, multiple themed weeks and activities were arranged. These activities varied from different aspects that looked to assist students as they settled into university life. We covered the fun side of student living, such as our 'Give it a go Week', where students could try their hand at activities they may not have had the chance to try before, such as tiedying and embroidery. Then on the flip side, the more serious aspects of student life, such as our money management week in which we hosted different activities that would assist and teach students how to manage their finances.

At ResX, we aim to not only guide students in their everyday lives but to broaden their knowledge of cultures outside of their own. Throughout October and November, we celebrated both Black History Month and Diwali. To honour and celebrate these with the students, ResX ran crafting activities such as waist bead making and Diya painting as well as hosting a drumming workshop and creating Rangoli art. Accompanying these activities, students were given handouts with the history of each event, along with facts and trivia presented to them by our student Residential Ambassadors. Running these events allowed the students to have experiences outside of their regular routines. We at ResX can proudly say that the students thoroughly enjoyed learning about and engaging with these activities.

Student engagement and experiences aren't our only focus at ResX. We put great importance on the mental health and well-being of our students. Along with the Health and

Wellbeing team attending to all concerns that might arise, the Events team has hosted activities to help get students through exams, the stress that comes with them, and everyday worries. As a part of Wobble Week, ResX ran activities that would boost motivation, such as creating 'worry worms', allowing students to write postcards to send back home, and potting house plants to take back to their halls of residence. These were out-of-the-box, appealing activities to help students stay engaged and to take their focus away from missing home.

After returning to university from visiting home over the Christmas break, students had winter exams to get 'excited' about. We hosted various activities to aid with their exam preparation and revision. From the basics of holding study sessions for students to come and study together to offering brain-boosting food workshops and free hot drinks for those less than motivated Mondays. Then, as exams ended the ResX Team treated the students to a pamper party, partnering up with everyone's favourite cosmetics company, LUSH to celebrate the hard work that the students had put in over their first term.

With a successful first term now in the rearview mirror, we look to the future. ResX is looking to repeat this success and has put together a programme moving forward. We intend to enhance the student experience and bring awareness to a multitude of cultures that bring the university together. These include but are not limited to celebrating LGBT+ history, Neurodiversity Week, International Women's Day, and hosting a Literary week in which students can attend poetry nights, design comic books, and much more. As these events take place across the university, Sutton Bonington included, our residential officer aims to ensure that the students on campus get the most out of what ResX has to offer.

As we grow as a team within the university, we look to build strong foundations with other student-focused departments. Since bringing in our officer to represent the Sutton Bonington Campus, ResX has partnered with the Campus Living Village, the student hub, multiple societies and the student-led union to help the residents living on campus get the most out of their time studying at the University of Nottingham.

#### **Ryan Muress**

Residential Experience Officer – Sutton Bonington February 2024



# Introducing Our New Staff

### **Dorothy Balhatchet**

I joined University of Nottingham as an Assistant Professor in Dietetics within the School of Biosciences in November 2022. I first became interested in working at the university while acting as external examiner for the MNutr Nutrition and Dietetics programme. I was impressed by the course planning and delivery and the holistic and student-centred approach to problem solving. I had the opportunity to visit Sutton Bonington campus which was a breath of fresh air (literally!) compared with London, where I had been for the previous 13 years.

I am from a small wine town in NSW, Australia and trained in Dietetics at the University of Newcastle, coincidentally also 'UoN'. I gained a breadth of dietetic experience working in hospitals, community and research settings in Australia and the UK. I pride myself on being a strong generalist but would consider my overall clinical speciality to be complex nutrition support, especially enteral tube feeding. Highlights of my clinical career were redeveloping the menu at Alice Springs Hospital to improve cultural compatibility with the Indigenous population and leading a team of dietitians in Whittington Health to improve outcomes for service users. Penultimately to joining UoN, I led the dietetic programme at London Metropolitan University and jointly led dietetics placements



across London, gaining a range of experience in pedagogical practice, course leadership and stakeholder-informed service delivery. During this role, I developed a strong interest in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) with a focus on disability support during placements.

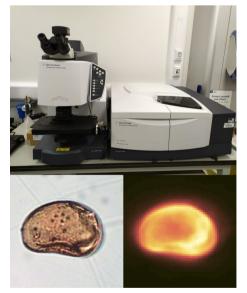
Being relatively new in post, I am still establishing my role, however my teaching focus is communication skills. I am also involved in placements and starting next year, will be leading our relatively new Simulated B placement, focusing on bridging the gap between university teaching and clinical placements with involvement from dietetic practice educators and service users. I have also taken on the role of Schwartz Round facilitator as part of a new, interdisciplinary initiative at the university aimed at creating spaces for sharing the emotional experiences relating to healthcare, fostering connection and resilience. Finally, I am acting as EDI lead for dietetics at UoN and have joined the British Dietetic Association EDI committee to help drive important work on diversity, equity and belonging within the dietetics profession. I am excited to see where this role will take me and hope that my experience and passion will bring positive change to our course provision.

### **Dr Hendrik Nowak**

I started working as a research fellow at the School of Biosciences in January 2023. The project I am working on aims to test hypotheses about the effects of an "impact winter" on land plants during the Cretaceous– Palaeogene mass extinction. A main analytic tool is the use of Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy to search for changes in the chemical composition of spore walls that could indicate reduced solar irradiance due to a dust cloud. Not only is this a topic of high interest to me and many others, but I am also learning a lot about new methods of research with many possible applications.



I'm from Germany originally, and studied Geosciences at the University of Münster, before doing a PhD in Palaeontology at the University of Lille in France. Afterwards, I worked as a Postdoc at the Museum of Nature South Tyrol in Bozen/Bolzano (Italy) from 2016 to 2022. My research mainly focusses on organic-walled microfossils and what they can tell us about macroevolutionary events such as radiations and mass extinctions. My latest project in Bozen/Bolzano aimed to better connect plant micro- and macrofossils by studying spores and pollen found in situ within the reproductive organs of fossil plants from the Triassic period. This led to a collaboration with Barry Lomax and Matthew Kent here at Sutton Bonington, which in turn motivated me to apply when the current position was opened.



Since I started working here, I found friendly and helpful colleagues, and a general welcoming atmosphere. I might not be here for a very long time, considering the project ends next year, and there have been some technical difficulties, but I shall enjoy and make the best of my time at Sutton Bonington.

Our FTIR microscope and spectrometer along with a fossil fern spore both in visible light and as a visualization of infrared absorbance.

### Kavya Krishnamurthy

I joined the University in January 2023 and am a Food Innovation Technologist at the **Food Innovation Centre** (FIC), based on the SB campus.

#### My current role:

The FIC team is a gateway for food & drink businesses to access specialist innovation support at the University. We engage with small and large food and drink companies, as well as the research community on campus, to deliver practical solutions and technical/scientific guidance in areas of product development, product and process optimisation, applied sensory, and product applications. This consultancy is on a paid basis, but we tailor every brief to the business, irrespective of size, and we've worked with a gamut of food and drink products from cakes and ciders to condiments, as well as other projects that require access to pilot scale food processing and analytical equipment that we have in our state-of-the-art food processing facility on campus. From time to time, we do take on in-depth and very targeted research as part of grants that we are written into by academics/businesses and are also involved in student projects, trying wherever possible to link them to businesses so they can work on real world problems and gain valuable skills, while working on an actual brief.

#### My background:

Prior to joining the university, I have worked in a variety of roles in the food industry and began my career as a qualified chef and member of the UAE Junior National Culinary Team in

Dubai. I later moved back to Bangalore, India which is where I am from, to lead product development for my family's instant packaged foods business 'Veekes & Company'. Keen to merge my skillset and experiences, I completed my MSc in Food Science and Innovation at Manchester Metropolitan University, after which I joined the lovely team at the UoN. My area of interest is working with SMEs for new product development, and I am also a member of the IFST Food Processing Special Interest Group having done a brief stint with them as Scientific Assistant while I was doing my Masters. Outside of work, I enjoy crocheting, knitting, listening to The Beatles and Oasis, playing the keyboard and spending time with animals.



Please get in touch with us if you've got a project for us to get involved in or if you just want to have a chat and find out more about what we do and how we can collaborate.

#### Get in touch

Email: foodinnovationcentre@nottingham.ac.uk Website and case studies: <u>nottingham.ac.uk/fic</u>

Please follow the Food Innovation Centre on







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# **Creative Writing Group**

The Sutton Bonington Campus Creative Writing Group was founded by Richard Argent (Biosciences) and Catrin Rutland (Vet School) as a wellbeing group for all interested members of staff based at the Sutton Bonington campus - a chance to get away from work for an hour or so every two to three weeks.



Our aim is to encourage fiction writing encompassing all genres and styles. We are a diverse group with different creative styles but we all relish challenges encompassing poetry, short stories and screenplays. We write group pieces and review each other's work, chat about our latest projects, and discuss the latest opportunities in the world of publishing. Whilst some authors are writing novels, others are working on shorter works, technique or competition pieces. We have celebrated individual and group successes with our fellow members. These have included winning competitions and publishing pieces of writing - a highlight was several of us being published in the same anthology (photo above - Jennifer Hankin, Catrin Rutland, Jenny Drury, Sean May, Richard Argent).

Our latest endeavour has been to create a series of publications containing poems, short stories and screenplays on the themes of "Twisted Tales", "Woke Folk" and "Dark Christmas". These are on sale via Amazon (search for Sutton Bonington Campus Creative Writing Group Anthologies or use the QR code here) and all profits will be donated to the Student Hardship Fund. Why not take a look?



Jenny Drury

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# SB Community Hen Project



The Hen Project was initially set up in 2018, with funding coming from alumni via the Sutton Bonington Development Fund for projects that support the campus community here. After a period of a few years with no hens on campus during Covid, in June 2023 the shed was restocked with 30 laying hens.

The project is now run by me, Tori Charlton, with 39 volunteers to support the daily management. We have a diversity of volunteers spanning across schools and divisions including staff, undergraduate and postgraduate students, and research fellows. Volunteers communicate regularly through a WhatsApp group allowing everyone to share their experiences and ask questions.

The Hen Project is aiming to become self-sufficient by providing fresh tasty eggs for other campus users. Eggs are placed daily in the main building with a suggested donation of £1 for a box (6 eggs); these funds go towards paying for essential items for the care of the hens such as feed and bedding.

This has been a great project to get students involved with and with varying levels of interaction. Firstly, they can access the Hen Project through teaching including practicals and handling (on certain courses). They can visit the hens



anytime on campus as a means to get outside and support their wellbeing and they can be actively involved by volunteering their time to care for the hens. Volunteers don't need to have any experience with hens to be part of this project as training is provided.



Since setting up the project again we have invested in a new water-drinking system with nipple line for improved welfare and cleanliness and a gravity-fed water tank, as well as improved fencing to keep out any predators and a solar-powered energiser to run the electric cable at the top and bottom of the fencing. We also have a solar-powered light for the hens to find their way into the shed at night and maintain egg production during the winter months.

The next steps are to build sustainability in the project, looking to source alternative feed not containing soy, utilise the project further in teaching with undergraduate students completing their research project on the hens and looking to build into more modules and practical sessions. It would be great for alumni to be involved in the project; if you feel you would like to know more or contribute you can reach out to me on tori.charlton@nottingham.ac.uk

#### Tori Charlton

SB Community Hen Project





## **Elephant Welfare Project**

#### **Our Mission**

We are an academic team from The University of Nottingham's School of Veterinary Medicine & Science. We work in collaboration with elephant keepers and mahouts, animal

welfare scientists and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) based in the UK and internationally, with the aim of better understanding and improving captive elephant welfare.

Our work in partnership with this extensive network of colleagues is helping us identify ways to support and improve the wellbeing of captive elephants globally. Over the last decade, we developed the Elephant Behavioural Welfare Assessment Tool; this is a scientifically validated tool which lets keepers and mahouts use their behavioural observations of their elephants to assess and monitor their welfare.



#### **Our Story This Year...**

#### Mobile App Using Technology: the EWA (Elephant Welfare App)

Our mobile app was greeted with excitement by those caring for elephants worldwide. The app provides scientifically validated methods to allow keepers to use observations of their elephant's behaviour to judge their welfare.

The first version of our app was ground-breaking because it:

- is quick and efficient in collecting data, yet scientifically rigorous
- provides a summary report with each elephant's key welfare indicators, analysed over time to monitor improvements, or detect problems early
- documents both good and bad aspects of an elephant's welfare, both of which are essential in assessing animal wellbeing

#### Our Impact...

#### Knowledge Exchange

Throughout the year Dr Lisa Yon provided in-person and online training on using behaviour for welfare assessment, and use of the EWA at workshops and presentations in countries across the world.

#### **Our Future...**

#### 'Projecting Hope'

This exhibition at Twycross Zoo raises awareness of the plight of elephants in the wild, and the importance of caring for them well in captivity to ensure they continue to survive on our planet. With help from partners at Portsmouth University, we developed a hologram of adult and baby elephants engaging in natural behaviours. Not only are visitors to the exhibition able to see our UK-first eye-catching hologram, but they can also discover more about The Elephant Welfare Project and our aims.

#### **Our Research Projects**

This year we focused on several key studies to fill in our knowledge gaps of elephant behaviour and welfare:

<u>Machine learning to collect behavioural data on elephants</u>: A pilot study using machine learning to automate behavioural analysis of elephant videos. Once fully validated, this could utterly transform this time consuming and laborious job, enabling many more facilities to study their elephants' behaviour, to better understand and evaluate their welfare.

<u>MRes on elephant calf personality and response to taming</u>: This year, one of our EWP vet student volunteers took a year out from her studies to complete a Masters in Research (MRes), studying the impact of personality on elephant calf response to taming at a facility in Myanmar, in southeast Asia.

