

# TW

The magazine of St John's College, Oxford

## 2019

A New Chapter for the Library

From Oxford to Thailand

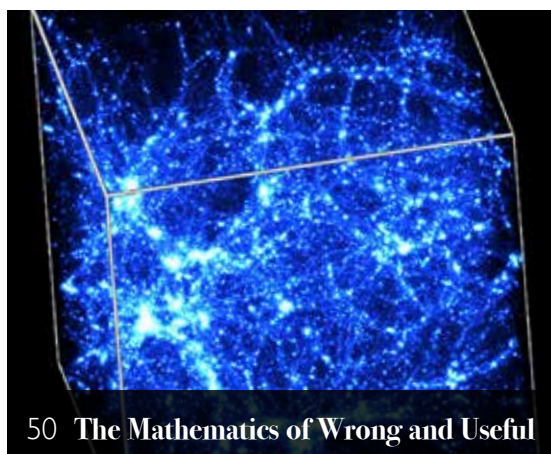
Wrong and Useful Maths

Getting into Oxford

The President Unveiled

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Roya Mahaseer (Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris)  
and Bruno Levy (Inria/LORIA/Université de Lorraine)



St John's College, Oxford





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## From the Editor

Ranking universities and colleges is, in many respects, a fraudulent as well as a foolish endeavour. Its flaws may be seen in the huge variety of league tables that now exist. In this game, everyone can be a winner – so long as you find the right method of producing your results.

But it would be perverse not to note that Oxford has once again topped the most widely cited, *Times Higher Education* ranking. By this measure, it is – for the fourth year running – the number one university in the world. It would be even stranger not to draw your attention to another, more recent league table: the *Daily Telegraph's* guide to the 'top Oxbridge college', which ranks St John's in first place, with Trinity Cambridge a very close second.

Now, this is all very pleasant. To be thought the top college in the top university in the world is undoubtedly flattering. More important, of course, is what's actually going on here – and although we wouldn't want to shout about it, we do have quite a lot to celebrate.

Not least, we have completed the most remarkable, magical new Library, which features later in *TW*. The President has also been pivotal in negotiating a new system of admissions for the university: one intended to widen undergraduate access and to ensure that the brightest from all backgrounds will find a place here. The College has continued to produce excellent students and remarkable research, some of which is highlighted in *TW*. Even our College Nursery turns out to be outstanding.

Does this make us the best? Well, that's not for me to say. What I can say with confidence is that it has been a good year. Do come back to see us – and do keep in touch.

The Revd. Prof. William Whyte  
Editor, *TW*











# From the President

This autumn we have just opened a beautiful space, our new Library and Study Centre. It is a wonderful building, full of innovative reading spaces and of light, and with stunning views over the Groves. The Study Centre reflects the values of St John's in so many ways: it is a building designed to support excellence and will stand as a symbol of our commitment to scholarship and to diverse study needs for generations to come. The generosity of friends and alumni in supporting this project has also been very heart-warming and in true St John's spirit; we are very grateful to them.

I am particularly pleased that two spaces in the Study Centre are the first in College to bear the names of women. One of these, the Felicia Taylerson Room, has been named by three of our alumni, in recognition of the support and vision of a teacher who encouraged three young men from ordinary backgrounds to aim for St John's. Our focus on attracting the very best students to apply to College should not be in doubt and the University's new Opportunity Oxford and Foundation Oxford schemes are designed to help us to achieve this aim.

It was particularly noteworthy that we opened the building on the day which marked the 40th anniversary of the matriculation of the College's very first cohort of women in 1979. The anniversary reminds us that forty years is, in fact, not such a long time. It is clear that we still need to strive to protect hard-won opportunities for equality and diversity – and we will continue to act to build on our achievements to date.

I hope you will agree that it has been a good and successful year for St John's. Long may we continue to be open, inclusive and ambitious for excellence – and to keep these values at the heart of our College.

**Professor Maggie Snowling**  
President



## DPhil student Ellen Taylor swims across the world's strongest maelstrom

Ellen Taylor, studying for a DPhil in Experimental Psychology at St John's, and her mother, Sarah, this year became the first women ever to swim across the Saltstraumen maelstrom in northern Norway, and the first people to do so without wetsuits.

**Following this impressive feat, Ellen wrote to describe the experience:**

'The Saltstraumen is the strongest tidal current in the world, and the world's strongest maelstrom. It's located in the Arctic Circle in Norway, between two islands where over 400 million cubic metres of water rush between the sea and the fjord every six hours. At its strongest the currents can reach speeds of twenty knots, and the momentum causes multiple whirlpools of up to ten metres in diameter. As the tides turn, there is a short space of time when the water is safe enough to swim across. We had about twelve minutes to make our crossing.

'The distance was just 250m, but the currents make swimming quite difficult. It took us 8 minutes 46 seconds. There were lots of jellyfish in the water, including lion's manes which can give a nasty sting, but luckily we managed to swim through them safely. We were expecting to be swept out to sea, but we managed to swim in almost a straight line. We were escorted by Knut Westvig from Stella Polaris Arctic Adventures – a company that takes rib boats of thrill-seeking tourists out into the maelstrom when it's at its worst. He knows the tides better than anyone, and timed our swim perfectly so that we were swimming in the calmest water. We couldn't have done it without him.



'I swam the Saltstraumen with my mum, Sarah Taylor. She's a mad swimmer – she swam the English Channel in 2010, and since then we've been swimming together all the time. In 2014, we completed a relay of the Channel together. Since 2016, we've been competing internationally with the GB Ice Swimming Team at winter swimming championships (including the UK, Germany, Estonia and Sweden).

'The whole thing feels surreal. I'd wanted to do this for so long that now it's over I'm struggling to know what to do with myself. We had ten days in northern Norway beforehand to get used to the water temperatures. The scenery there is just incredible. The maelstrom itself is surrounded by mountains and woodland, and the water is crystal clear. Being able to swim in such a beautiful place felt like a dream come true – the fact that we were the first women to do so is just an added bonus!

Many congratulations to Ellen and Sarah on this amazing achievement!



## St John's and the Colonial Past

In March 2019 the College opened up an opportunity for postgraduate historians of empire, slavery and education to contribute to the debate on decolonisation.

**The College invited applications for a Research Assistant** to support groundbreaking research. The two-year fixed-term post involves working on a project entitled 'St John's and the Colonial Past', funded by the College and led by Professor William Whyte. Dr Mishka Sinha was appointed to the position, and took up the post in September 2019.

This pioneering project will explore connections between the College and colonialism, uncovering benefactions to St John's and the alumni who served in the



empire. It will also investigate the monuments, objects, pictures and buildings that evoke the colonial past. The research will feed into a report and other scholarly publications and a series of workshops will be held to discuss the findings and to plan responses.

Commenting on the project, Professor Whyte said: 'The links between Oxbridge and empire were strong and powerful. Their effects can still be felt today. Yet in recent years both colleges and universities have tended to want to forget this. It's our hope that this project will not

only uncover the ways in which empire and College were intertwined, but also serve as a model for other colleges to follow as they too come to terms with their history.'

A Steering Committee will oversee the project. Its members include Professor Elleke Boehmer, Professor Julia Bray, Professor John Darwin FBA, Professor Margot Finn, Professor Ruth Harris FBA, Professor Sir Brian Harrison FBA, Dr Richard Huzzey, Professor Mohamed-Salah Omri, Professor Lloyd Pratt, Professor Barbara Savage, Professor Amia Srinivasan, and Dr Nicholas Westcott.

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## Silver Medal for Bagley Wood in the Duke of Cornwall Award

In July 2019 Bagley Wood, owned and managed by St John's, was awarded the Silver Medal in the 2019 Duke of Cornwall's Award for multipurpose resilient forestry.

**The purpose of the award is to recognise woods that are managed for ecological and economic resilience to threats such as pests, disease and climate change in order to meet commercial, environmental and social objectives.**

Bagley Wood is a beautiful 230-hectare (568-acre) wood on the edge of Oxford, most of which has been owned by St John's College since 1557, just two years after the College was founded. The majority of its trees are of native species and almost all of it has been continuously wooded since at least 1600, which means that, in large part, it is classified as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW): a fine remnant of England's original natural forest. The wood is open to permissive public access on maintained ('stone' or 'mown') routes, via gated entrances only.



The Royal Forestry Society website describes the wood as 'dominated by oak but including many small areas of non-native trees, planted over the years by staff of Oxford University, often as a focus for forestry research. For conservation reasons it is assumed that the wood will continue to be dominated by high timber-quality oak in a semi-natural structure, but a range of exotic species and non-local provenances will be retained as minor components to ensure that the wood is responsive, ecologically and commercially, to changing environmental conditions. Social resilience is addressed through ongoing discussions with neighbours and local Parish Councils, with collaboration formed around the provision of permissive public access for local residents. Such interaction is fundamental to the successful management of this large wood in its urban setting.'

Professor Nicholas Harberd, Keeper of Bagley Wood and Sibthorpean Professor of Plant Sciences at the University of Oxford, said, 'On behalf of St John's College, we are honoured and delighted that our strategies for management of our ancient woodland and for enabling community access to it are so strongly endorsed by this award from the RFS.'



## Auditorium refurbished and officially reopened

In December 2018 our Auditorium in Garden Quad was officially reopened following extensive refurbishment work.

**The President, Fellows and guests celebrated the reopening** in Garden Quad, with a reception and concert featuring Honorary Fellow Ian Bostridge and pianist Imogen Cooper, who performed works by Beethoven and Schubert. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring such renowned artists together musically for the first time, in a space that Bostridge praised as a 'sheer pleasure to sing in'.

The College worked with creative acoustics and theatre consultancy Sound Space Vision, architect Alan Berman and Berman Guedes Stretton architects to revitalise the Auditorium. The refurbishment has created more comfortable seating and improved wheelchair access, as well as much better acoustics and new technical facilities.

The Auditorium's future as a premier venue for academic, musical and theatrical events in Oxford is assured.





## Success for St John's student Andreas Halner in Oxford All-Innovate Idea Competition

Andreas Halner was part of the winning team in this year's All-Innovate Idea Competition. Andreas has just completed pre-clinical medicine and is now reading for a DPhil in machine learning and clinical medicine.

**The All-Innovate Idea Competition is an Oxford inter-college competition in which students can pitch their entrepreneurial ideas for a chance to win the top prize of £10,000 prize money, and two runner-up prizes of £5,000. It aims to encourage all students at Oxford, regardless of discipline, to develop an entrepreneurial skill set and to generate entrepreneurial ideas. All-Innovate is led by Oxford colleges, in partnership with the Oxford Foundry, and is supported by Santander Universities.**

This year's £10,000 prize went to DECancer.AI, developed by a team including Andreas, who explained that DECancer 'uses artificial analysis of blood data to detect the onset of cancer'. Their idea is already in prototype form and 'has shown great promise in detecting a variety of cancers at their earliest stages, which would enable healthcare systems to begin the treatment process for patients before cancers' damaging impacts'. DECancer 'has the potential to literally save lives, helping millions of patients and their families'.

One of the judges, Brent Hoberman, commented: 'The time for this impressive diagnostic tool is now, and this is the Oxford team to seize their competitive advantage and deliver it'.



Andreas's team was among 100 initial teams to enter the competition, going through four rounds of selection before being whittled down to the ten teams that would compete in the final. The shortlisted teams gave five-minute presentations followed by up to five minutes of Q and A led by external investors.

Andreas described the whole process of being involved in All-Innovate as 'so rewarding', and particularly enjoyed engaging with a diverse range of students from across the University. The team will spend their prize money on continuing to develop their idea.

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## 2019 Mapleton-Bree Prize for work in the Creative Arts

Congratulations to Noam Rosenbaum (2018, PPE), this year's winner of the Mapleton-Bree Prize, awarded annually for a piece of creative work by any junior member of St John's.

**This year there was a record number of 27 entries, covering drawing, painting, drama, poetry, music and photography. The diversity and standard was particularly high, with an exceptionally strong field in music of impressive variety. However, the judges were unanimous in awarding the prize of £350 to Noam for his two piano compositions, *Les Nuages au Bord* and *L'Aube sous la Lune*.**

There were special commendations for Oscar Lyons, Greta Sharp and Eiko Soga, who each received £50.

The judges for 2019 included a Fellow, the Artist-in-Residence, two JCR Art Reps and a member of the Communications team.



## Success for St John's Computer Science students in programming contest

Three teams from the University of Oxford showed off their programming skills in the Northwestern European Regional Contest, part of the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest, held in Eindhoven on the weekend of 23–25 November 2018.

The teams included two first-year St John's Computer Science students, Shaun Marshall and Costin-Andrei Oncescu.

In the contest, teams of up to three students were tasked with solving as many programming problems as possible from a given problem set within a five-hour time limit, using only one computer. Potential solutions were submitted and corrected by an automated judging system.

Around 120 teams took part this year, and the Oxford teams achieved some excellent results. Shaun Marshall's team came in sixth place, winning a silver medal, while Costin-Andrei Oncescu was part of the team Los Patrons, who finished in second place, winning a gold medal and qualifying for the World Finals in Porto, Portugal, which took place in April 2019.



## St John's Second Assessor

The Revd. Professor William Whyte, Tutorial Fellow in History, was admitted as the University's Assessor in a ceremony at the Sheldonian Theatre on 13 March 2019. The University's Proctors and Assessor are elected annually from amongst members of Congregation, with colleges taking it in turns to nominate. Professor Whyte is only the College's second Assessor. The first, in 1981, was John White, then tutor in Chemistry and now an Honorary Fellow. The Assessor plays a key role in ensuring that the University operates in accordance with its statutes and that the views of students and staff are listened to.







Joshua Calder-Travis



Ruby-Anne Binn



Anita Hasson



Morgan Mohr



Monika Papayova

### *Picture This!* St John's Photography Competition

Throughout the course of the 2018/19 academic year, the College's Communications Team ran a photographic competition entitled *Picture This!* Open to those studying, teaching or working at St John's, entries were based around the suggested themes of:

- College community** | **A slice of student life** | **Sports** | **Our environment** | **In the abstract** | **Inspiration**

All of the entries were of an extremely high standard and skilfully captured life at St John's. It is our pleasure to share some of them in the pages of this edition of *TW*.

## Portraits of long-serving college staff

On 14 November 2018 College members were treated to a private drinks reception for the unveiling of a special exhibition featuring portraits of long-serving non-academic staff.

**The project was commissioned by the College to celebrate** the all-important contribution made by non-academic staff to the St John's community. Everyone who had been working at St John's for fifteen years or more by the end of Trinity Term 2018 was invited to sit for the portraits. 57 members of staff were eligible, most of whom agreed to take part. The longest-serving member depicted started at the College in 1973.

This enjoyable event was attended by many of the sitters, as well as family members, friends, academic staff and students. The photographer, Rory Carnegie, gave a short speech, saying what a pleasure it was to work with the sitters, and everyone joined the President in toasting 'The Staff of St John's College'.

Keeper of the College Pictures, Georgy Kantor, said, 'We have been incredibly lucky to have the distinguished photographer Rory Carnegie for this project. He has been able both to give us spectacular portraits of individuals and to convey the sense in which they, with dignity and efficiency, shape this College in their everyday work. The people shown in his portraits truly belong to this place – and this place belongs to them.'

Rory Carnegie said, 'When I first met the staff who had elected to be photographed, I explained that the way I wanted to approach the project was to give them as much authority as possible. They could choose the groups that they would be photographed in, or be photographed alone. They could choose how to dress, how to pose, and they could choose where they wanted to be photographed.'

'Whilst the photograph was being made, the camera was tethered to a laptop, so that those being photographed could see immediately how they were being represented. After the session, I sent the images to the 'sitters' and they selected the final image to be printed. These photographs are the results of their collaborations, negotiations and contributions.'

Staff members thanked the Fellows and students at the College who helped to organise and run the event. The portraits have been put on display in public areas around the College.









## St John's 2019 BME Dinner

St John's held its annual BME Dinner on 1 February 2019.

