



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

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WOCIE

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CONTRIBUTORS

-  **PROFESSOR DANNY QUAH**
Former LSE Professor and current Li Ka Shing Professor of Economics, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore.
-  **DR KEITH MCDONALD**
A former academic in early-modern literature, Keith enjoys retro gaming and seeing his favourite band, Alphaville, on tour.
-  **DR PETER QUINN**
Wrote his PhD on the contemporary Estonian composer, Arvo Pärt. He has written for *BBC Music Magazine*, the *TLS* and *The Arts Desk*, among others.
-  **BENEDICT J. JONES**
An author of crime and horror fiction, the hidden history of London has always fascinated Benedict and played an important part in his work.
-  **DINUSHA T. JAYAWARDENE**
A Sri Lankan LLB (Hons) graduate, Attorney-at-law, and Artist.
-  **LIAM KELLY**
A BA English Literature graduate, who has a lifelong passion for reading and theatre. He's an avid foodie, jet-setter and self-confessed social media #enthusiast.

EDITORIAL

-  **LISA PIERRE**
EDITOR
Lisa is always in search of the next cool venue and a spot to see the best sunset. A lover of good food, fashion, modern art and photography, she's always ready to try out the latest eatery in town in search of the world's best crème brûlée.
-  **ANTONIA BAILEY**
SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Self-confessed shopaholic and designer extraordinaire!
-  **RHIANN IRVINE**
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Travel enthusiast, queen baker and design perfectionist.

NAVIGATION

The following icons are used throughout the publication:



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NEWS

A ROUND-UP OF HOW THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AND OUR ALUMNI ARE INVOLVED IN MAKING WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE VIA THE INTERNET, SPREADING AWARENESS OF IMPORTANT SYNDROMES, OFFERING THEIR EXPERTISE ON A WORLDWIDE EPIDEMIC, AND LUNCHING WITH THE QUEEN.



Richard Clark

University staff attend Patron's Lunch



On Sunday 12 June 2016, The Mall in St James's Park was transformed for its largest ever street party to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's patronage of over 600 charities and organisations on the occasion of The Queen's 90th birthday.

The Patron's Lunch recognizes the unrelenting support and service our Monarch has given to the community over her 63 year reign. And it is this commitment to helping others that is cause for a National and Commonwealth wide celebration, with the very people she has helped over the decades being at the centre of this event. The University of London had a table mid-way down The Mall. The day started off a bit soggy but the sunshine came out to allow staff to enjoy the rest of the day.

Regardless of the weather a fabulous time was had by all. Richard Clark recalls 'It was a fantastic day and

although it was raining at the start, good old British spirit prevailed and we enjoyed our ice creams, teas and M&S hampers whilst wearing our ponchos! There was also wonderful parade down The Mall and eventually the rain stopped and the sunshine came out just in time for the appearance of the Queen. Many thanks to all the organisers for a superb day.'



Left to right, back row: Peter O'Hara, Richard Clark. Front row: Dr Mary Stiasny, Jackson Mbilinyi, Michelle Thomson



It was a fantastic day and although it was raining at the start, good old British spirit prevailed and we enjoyed our ice creams, teas and M&S hampers whilst wearing our ponchos!

First Destinations Survey

As the number of students recommending the University of London International Programmes increases, so does student satisfaction. Undertaken by The Careers Group, University of London, the First Destinations Survey (2013–2014) invited University of London International Programmes graduates to give their feedback. This is the second year running that the full survey has been undertaken. Survey highlights include the following:

93 percent of the graduating cohort of 2013/14 were in work or study six months after graduation, compared to 86% the previous year.

70 percent of International Programmes Law graduates are as likely to be in employment or further study as other UK university graduates studying law.

80 percent of our graduates who studied maths/computer science or social studies are likely to be in work or employment compared with a national average of 71% for maths and computer science graduates and 68% for social studies graduates of selected UK universities.

8.1 out of ten students on average recommend the University of London International Programmes increased from 7.8 out of 10 the previous year.

7.8 The average score for overall satisfaction increased from 7.5 out of 10 the previous year.

Growing with MOOCs

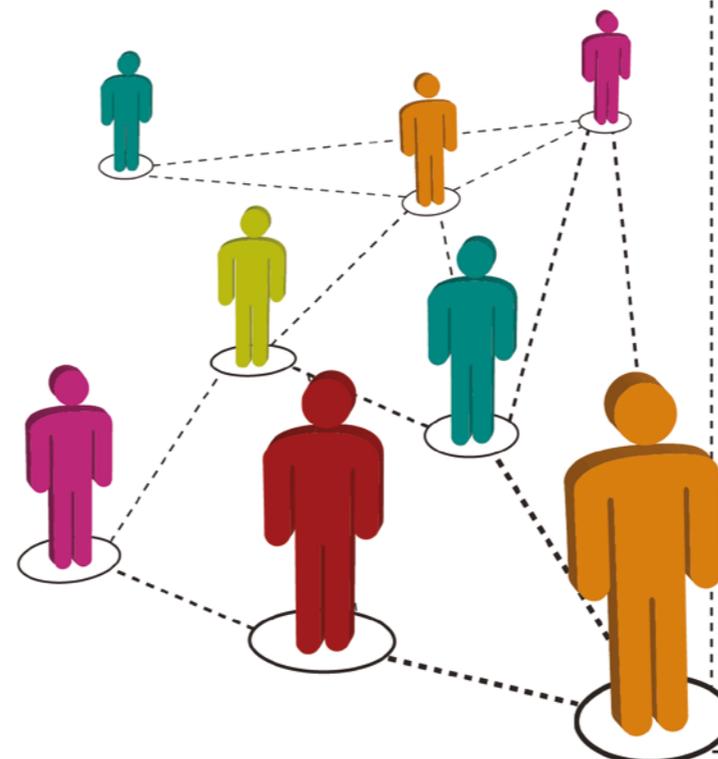
More than a million people have now enrolled on the University of London's Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) since it joined the Coursera online platform four years ago.

The courses developed by the University of London in collaboration with its member institutions, including SOAS, Goldsmiths and the London Business School, continue to contribute towards making higher education accessible for aspiring learners anywhere in the world.

Since the launch of its first four MOOCs, the University of London has delivered 23 courses in total. A more recent addition to the suite is 'How to Grow and Finance Your Startup – without VC.' This course has been delivered in collaboration with John Mullins, from the London Business School. This, like other MOOCs, provide a taste of what a full degree programme might offer them.

Further information is available at:

- coursera.org/london
- bit.ly/uolip-coursera



Architectural gem

Architectural gem, literary landmark, urban myth Senate House to feature in Open House. London Open House started as a small not-for-profit organisation, to promote public awareness of the capital's building and design architecture. The movement is acknowledged as a champion of architecture, good design and public engagement. It provides a unique opportunity to see, explore and learn about London's amazing architecture and design over one weekend.

The University of London's Grade II* listed landmark Portland stone building, Senate House will feature in London's largest annual festival of architecture and design, Open House London.

On Saturday 17 September 2016, Senate House will host informal tours between 10am and 2pm. It will provide visitors with an insight into the construction of the 1930s building, its use over the years and its future.

The concept has become so successful it has spread to 30 cities worldwide. All cities are part of the Open House Worldwide Family, which strongly holds that the ethos behind the original event remains consistent. For more information visit openhouselondon.org.uk/



Building futures

The University of London is one of the oldest, largest and most diverse universities in the UK; it is the original international university. The Development Office was established to act as a link between the University and our alumni, supporters and friends.

Our goal is to ensure that the University of London can continue to fulfil our mission to make a unique contribution to learning and research-led scholarship through an unrivalled network of member institutions, global reach and reputation, and the breadth of our high-quality innovative academic services and infrastructure.

Our alumni play a vital role in helping us achieve this, for example by acting as ambassadors and mentors, and by providing work placements and financial support. It is only with the support of individuals and organisations like you that the University can deliver the world-class research and teaching which has characterised the University for nearly 200 years.

To learn more about how you can get involved, visit our website: london.ac.uk/alumni

Room 101

If you are planning to attend Open House make sure you try and get a look at room 101. Sound artist in residence at Hannah Thompson has been capturing the ambient noise of the building, as well as specifically recording staff recitals of Shakespearean sonnets and scenes from the plays. The recordings will be played during Open House, interspersed with 'curator's room' sessions – where one of the curators talks about some of the holdings on display, focused primarily on Othello. bit.ly/shakespeare_gallery



Business as usual

In view of the results of the EU Referendum in the UK, and the majority vote to leave the EU, we appreciate that many of our students all over the world may have questions. We would like to personally assure these students that we intend to continue to deliver all our activity as normal through the University of London International Programmes.

Fees for EU students will remain the same as those for other students across the world. Fees will remain subject to the usual considerations in delivering these programmes, and not specific to EU considerations.

We hope that this statement is helpful but if you have any questions please contact the student advice centre:

londoninternational.ac.uk/contact-us

Speaking Zika

Professor Peter Piot, Director of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and one of the discoverers of Ebola, says the global health community should focus on sharing information if we are to uncover more about the Zika virus.

'We know we're dealing with mosquitoes and the infection is a mild dengue, or like a bad flu with a bit of a rash. But vector controlled science is not very well developed,' he says. 'Nearly every day there's new information about the virus. Now you find it in breast milk, now there's sexual transmission, and now it can lead to temporary paralysis, for example.' (bit.ly/zika-PP)

Jimmy Whitworth, Professor of International Public Health, says the virus is edging into Central America but that we shouldn't sensationalise the risks.

