

THE GREAT HALL PORTRAIT COLLECTION

Step into the grandeur of the Great Hall, where a curated selection from the University's extensive Portrait Collection is displayed. This impressive array features highly distinguished sitters painted by artists of international acclaim. Among the illustrious subjects are former Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors, as well as notable figures connected to the University, including the esteemed poet Seamus Heaney, pioneering nephrologist Professor Mollie McGeown, cardiologist and inventor of the portable defibrillator Professor Frank Pantridge, and former President of Ireland Mary McAleese. Each portrait not only captures the essence of these remarkable individuals, but also reflects the rich history and legacy of Queen's University Belfast.

Designed by Sir Charles Lanyon in the tradition of the medieval Great Halls of England and the renowned Oxbridge colleges, the Great Hall is a tribute to timeless architecture. Though Lanyon's original grand vision was curtailed by budget constraints, the restoration by Consarc Design in 2000 referred directly to his original designs, earning the space a RIBA award. This restoration transformed the Great Hall into an impressive and versatile venue, now at the heart of University life, hosting everything from performances and conferences to wedding receptions and special events. A highlight is the beautifully restored organ, originally from Christchurch where Lanyon and his wife worshipped, brought back to its former glory through support from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

For many years, the only portrait of a woman to hang in the Great Hall was that of Queen Victoria by Sir George Hayter. The Queen's Gender Initiative, however, has taken bold steps to redress this imbalance, actively commissioning portraits of influential women associated with the University. The first of these, unveiled in 2002, was of Professor Mary (Mollie) McGeown, one of the University's most distinguished medical graduates who was named as one of the fifty women who had contributed most to the success of the NHS. More recent additions include Professor Carol McGuinness by Jennifer Trouton (2021) and Her Excellency Dr Raja Al Gurg by Catherine Creaney (2024), with the University continuing to commission portraits of remarkable women who have contributed to the legacy of Queen's.

NORTH WALL

Numbered by column, left to right

- Sir Robert Hart** (1835-1991), Inspector General of China's Imperial Maritime Custom Service and Pro-Chancellor. Artist: Frank McKelvey, 1943
Baroness May Blood MBE (1938-2022), Community campaigner, member of the House of Lords, member of Queen's Senate. Artist: Nicola Russell, 2007
- President Mary McAleese** (b.1951), First female Pro-Vice Chancellor and Professor of Law; President of the Republic of Ireland (1997-2011). Artist: Carol Graham, 2003~
William David Trimble, Baron Trimble, PC (1944-2022), Politician and First Minister of Northern Ireland (1998-2002). Artist: Colin Davidson, 2022
- Seamus Heaney** (1939-2013), Poet, Nobel Prize-winner, Queen's graduate, and lecturer. Artist: Tai Shan Schierenberg, 2004
- The Murder of St Peter the Martyr after Titian**. Artist: James Atkins, c.1825
Rev Thomas Hamilton (1842-1925), Third President and First Vice-Chancellor (1889-1923), Bronze Plaque. Artist: Rosamund Praeger, 1907
- Sir John Lavery** (1856-1941), Artist and honorary graduate, Self-portrait. Artist: Sir John Lavery, 1935
Queen Victoria (1818-1901), Founder of Queen's College. Artist: Sir George Hayter, 1838

- 6 **Professor Mary (Mollie) G. McGeown** (1923-2005), Nephrologist and physician. Artist: Laurence Coulter, 2002

WEST WALL

Numbered by column, left to right

- 1 **Professor Patrick Johnston** (1958-2017), Twelfth Vice-Chancellor (2014-2017), Physicist and renowned in cancer research. Artist: Gareth Reid, 2019
Dr Thomas J. Moran (1952-2018), Chancellor (2015-18) and Chairman Emeritus of Mutual of America. Artist: Colin Davidson, 2019
- 2 **Sir Peter Gregson** (b. 1957), Eleventh Vice-Chancellor (2004-13) and engineer. Artist: Colin Davidson, 2013
Kamalesh Sharma (b.1941), Chancellor (2009-14) and Fifth Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations (2008-16). Artist: Ian Cumberland, 2015
- 3 **Sir George Bain** (b.1939), Tenth Vice-Chancellor (1998-2003). Artist: John Keane, 2003
Sir Peter Froggatt (b.1928) Eighth Vice-Chancellor (1976-86) and epidemiologist. Artist: Michael Noakes, 1986
- 4 **Sir Gordon Beveridge** (1933-1999), Ninth Vice-Chancellor (1986-98) and chemical engineer. Artist: Raymond Piper, 1995
Sir Arthur Vick (1911-1998), Seventh Vice-Chancellor (1966-76) and scientist. Artist: Michael Noakes, 1976

WEST WALL WINDOWS

Busts numbered left to right

- 1 **James Johnston Shaw** (1845-1919), Court Judge and recorder of Belfast, Pro-Chancellor and educationalist. Artist: Albert Power, 1913
- 2 **Professor John Hull Grundy** (1907-1984), Artist and medical entomologist. Artist: Mark Batten, 1958
- 3 **Robert Wilson Lynd** (1879-1949), Irish writer, editor of poetry, urbane literary essayist, socialist, and Irish nationalist). Artist: Kathleen Young, 1929
- 4 **Seamus Heaney** (1939-2013), Poet, Nobel Prize-winner, Queen's graduate, and lecturer. Artist: Carolyn Mulholland, 1968