<u>Hormones and behaviour</u>: A year long study with collaborators at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Birmingham Zoo in the US, investigating their elephants' behaviour (using our app) and measurements of the hormone cortisol (a hormone which can be associated with stress).

<u>Elephant behaviour - response to changes</u>: Volunteers have been hard at work analysing video footage from elephants at a facility in Zimbabwe to understand changes in welfare resulting from a few different aspects of their care (such as whether they were kept on chains overnight or not; or kept with another elephant overnight or not).

#### **Our Connections**

#### Public Outreach

We engaged in a variety of activities throughout the year to educate the public about our work. These included radio, video and podcast interviews (UK and internationally) and local public outreach events, eg Science in the Park, Pint of Science, Secrets of Science.



#### **Our Technology**

#### Future development of the EWA App

Over the last year we recognized the wide-reaching impact our mobile app could have if it was available on more platforms, and different sized devices. Our users were enthusiastic about how our app addresses a crucially unmet need, providing a scientifically validated way to let them use observations of their elephants' behaviours to better understand and care for them. We have spent the last year and more revising, enhancing, and reprogramming the EWA. Launching in May 2024, the app will incorporate a lot of previously requested improvements based on user feedback; the use of newer technology version 2 will:

- Work on phones, tablets and laptops
- Work on IOS, Android and Windows
- Improve user experience
- Make even faster and easier to use both on and offline
- Improved data management
- Ability to evaluate more than one elephant at a time
- Ability to update the app automatically when user is online
- Real-time online data syncing

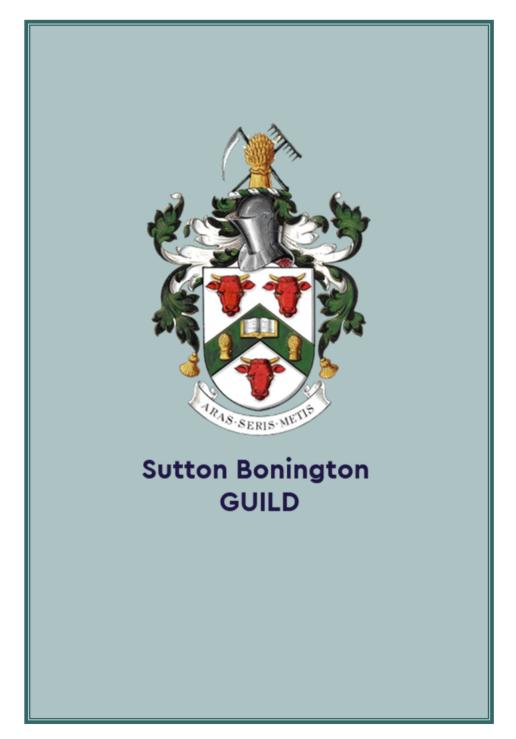
#### **Future Projects**

We are continuing to enhance and expand the EWA. This year we were able to upgrade the mobile app. Next year we hope to be able to expand the administrative capabilities that do all the calculations and generation of the reports from the mobile app data.



Dr Lisa Yon, Founding Director Associate Professor in Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science

www.elephantwelfareproject.org



# Sutton Bonington Guild 2022-23

Guild Chair:	Ashley Matthews
Vice Chair/ Sports and Activities:	Sam Clark
Senior ENTs September:	Anna Mear
Senior ENTs April:	Jess Howe
Publicity:	Sienna Leung
Campaigns & Charities:	Jess McNicol
Treasurer:	Urmimala Bose
Equal Opps & Welfare:	Alex Colvin





### Ashley Matthews Guild Chair

Hello, I am Ashley Matthews, the Guild Chair for 2022 to 2023. I am very proud of the changes our committee were able to achieve this year, raising awareness of the Guild as a supportive association for Sutton Bonington students, and also representing the students voices off and on campus.

Our main aim as a Guild was to continue old traditions, but also to think of new ways to help improve the lives of students on SB. As Guild Chair and Vice Chair, Sam and I have always aimed to champion the students in meetings with university staff, Nottingham Student Union and outside affiliates (such as Kegworth Parish Council and Kegworth/Gotham GP). For example, when asked in meetings what would improve SB life, we have fought for buses to and from Kegworth to become more frequent (and I'm glad to say that they are now). We have also helped bring students new opportunities; by working with Open Arms Kegworth, we have set up a means for students to donate clothes to asylum seekers.

It was also important this year that we considered the most current challenges that students were facing. To support students during the cost-of-living crisis, with support from the UoN catering service, we have provided free breakfasts in the Nest every weekday. Furthermore, we have also endeavoured to support SB societies in their events and assist all students with any problems that they came to us with, whether that was over email or in person. This could range from problems related to housing, finances, or even just acting as a means for students to access services from the University and the Student Union.

One of our largest focuses over the year was making sure we held a range of events that would be accessible and appeal to all students. We held various movie nights, quizzes and more tailored events. We welcomed April freshers with a barbecue and pub quiz night, and we introduced the Guild in a presentation Sam Clark delivered to the cohort. It was also very rewarding to run larger events too. Our Society Ball received excellent feedback from students, with the largest turnout of guests this event had seen in comparison to previous years. It was held at Colwick Hall and it was a great opportunity to commend the work of students, giving awards to societies and their committee members for their contributions to SB. While our Summer Ball was cancelled out of respect for the tragic loss of Barnaby Webber and Grace O'Malley-Kumar, I am extremely proud of my committee for organising such a large event. I have no doubt that if it had gone ahead, it would have been a great success, and a credit to Anna Mear's hard work as Senior ENTs.

I believe that we achieved our main aims as a committee, but the reason why I am particularly proud of our work is because we will get to see it live on in the hard work of the new committee, and future generations of the Guild to come. I wish them every success and look forward to seeing how they continue to represent SB students, on and off campus.

Ashley Matthews Guild Chair of 2022/23









SUTTON BONINGTON Mixed Hockey



SB Mixed Hockey had a great year on and off the pitch last year! We had an amazing performance in both the Leicestershire and Rutland Mixed Hockey League where we came 3rd and the Warwick Mixed University Sunday League where we won! We reached a winning streak of 14 games in a row and had over 60 players in the whole season. We scored 164 goals and lots of winners' pints in the pub!

We once again organised SB Sports Ball for the sports societies on Sutton Bonington with a meal and a disco at a hotel in Kegworth. It was a wonderful Christmas celebration and it was great to get all the sports societies together for a big social. We had some amazing Hockey socials this year including the inaugural Lemon Night which involved limoncello tasting, Safari Supper where we all went in groups around Kegworth with meals cooked for us at different houses, and Willis Weekend to Snowdonia. We climbed Mt Snowdon very early in the morning, did some very cold raft building and beat Liverpool Vets at hockey on the way home!

We did some great fundraising for Coppafeel! UK with over 100 people attending BoobBall in the SB sports hall, raising over £400. Hockey once again showed that it's rude to win your own competition by putting on a very poor dodgeball show. We joined in the SB Netball competition for Vets in the Community and played much better netball than dodgeball (although our team did have to be reminded that we were playing netball not rugby...). We raised money for Movember and brought back Pint for a Pint – and had our members donating blood in return for a pint.

We won multiple awards at SB Societies Ball, including Best President, Best Captain and Best Social Sec, and had a great turnout from our members. In April we once again welcomed a new group of Freshers from the April Vet cohort, and thanks to the great work of our April committee we had an amazing summer of socials and fundraisers. We did the Big SB Carwash and Bake-Off to raise money for the club. We then started this season with another brilliant pre-season tour to Dorset!

This year we have made a great start to the year and would like to thank IVC Evidensia and Linnaeus for their generous donations to the club so we can keep running sessions and buying equipment.

Many thanks to our members for being wonderful as always and we hope to keep up the good work on and off the pitch!





SUTTON BONINGTON Mixed Lacrosse



#### **APRIL SEASON**

Over the spring and summer, the April committee have taken over and had great fun playing lacrosse with occasional success. With David Townsend as President, Jack Norton as Captain and Izzie Hardy as Social Sec, it was destined to be a good year. With a number of socials and trips to Bodega and Rock City we showed off our white lies and our best Barbie outfits and did our best to show why Lacrosse is the best society. Playing-wise some of our members took part in Nuneaton Lacrosse Club's 6-aside tournament and in preparation for the new year we have a host of new sticks and goal equipment. Live, laugh, lacrosse.

#### SEPTEMBER SEASON

September saw the return of SB Mixed Lacrosse into the hands of the September committee, getting off to a great start with very well-attended sessions during Freshers' Week and lots of good recruitment. By October, skills were starting to develop and rules were beginning to be understood by new members of the club - meaning fewer people were being caught out by rogue lacrosse balls! Our first match of the season in November was a great success, with a winning final score of 7-4 against Leicester. This truly was a testament to all of the hard work being put in by the committee members to train the freshers up quickly.

Just before the winter break there was great attendance for Christmas dinner at everyone's favourite curry house, before a few very competitive games of bowling in Nottingham. Our return in January saw the homecoming of the alumni for the OKA Weekend, including a seathemed night at Rock City followed by a very refreshing game of lacrosse the next morning.

Playing Nuneaton Lacrosse club in February provided us with lots of great learning opportunities in match play for our newer members, and despite the final score being 16-0, we all had a great time and learnt lots! In March we all trooped up to Leeds for the annual tour. Despite not playing any lacrosse, we enjoyed a night of dancing in Leeds city centre followed by the famous Otley run the next day. We also had our final match of the season, drawing 8-8 with DMU, a clear demonstration of how much our team and skills had improved over the year. It was a great end to the season before handing back over to the April committee.

#### Sarah Roos

President of SB Mixed Lacrosse

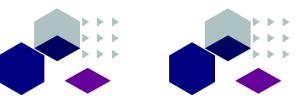




**SUTTON BONINGTON** Paddleboarding

This is only the 2nd year that Paddleboarding has been an active society on SB but we have continued growing in numbers, peaking at around 75. We have run our first trips other than the canal, including doing some white-water SUP (stand up paddleboarding!) in the Peak District. Our plan for next year is to find a more permanent home for our equipment as we are being evicted from the sports centre lockers and then to run some further afield trips such as to the River Wye in Wales.









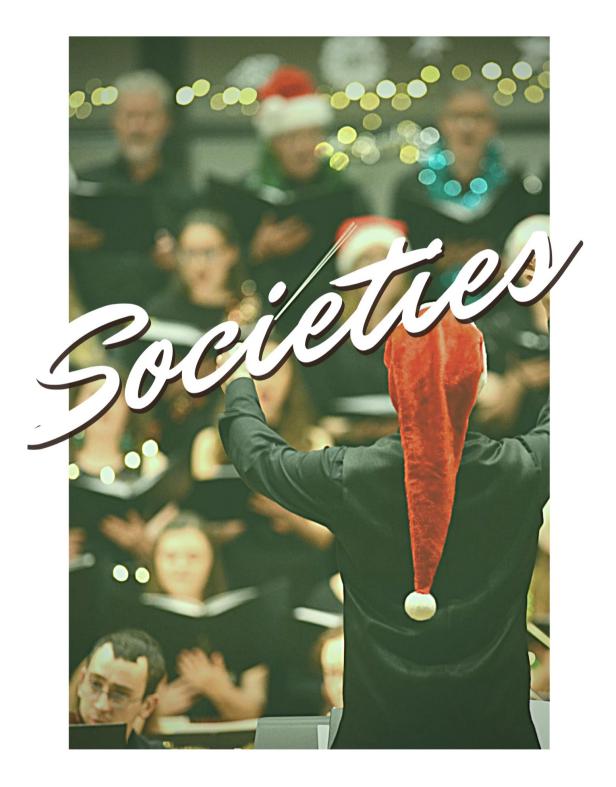


The 22/23 season was once again successful for SBRFC, with huge progress made by both the men's and women's teams. Both teams had regular games throughout the season and really did Sutton Bonington proud. As a club, we hosted another enjoyable Kinky Christmas and hope everyone had a great night (if you can remember it). Moving into the summer term, our men organised the incredible 'Clash of the Cohorts' match in which the team divided into September and April XVs. April took the victory with a score of 7-0 after 80 minutes of excellent play from both sides. Thank you to all who came down to support their cohorts at this game, and we look forward to seeing if the April team will reign supreme, or whether the September challengers will be successful in taking the title this year.

SBLRFC kicked off the year with a record-breaking taster session, at which we had 54 attendees! (For reference, the ladies once held a taster session with a grand total of one new potential player in attendance). Following this, for the first time in SB Rugby history, our ladies entered into a league this season, which gave massive opportunity for player development. We competed at NC2 level against local women's teams and finished a very respectable 5th after winning 8 games. On the social side, we frequented Crisis Wednesday in a wonderful array of handmade costumes, and held a number of sober socials which encouraged teamwork and bonding amongst the ladies.

On the men's side, they continued competing in the Leicestershire Merit A league and finished a brilliant 2nd place. For the coming season, the men have worked hard in collaboration with other university teams to set up the 'Midlands and North England Students' Super League'. The league is made up of multiple medical, engineer and vet student teams, and will allow for competitive student rugby where BUCS is not an option.

This year we are particularly looking forward to the resurrection of a club tradition known as 'President's Day', in which alumni return and play our current teams in the name of raising money for charity. This year our chosen charity is the My Name's Doddie Foundation and we look forward to reuniting with old friends to fundraise for this brilliant cause.





What a year it has been! Events, socials and a lot of new people to meet. Even a new committee. But also the stars of the show ... the animals. So what actually has happened this year to gain so much attention?

