Foreword by Elisabeth Sutcliffe

Atlantic College opened in Wales in 1962, Adriatic College in Italy in 1982, and UWC Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2006. My husband David was deeply involved in the foundation and the running of all three, albeit in different roles. We both enjoyed their very different but stunning locations, and the inspiring company of the students and colleagues.

We will be celebrating David's life and legacy with this event and with the launching of the book "David Sutcliffe, Pioneer of International Education", which contains many aspects of his life in his own and other people's words. I am deeply grateful to all the colleagues and friends who proposed, planned, organised and contributed to the book and this occasion with incredible dedication. The result is overwhelming.

Thank you for joining us in this celebration of David's life. We are fortunate to have such eminent speakers and outstanding performers, who knew David personally. This makes it a world-wide event, but also a family affair. We mourn his loss but let us all remember and celebrate what he stood for and what his legacy means now.

David Sutcliffe – A Celebration of his Life & Legacy

Speakers

Jorma Ollila (Finnish, UWC Atlantic 1969)

Jorma is one of the first UWC students to have joined Atlantic College in 1967. After Atlantic, he went on to study in Finland.

After a career at Citibank, he joined Nokia in 1985. From 1999 to 2006 he was CEO of Nokia and was Chair until 2012. Jorma is famously known for taking the reins of the Finnish company and making it one of most successful global mobile companies in the world. Just do not mention smart phones, though! From 2006 until 2015 he was Chair of Royal Dutch Shell.

Jorma recalls "When I arrived at Atlantic College in September 1967, my Housemaster was the first person whom I got into discussion with, but it was really meeting David Sutcliffe that made a mark. David was the second staff member I met as he had just started as the Director of Studies and Deputy Headmaster. His instructive and supportive guidance for me in deciding what my A Level subjects might be really eased out my early nervousness. He even actively supported me when I went to see him one month later and told him that I wanted to switch from Chemistry to Economics as one of my subjects. David was a great educationalist who was at his best in working with students one-on-one in situations like this."

Lamija Tanović (Bosnian, co-founder UWC Mostar)

Lamija was at the forefront of establishing UWC Mostar. Initially she was Chair of UWC-IBO in Bosnia-Herzegovina and then Founder of Education in Action Foundation of which UWC Mostar falls under.

In her professional life, Lamija has had a long university career as Professor of Atomic and Nuclear Physics at University of Sarajevo. During and after the 1992-95 war in Bosnia, Lamija was Ambassador in Denmark.

Lamija mentions "David dedicated his life to the education of young people at the United World Colleges, an education that brings together youth from all over the world in order to do away with divisions and inequalities, put an end to wars and enable lasting peace in the world, and for that, we shall remain forever grateful to him."

Henry Thomas (British, teacher UWC Adriatic)

Henry Thomas used to run the immensely popular IB course World Arts and Cultures at UWC Adriatic. He was in Duino for 17 years until 2012 when he retired.

Andrew Maclehose (teacher at various UWC Colleges), Colin Reid (teacher at UWC Atlantic) and Pilvi Torsti (Adriatic alumna and co-founder of UWC Mostar) and Henry have written and edited the book 'David Sutcliffe: Pioneer of International Education. His Life, His Words and His Legacy'. The book will be launched during the event and everyone can order a copy at their respective College.

Henry says "David sought the best in people and encouraged them to embrace their passion, their skill, their talent, their vision ("You have more in you than you know" he said, quoting Hahn), but always gave that celebration of individualism a clear context: it was to serve a greater good."

*** For more information on how to order the book, please go to the end of this document.***

Chrystia Freeland (Canadian, UWC Adriatic 1986)

After UWC Adriatic, Chrystia went on to study Russian and Literature at Harvard and continued to study Slavonic studies at St Antony's in Oxford. Remember that St Antony's College was founded by the father of Antonin Besse who had donated St Donat's Castle to UWC Atlantic.

With Ukrainian ancestry, much of Chrystia's journalistic career was spent with the Financial Times, Washington Post and the Economist in the former Soviet Union. She wrote two award-winning books and was global editor-at-large for Reuters in New York.

