ENGAGE



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A GREEN CAMPUS!

Newman University is committed to developing more sustainable approaches to the use of its resources. We have reduced our carbon emissions by 34%, waste collections and recycling facilities have reduced by 80%. Having successfully achieved a Gold Award from EcoCampus (an Environmental Management System and award scheme for the Higher Education sector) this year we are working towards achieving the Platinum Award. Newman is committed to reducing its impact on the environment.

The magazine is printed on recycled paper and is also available as a PDF to download from our website.

EXPECT TO STAY CONNECTED

Whether you've graduated recently or some time ago, we want you to stay connected.

Contact Us:

Newman Alumni, Marketing Department, Newman University, Genners Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham B32 3NT

T: 0121 476 1181 ext. 2611

E: alumni@newman.ac.uk

W: www.newman.ac.uk/alumni

Find Newman Alumni on







To find out more about **Newman Alumni and ensure** we have your details up to date simply scan this QR code with your mobile.

to request a plain text version.

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Go ahead...Scan Me! Can we assist you? If you have difficulties reading any part of this publication, please contact us

Be a guest editor Fancy contributing and writing for the next alumni publication? If you would like to be a guest editor email alumni@newman.ac.uk





A NOTE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newman alumni magazine. I very much hope that you will find the articles and features of great interest and that they make you proud of being a member of the Newman University community.

'Newman University Long-service awards 2015

We have adopted our bold and ambitious new Strategic Plan 2014-2020. As a Catholic university, we confirm our commitment to a Mission of Service and have formation at the centre of all our activities. Formation for

- · Education for a reflective mind, for well-being and for human flourishing;
- · A community of intellectual enquiry, which is dedicated to the construction of the common good, the transformation of its members' lives and of the world they serve and engage with.

We also want to secure a platform for the achievement of Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAP); something we see as confirmation of our university status and supports our ambition to feature in the Times Higher '100 best universities under 50 years'.

Our ambitions are based on sound foundations. In our latest staff survey 96% agreed that 'Newman is a good place to work', compared to a benchmark of 88%,

and 95% agreed on 'I feel Newman delivers good quality service to students', compared to a benchmark of 86%.

In order to be one of the top niche universities in this country with a distinctive ethos and mission, we need to have the resources to invest in our staff, our estate and the support of students in need. The tuition fees are an important source of income, but unfortunately they are not a replacement of the amount of public funds which universities used to receive. We are therefore forced to seek additional income from other sources, and donations to the University are one of them.

The magazine outlines several good causes for you to make a vital contribution to the future of your university; Newman University. Please help us to continue to be able to offer a high class university education at Newman; something which we can all be proud of.

But most importantly, enjoy the good news of the magazine and feel being encouraged to be in touch with us.

Peter Ztruis

Professor Peter Rolf Lutzeier, Vice-Chancellor & Principal

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NEWMAN PROFESSOR **AWARDED VISITING FELLOWSHIP**

Newman Professor Susan Docherty has been awarded a visiting fellowship at Trinity College, University of Glasgow in recognition of her expertise in biblical interpretation.

A graduate of the universities of Cambridge and Manchester, Dr Docherty is Head of Theology and Religious Education at Newman and will take up the William Barclay Distinguished Visiting Fellowship in Biblical Studies at Glasgow between January and March 2016.

"The fellowship is an exciting opportunity and I'm honoured to have been selected to take up the post," explained Professor Docherty. "The University of Glasgow - along with a number of other Scottish universities - has a vibrant tradition of Biblical Studies."

Professor Docherty's main research interests are in early Jewish and early Christian biblical interpretation. Her most recent book on the 'Jewish pseudepigrapha' came out last September and she has published widely on the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, especially in the Letter to the Hebrews. She is currently researching composite Old Testament citations in the New Testament as part of a project setting the New Testament in the wider cultural world of the Graeco-Roman Empire.

Newman is developing a strong reputation for the quality of its research and this appointment is testament to the world class and internationally significant work being undertaken by our academic team.

SCIENCE & RELIGION RESEARCH AT NEWMAN

GET INVOLVED IN OUR NEW LARGE-SCALE RESEARCH PROJECT.

