

The UK's Best Breakthroughs List is a celebration of the everyday impact that universities have on people, lives and communities across the UK.

UK universities are at the forefront of some of the world's most important discoveries, innovations and social initiatives, including the creation of the internet, work tackling plastic pollution, ultrasound scans to check the health of unborn babies and the establishment of the Living Wage.

The list also highlights the less celebrated breakthroughs that transform lives, regardless of whether you've been to university or not. These include a specially-designed bra to help women undergoing radiotherapy; a toilet that flushes human

waste without the need for water; the development of a new scrum technique to make rugby safer; a sports initiative that aims to use football to resolve conflict in divided communities; – and even work to protect the quality of the chocolate we eat.

It was put together in partnership with universities across the UK. As part of the MadeAtUni campaign, every university in the country was invited to nominate the one thing from their institution which they believe has had the biggest impact on people, lives or communities.

Over 100 universities submitted a nomination and the entries cover health, technology, environment, family, community, and culture & sport.

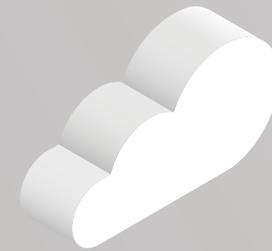
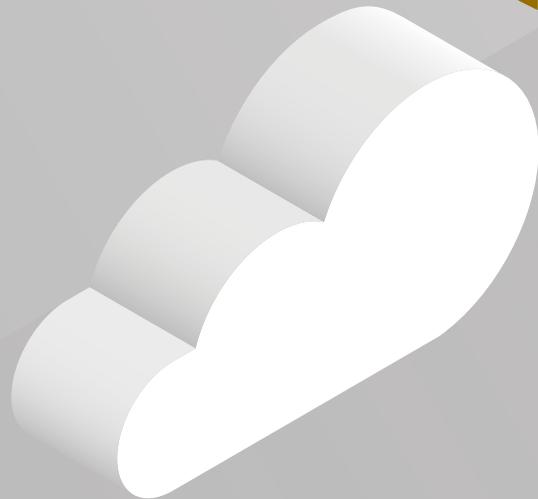
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UNIVERSITY NOMINATIONS OR
EXPLORE ALL THE BREAKTHROUGHS
BY THEME

THEMES



>Queen's University Belfast
>Ulster University



QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Invention of the portable defibrillator

The late Frank Pantridge, who was a Professor at Queen's University Belfast, was known as the 'father of emergency medicine' and invented the portable defibrillator in 1965.

The device has saved innumerable lives around the world since Pantridge first developed his prototype which operated from two car batteries and weighed 70 kilos.

Pantridge installed the portable defibrillator in an ambulance and the device was first used in January 1966. The so-called 'Pantridge plan' was taken up in America where mobile units were swiftly put into operation and was used to manage President Lyndon Johnson when he suffered a heart attack while on a visit to Virginia in 1972.



ULSTER UNIVERSITY

Helping paralysed people to communicate

Professor Damien Coyle has created a futuristic headset that helps paralysed patients communicate with their families using their thoughts.

Using non-invasive wearable neurotechnology to measure and translate brainwaves into control signals, the headset uses advanced algorithms to enable people to interact with technology and communicate without moving.

This has applications in rehabilitation, diagnostics, augmentative and assistive communication devices and entertainment.



MADE AT UNI

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Visit madeatuni.org.uk
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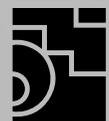


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