EAST WALL

Numbered by column, left to right

- 1 **Professor Rev George Hill** (1810 – 1900), first Librarian at Queen's, historian, and poet. Artist: Harry Douglas, 1896
Lord Ashby of Brandon (1904-92), Fifth Vice-Chancellor (1950-59), Chancellor (1970-83) and botanist. Artist: Ruskin Spear, 1960
- 2 **Sir John Newell Jordan** (1852-1925), Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Peking, and Privy Councillor. Artist: Frank McKelvey, c.1946
Professor Margaret Mullett OBE, Professor of Byzantine History and former Director of the Queen's Gender Initiative. Artist: Stephen Johnston, 2016
- 3 **Baroness Arlene Foster of Aghadrumsee, DBE, PC** (b.1970), Queen's University Belfast graduate, politician, broadcaster, and First Minister of Northern Ireland (2016-17, 2020-21). Artist: Kathryn Warden, 2024
Field Marshal the Viscount Alanbrooke (1883-1963), Third Chancellor (1949- 63). Artist: Patrick Phillips, 1957

- 4 **Professor Estyn Evans** (1905-1989), Geographer, archaeologist, and founder Professor of Irish Studies. Artist: Raymond Piper, date unknown
D. B. McNeill (1911-2010), Physicist, businessman, writer, and local historian. Artist: Raymond Piper, 1990
Professor Karl George Emeleus (1901-89), Physicist. Artist: Tom Carr, c.1965
- 5 **Sir Samuel Dill** (1844-1924), Professor of Greek, Classical scholar and academic. Artist: Frank McKelvey, 1944
Professor Carol McGuinness (b.1947), Emeritus Professor, School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work. Artist: Jennifer Trouton, 2021
- 6 **Garden of Remembrance (Queen Elizabeth II and President Mary McAleese)**. Artist: Michelle Rogers, 2013
Professor Elizabeth Meehan (1947-2018), Political scientist and Founding Director of the Institute of Governance. Artist: John Kindness, 2008
- 7 **Richard (Dickie) Henry Hunter** (1885-1970), Anatomist, embryologist, Secretary of the University, and circus impresario. Artist: Sir James Gunn, 1942
Sir John Byers (1953-1920), Gynaecologist and paediatrician. Artist: Henrietta Rae, c.1904
- 8 **John Renshaw** (1877-1955), Educator, member of Senate, and MP for Queen's. Artist: Alfred Baker, c.1918
Sir Ian Fraser (1901-1999), Surgeon and medical pioneer. Artist: Carol Graham, 1994
- 9 **Professor Edna Longley** (b 1940), Literary critic and cultural commentator. Artist: Jeffrey Morgan, 2011
Sir Richard Winn Livingstone (1880-1960), Second Vice-Chancellor (1924-33) and classicist. Artist: Phillip de Laszlo, 1934
- 10 **Professor John Purser** (1835-1903), Mathematician and Registrar. Artist: Sarah Purser, 1890
Sir Frederick Wolff Ogilvie (1893 – 1949), Third Vice-Chancellor (1935-38) and political economist. Artist: W Gordon, c.1945
- 11 **Monica McWilliams** (b.1954), academic, peace activist and co-founder of Northern Ireland Women's Coalition political party. Artist: Ciarán Harper, 2025
Professor Ruth Lynden-Bell (b. 1937), Chemist, lecturer and Fellow of the Royal Society. Artist: Jennifer Trouton, 2016
- 12 **Sir Joseph Larmour** (1857-1942), Mathematician and physicist. Artist: Frank McKelvey, 1945
Her Excellency Dr. Raja Al Gurg (b.1947), Emirati businesswoman, chairperson and managing director of the Easa Saleh Al Gurg Group. Artist: Catherine Creaney, 2024
- 13 **Professor Samuel James MacMullan** (1842-1900), Professor of History and English. Artist Henry Marriott Paget, 1901-02
Cardinal Daly (1917-2009), Irish Philosopher, Theologian, writer, international speaker and Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church. Artist: David Hone, date unknown
Professor Charles MacDouall (1813-1883), Founding Professor of Latin (1849-50) and Professor of Greek (1850- 78). Artist: Richard Hooke, 1879
- 14 **Professor James Francis (Frank) Pantridge** (1916-2004), Physician, cardiologist, and inventor of the portable defibrillator. Artist: Martin Wedge, 2009
Professor Amilra Prasanna de Silva (b.1952), Professor of Chemistry. Artist: Gavan McCullough, 2025
- 15 **Professor Thomas Andrews** (1813-85), Vice-President and Founder Professor of Chemistry. Artist: Richard Hooke, 1880
Professor Robert James Johnstone (1872-1938), Obstetrician and gynaecologist. Artist: Frank McKelvey, c.1945

16 **Professor William Blair Morton** (1868-1949), Physicist and member of Senate. Artist: Frank McKelvey, 1945
Professor Dame Ingrid Allen (1932-2020), Neuropathologist. Artist: Tom Hallifax, 2007

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