As part of the event, **Ranjita Rajan** gave an inspiring talk, including a fascinating account of the background and experiences that led her to found the KARTA initiative, which exists to promote inclusive social mobility. From her work as an economist in developing countries to the

corporate sector, Ranjita described her growing belief that 'global sustainability relies on unlocking the inherent human capital in the poorest people in the most fragile parts of the world'.

Attendees from the JCR, MCR and SCR gathered for drinks in the New Seminar Room, before the annual dinner in the Senior Common Room.



Sofia Blanchard



Sofia Blanchard

sofia blanchard  
photography



## Diwali 2018

St John's hosted this year's Diwali celebrations on 29 October 2018, with an International Hall Dinner organised by third-year medic Ishta Sharma.

College members and their guests were joined by members of the Oxford India Society, and everyone enjoyed a three-course menu of Indian specialities in the candle-lit surroundings of the Hall. Traditional dress contributed to the colour of the evening and the atmosphere in Hall.

An introductory speech by Professor Philip Maini, Professorial Fellow and Tutor for Ethnic Minorities, was followed by an excellent address on Diwali traditions from Ishta and a warm welcome from the President, Professor Maggie Snowling.

Afterwards, over 100 guests gathered in Front Quad to light sparklers and mark the end of this special event to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

Alexander Lawrence





## Bainton Road Nursery is... outstanding!

**St John's Nursery was praised in its latest Ofsted inspection,** and was rated 'Outstanding' across the board.

Our Bainton Road Nursery provides places for up to 26 babies and young children of College and University students and staff. The Nursery opened in November 2016 in purpose-built premises near the St John's College Sports Ground.

The inspector praised the staff's meticulous planning and the inclusion of the children's own thoughts on their learning; babies and children are 'extremely enthusiastic and motivated to learn'.

The children's high levels of independence were noted, and the children's behaviour was also commended as 'remarkably good', and partnerships with parents are excellent.

Congratulating Nursery Manager Marie Gaughan and her team, President Maggie Snowling said: 'Being judged outstanding by Ofsted in all areas on its first inspection is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved with the Bainton Road Nursery.'

'I'm delighted that the excellence of the team has been recognised and, as a researcher in children's language development, am especially pleased that the report highlights the focus on helping babies and children to gain excellent communication skills.'



# LECTURE NOTES

College hosted a wonderfully varied range of lectures and talks this year. Further information about upcoming talks and events can always be found on the website or by contacting the Alumni team directly.

## Founder's Lecture

The 2019 Founder's Lecture was given by alumnus and Honorary Fellow, Professor Sir David Cannadine (1972, Modern History). President of the British Academy, Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University, Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, and Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford, he is the author of many books, including *Victorious Century: The United Kingdom, 1800–1906*; *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy*; and *Class in Britain*. He has also written biographies of George V and Margaret Thatcher.

Sir David's lecture explored the complex and fascinating story of Winston Churchill's relations with the United States, beginning with his early visits during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and reaching a high point during the Second World War. As the child of a British father and an American mother, Churchill felt a special affinity with the United States, believing that the unity of the English-speaking peoples was the best way

of preserving British influence and of promoting peace, progress and prosperity throughout the world.

This alliance was, however, impacted throughout the twentieth century by many shifts in global positions and power, with the decline of the British Empire and with the United States becoming, in the words of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, 'the indispensable nation'.

The relationship between the US and the UK has not always been straightforward, and particularly during the war years Churchill found it more difficult to manage than he would publicly admit, as his ardent Atlanticism was never fully reciprocated in Washington during this period.

The lecture demonstrated that subsequent years have witnessed a divergence of ideas and resources between the two nations, and Sir David argued that this was a subject which had considerable contemporary and unresolved resonances.







## In Conversation with Victoria Coren Mitchell

On 9 November 2018 St John's was delighted to host Victoria Coren Mitchell (1991, English Language and Literature) in conversation with her former tutor, Emeritus Professor John Kelly, in the newly-refurbished Garden Quad Auditorium.

Since leaving St John's Victoria has gained prominence as an author, columnist, professional poker champion, and presenter of TV and radio programmes including *Have I Got News For You*, *Only Connect*, and *Women Talking About Cars*.

Their discussion touched on a number of episodes during Victoria's time as a student as well as the various

strands of her career. She revealed that the development of her strategies in poker was influenced in part by her study of the narrative structure of novels, and spoke of her vocation as a writer, having first been published at the age of 14 in *Just Seventeen* magazine.

Professor Kelly's influence on Victoria during her time at St John's was clearly profound and her enduring affection for the College is evident: she once took a taxi from a poker tournament in Cardiff to Oxford, arriving at St John's a mere two hours after the start of her Gaudy.

# RESEARCH TALKS

Every term, St John's plays host to a series of talks by Fellows. This year's talks included the following glimpses of current research.

## Understanding the problem of accidental awareness during general anaesthesia

Professor Jaideep J Pandit,  
Consultant Anaesthetist,  
Fellow & Tutor in the  
Physiological Sciences



The idea of patients suddenly waking in pain during their surgery is a terrifying one, yet one that is intermittently reported in the media. To understand the phenomenon, it is first necessary to know something about 'general anaesthesia' and our current understanding of its mechanisms.

### History

Before anaesthesia, surgery was akin to vivisection and contemporary prints reflect the associated terror (Fig. 1). All this changed in 1846 when William Morton demonstrated that ether could create a reversible unconscious state for



Royal Collection Trust/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2019

Fig. 1: Surgery before anaesthesia



surgery, followed very quickly by other suitable chemicals. The Harvard physician Oliver Wendell Holmes (father of Oliver Wendell, the US Supreme Court Judge) named this emerging science 'anaesthesia'. One problem, however, was that anaesthesia did not evolve within a formal academic framework, nor was it accompanied by rigorous scientific publications. Rather, the pioneers were a motley crew of charlatans, failed physicians or dentists, and crooks. Morton tried to hide the true nature of ether (a simple, everyday solvent) and pretended it was secret 'Letheon'. He tried to patent it, becoming a serial litigant before dying, in penury, of heatstroke. Horace Wells, a former partner of Morton, introduced both nitrous oxide and chloroform, but became addicted to the latter and committed suicide in 1848. Thomas Jackson, another pioneer, claimed prior discovery of anaesthesia and died in an asylum in 1880.

These embarrassing origins meant that in the 19th century, anaesthesia was delivered in an entirely ad hoc manner and it was not until 1908 that proper institutions were formed to aid the sober study of the subject (the Society of Anaesthetists at the Royal Society of Medicine), followed by journals, exams (Diploma in 1934) and academic departments (Harvard 1934, Oxford's Nuffield Department in 1936). The initial focus was patient safety. Ether and chloroform were combustible so an early task was to find non-flammable agents. Deaths due to anaesthesia (the first in 1848) were due to drug-induced cardiac and respiratory depression (including pulmonary aspiration of gastric contents). So the majority of anaesthetic research, then and now, concerns cardio-respiratory physiology (my own primary field). The question of how anaesthetic agents caused unconsciousness was regarded as a secondary, almost 'luxury' question as compared



Fig. 2: Modern anaesthesia machine

with immediate questions of how to keep patients alive. These cardio-respiratory challenges were met using a combination of drug development (pharmacology) with modern agents having fewer depressant effects on the vital organs, and innovative technology, with monitoring devices measuring cardiac and pulmonary function continuously. Much anaesthesia literature concerns these technical aspects of drug delivery and patient monitoring. A modern-day anaesthesia workstation (Fig. 2) is very different to equipment at the turn of the 20th century.

One important early consensus was the distinction between unconsciousness (the 'narcotic' or 'hypnotic' effects of anaesthesia) and analgesia (pain relief using different, non-anaesthetic drugs including what are called local anaesthetics). Analgesics do not cause suitable unconsciousness and anaesthetics do not relieve pain.

## Understanding mechanisms of anaesthesia

When biomedical scientists refer to the ‘mechanism’ of any drug they need to offer explanations at three distinct but related ‘hierarchies of biological organisation’: the molecular/cellular (ie, which molecules/receptors the drug interacts with and how it affects cell function); the system (the effect on organs and interactions of organs); the whole body (the effect on things like pain, memory, experience).

## What is it like to be a fish? Sensory systems in an underwater world

Professor Theresa Burt de Perera, Tutorial Fellow  
in Biology

Thomas Nagel famously argues that it is impossible to understand how it is to be a bat, because its subjective experience is so different from our own. However, Daniel Dennet notes that any ‘interesting or theoretically important’ features of a bat’s experience can be studied via observation and experiment. By using behavioural paradigms on navigation, our group seeks to understand what it is like to be a fish; how their sensory systems work, how the brain interprets the information inputted, and how this translates into behavioural output. Studying vertebrates with relatively simple brains informs us about the mechanisms that underpin more complex animals, including ourselves. It also gives us a wider understanding of how these mechanisms have evolved, and how the environment shapes how animals behave.



At the molecular level, we understand the action of any drug by the ‘lock and key’ model. Each drug has a specific shape (lock), determined by its chemical structure, and this shape fits into a specific receptor at the cell (key), and this specific drug-receptor combination (lock-in-key) leads to specific drug action. Simplistically, penicillin is an antibiotic and amlodipine a blood pressure drug because they have different shapes. The problem with anaesthetics appears to be that they all have very different shapes: therefore they cannot possibly all act on the same receptor. So how is it, nevertheless, they appear to produce the same clinical state of unconsciousness? At the turn of the 20th century, Overton and Meyer proposed instead that anaesthetics act in a unique way: not by acting on specific receptors but by dissolving in the lipid membrane of cells. The resultant ‘swelling’ of the membrane, at a critical point, affects cell function and leads to narcotic actions. The shape of the anaesthetic drug does not matter; only its solubility in the membrane. This theory has become embedded in anaesthetic understanding – although as I shall show later, it is wrong.

Regarding the brain circuitry that is influenced by anaesthetics, there has been much investment in brain imaging technology (such as functional magnetic resonance imaging and the analysis of brain electrical activity, EEG). Despite extensive literature, there are several reasons why this approach has yet to offer a clear picture of anaesthesia mechanisms. One difficulty is that anaesthetics affect all parts of the brain. Are the relevant areas identified by imaging those most sensitive, affected by the lowest dose? Or those areas commonly affected by all agents? Or those affected at the key moments (exact moment of loss of consciousness, awakening, etc)? Or those sites that other studies suggest have some relevance to a sleep-wake cycle? Another difficulty is that for any activity pattern that is detected seemingly associated with anaesthesia, there is considerable overlap with the pattern obtained in the awake state, or in coma, or brain injury etc. In other words, we can probably only detect the difference between ‘very deep anaesthesia’ and being ‘very alert’ - but this is not really a scientific advance as we can easily do that without any technology. Because we need to minimise the dose of anaesthetic to avoid harmful side effects, we need technology that helps us know our dose reduction is still keeping the patient anaesthetised. For this more subtle but clinically relevant question, technology has not helped.



The final level of understanding is the whole body experience, and the most recent advances based on patient questioning have challenged much of our previous understanding of mechanisms at the other hierarchies.

### The 5th National Audit Project (NAP5)

In 2015, on behalf of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, I completed a 3-year study (NAP5) into the problem of ‘accidental awareness’; the largest ever study of its kind. The resulting report won many awards, including from the British Medical Association. We were able to screen for a whole year all the nearly 3 million patients and thereby study a database of ~300 patients who had experienced awareness. For the first time, we established the true incidence of the event as very rare; ~1 in 19,000 cases, which is very reassuring for the public.

However, one unexpected finding was our discovery that patients who were traumatised were not generally affected by pain (distressing as it was). Rather, what particularly led to post-traumatic stress was an experience of *paralysis*. Modern anaesthesia has four main aims: unconsciousness (general anaesthetics), analgesia (opiates, non-steroidal analgesics, local anaesthetics), amnesia (benzodiazepines abolishing traumatic memory), and paralysis. This last is necessary for many types of surgery, as it allows surgeons to cut through muscles and prevents disruptive reflex movement. Different classes of drugs are employed to achieve this, so

Some traumatic experiences of patients who awaken paralysed during surgery.

“ It is the worst form of torture | Is this what it is like to be dead?

I was entombed

I felt buried alive | I thought I was dead”

Table 1

### Detached experiences of patients who waken during anaesthesia

“ I heard someone talking about me and to me... Yet I had trouble to understand it was about me....

I had to search for my body when given the command to move

I floated up in the air viewing myself below as if I was someone else”

Table 2

that each class can be used in minimal doses to avoid side-effects through overdose of any single class. Each class acts at different sites and systems in the body. Drugs causing paralysis (neuromuscular blockade) act at the point where motor nerves join muscle. They have no effect on the brain: thus if administered alone the patient will be completely awake but completely paralysed. What we had discovered was that it was this imbalance between general anaesthesia (in insufficient concentration) and neuromuscular blockade (in excessive concentration), that leads to traumatic experience (Table 1). The solution is not just to monitor the dose/effect of anaesthetic (which as we have seen above, is difficult to do), but more importantly to monitor the effect of neuromuscular blockade (which can easily be achieved using a simple device called a ‘nerve stimulator’). In other words, if the patient is allowed some movement then they may very rarely experience accidental awareness but at least they will be spared the extreme trauma of paralysis.

### Dysanaesthesia: challenging the paradigm

Through these discoveries, we were able to make recommendations which have fundamentally changed the way we practise anaesthesia and made it safer. But one aspect led us to challenge some of the paradigms we have discussed above. We now understood why patients awakening might be traumatised. Yet – again to our surprise – about half of patients who became accidentally awake

were not at all distressed. Moreover, they described their experience in a detached way (Table 2). The inescapable conclusion was that anaesthesia was not binary: it was not a case of being awake or anaesthetised, but there are semi-conscious states in between produced by anaesthetic drugs, which seemed to be satisfactory for surgery. I termed this state ‘dysanaesthesia’, which the press labelled the ‘discovery of a third state of consciousness’ (see: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-24357476>).

This conclusion was supported by a parallel line of investigation using the ‘isolated forearm technique’. First described in the 1970s as a means of detecting accidental awareness, it consists of first administering anaesthesia to the patient in the normal way. Then, a forearm is isolated of its blood supply using a pressure cuff. When neuromuscular blockade is injected into the other arm, there results a patient who is anaesthetised and paralysed – except for the isolated forearm which remains non-paralysed. The idea is that if the patient is accidentally awake, they can move this arm to alert the anaesthetist. Yet, extensive literature from across the world shows a

remarkable and consistent set of results. Patients do not move during surgery with this technique and clearly do not respond to any pain they are administered on top of the surgery. This indicates anaesthesia, given at the conventional doses, is adequate. *However, up to a third of patients respond to verbal command when asked to move their arm!* Moreover, their later recall, if they have any, is exactly akin to the NAP5 reports of dissociation (Table 2).

Dysanaesthesia means that anaesthesia is not a single state, but a constellation of several brain states. In turn, that means that the Overton-Meyer lipid solubility theory cannot be true, since that theory predicts only a singular state of anaesthesia. If, then, the alternative theory – that anaesthetics act on specific receptors – is true, then it means that each anaesthetic is producing its own singular state of anaesthesia or dysanaesthesia. Brain imaging and electrical activity patterns will be different, by anaesthetic type, and there is growing evidence that this indeed is the case. In this way, key observations at whole body level provide insights into molecular mechanisms of anaesthesia.

## ‘She said, he said’

Dr Georgi Gardiner, Junior Research Fellow in Philosophy

Legal standards of proof are thresholds that must be met before institutions can impose sanctions on individuals accused of misconduct. Title IX rules govern sexual misconduct investigations within educational institutions in the US. The ‘preponderance of the evidence’ standard of proof, also known as the ‘balance of probabilities’, governs Title IX proceedings. For the institution to properly formally punish the accused, the sexual misconduct must first be established to a preponderance of the evidence. Recently US Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, proposed raising the Title IX standard of proof to the more demanding ‘clear and convincing evidence’ standard.

‘She said, he said’ cases are accusations of sexual assault, followed by a denial, with no other significant evidence about what happened. I argue that in ‘she said, he said’ cases, the evidence favours the accuser. Probably the accuser is telling the truth and the denier is lying. And so such cases satisfy the preponderance of evidence standard. But it is widely held that significant consequences, such as expulsion or termination of employment, are not legitimised by mere one-on-one conflicting testimony, such as in ‘she said, he said’ cases.

