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## WELCOME TO OUR FEBRUARY ISSUE!

Welcome to the second edition of the centenary newsletter, a chance to catch up on our centenary events and activities since the launch of our centenary year on 7 January.

Inside this issue, you'll find out all about our first **Centenary Employee Volunteering Day**, which took place at Purley Park Trust, the launch of our **Design a Building of the Future Competition** and our **upcoming events**.

As ever, you can learn more about our centenary year at [www.ucem.ac.uk/centenary](http://www.ucem.ac.uk/centenary).

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## CENTENARY NEWS | EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING



Throughout our centenary year, we will be giving back to the local Reading community through our Centenary Employee Volunteering Programme, which presents every UCEM employee based in the UK with the opportunity to partake in a day of volunteering for a local charity.



On Tuesday 5 February, a group of 20 UCEM employees took part in the first employee volunteering day at Purley Park Trust, a charity that provides care and support to adults with learning difficulties.

Our team of volunteers took part in both practical and interactive activities including landscaping one of the residents' care homes' gardens, facilitating a Thai Chi session, assisting in a science lesson and getting creative with various arts and crafts activities, in addition to redecorating the Trust's Club House's bathroom.

UCEM has published a [news story](#) and [blog post](#) featuring additional photos and employees' experiences of the day in their own words.

Further information on the inspiring work that Purley Park Trust carries out can be found on their [website](#).

**“ The people we support very much enjoyed having visitors and were very appreciative. ”**

Helen Money,  
Day Services Manager  
Purley Park Trust



**“ It was a pleasure be part of the first group this year to get out into the local community and provide some hands-on assistance to a charity deserving of support. ”**

Ashley Wheaton, Principal



**“ It was great to achieve the goal which we were set and it was priceless seeing the joy derived from our work in the support staff and residents' reactions. They really appreciated all our efforts. ”**

Clive Sidwell, IT Infrastructure Engineer



**“ To see the enjoyment and smiles on the clients' faces is a very special memory that will remain with me for years to come. ”**

Jeanette Pizey, Graduation Officer

**“ I had such a lovely day volunteering and went home feeling really proud of what we had all achieved. ”**

Jessica Fitzsimons, Assistant Admissions Officer



## CENTENARY NEWS | **Design a Building of the Future** competition launch



This month, UCEM launched its first national outreach competition to **Design a Building of the Future** with the 'WOW Factor!'

We are asking secondary school students in Years 7 – 10 to design a sustainable building and submit it to our panel of experts for the chance to win a trip to the **BRE Innovation Park** where they will witness innovative building design and technology demonstration, gain an insight into the variety of solutions to sustainable needs, see inside some unique research laboratories, and meet with world-leading specialists in sustainability, fire engineering and a whole host of scientific and digital fields.

We are thrilled to be collaborating with BRE on this initiative, who will work to incorporate elements of the students' designs into the activities they partake in on the day.

The six winners will be revealed live at **The Built Environment of the Future** outreach event on Thursday 16 May at the Crystal, during which UCEM will also attempt to set a Guinness World Record for the Largest Surveying Lesson.

The competition is open to any secondary school student studying in Years 7 – 10 in the UK so please spread the word because it's time to impress those judges!

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## ON THIS DAY | **25TH FEBRUARY 1921**

On this day, 25 February, in 1921, the original staircase from the College of Estate Management's first permanent home at 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields was donated to the Victoria and Albert Museum, where it has been on display ever since.

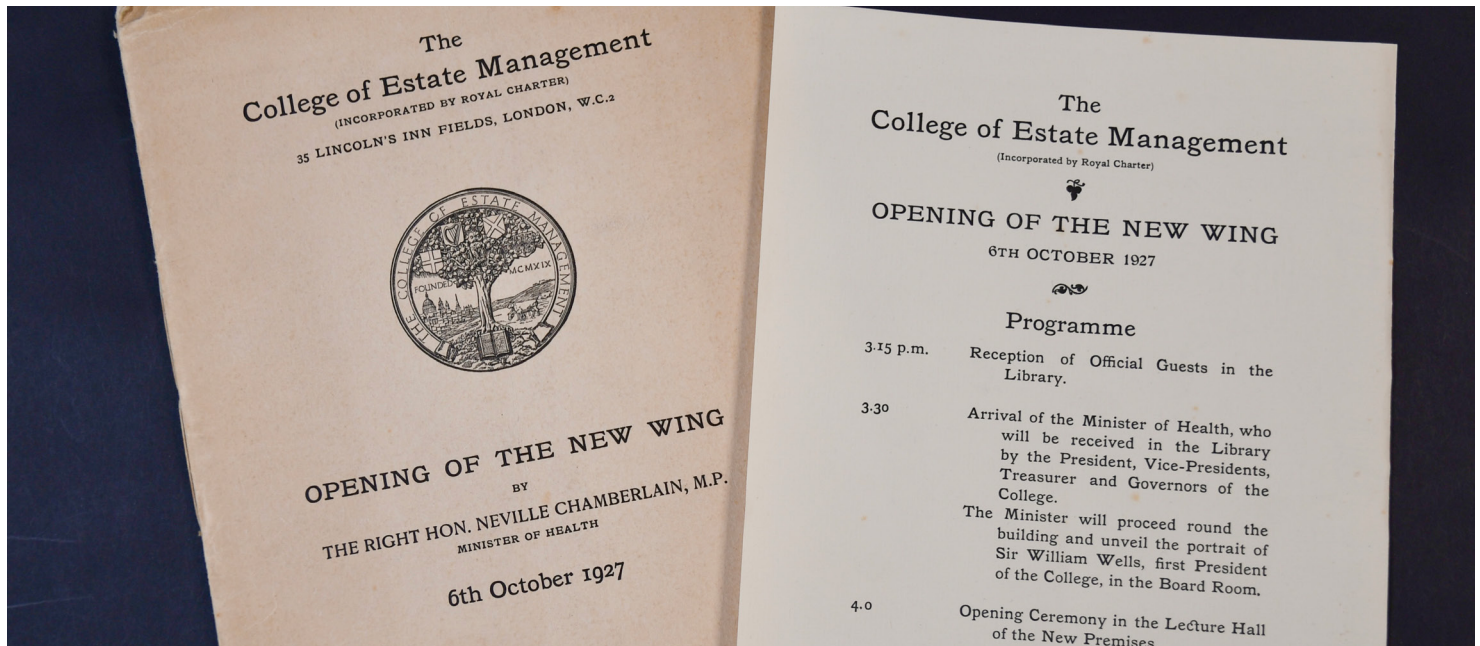
Upon purchasing the property, CEM remodelled the interior to suit its new educational purpose. This included removing the exquisite wrought iron staircase and balustrade, produced pre-1754 or else designed to appear older.

