



## School of Metallurgy and Materials Community

Part of  
**THE EPS COMMUNITY**



### Welcome to your 2019 Metallurgy & Materials Alumni Newsletter



#### Hello!

I am delighted to introduce this latest edition of the School's alumni newsletter. This year as last, we have expanded and made some exciting new appointments to the academic staff, made strides in research and have celebrated great successes with our students and societies. We also thank you, our alumni, for your continued support, especially those who have been directly involved with us throughout the year.

[Read more from Alison Davenport](#)



#### EPS Societies' Awards

986 nominations were received to this year's student society awards. We're proud to announce that our own very own Will Leney was named *Sports Personality of the Year*, and oSTEM, the LGBTQ society founded in the School, were named *Society of the Year 2018/19*. An incredible achievement, especially as the society is only 2 years old! Congratulations everyone!

[Discover our Award winners](#)

#### A great year for our students

We are now home to four societies who are building a strong student community. The [Materials Society](#) have introduced a new sporting arm which is a very welcome addition, [NucSoc](#) are offering more careers activities to support skills development, [oSTEM](#) have dedicated the year to empower their members, plus the brand new [AeroSoc](#) for our aerospace students.

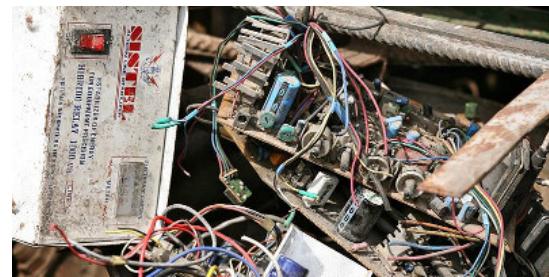
[Read more about our societies](#)



## Superalloys' expert amongst new cohort of Fellowships

Dr Alexander (Sandy) Knowles, who specialises in high performance 'superalloys' is one of 18 academics awarded a prestigious Royal Academy of Engineering Research Fellowship.

[Find out more](#)



## Rare earth metal recycling pilot project launched

The School has been awarded €4m to set up a pilot facility reclaiming rare earth metals as part of a Sustainable Recovery, Reprocessing and Reuse of Rare-Earth Magnets in a Circular Economy project.

[Find out more](#)



## From the wider College: The problem with the plastics problem

Solving the plastics problem will not be easy. It does not have one single and simple solution. The problem is complex and often underestimated. Single use plastics, exemplified by plastic packaging will, and should, never be eliminated completely - to do so would risk other undesirable environmental consequences.

[Find out more](#)



## How can the aviation industry adopt cleaner fuel?

The University is leading a new research consortium that will tackle climate change by investigating the barriers and benefits to the UK aviation industry adopting low carbon synthetic fuel.

[Find out more](#)



## Robots need a new philosophy to get a grip

Robots need to know the reason why they are doing a job if they are to work effectively and safely alongside people in the near future. In simple terms, this means machines need to understand motive.

[Find out more](#)



## Launch of a brand new website

We're excited to launch to you, our alumni, the brand new EPS Community website; you're the first people to see this! Metallurgy and Materials and the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, in which we are part, has a community of over 85,000 graduates, students, staff and friends. This new site celebrates everything that brings our unique community together and explores opportunities for you to join in. Come along to one of our events, see what our 38 student groups are up to, learn about your fellow alumni, and discover how you could get involved. Let us know your feedback by emailing [eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk), we'd love to hear from you.

Take a look

## WE ARE BIRMINGHAM ALUMNI

### Share your story and inspire our students

From recent graduates to industry leaders, you are making important things happen. You can inspire students and offer an insight into the opportunities awaiting them. Whatever you're doing, they want to hear from you. Plus, anyone who submits a profile before 1 November will receive an Old Joe magnet.

Share your Birmingham story



### IOM3 '15 people under 30 to watch'

As part of their 150th anniversary, IOM3 magazine *Materials World* has featured the profiles of 15 people to watch under the age of 30, in celebration and recognition of young talent in the field. We are delighted that graduate and soon-to-be PhD Amanda Field, and lecturer Ilija Rosovic have both been listed. Congratulations!

Find out more

# MENTORING

### Could you mentor a student?

We're looking for enthusiastic alumni and professionals to provide expertise, advice and inspiration to help our students start their careers. Mentoring makes a real difference; we all know the benefits of having someone to bounce ideas off. If you'd like to be that person, please get in touch.

Email Grace to become a mentor

## News roundup

[Global success continues for University of Birmingham](#) in World University Rankings, climbing four places in the 2020 THE Rankings to 112th globally.

The University is delighted to announce its [collaboration with GKN Aerospace](#).

School of Metallurgy and Materials [welcomes new Henry Royce National Outreach Officer](#), Dr Chris Hamlett.

Is there a [future for nuclear energy](#) in the UK?

The Faraday Institution announces a [further £55 million for energy storage research](#).

[Boosting local innovation](#) with quantum technologies.

---

## Events

### [Sustainable civil nuclear power workshop](#)

17 September 2019, 9:30am-5pm  
Old Gym, University of Birmingham

### [Join In Hong Kong](#)

24 October 2019, 6:30-8:30pm  
Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Admiralty, Hong Kong

### [My Life in Maths and Shaping the Brain - London Mathematical Society Popular Lectures](#)

19 September 2019, 6:30-8pm  
Bramall Music Building, University of Birmingham

### [Careers and Coffee](#)

29 October, 6-8pm  
Cherry Reds, Birmingham City Centre

### [Wetting of hydrophobic and superhydrophobic surfaces workshop](#)

20 September 2019, 10:30-11:30am  
G34 Engineering Building, University of Birmingham

### [Join In New York](#)

13 November 2019, 6:30-8:30pm  
Four Seasons Hotel, Barclay Street, New York

### [Book to the Future](#)

18-19 October 2019 The University's annual festival of the written and spoken word, featuring free workshops, panel discussions, performances and author talks, including:

- [The return of race science, Angela Saini](#)

18 October, 5:30-7pm

- [From Brum to bakes, Candice Brown](#)

19 October, 6-7pm

### [LGBTSTEMinar](#)

10 January 2020  
University of Birmingham

### [House of Lords Reception](#)

24 April 2020, 6:30-8:30pm  
House of Lords, London

### [EPS Societies' Awards](#)

10 June 2020, 7:30-11:30pm  
Great Hall, University of Birmingham



---

You are in control of your data. We want to stay in touch with you and will keep your personal data in accordance with your wishes. A detailed statement on how your data is held and used is set out in the Alumni and Supporters Data Privacy Notice. If you no longer wish to receive this type of information from us or would like to change your preferences about the information we send you, have any questions about your personal data, or would like a paper copy of our Privacy Notice, please contact [alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk) or telephone +44 (0)121 414 4724. Our Inland Revenue charities reference number is X7237.