



# Queen's University Belfast Social Charter Newsletter

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## Queen's-led Cell Therapy Clinical Trial Completes Recruitment of ICU Patients with COVID-19

Researchers at Queen's have completed the recruitment of patients to a UK-wide clinical trial that is assessing the safety of an innovative cell therapy for COVID-19 patients with acute respiratory failure.

The REALIST COVID-19 trial is led by researchers from the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine at Queen's University.

In the most critically unwell patients with COVID 19, many develop a complication known as Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS). In ARDS the lungs become inflamed and leaky so they fill with fluid. This causes respiratory failure and patients may require admission to intensive care and a ventilator machine to support their breathing.

The REALIST COVID-19 clinical trial is assessing the safety and efficacy of a novel ORBCEL-C cell therapy to treat ICU patients with COVID-19.

***"I'm pleased to see the Northern Ireland research infrastructure leading on the REALIST study, with NI researchers making a strong contribution to reduce the impact of Coronavirus".***

Dr Janice Bailie, Assistant Director of Health and Social Care (HSC) Research & Development Division,  
Public Health Agency



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## Research with Impact:

### Report on Mother and Baby Homes and Magdalene Laundries in Northern Ireland

A research report on historical Mother and Baby Homes and Magdalene Laundries between 1922 and 1990 has been published by the Northern Ireland Executive.

The research was carried out by a team of academic experts from Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University. It gives an account of individual and collective experiences of the institutions and highlights the need for further examination of a number of important issues, including adoption and infant mortality rates.

The research examined eight Mother and Baby Homes, a number of former workhouses and four Magdalene Laundries. It found that around 10,500 women were admitted to Mother and Baby institutions and around 3,000 women were admitted to Magdalene Laundries here between 1922 and 1990 – the period covered by the research. The last Mother and Baby institution closed in 1990; the last Magdalene Laundry in 1984.

The research report has been published and is available [here](#)

## Education with Social Purpose:

### QUB RAG Online Fundraising Efforts

Queen's University Belfast Raise & Give (QUB RAG) is the official student-led fundraising group of Queen's University Belfast Students' Union.

The two nominated charities for the 2020/2021 academic year are Belfast Samaritans and Save the Children NI. Despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, the students have already raised £1,834 for the chosen charities, through a virtual Battle of the Bands, a Christmas Jumper Day and a 'brew' Monday social media campaign!

Recently the committee participated in an Innovation session to generate feasible fundraising ideas fit for the remainder of the year. To support further income generation, plans are now underway to host a virtual 'Take Me Out' event, an online Comedy night and virtual fitness sessions.

For more information, click on the image below



## **Breaking Boundaries to Produce New Knowledge: Queen's Ampliphae Partnership Results In Software to Tackle Cybersecurity Risks Amid the Pandemic**

New software to tackle cybersecurity risks increased by remote working has been developed through a partnership between Queen's University Belfast and Belfast-based tech company Ampliphae.

The Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT) at Queen's and Ampliphae, both based at Catalyst, formerly known as the Northern Ireland Science Park, have been working on a two-year Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) which took on extra significance in the last year with the huge growth in the number of people working at home during the pandemic.

CSIT shared its world leading cyber-security expertise with Ampliphae, a specialist in building cloud-based software, to enable the development of a new product called SaaSGuard, which addresses emerging security threats against cloud applications.

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) aim to help businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills within the UK knowledge base. This project was co-funded by UKRI through Innovate UK and Invest Northern Ireland.

***"The COVID-19 crisis has seen a sudden acceleration in the use of cloud-based products as companies across the globe have reacted to the need to keep working while moving staff out of offices to work remotely from home. This exposes individuals and companies to a wider range of new and emerging cyber-security threats and risks."***

Dr Phil O'Kane, Cyber Security Researcher at CSIT, Queen's University Belfast



***"Remote working staff are particularly vulnerable to cyber security threats, and there has been a significant increase in cyber-attacks directed against remote workers. By addressing Cloud-based cyber threats, CSIT and Ampliphae have helped to protect organisations and their staff as they deal with the transition to home-based working."***

Trevor Graham, CEO, Ampliphae

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## Civic Culture and Intercultural Dialogue: World Cancer Day 2021 'Time for an All-Island Cancer Moonshot?'

The Patrick G. Johnston Centre for Cancer Research and Public Engagement at Queen's, supported by InterTradelreland, are delighted to host an event marking 'World Cancer Day' on **4 February 2021 at 1.00pm GMT**.

The event presents an opportunity to review the advances made in cancer research and cancer care over the last 20 years, and discuss the vision for collaborative cancer research going forward.

Professor Mark Lawler, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor and Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics, Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research, Queen's University Belfast, will give a short presentation entitled, 'Time for an All-Island Cancer Moonshot?', which will be followed by a panel discussion.

For more details, and to register, click on the image below.