Well, at the start of the year the focus was more serious in exploring what possible careers students could do in the future. There were also socials held getting to know the joining members. Moving onto more exciting events, there was equine handling, from Shetlands to a beautiful white mare to brush; farm trips to see the alpacas; and improving wellbeing with the rabbits and guinea pigs afterwards. And yes, before you ask, they got a little excited. Moving on in the year, Oreo and Friends came with their skunks and snakes for us to marvel at and even hold them if you dared.



Finally the SB Fest Dog Show. A massive turnout and so many enjoyed themselves. A lot of hard work went into all of this, work that should be rewarded and it has been. The society has retained its gold status. After all this hard work it feels only right that a new committee will take over. And so they shall.

For this year going into the next there are many plans being processed and finalised. We're wanting the focus to be on member involvement and providing opportunities to volunteer more within the community. So what's happening in the coming weeks? Well, Freshers Fair of course; a meet and greet so we can get to know you guys; a possible kitty cafe to get close to the animals, and plenty more. And for those who missed it this year or loved it the first time around, there will be the return of Oreo and Friends, so some quirky and beautiful animals to see then.

Remember, we would love to hear from our alumni, as potential guest speakers or with ideas you wish to share. Get in touch on either our social media or email!

animal-society@uonsu.com @uon\_animal\_science

#### Lots of fun at SB Fest Dog Show, May 2023







## SUTTON BONINGTON Music

Over the last year SB Music has been really busy hosting lots of events on campus. In October 2022, our Big Band held their Jazz in the Barn performance at the Hive Bar, which is always a popular event for people to come along, visit the bar and enjoy some jazz music. Then in November we hosted an Open Mic Night – students were encouraged to sign up to perform, whether they were



groups, solos or bands, or they could decide on the night to show their talent to an enthusiastic audience. In December, we held the annual Christmas Concert, filled with festivities, mulled wine, mince pies and lots of music from all four of our ensembles – we even managed to get the audience to join in with some Christmas favourites!



In the new year Big Band hosted another successful Jazz in the Barn performance, and we also had our annual theatre trip to watch the Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra perform some film music. Our Stories Through Song concert was held in the Spring and was another great success. Over the Summer our rehearsals continued and, despite the rainy weather, we had our Summer Concert – the sun even made a short appearance so people could enjoy their Pimms in the interval!

This year is the 10 year anniversary for our symphony orchestra and choir, and therefore on the 2nd of December we are hosting an Anniversary Concert – we shall be playing a mix of new pieces and old favourites, and are inviting back many alumni to watch and even join in some of the performances! It would be great to see a lot of people there so keep an eye out for more information to come soon! All of our members have worked really hard over the last year and have a lot of performances and events to prove it. We are looking forward to another year filled with music!



# -MEMBERS--WANTED-ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

CHOIR- Mon 6:30pm FOLK BAND - Tue 6:30pm BIG BAND- Thur 6pm ORCHESTRA- Sun 5pm OPEN MIC - 16th March

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS BACK THIS YEAR !

More info

#### **CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!**

If you sing or play an instrument, regardless of your ability, we'd love to see you in one of our ensemble groups this year! Our groups are open to both students and non-students, and we would very much welcome any alumni who'd like to join us.

You can see more details about our groups below.







Hi! I'm Emily, the President of SB Players!

As the resident drama society on campus, we aim to do at least two shows every year. We do a Christmas Pantomime – which is always a great success! – and we're also working on another show for the Spring Term, which is a Cabaret-style performance where members can showcase their talent in any way they choose!

We premiered this style of show last year with our 'Comeback Cabaret: Players Gonna Play' show, which was a massive hit both with our members and the rest of the campus! We're really excited to try this style of show again and we're hoping to have even more performances this year!

We also love to encourage member's individual skills, and we're running workshops focussing on acting, dancing and singing, so that the society can grow as a whole, and people can really enjoy their time on stage!

We're also looking at branching out more into the local community; we're planning on working alongside Kegworth Players, a local drama group, as well as performing in the annual Kegworth Gentlefolk Tea Party, singing some Christmas carols and even performing an excerpt from our Pantomime!

We hope you come to one of our performances soon, in the meantime enjoy this selection of performance photos!









This year has been an enormous success for April Vetsoc as we became even bigger with the addition of another year to the cohort, leaving us with over 500 members. This is only set to grow in the coming months with the addition of the 5th (and final) year to the April cohort. As the only April dedicated society on Sutton Bonington, we try and run as many events as possible, ranging from balls and club nights to quiz nights and even Disco Ice Skating.

This year one of our main focuses was mental health so we ran a mental health first aid course for our members, and we managed to get a talk with Olympic and World Champion swimmer Adam Peaty about how striving for constant success can take a toll on mental health.

Vetball this year (photo below) was held at Colwick Hall and was better than ever with a sellout crowd dancing into the early hours. We had a great turn out from staff of the Vet School, including a whole table solely for the equine team. One of the other standout events of the year was the Dining In which, with funding from the Vet School, we managed to put on for free to all students on SB. This included a barn party (with karaoke), plus a free hog roast and 2 free (strong!) cocktails per person.

Hopefully, next year will be even better and we are already planning a series of events in preparation for the April Freshers' Week.





### Colloid Science in Liverpool by Svenja Schmidt

Thanks to the assistance of the Lamming Travel scholarship, I was able to attend the UK Colloids 2023: An international Colloids and Interface Science Symposium in Liverpool from July 17-19. This conference series is jointly organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry (Colloid and Interface Science Group) and the Society of Chemical Industry (Colloid and Surface Science Group), and provides a platform for current research in the area of rheology, nanostructured materials, foams, emulsions, bubbles, colloidal suspensions, wetting and related themes.

My research focuses on developing novel fortified beverages for space exploration. Current space foods are not suitable for long-term space missions, leading to a need for novel space food systems. My PhD introduces the idea of a designer beverage system, for which astronauts can personalize the nutritional content and flavour to their needs and liking to increase health and well-being in space. Hydrophobic nutrients will be encapsulated in nano-oil-droplets, that are dispersed at low concentrations in the beverage (so-called beverage emulsion). In the first stage of my PhD, I could successfully demonstrate that combining a self -assembly emulsification method (spontaneous emulsification) with a microfluidic mixing device leads to a reliable nano-emulsification process, which has been published earlier in the year (S. Schmidt et al., Adv. Healthcare Mater., 2023, 2203363). Therefore, I was excited to join the sessions on formulation science, nanoparticles, emulsions, self-assembly and encapsulation/release, as well as to present my findings in form of a poster presentation.

Since the conference was held in Liverpool, the hometown of The Beatles, the conference organisers chose a special location for their welcome evening event: The Beatles Story, which is the band's largest permanent exhibition in the world. The museum was closed for the general public during the event, leaving me and the fellow UoN researchers to roam freely through the exhibition, while chatting to other researchers and enjoying some drinks and nibbles. The next day, the scientific program kicked off with keynote talks, exhibitor presentations and scientific sessions. While the conference was focused on the role colloid science plays in the respective application of the presenters, the applications itself ranged far and wide: from novel food packaging to cosmetics, chocolate, laundry/ dishwasher detergent, innovative medicine and even bullet-proof vests, making it a great



conference to appreciate the significance colloid science plays in everyday life. On the evening of the first day, the poster session took place at which I presented my research. Unfortunately, it was scheduled at the same time as the panel discussion on women in editorial positions and the visibility of women in science, which I originally wanted to listen to, but instead I had a great time networking with fellow researchers and discussing my research. I received positive feedback on my poster and the scientific illustrations I had designed, and met like-minded PhD students that are interested in science communication.

The next two days followed with more keynote talks and scientific sessions. Highlights were the talks from companies like Bayer, Unilever and Procter & Gamble to learn what kind of research companies are



invested in, and the talk of Prof Norman Wagner from the University of Delaware on his design process of astronaut suits, among others. The conference gala dinner took place on the evening of the second day at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral. The conference



organisers had set up the dinner in the dramatic surroundings of the Lutyens Crypt, which was a very unique experience. At the end of the third day, the closing session, prizes were awarded for the best poster based on a public vote. I am excited to have received one of the awards sponsored by the Institute of Physics, the UK Neutron Scattering Group, Innospec and RSC.

Altogether, UK Colloid 2023 was an outstanding experience for me, at which I learned a lot about the current developments in colloid science, many of which are beneficial for my own research, and made new connections to the British and international colloid science community.

# The role of insects in animal production in France by Victoria Hill

Due to the generosity of the Lamming Award sponsors, I was able to attend the 74th European Federation of Animal Science Conference in Lyon over the summer of 2023. The theme of the conference was "Climate change, biodiversity and global sustainability of animal production" and had attendees involved in research in all sectors of animal production, whereby the focus is on optimising current and future production methods to help to feed the growing population without compromising on sustainability goals.





The conference presented the perfect opportunity to showcase the research I have undertaken in my PhD. I was delighted to see that the conference had an entire section devoted to insect researchers, and the room for this topic was packed with keen attendees on every day of the conference. My research focuses on the ability to manipulate the body composition of living insects in order to better suit the requirements of livestock feed. There is an ever-increasing demand for protein,

typically that which is animal-derived, and thus there is a need to find more sustainable ways to feed the increased number of livestock animals. Insects provide an opportunity to feed livestock animals high-quality protein, with drastically fewer impacts on the planet in comparison to typical feedstuffs such as soyabean meal. However, some commercially available insect species have relatively high amounts of fat which can cause difficulty in feed formulation in some species with low fat requirements. To capitalise off the high-quality protein found in many species of insect, the nutritional composition should be optimised. During my attendance at the conference, I gave a presentation on one of the aspects of my research which looks into the impact of exogenous application on analogue of juvenile



hormone, which has significant roles into larvalto-pupal metamorphosis in holometabolous insects. Mealworms are the subject of my research and I found that application of this compound significantly reduced the fat content and increased the protein content which would be highly beneficial for incorporating into animal feed in the agricultural industry.

It was a great opportunity for me to connect with other insect researchers and people from industry who had insights into the potential of mealworms and other insect species as a feed and food source. It was exciting to see the number of people and industries who saw the value of insects and who were interested in how my research could be implemented to optimise breeding programmes to increase the yield of protein. I was able to connect with



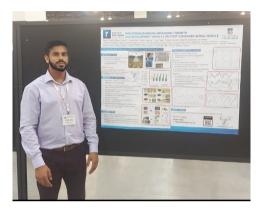
many of these researchers and business owners on LinkedIn following the conference, including the chairs of my session, Lars-Henrik Lau Heckmann and David Deruytter, who were thoroughly engaging to talk to. I also was able to talk to Eliaou Sellem, who has a keen interest in insect genetics, from Ÿnsect, which is a company I have collaborated with to help provide insects for my research trials. I left the conference feeling wholly uplifted at the amount of work being done to improve the sustainability of the agricultural industry and how my research can play a role in providing a better food system for future generations.

Attending the conference in the beautiful city of Lyon was truly a much-needed break from laboratory work and I thoroughly enjoyed making the most of the delightful French cuisine on offer! Prior to leaving France, due to my flight arrangements, I was able to visit the delightful old town of Annecy, which was only a 2-hour train journey winding through the French countryside towards the Alps. It was the perfect way to round off my visit to attend the conference. Upon returning to the UK, I received an email to inform me that I had been awarded a prize for the best oral presentation in the insect section of the conference, which was a great confidence boost for me!





### Geoscience and Remote Sensing in the USA By Shaikh Yassir Yousouf Jewan



I had the privilege to present my research on "Monitoring Growth and Development of Bambara Groundnut Using a Low-Cost Unmanned Aerial Vehicle" at the prestigious 43rd annual International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS 2023), held at the Pasadena Convention Center in Pasadena, California, United States. My presentation was featured in Retrieval of Vegetation Parameters by remote sensing technology. This session was chaired by Paul Siqueira from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and

Antonio Ferraz from NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. During my presentation, I had the opportunity to describe my innovative approach, discussing how I monitored the growth and development of Bambara Groundnut by utilizing a low-cost Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) equipped with a color infrared camera. This novel research technique allows quick and easy earth observation, offering valuable insights into crucial vegetation parameters important for growers. The symposium, IGARSS 2023, not only provided a platform for knowledge exchange but also fostered invaluable networking opportunities with fellow researchers and professionals dedicated to the field of geoscience and remote sensing. My interactions at the conference yielded constructive feedback and insights, enriching the quality and relevance of my ongoing research.

Beyond the academic endeavours, my visit to Pasadena, Los Angeles, California, was nothing short of extraordinary. Exploring Pasadena's charming streets and historic landmarks was a cultural delight, while venturing into the iconic sights of Los Angeles, including a memorable visit to Hollywood, was an unforgettable experience steeped in the entertainment industry's history and glamour. However, one of the most enlightening aspects of my trip was the visit to the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). The tour of



JPL offered an exclusive peek into the realm of cutting-edge space exploration technology and the opportunity to glean insights into NASA's ambitious missions. Witnessing the dedication and passion of the scientists and engineers at JPL was truly inspiring and reaffirmed the significance of my work in remote sensing and geoscience. My journey continued with a visit to the NASA Observatory, a place where I had the privilege to gaze upon the wonders of the universe through powerful telescopes and immersive educational exhibits. Contemplating distant galaxies and celestial phenomena left a lasting impression, igniting a sense of wonder about the cosmos. IGARSS 2023 not only contributed to my professional growth but also immersed me in the rich culture and scientific marvels of Pasadena and Los Angeles. This unique combination of academic enrichment, cultural exploration and scientific immersion transformed my trip into an unforgettable chapter in my research journey.

I extend my gratitude to Agrimag 2023 for providing the platform to share my remarkable journey at IGARSS 2023. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Lamming Award for Travel for making my enriching journey to IGARSS 2023 possible. I eagerly anticipate further advancements in my research endeavours in the field of geoscience and remote sensing, driven by the inspiration and knowledge gained from this extraordinary experience.