'Four in five of those infected experience no illness, and in those that do, symptoms are usually limited to fever and mild joint pain,' he says. 'If you are not pregnant or not thinking of getting pregnant, then Zika is not something to overly worry about.' (bit.ly/zika-JW)

Source: LSHTM



Seeing the World Differently

To celebrate World Autism Awareness Week in April, the UCL Institute of Education released a short film called 'Seeing the World Differently' to provide insight into children's experience of autism.

The condition can make subjects experience sights, sounds and activities very differently to others. Students from Hendon School in north London explained how the flow of water from a shower could feel as piercing as needles, or how loud sounds can seem painful or raise anxiety. They also discuss their stress-relieving measures, which range from squeezing a ball to listening to classical music or caring for animals.

Robyn Steward, a trainer in Autism and Asperger's Syndrome, says it's important to treat everyone as individuals. 'When you've met one person on the autism spectrum, you've met one person on the autism spectrum,' she said. 'Everybody is different.'

your

VOICE

It was a wonderful evening! I have met a lot of very nice and inspiring alumni. Thank you so much for making this event possible!

Susanne Kröger, Germany

It was a fantastic opportunity for the alumni and UoL representatives to interact and share each other's experiences. I feel immense pride in being a part of the UoL family

Shayyan Qaiser, Pakistan

Thank you Saad Wasim and Lisa Pierre for organising this fantastic event! Looking forward to many more – next one should be in Karachi :)

Faryal Mazhar, Pakistan

And what a good event it was!

UoL's first ever Pakistan Alumni Event, with the British High Commissioner and University of London's Pro-Vice Chancellor (if I'm not forgetting), and Ali Azmat, the delight of the event.

#UOLWorldClass #ANightToRemember

Faraz Khan Yousafzai, Pakistan

Share your memories and moments with us on social media. Use #UOLWorldClass at:

-  facebook.com/londonualumni
-  twitter.com/londonu
-  instagram.com/_londonu

Alternatively email lisa.pierre@london.ac.uk if you want to share your view.

Thanks Lisa for providing this platform to us to get connected with the University.

Amit Khanzode, India

Had amazing fun at the event. Enjoyed a lot. Keep doing more events like these. Got a chance to make new friends.

Somya Goyal, India

It was a pleasure meeting you at the recent UoL and alumni event held at Tower Bridge. Events such as these are really appreciated as a means by which students such as myself can interact and share experiences with staff and each other

Dwight McKenzie, UK

Thank you Saad Wasim & Lisa Pierre for hosting dinner with the Alumni Ambassadors, launching of Professional Accountancy MSC and hosting the best & first ever Alumni Dinner in Pakistan. I had the most amazing 3 days. Simon Askey & Dr Mary, it was an honor meeting you guys. Insh Allah we will meet soon!!!

Bilal Kiani, Pakistan

5 MINUTES WITH: BLOOMSBURY



What was the last country you visited?

I went to Pakistan in April. I nearly didn't go as had a problem with my visa. Luckily it was sorted and I managed to go. It was a great trip! We had our first alumni event there. It was the biggest one we have ever held. I met some really nice students and alumni. That's why I started travelling. To meet them. It is always nice to meet so many of them at the alumni events.

What is the best and worst thing about travel?

Well, some of the best things are going to new countries and meeting new people. I like tasting all the local dishes, and if I have time taking in a sight or two. I have started collecting shots at major landmarks for my photo album. Occasionally, I get to do things I would normally never do, like go for a rickshaw ride or meet a pop star or politician. I like catching up on my movies when I'm on the plane too. The worst thing I guess is the actual travel. People often ask how long the flight is, but that doesn't make up the whole journey, I count door to door and that makes it all so much longer. Also adjusting to the time difference can be quite hard.

Describe yourself in 10 words

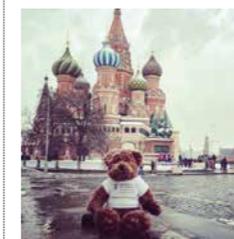
Small, furry, fun-loving, caring, funny, impartial, inquisitive, understanding, honest, and cute (if I do say so myself!).

What three things would you take with you on a desert island?

A Swiss army knife, the Bear Grylls book 'Man Vs. Wild: Survival Techniques from the Most Dangerous Places on Earth' and sunscreen.

What is your favourite place and why?

My my, that is a tricky one! I've been lucky enough to visit so many amazing places, but I guess I'd have to say London as it's my home. I love the diversity and the culture that is here on my doorstep. So many inspirational and creative things come from this city. There are also some fabulous restaurants here! I always say you have to leave London to love it. We complain all the time about things, travelling and



From top to bottom: me taking a short break to enjoy the sunshine in Sri Lanka; in front of Saint Basil's Cathedral in Moscow, Russia; in the Alumni Association photo booth at the UK graduation; and at an alumni event in my favourite place, London!

seeing other cities makes me appreciate London a bit more each time I return. And obviously there is an excellent university in London!

Name three guests past or present you would like to have dinner with and why?

Prince, because I still can't quite believe that he's gone and he would be the best entertainment I could wish for. Salvador Dali as I have always found him an intriguing, illusive character. I love his work and think he would be a fun guest. Lastly, I'd have to go with Paddington Bear, it would be nice to have someone around who gets you. Also, I'd like to get some tips on how to cope with attention, I get photographed quite a lot and it's quite daunting. Hopefully he can help me, and maybe he would bring some of his lovely sandwiches!

Name one thing you want to do in the next year?

I'd like to carry on meeting our students and alumni in new countries.

What is your favourite book of all time?

I guess I would say *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera.

What is your favourite song?

Just one? That's so hard! I love so many. And no, it's not the 'Bare Necessities'. I'll go with 'Liquid Spirit' by Gregory Porter.

Name something or someone that always makes you smile?

Seeing the students and alumni coming together at events makes me smile. I like to see them enjoying themselves and discovering an affinity with the University, something that they may have never felt before.

Tell us one thing you love about London?

I love the combination of new and old. Some things are steeped in history but there's always lovely new things springing up as well. This helps keep my beloved city one of the best in the world!

Keep up to date with Bloomsbury and his travels on instagram, follow @_londonu

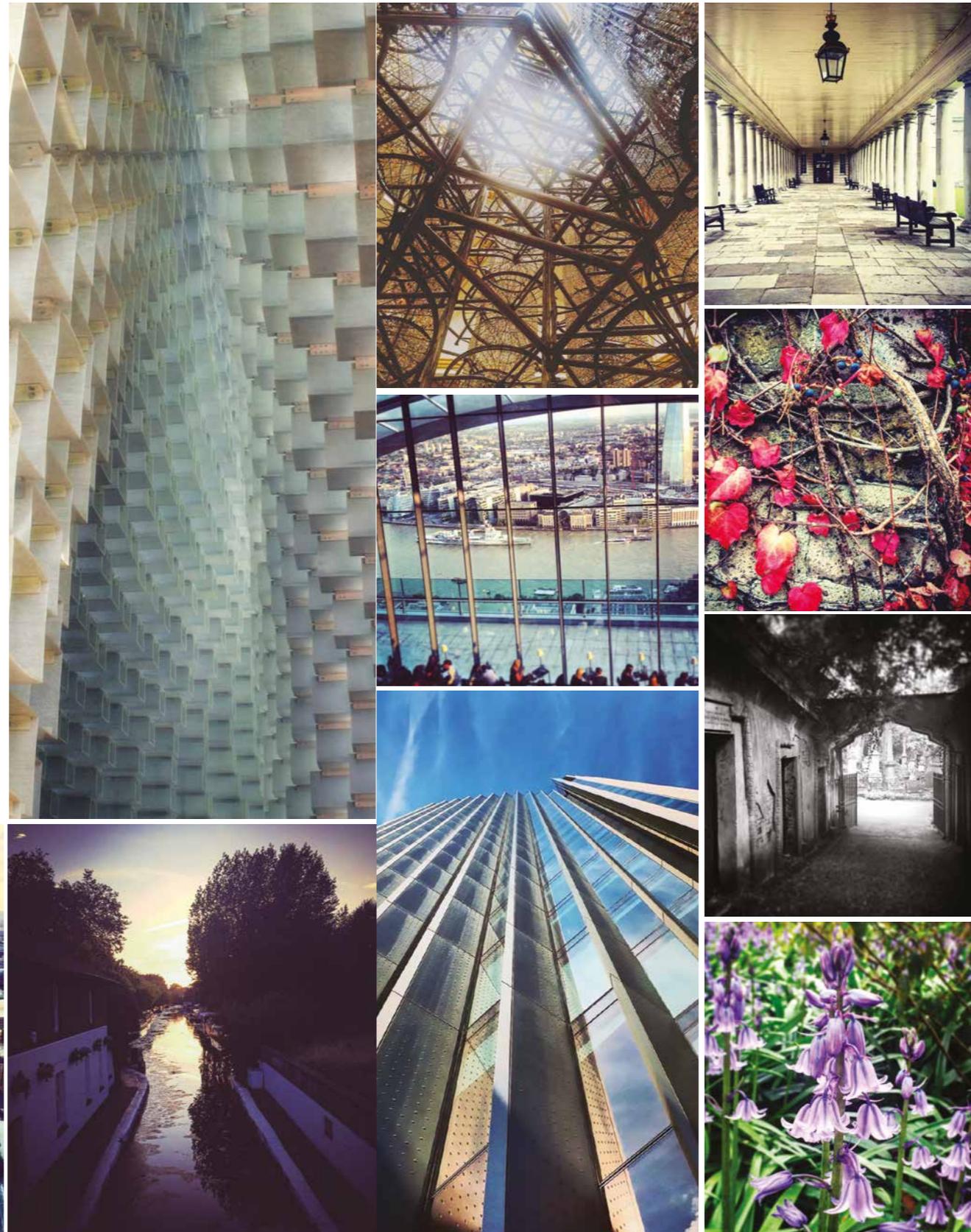
London Eye

By Lisa Pierre

Every morning as I hear the rumble of the tube, and I run, just making it down the station stairs almost getting my hair caught as the doors shut, I wonder why do I live in London? As my work playlist kicks in, I daydream of beaches and a life that is chilled and relaxed – sipping cocktails. And in the summer months, I just wish we had a summer!

