Let’s talk about the stigma of mental illness

Join Heather Stuart and award-winning author James FitzGerald at the TIFF Bell Lightbox, Toronto
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Dr. Heather Stuart
Bell Canada Mental Health and Anti-Stigma Research Chair

Queen’s UNIVERSITY
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COVER PHOTO
Student entrepreneurs (l-r) Brody Hatch, Arts’14; Shayna Markowitz, Arts’14; Michael Wong, Cmp’15; and, Claire Grady-Smith, MA’12.
Changing our world

One of the things I enjoy most about my work as editor of the Alumni Review is the endless parade of fascinating people I encounter or hear about each and every day.

Queen’s truly is a remarkable university. It’s home to some of Canada’s brightest and most innovative teachers, and among the students these men and women educate are many young people who, when they graduate, go on to change the world. Some do so in small, incremental ways, flying below the radar. Others are game changers who dream big, soar high, and make headlines. I’m reminded of that whenever we begin choosing stories to feature in the Review – and believe me, there’s never a shortage of good ones. The magazine you hold in your hands is yet another example of that.

Our cover stories this issue (“Young Entrepreneurs: Getting down to business”, pp. 22-24) report on how a growing number of enterprising students and young grads personify the “spirit of initiative” by creating their own career opportunities.

Elsewhere in this issue you’ll find profiles of two alumni who are among the “game changers” I alluded to above: Kathleen Wynne, Arts’77, a former star sprinter on the varsity track team, the new Premier of Ontario (pp. 30-32), and Political Studies grad Luke Skipper, Arts’04, a key organizer and strategist for the Scottish National Party in its campaign for a “Yes” vote in next year’s historic referendum on Scottish independence (pp. 30-31).

These grads aren’t the only ones flying high of late. In the days just before this issue of the Review went to press, several other members of the Queen’s family made headlines for various reasons, all of them good. That being so, we congratulate:

The members of the Tragically Hip – Gord Downie, Arts’87; Gord Sinclair, Arts’86; Rob Baker, BFA’86; and their bandmates Paul Langlois and Johnny Fay. One of the best reasons to go to Alﬁe’s pub on a Saturday night back in the mid-1980s, was the chance to hear and see “The Hip” perform. They were campus favourites.

Almost 30 years later, the band is still going strong, with more than a dozen albums, 14 Junos, and numerous other accolades to their credit. In July, Canada Post will further immortalize The Hip by issuing a stamp that’s part of a special issue of stamps saluting Canadian musicians. Now how cool is that?

Jeffrey Simpson, Arts’71, LLD’05, whose book Chronic Condition: Why Canada’s Health Care System Needs to be Dragged into the 21st Century, has won the 2012-13 Donner Prize. The honour, which includes a cheque for $50,000, is given annually to the “best public policy book” written by a Canadian author. As you may recall, Jeff’s longtime Globe and Mail colleague Hugh Winsor, Arts’61, interviewed Jeff about his book in Issue #3-2012 of the Review;

CONGRATULATIONS are also in order for the Review’s sister publication, The Queen’s Quarterly, which this year is celebrating its 120th anniversary. Always a delight to read, The Queen’s Quarterly has won numerous National Magazine Awards and has earned a well-deserved reputation as one of North America’s foremost learned journals, all the while serving as a welcome reminder that reports of the death of print are not only, they’re downright wrong.

GET WELL SOON. Longtime Queen’s Archives staffer George Henderson, Arts’59, MA’64, now retired, has been having a rough go of it lately. After a couple of bad falls, George is recuperating in the Helen Henderson Care Centre, 343 Amherst Drive, Amherstview, ON, K7N 1X3. George says he’d love to hear from classmates and other friends. While he doesn’t have email yet, he can be reached by snail mail or telephone at 613-384-1246.

– K.C.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A MATTER OF DEGREE
RE “Life in the fast lane”
ISSUE 1-2013, PP. 24-25

In this article Caroline Hargrove, Sc’89, is quoted as saying, “I took a math and engineering course...”

I hate to nitpick, but in fact, Caroline is a graduate of the Mathematics and Engineering Program – that is with capitals, and it’s not a course, but rather a degree program. Indeed, in the article she attributes her decision to come to Queen’s to the existence of this program and makes some nice comments about the benefits she derived from her time as a student in the program.

Queen’s Mathematics and Engineering program is the only one in Canada that combines engineering with rigorous mathematical studies. Students in “AppleMath” learn how to apply sophisticated mathematical methods and analysis to problems in control, communications, electrical, mechanical and mechatronic systems.

We’re proud of our grads and like to tout their not inconsiderable successes, and this article sort of misses the mark in terms of promotion.

PROF. ANDREW LEWIS
DEPT. OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

The letter writer is Chair of the Mathematics and Engineering program. – Ed.

Caroline Hargrove expresses my feelings exactly. However, she feels there aren’t many jobs in which people can use or benefit from the work one does. Engineering itself is a profession in which results are useful and beneficial.

Upon graduating from Queen’s in 1947, I became an engineer in a construction firm that specialized in the building of bridges in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. In 1957, I went to Fredericton, NB, to build a TransCanada Highway bridge. This structure was named the Princess Margaret Bridge, in honour of her visit to the site. I had the pleasure of being presented to the Princess as “the young engineer in charge of the project.”

In 1960, I moved to Florida, where I worked for two large corporations in the estimating and bridge building departments. I started my own company in 1980, and we specialized in design and field inspection as well as materials testing.

When I retired in 1997, my son took over
the business. I feel very proud of having built many bridges that are useful and beneficial to the people of Canada and the United States.

**JACK HOCKMAN, SC’47**
**HALLANDALE, FL**

The Princess Margaret Bridge, which commemorates the memory of Queen Elizabeth II’s younger sister, is a two-lane structure that spans the Saint John River at Fredericton. In 2010-11 the 1,097-metre bridge underwent a $77-million restoration and was reopened to traffic in May 2011. – Ed.

**A TIP OF THE HAT TO CLAUDE SCILLEY, COM’78**

Queen’s and the football Gaels lost a keen observer and supporter in November when *Kingston Whig-Standard* sports editor Claude Scilley, Com’78, had his 40-year newspaper career ended when Sun Media cut 65 jobs and closed the firm’s local printing plant.

Claude’s buyout happened without a whimper or one line of type in the newspaper about his long and devoted service. Claude wasn’t singled out. Two other 30-year employees, a publisher and a top ad executive got the same silent heave-ho.

Kingston-born, Claude started his sports-writing career as a high school student and grew up during legendary coach Frank Tindall’s glory years, developed his gridiron savvy through the Hargreaves years, and reported on the championship and “character-building” seasons of the current Sheahan era.

I feel Claude deserved a better send-off salute, including one from his alma mater. His dedication to recording and analyzing local gridiron action from the local high school to the intercollegiate level followed in the best tradition of the Whig’s mixing of sports editors from sons of Kingston – Herb Hamilton, BA’32, LLD’75, and Don Souther – with imported writers such as William Walshe, Mike Rodden, Paul Rimstead, Doug McConnel, and Ron Brown. Claude’s “cleats-on-ground” coverage surpassed the traditional “FourWs” – who, what, where and when – with the pesky interview question of “Why?” that often provoked illuminating answers.

While his byline no longer shines on the Whig sports pages (nor has an editorial successor been named), Claude can still beam his broad smile. We can only hope that his byline reappears somewhere soon.

**J.W. “BILL” FITSELL**
**KINGSTON, ON**

The writer, a longtime watcher of Queen’s sports, occasional contributor to the Review, and former Whig-Standard editor and columnist, was accorded a retirement party in 1988 on concluding his 33 years with the then-independent, Davies-family-owned newspaper. – Ed.

**“WOODSIE” AND THE QUEEN’S FAMILY**

**Re “A sense of family”**

I am so glad the Review devoted some space to the life and death of Harold Woods, BSc’47 – a.k.a. “Woodsie.” I’ve often wondered about him.

When I was working at the Queen’s Journal in the late 1960s and early 1970s, he was an intermittent visitor to the Journal office; probably his visits coincided with his “roving reporter” visits to The Review upstairs in the old Students’ Memorial Union building at the time. When I took a job in the communications office at the University of Waterloo, I was startled to discover that Woodsie was a periodic visitor there as well, though I don’t think his appearances continued the way they clearly did at Queen’s.

What an extraordinary family the network of Queen’s people is, to be sure!

**CHRIS REDMOND, ARTS’71**
**WATERLOO, ON**

The term “a sense of family” could be the title for any number of reflections about Queen’s, but this article personalized it beautifully in paying tribute to an unusual and memorable character, Harold Woods – a.k.a. Woodsie.

**STEWART GOODINGS, ARTS’62**
**COMOX, BC**

**HOCKEY HISTORY CLARIFIED**

**Re “The pioneers of Queen’s women’s hockey”**

While I read the interesting item on the Queen’s female hockey pioneers, a few references caught my eye.

While the first men’s hockey club at Queen’s was officially established in 1888, the first men’s game was played in March 1886 – that’s why we celebrated Kingston’s hockey centennial in 1986 – and annual matches with the Royal Military College were played again in 1887 and 1888.

Only seven of the nine women in the accompanying photograph were listed in the story. One of the women missing was Marion Fraser, who scored in both games against the Black and Blues. Apparently she’s an alumna who never graduated.

Incidentally, it was Fraser’s relatives who preserved the photo, which I presume ended up in Queen’s Archives – compliments of Linda and Robert Sparks of Gatineau, QC. The Fraser stick – the earliest still around from that era of women’s hockey – was loaned to the International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum in Kingston.

Incidentally, Marion Fraser (second row, far right) appears to be wearing a
Queen's striped tricolour sweater under her blouse.

BILL FITSELL
KINGSTON, ON

Bill Fitsell is one of Canada’s foremost hockey historians. His most recent book is Captain James T. Sutherland: The Grand Old Man of Hockey and the Battle for the Original Hockey Hall of Fame (Quarry Heritage Books, $29.95). – Ed.

INSPIRING WORDS IN NYC

I was touring the Rockefeller Center in New York City recently when I noticed some interesting wording carved into the stonework above the door of 30 Rockefeller Plaza. The words are in the background of the Prometheus figure – on the west side of the skating rink. The saying is the English version of the Queen’s motto: Sapientia et Doctrina Stabilitas – “Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times.”

All of this may be old news to longtime Review readers, but I thought it would be a revelation to many a recent Queen’s grad, especially those who are living in the Big Apple or who visit. It also serves as yet another reminder that remembering your Apple or who visit. It also serves as yet another reminder that remembering your University adopted as its motto in the 1850s. In case you’re wondering, the Rockefeller Center, which includes the NBC television facilities known as “30 Rock,” was built by financier John D. Rockefeller Jr. in the years 1931-39. It remains one of the world’s finest examples of Art Deco architecture and was the first real estate development to include offices, shops, restaurants, and a theatre – the famous Radio City Music Hall – all in one complex. – Ed.

AND LET’S NOT FORGET …

Re “Missing Grey Cup alumni”

I have another name to add to the list of alumni who were not mentioned in the Review’s article on Queen’s ties to the Grey Cup.

My father, John Delahaye, MD’27, was a starting middle wing (tackle nowadays) on both the Tricolour’s 1922 and 1923 Grey Cup teams.

Without a great line to block the opposing line there would have been no famous Queen’s end run featuring the likes of Harry Batstone, BCom’26, MD’32, and Frank “Pep” Leadlay, BSc’25. For the benefit of younger readers, I should explain that the end run was a great play in the 1920s partly because of the speed of the backs, especially when the ball was carried out of bounds on a play. When that happened, it was spotted one yard from the sideline to start the next play, giving the ball carriers a full 64 yards of field width in which to work their magic.

DON DELAYHAYE, MEDS’50
BATTERSEA, ON

The letter writer played with the football Gaels 20 years after his father – from 1944 to 1947. – Ed.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Re “The colours of autumn”

This photo brought back lots of memories, though only vague ones, of that particular day. The caption says it’s the fall of 1971, which was the opening year of the “New” Richardson Stadium, which we must be walking to.

On seeing the photo, I laughed and showed it to my partner, Bart, since it confirms that I’m a pack rat. I’m the woman at the left margins of the photo wearing a short pink coat over my green-and-white top. I still have that top in my closet, though after 40 years (!) I only wear it around the house or yard.

There’s also a funny coincidence to the scene in the photo, since to my left is Clare Harkin, Arts’74; she’s the woman with the long, dark blonde hair, sun glasses and brown jacket. The strange thing is that I didn’t know Clare in the fall of 1971, but met her in the fall of 1972.

That’s when we had adjacent rooms in a 12-person co-op “House” (#926) in Elrond [now known as Princess Towers], the year Elrond opened. My Elrond years were my favourite ones at Queen’s.

Thanks for bringing it all back.

DOT SHAVER, ARTS’74, 78
PARRY SOUND, ON

For a letter from Celia Papertzian and Chris Papertzian, SC’73, of Madoc, ON “Ontario’s Rush to the Wind”), and more Letters to the Editor, please visit the Alumni Review web site at www.queensu.ca/news/alumnireview

FOR MORE LETTERS …

Send your Letters to review@queensu.ca or write to: Queen’s Alumni Review, Marketing and Communications, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6
India’s wake-up calls

Despite a growing demand for an end to the ugly realities of patriarchy and gender inequality in India, such change is unlikely to come easily or soon.

BY GINNY (DOBSON) SHRIVASTAVA ARTS’64

India has been in the headlines recently because of three high-profile cases of sexual assault.

In one, a Swiss woman cyclist was attacked and raped by a gang of thugs. In another, a five-year-old girl was brutally raped, and in still another, a young Indian medical student was assaulted and gang raped and her male companion beaten in a bus as it traveled, with its tinted glass windows, around Delhi. After a brave struggle to survive, the victim died, and so the five accused were charged not only with rape and assault, but also with murder.

The Government has acted quickly, setting up 2,000 “fast-track courts” to deal with such crimes all over the country. One of those courts is well on the way to convicting the adults accused in the Delhi outrage. The rapist who was the most brutal and violent, was only 17 – legally a “minor” under Indian law – for whom the maximum sentence would be three years. A Bill is now before the Indian Parliament to reduce the age of majority from 18 to 16, when the offence is rape.

The country has taken these latest atrocities seriously, and a number of actions have been taken. More streetlights are being erected in cities. Tinted window glass in vehicles has been banned. There are more police patrolling Delhi streets. A law was passed in February to curb workplace sexual harassment, and a provision in the Indian government’s most recent budget speech announced a 10-billion rupee (app. $189-million Canadian) fund to address some of the root causes of violence against women.

With all this going on and with talk of chemical castration or even capital punishment for rapists, cases of rape and violence against women and girls continue to be reported in the media – horrible incidents, such as the rape of a three-year-old child, the rape and murder of three young sisters, and so on. “What’s going on here,” you may well wonder?

It may be that there is more reporting and publicizing of such crimes these days. Are all the perpetrators mentally unstable? One newspaper editorial I read put forward the view that Indian women’s liberation from traditional confining customs, illiteracy, and old ways of doing things has now gone so far that some men want to do something to stop this process and push things back, to make women retreat back into the home and not move out freely. It’s all about power, not lust or sex, the editor said.

And what has been the reaction of the women of India? They have come together to shout, “Enough is enough! No more!” A “One Billion Rising” international campaign culminated in programs in February – street plays, speeches, pamphlets, petitions, banners, slogans, songs, and dances all over the country – which have helped to keep visible the positive public views protesting violence against women.

Many men have joined the campaign against violence on women. International Women’s Day on March 8 took the theme forward all over India. There were many

Ginny (centre), who grew up in Burlington, Ontario, married an Indian man she met during her grad student days in Toronto. The couple moved back to India, where Ginny was widowed in 2004. She has since become an outspoken advocate of the rights of Indian women, especially widows.
activities involving hundreds of thousands of women and men, in both rural and urban areas. Communities were talking. Violence against women was on the agenda of village council meetings. However, patriarchy is very deeply entrenched in Indian society. Female feticide and female infanticide continue despite all laws and the growing social awareness and abhorrence of these crimes.

Families do not want daughters. Widows and separated women are called “witches,” and this results in social ostracization, which often leads to them being evicted from their homes and villages, or stripped naked and paraded publicly. Many men regard a woman without a man behind her as being weak and helpless, and feel they can do anything they like with her. In such cases, a male relative or another male member of the community often starts the “witch rumour,” after being rebuffed in some way.

It’s the norm in India that men control their wives, mothers, sisters-in-law, and sisters, and don’t let them move and travel freely. If a women rebels, often she is beaten, kicked, or called names. And most men think that it is their right to have this kind of control over their wives and women in the household.

That brutal Delhi gang-rape, and the attacks on that five-year-old and on the Swiss tourist were wake-up calls for this country. The Indian government has acted positively, putting new rules and structures in place. Young people – women and men – across the country are coming together in protest, and are working to bring about change in communities. The focus is on change in attitudes toward women, and “implementation” – of existing laws, new laws, and the need to take action for justice. Violence against women is finally on the agenda of public discourse.

It will be a long struggle to bring about real change, but something new has started in India. I join in the loud and growing cry. I, too, say, “Enough!”

The writer makes her home in Udaipur, Rajasthan, India, where she is an organizer of the Astha Sansthan, an NGO that has helped to form the gender-equality group the Association of Strong Women Alone. She was the 2005 winner of the Alumni Achievement Award.

THE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

Despite their historical and geographical ties, India and Pakistan are in many ways so very different. Yet, in others, they are strikingly similar. In no way is that truer than when it comes to the injustices of gender inequality. This is something of which Filza Naveed, Arts’14, has first-hand knowledge. To read this young Pakistani woman’s insights into the situation in her homeland, please visit the Review web site at http://queensu.ca/news/alumnireview.


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Entrepreneurship meets innovation

A “spirit of innovation” has long been a hallmark of a Queen’s education. Nowadays, more than ever, that makes good sense for many reasons.

BY PRINCIPAL DANIEL WOOLF

One of the things we often hear economic and social commentators say is that the era of the “job for life,” either corporate or not-for-profit, is ending, and so today’s graduates must learn to be entrepreneurs.

Without accepting some of the more extreme prognostications on this score – surely there will be a space, for instance, for public service, long a major destination of Queen’s alumni – it’s hard to deny that innovation and entrepreneurship are and will be critically important to Canada and the world.

Successful businesses generate the taxes and the jobs that support our social safety net. Yet with a few noteworthy exceptions, when compared to the U.S., Canada historically has underperformed in the arena of entrepreneurship. Similarly, despite a wealth of inventions and discoveries pouring out of Canadian universities, the rate of translation of these into commercial, scalable products is slow, as noted in the recent Jenkins Report on research in Canada. (http://pwc.to/1oTpdjI)

On some of my recent international travels, I’ve been struck not just by the number of small- and medium-size enterprises that have emerged from universities and grown into successful businesses (or indeed, failed businesses; I’ll come back to that point), but rather by the spaces for young entrepreneurs that have been created in urban centres. On a recent trip to Boston, I visited several of these spaces in the company of Greg Bavington, Sc’85, Executive Director of the Queen’s Innovation Connector – a joint venture by the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science and Queen’s School of Business.

The places we toured aren’t high-gloss corporate facilities. One, which is called “Mass Challenge,” does have a lovely view of the Charles River, but someone pointed out to us that after the first day no one who works here notices the view. The space is filled with desks and open spaces where would-be start-ups get four months to develop and spin out a product before they have to move along. Mass Challenge is a business incubator with a high turnover rate and a varied demographic. The oldest resident is 87, although (not surprisingly) most are a lot younger.

Greg and I also visited “Greentown,” a basement space in a rather grungy building in Boston that’s home to a dozen or so small groups developing products that take basic research and apply it to green technologies. This is a different approach than the one taken at Mass Challenge because in addition to desks and computers, Greentown also provides an actual shop floor and equipment to use in building and testing products.

Similar initiatives are scattered across the U.S.. A common feature of all of them is that ever present is the risk of failure, which is an accepted part of the entrepreneurial experience. As the saying goes, “Reward is in direct proportion to risk.” Not every idea becomes a product; nor does every product become a success.

One of the most important bits of advice I’ve heard successful entrepreneurs offer is “Fail early, fail often.” In short, don’t be afraid to take risks; know that sometimes you’re going to fall flat on your face, so learn how and when to pull the plug on an unsuccessful venture, and then move on.

While Canadian universities and cities have some work to do when it comes to developing such models, there have been some good starts. For example, here at Queen’s and in Kingston, apart from Innovation Park and PARTEQ, the Queen’s Innovation Connector is showing great promise. The University is looking for funding to expand this program, and the 2012-13 AMS Executive team was fully supportive of efforts to provide the conditions for success in student entrepreneurship. (See p. 22 for more details.)

Queen’s is already a hothouse of ideas and new research, and each year we graduate a new cohort of bright young minds who are buzzing with the “spirit of initiative.” Our challenge is to create the conditions that fully unleash this potential and to nurture it as it migrates out into the world. Our alumni can play a big part in the process by providing mentorship, networking opportunities, and possibly even capital investment.

If such an opportunity knocks on your door, I’d urge you to please give it some serious thought, and consider ways you can contribute to the successes of Queen’s graduates and to society as a whole.
Gaylen Racine Sc’63

Celebrating his 50th reunion

Worked in chemical engineering and management for 35 years

Grandfather of 3

Created the Science 1963 bursary

WELCOME HOME

HOMECOMING

2013

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Governance for the 21st century

Derived from a Greek word meaning “to steer,” governance has moved to centre stage as Queen’s positions itself to compete and succeed in an increasingly competitive environment.

Recently Ellen Henderson, Arts’70, PhD’76, a member of the University Council Executive, sat down with Principal Daniel Woolf and Chancellor David Dodge to explore with them why getting governance right is so vital for the University.

E.H. What are the key characteristics of good governance? How do we know when we have got it right?

D.W. There are three key aspects to good governance: transparency, clear lines of authority, and being strategic. The relationship between the University Administration and the Board of Trustees is analogous to that between the staff of any non-profit organization and its Board of Directors.

As in the non-profit world, the Board provides strategic oversight for the long-term direction of the organization while the Administration performs day-to-day “nuts and bolts” activities involved in implementing that direction.

While there’s continuous consultation between the administration and the Board, there has been less dialogue with the alumni who sit on the University Council. I think it’s crucial to maintain a balance between demands for short-term change and the need to keep your eye on the longer-term plan.

As to knowing when we’ve “got it right,” I’d say that the work we’ve undertaken has gone a long way toward ensuring that all three bodies are small enough to be strategic, nimble, and able to work together on shared goals. Each body has to be able to function effectively within its own portfolio of responsibilities and also to maintain constructive and collaborative relationships.

E.H. How do you see the University Council fitting into this governance picture?

D.W. Council is a key piece of this governance picture. For one thing, it serves as the pool of talent from which almost a quarter of the members of the Board of Trustees are elected. Not only that, Council appoints the Chancellor and sets the election rules for Council and Council representatives to the Board.

Council has a governance role though it is not a governance body. That’s a fine, but critical, distinction pointing to the advisory capacity of Council to issue non-binding statements of its views regarding any matter affecting the University.

E.H. How important is it to get the right mix of talents, skills, and diversity in the graduates elected to Council?

D.W. It’s crucial. Election to Council must be open and transparent and must seek to maximize diversity of interests and abilities. That’s why I’m pleased to see that, among the many excellent recommendations of the Task Force on Council Reform led by Alison Holt, Arts’87, is a provision for setting up a nominating committee for Council similar to that for Trustees.

E.H. What recent examples are there to illustrate the importance of Council’s input where your own decision making is concerned?

D.W. Recent Council Task forces on two issues either have provided or will provide valuable perspectives on issues of key strategic importance to our long-term success at Queen’s. The Internationalization Task Force has reported, and its work fed into our current internationalization strategy. Work on the University-to-Work Transition is in progress and will, I am sure, deliver similarly valuable insights.

E.H. Why do you and Chancellor David Dodge support the reform model of Council that was endorsed by Councilors in April?

D.W. The desire for reform expressed by the Board of Trustees and Council has provided us with an ideal opportunity to realign both bodies and to make them smaller, more skills-based, and more strategic.

The Council Reform Planning Group has devoted careful thought to ensuring that the new Council model will have a clearer definition of its role and function while also ensuring that the pool of talent that it attracts is truly representative of the diversity and skills of our alumni community. We’re confident this will make for a Council that has the tools and skills it needs to make a valuable contribution to the University’s continued growth and development.

As the Review went to press, Councilors were voting on new by-laws that reflect the mandate endorsed in April. For more information, please visit bit.ly/1367aTP.

The reformed Council is smaller and comprised only of alumni. Because members have stayed in closer touch than most, they have an understanding of the challenges and internal problems facing the University and thus are in a position to offer valuable advice and insights to the administration and the Board of Trustees. Not only that, but the new committee structure of Council is designed to ensure that the flow of advice and information is continuous through the year and is not limited, as in the past, to a single annual meeting.

PRINCIPAL DANIEL WOOLF

University Council has a governance role, though it’s not a governance body. That’s a fine, but critical, distinction.

CHANCELLOR DAVID DODGE
A second term for Principal Woolf

The Board of Trustees has reappointed Dr. Daniel Woolf, Arts’80, to serve a second term as Principal and Vice-Chancellor. The reappointment will be effective July 1, 2014, concluding June 30, 2019.

