

Graduation
2011

Tuition Fees –
Your Opinions

Opinion –
Tea Party
Revolution

Alumna
Amanda
Hodgkinson

Music for
the People

ZIGGURAT

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE UEA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

AUTUMN 2011

#tweeteasy

Social media and the law

UEA
University of East Anglia

Vice-Chancellor Professor Edward Acton

The last six months of University life have given me much upon which to update you.

I am delighted to say that since the last edition of Ziggurat we have experienced another successful graduation week; for the first time the ceremonies were streamed on the giant screen in the city centre and I am told that passers-by stopped to join in the applause.

In the last issue, I told you of our encouraging application figures for 2011 entry. As this issue reaches you, we will be welcoming 2,838 new students to campus to begin their degrees. Our open days this summer saw more people than ever visit campus to see what the University has to offer and I hope we conveyed to them both the inherent value of higher education and all that makes this University so special. In particular I would like to thank those alumni who gave their time to come and represent UEA.

It has now been confirmed that the University will set its fee at £9,000 per year from 2012. An article on page nine of Ziggurat will tell you more about how we reached this decision as well as taking a look at responses from some of our alumni.

Recognising the challenging times that face us, the University has undertaken a significant project to make its support services less complex, less expensive and, we believe, more responsive. One result of the project has been the development of new "Hubs" across campus from which services such as registration and responses to course queries will be delivered, giving our students the kind of welcome of which UEA is justifiably proud.

The March Budget saw a very welcome fillip when it was announced that the Norwich Research Park was chosen, along with its Cambridge equivalent, to receive investment of £26m to accelerate commercialisation of the wealth of research generated by UEA and its BBSRC and NHS partners. The University had already resolved to update our official address to include the line "Norwich Research Park" in order to underline the importance of the Research Park to us, the significance of our partnerships with the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, the John Innes Centre, the Institute for Food Research, the Sainsbury Laboratory and the Genome Analysis Centre, and the growing prominence of the NRP's work both nationally and internationally.

The long-awaited White Paper on the future of British higher education appeared in July. Many of you will have heard reports in the media about its impact upon the sector and will have wondered how it will affect UEA. Important details are as yet

unsettled, but the impact will be far-reaching, not least because it is designed to intensify competition for students between universities. Two mechanisms are proposed. The first is to hold an auction for some student places in which only institutions whose average fee is below £7,500 are permitted to bid. The second mechanism is to allow universities who recruit students with the highest A level grades to increase their student numbers – at the expense of those who have attracted such students in the past but in future fail to do so.

The implications for UEA of these two mechanisms are bracing. In order to compensate for the number creamed off us for auction below £7,500, we need to increase the number of very well qualified students we recruit in 2012. It is encouraging that that number has been rising fast.

Another aspect of Government policy that is set to have a profound impact on the sector is the attempt to curb net migration. You will recall that I touched upon this critical issue in my last letter for Ziggurat. Since then, the UK Border Agency (UKBA) has agreed to regular meetings with the Universities UK Group which I chair on the subject, but changes to the student visa system continue to be an area for concern for all UK universities. If we wish to see our campus communities remain centres of international academic and cultural exchange, and to see our universities serve as key economic engines of growth, we must ensure that immigration policies do not hinder our ability to recruit the best students and staff from all over the world. It is an area upon which I am working closely with UKBA and UUK, and one upon which I shall no doubt report again in future letters.

With very best wishes.



Make it so

The University now has over 100,000 alumni worldwide with more than 4,100 graduates joining the Association at Congregation 2011.

While they're barely out of university, this year's graduates are already making their mark on the world. Drama alumnus, Matt Milne, appears in Stephen Spielberg's upcoming film *War Horse*, and a follow up to last year's blockbuster *Clash of the Titans*. Mature student, Fiona Sheales, has landed her dream job as African curator at the British Museum and PE and Sport graduate, Graham Stark, has joined newly promoted Norwich City Football Club in their sport science department.



The 2011 cohort were joined by a number of eminent honorary graduates. Sir Patrick Stewart, one of Britain's most respected actors, received an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the School of Literature and Creative Writing and uttered those famous Jon Luc Picard words "make it so" during his acceptance speech. Oscar winning director, Richard Eyre, and two UEA alumni were also honorary recipients at this year's ceremonies with choir master Gareth Malone (EAS94) and Tito Mboweni (DEV86) returning to campus. Former Dean of the School of Biological Sciences and Labour MP, Dr Ian Gibson, having worked at the University for 32 years (from 1965).

For a full list of this year's honorary graduates and photos from the whole week visit the alumni website www.uea.ac.uk/alumni.

China calling

A Shanghai hub of the world renowned Tyndall Centre has been officially launched in partnership with Fudan University.

Aiming to address China's sustainability challenges, Tyndall Centre Fudan unites the research and teaching strengths of two world leading institutions.

Founded in 2000 and led by UEA, the Tyndall Centre is a partnership of the universities of Cambridge, Cardiff, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Southampton and Sussex. The centre has developed an international reputation for its research into sustainable

options for climate change and providing an independent evidence base to UK, EU and international policy makers. Fudan is a major university of world standing and is one of the top three of 2,000 universities in China.

Creating new opportunities for collaborative research, the Shanghai hub brings together researchers from across the scientific communities, including engineering, health, social sciences and economics.



Live Learn hat-trick

The University's Live Learn campaign has won a prestigious Heist Award for Best Student Recruitment Campaign.

Last year the University and The Click design consultants started work on an innovative recruitment campaign highlighting the living and learning aspects of student life here at UEA. Just one year on and Live Learn has received its third award and has been re-launched featuring alumni as well as students.

Looking at the elements that constitute the complete student experience, Live Learn demonstrates the skills development on offer at UEA through both academic achievement and the social, sporting and cultural experience of clubs and societies.

The latest award follows our success at the Archant Recruitment Awards and the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) Marketing Excellence Award earlier in the year.

Alumni and student videos from the campaign are available online at the UEA Youtube channel.





The wilful ignorance that has dragged the US to the brink

The Tea Party version of the American Revolution is not just fundamentalist. It is also Disneyfied, sentimentalised and whitewashed.

Here's a monumental historical irony: a moment in the origins of the United States that every American school child learns to view with pride, the Boston Tea Party, has now become a symbol of our (inter) national shame. In one sense, it is difficult to know what to say in response to the utter irrationality of the Tea Party's self-destructive decision to sabotage the American political process—and thus its own economy, and the global economy. Last week, while the US government was locked in stalemate and risked defaulting on its national debt for the first time in its history (and thus also defying the Constitution that Tea Partiers supposedly hold sacred, which declares in the 14th Amendment that it is illegal for Congress to default), Michelle Bachmann instructed her followers not to listen to those who attempted to “scare” them with untruths that the US would default if it didn't raise the debt ceiling. When, of course, that is precisely what it would have done. But the Tea Party has never let facts get in the way of its belief system, and now that belief system is genuinely threatening the well-being of the nation they claim to love.

Mottos are supposed to express a philosophy: in so far as the Tea Party can be said to have anything so exalted as a philosophy, their motto is quite telling. They are one of the most inaccurately named movements in American political history, but that inaccuracy is itself emblematic of the party's adamant ignorance. Any American school child can tell you the motto of the historical Boston Tea Party from which they take their name and—they mistakenly believe—their inspiration: “No taxation without representation.” Impatient with those extra two words, evidently, the Tea Party has truncated this proposition to something simpler: “No taxation.” Never mind that the US has among the lowest levels

of taxation in the developed world, matched only by Mexico and Chile (are these the nations the Tea Party would like to emulate?). Never mind that the nation's actual Founding Fathers were perfectly prepared to pay taxes—they just thought those taxes should purchase them a democratic voice in their own government.

The motto that came out of the Constitutional Convention was not “In God We Trust”: it was “E Pluribus Unum,” out of many, one. The phrase “In God We Trust” emerged from the American Civil War, and was imprinted on some coins, but it wasn't prescribed for all US currency until the Cold War, in 1955. The following year, the same year he signed the Civil Rights bill into law, Eisenhower made it the nation's motto—two years after inserting the phrase “under God” into the nation's pledge of allegiance.

In other words, In God We Trust is an act of revisionist history and retrospective religiosity, reinserting religion into our national history. But the attempt to create one from many has led to Civil War more than once (the American Revolution was a civil war), with parts of the country regularly seceding (the South and other states threatened to walk out of the Constitutional Congress; the South did secede in the 1860s, and revolted again in 1948, with the so-called “Dixiecrats.”) Texas is forever threatening to secede with my blessing: E Pluribus Unum is clearly not a motto that they are prepared to embrace—despite their supposed reverence for the Founding Fathers and the American Constitution.