But London is what you want it to be. And its only when you leave that you really appreciate how amazing the city is. Someone once told me I live like a tourist in London. And why not? There is so much to see. I think I could live out the rest of my days here and still have museums left unvisited, plays and ballets yet to be seen, and restaurants yet to be dined in.

As a tourist though, I personally do not like crowds; hordes of people queuing up for a quick glimpse of something only to get close and see a swarm of cameras and mobile phones blocking your view. So if you are coming to London then please, have a whistle stop tour of the big sights, take your selfies in front of the landmarks, and then step away from Oxford Street and enjoy all the other amazing things that the capital has to offer. And the best part is, most of it is free!



These streets were made for walking

First tip; always, always carry an umbrella! Do not let the weather stop you from seeing the city as you should – on foot. Yes, you can get a one-day travel card, but you will miss so many beautiful buildings that will just appear out of nowhere. Go for a walk in the city at the weekend when the streets are empty. From Smithfield market to Leadenhall market, walk and wander in peace, taking in the Gherkin, St Paul's Cathedral and a number of other iconic buildings up close.

to the deer. Visit Hyde Park every year between June –October and take in the Serpentine Pavilion.

This year's Pavilion is designed by Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG). You will also get the added bonus of Summerhouses this year! Go early and enjoy the light playing on these architectural masterpieces. Fancy some greenery with a twist? Visit one of London's most spectacular roof gardens. Sky Garden in Fenchurch Street will offer you one of the best views of the Thames and its iconic landscape from all angles. And what's the best thing about all of this fresh air surrounded by nature? It's free.

Walk the waterways

Fancy being close to the water? There is more than the Thames on offer. Head for a walk by the Regent's Canal. Little Venice is a beautiful part of London with pretty narrow-boats and places to relax and eat by the canal. King's Cross has had a facelift and the area by the canal is a trendy peaceful place to enjoy a walk or dinner. You could get adventurous and walk all the way from King's Cross to Little Venice. But if not, pay for the stress free trip on a barge down the canal.



Aldwych (hidden) Underground station



Highgate Cemetery

Hidden London

If you want to see something historical but do not fancy the long lines and the heaving masses, then **Highgate Cemetery** is a good idea. You may roam freely on the east side of the cemetery for a small charge. The west cemetery can only be accessed by booking a tour, but it is well worth seeing. As its website states: 'Highgate Cemetery has some of the finest funerary architecture in the country. It is a place of peace and contemplation where a romantic profusion of trees, memorials and wildlife flourish'.

If that sounds a bit morbid, although I guarantee you it is not, perhaps booking a visit to see one of **London's hidden Underground stations** might be your thing. Step back in time to see some of the disused stations. Old wooden lifts and ticket machines, with posters highlighting how long ago they were in use. Many are now used as film sets, but they were once places that saved Londoners during the Blitz, and even Winston Churchill had a bunker in the old Down Street station. Close to the University of London the former British Museum station has many stories to tell.

“””

Highgate Cemetery has some of the finest funerary architecture in the country. It is a place of peace and contemplation where a romantic profusion of trees, memorials and wildlife flourish.

So these are my tips for you. I get so many emails from students and alumni asking me questions about their forthcoming visits. London is full of so much history as well as contemporary aspects, there truly is something for everyone. If you are visiting just look beyond all the places that the guide book tells you. Explore the area you are staying in. London has plenty of hidden gems waiting for you to find and enjoy. As Samuel Johnson said 'when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life'. If only the sun shone a bit more I could stop my daydreaming of paradise islands. But in truth, London really does have it all and I hope you get to enjoy it if you are visiting soon. Look up and look around you. You might just see something you didn't even realise was there!

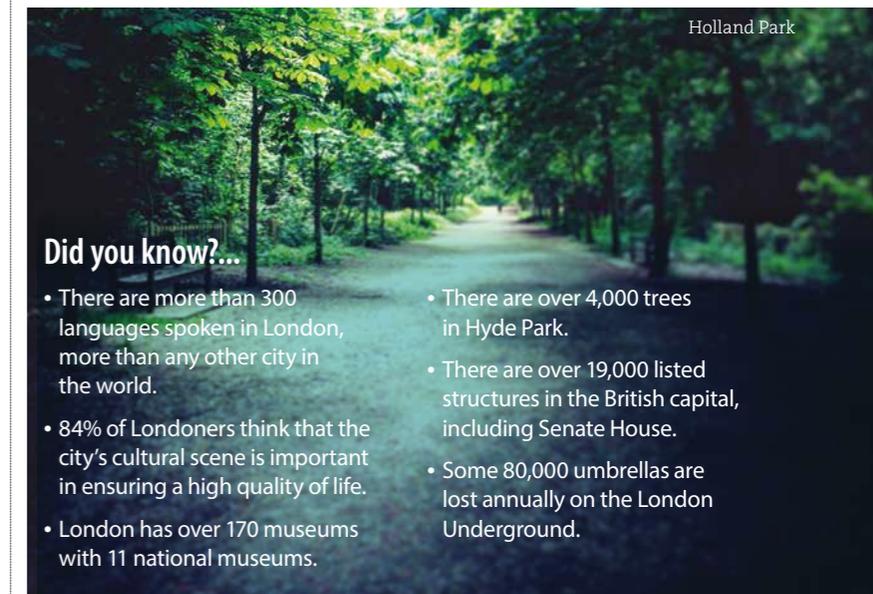
“””

There are hidden gems at every turn, from a 100-year old statue of Peter Pan, a muster of peacocks, to Memorials of love and bandstands of all sizes.

If you see a church, don't just walk past it, please go on in. There are so many lovely church courtyards like the one on Mount Street or the maze like streets of Middle Temple. All offering benches to rest those tired feet. Walking by the Thames? Don't just stick to the path. Walk into Bermondsey and hit one of London's trendiest High Streets for a refreshing drink away from all the crowds looking at HMS Belfast or the London Eye.

Park life

Why, oh why, would you want to continue walking the heaving streets when London is full of beautiful parks? Large and small, the likes of Kensington Gardens, Battersea Park, St James Park, Holland Park, Victoria Park and Hampstead Heath will all offer something different. There are hidden gems at every turn, from a 100-year-old statue of Peter Pan, a muster of peacocks, to Memorials of love and bandstands of all sizes. Walk through Regents Park and get close enough to hear the animals of London Zoo. Walk through Greenwich Park and see where time begins and get possibly the best view of the London skyline. Go to Richmond Park and get close



Holland Park

Did you know?...

- There are more than 300 languages spoken in London, more than any other city in the world.
- 84% of Londoners think that the city's cultural scene is important in ensuring a high quality of life.
- London has over 170 museums with 11 national museums.
- There are over 4,000 trees in Hyde Park.
- There are over 19,000 listed structures in the British capital, including Senate House.
- Some 80,000 umbrellas are lost annually on the London Underground.

CELEBRATING *Shakespeare 400*

SENATE HOUSE LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Shakespeare: Metamorphosis - Exhibition installation
from Senate House Library

What's going on here?

Some of your technology may be out of date, which means this video won't play properly. Please install Flash or upgrade your browser.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death, **Dr Keith McDonald** asked a panel of experts why we still celebrate his life and works.

While it may seem surprising to us now, William Shakespeare wasn't necessarily the most celebrated playwright during his own lifetime.

His contemporary Ben Jonson was arguably more influential among fellow writers, while the celebrated partnership of Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher steadily eclipsed Shakespeare's prominence throughout the course of the seventeenth century.

Yet, 400 years on, it is Shakespeare's legacy that has prevailed.

He has become a truly global cultural phenomenon, perhaps even the world's greatest writer of all time. His plays have been translated into many languages and adapted widely for stage and screen around the world.

Writing wasn't Shakespeare's sole concern, of course. He was also an actor and an investor, managing property and owning shares in London theatres. He may also have been a money-lender. Such diverse entrepreneurial interests kept Shakespeare self-sufficient during a time when writers were fortunate to survive through the proceeds of literary patronage alone.

But naturally, he is celebrated for remarkable literary achievements that have managed to withstand centuries of critical appraisal.

Why is it, then, that we continue to celebrate him as a global icon 400 years on?

Do we even like Shakespeare?

Ironically, first impressions of Shakespeare are not always positive. The venerated Bard may even be more popular outside of Britain than he is on home soil.

Often, it's the influence of teachers that determine whether or not we grow up to become lovers of Shakespeare. Maybe we even grow to enjoy him in spite of, rather than because of, those who teach us.

That was the experience of Philadelphia-based actor and playwright Mark Knight, who spent time as a resident teacher at the Globe Theatre's Education Department, educating and entertaining others about the Bard.

'My first Shakespeare experience was at the hands of a crabby teacher who forced my entire class of inner-city north London kids to read *Julius Caesar* out loud, line by line,' he recalled.

'Any inattention, sniggering, or other schoolboy crimes meant severe knuckle-raps. In spite of this I went on to become an actor and playwright.'

It was years later and a move to south London that brought Mark's attention to the regeneration project for Shakespeare's Globe, which opened in 1997 under the artistic direction of Mark Rylance.

