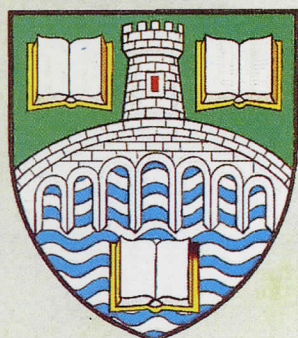


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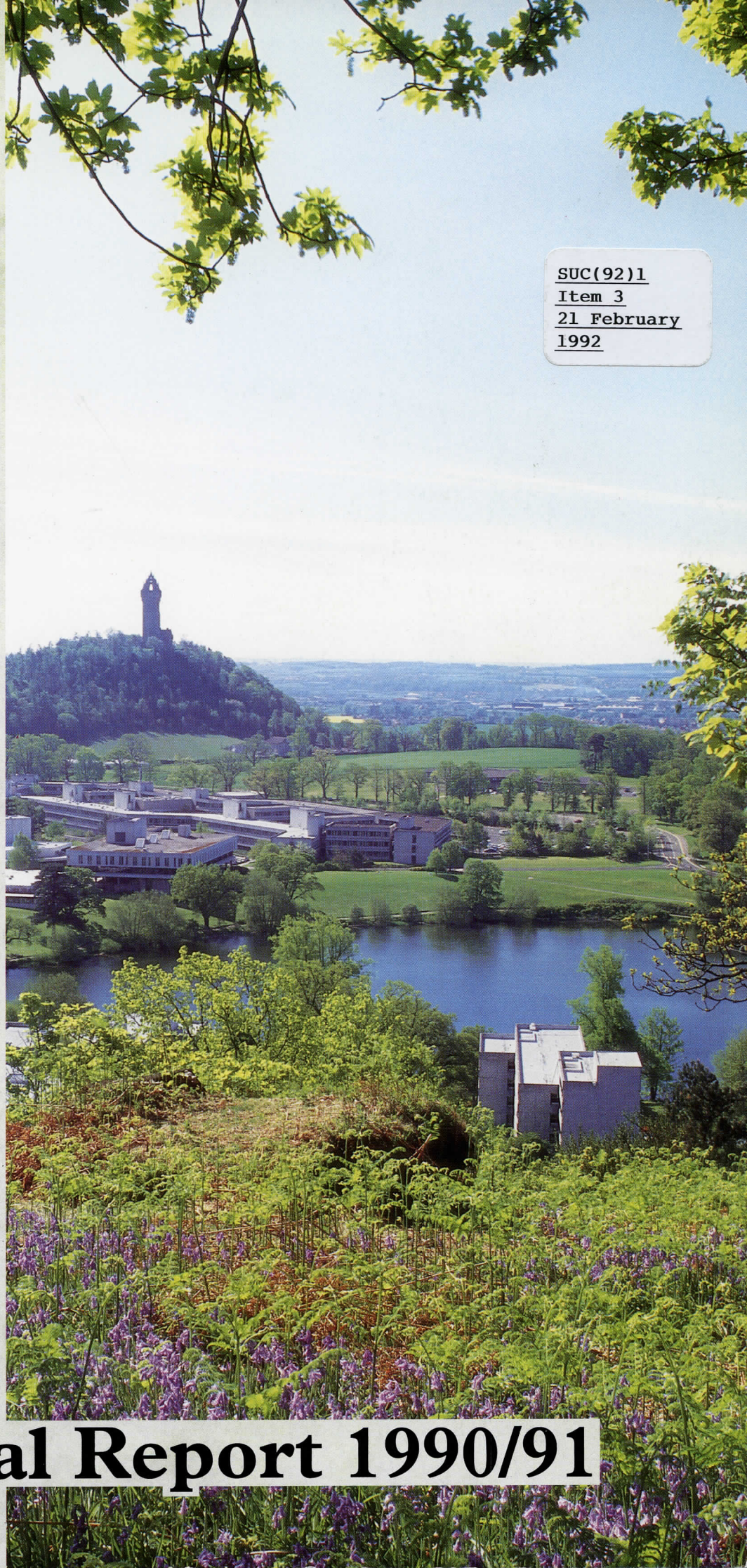
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Item 3  
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1992



**Annual Report 1990/91**



## INTRODUCTION

### The theme of this Annual Report

The University of Stirling is not just a teaching and research resource for Scotland and further afield. It is also a resource for the local community: this year's Annual Report focusses on the University's interaction with Stirling and Central Region. This manifests itself in many different ways, all of which contribute to a very positive relationship between "town and gown." The Report concentrates on just a few of these which will be of interest to members of the Conference and external readers. Any member of Conference wishing further information on these or other aspects of the University's work is invited to contact the Press Office.

