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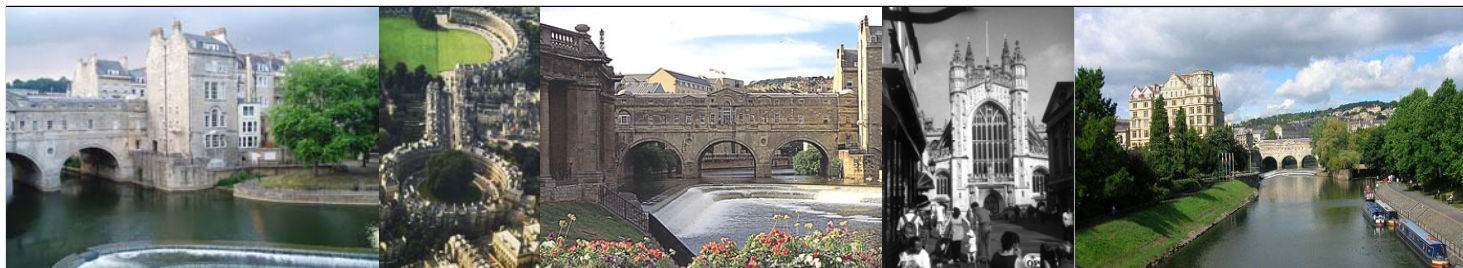
# ASE ALUMNI NEWS

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ADVANCED STUDIES IN ENGLAND

November 2014

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## A Message from the ASE Director, Jonathan Hope

Dearest Alums,

From a bright, chilly, Christmas-Market-opening, Thanksgiving-celebrating morning in Bath, warmest greetings – and WELCOME to this very special, highly entertaining and perhaps slightly too long 25th Anniversary Edition of the **ASE Alumni News!**

Oh, my goodness. What a year it has been for ASE – and for the **ASE Alumni Association** in particular!

My heartfelt thanks to every one of you who has contributed to the success of this, our Silver Jubilee year, whether by offering your help, support and encouragement, by attending an event (or more!), by posting words of support on Facebook, or simply by following us on Twitter. It has been hugely heartening to see our efforts met by such a wave of enthusiasm, energy and sheer good will!



Jonathan hits it off with his new Wellesley friend, Matelli's Sleepwalker, when they met on the recruitment trip back in February.

Looking back over the past 12 months, I am thrilled to recall just how many of you I have had the pleasure to reconnect with, or indeed to meet for the first time if you are one of the numerous alums who attended the Programme before Spring 1995, when I taught my first ASE seminar. (I confess it is a source of a little envy that even the OLDEST ASE alums among you are a year or two YOUNGER than me!)

There are many memories I will cherish from this past year with ASE. Attending the first ever class of ASE's new **Theatre Summer School**, for instance; or watching **Emily Henry**'s sublime performance at the 'British and American Icons' party. Then there was the evening I joined **Andy Venn** and gathered ASE alums (1990-2014) at a Bath pub to watch USA vs Belgium in the football World Cup; the Anniversary lunch at which I traded speeches with **Barbara White** and **Ann Nunes**, my two immediate predecessors as ASE Director; and those fabulous, nostalgic, intoxicating Anniversary parties I attended in **Boston, DC, and New York**, each with its unique reunions and stories. (I hear the **Philly** event was equally memorable – and Rob and I look forward to a belated bash in **Rochester** in February!). Then, of course, there was the unrepeatably 'Let's Dance' moment, featuring a **David Bowie sort-of-lookalike** and an **eighteenth century courtesan**...

You'll find all of these highlights and more described and/or pictured in this latest edition of your favourite Alumni communiqué, along with splendid articles by various friends and supporters, including **Chris Pelling**, **Siouxsie Easter** (né Grady), **Jack Ryan** and **David Woodworth**. I hope you enjoy reading and reminiscing as much as I have.

Here's to the next 25 years of Advanced Studies in England, and to more **ASE Alumni Association** fun, frolics and friendship in 2015!

Jonathan Hope  
Dean and Director

## LATIN: NOT JUST FOR THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS....

**Chris Pelling, Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford University and ASE's Academic Adviser, describes his involvement in a UK government initiative.**



I didn't expect to become a British national figure in 2014, but you never can tell....

Back in January Michael Gove, then the Cabinet Minister for Education, made a speech setting out his aspirations for state-funded schools – public schools, as Americans would call them, though (divided as ever by a common language) we mean almost exactly the opposite by that phrase. When you go into a school, he said, he wants it to be hard to tell whether it is a private or a state-funded school. One of his points was the announcement of a new collaborative initiative, 'led by Professor Christopher Pelling of Oxford University, to develop top-quality professional development for non-specialist teachers of Classics, as the subject booms in the state sector'.

It is good to be involved. I was a state-school boy myself, at Cardiff High School in the sixties. That was, and is, a very good school, though one could not claim even then that state schools were hard to discriminate from private ones: the playing fields did not roll majestically into the distance, the science labs had a certain period charm, and my first class at primary school numbered 47. But I am immensely grateful for what state education did for me.

It may be news to some that Classics is 'booming' in Britain's state sector, but it is true. In 2000 there were about 550 secondary schools offering Latin; the latest number we have is 1128, and there are now more state schools than private that offer Latin.

It's not hard to see why students and schools are voting with their feet for Classics, particularly Latin. It is not, on the whole, for the reasons that attracted people in my generation, the delight of getting the word-endings correctly to match up; it is more the fascination with the culture – often the culture they have seen on television, where we have been very lucky in our communicators, public figures like Mary Beard and Bettany Hughes. But that is not to play down the importance of language, and the learning of Latin is part, usually the central part, of the package that schools offer and students want to take.

There is plenty of evidence too, as it happens most of it drawn from the United States, to show how valuable the language-learning can be: trials, for instance, where a sample group studying Latin advanced their English reading-age by 36 months over a twelve-month period. Those studying German managed an 18-month advance. But for students now the language and the culture go together, and that is the way the best textbooks present their materials.

Yet this surge causes problems too. Students require teachers, and not enough specialist Classicist teachers are being trained. Time and again, it has been teachers of History, Modern Languages, English, or anything else that have got Latin off the ground in their schools. Their efforts have been marvellous, and they deserve all the support they can get.

