Happy New Year to all our alumni and friends, and welcome to the first e-bulletin of 2011, which brings you the latest alumni events, news, and updates from across the University.

Vice-Chancellor's New Year Message
The Vice-Chancellor has published a New Year message that can be accessed online, and which covers the implications of the Government's recent decisions on university funding for Cambridge.

As he points out, there is still much uncertainty about the detail of the changes which will only become clear over the coming months. In the meantime, if you wish to respond to the Vice-Chancellor's message, please email alumnicomment@admin.cam.ac.uk or write to The Old Schools, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TN.

CARO Events

Bregenz Opera Festival
Saturday 23 July & Sunday 24 July
Seasoned opera fans and newcomers alike will enjoy the opportunity to visit the beautiful alpine setting of the Bregenz Opera festival for the new run of 'André Chénier'.

According to Artistic Director David Pountney (St John's 1966), it seems as though André Chénier was composed especially for the amazing floating stage at Bregenz. ‘The opera presents a perfect mix of ingredients for the venue: a thrilling story and four strong characters, caught between the excesses of the Ancien Régime and the terror of the French Revolution.’

Alumni will also have the opportunity to see 'Achterbahn' (Miss Fortune) by British composer Judith Weir (King's 1973); the first in a series of newly commissioned operas to be performed at the Festival House.

CARO Notices

GU/CARO Committee - we need your help!
The Graduate Union and CARO are putting together a joint committee, providing a forum for social and professional networking amongst current graduate students and alumni.

We are looking for volunteers to sit on the committee and to help organise events. We would also be interested in hearing from alumni in a range of careers, who would be willing to give talks/attend networking events about their particular career path. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please email Anna Kay or phone 01223 760155.

Online services
We are currently developing our online services for alumni and are looking for volunteers to help us test them out over the coming months. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Chiara Ferrara.

CAMCard

Two additional Cambridge hotels offer alumni discount.
The University Arms Hotel and The Varsity Hotel now offer special rates to Cambridge alumni through the CAMCard
**Alumni Benefits**

**Special Priority Booking Offer for Glyndebourne Festival 2011**

Alumni are able to purchase tickets over a month before opening to the general public, for the Glyndebourne Festival Opera 2011.

For full details of the Festival, and information on all of Glyndebourne's other activities, visit [www.glyndebourne.com](http://www.glyndebourne.com).

**Coming up in Cambridge this New Year**

**Fitzwilliam Museum**

The collection of portraits by Renaissance printmaker Ottavio Leoni is only on display until the end of February, so if you can, make sure you pay a visit soon. While you're there, you can also see a new display of Italian Etchings, as well as the newly-reopened gallery of 19th-20th century British & European Art.

**ADC Theatre**

This February, the ADC Theatre brings you a selection of fantastic productions, guaranteed to amuse and entertain.

Michael Frayn's classic farce *Noises off*, billed the funniest farce ever written by the New York Post, will have you in stitches. *The Pin*, a stream-of-consciousness sketch show, is brought to you by Footlights Ben Ashenden, Alex Owen and Mark Fiddaman, and is a riotous explosion of comedic innovation.

Book your tickets online now.

**University News**

- Study reveals new possibility of reversing damage caused by MS
- Professor Sir Maurice Wilkes (1913 - 2010)
- New Year Honours for Cambridge Academics
- New Health Services Research Centre opens
- Rex Walford OBE BSc (Econ) BD MA MA PhD PGCE FRGS (1934 - 2011)
- Next Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences appointed
- EDSAC to be recreated

**Social Networking**

**Get news and event updates from CARO on facebook!**

Our fanpage is regularly updated with news and events from across the University and from our Alumni Groups. Through Facebook you can also comment on our news items, events and group notices!

**You can also...**

- Join the London Group
- Sign up to Cambridge Alumni living in Cambridge
- Cambridge in America also has its own fanpage on facebook!

**Follow us on Twitter**

Cambridge in America have now joined the world of Twitter! Follow them to get short updates from across North America.

**Check out our range of photos on Flickr**

**Video and Audio**

**Cambridge Ideas**

See the audio and video programme. The University Arms Hotel offers alumni rates of single occupancy from £105 and double occupancy from £115. The new Varsity Hotel offers alumni a rate of £145 for one of the hotel's Graduate Double Rooms (with complimentary upgrade when available).

To receive the discounts, contact the hotels directly and mention the CAMCard alumni discount at the time of booking.

Visit the CAMCard section of the alumni website to find out more about these hotels and other discounts offered to Cambridge alumni.
Quasars shine a light on the earliest stars
New research is bringing astronomers closer to unlocking the 'dark ages' of the cosmos.

Astronomers can now look back in time over almost all of the 13.7-billion-year history of the universe, from the present epoch to when the universe was still in its infancy, thanks to ever-more powerful telescopes that detect light reaching us from billions of light-years away.

Out of poverty
Cambridge researchers are contributing to projects in Bangladesh that aim to lift 1 million people out of poverty by 2015.

Alumni Groups
We are pleased to announce the newly formed Cambridge Alumni Association in Afghanistan, making the total number of Alumni Groups, 395. If you are interested in joining a Group please see our website.

News from Departments

Department of Engineering
9th Annual Lecture Series in Sustainable Development 2011
The Department's Centre for Sustainable Development hosts an Annual Lecture Series, where experts distinguished in the field of sustainable development, give a presentation on their subject. The lectures are held in Lecture Theatre 0 in the Department of Engineering, on Wednesday evenings, 5:30 for 6:00 p.m.

For further details please email Dr R. A. Fenner or phone 01223 765626.

Department of Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology
The CEB Alumni Speaker Series returns this year with two further talks on 28 January and 25 February at 5pm. If you would like to attend these free lectures, please register online.

Cambridge Judge Business School
Alumni Banking & Finance SIG: Dinner with guest Dr Alexander Dibelius, Goldman Sachs - 24 February
Cambridge alumni are invited to join Cambridge Judge Business School's alumni banking & finance special interest group at their annual dinner event at the Oxford & Cambridge Club.
Departmental newsletters
The following newsletters have recently been sent out:

Department of East Asian Studies
Department of Middle Eastern Studies

If you are a graduate of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and haven’t received the relevant newsletter, please get in touch.

The e-bulletin is prepared by the Cambridge Alumni Relations Office and is sent out to more than 96,000 alumni worldwide. If you are in touch with any Cambridge alumni who do not receive it, please encourage them to subscribe.

Do we have your most recent contact information? Update your details here.

If you do not wish to receive general e-communications (such as this monthly alumni e-bulletin or departmental emails) in future please reply to this message with 'Unsubscribe' in the subject field (include name, college and matriculation). Please note that this will still enable us to contact you on an individual basis.

If you have received this email in error, or if you do not wish to receive any further e-communications sent from or through the University’s Alumni Relations Office, please reply to this message with 'Unsubscribe all e-communications' in the subject field (include name, college and matriculation).

For further information on our privacy policy please see here.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch. We welcome your feedback and look forward to hearing your comments and views.

Cambridge Alumni Relations Office is not responsible for the content of external websites linked via the e-bulletin.