Shaikh Yassir Yousouf Jewan, Joint PhD Bioscience (Agricultural Remote Sensing), University of Nottingham, United Kingdom and The University of Adelaide, Australia

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite (top left) NASA (USA) anad ISRO India) presenting NISAR (top right) Griffith Space Observatory (bottom)











BELPER

Awarded annually to the candidate who, on the results of the examinations, is adjudged to be the best student in the final year of the course leading to a degree in the School of Biosciences

**Kenzia Fernandes** 

#### **BRITISH SOCIETY OF PLANT PATHOLOGY (BSPP) PRIZE**

Awarded to the student with the best marks in a Plant Pathology module **Rebecca Gough** 

#### DULLFORCE PRIZE

Awarded annually to the student achieving the highest marks in a final year honours project in the area of Crop Science (Field Crops) Athreya Shetty

#### - - , - - - - - ,

#### ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE

The Challenge Prize goes to the team of students, in the Crop Management Challenge module, who performed best in managing agronomic, financial and risk factors associated with growing a crop of wheat on University Farm.

Kasonde Mulenga Jarupat Namphunsuksan Asim Albalaw

#### FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION PRIZES

The prizes are awarded annually to the candidates who, by recommendation of the Head of Division of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and on the results of the final examination or honours project, are adjudged to be the best students in Management.

Highest marks in the final examination: James Drysdale Highest marks in the final year research project: Xavier Titley

#### JOHN MADOCKS PRIZE

Awarded annually on the recommendation of the Head of Division to a final year student on any one of the courses in the Division of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences who is adjudged to have contributed most to the work, well-being and standing of the Division James Drysdale

#### LONGWILL AND FORT PRIZE

Awarded annually to the candidate who, on the results of the final examinations, is adjudged to be the best student in Agriculture James Drysdale

#### LONZA BIOTECHNOLOGY PRIZES

Awarded to:

- the student who has achieved the Best Overall Academic Performance on the BSc Biotechnology degree
  Kenzia Fernandes
- (ii) the student who has achieved the Best Performance on a Research Project on the BSc Biotechnology degree
  Danielle Colyer

#### MISSION VENTURES NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Awarded annually for the best project undertaken by MSc and final year Food Science undergraduates taking the Food Factory Operations module

Jessica Kerr Jessica Limb Isabel Parks Jessica Stinton Hannah Stodart

#### MNUTR NUTRITION AND DIETETIC PRIZES

Awarded to the top 3 students in the Case Review Presentation Eleanor Watson Maudline Larbi Madeline Pither

Awarded to the top 3 students in the Service Development Proposal Anisah Begum Yan Cheung

#### NUTRICIA TOP MASTER OF NUTRITION & DIETETICS STUDENT AWARD

Awarded annually to the final year Master of Nutrition student from the School of Biosciences achieving the highest overall percentage mark **Emma Hickson** 

#### PERKINS/FOWLER/WAITES PRIZE

Awarded to the student who obtains the highest mark in a research project on the BSc Microbiology degree

Lucy Gavin

#### PROF WM WAITES ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE PRIZE

Awarded for the highest overall degree average for students completing the BSc Microbiology degree

Sophie Potter

#### RASE AGRICULTURE STUDENT AWARD

The Royal Agricultural Society of England prize is awarded to the candidate who, on the results of the final examinations, is adjudged to be the best student of Agriculture. James Drysdale

#### **ROYAL SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY'S TOP STUDENT AWARD**

Awarded annually to the final year BSc (Hons) student from the School of Biosciences achieving the highest overall percentage mark in a degree that comprises at least 50% Biology in Part I and Part II

Kenzia Fernandes

#### THE RURAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT PRIZE

Awarded annually to the team of students achieving the highest marks in the case study component of the module 'Rural Business Management'

Tristan Batchelor James Drysdale Henry Brooks Henry Smith Joshua Cox

#### SHIELDS PRIZE

Awarded annually to the candidate who is adjudged to be the best student in the final year of the course leading to a degree in Food Science **Jessica Stinton** 

#### SLIMMING WORLD COMMUNICATION SKILLS PRIZE

Awarded to the final year Master of Nutrition and Dietetics student achieving the highest percentage mark in the OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) Aditi Mudaliar

#### WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FARMERS PRIZE

Awarded annually to the student who has demonstrated the greatest leadership potential in agriculture

Athreya Shetty

#### ELIZABETH AND JD MARSDEN PRIZE

Awarded to an undergraduate student in their final year who is adjudged the best student of the year, who has gained high distinction in their examinations and who has, throughout their University career, been of exemplary conduct and given proofs of outstanding character and personality

#### **Charlotte Parker**

# SCHOOL OF Veterinary Medicine

### PRELIMINARY YEAR PRIZES

Highest Overall Mark in Animal Care and Behaviour (£30) Hannah Griffiths

Highest Overall Mark in Animal Biology: Cell Structure and Biochemistry (£30) Matthew Chambers and Bethany Simpson (shared)

Highest Overall Mark in Animal Biology: An Introduction to Body Systems (£30) Leanne Brucciani

Highest Overall Mark in Animal Biology: Health and Disease (£30) Leanne Brucciani

Highest Overall Mark in Chemistry: Atomic Structure and Bonding (£30) Hannah Griffiths

Highest Overall Mark in Chemistry: Compounds and Reactions (£30) Leanne Brucciani

Highest Overall Mark in Introductory Maths (£30) Matthew Chambers

### YEAR 1 PRIZES

Highest Overall Achievement (£50) Erin Cassingham and Ella Jones

Highest Overall Mark in Circulatory and Respiratory Systems (£50) Erin Cassingham

Highest Overall Mark in Animal Health and Welfare (£50) Hannah Perkins

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Neuromuscular System (£50) Ella Jones

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Personal and Professional Skills 1 (£50) Holly McMahon

### YEAR 2 PRIZES

Highest Overall Achievement (£50) Tatiana Tymchuk

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Urogenital System 1 (£50) Tatiana Tymchuk

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Professional Skills 2 (±50) Kate Walker-Springett

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Gastrointestinal System 1 (£50) Kate Walker-Springett

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Endocrine and Integument System 1 (£50) Tatiana Tymchuk

### YEAR 3 PRIZES

Highest Overall Achievement in BVMedSci degree (£50) Jasmin Farrow

Highest Overall Achievement in Year 3 (£30) Laura Ingham

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Research Project (£30) Jade England and Kitiana Wright

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Public Health (£30) Thomas Mitchell

Highest Overall Mark in Fundamentals of Clinical Practice (£30) Anna Burton

Highest Overall Mark in Veterinary Professional Skills 3 (£30) Aron Griffiths

# YEAR 4 PRIZES

Highest Overall Achievement in Year 4 (£50) Elizabeth Pratt and Laura Swain (shared)

Highest Overall Achievement in VETS4061 (Equine) (£50) James Fellows

Highest Overall Achievement in VETS4062 (Farm) (£50) Laura Swain

Highest Overall Achievement in VETS4063 (Small Animal) (£50) Elizabeth Pratt and Laura Swain (shared)

Highest Overall Achievement in OSCE (£50) Elizabeth Pratt

# YEAR 5 PRIZES

Highest Overall Achievement in the BVM BVS degree (£500) Archie Moffat

Veterinary Instrumentation Prize for Highest Overall Achievement in Year 5 ( $\pm$ 200 vouchers) Archie Moffat

CVS Group plc Prize for Aspiring General Practitioner Final Year Veterinary Student Award (voted for by RPA and Contribution to Final Year) (£200) Alison Anderson

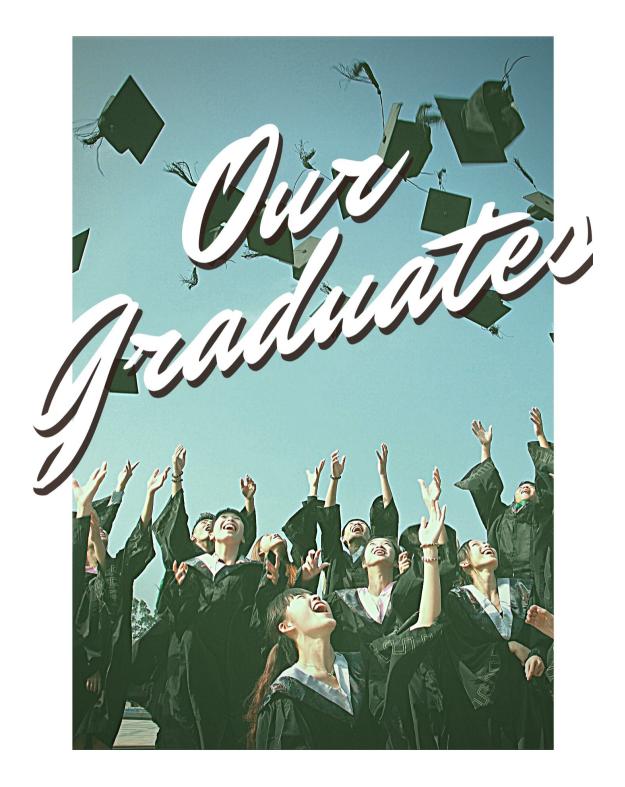
Outstanding Achievement in Personal and Professional Skills (£250) Olivia Abbiss and Archie Moffat (shared)

Barry Edwards Memorial Prize for Highest Overall Achievement in Equine (£250) Archie Moffat

James Hollingworth Memorial Prize for Highest Overall Mark in Farm Animal (£250) Archie Moffat

Moredun Foundation Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Large Animal Studies (books) William Golding

Mac Johnston Memorial Prize for Highest Overall Mark in Small Animal (£250) Olivia Abbiss and Archie Moffat (shared)





Information taken from University of Nottingham Graduation Brochures

# **Winter 2022**

#### For the Undergraduate Certificate

Biotechnology T'Don Omar Kennedy

Environmental Biology Josephine Huang

#### **Environmental Science**

Lucas Owen Birchall Georgia Hodgett Young Chi To Kong

Integrated Agricultural Business Management Jack Darcy Collins

#### For the Undergraduate Diploma

Animal Science Faizan Awan

#### Nutrition Edward Farmer

#### For the Degree of Bachelor of Science

Biotechnology Alexander McDonald

Microbiology Vera-Michelle Ocansey

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours

Agriculture Catriona Alice Henrietta Collingridge Biotechnology Magnus Paul Khan Ellie Turner

Biotechnology with Industrial Year Vito Margaritondo

#### Environmental Biology Cameron Beazley-Clarke Karla Downs Ursula Morris

Environmental Science Madeleine Clare Larter Chloe Moore Oluwafisayo Temitayo Otuyemi

Food Science and Nutrition Samantha Reeve Wing Lam Sum

#### Microbiology Daniella Hogg

Nutrition Lauren Snell

### For the Postgraduate Certificate

Sensory Science Jamie Andrew Moyosola Okoye Katrin Pechinger Rebecca Louise Waterfield

### For the Degree of Master of Science

Animal Nutrition Kaixin Bao Hannah Louise Hanson Keaston Johnson Emily Florence Keep Lingxue Kong On Lum Alvina Lee Yaokun Li Hasindu Thilshara Loku Waduge Zuzanna Madej Elizabeth Miranda Mellor Alice Eleanor Owen Jasmin Marie Simpson Charlotte Antonia Rosemary Stainer Sophie Thorpe Leia Patricia Trotman Julia Marta Wendolowska Jin Ting Wong

#### Biotechnology

Dionne Effe Ahimah Anamta Alam Valeriu-Radu Andro Jingqi Bai Yahan Chen Saskia Eldridge-Hinmers Thomas Hunt Zoya Khan Triet Minh Le Junle Liu Emmanuel Enrique Martinez Cambier Nariel Leigh Medard Saarah Mengrani Gerardo Andres Montes Bridget Moy Thanh Bach Nghiem Jintao Niu Jordan Philippe Ramya Ramesh Durgaswathi Ravikumar Yizhe Ren **Tushant Saini** Riya Salunkhe Huike Shi Xiaoqin Shi . Haoran Shuai Daotong Sun

Feijian Sun Yueren Sun Muyang Tian Kelly-Anna Umulisa Jacob Watts Xuhua Xu Shijin Yang Pingjuan Zhang Xiaoxiao Zhang Zhu Zhu

#### **Brewing Science**

Colm McHugh Joshua James McMillan Mark Nixon Maria Elisabeth Slob Mike Wall

#### **Clinical Nutrition**

Wadha Mohammed J Algahtani Norah Abdulaziz Alsaber Priyanka Balachandar Chamathka Rukshani De Silva Rachel Francis Tonishia Lesley Anne Hart Wajiha Adel Abed Alfattah Irsheid Ezgi Deniz Isik Ceylin Ozer Aron Preece Ameera Riaz Sofia del Rosario Salinas Claro Nikisha Erica Ryana Sondhi Sazan Mazin Talaat Martha Werimegbe Mandi Yang

#### Food Production Management

Weiran Gao Dzulija Halilova Salvio Kalil Kalfani Ziwan Meng Elhassan Abdelgafar Hassan Osman Tanveer Kaur Sangra Yu-Chen Ting Xinxin Wang Yiwen Zhu

#### Nutritional Sciences

Jaleelah Olaide Adesope L'or Adolfo Savka Aileen Akester Helena Patricia Bartley Callum Dane Brewerton Heyue Chen Giyuan Jin Aishwarya Kausthubham Rajesh Minji Kim Steven Lowe Calum James Morrison Aleksandra Justyna Mrowiec Ebenezer Temitope Osesusi Huahua Pan Phoebe Claire Randall Olivia Alice Stevens Slawonir Piotr Strzelecki Alice Mary Vivian