That is where we can help. What we can do is provide a forum for sharing experience, with weekend or week-long summer residential courses in which those who have successfully introduced Latin can pass on their warnings and their tips. We are developing online resources as well, with talking-head contributions from leading experts. As I write, the first of these residential week-long courses is happening in Oxford, with twenty-one teachers of other subjects brushing up their Latin. They were faced, rather to their dismay, with an 'orientation test' on their first morning. Bring back memories, anyone, of your arrival at ASE?

It is an exciting prospect, and one where it's not any *contrast* between independent and state sectors that matters, but the *co-operation*. I already know of several cases where private and state schools share classes, or where teachers from one or other sector offer informal after-school lessons to anyone interested. This will be a further way in which we can work together. The beneficiaries should be those state school pupils who already feel something of that enthusiasm themselves, and want to know more; just as I did myself, some fifty years ago.

## Rediscovering Bath

**David Woodworth (Sp03), now a professor of History at Christopher Newport University, describes a summertime return to Bath in changed circumstances**



2003

This past summer I returned to Bath after eleven years away. I spent a semester in Bath with ASE in the spring of 2003 when I was a junior at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. It was an experience that played a large role in shaping who I am, both personally and academically, and I still cherish my memories of the semester.



2014

Though I travelled back across the Atlantic several times after graduating from HWS, the first few times as a tourist and then later to live in Paris for two years while doing research towards a graduate degree in history, I always had mixed emotions about returning to Bath. My memories of the place were so bound up with the memories of friends and former classmates. I worried that even my favorite pubs and other haunts would feel empty.

Nevertheless, it was difficult not to be excited when, last year, my wife mentioned the possibility that she might teach a course in Bath as part of ASE's summer school, and that I might be able to come along as well. She and I both teach history at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA, and several of our students were planning to attend the summer school. Eventually, the trip was confirmed, and I learned that not only would I be going along with my wife for five weeks while she taught her course on the Tudors, but that I'd be living in the same residence as in 2003: 14 North Parade, now Nunes House. I looked forward to the trip, but naturally I had lingering worries that Bath might not be the same place I'd left in 2003.

When I finally arrived in June, I found that the city certainly *looked* the same. Bath, as a World Heritage Site and historic city, is in many ways committed to promoting the fiction that time stopped in the eighteenth century. But, of course, Bath is actually a lively, dynamic city, and quite a bit had changed.

Some of the pubs I used to frequent, like The Porter and The Boater, had become more upscale dining establishments, and even the grimy Saracen's Head had received a makeover. Since the enactment of a cigarette ban, what we used to call 'old man pubs' now smelled less like smoke and more like stale beer.

Nunes House, the focal point of most of my memories, looked more or less the same on the outside but had been thoroughly renovated on the inside. Students were occupying Flat 5, where I'd lived back in 2003. My wife and I were assigned to Flat 1, which I'd never been in, but which afforded more space, more privacy, and access to the patio by the river.

My time spent in Bath while my wife taught classes and did research in local archives was also certainly very different. I spent far less time in pubs with friends and far more time in cafés reading. I went on long walks around Bath, along the canal and the skyline walk. The weather was alarmingly sunny. I spent vast amounts of time sitting on the patio in the sunlight researching and writing. I even got a tan. But the biggest change was that Nunes House was deadly quiet—with the exception of the racket coming from restaurant/nightclub Opa! which sadly had replaced Maharaja. I missed the noise, the conversations, and the sense of community of the 14 North Parade of my memory.

But, of course, my experience in Bath back in 2003 was mainly about ASE, and ASE was just as welcoming as ever. Much of the staff had changed, but the spirit was the same. Andy and Barbara were gone, but Jonathan, Su, Lindsay, Lucy, and Rob always made me feel at home.

One of the highlights of the visit was getting to attend the 25th Anniversary Celebrations and Oxford Day in July. I got the chance to meet alumni from other semesters and catch up with Andy. I attended a dinner at University College and chatted with Barbara about the fact that I now assign to my own students the primary source texts that I read for the first time in her class. And then there was the 'fancy dress' (costume) party! Most of all, there was the same spirit of fun, wit, and the same sense of belonging. Nunes House may have been quiet over the summer, but I've no doubt it's noisy as ever this autumn. I can't wait to come back!

## Acting, British Style

**Siouxsie Easter, Associate Professor of Theatre at Wells College, NY, on leading the ASE Theatre Summer School, 2014**



*Meeting the star of One Man, Two Guvvorn*

This summer, I had the pleasure of being the US professor in the inaugural Theatre Summer School at Advanced Studies in England. Although there was never a 'typical day', I want to give a snapshot of my time teaching this amazing group of students from the US and England. Each teaching day begins with my walk through the beautiful centre of Bath. Street vendors are setting up their wares, the visitors are already snapping photos in front of Bath Abbey, and the locals are walking in to work.

Morning class, *Acting, British Style*, is held at The Mission Theatre, a 100-seat theatre in a converted eighteenth-century Congregational hall. Here, students have the opportunity to be in a theatre environment for the duration of the class time and stage their scenes in rehearsal before we move to the final performance space.

Most acting class days start with a warm up, led either by me or Ian Glynn, the British tutor - and Artistic Director of the Rondo Theatre in Larkhall. Students learn the importance of warming up their bodies and voices, continuing to strengthen them for performance. The scenes are very physical, and the students often get tired from holding those Restoration poses!

After warm up, the students begin work on their scenes. They work not only on physicalizing their characters, but on in-depth research and character analysis. For the Restoration scenes, this often means searching for the meanings of archaic phrases from the very early eighteenth century. Once the students have 'deciphered' the text, they are on their feet, working on staging. The stage comes alive with student actors gossiping behind fans, trilling their disapproval at a failed relationship, and gallantly wooing their loves. Ian and I move among the pairs of students, offering staging advice, encouraging choices, and reminding about vowel sounds with their British accents.

From the scenes, we move on to devised work. The students have been creating characters based on the people of Bath. We experiment with relationships between characters, discuss music and scenic choices, throw out earlier choices, and discover new ones. The process is ever-evolving, and it is both challenging and thrilling to work without an existing script to create new work.

Acting class wraps up for the day, and the students and I head back through the centre of Bath for the lunch hour. Lunch can find the students back at their own houses for some quiet time, down in the computer lab at Nelson House working on papers for Theatre History, rehearsing on a bench while munching on takeaway fish and chips, or enjoying a meal with other students at one of the many local delicious eateries.