'Across Southwark Bridge, an American, Sam Wanamaker, had set up shop in an old tea warehouse,' he said. 'I wandered into that warehouse one day and spent the next decade learning about plays and playgoing in Shakespeare's London.'



'Reading, workshopping and lecturing day after day, I got a better handle on the works of Shakespeare and his contemporaries than that knuckle-rapping fool of a teacher could ever have dreamed.'

This sort of experience draws greater attention to the merits of text and performance as educational vehicles.

Since Shakespeare wrote to entertain rather than simply to educate, it seems fair to say that newcomers to Shakespeare should expect to be entertained for the full impact of his plays to be realised.

History and rediscovery

Another reason why Shakespeare's legacy has continued to prosper is the number of new discoveries that keep rising to the surface.

By astonishing coincidence, a new First Folio was authenticated in the Scottish Isle of Bute just two weeks ahead of the big anniversary, prompting a new round of speculation as to how many more Folios exist and where they might be hiding.

More remarkable still, however, was the discovery in 2012 of the remains of King Richard III in Leicester. The find has brought renewed scrutiny to

Shakespeare's eponymous play and the role that dramatists have played in shaping our view of this divisive figure in British history.

The character of Richard was one that evolved throughout the Tudor period until Shakespeare took it up from a leading historian of the age, Raphael Holinshed, to make it his own.

'Shakespeare built up the character gradually through the *Henry VI* trilogy, culminating in *Richard III*,' says Sarah Knight, Professor of Renaissance Literature at the University of Leicester.

'But it had already appeared on the Elizabethan stage in a 1579 Latin play, *Richardus Tertius*, written by the Cambridge scholar Thomas Legge, and in the anonymous *True Tragedie of Richard III* (1594).'

Shakespeare's Richard presents with clear physical impairments. He regards himself as 'deformed', 'unfinished', and 'scarce half made up'. This is despite the likelihood that the king masked the symptoms of his scoliosis during his lifetime.

'The stunning discovery of Richard III's remains has given us material evidence about his physique and the manner of his death at Bosworth in 1485,' says Dr Mary Ann Lund, Lecturer in Renaissance Literature at the University of Leicester.

'With the wealth of new knowledge we now have, we must reinterpret how and why Shakespeare portrayed Richard in the way he did. Why, for example, did he emphasise that he had a withered



*No profit grows where is no pleasure ta'en:
In brief, sir, study what you most affect.*

Taming of the Shrew, I.1.39-40

arm, a feature for which there's no evidence, and even give him a limp?'

The discovery offers a strong reminder of how Renaissance drama, enthralling and entertaining as it is, can walk a dangerous line between fact and fiction. 'These plays all show how history and drama vividly overlapped during the Renaissance,' adds Professor Knight. 'It's a moment when historians used literary techniques to animate their writing and playwrights borrowed from historians.'

Remembering the Bard in London and Stratford

To mark the anniversary on 23 April, much of the commemorative activity took place in London, including the launch of 'Shakespeare: Metamorphosis', the University of London's first major exhibition. This has a certain propriety to it, since Shakespeare's theatrical career was predominantly based in the capital. Indeed, it was London that inspired many of his dynamic settings, says Dr Hannah Crawforth, Senior Lecturer in Shakespeare Studies at King's College London.

'The sights, sounds and smells of London underwrite every crowd scene, inform every jostling commercial interaction, inform the political dealings that occupy his plays, be they set in Rome, Verona, Elsinore or Athens,' she explains. 'The Capulets' mansion, into which Romeo steals to visit Juliet, is a replica of the grand houses Shakespeare saw on the early modern Strand.

'The disguise of the Bedlam beggar and the depictions of mental illness so unflinchingly staged in *Lear*, suggest the Bethlehem Hospital, famed tourist attraction in Shakespeare's London. *Hamlet's* world of witty repartee mirrors the rhetorical sparring of the Inns of Court students and the buzzing atmosphere around St Paul's Cathedral,' she adds. 'As we commemorate his death London has a right to claim Shakespeare as her own.'

But institutions in Stratford-upon-Avon have been equally keen to claim the picturesque Warwickshire town as the spiritual heart of Shakespearean commemoration. To Anjna Chouhan, Lecturer at the

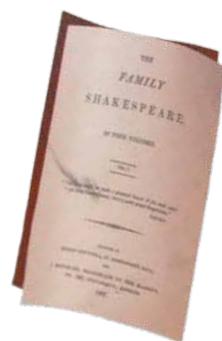
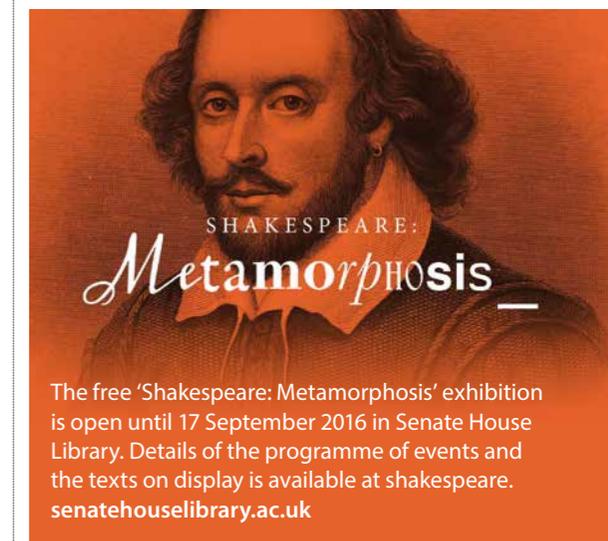
Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, no celebrations are quite like those held in his home town.

'The tradition of marking Shakespeare's birthday in Stratford began in the 18th century and continues to flourish,' she says. 'Ambassadors, thespians, tourists and enthusiasts from around the world descend on the town for the street parties, parades, theatres, gala concerts and Shakespeare properties to champion his life, works and legacy.'

To mark the anniversary, the Birthplace Trust is set to open a new site recreating Shakespeare's family home. 'New Place invites visitors to stand on the ground where Shakespeare chose to raise his family, tend to his personal and financial affairs and where he passed away in April 1616,' Dr Chouhan explains. 'The anniversary of his death seems the right time. The world can now enjoy the site of his actual family dwelling in the town that he loved and called home.'

With a thriving legacy on stage and page, in performance and adaptation, in discovering old relics and re-imagining new ones, the cultural value of Shakespeare shows little sign of drifting.

If anything, we're finding ourselves brought closer and closer to the illustrious Bard, and perhaps more enamoured with his memory than ever before.



*O, learn to read what silent love hath writ:
To hear with eyes belongs to love's fine wit.*

Sonnet 23

REPEATING THE PAST In Style

Anyone entering Senate House on the evening of 5 May would have been forgiven for thinking they'd inadvertently walked on to a film set. Stepping into the opulent, art-deco Crush Hall, visitors would have been greeted by a riot of colour: guests in 1920s-inspired clothes, blown up pages from 1920s editions of New York newspapers, posters, billboards, and more fascinators than you could shake a stick at.

Based on the model of immersive theatre – and focusing on F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel, *The Great Gatsby* – this was the first in a series of 'Living Literature' events produced by the School of Advanced Study, University of London, the brainchild of SAS's Chair in Public Understanding of the Humanities (and Fitzgerald expert), Professor Sarah Churchwell.

'It's something I've wanted to do for years, in one sense, while researching my book *Careless People*,' Professor Churchwell tells me. 'Then as *Gatsby* became back in vogue, and people started throwing Gatsby parties, I kept thinking how much fun it would be to do one 'right', that used all of the research I'd been doing for years about how Fitzgerald's world really looked, smelled, tasted, sounded, and felt. I thought it would be fun to try to get into the spirit of the novel, and of the era, in an historically accurate, scholarly, but not po-faced, way.'



Photos: © Sophie Falkner, University of London



researching my book, a recipe written in Scott Fitzgerald's hand for bathtub gin. I thought it would be an amazing experience to recreate it exactly and know what it really tasted like. Of course, we didn't make it as strong as Fitzgerald's recipe called for!

Guests including historians Simon Schama and Suzannah Lipscomb, journalist and author Lionel Shriver and academic Dr Hannah Dawson, were treated to pop-up talks on Scott Fitzgerald and prohibition, roaming experts offering insights into the novel's history and context, silent movie reels of New York in the 1920s, and sound recordings.

'The feedback has really been tremendous,' Churchwell notes. 'It genuinely has exceeded my highest hopes. Everyone seems to have really gotten into the spirit of it, and felt that they were encountering something new, and fresh, and fun. Simon Schama tweeted that our gin was 'brain-scalding,' which I thought was pretty terrific, we've had letters from students and the public saying how much they enjoyed it, and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society is talking about taking us on the road for their biennial conference in 2017.'

Following the roaring success of 'Living Gatsby', what next? 'In Spring 2017 we are planning to put on 'Living Proust'. There will definitely be more classic works of art coming to life at Senate House.'

By Dr Peter Quinn

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It genuinely has exceeded my highest hopes. Everyone seems to have really gotten into the spirit of it, and felt that they were encountering something new, and fresh, and fun.

The immersive effect included a live jazz trio plus perfumier Sarah McCartney who created a bespoke fragrance inspired by the novel. Drinking, of course, is one of the novel's important themes – so how was the 69.9 per cent proof 'bathtub gin', made especially for the occasion?

