

Anniversary Reunions - 18 June 2011

More than 600 alumni spanning six graduation years and travelling from 20 countries across the world were reunited on campus in what was the largest reunions weekend ever to be held at the University of Birmingham.

Alumni from the classes of 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1986, and the Golden Reunion classes (who graduated in 1960 or before), enjoyed a day of visits to their former schools and departments, a reunion lunch, a University Question Time session chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Eastwood, and activities and entertainment throughout the day. Many of the alumni in attendance were returning to campus for the first time in decades so enjoyed the opportunity to see what has changed (and indeed what has stayed the same!) since they were students.

The day began with alumni arriving at the Great Hall to hear introductory speeches before being led by current students and academics to their former schools and departments for guided tours.

Over lunch, the Class Ambassadors took the opportunity to thank their fellow classmates for the gifts they have given to the University in their anniversary year.

A fantastic £38,664.46 has been raised so far by the six graduation years in support of dozens of worthwhile projects across the University; thank you for this generous support. The breakdown of class gifts by year is as follows:

- 1986 - £2,693.25
- 1976 - £1,899.71
- 1971 - £9,570.00
- 1966 - £2,516.06
- 1961 - £3,096.50
- Golden - £18,888.94

If you graduated in one of the anniversary years and would like to make a gift to the University, please visit our Giving pages - www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving>).

After lunch, alumni were able to pose questions to our panel, which included Dora Meredith, President of the Guild of Students, during a University Question Time session. Questions ranged from the current student experience, to changes to our beautiful campus, to the changing face of higher education funding.

Alumni were then assembled in the Great Hall for class photos, before the opportunity to explore campus through a choice of activities including campus tours, and visits to Muirhead Tower, Winterbourne House and Gardens, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, the Guild of Students, and the newly-opened Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The event culminated in a reunion dinner held for over 200 former students in Staff House.

The graduation years for the 2012 reunions are 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1987 and the Golden reunion. If you would like to attend next year, please keep updated via the Alumni Relations events - www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/events (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/events>).

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[Atom Feed](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2011/Reunions2011.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=2&stylemediatype=print) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2011/Reunions2011.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=2&stylemediatype=print)

Alumni outside the Guild of Students	Alumni outside the Muirhead Tower	Alumni outside the Poynting Physics building	Alumni outside the School of Biosciences	Alumni take a tour of the new QE Hospital	Arriving onto campus	Arts alumni take part in an Italian taster session	1966 and 1976 Reunion Lunch	1966 and 1976 Reunion Lunch	1971 and 1986 Reunion Lunch	1971 and 1986 Reunion Lunch	Afternoon tea in the marquee

Displaying 25 to 36 of 48

[Previous \(/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2011/Reunions2011.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=2&stylemediatype=print\)](#)

[Next \(/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2011/Reunions2011.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=4&stylemediatype=print\)](#)

[\(/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2011/Reunions2011.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=2&stylemediatype=print\)](#)

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