



*Welcome to Class Notes News Online! Hopefully, the entire alumni magazine will be online soon; in the meantime, we hope you enjoy catching up on the doings of your old friends and classmates in this first online instalment of Class Notes News. As always, thanks for sending your news in! If you would like to submit your news, or contact someone who hasn't given their details, please contact the Alumni Office on 01382 308043, or email [alumni@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@abertay.ac.uk) - we'll be happy to help you get in touch.*

### 2003

Amelié BALISTAIRE (*MSc International Marketing with Languages*) has joined the French Army as an officer Lieutenant in the Communications field. Amelié will undergo three months of field training at the prestigious French School of Officers at St. Cyr, Brittany. She credits studying for the past three years in Dundee with helping her to get through the interviews. Amelié celebrated Easter by getting engaged to former Abertay student Sebastian Lehembre (*MSc Management 2003*).

Alana Jane CONNOR (*BSc Hons Nursing*) is currently working as a staff nurse in the vascular unit at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, while undertaking MSc Health Studies at the University of Abertay. She hopes to travel over the next couple of years.

Christopher GIBSON (*BSc Computing Applications & Development*) is developing the new company E C Networks as part of his Postgrad Diploma in entrepreneurship at Embreonix in the University of Abertay.

Jim Joy JOHN (*MBA Finance*) describes his studies at Abertay's Dundee Business School "very rewarding." He extends his thanks to the whole team at the business school for making his graduation possible.

Peter Thomas KERINS (*BSc Health & Sport Studies*) is thinking of taking up further studies in physiotherapy, or studying for his PGCE (post graduate certificate of education). He plans to travel if he decides not to continue his studies.

### 2002

David Robert LAING (*PgDip Information Technology*) is hard at work as a Transport Planner for the Babbie Group in their Edinburgh office. He was elected as a Member of the Institution of Highways and Transportation in

2002. In 2003 he embarked on a part-time customised MSc at Napier University to study a range of topics in connection with his current employment. In July 2003 David got engaged to Clodagh O'Connell and they are now busy planning their wedding in the Republic of Ireland, with the big day all arranged for 9 August 2004. They plan to enjoy their honeymoon in Canada and Alaska.

Joyce Jashani K. LECHCHUMANAN (*BA Hons Business Administration*) spends her free time these days happily indulging her hobby of collecting stamps. Joyce acquires her stamps through several sources, with most of them coming from letters posted to her office.

Gcinekile (Nicky) NDIWENI (*HND Accounting*) is overjoyed to have finished her degree studies in Accounting last month at London Metropolitan University.

## 2001

Nadia MCGLYNN (*BA Hons Social Science*) is working hard as a Development Officer on the Millennium Volunteers Project, a programme that develops and promotes volunteer work for 16-24 year olds in Northern Ireland. Nadia is also studying a course in Counselling.



Sumit MITRA (*Master of Business Administration*) joined BT Global Solutions in June 2001. Prior to that he worked in the BT Call Centre in Dundee as a Resource Manager while he was a student at Abertay. Since joining BT Global Solutions, Sumit has represented BT at three career conferences to convey various policies and opportunities within BT to career councillors and students from universities across the UK. He also mentors undergraduate students from various universities across the UK, working especially with the University of Manchester. In 2002 he married his long-time girlfriend Suparna, a former model from Calcutta. The couple make their home in York, where Sumit plays cricket in the North Yorkshire league.



Ronald STEWART (*PG Dip Information Technology*) graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 2003 with a Post Graduate Certificate in Secondary Education. He is currently teaching Craft & Design and Technology at Baldragon Academy in Dundee.

## 2000

Brendan Allan BARR (*BSc Hons Business Computing*) worked a series of contract jobs for an asset management company called Capitol Control after leaving Abertay. He decided not to renew his contract with the company and instead attended interviews for a commission in the British Army, in particular the Adjutant Generals Corp Staff and Personnel Support (AGC SPS). After several successful interviews and assessments he attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) to begin a yearlong physical and mental officer-training programme. After commissioning into the AGC SPS, he then began a nine-week course that entailed finance, discipline and other tasks.



*Brendan in service dress*

At present Brendan holds the demanding job of Detachment Commander for the 1st Battalion Scots Guards in Germany. He deals with finance problems, accounts and discipline, as well as managing the career of his detachment. The posting is for two years and then he will move on to his next post, which is still unknown. Brendan says he really enjoys this job, as it has a different outlook compared to the usual 9-to-5 jobs in the city. Travel, fun and exhilaration is all around, and his education never stops: he learns new things every day and attends various courses in his area of expertise.

## 1990s

David K CHADWICK (*MSc Mechatronics, 1993*) has lived in Botswana since August 1997. He and his wife, native Botswanan Koketso Opina Radinoga make their home in Botswana's capital city of Gaborone.