'The gin was amazing!' Churchwell says. 'That to me was the biggest surprise. I had found in the Fitzgerald archives at Princeton University, while

HITLER WANTED TO SIT AT MY DESK

It is an oft repeated story that Hitler wanted Senate House as his base of operations once Operation Sea Lion, the plan to invade and occupy Britain, was successful. Indeed, new staff members were told of this in their inductions when they joined the University.

With its imposing art-deco, Charles Holden designed, exterior towering above Bloomsbury it is not hard to imagine a banner hanging down the cold grey exterior of Senate House and goose stepping SS crossing the yard from Malet Street before taking the stairs to get to their desks near the library.

It all seems very plausible – except that it isn't true. Not in the slightest. Senate House isn't the only building to have been mooted as having had an interest taken in it by the Nazi regime. Du Cane Court in Balham, one of the largest apartment blocks in London, was also thought to be getting special treatment as the Germans wanted it as accommodation for their Officers.

It shares one thing in common with Senate House that probably fuelled this myth – the Luftwaffe didn't drop a bomb on either of them. Although it's hard not to think that the German fly boys gave it a good try as they hit Russell Square several times; the area opposite Stewart House, the British Museum, and Montague Place.

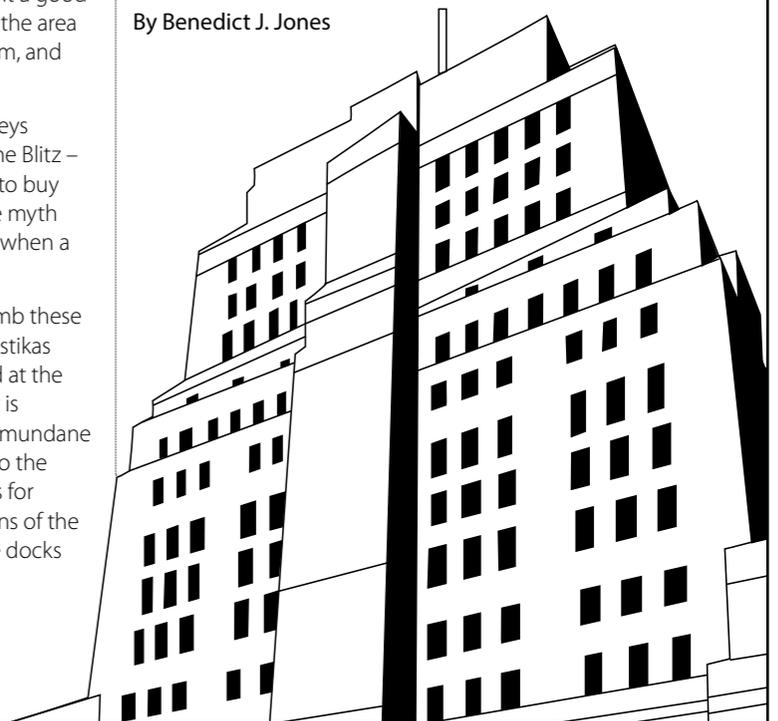
The same reasoning was applied to Whiteleys department store on Queensway during the Blitz – those SS Officers would need somewhere to buy their sweethearts nylons and fur coats. The myth about Whiteleys lasted until October 1940 when a bomb landed on the store.

How would the Luftwaffe know not to bomb these buildings? Well, they're in the shape of swastikas aren't they? This was another urban legend at the time of the Blitz and yet another myth that is incorrect as any aerial map shows. A more mundane reason may be that they were very useful to the German air force as navigational landmarks for bombing other parts of London – road signs of the sky that directed the bombers towards the docks and factories that were their real targets.

The real question we should ask ourselves is why an apocryphal story from 70 years ago still lives on today – even the Senate House website refers to it as an 'unwelcome urban legend'. Could it be that during the firestorm of 1940 any major building or landmark that escaped the bombers attention was deemed suspect in the eyes of the public and remains so until today? That if a building did not take the same beating as its fellows – St Paul's, Buckingham Palace, The British Museum, a plethora of churches and other landmarks – then it is somehow marked out as different?

In the end, all the research points to a different location that the Fuhrer had his eye on. It was the birthplace of Churchill himself, Blenheim Palace that was earmarked to be the head-quarters for the occupation of Britain. But as the invasion never came we will never really know exactly where would have been chosen.

By Benedict J. Jones





A FAMILY AFFAIR

By Lisa Pierre

Our alumni are often our best marketers. Having been through the programme themselves we hope that they will go on to sell the dream to someone else in the future. That word of mouth selling point has proven very successful over the years. It is the best type of story; I met a guy on the plane and he told me about his degree. I had a grandfather who did the degree. I read a story about one of your Nobel Prize winners. The list goes on.

In the case of Yvonne Stanberry, she didn't even have to leave her house to hear about the degree. In 2008 Cleveland Stanberry enrolled on our BSc Business Administration programme. Once he'd finished, he went straight onto our MBA in 2012. It was whilst studying for his BSc he suggested to his wife Yvonne that maybe she too could study something.

Yvonne had previously worked at Canada's largest wireless cellular phone and cable service provider in the cellular antenna development group. In 2003, with twin daughters aged one and a five-year-old son, she made the decision to stay home and take care of her children. Within a week of this decision one of her daughters was hospitalized with a life-threatening disease, Severe Acute Aplastic Anaemia. Over the

next 13 years, Yvonne would find herself in and out of hospital looking after her daughter. Presently, her daughter is down to three hospital appointments a year and continues to make great progress.

A flexible life change

It was during that time of recovery that husband Cleveland suggested that since Yvonne spent less time at the hospital that she should add to her qualifications. He suggested the University of London and their distance learning programmes. This would allow Yvonne to fit her study around her life, and the flexibility meant she could do less if life situations changed.

'I reviewed the prospectus and selected the BSc in Sociology degree,' recalls Yvonne. So there they were; both studying for University of London Degrees. 'We studied with the University of London International programmes because it gave us flexibility to study from any place at any time.'

Cleveland wanted to get into business hence deciding to an MBA, and Yvonne went with Sociology due to the volunteer work that she does with children. She thought the degree would allow her to better understand the environments that shape them.

Disciplined study

Since Cleveland's job as an IT engineer required a lot of travel, studying called for discipline, schedules, and for everyone in the family to offer a helping hand – even the little hands got involved.

'Working and studying needs balance. Cleveland works full-time and travels frequently, so he studied mainly at weekends. I studied Monday to Thursday, from 6am to 7am, and then spent the next two hours getting the children to school. 9am to 3pm was further study time. Our children helped us tremendously. Our son helped with snow cleaning and lawn maintenance, while all three of them made us delectable desserts at the weekends to give me a break from cooking duties. Studying together was helpful for both of us.'

With all the family pulling together, Cleveland finished both his degrees in seven years and Yvonne finished hers in six years. As luck would have it, this allowed them to graduate together in March 2016. How perfect that the whole family came over from Canada for the ceremony. Each of their sacrifices and hard work, ended in success.

So what now for the Class of 2015 couple? Both have been serving as volunteer teachers for over 10 years, Yvonne in the elementary reading programme, and Cleveland in the financial literacy programme. "We do it because the need exists and we can provide the help needed". Yvonne sees herself doing more volunteering within her local community, and hopefully when her daughter passes another health milestone will get herself back into the corporate world. With more time on her hands, she can enjoy some 'me time' doing puzzles, reading and baking. Cleveland has been inspired by his thesis and has just had a paper based on it published. The paper entitled *The Use of Cloud Computing by Small Service Business in Canada: An Exploratory Study*

was co-authored by Prof. Harindranath, a Senior Lecturer in Information Systems in the School of Management, Royal Holloway, University of London. He will continue to do further research on how enterprises use cloud computing and its advantages when aligned with business strategies. If he has any down time he can be found listening to smooth jazz, or better still, playing it on his piano or drum kit at home.

It is sheer joy to hear about how much people enjoy the programmes, but an even greater feeling to see it change lives or provide new opportunities. Yvonne sums up their experience as the following: 'The University of London International Programmes has given us so much knowledge to share and is a key that has already opened doors that were previously closed. I graduated with Honours and can now do a master's degree at any university in the world. Cleveland's Merit MBA allowed him to get published, and is a stepping stone to considering a PhD in the future at any university.'

Family ties

With this part of their lives completed will this be the end of their relationship with the University of London? I doubt it very much! 'We are delighted with our University of London International Programmes experience and are dedicated to attending the alumni events. We think that we should share actively in community and to play our role in strengthening it.'

As their lifecycle transfers from student to alumni, another Stanberry has decided that that famous 'word of mouth' is worth listening too. Their son Clive-Anthony enrolled last year to study **BSc Mathematics and Economics** with the University of London International Programmes. Cleveland comments 'a quote we privately share among the family is "use knowledge gained anywhere... everywhere." I hope there is enough wall space for all the University of London degrees to have pride of place.'

I recall meeting Cleveland and Yvonne Stanberry some years back at an alumni event in Canada. They truly were very nice, lovely and fun people and it has been my good fortune to watch their academic journey unfold. Seeing all the family smile and pose at the graduation was a truly memorable moment. I always hope that alumni will have a fascinating story for me to share. I think I struck gold with the Stanberrys!

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The University of London International Programmes has given us so much knowledge to share and is a key that has already opened doors that were previously closed.

Should basic economic principles determine world order?

Professor Danny Quah asks if the days of a world order led by a single nation state are now over.

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Asking what world order best serves all humanity – that provides the most compelling motivation for, and the best guide to, reshaping world order.

Put simply, a world order measures two things: the distribution of power across individual nation states and the relationships between those states. In a specific world order, each nation state must understand its status in the world and learn to deal with other nation states that matter to it.