“Queen’s has made great strides under Dr. Woolf’s leadership, with a renewed vision, strategy and plan focused on research excellence and a transformative learning experience,” said Board Chair Barbara Palk, Arts’73.

When the Board made the decision at its March meeting, it was acting on the unanimous recommendation of the Joint Board-Senate Committee to Review the Principalship, which was chaired by Chancellor David Dodge, Arts’65, LL’02.

Woolf, who was born in London, England, but grew up in Winnipeg, studied history during his undergrad years at Queen’s. After graduating with an honours BA in 1980, he went on to earn his doctorate at Oxford University, specializing in Britain’s Tudor and Stuart history and the study of historiography both in the U.K. and globally.

Prior to his 2009 appointment as Principal, Woolf taught and served in senior administrative capacities at Dalhousie, McMaster, and the University of Alberta.

Grant Hall honours Lord Strathcona

A plaque commemorating the first Baron Strathcona and Mount Royal, Donald Alexander Smith (1820-1914), has been unveiled in Grant Hall. Strathcona was a close friend and associate of Queen’s Principal George Monro Grant. In his remarks at the plaque unveiling, Principal Daniel Woolf lauded Strathcona as “a treasured friend of Queen’s.” The Principal also paid tribute to Kingston businessman John Weatherall, a devoted friend and keen supporter of Queen’s, who played a key role in bringing about placement of the plaque in Grant Hall.

Grant Hall honours Lord Strathcona

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COLOUR AWARD WINNERS

Riley Filion, NSc’14, of the women’s soccer team and Jackson Dakin, Sc’12, MSc’13, of the men’s volleyball team, were named the top varsity athletes for the at the 77th annual Colour Awards Varsity Team athletic banquet. Filion, a native of Alexandria, ON, won the PHE’55 Alumnae Award. A three-time Academic All-Canadian – in addition to a host of other honours – she has carved out one of the most storied careers in Queen’s varsity history. Jenkins Trophy winner Dakin is a four-time Academic All-Canadian. In 2012-13 he was selected as an OUA first-team All-Star and was a nominee for the national Men’s Volleyball Dale Iwanoczko Sportsman of the Year. For more details and a complete list of the 2012-13 Varsity and Intramural award winners, please visit http://bit.ly/14SSXP0.

Naming dedications

The Board of Trustees has approved the following naming dedications in recognition of the generosity of Queen’s alumni and friends of the University:

GOODES HALL (NEW WEST WING)
- Ranson Family Meeting Room (Room 401) in recognition of a gift from Sharon Ranson, Com’80.
- Pancham Family Classroom (Room 334) named for a gift from Dr. Paul Pancham, Com’89, Meds’94. The Prof. Frank Collom Classroom (Room 400) in memory of Dr. Paul Pancham’s late mentor, Frank Collom MBA’69, in recognition of a pledge from Paul and his parents Ira and Prof. Soni Pancham (Medicine, retired).

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE BUILDING
- Class of Meds’72 Seminar Room (019) in recognition of 40th anniversary gifts and pledges from members of the Class in 2012.
2013 Football Schedule

AUGUST 25  Gaels at York
SEPTEMBER 2  vs. McMaster
SEPTEMBER 7  vs. Windsor
SEPTEMBER 14  BYE
SEPTEMBER 21  at Ottawa
SEPTEMBER 28  at Western
OCTOBER 5  vs. Laurier
      (Homecoming Game #1)
OCTOBER 11  at Waterloo
OCTOBER 19  vs. Guelph
      (Homecoming Game #2)
OCTOBER 26  OUA Quarter-finals
NOVEMBER 2  OUA Semifinals
NOVEMBER 9  Yates Cup Game
NOVEMBER 16  Mitchell Bowl
      (OUA at Canada West)
NOVEMBER 23  Vanier Cup (date TBC)

IN MEMORIAM

- BOYD, ELIZABETH, former professor (Rehabilitation Therapy), died March 12 in Ottawa, age 74.
- DELISLE, RONALD J., BSc’59, LLB’64, Prof. Emeritus (Law), died March 12 in Kingston after a lengthy illness, age 78.
- DELVA, DR. PIERRE, former professor (Pediatrics), died April 5 in Kingston after a brief illness, age 88.
- LONEY, D. EDWARD, Prof. Emeritus (Education, 1971-81), died Feb. 27 in Kingston, age 89.
- TRAVERS, ALAN, BA’70, MED’77, Co-ordinator of Education Career Services, 1979-2012, founder of the annual Teachers Overseas Recruiting Fair, died suddenly on Feb. 21 in Kingston, age 66.

Matariki Network of Universities update

Queen’s and fellow members of the Matariki Network of Universities (MNU) are ramping-up the activities of the three-year-old organization.

Queen’s joined with six other “sister” institutions – the word “Matariki” is Maori for the constellation of the Pleiades, or Seven Sisters – to form an international network of leading and like-minded universities, with the goal of facilitating cooperation on everything from research and international exchanges to social responsibility projects and cultural activities. The six sister universities are: Dartmouth College in the U.S., Durham University in the U.K., University of Otago in New Zealand, the University of Tübingen in Germany, The University of Western Australia in Australia, and Uppsala University in Sweden.

MNU representatives gathered at Queen’s in November to map the alliance’s future direction, discuss ways to raise the MNU’s profile, and brainstorm ideas that will result in new international opportunities for students and faculty.

MNU member institutions will explore the synergies of hosting joint alumni events and of joining forces at recruiting events. The first MNU-sponsored alumni event is scheduled for Beijing in late May. Several MNU Vice-Chancellors, including Queen’s Principal Daniel Woolf, will take part and will meet alumni from all seven MNU institutions. During their time in Beijing, the “V-Cs” will also meet with officials from China’s Ministry of Education, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Queen’s hosted the inaugural MNU Research Workshop in 2010: Society and Renewable Energy – Technological Possibilities and Social Implication, and a follow-up Workshop is scheduled for later this year.

Plans are underway to develop a co-teaching initiative in the field of sustainable energy at the Master’s level; this project is spearheaded by Queen’s. Meanwhile, the Matariki Undergraduate Research Network (MURN) connects undergraduate researchers at all four MNU universities: Queen’s, UWA, Otago, and Durham. The MURN initiative grew out of the Undergraduate Learning and Teaching Research Internship Scheme (ULTIRS), which has been running at UWA since 2009.

The MURN provides students with an authentic research experience, the outcomes of which include the development of transferable research skills and improved communication skills. Six Queen’s students representing three faculties are currently participating in this initiative.

UNDERGRAD SCIENCE ON DISPLAY

Once again this spring, the atrium of the Biosciences complex was filled with colourful displays as senior Life Sciences students exhibited posters that illustrated their research efforts and educated the diverse campus community. “This event is a wonderful opportunity for our fourth-year students to showcase their research projects,” said Prof. Micahel Kawaja (Biomedical and Molecular Sciences), Associate Dean of Life Sciences and Biochemistry.
He plans to catch up on sleep … no, really!

Alistair MacLean, MA’67, PhD’69, retiring Dean of Arts and Science, surely had sleep on his mind when he left his Mackintosh-Corry office for the last time recently – sleep research, that is.

After seven years of heading Queen’s largest faculty, MacLean has returned to his Sleep Lab in the Department of Psychology to continue with his research on sleep behaviours and disorders. Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, MacLean came to Queen’s in the mid-’60s to do grad studies. It was then that his life took an unexpected turn and led him down the path of officially immigrating to Canada, marrying Queen’s staff person Gail Macallister, Arts’06, Arts’11, and building his career as a professor and a researcher in the complex discipline of sleep psychology.

MacLean began his deanship in 2006 after serving as vice-dean for several years. He admits that the last few years in administration have been particularly challenging owing to reduced Ontario grants, persistent budget deficits, and the state of liberal arts education in Canada. Not surprisingly, he has mixed feelings about his departure.

“I’ll miss some things,” he says, “especially the staff people and the opportunities for making things better.” Despite the ongoing financial and administrative challenges MacLean has faced, particularly in the last three years, he has no doubts about the value of the study of the liberal arts. He hears frequently from alumni in business who actively seek out young people with arts degrees because they have learned to think and write clearly and critically.

MacLean’s work in the Sleep Lab, to which he plans to dedicate the next three years, will take him back to what he most loves to do. He’s especially keen to resume research involving a small driving simulator. The controlled environment of the simulator allows him and his team to test drivers through the night and monitor their behaviour. However, this summer, he’s taking a well-deserved hiatus from campus. He and his wife are traveling through the northeastern U.S., stopping in Vermont to visit Drama professor Tim Fort’s celebrated Weston Playhouse, and then making their way to Virginia, where MacLean plans to enjoy some free time and get lots of rest – and sleep – before he returns to campus responsibilities. – ANITA JANSMAN, ARTSCI’06
The hidden treasures of Stirling Hall

The basement storage area of the Physics building is home to a precious collection of scientific artefacts that its two volunteer curators are hoping to preserve and display.

BY CHRISTINA ARCHIBALD

Stirling Hall has a secret. Few of the people who visit the curved corridors of the Physics Department’s distinctive circular home realize that the building is more than just lecture halls and laboratories. Stirling’s very design and décor pay homage to science, mathematics, and engineering, with mosaics and geometric designs representing anything from the spectrum of light emanating from the sun to proof of Pythagoras’ theorem.

In the basement, behind walls hung with photos of such physics giants as Rutherford, Geiger, and Mosley, there’s an Aladdin’s cave of physics artefacts, secreted away in a nondescript storage cupboard.

In recent decades, after realizing the possibility – and, to him, the danger – of the collection being dispersed and lost, Electronics Technologist Bernie Ziomkiewicz has squirreled away hundreds of items – some of which pre-date Confederation and up to 40 per cent of which represent the ingenuity and craftsmanship of generations of Queen’s scientists.

His view is shared by Profesor Emeritus Malcolm Stott (Physics). “Although there are many artistic qualities to the pieces in the collection, they’re not just beautiful to look at,” he explains. “The instrument makers who devised this equipment did so to demonstrate the fundamental laws of nature. These were people using their brains and hands in innovative ways and achieving so much with so much less than we have today. It’s truly humbling to see.”

The collection began when the Department of Physics inherited a special telescope during the dismantling of the 1855 Kingston Observatory located in City Park. So special was the telescope, the story goes, that when some interested experts from the Smithsonian in Washington came to assess it in hopes of acquiring it for their own collection of U.S.-made instruments, the telescope mysteriously vanished, only to be “rediscovered” once the experts had left. This valuable astronomical instrument was the first of its kind to be used in Ontario and was the early handiwork of a young Alvan Clark (1804-1887), a celebrated American astronomer and telescope-maker for whom two of the moon’s craters are named.

Another unique artefact in the Stirling Hall cupboard is the works of the original Grant Hall clock built by Nathan Dupuis, BA 1867, MA 1868, LLD 1911, the first Dean of the Faculty of Practical Sciences, the forerunner of Queen’s engineering.

Ziomkiewicz and Stott say their goal is to inventory and photograph every item in the collection – a time-consuming and laborious cataloguing project that is still less than 20 per cent complete after five years of consistent summer work by students. However, along the way they’ve been able to take advantage of the art conservation skills available at Queen’s – the University being home to one of only five art conservation departments in North America – to complete some restoration work.

Ziomkiewicz notes that the slow nature of the process is due, in part, to some of the artefacts being incomplete and others being trickier to identify than others.

When physics was first taught at Queen’s in the 1850s, the atom hadn’t yet been discovered, and the study of quantum and nuclear physics was still in the future. Physicists of the time were concerned with heat, light, sound, and optics. The artefact collection, consequently, spans a period during which there was an enormous evolution in understanding about Professor the world around us and a shift in thinking about what characterizes the subject of physics. A revolution in laboratory equipment took place about 30 years ago.

Physics and Engineering Physics alumni who graduated in the 1980s and earlier might well recognize in the collection pieces of laboratory equipment that modern-day graduates wouldn’t know how to use.

Ultimately, both Stott and Ziomkiewicz dream of a clearly inventoried and photographed collection of artefacts that illustrates “the way physics was done and taught” in the past. In the meantime, they’re looking for help to find a suitable space for the collection, and securing the funding needed to support the inventory process for a unique scientific collection that’s important not just to Queen’s history, but also to Canada’s.
Some things just make sense. Kingston is one of them. And here’s my story.

My name is Sarah and I work at the Kingston office of Sail Canada, the not-for-profit national governing body for the sport of sailing. I graduated from Queen’s in 1991 with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Physical and Heath Education. In 2001, after working in Toronto and Ottawa, I returned to Kingston and have enjoyed every season in this beautiful city ever since!

I love that I can be in Toronto for business in under an hour from my arrival at Kingston Airport. Travel to Ottawa and Montreal can be done easily and all in a day’s round trip. Kingston is a strategically located city with access to many locations within an eight hour drive, making access to international business partners convenient and cost efficient.

Kingston is a great city for me as a management professional and as a mom. What a great city for families! In our free time we can hike, ski and snowshoe at the local conservation area or catch a Gaels football or soccer game at Richardson Stadium.

But don’t take my word for it – here’s what others have to say…

- NextCities says we’re tops in Canada for Young Talented Workers
- Moneysense says we’re one of the Best Cities in Canada to Live
- Today’s Parent ranks Kingston as a top Canadian city for families
- Sun Media says we’re the Smartest City in Canada
- New York Post says we’re one of the best Canadian destinations to visit
Eureka!

News of some of the fascinating discoveries recently made by Queen's researchers

Seeking answers to the mysteries of preeclampsia

Carolina Venditti, ArtsSci’07, MSc’09, confirms that there’s no cure for, only management of, the maternal clinical symptoms associated with the pregnancy disorder known as preeclampsia. By coincidence, the condition – a leading cause of mortality and morbidity among women and their babies – attracted public attention recently when a character in the phenomenally popular British television drama *Downton Abbey* fell victim and died.

“Our reproductive science group is multidisciplinary with several laboratories focusing their research on determining the causes and possible treatments of pregnancy disorders. Although this is a complex and delicate area of research, our group is striving to find answers, through both clinical and basic science avenues, resulting in some excellent work that’s being published.”

Venditti, a PhD candidate in Biomedical Sciences, Anatomy and Cell Biology, evaluates the vascular effects of carbon monoxide on mother and fetus during pregnancy. Her unique and specific research makes for intriguing graduate work with tremendous potential as her findings may lead to a treatment for preeclampsia.

“In my fourth year of Queen’s undergrad studies, I pursued an independent research project in reproductive sciences with Dr. Graeme Smith (Obstetrics and Gynaecology). This was the beginning of a newfound appreciation and fascination with research. From that one year of experience, I continued into a Master’s and now a PhD in the same research laboratory.”

Venditti and other grad students fuel Queen’s research engine, and they enrich the undergrad experience as mentors and teaching assistants. The Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) program promotes excellence in graduate studies at both the Master’s and PhD levels. This matching fund opportunity allows donors to participate in the creation of scholarships for graduate students for only one-third of the cost. Under the OGS program a gift of $5,000 will be matched with an additional $10,000 from the Ontario government to fully support one $15,000 award.

Venditti says the OGS award has made her graduate experience much less stressful. The financial support has allowed her to focus on her research more fully, minimizing the need to earn money outside her academic work. Also, Venditti explains that being a recipient of an OGS has increased her confidence in her own research, knowing that external referees believe in her abilities and ideas.

After completing her doctorate, Venditti plans to continue working in the field of reproductive biology, whether that be through a post-doctoral fellowship or a position in industry.

For more information about the OGS program, please contact Meg Einarson, ArtsSci/PHE’87, at meg.einarson@queensu.ca. – QNC

Study finds youth violence declining

A new international study suggests that physical violence among young people is on the decline overall in 30 countries, most of which are in Europe and North America. The findings support theories that investment in violence prevention programs and other support networks do make a difference.

“Trends and Socioeconomic Correlates of Adolescent Physical Fighting in 30 Countries,” is based on an international analysis of the World Health Organization’s Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) study.

“The observed declines in our measure of violence, which was frequent physical fighting in 11-15 year olds, are quite striking and interesting,” says project lead Dr. William Pickett, a researcher at Queen’s Community Health and Epidemiology and the Kingston General Hospital Clinical Research Centre. “They provide a positive message for schools, public health officials and all groups invested in the well-being of our youth.”

Although Canada has always had relatively low rates of youth violence compared with many other countries, it increased slightly between 2002 and 2006, then declined again in 2010. Ukraine, Latvia and Greece, on the other hand, were the only countries that showed increases in youth violence among young people according to the study. This could be a reflection of the instability and turmoil these countries experienced in recent years.

– ANNE CRAIG, QN

Cell phone technology helping to save lives in Tanzania

Dr. Karen Yeates (Nephrology) is using cell phone technology to create a cost-effective method of screening for cervical cancer in low-resource settings.

“We believe this method has the potential to save the lives of thousands of women residing in the poorest areas of the world,” says Yeates, co-director of the School of Medicine Office of Global Health. “Using cell phones can help lower the barriers to large-scale screening and Pap smears in the developing world.”

Yeates and a colleague at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre for Reproductive Health in Tanzania are implementing a project that will help evaluate the method. While examining a woman’s cervix, a trained non-physician healthcare worker will use a cell phone to take a photo and send it to a trained doctor. The doctor or his/her trained cerviography team members will examine the photo for abnormalities and will text back a diagnosis and recommended treatment.

Yeates recently received a $100,000 Rising Stars in Global Health grant from Grand Challenges Canada for her project. – A.C.
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Heated interest in Canada’s Arctic
As the planet warms and the polar ice caps melt, global interest in Canada’s far north – and in the work of geographer Peter Harrison – is also heating up.

BY LINDY MECHEFSKE

Hans Island, tiny and uninhabited, sits on the international boundary between Canada and Denmark – smack in the middle of the Nares Strait, which is midway between Ellesmere Island and Greenland.

The Danish have planted their flag on Hans Island. The Canadian government insists the land belongs to Canada. Even though negotiations, which have been ongoing for years, are mostly friendly – the Danish military have left behind bottles of Schnapps on the island for the Canadians, and the Canadians have left Canadian whisky for the Danish – the ownership question remains unresolved.

Prof. Peter Harrison, a geographer by training and the Stauffer-Dunning Chair and Director of the School of Policy Studies, is an expert on ocean and coastal policy and management pertaining to the Arctic Ocean. As such, he cautions that we’d be wise to prepare for greater global interest in the Arctic region. “As the Arctic ice retreats and the region becomes increasingly accessible, nations of the Arctic circumpolar region are looking to see how they might access what’s thought to be potentially the largest warehouse of resource wealth on Earth, and so are other jurisdictions such as China,” he says.

Two major Maritime concerns already are looming for Canada. One concerns the maritime boundary between Alaska and the Yukon, the other the Northwest Passage. Washington is claiming right of “innocent passage” through Canadian territory and travel entirely through Canadian waters. That, he says, would appear to refute the U.S. claim that the Passage is an international waterway. “These jurisdictional issues are inevitable and useful in a way, because they bring the matters to the attention of the media and the world.”

Harrison came to Queen’s in 2008 as the Skelton-Clark Fellow following a 30-year civil service career. He was a key player in the resolution of Indian Residential Schools concerns and he was also responsible for shepherding Canada’s 2003 ratification of the U.N. Convention of the Law of the Sea.

When Ottawa allocated a $150-million investment in research for the International Polar Year in 2007-2008, Harrison was the deputy minister responsible. "During the International Polar Year, we saw an unprecedented level of interest in polar regions," says Harrison, "Not since Diefenbaker was Prime Minister [1957-63] has there been such a focus on the Arctic.”

Harrison chaired the 2012 International Polar Year (IPY) Conference held in Montreal. “From Knowledge to Action” was one of the largest polar-related gatherings ever. More than 3,200 delegates attended the event, which was the culminating conference in a series of three. In all, nearly 50,000 scientists and researchers from around the world were involved in International Polar Year-related activities.

“The Montreal conference was unique in that we had not only scientists and researchers in attendance, but also politicians, lawyers, representatives from international shipping companies, businesses, and affected citizens, among them a significant number of people representing indigenous communities,” says Harrison. “It was interesting because we had a hard time convincing the scientists that this might be useful to them, we had difficulty convincing the non-scientists that their input would be useful and welcomed.”

Although it was held at the height of the student protests in Montreal, in the end, the conference was a success. One reason was that indigenous attendees shared their perspectives on the issues affecting their communities, including ocean management, melting sea ice, melting permafrost, and changing migration patterns. “Their participation was paramount,” says Harrison.

However, he warns, it’s not just Arctic communities that should be concerned about climate change. What happens at the North and South Poles will impact all human and economic development. Says Harrison, “Interest in the Arctic is heating up because, simply put, the Arctic is heating up. Climate change is happening more rapidly than scientists predicted, and though it is terribly ominous, the key is adaptation.”

FOR MORE ABOUT...

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Online learning comes of age

Queen's, for many years a world leader in “correspondence courses,” is blazing new trails in the fast-growing world of online degree programming.

BY ALEC ROSS

For most of his adult life, Brian Woodman worked as an automotive technician in Kingston. Although he wanted a university degree, he’d never had the time to earn one. That changed in 2001, when – inspired by his mother, a lifelong homemaker who earned her high-school diploma as an adult – he enrolled in a Queen’s online course in English Literature.

Last November, after a decade of plugging away at his course readings and assignments at nights and on weekends, Woodman finally graduated from Queen’s at the age of 47. His mother, who’d recently been diagnosed with cancer, was at his convocation to watch her son receive his degree. Woodman is now training at the Faculty of Education to be a teacher.

Brian Woodman, Arts’12, is just one of thousands of students who have changed their lives through Queen’s Continuing and Distance Studies (CDS), which has been a part of the University in one form or another since 1888. Until recent years, that has been in the form of paper-based correspondence, or “extension,” courses. Over the past decade Queen’s has taken much of this curriculum online.

Today, the University’s online courses – including ones in English literature, history, classical studies, drama, organic chemistry, anatomy, music, psychology, sociology, calculus, biology, and film studies – harness a full range of digital technologies to provide live tutorials, online seminars (“webinars”) and other interactive tools that enable students to communicate with their professors and teaching assistants, and with each other, in real time or whenever it suits them.

Plans are afoot to add many more new courses to the 60 or so that are now being offered.

“Advances in technology and knowledge about online learning allow us to offer programs with the kind of academic quality that Queen’s is known for,” says Brenda Ravenscroft, the Associate Dean (Studies) of the Faculty of Arts and Science. “Through online extension, we can reach out to some of those populations that Queen’s has served for more than a century.”

In fact, more than 4,200 students are taking online courses this year; about 85 per cent of them also attend classes on campus. The rest are true “distance students,” logging on from every Canadian province, across the United States, and from 11 other countries, including China, Germany, Scotland, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, and Taiwan.

Online courses, which make Queen’s accessible to overseas students, adult learners, and those who take courses purely for enjoyment, also offer increased flexibility to on-campus undergrads. For instance, for personal or scheduling reasons, many students living in or near Kingston take some classes on campus during the day or evening and other courses online. Others might pick up a credit or two via summer online courses.

Online courses also allow mature students like Brian Woodman, who may be employed full time, to work at their own pace to complete their program – within limits.

“You can work at your own speed, but there are deadlines,” says Woodman. “You have to really stick with it.”

Queen’s online curricula are created and delivered by the same professors who teach on campus, while instructional designers work with faculty to ensure that online material reflects the best online pedagogical practices. That’s one reason why many younger students who have grown up with laptops and cellphones are so comfortable with the online format, and may even prefer it.

Justin Cumming, Arts’12, does. The 24-year-old economized on living expenses in his final year of an English degree by moving from Kingston to his parents’ home in Ottawa and completing his remaining courses online. He found that his efficiency increased, and he understood the course material better because he had more time to digest it.

“The response I got from a lot of people when I told them I was studying online was, ‘Wow, that must take a lot of discipline,’” recalls Cumming. “That was completely opposite to how I felt about it. For me, the real discipline was getting up at 8:30 am or whenever, and dragging my butt across campus to get to that early class. When I’m studying at home, I can get up whenever I want. It’s all my own schedule, and that’s wonderful.”
YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

COVER STORY

Getting down to business

A growing number of young entrepreneurs – students and alumni alike – are beating the tight job market by creating their own opportunities.

BY HOLLY TOUSIGNANT, ARTSCI’13

When Brody Hatch, Artsci’14, didn’t see the products he wanted in the marketplace, he decided to create them himself.

Brody is the founder and owner of Nude Voice Apparel, a socially conscious clothing brand that launched recently. “When you’re nude, you expose yourself. You bare who you are and what you represent, and that’s something I wanted to represent in clothing,” says Brody, who brought his younger brother Brett on board to teach him about business.

This isn’t the first company he’s created. He started a clothing brand when he was in high school, and these days the third-year film and media student runs a marketing design and event management company.

His business ventures have meant he sometimes has to forego sleep and struggles to keep up with school, but he wouldn’t have it any other way. “There’s really no other time in life when you can take such large risks, when you can try new things, in terms of starting a business,” he says. “You may fail, but this is when you’ll learn.”