Anyone who followed last year's midterms and knew anything about American history already realized this. Tea Party candidates kept invoking semi-mythical figures such as Paul Revere, who was not a Founding Father at all: in fact, most of Revere's supposed story was a legend written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in 1860 to rouse popular



Tea Party rally in Washington DC
© Messay Shoakena

sentiment on behalf of the Union cause in the Civil War—in other words, to maintain the spirit of E Pluribus Unum and fight against divisive polarization. Tea Partiers love mentioning Thomas Paine, because they like to think they share his “Common Sense” (otherwise known as a sense held in common) but they haven't bothered to read it, and are clearly unfamiliar with essays like “Public Good,” in which Paine wrote that, especially while at war (as America currently is, of course): “To have a clear idea of taxation is necessary to every country, and the more funds we can discover and organize, the less will be the hope of the enemy.”

As Harvard historian Jill Lepore argued last year in her brilliant *The Whites of their Eyes: The Tea Party's Revolution and the Battle over American History*, none of the people voting for the Tea Party candidates know any of this because they haven't studied American history since grade school, when all American school children learn a simplified, cartoon version of the American Revolution (which we would never call the “war of independence”). It is a Sesame Street version of the American constitution and politics, a myth that is being treated as the alpha and omega of our political and legal reality. This is one reason why it has a quasi-religious aspect: it's a myth of genesis, it's a creation myth about America that is just as simple as the idea that God created man and woman: the Founding Fathers created America.

The Tea Party version of the American Revolution is not just fundamentalist: it is also Disneyfied,

sentimentalized, and whitewashed. It rests on a naïve, solipsistic and exceptionalist faith that for America it will all work out in the end, because America is “the greatest nation in the world.” They take solace in tautology: America is great, this they know, because Fox News tells them so. (Rupert Murdoch has a great deal to answer for: without the Fox network's support in 2009, the Tea Party most likely would never have gained national prominence, given that it has neither a leader nor a platform.) Their goal, as others have said, is to roll back the clock a century and more.

The Tea Party has never let facts get in the way of its belief system, and now that belief system is genuinely threatening the well-being of the nation they claim to love.

In 1892, when the robber baron and corrupt financier Jay Gould died, Mark Twain wrote a scathing epitaph: Gould, he said, “reversed the commercial morals of the United States. He had put a blight upon them from which they have never recovered, and from which they will not recover for as much as a century to come. Jay Gould was the mightiest disaster which has ever befallen this country.” It has been a century and we have surely not recovered: but

we have managed to create an even mightier disaster. It remains to be seen whether we will recover, but it is long past time to stop making declarations of independence. We need to get back to work forming a more perfect union—or any union at all.

Sarah Churchwell is Prof of American Studies and Public Understanding of the Humanities at the University of East Anglia and will be speaking about *The Great Gatsby* at our January London Lecture. This opinion piece was originally published in *The Independent*, 2 August 2011.

Inhalers linked with mortality

According to new research from the Norwich Medical School, an inhaler designed to help chronic bronchitis and emphysema sufferers could be significantly increasing their risk of dying.

Published in June's *British Medical Journal*, the findings suggest that long-term use of Tiotropium Respimat (also known as Spiriva Respimat) increases the risk of death by more than half.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), the collective name for chronic bronchitis and emphysema, affects three million people in the UK and caused 24,000 deaths in 2005 – the latest year for which figures are available. COPD is diagnosed as low airflow on lung function tests and, unlike asthma, the condition is non-reversible, becoming progressively worse over time. Most sufferers use inhalers to help them breathe and more than half a million prescriptions for Tiotropium inhalers were issued in the UK last year.

Tiotropium inhalers have been available internationally for some years but a new device known as Tiotropium Respimat was launched more recently and licensed for use in the UK and Europe. However, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not granted approval for Tiotropium Respimat in the United States citing the need for further testing.

"We analysed five clinical trials involving 6,500 people and the risk of death in patients using this particular inhaler appeared to be 52% higher," said Dr Yoon Loke of Norwich Medical School. "We estimate that there will be one additional death for every 124 patients

treated for a year with Tiotropium Respimat. Some of this risk appears to stem from patients dying of heart trouble, especially for those with existing heart problems that may be worsened because of a potential adverse effect of tiotropium on the heart rhythm."

While there are other inhalers which can help COPD sufferers, those currently using



Tiotropium Respimat are advised not to suddenly stop taking their medication. Dr Loke explains: "I would advise them to make an appointment with their doctor to discuss the possibility of switching to a different drug. As Tiotropium Respimat can have an adverse effect on the heart rhythm, patients with a history of palpitations or irregular heartbeat (fast or slow) should mention such problems to their doctor".

Dr Simon Carding, from the Norwich Medical School, was awarded the grant in April 2011 for his work on strategies to accelerate the end of polio and sustain its eradication.

Launched in 2008, the Grand Challenges Exploration Program seeks to encourage scientists to research innovative breakthroughs in persistent health and development issues. Dr Carding will use the funds to investigate whether live gut bacteria can generate immunity to polio. He was one of only 88 scientists awarded a grant from this round out of over 2,500 applications worldwide.

Grand Challenges award

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has announced 88 new grant winners as part of its Grand Challenges Exploration Program, including a UEA recipient.



UEA School of Nursing Sciences

The University has approved a new name for the School of Nursing and Midwifery. From 1 August the School will be known as the School of Nursing Sciences (NSC).

The name change provides an overarching identity for the School's family of related health disciplines including Operating Department Practice, Midwifery and all fields of Nursing (Mental Health Nursing, Children's Nursing, Adult Nursing and Learning Disabilities Nursing).

Prof Val Lattimer, Head of School, said "Our vision is to be a leading international school in the fields of nursing and health sciences, improving the quality of health and care through the practitioners it prepares and the impact of its research."

NSC is currently ranked third in the UK for nursing and paramedic science (Guardian 2012) table and seventh in the Comprehensive University Guide. Together with the School of Allied Health Professions (AHP) and the Norwich Medical School (MED), the School of Nursing Sciences (NSC) forms the newly named Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

For an up to date list of UEA acronyms visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni

Secret world

New research from the School of International Development and the International Broadcasting Trust (IBT) claims that a decline in international programming is failing to prepare UK audiences for international events.

The *Outside the Box* report studied the nature of non-news factual coverage on all main terrestrial channels in 2010 and finds that British broadcasters offered too narrow a range of international stories, failing to prepare audiences for what have become known as the Arab Spring uprisings in 2011.

Countries such as Libya, Bahrain and Yemen received little or no coverage at all in 2010 and five of the 12 countries which have experienced 2011 uprisings, revolutions or major protests were not the principal subject of any new non-news factual programming on BBC1, BBC2, BBC3, BBC4, ITV1, Channel4, Channel5, Sky1 or More4. The only time UK audiences had the opportunity to watch a programme principally about Syria was the BBC4 series *Syrian School*.

The report's author, Martin Scott, a lecturer in Media and International Development, said "The results of this study strongly suggest that UK television left audiences remarkably unprepared for these momentous events. Public opinion and public debate in the UK about the Arab Spring is surely the worse for UK television's persistent failure to cover adequately this part of the world".

The IBT has been conducting a longitudinal study of international factual programming since 1989 and *Outside the Box* shows that in 2010 the main UK terrestrial channels broadcast fewer hours of international factual programming than at any time since the study began. The BBC produced less non-news factual programming than ITV1, scheduling only 16.7 hours compared to ITV's 29.7 hours, and Channel 4 is the only terrestrial broadcaster whose international content didn't decline.

Although international content is declining on terrestrial channels, the report found that it is increasing on some digital channels. In 2010, BBC3, BBC4 and More4 all had record amounts of new international factual programming. IBT Director, Mark Galloway, said: "This migration of international content to digital channels matters because audiences for digital channels are usually much smaller than for terrestrial channels. It is important that all audiences have access to international content regardless of which channels they usually watch."

A lasting coalition?

The current coalition government only has a one-in-five chance of making the full five years term, according to research from the School of Political, Social and International Studies (PSI).

Using political science models, Dr Chris Hanretty (PSI) outlines why a Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition was always the most likely option, explains why coalition negotiations concluded so quickly, and predicts the expected duration of the coalition.

While the coalition should last longer than the average British government, Dr Hanretty argues that it has just a one-in-five chance of lasting the full distance unless the Fixed Term Parliaments Bill is passed. Even with that extra guarantee, which will be considered again by the House of Commons in September, it still only has a one-in-three chance of making it.

Whilst coalitions are rare in British politics, they are common in other parliamentary democracies. Dr Hanretty suggests that for the UK, after the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition, the next most likely option was not a Conservative minority government but rather a "grand coalition" of Labour and Conservatives, which most would describe as unlikely.

"Because coalition governments are so rare in Britain, we don't have very many good insights into how they behave. Borrowing models used to explain coalition behaviour in other parliamentary democracies can help us make our intuitions more precise – and show the real risk of early dissolution of Parliament," said Dr Hanretty. "It was because of this risk, and in particular the risk of a strategic dissolution following invented or real policy differences between the parties, that led the Liberal Democrats to insist on changing the rules for dissolving Parliament, ending prime ministerial discretion over dissolution. Changes to the rules concerning dissolution of Parliament are important – not least because only a minority of post-war governments have ever lasted the maximum possible parliamentary term."

