

St Andrews 600

Quick Guide to the 600th Anniversary

The University of St Andrews 600th anniversary will span three calendar years from 2011 to 2013. It will mark the formal charter granted by Bishop Henry Wardlaw in February 1411 and the achievement of full university status conferred by Pope Benedict XIII by Papal Bull in 1413.

The 600th anniversary celebrations have five main objectives:

- To build a £100 million legacy to support the University's continued investment in people, ideas and excellence
- To deliver a three-year programme of inspirational local, national and international events
- To engage and mobilise the University's global alumni
- To promote pride in Scottish higher education and the country's first university
- To celebrate St Andrews' contributions over six centuries to Science, the Arts, Medicine and Divinity

Building the future

In celebrating its past, St Andrews is aiming to safeguard its future, using the 600th anniversary celebrations as a springboard to launch a £100 million fundraising campaign.

The campaign will lay the foundations for a seventh century of exploration and allow the university to continue to invest in people, ideas and excellence.

Funds raised will support a wide range of projects, including:

- 600th Anniversary scholarships
- A Scottish Centre for Theoretical Physics
- A new Institute for Contemporary and Comparative Literature
- An "Other Worlds" think-tank and observatory
- A New Graduate School for the Arts
- A new Centre for Earth, Life and the Oceans

Safeguarding freedom of thought

At the heart of St Andrews' reputation for leading research and discovery is a unique environment in which accepted views can be challenged and there is less resistance to ideas that defy conventions.

As a result, St Andrews has proved itself to be one of the best places to develop independence of mind and the unfettered pursuit of academic excellence.

Its modest size turns down the pressure to conform, while adding strength to the connections between scholars, and across disciplines. Here the brightest students are part of the same community as the professors who write the textbooks. St Andrews is defined by the collaboration, communication and courage of intimacy – which when compressed in this particular combination produce a seminal sort of alchemy.

Turning ideas into reality, turning speculation into evidence, turning questions into answers – this is what St Andrews does best.

Recently it has led the theoretical prediction of invisibility cloaking, the discovery of new earth-like planets, the launch of a globally ground-breaking Sustainable Development course, introduction of the first creative writing degree programme in Scotland, the explanation of chimpanzee culture, and the development of new scanning techniques with the potential to allow earlier cancer detection.

The 600th Fundraising Campaign will aim to endow an environment in which freedom of thought can continue to flourish.

Events

The University will stage, host and promote a broad and varied programme of local, national and international anniversary events in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Please note that a full events programme will be unveiled in June 2011. Highlights confirmed in the Events Calendar so far include:

- Anniversary international golf tournament on the Old Course
- Antiques Roadshow
- 600 lecture series
- St Andrews street party
- 600 Composition Competition
- Exhibition featuring treasures from the University collections

Getting Involved

600th Anniversary Fund

The 600 Fund is a project fund established to support staff and students across the University of St Andrews to deliver their own anniversary celebration projects.

St Andrews is seeking applications from any groups, societies, schools or departments who have ideas for unique projects, events or activities which celebrate the University's past, present and future.

Set up an alumni club

The 600th anniversary is a great opportunity for Alumni Clubs and Associations across the world to help make history and join the celebrations. <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/alumni/alumniclubs/Setupyournclub/>

Sponsor an event

Our brand is 600 years in the making, and is world renowned as a hallmark for quality, integrity, and excellence. There are many ways corporate partners, large or small, can engage with the University. To find out more contact Geoff Morris, Director of Special Projects and Corporate Relations, on 01334 461 904 or email Geoff.Morris@st-andrews.ac.uk