Brody is one of a growing number of young innovators who are responding to the tight North American job market by creating their own business opportunities. The CBC reported on the trend in 2011, citing a statistic that three per cent of small business owners in 2007 were under the age of 30; however, this number is growing. “I see people who are graduating, don’t have jobs, and are coming back to school,” Brody says.

By launching its Initiative Campaign last fall, Queen’s is trying to make it easier for students like Brody Hatch to pursue their own ventures. A priority of the Campaign, which aims to raise a total of $500 million by 2016, is innovation and global leadership initiative. The objectives of this initiative include fostering homegrown innovators in the technology field and offering help with start-up incubation.

While entrepreneurship has always been the goal for Brody, he says the opportunities available at Queen’s have been instrumental in his success. “I looked at [a Queen’s education] as unlimited resources. I think that’s what all students should do,” he says. “You may not necessarily be fully into all of the courses you’re taking, or you may not know where you’re going after gradu-
When I graduated with a degree in Cultural Studies last year, I remember picking up a copy of Walrus magazine and seeing a photo of a grad, gowned and capped, completely submerged underwater. It was a metaphor for feeling as though we’re drowning in debt with no job prospects, and, echoing Canada’s Ministers of Finance and Labour, the authors of the article suggested that post-secondary institutions should guide students into the job gaps, such as those in the trades.

While he was developing the company, Derek had an advisory board at Queen’s that included Queen’s alumni, one of whom was business professor Ken Wong, Com’75, MBA’76. Derek made more than lunch money when Yellow Pages bought him out, and he has maintained his entrepreneurial spirit. He’s currently the Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Kinetic Café, which works with start-ups, and is developing a meeting dossier website called dossiya.com. He’s also acting as a mentor to student entrepreneurs who’ve found him via LinkedIn.

Derek feels it’s a good time for young entrepreneurs to test the waters. “The job market is not as good as it was when I started, so I’d encourage more people to try entrepreneurship.

“It’s also a lot cheaper to start a business nowadays, he adds, ‘especially if what you’re doing is web-based.” For that reason, Derek echoes the Nike slogan with some succinct advice for anyone who wants to launch a business: “Just do it.”

“If you start young, you can afford to have a couple businesses that maybe don’t turn into full-blown enterprises, they’re just interest-based or lifestyle-based businesses,” he says, agreeing with Brody Hatch that “you’ll never learn how to do the big thing if you don’t go for it when you’re young.”

Have degree, will adapt

Looking for a career nowadays in a “cruel, jobless world” can be a daunting experience for young grads. However, as CLAIRE GRADY-SMITH, MA’12, reports, for those with imagination, flexibility, and some basic skills, a freelance life can be the solution.

When I graduated with a degree in Cultural Studies last year, I remember picking up a copy of Walrus magazine and seeing a photo of a grad, gowned and capped, completely submerged underwater. It was a metaphor for feeling as though we’re drowning in debt with no job prospects, and, echoing Canada’s Ministers of Finance and Labour, the authors of the article suggested that post-secondary institutions should guide students into the job gaps, such as those in the trades.

I remember thinking, “Really? This is the answer? The world has become so completely inhospitable that we must drop our dreams of becoming teachers and artists because our country needs plumbers?” Dismal visions of workers in Soviet Russia passed through my mind, marching solemnly to work they were entirely ill-suited for and uninspired by.

If this is the best advice out there, I thought, I’d better come up with my own solution. I was working in Kingston as a grocery store check-out person when Prof. Rena Uptita, Artsci’81, Law’81, MEd’82, the former
Dean of Education, called me about a possible job. A friend of my parents had recommended me to her. Rather than seeing my current employment as a negative exemplar of my general degree of ambition, Rena saw me as someone who could put on a brave face and make the most of a limited array of job prospects. She hired me as a marketer and jack-of-all-trades for Wintergreen Studios Press, an offshoot of the Wintergreen Studios she had started, as an educational retreat near Westport, Ontario. (www.wintergreentudios.com/).

There was a huge learning curve for most aspects of my new position. When Rena asked me to do the search engine optimization on the Wintergreen Studios website, I admitted to her that I had to Google the term. She laughed, and we got the job done, but it struck me how accommodating she was while I was still finding my feet. Moreover, I knew how social media could be harnessed to develop an audience as well as a brand identity.

In the nine months I spent working full-time for Rena, I learned how to plan and execute high-profile galas, market books, host and build websites, use Adobe Illustrator, and write grant proposals to national funding bodies. My job was scaled back when the funding for my position dried up, but by then I had a solid skill set that I could parlay into a freelance lifestyle. As a result of my involvement with Wintergreen’s community network, I began getting job offers to do websites and marketing jobs. As a freelancer, I discovered how to listen to the specifications of a job and provide a realistic quote, how to troubleshoot issues without an expert supervisor, and how to manage my own life so I could still work part-time for Rena.

I have to admit that this life has not always been easy. Sometimes clients change their minds about jobs, or they don’t request a cheque from their head office until the day you thought you’d be receiving it. At first, freelancers are regularly faced with rent due and not enough in the bank to buy dinner. I’ve learned that self-employment is like camping: you have to be prepared or you’ll be disastrously exposed to the elements.

There are so many moments, though, that make the freelance life worthwhile. I do work more hours than most people, but I also have time during the day for yoga classes, working on a PhD proposal, making art, and having dinner with friends. My days take on a pattern even though my workload rises and falls with my clients’ deadlines. All of it is manageable and respectful because, as a contractor and consultant, I’m a valuable member of each organization I work with.

My friends ask how I managed to become so lucky, and I tell them the same thing each time: figure out how to monetize your interests. Forget the advice offered in that Walrus article; never give up on an idea that could become your vocation because you’ll be more knowledgeable about topics that you find fascinating. Maybe you’re an avid Facebook user. Well, there are a lot of people out there who aren’t, and perhaps a potential client is one of them. Think of an example from your life in which an event that used to attract five people now attracts 20 or 50 because of Facebook. Research how to write a media release. Find out what free event listings are available in your city and what publications exist in your client’s field. With a strong and friendly pitch, you can land yourself a fun, short-term marketing contract. Zero job security, yes … but it could be in your field of interest and education, with hours that suit your other jobs or activities, and with people who admire your ambition and creativity.

Self-employment isn’t for everyone. No question. You have to be confident and relatively out-going. You also need equipment and time. I’m fortunate enough to have a MacBook Pro, for instance, so I was able to learn the Adobe Suite on a machine that can handle the application. I had a lucky break and learned skills while working on a long-term contract.

Some students and young alumni won’t be able to find the time to learn new skills, but if you are able to find or make the time and you put together the necessary tools, I’d advise you to think strategically and be adaptable. Believe me, self-employment beats the heck out of working at a menial job or having no job at all.

The writer is the Marketing Director of Wintergreen Studios, sits on the board of the Kingston Arts Council, is an artist and writer, and has built websites and marketing plans for the Friends of Kingston Inner Harbour, Peace Quest, and other clients. She can be reached via email at claire.gradysmith@gmail.com.
A passion for politics and journalism

Meagan Fitzpatrick, Artsci’02, is one of the rising stars of CBC’s national political affairs reporting, and all because she dared to ask a previous employer for her own desk

BY HEATHER GRACE STEWART, ARTSCI’95

Early in her career, Meagan Fitzpatrick had a job as the Ottawa reporter for Dose, a free daily newspaper owned by Canwest Global Communications. “They wanted me to work from home, but I was living at my parents’ house, so I really didn’t think that would be the best idea,” she recalls.

On a whim, Meagan asked if there was a vacant desk she could use at one of Canwest’s offices, either at the Ottawa Citizen – where she’d worked prior to joining Dose – or at Canwest’s Parliamentary bureau in downtown Ottawa. By chance, there was an empty desk at the bureau, and so Meagan began hanging her hat there.

“When CanWest eventually pulled the plug on Dose, I was let go, but I got hired during the same conversation because CanWest’s Parliamentary bureau took me on,” says Meagan. From there, it was on to the CBC in early 2011. “That’s why I say if I hadn’t asked for a desk, I wouldn’t be where I am today.

“I now advise young grads: Never be afraid to ask for anything, because the worst you can be told is ‘No.’ It never hurts to ask.”

Meagan, who majored in political studies at Queen’s, joined the CBC as an online writer. However, last fall she began filling in for a colleague on maternity leave and was given a broader set of tasks that included live TV reporting and calling in to various local CBC radio shows across the country to give a weekly Ottawa report.

“I jumped at the chance [to work on all three platforms]. I think you should seize whatever opportunities come along. Challenge yourself,” she says.

Meagan flourished in her new roles. And why not? She’s no stranger to trying new challenges that lead her in new directions.

She recalls that it was a summer internship at the Alumni Review in 2001 that motivated her to consider journalism as a career. “It made me think, ‘I can do this [writing and reporting work] full time,’ she says.

That realization prompted her to enrol in the Master of Arts program in journalism at Western University, where she specialized in television.

Her most recent challenge has been working at CBC’s Hong Kong “pocket bureau,” as a correspondent for three months earlier this year – “a dream come true for me,” she says.

While she’s a political reporter here in Canada, in Hong Kong she got to write about a diverse range of topics. “China is one of the most dynamic places in the world right now, and Hong Kong is considered a gateway to China. Canada’s relationship with China is developing in many ways. It’s important for us to be here.”

While she’s always thrilled to work overseas and hopes to land more such gigs, Meagan’s local assignments are anything but dull. She loves working on Parliament Hill, where she sometimes dons high heels for Parliamentary scrums. When she does, it’s hard to miss her. “I’m six feet tall, and if my shoes have three-inch heels, so be it,” she says with a laugh.

As a Parliamentary Press Gallery reporter, Meagan has already had some memorable assignments. She covered the Ottawa visits of Barack Obama and newlyweds Prince William and Kate Middleton. And she went on a whirlwind European trip with Prime Minister Stephen Harper – “four countries in four days.”

Among the major events Meagan has reported on was the death of New Democratic Party (NDP) leader Jack Layton, who had been her “date” for the 2010 Press Gallery dinner – to which reporters bring MPs as their dates. She later wrote extensively about the NDP’s subsequent leadership campaign and covered the convention at which Tom Mulcair was chosen as the party’s new leader.

Meagan is passionate both about politics and journalism. “There’s a lot of camaraderie on Parliament Hill and among the reporters. That’s another reason I love my job.”

A key reason Meagan wanted to work at the CBC was to learn more about online news, which she believes is journalism’s future. “For example, Twitter is a great way to find out what the competition is saying. It’s also a way to interact with our audience. It changes the way a journalist reports. I’ll tweet from a news conference, telling the news as it happens. I’m definitely on the pro-Twitter side.”
The ticket to better mental health

Students, staff, faculty, and alumni are teaming up to support the unique initiatives Queen’s is leading in its drive to promote student wellness.

BY ELLIE SADINSKY
When Samuel Singh (a pseudonym) arrived at Queen’s on a scholarship in the fall of 2011 from out west, he didn’t know anyone. Back home, he’d always lived with his parents and brother. But when he arrived on campus he quickly made friends with members of his orientation group and his residence floormates. He started classes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, got involved in campus life, and regularly saw family members who live in the Kingston area.

But Sam was homesick. His first year at Queen’s was fun, but it was anything but easy. "It’s difficult to come from a really supportive family and community to a new place all by yourself," he says. He experienced bouts of intense anxiety. He tried to manage them alone, but at times, they became overwhelming. “The transition into adulthood from high school is a big mental jump,” he says. “I got to the point when I was in the middle of an anxiety episode that I thought ‘I need to go to Health Counselling and Disability Services [HCDS].’”

Sam’s orientation leader and his floor don both had told him about the services offered at HCDS, and he knew it was close by. He sought help and learned how to manage anxiety and stress. “I was lucky to have had the opportunity to access the resources that are here and to work through everything,” he says. “It’s about optimism and putting in the work.”

Sam’s experience is not uncommon, says HCDS director Mike Condra, MA ’78, PhD’82, and an adjunct professor in the Department of Psychology.

“So many high-achieving students get here and find themselves surrounded by peers who are just as accomplished as they are,” he says. “It can take some time to adjust and renew your confidence. Many students are stressed by their new academic and social world. But we’re here to help if that happens.”

Each year students make more than 25,000 visits to HCDS, where they receive support and care for a range of physical and mental health concerns, as well as academic accommodations for disabilities.

Sam’s experiences led him to volunteer in his second year as a Peer Health Educator in HCDS’s Health Promotion unit. The unit co-ordinates outreach and education that support healthy choices and lifestyles. Sam now leads the unit’s social media program and runs workshops in residences on healthy eating, safe alcohol consumption, sexual health, and good sleep habits.

“The biggest piece of advice I now have for my fellow students is to get enough sleep,” he says. "It’s the perfect regulator. If you get enough sleep, a lot of other things fall into place; it makes everything better.”

Sam has been happily surprised that so many first-year students he has spoken with exercise regularly and pay attention to what they eat. “That’s different from my first year,” he notes. “I didn’t work out, and I didn’t think about food; I just ate.”

Sam has also noticed an increasing awareness of the importance of mental health. As a result, he does whatever he can to encourage help-seeking behaviours among his peers. "In one of my biology labs, I overheard someone say he had a housemate who had highs and lows," he says. “I suggested that person go to HCDS, and the guy said he’d already suggested that to his friend. Everyone knows about HCDS. It’s a big deal.

“Queen’s is being extremely proactive about making people aware of campus mental health resources and about fostering a positive space for students who need access to these resources,” he says.

Queen’s also recognizes the value of peer interaction and is one of the few universities in Canada at which students themselves manage the University’s health promotion Facebook page and Twitter feed.

“We give our trained volunteers information and tools and we monitor the pages, but students determine the content,” says Health Promotion Coordinator Beth Doxsee, MA ’06. “It’s an effective way to get the word out and engage students.”

She adds that a recent article about anxiety posted to the “Queen’s Be Well-Do Well” Facebook page got more “likes” than any other article posted this year.

And Beth doesn’t have any problem recruiting student volunteers to help run her programs, which include pet therapy, yoga in residences, a knitting group, creating original videos, and exam care packages that include healthy snacks and study tips.

“Students genuinely feel a connection to the University and want to impact other people because others have impacted them,” she says. “Maybe it was their Gael or don or someone they’ve met – students want to do something to help.”

When Beth sought volunteers for 2013-14, she received 50 applications for 15 positions. Eventually, she would like to offer some paid internship positions for the students in the unit. “We deliver more than 250 outreach initiatives every academic term,” she says. “But there is always more we can do to positively impact the lives of our students.”

Lindsay Reynolds, Arts’13 and Katie Conway, Arts’13, have spent their undergrad years at Queen’s working in peer health education and support. Katie was the 2012-2013 AMS Social Issues Commissioner while Lindsay was the 2012-2013 director of the AMS Peer Support Centre. Lindsay was Katie’s Gael – their group Still keeps in touch – and the two women are committed to increasing student awareness about mental health and mental illness and making a difference.

They’re particularly proud of a new workshop that was developed in partnership by the AMS Peer Support Centre, the AMS’s Mental Health Awareness Committee, Residence Life, and HCDS’ Health Promotion unit to help combat the stigma of mental health issues. The group also consulted with Prof. Heather Stuart (Community Health and Epidemiology, the world-first Bell Mental Health and Anti-Stigma Research Chair.

The workshop was held 16 times over the winter and spring in residences, and it focused on student volunteers who talked about their personal experiences with depression, anxiety, or eating disorders – the three most common mental health problems on campus – as a way of increasing understanding and empathy among their peers. This “contact-based” educational approach has been
The questions being asked by the participants are amazing,” Lindsay says. “The questions being asked by the participants are amazing.”

The workshop is believed to be the first of its kind at an Ontario university, and it has been recognized with the 2013 Queen’s Human Rights Initiative Award.

Lindsay hopes the workshop will help promote more openness and help-seeking behaviour among students, something she and Katie have noticed has been growing in their five years on campus.

“Where the campus was then and where is it now is really different,” Katie says. “You can now say ‘I went to see a counselor to...’ and nobody will judge you. People are dedicated to creating a more supportive campus, to eradicating stigma and creating a more inclusive community.”

The anti-stigma workshop aligns with 116 recommendations made last November by the Principal’s Commission on Mental Health. The Commission spent a year developing a framework for a mental health strategy for Queen’s (www.queensu.ca/cmh/index.html). An overall implementation plan is being developed for the recommendations. Among the most recent initiatives are an Advisory Committee on Academic Accommodations and a business-card-sized “green card” for students, which lists mental health information and important phone numbers. This resource was produced by the University in partnership with the AMS and the Society of Graduate and Professional Students and follows a “green folder” that was sent to all faculty and staff last fall.

“The commission’s recommendations are wide-ranging and more than half are in progress or completed,” says Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Tierney, Law’89, MPA’2004, who was one of the five commissioners. “One of the things we’re working on is a ‘University 101’-type transition program for first-years. We want to help them develop skills they need to manage the personal, emotional, and academic transitions from high school to university.”

Student Affairs is also developing an early-alert pilot program that will flag first-year students who are struggling academically in first term. A similar model is being explored to flag second-year students who are at risk of academic probation. The University would reach out to these students to offer support from peers and professionals.

These and other student health and wellness projects have been identified as priorities for the University’s $500-million Initiative Campaign.

“There are many ways that supporters can help us address the critical issues of student health and wellness,” says Principal Daniel Woolf, who has initiated a post-secondary network on student mental health with his peers at five other Canadian universities.

“Our students are helping to lead the way to find innovative approaches to building community and reducing stigma about mental health issues. We’ll continue to work with them to develop new services and programs that encourage everyone to seek help if and when they need it.”

Sam Singh applauds such initiatives. Reflecting back on his experiences in first year, he says he learned a lot and has grown and matured. He also feels that his volunteer efforts are making a difference for others. “Sharing experiences is a staple at Queen’s,” he says. “I walk away from each workshop feeling that it has had a positive impact.”


WORKING TO “UNLEASH THE NOISE”

A group of students at Queen’s has spearheaded a unique mental health innovation summit that aims to change how young people think and talk about mental illness. It’s part of The Jack Project, an initiative created by Eric Windeler, Com’82, and his wife, Sandra Hanington, after the 2010 suicide of their son Jack, who was a first-year student at Queen’s.

Justin Scaini, Arts’13, was the lead coordinator for “Unleash the Noise,” a two-day student-led conference held in Toronto in March that brought together over 200 youth from across the country to talk about mental health and help reduce its stigma.

“My involvement in The Jack Project and ‘Unleash the Noise’ have been among the best experiences in my life, and definitely a highlight,” Justin says. “The positive words that people have said about what we’re doing, and how my friends have reached out to me as a result of these projects are some of the most moving experiences of this process.”

Justin became involved two years ago, when he auditioned for a Jack Project video about mental health first aid. He was given the lead role and portrayed a student suffering from a mental illness. At the time of the campus video shoot, he was oblivious to the topic of mental health issues, but after speaking with Eric Windeler, he wanted to do more.

“Justin’s spark and leadership were apparent from the start,” Eric says. “In the last two years I’ve seen Justin grow into a unique and inspirational leader for the field of student mental health. His vision and energy have been essential for planning and organizing ‘Unleash the Noise’.”

Justin worked with Katie Morris, Arts’13, Richard Tam, Com’13; Elise Hoffmann, Arts’14; Alex Martin, Sc’15; and, Sarah Turnbull, Arts’13.

The ideas and information generated at Unleash The Noise are being compiled online as part of a mental health strategy students can use in their own communities. A second conference is being planned for next spring. “We’re going to the grassroots level of how people think about mental health,” Justin says. “We want to eliminate the stigma that exists, and our goal is to get everyone thinking about it on a daily basis.”

For more information and to support The Jack Project, please visit www.unleashtenoise.com and www.thejackproject.org.
Calling all “Castle kids”

It’s 20 years since Alfred and Isabel Bader offered Queen’s an English castle and their vision for a unique international study centre.

BY SIERRA MEGAS, ARTSCI’13

My first Queen’s memory doesn’t consist of excited Frosh Week cheers or of getting lost among the old limestone buildings on campus. In fact, my first Queen’s memory has nothing to do with Kingston. Instead, I’m in a cab that’s driving across the English countryside. Anticipation lurches in my chest, and just as we reach the bottom of a small hill the driver turns to me and announces, “There it is.”

Ahead of us is a magnificent, turreted, brick castle surrounded by a moat that’s mirror-calm in the summer dusk. A Queen’s tricolour flag, a Union Jack, and a Canadian flag flutter ever-so-slightly atop the turrets over the gate. I’m about to embark on my first year of university, studying at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex.

This historic property was donated to Queen’s in 1993 by Dr. Alfred Bader, Sc’45, Arts’46, MSc’47, LLD’86, and his wife, Dr. Isabel Bader, LLD’07, who had the foresight to envision the castle as an international study centre. It had sat empty for nearly four years before the Baders bought it, and there’d been speculation the property would be sold to a developer who would turn the castle and grounds into a golf resort. Local residents much preferred the Baders’ vision of Herstmonceux as an academic centre since it ensured the castle’s history would remain preserved and celebrated.

One of the earliest recorded mentions of Herstmonceux can be found in a petition to the Crown made in 1441 by a Sussex knight named Roger Fiennes (King Henry VI’s household treasurer), who requested the right to fortify his manor home. At the time of its construction, Fiennes’ castle was the largest private home in the kingdom. Since 1440 it has had many owners and has undergone numerous transformations.

After WWII, when the estate was sold to the Admiralty, the grounds became home to the Royal Greenwich Observatory. That was the case until 1989, when the observatory was relocated to Cambridge, leaving behind the telescopes’ incongruous domes. The castle itself sat vacant until it was purchased by the Baders, a residence was added, and the International Study Centre welcomed its first students.

In 2009 it was renamed the Bader International Study Centre (BISC) in honour of its benefactors, whose visits are always welcomed by students. The BISC now offers undergrad courses in the arts, humanities, languages, social sciences, and commerce; as well as a post-baccalaureate International Law program. Students live in Bader Hall, an adjacent residence, eat meals in the castle’s dining hall, attend lectures in 15th century rooms with 21st century technology, and find academic resources in the castle’s library. To support academics, the BISC has borrowing agreements with the University of Sussex Library, East Sussex Public Library, and the British Interlibrary Loans System.

The BISC is located about 100 km southeast of London, and so students and faculty can travel often into the city for field studies and leisure.

Looking back on the year I spent studying at the BISC, I see how the experience helped to shape my personal life and my academic experience. Most importantly, the BISC gave me an opportunity to learn in an environment that encouraged me to use my imagination. I’d hear peacocks squawking outside the library windows as I studied. Whenever I needed a break, I walked in the gardens and surrounding forests.

It was also a privilege to attend field studies that fully immersed me in the topics I was studying. After reading the classic Canterbury Tales, my class took a day trip to Canterbury. There we visited the very cathedral that was the destination of poet Geoffrey Chaucer’s pilgrims. Art history classes took trips to the National Gallery in London. Students in politics visited the European Union in Brussels, and drama classes were bused to see Shakespeare at the new Globe Theatre in London.

I’d be remiss if I failed to mention that the BISC is a place that fosters unique friendships. Castle alumni well understand how important friends are when you have the “Bader blues,” a term used to describe Bader Hall cabin fever or homesickness. And it’s your friends who save you when you lose your passport or miss a train.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the BISC, and all alumni are invited to return for celebrations in the first-ever official reunion on the weekend of July 26-28. It will be an exciting opportunity for the worldwide network of BISC alumni whose memories of Herstmonceux will last a lifetime. ■
Imagine sipping your morning coffee every day while you wonder if protesting teachers or warring politicians or a media scrum will be lying in wait for you when you arrive at work.

Long gone are the days when Kathleen Wynne, Artsci’77, Ontario’s new Liberal premier – the first woman and the first openly gay person ever to lead Canada’s most populous province – had nothing more to dodge than her kids’ bikes, helmets, and skateboards as she made her way out to, say, a parents’ association meeting.
The challenges of being Ontario’s top politician might scare off a lot of people nowadays, and even though Wynne admits it is scary sometimes, she’s ready to “lean in,” as Facebook’s Sheryl Sandberg advises all women to do. Says Wynne, “I still wake up in the morning and think, ‘Wow, what have I done? It’s exciting, humbling, and kind of terrifying, all at the same time.”

Mind you, Wynne is certainly no stranger to a competitive, high-pressure life. As a teenager she played basketball, competed as a gymnast, was a cheerleader, and starred as a member of the track team at Richmond Hill High School, where she impressed coaches and fellow students by setting a regional record for the 440-metre dash of one minute and three seconds.

Not surprisingly, when Wynne arrived at Queen’s in the fall of 1973 she went out for the varsity track team. It was the camaraderie and the chance to be a member of a team, more than a hunger to set more records, that drew her. “The track team really included people who were very supportive,” she recalls. “During the years when you’re trying to find your legs and figure out what you’re going to do with your life, it’s important to have a group that’s inclusive. I found that on the Queen’s track team.”

The satisfaction of working with others to achieve common goals was important to Wynne, and the competition was good training for a political career. (“You win sometimes, you lose sometimes.”) She credits both her coaches and teammates with playing a big part in her life and is especially complimentary about Rita Sue Bolton, MPA’92, Ed’98, and the late Rolf Lund, who shared track and field coaching duties back then.