The poster features the Queen's University Belfast logo on the top left. The main title is 'WORLD CANCER DAY 2021' in bold black letters, with the subtitle 'TIME FOR AN ALL-ISLAND CANCER MOONSHOT?' in red. Below this, a paragraph describes the event's purpose. The poster is divided into sections: CHAIR (Professor Emma Flynn), INTRODUCTION (Professor Chris Scott), PRESENTATION (Professor Mark Lawler), PANEL MEMBERS (Paula Bradshaw, Dr William Dahut, Dr Ruth Barrington, Professor Liam Gallagher), and CLOSING REMARKS (Margaret Hearty). A photograph of the Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research building is shown on the right. At the bottom, the date and time are listed as 'THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2021 1.00-2.00PM GMT/8.00 - 9.00AM ET', along with a 'Register On Eventbrite' button and the InterTradelreland logo.

**QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST**

**PATRICK G. JOHNSTON CENTRE FOR CANCER RESEARCH, FACULTY OF MEDICINE, HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES**  
Supported by Public Engagement at Queen's University Belfast

**WORLD CANCER DAY 2021**  
**'TIME FOR AN ALL-ISLAND CANCER MOONSHOT?'**

Marking World Cancer Day, we are presenting an opportunity to review the significant advances made in cancer research and cancer care over the last 20 years and discuss the vision for patient-centred collaborative cancer research going forward.

**CHAIR**  
Professor Emma Flynn, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise, Queen's University Belfast

**INTRODUCTION**  
Professor Chris Scott, Director, Patrick G. Johnston Centre for Cancer Research

**PRESENTATION**  
Professor Mark Lawler, Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics, Patrick. G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research

**PANEL MEMBERS**  
Paula Bradshaw MLA  
Chair of All Party Group on Cancer, NI Assembly

Dr William Dahut  
US National Cancer Institute

Dr Ruth Barrington  
Cancer Trials Ireland

Professor Liam Gallagher  
University College Dublin

**CLOSING REMARKS**  
Margaret Hearty  
Designated Officer and Director of Programmes & Business Services, InterTradelreland

**THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2021**  
**1.00-2.00PM GMT/8.00 - 9.00AM ET**

Register On **Eventbrite**

**InterTradelreland**

## Sustainability: Environmental Leadership Programme Launches

The 'Green at Queen's' team has announced its Environmental Leadership Programme is launching this February! The 6-week programme has been adapted to provide a structured virtual delivery.

By joining the Environmental Leadership Programme, Queen's students can gain practical experience in environmental management and improve their employability prospects, all whilst playing a key role in helping the University achieve its low carbon vision.

Applications for the programme close on Monday, 1 February 2021.

To find out more, click [here](#)



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## **Equality and Excellence:**

### **The Dame Ingrid Allen Lecture (Annual Gender Equality Lecture)**

The School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences Gender Equality Committee are inviting registrations to the annual Dame Ingrid Allen Lecture.

This year's distinguished guest speaker is Professor Parveen Yaqoob who will discuss how growing up in a culture skewed towards valuing boys became her foundation for equality and leadership.

The event is taking place on **Friday, 29 January 2021 at 11am.**

This annual lecture is named after Professor Dame Ingrid Allen, in recognition of her contribution to medical research and her profile as a role model to early career researchers.

For more information please click [here](#)



### **GCSE Support and Employability Skills for Female Newcomer Students**

The School of HAPP and partners have launched a project on GCSE support and Employability Skills for female newcomers. This programme will provide 12 weeks of GCSE exam tuition and 4 weeks of employability training, for a group of 12 students.

The programme is designed for female students from newcomer communities who are aged 14-16 and are sitting their GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language qualifications in 2021/2022.

Commencing on 3 February 2021, the classes will run online each Wednesday between 5 - 7pm (excluding Easter break).

# Recognising and Rewarding Contributions from Staff and Students: Bad Bridget Podcast Tops the Charts!

The new 'Bad Bridget' podcast from Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University, telling the untold stories of generations of Irish women who saw their American Dream become a nightmare, is enjoying great success on the podcast charts.

Released December 2020 and with more than 40,000 downloads already, 'Bad Bridget' topped Apple Ireland's history podcast chart for 11 days running!

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, this project led by Leanne McCormick (Ulster University) and Elaine Farrell (Queen's University Belfast) focuses on the sexually deviant woman, the bad mother and the criminal Irish woman in Boston, New York and Toronto.

Chartable Search Podcasts... Publishers Advertisers Charts

Podcast Charts

### Apple Podcasts — Ireland — History

Rank	Podcast Title	Host
1	Bad Bridget	Queen's University Belfast
2	Dan Snow's History Hit	History Hit Network
3	Three Castles Burning	Donal Fallon
4	You're Wrong About	Michael Hobbes & Sarah Marshall
5	History Extra podcast	Immediate Media
6	In Our Time	BBC Radio 4
7	Irish History Podcast	Fin Dwyer
8	The Documentary Podcast	BBC World Service
9	You're Dead To Me	BBC Radio 4