I describe how these claims, when combined, constitute a liberal feminist argument supporting DeVos’s claim that the preponderance of the evidence standard is too low to govern Title IX proceedings. This is because ‘she said, he said’ cases satisfy the standard, but are insufficient to warrant formal sanctions against the accused.





# From Oxford to Thailand

In the heart of a vast stretch of mountains where water is scarce and landslides are common, rural school students get their first glimpse of the microcosmos thanks to an initiative created by St John's students and funded by the College. Phacha Phanomvan (DPhil Economic History, 2014), who led the expedition, reports.

Until 1931, Nan province in north Thailand was a small fiefdom with over a thousand years of history. The inhabitants were referred to in 13th-century inscriptions as 'Gao', a group of Tai-Lao speakers who inhabited the Nan river basin. During the 19th century, Nan supplied Bangkok with over 7,395 kilograms of rock salt per year from the Bo Kluea District. The capital, Nan city, is only 134 kilometres away from Muang Ngeon, the nearest city in Laos. Between 1965 and 1983, communist armies occupied parts of the province. It was one of the bloodiest battlefronts during the communist insurgency. Subsequently, other districts became large refugee hubs and are now home to many ethnically diverse communities.

The team from St John's visited Bo Kluea district's Sawa Nuea School and Bo Kluea High School, which are some of the most remote schools in the province. The outreach project is a student-led initiative which aims to take 'foldsopes' (folding portable microscopes made of reinforced paper) for students in these communities. Collaborating with fellow MCR members, Tunrayo Adeleke-Laredo (DPhil in Physics) and Samuel Kim (BM BCh Medicine), I designed the outreach project to

deliver workshops addressing both STEM engagement and basic English.

Travelling ten hours by road to Nan City from Bangkok, the team arrived in Nan on the morning of 25 October, and were welcomed by the former Member of Parliament, Ms Poonsook Lohajoti, a leader of several development initiatives in the province's remote communities. It took another two hours' drive from the main provincial city to Ban Sawa Nuea, which lies near the Nan River source, in Bo Kluea District. There were neither phone signals nor internet access.

The first school we visited was the local state school in Ban Sawa Nuea, which offers Reception to Secondary Education. It looks after 247 students and roughly 100 students board at the school during weekdays. Students come from surrounding villages, some approximately three to four hours' trek through dangerous mud paths to get to the school. During the recent monsoon season, two students were killed in landslide accidents. The St John's Outreach team brought along much-needed enthusiasm and excitement for the school. 60 students between 13 to 16 years old were selected to participate in the workshop.

Organising the visit and teaching had been a major challenge for the outreach team in the UK due to heavy signal disruption on the internet and phone access at the school during the monsoon season. Our team worked with Kritsada Tanya, English teacher, and Soraya Kamkiew and Rattanabhorn Tanita, science teachers, who were very eager to learn about the foldsopes and assist with teaching activities. Through our discussions we learned that one serious problem with hygiene practices is the consumption of raw river algae, often heavily infested with parasites. As a result, we decided to gear the lessons towards materials students encounter in their daily lives, stressing awareness of parasites and contamination in everyday objects the students encounter. The school does not currently have a functioning microscope, and even in schools with station microscopes, the ratio of equipment to student is one to hundred. Electricity failures also often disrupt classes.



Scenery in Bo Kluea District near Ban Sawa



Ban Sawa School

The foldscopes that the St John's outreach team donated allowed every student in the science class direct access to microscopes, which none of the students had seen or used before. One of the immediate outcomes from the workshop was how the students were reminding each other to wash their hands before lunch breaks. They also sent photos taken with the foldscopes to their parents. We stayed with the community in Ban Sawa until Saturday and travelled to the next school in Bo Kleua main district area.

We also met with school officials at the second school, Bo Kluea High School, in preparation for the workshop. Phornthep Senanta and Chawaeng Chubfhoon, the school's director and deputy director, welcomed our team and introduced us to the school's science and English teachers, along with members of the student academic committee. While Bo Kluea High School has one stationary microscope, only eight students had seen and used the microscope due to constant electricity problems and equipment to student ratio limits. The foldscope donation and training allowed all students in a class to participate in science experiments. After spending a day on planning with the teachers, the school director

provided us with a school auditorium room and selected 63 students to participate in the workshop with foldscopes and English tuition.

The students were aged between 15 to 18 years old, composed of M4 to M6 (equivalent to GCSE and A-Levels), but the school curriculum is geared towards vocational training. Last year, the school had successfully sent three students to university to pursue degrees in education and agricultural science. The school is made up of 493 students, about half of whom are currently residing in boarding facilities. It is the only school within Bo Kleua district that provides high school education for students. One aspect we found interesting during our work is how the teachers and students found it fascinating that BAME individuals are studying at what they perceive to be a 'white institution'. This has given some of the female students within the student academic committee hope that it may be possible to pursue higher degrees on STEM subjects abroad.

One of the more memorable conversations we had on our commute through the mountains to the schools was a debate on the most effective use of the limited resources available to the schools to serve the community. At the time we visited Bo Kluea High School, the school's boarding facilities were being expanded to accommodate more of the current students who were having to travel from remote parts of the province- often traversing the winding mountain roads alone on motorbikes. Given that there are still many children from even more remote parts of the province for whom school is totally unreachable, it seemed building accommodation at one school rather



Students at Ban Sawa collecting samples with Tunrayo Adeleke-Laredo and Samuel Kim



Workshop at Ban Sawa School





Bo Kluea High School

than having more schools that are closer to villages might not necessarily increase high school student numbers. But of course, schools need teachers and equipment, and the difficulty of finding qualified staff willing to make the journey or board at school themselves was already apparent at the schools we visited. M4 to M6 education requires more teacher to student ratio and good equipment, currently one teacher teaches approximately a class of 40 to 50 students. English resources and opportunities to practice language skills is very limited. The director of Bo Kluea High School was hopeful that his school would

attract more volunteers and more voluntary initiatives led by St John's students.

Our workshops at both schools were well received, and at Sawa Nuea School, we were told that our visit to the school was the first time that students had experienced a practical lesson. As scientists who received the privilege of a solid foundation in science through our early schooling, we could not imagine the difficulties that the teachers face to stimulate and nurture curiosity. Despite this, it made it even more humbling to sit beside the teenagers as they gasped at their first sight of some of the microscopic inhabitants of Nan.



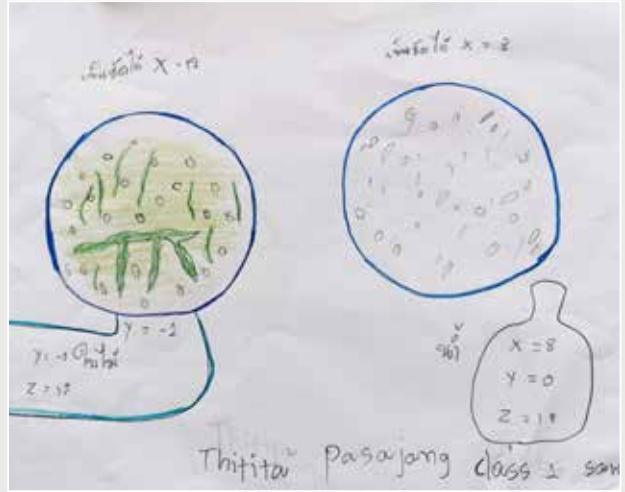
Showing the students how to use and record the foldscope 'stage' coordinates.



This student, who has a learning disability, was not usually very engaged during class. His drawing though was one of the most detailed and precise, and he was very focused in class.



Science teachers at Ban Sawa School



Student work



Collecting samples for the workshop at Bo Kluea School



Students at Bo Kluea School showing their work.



An adventurous sample collector climbing down to the school water tank to collect his samples.



A student capturing a photo of an insect leg seen through the foldscope with his phone.



# ARRIVALS

We are delighted to welcome new members to the St John's community, and hope that you will enjoy reading about their research, and have the opportunity to meet them at future events.

## Governing Body



**Professor Séverine Toussaert, Official Fellow and Tutor in Economics, from the LSE**

Professor Toussaert joined St John's in Michaelmas Term 2018 as a Tutorial Fellow at St John's and as an Associate Professor at the Department of Economics. She obtained her PhD in Economics at New York University and spent nearly two years at the London School of Economics before joining Oxford. She writes:

'Although I am an economist, I am not the kind of economist who would be able to advise you on your portfolio investments. Not at all! My work is in fact at the intersection of economics and psychology and I spend a lot of my time reading about topics that at first sight might seem unrelated to economics. One research topic I feel passionate about is behaviour

change. We all have self-control problems that make us procrastinate in our everyday life, whether it is finishing (or even simply starting) boring tasks, going to the gym or quitting smoking. Some of my research seeks to understand how we can design powerful incentives to help people change their habits. One idea I have been studying is to make people pre-commit to healthier choices before temptation arises (for instance, by pre-ordering food before feeling hungry). Besides the use of incentives, I have also been exploring more recently how we can leverage pride as a motivational force. The idea is simple: suppose I challenged your ability to succeed in a given task, would you want to push harder to prove me wrong? I use randomised experiments to test my ideas with different types of populations and in different settings (laboratory, field, online). And sometimes I use what I learn from my research in my everyday life... well, sometimes.'

**Professor Amia Srinivasan, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Tutorial Fellow, from UCL and All Souls College, Oxford**

Amia Srinivasan has wide-ranging interests in epistemology, political philosophy, metaphilosophy and the history and philosophy of feminism. She received a BA from Yale, a BPhil and DPhil from Oxford,



and was previously a Prize Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford, as well as a permanent lecturer at University College London. Her work has addressed questions about the limits of our self-knowledge, the nature and function of ideology, the political aptness of anger, and free speech and the practice of 'no platforming'. She is currently at work on two books. The first, entitled *The Contingent World: Genealogy, Epistemology, Politics*, focuses on a tradition of 'critical genealogy' – the proffering of causal explanations of our beliefs, concepts and values, in an effort to debunk or destabilise them. The book traces a history of this tradition, from the pre-Socratic sceptics of religion to contemporary evolutionary debunkers of morality, and then asks what epistemic and political significance such genealogies might

have. The second book is a set of feminist essays entitled *The Right to Sex*. Together these essays – on rape, abortion, pornography, sex and state power, sex and pedagogy, and the ethics of sexual desire – offer a new way of thinking about the moral and political complexities of sex, beyond the question of consent. As a contributing editor of the *London Review of Books*, Amia Srinivasan also writes frequently for a public audience on topics including animals, the ethics of philanthropy, universities, death, sex and surfing.

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## Supernumerary Teaching Fellows



**Dr Gemma Tidman, French, from Wolfson College, Oxford**

Dr Tidman's research focuses on early modern, particularly eighteenth-century, French literature and cultural history. During her doctorate Dr Tidman looked at how modern French notions of *littérature* emerged in the context of a mid-eighteenth-century quarrel between teachers, politicians, and writers (including, notably,

Rousseau) about how to reform French literary education. The thesis is being revised for publication as a book with Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment. Before coming to St John's she taught at Worcester College, and also spent a year working at the Wallace Collection, London. The latter gave her an interest in the interplay between eighteenth-century literature, visual arts and material culture, which she will be pursuing in her next project, on games and word play in early modern France.

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**Dr Rachel James, Physical Geography, from the Environmental Change Institute, Oxford**

Dr Rachel James moved to St John's in October 2018. She has grand aspirations! Noting that climate change is already perturbing weather patterns worldwide, she highlights that all of us will soon need to cope with some kind of climate change impacts, be they rising temperatures, changes in water availability, or higher risks of extreme weather events.

Rachel's mission is to improve the climate information available to help

people prepare for future changes in climate, with a focus on African regions. For example, her current scientific analysis of models and satellite data is designed to support dam managers and agricultural companies in Malawi and Tanzania, as well as to provide better evidence for international negotiations on climate change. There is too much work in this area for Rachel to do alone, and she is collaborating widely with researchers and practitioners from South Africa to Sweden, Cameroon to Kenya. In the future, her goal is to lead a group of scientists developing innovative research for resilient planning.

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## Early Career Fellows



**Dr Elizaveta Fouksman, from the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Oxford**

Dr Fouksman is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at St John's, with a departmental home at the African Studies Centre at the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies. Liz has a doctorate in International



Development from the University of Oxford, and has previously held research fellowships at Harvard University and the University of the Witwatersrand. Her work focuses on moral, social and cultural attachments to work and working among the long-term unemployed, as well as on global movements around universal basic income (UBI), post-work and shorter hours. In particular, she is investigating the ways unemployed welfare recipients in southern Africa understand the links between time-use, work and income. Her research asks how such links challenge futurist calls for the decentring of labour via mechanisms such as UBI and cash transfers.

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**Dr Devani Singh, from the English Faculty**

Dr Devani Singh has held a Fellowship at St John's in conjunction with her Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship based in the English Faculty. Dr Singh is a book historian of the late medieval and early modern periods. Her research studies the production, transmission

and reading of English books. She is particularly interested in the transitions between manuscript and print that mark this period. How did print change readers' expectations about what a book should contain, and how it might look? This question is explored in her current projects on Chaucer's Renaissance reception and on the emergence of printed prefaces to readers in English books.

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## Junior Research Fellows



**Dr Oliver Padgett, Biology, from Merton College, Oxford**

Dr Padgett researches how animals navigate. His chosen subject, the tube-nosed seabird, routinely travels many thousands of kilometres, both to forage during breeding and on long, trans-equatorial migrations. This navigational ability requires both an adequate sensory system and cognitive apparatus to detect, process and store environmental information in a way that can be used as a functional guidance system. Using miniature on-board GPS loggers, he tracks natural and experimentally

manipulated seabird movements to investigate how this cognitive algorithm might work, and whether it has the structural properties required to solve complex spatial tasks.

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**Dr Guy Cooper, Biology, from Balliol College, Oxford**

Dr Cooper works in the Zoology department, with a background in physics and mathematics. In his research, he uses mathematical models to try to understand why the forces of natural selection have led to the evolution of the complex forms of life on Earth today. For instance, multicellular organisms (such as humans, sharks and trees) evolved when previously independent unicellular life began to coalesce into primitive groups and to engage in division of labour for mutual benefit. By what calculus of natural selection did this occur? Conversely, why did this process not occur in the ancestors of the unicellular species of bacteria and amoeba that have retained their solitary lifestyles to this day?

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**Dr Samuel Derbyshire, Anthropology, from Queen's College, Oxford**

Dr Derbyshire moved to St John's in October 2018. Broadly speaking, his research focuses on the histories of pastoralist societies in arid and semi-arid regions across eastern and northern Africa. Since joining St John's, he has been exploring the theme of socio-cultural resilience over long-term historical change in northern Kenya with a National Geographic Early Career Grant. His research is generally comprised of extensive ethnographic fieldwork built on close and longstanding relationships with various semi-nomadic pastoralist groups. He has also recently obtained a large grant from the British Museum Endangered Material Knowledge Programme to document the *Asapan* initiation ceremony of the Turkana people (a community he worked with extensively throughout his DPhil). This documentation effort, which will run alongside his ongoing research in the region over the next two years, will produce an archive of photographs, videos and textual records that will be deposited in the British Museum's fully open-access digital repository.

This archive will also be donated to key educational institutions in northern Kenya, to ensure that future generations from the Turkana region have access to it in the years to come. Alongside this research, Samuel is also currently working on a book that is due to be published with Routledge as part of a new African archaeology and heritage series.

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**Dr Darci Sprengel, Music, from Beloit College, Wisconsin**

Dr Sprengel's research broadly investigates the intersections of sound, the body and power. Her first book, *'Postponed Endings': Youth Music and Affective Politics in Post-Revolutionary Egypt*, examines how Egyptian 'do-it-yourself' music circulates affect to transform consciousness, behaviour, emotion and the built environment in ways that hold potential for innovative forms of political action under conditions of authoritarian-capitalism. Her second project examines the contemporary politics of race-making in urban Egypt. It analyses diverse musical practices to interrogate the usefulness and limitations of dominant critical race theory for understanding.



