



The University of Manchester

# GRADUATION

## DECEMBER 2025

*Making a difference*



**SINCE 1824**



**I warmly welcome you all –  
graduands, family members and  
loved ones – to this special day at  
The University of Manchester.**

# CONGRATULATIONS

This degree ceremony is a moment to celebrate and honour all that you've accomplished.

Today we not only celebrate the degree that you are about to receive, but also the experiences and challenges that have shaped your journey here at Manchester. By choosing to study with us, you embraced the opportunity to explore everything we have to offer – discovery, collaboration and learning, as you pushed yourself beyond your comfort zone. Nothing worth doing is ever easy, but your pursuit of new knowledge, skills and perspectives will serve you well for years to come.

You are surrounded today by those who believe in you – your family, friends, teachers and the wider University community. We all want to see you succeed.

As you embark on the next stage in your life, you will forever remain part of the Manchester community. You join one of the largest alumni networks in the world, ensuring that no matter where you are, you will almost always find a fellow Manchester graduate.

We want to continue to provide you with opportunities to learn and grow – whether by pursuing further studies with us, or by helping to shape the future of the generations who follow you.

It is our privilege to celebrate your graduation with you today. I hope the memory of this momentous occasion remains with you always. Please keep in touch. I wish you every success in the exciting journey that lies ahead.



**Professor Duncan Ivison**  
President and Vice-Chancellor

## Did you know?

We have the largest alumni community of any campus-based university in the UK, with more than 550,000 former students across 190 countries.



**When you joined the University,  
you became part of a community  
that works hard to make the world  
a better place.**

YOU'LL ALWAYS  
BELONG HERE

While you may have chosen Manchester for its courses and renowned academics, you quickly discovered that your university experience was about so much more. You realised you belonged here.

You learned to exceed the expected and to go above and beyond what's needed. And you did so during some of the most challenging times in recent history. Today is a chance to celebrate your achievements as we recognise the hard work and determination you've shown throughout your time with us.

As I reflect on the accomplishments that brought you here, I am reminded of the important role that community plays in our lives. The Manchester community has been a great source of inspiration and encouragement for me, and this ceremony is the perfect example of this – a day for friends, families and peers to come together, celebrate your incredible achievements and make lasting memories.

As you prepare to leave us, know that you will always belong here. You're joining an alumni community that spans the globe – and they all carry a part of Manchester with them. I hope the University has prepared you well for your next chapter, whether that's starting your career, getting set for further study or planning new adventures. As you go out into the world, you'll meet plenty of members of our Manchester family, and I encourage you to stay in touch with our valuable alumni network and remain connected with our campus.

I wish you every success for the future. Our world needs progressive, conscientious and compassionate people like you. I am sure you will continue to make us proud.

### **Did you know?**

Our Chancellor appeared on Desert Island Discs and named *Jump Around* by House of Pain as one of his favourite songs.

**Nazir Afzal OBE, Chancellor**



# CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY

## Take a trip back through time with snapshots from our past.



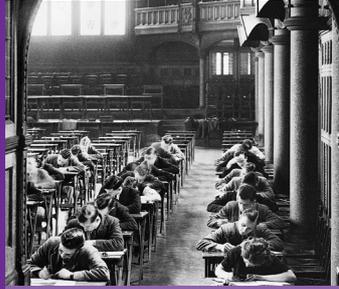
Manchester Mechanics' Institute



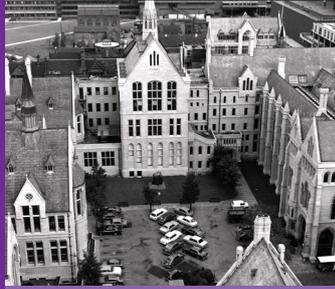
The entrance hall of Sackville Street Building