World order also defines the choices available to nation states and sets the rules of the game. These understandings and arrangements help to determine expectations and set patterns of global priority and regional authority.

Among the principal outcomes of a world order are global governance and implicated issues such as security agreements. How does a group of nation states prepare themselves against extremism and terror, for example? Who determines when conflict calls for international action?

Supply and Demand

Conventional narratives concerning world order tend to ask which nation occupies the number one position. They ask how rising challengers would manage a peaceful transition, and how small states with less power should respond to specific international proposals.

In other words, they focus on the supply of world order. They ask who can provide it and what form it will take. Under these terms, a global power shift represents a switch between providers when a nation becomes better equipped to supply world order than the existing one.

But what of the demand for world order? What do the seven billion people on earth want from it? Which nation states benefit most from being able to dictate the rules of the game? Which states are disadvantaged?

The reason for asking this set of questions is not idle curiosity. From economics we know that, under appropriate conditions, when demand meets supply, the result is efficient – i.e. it provides the greatest good to all at minimum cost.

Could this approach provide a different way for us to consider world order? If we draw on insights provided from economics, we could then ask the question: what feasible world order most efficiently serves the collective needs of all humanity?

What, we might ask, is a rational world order?

The Merits of East and West

For critics of the current world order, the supply-side alone provides enough powerful reasons for seeking a different system.

In the last 35 years, the world's economic centre of gravity has shifted eastwards by 5,000km – away from the transatlantic axis between Washington DC and Western Europe, and closer to Asia. Some reasons for this are as follows:

- **EMERGING ECONOMIES** now have combined GDP (at market exchange rates) at 95% of the G7.
- **EXPORTS:** for countries such as Germany, exports to developing Asia have grown to more than one-and-a-half times those to the US.

- **CHINA:** despite weaker 7% growth in 2015, it still generated US\$790bn of GDP growth (at inflation-adjusted market exchange rates) – almost three times what it did ten years ago.
- **JOBS:** at average productivity trends, China's labour market generates 53 million new jobs.

Such observations suggest that the capacity for world power is no longer the sole preserve of the developed West.

At the same time, it is certainly legitimate to claim that the West remains the repository of soft power. US military power, US information technology, and the West's history of science Nobel Prizes still remain unchallenged.

There is an interesting debate to conduct on these measurements and counter-measurements. But it is by combining demand and supply – asking what world order best serves all humanity – that provides the most compelling motivation for, and the best guide to, reshaping world order.

Obviously, such a view will not sit easily with those nation states that gain clear advantages from a current or incipient world order. It certainly does not explain the existing one. But it is a compelling framework for observers who wish to stand apart and argue dispassionately for change.

Why America warranted 20th century dominance

The current world order has worked well in the past. During the latter part of the 20th century, the US was an undisputed world leader, harnessing liberal

democracy and free market economics to great success. Over the course of what became known as 'the American Century', the US crafted a world order that was transparent, inclusive, democratic, and rules-based.

Charles Kindleberger, the great economic historian, reckoned that having a global leader such as the US helped to secure economic prosperity for all the world. The stability and leadership it provided opened the space for policy coordination across nation states. This idea became known as hegemonic stability theory, and helped to explain the need for a unipolar world order.

For its adherents, the power of this conceit is shown when the US has asserted its dominance, and also when it has not. Following the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, the US seemed to retreat from world leadership, and the global economy saw stagnation when there should have been recovery.

Why should just one nation dictate world order?

According to the supply-side narrative, the US remains the nation state with the most powerful military, the most compelling soft-power discourse, and the largest economy – still twice the size of the next-largest. No other nation shows anything remotely close to the powers that America has held for the last 50 years.

But the demand-side narrative demands that we ask: is the US still the most suitable global hegemon? Two critical observations arise.

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Only an accident of history provides the idea that one nation state must rule on every single front.

First, when the US began its stewardship at the head of the world order, it was more mindful of how it would serve the needs of the world. The American people sought to share their Constitution as well as the products and skills of their nation. Advocates like Henry Luce saw the best features of a US-style governance extended towards a complete world order.

In current narratives, however, these sentiments have ceded to one which says that the US should dictate the rules of the game simply because it remains the world's most powerful nation.

Second, why should only one nation-state be the service provider? Why not specialise by sector? Perhaps the US can be military and security officer, China can design the global architecture for transport and energy, Singapore and the UK can provide the financial engineering framework, select small states could design systems of global public housing, and so on?

Only an accident of history provides the idea that one nation state must rule on every single front. Why would we ordinarily think that the parts of our society best at combative defence should also be

most suitable for the design of new technologies, for example, or cybersecurity to safeguard our internet infrastructure?

What else might work?

To be clear: the demand and supply language here simply provides a metaphor, not a paradigm to be taken literally. A rational world order needs to focus on providing global public goods. Economic theory would suggest an optimisation programme that internalises the spill-overs and externalities of production. In reality, this is curtailed by the primacy of self-seeking action. The complexities of world order make the impact of this optimisation subtle, but it is worth considering.

Asking nation states to provide frameworks in a globally coherent way would not undermine the private marketplace. The scheme I envisage, which would deal only with global public goods (i.e. whatever private enterprise has no incentive to provide), would still be driven by private businesses. There would be no new encroachment on individual liberties or national sovereignties.

Conclusion

The historical trajectory that has formed our current view of world order has produced many positive, beneficial outcomes. But if we were to question seriously whether our world order is still fit for purpose, we need to add more rational design principles into the architecture.

Above, I have described in broad terms how simple economic principles can help. Such a design would mean we rely less on simple measurements such as who has the best guns or the most robust economy, and could provide a fresh perspective on what modern world order might work best for the world.



Take your next steps by studying again

Graduates of the University of London International Programmes (UOLIP) can enrol on further UOLIP degree courses, with a fee bursary of 10 percent off fees.

The bursary will be awarded for a full Bachelor's or Master's course

Applying

In order to receive this bursary, you must have completed a Bachelor's or Master's UOLIP degree and be classified by UOLIP as a graduate.

No additional proof should be required, since we will already have a record of you having successfully completed a degree with us.

Find out more at:
londoninternational.ac.uk/alumni-bursary

Welcome to the World Class

ALUMNI BURSARY

ROALD DAHL 100

September will mark 100 years since the birth of one of the most beloved authors of the 20th Century; Roald Dahl, a man responsible for instilling a life-long passion for reading in millions of children.

But what was it about his writing that achieved such remarkable popularity? And how can his classic story *Matilda* inspire you as a distance learner? His stories, such as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach* and *The Witches*, are known to adults and children all over the world. From his first published work in 1943 Roald Dahl would go on to sell over 200 million copies of his books. They have seen phenomenal success as stage and screen adaptations, with a Stephen Spielberg-directed blockbuster version of *The BFG* released this summer shortly before Dahl's centenary.

Ordinary to absurd

So what is it about Roald Dahl's storytelling that still resonates today? We see similar themes emerge in his tales; he does not shy away from the grotesque and they are permeated with a dark sense of humour. He was

an adult writer of vast imagination. While so many of us lose touch with the fantastical world we lived in as children when we 'grow up', Roald Dahl did not. He was able to create the absurd out of the ordinary and had an innate understanding of what children find funny. It is almost impossible to think of the works of Roald Dahl without remembering the iconic illustrations created to accompany them by Sir Quentin Blake, who you may not know was a University of London alumnus! Their partnership began in 1975 and lasted until Dahl's death in 1990. He has illustrated over 300 books so far in his career, 18 of which were written by Roald Dahl. Blake seemed the perfect choice as illustrative partner to Dahl because of his quirky style, simultaneously simplistic and sophisticated, which appeals to both children and adults. His illustrations perfectly encapsulated Dahl's own amazingly absurd characters and whimsical stories.

Illustrations: © Quentin Blake 2016



Heroes and villains

Nearly all of Roald Dahl's stories feature a child protagonist pitted against adult villains. He is able to tap into a childhood misunderstanding of the adult world, and the sense of fear this can cause. In *The Witches*, the titular creatures have such an all-consuming loathing for children that they concoct a plan to wipe out every child in England! Luckily for both the protagonist (as well as our reputations, adults!) Dahl does balance these villains with adult heroes; in this case the witch hunting Grandmother. The ensuing vengeance wrought upon the witches is all the more enjoyable to the reader, young and old alike, because we know how much they deserve it.



Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.

He spoke often of his ambition to make reading enjoyable and accessible from a young age, "Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage." We can clearly see this passion of Dahl's in one of his most popular novels, *Matilda*. This is the story of a very young girl who finds escapism from her cruel, neglectful and comically ignorant parents through reading. In the cult classic film adaptation, directed by and starring Danny DeVito, her parents scorn Matilda because she would rather read than slob out in front of the television with them. The books she discovers at her local library and the far-off lands they describe allow her to "[travel] all over the world while sitting in her little room in an English village."

Rediscover reading

As alumni of distance learning programmes you may feel a certain affinity with Matilda. Her intellect is all the more impressive because she gains it through self-study, and it is through this that a world of understanding opens up to her. Matilda excels because she enjoys the learning experience and hopefully many of you felt the same way. The comparisons with Matilda only go so far and – to be clear – we are not making any bold claims that a University of London degree will allow you to develop telekinesis! It can open doors to employment worldwide, however, which is most definitely a rather wonderful feat in itself.

