

Your monthly catch up on alumni news, opportunities and events.

## University news



RGU and Dutch aircraft firm launch sustainable seaplane project

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RGU leads a new LGBTQIA+ project to celebrate diversity in Aberdeen

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'Outstanding' research survey results put RGU top for culture and skills

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Raising a dram to softer skin: Research proves whisky by-product benefits

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Gray's designers open Scotland's first 'one stop shop' for plastic waste

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National Subsea Centre officially opens in Aberdeen

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## The latest from RGU Sport



RGU stars dominate North-east sports award nominations

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Inclusive wheelchair basketball team for North-east students launched

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## Alumni in focus



Kirstin Bell, BA (Hons) Events Management, Class of '17

From working in distilleries to community projects in India, Kirstin Bell's passion for events and travel has never faded since graduating in 2017. She's now a Lecturer here at the University and our latest Alumni in Focus spotlight takes a tour through her career and what it means to be teaching the next generation of event professionals.

## Stories from the alumni community



Photo credit: The Herald

Scots whisky maker returns to Speyside roots to develop perfect malt

After graduating from Forensic Science with Law in 2009, alum Diane Stuart had eyes set on the lab for a career solving crime. Little did she know that a different kind of lab would be waiting for her - and its subject, whisky.

Fast forward a number of years and Diane now works as a Whisky Maker with The Macallan.

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Avatar director reaches out to RGU alum for fact-finding mission

It's not everyday a Hollywood director comes knocking on your door to pick your brains, but that's exactly what happened to Armatus Oceanic CEO (and RGU alum) Alan Jamieson.

James Cameron's keen interest in the ocean led him to get in touch to learn more about the company's deep-sea tech and its capabilities.

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Alum gears up for 237.1 mile challenge for Scottish Huntington's Association

Following a diagnosis of Huntington's Disease - a condition that damages nerve cells in the brain - Physiotherapy alum Beinn Burroughs decided to push against adversity and set out on a charity mission to support families affected by the disease.

Beinn shared: "This summer I'll complete the London Marathon, Stafford Half Ironman and finally the Bolton Ironman all in support of the Scottish Huntington's Association.

"I've raised nearly £3,000 on JustGiving and don't plan to stop there! It would be amazing to get support from the RGU Alumni community through donations and spreading the word.



"For businesses wishing to support, I also have some sponsorship packages available to help fund the project."

To support Beinn, you can visit his [JustGiving](#) page or email him at [beinn.burroughs@outlook.com](mailto:beinn.burroughs@outlook.com)



From wealth to health: The transferrable skills of accountancy and finance

Jasmin Corbett graduated from BA (Hons) Accountancy and Finance in 2012 but now over a decade on, she now changes lives through health coaching.

"On face value, finance and wellness may seem like polar opposites but actually there are more similarities than you think" she says. Discover more in her recent Q&A.

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RGU graduates score roles within the Denis Law Legacy Trust team

Award-winning children's charity, [Denis Law Legacy Trust](#), has welcomed two new graduates into its operations team. Greg Millar joins as Communications and Marketing Officer and Nikki Fyfe joins as Volunteer Officer.

Both graduating from RGU in 2022, Greg joins following his studies in Communication Design and Nikki joins from her Sports Science studies.

## Call-outs and opportunities

Keen to share your story with your former school?

We're on the lookout for alums to film short videos talking about their experience of studying at RGU and what they are up to now. The videos will be used to help recruit pupils onto RGU's [Access To](#) programme.

If you attended any of the below schools, we'd would love to [hear from you](#).

### Aberdeen:

- Bucksburn Academy
- Harlaw Academy
- Hazelhead Academy
- Lochside Academy (Kincorth and Torry)
- Northfield Academy
- St Machar Academy

### Aberdeenshire:

- Banff Academy
- Peterhead Academy
- Turriff Academy

## Upcoming short courses

February brings two new short courses designed by RGU's School of Computing.

Offering you the opportunity to learn and develop your skillset, both courses have been developed in response to invaluable feedback from businesses regarding the recurring skills gaps that need filled.



[Multi-modal data science for digital health](#) - starts 27 February

[Computer vision for the energy sector](#) - starts 27 February

## Events

Curious Minds: Tackling the crisis in public health

**Date:** Thursday 23 February, 2023

**Time:** 6pm to 8pm

**Venue:** The Atrium, Sir Ian Wood Building

Join a panel of academics and [crisis in public health](#) experts to examine the current [crisis in public health](#), the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the future of public health at community and individual levels.

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In Conversation With... Blockchain in construction law

**Date:** Wednesday 1 March, 2023

**Time:** 5pm to 6pm

**Venue:** Online webinar

RGU's Dr Paul Arnell sits down with guests to unpick the payment framework of the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 to review its successes and its issues.

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## Keep in touch

Our dedicated alumni team are here to support you! To help us keep you informed about all the latest news from the university as well as ways to continue your involvement, make sure your details are up to date. You can update your details online [here](#).

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