Alexandra Panman



# LEAVERS

We take this opportunity to thank warmly those Fellows who are leaving St John's or retiring this year. We congratulate them on their new roles, and look forward to welcoming them back to visit College.

**Dr Maria Bruna**

Junior Research Fellow  
in Mathematics

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**Dr Emily Corran**

Junior Research Fellow  
in History

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**Dr Julie Durcan**

Supernumerary Teaching Fellow  
in Geography

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**Dr Georgi Gardiner**

Junior Research Fellow  
in Philosophy

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**Dr Sarah Hickmott**

Junior Research Fellow  
in Modern Languages

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**Dr Tian Liang**

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow,  
History of Art

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**Dr Joshua Makepeace**

Junior Research Fellow  
in Chemistry

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**Dr Jennifer Oliver**

Supernumerary Teaching Fellow  
in French

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**Dr David Seifert**

Supernumerary Teaching Fellow  
in Mathematics

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**Professor Lionel Tarassenko**

Professorial Fellow in Electrical  
and Electronic Engineering

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# President's Portrait Unveiled

IN JUNE THE COLLEGE CELEBRATED THE UNVEILING OF THE OFFICIAL COLLEGE PORTRAIT OF PROFESSOR MAGGIE SNOWLING, THE FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF ST JOHN'S (2012–).



Professor Carolyne Larrington, Vice-President (Academic), oversaw the portrait event together with many friends and members of College. Dr Georgy Kantor, Keeper of Pictures, explored the tradition of commissioning portraits of presidents and other distinguished members and benefactors of St John's. The practice dates back to the 1690s when a set of portraits, including that of the College's Founder in 1555, Sir Thomas White, were hung in Hall in frames specially commissioned for the occasion. Presidents' portraits were commissioned more systematically from the nineteenth century and the College now has a fine collection, representing a variety of styles from a number of respected artists. Particularly noteworthy among more recent portraits in the College's collection are the 1978 portrait of Sir Richard Southern by Margaret Foreman, the 1986 portrait of Sir John Kendrew by Ruskin Spear and the 2008 portrait of Professor Elizabeth Fallaize, the College's first female Fellow, by Bryan Organ.



The portrait of Professor Snowling is by Benjamin Sullivan, winner of the 2017 BP Portrait Award and the BP Portrait Award 30 Year Vote, and is set in the Parlour of the President's Lodgings. He had previously drawn Professor Dorothy Bishop in the same setting for the University's 'Diversifying Portraiture' project. Describing the painting of the portrait, Ben explained the importance of showing not only something of the sitter, but also something of the institution. He chose the Parlour because it had not featured in other Presidents' portraits and also because it had good light, though it was hard to control as it came into the room from both the north and south. The subject is seated by a window and is viewed with a videographer's line, pointing down from the left, which has the effect of subtly enhancing the flesh tones of the image. The whole picture is focused on Maggie's face and the strong colouring of the portrait is set against the cream walls of the room.

A number of references in the painting point clearly to the time and place of its creation. Through the window the viewer sees the building work on the

College's new Study Centre during 2017/18 (including a man in a high-vis jacket, possibly a first for an Oxford Head of House's portrait). The painting was finished in autumn 2018 and the autumn colours of the trees work very well within the overall composition. In addition the large Chinese vase not only helps to hold the composition together, but its opulence also alludes to St John's ample resources. Finally, there is a glimpse of the portrait of Anne of Cleves, another strong and determined woman and one of the College's most famous paintings. This portrait hangs in the Parlour and the painting within a painting serves to anchor the subject in the frame; the colours also harmonise well with the rest of the composition which, fortuitously or not, also reflect the black, red and gold of the College's crest. Cleverly, the artist has reversed the actual portrait so that Anne now holds the carnation, a symbol of love and affection, in her left rather than her right hand, making her left-handed, just like Maggie.

The portrait now hangs in the new Study Centre.









# The Library and Study Centre

CLARE WRIGHT, PARTNER IN WRIGHT & WRIGHT,  
HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE COLLEGE FOR SEVERAL YEARS  
TO DEVELOP THE NEW LIBRARY AND STUDY CENTRE. AS IT OPENS,  
SHE EXPLAINS THE THINKING BEHIND THE PROJECT.

The library has always been at the heart of St John's, beginning with the Old Library, completed in 1596 and subsequently extended by Archbishop Laud as part of Canterbury Quadrangle. Over time, the College has evolved and its library holdings have grown into a significant corpus of historic manuscripts, printed books and personal papers. Unifying the collection and the buildings that house it, the new Study Centre consolidates the Library as a coherent architectural and academic entity. New reading rooms, study rooms and a seminar room, along with state-of-the-art archives, augment existing provision, while within the Old and Laudian Libraries, key historic and architectural elements are restated, access improved, security enhanced and readers' facilities improved, all within what is now a zero-carbon building.



Very often a building solution is found by looking carefully at what exists, as though by gently brushing the sand away, what was there all the time is revealed. The beautiful exterior of Canterbury Quadrangle exudes a sense of tranquility that belies the struggles there have been to accommodate the ever-growing and evolving library inside. Various ways of preserving the appearance of the quadrangle, while also resolving library logistics, were rejected: building underground would be too apologetic, while building elsewhere would turn the original into a mausoleum. It transpired that the solution was inbuilt by Archbishop Laud and Mr Sprott in the 17th century, just waiting to be found.





Canterbury Quadrangle was set out on formal geometric lines, with movement, both externally and internally, either on axis or through right angles. Walking into Canterbury Quadrangle is a deeply moving experience as one is drawn through by the framed light of the garden beyond. At the extraordinary point in space where Canterbury Quad meets the Groves we found a hidden passage. Laud had originally planned a three sided quad, framing a garden wall, over which the Groves would be visible. He added the Laudian Library above the garden wall as an afterthought. To reduce the over-deep cloister this created below, a false wall was built, effectively creating a corridor, known as the Otranto Passage. Four centuries later, this proved the perfect alternative route from Canterbury Quadrangle into the Laudian and Old Libraries. By flipping over the L shape of the Library plan, it could be entered via a staircase at the end of this passageway, so the Old Library, housing some College special collections, could be made secure at the end of the route.

The Otranto Passage also led to a space in the President's garden. Mr Sprott, an academic of the Enlightenment, paid for a boundary wall between the garden and the Groves. This created a bulge, into which the new Study Centre now fits, in such a way that it extends the Library. There are few vantage points from which Canterbury Quad and the Study Centre can be seen together, so the iconic views remain intact.

St John's has been almost a victim of its own success with wonderful new self-contained accommodation to the north, where students can eat, socialise, study and come and go. With no easy link back to the historic core, they can also become detached from collegiate life, which is not ideal. The new Study Centre forms a connection, with a through route between new and old parts of College. It has two very different entrances. The north entrance is visually prominent, designed to meet the scale and aesthetic of the 20th-century residential development it faces, while the entrance from Canterbury Quadrangle is discreetly embedded within the historic fabric. In these ways we have tried to interconnect with different aspects of the College.

Linked to this, the new building has its own inner consciousness. The setting and College parameter set strong physical boundaries. Sprott's Wall could not be breached and the President's garden required privacy, thus blank walls were imposed on the east and west facades. Sprott's Wall is part of a 17th-century stone enclosure that encircles the Groves. The distinction of this park has been brought into ever-sharper focus with the burgeoning development of 20th- and 21st-century College accommodation around it. The Study Centre, as the latest addition, sits behind the wall, but with windows projecting above it, to benefit from the extraordinary vistas into the Groves' beautiful trees.



©Hutton+Crow

The reading rooms are all orientated towards the Groves, in varying relationships with the garden and daylight. They all have warm, oak interiors, though each has its own ambience. While there are different types of study spaces, readers and books are consistently kept separate to avoid browsers disturbing readers.

On the thoroughfare within the building, an informal sitting area was created by stepping overlapping wall planes. The intention was to allow light to permeate in, while screening the garden from views out. A pond at the base of the wall acts as a moat to avoid people on the garden side drifting into view. We wanted the building to work practically but also strove to create a poetic solution. We envisaged this as a modern interpretation of the traditional stained-glass library window, ever changing in different lights. The space sits within a bay of deep, carved slabs of stone that project into a pool of water. We worked closely with the artist Susanna Heron on the design, recognising that reflections and shadows would change constantly on the carving inside and out. Parts of her work refer to primeval forms carved into the stone on Canterbury Quadrangle.

Robustly built and rooted to its site, the Study Centre has a powerful tectonic quality, expressed through its use of stone. Though undoubtedly contemporary, the new Study Centre establishes a courteous dialogue with both the older and more recent elements of the College, while also having a sense of permanence – as if it had always been there. It epitomises the edict of John Ruskin: ‘When we build, let us think that we build forever.’



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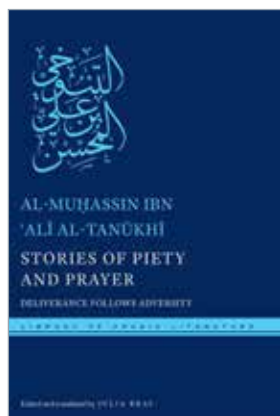
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# THE READING LIST

St John's Fellows have been responsible for many publications over the last year, covering many diverse subjects. A small sample of their books is included below.



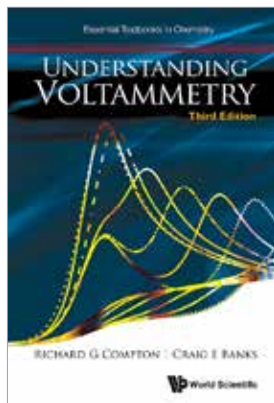
**Julia Bray**

*Stories of Piety and Prayer:  
Deliverance Follows Adversity*  
(New York, 2019)

One of the most popular and influential Arabic books of the Middle Ages, *Deliverance Follows Adversity* is an anthology of stories and anecdotes designed to console and encourage the afflicted. Regarded as a pattern-book of Arabic storytelling, this collection shows how God's providence works through His creatures to rescue them from tribulations ranging from religious persecution and medical emergencies to political skulduggery and romantic woes.

A resident of Basra and Baghdad, al-Tanukhi (327–84/939–94) draws from earlier Arabic classics as well as from oral stories relayed by the author's tenth-century Iraqi contemporaries, who comprised a wide circle of writers, intellectuals, judges, government officials and family members. This edition and translation includes the first three chapters of the work, which

deal with Qur'anic stories and prayers that bring about deliverance, as well as general instances of the workings of providence. The volume incorporates material from manuscripts not used in the standard Arabic edition, and is the first translation into English. The complete translation, spanning four volumes, will be the first integral translation into any European language.

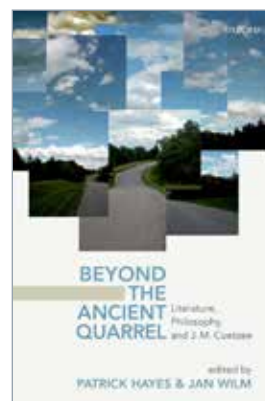


**Richard Compton and Craig E. Banks**  
*Understanding Voltammetry:  
third edition* (London, 2018)

The power of electrochemical measurements in respect of thermodynamics, kinetics and analysis is widely recognised but the subject can be unpredictable to the novice even if they have a strong physical and chemical background, especially if they wish to pursue quantitative measurements. Accordingly, some significant experiments are perhaps wisely never attempted while the literature is sadly replete with flawed attempts at rigorous voltammetry.

This textbook considers how to implement designing, explaining and interpreting experiments centred on various forms of voltammetry (cyclic, microelectrode, hydrodynamic, etc.). The reader is assumed to have knowledge of physical chemistry equivalent to Master's level but no exposure to electrochemistry in general, or voltammetry in particular. While the book is designed to stand alone, references to important research papers are given to provide an introductory entry into the literature.

The third edition contains new material relating to electron transfer theory, experimental requirements, scanning electrochemical microscopy, adsorption, electroanalysis and nanoelectrochemistry.



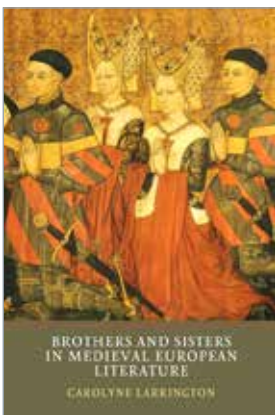
**Patrick Hayes and Jan Wilm (eds.)**  
*Beyond the Ancient Quarrel:  
Literature, Philosophy, and  
J.M. Coetzee*, (Oxford, 2018)

In Plato's Republic, Socrates spoke of an 'ancient quarrel between



literature and philosophy' which he offered to resolve once and for all by banning the poets from his ideal city. Few philosophers have taken Socrates at his word, and out of the ancient quarrel there has emerged a long tradition that has sought to value literature chiefly as a useful supplement to philosophical reasoning. The fiction of J.M. Coetzee makes a striking challenge to this tradition. While his writing has frequently engaged philosophical subjects in explicit ways, it has done so with an emphasis on the dissonance between literary expression and philosophical reasoning. And while Coetzee has often overtly engaged with academic literary theory, his fiction has done so in a way that has tended to disorient rather than affirm those same theories, wrong-footing the normal processes of literary interpretation.

This volume brings together philosophers and literary theorists to reflect upon the challenge Coetzee has made to their respective disciplines, and to the disciplinary distinctions at stake in the ancient quarrel. The essays use his fiction to explore questions about the boundaries between literature, philosophy, and literary criticism; the relationship between literature, theology, and post-secularism; the particular ways in which literature engages reality; how literature interacts with the philosophies of language, action, subjectivity, and ethics; and the institutions that govern the distinctions between literature and philosophy. It will be of importance not only to readers of Coetzee, but to anyone interested in the ancient quarrel itself.



**Carolyn Larrington**  
*Brothers and Sisters in  
 Medieval European Literature*  
 (York Medieval Press, 2019)

**T**he literature of the European Middle Ages attends closely to the relationship of brother and sister, laying bare sibling behaviours in their most dramatic forms as models to emulate, to marvel at or to avoid. The literary treatment of siblings opens up multiple perspectives on brothers' and sisters' emotions: love, hate, rivalry, desire, nurturing and ambivalence underlie sibling stories. These narratives are in turn inflected by rank, social context and most crucially, gender.

This book examines these sibling relationships, focusing on the important vernacular literatures of Iceland, France, England and Germany, and building on recent research on siblings in psychology, history and social science. Multiple and subtle patterns in sibling interaction are teased out, such as the essential sibling task of 'borderwork' (the establishment of individuality despite genetic resemblance), and the tensions caused by the easy substitutability of one sibling for another in certain social situations. When the sibling

bond is extended to the in-law relation, complex emotional, strategic and political forces and powerful ambivalences nuance the relationship still further. Quasi-siblings, foster- or sworn-brothers, complete the sibling picture in ways which reflect and contrast with the sibling blood-tie.



**Daria Martin**  
*Tonight the World* (London, 2019)

**U**sing both film and computer gaming technology, Daria Martin explores the vivid writings of her grandmother, the artist Susi Stiassni, who, aged 16, fled with her family from the former Czechoslovakia under the imminent threat of the Nazi occupation in 1938. Martin draws on an extensive archive of her grandmother's dream diaries amounting to over 20,000 pages. These forensically recorded accounts were created over a 35-year period, initially for the purposes of psychoanalysis and were left to Martin's family after Stiassni's death in 2005. The dreams frequently return to the traumatic history of her childhood home, a Czech modernist villa, seized by the Nazis after the family left and still standing today in the city of Brno. Although Stiassni

never returned to Brno after fleeing to the United States, she often revisited the family home while dreaming.

This book provides an introduction to the artist's Barbican exhibition of 2019. Entering the exhibition, visitors encountered a film created in collaboration with game designers in Brno. The videogame 'play through' journeys through a virtual rendering of Stiassni's childhood home, engaging with glimpses of the diary archive and objects connected to the dreams.

