



## Autumn 2016

Welcome to *Old JoE*, a regular news and events update for alumni and supporters of the University of Birmingham.



### Are we nearly there yet?

The problems the British railway system struggles with on a day-to-day basis are due to high utilisation, aged infrastructure and the complication of interfacing many different generations of systems; new railways don't generally suffer from such problems.



### University invests to make waves

Birmingham scientists will continue to study the origins of our universe in a new £6 million Institute of Gravitational Wave Astronomy.

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## Qur'an exhibition heads to UAE

The University's discovery of the Birmingham Qur'an manuscript was revealed in a special digital exhibition in the United Arab Emirates.

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## Hannah vlogs in

YouTube vlogger Hannah Witton (BA History, 2014) talks about her time at Birmingham, her career path since graduating and the best advice she's been given in this exclusive vlog.

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## Could you inspire our students?

We are seeking new career profiles from alumni such as yourself to share with current and prospective students. We are keen to promote the achievements of our alumni and demonstrate the diverse range of career paths you have taken. Your stories inspire our students and offer an insight into the wealth of opportunities available to them. We would love to hear about your experiences and how you have shaped your career post graduation so please take a few minutes to submit a [career profile](#).

## And finally...

As part of a global collaboration with the University of Melbourne in research, education, and cultural engagement, we are offering up to [20 PhD scholarships](#), enabling research

students to work with academics in Birmingham and Melbourne. At Birmingham, we have a thriving postgraduate community and a [wide range of opportunities](#) for you to continue your journey with us.

Nominations are now open for the 2017 [Alumni of the Year](#), and we would love to hear your suggestions. Maybe you would nominate Lucy Baldwin (BSc Economics, 2004), Managing Director at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, BBC Radio 4's Jane Garvey (BA English, 1985) - or how about Candice Brown (BA Sport, Physical Education and Community Studies, 2006), this year's [winner of the Great British Bake Off](#)? To nominate and find out about previous winners, [visit our website](#).



**You are in control of your data. We want to stay in touch with you and keep your information in accordance with your wishes.** You will be kept updated with news from our campus, including research, educational activities and courses, events, alumni activities, and opportunities to support our fundraising. Depending on [your preferences](#), you will receive communications via post, email, telephone and social media. We would like to ensure that our interactions with you are appropriate and cost-effective. We will pay attention to your responses (including e-tracking) and, from time to time, may use your data for profiling, targeting, and research purposes. Your information will be [held securely](#) by the University of Birmingham and will only be made available to our academic & administrative departments, recognised alumni groups, and trusted agents acting on behalf of the University. Information on how your data is held and used is set out in our [Data Protection Statement](#). **If you wish to opt-out of any contact or have any questions about your personal data, please [contact Luke McGarrity](#).** For reference, our Inland Revenue Charities reference number is X7237.