#### For the Degree of Master of Research

Biosciences

Dylan Bradley Holly Dean

#### Microbiology (Biosciences) James Stephen Stanley

For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

#### Biosciences

Lenu Barineme Fakae Jonathan Inetianbor Christopher Chagumaira Hannah Ruth Blyth Alexander John Bridgen James Norton Garner Alexander Lee Jevons Toby Oliver David Pendlebury Alexander Charles William Pritchard Emma Aspin

### **Crop Science**

Dimitra Angelopoulou Marcela Alejandra Moroyoqui Parra

#### Environmental Sciences Martha Ledger

#### Food Sciences

Yang Hu Katherine Hurst Poramat Sucharit

#### **Nutritional Sciences**

Fitriana Mustikaningrum

Plant Science Petros Sigalas Soil Science Thomas Bott

George Themistocleous

# **Summer 2023**

Ali Abdel Hafez Ali Iman Ahmed Genna Ahmed Al Zaabi Maheen Ahsin Kawther Mujtaba Al Lawati Nasser Mohammed Musallam Al-Abri Ahmed Mohammed D Alanazi Cameron Carrington Asim Ali A Albalawi Khulud Albalawi Ibrahim Algherair Megan Allison Wadad Abdulaziz Y Y Al-Muftah Abdulhamid Al-Riyami Nora Alsaffar Abrar Alshahrani Joshua Andrews Nacchiappan Annamalai Mohammed Ayman M Arafah Karam Aulakh Tabina Azad

Jake Bailey Brett Baker **Eleanor Baldwin** Freva Barnes **Tristan Batchelor** Lvdia Baxter Alexander Beath Anisah Begum Amy Bell Katelyn Belt Jude Benneworth Samuel Bentley Saachi Bhalla Isobel Blower **Daniel Bookless** Lucy Booth Samuel Booth Tom Bourner Jack Boyle Sage Boyman

Manon Brenot Emilia Brierlev Natasha Brookes Henry Brooks **Oliver Buchan** Liam Burford

Adam Castle Alice Catanzaro Grace Cazin Harriet Challen Daisy Chapman-Gardner Klairi Charitsi Talia Cheshire Yan Cheung Catherine Child Wing Chow Suheera Chowdry **Danielle Clements** Abby Colclough Annalie Cole Rosie Collett Emma Collins Chloe Collishaw **Danielle Colyer** Maisie Corbett William Corlett Morgan Cotteret Kari Cotton-Betteridge Allison Courage Emma Louise Cowan Jesper Cox Joshua Cox Anna Cross Harry Cross Natalie Cuby Cervs Cuffe Michelle Cutajar

Jack Victor Dance Holly Elizabeth Dancer Stuti Dave

Hannah Davies Olivier de Lencquesaing Michaela Devine India Jane Dowdeswell James Drysdale Zefei Du Londani Dube

Madeleine Eeley Sarah Ellis Kate Evans Isabel Sarla Ewin Ali Ezzedine

Rebecca Rachel Fairburn Xin Fang Kenzia Fernandes **Cameron Finlay** Jacob Forrest Lucy Fortescue Jodie Fraser-Cattanach

**Finlay Gale** Elena Garrick Lucy Gavin Adejimi George-Coker Evelyn Gildea **Buwandeep Gill** Frederick Gill Amber Glover Rebecca Gough **Emily Gray** Charlotte Gray-Hammerton Jordan Green Georgina Griffiths Jiexiong Guo Gizem Guven Ates Veronica Guwela

Naomi Hammond **Emily Hancock** Wade Handley-Hartill Nathan Harding

Amber Harrison Sam Harthern Jessica Haslam Katie Haworth Lia Heath Faye Henley Sevgi Herek Adam Hicks Emma Hickson Harry Hirst Yuen Ching Ho Jessica Holmes John Holsey Qiqi Huang **Conner Hughes** Amar Hundare **Thomas Hutchinson** Todd Isbell Natalja Ivanova Grace Jackson Sophie Jackson **Dylan Jacques** Weronika Jaremba **Rebecca Jayasinghe** Joe Jebb **Bethany Alice Jones** Josh Jones Sarah Grace Jongkind Merlin Joy Leila Keegan Jessica Kerr Aashna Khan Younes Khatbane Tom Kirk Lucy Knapman Marie Komrsova Georgia Konstantinou Thinushan Krishnakumar Natasha Kumar

Chun Wing Lai Maudline Larbi Nguyen Khanh Giang Le Minyeong Lee Anna Lerski Wang Li Zijin Lian Jessica Limb Olivia Luckin George Alexander Lund James Lunt

Thomas MacCalman Emma Mallett Afnan Sugair K Mangarah Ahmed Sugair K Mangarah Alexander Mansell Olivia Marron Kirandeep Marsh Kieran Masso Walsh Holly Matheson Hannah Matson Alice McCormack Maz McCormick Amelia McInerney Patrick McNamara Rohit Mehta Harriet Mellis Marina Milsum Harriet Mole Alexander Morgan **Charlie Moss** Ireen Mtawali Aditi Mudaliar Cerys Mulcahy Kasonde Mulenga Robert Murdock Emma Murrav Eva Musta

Jarupat Namphunsuksan Abigail Kate Naylor Grace Ndungu Joseph Neill Grace Nelson Lydia Newton Jack Nichols Niththila Nilavannan Emma Lisa Noon Frances Nwachukwu Princess Obayori Eleanor O'Connor Serhat Oget Aisling Owen

**Elizabeth Page Kirsty Page** Eleni Papagianni **Charlotte Parker** Isabel Parks Avsha Parslow Teri Parsonage Nava Patel Shrayah Patel **Trushar Patel Tushar Patel** Lewis Paver Louis Peen Francesca Phillips Philippa Patricia Pickford Madeline Pither William Pitman **Filie Plume** Sophie Potter **Tieren Price Elizabeth Proctor** Dora Puhl

Mifta Pratiwi Rachman Muhammad Rajah Isabella Reed Lewis Rendall Zack Ridley Fraser Riley Samuel Riley Lauren Robertson Megan Robinson Sophie Rogers Lucy Ross Rosanna Rostron Callum Ruffell

Isah Saidu Farah Khalid Waleed Abu Saleh Rushil Saxena Michael Schurbaum Annabel Scott Peter Josef Scott Patrick Michael Seed Heenal Dhirajlal Shah Alice Elizabeth Shaw Maisy Sheldon Fern Sheppard Catherine Su-Lin Sheridan Yusra Sherif Athreya Shetty Maxwell Shilton **Ruth Shorten** Hari Shyamapant Megan Sidery **Isabelle Sims** Ella Smith Henry Smith Holly Smith Isobel Snowdon **Oliver Paul Staines** Jessica Stinton Hannah Stodart Lydia Stokes Carrie Storer-Martin Jack Stubbs Nga Tam Shreya Tanna Lucy Tanner **Emily Taylor** Leonard Taylor Myles Tcherbi-Narteh Madeleine Thompson Rachel Louise Thompson Lucy Tillier Xavier Titley Sze Tong Adam George Townsend Harrison Tremain Holly Trinder Ho Tse Bilal Tulumcu Elizabeth Turner Ellis Turner

Joanna Van Leusen Jonathan Varley Philippa Vella Caroline Walder **Eloise Walders Searle** Emily Walton Olivia Ward William Warren Molly Watkins Eleanor Watson Camila Wegricht Madelin Whitmee **Charlotte Williams** Scarlett Willson Emily Wimaladharma Lauren Winter Georgia May Wishart Julia Wojtacka Kate Woods Jasmine Rose Wormald Elice Wright Tsun Wu Emily Wylie

Aminah Yaseen Joshua James Yeo Nicholas Alexander Young Ashima Yunus

Xuecheng Zhang Safia Zidouri



# **Winter 2022**

For the Undergraduate Certificate

Veterinary Medicine Kai Him Luk

For the Degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Medical Sciences with Honours

## Veterinary Medicine

George William Albon Bethany Ann Allan Lucinda Inigo Christine Louise Alzua-Blanco Lewis Ashman Zoe Barton Abigail Barwick Alex Bates Olivia May Bates Alice Rosemary Joyce Baverstock Helene Frances Bealing Maxime Bouten Nicole Bratton Jane Breaden William John Brown Emily Brunsdon Hannah Brunton Mariana Carreira Cabral Molly Cahoon William Clayton Kristina May Coles Charlotte Jade Cowling Nadine Croll Yasmin Teresa Crowe Jack Dady Chelsea Davies Lauren Dawson Sophie Jessica Dawson Chloe Dix Jessica Dobbe Anais Kaur Dosanj Joshua Jeffrey Downs Ellise Eldridge Katherine Emsley Carina Evans Eleanor Grace Fuller Thomas Gaut Megan Geldard Thomas Simon Gillespie Amy Elizabeth Gratton Ella-Louise Green Delyth Gregory



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Edward Hammonds Christina Louise Harkin Eloise Hatton James Hau Jordanne Hawksworth Tara Ann Healy Anna Jade Heritage Charlotte Olivia May Hetherington Milinda Hewagama Olivia Darcy Holmes Emily Kate Howell Jill Huey Helena Louise Ivey Iona Jenking-Rees Becky Jenkins Rebecca Jerwood Katy Johnson Sophia Elizabeth Jolly Edward George Jones Kristina Jane Jorstad Ashwin Joshi Peter Edward Robert Steven Kaul Anneliese Kaur Pooni Brogan Kearney Lauren Kee Orla Margaret Keefe Aimee Lily Keen Julie Kathryn Keith Shanelle Susan Keogh Amy King Madeline Lang Mia Elise Larke James Alexander Lawrence Charlotte Maisie Alice Lawson Olivia Letton Evelyn May Lewis Kai-Ming Kevin Liang Megan Littlewood Isabelle Jia-Qi Maier Laura Makovska Ecem Manavoglu Caitie Mann Elizabeth Manson Alice Marriage Joshua Maxwell-Toro Eleanor May Rose McCullagh Benjamin Miles Joshua Mill Caelyn Maria Millar Ellie Miller Jack Mills Sarah Monkman Katrina Joanne Moreton Alexander Morgan-Smith Imogen Rose Morris

Oliver Morris Kathryn Morton Kate Moss Bethany Laura Murray Morgan O'Donovan Jade Owen Zoe Emma Page Harry Charles Papworth Chiara Parravicini Prateek Patel Madeleine Charlotte Peacock Broganne Alyson Lena Perrin Kirsty Adele Pollard Alexandra Povey Emily Riswick Bethany Roberts Grace Roberts Holly Roberts Abel Rogerson Patricia Roman Emily Jane Roper Isabella Ross Riven Segall Laila Vale Shearer Anne Shorthouse Isabella Simmons Jess Simmons Robert Simms Imogen Smith Amy Louise Spencer Isabel Stansfield Aisling Kate Stenton Holly Mae Sturgess-Bowes Ceri Taylor Amy Paige Thornton Martin Tierney Chloe Tinsley Katie Tomkins Mona Wafai Emma Wakley Elise Walker Roisin Welsh Bethany Wheeler Leona Anne Whitehead Alice Emma Eleonore Wingfield Rebecca Woodall Jemma Charlotte Young

### For the Postgraduate Certificate

## Veterinary Education

Timothy Chun Man Ng

Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Alexandra Sofia Schönburg Carrillo de Mira

For the Postgraduate Diploma

#### Veterinary Physiotherapy

Samantha Chloe Bradshaw Isobel Brine Beverley Lewington

#### For the Degree of Master of Science

#### Veterinary Physiotherapy

Melissa Ann Byrne Niamh Marian Harpur Rebecca Louise Hyland Nicole Marie Percival Sarah Anne Smith Helen Vaughan Kyra Leanne Wakeman

#### For the Degree of Master of Research

#### **Bioinformatics Scientist**

Lee Machado Mischa Zelzer Veeren Chauhan Angus Davison Carey Lambert Sarah Storr

For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

#### Veterinary Medicine and Science

Ternenge Thaddaeus Apaa Caroline Quarmby Amy Jackson Kieran Gawaine Pitchers Morena Santi Colman Ó Cathail

# Summer 2023

Joshua Agathanggelou Yasmine Ali Jasmin Ali Jack Amev Jasmin Anand Alison Anderson Rhvs Ash Ben Askey-Brown Madeleine Attridge Sinead Bacon Janet Bain Madeleine Balv **Emily Grace Banister** Lauren Barlev Patrick Barlow Felix Paul Dapprich Barrett Natasha Basham Elizabeth Batchelor Lauren Bates Isabel Hannah Beardwood Hannah Beckett Rachael Bell Hannah Belli Thomas William John Bennett Erica Louise Cook James Bennett Poppy Bennett Samantha Wendy Bennison Sarah Lianne Benson Libby Beatrice Biddulph Macy Blake Fraser Bohm **Michalis George Borakis** Katarzyna Boruch Louise Marie Bosier **Charlotte Boughton** Antonia Bowman Hanna Braniff William Thomas Brookes James Brown Lucy Brown

Olivia Abbiss

Natasha Browne Rosalie Suzanne Bull Joanna Burlev Holly Nicole Burrell Anna Burton

Matthew Carlile Samson Carroll Charles Carslake Juliette Carter Isabel Cartwright Thea Chavasse Danielle Cherriman Olivia Isabelle Chomvn Shani Christian-Wilson Phoebe Christodoulou **Richard Churchill** Dijana Clarke **Rosie Clayton** James Michael Andrew Cockcroft **Fiona Collins** Abigail Clare Collinson Alexander Colvin Elise Connor Ryan Cook Molly Coup Georgina Henrietta Elizabeth-A Courage Zara Cowan Lauren Ann Crawford Emma Crinks Rachael Crosland Louise Curtin Holly Cuttiford