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A £1.872.654 research project funded by the Templeton Religion Trust has begun at the University and we are looking for people from all backgrounds and faiths to take part in our online research. The project, Science and Religion: Exploring the Spectrum, the first of its kind, will conduct research into the public perceptions of the relationship between evolutionary science and religion. Led by Dr Fern Elsdon-Baker, this multidisciplinary project will provide fresh insights into how diverse communities and faith groups in the UK and internationally engage with science in society. This project includes research partnerships with the University of Kent, York University, Canada and the British Library. The project is of clear relevance to Newman's interest in inter-faith dialogue and our aim to make a difference in the world. To find out more and to get involved in the research visit www.sciencereligionspectrum.org or www.sciencereligionspectrum.org

SCIENCE & RELIGION EXPLORING THE SPECTRUM



1 1771F WIGNALL

Lizzie Wignall is the first CAFOD volunteer to join the Newman Chaplaincy team. Lizzie visited Zimbabwe with CAFOD and CAFOD's HIV and AIDS prevention, water and sanitation, education and livelihood projects there.



"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to engage with students and staff on issues of global poverty and injustice. We've started an international development society, 'One World'. Fundraising and awareness-raising activities have included a weekly soup kitchen for students and staff and, last semester, a weekly Fairtrade chocolate stall with hand-painted mugs at Christmas."



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IN THE **SPOTLIGHT**



"As one of the first Catholic universities in England since the Reformation, we are proud of our heritage."

CARDINAL CORMAC **MURPHY-**O'CONNOR

NEWMAN'S FIRST CHANCELLOR

Newman University appointed Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor as its first Chancellor in 2014. His Eminence Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor is Archbishop Emeritus of Westminster and former spiritual leader of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Born on 24th August 1932 in Reading, Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor was ordained to the priesthood in Rome on 28th October 1956. On 21st December 1977, he was ordained Bishop of Arundel and Brighton. From 1983 to 2000 he was Chair of the Bishops' Conference Committee for Christian Unity, and, from 1994 to 2000, was Chair of the Department for Mission and Unity. In 2000 he was awarded a Doctorate of Divinity by then Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey in recognition of all his work for Christian unity. Professor Peter Lutzeier, Vice Chancellor of Newman University, said: "I'm delighted that Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor has agreed to become the University's first Chancellor. "As one of the first Catholic universities in England since the Reformation, we are proud of our heritage, which informs our Mission of Service and ethical approach, committed to social justice, tolerance and inclusion." Our Chancellor has since been present at Newman's Graduation ceremony in 2014 and at this year's Foundation Day, celebrating our patron in honour of Blessed John Henry Newman. Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor addressed the place of God the Father, and of religion within contemporary society, drawing us to reflect on this important dimension within our world. The Foundation Day concluded with a Mass in St Mary's Chapel in memory of Simon Quinlan, Newman's first Principal.

RESEARCH **EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK**

Newman has made great progress in academic research. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) published by the government in December 2014, research carried out at Newman in three Units of Assessment - Education, English and History - was recognised as being of worldleading quality (this included the research of colleagues from Drama). Research carried out in Psychology, Sport and Theology was ranked as being internationally excellent. Newman has risen up ten places in the League Tables for research and its publications were placed third in the West Midlands overall and second in The Cathedrals Group of Universities. The findings were revealed in the 2014 REF, published in December 2014. The REF provides a robust and thorough assessment of the quality of universities research across all disciplines, rating it on a five point scale, from unclassified to internationally excellent (3*) and world leading (4*).

Professor Peter Childs. Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Scholarships said: "We're delighted with the report's findings, which demonstrate the quality of research undertaken at Newman and that world class research is possible in smaller universities.

"While Newman is a teaching-led university, research informs everything we do. It's therefore especially pleasing that research undertaken alongside our academics' dayto-day teaching commitments has been awarded some of the highest possible ratings - including that carried out by early-career researchers.

"At Newman we do not employ research only staff - it is important to us that students have regular, direct contact with academic staff at the vanguard of research in their area and this approach is delivering real results for students with 93% of Newman graduates in employment within six months of graduating."

"In 2014, we have not only doubled the number of subject areas and trebled the number of academic staff whose research is covered by the assessment but we have also raised the bar regarding quality to secure the highest possible ratings for a significant proportion of that research. Newman continues to invest in research across the University to develop the skills and subject knowledge of our teaching staff, ensuring our students are part of a vibrant, learning community at the leading edge of their subject areas."