David and Koketso were originally married on 24 October 2002 - the couple had two weddings. Their October wedding was a small affair at the District Commissioner's office, followed by lunch at the home of the bride's mother in Moshupa, about 56km west of Gaborone. July 21, 2003 saw their second wedding, a lavish ceremony that included a choir of 50, followed by a wedding luncheon with 350 guests. Three cows were slaughtered to provide lunch, which local people worked all night to prepare. The wedding photos and video were shot by the Moshupa River. The groom's wedding suit was made to measure in Bangkok, and the bride's dress was made by the

Bangkok tailor Sharif. Kocketso had three changes of costume, which she wore at different times during the ceremony.



*David & Koketso Chadwick, Royal Palace & Temple, Bangkok*

David is happy in Botswana, and has no plans to return to the UK. He owns a patent for a communication device that helps people with severe disabilities use a computer, which he developed as part of his MSc project at Abertay. David is now retired from teaching, and has written five books for Junior School Science that will be published this year. He is also working on a book for GCSE Physics.

Rupert Adam **CROSSLAND** (*BA Hons Applied Economics, 1993*) put his Applied Economics degree to good use in 1994 when he joined one of England's Training and Enterprise Councils, the organisations responsible for achieving local economic growth by co-ordinating learning and business development. After 10 years, various reorganisations, relocations and promotions,



*Linda & Rupert Crossland (standing), in BBC Radio studio*

Rupert is now Head of Audit for the Learning and Skills Council.

He spends his spare time with his wife Linda looking after two dogs that they rescued from Battersea Dogs Home. The couple also finds time to re-live their youth by producing a regular newsletter for fans around the world of pop group Duran Duran. Rupert and Linda have produced the magazine for five years and have been on BBC radio several times to discuss the band and their magazine. Abertay (and any other) Duranies are welcome to visit

<http://www.geocities.com/rogerfans2003> for more information on the publication.

Robert Peter DAVIDSON (*BA Business Studies, 1994*) keeps busy these days with his work as the Political Agent for Shepway for the Conservative Party (which is Michael Howard's seat).

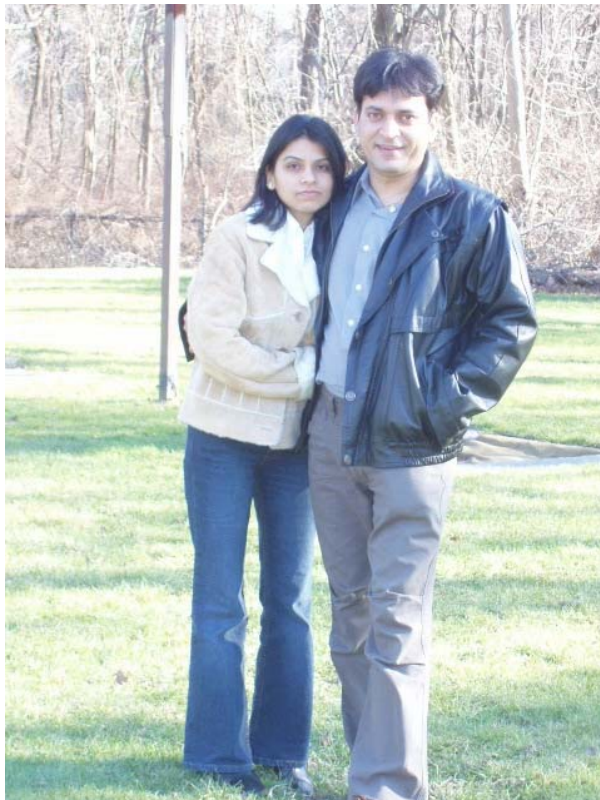


*Rogelio & Angeles*

Rogelio Alberto FERROL-MUNIZ (*BA Hons Economics, 1999*) married Angeles Deira Abalo in October 2002. The couple spent their honeymoon in Thailand. Rogelio has returned to Scotland twice since his graduation, the last time in October 2003 with his wife

to celebrate their first wedding anniversary. The couple visited Rogelio's friend Stephen Lynch in Glasgow; the former Hillside flatmates like to keep in touch. Rogelia and Angeles also visited Dundee, a city that Rogelio says brings him good memories. Rogelio made the *Class Notes* staff very happy by writing, "I really enjoy receiving the magazine. Please keep on sending it" on his *Class Notes* submission (Thanks, Rogelio: we're happy to keep sending you the magazine, and really glad to know you like it! – The Editor).

Pradeep JHANGIANI (*MBA, 1998*) Originally from a small, middle-class family



*Pradeep and Shweta*

in Bombay, Pradeep always wanted to study in the UK, and worked hard for eight years in order to save enough money to study at Abertay. His determination paid off: Pradeep is now the Business Manager for the New York computer consulting firm Genesys, and the owner of a lovely apartment in Norwalk, Connecticut, which he shares with his lovely wife Shweta.

Pradeep fell in love with Dundee the day he arrived, and he has many fond memories of "this small beautiful town." He

remembers that although he was the only Indian student at Abertay during that time, he never felt alone or missed his home country – at Abertay, he found some of the best friends of his life. He happily recalls the wonderful mix of different cultures and the socialising, admitting to being a bit of a party animal when not devoting his time to his studies.

Pradeep credits his education at Abertay with helping him to grow in his career. He is happy to recommend the University of Abertay to those who are interested in taking a course for Business Studies.

