

Did you know that ...

The National University of Ireland has no fewer than thirty-five different masters' hoods?

Aston was the first university to use an embroidered lining silk?

Caledonian is the only university in Britain to specify buttons on one of its hood (on the PhD)?

The Institute of Biology hoods are blood red lined chlorophyll green?

The College of Preceptors (now Teachers) has changed its academic dress about five times since it was founded in 1846?

The Royal Agricultural College has wheatsheaves embroidered on its hood linings?

The British College of Music had three-colour tassels on its squares?

The Open University is the only one to use totally different hoods for its validated degrees?

Dundee is now the only university in Britain whose PhD does not have a dress robe?

The hoods of the University of Kent were designed by Hardy Amies?

The whole University of East Anglia scheme was designed by Cecil Beaton?

Stirling is the only university in Britain to use fur on its masters' hoods?

Doctors at Strathclyde University revert to their bachelor's hood?

The University of Sussex invented the MPhil?

Keele was the first university not to use scarlet for its higher doctors (they have purple)?

Birmingham was the first university to use watered silk linings?

Wales was the first to use only shot silk linings?

The University of London has had two schemes of academic dress?

Durham was the first to have a 'university colour' running through its academic dress (palatinate purple)?

The Lampeter BD is probably the first three-colour hood?

The Cambridge system in current use dates only from 1934?

compiled by Nicholas Groves