



# RGU Alumni Bulletin

Welcome to the Alumni Bulletin, a monthly catch up on alumni news, opportunities and events

## A message to alumni from the Principal

I realise that these are challenging times and many of you will be dealing with the profound changes that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to our lives. The health and safety of our university community remains our top priority and I want to take this opportunity to send best wishes to all of you as our alumni and to your families.

As a University we have responded to the impact of the COVID-19 emergency by rapidly transitioning to remote operations, continuing to effectively deliver our curriculum while safeguarding the wellbeing of staff and students.

I am aware that many of our alumni will be contributing to the global response to COVID-19 and the University is grateful for your efforts. I would especially like to thank the essential frontline workers who continue to work tirelessly to keep our communities safe. The vital work being carried out by doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, and support staff in the health and social care sector has never been more crucial.

In light of recent government guidance, the campus continues to be closed to staff and students, however the Alumni Team is working remotely and is still on hand to offer any help, advice and support to our alumni community during this difficult time.

Kind regards,  
John  
Professor John Harper  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

## Remote Working

As many of us are self-isolating due to government restrictions, a large amount of us have found ourselves working from home. Ruby Roberts, Organisational Psychologist & Research Fellow at Robert Gordon University, has put together some useful tips on remote working:

**Dress the part** - Dressing the part can make a huge difference to how productive you are across your working day.

**Create your work space** - Create a space that looks and feels like work to help encourage productivity.

**Establish a sense of control** - Whilst we can't control the future, we can influence how we work. Structuring your working week is a great way to develop a sense of control.

**Structure your day** - Many of us are familiar with that post-lunch dip, so why not plan your day in time with your productivity clock?

**Stay social** - Remote working can be lonely and isolating. Use tools such as Microsoft teams video calling to keep connected with your colleagues.

**Feed your motivation** - Motivation plays a big part in getting work done. Identify what motivates you and work with that.

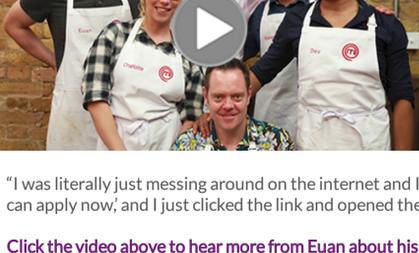
**Be kind** - Try to be kind to yourself, get some fresh air, take some exercise or do something that makes you happy for 5 minutes.

Click the button below to read the full article

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## Alumni in Focus



### Euan Walker - MasterChef

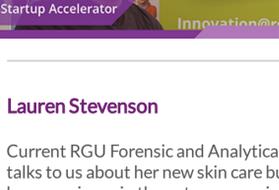
RGU Graduate and Student Development & Volunteering Coordinator at RGU Union, Euan Walker has recently featured on the TV show MasterChef. After beating thousands of applicants, he is through to the final. Euan talks to us about the unique experience.

"I was literally just messing around on the internet and I went through a BuzzFeed article where it was like 'you can apply now', and I just clicked the link and opened the application form."

Click the video above to hear more from Euan about his culinary adventures on the show.

## Startup Accelerator

The RGU Startup Accelerator supports entrepreneurial teams of students, staff and alumni in RGU and partner North East Scotland College (NESCol), with the aim of helping the region's entrepreneurs and innovators to create new businesses in a number of industries. We caught up with two of the latest candidates from the programme to find out more about their business ideas.

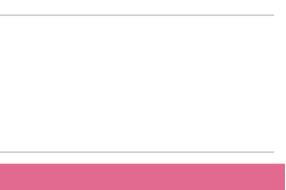


### Euan Duff

RGU Graduate Euan Duff talks to us about his new business idea for providing media profiles to athletes and his experience so far in the RGU Startup Accelerator Programme.

### Lauren Stevenson

Current RGU Forensic and Analytical Science student Lauren Stevenson talks to us about her new skin care business idea for tattoo aftercare and her experience in the entrepreneurial programme to date.



Click the button below to find out more about RGU Startup Accelerator

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## RGU News



### RGU appoints Professor Steve Olivier as its new Principal and Vice-Chancellor

RGU is delighted to announce the appointment of Professor Steve Olivier as its new Principal and Vice Chancellor. Professor Olivier brings with him a wealth of experience in the higher education sector and has held a number of senior roles at UK and South African universities. He joins RGU from the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) where he has been Deputy Principal since 2018.

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### RGU partners with UNAM on innovative cardiovascular research in Mexico

Robert Gordon University (RGU) is partnering with Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) on a research project that will develop support tools for the diagnosis of cardiovascular diseases in Mexico, specifically pulmonary hypertension. Researchers from RGU and UNAM's schools of computing will design a system to aid diagnosis from medical images with state-of-the-art techniques such as deep learning and data science.

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### Opinion Piece - Working towards a gender-equal world

Writing for the Press and Journal, Professor Sarah Pedersen, lecturer at RGU's School of Creative and International Business, discusses the importance of International Women's Day.

At Robert Gordon University, the university's Women's Network arranged a number of well-attended events to celebrate International Women's Day - which is celebrated each year on 8 March.

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### Game on for Graduate Apprenticeships with Robert Gordon University

RGU is now working with four of the top football clubs in Scotland on the delivery of Graduate Apprenticeships (GAs).

The university, which announced a further 175 fully-funded GA places for entry in September 2020, is collaborating with Aberdeen, Rangers, Celtic and St Mirren Football Clubs, which have all adopted this new approach to work-based learning.

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### Opinion Piece: Addressing the Digital Skills gap

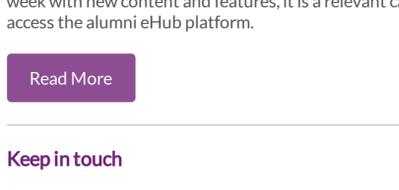
Writing for The Scotsman, Jack Keenan and Dr Ebuka Ibeke discuss the digital skills gap and how RGU is bridging this gap by providing education, training and upskilling in critical areas.

They discuss the challenges faced in Scotland and the UK where the digital skills and knowledge requirements of industry have outpaced the development and training of related areas.

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## eHub Showcase

RGU eHub helps you to take ownership of your career management and development while keeping you up-to-date with our latest alumni and university news and opportunities.



### CV 360 Tutorial

In this video tutorial we are looking at CV360, a powerful tool which you can use to analyse your CV and check for errors that might be picked up by automated resume checking platform employers use.

Whatever stage of your career you are at and whatever your profession, RGU eHub can support you in the next step of your journey; whether that be a step up to management, a career change or retirement. Updated every week with new content and features, it is a relevant career management tool for life. Click the button below to access the alumni eHub platform.

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### Keep in touch

To help us keep you informed about all the latest news from the University as well as ways to continue your involvement, please remember to let us know when you move home, change jobs or change your email address. You can easily update your details online [here](#).

You can also find out about the range of benefits and services that are available to you [here](#).

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