The afternoon class is held in 'Nelson's Cabin', in the basement of Nelson House, newly decorated with pictures and documents from Admiral Lord Nelson's life. I co-teach the class with British tutor Jim Brown (who teaches *Creating a Drama: Writing for the Stage* in the regular semester).



*First class in the Mission Theatre*

## Acting, British Style

The students study British Theatre History from the Renaissance to the present. Class often begins with historical background of the time period that we are studying. Next, the students are on their feet reading scenes from plays from the time period. While this is not an acting class, students still enjoy hearing and reading a wide array of historical plays. One day, Jim's enthusiastic teaching style has the students quickly engaged in a discussion about the tenets of Romanticism, and the students even try their hand at writing plays in the Romantic style. Another day has the students and me discussing how to stage the last scene in Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts*. Theatre History is never a dry lecture, and Jim and I make sure that the students explore these time periods through many different avenues.



Al fresco rehearsals at Stratford-upon-Avon

When classes end for the day, the students and I say our goodbyes for the late afternoon. However, we are often back together again for an evening show at a theatre in Bath or Bristol. We are able to see nine productions in five short weeks. The plays are quite the variety, from the new comedy *Bunbury is Dead* at the Mission Theatre itself, to Shakespeare's *Henry IV* at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. After these productions, we often have the pleasure of meeting some of the actors at the Stage Door or in a local pub. Students get autographs and photos, and speak with the actors about their performances.

At the end of five weeks, it is time for our performance. Held at the Chapel Arts Centre in Bath, the final showcase consists of each student performing in a contemporary scene by a British playwright, a Restoration Comedy scene, and the devised theatre piece. Each of the students is required



The final show performed to fellow students, staff and faculty at ASE's *Write Night*

to do their final scenes with a British accent. It pleases me that many of the US tutors from other courses say that they can't tell the difference between the British and American students' accents during the final performance! I am on my feet with the rest of the audience as the students take their final bows.

At the final tea slideshow the students and I laugh at the many photos of us pointing at theatre marquees and posters, and do one last round of our 'Peter Piper' tongue twister exercise. It is a teary-eyed end to an amazing journey.

I will miss them, and ASE. Until next time!

## Not Just Shakespeare

### Laura Bentley, British Student Helper at ASE, describes her participation in the first ever ASE Theatre Summer School



*Laura in helper mode, front row second from the right.*

For those of you that don't know me from your time in the beautiful city of Bath, I'm Laura and I joined the ASE family in 2012 as a student helper. Having first heard about the job through my university's careers department, I leapt at the opportunity. Whilst my friends were complaining about their jobs in bars and kitchens, I wanted the chance to do something a bit different and a lot more fun; so, as you can imagine, when I heard that I had got the job was over the moon!

Having worked as a student helper for three fantastic semesters, in early 2014 I was asked if I would like to become a student with ASE – as part of the first ever 'Not Just Shakespeare:

Theatre Summer School'. As someone who is obsessed with all things theatre I had to say yes.

As a student helper I lost count of how many times I thought how much fun it must be to be a *student* with ASE, and I wasn't disappointed. Whilst the transition from staff to student is quite a unique one, it nonetheless went smoothly, which I think was partially aided by there being a fellow Brit on the theatre programme. I was also helped by the fact that all the tutors and students were so amazing to work with, and that the theatre programme was just so much fun.

In the daily classes, we learnt about all things Shakespeare, as well as looking at more contemporary texts by some of Britain's most accomplished playwrights. We also went to see a number of shows in and around Bath, as well as on two fantastic overnight trips, the first to Stratford-Upon-Avon - where we saw *The Arden of Faversham* and *Henry IV* parts one and two at the RSC. Our second trip was to London where, after tours of the Globe and the Rose theatres, we saw *Last Days of Troy* and *War Horse* (believe me there wasn't a dry eye in the house). The course culminated in a successful showcase to staff and students.

Now, two years after joining ASE, I've graduated from Bath Spa University with a degree in English Literature and am now pursuing a career in acting. In addition to attending the ASE theatre school, I have for the past thirty weeks been travelling to London each Saturday to train at The Actor's Class, where I have been lucky enough to work with actors and directors who have worked for The Globe, The National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company. I am currently on track to being in a West End showcase in March, and will hopefully be attending drama school as of September 2015.

I can truly say, hand on heart, that I feel truly honoured to have been able to experience ASE from both a staff and a student perspective. ASE is a family; it's a family I'm overjoyed to be part of, as I'm sure you are too.



*Enjoying a trip to Anne Hathaway's cottage as an ASE student!*

## ASE 25th Anniversary

### Barbara White, former ASE Director, reflects on her time with the Programme and updates us on her life and work, post-ASE...



Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday ASE!! I am very proud that you are now in your twenty-fifth year, and even prouder to have been associated with the Programme for every one of those years.

It is very unnerving to think how quickly the time has flown. It really does feel like only yesterday that I was tentatively knocking on the office door of Don Nunes, our founder, to interview for a post with a sister organisation called *Higher Education in Europe*. It was also on that life-changing day that I met Peta Hall, who would become ASE's marvellously energetic Housing Manager. There was something about the welcoming and lively atmosphere in the office that day, to say nothing of Don's ebullience and effervescent charm, that made me feel that this was where I wanted to make my career. So, when Don opened his doors to ASE's first students in 1989, I pleaded with him (some might say badgered him) into letting me join his staff.

Becoming part of ASE was one of the best decisions of my life and I have always been grateful to Don for giving me the opportunity to join such a marvellous organisation.

Over the next twenty-five years, ASE would welcome over 2000 students, and I hope that each and every one of you has felt the ASE magic just I did, for the first time, all those years ago.

It has been a joy to watch ASE grow and develop from its first tentative steps when we operated (with only 15 students) from a site split between Broad Street and the Countess of Huntingdon Chapel on the Paragon, to a fully-fledged Programme with our own study centre, the much loved Nelson House. It has been equally gratifying to see ASE establish itself internationally as a model study abroad programme that has earned the respect and admiration of all your colleges and universities, with whom ASE is so proud to be associated.