Dr Hanretty added: "The models of Cabinet duration suggest that the coalition will likely last longer than the average post-war British coalition, at close to four years – but even assuming passage of the Fixed Terms Parliaments Bill the chances of the coalition lasting the full five years are not good, at one-in-three".

UEA teams up with Guardian Masterclasses

The University and Guardian Masterclasses have announced a partnership to offer a series of creative writing masterclasses in the capital.

The courses will be taught by award winning authors, including Gillian Slavo, Geoff Dyer and Adam Foulds (EAS99), and are designed to appeal to those who have a serious ambition to become a writer, but don't necessarily have time to complete a Masters degree.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Edward Acton said: "The University of East Anglia pioneered the teaching of creative writing in UK universities over forty years ago and continues to lead the field internationally. We are delighted to form this partnership with the Guardian which we believe will enable us to share this expertise among a broader range of people who want to improve their writing".

UEA was the first university to establish a creative writing Masters degree and its alumni include a number of renowned writers such as Kazuo Ishiguro, Anne Enright, Tash Aw and Tracy Chevalier.

For further information on the courses or to book a place, visit www.guardian.co.uk/ueamasterclasses.



Virtual cities

Technology developed by the School of Computing Sciences and Ritsumeikan University (Japan) has resulted in computer reconstructions of many of Norwich and Kyoto's historic buildings, showing how cultural heritage can be recorded for future generations.

The technology was showcased earlier this year at an event run by the University's new Centre for Japanese Studies (in conjunction with the Norwich Economic and Regeneration Trust (HEART) and the Virtual Kyoto Project at Ritsumeikan University).

With the recent earthquake in Japan highlighting the vulnerability of the historic environment, Dr Simon Kaner, Director of the Centre for Japanese Studies at UEA, explains: "Planning for such eventualities, and the careful recording of the historical settings we enjoy today, are essential in making sure that these valued places are appreciated to the full now. It also means that the historical settings can be taken into consideration in the future, informing both sympathetic development and, when necessary, considerate reconstruction. Modern digital technology is at the cutting edge of this work".



Skin cancer

A treatment breakthrough

A breakthrough discovery by academics from the School of Biological Sciences and Children's Hospital Boston promises an effective new treatment for one of the deadliest forms of cancer.

Melanoma is a cancer of the pigment cells in our skin. It is less common than other skin cancers but is the most aggressive and, unlike other cancers, its incidence is increasing with over 10,000 cases diagnosed in the UK each year.

Research recently published in *Nature* found that leflunomide, a drug commonly used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, also inhibits the growth of malignant melanoma.

Dr Grant Wheeler and Dr Matt Tomlinson (BIO) conducted rigorous screenings of thousands of compounds, including leflunomide, to discover which ones affect the development of pigment cells in tadpoles. The scientists identified a number of compounds which have an effect and their work with US collaborators, Children's Hospital Boston, has shown that it is leflunomide which significantly restricts tumour growth.

"This is an exciting discovery, making use of an existing drug specifically to target melanoma" said Dr Wheeler. "We are very optimistic that this research will lead to novel treatments for melanoma tumours which, working alongside other therapies, will stop them progressing".

The next step is to conduct clinical trials into the use of leflunomide to fight melanoma. As leflunomide is already licensed to treat arthritis, this process should be quicker than usual and a new treatment could be available within five years.



Student Union column

Dan Youmans

Community and Student Rights Officer

The last twelve months have been tough for higher education, but we shouldn't forget the many successes the Union and UEA students have had over this period.

Whether in sporting, charitable, or a whole host of other areas, 2010/11 saw a wide range of successes for UEA students. Juxtaposed against fierce debate around the future of higher education, it's most definitely been a year of two halves.

Late March saw Derby Day, the annual sporting face-off between UEA and the University of Essex. This year the competition took place on our campus and brought together more than a thousand athletes across 51 matches. UEA's sports teams did the University proud, leading us to a resounding 41-10 victory.

So many of our individual clubs and societies have had successful years too. Some stand-out examples include: Men's Football winning the Junior Cup at Carrow Road, Women's Rowing having the second fastest qualifying time at Henley and Charlotte Humphreys coming ninth in the British National Championships for the 50m butterfly stroke.

We've stepped up our charity work with the Raise and Give (RAG) society raising more than £112,000 through events

as diverse as Pimp My Barrow (pictured), Movember ('Moustache November') and a sponsored climb of Mount Kilimanjaro. This money will help local, national and international charities with their important work.

March saw our annual Union Awards ceremony, celebrating our greatest achievements in representation, campaigning, and in clubs, societies and volunteering. More than 25 awards were given out on the night, with Society of the Year (Music Society), Club of the Year (Men's Football) and Student Rep of the Year (Liz Biscoe, FMH Student Union representative) all shining stars.

We should also remember and celebrate the contribution to this success made by UEA alumni. Sitting on the Annual Fund's disbursement panel, I saw first-hand the positivity and opportunity the Fund can generate across campus. It is that spirit which encourages these successes.

All-in-all it's been a complicated, challenging, but successful year for the Union and UEA students. Here's to a 2011/12 which builds on these successes.

The Student Union column will be back in the Spring issue of Ziggurat but you can follow union activities at any time by visiting www.ueastudent.com.

The changing face of higher education

In December 2010, parliament voted to raise tuition fees for full-time UK/EU undergraduates from £3,350 a year to up to £9,000 from 2012. The policy was introduced in the midst of considerable budget cuts for higher education and led to large scale protests across the country. Here, we present the University's position on the 2012 fees increase and ask alumni what their thoughts are.

For degree courses starting in 2012, UEA is proposing to set a tuition fee of £9,000 a year for UK/EU undergraduates.

Why are we charging the maximum fee of £9,000?

In order to continue delivering a world class service, most English universities have been faced with a complicated decision: face a dramatic reduction in academic staff (therefore cutting courses and decreasing the staff/student ratio) or charge a maximum fee to study at the institution.

On average, it has been calculated that it costs £11,000 a year to put a full time UK/EU student through an undergraduate degree at the University of East Anglia. This includes the cost of tutors, student services and facilities, research funds, administration and maintenance.

Higher education, in general, was already suffering owing to a withdrawal of funding for Arts and Business subjects and this situation has been compounded by a further 76% cut in capital funding. After taking these losses in both our teaching and capital grants, and with a desire to maintain the world class education we offer, the University had little choice other than to charge the maximum fee of £9,000.



Photo: Andy Larkin

What do alumni think?

Andrew Forth (PSI02)

Tuition fees are never going to be popular, but I don't see any alternative. We need to invest more in our education system, asking the people who are going to get the most benefit to pay seems like the least worst option. That being said, leading universities need to up their game. If in five years time nothing has changed except the fees then we'll need to look again at the system. It can't be business as usual and a lot more needs to be done to make sure the leading universities are more successful in encouraging students from poorer backgrounds to apply to top universities.

Peter McKernon (AHP02)

As an alumnus of UEA and the LSE, I am truly appalled at this level of fee, and absolutely despair for the future of education as a resource available to all in the future. My 16 year old son, if he now decides to go to university, will be faced at the beginning of his working life with debts of £50,000 plus, a debt which it is widely acknowledged will never be paid off in many cases. All this inflicted by a generation who had the benefit of free education, and who will in their later years, be relying on being financially supported by the generation that they are now financially punishing.

Alex Scott (PSI05)

A system where education is free at the point of use, where those who benefit financially from their education pay essentially a graduate tax, is a far fairer system than we were dealt post '97. I support this and hope potential students will see beyond the politically motivated scaremongering. Ultimately, the student movement should gain real authority to demand better services which support and reflect the culture and aspirations of the student body.

Will everyone have to pay the full fee?

In order to ensure that raising tuition fees does not act as a barrier, UEA has developed a funding package to both reward those with excellent qualifications in the form of scholarships, and assist those from lower income backgrounds in the form of bursaries.

- **Scholarships to those students who achieve straight A grades at A level (or the equivalent score through a range of alternative qualifications), worth up to £1,500 to help offset the cost of studying at the University.**

- **The University will offer bursaries in the form of fee waivers (based on household income), worth up to £3,000 per year, reducing the size of student debt incurred.**

- **The government has made provision for a range of grants, loans and additional support from 2012. Many students will not actually end up paying the full £9,000 fee so widely discussed in the media.**

- **There are numerous scholarships and prizes which will be coming from University alumni and friends who have generously and kindly supported the ongoing education of many UEA students**

#tweeteasy

The term “social media” is now commonplace in our day to day activities with online applications such as Facebook and Twitter paving the way for global communications.

With such rapid technological development are our laws up to the job of policing these systems? Should we even attempt to police social media? **Dr. Daithí Mac Síthigh**, from UEA Law School, looks at what social media means for 21st century rule of law.

