

# Essex Effect

2015

Alumni\* magazine

## Most dangerous woman in Britain

Our new Chancellor  
Shami Chakrabarti

## When Essex opened its doors

Meet the 1964 students

## The Wall comes down

Berlin 25 years on

\*former students or  
employees; members

From the Latin, alere: to nourish,  
pronounced ə'laɪnɪ or 'uh-luhm-nigh'.  
(None the wiser? Well, it rhymes with  
'plum pie'. Just think about pudding and  
you'll be fine.)



Mmm, pie.



University of Essex

# Breaking the rules since 1964

No-one reads this bit, do they? Do you? OK, we just put this bit here to test a theory.

Here's this year's magazine. We hope you like it. There's some nostalgia, some celebration of what's happening now and some looking to the future. Most importantly, though, it's about you. It's the stories of some of our founding students, who arrived to find a university based in an old stately home and some wooden huts. And it's the story of two of our alumnae who are now in rather impressive and promising careers because they signed up for an internship or a frontrunner job while they were here.

It's the story of the man who went on a year abroad in 1989 – and managed to be in Berlin when the Wall came down. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, that momentous part of European history celebrates its 25th.

This year's magazine also gives you the chance to meet our brilliant new Chancellor, Shami Chakrabarti. Once derided in the press as 'the most dangerous woman in Britain', she now wears that intended insult as a badge of pride. What could be more Essex than that?

## Get in touch

Do you have a story? An amazing career to tell us about? Have you published a book? In previous years, we've heard from writers, DJs, teachers, lawyers, tour guides, psychotherapists, artists, police officers, people who've proposed to their partners in creative new ways, evangelists, professors, CEOs... you get the picture. You're a remarkable bunch, with diverse lives, and we want to celebrate you.

So, dig around in your attic, garage or spare room and have a look through your old university stuff. If you've got old fliers and posters, photos, cartoons from student newspapers or just an unusual memento, we'd love to see them.

► [essex.ac.uk/alumni](http://essex.ac.uk/alumni)

E [alumni@essex.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@essex.ac.uk)

📷 [@Uni\\_EssexAlumni](https://www.instagram.com/Uni_EssexAlumni)

f [facebook.com/essexalumni](https://www.facebook.com/essexalumni)

#essexalumni

See the magazine online at [www.essex.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.essex.ac.uk/alumni) > News and events > Our communications



4



14

  
**47,440**  
read *Essex Effect* in print

  
**10,330**  
read it online



25



8

# Contents

4

## Tell someone today

All the news from Essex

8

## The relentless optimist

Our new Chancellor – the most dangerous woman in Britain

10

## What a day!

Our 50th anniversary celebrations – and events to look forward to

12

## Opening doors

How being an intern or frontrunner boosts Essex grads' careers

14

## “It was momentous”

One Essex student's adventures in Berlin when the Wall fell

16

## Sherry, Vietnam and lifelong friendship

*Essex Effect* meets some of the 1964 students

19

## Your news

Updates from around the world and across the decades

25

## Concrete romance

Six couples who met at Essex – from 1964 to today

28

## Thank you!

How your support shapes the university

30

## My Essex

Fog, naughtiness and nicking teaspoons



16



28

# Tell someone today

So, someone asks you, what do they do at Essex, then?  
Well, here's a selection of possible answers...

## Fitness, not fatness



The 'obesity time-bomb' has been exaggerated, says Gavin Sandercock in Biological Sciences. In a specially commissioned feature on the BBC website, he wrote that "figures for 2010-11 suggest 9% of five- to six-year-olds are obese. That equates to 2.7 children in each class of 30. In 1990, it was 1.5. Does a 20-year increase of just over one child per class seem like an epidemic?"

Gavin thinks our focus on obesity means we overlook inactivity. When the parliamentary Health Select Committee had a 2.5-hour hearing on The Role of Diet and Physical Activity in Health, he says, "despite its absence from the title, 'obesity' was mentioned 193 times in 150 minutes."

"Inactivity is a better predictor of ill-health than obesity. British Heart Foundation research shows that none of the 11-15-year-old girls and only 7% of boys they measured did enough exercise. All children and young people should engage in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity for at least 60 minutes a day. Anybody of any size can benefit from being more active, whether they see a change in their weight or not."

We say: so, the 1969 graffiti at Essex was true: "Your arse is your greatest enemy – get off it".



## Proud

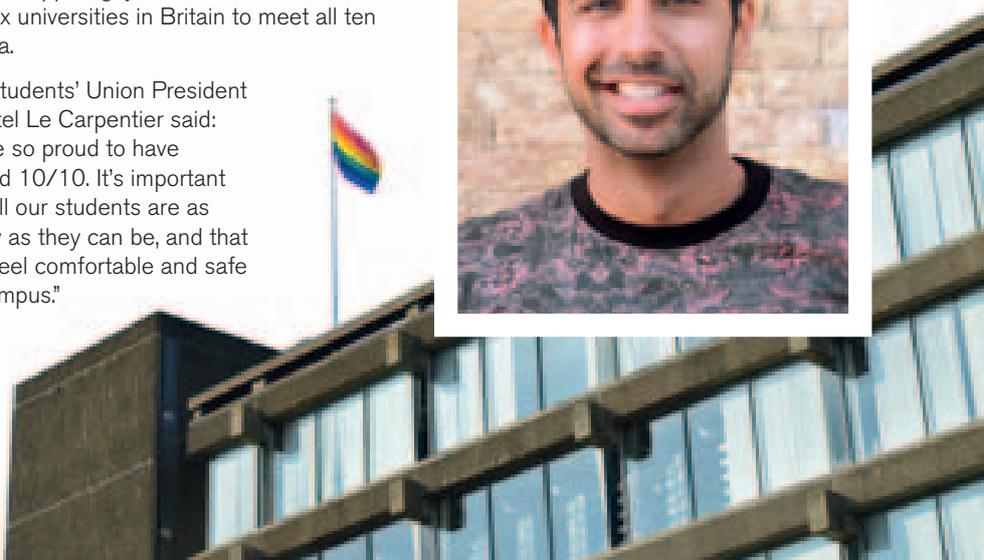
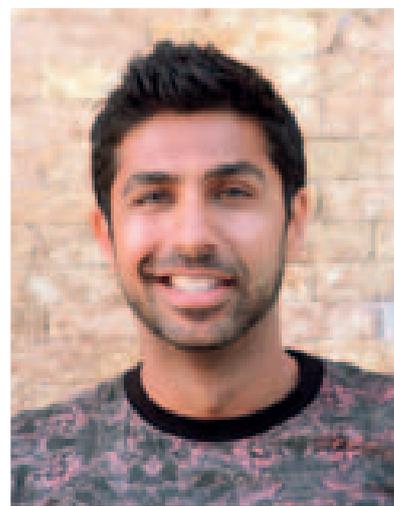
All our alumni are fabulous, obviously, but Tamoor Ali, a Senior Commercial Analyst at BP, has been named Stonewall's Role Model of the Year in their top 100 employers report.

As co-Chair of their LGBT staff network, he's helped to make diversity part of BP's recruitment strategy. The company has sponsored Student Pride and held its own targeted LGBT careers event. Leading the network "has given me the confidence to be an out, authentic leader," he said, "and I hope this encourages others in the energy industry to make a long-term sustainable and meaningful difference."

Stonewall has also named Essex itself one of the best universities in Britain for lesbian, gay and bisexual students. The Gay By Degree guide checks ten measures, including

whether the university has societies and events for gay students and what steps they take to support gay staff. We were one of just six universities in Britain to meet all ten criteria.

Our Students' Union President Chantel Le Carpentier said: "We're so proud to have earned 10/10. It's important that all our students are as happy as they can be, and that they feel comfortable and safe on campus."



# Art and punishment

What do the ancient Greek statue *Laocoön and His Sons* and Andy Warhol's *Electric Chair* have in common? And what can they tell us about ourselves? Eamonn Carrabine in Sociology has been awarded a three-year Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship to find out.

His project looks at how punishment has been depicted in the visual arts from the 1500s up to the present day. (*Laocoön* is older, but was excavated and restored during the Renaissance.)

Eamonn says, "Images of punishment are big in Western art. They ask important questions about what pain, suffering and justice mean to the societies in which they were produced. I want to look at them in their context, find new ways of understanding punishment and revive the idea of social sciences being able to tell us about the arts."

Eamonn's multi-disciplinary approach will bring in "criminology, history, philosophy and sociology", and he says, "cultural processes should be seen as a whole, so visual analysis is never an end in itself, but helps us to explain things socially and politically".



**Pain, suffering and justice in art tell us about society**

## Not such a crude theory

War really is about oil... Kristian Gleditsch from our Department of Government worked with academics from Portsmouth and Warwick to look at 69 civil wars around the world from 1945-99. They found that another country or outside organisation was much more likely to intervene for vested financial interests than because of historical, geographical or ethnic ties.

Kristian says, "More than 90 per cent of all armed conflicts since World War II have been civil wars, and we wanted to go beyond conspiracy theories to analyse what made third parties get involved. The evidence is clear: countries with potential for oil production are more likely to see foreign intervention.

"Military action is expensive and risky. No country joins another's civil war without balancing the cost against their own strategic interests and the possible benefits. The more oil a country has, the more likely the intervention – and the more oil a country imports, the more likely they are to get involved.

"Before ISIS got near the oil-rich north of Iraq, they were barely mentioned in the news. Once they got near oil fields, they made headlines, and the US sent drones to strike ISIS targets."

The findings are published in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.



**"More than 90 per cent of all armed conflicts since World War II have been civil wars"**

Tell someone today

# The truth on immigration

What does migration really mean for our economies? When some political parties seem to have few policies other than restricting immigration, it seems a pertinent question – and one that Neli Demireva in Sociology plans to answer.

She's been awarded a major grant to study *Growth, Equal Opportunities, Migration and Markets* over three years. Neli says, "European countries want to manage people's mobility to create competitive, growing economies – and one of the big things which prevents growth is ethnic inequality. Inequality can happen

because of the skills migrants have but also because markets aren't working at their best due to discrimination."

Neli is interested in multiculturalism, and says its death has been exaggerated. "What's dead is our politicians' belief that we can evolve into societies where minorities are no longer 'other'. But in our daily lives, we constantly embrace common activities and interests. That brings us together. We are all unique, and all human. That is something to celebrate and cherish."

**We say:** see Neli's TEDx talk on multiculturalism, and others about 'promise through research', at [www.essex.ac.uk/research/tedx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/research/tedx)



# Bionic hand to 'talk' to brain



Project leader Kianoush Nazarpour at Newcastle with the bionic hand

A new £1.4m research project aims to create a bionic hand that can sense pressure and temperature and transmit the information back to the brain.

Francisco Sepulveda, a neuro-engineering expert in our School of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering, joins scientists at Newcastle, Leeds, Keele, Southampton and Imperial College London. They aim to connect electrodes in the artificial limb to the nerves in the arm – reminiscent of Luke Skywalker's prosthetic hand in *The Empire Strikes Back*.

Francisco says, "Our aim at Essex is to have the methodology in place so there will be bespoke nerve implants in future which will minimise the huge waste of resources in a 'trial and error' approach. For patients the hope is that this technology could restore their sensation in a way that is as close to natural as possible."