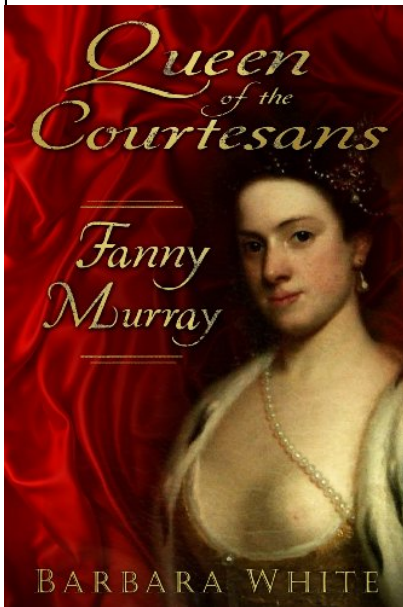
Of course, the ASE student has always been at the heart of the ASE Programme. I remember how Nelson House would slumber through the holidays (undoubtedly glad of the rest!) until you, the students, awakened the house again as you thundered up and down its stairs, chattered loudly amongst yourselves and popped in to tell us, in breathless fashion, about your latest adventures and foreign trips. You gave us headaches – there can be no denying that – midnight trips to A&E often made me think we should rename the Programme 'Another Student Emergency', but the worries you gave us were far outweighed by the fun, the excitement and youthful vibrancy you brought to ASE. Without your academic abilities and curiosity, your spirit of adventure and your willingness to engage with Bath (and indeed Europe), ASE would not have earned its reputation for academic excellence and for widening horizons.

Some of my best times have been spent in your company (occasionally in a wig and dancing to David Bowie) and especially when you returned years later, all grown up and often with families of your own, to reminisce about your time with the Programme and to talk about your hopes for the future and all the things you would like to do.



*Fanny Murray meets David Bowie*

ASE was an integral part of my life for twenty years, first as Director of Studies and for seven years, from 2004, as Director. Even though I have since retired, I am still passionately interested in the Programme and am delighted to see how the ASE team, under Jonathan's directorship, is taking ASE forward. To my mind, they are doing a fabulous job. ASE is going from strength to strength and is a real credit to Don and Ann Nunes and their original vision for the Programme.



Those of you who took my 'Sin, Sex and Morality' course will not be surprised to hear that I have spent the first four years of my retirement in writing a book about an eighteenth-century courtesan called Fanny Murray. She was born in Bath in 1729 and went on to become the most famous 'purchasable beauty' of her time. The most famous story about her is that, complaining of lack of money to her lover, he gave her a £20 note (about £2,400 today). She was so disgusted at the paucity of the amount that she clapped it between two slices of bread and butter and ate it, saying 'Twenty pounds – what does that signify?'. Miss Murray has been a joy to research: there were times when I seemed to be working as hard in retirement as I did at ASE – but I wouldn't have it any other way. So, life post-ASE is good for me. I still keep in touch with a number of old tutors and staff members and my next writing project is taking shape in my head as I write – so watch this space!

At the time of ASE's 10<sup>th</sup>, and University College's 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our former chairman Geoff Nunes, brother to Don, said that there was no reason why ASE shouldn't flourish equally as well as Univ and also celebrate a 750<sup>th</sup> birthday one day. Well, we have now reached the major milestone of twenty-five years. Well done ASE! I don't know about you, but I certainly intend being around for the 750<sup>th</sup>. What a party that will be!

Meanwhile ASE, enjoy your silver celebrations and continue to shine and sparkle just as you have always done!

With love to ASE and all the Programme's wonderful alums and students, Barbara.

## 25 Years of ASE and University College, Oxford

### Chris Pelling, ASE's Academic Adviser, reflects on an enduring partnership

One thing that was clear to Don Nunes in 1989 was that, if there was to be an Oxford connection, it should be with a college and should involve a personal as well as a business relationship. The choice fell on Univ because of his friendship with David Bell, the Geology fellow, but David thought that it would be better for the point-person to be in Humanities and introduced Don to me: and that is how it all started.

I remember the governing body meeting where the academic credentials of ASE were examined, and it was decided that it passed muster. In those 25 years the links have not just been in those residential weeks that alums will remember so well: the welcome discos (where the bopping style of Barbara, Jonathan and Andy has been so ... distinctive); the college tours; the punting - and the falling in - and then the final dinner, where everyone cleans up so surprisingly well. There have been the academic links as well, with several Univ fellows teaching for ASE - Leslie Mitchell, Mike Nicholson and Jonathan Mee will come to mind, as well as myself - and a fair number of other tutors whom I've got to know over Univ coffee or lunch. I moved, myself, to Christ Church in 2003, but retain strong links with Univ still - all the stronger since my election to an Honorary Fellowship there two years ago.

I've learned a few things myself: when faced with a complaint that a bedroom was haunted, it probably WAS a mistake to laugh and say that we normally charge double for that room. (If the complainant is reading this, I do apologise, both to you and to the ghost.) But the ups and downs of the years have been very predominantly ups. The ASE connection is one that means a lot to Univ, and Univ people like to think it means a lot to ASE as well. As I remember Leslie Mitchell saying at a Univ wedding, the best marriages may be made in Heaven, but the second-best are often made in University College, Oxford.

This has been one of them.

**(Congratulations to Chris on recently being awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters by Washington and Lee University, Virginia! - ed)**



## World Cup Watching

### Jack Ryan, Professor of English at Gettysburg College, on being an American watching the beautiful game in Britain in 2010

*“Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. I’m very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that.”*

**Bill Shankly (1913-1981)** Scottish footballer, Liverpool manager



Jack Ryan reading at Write Night in 2010

From our second floor flat in Bath, England, my family and I watched half-naked young men, most marked with elaborate tattoos signifying support for God, Queen, and Country, jump off North Parade Bridge into the River Avon. Many cried “Rubbish!” on the way down. Germany had just eliminated England from the 2010 World Cup finals competition 4-1, England’s most lopsided finals round defeat since losing to Uruguay in 1954.

Passion for sport on a national level is not what I am used to, especially when it comes to soccer, as we call the game. I am used to fans rooting for Philadelphia, Boston, San Francisco, or New York, not teams that represent the United States. Like most Americans, I did not even know most of our World Cup team players. England’s fans knew every player’s life history, career statistics, and wasted potential.

My family and I departed for Bath in early June, just before the beginning of the summer term for the Advanced Studies in England program. I was scheduled to teach for five weeks, concentrating on Thatcherism and British film with sixteen students from American colleges and universities.

World Cup fever was also conspicuous in Bath, a small cosmopolitan city where fans had decorated businesses and homes with international flags—Italy, Argentina, France, Mexico, and Spain. We arrived in Bath the Sunday before the World Cup matches began and were astonished at the staggering amount of print dedicated to the tournament.