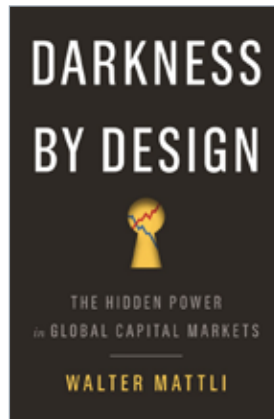
Martin augmented the gallery's architecture with a bulging wall designed as an extension of the house and punctuated with a selection of diary pages, as well as objects which unite the virtual and the physical. The exhibition ends with the 16mm anamorphic film *Tonight the World*, shot on location inside the villa itself. Martin has reimagined the narrative of five dreams which reflect on recurring themes of anxiety and intrusion. Four actresses play Stiassni interchangeably in situations that overlap the time of the dream with the time of the dreamer. Martin envisages that the installation will become simultaneously a portrait of her ancestor, a self-portrait and an exploration of intergenerational trauma, loss, and resilience.

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### Walter Mattli

*Darkness by Design: the hidden power in global capital markets* (Princeton, 2019)

In *Darkness by Design*, Walter Mattli offers an exposé of fragmented trading platforms, poor governance, and exploitative



practices in today's capital markets. Capital markets have undergone a dramatic transformation in the past two decades. Algorithmic high-speed supercomputing has replaced traditional floor trading and human market makers, while centralised exchanges that once ensured fairness and transparency have fragmented into a dizzying array of competing exchanges and trading platforms. *Darkness by Design* exposes the unseen perils of market fragmentation and 'dark' markets, some of which are deliberately designed to enable the transfer of wealth from the weak to the powerful. Mattli traces the fall of the traditional exchange model of the NYSE, the world's leading stock market in the twentieth century, showing how it has come to be supplanted by fragmented markets whose governance is frequently set up to allow unscrupulous operators to exploit conflicts of interest at the expense of an unsuspecting public. Market makers have few obligations, market surveillance is neglected or impossible, enforcement is ineffective, and new technologies are not necessarily used to improve oversight but to offer lucrative

preferential market access to select clients in ways that are often hidden. Mattli argues that power politics is central in today's fragmented markets. He sheds critical light on how the redistribution of power and influence has created new winners and losers in capital markets and lays the groundwork for sensible reforms to combat shady trading schemes and reclaim these markets for the long-term benefit of everyone. Essential reading for anyone with money in the stock market, *Darkness by Design* challenges the conventional view of markets and reveals the troubling implications of unchecked market power for the health of the global economy and society as a whole.



### Barry Murnane with Ritchie Robertson, Christoph Schmitt-Maaß and Stefanie Stockhorst

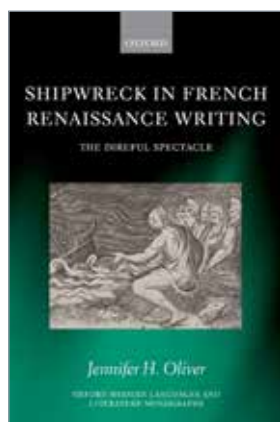
*Essen, töten, heilen: Praktiken literaturkritischen Schreibens im 18. Jahrhundert* (Göttingen, 2018)

In the eighteenth century, German writers began to distinguish between two different approaches to the study of texts: literary criticism and literary science. This distinction was not adopted in Anglophone



countries and this book seeks to explain the divergence. The authors reconstruct the practices of modern literary critical writing at key moments in its formation, in order to answer the question of how literary criticism emerged.

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**Jennifer Oliver**

*Shipwreck in French Renaissance Writing: The Direful Spectacle*  
(Oxford, 2019)

In the sixteenth century, a period of proliferating transatlantic travel and exploration, and, latterly, religious civil wars in France, the ship is freighted with political and religious, as well as poetic, significance; symbolism that reaches its height when ships – both real and symbolic – are threatened with disaster. *The Direful Spectacle* argues that, in the French Renaissance, shipwreck functions not only as an emblem or motif within writing, but as a part, or the whole, of a narrative, in which the dynamics of spectatorship and of co-operation are of constant concern. The possibility of ethical distance from shipwreck – imagined through the Lucretian *suave mari magno* commonplace – is constantly

undermined, not least through a sustained focus on the corporeal.

This book examines the ways in which the ship and the body are made analogous in Renaissance shipwreck writing; bodies are described and allegorised in nautical terms, and, conversely, ships themselves become animalised and humanised. Many texts anticipate that the description of shipwreck will have an effect not only on its victims, but also on spectators, listeners, and readers. This insistence on the physicality of shipwreck is also reflected in the dynamic of bricolage that informs the production of shipwreck texts in the Renaissance. The dramatic potential of both the disaster and the process of rebuilding is exploited throughout the century, culminating in a shipwreck tragedy. By the late Renaissance, shipwreck is not only the end, but often forms the beginning of a story.

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**Maggie Snowling**

*Dyslexia: a very short introduction*  
(Oxford, 2019)

Since dyslexia was first described in the British Medical Journal in 1896, there has been debate about the definitions and diagnostic procedures used, with some casting doubt on its very existence. However, there is now a considerable body of research regarding the nature and characteristics of this relatively common learning disorder. The contemporary view of dyslexia has emerged from a century of research in medicine, psychology and more recently neuroscience, and we now understand enough about this learning disorder to guide policy and practice.

This *Very Short Introduction* provides an accessible overview of this exciting field of research, beginning with its history, and drawing on testimony from people living with dyslexia. Considering the potential causes of dyslexia, and looking at both genetic and environmental factors, Maggie Snowling shows how cross-linguistic studies have documented the prevalence of dyslexia in different languages. Discussing the various brain scanning techniques that have been used to find out if the brains of people with dyslexia differ in structure or function from those of typical readers, Snowling moves on to weigh up various strategies and interventions which can help people living with dyslexia today.



# Access to Oxford

PROFESSOR MAGGIE SNOWLING, PRESIDENT AND CURRENT CHAIR OF THE UNIVERSITY'S ADMISSIONS EXECUTIVE, HAS BEEN AT THE HEART OF EFFORTS TO BROADEN ACCESS TO ATTRACT THE VERY BEST STUDENTS TO COME TO OXFORD.

Since its foundation in 1555, St John's College has been committed to excellence in education. In pursuit of this, it aims to admit undergraduates with the highest academic potential. But how do we assess potential? How can we ensure that access to Oxford University is fair, given the inequalities of our school system and the diversity of experience that young people bring to the point of application? What can we do to encourage those who do not think of applying? After more than a century of research on individual differences in aptitude and intelligence, there is no fail-safe way to predict who will go on to excel in higher education, in the professions or in public life. Yet in Oxford, we have to make that call. Moreover, this year, the UK's regulator of higher education, the Office for Students (OfS), has set rigorous new objectives for highly selective universities like Oxford and Cambridge to admit more students from under-represented groups and to ensure attainment and progression rates are similar for them as for all other students. Although no small feat, this is a challenge that the collegiate University has embraced wholeheartedly.

In May the University announced two new major access initiatives: Opportunity Oxford, which will launch in October 2019 and Foundation Oxford to



be implemented from 2021. These initiatives have the ambition of bringing about a step-change in the proportion of students who are admitted to the collegiate University from educationally disadvantaged or from minority backgrounds without a drop in academic standards. Opportunity Oxford is a bridging programme designed to provide UK applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds with academic support between accepting an offer and arriving in Michaelmas term. From 2020, each academic division of the University will offer a tailored bridging course with the aim of supporting transition to Year 1 of study. The programme will comprise an online distance-learning element for completion after A levels and a two-week residential component after confirmation that the applicant has met the conditions of their offer. When in steady state, the colleges will admit 200 students per year via this route.





So, smoothing the transition from school to Oxford is one strategy for improving access for students who are demonstrably able, but who lose out in the strong competition for places. It is clear that this strategy alone will not reach out to individuals who have been severely educationally disadvantaged, perhaps in care, carers themselves or migrants, who would not normally attain the A-level grades that are required to thrive in the academically demanding atmosphere of Oxford. For these students, the University will introduce a foundation year that, upon successful completion, will allow progression to Oxford. It is likely that Foundation Oxford will be offered in a more limited range of subjects than the Opportunity Oxford scheme. The standard for progression from the foundation to Year 1 will be set by the admitting department (or faculty). Moreover, the programme will be accredited, meaning that, if the Oxford offer is not met at the end of

the 'Year Zero', progression to another university will be possible. The annual intake will be fifty students.

If these initiatives are successful, one in four students at Oxford will be from a currently under-represented background. However, there will not be a quota. Rather, the target numbers are aspirational and the task of admitting tutors making careful decisions on the balance of available evidence will remain critical – they will have the last word. Notwithstanding all of these plans, in order to widen the pool of those eligible to apply it will be important to continue to work hard on outreach and to support increasing attainment in schools. The new initiatives will dovetail with ongoing work through UNIQ, Target Oxbridge and colleges working together in consortia. In this regard, I am proud to say St John's is one of the leaders in the field through its innovative *Inspire* programmes.





# The Changing Face of Admissions

AS THE COLLEGE RECEIVES APPLICATIONS FROM MORE THAN 1,100 CANDIDATES, DR SANDRA CAMPBELL, FELLOW FOR ADMISSIONS AND ACCESS, EXPLAINS THE PROCESS THEY WILL EXPERIENCE.

A familiar face to our alumni is that of Sarah Jones, our Admissions Officer for the last 17 years. Many of you will have worked with Sarah as Student Ambassadors, Admissions Helpers, Admitting Tutors or on one of the annual College Open Days. Sarah, considered by many to be the powerhouse behind the admissions process at College, has observed many changes in admissions during her years at St John's.

The first most striking change is in the number of applications to both the College and the University, despite the number of places to study here remaining relatively constant per year. As a consequence, there is fierce competition for each place, and the process itself has been the subject of public scrutiny necessitating a transparent and defensible system.

Despite the increase in numbers, the College remains able to give each application individual attention and all decisions are still made by the subject tutors with the Colleges as the admitting body. Sadly, it is now no longer possible to interview all of the applicants and last year more than 500 applicants to St John's were de-summoned without interview. Undoubtedly, many well-qualified candidates feel disappointed; however, the streamlining of candidates allows the tutors to concentrate on those most likely to be successful in gaining a place.



Many pieces of information are assessed as a package by the tutors to help make the admissions decisions: prior attainment at pre- and post-16 schools; teachers' references; results from Admissions Tests; personal statements; background information on school performance, progression to Higher Education in the region, and geodemographic profiles within the postcode. Indeed, all our tutors are trained on how to make the best use of all the evidence provided to ensure the most capable students are awarded the places. Interestingly



the growing number of international applicants (a five-fold increase since 2002) has resulted in the tutors familiarising themselves with a much wider range of qualifications ranging from the familiar A levels, IB and SATs to the more exotic Diploma Za Sredno Obrazovanie from Bulgaria and the Finnish Ylioppilastutkintodistust!

Thankfully, the available technology has developed rapidly to help: the ADSS (Admissions Decisions Support System) has grown from a database including a handful of subjects to become the bedrock of the whole admissions process enabling tutors, admissions officers and departmental co-ordinators to have instant access to information about candidates across subjects and colleges. This is important to ensure the College adheres to the Common Framework Agreement (2005) which has the following objectives:

- to attract applications from the most academically able individuals, irrespective of socio-economic, ethnic or national origin;

- to ensure applicants are selected for admission on the basis that they are well qualified and have the most potential to excel in their chosen course of study;
- to ensure that the prospects of admission are not affected by the college an applicant has chosen or been assigned to through an open application.

The College is committed to taking the best students regardless of background and it operates a wide-reaching Access and Outreach Programme focusing on pupils as early as Year 9 (age 13–14). The current success rates of state-school pupils as compared to UK independent schools are at a similar level (~22%) and we typically admit ~60% of our UK intake as state-school pupils. Furthermore, the College is delighted to take part in the most recent initiative by the University to increase diversity among the student body: Opportunity Oxford, starting for October 2020 entry. This new initiative supports less advantaged pupils, who meet

'Over the last 17 years one striking change for the better has been the way in which colleges and Departments/Faculties can now work together to ensure that each candidate receives the best possible chance of a place. We now re-allocate, import and export as a matter of routine whereas in 2002 this was a lot less common.'

**Dr Sandra Campbell**

the University's standard entry criteria, but who would not typically be offered a place in the normal admissions round. For these pupils, a summer bridging programme organised by the departments will be provided which consists of a two-week academic programme completed at home followed by a two-week residential course in Oxford.



# Art at St John's

This year has seen a wide range of artistic ventures at St John's, from our annual residencies of an artist and a sound artist, to an exhibition of ground-breaking AI artwork.

## Unsecured Futures – the Art of Ai-Da Robot

From 12 June to 6 July 2019 we hosted Ai-Da's first public appearance and grand unveiling. Ai-Da is the world's first Ultra-Realistic AI humanoid robot artist. Completed in April 2019, she opened her solo exhibition at St John's this summer.

Ai-Da is the first ultra-realistic robot capable of drawing people from life using her eye, and a pencil in her hand, and is the brainchild of Gallery Director Aidan Meller.

Using AI processes and algorithms developed at Oxford University, Ai-Da's ability as a humanoid robot to draw and paint from sight has never been achieved before, and makes Ai-Da an artist in her own right.

Titled *Unsecured Futures*, the exhibition presented a selection of Ai-Da's artwork, including drawing, painting, sculpture and video art. Thematically, the exhibition questioned our relationship with technology and the natural world by presenting how AI can be both a progressive and disruptive force within our society.



In exploring the boundaries between AI, technology, and organic life, the exhibition encouraged us to ask questions about the rapid development of new technology, and the way our world is morphing in response. What are those responses? To what degree is technology shaped in our image, reflecting back to us our own impulses and needs? And more precisely – in whose image is it formed, and how does that impact in a highly diverse and unequal world?

## Anna Barham, Artist-in-Residence

Anna Barham is a visual artist based in London. Her practice centres on a use of language as raw material, moving it between different bodies, forms and technologies in ways that create complex feedback loops between subjects and systems. She further develops the resulting texts through video, print, installation and live events to create shifting relationships between human and non-human others, words, sounds and images, that consider the audience as further agents in the production and transformation of 'sense'.



Anna Barham

For a number of years Anna has been working with a format she calls the 'live production reading group', in which multiple versions of texts are collaboratively generated through repeated processes of human vocalisation and speech2text software. During her residency at St John's Anna ran a series of these groups using the College, its members, the software, appropriated texts and the English language itself, as context and collaborators to create a new body of material. Through these events and individual conversations, her residency created a discursive space in which to interrogate the ideas of translation, authorship, subjectivity and distributed agency that are inherent in her method of production. She engaged in particular with fellows and students from Psychology, Fine Art, French and Musicology. She will use the material generated at St John's to create a new single channel video.



## Signe Lidén, Sound Artist-in-Residence

Signe Lidén's work investigates relations between place, sound and history. Her installations and performances range from sound installations, sculpture, video and performance, to documentary forms such as sound essays and archives. She reflects on her residency:

'During Michaelmas Term 2018 I was Sound Artist-in-Residence at St John's College. This was one of my most rewarding experiences so far as an artist, a stimulating balance between my own artistic research, creating exhibitions and presentations, and working with students and staff through workshops and collaborations.



The exhibition *Field Modulations* was the starting point of my research. An acoustic canvas spans the gallery space. A piece of iron ore, turned into a speaker coil, is sounding from beneath. Resonances from the stone echo in the fabric. Both fabric and stone release a composition based on field recordings from two mountains – Orshoavi and Roavvevárri – that straddle the Arctic mine area of the Norwegian–Russian border.