## Cinema's dark side

Don't think of Darth Vader breathing hoarsely. A new book from Shohini Chaudhuri in Literature, Film, and Theatre Studies is about a rather different kind of dark: how films depict human rights violations such as torture, genocide, and deportation.

*Cinema of the Dark Side* looks at films including *Zero Dark Thirty*, *Hotel Rwanda* and *District 9* to see how film-makers choose to take a moral or an ethical approach – and how we, as viewers, are complicit.

"*Zero Dark Thirty* makes out that torture played a key role in locating Osama Bin Laden," she says. "It

creates a moral universe in which torture is justifiable. *Children of Men* has an ethical approach, and makes connections between present-day attitudes to migrants and past atrocities."

Cinema can make our view of the world simplistic, Shohini says – but it doesn't have to. "Often perpetrators of genocide are portrayed as purely evil, completely unlike us, but genocide happens through the collaboration and consent of the ordinary population. The Polish film *Ida*, for example, subtly draws attention to that wider complicity."



CINEMA OF THE DARK SIDE  
Atrocity and the Ethics of Film Spectatorship

Shohini Chaudhuri

The book is out now from Edinburgh University Press

"Cinema can make our view of the world simplistic"

## Treating trauma

Fishing can help military veterans cope with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The Essex researchers who discovered this – PhD student Mark Wheeler and Nick Cooper in Psychology – are both keen anglers, and thought that if they found their hobby therapeutic, others might, too.

"We took a group of veterans who'd had a diagnosis of PTSD on a residential angling weekend," Mark says, "camping overnight and fishing during the day. When they got back, they all reported much better scores for PTSD, depression, anxiety, work and social

adjustment, perceived stress level and sleep quality. After four months, all but sleep were still good."

They've since broadened out and organised experience days at the Garrison Saddle Club and Lavenham Falconry Centre. The findings are encouraging, and could be useful in finding treatments for more military veterans in future. "We're not 100% sure which

element is helping," Mark says, "but the veterans are isolated, and we get them out with people from a similar background, with similar symptoms. The outdoor element's important, too – and they focus on the task. The therapeutic element sneaks in under the radar."



**We say:** as long ago as 1653, Izaak Walton in his *Compleat Angler* called fishing "the pleasant labour which you enjoy when you purpose to give rest to your mind"



# The relentless optimist

Our new Chancellor is 'the most dangerous woman in Britain' – and rather proud of it. Shami Chakrabarti talks to *Essex Effect* about educating women, changing the world and being happy



## Shami facts

### Favourite film:

*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton

### Favourite book:

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

### Philosophy:

Aspire to be anyone's equal, but no-one's superior

Turn to the back page to find out about our new Chancellor's appeal. The motivation behind it is simple: "I'm a human rights campaigner, and to me the greatest injustice on the planet is gender injustice, and progress is too slow."

Educated, empowered women bring better health, greater productivity and brighter prospects for the next generation, not just to their families, but to whole communities. So, Essex wants to offer scholarships to women

from places across the world where they normally wouldn't get an opportunity like this – and we're matching every donation, pound for pound.

As Shami says, "If we can begin to crack this, it has fantastic collateral benefits, in development, war and peace, climate change. This is where we began: If I am the most dangerous woman in Britain, the guilty men and women are those who educated me with the power of rational argument."

"It's the gift that keeps on giving", Shami Chakrabarti says, and while her Essex Chancellorship is "an enormous honour", that's not what she's talking about. In 2007, *Sun* columnist Jon Gaunt branded her the most dangerous woman in Britain, outraged that someone who thinks terror suspects have rights should get a CBE. Ever since, she has worn the intended insult as a badge of pride. "It's one of the greatest honours they could bestow on a woman. *The Sun* doesn't often honour women."

This seems emblematic of her approach to life but shows her sense of humour, too. "It's also great because of the irony that Jon Gaunt ended up needing Liberty's help." Sacked from talk radio for calling a local council employee a 'health Nazi' and an 'ignorant pig', he's now fighting for his freedom of speech.

That pleasure in life's absurdities still surprises people who expect a human rights campaigner to be serious and earnest. Shami says that was true when she was a teenager, but "it was starting to wear off when I was an undergraduate. It was a great time of exploration, travelling and friendships. It's a life-changing time for anyone and very formative. That's why I'm evangelical that everybody should have the opportunity to do that, and it should be affordable."

**"My life story isn't grim and worthy. I have great colleagues, and sometimes the good guys win."**

She was at university at around the same time as David Phillips (see pp 14-15), and "stood on top of the Berlin Wall on the New Year's Eve before it came down. It was an extraordinary period of history; something I never thought I'd see in my lifetime. Then in 1994, there was the liberation of South Africa, when apartheid had seemed so entrenched, and the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. It seemed like a decade of wonderful, progressive change."

The next decade was different. Shami's first day at human rights charity Liberty was 10 September 2001 – and the events of the following day continue to resonate even now. One might expect someone whose career has been shaped by the 'war on terror' to have become less optimistic in the intervening years, but the opposite is true.

"I don't think you could do this kind of work unless you're optimistic," she says. "You'd take your law degree to the City and make a lot of money." So, while it was "extraordinary to be going into an election campaign [we did the interview in January] where two parties want to scrap the Human Rights Act", she says, "My life story isn't grim and worthy. I have great colleagues. I get paid to spend time with people whose company I enjoy. They want to change the world, too, and sometimes the good guys win. We won on 90-day and 42-day detention, and ID cards."



## Women of the Future

#changetomorrow

She compares the atmosphere at Essex to that in the offices of Liberty. "Your energy and intellect are not directed towards just personal wealth and reward. I really worry about the attitude that higher education is just about turning out good little workers. Education is about personal fulfilment and development, about becoming active citizens who question authority. That's what I'd encourage Essex students to do: spend time at work and play with people with whom you share values, but with whom you can also debate."

She also plans to fight for the rights of universities, and has already joined our Vice-Chancellor in calling for them to be exempt from anti-terror laws. She may be personally fulfilled, but she's outraged when she talks about "the idea that a Secretary of State should issue instructions to universities about how they should tackle radicalisation. Universities should not be madrasas for the government. They should be safe spaces where you can have difficult debates. You de-radicalise people by engaging with them."

It's not hard to see why we think she's a perfect fit for Essex, is it?

# What a day!

The sun shone and thousands of people came. Our homecoming weekend was a hell of a celebration...



1,500 of you swelled a crowd of more than 4,000 which came to our Colchester campus for a weekend of fun, learning and nostalgia. It was just the start of a year of celebrations, which has seen us showcasing our research in Essex, London and Geneva – and which is still going on.



**“Tremendous and so friendly”**

Ged Parker, Economics and Government 1974

**“A fitting tribute to 50 glorious years”**

Brendan Quinn, History and Literature 1975



**“Such a wonderful event ... a perfect follow up to graduation.”**

Camilla Jarvis, History 2014



2010 – 2019	<b>19,792</b>
University of Essex	Alumni (so far...)
2000 – 2009	<b>23,595</b>
University of Essex	Alumni
1990 – 1999	<b>15,679</b>
University of Essex	Alumni
1980 – 1989	<b>10,145</b>
University of Essex	Alumni
1970 – 1979	<b>6,328</b>
University of Essex	Alumni
1964 – 1969	<b>435</b>
University of Essex	Alumni
STAFF ALUMNI	<b>994</b>
University of Essex	Alumni

Number of alumni per decade

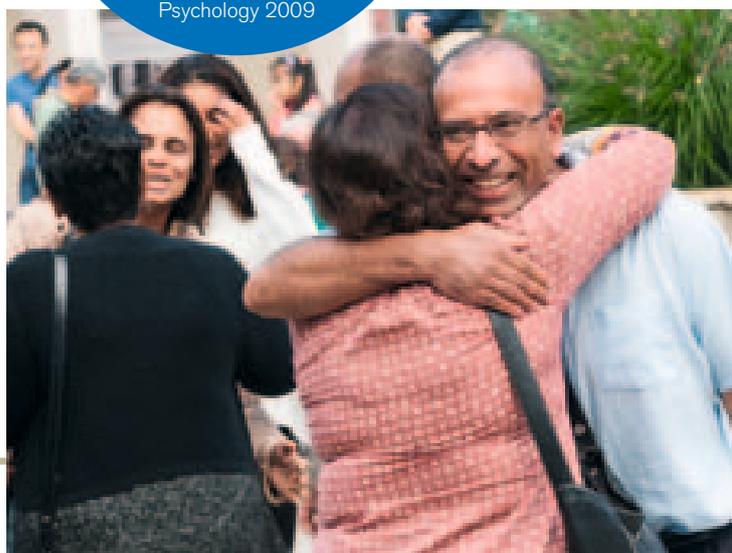
“Such a lot of thought went into the celebrations. I especially enjoyed the bite-sized lectures.”

Christine Hinton, Sociology 1970



**Fantastic  
– all the  
activities were  
brilliant**

Harriet Stubbs,  
Psychology 2009



## There's more to come!

We like to think we offer something special at Essex – an experience you can't get anywhere else. And we try to keep offering you events no-one else can. These are just three of the things coming up in the next few months...

### 1. Speed networking

If you've never been to one of these fast, fun sessions before, you should give it a try. We bring students and alumni from the same department together, so you get a chance to talk to them about what they're up to, and they get to hear your career advice and workplace wisdom. The students move to a new table every few minutes, giving you a chance to meet everyone in the room.

- Computer Science and Electronic Engineering and Maths – Tuesday 3 November 2015
- History and the School of Philosophy and Art History – Tuesday 24 November 2015
- Psychology and Health and Human Sciences (including HHS PG students) – Wednesday 25 November 2015
- Government and Sociology – Tuesday 2 Feb 2016
- Essex Business School and Economics – Wednesday 3 Feb 2016
- Literature, Film, and Theatre Studies and Language and Linguistics – Tuesday 9 February 2016
- Law and Biological Sciences – Thursday 11 February 2016

### 2. Going global

In the next 12 months, we've got plans to visit our alumni across the world. If you live in any of these places, make sure we've got the right email address for you, so we can invite you to an event where you live:

- |            |             |           |
|------------|-------------|-----------|
| ■ Romania  | ■ Cyprus    | ■ Ireland |
| ■ Bulgaria | ■ France    | ■ Spain   |
| ■ Canada   | ■ Germany   | ■ USA     |
| ■ China    | ■ Hong Kong | ■ Mexico  |

### 3. New professors

We run a series of events every year where new professors in every department make an inaugural lecture on a subject they love – the perfect introduction to them and their work.

**Keep an eye on [www.essex.ac.uk/events/pil](http://www.essex.ac.uk/events/pil) to find out what's happening when.**



## Last year's highlights

- Homecoming **3,000** of you
- Alumni Weekend **500**
- House of Lords **200**
- Colchester Castle **100**
- Cyprus reunion **100**
- Greece reunion **100**
- Essex Women **100**
- and many more...