Mary Dalton Ameline Marie Madeleine Damy Alexander d'Arcy **Emily Jane Davies** Martha Davies

Anna Davis Charlotte Dawe Ruth Dodge Hannah Doit Diane Donzelot Sophia Downing Kelsey Dykes

Brad David Ebanks **Ruby Edmiston Emily Elcock Fiona Eldred** Kate Mala Ellen Sol Elliott **Tullia Emmanuel** Jade England Sophie Evans

Liam Fahey Claudia Faraday-Stupples Jasmine Farrow Jessica Anne Faulkner John Ferguson Eleanor Finn Amelia Foo Jemma May Franklin Arabella Freeman

Tara Gaffney Juliette Gallon Tabitha Gammage Charlotte Gibb Rebecca Gibson Tara Gilley Megan Rose Gillies **Rebecca Gill-Parsons** William David Golding William David Goodall Harmony Goodwin Patrick Gregory Surbhi Grewal Sophie Griffin Aron Griffiths

Shannon Brown

Clare Naoise Harris Jessica Harris Nicola Jane Harrison Amy Hartnup Edward Philip Benjamin Haves Olivia Heardman Fave Louise Heath Olivia Heath Heather Hemingway-Arnold Claire Henderson Cameron Herron Blossom Hibbert Callum Hill Emily Holden Madeleine Louise Holemans Joshua Holes Annabel Holliday James Hollis Vikkie Hudspeth **Rebekah Anne Hughes Thomas Humphrey Rhys Llewelyn Humphreys** Isherivot Hunjan

## Laura Ingham

Jade Jennison Kate Jerman Emma Jewell Nicholas John Jack Thomas Johnson Luke Robert Johnson Thomas Johnson Tara Johnston Lois Johnston

Rayana Kamal Katie Kearsey Jessica Kebbell Imogen Kell Sarah Joanna Pusey Kelleher Emma Kemish Charlotte Kemish Joseph Kendall Emma Victoria Daniel Key Hannah Khan Maia Ann Gifford Knight Frances Vida Knox Allman

Anabelle Lam Jessica Lankfer Isabel Lea Chloe Rebecca Ledger Ivan Leggett Elodie Grace Lehrfreund Thomas Leman Sienna Sum Yi Leung Emily Levy **Bethan Lewis** Hiu Li India Llovd Ben Lloyd-Bradley Sophie Lofthouse Olivia Logan Amy Loverance Erinn Luckett Phoebe Lunn

Scott Macdougall Erika Malkova Ramon Pedraja Maluping Ella Mareschal Samuel John Marsh Hayley Marshall Freya Imogen Saulsbury Martin Eloise Mason Stella Mathias-Stanley Kent Matthews Aneke Maver Caitlin Rosalind Mayes Zoe McGirr Clare Louise McKeown Colm McOuade Anna Mear Jason Merron Michael Messham Hannah Minifie Fergus James Mitchell Rae Elizabeth Mitchell Thomas Mitchell Omar M'jelled Archie Moffat

Sarah Mogg Oliver Morgan Emyr Morris Emily Morton Harriet Moule Naomi Faye Moult Jenna Murdoch Caitlin Murray

Rhiannon Naish Jade Nelson India Sadie Rosalie Newbury Jack Newing Jade Newnham Eloise Newsom Holly Nicholson Ana-Maria Nicolescu Rhianna Nitsch Elizabeth Nordquist Lauren Norton

Chinenye Obiakor Ploypailin Ong Oreoluwa O Osinuga Katherine Owen Ella Katie Owens Amy Owens Jessica Oxborrow

Joshua James Page Michael Page **Rachel Parish** Kate Tabitha Parker Grace Patterson Jamie Payne Leah Phillips Holly Phillips Eden Hannah Pickering **Bethany Pinfold** Sasha Pollock Elisha Pone Lucy Porter Natasha Louise Powell Madeleine Price Hanna Jessica Heidi Procter Daniel Pull

**Emily Bethan Ralph** George Randell-Sly Imogen Rea Elizabeth Read Ryan Reader Katie Reynolds Sophie Richardson Gianni Risorto Grace Roberts **Charlotte Robinson** Kezia Roby-Welford Chloe Louise Rockingham Katie Leah Rollinson-James Freya Rooke Sarah Roos Charlotte Roscoe Tilly Roycroft Alison Russell Isabella Salama Holly Salaman Isabelle Louise Sanderson Andrea Sartorius Georgia Savill Hannah Olivia Sawyer Elizabeth Schofield Sophie Seagroatt **Rebecca Sedgwick** Imogen Serjeant **Katherine Siddons** Zinnia Marian Silver Izabella Rose Simpson **Rose Skirrow** Sarah Smallwood **Kitty Smith** Victoria Smith **Isobel Spary Toby Spruce** Tatum Stander Hannah Stanley Haydn Stanney Hannah Steele Arabella Stevens **Amy Stewart Rebecca Storer** Samuel John Stott Hannah Stott Sophia Swaine

Jordan Andrew Taylor Lauren Telford Sky Alexandria Julia Tetlow Harriet Emily Thomas-Mee **Casey Thompson** Jessica Lois Thursby Alisiya Tomak Olivia Tomp Robyn Turner Molly Turner Lauren Ulyett Jessica Van Damme Anitha Varghese Peter Von Holy Georgios Vrettos Milly Grace Wagg Emily Wall Mia Wannop Elizabeth Rose Ward Matthew Charles Waters Lauren Watts Phoebe Eleanor Wearing Helen West **Emily Western Emily Katie White Emily Whitehead** Anna Wijnberg Megan Wilde **Devon Wilkes** Edward Williams Lucy Williamson Katie Willis Hannah Wilson Lucy May Wilson Samantha Wiltschinsky Charlotte Winch Serena An Ting Wong **Bethany Wong** Kerry Wood Jordan Wright Kitiana Wright Benjamin Wright Danielle Wyatt





## OKA COMMITTEE MEETING AND 96th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Online Meeting, 1.30 pm Wednesday, 7th December 2022

## Minutes

As many attendees were present for the first time, the Chair (JW) opened the meeting by outlining that the principal function of the OKA AGM was to report various Campus Activities / Developments which would be of interest both to the Campus as a whole but, in addition and perhaps more importantly, as a record for alumni as the minutes are published in AGRIMAG. Whilst OKA may well have an interest in the Activities / Developments it did not seek to have a formal role in influencing future policies.

- Apologies for absence were received from: Martin Luck, Rachael Green, Bob Webb, Gail Bembridge, David Chambers-Asman, Alan Kennedy, Ian Fisk
- 2. Present: Julian Wiseman (JW, Chair, Hon Assistant Treasurer), Julia Kydd (Hon Secretary), Lorraine Sabin (OKA Administrator), Joanne Green (Senior Operations Manager, School of Biosciences), Chris Hoskins (Senior Residential Experience Manager), Simon Clifford (Head of Operations / Technical Facilities Manager, School of Veterinary Medicine and Science), Anna Mear (Senior Events Officer), Ashley Matthews (Guild Chair)
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting (19th November 2021) were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

## 4. Matters arising

- a. Campus masterplan update (JG; SC) A series of meetings have occurred across all campuses, with 56 projects identified, ranging from new teaching buildings and research facilities to gardens. Estates are co-ordinating the initiative and will present a summary to the Vice Chancellor at which point selected projects will be prioritised and business cases presented / developed. The University has purchased Castle Meadow campus, which has decreased the funds available but the 5-year plan, which will include the Campus Masterplans, is currently under discussion.
- b. Ongoing donation from SoB and SVMS. SC on behalf of SVMS was happy to provide a donation of £150 to OKA funds. Action: JG will check SoB's donation with DC-A.
- c. Development Fund: OKA (IF) and Hall representatives sit on this group, but OKA would appreciate updates. Action: JG will ask DC-A to forward the minutes of the meeting on 10th November 2021 to LS for OKA records.
- d. *Harper's Bar and The Hive licensing update.* CH catering is outside his remit which is restricted to the Residential Experience but he will ask Catering for an update. Action CH to ask Catering for a short update about licensing of these facilities.
- e. *Rob Taylor memorial update.* SC reported that in addition to Rob's sad death, an SVMS member of staff had recently passed away. SVMS are considering a memorial garden in the central triangle of the School.
- f. *Recruitment of replacement Secretary.* In trying to recruit a new Secretary from SVMS, SC had no volunteers to his email last year and he will try again as new staff have been appointed. However the dual intake of vet students continues to exert substantial pressures on staff time. Action SC: to re-send OKA Secretary recruitment email to SVMS staff.

## 5. Secretary's report (JHK)

This was accepted with no comments.

## 6. Treasurer's report (JW/IF)

This was accepted. A total of £35,000 had been transferred to CARO, ear-marked for Sutton Bonington activities via the Development Group. Recipients of awards had again been asked to acknowledge OKA as a the source of their funding on all event publicity.

It was noted that, despite several reminders to OKA members of the new system for donations, many were still paying by annual Standing Order. In the financial year ending December 2021, £4590 had been received. In consultation with Simon Buttenshaw of CARO, it had been decided to keep the existing payment system for OKA members, largely because so few had updated their payments to go to CARO and the cost of further contact with OKA members was not justified. Annual Standing Order payments ranged from £2 to £10 paid on 4th January.

## 7. SB Guild update (AM)

After a difficult year caused by a lack of interest in holding Guild positions, a new Committee has now been appointed with the Chair Ashley Matthews. Virtually all positions are filled, with just Sport and Activities (which includes OKA in the remit) and Welfare representatives remaining vacant.

A good Welcome Week was organised and a Societies' Ball is planned. Catering facilities have improved dramatically on campus, with better quality and more affordable meals available in several locations.

The Guild are meeting with the Students' Union next week to discuss the lack of support and funding from the SU which combined with the initial small numbers of Guild Committee members, has made planning events difficult.

## 8. Agrimag

- a. *Co-ordinators' report* (JW/LS). All reports from the Heads of Schools and Divisions (except one) and Student Activities, Societies and Clubs have been received. LS hopes to have the final copy of Agrimag sent to CARO by the end of January 2023.
- b. 2022 edition (Anna Mear). Good progress is being made with Agrimag. A competition to design the front cover was run by the Art Society.

## 9. Campus and Hall Developments (CH, Senior Residential Experience Manager)

To improve the consistency of support for students, substantial re-structuring and alignment of the Residential Experience team has occurred, moving from a professional service model involving 3 managers overseeing 20 sites to a "pillar" model. Gail Bembridge and Dawn Albery have left their positions and the team now covers 20 sites, with third party providers. The operational areas are: Health and Wellbeing (low level matters including physical and mental health), Events and Activities (organised 68 events on campus so far) and Social Responsibility (sustainability, diversity, conflict resolution etc). Resident Hall Tutors remain a key element of student support. Renovation of the Nest (with the Students' Union) and common rooms in students' residences is ongoing. Within SoB JG reported there is now a two-person Education and Student Experience team consisting of Una Lilley and Jane Bradley who would like to link with CH's team. **Action: CH will message JG about this.** 

- **10. SB Development Committee (Prof Debbie Sparkes)** This report was accepted.
- 11. Appeals to Alumni (Simon Buttenshaw and Laura Repton, maternity cover for Emily Bateman, and Development Office, Alan Kennedy) This report was accepted.

## 12. Travel Scholarships and other awards (DC-A/LS)

Lamming Award received a lot of applications, with twelve awards of £150 each being given to Year 3 and Year 4 students to enable their attendance at conferences. JD Ivins Award has funds and is usually advertised by the SoB but the current status of applications and awards is not known. Action: JG to ask DC-A the status.

## 13. Election of Vice Presidents (All)

No nominations were received.

## 14. Election of Officers (All)

JW is happy to remain as Chair and Assistant Hon Treasurer with Ian Fisk as Hon Treasurer. Attempts will be made to recruit a new Hon Secretary. Thanks were expressed to JK for her strong support for OKA via her role as outgoing Hon Secretary.

## 15. AOB

## a. OKA Weekend plans 2022 (AM)

Although the Guild are not obliged to hold this annually, they are keen to do so. Reviewing attendance, it appears that very few alumni attend. Therefore plans are afoot to introduce day time events such as the Farmers' Market to attract more Alumni rather than simply resident students attending a "dining in". The event will also be publicised in Agrimag.

## b. OKA website use (JW)

The cost is £110 per annum but the numbers using the site are small. Therefore JW proposed that the website is reviewed next year and a decision made whether to retain it or not. The Guild could help by advertising it more, perhaps in Agrimag?

The AGM closed with JW thanking everyone for attending and LS for her excellent ongoing administrative support.

Date of next meeting (to be confirmed, November 2023)



# **Sutton Bonington Development Fund**

# A Report for the Old Kingstonian Association

July 2023



We have been delighted to fund the following 6 projects over the past academic year:

Sutton Bonington projects funded academic year 2022-23	
Installation of a campus focal point	£3,287
SB Fest 2023	£1,630
Community Café	£470
Free summer music concert for whole community	£150
A new TV stand for the Nest (communal student area)	£140
Hedgehog friendly Campus	£100
TOTAL FUNDING	£5,777

## **Projects overview**

## Installation of a campus focal point (£3,287)

The need for a key focal point on campus for staff and visitors was agreed. In collaboration with the ESE team and marketing, the decision to purchase covered grass letters (along with a cute bunny) was made. The installation will have further improvements to enhance the feature which will include a raised plinth. It will be even more impactful when the Lecture block has the new cladding installed (part of an estates renovation). The installation is expected to feature heavily in the upcoming graduation pictures taken by students and their families at Summer Graduation 2023 and beyond!