ON CAMPUS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.... DAVID WILBY MASTER OF ARTS

David Wilby has been associated with Newman since it first opened its doors to students in 1968, when he quoted for the work to tidy the grounds following completion of the original building work.

The original specification of works was extended with a contract to cover planting and upkeep of the gardens across campus, and 46 years later David and his sons are still ensuring that the grounds are as impressive as ever.

As Newman evolved and grew so has the scope of work undertaken by David and his family. By 1975 David was successfully tendering for minor and major maintenance works across the campus. David has played a huge part to the development of Newman over the last 47 years, from beautifully kept grounds, through building and maintenance projects, large and small, to being an active supporter of events and celebrations.

The Honorary Degree of Master of Arts was conferred on David Wilby to recognise his significant contribution to Newman University over many years.

HOW DID IT ALL START?

We were called to tidy up the campus for the Newman College 'Opening ceremony,' which I might add, was a bombsite. Students had moved into a campus still being built, halls and lecture rooms were not available when the college first opened its doors. Applicants had been advised to 'bring their wellies' with them! The College was happy with what we had done; getting the campus ready and we were offered a 12 month contract from the Bursar to maintain the grounds.





WHAT IS YOUR FONDEST MEMORY OF NEWMAN?

Back in Newman's earlier times the social side of Newman was a hive of activity going on, everything from summer balls, end of term balls, Christmas balls, everyone had to dress up and everyone knew everyone. The student bar was packed and the real central hub for everyone socialising and gathering, everyone from the cleaners through to the Senior Management Team.

YOU HAVE SEEN THE CAMPUS CHANGE OVER THE YEARS, HAS ANYTHING CHANGED FOR YOU?

When the campus opened in 1968, only one student had a car, which would be unbelievable in today's times, all of the car park was empty and unused. All the students relied on public transport or lived on-site in halls.

In the early 1990's Newman University would spend lots of money on plants and the overall look of the campus, this has seen a significant change and become less and less of importance over the years, it's just a sign that times have changed.

IS THERE ANYTHING ABOUT THE PLACE THAT CHANGED THAT YOU MISS?

Rag week activities – they used to be Mayhem. One set of students once pushed themselves on a bed taken from one of the halls all the way into Birmingham City Centre to raise money along the way; they left the bed in town of course for us to collect. Things were a hoot back then and the campus was alive and everyone knew everyone. A different atmosphere to how it is now, but now we have three times the students to cater for!

HOW DID IT FEEL GRADUATING WITH A MASTER OF ARTS?

It was a real special occasion and a really nice chance to celebrate with all my friends and family, luckily they didn't let me do a speech as I sure have lots of stories and tales about Newman and its students over the years.

2014 HONORARY DEGREE AWARDS







VERNA ALLETTE WILKINS DOCTOR OF LETTERS

Verna Allette Wilkins is the founder of Tamarind Books, a publishing company set up in 1987. She is an internationally acclaimed speaker and an award winning author who has written 40 books for children and young people. A true champion of children's literature and for diversity is reflected in the many awards Tamarind has received, including the 2008 British Book Industry Award for Cultural Diversity. The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred on Verna Allette Wilkins for her work as a champion for children's literature and for her involvement with the education sector.