# Opening doors

Essex helped Sandra and Caroline into great careers – and with your help we could offer others the same opportunities

## What happened?

Sandra Klimaviciute (Banking and Finance 2014) was one of ten Essex Business School students who went on an Insight Visit to Willis Global Insurance Brokers in Ipswich in April 2014. Four of them got places on the company's highly competitive paid summer internship programme. Sandra was one of them – and she did so well, they extended her time with them, and she's still there today.

## How did the internship help?

"I learnt much more about my strengths and weaknesses during the placement," Sandra says, "and I discovered new things I'm interested in, and found the way to the career I wanted. Although my degree is relevant to what I do now, I've learnt that it doesn't have to be my navigator. It all depends on my interests and the work I enjoy the most. My placement opened doors for me, and I think I found my way at Willis!"

## What do they say?

Gary Shoesmith, Education Liaison Director at Willis, describes Sandra as "one of our most successful interns. Her hosting business area, Accounting and Settlement, were really impressed with Sandra's work performance, attitude and skills, and her initial four-week placement was extended by a further six weeks to complete some valuable project work."

## What comes next?

Sandra describes herself as "career driven. I work hard and have no 'plan B'. I'm focused on my goal – succeeding at Willis." So, perhaps it's no surprise that while she was on her internship, Gary said she was "the type of graduate we would be keen to recruit into a permanent job role". They duly did, and she's now a Business Analyst, and looking forward to what seems likely to be a bright future.



The initial Essex Business School trip was part-financed by the Essex Fund, which uses gifts from alumni to support today's students. If you can help the Essex Fund, please drop us a line at [alumni@essex.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@essex.ac.uk)

# Out in front

Caroline Wilcock (English Language and Linguistics 2013) was a frontrunner at Essex, and says it was a crucial factor in where she is now.

## So, why frontrunners?

"I knew that as a graduate I'd need to offer more than just my degree to future employers", she says. "So, I looked for something I could do which would give me that edge. I was lucky enough to get a placement in the project team for the new Silberrad Student Centre."

## What did you learn there?

"It meant I could develop my 'soft' skills – the everyday stuff of working in a team – and get real, hands-on experience of typical office tasks such as data analysis and reports. I also got to take forward my own projects, too."

## What stands out about that job?

"I learnt about 'lean' methodology, which is heavily embedded in the culture at Fujitsu, where I work now." 'Lean' is all about

eliminating waste and improving efficiency, and Caroline believes this direct experience of a technique she would be using at the company helped her win the job.

## Would you recommend being a frontrunner?

"It's hugely helpful. It allows you to build on your skills and use them in a real office, which is incredibly useful when you're applying for jobs and in interviews. The team I worked in was supportive and friendly, and flexible hours meant I could develop my professional skills but not compromise on my academic commitments. I got a job before I graduated, and I've been promoted since. There is no doubt in my mind that being a frontrunner helped me to get my current job."



**"I found the way to the career I wanted"**

## Boosting business

Internships Essex works with graduate recruiters and SMEs to find our graduating students paid placements, which help them develop their skills and experience. If you run a business, you could help today's students on to a fulfilling career – and their enthusiasm can be a boost for you.

Celia Hodson, former Chief Executive of Choose Suffolk, says: "These young people come in with fresh ideas and have the right attitude employers are looking for. They want to learn and are very hard working."

If you can offer an internship, call the team on 01206 872495 or email [internships@essex.ac.uk](mailto:internships@essex.ac.uk)

**In 2012-13, 9 out of 10** interns on a Santander scheme got permanent jobs with the companies



**250**  
frontrunners, 2014-15

**Over 100**  
internships,  
2014-15

## Volunteering

**187** volunteers at 26 events

Mentoring, speed networking, supporting today's students with your time and advice



## Can you offer a student or graduate an internship?

Call the team on: 01206 872495 or email: [internships@essex.ac.uk](mailto:internships@essex.ac.uk)

# “It was momentous”

It's 50 years since Essex opened its doors and 25 years since the Berlin Wall fell. One lucky Essex student watched it happen

It must be one of the luckiest 'right place, right time' moments ever. David Phillips knew when he arrived at Essex to study West European Politics and Modern Languages that his degree included a year abroad, and that he wanted to spend it in Berlin. He didn't know that being there in the 1989-90 academic year would let him see history unfold on his doorstep – and he almost missed it.

“People started streaming across the border,” he says today, “and I was asleep in bed. I woke up to it the next morning. Even as a student, I had sufficient nous to know that this was pretty momentous, so I got down there with my camera.”

“I'd celebrated my 21st birthday in front of the Brandenburg Gate on 18 October, and I graffitied 'Essex University condemns all forms of political oppression' on the wall.” The slogan enjoyed a period of fame at the time, but painting it made for “an interesting evening of being chased by the British Army.”

David was studying at the Free University of Berlin, “on the outskirts, about half a mile from the Wall, which went right round the outside of West Berlin. It's quite countrified in its own way,



with lakes and woods – a bit like Essex.” From there, David had been able to travel where others couldn't. “I went over to the East before the wall came down. Berlin had a different status to West Germany. I could travel across before people in West Germany could. I met East Germans who'd never met British people, or anyone from the West. I wanted to take full advantage of my time there, and to get involved in the culture. I didn't want to just find English-speaking friends.

“All the time, there was a sense that something was in the air. It was the era of Mikhail Gorbachev's 'glasnost' (openness) and there was Solidarity in Poland. The border was loosening in Czechoslovakia, and people were leaving East Germany via Hungary.”

Erich Honecker, leader of the German Democratic Republic, had celebrated his country's 40th anniversary a few months before, and said the wall would stand for another 50 to 100 years. By October, protests in East Germany had led to his downfall, and the numbers of people escaping kept growing. Honecker's replacement decided to allow refugees to leave East

for West. With border crossings besieged, “the East German border guards formed a ring around the Brandenburg Gate”, David remembers. Then, one commander gave an order for the checkpoints to open. West Berliners began to greet escaping Easterners with champagne, and people from both sides started dancing together on top of the wall.

“You used to get shot if you did that,” David says today. “It was just outstanding. I got up on the wall, and then Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, turned up within 10 feet of me. The next day, I went down to Checkpoint Charlie. That was great.”

People started chipping away at the vast wall, and by June 1990, when David came home, the East German military started the official demolition. “It was amazing to think a system in place for so long was coming to an end,” David says, and it's clear the memories this anniversary stirs up are emotional ones: “People were overjoyed everywhere”. He checks himself as he remembers some of the short- and long-term consequences. “It's funny. People get selfish. You could come across the border whenever you liked, so in the months after, traders would come over to the West and take everything out of the supermarkets to sell back in the East. Bananas was the big one. Soon, we were going, ‘this is terrible,

“If it wasn't for Essex, I wouldn't have had that opportunity – and it was fantastic”

“People started streaming across the border”

“There was a sense that something was in the air”



we can't get our shopping! There's still some resentment, on both sides. Unemployment is still higher in the East, and there was a reunification tax to bring East Germany up to the standard of the West. There's an ongoing feeling that the East have done well out of it"

"If it wasn't for Essex, I wouldn't have had that opportunity", David says today, "and it was fantastic – one of the best moments of my life. It was world-changing."

David now works for the Cabinet Office, and he and his wife Catherine (who was studying near Hanover the same year, and now teaches German) still visit Austria and southern Germany. "Potsdamer Platz is so different now. It was just empty. It was no man's land between the walls. Now it's completely developed, with huge buildings like the Sony Centre. The transformation is incredible.



# Sherry, Vietnam and lifelong friendship

50 years ago, Essex was an old country house and a collection of wooden huts. We brought some of the founding students together to find out what it was like



"This is the first time I've been sober in the afternoon in this place." Paul Farrow (Mathematics) is referring to Wivenhoe House, where he and 27 of his contemporaries have gathered to remember their arrival at Essex in 1964, when the University consisted of a slightly dilapidated country house and some wooden huts.

"My first impression," says Roger Seymour (Chemistry), "was there was an awful lot of sherry being drunk. Wine would have been a bit posh, but sherry! I realised later it was because most of the lecturing staff were from Cambridge." Some were, but what's certainly true is that, being such a small group, the students not only all knew each other, they found themselves socialising with staff, too. "Lecturers invited us to their homes," says Richard Dudley (Chemistry), while Carolyn Downes (Mathematics) recalls babysitting for some of the lecturers, prompting another mathematician, Leslie Mustoe, to ask if she got extra marks for that.

One of the surprising things about our founding students, in fact, is that so many of them are scientists – and in particular chemists. Given what happened in 1968, when students disrupted a Chemistry Department talk by a scientist from Porton Down, one might be forgiven for thinking

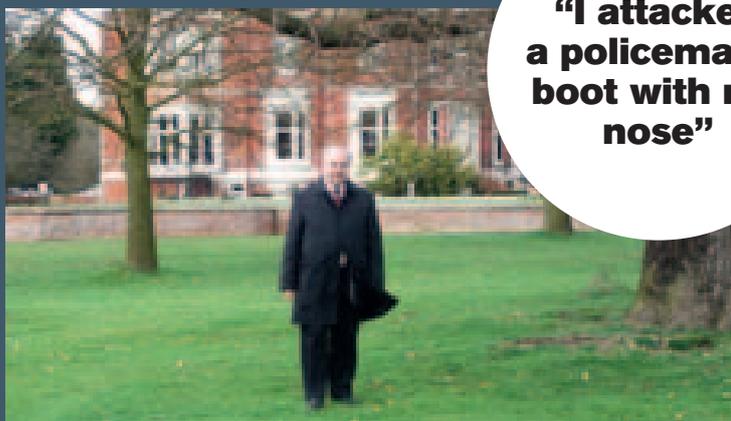
that our student body was composed entirely of sociologists bent on revolution, but the original idea for Essex was that it would be an English MIT. At least part of the impetus behind the new universities came from a wish to match up to the achievements of Russia, which had successfully launched Sputnik, the first satellite, in 1957.

And politically speaking, things were pretty balanced at first. Peter Haine founded a Conservative Association: "In the first year, there were quite a lot of Tories, and we managed to get quite a senior minister to come and speak. We had about 50 people in one of the lounges here – mind you an awful lot of them had come to heckle. But two years later, all of a sudden, we were a tiny minority."

Two of the hecklers were probably Chris Mullins (Physics 1967, MSc Quantum Electronics 1969 and PhD Physics 1972) and Rick Coates (Sociology 1968). Both come to the reunion with fond memories of the famous 1968 anti-Vietnam War demonstration outside the American Embassy in London – and both are still rather proud of their assault convictions from that day. "I attacked a policeman's boot with my nose," Chris says.



**“I attacked  
a policeman’s  
boot with my  
nose”**



Things were also mixed in terms of class – although Sid Shaw (Economics) maintains that this wasn’t entirely the case: “We didn’t have any working class girls, did we? It was all middle class.” Sid hailed from the East End, and “never swore before I came to Essex. It was all these middle class girls, they all effed and blinded.” Chris Mullins concurs: “It was the great thing to prove you were working class when you weren’t. Everybody put on accents.”