## SB Fest 2023 (£1,630)

The committee approved to continue to support the running costs of SB Fest as the event is for all staff, students and the wider community. It also benefits local charities and businesses. https://en-gb.facebook.com/SBFestUoN/



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## Community Café (£470)

Pre-Covid the Wellbeing Community Café was popular and well received by students. Currently this provision was absent. A relatively small outlay has been awarded to go towards helping a large number of students, providing a year-round impact.

## Free summer music concert for whole community (£150)

All agreed this event would appeal to a wide audience both on and beyond the campus in the wider community.

# A new TV stand for the Nest. The Nest is a designated communal student area in The Barn (£140)

This purchase would facilitate an area for students to gather in the warm and have company whilst watching TV.

## Hedgehog friendly Campus (£100)

Installation of a Hedgehog home on campus

On behalf of the University of Nottingham, thank you to the Old Kingstonian Association for supporting the Sutton Bonington Development Fund.

We hope you can take great pride in knowing your funding is making a crucial difference to the student experience and the wider campus community at Sutton Bonington.

For more information please contact: **Sarah Smart** Donor Relations Manager Campaign and Alumni Relations Office sarah.smart@nottingham.ac.uk 07929 719424



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ALUMNI Other Contributions

# Charity cycle ride for Motor Neurone Disease

Ex SB Grad Rob Sanderson (Agriculture 1979) together with team members from Winchester RFC, where Rob is also President, successfully completed their 6-day cycle from the Winchester club to Melrose RFC on Saturday 1st July, raising funds and awareness for the Motor Neurone Disease Association. On the Wednesday as they passed through Sutton Bonington they met with Julian Wiseman.

The Winchester to Melrose route was significant as Rob had lost his wife Kate to MND in late 2014 and Melrose was the home of the great Scottish rugby international Doddie Weir who passed away from the disease last November.

On the Sunday the team joined some 800 other cyclists in completing Doddie's Ride through the Scottish Borders.

In addition to the cycling, key stops were planned throughout the week to increase awareness of Motor Neurone Disease. These were at the MNDA headquarters in Northampton, the Rob Burrow mural in Leeds and a visit to Headingly Stadium, the home of the Leeds Rhinos who Rob Burrow played for. On arrival in Melrose a number of ex Internationals greeted the team. But the highlight, particularly for Rob Sanderson, was to meet and chat with Kathy Weir and to talk about Doddie, Kate, rugby, farming and so much more.

This was the 6th cycling challenge undertaken by Rob having previously cycled the length of France on two separate occasions, the perimeters of Ireland and Wales and the spectacular route through the Canadian Rockies from Calgary to Vancouver.

Once again the support and kind donations have seen a further £10k raised towards finding a cure for this dreadful condition and some £135k across the 6 challenges.



Year of '75 - 50 years on!

Another reminder to please put **14/15th May 2025** in your diary. We are planning a tour of SB early on the afternoon of the 14th May led by Professor Julian Wiseman – there have been many changes at SB campus since our last visit in 2010. This tour will be followed by a dinner and a stay at a hotel in the Loughborough/Kegworth area.

Many email addresses have changed since retirement – please spread the word if you are still in contact with anyone.

Please get in touch ASAP with either me or Kath Williams (robandkathwilliams@outlook.com) so we can include you in our plans including dinner and hotel reservation. Friends in years of '74 and '76 would also be welcome.

## Glyn Jones

gj@2gsc.net



Rob and Kath Williams, Graham and Marilyn Rigg, Glyn & Sue Jones, Kev Stickney and Kim Parkinson on a visit to the Cotswolds in March 2024



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NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

AGRIMAG

1948

#### JOINT COMMON ROOM COMMITTEE.

Chairman : J. W. Stone. Secretary : Miss K. Hosker. Miss M. Walker, J. B. Smith, R. R. Herring, Miss P. Mitten.

With the arrival of a new amplifier for the Loose Box, this year's J.C.R. were able to run dances every Wednesday and Saturday this session, which were a great success, and an allowance from the Exec. has made possible the purchase of up-to-date records to modernise the collection which already existed.

New pictures made an appearance, these were the beginning of a scheme of improvements for the J.C.R., which is still in progress of development. Fires were lit by the Committee every evening until the installation of central heating last term.

The Committee arranged the end of term dance for the Xmas term and are due to arrange the end of session one, which no doubt will be as successful. For the Easter and Xmas dances the library was organised as a sitting out lounge and at Easter a very successful venture was the provision of a bar in the Loose Box, both features being well apported. Studya morning drinks have been served in the J.C.R. since the middle of the Easter term and our thanks are due to Messrs, Norman, Barratt and Woodward for their services in this direction.

We were very sorry to loose our chairman, Mr. W. H. Cragg, during the Easter term, who resigned owing to pressure of work, but his place has been well filled by Mr. J. W. Stone.



MEN'S TENNIS, 1947-48. J. Stone, J. Wilde, P. Casling, R. Leadbeater, E. Hall (*Captain*). J. Wellington,

#### FOOD

Outside the place 'tis understood That College meals are really good, But students shoot a different line ; They say the food is not so fine— The guillotine is most erratic. It with the bread is never static. It's either hunks the jaw to tire Or dainty wisps to whet desire. It 'twasn't known we should have guessed Bacteriophage has had the rest ! With fish to stimulate the brain (Never show me fish again 1) None should fail at end of term Those high percentages to earn. Onions come up before every dance. Repeatedly spoiling the chance of romance. On Sundays the cherrise are always brought in Fossilized stones surrounded by skin. Although we moan " the food is bad ", We're looking well on what we've had !

well on what we've had ! " FAMISHED



#### VARIETY.

It was on October 24th and 25th that freshers and old students were drawn together in the production of the "Haylarks". True to enstom, the talent and ideas appeared at very short notice, and once the curian rose, the joint producers, Mr. W. Wragg and Mr. R. Herring, could see that their efforts had not been wasted. Besides producing the show, they also took part in it as artists and were responsible for compering and for much of the script.

The fact that the script was original, seemed to give it a freshness often lacking in professional performances. In a wholly enjoyable evening, it is hard to select individual acts for special attention, but perhaps one may draw attention to two.

Mr. C. D. Hendon gave us a delightful change from comedy with his rendering of "Lonely Road" and "Danny Boy". And we were all very pleased when he was good enough to give us an enore. "Spike Harrow and his Hayseeds" swung us once more into comedy, and Miss Jean Wiltshire's xylophone solo gave us time to regin our breath from laughing.

time to regain our breach from mugning. The ingentity of the backstagers combined to present a pleasing effect, right from the start. R. Norman and his assistants and for the lighting, etc., admirably. While Mrs. N. McDermott and W. Bawk ent their skill for advice and execution of combined efforts gave so much pleasure to us all.

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"ONLOOKER."



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50 years ago

#### **KARNIVAL** '72

This year's Karnival was again a great success for S.B. and again a re-This year's Karnival was again a jetar successful of the tone of the second of the sec able to acquire large amounts of rag mags for the Guild when most other halls had run out.

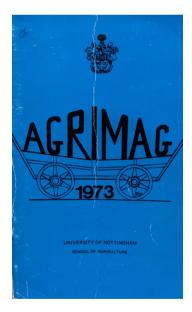
other halls had run out. Several raids were arranged, the Guild Minibus being taken to Birm-ingham on one memorable occasion, beating Sherwood and Hu St to Aston University union much to their consternation.

Entries were placed in the Pedal Car and Raft Races, the Pedal Car unluckily having to retire after too many punctures (suugest solid unluckily having to retire after too many punctures issuggest sono rubber tyres next year). The S.B. rafts this year were better designed than most of the opposition, thanks to Geoff Freeston and Dick Morton, and this was shown by the fact that one raft managed a very creditable third place, considering the crew, Alk Knox, Frank Smith, Clive Wager, Andy Griffin and Don Jones. Hard luck on Maggie who got the Second Vear running to finish hetter luck next year.

year running to finish, better luck next year. The other highlight of S.B. Karnival was the infamous Sponsored Run, this year to Liverpool. The Intrepid runners setting off at La.m. on Web-nesday, October 15th in four cars and ending up in Liverpool at lunch-time with three cars and missing three runners. Nevertheless the whole 100 odd miles were completed by the runners and many rag may were sold. sold

sold. Thanks to all who took part for a very creditable effort, but lets do better in 73. Don't forget Karnival is great fun to be in and helps many deserving cases. Please help if you can. Every little helps. Thanks again for all your help.

Don Jones Rob Dodds



LADIES' NETBALL CLUB Captain: Coral Grumbridge Secretary: Lesley Baker

aptain: Coral Grund Star This year saw the resurrection of the Netball Club after a lapse of two This year saw the resurrection of enthusiasm among the 1st and 2st This year saw the resurrection of the iverball Club after a lapse of two years. There was a great deal of enthusiasm among the 1st and 2nd years not forgetting our 3rd year Captain who was a leading light in the 1st team. No home matches were played all season due to the prolific botanical No home matches during sufface. No home matches were played an a growth on the playing surface. The results for the season were:-

Lost 5 Won 1 Against 55 For 52 Played 6 L.R

### MOTOR CLUB

Chairman: Richard Darby Secretary: Phillip Clive Treasurer: Peter Barnwell.

The Motor Club is a service club providing facilities for Guild members to do repairs and maintenance on their vehicles. A fairly comprehensive selection of tools is owned by the club and can be borrowed without charge by Guild members.

It was hoped to hold a Treasure Hunt during the year, but this failed to materialise owing to a lack of enthusiasm.

R.ID

BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SOCIETY

There has been an upsurge of interest in the Billiards room since the introduction of competitive ladders. Some of the enthusiasm may perhaps be due to the participation of 'Hurricane Higgie', the well known player who gets his name from the speed at which he caters with the various situ-ations on the table. The table itself is in good condition having been recently restretched, and it is hoped that keys to the room will be available to all members in the near future.

New members are of course welcome at any time, whilst it is hoped that the new found interest of present members will not lead to too many queues in the room

# S.B. BOAT CLUB REPORT

In the absence of Brian Batley,

The increasing interest in the Club has meant application for member-ip to the Amateur Routing A The increasing interest in the Club has meant application for member hope to the Amateur Rowing Association was worthwhile, and next year we use throughout the summer, and although a number of people had steering drawner, and balancing problems with one particular number of people had steering drawner. and balancing problems with one particular canoe, nobody has been drowned.

It is hoped that next year, we might have intervear 'coxed' four competitions; women included!!



25 years ago

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## HEAD OF SCHOOL'S REPORT

HEAD OF observations as the University organised into thirty-three Schools, The Early of Agricultural and Food Sciences was joined with the Department of Life. Science on the University Park site of the University to form a new School or Biological Sciences. The School is a member of the Faculty of Science. Hence there is no longer a Dean at SB. The new School will give greater access to a much wider range of courses for our students. It will also enable our research activity to have a broader base as well as making it easier to capitalise on the recent developments in biology. The range of activities is apparent from the complete staff listing on page 73. Needless to say the joining of two groups with quite different cultures and traditions has required a lot of give and take by all. In these few words I have concentrated on news from SB but there have been a comparable set of changes at the University Park site of the School.

Currently the School is reviewing its treaching portfolio to capitalise on the opportunities offered by the new School. We will now be able to offer courses not only in the traditional areas such as Food Science, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences but also in the more basic biological sciences. The start of the session will see the arrival of approximately 100 students to read for one year masters degrees to complement our existing undergraduate courses. The University now runs a regular bus service bits.

Congratulations this year go to a number of staff members who were promoted during the last 12 months. Steve Harding - Professor, Sayed Azam-Ali - Reader, Ron Bardsley - Seinou Lecturer, Reil Crout - Saviot Lecturer and, from the University Park site of the School, Ken Lowe - Reader and Bernard Mulligan - Senior Lecturez.

Our good wishes go to Gren Norton who who retired at the end of March after almost 39 years service at Sutton Bonington. This is referred to in the Staff News section of the Warden's Report.

Research activity of the School continues at its great pace and quality. Last session the School raised over £6m in external research funds which will certainly help in the next Higher Education Funding Council Research Assessment Exercise which is to be held in 2001. In line with the University's policy of encouraging interdisciplinary research, a University wide Institute of Environmental Science has been formed which included the Environmental Science ASB. We congratulate Professor Laybourn-Parry on being appointed its first director.

The School has received support from the University to enhance further its IT facilities. Over 80 new computers were installed and plans are underway to enhance the network. All bedrooms in the Halls of residence have now been wired for data and voice. The bandwidth of the connection to University Park has been greatly increased. The new cable was associated with road works for much of the route between SB and University Park. Ramour has it that when the new cable was abeing laid one of the victims of the works was the existing cable connecting the two sites thus cutting connections between SB and the outside world for over 24 hours.

It was good to see many old students come back to SB during the year in a professional capacity, as part of reunions and individually. Their continued interest in SB is much appreciated.

Prof P J Buttery

#### SB BOAT CLUB REPORT

I took over from Matt Adams last year what seemed to be a promising club full of enhusiasm and willingness but no boat! Due to this slight problem, the club did not function as well as it could. I must take this opportunity to apologise to the first years for the lack of rowing and thank Nigel at main campus for all his help in fixing the boat. In general the rowing has been limited due to bad weather and lack of time, but I think all of you who have had the chance to row did enjoy it and I hope the club improves under the control of Smiler and the new committee.

The social side of the club was far better. Last year's SB regatta went with a big splash, primarily due to the brilliant organisation of the committee and the mega cool death slide constructed by Elvis and friends. The SB Boat Club Christmas dinner went well, with everyone enjoying the meal at the Castus Café. It would have been an even better night if we had been allowed to leave with the Tequila glasses and the cullery.