On the eve of the England/United States match we traveled to Cornwall, the southwestern portion of England. The coach carrying students, tutors, and Advanced Studies in England staff echoed with easy banter about the match the next day in Rustenburg, South Africa. Jonathan Hope, Dean of the program, and Lindsay Orchard, ASE’s social and cultural coordinator, each purchased two large Union Jack flags at a motorway service stop. They waved the flags relentlessly as the coach moved toward Tintagel Castle, a medieval ruin often described as King Arthur’s birthplace. Wayne, our coach driver, was anxious about getting to Coverack, our evening’s destination. For him, Tintagel lacked the same appeal as the Uruguay/France match that night. A driver for the Bath Rugby team, Wayne was passionate about sport, especially football enhanced by a pub and fresh cider. While we clambered around Tintagel, he impatiently mapped his route to Coverack.

That night, inside Coverack’s Paris Hotel, outfitted with two flat screen televisions for World Cup viewing, Wayne, Jonathan, and Lindsay worked to bring me up to speed on football rules while we watched Uruguay and France play to a zero to zero tie—or, as the purists prefer, a nil-nil draw.

Unlike the night before, the Paris Hotel was jammed with English football fans. Jonathan





and Lindsay had smeared white makeup on their faces, and, using their noses as center points, had drawn one red line from ear to ear and another from hairline to chin; they wore their Union Jack flags like capes and sat at the center of the Paris's small pub room. By the time my family and I arrived, it was impossible to see the television screen. The place was mobbed. Almost everyone was standing and singing "God Save the Queen." When their turn came, the American students spontaneously stood and sang the "Star Spangled Banner" with gusto. Most of the Cornwellians were nonplussed, not aware that Americans had occupied a quarter of the small pub.

In the end, the match ended 1-1, a draw. Real soccer fans accept ties, and, for the most part, it kept the mood inside the Paris festive. For me, the tie notwithstanding, the excitement of this match was unexpected, and the prospect of watching more World Cup events now seemed inviting. Watching the games became a guilty pleasure with benefits: no commentators telling you what you just saw, no silly sideline trollops with enhanced body parts shaking pom-poms, no jumbotrons, and no commercials.

As is the case with most sports, fans made World Cup watching unique, demonstrating their allegiance with frenzied pride. Bath residents displayed their support in pubs, from buildings, and in the street. Flags of victorious teams dangled from apartments buildings, businesses declared allegiances with drink and food specials, and early morning talk at Bog Island News Stand was always about a particular football team.

Following the World Cup, especially while England remained in the competition, elevated the sport for me on multiple levels. Witnessing soccer as a vast cultural experience while inside a country that appreciates the game underscored the positive social impact athletic competition can have on a population. Living in Bath allowed an outsider like me to experience how complicated national allegiances can be, as well as the emotionally draining result of a national failure on the international stage.



As we prepared to leave Bath, Uruguay lost to the Netherlands, and Germany fell to Spain. We would be back in Pennsylvania before the final match of the 2010 World Cup.

Every four years, most of the world is captivated by World Cup competition—but not the United States. We are regional fans, rooting for a city, a town, or a school district. Back in Pennsylvania, I watched Netherlands play Spain at my home. I was alone, merely an American observer of a worldwide obsession. The game was marked by scrappy play and penalties. The Dutch kicked, pulled, and tugged Spanish players in an attempt to disrupt their elegant team play. In extra-time, Spain scored. Elegance trumped force.

The streets outside were quiet, flags were not draped from my neighbors' homes, football lovers didn't exit bars in celebration. I was moored by familiar surroundings, and no one near me cared about the game. Watching and enjoying the World Cup in a city willing to transform itself for four weeks, even though England's national team was not well regarded, in the end, made sense. At home, my connection to this all-consuming game was reduced to a commercial experience produced by ABC television and ESPN.





**ASE 25th Anniversary Photo Special**  
Pictures by official photographer Leon Day. To view more images  
go to <http://www.leondayimages.com/p681111484>





ASE 25th Anniversary photo special



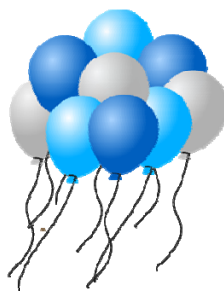


## *They Came To Bath... for the 25th Anniversary Party!!*



*This year, many alums made the trip to Bath especially to join us for our silver jubilee celebrations. Thank you for coming.....*

Mike Heyman Au '90  
Mark Rasmussen Au '90  
Susan Gordon Sp '91  
Katie Malague Sp '93  
Leslie Nolen Sp '96  
Benjamin Russell Sp '97  
Jeff Michaels Au '98  
David Woodworth Sp '03  
Joanna Chlebus Sp '04  
Meghan Murphy Sp '06  
Carolyn Han Au '06  
Maura Tierney Au '06  
Amy Taylor Au '07  
Joe Anthes Su '09



Emily Henry Sp '08  
Kathryn Johnson Sp '08  
Jessica Vooris Sp '08  
Sarah Krejci Au '08  
Joe Anthes Su '09  
Maddie Weinland Su '09  
Jessica Marshall Sp '10  
Alicia Pepe Sp '10  
Kate Cottrell Au '10  
Christina Paladeau Au '10  
Sasha Schechter Au '10  
Meghan Schneider Au '10  
Heather Smith Au '11  
Hanna Bertoldi Sp '13  
Kendall Berents Sp '14

'I had a wonderful time at the reunion. Thank you so much for including me and for the amazing job you did getting everyone together and the lovely lunch, and just everything. It was so, so wonderful, and would have been even if I hadn't gotten to seeing the tutors and everyone, and talking at the alumni meeting brought the program viscerally back for me, to the point where I started thinking again what I would have to do to live in Bath!! The ASE community is so inviting and alive, and fact that it continues to be that way for those of us who have left is down to you gentlemen. Thank you, thank you, thank you. The reunion was such a gift.'

**- Emily Henry (Sp08)**

'The event was a wonderful way to celebrate ASE's major milestone of turning 25! It was a great way for alumni to reconnect with each other, the faculty and staff as well as the overall program. The celebration provided alumni with a reason to return to Bath and a purpose for being in the city. It gave alums something to take part in and provided meaning to their trip. Coming together and celebrating allowed people to share in a unique experience and make the ASE family bond even stronger. Everyone at ASE made the alums feel right at home with their warm welcomes and overall general excitement to have us back! It was such a successful event and I think ASE should absolutely have more events such as this on a more regular basis. The program itself can certainly benefit from the growing alumni network and I feel that these sorts of events can only help that relationship. So, to sum it up, the 25th Anniversary Celebration was a huge success!!'

