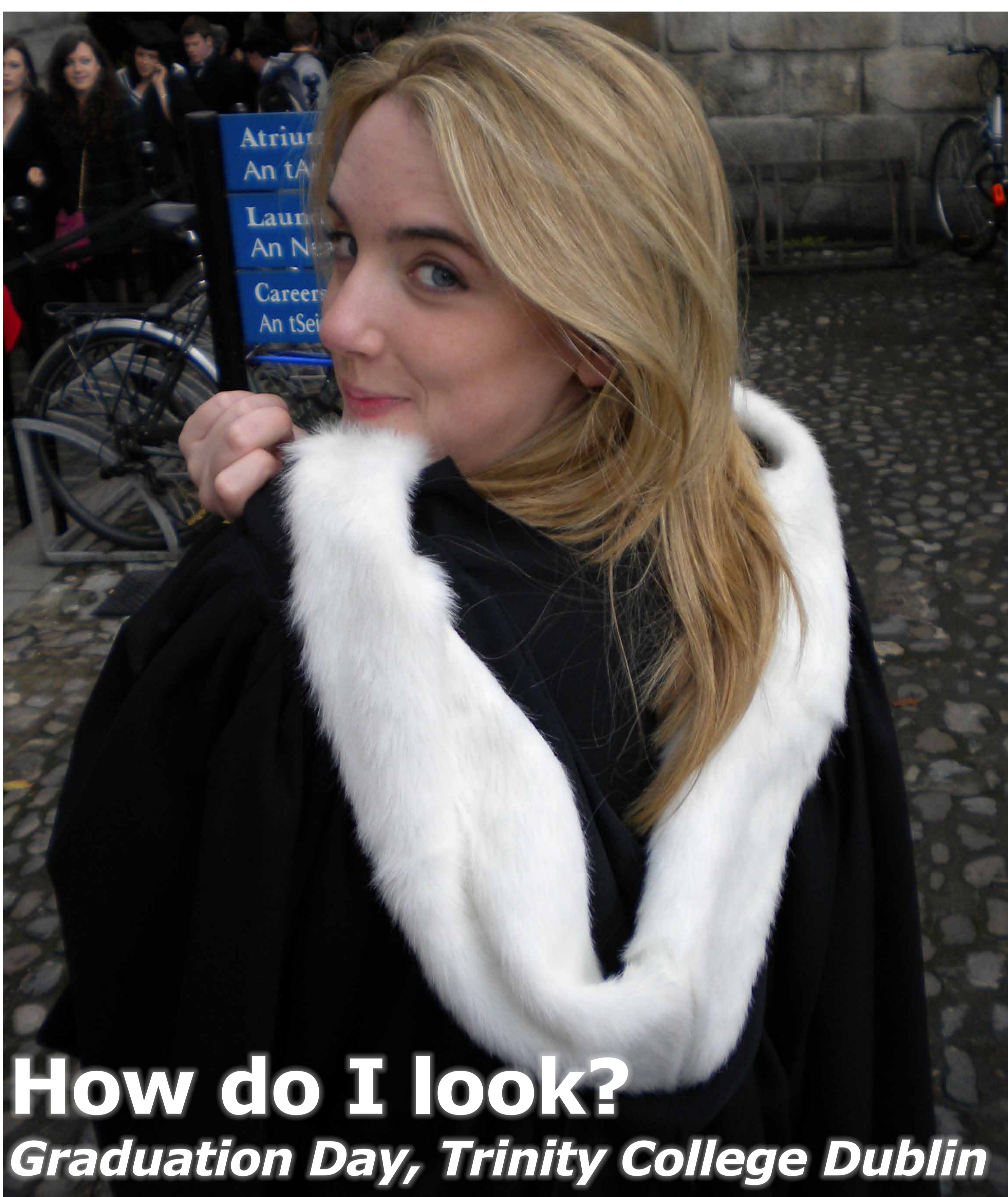


EUROPEAN EPILEPSY DAY 2014

*Epilepsy
is more
than
seizures*

10 FEBRUARY 2014
eed
EUROPEAN EPILEPSY DAY



**NIKKI
SAARSTEINER**
Barrister-at-law
IRELAND

How do I look?
Graduation Day, Trinity College Dublin

Following two years of what I now know were visual seizures, I was diagnosed with epilepsy when I was 16 years old, after I went into a coma following several consecutive, repetitive, tonic clonic seizures. The exact cause of my epilepsy was never established.

The medication, initially prescribed, had a devastating effect on my learning ability: I went from being a straight A's student to needing extra assistance from teachers. But, a change in medication brought about a dramatic change in my life. No more seizures and I was back to my normal, nerdy self. I continue to take medication.