To this day, it can be viewed in room 54 of the Victoria and Albert Museum in Kensington.



Wrought iron baluster from 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, which was destroyed by an incendiary device in 1941

## HISTORY | 1919 - 1929



Programme for the opening of the new wing at Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, in 1927

Every month, the centenary newsletter will highlight key events during a decade in UCEM's history. This month, we explore the period between 1919 – 1929.

In December 1919, the College of Estate Management was incorporated under the Companies Act as an independent, non-profit-making body and a Board of Governors was established.

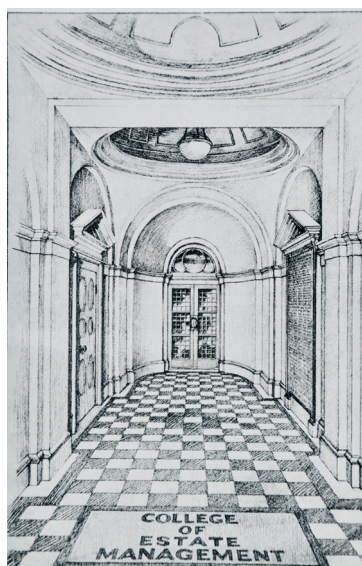
One year prior, Sir William Wells had made an address to the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute, who went on to help fund the founding of CEM. In this speech, Wells spoke about land being the foundation of national prosperity and that its efficient use and management were critical. These words hold true today and demonstrate why the education of students in the Built Environment is still of national value.

Tutorial work commenced in April 1921 and the 1921 – 1922 Student Register (to be displayed at *Celebrating 100 Years of UCEM – Building Futures 1919 – 2019* exhibition at Reading Museum later this year), includes the names of international students illustrating that, from the outset, CEM boasted a global community of students. Early students are listed as residing in Ireland, India and Smyrna (modern day Turkey. This particular student was serving in the British Military, who were based there at this time).

In 1923, HRH Prince of Wales attended CEM's Inauguration Ceremony, commencing a century of royal associations.



Picking up books from the rubble following the Blitzkrieg attack on Lincoln's Inn Fields



Lincoln's Inn Fields - Entrance Hall



The Postal Department at Lincoln's Inn Fields

## COMING UP | THIS MONTH

### **The History Book**

Part 3 of the UCEM history book will be sent to the typesetter. This book captures the milestones and events within UCEM's history from 1992 onwards and will be published along with Parts 1 and 2 in a tome that chronicles UCEM's first 100 years.

### **UCEM Centenary Projects for Good**

UCEM will launch its UCEM Centenary Projects for Good initiative in collaboration with the National Union of Students (NUS). UCEM students and alumni will be invited to partake in this professional development opportunity to create positive change for sustainability in their workplaces.

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## COMING UP | NEXT MONTH

### **Centenary Employee Volunteering Programme – Launchpad Allotment Project**

Two further teams of 20 UCEM employees will partake in a second and third day of volunteering at our charity partner, Launchpad Reading's, brand new allotments which will eventually enable the vulnerable people they support to grow their own food.

### ***Centenary Projects for Good: The Built Environment of the Future* student and alumni event**

Registrations will open for our centenary student and alumni event, **Centenary Projects for Good: The Built Environment of the Future**.

### ***Housing for Good in Reading: The Built Environment of the Future* event**

Registrations will open for our panel event and evening reception exploring innovative ideas for the creation of long-term, sustainable housing and held in aid of our charity partner, Launchpad Reading. The panel discussion will be followed by a champagne and canapé reception and opportunity to view our **Celebrating 100 Years of UCEM – Building Futures 1919 – 2019** exhibition.

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