Bolton recalls working with Wynne in 1973-74, her first year as a Queen’s women’s track-and-field coach and Wynne’s first as a varsity athlete. “As a coach, you love it when you see an athlete duplicate her training over and over and, in Kathleen’s case, doing it so successfully. In the years since, I’ve watched her follow the same principles and steps I believe in, and she’s been successful with the various roles she’s taken on.”

Wynne co-captained the track team with Janey O’Rourke, Arts/Sci/PHE’75, Ed’76. O’Rourke, a retired teacher who still lives in Kingston, says she’d never have guessed that Kathleen Wynne would one day become Premier of Ontario, although she’s not surprised that she did so. “Kathleen and I had the job of acting as the go-betweens for coaches and the athletes. You had to be able to get along with people and show leadership.”

O’Rourke remembers Kathleen as “a very caring, fun-loving and charismatic person – really pro-active and a problem solver. She didn’t let things fester. [In politics] she makes people feel that she’s heard them, empathizes with them, and helps them find answers to their problems. She was good at all those things even back then.”

Wynne, who majored in history and English, notes it was no accident that she chose to attend Queen’s. “I went because my great-uncle, Arthur Wynne, BA’1913, MA’1915, adored the University. I grew up with stories of Queen’s being really the only university in Ontario. My Uncle Arthur loved the fact that the school was small and didn’t have sororities and fraternities.”

While Kathleen wasn’t politically active during her student days, she did get involved in campus life. “I loved the extra-curricular activities, as well as my classes,” she says.

It was also at Queen’s that Wynne met her partner of the last 25 years, Jane Rounthwaite, Arts’76. Wynne was applying for the job of floor proctor at Chown Hall, and it was Rounthwaite who interviewed her. Wynne remembers, “We were in history classes together and she had a confidence about her that I hadn’t encountered before. I found Jane’s wit and ability to push back at the professor pretty interesting. That was a life-changing thing for me.”

In fact, it made a lasting impression. Soon after graduation, Wynne married Phillip Cowperthwaite, Arts’75, and they had three children together. However, after their marriage ended in 1990 and Wynne “came out” at age 37, she and Rounthwaite became a couple. Wynne has been forthright about her relationship with Rounthwaite from the beginning of her political career.

“Everyone knows that I’m a lesbian; I’ve been open about that,” she says. “For that reason it was really important for me to confront it. That’s why I did that throughout the leadership campaign and in my leadership speech. I didn’t want anybody thinking I was trying to win [the party leadership] without understanding the implications of my being gay. I wanted to confront it head-on. Doing that has helped to establish my determination to tackle difficult questions and not be cowed by a contentious subject.”

Wynne has two Master’s degrees to her credit – one in linguistics from the U of T, the other in adult education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. She also completed a mediation training program at Harvard and has worked as a practitioner, implementing conflict mediation programs in more than 60 schools across the province in the 1990s.

That brief period of training at Harvard and her subsequent work as a mediator, in particular, have served her well in her political career. One of Wynne’s signature words, as journalists at Queen’s Park well know, is “conversation,” and the fact that she has urged her own party members to resist “vicious party politics” is an indication of how she wants to work through issues to accomplish her goals.

She admits that becoming premier was never a lifelong dream, but rather one that evolved.
Wynne entered politics in 1994, running unsuccessfully for a seat as a school board trustee in Toronto. When she ran again in 2000 and won, she assumed that she’d simply continue on as a school trustee. However, the 1999 re-election of Conservative Mike Harris to a second term as premier so troubled her that she found herself getting more and more involved in opposing the Tory leader’s “Common Sense Revolution.”

“Once Harris tried to change the rules on civil society in the province, that got me involved,” she recalls. It also got her noticed around Toronto.

Wynne was elected to the Ontario legislature in 2003 in the Toronto riding of Don Valley West, and in the 10 years since she has served as a cabinet minister in a number of high-profile ministries, including Education, Transportation, Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Aboriginal Affairs.

Despite the fact that as Premier Dalton McGuinty’s successor she inherited a number of political hot potatoes – teachers’ contracts, canceled gas-power plants, casinos, and space for all-day kindergarten – Wynne insists she has her own vision for Ontario. Not shying away from the controversial and sometimes unpopular aspects of the Liberals’ previous agenda, she says she initially wants to build on the progress made in McGuinty’s nine years as Premier. After all, they were her years, too; and Wynne is always a team player.

“We need to find our niche in terms of the new global economy,” she says. “We have huge opportunities in the new economy with young people creating their own businesses. It’s about having venture capital and infrastructure in place and making sure our education system helps prepare those young people for that changing economy.”

Though her own offspring are adults, being a former teacher and now a grandmother, Wynne is also sympathetic to the challenges facing young people in educational institutions.

“The pressure on kids today to get high marks and to perform is enormous; we didn’t have that when I was a student. There are more supports for kids on campus, but more has to be done.

“As we roll out our mental health strategy, we have to look at what supports need to be in place for young people. Kids in elementary and secondary school are in a contained environment. When they get to university and that’s removed, it can create issues. University campuses and administrations need to follow in the lead of Queen’s and Bell Canada [in spearheading mental health initiatives and] in asking if the right conditions are in place.”

Helping others and providing them with opportunities to succeed are what Kathleen Wynne has always tried to do. That same caring extends to her own life. She works hard to maintain a career-life balance.

Surprisingly, her new responsibilities as premier haven’t added all that many hours to her workdays, which have always been crazy busy. Says partner Jane Rounthwaite, “When Kathleen got involved in provincial politics she started working a lot, especially as a cabinet minister. This job’s a different responsibility, but it’s not that many more hours. How could it be? However, there’s no question the weight of the responsibility is definitely heavier.”

Not only is Rounthwaite supportive of Wynne’s work, she managed her first four election campaigns. “We got into this as a team. I’ve always been involved in Kathleen’s campaigns and her politics because I’m a good organizer and have done fundraising and all those other backroom things that make political campaigns run,” she says. “My role is not unlike that of any of the spouses who are politically active in their partner’s campaigns.”

In addition to Rounthwaite’s backing, Wynne says many other people have been integral to her success. She points to the support staff in her office, several of whom are also Queen’s alumni (who prefer to remain nameless and to stay out of the media spotlight), as well as “a terrific caucus” and a great many Ontario voters.

“People want government to succeed. They want good things for their kids. I’m trying to be as accessible as possible because people want to talk to me and I want to hear from them. That gives me courage.”

Wynne continues, “People come up to me everywhere I go telling me, ‘Stay the course, you’re doing a good job!’ I can’t tell you how supportive and helpful that is. I’m not alone in this.”

There’s that old Queen’s team spirit again.
Vancouver isn’t the only place in BC from which women have disappeared. When the Missing Women’s Commission (MWC) set about gathering evidence about the women who have disappeared from the “downtown east side,” it also looked farther afield.

Over the past three decades, as many as 30 young women, most of them Aboriginal, have gone missing in the North, along what’s become known as the “Highway of Tears.” Highway 16 runs northwest from Prince George through 800 km of remote and rugged countryside to the coastal city of Prince Rupert.

Although the MWC wasn’t mandated to explore these northern disappearances, it became apparent that it was important to learn more about them and northern life in order to better understand their possible relationship to the Commission’s broader inquiries. Aboriginal lawyers, who were appointed as Ad Hoc Counsels, were asked to hold regional hearings and to prepare consultation reports. Linda Locke was among them.

The 2009 winner of the QUAA Alumni Achievement Award, a member of the Sto:lo Nation from the Fraser Valley, is well known in northern BC. Based in the town of Hazelton, she was well situated geographically to gather information from smaller communities further along the highway.

“The Commission work had special appeal for me because it provided an opportunity to describe the experiences of people of this area,” Locke says.

Although she followed the objective template of the MWC reports, her approach to collecting the information was somewhat different – broader and more personal. “The family and friends of missing women had waited many years to openly discuss their experiences and the trauma of their losses,” she says.

Locke also set out to describe the land and culture of the northwest, where the disappearance of young women from small communities has profound and far-reaching effects. The Northwest Consultation Report provided context by describing the land, its remoteness, and the ties to tradition through many local tribes and their cultures, an important component of which is a matrilineal heritage.

It is the women of the First Nations who carry and transmit the culture to future generations, and so the disappearance of any young woman has a long-lasting effect on the entire community.

Procedurally, the northwest hearings were less formal and smaller than those in Vancouver, and because they weren’t events open to the general public, the participants had more freedom for discussion. Locke oversaw six sessions that used various formats: focus groups, interviews, and telephone conversations. The questions Locke used to prompt discussion were based on the Commission’s, and not surprisingly, similar discussion points were often raised. Police issues – the RCMP being the police in the area – were frequently mentioned, particularly the lack of immediate and thorough investigation once a young person had been reported missing.

For that reason, the MWC Report recommendations pointed to a need for better community-police relationships, including educating and training police about Aboriginal culture and history.

In Locke’s “territory,” participants went beyond the policing issues to ask some difficult questions about other factors. “What went wrong?” “How did this affect community ties?” “How can this situation be improved?”

People expressed three strong desires: to prevent these tragedies from happening again, to find ways of building stronger communities, and to seek better, more reciprocal, relations with the police. The youth of small, remote communities were seen as being at risk, and so more attention is needed to ensure their safety through awareness and community prevention efforts.

The hearings made it clear that every young woman who disappeared was someone of worth and had family and friends who loved her. The Northwest Consultation Report collected stories, poems, and narratives that illustrate that reality and the experiences of these missing women and their communities.

“We intended to gather the facts and identify issues,” Locke says. “This consultation was a part of the Commission’s work. But we believed it important to be the voice for people, to describe the impact of these tragic events.”

Aboriginal culture observes a deep tradition of rituals for the dead; however, these rituals have not been observed for those young women who have simply vanished. The wounds of loss remain open.
Luke Skipper, Artsci’04, was understandably excited when on March 21 Alex Salmond, the leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP), announced the official date of Scotland’s upcoming independence referendum: September 18, 2014.

This will be the first such vote since the country joined the United Kingdom in the 1707 Act of Union, and as Chief of Staff of the SNP party at Westminster, Skipper is playing a key role as a campaign strategist and organizer. “Having a date for the referendum crystallizes in people’s minds that this is actually happening,” says the 32-year-old Canadian expat.

Skipper and the leaders of the SNP know they have a lot of work ahead of them before Scots go to the polls to answer that single vital question: “Should Scotland be an independent country? Yes or no.”

In some ways, Skipper came to his role in this debate by a curious route following his student days at Queen’s. These days, he lives in London, where he works with the six-member SNP caucus that sits in the British Parliament at Westminster.

Growing up in Kincardine, an historic Ontario town of 6,200 people on the shores of Lake Huron, Skipper’s early life was infused with Highlands heritage. Kincardine has a sizeable Scottish-Canadian population. “A pipe band marches down the main street every Saturday,” he says. “In some ways the place is more Scottish than Scotland.”

Voted “Most likely to be Prime Minister” by his high school classmates and described as such in the school yearbook – “A title I have no aspirations towards, by the way,” he says with a laugh – Skipper applied to several Ontario universities before settling on Queen’s after a summer visit to the campus.

“One of the great things about Queen’s is that you’re not asked to specialize too early. I started out in History, but once I got drawn into Political Studies. That’s what I majored in. I enjoyed studying how politics works in terms of the practical application of political systems and how they develop,” says Skipper. “The courses I took at Queen’s gave me a real foundation for what I’m doing today.”

Skipper pursued his interest in politics when in third year he went to Edinburgh University in an exchange program. “This was hugely formative for me. Like 4.5 million other Canadians, I have Scottish heritage, and so Edinburgh seemed like a logical overseas destination for me. The city itself is what sealed it. Edinburgh is a wonderful city to live in.”

Skipper arrived in Edinburgh less than five years after the 1999 announcement that “The Scottish Parliament, adjourned on the 25th day of March, 1707, is hereby reconvened.”

The Scottish Parliament now makes decisions that govern health, education, crime, housing, transportation, and aspects of energy, while the British Parliament retains all reserved powers.

The establishment of a devolved, unicameral legislature in Scotland after almost 300 years under rule by Westminster was a landmark event, and Skipper found the study of this new parliament and its newer politics exciting.

After finishing his undergrad degree at Queen’s, he returned to
Scotland’s situation. At the end of the day, if the people of Scotland want to choose in a referendum to become independent, I think it’s a relatively small organization. “With smaller politics you have smaller parties, and that allows staff members to be involved in many different tasks that sometimes prove to be quite significant. No one can hide in an organization of this size. It’s dynamic, and it allows someone like me to have lots of different experiences.”

While working briefly at the European Parliament, Skipper was intrigued by the decision-making powers wielded by the smaller countries of the European Union. That set him wondering about Scotland’s dearth of legislative powers. He continued to work with the SNP throughout his Master’s program and took a full-time job with the party in 2006, one year before the SNP’s historic – and unexpected – win by a single seat in the Scottish General Election. A landslide victory in 2011 made the SNP the first successful majority in a parliament designed to support coalition governance.

Skipper cites the reinstitution of the Scottish Parliament as the starting point for this apparent resurgence of interest in Scottish nationalism, which has ebbed and flowed over the centuries. “I think devolution has excited people. And it’s not about thinking Scotland is better than England or the U.K. Scottish nationalism is not about painting your face blue and running around with a broad sword,” he says. “It’s about wanting the best for your country. It’s about being the same as others, having the same ability to make decisions for yourself, as others do. All we’re saying is that the people of Scotland should be able to make decisions about Scotland here in Scotland.”

The left-leaning SNP has made the case that domestic oil revenues and income recouped from Crown estates would leave Scotland as well off after independence as it is now. The party is also in favour of domestic control of corporate taxes, development of the high-tech and green energy sectors, and a highly educated workforce.

While some of the SNP’s critics charge that Scotland’s bid for independence is Anglophobic, Skipper doesn’t agree. “England would lose a surly lodger and gain a happy neighbour,” he says. He also draws parallels between the situation in Scotland and the process that lead to Canada’s independent status in 1867. “I think it’s natural for Canadians in the first instance to view the current situation through the prism of Quebec,” says Skipper. “However, the more I’ve looked into it – and we as a party have looked into it a lot – I think the more accurate comparison is with Canada itself. Canada went through a transition period where it became a dominion before eventually becoming an independent country. In that interim period, Great Britain gave Canada more and more powers. The word for that is ‘devolution,’ and that’s very similar to Scotland’s situation. At the end of the day, if the people of Scotland want to choose in a referendum to become independent, I think they should be able to do so.”

Skipper feels that insights like these from his “non-Scottish background” are appreciated within the party, just as SNP supporters quote the late Bashir Ahmad, an Indian-born immigrant who was Scotland’s first Muslim MSP. Ahmad once said, “It isn’t important where you come from. What matters is where we’re going together as a nation.”

Skipper echoes those words when he says, “The SNP is very, very open, and I think that changes the dynamic of the independence debate.”

While early polls suggested that a majority of Scots prefer to remain part of the U.K., more recent figures show an overall rise – from 30 to 34 percent – in support for independence. Support for the cause is particularly strong among immigrants and young people.

Skipper says low polling numbers don’t worry him. “It’s a bit of a cliché to say it, but the only numbers that really matter are the ones on the day people cast their ballots. And the one thing we did learn from Quebec is that the turnout for the referendum is going to be very high. There will be people who don’t normally vote in regular elections, but they’ll come out to make this decision about the future of their country. We’re confident as the campaign progresses that we can close the gap between the ‘Yes’ and the ‘No’ votes and win the referendum.”

While Skipper’s day-to-day duties already keep him hopping faster than a Highland step dancer, he knows the lead-up to the referendum vote will be even more frantic. “Much of my job is determined by the 24-hour news cycle. My expertise is foreign affairs and defence, and so I focus on those areas when I can. But we need to communicate our message any way we can, whether that’s in the Chamber, through speeches by SNP leaders, media releases, or whatever. With the referendum coming up next year, I think it’s really going to be a situation in which there’s a single fire in the room that will suck the oxygen out of everything else. It’s going to be a lot of work.”

It’s work that Skipper is more than happy to do. “It’s a huge honour and a privilege for me to be so involved,” he says. “Regardless of your opinion on the independence question, no one can deny that it’s an exciting time to be in Scotland. The eyes of the world will be on us, and how exciting is that?”

Regardless of your opinion on the independence question, no one can deny that it’s an exciting time to be in Scotland.

A WEE BIT ABOUT THE SNP....

The Scottish National Party, which was founded in 1934, has had continuous representation in the British Parliament since an historic by-election win in 1967.

When Scotland’s Parliament was resurrected in 1999, the SNP became the second largest party in the devolved chamber. In 2007, the SNP took power as a minority government. In the 2011 elections, it won a landslide victory and became the first party to form a majority government in the Scottish Parliament since its resumption.

The SNP now holds six of 59 Scottish seats in the U.K.’s House of Commons and two of six Scottish seats in the European Parliament in Brussels. The SNP is also the largest group in Scottish local government and, in coalition, forms 12 out of 32 local administrations.
The female Flashman?

Playwright-turned-novelist Kathleen Brennan, Artsci’90, has crafted a lively work of historical fiction that has substance and a flash of a very different sort.

BY KEN CUTHBERTSON, REVIEW EDITOR

Kathleen (Watters) Brennan, who teaches drama and the art of storytelling at Concordia University, loves nothing more than a good story, one that’s got a rousing plot and interesting characters. That much has been made clear by her award-winning plays. So it’s not surprising that when “Kit” – as she’s known to her family and friends – tried her hand at writing fiction, her debut novel would be a rollicking historical romp. To the delight of her reviewers and students alike, the tale bubbles with high adventure, intrigue, murder, humour, and – of course! – dollops of bodice-ripping whoopee.

Whip Smart: Lola Montez Conquers the Spaniards (Astor + Blue Editions LLC, $14.95), is a fictionalized version of the adventures of real-life Victorian-era scoundrel Eliza Gilbert (a.k.a. Lola Montez). Kit Brennan recounts what happens when Eliza flees legal troubles in 1842 London and lands in Spain, where she assumes the persona of a Spanish dancer. The corseted coquette quickly discovers she has leapt from the frying pan into the proverbial fire. Misadventures ensue.

“I discovered Lola when I was a teenager,” Kit explains. “I first encountered her when I read the Flashman novels, which were written by George MacDonald Fraser.”

Sir Harry Flashman is a fictional character Fraser “borrowed” from Thomas Hughes’ classic 1857 novel Tom Brown’s School Days. When Flashman, the school bully, was expelled, he disappeared from the novel – but not from Fraser’s fertile imagination.

Fraser turned “Flashie” into the archetypal 1970s-era anti-hero, following him through a popular series of a dozen books – pseudo-memoirs that were dubbed “The Flashman papers.” Their “hero” managed to turn up at many of the biggest military campaigns and battles of the 19th century, and along the way he collected honours galore, despite the fact he was a liar, poltroon, womanizer, drunkard, and toady par excellence.

The Flashman books are irreverent, and they’re politically incorrect. However, because Fraser was a master storyteller, they’re also highly readable, historically enlightening, and great fun. Kit Brennan has picked up where Fraser left off when he died in 2008 at age 82. Lola appears as a central character in his 1970 novel Royal Flash, a book Kit read in her teenage years. Vancouver-born, she grew up in Kingston, where her father taught English at the Royal Military College. The Watters family eventually moved to Ottawa, but Kit returned to the Limestone City to study at Queen’s, where she earned an honours BA while doing a double-major in English and drama. She still has many fond memories of her campus years, especially the drama courses taught by Fred Euringer, Gary Wagner, Anne Hardcastle, and Maurice Breslow.

After Queen’s, Kit did a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree at the U of Alberta. Then, intent on following in her father’s academic footsteps, in 1993 she took a teaching job at Concordia. Twenty years later, with a stint as resident playwright at Cen-taur Theatre and eight published plays on her CV, she’s still in Montreal, where she
and her actor husband, Andrew Willmer, make their home.

“When I began researching Victorian England while working on my MFA, I again encountered Lola Montez. I also discovered Dr. James Barry, an Irish charwoman named Sophia Bishop, who had disguised herself as a man so she could pursue a career as a doctor,” says Kit.

“I was fascinated by both women. I saw them as bookends of a sort. Barry pretended to be a man so she could realize her dreams, while Lola used her guile and feminine beauty to do so.”

Kit’s 1996 play about Barry’s life, *Tiger’s Heart*, won a national playwriting competition and has been successfully staged at several theatres. Thinking Lola Montez’s story might also be suitable for staging, Kit crafted a drama about her, too; however, for a variety of reasons, *Lola Shuffles the Cards* just didn’t work on stage.

“But I loved the Lola character for so long, I couldn’t let her go, and so I decided to turn the play into a novel. Giving Lola a fictional voice released her to be herself,” says Brennan. “I portray her as a feisty woman rather than a bad dancer who got herself into trouble. The big challenge for me was to make Lola likeable, and I think I’ve succeeded.

“I love writing about her. It’s the most fun I’ve had in years, and so I really hope that readers find Lola as interesting as I do.”

How confident is the author on that score? Like the irrepressible Lola, Kit is inclined to act first, ask later. She’s already written a sequel to *Whip Smart* – due for publication later this year – and hopes ultimately to craft a four-book series.

It appears that the inimitable Lola has a lot more fancy footwork ahead of her.

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**Licking the minivan, and other toddler sports**

Suppose one winter day you caught your four-year-old in a full lip-lock with the side of your frosty, mud-splattered, slush-drenched, salt-encrusted car. What would you say to him or her?

“For crying out loud … don’t lick the minivan. Your tongue could fall off!”

Your child would likely turn and stare at you like you’d just grown a second head. And a moment later you’d probably ask yourself, “Did I just say that?”

In so doing, you just channeled your inner Ironic Mom.

The real-life Ironic Mom, also known as Queen’s grad Leanne Shirtliffe Arts’93, Ed’94, mother of twins and a high school English teacher in Calgary, has just published her first book, which is aptly titled *Don’t Lick the Minivan and Other Things I Never Thought I’d Say to My Kids* (Skyhorse Publishing, May 2013, $28.95). The book is full of those kinds of double-take moments. From birthing class in Bangkok to successfully shepherding her brood through preschool, Leanne documents some of the truly bizarre things she has said to her ever-patient, level-headed husband Chris and her whirlwind-like kids Vivy and Will.

Leanne, whose life motto is: “If you can’t laugh at yourself, laugh at your kids,” writes about what it’s like to live with lively twins, first in Asia and then in suburbia. Her regular confrontations with bodily flu-ids of all kinds (usually traveling at high speed) and her ability to manage crises that would make the most dictatorial CEO crumble, earn her full points for creativity, if not for any “Mother of the Year” awards. (And she at least established a college therapy fund for her kids early on.)

Four years ago, Leanne launched her electronic persona at *Ironicmom.com* (see QAR Issue #2 2010), where many of these stories first appeared. In 2011, *Ironicmom.com* was voted Canada’s number one humour blog. She also writes for *NickMom.com* and *The Huffington Post*, and regularly appears on CBC radio and television.

While she says the primary target audience for her book is young parents and parents-to-be, it’s likely that there are at least two secondary audiences who will also appreciate the edgy humour: the parents of older kids who now can look back on those early years and laugh, and child-free adults who seek comfort in knowing that they made the right decision.

And for those looking for a how-to book, Leanne sprinkles her text with “Parenting Tips” for the uninitiated, the clueless and the exhausted. For example, “Lying is an invaluable strategy for parents. Start practising as soon as you’re pregnant.” Which then leads to, “Never tell your child that the ice cream truck sells ice cream. Tell them it sells vegetables.”

*Don’t Lick the Minivan* is Leanne Shirtliffe’s first book, but it’s unlikely to be her last. Watch for a sequel that will probably be called something like:

*Get Off the Table and Put on Your Clothes (and Other Stuff my Prepubescent Twins Said to Me After I Downed a Glass of Wine – Or Was it Five?)*

— PILAR WOLFSTELLER, ARTS’91
Louise Miller, ArtsSci’90, spent 10 years researching and writing her debut book, A Fine Brother: The Life of Captain Flora Sandes (www.almabooks.com). That decade of research and Miller’s meticulous attention to detail are evident in this beautifully written biography of the only British woman to serve as a soldier in WWI.

Louise Miller is English-born, but she grew up on Earl Street in Kingston and attended Kingston Collegiate Vocational Institute before graduating from Queen’s and then McGill. Her mother, Caroline Miller, was a Queen’s professor of sociology, while her dad, Tony Miller, was a former Royal Air Force mountain rescue pilot, member of the British National Parachute Team, and a professor at the Royal Military College.

Louise moved to Edinburgh in 1995, earned a law degree and settled into her career. “In 2002,” she says, “I was on an airplane when I stumbled across a reference to a nameless English woman who had served as a combat soldier in WWI.”

Intrigued, she began researching and before long realized she’d found the little-known story of a remarkable character.

Flora Sandes was the eighth child born into a genteel Yorkshire family in 1876. By all accounts, she was a spirited tomboy with a very different kind of character in a very different setting, but nonetheless, a remarkably sympathetic character.”

— Lindy Mechefske

The Alumni Review thanks the following alumni authors for taking part in “Write Thinking,” our inaugural literary series.