Seeing the topics from your syllabi and exam papers pop up on the front pages of the newspapers isn't something that happens to every university lecturer.

I teach a module in Internet Law in the UEA Law School, while my recent research deals with the approach of the legal system to new forms of media and entertainment. This includes everything from video-on-demand services, ranging from the BBC's iPlayer to YouTube to LoveFilm, to casual games, like the terribly addictive games that can be played on smartphones. Teaching and researching in the area of law and the internet is always interesting, but sometimes it would be nice if exciting things stopped being so current, even for a couple of months, so that we could all catch up.

Recent stories questioning the relationship between law and technology have included the unsuccessful attempts to protect the privacy of certain well-known personalities named on sites like Twitter, the various actions of the News of the World (and possibly others) in accessing voicemail and email, the massive disclosure of US records by Wikileaks (and the subsequent controversies, retaliations and attacks) and much, much more. Today's group of law students have grown up as internet users and will start working in an era where many legal, social and economic issues cannot avoid having technological dimensions. Our job is to prepare them for that world, but we are also realising that it's difficult to separate, say, the legal from the ethical when it comes to an issue like Facebook privacy.

However some aspects of this year's debates are not that new after all.

Ever since the internet moved into its global, commercial phase, instead of being a primarily academic and research-driven network, legal issues have been significant. It was back in 1996 when John Perry Barlow, co-founder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation (which is still active on digital rights issues, www.eff.org) and sometime member of the Grateful Dead, issued his *Declaration on the Independence of Cyberspace*. This declaration, drawn up in response to an early piece of US legislation regulating online content, sets out the differences between the world as we know it and 'Cyberspace' – reminding governments that they have no power in this new space. Nonetheless, new laws continued to be promulgated and existing legal principles were extended. Some of those involved in developing websites welcomed this – making

contracts work online as well as they work offline was important for the development of online bookstores, auction sites and all that – but others mourned the loss of the more freewheeling, self-governing culture of the early internet.

By the time of the dot-com boom and bust, at the turn of the century, the principle that law would continue to play a role was well established. The debate shifted to the most appropriate method of regulation, particularly when the number of users connected and the volume of cross-border transactions continued to grow each year. Methods of tracking and surveillance improved, but so did techniques of anonymity and circumvention. The music industry tried to take on illegal downloading with varying degrees of success; major names from the early days such as Napster came out on the wrong side of legal battles and parliaments passed new laws, such as the Digital Economy Act in the UK, that would ultimately disconnect users who violated copyright law. However, sharing and downloading continued, not just for music but for movies and games too.

Attitudes to the internet can vary too.

Take, for example, the use of social networking sites as a tool of organisation and communication in various revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East. In Spring 2011, you could not open a British newspaper without seeing praise for the disruptive impact of technology as a tool against oppression – with Western governments and politicians sometimes doing the praising. In a situation where media may be controlled by the state and rights of protest and speech subject to restriction, the ability to get past these barriers was a 'good news story' for some, even if the role of technology was sometimes overstated by commentators looking for a simple explanation for complicated events.

Yet when it then came to thousands of documents published on Wikileaks, the reaction was a much more cynical one, and some key parties (like Amazon, acting as a host, and Paypal, acting as a payment provider) became rapidly reluctant to be associated with Wikileaks. This was also a reminder, as covered in my own writing and

the work of my colleague Emily Laidlaw (www.laidlaw.eu), that even when the role of government is not yet clear, intermediaries like search engines, social networking providers and Web hosts play a crucial role in regulating the actions of Web users.

So where do we go from here?

In the Law School, we have realised that it's impossible to cover all this ground in just a few weeks, and so we now have two specialised Masters programmes, one in Media Law, Policy and Practice and the other in Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law. I am starting a new research project this year (with support from the British Academy) on systems for complaints about media content, with a particular focus on new services, where I will try to understand how these systems have handled technologies, such as the introduction of cable TV or the birth of the dreaded phone-in competition.

More widely, the high-profile launch of Lord Justice Leveson's review of the regulation of the press, as a result of the *News of the World* affair, means that there will be a significant public debate on how far law should go in controlling or influencing the media. But there are no easy answers. On one hand, we saw widespread defiance of the injunction regarding Ryan Giggs by individual Twitter users and even by some members of parliament.

On the other hand, a number of newspapers have recently been found in contempt of court for their actions that violated the right to a fair trial, including publishing prejudicial photographs of a defendant with a gun (the websites of both the *Daily Mail* and the *Sun*) and the coverage of the killing of Joanna Yeates in Bristol (the print editions of the *Daily Mirror* and the *Sun*). So the law has not been sidelined, but there are many issues where the balance between different rights needs to be debated, as does the problem of enforcing the law when it only takes a few seconds to send a message to a global audience.

I suspect that our reading lists and lecture notes will continue to be completely rewritten each summer for some time yet.

In Spring 2011, you could not open a British newspaper without seeing praise for the disruptive impact of technology as a tool against oppression.

Law reform and the media

The UEA Law School has taken on the challenge of providing context for policy discussions, particularly when there is a need to move beyond the stalemate of 'law cannot work here' and 'there is nothing different here'. Take for example the debate about 'libel tourism', where it is alleged that plaintiffs from outside the UK are attracted to the friendly English courts. The Head of the Law School, Prof Alastair Mullis, has been active in the public debate here, questioning the evidence of this phenomenon and proposing how legal principles about jurisdiction and reputation can survive in a digital age. Two new appointments, Paul Bernal and Karen McCullagh have been studying the problem of online privacy, which hits the headlines in relation to services like Facebook and Google. Dr Michael Harker (of the Centre for Competition Policy as well as the Law School) has been working on the position of broadcasting and new media, considering how competition and media law relate to each other when a broadcaster like the BBC moves into online services.

Media project updates

The UEA Law School is one of the Schools participating in the media@uea project, along with DEV, ECO, EDU, FTV, LDC, LCS and PSI. The media@uea blog, launched in June 2011, highlights the range and depth of media research happening at UEA. You can sign up to receive updates by email at mediaatueablog.net.

UEA London Lecture

Daithí will be presenting our next UEA London Lecture on 20 October 2011.

Visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni for more information on this free lecture in the heart of the capital. Follow Daithí on twitter @macsithigh

Amanda Hodgkinson

Alumna **Amanda Hodgkinson (EAS00)** talks to alumnus **Will Gibbons (LIT07)** about her debut novel, life in France and memories of UEA in the snow.



WG Why did you choose UEA for your Masters degree?

AH First of all because it's got such an incredible reputation. It's the best course in the country. And secondly, on a much more mundane level, I was living in Stowmarket. I was living in East Anglia, had two young children and I knew I was going to have to do a daily commute.

WG What do you remember most about UEA, apart from the commute?

AH Meeting amazing people; incredible writers on my course, the other students and making friends that I have still got today. I left school with no qualifications whatsoever but went back to school when my first child was born and took a degree in literature and history. For me it (MA in Creative Writing) was an extraordinary thing on a personal level, to be in that milieu with published writers, so generous with their time. I remember really distinctly standing in a group of students, being told we were important and we were maybe the future of fiction. It was probably overstating things slightly, but it felt good.

WG On your website you mention that you fell in love with books, age 10, around the time your family opened a second hand book store. As a successful writer do you still find the time to read as avidly as you did when you were younger?

AH I read all the time. One of my lecturers said to me you should read first thing in the morning when you open your eyes and you should read last thing at night before you close your eyes and I always do. I wake up and I reach for a book (it's a bit like a smoking habit) and I go to bed and reach for a book. I don't know what I'd do if I didn't read all the time really.

WG Do you have any major influences on your writing and if so who would you say?

AH There are a great many different writers and for a great many different reasons. Toni Morrison, for her ability to move through time on a page. I unpick her writing regularly and quite often I just can't find the seams. I can't find how she's done it and she's such an incredible writer. Also Dickens, because he's a great story teller. I came late to Dickens. I hated

Dickens for a very, very long time, except for *Great Expectations*, which I always loved. And then I was teaching it to children and thought, "this man's a genius, this is fantastic". His storytelling abilities are second to none.

WG You now live in France. So how does life differ in the South of France to the UK? Is there anything you miss?

AH I really enjoy my life over there. I live deep in the countryside and that suits me fine. I really like rural existence. I miss libraries. Obviously I can go to French libraries but I'm interested in the English language so I miss libraries – but from what I hear you guys are going to be missing libraries too. I really miss libraries but I don't miss anything else particularly. I always really enjoy coming back, I always enjoy meeting people. I like Britain immensely but I like my life over there too.

WG I'm from Ipswich and I was wondering why you chose 22 Britannia Road as the title of your novel?