Statue of Enriqueta Rylands, widow of John Rylands



Students taking an exam in the Whitworth Hall, 1939



The Old Quad was completed in 1902



Ernest Rutherford and Hans Geiger in their lab at Manchester, 1908



Christie's memorial window on the building's main staircase



Manchester Museum



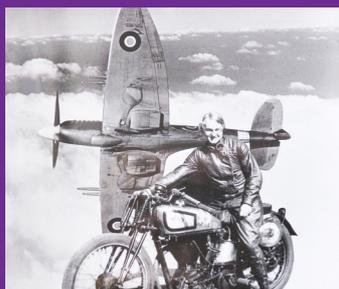
Students' Union, 1944



The Christie Library, 1950s



Looms in Sackville Street Building



Electrical engineer Beatrice Shilling OBE, 1929



Graduation day, 1950



Novelist Anthony Burgess studied English at the University



The Old Quad, 1972



Tom Kilburn and Freddie Williams with 'the Baby' computer



The Whitworth Hall

## Did you know?

The Whitworth Hall (named after benefactor Sir Joseph Whitworth) was the last of the quadrangle of buildings to be designed by Alfred Waterhouse RA for Owens College.

It was opened by HRH the Prince of Wales (later King George V) in 1902. The Hall's organ was gifted by Enriqueta Rylands, founder of the John Rylands Library.



The University of Manchester



University laboratory, 1940s



Taxidermist Harry Brazenor installing a whale skeleton, 1898



Nobel laureates Andre Geim and Kostya Novosolov



A student in the Samuel Alexander Building's Philip Haworth Library



Students of the Global Development Institute, 1958

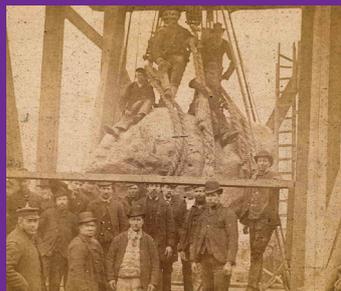


The entrance to Sackville Street Building

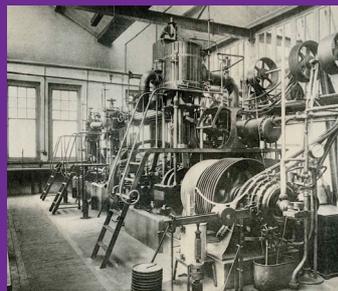
# ESTER



Bridge link featured in original plans for the Christie



The excavation of the boulder that sits outside the Beyer Building



Experimental engines in the engineering laboratories



Catherine Chisholm CBE, our first female medical graduate, 1904

# HIGHLIGHTS

## 2024-25

### Did you know?

Our community of colleagues and students, both past and present, include 26 Nobel laureates.

### Black Leadership Programme goes from strength to strength

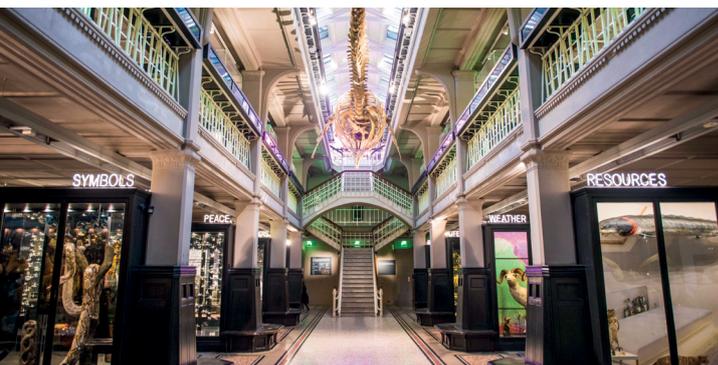
We celebrated our first Manchester 10/10 Black Leadership Programme graduates. Created to empower Black heritage students to build confidence, resilience and leadership skills, the programme was designed in partnership with students.

"One of my highlights has been the wonderful people I've met on this journey. We've grown and laughed together, becoming a community that has achieved so much in a short time," said Oluchi Ijeh, who was named the programme's Most Engaged Student.



