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Anniversary Reunions - 8 June 2013

This year's reunion saw over 350 alumni and their guests, spanning across the six graduation years and travelling from as far away as New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Canada and the USA, return to campus to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation.

Alumni from the classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1988, and the pre-1963 Golden classes 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 other activities and entertainment throughout the day. Many of the alumni in attendance were returning to campus for the first time in decades, so they 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 welcome speeches before being led by current students and academics to their former schools and departments for guided tours and activities. For many alumni, exploring old lecture rooms and laboratories, as well as learning about current research and teaching, was the highlight of their day.

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 £85,840.20 has been raised so far by the six classes in support of dozens of worthwhile projects across the University. This is the largest amount ever received in class gifts - thank you for this generous support. The breakdown of class gifts by year is as follows:

1988 - £8,620.93
1978 - £4,320.31
1973 - £5,398.88
1968 - £3,701.56
1963 and Golden - £63,798.52

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

After lunch, alumni were able to pose questions to our University Question Time panel, which included: Professor David Eastwood, Vice-Chancellor; Professor John Heath, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Estates and Infrastructure); Professor Donna Lee, Senior University Tutor; and Diane Job, Director of Library Services. Questions ranged from the current student experience to the changes to our beautiful campus, and the discussion was lively.

Alumni were then assembled in the Great Hall for class photos, before being given the opportunity to explore campus through a choice of activities including campus tours, and visits to the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, the Guild of Students, Special Collections and Winterbourne House and Garden. There was also the opportunity to look at the UB Racing car, on display in Chancellor's Court. Some alumni made the most of the sunshine and simply relaxed to chat with friends on our beautifully manicured lawns.

Following afternoon tea and cakes in the Great Hall, alumni were treated to a behind the scenes tour of the new Bramall Music Building, followed by a short performance by the **Mercian String Quartet (http://www.merciantringquartet.co.uk/)** in the Elgar Concert Hall.

The event culminated in a reunion dinner held for 88 former students in Staff House.

Finally, a huge congratulations to Brian (*1963 BCom Commerce*) and Ann Fletcher (*1963 BSocSc Economics Politics and Sociology*) who are celebrating their 50th anniversary of graduation as well as their 50th wedding anniversary this year!

If you missed this year's reunion and our tweets throughout the day, you can relive it all via our **Storify (http://storify.com/birminghamalum/alumni-reunion-day-8th-june-2013)** recap or watch the video below:

Our reunion day is undergoing a facelift and the programme will look slightly different in 2014. Please do get in touch with us at **alumnievents@contacts.bham.ac.uk (mailto:alumnievents@contacts.bham.ac.uk)** if you have any suggestions of activities you would like to take part in and keep updated via the Events page: **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/reportsandgalleries2013/reunions.aspx?MediaGallery_List_GoToPage=1&stylemediatype=atom)

Morning tea 08
(#)

Morning tea 09
(#)

Outside the Bramall Music Building
(#)

Per ardua ad alta
(#)

Physics alumni
(#)

Professor David Eastwood
(#)

Sharing memories in the video booth
(#)

Social Sciences alumni at the Business School
(#)

Speaking to one of our students
(#)

Enjoying the sunshine
(#)

Familiar faces
(#)

Golden Class
(#)

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