Andrew LOWTHER (*BSc MRICS, 1994*) has been happily married to his wife Yanina for several years now. He was made a Partner with the Edinburgh property and construction firm Gleeds in January 2004. When he's not enjoying a pint in the pub, he can be found in the air flying a Cessna, working towards acquiring the 55 hours he needs to go solo before he can qualify for his pilot's license.

Craig Robert MACADAM (*HND Civil Engineering, 1991*) spent some time working as a Drainage Design Technician and Survey Assessment & Recording Technician with the Central Regional Council following his graduation. After the 1996 reorganisation of the Scottish water industry, Craig worked with the Environmental Policy Team for East of Scotland Water. The creation of Scottish Water led him to a post as a Drinking Water Scientist. In February 2003 Craig left Scottish Water so he and his wife Carol Ann could establish Bradan Aquasurvey Ltd, an independent environment consultancy specialising in fresh-water ecology.



Dee MACLEAN (*MBA Marketing, 1996*) has just completed an enjoyable year as Corporate Affairs Administrator with Abertay (as one former lecturer said "finally putting that MBA to good use!"). During that time she was responsible for, among other things, the Alumni Office, and had a great time finding out what former classmates have been up to over the last few years. Having spent the previous few years in Aberdeen, Dee found it refreshing to see how both Dundee and the University have developed in the last decade. Dee has now upped sticks and moved to Buckinghamshire, but will remain a regular visitor to Dundee.

Christakis Procopiou MARCOU (*Master of Business Administration, 1999*) has been running his own consultancy office in Cyprus, ACMA Consultants Ltd since 1992. The company specialises in marketing, marketing research, human resources training and Quality Systems ISO 9000. Christakis reports that his firm grows more successful each year, and credits his success to the knowledge he gained at Abertay.

Graham McAVOY (*HND Engineering 1991, BEng Hons Mechanical Engineering 1993, MSc Mechatronics, 1994*) continues his work on the QM2, which although sailing, continues to have a few problems. Graham will be meeting the ship in Southampton next month and sailing either to Vigo in Spain or South Queensferry to ensure the stabiliser system is functioning correctly. He is looking forward to the day when the ship is finished!

Jerome SCHWOB (*MBA Marketing, 1999*) Spent four years in Lyon, working as a purchaser in the car parts industry. Jerome is now in Paris, where he works as the Purchasing Manager for the car parts distributor *Intermarché*.



*Jerome Schwob*

Graham Charles SMITH (*BSc Hons Business Computing, 1998*) has been engaged to his fiancée Paula for two years. Graham and his two dogs moved to a house in Larkhall, South Lanarkshire after living for five years in the south side of Glasgow. He is currently working as a Senior Applications Analyst for Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. Graham is one of the founder members and current Chairman of the Glasgow Dees (Dundee FC) Supporters' Club.

Grant Alexander SMITH (*BSc Quantity Surveying, 1997*) has spent the years since his graduation working in Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong, where he was involved with the new Kuala Lumpur International Airport and the Chek Lap Kok Airport. Since returning to the United Kingdom he has spent two years in Liverpool, then time in Beaulieu (near Inverness) and Thurso. Grant is now a Senior Quantity Surveyor, happy to be back home in Scotland, where he is busy working on the A92 upgrading Dundee to Arbroath project.



Steven William THOMSON (*BA Hons Information Management, 1999*) has become a professional juggler. He has great fun touring all over the UK performing at anything from birthday parties to store openings to festivals. He has written two books on juggling which are due to be published this year, and has begun performing as a Christian Juggler, spreading the gospel to people whilst juggling. Steve also works as a freelance professional website designer, designing simple text and image sites for churches, charities and other Christian organisations. Additionally, Steve owns and operates a successful juggling

equipment and novelty item store. More information on Steve can be found at one of his four websites:

[www.jugglingworld.biz](http://www.jugglingworld.biz)  
[www.jugglingworld.biz/shop.html](http://www.jugglingworld.biz/shop.html)  
[www.webdesignworld.biz](http://www.webdesignworld.biz)  
[www.stevensworld.biz](http://www.stevensworld.biz)



## 1980s



*Gordon, baby Emma & the proud father*

Colin Graham FORBES (*HND Building, 1988*) has a recent new addition to his family: a six-pound, seven-ounce baby girl named Emma Louise, who arrived on 13 March after just 40 minutes! Wife Lynn and baby Emma are doing well, and 2-1/2 year old Gordon is learning how to be a big brother.

Bruce Thomas HAMMOND (*BA Hons Accounting, 1988*) upon graduating from the former Dundee Institute of Technology in 1988 quickly obtained a clerical job in local government with Angus Council. He intended this to be a stopgap until he found more meaningful employment, but in the end was employed with the council for over 15 years, working his way up the managerial ladder to Senior Accountant, a position he held for over five years. During his time at Angus Council he studied for and eventually qualified as a Certified Accountant (ACCA). Believing it was time to move on professionally, he was appointed Financial Controller of the Tayside Fire Brigade in December 2003.