• Andrew Westoll, ArtsSci’00, the author of The Chimps of Fauna Sanctuary, winner of the 2012 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction;
• Tanis Rideout, ArtsSci’99, author of the critically acclaimed novel Above All Things;
• Michael Petrou, ArtsSci’97, Maclean’s correspondent and author of Is This Your First War: Travels Through the Post 9/11 Islamic World; and,
• Robert Hough, ArtsSci’85, the author of the critically acclaimed novel Dr. Brinkley’s Tower, a finalist for the 2012 Governor General’s Literary Award (Fiction).

We would also like to give special thanks to our series host, Carolyn Smart, Department of English, and to our corporate sponsor MBNA MasterCard, and to local sponsors Radisson Hotels (Kingston), Le Chien Noir Bistro, and the Campus Bookstore.

A Fine Brother: The Life of Captain Flora Sandes

Louise Miller

Frontline Flora

Flora Sandes was on a camping trip when war was declared in 1914. She was said to have jumped into her French racing car and rushed off to enlist. Turned down by the British military, Sandes was undeterred. She joined up with an American woman who was gathering Red Cross volunteers to work in Serbia.

Sandes showed remarkable courage serving as a nurse and caring for wounded and dying soldiers in Serbia with almost no medical support or supplies. However, serving in the Red Cross was scarcely enough for her. In 1915, at age 39, Sandes enlisted in the Serbian Army, where she eventually became an officer, a captain, and a decorated military hero.

Over the course of a long and colourful life, Flora Sandes never ceased to surprise. She survived a Gestapo prison in WWII, traveled and lived all over the world, was notorious for drinking and carousing, wrote two autobiographies, married a Russian sergeant, was an overbearing and difficult houseguest, and eventually returned to England for her final years. Although she was penniless, she was always audacious.

A Fine Brother has had enthusiastic reviews in The Times and The Scotsman and on the BBC. It was the runner-up for the H W Fisher Best First Biography Prize and will be out in paperback in the UK in June. The book is being translated into Serbian and will be published by Serbia’s biggest publisher later this year.

Louise Miller, who is married with a four-year-old, continues to work full-time, but she’s been thinking of a possible new book. “I’ve found another character,” she says. “A very different kind of character in a very different setting, but nonetheless, a remarkably sympathetic character.”

— Lindy Mechefske

George Elliott Clarke, PhD’93, author and Governor General’s Literary Award-winning poet, recently visited campus and spoke to and with students. The February event was coordinated as part of Black History Month by the Queen’s Student Alumni Association in collaboration with AMS and the Queen’s Black Academic Society. Clarke, who teaches in the English Department at the U of T, talked to a standing-room only crowd about his writing, African-Canadian literature, race, and racism. The QSAA regularly brings back notable alumni to talk to students about their work and life after Queen’s.
**NEW ON THE BOOKSHELF**

**HERMAN BAKVIS, ARTS’71,** is the co-editor, with Mark D. Jarvis, of *From New Public Management to New Political Governance: Essays in Honour of Peter C. Aucoin* (McGill-Queen’s University Press, $34.95). The late Peter Aucoin, PhD’72, was a noted scholar, teacher, and government advisor in both public administration and representative government. A professor in the Departments of Political Science and School of Public Administration at Dalhousie, he died in 2011. This *festschrift* is the result of a 2009 symposium on his work, specifically his concept of the “new public governance.”

**BERNARD “GERRY” COULTER, ARTS CI’85, MA’88,** has written *Jean Baudrillard: From the Ocean to the Desert – The Poetics of Radicality* (Intertheory, $22.). The book examines various key aspects of Baudrillard’s radical and poetic contribution to post-structuralist thought since the 1970s. Gerry is the founding editor of the *International Journal of Baudrillard Studies*. He teaches sociology at Bishop’s University in Sherbrooke, QC.

**JUDITH DAVIDSON,** ARTS’80, PHD’91, is the author of *Sink into Sleep* (Demos Medical, $18.95), a step-by-step guide to cognitive behavioural therapy for insomnia or CBT-I, a treatment that is usually only offered by specially-trained psychologists or as part of research studies. *Sink into Sleep* breaks CBT-I down into an easy format, allowing the reader to follow the same program that clinic patients do. The book also contains informative chapters on men’s sleep, women’s sleep, sleep and medical conditions, sleep and anxiety or depression, and the pros and cons of sleep medication. Judith is a scientist–clinician in the field of insomnia treatment. She is also an assistant professor of psychology and oncology at Queen’s.

**JENNIFER GHENT-FULLER,** ARTS’75, has written *Thoughtful Dementia Care: Understanding the Dementia Experience* ($10.95, Createspace), an easy-to-read and sensitive portrayal of the changing world of people with dementia that is due to Alzheimer’s or other diseases, and of their caregivers. The book offers insights into emotional reactions and practical suggestions based on an understanding of the way people with dementia view many situations. Jennifer is a nurse who has worked as an educator and counselor for people with dementia and their families, as well as others in caring roles.

**MARLA HAYES,** ED’77, is the co-author, with Angela Falkowska, of the screenplay-turned-novel *A Taste of Reality* (Short on Time Books, $7.98). Terri Fortier lives a fairytale life in a French castle until her 18th birthday. Then, she escapes a marriage arranged to end an age-old curse on her family’s vineyard. She flees to Napa Valley, where she puts down new roots at a neglected, but magical winery. Will Terri’s new reality prove to be more powerful than any fairy tale? Intended for young adult readers, but also accessible for adults who believe in fairy tales.

**AMANDA JOHNSTON,** MUS’93, has written *English and German Diction for Singers: A Comparative Approach* (Scarecrow Press, $49.95). Often underestimated, lyric diction is a portal to powerful performance. It is through diction that singers are able to communicate the desires of both the poet and the composer. This comprehensive resource includes a thorough analysis of the German and English languages, as well as lists, tables, charts, musical examples, exercises, and even tongue twisters. The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is used throughout. This book, which is designed for both undergrad and grad courses in German and English lyric diction, is an invaluable resource for classical singers, collaborative pianists, vocal coaches, and voice teachers alike. The author is Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Mississippi.

After completing his university studies, **SHAWN MALONEY,** ARTS CI’05, decided to set off on a once-in-a-lifetime backpacking trip with his best friend and sidekick, Patrick. The three-month, pre-planned Eurotrip took an unexpected turn after one week when a spontaneous decision in Amsterdam led the two travelers off the beaten path and on a haphazard adventure across Europe. In *Backpack* ($14.95, Createspace), Shawn tells of his adventures from scaling waterfalls in the Swiss Alps to exploring lost caves in Sardinia and camel-trekking in the Sahara Desert.

**ELEONORE SCHÖNMAIER,** ARTS CI’85, NSc’86, is the author of *Wavelengths of Your Song* (McGill-Queen’s University Press, $16.95). A collection of poetry that combines childhood memories of the northern Canadian wilderness, environmentalism, and unexpected journeys skiing across frozen lakes, cycling along Dutch canals, and hiking in Malta and New Zealand. Eleonore’s previous book is the critically acclaimed *Treading Fast Rivers*. Eleonore, formally a Writing Resource Centre coordinator and creative writing instructor at Mount Saint Vincent University and St. Mary’s University in Halifax, was the Second Runner-Up in the *Review’s* 2005 “Well-Versed” poetry competition. She now lives in the Netherlands.

**LOIS SCOUTEN,** ARTS’55, MA’65, has written *Messala: the Return from Ruin* (BPS Books, $30), a sequel to the classic tale of Ben-Hur. Lois picks up the story of Messala, injured in a chariot race against his boyhood friend Ben-Hur. She explores the tension Messala feels between loyalty towards his Roman heritage and his growing interest in Christianity. Lois has used her studies in Latin and classical literature in her work as a teacher and writer.
Keeping the faith

Money woes threaten the future of chaplaincy at an historic Kingston church that helps serve the spiritual and mental health needs of the campus community.

A group of determined volunteers is seeking a solution.

BY ANITA JANSMAN, ARTSCI’06

The historic limestone church at the corner of Union and Arch Streets has served the campus community since the University’s very beginning. St. James’ Anglican Church, which is, in fact, as old as Queen’s itself, has actively guided the spiritual lives of students, faculty, staff, and alumni for almost 175 years.

“We like to say that Queen’s grew up in our backyard,” says Rev. Valerie Michaelson, Associate Anglican Priest, whose main role is serving Queen’s students as chaplain. “We were here when Queen’s was formed, have gone through two world wars together, and witnessed Queen’s moving from its roots as a small theological college to a secular university with international status.”

Today, in a move to ensure stable funding for the Queen’s chaplaincy, the Anglican Diocese of Ontario has established an endowment fund, with the express purpose of providing financial support for outreach to students through worship, activities, and pastoral care.

Two long-time supporters of the Christian community on campus, Prof. Emerita Marguerite Van Die (History and Religion) and Prof. Bob Crawford, (Computing), have spearheaded the formation of the Anglican Chaplaincy at Queen’s University Endowment Fund.

Crawford, who has taught and worked in administrative capacities at Queen’s for almost 42 years and is due to “officially” retire come December, has long seen the wisdom of making spiritual guidance available to students. However, he became acutely aware of the need to do so during his 10-year tenure as Dean of Student Affairs (1995-2005). Now that he’s returned to teaching, which is his first love, he sees that students continue to seek out a spiritual life. This is proven by the numerous faith-group gatherings that occur on campus.

“The report of the Principal’s Commission on Mental Health clearly recognizes religion and faith as important elements in the lives of many Queen’s students,” he says. “We know that faith communities enrich campus life, and there’s hard evidence to indicate they also enhance the mental health of individual students.”

Being on the frontline, Valerie Michaelson agrees. “Some students come here because the Anglican Church is their religious tradition. But many come without that affiliation and are seeking answers to some of life’s big questions; they’re trying to make sense of things and what it means to be human,” she says.

Michaelson stresses that she is not a counselor, pointing out that Queen’s has excellent mental health care and counseling services on campus, to which she sometimes refers students. Yet, she believes that the St. James chaplain is very much part of the conversation about mental health and can play a key role for some students. “Students tell me they get something different here. There are places on campus for care for your physical health, your social health and your emotional health. Here we offer a place for spiritual health, which is equally important,” she explains.

In addition to regular worship services, St. James runs an intern leadership program for students who want to grow in the ministry. During exam period, parishioners prepare “heaps of food” for study-weary students. Music is played; coffee is served; healthy food is eaten, and students then go on their way to the library and study halls to prepare for exams. During times of crisis, such as a death of a student on campus, or a global disaster – such as the 2011 tsunami in Japan – the Church has an emergency plan in place for students who need extra support.

Marguerite Van Die hopes to reach out to all those alumni who have had a connection to St. James when they were students. “Many alumni have benefited from the services of St. James Church while they were students,” she says. “We want to let them know that those services are still available each year to a new crop of students. “The endowment fund will ensure that we can offer them for years to come.”

Recently, the Anglican Archdiocese of Ontario, a long-time financial supporter, had to end its annual grant of $10,000. Crawford and Van Die hope to build a sufficiently large endowment to replace this and thus generate enough annual income to secure the current position of a part-time chaplain and cover small expenses.

For more information about the St. James chaplaincy initiative, please visit: www.st-jamesqueens.ca
Kathleen Ross Artsci’83

High school business teacher

Married Les, Com’83

Mother of Kaitlin Artsci’13

Created the Adam Smith Economics Society

WELCOME HOME

HOME COMING 2013
queensu.ca/homecoming2013
AT THE BRANCHES

NEWS AND NOTES

He shoots…he scores!

In February, alumni in New York played in the 7th annual CANY Central Park Classic in support of Ice Hockey in Harlem (vimeo.com/56049750). Queen’s upset defending champs Stike-man Elliott before losing to eventual champion UCC in round-robin play. Proudly wearing tricolour were Stephen Burns, MBA’84, Al Paterson, Sc’85, Brian Fegan, PT’93, Daniel Ballin, PT’93, Darren Johnston, PHE’93, Darryl Ah, Com’94, Shane Kovacs Sc’96, Christopher Perry Com’03, Mathew Polci, Com’07, and Ryan Sakauye, Com’07. Seen here: Ryan, with Darryl and Shane in the background.

Call for nominations – 2014 Agnes Benidickson Award

The Ottawa Branch is looking for your input. If you know of deserving volunteers and/or supporters of Queen’s, this is a great opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments and have them recognized by their peers in the Ottawa community. Forward your nomination to Deb Shea by June 30, 2013, at deb.shea@queensu.ca. Supporting documentation is welcome and will help the selection committee in making its decision. The Branch website has a list of past recipients: alumni.queensu.ca/ottawa.

Thank you, Jim

Jim Campbell, Ed’76, has taken on the position of Director of Development at Mount Royal University in Calgary. Jim was Manager of the Western Regional Office of Queen’s Advancement for more than nine years. In this role, he worked closely with the volunteers of the Calgary Branch, with local employers, and with staff and faculty on campus, connecting Queen’s students with alumni in the Calgary region. We’ll miss you, Jim!

C A L E N D A R  O F  U P C O M I N G  E V E N T S

A LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS IN CANADA, THE U.S., AND AROUND THE WORLD

CANADA

Brockville

June 16 – Tall Ships Festival. Volunteers needed to help at admissions from 9 am to 12 pm. Email Cheryl Johnston, Artscl’01, cheryljohnston24@gmail.com or call 613-342-8688.

Calgary

June 13 – Annual Branch Dinner. Join us once again at the home of Kim Sturgess, Sc’77, for a wonderful dinner. Be sure to wear your Branch t-shirts or Queen’s Western shirts! Questions? Email Jeremy Mosher (jeremykdmosher@gmail.com).

August TBD – New 2 The “Q”. This event for the incoming class of 2017 brings together our newest students with Queen’s students and alumni in the Calgary area. We’ll answer any questions on life at Queen’s, residence life, or what to pack! This is a great way to meet your fellow classmates, as well as speak face-to-face with alumni about their Queen’s experiences and insights. This event is always a hit with new students and their parents!

Kingston

May 25 – Queen’s MiniU film screening: West Wind: the Vision of Tom Thomson. Delve into the mystery of the art, life, and death of Tom Thomson with filmmaker Peter Raymont, Arts’72. After the screening, join Peter and Clarke Mackey (Queen’s Film & Media Studies) for a discussion on the film and the art of filmmaking. $5 students; $10 general.

Ottawa

Quarterly pub nights. Join us for an evening of networking from 8-10 pm on May 23 at the Sir John A. Pub; on August 15 at the Honest Lawyer; and on November 21 at D’Arcy McGee’s. Questions? Contact John Lu, Sc’11, at johnnylu28@gmail.com.

Montreal

June 19 – John B. Stirling Montreal Medal award reception, celebrating a “maker of Queen’s”. Our recipient is Queen’s Football Hall of Famer Keith “Skip” Eaman, Sc’72, who is being honoured for his dedication to his alma mater and his beloved
Jean Hutchinson, Head of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering, was a special guest speaker of the Portland, OR, Branch earlier this year. Jean gave an engaging talk on her work in the restoration of the memorial site of Vimy Ridge, which commemorates the efforts and loss of life of Canadian troops in WWI. During the restoration of the site, she assessed the geologic controls affecting the instability of the area, which includes trenches and subterranean tunnels.

Branch Awards

The names of the 2013 Branch Award recipients have been announced in select cities. In Calgary, the 2013 Johnson award recipients are Mike Rose, Arts'79, and Sue Riddell-Rose, Arts'86. In Toronto, the John Orr Award recipient is John Rae, Arts'67. In Vancouver, the Kathleen Beaumont Hill award goes this year to Carmen J Overholt, Law'84. And in Montreal, "Skip" Eaman, Sc'72, will receive the 2013 John B. Stirling Award. Watch your Branch emails for more details.

In Kingston, the Padre Laverty award was given to Harvey Rosen, Law'75. The Jim Bennett Achievement Award went to Susan M. Creasy, Arts'77, Ed'78.

A helping hand

In January, members of the Hong Kong Branch organized a bread run for Feed Hong Kong, a local charity. Ten alumni volunteers and their family members collected surplus bread from 22 bakeries. They were able to contribute 1,100 loaves of bread to the food bank. This community event was organized by Edith Law, Sc'96, and Derek Szeto, Com'96.
The start of a beautiful friendship

Four years have flown by, and graduates of the Class of 2013 are now the newest members of the QUAA.

BY JESS JOSS, ARTSCI’96

Spring is always an exciting time of the year. Gardeners are starting their seasonal labours. Cottages are being opened for the season. The kids are counting down the days to the end of another school year, and on campus it’s convocation time. Each year, your Queen’s University Alumni Association (QUAA) welcomes about 4,000 new graduates to its ranks. They were students for a short time, but they’ll be alumni evermore.

I remember graduation as being exciting, but also as a time that I faced with some trepidation. For several years – five, in my case – I’d studied, worked, cavorted, and lived on or near campus, including most summers. Now I’d finally reached the end of my student days at Queen’s and I wondered what would come next. Would I work or travel? Do another degree? Where would I live – back home, with my parents, after being independent for many years? Where would my friends move to and how would we stay in touch?

Graduation time is exciting because it’s so full of promise, possibilities, and uncertainties. The world is your oyster. When trying to figure out a career path, a way to stay connected to your tricolour spirit and ways to get by on a tight budget, the QUAA can help you. We can help you connect with fellow alumni in a new home city, or help you network with graduates who are already established in whatever field you’re keen to work in.

The QUAA can also help you stay in touch with what’s happening on and off campus through the Review, our website, and our Facebook and Twitter postings. What’s more, the QUAA affinity partners provide alumni with valuable deep discounts on insurance, train tickets, and entertainment – to name just a few of many products and services. Please check us out online (queensu.ca/alumni) and update your contact information to stay connected.

Spring is also a time for reflection on what you’ve accomplished during your student years. On the QUAA calendar we reflect on the accomplishments of our fellow alumni. Your association hands out a variety of awards that celebrate the achievements and dedication of Queen’s alumni in various fields and stages of their lives and careers.

The QUAA offers some awards that focus on young alumni and even students. For example, the “One to Watch Award” salutes recent grads (less than five years out) who are making significant contributions in their field of endeavour or who are setting an example for future alumni. The “Branch Rising Star Award” celebrates an outstanding volunteer in our Branch network. The Queen’s Student Alumni Association’s “Outstanding Student Award” celebrates the volunteer work and dedication of a current student. If you know an alumnus who’s deserving of a thank you and recognition for his or her work, please let us know.

Recent grads may also want to nominate an inspirational instructor for the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, which includes a $5,000 cash prize.

The QUAA firmly believes that mentorship is part of the alumni body’s role, and so we aim to cultivate this form of leadership. Do you know a grad who has “made a significant and ongoing contribution to the education and development of Queen’s students”? If so, I invite you to submit a nomination for the Alumni Mentorship Award.

There are also a series of awards celebrating Branch and Association volunteer efforts. There’s an award for outstanding service and dedication as an ambassador on behalf of Queen’s through a Branch (Branch Marsha Lampman Award) and one for substantial contribution to the QUAA itself (Herbert J. Hamilton Lampman Award). And there’s a prize for the best Branch Event of the Year Award.

As Queen’s graduates, we’re lucky to count among our ranks many notable alumni. To salute and celebrate individuals who’ve demonstrated “the high ideals imparted by a Queen’s education, through significant contribution to our society through their leadership and dedication,” the QUAA established the Alumni Achievement Award as its highest honour.

If you have any names to put forward for a QUAA award, I invite you to do so. The deadline for nominations is June 10. More information is available online at bit.ly/QUAAawards.

On behalf of the QUAA, I wish all new grads all the best in their lives and future careers. Enjoy this season of change. Celebrate the transitions in your life, the fresh opportunities, and be proud of your accomplishments – one of which is your Queen’s degree.

When trying to figure out a career path, a way to stay connected to your tricolour spirit and ways to get by on a tight budget, the QUAA can help you.
Help us to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of alumni and other members of the Queen’s community.

Submit a nomination for a 2014 QUAA Alumni Award.

Nomination deadline is June 10, 2013.

For details and nomination forms, go to queensu.ca/alumni or email Nikki.Remillard@queensu.ca
Wallace – “The principled Principal”

For Queen’s alumni who came of age in the WWII era, the passing of the years has not dimmed their fond memories of Principal Robert C. Wallace.

BY SARA BECK, ARTSCI’92

In many ways, Principal Robert Charles Wallace is the stuff of legend. He was both a geologist and geographer who explored northern Manitoba by dogsled and canoe while discovering, documenting, and helping the government make use of the area’s vast mineral wealth. He counted among his friends prospectors and others who would not, as he put it, “measure up to the conventional standards of morality.”

Wallace was the first scientist to be Principal of Queen’s (there would not be another until biologist Bill Leggett in 1994), but he oversaw the establishment of schools, departments and institutes in many fields: Nursing, Physical Health and Education (now Kinesiology), Graduate Studies, Industrial Relations, Local Government, English for Francophone students, and the Biological Research Station at Lake Opinicon.

Most importantly, during his 15-year tenure (1936-51), “R.C.” – as colleagues referred to him – saw Queen’s through some of its most difficult times: the lean final years of the Great Depression, the short-staffed turmoil of WWII, and the beginning of the Cold War – the latter being a period during which he staunchly defended academic and religious freedoms of students and faculty alike. Noting this, Queen’s historian Fred Gibson, BA’42, MA’44, LL.D’91, wrote that Wallace “should be forever honoured by the friends of Queen’s University and by that larger company of those who believe in freedom under the law.”

Beloved, admired, and fondly known as “Wallace of Queen’s,” he was made for this place, people said; Queen’s had claimed him as an honorary grad as early as 1930.

Even after 65 years, Alfred Bader, Sc’45, Arts’46, MSc’47, LL.D’86, is one of Wallace’s most steadfast admirers. He recently donated a million dollars to endow a scholarship for refugees in Wallace’s name. “When I think of Principal Wallace, I think of the Book of Amos, 5:24,” says Bader: “Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.”

Bader has a very personal reason to be thankful to Wallace. As a young Jewish refugee from Austria via England and an internment camp in Quebec, Bader was refused admission to McGill and U of T because they had quotas for Jewish students, something Queen’s never had. While the Board of Trustees did consider quotas and similar measures, such as personal interviews for all Jewish students and higher grade requirements, under Wallace’s leadership such restrictions were dismissed as “discriminatory and objectionable.”

When the teenaged Alfred arrived on campus in the fall of 1941, Colonel Hubert Stetham, the former director of Internment Operations, wrote a letter to the Whig-Standard demanding that “enemy aliens” be kicked out of Queen’s. Registrar Jean Royce, BA’30, LL.D’68, then spoke personally to Bader, assuring him that Principal Wallace had no intention of even considering Stetham’s demands. Such a stance was absolutely typical of Wallace.

So much about Wallace makes him stand out in the history of the University and the memories of alumni. His academic expansion was accompanied by new construction: buildings for Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, the Students’ Memorial Union, Adelaide Hall residence, and Clark Hall for Tech Supplies and books. Enrollment doubled. He made particular efforts to assist soldiers returning from war (appointing the also-legendary “A.M. Padre” Laverty, LL.D’91), but wanted to ensure that Queen’s didn’t grow so large that it became impersonal.

Wallace was born in 1881 on the Orkney Islands (home of his wife, too), and studied both in Scotland and Germany, earning MA, BSc, DSc, and PhD degrees and a Carnegie Fellowship. He came to Canada in 1910 to lecture in geology and mineralogy at the University of Manitoba, and became department head two years later. He was concurrently government Commissioner for Northern Manitoba, a member of the Dominion Geological Survey and later Manitoba’s Commissioner of Mines, hence his canoe and dog sled adventures.

In 1928, he became President of the University of Alberta where, among other things, he founded the Banff School of Fine Arts.

During his years at Queen’s, Wallace became known as a national leader in education and was instrumental in the shaping of UNESCO. After his retirement, he became the executive director of Arctic Institute of North America, among several scholarly and scientific affiliations. In all, he received 20 honorary doctorates.

Controversially, Wallace, like many academics of the ’30s, was also interested in the study of eugenics. While at Alberta,
he had published a 1934 article in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* entitled “The Quality of the Human Stock,” stating that “the moral foundation to the science … is that life must be protected and saved, no matter how inferior in physical or mental quality that life may be.” Wallace noted with concern that the educated classes generally had smaller families and “we are rapidly breeding out quality.” He had concluded that “If life is sacred, it is all the more important that life from the first be of high quality.”

Despite holding such views, Wallace did not see himself as dwelling in an ivory tower. In a 1955 *Queen’s Quarterly* article entitled “As I Look Back,” Wallace described his belief in people of all walks of life. “We are all given at least one talent, if not more. I have not found anyone in all my wanderings who was not in some regard better than I am, and from whom I could not learn something,” he wrote.

“One becomes the more deeply impressed, as the years go past, with the great reservoir of goodwill and kindliness which exists in human nature. Generosity is a much greater force than selfishness or envy, or jealousy. … The doctrine of the essential wickedness of human nature has no place either in my philosophy or in my experience. The good is much greater than the evil, and in all but relatively few cases, prevails and gives life its character. … No conscious effort toward betterment, whether individual or collective, is ever lost. It is held on the lap of time.”