In 2013, she joined Canadian politics and Chrystia has been a rising star ever since. Now she holds the position of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. David always commented: 'Watch Chrystia, she will go very far!'

Pilvi Torsti (Finland, UWC Adriatic 1995, co-founder UWC Mostar)

The Bosnian war (1992-95) and work with refugees characterized Pilvi's years at UWC Adriatic leading her to learn the local language(s) and to become an academic expert of the region. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Helsinki. The last 20 years she has worked together with David and Antonin Besse to establish UWC-IBO Initiative in Bosnia leading to the opening of UWC Mostar. Pilvi followed David as the Chair of the Board of Education in Action foundation in 2016.

With encouragement of David Pilvi became politically active in 2009. She has served as State Secretary in three ministries and as an MP in the Finnish Parliament. In 2015 she founded a global early education company HEI Schools with the University of Helsinki. She is an Eisenhower Fellow.

“David turned from ‘Mr Sutcliffe’ into a friend and mentoring colleague over last 25 years. He has been the most important adult influencing my life outside my immediate family. David had a special talent to get action out of people, to tell in Duino that you are not supposed to drink wine (but you can), and to show appreciation to all people including my Finnish father and my Bosnian landlady – both with no English skills.”

Laurence Nodder (South African, Headmaster UWC Robert Bosch College)

Laurence is another giant in the UWC family. Apparently, the students have given him the nickname ‘the Messiah’.

He has been Rektor at UWC Robert Bosch College since its foundation in 2014.

Before coming to Germany, Laurence was Principal at Waterford UWCSA for 13 years. His educational and political interests have always been creating circumstances where people who are divided by law or by race, culture, religion or nationality, might be brought together, especially to start to learn to see the world through the eyes of the ‘other’.

Princess Sarvath El Hassan (Jordanian, former UWC Director and personal friend of David and Elisabeth Sutcliffe)

Princess Sarvath has been a long-time friend of UWC, as a director, member of the International Board and as Chairwoman of the Jordan National Selection Committee until the mid-90s. Her Royal Highness, in her personal capacity, was for several years, also a member of the Council of Foundation of the International Baccalaureate Organisation. She is the founder and chairwoman of the Amman Baccalaureate School Board of Trustees, one of Amman’s leading schools, the first to offer the IB in Jordan, as well as many charities and institutions, most of which operate in the field of education and have contributed to educational development in Jordan and beyond.

Beyond official roles, however, the Princess has always taken a personal interest in the welfare of Jordanian UWC scholars, following up with them beyond their UWC years. Her Royal Highness to date has a scholarship given in her name to a Jordanian student at UWC Mostar, and personally interviews and selects the successful scholars. That commitment to the values of the IB and the UWC was reflected in an interest beyond Jordanian students.

David Sutcliffe was one of many within the UWC movement with whom the Princess maintained contact, another being their close mutual friend Antonin Besse, the founder of UWC Atlantic, Adriatic and Mostar, who passed away in 2016. David and Princess Sarvath stayed in contact, bound by their mutual interest in international education. David visited the Princess and the ABS during a trip to the Middle East.

Performers

Luis Parés (Venezuelan, UWC Adriatic 1999)

Luis is an international concert pianist.

After graduating at UWC Adriatic, Luis went to study at Royal College of Music in London. He has performed in numerous countries and is currently Head of Keyboard at Dulwich College in London.

Both Elisabeth and David have followed Luis throughout his career and enjoyed his musical achievements. Luis is under pressure now…

Luis recalls "David was always incredibly supportive of all my musical endeavours and to me he was a real role model, whose example I have tried to follow in my teaching career. One of my fondest memories was to perform for David and Elisabeth's 50th wedding anniversary in Sauris. Together with Sergio Cimarosti and Maureen Jones, we played music for piano 2, 4 and 6 hands."

Karen Mok (Hong Kongese, UWC Adriatic 1989)

Karen is the popstar amongst us.

With millions of YouTube, TikTok and Instagram followers and stadiums full of fans, Karen has captured people's imagination.

After graduating at Adriatic, Karen went on to study in London. During her study, she released her first album. Thereafter, success soon followed and she had many award-winning albums. She has also played in various Chinese and Hollywood movies.

In 2011 Karen married her UWC Adriatic boyfriend Johannes Natterer.