### Celebrating Turing's legacy

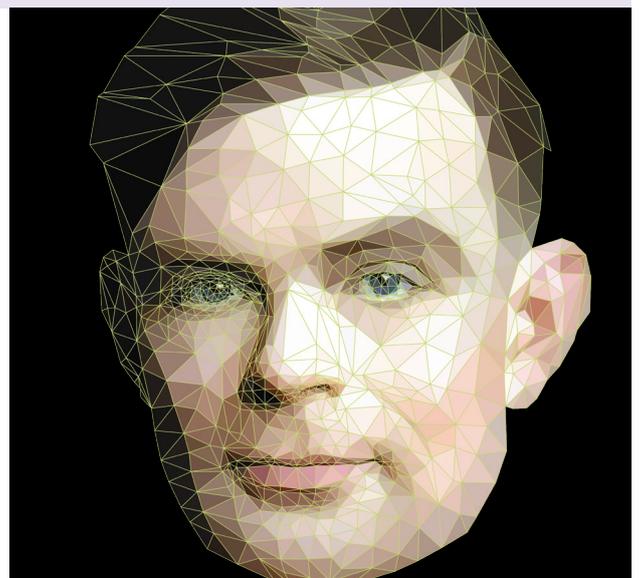
75 years on from the publication of Alan Turing's seminal paper *Computing Machinery and Intelligence*, we've invested in a world-leading research community who are shaping the future of artificial intelligence (AI). From renovating crop productivity in Ghana to tackling online misogyny, we're taking on global challenges, transforming industries, enhancing public services and improving lives.



### Manchester Museum named European Museum of the Year 2025

Situated at the heart of our Oxford Road campus, the Museum was praised for "reimagining its mission, acknowledging and addressing its complex history by redefining the role of its collections and public programmes".

Museum curators worked with local and diasporic communities to bring new perspectives to collections and challenge traditional narratives.



## University remains UK number 1 for social and environmental impact

Manchester was named top in both the UK and Europe, and second in the world, for meaningful contributions towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals in the 2025 *Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings*. We're the only institution in the world to rank in the top ten for social and environmental impact in every year of the rankings.



## From Manchester for the world

This autumn, we launched our new strategy to 2035, setting out our ambition to be a great civic university for the 21st century. By focusing on a combination of foundations and strategic leaps, we will become the type of university we want and need to be: creating knowledge for the public good, locally and globally.



## Greater Manchester students lead the way to a sustainable future

The Green Careers Mission event, pioneered by Greater Manchester's Civic University Agreement partners, brought together students from a variety of disciplines and levels to tackle real-world challenges set by industry partners.

Reflecting on the event, one student said: "It's incredible how all the diverse perspectives from all our universities made our insights sharper and more actionable. I'm proud to be part of such a powerful collaborative initiative for a greener future."



## 200 trees for 200 years

To mark our bicentenary in 2024, volunteers across the University planted 200 trees in partnership with City of Trees. The new trees are part of our commitment to make our region even better – and greener – one tree at a time.

"It's fantastic for the University to be actively supporting such an important green initiative, while creating a lasting legacy for our bicentenary," said former Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Luke Georghiou. "The oak trees we planted today should see at least another bicentenary."





# AWARDS

## PRESIDENT'S DOCTORAL SCHOLARS

The President's Doctoral Scholars Award is the highest accolade that can be bestowed upon members of our postgraduate research community. It's awarded to approximately 3% of our research students who demonstrate academic excellence and leadership potential.

### Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

Victoria Higgs

### Faculty of Humanities

Emilia Howker  
Alan Crookham  
Allysa Czerwinsky

### Faculty of Science and Engineering

Dmitry Kudryavtsev  
Zhaodong Zhu  
Mhd Anas Alsakkal

## OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The University's prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement is awarded to the top students in each graduating year based solely on academic performance. It consists of a certificate and £1,000 prize.

The prestigious award reflects the exceptional performance of the individual graduates during their time at The University of Manchester.

**Faculty of Biology,  
Medicine and Health**

Hannah Snelham

## DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The University's Distinguished Achievement Awards are presented to students who have made an exceptional impact on the life of the University, including by contributing significantly to the development of the curriculum, enhancing other students' experience at university, or coupling excellent academic achievement with valuable extracurricular activity.

**Faculty of Biology,  
Medicine and Health**

Eliete Emely Dos Santos Gomes De  
Almeida Sa

**Faculty  
of Humanities**

Haripriya Shanmugam

**Faculty of Science  
and Engineering**

Sophie Marshall

# STELLIFY AWARD WINNERS

The Stellify Award is the University's most prestigious extracurricular accolade. It is presented to undergraduate students who have successfully engaged with the University's Ethical Grand Challenges, undertaken 25 hours (or more) of community volunteering and fulfilled two leadership roles.

The award is also presented to postgraduate students who have successfully engaged with the University's Ethical Grand Challenges, undertaken 10 hours (or more) of community volunteering and fulfilled one Champions for Change role.