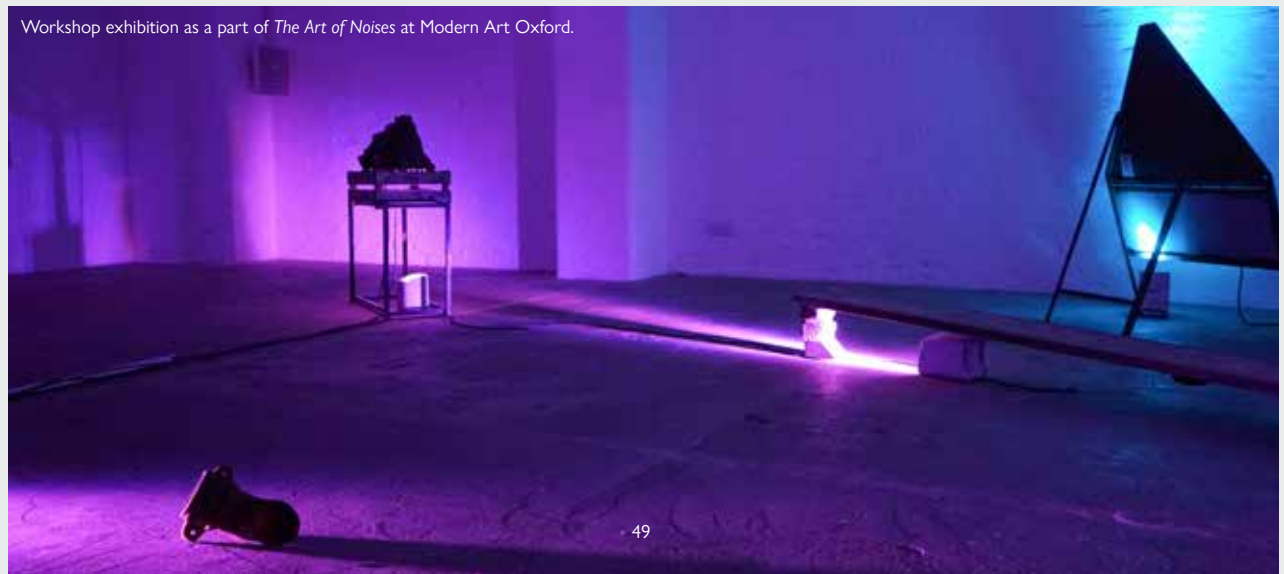


During the residency, I investigated how a textile placed both in an outdoor and indoor environment can have a hybrid set of functions: all at once, a microphone membrane, a loudspeaker, a sound absorber. The Gardens became my area of interest both because of their acoustic qualities as a breathing space and their recent history.

The workshop explored the performative aspects of field recording and different strategies for bringing the recordings back to space in a performance or installation setting. The sessions will be culminating with a collaborative installation at Modern Art Oxford.'



My research during the residency was the foundation for my recent work, *The Tidal Sense*, where a large canvas was recording the intertidal zone for months in the Lofoten Archipelago in Norway.



Workshop exhibition as a part of *The Art of Noises* at Modern Art Oxford.

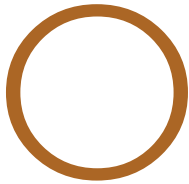
# The Mathematics of Wrong and Useful



PROFESSOR JAN OBLIJ, TUTORIAL FELLOW IN MATHEMATICS, HAS JUST COMPLETED WORK ON A HIGHLY PRESTIGIOUS, 5-YEAR, 1.2 MILLION EURO RESEARCH PROJECT. HERE HE SHARES HIS FINDINGS.

'All models are wrong but some are useful', asserted George Box, an eminent British statistician, in the 1970s and went on to add 'the scientist must be alert to what is importantly wrong'. Nowhere is this truer than in relation to models of complex interacting systems, such as financial markets. In the quest to select useful models, we have to learn to classify and quantify wrongness. We must learn to navigate the space of all models and abstract a measure of their relative similarity. The ensuing mathematics turns out to be beautiful and universal, uncovering unexpected parallels to measuring the likeness of two images or reconstructing the development of galaxies in the early universe. To understand why such mathematics became necessary and to see where we are heading, it is of the essence to go back a decade.





On 15 September 2008, the fourth largest investment bank in the US, Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., filed for bankruptcy. It was the pinnacle of the global financial crisis which raged in 2007–08 and had already felled Bear Stearns, Northern Rock and others. Days later the Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. decided that the buck stops here – the mighty insurance titan A.I.G. would not be allowed to fall. So started the bailout programme turning the page on the crisis. Yet, the ripples from the splash – a global recession, the European debt crisis – were veritable tsunamis. Politicians and economists were, and still are, debating vigorously who was to blame. Time and again in these debates, the mathematicians emerged as the unlikely culprits. In *Le Monde* (2 November 2008), Michel Rocard – the French prime minister from 1989–91 – asserted ‘Professors of mathematics teach their students to carry out stock market coups. What they do, without knowing it, is a crime against humanity’. It was not the first, nor the last time, that such extravagant accusations were levelled against scientists. Yet, as always, the answer was that more science, not less, was needed. We needed to amend and fix the prevailing state of the art. To describe the latter and its context, we have to go yet further back in history.

In 17th-century mathematics a revolution was afoot. The traditional Hellenistic reference point was being replaced by a powerful new system: the calculus. Differentiation and integration were born and with them the mathematics of motion and change, or the ‘science of fluents and fluxions’ as Newton called it. The delivery was not without pain – an acrimonious dispute between Leibniz and Newton accusing one another of plagiarism led to a century-long rift in European mathematics. In fact, Newton and Leibniz worked rather independently and developed distinct sets of ideas which, taken together, offered a unified new system with immediate powerful applications in physics and

The Black Scholes formula for Call option’s price:

$$C(t, S_t) = N(d_1)S_t - N(d_2)Ke^{-r(T-t)}$$

$$d_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} \left[ \ln\left(\frac{S_t}{K}\right) + \left(r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)(T-t) \right]$$

$$d_2 = d_1 - \sigma\sqrt{T-t}$$

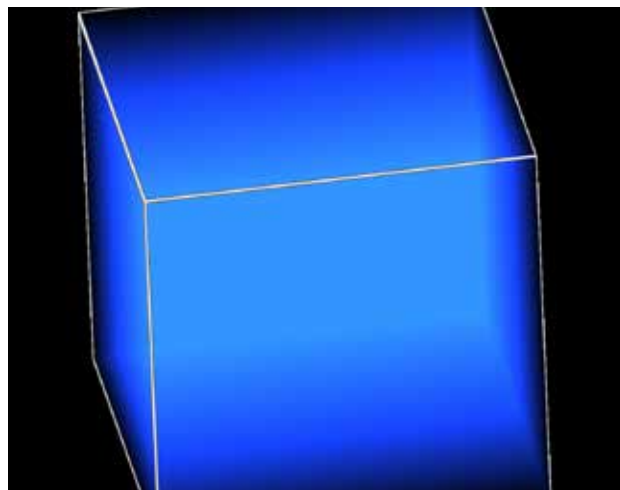
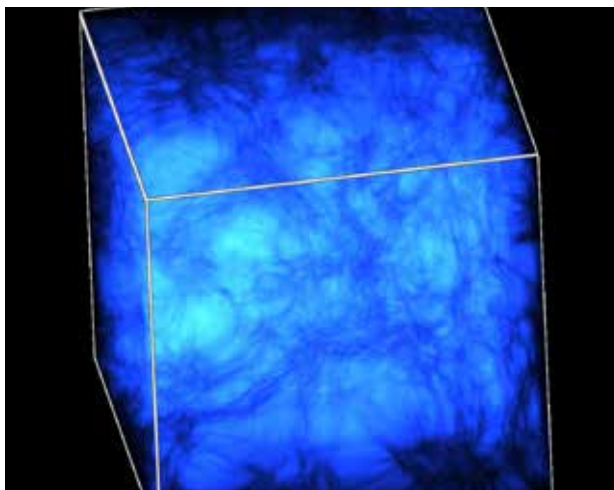
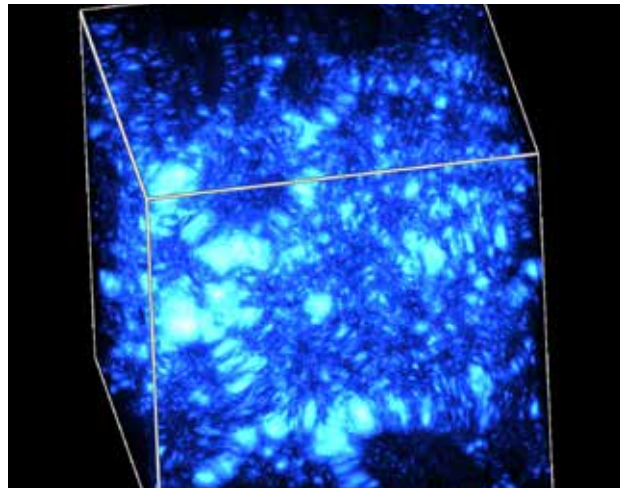
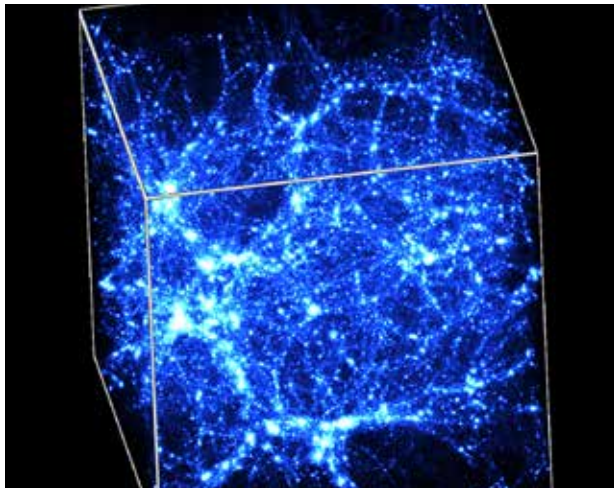
where  $\sigma$  is the volatility,  $K$  is the strike,  $T$  is the maturity,  $t$  is the current time and  $S_t$  is the current spot.

astronomy. The novel ability to write and solve differential equations, i.e. equations which relate a function to its rate of change, underpinned mathematical modelling across all sciences for centuries to come.

However, the new language had its limitations – it was conceived to describe systems governed by sets of deterministic relations. It was not suitable to capture inherently random or complex dynamics. It failed even at a seemingly innocent jittery behaviour of a grain of pollen immersed in water, as observed in 1827 by Scottish botanist Robert Brown.

Instead, in 1905 Albert Einstein offered a new model for this behaviour based on ongoing collisions of the pollen with fast-moving molecules of water. The resulting movement was erratic, or random, as the direction of collisions was constantly changing. Einstein’s work offered a model for interacting atoms and enabled the empirical discoveries of Jean Perrin which conclusively confirmed atomic theories, spanned for over two millennia, and earned Perrin a Nobel Prize in 1926. However, the Brownian motion, as the model is now known, was in fact postulated five years earlier, in 1900, by Louis Bachelier in Paris. Interestingly, the object of Bachelier’s studies was not the path of a grain of pollen but the movements of stock prices. Again, these prices resulted from many small interactions, only this time between humans and not atoms. In 1923, the Brownian motion gained its proper mathematical existence with the work of Norbert Wiener in Boston. It was the start of mathematics of random phenomena which evolve in time, the stochastic processes.

Their proper language, the stochastic calculus, is again a tale of two mathematicians. Kyosio Itô in Kyoto developed the stochastic integral in the 1940s along with a new rule of calculus, the Itô formula, which replaced the old Newton-Leibniz chain rule. The new field quickly engaged the imagination of mathematicians across the world, not least the Strasbourg school of Paul-André Meyer in the 1970s. However, back in April 1940 and entirely independently, Wolfgang Doeblin, a young German Jewish mathematician, exiled in France and now in the French army in the Vosges, wrote down his ideas on the subject and sent these to the Academy of Sciences in Paris as a *pli cacheté*, for safekeeping. Two months later, when German troops surrounding his company came into sight, he committed suicide. The envelope, by tradition kept secret and sealed for a hundred years, was discovered in 2000



Semi-discrete optimal transport for early universe reconstruction: testing on numerical simulation.

and opened with the special permission of Doebelin's family. Inside, mathematicians found Doebelin's original take on stochastic calculus and stochastic differential equations. Brilliantly original in the 1940s, in the 2000s these new equations are already being used across sciences to capture random evolutions, to describe systems changing in response to internal factors and external noise. From physics to biology to epidemiology the new methods have made their mark. Yet it was in economics where their influence proved truly revolutionary.

The year was 1973 and the modern financial industry was born with the opening of the Chicago Board Options Exchange – the first exchange trading standardised stock options. Options, i.e. derivative financial instruments written on other financial assets (underlying), have been known since ancient times. Put and call options which give

the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell the underlying at a fixed price at some future date, were traded in London in the 1690s. But, for the first time, these were being standardised and traded on an exchange. Their market volume would skyrocket in the decades to come. In the same year 1973, Fisher Black and Myron Scholes published their research. At its heart lay the 1965 model of Paul Samuelson who, in the spirit of Bachelier, used stochastic differential equations to model stock prices. Within the model, they showed that there was a way to hedge away the risk associated with options' unknown future payoffs. The initial capital required to hedge away, or replicate, the option's future payoff had to be the fair price one should pay for the option today. It was unique and given by a formula. Ian Stuart's list of 17 Equations which Changed the World starts with Pythagoras's Theorem and ends with the



Black-Scholes formula. The former is fundamental to our understanding of Euclidean geometry; the latter enabled and fuelled the rise and growth of the financial industry from the 1970s onwards. The industry quickly required more sophisticated models and stochastic calculus was a ready-made tool to develop them. In turn, practitioners often asked questions which drove new research and the symbiotic relationship between academia and the industry flourished. Its importance was underlined with two Nobel Prizes in economics: for Markowitz and Sharpe in 1990 and for Merton and Scholes in 1997.

The Black-Scholes model was wrong but it was useful. Assuming the interest rate and the dividend yield were known, the model required just one input parameter – the volatility – to output unique prices for put and call options. It also gave the seller of the option a way to hedge away the risk, provided trading was frictionless and stock would follow a path which could have come from the assumed stochastic dynamics. Neither of these was ever true, but it was close enough and hence very useful. Yet, as market liquidity grew, some options had unambiguous market prices which the model did not need to prescribe but rather needed to reproduce. In engineering this is known as calibration: find the parameter which aligns the outputs with known (important) data points and then use the model outside of that sample. This is entirely feasible as the Black-Scholes formula can be inverted: given an option price one can back out the volatility parameter. For the model to be useful, this procedure needs to produce roughly the same one number for different liquid options. In reality, it does not. Instead, it gives the infamous volatility smile. The market was laughing the Black-Scholes model off; it was now too wrong to be useful. And different markets – equities, interest rates, foreign exchange – were each exhibiting different complexities of their own. But stochastic calculus is an incredibly powerful language and new models were up to the challenge: local volatility, stochastic volatility, Lévy process and jump models, spot rate models, infinite dimensional interest rate curve models, LIBOR market models, SABR... the list goes on.

Naturally, all of these models were wrong. And for them to be useful, one had to be able to compute the outputs and understand their robustness. This was becoming increasingly difficult. The models shared their blueprint: they postulated future dynamics of risky assets using stochastic differential equations. What started as a strength

was becoming a weakness. The outputs were no longer analytically tractable and users had to turn to computational methods which could be very involved and often sensitive to input parameters. The curse of dimensionality and complexity meant that models were increasingly both wrong and not useful. Most importantly, the mathematical language did not offer a way to understand, let alone quantify, how wrong a model might be.

But the show must go on. When the credit market exploded in size, trades were longing for a simple model to use, no matter how wrong it was. They found their answer in David Li's Gaussian copula formula. Nicknamed 'the formula that killed Wall Street' (Wired, 02/09), it greased the wheels of most of the CDS (credit default swaps) \$62 trillion market. The formula itself comes from a very simple and unrealistic model, one which essentially rules out all the really important risks, the systemic type of events which underlined the financial crisis. If you understood this, you knew the model was too wrong to be useful, yet it offered an easy-to-compute output, a number readily available to trade on. This brings us back to A.I.G. and September 2009. At the time, A.I.G. had a trillion dollars balance sheet and was operating in over 130 countries and had 116,000 employees but its potential demise was brought about by a small London office with 377 staff. They specialised in insurance policies on losses from complex financial derivatives linked to securitised mortgage assets. In 2007 they generated astounding profits, but in the following year, they plunged A.I.G. into the eye of the subprime mortgage crisis. In doing so, they brought into the limelight an opaque world of financial acronyms and mathematics used, and abused, alongside them. Li's formula only opens a long list of models, some of them very sophisticated, used out of their scope and with little attention paid to their assumptions. In the US, Paul Krugman (2009) wrote: 'Economists, as a group, mistook beauty, clad in impressive-looking mathematics, for truth'. In the UK, the Turner Review (2009) spoke of a 'misplaced reliance on sophisticated mathematics'. In fact, their voices only echoed the fundamental insights of Frank Knight and James M. Keynes who in 1921, in their own words on their respective sides of the Atlantic, stressed the difference between risk and uncertainty, between the usefulness of a financial model and the uncertainty about how wrong the model was. While we could compute our way around the former, we lacked mathematics for the latter and the financial crisis was all about the latter.