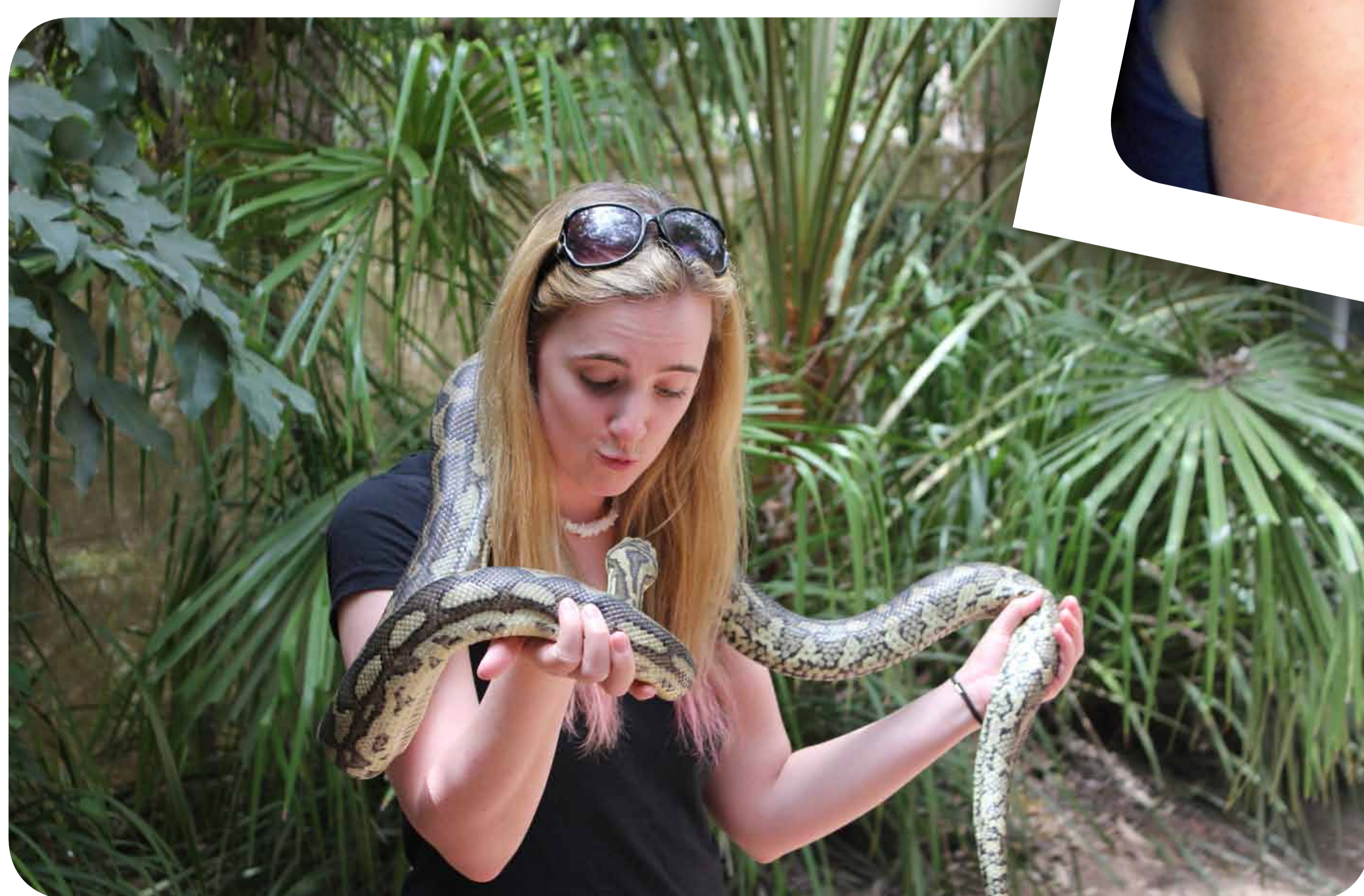
Not once did my friends or family stop me from doing what I wanted to do: dancing, basketball, debating, tennis, wakeboarding, and college.

Today I have a full time career as a barrister.

I am fortunate, not only to have a neurologist who prescribed medication which fully controls my seizures but, also, a family who took the decision from Day 1 not to let my epilepsy control my life.



Postcards from a great trip to Australia



My family did not let my epilepsy control my life. Here I am with my Mum, Carol.

 European Advocates for
epilepsy

Epilepsy
Advocacy
Europe



European Epilepsy Day is organised by Epilepsy Advocacy Europe Task Force, European Advocates for Epilepsy MEP special interest group, and by national epilepsy associations across Europe