In 2025 the students who achieved the Stellify Award are:

Zoha Aftab	Shreya Gupta	Thando Obert Mathe	Laasya Sree Sapa
Fatma Abdullah Mohammed Al Aرامي	Deepanshi Gupta	Soumya Mati	Ishita Satija
Bashirunnisa Ananya	Nino Gventsadze	Rashmi Chandrashekhar Moundekar	Kaveri Rushabh Shah
Shreya Baxi	Brooke Elizabeth Hansford	Salma Kareem Moustafa	Sana Shamsi
Yashika Bhatra	Devina Hermawan	Krishita Mukherjee	Haripriya Shanmugam
Trisha Bhattacharya	Andrea Hernandez Salomon	Haseeb Mumtaz Awan	Mayuri Umesh Shelar
Berna Birtan	Sofia Lara Hewitt	Elisha Mursalim	Xiaolin Sheng
Chloe Louise Burke	Amy Howard	Ameya Ranjeet Nambudiri	Nadya Shifani
Marcos David Caceres Benitez	Rachael Elizabeth Howe	Cecilia Bakahumura Nshemereirwe	Joanna Nafula Chantal Simon
Mao-Wei Chang	Tzu-Sheng Hsu	Jacob Osito	Sanya Singh
Shi Cheng	Fiona Ihde	Uddish Parasramka	Samantha Hayley Sorscher
Gulam Sarwar Choudhury	Ghulam Muhammad Islam	Eun Hong Park	Charlotte Beata Stobart
Humayrah Chowdhury	Hyunjin Jeon	Sreemaan Vaishnav Sanjeeth Mithra Pisupati	Stephanie Rose Sullivan
Ishita Das	Klismann Johan	Sruti Poola	Sankarlal Thirukkonda Eswarlal
William Andrew Davies	Kashish Juneja	Shabrina Firlyannisa Pratiwi	Aryan Tiwari
Synora D'Costa	Asu Kaur	Maharani Permata Putri	Jahanvi Tripathi
Stuti Dhar Chowdhury	Priyanshika Khanna	Li Yin Quah	Ege Ulusoy
Eleanor Eckersley	Chae Hyun Kim	Gokul Ramachandran Ravi	Rachel Cynthia Valavan Vetrigo
Alice Eddyshaw	Jahnvi Koolwal	Fahim Muhammad Rasheed	Carlos David Vivero Vivanco
Aly Amr Hussain Elsaied	Mohamed Kotit	Zakiyah Artanti Ratnadewi	Alessia Mihaela Vlasceanu
Yunnan Fan	Rajkamal Kumar	Areeba Rizwan	Shannon Hannah Widjaja
Molly Rae Foggoa	Samridhi Kureel	Savanna Angela Lauren Rowe	Chuning Xu
Vinnie Goh Mei Yin	Haiyang Liu	Vanshika Saikia	Ezo Yildiz
Ana González Palos	Xinuo Ma	Lia Sanchez Rivera	Luxi Zhan
Saffron Gupta	Nishant Mahipal		Donglin Zhao
	Sharon Mary Dominic Raj		



**Did you know?**

Whitworth Hall's stained-glass window celebrates the University's collaboration with local industry.

# LEADING THE WAY

Throughout our 200-year history, Manchester has helped shape the world through knowledge, wisdom and humanity.

**1874**

**Edward Ryley Langworthy**

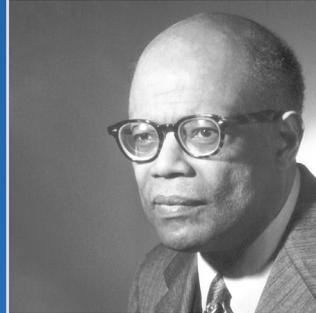
The Langworthy Chair, a position later held by five Nobel laureates, is created by the legacy of this donor to the University.



**1979**

**Sir Arthur Lewis**

Britain's first Black professor, Arthur Lewis wins the 1979 Nobel Prize for Economics.



**1906**

**Dame Christabel Pankhurst DBE**

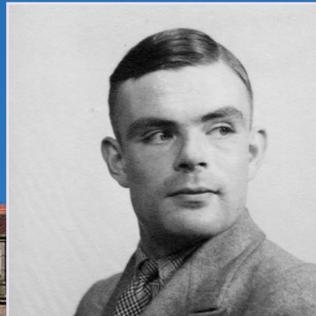
Prior to her role in the suffragette movement, she graduates in law at a time when it was illegal for women to practise the profession.