**- Sarah Krejci (Au08)**

'It was amazing to meet people from across the years who ranged in age and interest, but all had our deep love of Bath and ASE in common. It instantly bonded us and brought us together, and I had a great time getting to know new people in one of my favorite places in the world.'

• **Maddie Weinland (Su09)**



## Reflections on ASE's 25th Anniversary celebrations from some of those who were there.....



How amazing to realise that Advanced Studies in England has reached its twenty-fifth birthday! And how generous of Jonathan Hope and the ASE team to plan a celebration to which staff, tutors and students from across the decades were invited.

We were treated to a three-day party with a marvellous mix of events and styles. In Oxford there was a tone of gravitas and reflection in the discussions and an elegance and sense of occasion in the hospitality. In Bath we enjoyed a growing sense of 'homecoming' as together we viewed the improvements in ASE's houses, explored new corners of the city and enjoyed festive gatherings with delicious food and drink, music, dance and merriment! It was heart-warming to have so many opportunities to renew old friendships and make new ones.

For me, the greatest pleasure derived from reflecting on the way in which this brain-child of my husband, Don, has thrived and developed while retaining its defining characteristics. At twenty-five, it has indeed grown up and with a steady assurance, warmth and sense of fun that would delight Don as it does me.

**Ann Nunes (Former Director)**

'Celebrating ASE's history surrounded by all the history that Bath has to offer was a memorable event. The enthusiasm of the alumni speaks for itself -- this program is rigorous, exhilarating -- and inspirational. Congratulations, and here's to a great *second* quarter century.'

**- Laura Deiullo (Vice Provost, Christopher Newport University)**

'The celebrations for the ASE Silver Jubilee were as much fun as the program itself. It was wonderful to see so many alums and hear how much the program meant to them in the past and the present.'

**- John Hunter (Prof. of Comparative Humanities, Bucknell University)**

'Thank you for including me in your spectacular 25 Year Anniversary celebrations. I very much appreciated the kindness, generosity, creativity, and brilliant sense of humor brought forth by you and your colleagues during those days of meaningful remembrance and acknowledgement. Thank you for letting me partake in the fun and for forever implanting in my brain a vision of what David Bowie must have looked like up close and personal during his finest days. OMG!!!'

**- Peggy Imai (Director, Study Abroad Office, Saint Michael's College)**

'These celebrations convinced me that Bath is a very unique and wonderful place to study! The enthusiasm of the alums was very high indeed.'

**- Kimberly M. Jew (Associate Professor of Theatre, Washington and Lee University)**

'The occasion of ASE's twenty-fifth anniversary provided a wonderful opportunity for those involved with ASE over the years -- alumni, tutors, Board and staff members, and friends -- to gather, share stories, and salute a program whose ongoing success testifies to the Nunes family's vision and dedication.'

**- Maria Mitchell (Prof. of History, Franklin and Marshal College)**

**'Awesome! Spiffing! Exciting!'** There's no way ASE's 25th celebrations can be understated! Thanks to all those involved in organising: you did a great job!

**Mike Rix (Tutor 'Education in England')**

'I was delighted by the spirit of warmth, spontaneity and playfulness at the reunion, and was, as usual, very proud of ASE.'

**- Kieron Winn (Tutor; 'Advanced Creative Writing' and 'Rhyme, Reason and Rap')**



## ASE Alumni Association

**Katie Malague (Sp93) & Sasha Schechter (Au10), Alumni Association Representatives 2014, report on their involvement thus far, and outline plans for the future**



Twenty-five years ago, before the Internet, cell phones, or social media – actually, even before some of us were born - Advanced Studies in England launched with a vision to present students with an insider's view of Britain, its history, landscape and culture. In the world-heritage city of Bath, the program still delivers on that promise more than two and a half decades later.

To coincide with its 25th anniversary celebrations, ASE launched a fully-fledged Alumni Association, including not only all students who completed a semester or summer school with ASE, but faculty who have taught on the program, and individuals who have had a long-standing relationship with ASE.

Its focus is to engage ASE alumni and friends while promoting and enhancing ASE's overall programs and reach. This past July, alumni convened in Bath for an Alumni Summit, which included brainstorming sessions with Jonathan Hope, Rob Jones and ASE staff, special events like walking tours with Andrew Butterworth, and celebrations that included guest appearances by Barbara White and "David Bowie" – and there's more to come on the horizon.

We were the two Alumni Association reps ASE chose to participate in this year's annual meeting of the Academic Board (comprised of representatives from the schools affiliated with ASE) and to help facilitate the Alumni Summit. A couple months after our journey back across The Pond, we'd like to share a summary of the events.

**Academic Board.** The Board reviewed the curriculum, discussed enrollment, and considered a path forward for the decades to come. As the two Alumni Representatives, we reflected on life-long connections with fellow students and how Bath becomes a second home – and tied these reflections back into the program's academic offerings.

**Alumni Summit.** Following the Academic Board meetings, more than two dozen alumni convened to reminisce and reconnect. From two members of the Autumn 1990 class through a student who just emerged from the Spring 2014 semester, the most striking element was how much we had in common. Despite a range of ages, home institutions, and professional occupations, ASE binds us together. The Alumni Summit discourse reviewed options for the Alumni Association structure and format, gathering insights for how to shape communications and events in the year ahead.

**Looking Ahead.** To engage ASE alumni, the Alumni Association will include several organizing structures, leveraging various affinities and perspectives. The central pillars will be class/semester groups, led by alumni, to reconnect former students who studied together in Bath during the same semester; and regional groups or chapters, led by alumni volunteers, whose job is to plan events and activities in a specific geographical area. Based on the recent survey of ASE alumni, utilizing multiple methods to reach the alumni community will produce the best results, such as a regular email newsletter, formal reunions in Bath and elsewhere, informal gatherings to connect members of the alumni community, and social media outreach. For all these efforts, ASE needs volunteer leaders. If you're interested in helping, please get in touch with Rob Jones.

