Alumni profiles - Sue Jones

MBChB (1991)

Full time NHS Consultant in Diabetes Endocrinology and G(I)M at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust based at Unversity Hospital of Hartlepool.

Clinical Tutor for the Trust and Programme Director of Core Medical Training in Northern Deanery.

Enjoy your time at Birmingham as the undergraduate training is amongst the best in England"

What are your career experiences since graduating from the University of Birmingham?

I did my house jobs and Selly Oak and QE followed by a medical SHO rotation in the Central Birmingham Teaching Hospitals and gained my MRCP in 1994. I then moved to the North East of England for my registrar training in diabetes, endocrinology and G(I)M. I was awarded a research fellowship by the Northern Region NHS and travelling fellowships by EASD to undertake my MD in diabetic nephropathy studying at the Universities of Newcastle upon Tyne and Aarhus Denmark. Following my MD with commendation in 2001 I did post doctoral research at the University of Melbourne having been awarded a Samuel Leonard Simpson Endocrine Travelling Fellowship. I took up my consultant post in 2002 and have held a number of positions including RCP Tutor and I am an examiner for RCP and have recently examined in Eygpt.

What is the best thing about what you are doing now?

Enjoying teaching and training junior doctors and in my spare time helping run a steam railway in Kirkby Stephen Cumbria and climbing mountains.

What was the best thing about your time as a student here?

The social and sporting life (I played Hockey at Medical School, Club and County level) in Birmingham was great and I still have contact with the friends I made whilst working and playing as a student and junior doctor.

In what way did living and studying in Birmingham live up to your expectations?

It exceeded my expectations and taught me that you can achieve anything you put your mind to. I miss the multicultural society of Birmingham and a decent Balti.

What advice would you give to current students studying on your degree programme?

Enjoy your time at Birmingham as the undergraduate training is amongst the best in England.

How did you grow as a person by coming to University? Did it change your life in any way?

I became a much more confident individual and learnt a great deal from all my lecturers and consultants which has shaped me into the person I am today. My elective in Malawi in 1999 (funded by the Pauline Mundy and 3M Riker Health Care Elective Bursaries) changed the way I look at life and taught me all things can be achieved even if you have very limited resources as long as you have the knowledge and ability to use it.

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