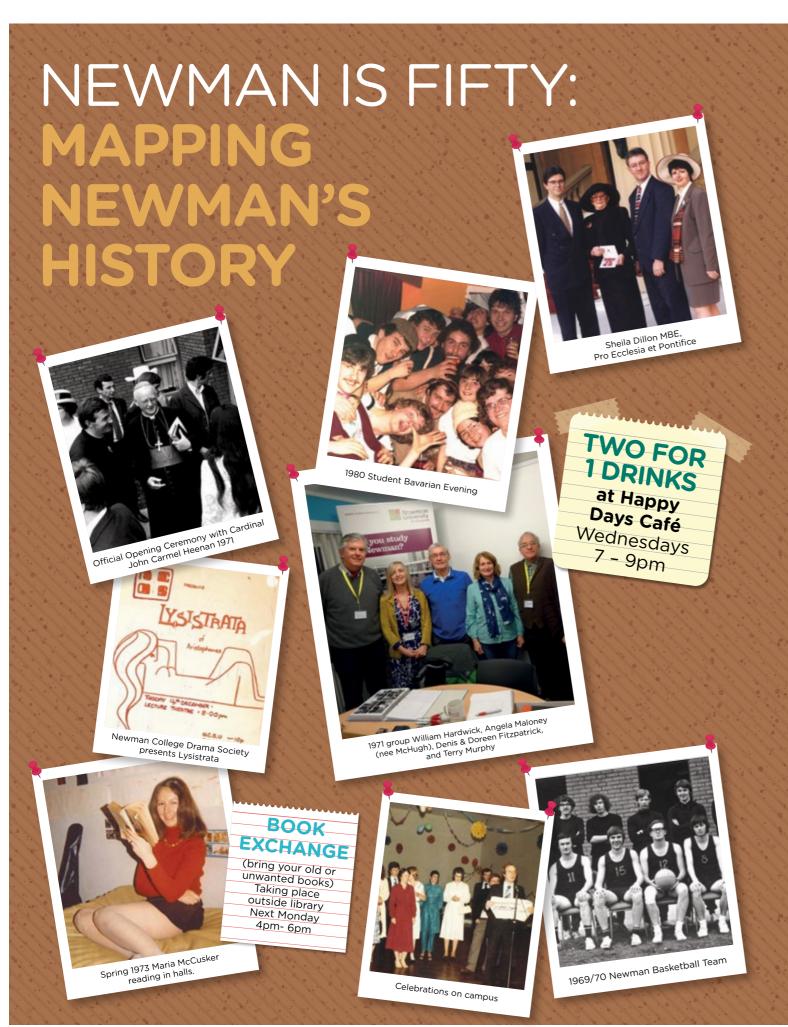
TREVOR JOHN EVE DOCTOR OF LETTERS

Trevor Eve has had a long and successful career as a British film and television actor since the 1970's. Trevor has received two Laurence Olivier Awards for his roles as Best Actor in a new play for his performance in the stage production of Children of a Lesser God (1982) and his portrayal of Dr Astrov in Uncle Vanya (1997). From 2000-2011 Trevor Eve played the central role of Detective Superintendent Peter Boyd in the award winning BBC drama series Waking the Dead. The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred on Trevor Eve for his outstanding contribution as a film and television actor.

PROFESSOR ANNETTE CASHMORE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Professor Annette Cashmore's scientific career began with a BSc in Biology at Sussex University before moving to the National Institute for Medical Research in London for postgraduate studies where she graduated with a PhD in 1984. Professor Cashmore joined the Leicester Biocentre and eventually became Head of the Genetics Department and Sub Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences at the University of Leicester. In 2005 Professor Cashmore was responsible for £4.5 million worth of funding to establish a Centre for Excellence for Teaching and Learning in Genetics. Now directing this initiative and having served as a Governor at Newman, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Education was to recognise her distinguished contributions to learning and teaching in Higher Education and her invaluable service to Newman University.

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In 1968, Newman opened its doors to its first cohort of students. Now, as Newman approaches its fiftieth birthday, we have over two and a half thousand registered students from across the globe studying here. We want you to join us in celebrating our rich history and tell us what Newman means to you.

Newman has always celebrated the thoughts and philosophy of John Henry Newman. Today, a lot of the buildings on Campus are named after important aspects of Newman's life and his philosophy remains the heartbeat of our institution. However, as an institution, we have our own history - almost fifty years' worth - and we want to share it as we grow in the future.

As part of this, we want to introduce you to the Newman Heritage Project. This project brings together the thousands of items donated by alumni over the years and aims to make them available online in a nationally significant resource. In the run up to our fiftieth birthday, we will be running events and exhibitions displaying some of this fantastic material in public. This material will grow our rich local history collections and will be invaluable to researchers assessing British education in the twentieth century, local historians researching Bartley Green or the region as a whole and to those who are interested in how Newman got here in the first place! This will represent an important resource for professional researchers, family historians and our current students who study local history.

Newman has always been different: from the atmosphere at lunchtime, or the cakes that were once wheeled outside for afternoon tea to the alumni weddings that take place in the Chapel. But really, Newman is about people. That's why we want you to tell us what makes Newman special to you by donating copies of photos or documents or sharing other memories with us.

All of this material will contribute to the Newman Heritage Project. The project is led by the History Department, Marketing team and the University Library. Your memories will be collected by the Project team and catalogued by current history students who are passionate about the Project. The material will be scanned, digitised and safely stored in the Library before being deposited online on a dedicated website. In this way, you can help to create a catalogue of memories and you directly contribute to students who are currently here. We want our current and future students to understand the values and history that make Newman different.