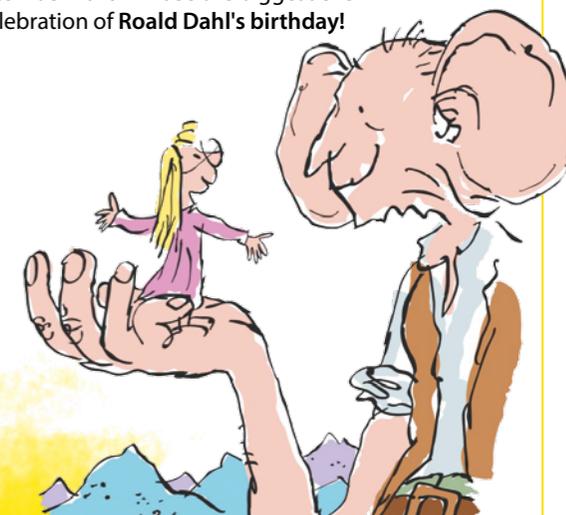
I will leave you with this ditty, sung by the Oompa-Loompas in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*; which in a world full of tablets, smartphones and TV on demand, we may have even more need to reflect on than when originally written:

*"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray
Go throw your TV set away
And in its place you can install
A lovely bookshelf on the wall..."*

Perhaps we should all try to take a leaf out of Matilda's book and rediscover the possibilities for enjoyment and development reading can bring us.

By Liam Kelly

13th September 2016 will see the biggest ever global celebration of Roald Dahl's birthday!



LEGAL EAGLE

Lisa Pierre interviews current LLM student Marc Ohrendorf, a passionate mediator, mentor, world traveler, and suit enthusiast.

What attracted you to studying law?

My mum said it's a solid job and I liked the idea of wearing suits. Well ok, I think it was more the fact that I always liked solving conflicts and the exchange of arguments. Therefore, I was pretty happy when my high school offered 'Legal Basics' as a subject. It gave me the chance to test my assumptions of fairness and right/wrong against the real world laws for the first time. After these initial impressions of the law and a lawyer's work, I decided that it's a good idea to steer into this direction.

You say you 'got hooked on alternative dispute resolution (ADR).' Did this steer your career path?

Definitely. I believe my first contact with ADR was during my participation in the Willem C. Vis Moot Court, following which I developed a huge interest in this field (ok, I admit it, also a tiny bit because the promise of wearing suits came through). This led to me participating in various negotiation and mediation competitions, first as a team member and later as a coach. A couple of years ago I co-founded an international boot camp for the Vis moot court, called Moot Clinic. It has been extremely satisfying to encourage young law students to get in touch with ADR themselves.

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Tackle new processes openly and start with the premise that they exist for a reason – often they might seem overly complicated in the beginning but turn out to be a well-established best practice.

You must be a good mediator as you were awarded '1st Prize Mediation' at the first Consensual Dispute Resolution Competition 2015 in Vienna co-hosted by the International Bar Association. What skills do you think someone needs to be a good mediator?

Aside from a solid educational foundation and practical experience, I believe the main skills a business mediator has to combine are analytical thinking, emotional intelligence, a strong cultural understanding and effective communication skills. A good business mediator should also bring a deep understanding of the economic challenges and

corporate cultures of the parties to the table. Finally, he or she should continuously reflect on the current status of the proceedings and simultaneously adopt his or her mediation style thereto. Only then can the mediator lead the dispute resolution process where needed, but more importantly, assist the parties in settling their disputes in a personally and economically sustainable way.

You currently have two jobs, both tackling a lack in negotiation capacities. Tell us about your roles.

I am a co-founder and director of preptime. Preptime tackles the lack in negotiation capacities many students and young professionals face due to conservative educational backgrounds. Our customers are universities aiming to enrich their curriculum and companies that want to offer their younger employees an easy onboarding process into the business world. Furthermore, companies and law firms like to offer our negotiation workshops as part of their recruiting events. The students and job starters value this skillset not only on the job, but also during the hiring process. For example, we observe that many young professionals – without negotiation education – do not structure their negotiations well enough and open their interview with a potential option ('in case the framework conditions are right'). The problem with this is that they often do not have enough information themselves and give away all their negotiation power – it would be like saying 'We'll eventually go home together' at the beginning of a date.

Furthermore, I am a Negotiation Advisor with PFROMM NEGOTIATIONS, a boutique firm that advises and works with leading international companies and law firms to achieve better negotiation outcomes and strengthen their teams' negotiation capacities. Negotiations on a professional level are becoming increasingly complex leading to suboptimal results, more management-time spent, and in case of disputes, even higher costs. Our clients value our skills development workshops and consulting services. Besides my involvement in these workshops, I innovate new coaching formats such as our recently implemented face-to-face video analysis. It allows our customers to see their actions and their opponent's counteractions directly next to each other, which is very helpful in their debriefs and refreshment sessions.

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They should not only rely on traditional values like hard work and diligence, but also open up to the concept of lifelong learning

Would you say that your skill set crosses over for the different roles? How do you balance having two jobs?

Even though the challenges of young professionals differ from those of seasoned lawyers and executives, I feel that some of the skills needed overlap. For example, analytical thinking, being able to truly listen, dealing with a lot of information in little time and creativity are always helpful when advising in these environments. I also like the challenge that everyone's negotiation environment is different from one another's and therefore needs a custom-fit solution.

Working with so many new graduates what do you see is a common theme as they enter the world of work?

I think many graduates seek the balance between traditional methods and innovative improvements that can lead to a more effective and efficient work results. This self-optimization process might cause a lot of stress and distract from getting the really important tasks done. Tackle new processes openly and start with the premise that they exist for a reason – often they might seem overly complicated in the beginning but turn out to be a well-established best practice.

On the other hand, I believe that new law graduates also face challenges on more layers than previous generations. Their work environments are faster, more complex and increasingly international. Therefore, they should not only rely on traditional values like hard work and diligence, but also open up to the concept of lifelong learning. This holds especially true in many sectors that do not belong to

the traditional legal education – such as developing your own business case. For example, I think it will be very interesting to see what impact industry-specific mobile apps, which are often not as practical as they could be, will have on the legal sector.

With such a busy professional life, what attracted you to study the LLM with the University of London International Programmes?

I am travelling a lot in my job and could not continuously stay in one place for my LLM, which is why the LLM with the University of London International Programme was a great match. Another reason was the reputation of the programme and the variety of subjects, especially in the field of ADR and its surrounding topics. This allows for an LLM that fits my personal profile and legal interests better than at other universities with a curriculum set in stone. Furthermore, coming from a civil law background, I liked the idea of learning more about the common law system.

How do you find the time to fit it into your life?

It's all about making a plan and sticking to it. The good part is however, that with the flexibility of the distance studying at UoL, this plan can easily be adapted to the challenges of your professional and private life – if need be.

In your free time you like to travel. What have been some of your travel highlights so far?

Because of my family background I have a strong connection with Italy and I enjoy the beautiful landscape and way of living in Tuscany. On the other hand, I cherish Scandinavia and its gorgeous countryside. Recently I have been to India with some good friends. The nature and diversity made it an outstanding trip. Generally, I am very fascinated by Asia and would like to learn more about South Korea. Another place that I would love to visit one day is Madagascar.



Left to right: Marc in front of the Taj Mahal in Agra, India; Marc in New York City; Marc on a flight to Vienna.

imagination⁵

PHOTO COMPETITION

Calling all aspiring photographers...

The University of London is running its fifth photo competition, *imagination5*. Following on from the success of our past competitions, we're back, bigger and better for 2016. Are you a University of London International Programmes student or alumni? If so, we'd like you to get involved!

This year we're asking you to join the World Class, and show us your corner of the globe. Your photo can feature people, places or things – shots that celebrate the beauty and diversity of our planet.



The competition will run from **5 September – 28 October 2016**.

Full details, with more on how to enter and the official rules and guidelines will be available on our website soon.

londoninternational.ac.uk/imagination5

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Matters 'in' and 'of' the mind

Mental imbalance is often dealt with 'in the dark'. Less stigma is attached to conditions such as diabetes or cancer than to mental illness, and there is a stark 'modification of the truth' when it comes to issues of the brain.

This may be due to the fact that mental imbalance not only poses a threat to one's physical well-being but also to society.

The gravity of its impact depends on the following factors, which can vary from person to person:

- The severity of the imbalance;
- How permanent it is in 'acute' form;
- The responsiveness of the individual towards treatment;
- How the individual grapples with the imbalance.

The emotional weight – of hoping that you will not see someone familiar outside the psychiatrist's room; of having to simplify the problem so you and accompanying family members do not become subjects of gossip; of having to pay frequent visits to the psychiatrist and risk being noticed by others – all of this adds to the uneasiness in the brain.

In early 2009, I had a brief episode of psychosis followed by clinical depression. According to the symptoms I had at that time, I was diagnosed with Schizoaffective Disorder.

“”

The psychiatrist who made the initial diagnosis told me to lead a normal life, irrespective of this disorder. Those words of wisdom ring in my mind even today, a few years down the line.

Today, I am proud to say that I have fully recovered. I still take a dose of treatment and visit the psychiatrist bi-annually as a precautionary measure, as there could be room for relapse if I discontinue the treatment and check-ups altogether.

My journey...

I consider myself lucky enough to be able to remember what actually took place in my mind at that time, and also to be able to relate to others with similar journeys. I use the word, 'journey' because 'mental imbalance' has its ups and downs. 'Schizoaffective' is comprised of two terms. One, 'Schizo', suggests symptoms of Schizophrenia but not the condition itself, which **could** be brought on by an episode of psychosis. The other, 'Affect', relates to mood. Psychosis encompasses the symptoms of Schizophrenia and thus influences how one thinks and feels, thereby altering the mood.