One thing they all definitely did was to muck in and organise. “It was a shock”, says Sue Ullstein (née Smerdon, Literature 1968) “to leave boarding school, where everything was organised for you. At Essex, you had to jolly well think for yourself.” Thea Price (Sociology) says, “We set up the Students’ Union. There must have been one society for every two students, because we were all so keen to get involved.” Francesca Greenoak (Literature 1968) remembers “a brilliant film society. I’d just started to be interested in film and we had a bountiful programme of Godard, Truffaut, Alain Renais...”

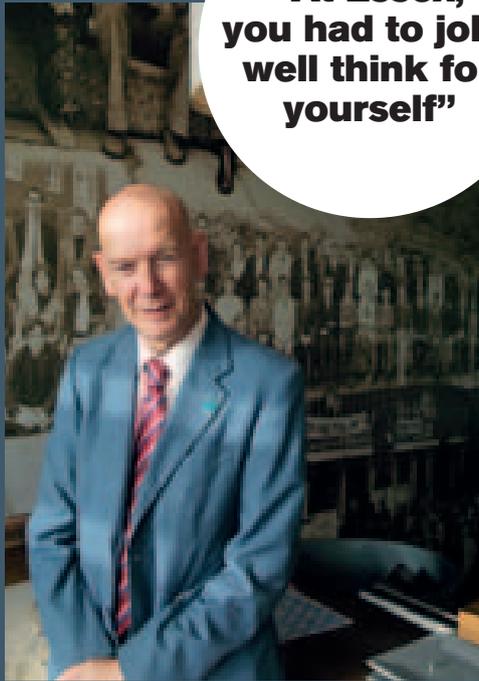
Peter Haine adds that this responsibility to start things from scratch “was very career-building”. He and the Theatre Arts Society put on *An*

*Inspector Calls* in Colchester town centre. It didn’t go entirely without a hitch. “Paul Farrow was Arthur Birling, the father of the family,” Peter Haine says, “and six days before the first night, he went down with chickenpox, and I was the producer, so I had to take over his role.” He ended up spending several hours behind a quiet tree cramming the lines.

There was also romance in the air for some. Thea met Roland Price (PhD Mathematics 1969) in the restaurant in the very first week in 1964. “Thea was sitting on one side of the table and I was sitting on the other,” says Roland, and while their respective subjects might not suggest an immediate connection, “one of our extra-curricular activities was the Christian Union,” Thea explains. They married in 1968, and – back in England after many years overseas – now spend as much time as they can with their five children and ten grandchildren.

For others, things weren’t quite so simple. Peter Avis (Mathematics) and David Corney-Walker (Chemistry) both knew they were gay – or at the very least, had a fair idea – at a time when it was illegal. “You just buried it”, David says today. The Sexual Offences Act 1967, which began to change things for them, coincided with graduation. “David came out to

**“At Essex,  
you had to jolly  
well think for  
yourself”**



me as soon as the bill was passed,” Peter says now. “It was only four to five years later that I came out to him.” David is pleased that “Essex has a wonderful reputation for being LGBT-friendly now”, and both are now in happy, long-term relationships, but back then neither felt any real freedom until the 1970s. As Peter puts it, “I didn’t have my adolescence until I was 26.”

There was comment in the press on the arrival of Branford Goddard (Economics). “I was the only black student”, he says, but at a time when landlords would happily display signs that read ‘No Irish. No blacks. No dogs!’ “I had absolutely no problems whatsoever. It was a wonderful period of my life. The times in Wivenhoe House during that first year... The whole group would sit and listen to Radio Caroline. There was a strong bond between us.”

And when they were studying, they were being taught by some of the leading academics in the country. “I don’t think this is hindsight”, Roy Saatchi (Government) says, “but Lipsey, Blondel and Townsend were almost household names, and all the textbooks were their books. Everybody else was reading their books, and we were being taught by them. It was a bit special.” Paddy Clark (Government) agrees: “Blondel was very inspiring. Terrific fun, he was.”

**“There’s still the same buzz if you go round the Squares, which is different to most universities even now”**

These being Essex alumni, however, their memories may be fond but they’re not rose-tinted. Some have warm, even affectionate, memories of Albert Sloman, while others remain cool – and Andrzej Pluskowski (Literature 1968, MA 1972) says of his course: “In the Humanities, they made it very clear they didn’t know what they were doing. All the other universities didn’t either, but they would not admit it.” All, though, said they were glad they’d come. “I never regret it”, Peter Haine says, and Roger Seymour adds: “There’s still the same buzz if you go round the Squares, which is different to most universities even now.”

Branford Goddard sums up: “It was the firm foundation for my future life – and I’ve had an exciting life.”



# Your news

Another huge response this year to our call for your news. Here's what we could squeeze in

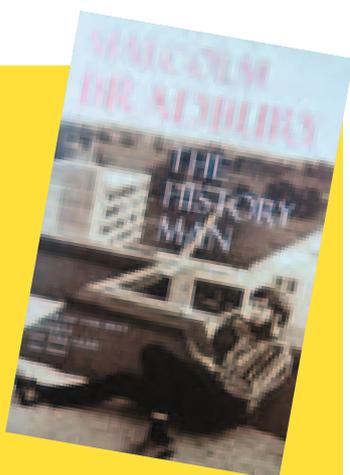
## 1960s

### Gerry Ansell, PhD Chemistry 1967

Gerry now lives in New Mexico. He has worked at Exxon and the Los Alamos National Laboratory, and was closely involved in a project to work out the crystal structure of Piclitaxel, a shelf-stable form of breast cancer drug Taxol. He has his name on two patents, both from his time at Exxon, for catalysts for breaking down crude oil and processing natural gas. He has published in academic journals, and now writes for newspapers in New Mexico on sustainability.

### Ron Hill, MA Government 1968, PhD Comparative Studies 1974

Ron retired in 2007 after almost 40 years in political science at Trinity College, Dublin (where in the 1990s there were four Essex graduates on the staff). He still writes and publishes about the former communist world, and his first volume of memoirs, *Grammar School Boy: A Lincolnshire Education*, was published in September 2014, covering his boyhood in north Lincolnshire and his time at Essex (up to 1969). It's available online at [ypdbooks.com](http://ypdbooks.com). A second memoir, about his time as an Englishman in Ireland should be published soon.



### Peter de la Cour, Government 1969

Peter taught politics and sociology, and co-founded the Redfield Community in Buckinghamshire in 1978. He later lived in Oxford, organising talks, conferences and seminars on environmental issues, and later providing teachers' courses on contemporary issues. He also wrote and published on environmental subjects. Peter moved to Mexico in 2006. He was photographed for the *Evening Standard* in 1968 sitting on top of Keynes Tower. In April 2014, he told us, "A journalist wanted to interview a student during the 'troubles', and somehow I was selected. He arranged this rather pretentious photo on the roof of the tower where my wife and I had a flat on the top floor. I did political science, but switched to Sociology and hugely enjoyed the intellectual stimulation provided by Alistair MacIntyre, Alan Ryan and Peter Townsend. Golden days!" The photo was used for the cover of the 2003 edition of Malcolm Bradbury's *The History Man*. Peter sadly died last summer.

## 1970s

### Chris Rooney, Sociology 1971

I stood in the May election, trying to get into a space where no other wannabe politicians go – to get the votes of the 40% who didn't vote here (in Coventry) last time – by saying things that most candidates are too scared or embarrassed to say. I'm also trying to set a style of party for 'post-membership' Britain. I believe that in the 21st century, people aren't going to join parties as their parents and grandparents did. We need new parties which look just for votes – not members.



### Bruce Jackson, Computing Science 1972

John and Mike (aka Harry) Fitzsimons and I formed a band with Ron, Oliver, Colin Strutt and John Ive. Meataxe Jackson played several times on campus, supporting Steeleye Span on one occasion. We disbanded after graduation, but John, Harry and I still play music: John in Exeter, Harry in Brighton and Nashville and me in Bremen. We got the band back together for the first time in nearly 45 years for my 65th birthday party. We would love to hear from anyone who remembers us, especially if they have any photos – we haven't got any!

"We  
got the  
band back  
together"

### Peter Roscoe, Sociology 1973

Part of the reason for choosing Essex was that it had a Gay Liberation Front, and LGBT activism has been an ongoing theme for me. I retired in 2011, and I'm currently working with others on the 10th annual Shropshire Rainbow Film Festival (a remarkable achievement, dare I say, in Shrewsbury – a small, essentially rural town). It will run from 16-18 October. Full details: [rainbowfilmfestival.org.uk](http://rainbowfilmfestival.org.uk)

### Andrew Ruffhead, MSc Mathematical Computation 1973 and MPH Computing 1977

I've been retired for the last ten years, having worked for the Ministry of Defence. I'm an Age UK IT volunteer, a union activist (Prospect's Retired Members Group) and a Baptist lay preacher. I have created a website of my cartoons and animations at [21stcenturystoa.ucoz.com](http://21stcenturystoa.ucoz.com)

### Deborah Davies, Economics 1975

I am now a freelance documentary maker. After 40 years of reporting, I am, of course, far too old to be allowed on the telly in case the aged face upsets viewers. I've just finished a two-part programme on the activities of ISIS in the Asia Pacific region, filming in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia.

"I'm now far too  
old to be allowed  
on the telly"



**Fred Hurr, Art History 1978**

My first book of fiction has been published. *Light of the Damned* depicts the ultimate battle between good and evil, as demons attack a quiet seaside town. Why did the Curate jump to his death? Why did the vicar scatter his ashes on unconsecrated ground? And why did a thief return what he stole from the church? Buy it at [fjohnhurr.com](http://fjohnhurr.com)

**Andrew Leech, MA Applied Linguistics 1978**



After some years in Saudi Arabia, I returned to Greece where I'd taught before Essex. The financial crisis in Greece today is worse than 1930s America – you can see well-dressed people going through bins for food. I started my own language school in Athens in 1984, and write for *ELT News* (the English language teachers' newspaper) I was Diplomatic Columnist for *Athens News* from 1997-2002, but my son Jason is more famous, having appeared in *The Apprentice* 9. My hobbies are diving and flying – to see me doing aerobatics, go to YouTube and search for 'Harvard T6 Boulbee'.

**Marianne Majerus, Literature 1979**

I'm a garden photographer, and my work appears in *House & Garden*, *Gardens Illustrated*, *Country Life*, *RHS The Garden* and *The Wall Street Journal*, among others.

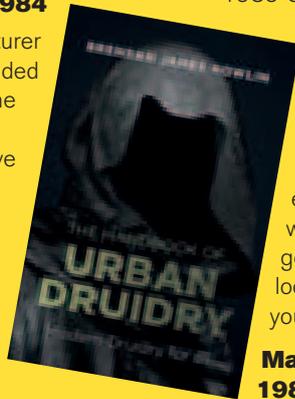
I've illustrated more than 50 books, including this year's *Garden Design: A Book of Ideas*.



## 1980s

**Brendan Howlin, Biological Chemistry 1980, PhD Chemistry 1984**

I'm Senior Lecturer in Computer Aided Chemistry at the University of Surrey, and have been venturing into a slightly different area. *The Handbook of Urban Druidry* is out now from Moon Books.