Accordingly, in the wake of the crisis, these shortcomings have fuelled an impressive stream of research. The answer was more and novel science. In economics, two recent Nobel laureates – Thomas Sargent (2011) and Lars Peter Hansen (2013) – have both worked on robust finance, or the economics of model uncertainty. Mathematicians embarked on a parallel and equally fascinating journey. To quote George Box again: ‘Since all models are wrong, the scientist must be alert to what is importantly wrong. It is inappropriate to be concerned about mice when there are tigers aboard.’ What was now needed was a mathematical paradigm to interpolate the spectrum of wrongness for quantitative modelling, its bestiary of important wrongs.

But how does mathematics go about building such a paradigm, about relating and comparing very different objects? The Little Prince had the answer: ‘It is very simple: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.’ The trick is always to learn a new way to look at things. This has been the key to many daring mathematical advances in past. It was so with Newton and Leibniz who understood how to see and speak of the infinitesimal. It was so with Évariste Galois who, aged 20, on the night of 29 May 1832, wrote down his revolutionary new way to see, and speak of, symmetries. Early next morning he took part in a duel which proved fatal to him. Yet his way of seeing transformed abstract algebra and, much later, gave us a way to understand subatomic particles, thus defining the way in which we see the universe today. It was so with Carl Friedrich Gauss who, in December 1801, told astronomers where to point their telescopes to find Ceres. This new dwarf planet, orbiting Sun between Mars and Jupiter, was discovered on New Year’s Day in 1801, a potent omen for the new century. However, less than a month later it disappeared in the glare of the Sun, not to be found again. Nearly a year later Gauss announced the exact position where, he claimed, it would be found and, hey presto, there it was, as was soon confirmed by two astronomical observatories. In the end, Ceres turned out to be only a very large asteroid but Gauss’s way to see and treat measurement errors, the method of least squares, became the cornerstone of modern statistics. Gauss himself became an instant celebrity even if, echoing other such struggles, the parenthood of the new method was disputed between him and a French mathematician, Adrien-Marie Legendre.

And so it was clear that financial mathematics needed a new way of looking at things. And a new mathematical exploration was afoot. Its significant part happened in Oxford under RobustFinMath, a European Research Council funded five-year project. However, it was very much a collaborative effort with breakthrough ideas coming from Paris, Zurich, Vienna, London, New York and many other places. We proposed a new robust modelling paradigm for problems in mathematical finance. The approach allows us to quantify the impact and risks of making modelling assumptions. The framework we developed interpolates between the two ends of the modelling spectrum: the agnostic model-free end and the classical probability-specific end described above. The former avoids being wrong by not making assumptions. This comes at a price of not being very useful as it may only offer vague outputs (e.g. intervals of feasible prices). The latter, like the Black-Scholes formula, may produce sharp or even unique prices, but is wrong, or very wrong. The space between the two is a tale of two narratives: one based on scenarios for the future evolution of quantities of interest (e.g. price processes), much like central banks’ stress testing, and the other based on ensembles of probability measures, or sets of stochastic models. The interpolation from one end to the other is both data-driven, since the market information endogenously specifies modelling restrictions, as well as user-driven, since an agent can add on their personal beliefs or assumptions. The idea of thinking of a model as the variable was novel and transformative.

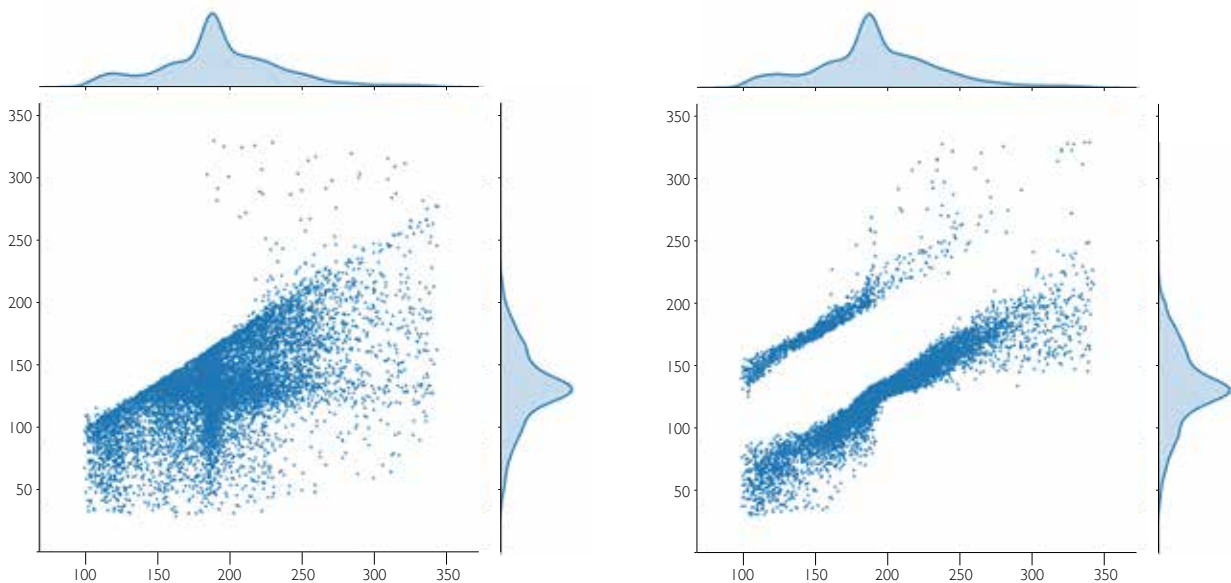
Our project evolved along three inter-connected yet complementary directions and significant progress was achieved in each one of them. First, in a string of theoretical results we provided analogues of the classical no-arbitrage pricing theory within the new paradigm. In particular, we obtained robust versions of the so-called Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing and the Pricing-Hedging Duality. Secondly, we proposed the bridging of the traditional gap between econometrics and mathematical finance, or between the so-called physical and risk-neutral measures, by incorporating in a coherent way time series data and market option prices as modelling inputs. This was achieved as a two-step process within the pathwise modelling narrative, as described above, as well as in a direct manner by designing statistical estimators for superhedging prices. Thirdly, we developed numerical methods to compute some of the framework’s outputs and worked out proof-of-concept applications of our framework.



The project spanned a wide range of interrelated questions and topics and relied on many different branches of mathematics, often involving their novel interactions and leading to results of interest to a wider mathematical community. One such exciting frontier formed between stochastic calculus and optimal transport theories. We traced the history and scope of stochastic calculus above. In turn, optimal transport offers a powerful language for understanding problems when one configuration needs to be changed (or transported) into another one and the process should happen in a cost-efficient way. This allows us to speak of the distance between two configurations relative to some, given the arbitrary ‘cost’ of moving a particle from position  $x$  to position  $y$ . The field of applications is vast. We may ask how similar two images, configurations of pixels, are. Or, how similar two freight networks are. Computational optimal transport methods allow us to visualise the most likely configurations of the early universe predicted by theoretical physics. Originally posed by Gaspard Monge in 1781, the optimal transport theory has earned Fields medals and thick monographs to testify to its importance. What happens however if we want to design optimal actions for evolving processes? We can only trade on the stock prices as we go forwards, not backwards, in time. We can fight an epidemic as it unfolds and can’t change our actions from last week. As we now understand, a host of problems in economics, finance and stochastic modelling can be re-interpreted as optimal

transport questions but with an additional directional, often temporal, aspect. That is, the change needs to happen along a certain class of stochastic processes. The structure and geometry of such problems proves to be breathtakingly beautiful.

Stochastic transports theory, as described above, offered one solution to our quest. We were able to compare different objects by seeing them as particular examples from a suitable larger space which we could endow with a natural geometry and structure. A stochastic volatility model and a local volatility model were now two special cases of martingale models transporting prices from today’s observed configuration to the future one inferred from the market option prices. However, when pondering possible novel perspectives, the opposite approach also seems appealing. Instead of generalising we can try to make things more specific. We could try to relate all our objects to one selected, in some sense universal, object. We were able to achieve this using time-change techniques. These techniques require a radically different concept of time to the one we take for granted in our daily lives. The familiar – objective, linearly advancing, standardised – time was first enshrined by the industrial revolution. Local, asynchronous, solar-based timekeeping was not compatible with a railway schedule. It was dismissed in 1847 when the Railway Clearing House adopted a standardised time across the island of Great Britain, the Greenwich Mean Time. In 1880 the GMT became Britain’s legal time and to this



A toy example of constrained extreme dependencies using Apple and Facebook market data

day is the reference point for time zones across the globe. Yet at the turn of the 20th century the familiar was being dramatically challenged. Cubist representations, be it two- or three-dimensional, abandoned a unique point of view and instead opted to transcend many viewpoints to capture their subjects in richness of multiple contexts. Time, the fourth dimension, was also being reconsidered. In 1905, with Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity, the clocks on speeding trains and on station platforms were shown to be different. Two events could be simultaneous for one observer but not so for another. Time dilates: a moving clock is measured to tick slower than the observer's stationary clock. A decade later, with the general theory of relativity, Einstein made the four dimensional spacetime curved and made clocks run slower in deeper gravitational wells.

In parallel, an equally profound change to the concept of time was happening in social sciences. Henri Bergson's time is subjective and incomplete, his concept of duration captures this nature in a way that, he felt, had eluded mathematicians and physicist. Einstein's theories were no exception in Bergson's eyes – indeed, the two men sparred both verbally and in writing – but from a certain perspective, their message was starkly similar: time was no longer standardised but rather plural. This was further elaborated by a generation of sociologists and anthropologists influenced by Bergson. Émile Durkheim, Marcel Mauss and Henri Hubert all saw time as both public and private. A social construct shared within a group but also a private idiosyncratic phenomenon. In a striking parallel, although it will take mathematicians another 50 years to see this, their ideas transpose perfectly to the world of stochastic processes: the mathematical models for randomness evolving in time enabled by Itô's stochastic calculus. Here too time becomes just a variable which can be changed in non-linear and random ways. In 1965, Lester Dubins and Gideon Schwarz showed that each stochastic process which evolves continuously has its natural idiosyncratic (random) clock. If, instead of using a linear time, we represent the process as running on this private clock, the result is universal and, rather incredibly, we simply see a Brownian motion (up to correcting for trends). We obtain the stochastic process described by Brown, Bachelier, Einstein, Wiener, Lévy and others, which turns out to be the universal construct we needed. All other processes are simply its representations resulting from speeding up and slowing down the clock (possibly

in a non-deterministic fashion). In the context of financial markets such observations have been made independently – the idiosyncratic clock is usually given by the volume of shares traded. From the market's viewpoint, night is but a second, lunch break is very short, but opening and closing minutes take a long time. Rescaled by their traded volume, different stocks resemble each other. From the viewpoint of robust mathematical finance, time-change techniques and the universal property of Brownian motion offered us a powerful way to compare and interpolate different models.

An exciting feature of the mathematics of wrong and useful is that it straddles the applied-pure spectrum. It can serve to answer very particular questions whilst linking them to very abstract mathematics. A financial regulator might ask: what is the worst-case scenario of co-dependence between, say, the five largest high-tech companies that is compatible with the current market information (e.g. options on these stocks)? Our codes running on deep neural nets will answer that. An economist might ask, which class of functions is rich enough to aggregate any configuration of investors' views on market inefficiencies? The answer takes us into the projective hierarchy of sets and links to intricate axioms of the set theory studied in the 1960s by the Polish school of mathematical logic.

From Cambridge and Hanover, through Kyoto and Boston to Paris and Oxford; from exchange traded options, through galaxies in the early universe to mathematical logic; from industry practitioners and regulators, through stochastic modellers and computer scientists to mathematicians, physicists and philosophes: mathematics keeps spinning the most amazing web of connections.





# ACHIEVEMENTS

It has as ever been a busy and productive year for the College community. Here you will find a selection of our Fellows' achievements from the last year.



**Professor Katherine Blundell**, Supernumerary Research Fellow in Astrophysics, was elected as the latest Gresham Professor of Astronomy. This prestigious post has previously been held by Sir Christopher Wren and Sir Martin Rees, and involves the holder giving a series of lectures on their research. Gresham College was founded in 1597 to give free educational lectures to the general public. Gresham Professors include some of the most important and inspiring speakers and academics in many categories, including Law, Music and the Environment.

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**Professor Julia Bray**, A. S. AlBabtain Laudian Professorial Fellow in Arabic, edited and contributed to a special issue

of *Cultural History* on medieval Arabic emotions, with Helen Blatherwick, which is intended to launch the history of emotions as a field in Arabic studies (Edinburgh University Press, autumn 2019). The articles in the issue are about the building of emotional community in the Quran, the contradictory emotions aroused by medieval court musicians, the emotional fantasies built around women slave concubines, the legal theorisation of jealousy, and angry heroines in popular epics.

With Isabel Toral-Niehoff (Freie Universität Berlin), Professor Bray held an international workshop at St John's Research Centre on 'Quotation practices in pre-modern Arabic: what is an *isnād*?' (22–23 March 2019). Participants included Oxford graduate students and recent doctoral students, together with leading scholars from Germany, Spain, Switzerland and the Netherlands. The first attempt to address Arabic quotation practices across a multidisciplinary spectrum, the workshop will be the first of a mini-series held in different European venues, and will be published.

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**Dr Maria Bruna**, Junior Research Fellow in Mathematics, was awarded a Royal Society University Research Fellowship for her work on Continuum models and gradient flows of interacting particle systems. The Fellowship is awarded to outstanding early career scientists who are judged by the Royal Society to have the potential to become leaders in their field, and is scheduled to run from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2023.

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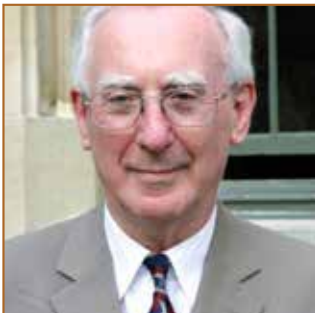
**Professor Richard Compton**, Tutorial Fellow in Chemistry, won the 2018 Robert Boyle Prize for Analytical Science, awarded for 'innovative advances in the analytical detection of nano-entities, seminal contributions to the calibration of free measurement of pH, and the development of sensors for food technology and for medicine'. Lectures associated with the prize were delivered by Professor Compton in Manchester, Cork, Belfast and Lancaster.

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**Professor Richard Ekins**, Tutorial Fellow in Law, has received the title of full Professor in the University of Oxford's 2019 Recognition of Distinction Awards, and becomes Professor of Law and Constitutional Government.

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**Professor Mark Freedland**, Emeritus Research Fellow in Law, received the 2019 Labour Law Research Network Bob Hepple Award for Lifetime Achievement in Labour Law. This prestigious award acknowledges exceptional and longstanding contributions to labour law scholarship.

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**Dr Heather Harrington**, Research Fellow in the Sciences & Mathematics, was awarded the Adams Prize, one of the University of Cambridge's oldest and most prestigious prizes. Previous winners include James Clerk Maxwell, Roger Penrose and Stephen Hawking. Dr Harrington was awarded the prize for achievements in the field of the Mathematics of Networks. Her work uses mathematical and statistical techniques including numerical algebraic geometry, Bayesian statistics, network science and optimisation, in order to solve interdisciplinary problems.