To donate memories or to find out more information please email alumni@newman.ac.uk

Alternatively send in your items to: 'Newman Heritage Project' Marketing Department, Newman University, Genners Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham, B32 3NT.

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POST NEWMAN POSTGRADUATE

THINKING ABOUT POSTGRADUATE STUDY?

Newman University offers a fantastic portfolio of postgraduate study and continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities.

Remember Newman graduates receive 10% of a full Masters programme

TAUGHT HIGHER DEGREES

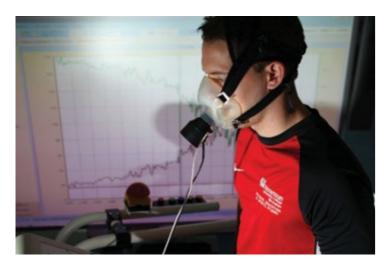
We have a number of subject areas offering taught higher degrees leading to an award of MA/MSc

- Applications of Psychology
- Clinical Applications of Psychology
- Contemporary Christian Theology
- Education
- Heritage and Public History
- Integrative Psychotherapy (Child and Adolescent or Adult)
- Master of Business Administration
- Physical Education and Sports Studies
- · Victorian Studies
- Youth and Community Work

POSTGRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION (QTS)

As a trainee teacher at Newman you will be immersed in a programme which will develop your ability to create, and teach and assess inspirational lessons that develop both core skills and a love of learning amongst your pupils.

We have full-time PGCE and School Direct programmes as entry routes in teaching and you will be able to pursue your passion at early years, primary and secondary level.



EARLY YEARS INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING LEADING TO EARLY YEARS TEACHER STATUS

Are you a graduate who wishes to teach young children or a graduate who is already working in an Early Years setting, Newman University offers the opportunity to gain Early Years Teacher Status to enhance your career with a government recognised qualification.

We are delivering **fully funded** part-time (GEB) and full time (GEM) graduate routes to Early Years Teacher Status starting September 2015. **For further information and to apply email:** eyts@newman.ac.uk or visit www.newman.ac.uk/EYITT



CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS

Newman University offers a range of CPD opportunities for professionals working in education:

- Bespoke non-accredited CPD/Consultancy within a key range of educational themes and subject areas.
- National professional recognition via the Teaching and Learning Academy (TLA) for those working in teaching and non-teaching roles within education.
- Support networks for newly qualified teachers (NQTs) and recently qualified teachers (RQTs).

Please contact Cherilyn Ward, CPD Administrator: c.d.ward@newman.ac.uk

RESEARCH DEGREES

At Newman, research is regarded as an integral part of our scholarly activities. Scholarly work is being undertaken across a wide range of academic disciplines. For a detailed list of research interests and to find out how Newman could support your PhD visit www.newman.ac.uk/research

If you would like to find out more please visit one of our Open days: www.newman.ac.uk/opendays Saturday 10th October 2015 10am - 3pm Friday 20th November 2015 4pm - 8pm



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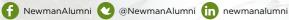
WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

INSPIRE THE NEXT **GENERATION**

Would you be prepared to come and talk to students about other aspects of their subjects or the reality of working in their subject areas, or to provide careers advice alongside the careers service? This is the chance to pass on knowledge, experience and inspiration to the next generation of Newman students and is something that students find invaluable. Other ways you could inspire include volunteering as a public speaker or at open days, offering to fill in a case study about your career since leaving Newman or perhaps offer a student a work placement. If you are interested in working with Newman please contact alumni@newman.ac.uk

READ, SHARE, AND TWEET ALL ABOUT IT

We have a dedicated Newman Alumni Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter posting on University and alumni news. Why not tell us what you think of the latest edition of the alumni magazine.





EXPECT TO STAY CONNECTED

We have an online portal for Newman Alumni, with exclusive benefits such as discounts into Legoland, Warwick Castle and Sea Life Sanctuaries across the UK. You can also update your details to tell us if you have moved address and you can search for old classmates. Register and sign up at

www.engage.newman.ac.uk or email alumni@newman.ac.uk

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

The Newman Heritage Project is looking to collect, catalogue and showcase items, memories and memorabilia from across Newman University's history. Leading up to celebrating Newman's upcoming fiftieth birthday, the venture will provide a locus for us to record the memories of Newman alumni and for it to connect in meaningful ways with current students and staff. If you would like to donate copies of any nostalgic items, photos and memorabilia you still have and support our heritage please email alumni@newman.ac.uk

SPREAD THE WORD

Could you help us find alumni we have lost contact with? Could you forward engage onto family members or friends we have lost touch with over the years?