**John Ashdown-Hill, MA Applied Linguistics 1981, PhD History 2008, Honorary Graduate 2014**

I've just published *The Dublin King*, and am soon to publish *The Mythology of Richard III* and *Richard III's 'Beloved Cousyn'* as well as an article in *Current Archaeology*. I attended Richard III's confining and reburial in March, and took part in the live Channel Four coverage.

**Linda Fitzjohn, English and European Literature 1982**

I've been Linda Hill since 1983 and, having worked in education all over the UK and abroad and writing teacher resources, I have now given up work to read, garden and travel. Those who remember the larger than life-size poster of Bryan Ferry on my Bertrand Russell wall will see he's still a favourite!

**“Bryan Ferry is still a favourite!”**

**Dave Riches, Electronic Engineering 1982, Telematics MSc 1983**

I worked at Essex from 1985-89, and am now Head of EMEA Engagements for the TeleManagement Forum. I went to the Essex 50th celebrations and reminisced with David Gladwell, we had an excellent time. For those who remember me, you can get in touch via LinkedIn. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Marc Hope, Literature 1983**

I work in sports marketing, and spearheaded the commercial sponsorship programme for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. I was selected to fight Central Ayrshire for the Conservatives in May, and am Vice Chairman of the London Youth Games.

**Adrian Lyons, Economics and Government 1983**



I'm one of Her Majesty's Inspectors and Ofsted's national lead for economics, business and

enterprise. I live in Colchester with my wife Jacqui. Outside my work as a civil servant, I am bandmaster of Colchester Citadel Salvation Army band.

**Muriel Carrick, Art History and Theory 1984, MPH 1990**

Still tottering on! I have published numerous papers on domestic wall paintings in learned journals and had a number of exhibitions including one at The Globe. The exhibition that I put on to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Essex is now lodged with the Essex Record Office.

**Simon and Alison Bull, Mathematics and Computing 1986 and Mathematical Economics 1986**

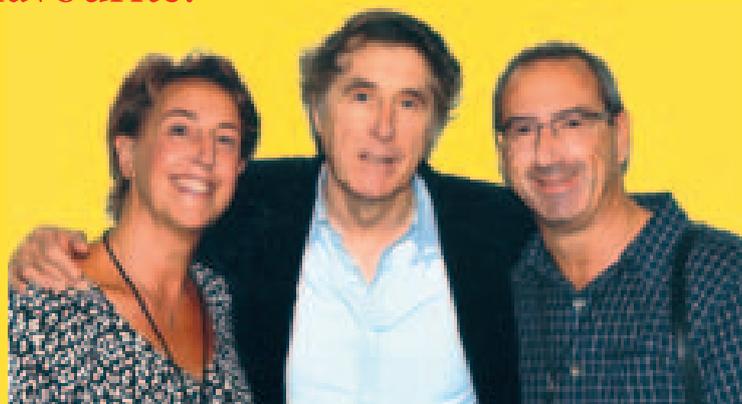
Living in Sevenoaks, Kent – working part-time and semi-retired. Hello to all!

**Rashpal Chana, Cell Biology 1986**

I have taken up the position of Subject Specialist in STEM with Cambridge University.

**Maurice Siakkis, MA Political Theory 1986, MPhil Government 1989**

I live in Athens, married to Aida, and father to Marie Louise (16). I spent ten years in advertising, then worked for Ford in Greece, and am now Chief Marketing Officer at FAIS Group of Companies, handling brands such as Mango, Prince and Puma. I've also published two books on the history of rock'n'roll: *Let the rock stories roll* (2009) and *448 miles, millions of notes* (2013). There's more information at [mauricesiakkis.com](http://mauricesiakkis.com).





**Simon Conway, Cell and Molecular Biology 1987**

I received my PhD in Genetics from University College London and then took a faculty position at the Medical University of Georgia, USA. Once tenured, I joined Indiana University School of Medicine as a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. I am presently Director of Basic Neonatal Research and study mouse models of congenital heart defects.

**Lindsay Spendlove, History 1988**

Lindsay studied here in her 30s, and was Mayoress of Colchester in 1991-92, before being one of the first women ordained in Chelmsford in 1994. In 2004, she helped to set up Green Blade, a place for retreats in Wenhaston. She died at just 59 in November at the St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich. Her husband, Paul, said "Lindsay touched the hearts and lives of countless people." You can still make donations to St Elizabeth Hospice in her memory: [stelizabethhospice.org.uk](http://stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

**Pete Haynes, Sociology 1989**

I used to be the drummer with the punk group The Lurkers back in the late seventies, but started to write before Essex – the University theatre took my play, *Thank Your Lucky Stars* to Edinburgh in 1988. I've had four books published. My most recent novel is *Cool Water*, published in June 2014. [www.petehaynes.co.uk](http://www.petehaynes.co.uk)



**Andreas Triantopoulos, Economics and Government 1989**

I have been living in Montenegro

with my wife Sofia and two kids Thanasis (6) and Ellie (5) since October 2011, working as the CFO of Jugopetrol AD, the largest oil company of Montenegro. In January 2015, I was promoted to CEO.

**Pauline Yip, Policy Making and Administration (Government) 1989**



I had a 25-year reunion in Hong Kong in December with (back R-L) Pui Ling Wai, Keung Yeoh, Choi Fun Liu, Sammy Yuen, (front R-L) Charles Ng, me, Susan Wong and Peter Soong. We had a great reunion dinner, and we all like our alumni pin badges very much!

**"Lindsay touched the hearts and lives of countless people"**

**"We all like our alumni pin badges very much!"**

**1990s**

**Paul J McMahon, Literature 1994, MA Literature 1995**

Just left Hong Kong (with my wife, Reni, and 3-year-old daughter, Siannen) where I was teaching the IB Diploma at Sha Tin College for ten years. We had enough of the heat and pollution, and I'm now teaching IGCSE and IB Literature in Luxembourg, where my attempts at French are worse than pitiful. We're looking forward to our usual summer in the UK. My email is [boxtree@hotmail.com](mailto:boxtree@hotmail.com) if anyone still remembers me.

**Fragkiskos Vellis, MSc Telecommunications and Information Systems 1994**



I got my PhD in Mobile Communications from the National Technical University of Athens in 1998, did my military service and started working for Vodafone in Greece in 2000. I now work in European Engineering for them, responsible for transmission and transport engineering and delivery. I do meet some of the old friends from the MSc course, but only those in Greece. I would love to hear from Essex friends all over the world! You can contact me at [fragkiskos.vellis@gmail.com](mailto:fragkiskos.vellis@gmail.com)

**Abraham Zamora, Political Economy MSc 1994**

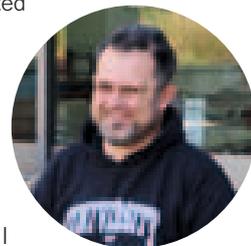
In January, I was appointed CEO of Banobras, the Bank for Infrastructure and Public Works in Mexico. Banobras is the largest development bank in Mexico and the fifth largest in the country's banking system by the amount of credit it grants.

**Vani Kuloheri, MA Applied Linguistics 1995**

I have had two articles published: *Teachers4Europe: Making Creative Use of Digital Educational Tools and Internet Sources in Innovative Educational Activities*, in Proceedings of 4th Conference on Informatics, and *The Spelling Mistakes of Young Greek EFL Learners: A Descriptive Case Study*, in Open Access Library Journal, 2014, 1, 1-11. Also, I have become a certified Teacher4Europe and an Ambassador Teacher4Europe, part of a European Commission teacher training programme.

**John Stevens, MSc Computing Science 1995 MA Sociology 1998**

Life has treated me fairly well over the years. I now live in Colchester and work part time at Essex where I have been for 19 years intermixed with a three-year spell at a London teaching hospital and UNSW in Sydney, Australia. I was married for seven years but have no kids. I have Multiple Sclerosis, which paralyses my left side and am in a wheelchair. At the moment I teach health students at the University about disability and neuro-rehabilitation, covering physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing and speech and language therapy. I look forward to hearing from people [jstevens@essex.ac.uk](mailto:jstevens@essex.ac.uk)



**"Life has treated me well"**

**Wan Sulaiman Bin Wan Yusoff, PhD Economics 1996**

I was at International Islamic University Malaysia for 21 years until 2003, finishing up as an Associate Professor. After that I got the chance to go to Qatar University as a visiting Professor (2003-05) and King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (2005-08). Now, I am back in Malaysia at the Insaniah University as the Dean for Post Graduate Centre, Professor of the University, and Deputy Rector of Student Affairs and Alumni.

**Alan Donald, Environmental Biology 1997**

Married to Dawn. Three boys: Bruce, Fraser and Piper. Currently living in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Head of Science Faculty of Al Yasmina School for Aldar Academies.

**Adele Emm, Comparative Literature 1997**

I've spent the last two years writing full time. *Researching for the Media; Television, Radio and Journalism* was published by Routledge in April 2014. *Tracing Your Trade and Craftsman Ancestors* is being published by Pen and Sword in April 2015 and I'm working on a new book which should be out in 2016. My greatest achievement, however, is my 24-year-old daughter who is currently teaching English in Taiwan. Would love to hear from anyone out there who remembers me.

**Jazi Eko Istiyanto, MSc Computer Science 1988, PhD Electronic Systems Engineering 1995**

My current position is Chairman, Indonesia Nuclear Energy Regulatory Agency.

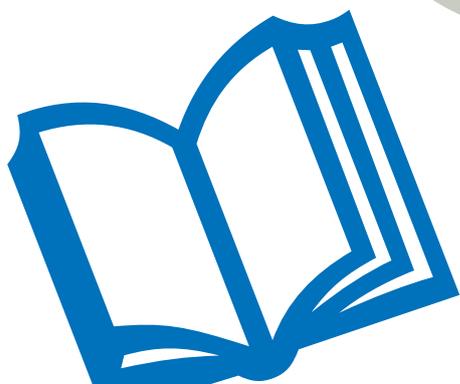
**Vicki Hedou Buck, Politics and Sociology 1998**

Last May, I had my first book published. *Roadside Warrior* is about a young woman who goes to Afghanistan as a driver with the Royal Logistics Corps. Running alongside her story, her brother becomes a radicalised Muslim and goes out to Pakistan to train as a Taliban sniper. It's published by Austin Macauley, and last Autumn I gave a successful talk at their literary festival. I'm currently living in Looe in Cornwall, writing the sequel.

**Panagiotis Davitidis, Computers and Networks 1999**

I did an MSc in Data Telecommunications and Networks at the University of Salford, and got my first job as an IT Technician in Loreto Grammar School, Altrincham. I went back to Greece for my military service in 2002. Since then, I have visited the UK three times on business. For the past seven years, I have been a Global Vendor Support Engineer in Unify (formerly Siemens Enterprise Communications) in Athens. I miss my uni, classmates and friends. My years in Colchester were some of the most memorable and enjoyable in my life and I wish I had a chance to visit.

**“My years in Colchester were some of the most memorable and enjoyable in my life”**

**2000s****Melanie Adrian, MA Theory and Practice Human Rights 2000**

I am Assistant Professor in Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University, Canada, and Managing Editor of the Canadian Journal of Law and Society. I've recently been profiled in Canada's University Affairs magazine – go to [universityaffairs.ca](http://universityaffairs.ca) and search for Melanie Adrian to read the feature.