For those of us who studied in Bath nearly 25 years ago, it still feels like yesterday; for those who enjoyed ASE closer to yesterday, it's a connection we'll relish for many years. The emotional ties link us through shared experiences across time – and a robust Alumni Association fosters a network that strengthens those bonds and the program that brought us together. We hope you'll play a role.

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## ASE's Alumni Association – The story so far...

By Rob Jones (r.jones@asebath.org)

Things have been rattling on apace since I introduced myself in last year's newsletter, and I thought I ought to feed back on the developments we have made in the organisation and structure of the alumni association, and give a glimpse into what the future has in store!

We had lots of responses to **the alumni survey**, which had questions about the use of the web pages and social media, the organisation of reunions and alumni events and offers of support for the alumni organisation and ASE in general. The results of the survey were used to inform the agenda for the **alumni summit**, on which more in a moment.

At the same time we asked for applications from alums to serve as **alumni representatives** on the academic board – a meeting of faculty and study abroad advisors from our affiliate colleges to consider various aspects of the way in which ASE is run. We had a huge response to this, and all the respondents had something to offer. Whilst we were only able to select two – Katie Malague (Sp93) and Sasha Schechter (Au10) – we were determined that the good will and expertise of the others should not go to waste. To that end we invited the other applicants to become representatives for their class or for the region in which they lived. We also established a working group to look at the establishment of an alumni fund and another group of alums with experience of graduate studies here in the UK and elsewhere in the world to whom we could send current and recent students for advice and insights into the experience.

The **alumni summit** in July, held the morning before the big Anniversary luncheon and party, was well attended, with two dozen alums. As Sasha and Katie say in their article, it was great to see how much the different classes had in common and how united they were by the ASE experience (something I've also witnessed at various parties in the States). We discussed a number of matters, but the main focus was on how we communicate with our alums and how we should structure the association so that you folks can get the most out of it. It was recognised that the alumni pages on the ASE website were not at all user-friendly, nor were they an effective means of communication between alums and ASE, or between alums themselves. The majority of people were using the Facebook pages, but there was a definite feeling that the open page 'ASE in America' was a vehicle for the program to let you know what we were doing rather than an place for you to post. A number of alums said that it would be great if there was a searchable directory, a means by which alums could find out who was in their area, or worked in their field. Finally, there was a definite sense that there should be regular reunions in Bath or the US.

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## ASE Alumni Association

As a result of the summit and the survey, and other discussions, we have started on the following developments:

**Class and Regional Representatives** – we have volunteers for about two thirds of our semesters, tasked with reconnecting with as many of their classmates as possible and acting as a conduit between Nelson House and the alums. Similarly we have representatives for the major northern and eastern cities. You can find a list of them below. If your semester isn't included and you feel able, please feel free to email me to volunteer your services.

**The Grad Studies Panel** – this is headed by Greg Brennen (Au09), and is an informal network of alums with experience of graduate studies. Again, if you feel you can contribute, or if you are thinking of going into grad school and are looking for formal advice or informal insights, drop me an email and I'll put you in touch with Greg.

**ASE ALUMS** – As opposed to 'ASE in America' this is a closed group on Facebook. On it are albums of pictures from each semester (the ones that I recently uploaded onto the ASE alumni pages) and I hope very much that you will add to them with pictures from your own collections. We also hope that you will use it to chat and let other alums know what you are doing.

**@studyabroadbath** – This is our Twitter feed. We've been using it to let the world know when we are recruiting, and to share snippets of life at ASE (for example, I tweeted a photo of this Semester's Ghosts and Gothic study trip to Strawberry Hill, and have been sending updates of our social and cultural events too).

**The Alumni Directory** – This is the next major project for me as the coordinator of the Association. I am looking at a number of different online solutions, trying to find something that will meet the desire of alums for a means of finding each other, as well as our need for an up-to-date directory that we can use for communicating with you all. I hope to have something working early in the New Year.

**What else is coming up?** There are a number of other things we'd like to achieve. Firstly, We want to broaden our alumni family, to include (as it should) the tutors that teach for us, the study abroad staff who send you to us and the other people that have supported the Programme both here and in the US. Secondly, We are looking at ways of establishing an Alumni Fund, so that those of you who want to can contribute financially to ASE's future success. Last, but by no means least, we are thinking about the next big alumni gathering, because we love seeing you all and Jonathan needs an excuse to break out the electric blue lycra again!

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## ASE Alumni Association

### Alumni Academic Board Reps 2014

Katie Malague (Sp93, Bucknell) email: katie\_malague@hotmail.com

Sasha Schechter (Au10, Oberlin) email: schechter.sasha@gmail.com

### Area Coordinators

**BOSTON** - Shane Dunn (Au05, Cornell)

**WASHINGTON DC** - Liz McKenna (Au08, Skidmore)

**ROCHESTER** - Sarah Kirchoff (Sp05, H&WS) & Emily Hessney (Sp11, UofR)

**NYC** - Sasha Schechter (Au10, Oberlin) & Jo Chlebus (Sp04, Mount Holyoke)

**PHILADELPHIA/NEW JERSEY** - Maddie Weinland (Su09, Denison) & Joe Anthes (Su09, G'burg)

We will also be looking for coordinators for east coast and southern cities—so watch this space.