AH First of all it's not the Britannia Road in Ipswich. I wrote the novel when I was living in France so I'd already left Britain. But I do know Ipswich very well and it's (the street of the book) a little tiny street of very simple red brick terraced houses. I always loved this little street and I don't know the name of it but when I started writing the novel I had its image in my head. I chose the title Britannia Road because the book for me is about a family trying to find a home metaphorically, psychologically and physically. For the main character, Janush, Britannia Road has everything in it – a sense of place, a sense of national pride and identity. It's also quite ironic really, for three polish immigrants starting a new life in a small market town in post war Britain. I think there is a level of irony that they're living on Britannia Road and the difficulties that they're going to have integrating. And twenty two because it's a nice number, it's kind of two and two.

WG What advice would you give to someone looking to write their first book?

AH One word after another and tenacity, I think, is needed in large measures. I also really think you have to write the book you want to write, don't start guessing the market.

I might be completely wrong here but this is the way I see it. Don't start thinking "oh you know books about angels are selling well at the moment, forget that vampire story I had, I'm not going to do that". I think you have to be really sincere in your intentions when you write a novel and if it sells it sells, if it doesn't it was a great project and worthy of the work in any case. Be sincere, be true to yourself and write what you want to write.

WG If there is one word that would remind you of UEA, or that UEA reminds you of in particular, what might that word be?

AH I'll say snow. I have a very strong memory of standing in a lecture room looking out at the snow. I was in one of my units, European philosophy towards post structuralism. I could have done the publishing option or all these other ones that were hands on but I really wanted to do that unit and it was wonderful. I stood in this room and we'd been asked this really difficult question. Everybody had gone very, very quiet and I was thinking what am I doing here and I just looked out of the window at the snow. When the tutor asked me what I thought she was so encouraging.

As a mature student and a woman with young children, a woman who had not gone through a normal education system at all, to be there talking to this amazing tutor who I really admired and for her to be so encouraging was amazing.

WG Obviously you are now working on the recent release of 22 Britannia Road. Looking forward, what will you be working on next?

AH I'm working on a second novel at the moment. It is a story about two families in East Anglia and moves through three different generations.

Amanda's debut novel, *22 Britannia Road*, is available now from Penguin.

For more information on her upcoming work visit www.amandahodgkinson.com.



Tony Award nomination

Having starred in two Tony Award winning Broadway plays, alumna **Charlotte Parry (EAS95)** recently took on the role of **Cecily Cardew** in the Tony Award nominated revival of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Now based in Manhattan, Charlotte studied Drama at UEA from 1995 to 1998. Talking of her role in this unique revival, with *Lady Bracknell* played by actor **Brian Bedford**, Charlotte said: "I was proud to be a part of such a successful show, especially one that was filmed and aired at cinemas across the world so that various distant friends and family could enjoy it too".

Charlotte has had very little time for breaks since graduating and the list of her roles contains many notable successes, including appearing on Broadway in the Tony Award winning *The Real Thing* and *Coram Boy*. Charlotte was also part of a world tour and then an Old Vic, London, sell-out run of *The Winter's Tale*.

Now that *The Importance of Being Earnest* has closed, Charlotte is preparing for the American premiere, in New York City, of a new British play called *Bluebird*. She's starring alongside **Simon Russell Beale** and although they haven't started previews yet the play has already sold out. Talking of her role Charlotte explains: "Having gone from playing a sweet innocent 18 year old country girl circa 1895 in *Earnest*, I am now portraying a hard, beaten up prostitute from Sunderland in *Bluebird*. Ah, the perks of the job!"



Making a difference

Justine Mann (LIT07)

Students often contemplate the transition from university to the world of work with trepidation. It can undermine confidence and stifle decision making. Who better to act as a critical friend and sounding board than someone who has been there?

In January, Careers and Employability recruited eight humanities alumni from across the public and private sector for a pilot mentoring scheme. Mentees have access to six hours of mentor time either online or face to face. It's the half way point and we caught up with one pairing to find out what transpired.

Current UEA Career Mentee, **Sean Henry (HIS)**, has been working with **Gupreet Gill (EUR89)** who works as a staff development officer at UEA. Commenting on his experience as part of the mentor programme Sean said: "I'm so grateful to the Mentoring Scheme. The amount of panicking I've done over 'need to pick a career, need to find contacts, need to get relevant experience, need to do X, Y and Z'. Gupreet's taught me I'll be fine. At the moment I'm volunteering with the Kent Association for the Blind. I'm trying to do as much as I can to add to my CV: admin, research, working with the HR and finance managers and (on my own suggestion) helping them to set up a branch within the University of Kent".

To register an interest in mentoring visit www.uea.ac.uk/careers/mentors.



ENV 30 years on

Nick Allen (ENV78) and Petra Brown (ENV78) recently organised an ENV 30 Years On symposium and reunion at UEA London.

Over 30 graduates attended the event which saw the afternoon filled with research and careers information and an evening social.

In addition to details on latest research and the University in general from faculty members, an alumni panel were asked to present and discuss their careers from three distinct perspectives:

1. How their career had developed since leaving ENV?
2. What were the key environmental or global issues impacting them?
3. How they thought ENV careers would develop in the future?

Organiser **Petra Brown** said: "This was a special gathering, charged with energy and enthusiasm for ENV, and such a surprising cross section of careers and life experiences, we shouldn't let it go untapped." Nick said: "Getting alumni re-engaged with the University is a key plank in maintaining the UEA relevance and position as a leading research and teaching institution. The more we can get the alumni involved the better for everybody".

For a full report, including photos, of the event please visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni and view the events webpages.



Queen's Birthday Honours 2011

With the announcement of the Queen's birthday honours earlier in the year, we're pleased to report that several alumni have been recognised for their outstanding work in our communities.

This year's recipients come from a wide variety of backgrounds, but all have made an impact on others or in their communities. We'd like to congratulate all alumni who've received an honour and look forward to hearing of more successes in the future.

Joseph Greenwell (EAS70) CBE

Chairman, Ford of Britain
For services to the automotive industry.

Dr Peter Batchelor (SOC71) OBE

Head of Electronics and Photonics, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Ms Tamara Ingram (EAS79) OBE

Chair, Visit London
For services to tourist industry.

Dr Hugh Milroy (SWK94) OBE

Chief Executive, Veteran's Aid
For services to ex-Servicemen and Women.

Marcelle Speller (ENV68) OBE

Philanthropist – for services to the voluntary sector.

Where are they now?

Have you ever wondered what happened to those friends and acquaintances from the University of East Anglia?

To send us your update, use [Where Are They Now](#) online or complete the enclosed form. You can also email us at alumni@uea.ac.uk

1960s

Andrew McLuskey (EUR66)

Standing for Lib Dems in May local elections, local preaching, tutoring and working on MPhil thesis on 'God and the Big Bang'.

Chris Barrell (MAP68)

Since 2003 I have to be in Zambia for a few months each year, working with a small charity, Hands Around the World, for which I am now also a trustee. (There is a link to my blog from their website). I married Dilys (Meldrum) SOC68 in 1971 and we have four children and six grandchildren, who keep us young and busy! We would love to hear from anyone who remembers us.

Alan Farmilo (CHE68)

Retired from teaching at Deputy Head level. Still married to Chrissie after 38 years. Daughter going through med school. Happy to get in touch with any alumni from CHE or MAP. Hope to contribute soon to the Andy Ripley memorial fund.

1970s

Alan Stevens (BIO70)

President, Global Speakers Federation. Author of three books on media. TV and radio journalist. PR consultant.

Len Thompson (EUR72)

Served my time as a PE/History teacher, being Head of Humanities in a very challenging secondary school for over fifteen years, until stress and ill health forced me into the much calmer backwaters of special education. Married for over thirty years with two grown up daughters. Still passionate about bird-watching, rugby and drinking beer!

Carole Woodruff (EUR77)

Retired. Formerly a French teacher and an interpreter for the police, immigration, courts and prison service. Now enjoying dogs, cats and a husband and caravanning.

Carole Kenyon née Toole (SOC77)

Retired after 28 years. Kids graduated from Glasgow School of Art and Bath University. Spent 6 weeks in New Zealand March 2011.

Chris Durdin (SOC77)

After my year as sabbatical treasurer of UEASU I joined the staff of the RSPB where I stayed for 30 years, initially at HQ in Bedfordshire but for most of the time in the regional office in Norwich. I did a mixture of conservation and public affairs work, often as the Society's spokesman. I also run natural history holidays; for many years that was alongside my RSPB job and now I manage Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays full-time. I have recently written a book: *The Norfolk Cranes' Story* (see Bookshelf). Grown up son Jim is living and working in London; I live in Norwich with my wife Julie and keen footballing sons Alex (11) and William (8) which is why I've also become a soccer coach and secretary of a youth football club. More and contact details via www.honeyguide.co.uk and www.norfolkcranes.co.uk.

David Martin (BIO78)

Left UEA and did my DPhil in Biochemistry at the University of Sussex, graduating in 1985. I then ran away and joined the circus becoming heavily involved in the performing arts, having a noble track record as a failed actor before finding something I was good at! I am now the Executive Director of Oldham Coliseum Theatre and live in Manchester with my Civil Partner, Jez Dolan and Stanley the Dog. I'd love to know what old friends from BIO, Horsham and Suffolk Terrace are now up to.