The University was greatly honoured in May 1991 by the presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales who opened the Gannochy National Tennis Centre and the Wolfson Aquatic Biotechnology Laboratories in the Institute of Aquaculture. Her Royal Highness was enthusiastically greeted by staff and students both in the formal opening ceremonies and on unscheduled walkabouts during the visit. Many local people also welcomed the Princess, who subsequently visited Stirling.



*HRH The Princess of Wales was shown around the new Wolfson Aquatic Biotechnology Laboratories by Professor R J Roberts and staff of the Institute of Aquaculture.*

*(l to r) Dr N Bromage; HRH The Princess of Wales; Dr B McAndrew and Professor R J Roberts.*



*Professor Roberts introduces Dr K Jauncey to Her Royal Highness with other members of the Institute of Aquaculture in attendance.*

### Why community links?

The rationale for community links is that there is a two-way benefit. The community benefits by gaining access to facilities it could not otherwise develop, and it benefits economically. The University benefits by gaining financial and political support and an essential infrastructure.

The University owes its existence largely to the efforts of the local people who persuaded the government in the mid-1960's to found Scotland's only wholly new University in Stirling. Next year we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the grant of the Royal Charter, which was the culmination of several years' hard work by those people whose contribution we will remember during our Silver Jubilee. During 1992/3 we will also celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the construction of Airthrey Castle, which many older residents will recall as a maternity hospital and whose estate itself gave birth to the rather differently designed buildings which now make up the University.



*Airthrey Castle, designed by Robert Adam.*

### Some facts and figures

Perhaps the most obvious impact of the University on its local community is the presence of students, some 4000 of them in 1990/91 from about 80 different countries. Many people probably do not realise that the University campus is the place of work of 1600 people, the majority drawn from the local area, not including 115 employed in the 22 different companies based in the Innovation Park. This makes a community of some 6000 in all, larger than some local villages. The University's own general budget is some £21m, of which it is estimated that £16m is spent locally. Each student has on average about £3000 to spend, putting another £12m into the local economy either through the University's domestic services or directly into local shops and service industries. One estimate is that the University, its staff and students maintain some 2000 additional jobs in local service industries, suppliers and so on. The Midland Scottish bus company alone runs over 10,000 buses to the campus every year. The MacRobert Arts Centre, with a budget of £0.8m, puts on about 300 performances, 100 film shows and 10 exhibitions, plus a whole range of events involving local schools. The Sports Centre has over 2000 community members and welcomed over 80,000 community visits during the year to the Sports Centre, the golf course and Airthrey Loch.

### ACADEMIC LINKS

#### Planning for wider educational opportunity

The University has adopted as one of the key objectives of its Academic Plan the enhancement of educational opportunity through a range of activities which include:



## VISIT BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES

### Opening of The Gannochy National Tennis Centre: a facility for the community.



*Her Royal Highness was introduced to participants in the Tennis for the Disabled Programme.*

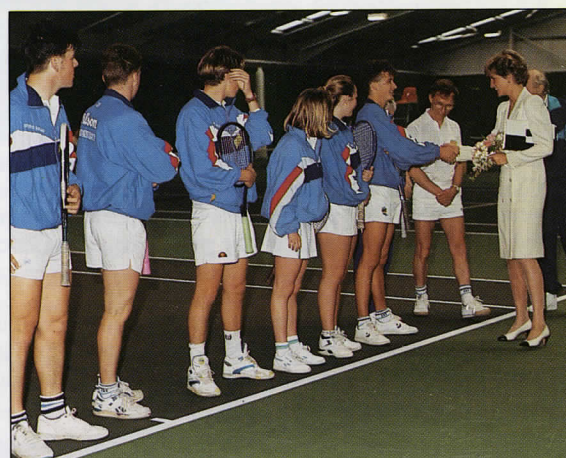
*Professor A J Forty, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, leads Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales into the new Tennis Centre watched by an eager group of spectators from the local community.*



*Primary and Secondary school pupils take part in Short Tennis and Transition Tennis.*



*Players from the Senior Tennis Programme were introduced to the Royal visitor.*



*Dr I Thomson introduces tennis players from the University's Sports Bursary scheme.*

#### Community Use of the Sports Centre

Community use of the Sports Centre included recreational visits by members and their families; the swimming pool, conditioning room, badminton courts and squash courts continued to be the most popular areas. Instruction courses were also well supported by the local community, with record enrolments of over 4000 non-student participants: courses included aerobics, swimming, weight training, canoeing, fitness training and racquet sports. Of particular note were the courses for the older

population, with their pioneering approach to such activity, and the courses for local children.

Various corporate links were established during the year; pre-season training facilities were provided for first division football clubs; family weekends were organised for local industries, and corporate membership was offered to campus-based businesses.

A further aspect of community service was the activity of staff in the promotion of local sport; this included membership of local sports development groups, coaching, examining and advisory work.