### Class Reps

**Au89** -

**Sp90** -

**Au90** - Mark Rasmussen (BC)

**Sp91** - Jenn Redman (BC)

**Au91** -

**Sp92** -

**Au92** - Tim Kirk (Bucknell) & Shaun Lippy (Bucknell)

**Sp93** - Katie Malague (Bucknell) & Amie Jackowski Tibble (William & Mary)

**Au93** - Downing Child (Denison)

**Sp94** - Downing Child (Denison)

**Au94** - Danielle (Shuckra) Sparks (BC) & Beth (Lease) Herbert (BC)

**Sp95** - Danielle (Shuckra) Sparks (BC)

**Au95** - Mike Crowley (UofR) & Derek Walker (William & Mary)

**Sp96** - Mike Crowley (UofR) & Derek Walker (William & Mary)

**Au96** - Christy Appleby (BC)

**Sp97** - Erin Blankenship (Skidmore)

**Su97** - Doshka Harvey (Skidmore)

**Au97** - Jennifer Dart (William and Mary)

**Sp98** - Kristy Kossmann (Wells)

**Su98** - Stephen Weber (Denison)

**Au98** - Amy DiMattia (BC)

**Sp99** - Stephanie Haug Mullervy (BC)

**Su99** - Emily Sohr (William and Mary)

**Au99** - Jill Ashton (HWS)

**Sp00** - Ann Durham (Skidmore)

**Su00** -

**Au00** - Lauren Hughes (Bucknell)

**Sp01** - Megan Koster Gordon (Skidmore)

**Su01** -

**Au01** - Tim Stewart (BC)

**Sp02** - Meghan Berry (Gettysburg)

**Su02** -

**Au02** - Renee Dunn (H&WS) & Staci Stocklos (F&M)

**Sp03** -

**Su03** - Crystal Ebert (Gettysburg)

**Au03** - Melinda (Kummer) Rubinstein (Bucknell)

**Sp04** -

**Su04** -

**Au04** - Sarah Clapp (Denison)

**Sp05** - Julie Hertzberg (Denison)

**Su05** -

**Au05** - Ashley Middlebrook (Gettysburg)

**Sp06** - Megan Minogue (BC)

**Su06** -

**Au06** - Maura Tierney (BC)

**Sp07** -

**Su07** -

**Au07** -

**Sp08** - Teresa Trout (UofR)

**Su08** - Cristin Stephens (UofR)

**Au08** - Sarah Krejci (Denison)

**Sp09** - Amy Meros (Gettysburg)

**Su09** - Maddie Weinland (Denison)

**Au09** -

**Sp10** - Kate McNamara (Wells)

**Su10** -

**Au10** - Clay Monson (UofR)

**Sp11** - Dawn Rainbolt (Mary Wash)

**Su11** - Jane Ryngaert (William and Mary)

**Au11** - Emma Hollier (Montclair State University)

**Sp12** - Maya Dennis (Williams)

**Su12** - Danielle DeSimone (Mary Wash)

**Au12** - Ed Lisovicz (Gettysburg)

**Sp13** - Hillary Kennedy (William and Mary)

**Su13** -

**Au13** - Will Morisseau (Dickinson)

**Sp14** - Hadley Brown (UofR)

**Su14** - Casey Tew (CNU) and Jordie Adams (Gettysburg)

**ASE 25th Anniversary Parties Stateside**

**BOSTON**



**WASHINGTON DC**



**PHILADELPHIA**



**NEW YORK**



**ASE Properties get a Make-Over!**

**Linley and Flat 1 Nunes**



# They Came To Bath

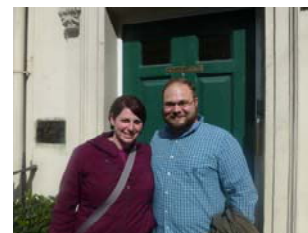


Virginia with Su and Jonathan

**Virginia Atkinson (Au01)** visited in December 2013 while taking a break from her role with an international NGO travelling as far afield as Nepal, Georgia, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines.

**Anna Barnes (Au12)** stopped by in January. At the time she was working on a thesis on unhealthy women in Jane Austen's novels.

**Mark and Jennifer Redman (both Sp91)** came in to see us in April.



Julie and Bradley



Sarah and Ali back in Bath

**Julie Hertzberg (Sp05)** came by in May. She is currently living in Denver and preparing for her wedding to Bradley Werner. She has worked for Aerotek since graduating in 2006 and is now heading up business development for an accounting and finance recruitment start up called Stephen James Associates.

**Alison and Sarah Covie, nee Cornforth and Vigne, (Au10)** visited while on their honeymoon in June. They now live in Montpelier, VT where Ali is a high school basketball coach. Sarah worked as a carpenter for Vermont Vernacular Design and is office assistant at the Washington County Youth Service Bureau.

**Brooke Lenz (née Baeten, FY96-7)** was another June visitor.

**Lizzie Abel (Au09)** visited in July before moving back to Boston in the Fall to work at the BC campus, where she is completing grad school studies in special education. She was especially happy to catch up with Andrew Butterworth!!



Lizzie with Mr B!

**Damion Mannings (Au96)** dropped in with Ann Nunes while visiting from Japan, where he is an educational consultant at Rakuten Inc. He is a part time yoga instructor and is also starting a post-grad in linguistics at Oxford.

**Brooke Engeldrum (Au09)** came in October. She's working in New York for 'Eating Well' magazine and living in Hoboken, NJ.



Pat Sergeant

It's not just alumni that like to pay us a visit....

The esteemed **Pat Sergeant**, geologist and ASE Summer School Lizard hike guide, popped into Nelson House during a visit to Bath. We were pleased to be able to show him his picture, freshly hung in the Linley House Media Room.



Sarah and Ali on their wedding day in Vermont



Damion, Ann and Jonathan

*If you are planning a trip to Bath, do let us know and arrange a time to pop in for a cup of tea! You are always welcome— but apologies to those who come over weekends, holidays or during Programme events and find us not here!*

## Updates From Alums!



Tad and Michelle with their new arrival, Grace

**Tad Bradley (Sp99).** Grace Lilja Bradley was born on Saturday 19th April, three and a half weeks early. Grace is small (5lbs .5oz at birth) but healthy and very feisty. She is named after a good Malawian friend of Michelle's who died suddenly several years ago (Michelle is the executive director/founder of an NGO based in Seattle/Malawi). Lilja is an Icelandic name and Tad's great grandmother. They're absolutely head over heels in love with her.

**Tori Ryan (Su08)** is currently living in upstate NY. After ASE, she finished her BA, doing a dissertation on *Paradise Lost*, worked for a while, then did an MA at the University of Bristol, England in English Literature, specialising in Dickens. Now she's in Syracuse with her partner who is doing his PhD in Archaeology and she has just started a second Masters Degree in English Education grade 7-12. She's been back to Bath a few times and met up with Andy while in Bristol. She hopes everyone is doing well!

**Esther Goldschlager (Sp99)** graduated from law school in May 2014 and relocated to the DC area in early October. She's will likely stay in the DC area for several years and will then move on to the west coast to be closer to her family.

**Susie Svensgaard (Au13)** from Hampshire University won the Sandol Milliken Stoddard Award for fiction, based on work she had done whilst studying with ASE under Kieron Winn and Ian Breckon.



*You are welcome to send us your news throughout the year and (with your permission) we will publish it in the annual newsletter. Whether it is an exciting career development, a reunion, a wedding or a baby, we'd love to hear about it...*

*It's always great to have photos from you to accompany the stories—particularly if you have met up with other ASE alums!*

**Email Rob:  
R.jones@asebath.org**