**1945**

**Prof Alan Turing OBE FRS**

The famed wartime codebreaker joins the University, where he later gains a reputation as the father of modern computing.



**1908**

**Sir Ernest Rutherford OM FRS**

This pioneer of chemistry and physics, who would later 'split' the atom, becomes the University's first Nobel Prize winner in 1908.



**1945**

**Ellen Wilkinson**

Ellen Wilkinson is appointed as Britain's first female Minister for Education. As a student she won scholarships for every stage of her education.



UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

**1998****Prof Brian Cox OBE FRS**

Graduating in Physics, Brian Cox starts a scientific career that has seen him become a household name through his work to popularise science.

**2023****Ella Podmore MBE**

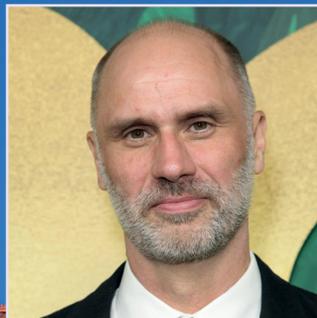
Aged just 27, materials engineer Ella Podmore receives an MBE from the Prince of Wales for services to Engineering, Innovation and Diversity.

**2004****Prof Alan Gilbert AO**

Alan Gilbert is appointed President and Vice-Chancellor in 2004, later establishing Equity and Merit Scholarships and the Manchester Access Programme.

**2019****Jesse Armstrong**

Author and screenwriter Jesse Armstrong wins the first of his five Emmy awards for his satirical drama *Succession*. It receives widespread critical acclaim.

**2006****Prof Danielle George MBE**

Danielle George is awarded her PhD. Ten years later she receives an MBE for her services to promote public engagement in engineering.

**2017****Naa Acquah**

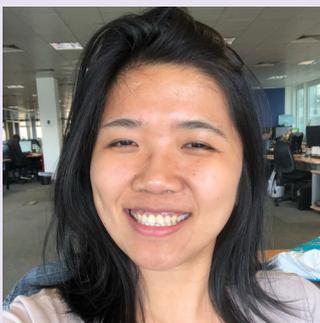
Naa Acquah is named General Secretary of the Students' Union – the first Black woman to hold the position.



# STEP INTO YOUR FUTURE WITH THE CAREERS SERVICE

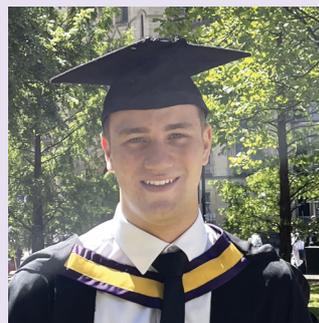
**As you get ready to begin the next chapter of your life, remember that you don't have to figure it all out on your own. Our Careers Service is here to help you land your dream job.**

Here's how some of our recent graduates have taken their next steps with our support:



**Phoebe Feng**  
Business Development Manager, Alpha CRC

"When I was job searching and thinking about my next step, it was always very reassuring to know that the Careers Service had my back. I recommend going to different alumni panel sessions and connecting with the speakers. You never know where your next big opportunity will come from."



**Killian Billinge**  
Graduate Drainage Engineer, AtkinsRéalis

"I was so uncertain about my future after graduating; unsure whether to continue within further education or to set my sights on employment. The Careers Service provided an abundance of information to guide me towards the decision I made, and I could not be happier!"

## As a graduate, you can still access the Careers Service for up to two years after you complete your course.

Get started with our checklist:

- Activate your Graduate CareerConnect account for vacancies, CV feedback, practice interviews and more.
- Follow us on Instagram @uomcareers.
- Join The University of Manchester's Recent Graduates LinkedIn group.
- Book a one-to-one appointment with a careers advisor.
- Complete the Graduate Outcomes Survey 15 months after finishing your course.

**@uomcareers**

**[manchester.ac.uk/careers](https://manchester.ac.uk/careers)**

## Did you know?

The Careers Service offers one-to-one appointments for all graduates. In the last academic year, they provided 1,311 careers appointments to support our recent graduates in taking their next steps.