SUPPORT NEWMAN

We need your continued support to help students; offer scholarships; develop the campus; support students in hardship and your donations are fundamental. There are lots of ways to give at Newman University. Whether you want to make a one-off donation, a regular gift or a pledge for the future, simply donate online or download a donation form at newman.ac.uk/giving



WHAT IS **NEWMAN GIVING?**

Newman Giving is how your donations can support University wide projects that enhance the student experience, research and teaching and support students in financial need. We have a variety of campaigns for you to support and make a real difference as well as some simple methods to donate.

Newman University's 50th Anniversary

Newman is preparing for our 50th anniversary approaching in 2018; one of our celebrations will include the commissioning of a piece for a choir and organ by the composer James MacMillan. The piece will use the words of prayers by Cardinal Newman engraved on the globe outside Newman.

Newman Library

Ensuring that Newman students have access to the latest digital technologies, books and resources to enable them to achieve great results in their studies is a top priority.

Student Hardship Fund

Our student Hardship Fund provides emergency hardship support for our students who are at risk of withdrawing from Newman University due to unforeseen financial pressures.

International Experience

Help our students to broaden their horizons by enabling them to undertake a study experience at one of our partner universities overseas.

Student scholarships

Supporting Newman's Scholarship programme will enable more students from low income households to get additional financial support and embark on a Newman degree.

Article 26: Access to Education

This is a project that makes access to Higher Education a reality for talented students who have sought sanctuary in the UK. (See Mash March Madness story opposite for more information.)

Area of Greatest Need

By making an unrestricted donation we can ensure that your gift is put to use in the area that it is needed most.

If you are interested in giving visit newman.ac.uk/giving





MASH MARCH MADNESS!

Newman University Running Team teamed up with Winchester University staff and students to represent the Cathedrals Group (CG) on Saturday 28 March 2015, as part of the Mash March Madness 10k forest trail race in Cannock Chase. Despite the wet and muddy conditions spirits were high and runners didn't let the weather dampen their spirits crossing the finishing line and winning the 'Best Team' trophy.

The team of CG runners raised money for Article 26 - a charity set up to promote access to higher education for people who have fled persecution and sought asylum in the UK.

Professor Peter Lutzeier, Chair of The Cathedrals Group and Vice-Chancellor of Newman University, who led the team of CG runners, said: 'The route followed a beautiful forest trail and certainly was an inspiring experience for all those who took part. Especially as we won the cup for the Best Team!

We raised money for this excellent cause, offering a future to talented individuals who would not otherwise be able to access higher education. Raising £9,000 would enable us to offer a full fees scholarship to a talented individual, while just £500 could help students with day-to-day study and travel expenses.'

It's not too late to support Article 26. Together we raised just under £2,000. Help us support Article 26 students at Newman University via newman.ac.uk/giving

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CONGRADUATIONS!







Class of 2014

















Well done to last year's Newman University Graduates who celebrated the success of their graduation at Symphony Hall, Birmingham with Newman's first Chancellor Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. Welcome to the Newman Alumni Family; please continue to stay in touch and update us with your details, developments and news.

FREE CAREERS ADVICE?



Newman graduates qualify for free careers advice for a further three years after they graduate? They can assist you in finding

fantastic job vacancies, part time work, paid internships, volunteering opportunities or graduate positions using their careers vacancy database.

For more information please visit: newman.ac.uk/careers

UP AND COMING CAREERS EVENTS



<u>Careers, Opportunities</u> <u>and Recruitment Fair</u> Wednesday 7th October

Education and Teaching Fair
Thursday 8th October

<u>School Direct Fair</u> Wednesday 18th November 5pm - 8pm

All in the Newman University Atrium 10.30am - 2pm.

READ IT AND TWEET

Why not join us online and tell us your views on our Newman University alumni magazine

E: alumni@newman.ac.uk **W:** www.newman.ac.uk/alumni

Find Newman Alumni on







