



Alumni E-News: Michaelmas 2025

Dear Ruby

In this edition of your Alumni E-News you will find triumph on and under the water, prestigious appointments for our fellows, and opportunities to get involved.

In particular I want to highlight three opportunities that you should consider:

1. The Mentoring Scheme: a new student led-initiative bringing together the CR and the Alumni Society which hopes to connect members in need of advice and guidance on careers matters with experienced alumni. Could you be a mentor?
2. The Huzaifah Foundation: established by alumnus Dr Mohammad Sakhawat Hussain DL in honour of his son, the Foundation is convening researchers and practitioners interested in interest-free banking and finance. Do you have some expertise to share?
3. Events: Reconnect with fellow alumni at the Annual London Dinner on 3 November and the Guest Night Dinner in College on 12 December. See you there?

If you have any questions, or want to submit an item for inclusion in the next E-News, just reach out.

Yours,

William, Development Officer



St Edmund's welcomes new members

66 new undergraduates and 389 new postgraduates, from over 75 countries, were formally admitted to St Edmund's College and the University this week. We wish them well in their studies and welcome them to our community.

[See the full photo gallery](#)

Triumph at 2025 World Rowing Championships

Alumnus Douwe de Graaf (m. 2024, and a Sports Bursary recipient), a member of the Men's Blue Boat 2025, played a key role in the victorious Cambridge Four at the World Rowing Championships held in Shanghai, China.

Racing as part of Great Britain's coxless four, de Graaf and his teammates clinched gold in a thrilling final, clocking a time of 5:48.48. After a fantastic week of racing, the crew edged out strong challenges from Romania and the Netherlands in Friday's final to claim the World Championship title, capping off an extraordinary year.

[Read more here](#)





"Educating children in crisis-affected regions is not just life-sustaining, but life saving"

Earlier this year alumnus Siddharth Pillai (2018) won the British Council's 2024 Study UK Alumni Awards for Social Action. Whilst posted to Afghanistan working as Global Education Programmes Advisor for Street Child, Sid was responsible for ensuring 60,000 out of school children were brought back into education.

The Study UK Alumni Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of international UK alumni worldwide. If you want to nominate yourself or a friend, **applications are open until 16th October.**

[Apply here](#)



Professor Murphy appointed American Geophysics Union (AGU) Fellow

This highly prestigious award recognises AGU members who have made exceptional contributions to Earth and space science through a breakthrough, discovery or innovation in their field. Fellows act as external experts, capable of advising government agencies and other organisations outside the sciences upon request.

Of the appointment, Professor Murphy said: "Collaborative interdisciplinary science is central to the objectives and activities of AGU, addressing crucial questions aimed at improving our understanding of our changing planet and ensuring a sustainable future. I have had the privilege to work with many talented colleagues across ocean sciences from around the world and I am deeply honoured to become an AGU Union Fellow."



Alumni invited to get involved with The Huzaifah Foundation

The Huzaifah Foundation, established by alumnus Dr Mohammad Sakhawat Hussain DL, is seeking contributors and volunteers to establish a community around interest-free banking and islamic finance.

The ultimate aim is to encourage young entrepreneurs to come together and establish Interest-Free Banks, fostering a new generation of financial institutions that would prioritize social responsibility and sustainability, and the first step in this process is to establish a newsletter for sharing information and encouraging discussion.

Alumni interested in this field are warmly encouraged to contact Dr Hussain directly at cranmsh@yahoo.co.uk, or reach out via the Development Office.

Scuba Diving at the USAT Liberty

Whilst travelling after graduation, alumnus Helen Martin (2025) is unexpectedly training for a scuba diving qualification. Training in the quiet fishing village of Tulamben, Bali, she completed her first dive at the USAT Liberty, a WWII shipwreck now "bloomed into life" with coral and tropical fish. "I cannot describe the incredible abundance of marine life. It is completely otherworldly – it is another world." With an Open Water Diver certification in hand, Helen is now set to explore dive sites across the Indo-Pacific, feeling "incredibly privileged to be a guest not just to local cultures, but to local wildlife as well."



We are always interested to hear what alumni are up to – let us know by emailing development@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk

Upcoming Events

Annual London Dinner

We are pleased to announce that the Alumni Society Annual London Dinner will take place on **Monday, 3 November** at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, Pall Mall, London.

The evening will begin with a drinks reception at 7:00 PM, followed by a three-course dinner with wine at 7:30 PM. Thanks to the generous support of your Alumni Society, tickets are available at the subsidised price of £85 per person.

[Register here](#)

Christmas Guest Night Dinner

Booking is now open for the first guest night dinner for alumni of the term on **Friday 12 December!**

Join us for formal in the dining hall and see the College decked out for Christmas.

Tickets are in short supply so make sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

[Register here](#)



Could you mentor a current student?

A new student-led initiative in collaboration with the alumni society is seeking alumni volunteers to offer mentoring and advice to current students, and recent graduates.

[Find out more here](#)

International Travel

The Master and Development Director will be in Boston and New York City between 7 and 14 December 2025, meeting members of the Cambridge in America Board, and connecting with St Edmund's alumni in both cities.

We will be circulating more information about their itinerary in the near future. If you are resident in Boston or NYC, have recently moved there, or will be in the area during December, [please update your details to let us know.](#)

The St Edmund's Alumni Society is now on LinkedIn! Join us there to see news from the College and to connect with fellow St Edmund's alumni.

Connect with us on LinkedIn!



Support St Edmund's: The Sports Bursary

St Edmund's College recognises how important sport is. The skills gained, resilience developed, the competitive edge honed, and the benefits to health – both physical and mental – are all essential to succeed in today's world.

The bursary provides money to students throughout the year to enter competitions and attend training camps as well as cover the extra costs involved with their sport.

Can you help?

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