The psychiatrist who made the initial diagnosis told me to lead a normal life, irrespective of this disorder. Those words of wisdom ring in my mind even today, a few years down the line. It is not a life-altering 'imbalance', provided you obey the rules – the 'golden one' being to continue medication even after remission and visit the psychiatrist regularly. I have not needed psychotherapy per se; I have found self-induced therapy through introspection.

According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, psychosis is a condition that impairs thought so that contact with external reality gets lost. My personal experience was that I hadn't totally crossed the line – I was bordering. My mind was like a television set, with the channels being changed by a remote at a riveting pace. A sense of 'divine' intervention felt real at given moments of elevated mood. In clinical terms it is called a 'delusion'.

I could see numbers and colours of all sorts in my mind, flashing back and forth. Through this belief of divine intervention I would try to make connections between those thoughts and insights. I could not sleep at night and had severe insomnia in this

intense state of 'madness'. I experienced hallucinations pertaining to all five senses.

Becoming aware of what goes on in my mind, trying to decipher it, and learning to cope with the 'reality vs. unreality' dialogue was very much part of my recovery.

The clinical depression I experienced was characterized by apathy and an inability to focus/ concentrate. It took me around a year to come out of depression, even with consistent medication. I was treated initially for psychosis and later for both conditions, as depression followed after I commenced treatment for psychosis.

...to positive growth

When I look back, I remember vividly the emotional struggle I went through during this difficulty and after the diagnosis. It is one that has undoubtedly led to personal growth in a positive sense. Even today, despite the advances in western medicine, there exists a stigma associated with any mental disorder. This is perhaps due to the scarcity of the 'right' kind of education, which invariably results in those people leading an unproductive life and being a burden to their families.

The support of loved ones can be deciphered properly only when one is in remission. When one is totally imbalanced, support is viewed in the negative sense due to loss of touch with reality. The resulting thought is: 'they have conspired to kill/poison me'.

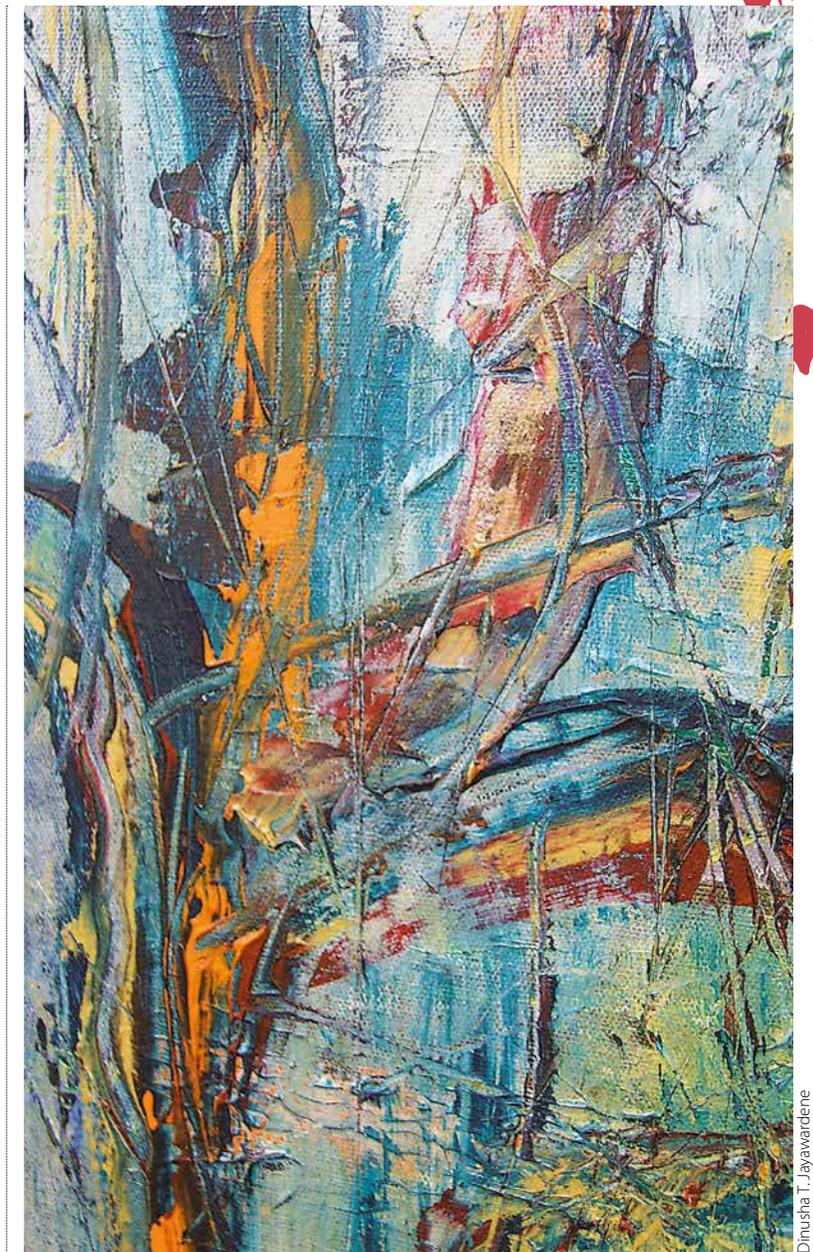
Now that I am asymptomatic, I can accurately interpret the reinforcement given to me by my family. This reassurance has given me the will to empower myself and not be overpowered by the 'imbalance' that I went through.

It is this affection and care that plays a major role in generating the enthusiasm to stay recovered, propelling me to remain on medication and visit the psychiatrist bi-annually. This is therapy in itself.

There is no better way to come out of the closet than to write about one's own experience. It serves two purposes. First, it enables the victim to self-analyse and to gain confidence in himself/herself, thereby getting a kind of therapeutic relief. Second, it helps in trying to lift the stigmatic veil surrounding this subject. Therefore, I have chosen to 'come out'.

Victims who remain silent metaphorically act as 'steers' in perpetuating the socially cultivated unwholesome attitude towards this subject. It is your duty to enlighten those around you, as it is mine.

Dinusha T. Jayawardene is a Sri Lankan LLB (Hons) graduate, an Attorney-at-law, and an Artist.



The Banyan Tree

FAST FACTS:

- Around 20% of the world's children and adolescents have mental disorders or problems.
- Stigma and discrimination against patients and families prevent people from seeking mental health care.
- Human rights violations of people with mental and psychosocial disability are routinely reported in most countries.
- Depression is a common mental disorder. Globally, an estimated 350million people of all ages suffer from depression.

Facts: WHO International

EVENTS

#UOLWorldClass pictures from around the world



GERMANY 01.16

On Saturday 30 January in Berlin, Students and Alumni gathered for a fun night at Qiu bar, Mandala Hotel. Not wanting to leave indicates a good time was had by all at the first event of 2016!



On Friday 19 February current students and alumni met at the Lodhi Hotel in Delhi. This was followed by another event on Sunday 21 February, where students and alumni met at the beautiful and historic Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai.

INDIA 02.16



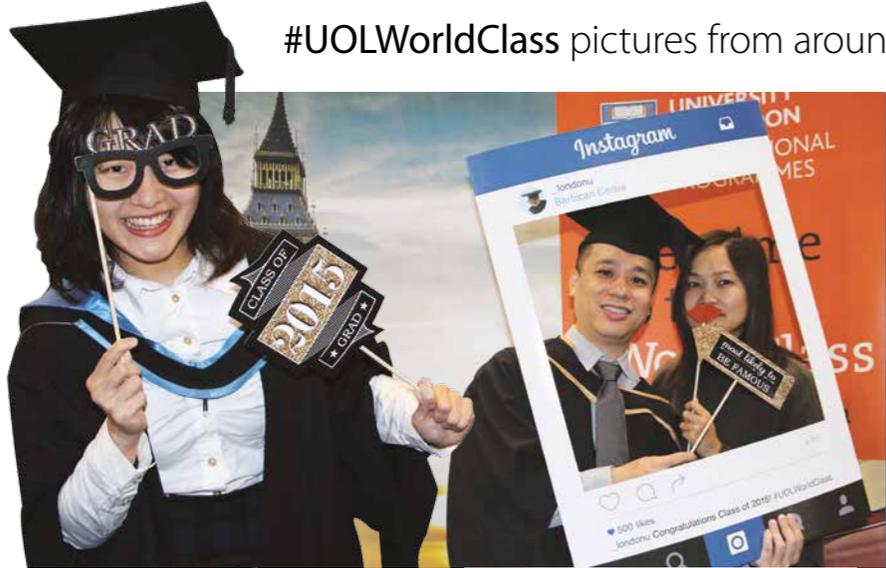
SRI LANKA 02.16

On Saturday 27 February, Sri Lankan alumni met for another successful event in Colombo at Flamingo House, a venue with a tale of love.



EVENTS

#UOLWorldClass pictures from around the world



LONDON GRADUATION 03.16



On Tuesday 8 March we welcomed hundreds of new graduates into the Alumni Association at the London Graduation, at the Barbican. Congratulations to the Class of 2015! Thank you to all of you who came to visit us at the alumni stand. Welcome to the World Class.



On Friday 1 July, with a beautiful rainbow over the London skyline, students and alumni gathered for a spectacular event at Tower Bridge. This marked the end of an amazing year of meeting students and alumni, and was the final alumni event for 2016.

LONDON 07.16



On Friday 29 April the first ever alumni event was held in Pakistan at The Serena Hotel in Islamabad. With over 300 alumni and 100 guests in Islamabad it turned out to be the biggest alumni event ever held by the University of London International Programmes.

PAKISTAN 04.16





Me in Bangladesh
April 2015

To keep up with Bloomsbury's adventures and more, follow @_londonu on Instagram