**Tim Gardiner, Rural Resource Dev 2001, Agriculture PhD 2006 (Writtle)**

I have three new books being published: *Nineteen Fifteen*, a WWI diary project with poetry and prose (available on

Amazon), *The Natural History of Waveney Forest*, a review of the wildlife in an east Norfolk forest (available from [nhbs.com](http://nhbs.com)), and *Wilderness*, my first full poetry collection ([bramblebybooks.co.uk](http://bramblebybooks.co.uk)). I've published five books since 2006, with another two imminent for 2015 (including a children's book).

**Jennifer Cole neé Wilson, Humanities 2002**

I teach Secondary English and Drama in Cairo, Egypt where I live with my family. I lead the British Section Learning Development Department coordinating Special Needs and Gifted and Talented Provision at a large international school. I have two young daughters; the most recent was born in September.

**Monica K. Mugenyi, LLM International Trade Law 2002**

I have been appointed Principal Judge of the East African Court of Justice. The Court's jurisdiction was increased with the signing of a Protocol on Trade and Investment. I believe my Essex Degree was critical to my appointment. Thank you, Essex!

**George Vassiliou, Economics 2002**

I was really lucky to be part of this University and live, study and socialise on such a wonderful campus. I have the best memories from my time there. I did several jobs as a teacher and as a call operator. I'm now a professor at Xini vocational school and a call operator.

**Li Dajiang, MSc Telecommunications 2005**

I'm now working for ChinaCache, the largest internet content delivery service provider in China, and I opened the London office in Paddington in January, the HQ of EMEA region. We aim to link UK companies with the Chinese market. I'm looking for alumni to join my team, and who want to do business with us.

**Annie Beaumont, PhD Sociology 2006**

I have recently published a book based on my PhD thesis. *Virtual Women: Ladyboys – Changing sex in Thailand* compares the experiences of British transsexual women with those of Ladyboys in Thailand, and is available on Amazon. I taught myself to speak Thai before I started the fieldwork, and now live in Norfolk, writing and teaching at the Open University.



**“My book compares British transsexuals with Ladyboys in Thailand”**



### Emma Spencer, History of Art 2006

After years in retail and catering (mandatory for any Humanities kid!), I ended up working for the National Galleries of Scotland in Edinburgh, as a Conservation Technician. I am one of a team of only two technicians that recently prepared a massive, international, four-venue tour, *Masterpieces* – and they really are! I have had the privilege to work with some of the biggest hitters in the history of art; just seeing them out of their frames is a huge honour.

### Jake Banfield, Business Management 2009

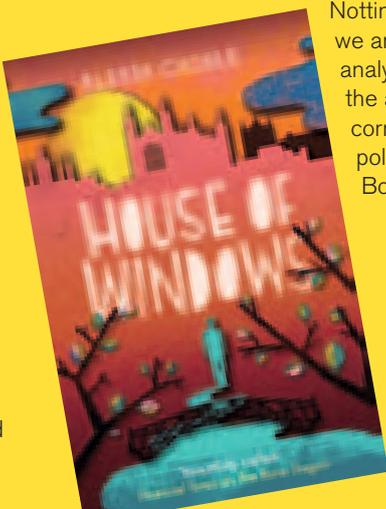
I launched my own sell-out one-man magic show, *Sprezzatura*, at the end of 2014. This year, it's running monthly at the Charlotte Street Hotel. It has been my goal to put on a show for the last couple of years, and if all goes to plan the show will be a regular fixture in London for the foreseeable future. Find out more and book at sprezzaturashow.com, or see more of Jake at www.jakebanfield.com

### Karen Waddy, Sociology 2008

After a relationship ended in 2014, I began a blog, *Life Begins at Fifty One and a Half*, about the highs and lows being single and middle aged. You can read it at lifebeginsatfiftyoneandahalf.wordpress.com. It's not meant to be academically brilliant – it's satire!

### Alexia Casale, Creative Writing PhD 2009

My second young adult (YA) book, *House of Windows*, is out from Faber & Faber in August. The first, psychological thriller *The Bone Dragon*, was shortlisted for the Waterstone's Children's Book Prize (YA category), another children's and YA literature award in Germany, and longlisted



for the Branford Boase. The new one concerns Nick who's about to go to Cambridge at just 15, but hates it when people call him a genius. When he starts to cox for the college rowing crew, all hell breaks loose.

### Pauline Thompson, MA Refugee Care 2009

I worked in Saudi Arabia as an English Language Instructor from 2012-14. I met Faical Rachak in the US in 2014. We got married in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in October. Faical is originally from Morocco, so we wore some traditional Moroccan clothes on our wedding day. I am now a part-



time ESL teacher for Catholic Charities of Harrisburg. My students are adults, all refugees and immigrants, adjusting to a new life in the USA.

### Nieves Zúñiga, MA Ideology and Discourse Analysis 2009, PHP 2014

I am now a post-doctoral research fellow at the School of Politics and International Relations at the University of Nottingham. I am working on the research project *Anticorruption Policies Revisited: Global Trends and European Responses to the Challenges of Corruption*. The aim is to identify what factors promote or hinder an effective anti-corruption policy. At

Nottingham we are analysing the anti-corruption policy in Bolivia.

## 2010s



### Hannah Banks, Acting 2010

I've since started my own business, a 1940s-style singing trio called The Belladonna Brigade. We have performed across the world, on Sky, at festivals, car shows and WWII events – and privately for Geri Halliwell, Steve Coogan and James May. Find out more at thebelladonnabrigade.com

### David Gorjon, MSc International Finance 2010

I specialise in the microfinance intermediation chain and have worked for the Luxembourg Microfinance and Development Fund (LMDF), the Inter-American Development Bank and different MFIs and NGOs in Mexico, Peru, France, Luxembourg and Belgium. I recently worked on the LMDF's Social Performance Report 2010-15.

### Choon-Ying Tan, MA European Art from Renaissance to the 19th century 2010

Since Essex, I have been teaching History of Art at the Singapore campus of DigiPen Institute of Technology to students in the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Digital Art and Animation and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science programmes. I get a great sense of satisfaction from teaching these future game artists and game programmers to look more closely at Art and to develop an inquisitive mindset through the exploration of a wide range of art.

“I've started a 1940s-style singing trio”

### Ramón Archila Marín, MA Political Economy 2011

I am working for the Federal Government of Mexico. At the Federal Commission for Regulatory Improvement (COFEMER), I analyse federal regulation, estimating the costs and benefits for society before their official publication. Here, we also create programs and public policies that will attract investment and create new businesses at local levels. I am very happy using all the knowledge we acquired at the University of Essex for the welfare of my country.

### Alina Isaev, English Literature 2011

I work at Debenhams' head office in the SEO (search engine optimisation) team in the Digital Marketing department. I recently won Best Interiors Blog 2014 at the Cosmopolitan Blog Awards for my blog fairytaleprettypicture.co.uk

### Rifai Afin, MSc Economics 2012

I am research manager on a project to evaluate the economic, social and environmental impacts of sustainability verification and certification on smallholder farmers in value chains for coffee and cocoa in Indonesia. It's a cooperation project between the University of Sydney and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. We're looking at what impacts these interventions have on farm practices and outcomes, and on household poverty and welfare.

## “I make grants to women and trans human rights defenders when their security is threatened”

### **Patricia Borlenghi, MA Creative Writing 2012**

I set up the Patrician Press in 2012, which has recently published *Out of Such Darkness* by Robert Ronsson, *Disarming the Porcupine* by Mark Brayley and Dorek – *deaf and unheard*, the last in a trilogy I have written myself. I've also launched Patrician's children's imprint,

Putty Press, and its first book, *Godfrey and the Stars* by Mike Fryer.



### **Caitlin Cassidy, Acting (International) 2012**

I recently founded the LubDub theatre company with fellow alum Geoff Kanick (Acting (International) 2012) in New York. LubDub is a not-for-profit dedicated to producing bold, boundary-breaking new works that feature a unique blend of magic, circus, dance, live music and text. We'd love to hear from alumni and current students who'd like to be involved: caitlin@lubdubtheatre.com

### **Nathalie Margi, LL.M in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law 2012**

After traveling to the Democratic Republic of Congo with an NGO called the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders to implement UN Security Council

Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security at the local level, I recently started a new position as Senior Program Officer for a feminist



organisation called Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights in New York. I make rapid response grants to women and trans human rights defenders when their security is threatened or when there is an unanticipated window of opportunity for advocacy, and I am also developing and expanding Urgent Action Fund's advocacy program. I live in Brooklyn with my husband Joseph.

### **Emanuele Costa, MSc Economics 2013**

I came back to Italy after the best experience of my life at Essex, where I spent beautiful days and knew students from all over the world. I am now finishing my PhD at the University of Genoa, and helping some PhD students to improve their econometrics knowledge. I'm also working at the Council of Genoa. I will remember Essex for the rest of my life.

### **Philip Kofu-Kasumu, Accounting and Management 2013**

I run my own tech start-up and I have launched an app called Bodypage, where people share their fitness journeys with others, read articles on nutrition and fitness and get great deals on products. I will also be coming up to Essex soon to give free sessions on personal training and how to eat healthily and cheaply as a student.

### **Sofia Manukyan, MA Theory and Practice in Human Rights 2013**

I recently started a blog devoted to business and human rights issues with my friend Theresa Lankes (LLM Human Rights Law 2013): bizolutioners.wordpress.com



### **Shaig Mursalzade, Information and Communication Technology 2013**

I did a Masters at UCL in Networked Computer Systems.

I now work in IT and Communication at SOCAR (State oil company of Azerbaijan Republic), one of the world's 25 biggest oil companies.



### **Olumide Odubajo, Financial Economics 2013**

I recently received an offer for the KPMG graduate programme in London. I will be working in Forensics and I start this summer.

### **Maria Pariots, Humanities 2013**



Choosing Essex was the best decision of my life. I met so many different nationalities and now have friends from all over the world. I was able to begin learning Spanish as a part of my degree as well as studying philosophy and literature. I'm now working in Spain as an English teacher, and perfecting my Spanish. Last but not least, I met the love of my life – he is from Colchester! We plan to get married soon.

### **Camilla Jarvis, Social and Cultural History 2014**

My mother couldn't finish her degree in the 1930s because of WWII. I lost her 19 years ago, and wanted to finish what she started. Essex lived up to my expectations, and I'm now a self-employed tutor. I teach courses on the Tudors and the Stuarts at Finchingfield Guildhall, which was built in 1472

– not long before Henry VII took the throne in 1485. The Guildhall has been restored with lottery funding – with my proposed teaching forming part of the application – and the courses have been a great success.

### **Naomi Jeffreys, Drama and Literature 2014**

I'm now an Editorial Assistant at Newton Media where I deal with clients from all around the world. We write about IP all around the world. Although I miss Essex it's great to know that it helped me get a good job.

### **Kyohei Kiyota, Marketing 2014**

I studied Marketing in Southend. After graduation, I started working at Ernst & Young's Japan office.