## Have you heard of Manchester Graduate Talent?

We offer graduate-level roles in and around Manchester exclusively for University of Manchester students.

Find out more:



**Charline Ñuflo**

Product Manager, Oxfam

"I used the Careers Service after I finished my master's. It helped me to improve my CV and to practice for my first interview in the UK, which at the time was a bit scary because everything was new for me as an international student. The mock interview session I booked helped me to gain more confidence and be able to secure the job."



**Tim Pickin**

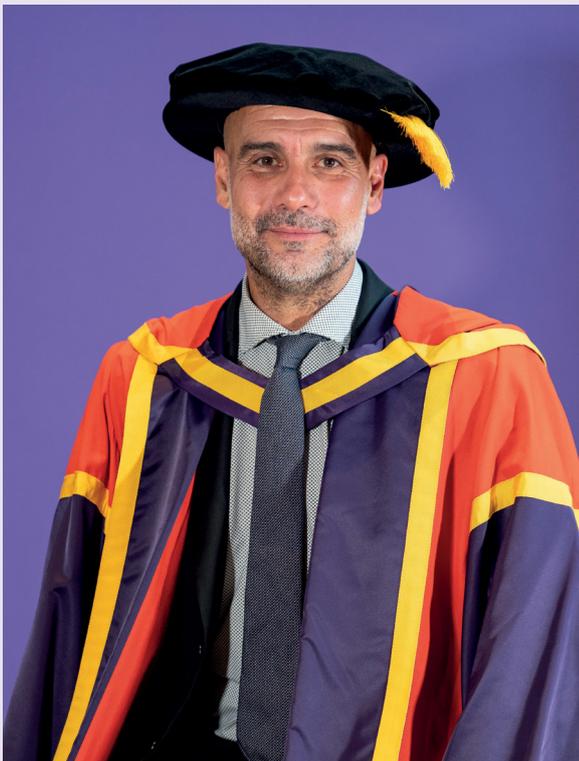
Marketing and Recruitment Coordinator,  
The University of Manchester

"Because the Careers Service is so specific to The University of Manchester, the advice I received felt a lot more personal than other sources of careers advice. They understood what it was like to be in my position, what my options were and what I could do with my degree. It's free, too!"

# STAY CONNECTED

## Class of 2025, welcome to your alumni community!

We're here to help you preserve a lifelong connection with the University, and invite you to continue friendships, share experiences and inspire those who follow in your footsteps.



**“Catalonia is my home, but Manchester will remain something unique for the rest of my life. I have lived the best moments of my life here.”**

**Dr Josep 'Pep' Guardiola** on receiving his honorary doctorate, *The University Magazine*, Issue 17, Summer 2025

Scan to read the full article.



Update your personal details:  
**[manchester.ac.uk/update](https://manchester.ac.uk/update)**

When you share your personal details with the Division of Development and Alumni Relations, you will receive:

- our emails, including our fortnightly newsletter;
- occasional information by post or telephone about how you can support our students and research;
- invites to University events.

Follow us



**alumniuom**



**AlumniUoM**

# ACADEMIC DRESS



Mortarboards



Doctoral Bonnets

## Did you know?

The gowns worn for traditional graduation ceremonies originated in the 12th century as medieval scholars' garments. It's speculated that these long gowns were donned to keep scholars warm in drafty buildings and symbolise their status at the same time.



Certificates and Diplomas



Bachelor's (3-4) Years  
(including BA and BSc)



Bachelor's (5) Years  
(including MBChB)



Undergraduate Master's  
(including MEng and MChem)



Bachelor's  
Manchester School of Architecture



Master's  
(including MSc and MA)



Master of Philosophy  
(MPhil)



Master's  
Manchester School of Architecture



Doctorates  
(including PhD, DPT, DBA)



Higher Doctorates  
(including DSc)

During the course of this event no alarm test or emergency evacuation practice has been planned. Therefore, if the alarm, which is a single-stage alarm, is activated it should be treated as a potential incident requiring evacuation.

Should the alarm sound, please remain calm and seated and follow the instructions given by stewarding staff.

The assembly point is on the front quadrangle, adjacent to the Whitworth Hall and opposite John Owens Building.

**Please take a few minutes to share your feedback on your graduation ceremony.**



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