Ian Brooker (ENV78)

I am Head of Rail Planning at WSP (Environmental Advisor of the year, 2011). Responsible for advising clients on developing rail projects in both passenger and freight sectors. Enjoying the job. Outside work I'm sad to say my son has opted for either Brighton or Sussex rather than UEA next year...

1980s

Simon Ballard (SOC85)

Still in London, in banking. Three kids growing up fast...14 and 9yr old twins.

Carole Shldrake née Bailey (EDU85)

Married for 39 years. Two daughters and two grandkids. Been at Nelson Infant School for 8 years and have been seconded to Acting Head. Have been an SIP.

David Potter (LAW86)

After practising in Chester for 19 years I have moved back to Liverpool. Still playing sax and doing the occasional disco – including a memorable night at the LCR in 2009.

Adam Boyden (ENV89)

In my first venture into civic life and local politics I have just won a local election campaign (bucking the national trend this year) and am now a Lib Dem councillor for Frome College ward on Mendip District Council in Somerset. My wife and I are also expecting our 3rd child. I'm still working at NPA, an environmental consultancy in Bath, and still helping my wife with the cupcakes and with my in-laws' new café in Frome. Busy times, and I turned 40 too, dear me... I would love to hear from anyone who remembers me faffing around campus, at aomboyden@yahoo.co.uk.

1990s

Lucina O'Regan née Dunn (MUS92)

Kevin (O'Regan) and I had a doomed dalliance while studying music at UEA. However, we met up again by chance in 2009 and are now married with a baby!

Michael Bambridge (SYS93)

I was recruited straight from UEA following a phone call to SYS from a south Norfolk company looking for a graduate who was 'not a kid'. Apparently I sprang to mind (I was 53). The next 12 years were some of the happiest of my working life (for which I thank UEA) and I retired 3 years ago.

Kelly Frendo née Loddó (SYS95)

Have my own business for nine years in Gibraltar which I manage from Singapore (where I am currently based). Recently completed a postgraduate diploma in education (specialising in ICT in education) in order to get more involved in this area.

Keeley Walsh (CMP06)

I am an NQT at Ormiston Venture Academy teaching ICT. I have a very fulfilling role due to my time on the Business Information Systems course.

Oliver Steward (PSI06)

I am currently a part time postgraduate student studying a Masters in International Relations at the University of East Anglia.

2000s

Christopher Ogden (LIT07)

I've spent the last year working for UEA's Dean of Students Office, acting as a study helper for a LAW2 student; hopefully, come October, I'll be a postgrad on the University's Creative Writing Poetry MA. Looking for an eventual career in sport or music journalism.

Rosie Bailey (PSI07)

I have spent the past six months redesigning an existing company, Mercer's Spanish. The whole image of the company, offices, logo and vehicles have been updated and I have retrained the staff in customer services and introduced a new accounts system.

Friend finder

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following people, please could they ask them to contact the Alumni office at alumni@uea.ac.uk, as one of their University friends would like to get in touch.

You can also use our friend finder service via Netcommunity. Visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni for more details.

Elizabeth Briant (EAS67)
Valerie Barker nee Carrafa

A life less ordinary

After 20 years of marriage, was it a mad moment that drove UEA graduates to abandon suburbia and choose a life less ordinary running a holiday business in Devon? This is exactly what **Leoni Antoniazzi (EAS80)** and **Steve Carefull (SOC80)** decided to do in 2008, moving the family and establishing a successful holiday business and small holding in Devon.

AO: What inspired you to make the move to Devon?

LA: We had spent ten happy years in Solihull commuting, schooling and taxiing our three kids around. Then in 2006 a conversation about our future sparked a hunt for the opportunity to change lifestyle.

With more people holidaying in the UK we set out to find a self-catering business. We had some capital from buying and selling our family homes, but the business plan made it clear that Steve would need to carry on working full time. I hoped to combine freelance executive development work with running the cottages. I knew that the new business would have to take priority and I worried about losing my contacts and getting rusty. However, working on our web site drew on experience from past roles (in management consultancy) and kept my skills current.

disciplines of clear writing, persuasive skills and lateral thinking, which we both picked up as undergraduates, have earned their keep in this new work context.

Other challenges? The unfortunate flooding of a newly refurbished cottage, coping with bereaved French guests and writing off a car!

AO: Do you have any advice for other alumni, thinking of setting up their own business?

LA: Do your research thoroughly. We wrote multiple versions of the business plan as our insight and ideas developed. Know yourself and your business partner and think about how your skills will complement each other. It could be tough learning new skills and changing context simultaneously – so think of changing one aspect at a time, rather than making a whole set of difficult changes at once.

AO: Given the challenges you've faced would you swap what you have now for your previous lives?

LA: No! For every challenge we have so many high points, like the absolute tranquillity; fantastic feedback from guests; lovely weather; pitch black starry skies and raising piglets.



AO: What has been the biggest challenge with setting up Woodhall Barns?

LA: There is no question that the biggest challenge was getting the financing in place to make the move. We had found a complex of five cottages with swimming pool and family home and sold our house in July 2008 – just before the market collapsed. But the banking crisis changed attitudes to lending and mortgage offers were withdrawn, so we rented until securing a suitable deal. We finally purchased in December 2008, with two weeks to prepare for Christmas and New Year guests.

Another challenge is dealing with the issues that arise on my own. Steve's work takes him away a great deal, so I have called upon every ounce of knowledge and experience to put our business on the map. Those initial

Back to the future

Nick Backhouse (BIO68 and HIS09)

Why on earth am I doing this I ask myself as I wait to enter Congregation Hall on a sunny May afternoon.

The last time I was in this situation was exactly forty years ago when I started my finals in Biological Sciences. Today, I'm doing exams again but this time it's History.

Entering Congregation Hall is like going back through a time warp. The atmosphere is a heady mixture of fear and anticipation; I could swear the desks are the same, even the invigilator looks familiar. Fill in your personal details on the answer scrip, wait for the clock to start and then gingerly turn over the question paper. Eight questions to choose from. Relief, there are two I can answer. Now the difficult bit, engage brain and at the same time try to write legibly. Yes, write. No copy and pasting, no spell check. It's me versus the blank sheet with no support system; it's as though Bill Gates had never existed.

1 Hour 50 minutes later there is nothing more to write, I've done my best but will it be good enough? But what is good enough? I'm only doing this for fun, I've nothing to prove, the grades don't really matter. Really?

But now the adrenalin rush is starting to fade and there is a sense of having survived this ordeal a second time around. Another decision to make. Go to the bar with my fellow examinees? (They're young enough to be my grandchildren.) Alternatively I could go home and have a green tea and read the Guardian. Forty years on, what would you do?

P.S. For all those who studied Sciences I can now advise that Humanities isn't the holiday camp we all thought it was!

Legacy supports music

The University was most grateful to receive a recent bequest from Rosamund Strode, an Honorary Graduate of the University, who had always shown a great interest and enthusiasm for the School of Music since its inception in 1968.

Rosamund was assistant to Benjamin Britten for many years and after his death in December 1976 she became the archivist for the Britten-Pears Library. Her bequest enables the School of Music (MUS) to enhance the facilities of their Performance Room, providing students with a much improved rehearsal and concert space.

The Britten-Pears Library is also being used by MUS as a resource for research and an innovative, exciting project to develop a Benjamin Britten thematic catalogue. Funding for the project was gained under the AHRC Resource Enhancement Scheme and the catalogue will be published in 2013, to mark the centenary of Britten's birth.

These links provide the University with tremendous opportunities, and legacies, such as Rosamund's, can help to provide future support for UEA. If you are considering, or have already decided to leave a legacy gift in your Will to the University we would very much like to have the opportunity to thank you and invite you to our next Legacy Reception at the Museum of London. The event has been made possible through the generosity of Prof Jack Lohman (AHM76), Director of the Museum of London, who is delighted to offer the opportunity for a guided tour and provide an insight into some of the exhibits at the Museum. The event will take place on Tuesday 29 November 2011.

If you are interested in attending please contact Joyce Griffin, Development Manager, on 01603 592114, by email at j.griffin@uea.ac.uk or by visiting our website www.uea.ac.uk/supportuea.



New Scholarship established for prospective English Literature and Philosophy students

A new Scholarship has been established to enable an undergraduate student to study for a BA (Hons) degree in English Literature and Philosophy.

The Wilkinson Scholarship, generously donated to the University by James Wilkinson (SOC92) and his wife, Helen (EAS92), will contribute to part of the recipient's course fees for up to a maximum of three years, subject to satisfactory progress.

The Wilkinsons decided to set up the Scholarship as they felt their years at UEA were some of the most memorable of their lives: "We relished the opportunity to study subjects that we loved and that challenged us. We also made some lifelong friends, as well as meeting each other on our first day, so without UEA our lives would be poorer in so many ways."