### **Sarah Oluwatosin Thompson, Biochemistry 2014**

I interned for BBC Horizon a few months ago. I'm currently interning at the *New Statesman* as a Wellcome Trust Science Writer: newstatesman.com/writers/325376

### **Momodou Lamin Touray, MA Filmmaking 2014**

I recently appeared as Balotelli in season 2 and 3 of the Norwegian-American television series, *Lilyhammer*. I have now appeared in five different TV series in Norway, including crime series *Det Tredje Oyet* (The Third Eye). I also produce artists and write and direct films, commercials and video clips – and have my own company, 2-Rayz Syndicate.

### **Max Warren, Sports and Exercise Science 2014**

I presented my undergraduate research project/dissertation findings at the UK High Performance Conference for Paralympic Sports Science and Medicine.

**“I miss Essex”**

# Concrete romance



## 1960s – Paul and Jackie

Paul and Jackie Farrow (Mathematics and Mathematical Economics 1967) met on their – and the University's – very first night in 1964. There was, Jackie says, an instant attraction: "He had a car." Paul shrugs. "I thought she was after my body. No, it was the car." They became a couple "at the first June Ball", Jackie says. At the next June Ball, she accepted his surprise proposal. "Well", Paul says, "it was a surprise to me. It's been downhill ever since."

He doesn't really mean it. Paul proudly says of Jackie's successful career in the oil industry: "the ceilings then were concrete not glass, but the MD of Shell UK opened one meeting of senior managers with the words, "Welcome gentlemen and Mrs Farrow." "Mrs Farrow and gentlemen", Jackie corrects him. Paul is self-deprecating about his own work: "I did an MSc at Imperial, and then went to work for the Post Office for 33 years, so I'm no stranger to excitement."

They have two sons and, so far, two grandchildren – and Jackie recently passed her driving test. Paul says he's "likely to face bachelorhood again quite soon".

"I thought she was after my body. No, it was the car"



University can be a time when relationships come and go, but for some, it's the start of something that lasts a lifetime

## 1970s – Chris and Gillian

"At the start of my third year," says Chris Jordan (Computing Science 1977), "I was helping to run the University Sailing Club, based in Brightlingsea. In Freshers' Week, we were busy trying to attract new students to the club (especially the female ones!)"

"On the 'Introduction to Sailing' day that weekend, I was one of the existing members taking new people for short 30-minute trips around the bay, showing them how to sail and get out onto the water for the first time. One of the girls shyly asked me: 'Can you take me for a sail? I have been waiting a long time.'" It was Gillian Smith (History 1979). "That first sail lasted about three hours!"

Three years later, they married. David Charlton (Mathematics and Computing 1978, PhD Mathematics 1984 – and married to Celia Dawson, Literature 1981) was best man. "35 years and two children later", Chris says, "we're still sailing together."

"35 years and two children later, we're still sailing together"





## 1980s – David and Trish

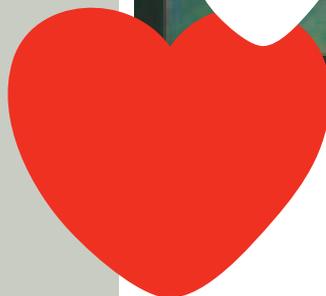
David (Computer Science 1986) and Trish Barham (Russian Studies 1986) met at Essex in 1984, and married on campus.

The course of true love ran smooth even when Trish travelled to Moscow for five months. “About two weeks after we started going out Trish announced she would be going to Moscow,” David says, “which I thought was a crafty way of trying to dump me. From September 1984 to January 1985 we could only communicate via letters, which were opened by the KGB, and the occasional telex. Trish managed to find a telex operator who didn’t speak English, and reduced the cost by running all the words together, as they charged by the word.

“We got married on campus, because most of our friends were still students who couldn’t afford to travel.” The ceremony was in the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Centre, “Trish’s landlady from her third year made the dress, and our reception was in the East Seminar room which we booked out as a ‘Discussion group on marriage.’”

Today their eldest son is studying BSc Computer Science at Essex, and their youngest has us as his first choice for a Politics degree after his A Levels. David and Trish came to our 50th anniversary weekend, stayed in Eddington again and danced the night away in the SU.

“I thought going to Moscow was a crafty way to dump me”



## 1990s – Michelle and Jack

Michelle (née Falgate, Sociology 1994) tells the story of how she and Jack Kneeshaw (BA Government 1994, MA British Government and Politics 1996, PhD Government 2003) met, while Jack interrupts.

**Michelle:** I was in Keynes, and Jack knew people in Keynes, so we met in the first term.

**Jack:** This is all true so far. I’m surprised.

**M:** He thought I was quite loud.

**J:** That is the truth. She remains loud.

**M:** He went out and drank a load of whisky on his birthday and we got talking.

**J:** That’s probably true as well, yes.

**M:** I made him dinner when we got back after Christmas, and he ended up with a stomach ache. Apparently, his mother thought the onions and vegetables had been a shock to his body. She said he’d never eat that for her – which I thought was a good sign.

**J:** It’s just that I’m polite.

**M:** The day after, my friend came back, and we went round the bar, looking for Jack and the others. We’d had a couple of drinks, and he watched us walk past him three times, laughing at us. I said to him that evening, ‘I like you. I’m pretty sure you like me, too.’

**J:** This is embarrassing. But that’s what happened.

**M:** I went to do teacher training in London, while Jack did his MA. Then, I got my first job in Braintree, and we got married in 1998.

Michelle’s now deputy head at Stanway Primary School, while Jack works at the Institute for Social and Economic Research.



“He went out and drank a load of whisky on his birthday and we got talking”

## 2000s – Peter and Sophie

Peter and Sophie Thompson  
(both Sports and Exercise Science 2007)

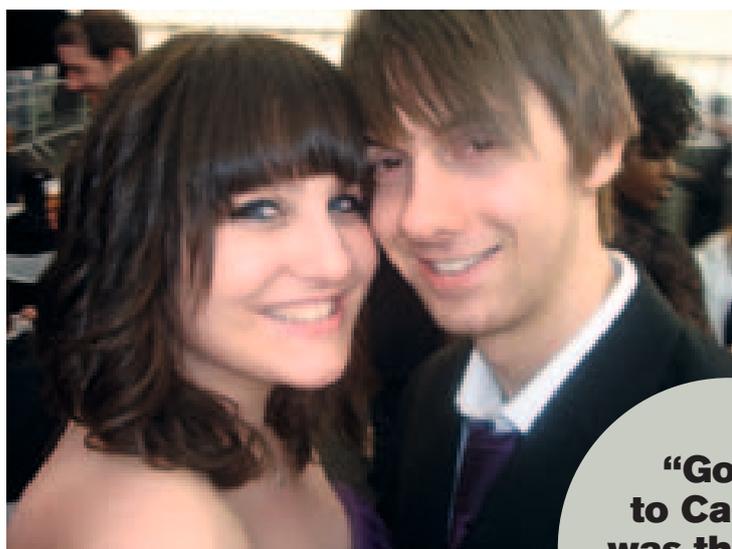
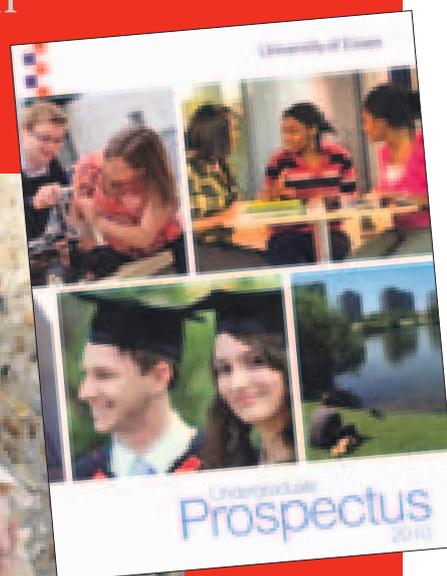
"My wife Sophie and I arrived at flat six, Eddington Tower in 2003, to study Sports and Exercise Science. We lived together, studied together and, after a couple of months, became a couple – against the odds, as on first impressions I was too short and not tanned enough!

"Essex was incredibly vibrant, full of opportunities. I worked for the SU in the bar, volunteered for the Sports Fed Executive, and represented Essex at football and cricket.

"After graduating we travelled, got engaged at Sydney Harbour and then married in July 2010 in Bournemouth. We were very surprised to find ourselves on the cover of the University prospectus for 2010, although Sophie is clearly the focus of the photo – the photographer obviously had taste! In 2011, we had Lucy and Grace. It was an almighty shock to find out we were having twins. They certainly make life interesting.

"Essex gave us both some fantastic memories."

"On first impressions I was too short and not tanned enough"



## 2010s – Ryan and Montanna

Well, if it's romance you're after, you've found it. Montanna Harden (Humanities 2011) and Ryan Banks (Accounting and Finance 2010) met in their first week in 2007.

"Ryan lived with some of my friends," says Montanna, "so we became close."

"I liked her from day one," he says. "We hung out as friends almost every day, but..." "I went on my year abroad", Montanna explains. "In February 2010, he flew out to Canada to tell me he wanted to be with me, and we've been together ever since."

Ryan says "I let Montanna know I was coming to make sure I had somewhere to sleep, but I didn't have time to plan anything else, let alone what I might say when I got there! Montanna met me at the airport, and after both being a bit nervous we realised we wanted to be more than just friends and we've been happy ever since. Going to Canada was the best decision I've made."

"Ryan's now a fully qualified accountant," Montanna says, "and I'm an Exams Officer at the College of Estate Management in Reading. We're looking forward to many years together."

In fact, on the fifth anniversary of getting together – 19 February this year – they got engaged. See? Told you it was romantic.

**"Going to Canada was the best decision I've made"**



# Thank you!

Essex was founded on charitable giving, and has changed lives – and the world – for 50 years

## Early days

You may not have heard of industrial chemist Oswald Silberrad, but when a university was being founded in his home county of Essex, his widow Lillian and their son John were among over 700 members of the public who supported our founding appeal. The family's generosity didn't end there. In 2005, John left us more than £2 million in his will for PhD scholarships.

We have named our new student centre in the Silberrads' honour, and at the building's topping-out ceremony, Hugh Silberrad (below) said, "My great-uncle's education and success was funded by somebody else, and this was the family's way of giving back to his local community."

Philanthropic support helped us award 378 scholarships in 2013-14 alone, allowing people who want to learn here to achieve their full potential whatever their background.



## Philanthropy now

Charitable giving still makes a difference today. Callum Ryan, for example, Treasurer of the Essex Blades Cycling Club, had an idea last year. "We want to run free trips to the Olympic Velodrome in London for our members and other cyclists", he said. Just one velodrome session costs over £1,000, though, which is why Callum needed the Essex Fund. "The trip is a chance for some students who've never had the chance to ride in a velodrome," Callum told us, "and it could be a stepping stone for us to compete at British Universities & Colleges Sport track cycling events – which Essex hasn't done before."

So, if you got a call from us in November and wondered why, here's your answer. Each year, we recruit students to ring you with updates on the University and ask you to support our Essex Fund. Since 2002, more than 1,300 of you have pledged over £500,000 to fund societies, sports, arts and events. These are all activities the University can't pay for, but which add something extra to campus life – and which are often, let's be honest, the things you remember long after you've forgotten much of what you studied.