Principal Wallace retired from Queen’s in 1951, when he was 70, but still worked hard attending conferences and meetings, visiting alumni, speaking and writing, crisscrossing the country by airplane in a way none of his predecessors had. He died January 29, 1955.

His conscious efforts toward the betterment of Queen’s and those around him will not be lost, nor will his memory as Wallace of Queen’s, “the principled Principal.”

*A colleague’s view of Wallace*

“Principal Wallace is a man of deeply spiritual nature; he is an elder in Chalmers United Church, Kingston, and unless something prevents, he is in his pew every Sunday morning. The remainder of the day is reserved for rest and thought. He does not give or accept Sunday invitations. His personal habits are simple and abstemious. He smokes little, uses no alcohol, and is always unpretentious. … There is great kindness in him. Before Church every Sunday morning and sometimes oftener, he visits the students and staff who may be in hospital. … He writes letters of sympathy promptly and feelingly, not as a formality but as a natural human act. He is completely unselfish.”

*From Wallace of Queen’s (1951) by W.E. McNeill, his Vice-Principal*
News from classmates and friends

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Unless otherwise indicated, dates in these notes refer to 2013.

**KEEPING IN TOUCH NOTES**
Queen’s Alumni Review
Queen’s University
99 University Avenue
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6

**TO 1959**

**HONOURS**

In a Dec. 18 ceremony in Red Lake, ON, **DUNCAN WILSON**, Sc’57, received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his mining and municipal endeavours and for his many years of service to the community. Duncan served as Mayor of the Municipality of Red Lake for nine years, until his 2004 retirement. Several Queen’s alumni among his family members joined others in congratulating Duncan on this well-deserved tribute: brother-in-law Don Redfearn, Meds’56, nephew Douglas Redfearn, Law’83, niece Kathryn Redfearn, Artsc’84, and grand-niece Riley Cassidy, MES’13. Duncan can be reached at Box 58, Cochenour, ON P0V 1L0.

**DEATHS**

**W. DOUGLAS BECKETT**, BSc’46, died Nov. 17, 2012, in Tweed, ON, in his 90th year. He is survived by Helen, his wife of 65 years; his daughter Susan, PhD’82; three grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and his brother Donald, Sc’45. After studying civil engineering, Doug returned to his hometown of Thunder Bay, ON, where he was employed first by Great Lakes Paper and later the C.D. Howe Institute. In 1956, the family moved to Helen’s hometown of Barrie, where Doug became City Engineer. In 1960, he left the security of a salaried position to launch his consulting engineering practice. His adventurous spirit next led to a move to Saanich, BC, where he worked in the city’s engineering department between 1969 and 1972. After returning to Barrie, Doug continued his consulting practice. He enjoyed the independence and challenges of consulting and had a flair for structural design. After retirement in 1988, Doug was able to pursue his interests in organic gardening, environmental issues, photography, and travel. Two years ago, he and Helen moved to Belleville to be closer to family. Doug’s integrity, vast general knowledge, storytelling, and wise advice are greatly missed by family and friends.

**ROBERT ARTHUR “ART” BRADFORD**, BA’41, died Jan. 7 in Orillia, ON, aged 98. Predeceased by his wife, Vivian, he is survived by their children and grandchildren. Art was a dancer and a skater, but, most importantly, he was a helper of people and a lifelong political
and social advocate for the less fortunate and for an independent Canada. A WWII veteran, he was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 34 in Orillia. A teacher by profession, he was determined to continue in his retirement to provide people with the information and resources to improve their quality of life. Art spent many years volunteering at Information Orillia and other organizations. He received the Order of Orillia in 2002, his 88th year. His regular letters to the editor will be missed by many.

WALTER DUNHAM BRECKENRIDGE, BSc’48½, died March 23 at home in Weston, ON in his 87th year. He is survived by Mavis (Headlam) his wife of 59 years; siblings Elinor and Allender, Sc’52; children Rena Mary, Janet, Robert, Paul, James; 10 grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Walt was a proud Queen’s man. He was a loyal and dedicated member of the famous Class of Science 48½ and faithfully participated in their numerous class reunions. Following graduation and a brief period in consulting and electrical contracting he joined Kodak Canada in Weston and was employed there as electrical engineer in Design Engineering and Maintenance Services. He retired after 35 years service with the company. Walt was a master problem-solver on everything technical from major industrial machinery to the home washing machine or the family car. He had a warm personality, an engaging smile, and a great sense of humour. He was always generous with his time and many talents in helping others in need. He was an avid curler at the Weston Golf and Country Club as well as in the Kodak curling league. After retirement he enjoyed many summers at his family cottage at Port Severn, where he entertained children, grandchildren, and friends. Walt’s funeral was held at St. John’s Anglican Church in Weston, the church that he diligently maintained and cared for over many years. The funeral ended with “The Battle Hymn of The Republic,” the same tune as “Queen’s College Colours,” better known as the Oil Thigh.

ROBERT ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, BSc’49, MSc’51, died Dec. 4, 2012, in Ottawa, aged 91. Bob is survived by Vivian (Goff), his beloved wife of 57 years; his sons Greg (Kate) and Neil (Heather); three grandchildren; his sisters Margaret and Elizabeth; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sisters Florence and Jean. Bob was an RCAF veteran of WWII. After studying engineering chemistry he worked as a metallurgical engineer for Energy, Mines and Resources Canada. His retirement passion for the past three decades was the genealogy of the Campbell and Goff families.

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Al Gorman

Professor Emeritus (Geological Sciences) Al Gorman passed away in Newmarket, ON, on Dec. 8, 2012, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 87. About 150 students, friends, colleagues, and family members attended a Jan. 18 memorial service on campus. Many others attended virtually via a live Internet link to Calgary, where so many of his former students have found their careers. Speakers came from as far away as Vancouver to talk about Al’s life, his personality, but most importantly, how he changed their lives. Al Gorman changed a lot of lives.

A native of Lachine, Quebec, he graduated from high school in 1942 and then served in the RCAF during WWII. Given his aptitude for math and science, he was diverted to navigator training and ended up serving as a navigator for anti-submarine surveillance flights in the Maritimes. He was eventually posted to England, arriving there just as the war was ending. He was partially funded through university by the Department of Veteran Affairs, choosing to do his degrees at McGill. His interests were wide-ranging and included substantial field work in the Eastern Townships of Quebec, where he accumulated many of the experiences that became stories for use in teaching. Al graduated with a PhD in geology in 1955 and came to Queen’s that same year. He stayed for more than half a century.

Al and his wife Luella settled into life in Kingston, raising three children: Ian, Barb and Judy. And while his love of the Montreal Canadiens continues in his children, his love of rocks had to skip a generation to his grandchildren, Jocelyn and Ethan.

Al taught from 1955 until 2012 – a highly motivated, personable instructor in Geology and Geological Engineering. He did research in Quaternary geology, but his true love was teaching, and especially challenging students to think for themselves about complex geological problems. A natural storyteller and practical joker, he kept us awake regardless of material or just how early in the morning it was! His eccentricities in teaching were clever ways to get us to listen. For example, he would never say the term “esker” without quoting the full definition, rapid-fire, regardless of circumstance and to the amusement of anyone within earshot.

For many years, he was Chairman of Undergraduate Studies as well. He was also active in extracurricular activities, playing hockey with staff, professors, and students until the age of 80. His time teaching at Queen’s was so long that we had multiple instances of parents recommending that their children seek out his courses, and perhaps even a few grandparents doing the same.

During this time, we estimate, he taught more than 10,000 students. The even more impressive thing is that he remembered details of the lives of many of these students, and stayed in touch with many of them through the years! Perhaps he knew the students so well because for many years he ran a pop fridge out of his office, never making a penny of profit, but talking to students who came by about their lives, studies, and concerns.

During all those years he was a mentor and friend to students, many of whom went into Geology because of Al, or got through a rough patch in their studies because of his kind and understanding nature. And so, in Geology. Homecoming was, until 2012, the time of year when people came to see Al and the Department.

One highlight for him was acting as scientific advisor on tours of both the Arctic – he was very proud of a picture of himself at the North Pole – and Antarctica, two trips that he minded for photos and stories for teaching, of course!

Whatever engaged students to think and learn was what Al Gorman focused on, and with 57 years of refinement he got very good at it. He received the Golden apple (top engineering society award) twice, the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, and had two awards focused on teaching excellence named after him in Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering. A trust fund – the Dr. W.A. Gorman Legacy Teaching Fund – focused on teaching innovation has been created in his memory.

I think that while he was very proud of this recognition, he was most proud of the simple fact that, to all of his many students, he was “Uncle Al,” a mentor, a teacher, a friend. Miller Hall just isn’t the same without him.

– ROB HARRAP, SC’86

Rob Harrap is an Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering.
A Queen’s man through and through

Norman MacLeod Rogers, QC, BA’43, LLD’87, was a member of the Board of Trustees for two decades and its chair for five significant years in Queen’s history. He died in Toronto on Oct. 8, 2012.

I had the good fortune to come to know very well Norman Rogers, who, throughout my two terms as Principal (1974-84), was a member of the Board of Trustees and its Chairman (1980-85) for most of my second term. As Board Chairman and Principal we worked very closely. That experience made us lasting personal friends. His smile and basic kindness endeared him to all who worked with him. His balanced judgment always had an impact on his fellow Board members, and as Principal I found his advice indispensable. Our resulting close friendship continued long after we left those offices; right up to Norman’s death we sat together whenever he attended a Queen’s function – and he and his wife Joan never missed important events. A staunch believer in Queen’s traditions, he always attended repletie in his family kilt. Following the conclusion of Norman’s five years as Board Chairman, the effectiveness of his leadership was recognized by the award of a well-deserved honorary Queen’s LLD in 1987.

Norman was extremely proud of his uncle Norman Rogers, who had held the Chair of Politics at Queen’s from 1929 to 1935 and had been elected Rector by the students in 1937. Norman the elder was elected MP for Kingston in 1935 and was Minister of National Defence at the time of his death in an air crash. Norman the younger established the Rector Norman McLeod Rogers Prize in his uncle’s memory, to be awarded to a graduating student or a graduate planning to enter politics or the public service.

Norman was not only a dedicated Queen’sman, but also a leader in his legal profession, community, and church. After graduation from Queen’s and service as an artillery man in the Canadian army during WWII, he earned a law degree at Osgoode Hall. He then practised law, specializing in labour law, becoming Queen’s Counsel at an early age and a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. In addition to his distinguished legal career, he had a wide range of interests. I remember his enthusiasm as one of the co-founders of the Churchill Society for Parliamentary Advancement. Indeed, he persuaded me to join that society.

Norman also served as an officer of the UN Association, the Canadian Scholarship Trust, and the Canadian Bar Association, and he chaired the Board of Deacons and the Board of Trustees of Yorkminster Baptist Church in Toronto. In addition, he was a keen tennis player and avid fisherman.

While serving in the military in Vancouver during WWII, Norman met Joan. They remained happily married for 65 years, until her death in 2011. Vivacious and outgoing, Joan came with Norman to all his Queen’s functions. My wife Donna and I recall many happy occasions when we enjoyed their visits and talked about the west coast, sailing, and their many activities since we’d last met. Two of their three children – Brian, Arts’71, and Carol, Arts’73 – attended Queen’s, and Norman was proud of his family’s accomplishments. He and Joan traveled widely, and he supported her extensive volunteer activity. However, their greatest love in their later years was Dunvegan Farm in Grey County, where they spent every possible moment and enjoyed hosting family and friends.

Norman Rogers was in every way a truly a Queen’sman through and through, and Donna and I shall miss the warm friendship that we experienced with Norman and Joan.

– RONALD WATTS, PRINCIPAL EMERITUS
and he refined both skills during his time at Queen's. He loved telling stories of his games with the Golden Gaels and proudly retained his 3 ½-foot-long team photo for 50+ years. In 2010, Bill was inducted into the Golden Gaels Football Hall of Fame, along with his teammates from the 1956 Yates Cup Championship squad. In 1958, Bill was drafted in the 4th round by the Edmonton Eskimos, but elected to pursue engineering as a career. His mechanical engineering degree provided the foundation for his life as a world traveler, working for Horton Steel and Chicago Bridge & Iron (CBI) in Canada, England, the United States, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and many more countries. He moved back to Canada in 1992, into a home in Ridgeway, ON – the same area where he'd first met Alice and started his career with CBI. After retiring from CBI, he spent a number of years volunteering at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, applying his skills as an engineer and his infinite patience to help restore several historic aircraft, including a 1942 Westland Lysander, now proudly flying again. Bill enjoyed golfing and vacationing. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with family and friends and he is sorely missed by all of them.

SAM PATARAN, BSc'45, died Oct. 22, 2012, in Brampton, ON, aged 89. He is survived by Jean (Urquhart), Arts'47, his wife of 67 years; children Mark (Bonnie), Lynn (Rene), Janet, and James (Noelene); grandchildren Geoffrey, and Jaime. Though involved in the Alaska Highway construction during his university studies, Sam chose mining over civil engineering and went on to enjoy a long career in the mining industry in Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba mining industries as an engineer and later in management.

DOREEN BLANCHE

"RENIE" RYAN, MD'55, died Nov. 27, 2012, in New Westminster, BC. While still in her teens, "Renie" was accepted into Queen's Medical School, in an era when female medical students were a rarity. After graduation, she did her residency at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. She then moved to Smithers in northern BC, where she gathered a lifetime of fond memories and friends. In addition to running a clinic in Smithers, she also performed major surgery at the Bulkley Valley District Hospital. In the late 1960s, Renie moved to Victoria and, after a very brief retirement, accepted a medical position across the country in the small town of Apsley, ON. She worked there for about 10 years before returning to Vancouver to work in a medical administration position with Canada Pension at Shaughnessy Veterans' hospital, later becoming Medical Director for pension assessments. In addition to all her career achievements, Doreen is remembered for her compassion for others and her genuinely caring nature. She loved to drive quality automobiles and was an avid collector of art and antiques.

RICHARD ARTHUR SALT, BA'55, BPhE’57, died Nov. 29, 2012, in Delta, BC. He is survived by Margaret, his wife of 56 years, children Susan Bright, Artssci/PHE’86, Ed'87 (Todd, Arts/PHE’86, Ed'87) and Douglass (Lorena Cordoba), and five grandchildren. Dick had a successful 32-year career as Physical and Health Education Head and Athletic Director at Perth and District College Institute. There, he had a profound impact on the lives of three generations of students. A man of impeccable character, his values were shaped by the leadership program at the YMCA in his Hamilton hometown, where he adopted the ideals of a healthy, outdoor lifestyle. Quick to laugh and to play a joke, Dick always saw the best in people and was eager to lend a hand. He served on numerous committees and boards, both local and provincial, and spent countless hours volunteering his time for kids in athletic endeavors. Devoted to family, "Bubba" is dearly missed but “always remembered,” his family says, “in the sight of brightly colored leaves fluttering in the wind as we hike through old-growth forests, in the squeak of fresh snow underfoot on a cold winter morning before ‘first tracks,’ in the smell of damp earth as the snow melts and the water rushes down hillsides, and in the taste of a fresh peach ice-cream cone on a hot summer afternoon.”

FRANCES KATHLEEN (BAILEY) SMITH, BA'56, long-time Curator of the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, died Dec. 22, 2012, in Calgary, aged 99. She was predeceased by her husband, Queen's chemistry professor Walter MacFarlane Smith, but is survived by her two daughters, Janet Halliwell, Arts'67, DSc'93 (Robin), and Sheila Watson, Arts'73 (George, Sc'70, MBA'72), three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Frances lived her life with inexhaustible enthusiasm, total dedication, high expectations, and prodigious energy. In addition to writing the biography of André Bûler (Queen's first artist-in-Residence), Frances was an art history scholar, poet, contributor to journals and art catalogues, mentor to artists and docents, volunteer, philanthropist and the ultimate hostess, whether at home or the Agnes. Born in England, she left home at the age of 14 to help support her family. In 1937, she moved to Cambridge, where she met Walter. They married in 1940 and lived in London and then Bournemouth, both working in the service of Britain's war effort. During this time, Frances was accepted into the London School of Economics and began her studies extramurally. In 1944, the couple moved to Canada and settled in Kingston in 1946. In 1957, Frances began her career as Curator at the newly established Agnes Etherington Art Centre. She spent the next 23 years helping build up Queen's permanent art collection, researching and cataloguing all the artwork around campus, planning exhibitions, pursuing funds, and publishing numerous articles. As a friend and co-worker once said, "She was a powerhouse. She was the core of the art centre and the energy of it. She put in 18-hour days, six-and-a-half days a week – she took Sunday evenings off." In 1970, she took an eight-month sabbatical to pursue her work on the biography André Bûler: An Artist’s Life and Times (1980). When she retired that same year, Frances was named Curator Emeritus and was further honoured with a Distinguished Service Award (DSA) and life membership on Queen’s University Council. In her so-called retirement, she continued to write, fundraise, and organize exhibitions. She also took up bird carving which, in typical Frances style, was done to perfection. Donations in her memory may be made to the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, K7L 3N6.

WILLIAM J. WILSON, BSc'45, died in Ottawa on Jan. 27, 2010. His wife, MARY J. (IRVINE) WILSON, BA'46, BLS'47 (McGill), died in Mississauga on Nov. 25, 2012. Bill was hired by the federal Department of Transport in 1947 and transferred to its Radio Regulations Division in 1952. His responsibilities initially covered the engineering aspects of radio in Canada, but they increasingly involved preparing and negotiating the regulations and international agreements that became the basis of today’s electronic communication. Bill represented Canada at 13 conferences of the International Telecommunication Union from 1959 to 1975 and was Chairman of the Administrative Council session in 1968. He also represented Canada at numerous bilateral discussions, largely with the U.S. In 1968, Bill was appointed Director General, Telecommunications Regulation, in the new Department of Communications, responsible for radio spectrum management and the technical certification of all broadcasting stations in Canada. He initiated the Radio Spectrum Policy Branch in 1973 to ensure consideration of economic and social factors in addition to technical issues. When he retired in 1978, Bill enjoyed an active role in the Canadian Amateur Radio Association, serving as President from 1978 to 1981 and authored its Code of Ethics. He was honoured for his work in radio with the Queen's Coronation Anniversary Medal (1977), the Diplôme d'honneur from the International Consultative Committee on Radio (1978), and membership in the...
Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame (1998). Mary worked as a children’s librarian in Montreal and Ottawa and then turned her full attention to her family. She had a lifelong interest in reading and education and was a keen participant, with Bill, in a number of Elderhostel programs. They both were active members of Ottawa’s Rideau Park United Church, Mary providing leadership in the United Church Women and Bill chairing the Property Committee of Ottawa Presbytery. As knowledgeable family historians, they collected an impressive set of records for future generations. Their cottage retreat at Mississippi Lake is another family legacy. Bill and Mary were a devoted and loving couple for more than 60 years and were wonderful parents to Elizabeth McQuaig, Arts’71 (Douglas), and Irvine, Com’77 (Nancy). Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren remember them with love, gratitude, and admiration.

1960s

HONOURS

MICHAEL DAVIES, Arts’60, LL.D’98, was one of 25 honorees inducted into the Order of Ontario on Feb. 6. Michael, owner and publisher of The Kingston Whig-Standard 1969-90, is founder and president of the Davies Charitable Foundation, which has awarded $8.2 million to more than 400 individuals and educational, cultural and healthcare institutions, including his alma mater. His philanthropy is also expressed through the Community Foundation of Greater Kingston, which he also founded.

ROBERT SEXY, MBA’67, sent along this update about classmate Sister MARGARET MARQUAIL, CND, first woman graduate of Queen’s MBA program. Cape Breton University recently recognized Margaret’s contributions to the school’s business program by naming a garden beside the Shannon School of Business in her honour. Her nephew, federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, presented the ceremony, described her as a “true pioneer, ahead of her time in the education of women in business in Cape Breton.” Sister Margaret founded St. Francis Xavier College’s School of Business (Sydney Campus), established the School of Business Administration at the University College of Cape Breton and its Canadian Institute of Management (CIM) certificate program, and in 1982 she was also instrumental in establishing the College of Cape Breton as a university.

JOB NEWS

DEREK BURNEY, Arts’62, MA’64, LL.D’98, a former Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. (1989-93) among major diplomatic appointments, has been appointed Chancellor of Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, ON.

DEATHS

J. NICHOLAS BROWN, BSc’64, died suddenly Dec. 26, 2012 in Elora, ON while walking his dog with his son. While studying electrical engineering at Queen’s, Nick spent his summers with the Royal Canadian Air Force, and met one of his first loves, a Triumph motorbike, which he drove across most of Canada. He married another first love and fellow English Quebecker, Susan Ruth Anderson, Arts’64, in Quebec City in 1966. Nick went on to do his Master of Applied Science in Management Science at the University of Waterloo. He started working as a management consultant but quickly concluded he liked working for himself much more, so he started his own consulting firm. In 1993, he became a partner at CCSI, a Connecticut-based company dedicated to software for the footwear industry. In recent years, Nick and Susan had moved back to Canada to enjoy the community in Elora. It was here that Nick, a true engineer, was never more at home continuing to pursue his love of designing and improving things, from ponds and waterfalls to patios, sheds, and anything else that needed building or fixing. Nick is survived by his wife Susan and their two children Janet and Alexander.
Tricolour in Tanzania

In February, a group of 37 Queen’s alumni, their families and friends enjoyed a 10-day safari arranged by the Queen’s Alumni Travel program. Principal Emeritus Tom Williams, LL.D’98, and his wife, Maureen Ball, were thrilled to be invited to host this group of intrepid explorers.

CORRECTION:

We ran incorrect information about EARLE COVERT, Med’s63, in issue #4-2012. He has, as of December, retired from medical practice in Raymond, AB, where he has lived since 1998. Earle worked at medical clinics in Coaldale and Lethbridge, as well as the Lethbridge Regional Hospital. Prior to moving to Alberta, he had worked in general practice in Hay River, NWT, for 32 years. Earle and his wife, Audrey, remain in Raymond, where they are busy with their grandchildren and hobbies.

1970s

COMMITMENTS

RICHARD J. BATHURST, Sc’76, MSc’78, PhD’86. See 2000-09 Commitments.

HONOURS

RICHARD J. BATHURST, Sc’76, MSc’78, PhD’86, was elected President of the Canadian Geotechnical Society for 2013-14 and was chosen to deliver the prestigious Giroud Lecture at the opening plenary session of the 10th International Conference on Geosynthetics in Berlin in 2014. He has also been awarded the 2013 Hogenkogler Award of the American Society for Testing and Materials for his development of a transparent granular soil analogue for use in geotechnical laboratory testing. Richard is a cross-appointed professor of civil engineering at both RMC and Queen’s (where he still supervises grad students), and editor of the journal Geosynthetics International.

ROGER SMITH, Sc’71, President of Big Muddy Exploration Ltd. in Calgary, received the Canadian Society for Petroleum Geologists’ 2012 Stanley Slipper Gold Medal. The award recognizes the initiation or leading of oil and gas exploration programs, training and mentoring of innovative exploration concepts, and involvement and demonstrated leadership within geological societies and professional organizations.

KIM STURGESS, Sc’77, of Calgary was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her leadership and innovation in water conservation and management. Kim, a longtime Queen’s Trustee, is the founder and CEO of Alberta WaterSMART, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving water resource management through better practices and innovative technologies.

JOE NEWS

DAVID ANTHONY, Sc’79, is President and COO of Colossus Minerals, a Canadian-based exploration and development company with projects in Brazil. David is a mining engineer with more than 30 years of experience, including nine years in Tanzania developing three world-class gold and copper operations.

ROBERT READY, Artsci’78, MPA’81, as noted in issue #1-2013, was recently appointed High Commissioner of Canada to Jamaica and to the Bahamas, resident in Kingston, Jamaica. Rob has now taken up his duties in Jamaica, does not miss winter, and is currently waiting for his wife Joanne to join him this summer. Their three children – Geoffrey, Chloe and Aidan – who are now busy with their own lives, will no doubt find time to visit. All Queen’s friends are invited to contact Rob at roberentready@live.ca to say hello and to catch up.

PETER ROSE, Com’75, is now CFO for Arctic Construction Canada Ltd. Peter lives in Okotoks, AB. His company does most of its work “north of 60” in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

LUBOMYR LUCIUK, Artsci’76, MA’79, has been appointed a part-time member of the National Parole Board of Canada. A professor in the Department of Politics and Economics at RMC, he is currently co-editing a book on modern European famines.

JULIE SALVERSON, Artsci’77, is librettist for what she calls “the cartoon atomic chamber opera” Shelter, which will be performed in Toronto this June in the Canadian Opera Company studio space. Learn more at tapes syrup.com. Julie’s essay about Canada and the atomic bomb, the origin of this production, was first published in Maisonneuve magazine. Read it here: bit.ly/16cNkrK. Julie, who continued her studies in Toronto (MA, PhD) is an associate professor in Queen’s Drama Department.