Students who pay fees at the Home/EU rate and have a total household income of less than £25,000 were eligible to apply for the Scholarship with the first being awarded in September 2011 (then every three years thereafter).

James and Helen were particularly keen to support students reading these subjects. "Through studying and enjoying literature you can learn so many things that enrich your life. Hopefully our support will enable those who may not have been able to continue their study in these areas to do so."

Annual Fund 2011/12

As the 2011/12 academic year gets underway, our new team of student callers will soon be picking up the phone to thousands of alumni in the latest Annual Fund Call Campaign.

The Annual Fund is an opportunity for friends and alumni of the University to support students and projects across campus. There is a wide selection of important areas to choose from this year including the 50th Anniversary Building, Andy Ripley Memorial Fund, the Student Experience Fund and Scholarships.

Our student callers are looking forward to speaking with many of you from October 2011 onwards.

Going global

Graduate employability is a global issue. As a result of appointing International Students Career Development Adviser, Lisa-Rose Moller, the University is developing its work in this important area.

Careers & Employability (formerly the Careers Centre) have recently been successful in securing funding from the Annual Fund for an International Employer Engagement Initiative. Lisa-Rose will be visiting Japan, China, USA, India and Malaysia to engage further with employers of our international alumni.

Talking about the involvement of alumni, in supporting the work of Careers & Employability around the world, Lisa-Rose explains: "Current students are very keen to hear about the experiences of alumni who have studied at their institution and gone on to forge successful careers. The information provided by alumni has been invaluable to current International students who are trying to develop their own career paths and need advice and tips on job hunting, particularly in specific countries".

If you would like to be involved, by arranging meetings with yourself or your employers, please contact Lisa-Rose at l.moller@uea.ac.uk. You'll be able to discuss ways in which you can work together, particularly the possibility of creating internship/work placement opportunities. Careers & Employability are also happy to provide connections for employers, fostering networking with SMEs based in Norfolk who would like to do business overseas.

Obituaries

The Alumni office is sad to announce the death of the following alumni:

David Alexander (MAP69)

Richard Webster (EAS69)

Mordecai Omer (FAM71)

Maureen Bolton (EDU86)

Coral Bryant née Hughes (EDU89)

Alison Watts (SWK98)

Stuart Ballantyne (LIT08)

Music for the people Gareth Malone (EAS94)

Congregation 2011 saw the return to the University of a much loved national figure, Gareth Malone. Not content with just one degree from UEA, the Drama alumnus was back on campus to receive his honorary doctorate.

A recipient of two BAFTAs, a Broadcast Award and the Freedom of the City of London in 2010 (for his work on music education in the capital), music has always been a part of Gareth's life. While he studied Drama at UEA in the 90s, he was in the University choir and composed music for several theatre productions. A postgraduate course at the Royal Academy of Music saw him receive a distinction and success didn't stop there. Gareth's first book *Music for the People* was released in April 2011.

Talking about his decision to write a book Gareth said: "I wanted to write a book, I've always wanted to write a book, I loved writing and loved doing essays while I was here...to a point. I just didn't quite know what I wanted it to be".

He went on to explain that when it was initially suggested that he should write a guide to music he felt "under-qualified" but that it turned out to be the right choice. "It (*Music for the People*) really felt right as it is an attempt, in a book, to do everything I was doing when I was working with the London Symphony Orchestra, which was outreach. Trying to

persuade people to listen to classical music or to go further with classical music than perhaps they would have ordinarily done because I think there are many barriers to classical music if you are not introduced to it in the right way".



Containing chapters entitled 'A Hot Date with Music' and 'How to Survive a Concert', *Music for the people* is a personal account of classical music, discussing the lessons Gareth has taken from his interests as well as his professional life. However, the writing debut is also a practical guide about accessing and embracing classical music. As Gareth explains: "The book is about being practical about it. For instance, there is a whole chapter on how to go to a concert and how to deal with that, how not to be put off by the other people who seem to know everything. People are bothered by that kind of thing".

Despite the April release of *Music for the People* and recently becoming a father, Gareth has no plans to slow down. Series four of The BAFTA award winning BBC series *The Choir* is now in production. Due to be aired around Christmas, the series is about military families whose relatives are on tour in Afghanistan. "It is about what singing can mean under those sorts of circumstances, what it can do for people, how it can bring them together but also how it can get them through the daily grind".

Media Watch

Here are a few University stories which have made the national headlines. A full round-up of recent media coverage is available online at www.uea.ac.uk/comm.

MARCH AND APRIL

Prof Chris Bigsby (AMS)
Camden New Journal, Camden Times, Islington Tribune, Newsday.com, Jewish Press International, Indiatimes.com, Vietnam Tribune, The Times, The Observer, Irish Independent, USA Today, World News Arthur Miller

Dr Phylo Myint (MED)
Pulse, Nursing Times online, BBC online and various online *Dementia*

Prof Margaret O'Brian (SWP)
The Guardian, Northampton Chronical and Echo, Radio 4 and various online *Men in families*

MAY

Dr Elissaios Papyrakis (DEV)
Daily Mail, Telegraph, Independent, Radio 5 Live, Metro, THE, BBC Online, CBS News Online, Fox News Online,

Sydney Morning Herald, Brisbane Times, Church of England Newspaper and various other online Church attendance

Prof Daniel Zizzo (ECO)
Various online *Agricultural envy*

VC Prof Edward Acton (VCO)
THE, BBC online, EDP Visas

JUNE

Dr Brigitte Clark (LAW)
Daily Mail Online, Family Law, The Times Online *Forced Marriage*

Dr Stanley Musgrove (MED) and Prof David Price (MED)
Time, Telegraph, Mail, Sun, Mirror, The Press, EADT, Times of India and various online *Asthma Drug*

Prof Giles Foden (LIT)
Guardian *Creative Writing Courses*

JULY AND AUGUST

Prof Ian Bateman (ENV)
Sunday Times, Independent, FT, I, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5 Live, BB TV News, Guardian online, Nature online and others *DEFRA report on farming*

Dr Chris Fox (MED)
BBC Radio 2, BBC World Service, BBC Local Radio, Channel 4 News, Independent online, Guardian, BBC News, ITV News, One Show and others online *Anticholinergic drugs*

Dr Sanna Inthorn (PSI)
ABC News online, China Post, Washington Post online, Boston Globe online and other online *Cheryl Cole*

Bookshelf

Listed below are books written by alumni and staff which have been published recently. If you would like any further details about any of the titles, please contact either the publisher or the Alumni office on 01603 593815 or alumni@uea.ac.uk.

Martyn Bedford (EAS93)
Flip
Walker Books
March 2011

Chris Bowers (LLT79) and Iain Dale (EUR81)
Nick Clegg: The Biography
Biteback Publishing
September 2011

Dr Vasudha Chhotray (EDU06)
The Anti-Politics Machine in India
Anthem Press
March 2011

Andrew Cowan (EAS80)
The Art of Writing Fiction
Longman
May 2011

Ruth Dugdall (SWK94)
The Sacrificial Man
Legend Press
July 2011

Joe Dunthorne (EAS01)
Wild Abandon
Hamish Hamilton
August 2011

Chris Durdin (SOC74) and John Buxton
The Norfolk Cranes' Story
Wren Publishing
July 2011

Michale Fassio (SOC74)
Dementia and Mum – Who Really Cares?
Kew Bridge Press
September 2011

Elizabeth Ngozi Okpalaenwe (EDU08)
The power to succeed
The power to make a choice (coming soon)
Langaa Research and Publishing Common Initiative Group
April 2011

Prof Peter Waldron (HIS)
Russia of the Tsars
Thames and Hudson
May 2011

We'd like to issue an apology to John Kington (CRU), author of *Climate and Weather* whose name we spelt incorrectly in the previous issue of *Ziggurat*.

A fine city

Norwich apparently has a pub for everyday of the year and a church for every Sunday, but that isn't all this fine city has to offer.

In Medieval times, Norwich was one of the greatest cities in England and historical sites such as a Norman Cathedral and 12th century castle combine with the city wall remains to make it the most complete Medieval city in Britain.

Norwich is also the only place in the UK, outside of London's Oxford Street, to have four national department stores, as well as the independent store Jarrolds. The city is listed as one of the top 10 places to shop in the UK.

In addition to high street stores, Norwich Lanes are home to independent boutiques, bars and restaurants. Based in the city's historical quarter, The Lanes offer a fantastic

mix of fashion, beauty and leisure, many of which offer discounts for alumni.

For peace and tranquillity you can head out to the North Norfolk coast, by car, train or coast hopper bus, but you can also find this in the city. In the heart of Norwich you will find the lovingly restored Victorian Plantation Garden. Set in three acres of 19th century landscaping, the secret garden is the perfect place to escape the hustle and bustle of city life. For picturesque walks or bike riding, travel to Thetford Forest. Established in the early 1900s, this is now the largest lowland forest in Britain (covering an area of 80 square miles).