The Blades Cycling Club got a grant of £1,500, and Callum says that, as a result of them being able to offer this trip, "many more people than last year signed up for our club at Welcome Week. We're a small club, and we're growing, thanks to the Essex Fund."

## It's not just money

"As I start to think about retirement," says Geoff Lunn (Electronic Engineering 1979), "I feel a strong sense of wanting to give something back." Geoff's degree led to a career in specialist LED lighting, and he's now director of consultancy, design and manufacturing company VML-Technologies. His knowledge can be very useful for today's students – they just need a way to tap into it. That's why we set up speed networking in 2012 – events which have seen over 120 alumni like Geoff give us their time to share expert career advice with 150 students. Their mentoring, and the internships they can offer, help the next generation of Essex students to secure their future. "My hope", Geoff says, "is that I can help just a few prospective graduates find their way in this difficult job market."

Every year, we run more speed networking events to cover a wider range of subjects. Give us a shout if you want to get involved.



## Giving

**Alumni** support today's students, making campus life special  
Over **£500,000** raised for the Essex Fund in 12 years  
**40** Students' Union societies supported

**Since 2002, more than 1,300 of you have pledged over £500,000 to fund societies, sports, arts and events.**

# International friends



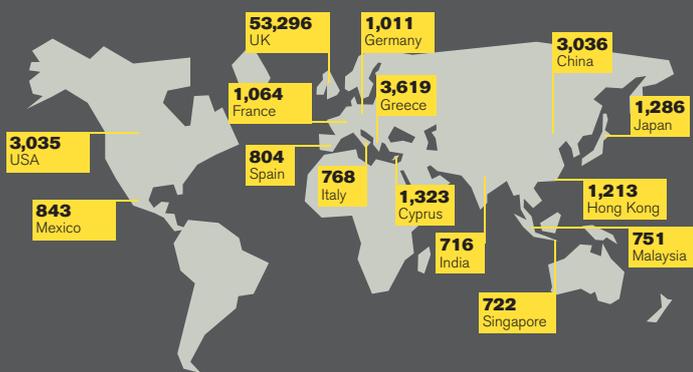
You don't need to be in the UK to give Essex your time. Alumni across the world can help us talk to prospective students. You can give them a first-hand perspective on what Essex is like – painting a picture more eloquent than any prospectus (although ours are pretty cool).

Antonio Gil Asenjo (above left, Philosophy 2001, MA Literature 2005) came to an event in Madrid in March, and says, "I told prospective students about the supportive teachers – and the administrative staff, who are very important for foreign students living away from home. I let them know about the beauty of Wivenhoe Park, too. I would be very happy to think that some of them decided to come to Essex."

Audrey Benayoun (above, LLM European Union Law 2015), came to an event in her native Paris. "Essex was amazing," she says, "so I wanted to share it. Essex gave me the opportunity to be more confident, and I wanted others to experience that. The sports and clubs are really important to help you integrate, and have a social life. It's totally different from France, and I wanted to help other people to make that choice."

[www.essex.ac.uk/thankyou](http://www.essex.ac.uk/thankyou)

## Where are you now? The top 15



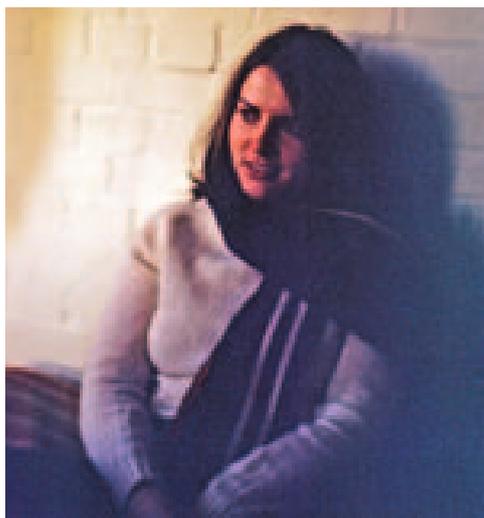
"Philanthropy is so important. It sounds like something rich people do to help rich institutions, but really it's about changing lives. Essex gives people opportunities to get somewhere in life they might not otherwise have reached. If you're in a position to help, it's good to give the same opportunity to others. It's your chance to transform someone else's life."

Chantel Le Carpentier SU President 2014-15



# My Essex

Frances Blunden (formerly Stenhouse, Sociology 1972) remembers fog, naughtiness and nicking teaspoons



## My first sight of Essex

in October 1969 was of the Towers from the Clacton road, travelling from the station to Brightlingsea, where I was to spend my first year in digs, with a study room in one of the Towers. My primary recollections of that first year were of the fog that frequently enveloped campus, the bailey bridge, the paternoster lifts in the library, the pain of getting to and from Brightlingsea (hence often sleeping in the said study room) and of student protest and strikes.

**Essex's reputation for student protest and decadent life**, particularly drug taking, was strong during this time, with occasional police raids and exposés in the national press. Cannabis was widely available, and I remember some using LSD, but for most, student life was more mundane and the drug of choice was alcohol.

## Student protest related to wider issues

as well as university ones – boycotting Barclays (the only source of banking on campus before cash machines and bankcards) as part of the anti-apartheid protests, and troops out of Northern Ireland, which engendered tensions and conflict between students and the army. Also, we put



up picketing miners at the University who had come to blockade Wivenhoe to prevent coal from being imported.

**I particularly remember the power cuts of 1970-71**, and having to climb the stairs in the Towers and complete essays by candlelight. A significant part of the Sociology degree was coursework, and many essays were delivered under doors very early in the morning after having seen dawn over the lakes and heard the ducks' dawn chorus.

**But there were more simple pleasures** such as cream teas at Dedham, rowing from Dedham to Flatford, touring the local hostelries of Suffolk and Essex, sunbathing by the lakes and parties at Wiv House. Going into Colchester was fascinating – there were major excavations of Roman sites in the town centre, now buried under shops.

**One part of Essex I still have** are two pieces of original cutlery from the Square 3 restaurant when it first opened.

(Editor's note – we've checked with Campus Service, and no charges will be brought.)

**“We put up miners who had come to picket Wivenhoe”**

# Your benefits

We're always adding benefits to the range we offer, so head to [essex.ac.uk/alumni](http://essex.ac.uk/alumni) and click on 'Alumni benefits' to make sure you know what's new. In the meantime, check out these reminders...

## Get your card

Your alumni card is essential for campus events, like our popular Alumni Weekend. To get yours, email [alumni@essex.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@essex.ac.uk) with:

- your name (and your name while at Essex if it's changed)
- year of graduation
- subject of study
- current postal address
- a passport size head and shoulders .jpeg of you

We aim to get the card to you within 10 working days.

Alumni

## Shop and give

Shop online? Want to support today's students without it costing you a penny? You can!

Every time you buy something online, you could raise money for our Essex Fund Scholarships.

More than 2,000 retailers – including Amazon, M&S and House of Fraser – will donate a percentage of what you spend to the University to help us fund scholarships.

Just go to our website and click on Support the University > Shop and give

**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk

## Career support

Intensive support, including individual planning sessions, internships, support packs – and help from careers advisors for up to three years after you leave.

► [www.essex.ac.uk/careers](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers)



## Don't go!

Just graduated? Want to stay on?

Apply for your first period of postgraduate study here and reduce your first year tuition fee by:

- 33 per cent for Essex graduates with a First
- 25 per cent for Essex graduates with a 2:1
- 10 per cent for Essex graduates with a 2:2



## NUS Extra

Essex alumni can now get an NUS Extra card, which offers you over 160 different discounts for just £12 for 12 months. Offers include:

- 50% off Spotify Premium
- 40% off Pizza Express
- 25% off Jack Wills

Full details, including how to apply, on our website under 'Partner benefits'

**nus**  
**extra**

## Get moving!

- Essex alumni get a discount rate at our gym and sports centre – go to [www.essex.ac.uk/sport](http://www.essex.ac.uk/sport) to find out how
- Train with your old team, and play in non-BUCS fixtures – contact your team through [www.essexstudent.com](http://www.essexstudent.com)



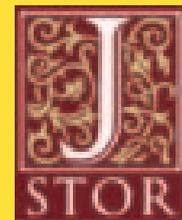
There are discounts from loads of companies on our website, including APH (Airport Parking and Hotels Ltd), Appleyard London, Avis car hire, Big Blue Adventures Greece, Clink Hostels, Cloggs, Cottages4you, Creative Quirk, Dom and Geri, EasyLifeGroup.com, elinens, Gibson Publishing, Glenmuir 1891, The Gobstopper, Gold Leaf Massage, Graduate Rescue, Groom Hire, Holiday Inn Express, ImageThis, Knowledge Academy, Jones and Jones, Merlin entertainments group, Newsweek, Optimax, Perfect Cellar, Personalised Baby, Project skills solutions, Rhino Car Hire, Sixt rent a car, SommerSparkle, Stag Hamper Co, Total SEO & Marketing, Viki Flowers, Uncover Colombia, and Wimdu.

## JSTOR

Free access to thousands of academic journals and books through JSTOR

Essex alumni now get the same access that current students and academics have.

Each paper normally costs \$12, so this exclusive benefit is a major saving for research or just keeping up with your old subject.





# Women of the Future

#changetomorrow

These are challenging times, especially for today's students, and we need to encourage them in what lies ahead. In particular, we want to do even more to support women. The number of women accessing higher education has been growing significantly, but women are still not on an equal footing to men in the workplace.

That's why I'm proud to launch the Women of the Future Masters Scholarships – to support talented women from across the world, who are willing to challenge conventions and push boundaries.

I would be so grateful if you could support this appeal. Every donation makes a difference to students today – and each of them can change tomorrow.

Shami Chakrabarti



## Thank you

Essex has a proud tradition of educating amazing women. Access to education and the ability to succeed should not depend on gender or bow to traditional attitudes about the status and role of women.

Our graduates are changing their communities and the world. Women like Dr Shirin Chaudhury the first woman speaker of Bangladesh's parliament, activist and academic Dr Aisha K Gill and leading climate-change and sustainability consultant, Catherine Cameron.

With your help, Women of the Future scholarships will allow 25 women to study at Essex – to learn, have inspirational ideas and to take them around the world.

## Double your donation – double your impact

We are matching every donation, pound for pound. With your help, we can make the future brighter for women and the world they shape.

You can support us online, or fill in the form below – or find out about other ways you can help at [www.essex.ac.uk/see/change](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/change), or email us: [alumni@essex.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@essex.ac.uk)

Thank you



### Donate by card

If you wish to donate by credit/debit card or would like to set-up a regular donation, please go to: [www.essex.ac.uk/see/change](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/change)

### Donate by cheque

I enclose a cheque payable to the *University of Essex*. (Please send to: Freepost RTKE-CGSS-JULL, Philanthropy Team, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ (UK only))

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We will include all donors to the University in our donor roll. If you would prefer not to be included, please tick here  to remain anonymous.

### Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK tax payer and want the University of Essex to treat all donations I make on or after the date of this declaration as Gift Aid eligible.

■ Please notify us if you change your name and/or address, want to cancel this declaration, no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains while the declaration is still in force.

■ If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.

#### Please note:

■ You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_