Karen recalls "David Sutcliffe was such a charismatic figure and I always had the greatest respect for him. I literally could not bring myself to call him by his first name, however often he offered it.

And he was in so many things ahead of us…When Johannes and I met again after over 10 years at the reunion in 2000, at one time we were walking together past the office building and out came David Sutcliffe. He greeted us as if we had never left Duino, chatted about issues with the Director of Studies and casually remarked that we look good together. That was it. And many years later, we came to the same conclusion. He was way ahead of us ;)"

Engy Jarrouj (Syrian, UWC Mostar 2019)

During the civil war in Syria, at the age of 15, Engy wrote *Blue Birds* as a short story. Having received a scholarship at UWC Mostar, she turned the short story into a book during her stay at the College to overcome her Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The book (released in Arabic and now translated into English - but still in need of an English publisher) is a message of love and hope to all the children suffering in the world and a scream of pain expressing the horrors of the war through a child's eye.

Engy hopes to finish her studies at Norwich University of the Arts next year.

Engy says "Before going to UWC I had to get through six years of war in which my whole neighbourhood turned to ruins and I had to escape with my family from one part of Syria to another, seeking safety that was never really reached! But I always used to think that I am strong, and I overcame it. I always used to go from place-to-place painting half destroyed walls and volunteering for NGOs. But when I moved to UWC Mostar away from the destruction and war, I found myself suffering from the war trauma that I could not see before.

At that same time, I was also having problems learning English and getting along with the International Baccalaureate. It was all very challenging for me. And that was the first time in my life I asked to be saved instead of always playing the part of the saviour. The school psychologist was there for me and other supportive students. I started doing better in academics and I started making friends from all over the world who are still to this day the closest to me. With time I started realising that the war experience did not make me less worthy than others. It made me stronger and made me work and fight harder to achieve my dreams. It made me realise how much this world needs changing and that is why I needed to be in UWC."

Atlantic College Choir (global, UWC Atlantic 1973-1975)

Although the full choir has not been able to sing together since 1975, most have continued singing in choirs scattered over the globe since leaving the College, and some were able to sing together at three Reunion weekends over the last 12 years.

Currently prevented from singing together in person due to Covid regulations, a small number of the choir have worked over the internet to perform two pieces led by Nick Isaacs, in a specific salute to David who was their headmaster during their time in AC. Whilst Zoom can never be as good as the real thing for a choir, and they are immensely grateful to Luca Dalbosco in his technical help in making this recording, they have all been reminded of the fabulous friendships and rich experience they enjoyed at AC.

It has also brought back memories of especially wonderful choir trips across Europe led by John Metcalf, at venues ranging from the Concert Halls at the CERN establishment in Switzerland, to grand stages at the NATO HQ in Brussels to smaller Civic receptions in France and Italy, as well churches and a vineyard or two on the way!!

Ric Staniforth says “Our contribution to the celebration of David’s life has renewed the flame put in all our hearts, of the passion and immense value gifted to us at AC under his guidance.”

Augusta van Lookeren Campagne (Austrian/Dutch, UWC Atlantic 1974)

Augusta is an alumna of UWC Atlantic but, many years later, she is also a Board member of UWC Mostar. One of those few successful cross-fertilisations.

After UWC Atlantic, Augusta went on to study at University of Sussex and the Amsterdam Conservatoire. After some other degrees and diversions, she settled in Austria some 30 years ago. She is now in her last year of teaching Harpsichord and Figured Bass at the University for music and performing arts in Vienna.

Augusta remembers “It was great having a headmaster, who knew everybody and was such an active member of the community: as an actor in plays and sketches, sailing and repairing boats, or playing the cuckoo passionately in Haydn’s Children’s Symphony. Besides all those activities and running the school he still had so much energy for new projects and ideas that influenced and inspired all of us. Thanks David!”