To access some great deals across the region, apply for an Alumni Benefit Card. Alumni recently voted 'eating out' and 'things to do' their favourite deals from the card in our Facebook poll.



Spring/Summer 2011

We've had a busy spring and summer and wanted to share some of the many events alumni, and staff, have attended and organised. If you'd like to host a reunion or attend alumni events simply keep an eye on the calendar at www.uea.ac.uk/alumni.

MAY

Shanghai Alumni Reception

Alumni gathered in the prestigious Shanghai World Financial Centre for this special reception, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and colleagues.



JUNE

Court 2011

Alumni were joined by University staff, local dignitaries and regional business leaders for this year's annual general meeting. Following a series of talks on the University's year and current research, all guests gathered for an evening reception in the beautiful Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts.



JULY

Hong Kong Alumni Cocktail Evening

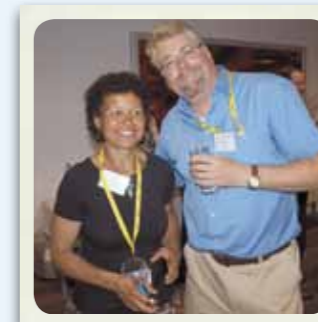
Alumni based in Hong Kong met for this special reunion, kindly hosted by fellow graduate Ayaz Ebrahim (SYS82). The cocktail evening, held at the prestigious Hong Kong Club, was attended by over 120 alumni and was the largest gathering of former students outside the UK for many years. UEA's Prof Andrew Coats gave a brief update on developments at the University and the Norwich Research Park.

Senior members of the Development Office were also in attendance along with Careers & Employability. David Street, Head of Development, said: "We are immensely grateful to Ayaz for hosting this event. It is truly wonderful to see so many former UEA students from UEA's first 48 years sharing their experiences and we very much hope that events such as this will help to build a stronger and even more vibrant alumni community in Hong Kong".



ENV Reunion-Symposium

Organised by ENV78 alumni, this well attended event saw alumni, staff and current students gathering at UEA London. See page 13 for the event report.



UEA London Lecture

The fourth in our successful London Lecture Series heard from Prof Aedin Cassidy from Norwich Medical School. If you'd like to know more about our upcoming lectures, including talks from Prof Sarah Churchwell (AMS) and Prof David Stevens (Head of MTH) sign up to the mailing list.



Women's Rugby Football Club (WRFC) Reunion

UEA WRFC 2007 and 2008 graduates met for their annual reunion in July. Alumna Julie Price (LIT04) said: "We book a cottage every summer and gather a group of us together to reminisce about the good old UEA times".



Grad Ball 2011

The biggest alumni event of the year saw thousands of new graduates and their guests gathering for the final LCR. The celebrations went on until 5.00am with the remaining alumni gathering for their Survivors Photo in the Square, buoyed up on early morning provisions of tea and pastries.



Public lectures and events

29 SEPTEMBER

Global Pub Reunion 2011

Various locations worldwide
Help us celebrate the University's 48th anniversary worldwide. Each year, hundreds of alumni get together across the globe to celebrate the UEA's anniversary on 29 September.

Locations range from Norwich (where we'll be hosting a Student versus Alumni Pub Quiz on campus) to Bratislava and on to Chennai.

Most events are free to attend. Visit www.uea.ac.uk/alumni for more information or to sign up for the Norwich and London reunions.

20 OCTOBER

UEA London Lecture: Tweeateasy? What does social media mean for the rule of law?

6.30pm UEA London Free
Dr Daithi Mac Sithigh (LAW) explores questions surrounding law and technology. This event is free to attend but places must be booked in advance. The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception. Book your place online at www.uea.ac.uk/alumni or by calling 01603 593815.

PRESENT – 4 DECEMBER

Special Exhibition – The Face of the Artist: Photographs by John Hedgecoe
SCVA £2 – £4

20 SEPTEMBER

NRP Annual Public Lecture 2011 'Environment, Politics and Policy'

5.30pm Thomas Paine Study Centre
Lecture Theatre Free

21 SEPTEMBER

Hard-Fi
7.30pm Waterfront £17.50

27 SEPTEMBER – 4 DECEMBER

Link Display: Griff Rhys Jones' Ghanaian 'Fantasy Coffin'
SCVA Free

28 SEPTEMBER

The power of Japanese society in the face of the earthquake and the chaos of domestic politics

6.30pm Thomas Paine Study Centre
Free Booking is required
www.uea.ac.uk/cjs

28 SEPTEMBER

Literary Festival: Wilbur Smith
7pm Lecture Theatre 1 £6

2 OCTOBER

Kids In Glass Houses
7pm LCR £13

6 & 7 OCTOBER

Double Bill: Antigone by Sophocles/ The Girl Who Looked Like Me by Katrina Raine

7.30pm Drama Studio £4 – £6
01603 508050

11 OCTOBER

Bombay Bicycle Club
7.30pm LCR £15

11 OCTOBER

Arthur Batchelor Lecture: TJ Clark, Prof Emeritus UC Berkeley
6.30pm Thomas Paine Study Centre
Lecture Theatre Free

11 OCTOBER

The Horrors + Toy
7.30pm Waterfront £12

12 OCTOBER

Literary Festival: David Lodge
7pm Lecture Theatre 1 £6

14 & 15 OCTOBER

Writer's Block by Tom Moran
7.30pm Drama Studio £6
01603 508050

16 OCTOBER

The Pierces
7pm Waterfront £13.50

19 OCTOBER

Literary Festival: Evan Davis
7pm Lecture Theatre 1 £6

20 OCTOBER

Learning to Slurp: history, noodles and popular culture in Japan
6pm Norwich Cathedral Hostry (Weston Room) Free
www.sainsbury-institute.org

21 OCTOBER

Mr Scruff
7.30pm LCR £8.50 – £12

26 OCTOBER

Literary Festival: Richard Dawkins
7pm Lecture Theatre 1 £6

28 OCTOBER

Jools Holland & His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra
7.30pm LCR £19 – £28.50

30 OCTOBER

Wretch 32 + Loick Essien
7pm Waterfront £10

2 NOVEMBER

An Audience with Griff Rhys Jones
6pm SCVA £50
Booking essential 01603 593199

5 NOVEMBER

Howard Marks is Mr Nice
7.30pm LCR £12 – £15

6 NOVEMBER

Scroobius Pip
7pm Waterfront £9

9, 10, 11 & 12 NOVEMBER

Minotaur Shorts Festival of New Writing
7.30pm Drama Studio £6
01603 508050

11 NOVEMBER

UEA Symphony Orchestra and the UEA Duke Ellington Orchestra Concert conducted by Sharon Andrea Choa
7.30pm at St Andrew's Hall £4
www.uea.ac.uk/mus/musicevents

11 NOVEMBER

Motorhead + Anti Nowhere League + UK Subs
7.30pm LCR £26

14 NOVEMBER

The Damned 35th Anniversary Tour
7.30pm LCR £18

15 NOVEMBER

Guillemots
7.30pm Waterfront £15

23 NOVEMBER

Literary Festival: Antonia Fraser
7pm Lecture Theatre 1 £6

25 NOVEMBER

Dodgy
Early show 7-10pm (2 sets, no support) plus free entry to club after 10-2am
7pm Waterfront £13
www.ueaticketbookings.co.uk

27 NOVEMBER

An Evening With Chris Packham - 'A Wild-Life Exposed!'
7pm LCR £15 (£10 NUS)

29 NOVEMBER

DJ Fresh
7.30pm Waterfront £12.50

30 NOVEMBER

The Vaccines
7.30pm LCR £15

6, 8 & 10 DECEMBER

Macbeth by William Shakespeare
7.30pm Drama Studio £6
01603 508050

9 DECEMBER

UEA Symphony Orchestra and Choir Christmas Concert conducted by Tom Primrose and Sharon Andrea Choa
7.30pm at St Andrew's Hall £4
www.uea.ac.uk/mus/musicevents

11 DECEMBER

Professor Green + Rizzle Kicks
7pm LCR £16

16 DECEMBER

Adam Ant + The Good The Bad & The Lovely Posse
7.30pm LCR £25

To book tickets for UEA/Waterfront gigs visit www.ueaticketbookings.co.uk. For Literary Festival information and tickets visit www.uea.ac.uk/litfest.

Student Recruitment Events

Undergraduate Open Day
1 OCTOBER

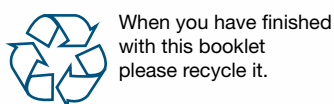
MBA Open Evening
13 OCTOBER

Postgraduate Open Day
15 OCTOBER

PGCE Secondary Teacher Training Information Session
15 NOVEMBER

MBA Open Evening
17 NOVEMBER

Postgraduate Open Day
18 JANUARY



The University of East Anglia is a Fair Trade university.