MOHAMED KESHAVIJE, Law’76, is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. After graduating from Queen’s, he joined the Secretariat of His Highness the Aga Khan at Aiglemont, France, as an Information Officer. In that capacity, he traveled to Muslim countries around the world, including Yemen,

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After 35 years in Yellowknife, NWT, Harvard professor Salmaan Keshavjee, including CNN’s Ali Velshi, Artsci’94, and of Ismaili Studies in London. Mohamed was tures on ADR and Islamic Law at the Institute Studies, London University. Currently, he lec - he attained his JD in Alternative Dispute Reso - national Protection of Human Rights and Arab Comparative Commercial Law. In 2009, LLM at London University in Alternative and Egypt. In 2000, Mohamed completed an 273 course on “conspiracy and Dissent in american History.” I’d find myself in the stacks in The Atlantic in journalism: a summer internship that turned into a 30-year career at the magazine. "It’s the detours that we take during that rich four-year experience that make such an impression and help us find our way," she reflects. “Running the Arts Festival in my third year had a huge effect on me in terms of understanding that you can make a difference. Then the Watergate scandal broke right when I was taking Geoff Smith’s History 273 course on "Conspiracy and Dissent in American History." I’d find myself in the stacks in the library supposedly researching English or history essays, but avidly reading Harper’s and The Atlantic.” Peter C. Newman, a long-time editor of Maclean’s, gave the young graduate her first break in journalism: a summer internship that turned into a 30-year career at the magazine. During her time there, Ann won five National Magazine Awards and numerous other hon - ours. Best known as the architect of the annual Maclean’s university rankings, she pioneered a system of evaluating higher education in Canada in 1992 and shaped all educational cover - age at the magazine for 14 years. It was during this time that she became intrigued by what she perceived to be an increase in drinking among young people, especially women. Keen to delve further into the issue, she successfully applied for the 2010 Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy. During her year of research and writing, she traveled the world to find out about drinking patterns and alcohol policy across Canada and in other countries. The result was Ann’s 14-part series for the Toronto Star investigating the growing problem of alcohol abuse among women and the harms associated with alcoholism. “While democratically Canadian men and women are equal, we’re not equal metabolically or hormonally, and because of this women are more at risk of the health consequences of drinking," she explains, pointing out that while alcohol sales in this country totaled $19.9 billion in 2010, direct alcohol-related costs for health care and enforcement exceeded the direct revenue in most Canadian jurisdictions. Interestingly, an issue Ann raised in her Atkinson report was the recent increase in the feminization of alcohol advertising – from “skinny girl” cocktails to a Girls’ Night Out wine brand and wine in purse-sized packets. “We’re upfront about the health problems with trans-fats and tanning beds, but we don’t know the details and the consequences of our most popular drug," she says. “For me, this lack of comfort in talking about alcohol in our society made it a prime case for advocacy journalism.” Following suit, her next investigative project is a book on girls, women, alcohol, and health. The Drinking Diaries is slated for publication later this year. You can read Ann’s full report on women and alcohol at bit.ly/WGDNXI. – CHRISTINA ARCHIBALD

The rewards of student life’s little detours
For Ann Dowsett Johnston, Artsci’75, studying at Queen’s was a transformative experience. Co-chairing a campus-wide arts festival and studying a history course in 1975, the year that the Watergate scandal led to the downfall of U.S. President Richard M. Nixon, are two of the events the celebrated journalist identifies as helping to shape her future award-winning career. “It’s the detours that we take during that rich four-year experience that make such an impression and help us find our way,” she reflects. “Running the Arts Festival in my third year had a huge effect on me in terms of understanding that you can make a difference. Then the Watergate scandal broke right when I was taking Geoff Smith’s History 273 course on “Conspiracy and Dissent in American History.” I’d find myself in the stacks in the library supposedly researching English or history essays, but avidly reading Harper’s and The Atlantic.” Peter C. Newman, a long-time editor of Maclean’s, gave the young graduate her first break in journalism: a summer internship that turned into a 30-year career at the magazine. During her time there, Ann won five National Magazine Awards and numerous other hon - ours. Best known as the architect of the annual Maclean’s university rankings, she pioneered a system of evaluating higher education in Canada in 1992 and shaped all educational cover - age at the magazine for 14 years. It was during this time that she became intrigued by what she perceived to be an increase in drinking among young people, especially women. Keen to delve further into the issue, she successfully applied for the 2010 Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy. During her year of research and writing, she traveled the world to find out about drinking patterns and alcohol policy across Canada and in other countries. The result was Ann’s 14-part series for the Toronto Star investigating the growing problem of alcohol abuse among women and the harms associated with alcoholism. “While democratically Canadian men and women are equal, we’re not equal metabolically or hormonally, and because of this women are more at risk of the health consequences of drinking,” she explains, pointing out that while alcohol sales in this country totaled $19.9 billion in 2010, direct alcohol-related costs for health care and enforcement exceeded the direct revenue in most Canadian jurisdictions. Interestingly, an issue Ann raised in her Atkinson report was the recent increase in the feminization of alcohol advertising – from “skinny girl” cocktails to a Girls’ Night Out wine brand and wine in purse-sized packets. “We’re upfront about the health problems with trans-fats and tanning beds, but we don’t know the details and the consequences of our most popular drug,” she says. “For me, this lack of comfort in talking about alcohol in our society made it a prime case for advocacy journalism.” Following suit, her next investigative project is a book on girls, women, alcohol, and health. The Drinking Diaries is slated for publication later this year. You can read Ann’s full report on women and alcohol at bit.ly/WGDNXI. – CHRISTINA ARCHIBALD

DEATHS
OWEN DEREK FUN- NELL, BCom’70, died Jan. 26 in Oakville, ON. He is survived by his wife Darlene (Orser). Derek was highly regarded in the business world, from his early days in the sporting goods industry through to his recent retirement as Vice-President Fabricated Products with MTL. Known for his sense of humour and optimism, Derek was respected for his integrity, acumen, and incredible people skills. He was a committed volunteer with Foodshare Food Bank Oakville and the Arthritis Society. He was constantly looking for ways to be of service to others. He was the “Mayor” of his street and he loved his neigh - bourhood. He was the Commissioner of the Monday Night Hockey League, which he held sacred for more than 35 years.
EDMOND WAYNE HOBBS, BA’75, of Vancouver, BC, died Feb. 20 after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. Ted is survived by his
wife, Karen, children Clayton and Julie, mother, Edna, brother, Robert, Sc’70, and sister, Mary Lou. Ted was best known for his dry sense of humour and his ability to make anyone feel important enough to listen to. He was an “everyday hero” for everyone in his family and especially to his clients, who knew Ted in his capacity as a disability rights advocate for the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities. He retired and enjoyed himself with reading, music, visiting his co-op neighbours, and dabbling in artwork, and of course lots of good food, wine and conversation with friends. A memorial service will be held on May 25. Queen’s friends can contact Karen for details: rudyspeople@yahoo.ca.

CATHERINE ELIZABETH (VINCENT) LINDEROS, BEd’78, died Dec. 23, 2012 in London, ON, in her 59th year. She was pre-deceased by her father, Jack Vincent, MD’49. She is survived by her mother, Nora, and her siblings Gordon, John, Jane, and Heather. A proud Queen’s alumna, Catherine was the third generation of the family to attend Queen’s, after her father and her grandfather, Gordon Vincent, BSc1918. Catherine was known for her love of music and teaching. She is greatly missed by her entire family, including her treasured nephews and nieces. She fought a brave battle with MS, maintaining her sharp intellect and love of family throughout.

ALAN TRAVERS, BA’70, MEd’77, died Feb. 21 at home in Kingston. He is survived by his brother, Hugh, several cousins, close friends and colleagues. Alan lived a full life, with dedication, integrity, humour, compassion and thoughtfulness toward others. Through his work and personal life, he touched the lives of many people, and his family and generations of Education students agree, “We are all the better for having known him.” Over the past 42 years, Alan was proud to have worked in Queen’s Faculty of Education – 33 of those years as Coordinator of Education Career Services, which he founded in 1979. Alan always said that working with the BEd candidates brought joy and richness to his life. In the mid-’80s, overseas schools began seeking out Canadian teachers, and many of them wanted the expertise of Queen’s graduates. As a result, Alan built relationships with schools around the world, visiting more than 70 institutions in 35 countries. He established the annual Teachers Overseas Recruiting Fair, a major resource for connecting students with international positions that celebrated its 25th year in January. Along with fellow grad Daniel Lalonde, Ed’93, Alan co-wrote the teaching resource guide What’s Next? A Job Search Guide for Teachers, now in its 19th annual edition. He also wrote articles for several education publications. Over the years, Alan’s prestigious awards included a Special Recognition Award in 1998 from Queen’s for staff members who consistently make outstanding contributions during their workday, directly or indirectly, to the learning and working environment at a level significantly beyond what is usually expected. He received the International Humanism Award from the International Schools Association in 2004, and the Association for the Advancement of International Education Hall of Fame Award in San Francisco, CA, just days before his death. Having just retired in August of 2012, Alan looked forward to “blending downtime with work” as a career consultant in Canada and abroad, and his plans for that were well under-way. Alan’s family would appreciate memorial donations to the Education Community Initiatives Fund to support international initiatives by Education students. A cheque payable to “Queen’s Office of Advancement, 99 University Ave., Kingston, ON K7L 3N6. Alternatively, secure online gifts can be made by visiting www.givetoqueens.ca and designating your gift to “The Education Community Initiatives Fund” in memory of Alan Travers.
Award in recognition of his outstanding service to the technology transfer community.

**J O B  N E W S**

**ISHKANDAR AHMED**, Artsci’81, is the new CEO of BC’s Choices Markets grocery chain.

**J U L I A  D E A N S**, Artsci’85, is the CEO of the Canadian Youth Business Foundation. Julia began her career as a lawyer, practising in both Toronto and Hong Kong, before moving into the field of entrepreneurship. She lives in Toronto with her family.

**GRAEME HARRIS**, Artsci’83, has joined Manulife Financial as Vice-President, CEO Communications and Media Relations.

**D A N A  M c C A U L E Y**, Artsci’88, is now Vice-President, Marketing at Plats du Chef, a frozen foods company with offices in Toronto and Montreal. A recognized leader in the food industry, Dana appeared on Food Network Canada’s Recipe to Riches for two seasons as panel judge and was instrumental for brand development and innovation at Janes Family Foods.

**ROBERT READY**, Artsci’78, MPA’81.

See 1970s Job News.

**J U D I T H  S T .  G E O R G E**, Artsci’80, is now High Commissioner in Malaysia. Judith has worked for the Department of External Affairs since 1986. Since 2010, she has been director general of the Trade Commissioner Service Operations and Trade Strategy Bureau.

**S A N D R A  S P R I N G E R**, Com’82, has opened Fare Blend restaurant, following an eight-month renovation of a 1900 home in downtown Ottawa. Since graduating, Sandra has been fortunate to have lived in Africa, Europe and North America. Fare Blend is the culmination of a lifelong passion for African food, music and culture. The venue’s international cuisine is steeped in West African cooking traditions and the musical offerings feature the very best Caribbean and African artists from around the globe. [www.fareblend.com](http://www.fareblend.com)

**F A M I L Y  N E W S**

**P E T E R  J .  D R A V E R S**, MBA’87, celebrated his 20th year as an Investment Advisor and Vice President with CIBC Wood Gundy (York Mills office). Peter’s wife, Christine Caney is the 2012/13 president of the Granite Club in Toronto. They are the proud parents of Anna (3) and Claire (16 months). Peter enjoys attending QBC events in Toronto to exchange ideas with alumni. He can be reached at Dravers@CIBC.ca.

**J A N I C E  F I L L** shared this photo with us. “The Fill family of five all wearing our Queen’s jackets: Ashley, Sc’16, is in first year engineering at Queen’s. Kirsten, Sc’11, is currently in first year Med school at UMHS in St. Kitt’s. Megan, Sc’09, is working for P&G in Toronto and Janice (Berlie) and Mike Fill, both Artsci’80 (Chemistry), MBA, U of T, are semi-retired in Mississauga/Collingwood.”

**N O T E S**

**H A R V E Y  B R O W N S T O N E**, Law’80, host of the popular and critically acclaimed television show Family Matters, is pleased to announce that the show has been renewed for a second season. The season premiere airs in May on the CHCH and CHEK TV networks in Canada and on as-yet undetermined networks in the U.S. This is the first and only television show hosted by a real sitting judge. This season will feature 16 episodes covering such diverse topics as Introduction to Family Court, Bullying, Gambling Addiction, Internet Dating, Infidelity, Raising Teenagers, High Conflict Divorce; and Wills and Estates. Expert guests on the show will include some of Justice Brownstone’s fellow judges. All episodes can be seen online at [www.familymatters.tv](http://www.familymatters.tv). A promotional video for the show can be seen at: [http://youtu.be/fmgeqA-EAw](http://youtu.be/fmgeqA-EAw).
Neil Dukas, Arts’83, sent us this video evidence of his brief acting career, as Incredible Scientist #1, in a marketing commercial. Neil writes, “I heard that Glass & Marker were shooting a Virol commercial in the San Francisco Bay Area (where I sometimes reside). My wife (Edi Alvarez, Arts’83) still had her Life Sciences lab coat hanging in the closet. It was the only prop I needed to snag the role. alas, they cut my scene. I’ve been trying to get the producer to develop a sitcom based on the Incredible Scientists. No response, so far.” Neil is seen here wearing his Queen’s tie and Edi’s coat.

N E I L  D U K A S

Western University law grads JENNIFER WOOTTON REGAN, Com’89, and SARA LUTHER, Com’98, and fellow lawyer Sarah Atkinson have recently formalized an alliance called Workplace Resolutions, bringing added value and creativity to their clients in the field of workplace investigations, assessments, policy development and education. www.workplaceresolutions.ca. See here (l-r) are Sara, Sarah, and Jennifer.

D E A T H S

CHRISTOPHER ALLAN CHENOWETH, BA’80, LLB’87, died Oct. 10, 2012, in Toronto, aged 57. Full of fun, bluster and bonhomie, he was a grand personality who inhabited a wonderful world of his own invention and then invited everyone into it. Friends, baseball, hockey, sports memorabilia, the fair sex, kids, the law, politics, journalism, and the Grateful Dead all figured among the favourite things of this good, generous “iron” man who was wise enough to never really grow up, and sadly, to never grow old. he had opinions on everything, and he was happy to share them. A former business journalist at the Toronto Star, he became a first-rate employment and labour lawyer with many grateful clients at Kuretzy Vassos. Predeceased by his brothers Richard and David, he is deeply missed by his nieces and nephews, and many friends and colleagues.

KEN G. LASIUK, MPA’83, of Sag Harbor, NY, died Jan. 26 aged 63. He is survived by his wife, daughter, and mother. Ken worked for the government of Saskatchewan from 1971 to 1983. While visiting a friend interning at the United Nations in New York, Ken managed to secure an interview for himself, and in 1984 joined the UN. He worked for the next 25 years in the New York-based Secretariat. After several administrative positions, he became Executive Officer for the Office of Legal Affairs in 1992, reporting directly to the Legal Counsel to the Secretary General. The highlights of his tenure in the Legal Office were his direct involvements in the establishment of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

ALLEN ROLLIE, PhD’89, died Dec. 1 at home in Victoria BC at the age of 66. He is survived by his wife, Margaret “Meg” Bell; children Matthew and Adrienne; his sisters, Arlene and Karen; and a large group of extended family and friends. Allen was a former counselor in Queen’s Health Counseling and Disability Services. Allen and Meg retired to BC, where they split their time between Victoria and Pender Island. He had a passion for art and music, and found the West Coast to be the perfect place to pursue those loves. Allen was a wonderful cook who loved to entertain his many close friends. He touched the lives of so many people from many different walks of life and will be sorely missed.

1990s

MARCUS ARNDT, Arts’98, and Carmen were blessed with the birth of their son David Joachim on April 10, 2012. Marcus writes, “Since then, he has brought us so many laughs and smiles and made us happy and proud parents.” The family lives in Nottwil, Switzerland.

T A K I N G  C A R E  O F  B I S N E S S

The singing realtor – in touch and in tune

Real estate might be the commodity he trades, but it’s a little bit of show biz that inks the deal for this tuneful Kingston realtor.

Benji Perosin, Arts’97, who majored in music and psychology, combines his love of real estate with his musical talents to pen and perform songs that highlight the features of each Kingston real estate property he sells. Instead of offering the same old industry standard online video tour, Benji and his partner Chris Morris prefer to create a video tour of each listing with its very own soundtrack.

The result is folksy-bluesy tunes performed on the piano, trumpet, guitar, and harmonica, with lyrics that run from factual to sweet to comical. Here’s a taste of what they wrote for one recent listing: “You can walk everywhere you need/It won’t be long now till you get the deed./This house at 480 Bagot/It’ll be gone if you don’t soon snag it.” Or this lyric from another area listing: “1478 Adams Avenue/It’s only four years old/It might as well be brand new/Midland Park is a lovely neighbourhood/If you buy this house your life will be good.”

The idea for their tuneful tours came when they were venting about a lost deal. Inspiration comes from the homes’ features and the neighbourhoods in which they’re located. Benji and Chris bounce musical ideas off each other and then begin jamming, and from that a tune is born.

Benji’s musical roots go back to his teens, when he “got stuck” playing the trumpet rather than the sax in a high school music class. Private lessons followed, and when it was time to select a university, Queen’s made sense, not just for music but because it would place him far enough away from his hometown of Milton, Ontario.

It was in his final year at Queen’s when a musician asked him to jam at a local club that Benji fell in love with the performance aspect of playing. The band, Bloom, played at Aykroyd’s Bar (now The Mansion) and at the popular student hang-out The Shot. While playing on the festival circuit, Benji hooked up with the Toronto-based funk group God Made Me Funky, nominated for a Juno in 2008 as best rhythm and blues band. With Directions, a jazz and electronic group, he secured a record deal in London, England. Session work with various artists such as Sarah Harmer and Hayden followed.

High housing prices pushed Benji and his wife to move from Toronto to Kingston in 2010, and he soon rekindled his friendship with Chris Morris, a local musician Benji knew from his post-university days.

Benji, whose songs still get radio and Internet play all over the world, is as active today musically as he is in real estate, touring festivals, playing nightclubs, and doing session work.

The 39-year-old is aware that some people consider their real estate tunes corny or unprofessional, but clients seem to enjoy them. He and Chris are busy and business is growing.

“I’m sure there are realtors who think we’re idiots,” laughs Benji. “I imagine those people don’t have a sense of humour.”

Despite the naysayers, Benji and Chris are committed to their songs. In fact, they recently developed a new marketing brochure with the tagline, “In touch and in tune.”

To check out Benji’s musical listings, visit www.chrisandbenji.com and click on the link to their YouTube channel.

— KELLY PUTTER
How number crunching got her to Paradise

When Donna Lowery, MBA'91, became an accountant, she never dreamed she’d end up as an event producer at Atlantis Paradise Island, a Caribbean getaway that’s one of the world’s poshest resorts.

Donna ensures that huge shows, such as the Miss Teen USA beauty pageant run smoothly, checks details so entertainment “A-listers” such as Katy Perry and Bruno Mars are well cared for, and keeps careful watch on production costs so that everything gets done on time and on budget. Just your average number cruncher’s day job, right? Well, not exactly.

“I do have a cool job, but it’s basically crazy every day around here,” admits Donna.

Growing up in Winnipeg, she didn’t have a clear vision for her future. “I studied business because it seemed like the right thing to do.” After getting her undergraduate degree from the University of Manitoba, she traveled throughout Australia and New Zealand for 18 months. She then returned to Canada and enrolled at Queen’s for her MBA.

Donna joined an accounting firm in Toronto and earned her Chartered Accountant designation in 1993, but by 1995 was ready for a major change: a job as an audit supervisor on the tropical island of St. Maarten.

“The people were fabulous, and the island is gorgeous. I was at the beach every weekend,” she recalls. “But after a while, the novelty wears off and you start saying things like, ‘I’m not going to the beach today – there’s too much sand’.”

Her cure was to move to an accounting job at Kerzner International, which owns resort properties in the Bahamas and around the world.

“People were shooting movies and TV shows and staging huge events at the resorts, and by 2003, Kerzner’s marketing department needed a production accountant to keep track of everything that fell outside their day-to-day accounting operations,” says Donna. Learning on the job and loving every minute of it, she took on more responsibility with each event, moving to the Bahamas permanently in 2006. When the company launched a new concert series in 2007, she was once again part of the action.

“The first show we did was Duran Duran. I remember having no idea what needed doing to get ready,” she recalls. “I was like, ‘OK, let’s turn the ballroom into a theatre; we need to drop the seats and figure out how to number them.’” Since then, Donna’s team has produced dozens of concerts, featuring such stars as Sheryl Crow, Taylor Swift, and Justin Bieber.

Does she get any odd requests from performers? One singer demanded white calla lilies from a flower shop in the Bahamas to pose for a photo with comedian Jimmy Fallon. “Generally, if I have time to get a picture taken with our celebrities, I’m not doing my job,” she notes.

— WENDY HELFENBAUM

Bryce is very excited to have a little sister.

Jill (Goddard) Kyer, NSc’96, and husband Chris welcomed baby girl Robin Penelope Kyer on Sept. 24, 2012. Big brothers Reid (2) and Everett (4) are excited about the new addition to their family. The Kyers can be reached at sintrathedog@hotmail.com. Jill is currently on maternity leave, contemplating a return to the City of Toronto’s Public Health Department.

Letitia Midmore, Sc’98, and her husband, AJ Sessa, welcomed their first child, Victoria Isabel Sessa, on March 21, 2012. They are loving parenthood and cannot wait for the Queen’s family to meet Tori. The family lives in the San Francisco Bay area.

Andrea Morales, Arts’99, and Mark Willers would like their Queen’s friends to know about the birth of their daughter, Niama Catherine Willers, on Sept. 11, 2011, in Toronto.

Shannon Paul, Arts’93, wed Marwan Abouhalka on May 15, 2012, at Beaches Negril, Jamaica. Diane Randall-Hendry, Arts’93, was a member of the wedding party. The couple met and reside in the beautiful mountains of Pemberton, BC, where you will find them skiing at Whistler, mountain biking, running, gardening, or walking their dog, Jasper. Shannon continues to provide chiropractic care in her clinic, Pemberton Valley Wellness. shanandjasper@hotmail.com

Gillian (Cloutier) Smith, Arts’96, and husband Paul welcomed twins Aurélie and Clémentine on Christmas Day, 2012. Big brother Arnaud is thrilled, as are grandparents Elisabeth (Macpherson), Arts’62, and Eden Cloutier, MBA’68, PhD’84.
Growing gardens and young minds

The gourmet, locally sourced food that Kimbal Musk, Com’95, serves at his award-winning Colorado restaurants is a far cry from the home-made Easter eggs he used to sell as a child in South Africa, but their common themes are entrepreneurship and food—constant passions that have directed the course of his life.

Following his graduation from Queen’s, Kimbal ran a College Pro painting franchise for two years before moving to California to start software company Zip2 with his brother Elon (see the Review cover story of Issue 1, 2013).

Although their focus was on burgeoning internet technology, food remained Kimbal’s true passion. As soon as he had the chance, following the lucrative 1999 sale of Zip2, he headed to New York to enroll at the French Culinary Institute.

He was still in New York, freshly graduated and living 10 blocks from the World Trade Center, when the terrorists attacked on Sept. 11, 2001. He quickly volunteered to help with relief efforts and spent the weeks immediately following the attack cooking shoulder-to-shoulder with some of the top chefs in the world and driving ATVs loaded with food down to the firefighters working at Ground Zero.

“It was an amazing experience, and it accelerated my love of food and desire to connect people to food,” he recalls. “We weren’t serving up cafeteria food; it was some of the best food the firefighters had eaten in their lives, cooked by the best chefs.”

That experience convinced Kimbal to go into the restaurant business. The result was The Kitchen family of restaurants in Colorado, an enterprise that ultimately led to the establishment of a complementary non-profit restaurant, The Kitchen Community.

The Kitchen Community’s mission is to connect young people with “real food” by creating Learning Gardens in schools and community organizations across America. These Learning Gardens feature a modular set of robust, raised planters with built-in irrigation. They can be put together like a Lego set. The planters are not only functional but also beautiful, making a tangible and visible difference to the environment.

“It creates an environment that kids want to play in and run around in, that teachers can run classes in, and that kids can take tests in.”

He points to research published in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association that has found that sixth-grade students involved in a garden-based nutrition education program increased their daily fruit and vegetable consumption by 2.5 times. It’s also been found that students participating in garden-based lessons score an average of 15 points higher on science tests than their classroom-based counterparts.

With the help of donors who are matched with interested schools, The Kitchen Community team installed 21 Learning Gardens in their first year: 13 in Colorado, six in Chicago, one in Los Angeles, and one in Arkansas. Their projected rate of growth is astonishing. This year they’ll install 44 more Learning Gardens across the U.S.; the goal for 2014 is 180.

“We believe that Learning Gardens are the most effective, cost-effective, and apolitical way to connect kids with real food,” Kimbal says, “but making that connection will always be our mission, so even if we get to every school in the country, it doesn’t stop there. We’ll find other ways to do it.” Find out more at thekitchencommunity.org.

— CHRISTINA ARCHIBALD
Stacy Kelly, Arts’93, has been promoted to Senior Manager, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving at OCAD University (Ontario College of Art & Design) in Toronto. Stacy is also proud to be involved as a volunteer with Queen’s Alumni Branch in Toronto. He can be reached at stacey.kelly@gmail.com.