Moderator

Katrin Bennhold (German, UWC USA 1993)

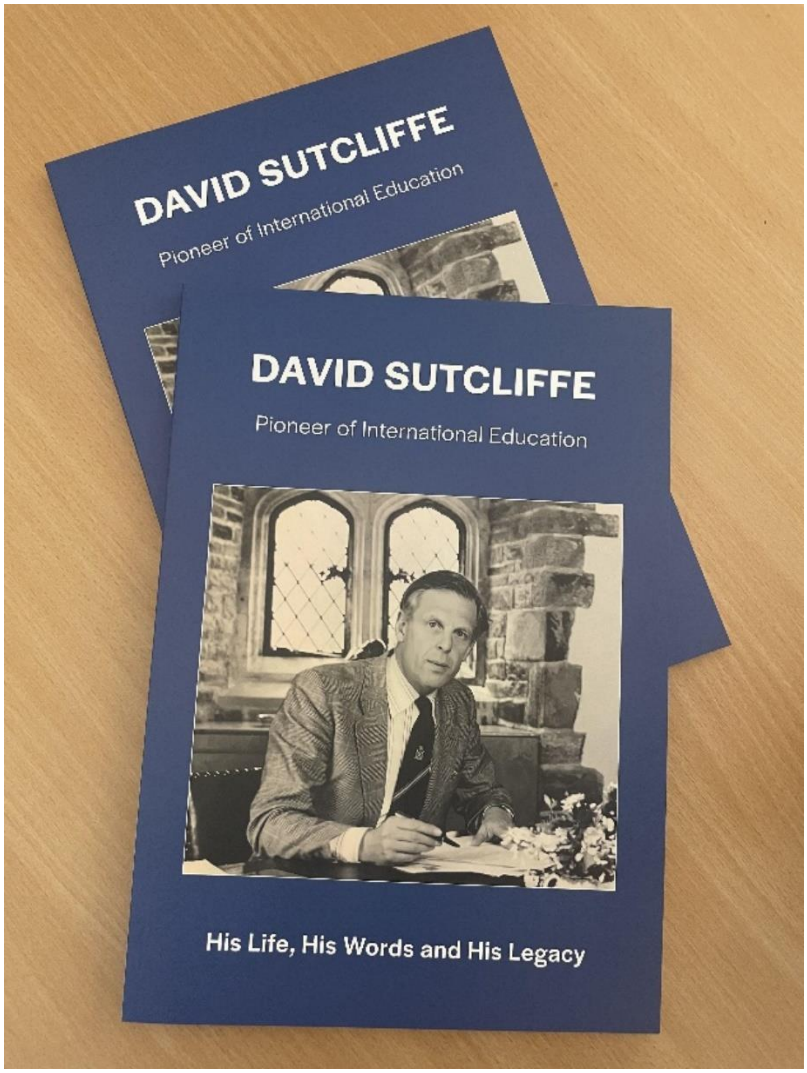
When Katrin was a teenager, David strongly recommended she apply to the UWC – and so she did. After graduating from UWC USA, she continued her studies at the London School of Economics and later completed a Nieman fellowship at Harvard University.

She has been an award-winning journalist in London, Paris and Berlin covering everything from gender to terrorism for Bloomberg, International Herald Tribune and, since 2004, the New York Times. She currently runs the German bureau for the NY Times and lives in Berlin with her husband Tomos Grace (UWC Atlantic 1993) and their three children.

She has just come out of an eye operation, so she might look beaten up, but she is not!

Katrin says “Without David and Elisabeth I would never have applied to the United World College. I would not have spent hours in a small campus library in New Mexico obsessively reading articles in the New York Times, a pocket dictionary by my side. I would not have started to think about the world in terms of stories -- the stories of my friends. I might never have become a foreign correspondent and I would not have met my husband who went to the UWC the same year as I did.”

How to Order the Book 'David Sutcliffe: Pioneer of International Education. His Life, His Words and His Legacy'



The book 'David Sutcliffe: Pioneer of International Education. His Life, His Words and His Legacy' has been compiled and edited by Andrew Maclehose, Colin Reid, Henry Thomas and Pilvi Torsti. It has been sponsored and published by UWC Mostar endowment 'Bridge to the Future'. For more information on the endowment, please go to www.mostarendowment.com.

UWC Atlantic, UWC Adriatic, UWC Mostar and the UWC International Office have all received free copies of the book to be distributed amongst their alumni and other interested parties.

If you are interested in receiving one copy, please contact one of the following persons:

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