The AGM went well, primarily due to the offer of FREE beer to all who attended. This should be written into the constitution of every club! Finally I would like to wish he new committee all the best and thank everyone who has helped with the SBBC throughout the year. Cheers....

# OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW FOOD SCIENCES BUILDING

The new Food Sciences building was occupied in May 1997. Located between the South Laboratory and the Lecture Block, it houses the old Food Science and Food Microbiology Sections, which have now been integrated into a Food Sciences poivsion. It also contains a new 220 seat Lecture Theater and a Seminar Room, both of which are used for teaching across the School. The old Food Sciences building, as changed its use for the third time and been converted into a students' amenity building. It has a snack bar, bank, guild shop, book shop, post graduate common room, hairdressers, bank and a music practice room, as well as an area where students can relax away from the Junior Common Room bar.

The new Food Sciences Building was opened by the Minister of Agriculture, the Rt Honorable Jack Cunningham MP on 28 November 1997. The Minister was taken for a tour around the new building by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Buttery and Professor John Mitchell. This attracted considerable media attention which largely focussed on the work of Professor Andy Taylor's flavour group. This group has developed an instrument which allows the volatile compounds released during eating to be analysed in real time. The Minister was photographed eating an apple with a tube up his nose. The exhibit lower that work the interface to a very sensitive mass spectrometer, where the concentration of several volatiles can be analysed simultaneously. The important development is the interface to the mass spectrometer which has been patented by Professor Taylor and Dr Rob Linforth.

The opening ceremony following the tour took place in the building's Lecture Theatre, which was full to capacity. There was a very substantial representation from the food industry, many of whom were old Food Science students. In introducing the Minister, the Vice Chancellor announced a major gift from Northern Foods and associated companies, which will allow a new Professor in the Food Science stare to be appointed. The new Professor will research an aspect of food safety. Before unveiling a plaque to mark the official opening. De Canningham spoke about the importance of food sciences and the significance of the new Food Standards Agency





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# **Professor Edward Cocking, FRS**

(26 September 1931 – 14 July 2023)

On behalf of the University of Nottingham and the Faculty of Science I would like to share some thoughts about the activities and impact that Professor Edward Cocking, Fellow of the Royal Society had during his 64 years at the University of Nottingham. I knew him for nearly 40 years, initially as one of my PhD supervisors and then later as a colleague.

Professor Edward Cocking, or "Ted" 's, interest in science started at the University of Bristol with a BSc in Biological Chemistry, followed by a PhD and DSc in barley plant cell biology and nitrogen metabolism. He then spent three years on a Bacterial Chemistry, Civil Service Commission Postdoctoral Fellowship, before coming to the University of Nottingham in 1959 as a Lecturer in plant physiology. He worked his way through the ranks, becoming a Reader, then Head of Department and Professor of Botany. He dedicated himself to botanical research and teaching until he became an Emeritus Professor in 1997. However, retirement did not slow his pace; his focus and his drive remained as strong, if not stronger, than ever. I remember long after his retirement many a 1st year plant practical where he would pop by to chat to the students and staff.

He was a pioneer in science – he pushed the boundaries and as a result discovered new things that many did not believe possible. He appreciated that whole plants were too complex to be easily understood and building on his bacterial chemistry background he realised that there was a need to do analysis at the single cell level, since single plant cells would be much more amenable to biochemical analysis and cell biology studies.

This led him to develop novel enzymatic techniques that enabled the rigid cell walls surrounding plant cells to be removed. In this "vulnerable" state the resultant "protoplasts" could be fused together to generate new plant combinations and subsequently be regenerated into plants. This work opened the doors for whole new approaches to manipulate plants. Linked to this he developed new ways to transform monocot plants, principally rice, and world-leading approaches of tissue culture and plant improvement. His name is globally synonymous with techniques of protoplast manipulation and rice tissue culture. His ability to inspire, mentor and engage others means that many of his former colleagues and students now hold prestigious positions in universities, research institutes and agro-industry around the world. In 1983, in recognition of his research endeavours, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

However, his real research vision was to develop nitrogen-fixation in cereal crops through bacterial colonisation of plant roots. He realised the importance of this, since it would enable increased plant productivity, whilst reducing the need for the use of nitrogen fertilisers. His

relentless pursuit of this goal in 2006 resulted in ground-breaking research to identify a bacterium, *Gluconacetobacter diazotrophicus*, that can colonise plant roots and provide nitrogen to the plant, resulting in better growth and yields. The impact of this is significant, particularly for the developing world to help food security. This is being realised through the Sustainable Nitrogen Foundation of which he was a Founder Trustee.

He has received many accolades for his pioneering research on plant nitrogen fixation, including in 2000 a Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Toledo; in 2014 an award for Best Spin Out Company from the University of Nottingham for Azotic Technologies' nitrogen-fixation technology; Fellow of the World Innovation Foundation, Fellow of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Membership of Academia Europaea and an Honorary Doctor of Sciences degree in 2017 by the University of Nottingham. He was a member of numerous academic and research bodies including Trustee of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Rothamsted Research, and Member of the Lawes Agricultural Trust.

He had deep insight, relentless interest and appreciated the value of different sources of information and diverse views.

However, he also was a man of great perspective, valuing his family, friends and the opportunities that he was given. He liked to have fun; I remember a celebratory dinner at a Turkish restaurant where we were encouraged to join in with the belly dancing. Ted joined in with gusto, along with the rest of us, despite our attire in big boots and socks since there was deep snow on the ground outside. Another instance I remember was after an international conference in Amsterdam asking him what he had found the most interesting part of the trip, his response was "the organ recital that he attended in the Cathedral". His sense of balance and fun was maintained throughout his life.

He has given a huge amount to us all, he has taught and inspired; his legacy will remain, but we will also miss him greatly.

Professor Zoe Wilson FPVC, Faculty of Science

## **Nicola Jayne Cummings**

(1961-2022)

Our friend and colleague Nicola Cummings passed away unexpectedly at her sister Frances's house on the 23rd December 2022 at the age of 61.

Niki moved to the University of Nottingham as research technician in 1999 from the Institute of Food Research in Reading. It was there I first met Niki 32 years ago, and over that time we worked through numerous experimental problems but enjoyed a long-standing friendship that featured evenings playing board games and eating too many snacks. I actually knew of

Niki before I started work at IFR as the then director proudly informed me at interview that the institute recruited from all walks of life and that the technician they had employed in the department had previously been working as a Nanny. This nugget I heard him announce in speeches to visiting dignitaries on multiple occasions over the next five years, which made me smile and never failed to embarrass Niki.

Niki worked as a molecular biologist at the institute where she acquired the skills to produce custom engineered proteins with applications in food production – such as in making your favourite mayonnaise, adding flavours to cheese, enhancing prebiotics or chill-proofing beer to name a few. She became adept at sequencing DNA, an expertise that was recognised as part of an EU project resulting in a publication in the highest impact science journal, which is still frequently cited today. Niki may have been a Nanny but she had the curiosity, dedication and energy to be a research scientist.

At Nottingham Niki made good friends among the staff, notably Tim Aldsworth living close by, and her fellow technicians in Food Sciences, Wendy Fielder and Dave Fowler, from whom she enjoyed learning new technical skills. She decided to continue her education at the Open University and 10 years later she informed me that they were "kicking her out." I enquired why and she told me she had done most of the modules available and they were insisting she be awarded the degree. For Niki it had been a source of discovery that was at an end.

Niki had artistic ability that she expressed in drawing and home decoration, and I even recall her painting realistic claws gripping a ball on the feet of a bathtub. She appreciated the Arts & Crafts movement and enjoyed several pieces that she collected to furnish her home. She also loved books, especially science fiction and fantasy, for which she had a dedicated room in her house with an impressive library of hardback first releases.

Through her daily presence in the laboratory she had a significant impact on the research students passing through, not only as a source of technical knowledge to assist them in their studies but also as source of encouragement, and in some cases providing the belief and conviction that they could complete their studies in the face of adversity. Niki will be missed by her friends and colleagues.

Professor Ian Connerton

## **Peter Spencer**

(1930-2023)

Peter studied at Sutton Bonington from 1952-54 and gained a diploma in Horticulture as well as studying some Agriculture. He was great friends with contemporaries Edward (Eddie) Topping and Richard (Dick) Cryer.

He died peacefully at home in the orchard he planted in the village of Brede in East Sussex in 1964. The majority of his working life was as Manager of Oxenbridge Farm in Iden, near Rye.

Sadly he lost his first wife Barbara in 1991 and his second Margaret in 2015. He is succeeded by sons Chris and Tim, and daughter Jo.

The funeral took place at St Georges Church Brede on Monday 16th October at 12 noon.

**Chris Spencer** 

# **Dr Mike A Varley**

We are very sorry to learn of the death of Mike on 1st September 2023 at the age of 74.

A farmer's son from Cowden, East Yorkshire, Mike went to Newcastle University in 1967 to study Agricultural Engineering. He came out in 1972 with an honours BSc in Agriculture, enjoying University life to the full. From there he went to SB, completing a PhD in pig reproduction under the supervision of Dr Des Cole. Again Mike enjoyed the student life to the full, participating in the Kegworth Crawl and the Bike Crawl, of which he was a founder member. He was also captain of the SB Tigers (the rugby second team).

He met Caroline at SB (she was there 1971-1974) and they went on to marry and have 2 boys, Michael and Peter.

Mike left SB on successful completion of his research project and moved to Seale Hayne Agricultural College before transferring to the Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen where he worked on piglet nutrition.

His next placement was at the University of Leeds as a Lecturer where he remained for many years. Following that, he ventured into industry in 1997. He was contacted by a colleague from SCA Nutrition who asked if there were any bright students looking for a job. Mike asked for a few more details (including, of course, salary) and felt that he would be the ideal candidate. SCA agreed (the company later became known as Provimi in the UK and Ireland). His final move was to BPEX (British Pig Executive) in 2009 as Head of Knowledge Transfer, Research and Development.

Mike became director of the Pig Technology Company and was a prominent international consultant for animal nutrition and pig production companies, operating primarily in China and the Far East, where I joined him on a couple of occasions.

SB was delighted to award him the position of Honorary Professor.

He and I collaborated on many research projects and co-edited proceedings of several conferences on Pig Nutrition.

It is always great to acknowledge the National and International contributions, both scientific and commercial (Mike was a leader in both) of so many SB graduates and Mike is up there with the best.

I am delighted to provide a quote from one of his contemporaries at SB, Richard Longthorp:

"I have known Mike since our days at Sutton Bonington together, where anybody who has been to 'SB' will know that (through ale and rugby!) friendships formed at SB are friendships for life. But beyond our friendship I had the utmost regard and respect for his scientific knowledge and intellect, but more importantly his remarkable ability to distil down complex science into something that even I could understand." https://www.pig-world.co.uk/news/industry-consultant-mike-varley-dies-atthe-age-of-74.html

He was a true and proud Yorkshireman with a wicked sense of humour and an amazing intellect, always with a story to tell. He was known as Mike to his work colleagues, Mick to his family and SB family and his mother called him Michael! I think he was also called other names at times.

Our condolences to Caroline and sons Michael and Peter.

Julian Wiseman

## **Professor Sir Ian Wilmut**

(7 July 1944 - 10 September 2023)

We were more than saddened to learn that Ian died on 10th September 2023.

It is not often publicised that Ian, who led the team that cloned Dolly the Sheep in 1996 – the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell – was a graduate of SB.

He initially came to Sutton Bonington (SB) University of Nottingham to study Agriculture but switched to Animal Science after being inspired by researchers at the University; I suspect that Prof Eric Lamming was involved!

More information on his career may be found at:

https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2023/statement-on-the-death-of-professor-sir-ian-wilmut

https://www.theguardian.com/science/2023/sep/11/sir-ian-wilmut-obituary

Ian had always recognised the crucial role of Prof Keith Campbell (who became a Prof at SB in 1999 and died 2012) in playing a leading role in making possible the birth of Dolly:

## https://www.theguardian.com/science/2012/oct/16/keith-campbell

lan gave a keynote paper 'Modification of farm animals by genetic engineering and immunomodulation' at a conference 'Issues in Agricultural Bioethics' held at SB whose proceedings were edited by Ben Mepham, Greg Tucker and me in 1997 (Nottingham University Press); it was wonderful to welcome Ian back to his *alma mater*.

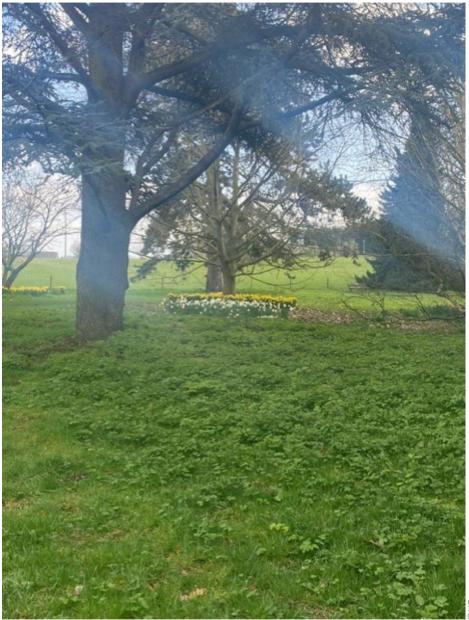
I suppose some may feel that it is not appropriate to promote SB in acknowledging the international importance of two of its luminaries in these sad times, but why not....?

I feel that SB (and the wider community both within the University of Nottingham and elsewhere) should be reminded of the national and international success of its staff/alumni across all its disciplines.

The bottom line: SB promotes an effective and influential impact nationally and globally in all it does!

Julian Wiseman





OHD