Jill McAlpine, Arts’93, is a partner at Finnegan, one of the world’s largest intellectual property law firms. Jill practises in all areas of patent law, including patent litigation, patent procurement, due diligence investigations, opinion work, and client counseling, primarily in the chemical and pharmaceutical areas. Jill went on from Queen’s to study at UBC and at George Washington University Law School. She is based in Washington, DC.

Kirsten Dykstra McGoeY, Arts’94, founded her own design and photography business last fall in conjunction with a family move back to the Durham, ON, region. Her Trinity Design company offers the GTA services in décor, portrait photography and graphic design. Her recent work can be seen at www.trinitydesign.ca.

Contact Kirsten at trinitydesignkm@gmail.com or 905-925-7529.

Rob Renaud, Com’96, Toronto, is President (Central Chapter) of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) Canada. Rob has been active in the real estate industry for more than 15 years and was the 2011 recipient of SIOR’s Office Broker of the Year Award, which recognizes superior performance and achievement by a real estate brokerage advisor.

Sarah Robayo Sheridan, Arts’99, will take up the position of curator of The Power Plant, in Toronto’s Harbourfront Centre, sometime after December 2013. Sarah is currently Director of Exhibitions and Publications at Mercer Union in Toronto.

Daniel Rideout, Com’99, has been appointed a Crown attorney in the Kentville, NS, office of the Public Prosecution Service.

Ali Velshi, Arts’94, is moving from CNN to Al Jazeera America this summer. Ali will develop and host a nightly primetime business news program on the fledging television network. He has been with CNN since 2001.

Sarah Luther, Com’98. See 1980s Notes.

Gerald Murphy, Mus’92, wants budding musicians in Whitby, ON, and surrounding communities to know about opportunities with the Whitby Brass Band Junior Band Program. Gerald is Bandmaster for the Junior Band, among his other duties. He is also Principal Tuba, Assistant Conductor, and in-house composer/arranger for the Brass Band. Established in 1863, it is thought to be the oldest community band in Canada. Its members, writes Gerald, are “music teachers, students, and amateur musicians from all walks of life who enjoy making music together.” Its Junior Band (open to youth and adults) operates as a training program for the Band. Gerald is working toward a Sesquicentennial concert in Whitby to be held in September. Learn more at www.whitbybrassband.com.

Correction:

In a story about his father, Bert Fraser-Reid, in our last issue (“A sweet, low-cal tale”), we said that Terry Fraser-Reid was a member of Arts’91. He is, in fact, Arts’90.
Commies gather in Burlington

Burlington area Commerce alumni and their families met for brunch at the home of Graham McCallum, Com’61, last fall. Pictured here, front row — the host and Pam Cushing, Com’92; behind them — Wendy Cipera, Sc’92, Heather McCallum, Bruce Sellery, Paul Gardner, and Greg Baylin, all Com’93.

Music is her metaphor

She’s only 30, but Elizabeth Lance, Mus’05, already has a wealth of diverse experiences under her belt, including ownership of the InGenuity Group, an SR&ED (scientific research and experimental development) consultancy company.

“Life has been a wonderful series of adventures, and I credit a lot of that to Queen’s,” she says, explaining that the experience she had during her study-abroad year in Scotland was the catalyst for a number of subsequent adventures, including studying for a teaching diploma in Scotland, teaching for a year in Kenya, and co-founding her own business.

It was fitting, then, that she returned to campus in January to give a talk to School of Music students entitled “Beyond BMus: How to land a job you love (when no one understands what you studied).”

“Not only do musicians have an array of highly developed, transferable skills, but we also have an opportunity to learn about ourselves through our choice of instrument,” she explains.

Elizabeth, a passionate French horn and trumpet player, knew that one of her favourite things was to collaborate with others to produce a final product, something she now gets to do on a daily basis, but with entrepreneurs and inventors rather than musicians. It was this self-knowledge, combined with technical writing and research experience gained working collaboratively with her father following her return from Kenya, that ultimately set her on the SR&ED path.

“When my father moved from government work to running his own business, The Ingenuity Group, he needed help with the paperwork, and so I stepped in,” she explains. “The experience was a bit of a revelation. Writing technical documents is not unlike breaking down a piece of music into its component parts to better analyze and understand it.”

In 2008, the opportunity arose for Elizabeth to take her studies to the next level; she enrolled in the Master of Music Education program at U of T. That program confirmed for her how much enjoyment she reaped from systematic research.

“I’ve never been able to shake the teaching side of me!” she laughs. “I love it. I love under-aimed at.”

In addition to running the InGenuity Group, Elizabeth is also busy creating a comprehensive online educational resource for the SR&ED community, including a detailed history of the field. “I’ve never been able to shake the teaching side of me!” she laughs. “I love it. I love understanding how things work; I love explaining to people how things work. The InGenuity Group offers a turn-key service, but we also offer educational services and coaching for businesses that aren’t quite ready to bring in a consultant — and that’s really who this online resource is aimed at.”

As if running a business and developing a comprehensive online educational resource centre weren’t enough to occupy her time, Elizabeth recently founded Perrito Social, a social media consultancy made up of a working group of collaborative professionals with different skills, each of whom can be called onto a project as required.

She also has a number of arts advisory roles, including the executive directorship of the Ottawa New Music Creators, a non-profit organization that brings new music to local Ottawa venues.

“My passion is passion,” she says. “I get up every day excited to do what I’m doing.”

— CHRISTINA ARCHIBALD

2000-09

BIRTHS

NICOLE (LYTLE) GRADY, Artsct’01, and her husband Scott, as well as big sister Olivia (Jan. 4, 2009), were thrilled to welcome Parker Albert James to their family on Sept. 16, 2012.

Nicolette writes, “He has brought such joy and a sense of completeness to our family. The RESP’s have been started for the classes of 2030 and 2033!”

ALANNA NEGR, Artsct’09, and BLAKE MCCORD, Sc’09, have a daughter, Aziya Giuliana McCord, who arrived gracefully on Jan. 5. Blake and Alanna met in 2007 when they landed at London’s Heathrow Airport to begin studies at the Bader International Study Centre. They report being very excited about the arrival of their little princess and look forward to all the adventures the future holds.

MASON HUGH McPhail was born Dec. 10, 2012, to VICTORIA (NIELSEN), Artsct’07, and MIKE McPHAIL, Sc’07. Big sister Emily is delighted with her new playmate.

COMMITMENTS

RACHEL COENS, Artsct/PHE’07, MSc’09, and PETE GALBRAITH, Artsct/PHE’09, MSc’11, Ed’13, had a celebration of their love on New Year’s Eve. Surrounded by many friends they made at Queen’s, the couple exchanged vows at Bethel Church in Kingston. Rachel and Pete met at Queen’s and, after years on the varsity volleyball and varsity figure skating teams, continue to share an active lifestyle together. They will be traveling through Europe during May and June for their belated honeymoon.

HANA STANBURY, Artsct’05, Med’09, and RICHARD J. BATHURST, Sc’76, MSc’78, PhD’86, eloped to beautiful Barbados over the Holiday Season. They live in Kingston within a few blocks of the Queen’s campus. Both remain connected to Queen’s, where Hana works at the...
Giving youth a legal understanding

Thousands of young people in Ontario have gained an insider’s perspective on the provincial justice system thanks to the work of Anna Solomon, Law’05, a champion for law education, whose passion for the field was sparked during her time at Queen’s.

As a law student, Anna spent a couple of weeks one summer teaching Grade 11 and 12 students about trial advocacy. The training organization that aims to make the public more aware of the inner workings of the legal system in order to make it more inclusive and responsive. The group runs a variety of experiential programs to teach middle and high school students about trial proceedings, courtroom contact they have with it to be negative, so we’re promoting an attitude to the system that will enhance young people’s access to it and prevent them from coming into conflict with it.”

Not only did her own law-student experiences spark Anna’s career, Queen’s is also where she met her husband, Dave Watkins, Law’06, who now works as general counsel for a renewable energy company. Anna and Dave live in Toronto with their 14-month-old daughter, Isabella. “I had a very positive experience at Queen’s,” says Anna. “It led me to my husband and to a career that allows me to promote access to justice for youth and to stay in touch with the legal world.”

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

vinayini murty, Artsci’04, has taken the plunge and returned to full-time academic life, recently starting a Master’s in Sociology (specialization in Women’s Studies) at the University of Ottawa. She has spent the last 14 years working in the federal public service in Ottawa, most recently as a Senior Program Officer with Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Her husband and two children are cheering her along the way!

Jennifer mcallum, Ed’09, and Amir Majid are happy to announce their engagement. The wedding ceremony will take place on Sept. 18, 2014, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Honours

Rebecca Cotter, Artsci’06, was named one of Canada’s Top 20 Young Entrepreneurs under 30 as part of the 2nd annual FuEL Awards. Rebecca’s company, Water-on-Wheels (www.wateronwheels.ca), provides mobile water refill stations to special events across Canada. Rebecca writes, “As one of only two women to win a FuEL Award this year, I am honoured by the opportunity it will give me to motivate and engage future entrepreneurial youth.” Rebecca was profiled in the December issue of PROFIT magazine. Read more at bit.ly/16VMYqA.

job news

Robyn Rutledge, Com’00, is a managing director and partner at investment firm TSG Consumer Partners in San Francisco, CA.

international centre (Quic) and Richard is with the Queen’s-RMC GeoEngineering Centre. They look forward to reconnecting with former classmates at Homecoming this fall.

marta garrick, Sc’00, and Mark van Berkel were married April 28, 2012, in Toronto. In attendance were Sc’00 friends Erica Lee-Garcia, Sarah (Lebar) and Krist Papadopoulos, Richard Hayward, Sarah Green, Colin Campbell, and Ianitt Yoo; Artsci’00 friends Shannon (Dunlop) Arntfield, Jordan (Millar) White, Ainslie Parsons, and Mathilda Amos; and Alison (Goudy) Steinman, Com’00, Selby Kostuik, Artsci’88, Doug Whelan, Sc’62, and Gloria (Jameson) Whelan, Arts’62. The van Berkels live in Guelph, ON, and are expecting their first child in April 2013.

Kristen Shamees, Artsci’07, and Alberto Hereida, Artsci’07, were married in Aug. 2012 in Toronto. Close friends and family, including many alumni, joined the couple in celebrating the occasion. Alberto is a CA at Detour Gold and Kristen is the manager of customer relations at Porter Airlines in Toronto.

Jennifer McCallum, Ed’09, and Amir Majid are happy to announce their engagement. The wedding ceremony will take place on Sept. 18, 2014, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

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notes

Vinayini Murty, Artsci’04, has taken the plunge and returned to full-time academic life, recently starting a Master’s in Sociology (specialization in Women’s Studies) at the University of Ottawa. She has spent the last 14 years working in the federal public service in Ottawa, most recently as a Senior Program Officer with Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Her husband and two children are cheering her along the way!

Geordie Sabbagh, Artsci’02, won the €10,000 VFF Talent Highlight Pitch Award at the Berlin Film Festival for his feature film Two Guys Who Sold the World.

Making A Difference

Giving youth a legal understanding

Thousands of young people in Ontario have gained an insider’s perspective on the provincial justice system thanks to the work of Anna Solomon, Law’05, a champion for law education, whose passion for the field was sparked during her time at Queen’s.

As a law student, Anna spent a couple of weeks one summer teaching Grade 11 and 12 students about trial advocacy. The training was part of a “mini university” program run by Queen’s to give high school students an insight into campus and academic life.

After being called to the Bar in 2006, Anna worked for three years as a civil litigator for the City of Toronto. Her brief experience teaching law at Queen’s stuck with her, though, and in 2009 she enrolled in the BED program at U of T’s OISE. “I had always thought I’d give law education a shot, but I didn’t know in what way,” she explains. “Then I learned there’s an entire study sector devoted to this area, where the law and education overlap.”

In 2010, Anna joined the Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN), a non-profit organization that aims to make the public more aware of the inner workings of the legal system in order to make it more inclusive and responsive. The group runs a variety of experiential programs to teach middle and high school students about trial proceedings, courtroom experiences, and the work of justice professionals.

Nowadays, her day-to-day work as a program manager with postsecondary schools involves creating program plans, identifying suitable youth audiences, ensuring justice education content meets Ministry of Education curriculum expectations, and recruiting and training volunteers.

“It’s easy for youth to feel isolated from the justice system,” Anna says. “We don’t want the first contact they have with it to be negative, so we’re promoting an attitude to the system that will enhance young people’s access to it and prevent them from coming into conflict with it.”

Anna also works with law and law-related programs at universities and colleges that provide justice education to high school students. She helps them adopt OJEN’S initiatives, including mock hearings, legal debates, crime scene simulations, police-youth relations town halls, justice radio shows, social justice volunteer opportunities, and direct interactions with judges, lawyers, and other legal workers. So far, she has helped introduce youth justice education initiatives to the law programs at Queen’s, the University of Windsor, and Seneca College.

Not only did her own law-student experiences spark Anna’s career, Queen’s is also where she met her husband, David Watkins, Law’06, who now works as general counsel for a renewable energy company. Anna and Dave live in Toronto with their 14-month-old daughter, Isabella. “I had a very positive experience at Queen’s,” says Anna. “It led me to my husband and to a career that allows me to promote access to justice for youth and to stay in touch with the legal world.”

– Sharon Aschaiek
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2010-13

BIRTHS

APRIL GIRARD-BROWN, PhD’12, and Jeff Brown are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Edward Girard Brown, born May 30, 2012. The happy family lives in Ottawa.

COMMITMENTS

CAITLIN HUDSON, Artsci’11, and CHRIS DUBSKY, Artsci’10, are happy to announce that they became engaged during a visit last summer to the Palace of Versailles in France. They returned to Queen’s this past fall to have their engagement photos taken, and are excited to begin planning their 2015 wedding.

JOB NEWS

JOHN PAUL DE SILVA, MBA’10, the founder of Social Focus Consulting, a Toronto-based business student consultancy, has expanded his operations to Kingston and London, ON. Social Focus provides youth-driven marketing solutions to non-profits, helping them raise funds and awareness. For more information write JohnPaul@SocialFocusConsulting.ca. Here’s John Paul (front, in red tie) with the newest members of his team at Goodes Hall.

DANIEL YANG, MM’11 (Master of Global Management), has moved to Montreal, where he is now Manager of FX Sales for TD Securities.

FAMILY NEWS

When Justyna Cox arrives on campus this fall as a first-year student, she will represent the fifth generation of the Caswell family to attend Queen’s. Justyna is the great-great-granddaughter of JOHN TRISTRAM CASWELL, BTheol 1915, great-granddaughter of CLIVE BROWNING CASWELL, MD’36, great-niece of JENNIFER GWEN CASWELL, Arts’73, and THOMAS COLIN CASWELL, PHE’75, and niece of CATHERINE LUISE COX, Mus’83.

NOTES

JENNY CALDWELL, Ed’10, sent in an update about her charity Hearts for Change, which supports an orphaned children’s home in Kenya: “My husband and I still run our charity out of our home, and most of our support continues to come from friends and family. The orphanage we support, Hosanna Children’s Home, is still going strong with about 70 children, who are all in school. We’ve had our first bunch graduate from secondary school, which is a huge feat. They’ve developed an exit strategy for those children now, which involves internships/apprenticeships with local organizations in order to get them some experience, with the ultimate hope of them attending university one day.” Jenny can be contacted at jenny@heartsforchange.ca.

MENGFU YANG, MIB’12, President of Queen’s Master of International Business Alumni Club in Toronto, arranged for management consultant and author JIM HARRIS, Artsci’84, to be guest speaker at the Club’s February meeting. More than 40 alumni attended the talk, at which Jim discussed disruptive innovation and how companies can be blindsided by competitors or market changes. Jim encouraged his audience to stay aware of changes in consumer behaviour and to keep their innovative minds active in order to stay afloat in this fluctuating economy. Jim’s book Blindsided explores this theme in detail. Thanks to IBUKUN ADUROGBANGBA, also MIB’12, for reporting on the evening. Here’s Mengfu presenting a pen set to Jim after his talk.

This photo of Seamus the Tricolour Puppy came to us via Twitter (@queensalumni). Seamus belongs to JESSICA PICKLES, Artsci’11, and DEREK LACHINE, Artsci’13.

A documentary film called The Scene: An Exploration of Music in Toronto was directed by JOSH JENSEN, Artsci’07, edited by ANDREW SMYTH, Artsci’10, shot by DAVID KILLING, Sc’07, and features additional camera work by DAVID KOITER, Sc’07, and sound mixing by TIM O’REILLY, Artsci’09. The documentary premiered at Downtown DocFest in Belleville, ON, and won the “People’s Pick for Best Flick” award at the Canadian Film Fest in Toronto. Andrew writes, “We are all very proud of the film and the Queen’s connections that helped make the project a success.” Pictured at the Canadian Film Fest (l-r) are Josh, Andrew, David Killing, and David Koiter.
For more than 25 years, Queen’s Alumni Travel has provided Queen’s alumni, family, and friends with unique educational travel experiences in destinations near and far. Our tours nourish the intellectual appetites of our participants – the Tricolour Travellers – and showcase the academic expertise of Queen’s faculty. Join us on one of these spectacular journeys; we’d love to have you along!

Peter and I really enjoyed our trip this past year. There was so much to learn and it was great to have George Lovell from the department of Geography along to share his knowledge. We’re already starting to think about where we would like to travel next year! Call me when you get your copy of the 2014 Alumni Travel catalogue and we can make our decisions. Talk to you soon!

Nancy

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Calling all Law’63, ’73, ’83, ’93 and ’03 grads

Queen’s has announced that Homecoming festivities will resume this fall, and so the members of the Class of Law’83 will celebrate their reunion on the weekend of October 18-20, along with alumni from Law’03, Law’93, Law’73 and Law’63.

Please save the date and join us. For more details, or to confirm your attendance, contact Dianne Butler at the Faculty of Law a.s.a.p., email butlerd@queensu.ca or phone 613-533-6000, ext. 78471. If you have questions or suggestions or would like to help organize our reunion, please contact Tom Fitzgerald, MA’81, Law’83, at Tom.Fitzgerald@ontario.ca, or Carol Cochran, Law’83, CCochran@lmrlawyers.com.

A life-changing experience

John Wong, Meds’59, and his wife Lily, of San Marino, CA, had an unexpected, but welcome and gratifying surprise recently when they received a "Thank You" letter from Sarah Misu Lee, Arts’12.

In 2008, the Wongs provided funding to launch a bursary that assists Queen’s students who avail themselves of international study opportunities in China. As the 2010 recipient of the Wong International Study Bursary, Sarah spent a term at Fudan University in Shanghai, taking part in the Queen’s-Fudan Global Development Studies Exchange Program.

“I am grateful for the enriching experience I had in China thanks to your generosity” Sarah wrote in her letter. “I could learn and see first-hand the struggles and potentials of the Chinese people. The experience motivated me to pursue an international affairs-related career so I can foster prosperity and peace in East Asia. I am currently pursuing a two-year Master’s degree at the U of T. Thank you for your generosity and encouragement.”

Says John, “The Wong International Study Bursary is a small way for me to express my deep gratitude to the university where I studied from 1953 to 1959. I’m grateful to Queen’s and to Canada for making me a physician, and I hope other alumni will consider assigning some of their future donations to help support this bursary.”

Queen’s English Quasquicentennial

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the appointment of James Cappon (1854-1939) to the first Chair in English at Queen’s in 1888, effectively founding the Department. Throughout 2013 the Department of English will be holding a series of events to welcome alumni, current students, and the wider community. In particular, we hope you’ll join us on Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 4-6, when we will host a variety of events that will provide opportunities to reconnect with fellow English alumni, professors past and present, and the study of literature. Please contact QEQ@queensu.ca for more details.

Distinguished Service Award

2013 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Alumni are invited to honour a Queen’s hero by nominating a candidate for a Distinguished Service Award. Inaugurated by the University Council in 1974, this award recognizes individuals who have made Queen’s a better place through their extraordinary contributions. This year’s recipients will be recognized at the University Council’s Annual Dinner on Friday, October 18, 2013.

For full details and the nomination form go to http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/council/dsa.html or contact the University Secretariat: ucouncil@queensu.ca; 613-533-6095. Deadline: Sunday, June 30, 2013.

At the Agnes Etherington Art Centre

The following passing exhibitions are on display at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre (AEAC):

- "John A. Murphy and Cecil Buller: The Way of the Cross and the Song of Solomon,” to June 9
- “The Art Bank in the 21st Century,” to June 9
- “Critical Mass: Sculpture by Shayne Dark,” June 27-November 3
- “Déjà déjà visité: Mike Bayne, Jocelyn Purdie, and Maayke Schurer,” June 27-November 3

GIFTS – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 68

Craftsmanship was put into some of the Swiss watches to attain official recognition and certification as chronometers from the Swiss rating agencies. Only exceptional Swiss watches were able to attain the Official Chronometer Certification.

A week or so after I finished reading the watch book, a snowstorm caused the cancellation of several patients in my clinic, giving me time to reflect and ponder. A dim memory arose of the jewellery store clerk in London emphasizing the papers that accompanied my replacement Omega watch, and it occurred to me that my own watch might be officially certified. I looked at my watch under a bright light and made out the fine print on the face. Beneath the Omega name was: Automatic Chronometer Officially Certified. I smiled to myself for the rest of the day because I knew what I’d see when I looked at my dad’s watch. Sure enough, it did not have the official certification designation. He’d never invested that much money in a wristwatch.

The watch and the pen I mentioned earlier are material things that represent relationships that are difficult to describe in words and even harder to articulate for those who are involved in the giving and receiving. Such gifts far exceed their monetary value when they become allegories for the deep bonds forged over many years between father and son, mentor and mentee, teacher and student. They reflect critical human emotions that last a lifetime.
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Gifts to last a lifetime

Often it’s not the cost of a graduation gift that counts most, but rather the emotional investment at both ends.

**BY DENNIS PITT, MEDS’72**

Newly minted university graduates often receive a graduation present from their families and supporters. These gifts may have as much significance to the giver as to the recipient, and the price tag is seldom important.

Madeleine Cumming recently presented me with a black Mont Blanc pen that had belonged to her late husband, Dr. Hal Cumming, MD ’51, a Kingston family doctor who was a role model/mentor for me when I was in medical school. I now use the pen in my practice and lend it to my patients when they sign their consents for surgery. It adds gravitas to the process.

The pen gift prompts me to relate the story of my graduation watch.

Several of my classmates received Queen’s graduation mementoes. My parents – one of whom is Agnes Pitt, Arts’72 – presented me with an Omega wristwatch. It was an elegant, self-winding, gold-coloured Constellation model with the day of the month in addition to the time on the face and my name and graduation year engraved on the back.

I was delighted, although a little surprised. My Omega watch did not have a Queen’s crest on it, and the brand name was unknown to me. My dad had never been interested in watches or jewellery. He was a high school dropout who’d been a pilot in the Royal Air Force during WWII, subsequently settling in Kingston to a successful career in the Correctional Service. Golf was his passion.

A few days after I’d received my graduation gift, my dad showed the new watch he’d bought – an Omega Seamaster model. Again, I was surprised. I guessed he thought he deserved a reward for the moral and financial support he’d provided during my six years at university.

When I left home for London, Ontario, to do a rotating internship, I wore my new watch everywhere. Unfortunately, one day I left it unattended in an open locker in a gymnasium for a brief moment, and someone stole it. I was mortified. The next week I went to a jewellery store to order a new Omega Constellation watch with the identical engraving etched on the back. When I picked it up three weeks later, I was shocked by the price. It cost more than $400 and almost drained my bank account. At that time an intern’s annual salary was only $7,000.

I was stunned that my dad would have put so much money into wristwatches. The only difference between my replacement and the original watch was the addition of the weekday name next to day of the month display, presumably a newer model of the Constellation.

The next time I was home in Kingston, my dad noticed the addition of the weekday display on my watch, and I had to confess my carelessness in losing the original. He did not say much.

When he died, I inherited my dad’s Omega Seamaster. Although it was still in perfect working order, it was discoloured and battered. I wondered why he hadn’t taken better care of such an expensive watch. My own Omega Constellation was like new except for some minor scratches.

Not long ago I chanced upon a book about the Omega Watch Company. I learned that Omega has a long and interesting history. In response to the demand for accurate, reliable military watches in WWII, Omega delivered 110,000 Seamaster watches with their large numerals and water-resistant cases to the Royal Air Force. These watches went to high-ranking officers, and not to a Flight Lieutenant like my dad. I can imagine him admiring the Swiss watches in the wartime officers’ mess and trying not to be envious of his superior officers’ good fortune.

My dad’s family had struggled financially because of my grandfather’s disabilities incurred in the British army trenches in WWI, and my dad would only have seen expensive Swiss watches in magazine advertisements on the wrists of celebrities and rich people. No wonder he chose an Omega watch as a prestigious gift for his son’s graduation from medical school and also found a reason to obtain his own Omega Seamaster.

The book provided fascinating accounts of the various models of Omega watches over the years and the competitions between Swiss watch companies for accuracy of their products. In contrast to our current supply of inexpensive, precise quartz watches, considerable investment and

**Continued on Page 66**
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