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**Professor Daria Martin**, Supernumerary Fellow in Fine Art, was awarded the 11th Film London Jarman Award for moving-image art. Adrian Wootton, Chief Executive of Film London and the British Film Commission, said that Professor Martin's 'long-running practice has seen her constantly challenge herself, creating an eclectic and expansive body of work that has explored everything from dreams and mythology to technology and feminism. The past eleven years have seen a significant rise in audiences for artists' filmmaking, and it is important to recognise Martin's considerable contribution to this shift in the popularity and ubiquity of the medium'.

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**Professor Zoltán Molnár**, Tutorial Fellow in Human Anatomy, was elected a member of the Academia Europaea, in the Physiology and Neuroscience section, and of the European Neonatal Brain Club, a society involved in study of the neonatal brain. Professor Molnár also received the New Fellow of the Year Award from the Anatomical Society. This prestigious award is presented to a Fellow of the Anatomical Society who has demonstrated the most significant accomplishments relative to their career stage.

Professor Molnár also edited a special issue of the Journal of Anatomy with Professor Gavin Clowry (University of Newcastle) on Human Brain Development.

Alongside Professor Clowry, Professor Molnár also organised the summer meeting of the Anatomical Society, held at St John's in June 2018, which was devoted to the topic of Human Brain Development and tackled important issues related to human cerebral cortex development.

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**Professor Barry Murnane**, Tutorial Fellow in German.

Along with Avi Lifschitz and Nicholas Cronk, Professor Murnane received funding as part of the Oxford-Berlin Partnership to set up the Oxford-Berlin Enlightenment Hub. As part of this, St John's hosted a major





conference called 'Enlightenment Projects' from 30 September to 2 October 2019. There will be a second major conference in Berlin in 2020 entitled 'Enlightenment Futures'.

On 7 and 8 November 2019, the College also hosted a symposium, organised by Professor Murnane with Stefan Höppner of the Klassik Stiftung Weimar and the English Goethe Society, entitled 'Literature in the World', looking at the material history of Goethe's programme of World Literature. Professor Mohamed-Salah Omri, Tutorial Fellow in Modern Arabic, also took part.



**Professor Kate Nation**, Tutorial Fellow in Psychology, received the 2018 Eminent Researcher Award from Learning Difficulties Australia. The award is designed to recognise significant contributions by eminent researchers in the field of learning difficulties, and was presented to Professor Nation in recognition of

her research on 'how children learn to read words and comprehend text, and more generally, the relationship between spoken language and written language'. A paper has since been published, following the award lecture, held in Melbourne, and workshops in Sydney and Adelaide.



**Professor Karthik Ramanna**, Supernumerary Fellow, testified in Parliament and engaged in a number of reports and public events on Audit Reform in the UK.

He also won the 2019 Outstanding Case Writer Award from the international Case Centre, the global body for case method teaching and research. *President Trump Calling: Accept or Decline?* was written by the Case Centre for Public Leadership at the Blavatnik School of Government, led by Karthik Ramanna.



**Professor Gillian Rose**, Professorial Fellow in Geography, was elected

a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, the national academy of academics, learned societies and practitioners in the social sciences. She was elected for her renowned work in shaping the field of cultural geography with a particular focus on feminist geography, visual studies and digital studies.

Professor Rose was also the Ander Visiting Professor of Geomedia Studies at the University of Karlstad in Sweden. In August 2019 she became the new Head of the School of Geography and the Environment at the University of Oxford.



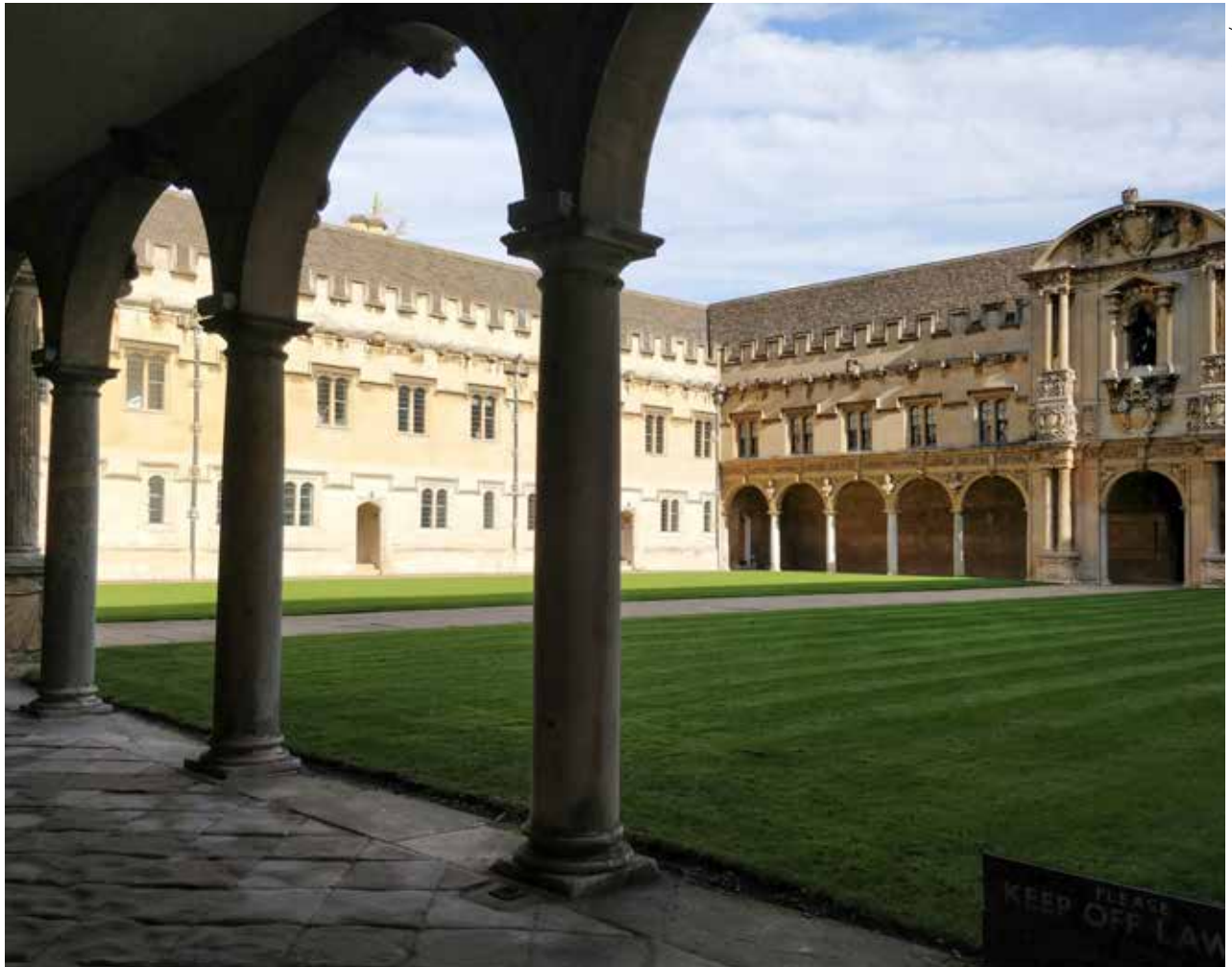
**Professor Amia Srinivasan**, Tutorial Fellow in Philosophy, was announced as one of the winners of the American Philosophical Association's 2019 Philosophy Op-Ed Contest for her essay, 'The Right to Sex', published in the *London Review of Books*. The essay was announced as one of the five winners in August, and Professor Srinivasan will be presented with the \$100 prize cheque during a prize reception at one of the APA divisional meetings in 2020. Previously, Professor Srinivasan's essay was awarded the Sanders Public Philosophy Award, as well as named a finalist for the BBC's Russell Prize for the best writing of 2018. It was also excerpted in the programme for the National Theatre

production of Martin Crimp's *When We Have Sufficiently Tortured Each Other*, directed by Katie Mitchell.

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**Professor Catherine Whistler**, Supernumerary Fellow in Art History, was presented with one of this year's Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Awards, for her exhibition on Raphael's drawings at the Ashmolean Museum. The two-year Leverhulme-funded research project was entitled 'Raphael – The Drawings: engaging with Renaissance Drawing', and aimed to transform our understanding of how Raphael drew.



Ruby-Anne Brin

# From the Junior and Middle Common Rooms

In this section we hear from the JCR and MCR Presidents about what has been going on in the Common Rooms over the last year.

## The Junior Common Room

Harry Sugden, (Geography, 2017)

It has been a privilege to continue the work of my predecessors leading the JCR; I initially arrived at St John's thinking it wouldn't be for me, but the hard work of student officers showed me just how integral the JCR is to student life here. Maintaining engagement is always a challenge year on year, but I'm pleased that every meeting has had the attendance they need this past year, as well as high turnout at our events! We are also reforming elections and roles to support better continuity and engagement. So, the high points...

A team of JCR officers and helpers, led by the JCR Vice President (Alfie Deere-Hall) and two co-chairs, must first be commended for their work on a successful Freshers' Week 2018. Running another in 2019 also, Alfie has championed closer co-ordination with College to reduce clashes and maximise attendance at both College and JCR events.

Elsewhere, I've been part of a team working hard on a much-needed revamp of the JCR's website ([sjc-jcr.com](http://sjc-jcr.com)); we're excited to launch it to both current and prospective students very soon. I'm pleased that our long-neglected JCR Office has now been refurbished to provide a comfortable space for Peer Supporters to meet with students, and for use by Officers for drop-ins.

The Welfare Officers and I have attended consultations at the University-level related to mental health at Oxford and we are looking to reform the JCR's Welfare role to be more manageable, whilst continuing their great work.

JCR members, through their contributions each term, have supported 17 local and further afield charities, with around £4,000 donated to good causes.

Concern for the environment remains on the agenda, particularly as shocking reports and figures from Oxford academics and around the world continue to warn us of what lies ahead. As with all institutions, there are still things to work on at St John's, but JCR Officers and members have continued to promote change with College's support. Last year's committee secured a College-funded reusable KeepCup for every student. Students of the MCR and JCR have set up a divestment campaign too, running an open mic to support the cause and engaging with College on the topic.

We're once again pleased with the outcomes of our Rents and Charges negotiations with the Principal and Finance Bursars. Student income continues to be squeezed in relation to costs, so we are extremely grateful for the generous limiting of College-



borne charges for the coming year. Movement away from paper administration with the College intranet, and agreement to investigate card payment solutions in College, have been warmly received by students. Reforms to the Academic Grant making it easier for students to claim, as well as a doubling of our allocation from the Kendrew Arts Fund, will also support students and their endeavours.

During my last term in office we had an exciting Freshers' Week and Arts Week, as well as the long-anticipated opening of the Study Centre. Long may the JCR continue to prosper and work for change!

To stay up to date with all that the JCR gets up to, follow us on Instagram and Twitter at [@stjohnsoxjcr](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsoxjcr).



## The Middle Common Room

Christopher D'Urso (Public Policy, 2018)



As the leaves began to turn and the chilly autumn breeze swept across College, the MCR welcomed its newest cohort of postgraduate students last October, breathing new life into our community. During Freshers' Week, we bonded over a pint at the Turf Tavern, our narrowly missed shots at Junkyard Miniature Golf, and the excitement of our first formal hall as John's soon became our home away from home.

Over this past year, the MCR frequently came together for much-needed respite from the rigours of our research. We donned wizard gowns and wands for a Harry Potter-themed guest dinner, discussed our academic interests over wine and cheese with members of the SCR, and counted down the greatest hits of the last forty years at one of our termly BOPs. We united to cheer on the John's Boat Club at Summer Eights and ran with President Snowling in the Town and Gown 10k. We celebrated the incredible diversity of our community by hosting an international dinner in Hall each term where we travelled on culinary

adventures to Hungary, Turkey, and Malaysia without leaving the OX1 3JP postcode.

The MCR also introduced several new programmes to explore different perspectives and promote cross-cultural understanding. We created the position of Interfaith Officer to acknowledge and share the traditions of the various religious groups that comprise our community. From reading the 'Book of Esther' on the Jewish festival of Purim to icing Ramadan-themed cookies to over 20 MCR members participating in an online chocolate Easter egg making class, this position has generated much excitement. Additionally, the Women's Officers established two new initiatives: a 'woke library', which was launched by a series of 'woke talks'. The library encompasses a small collection of books, which will be added to each term, covering subjects ranging from sexism to racism and mental health, while the talks have delved into topics such as love and marriage in India and contraceptive health in Ethiopia.

Behind the scenes, the MCR Committee has tirelessly worked to address student concerns with College. In the Rents and Charges Committee,

the MCR Vice President, Treasurer and I conveyed to College the growing pressures on postgraduate students that result from the increases in rent and fees continually outpacing the increases in stipends. Through our negotiations, we reached the most generous settlement in recent years for College to absorb a significant portion of the expected inflation. We likewise worked to improve the support for research and other academic expenses under the Academic and Special Grants. Equally important, College has agreed to secure additional accommodation for postgraduates. The MCR strongly believes that the College's sustainability depends on attracting the highest calibre of postgraduate students and their ability to afford their studies. We are incredibly grateful that the College similarly recognises this and has taken meaningful steps to help reduce financial burdens.

As we look ahead to next year, the MCR has planned several renovations to our building including repainting, reupholstering, and purchasing new furniture to help transform it into a more inviting communal space. We have enjoyed welcoming another cohort to their new home this autumn.



**S**port at St John's continues to thrive at all levels. Members of the College are represented in University squads and perform at national and international level, while we also have teams competing in intercollegiate competitions or teams primarily aiming for participation.

Sport links JCR, MCR, SCR and staff together. Sport has very positive effects on our St John's community and I am very grateful for all of the help we continue to receive from the President, Finance Bursar, Principal Bursar, Head of Estates and Governing Body. I am also very grateful to the JCR Sports Reps Leanne Smith and Georgia Ling, MCR Sports Rep Laura Boddy, and the Secretary of Amalgamated Trust, Madeleine Warner.

Sports at College level range from the traditional – Rowing, Badminton, Rugby, Football and Netball – to newer arrivals such as Ultimate Frisbee and Zumba, and members of the JCR and MCR are encouraged to start new clubs if the College does not already offer support for their chosen sport. We also have 792 registered users of the St John's gymnasium, and I am very grateful to Mrs Noreen Huffman for all her help with the documentation for induction and membership.

Almost 40 College members from the JCR, MCR, SCR and staff, completed the 10k Oxford Town and Gown run on a warm, sunny morning on 26 May 2019. I am very grateful to Johannes Wiesel (MCR Sports Officer) for

organising the event at St John's. Runners were invited back to the Garden Quad for Buck's fizz and pastries by the Fellow for Sport.

Our sixth annual Sports Dinner to celebrate achievement and participation in all sports was held on 10th May 2019. Ahead of the dinner, nominations for Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year, and for Team of the Year (male, female and mixed) were received and the outcome was decided purely on the students' votes. This year's winners were Eddy Mort, Leanne Smith, Men's Rugby, Women's Netball, and the Tennis Team.

We also invited nominations for the Sports Officer's Special Prize, for those who deserve recognition of their outstanding contribution to College Sport through their leadership in coaching or coxing, or to those who have overcome personal challenges. The winners of the 2019 Prize were Tom Johnson and Annabel Clark.

Our guest of honour and after-dinner speaker was a former student of St John's, Cecelia Parker, who studied Music and was awarded the Sportswoman of the Year Prize in 2016.

I am very grateful to Mrs Jenny Diment, Mr Tim Webber, Mr Paul Ashman, Mrs Caroline Lordan and Mr Andrew Carslaw for their continued support in organising this major annual event.

**Professor Zoltán Molnár, Sports Fellow**





# Duveen Travel Scholarship

Adam Packer reports

As a DPhil Geography and the Environment student, you might imagine my research would have me travelling to international locations or other places in the UK as part of my fieldwork. This hasn't been the case for me; my fieldwork lands me as far as Oxford and its surrounding areas. The call for applications for the Duveen Travel Scholarship was therefore a prime opportunity for me to expand my knowledge of smart cities research and practice beyond a UK context and to build the skills to conduct research abroad. It has also enlivened my interest in pursuing an academic career in institutions outside of the UK.

I planned an itinerary having identified a number of cities with smart programmes, projects or partnerships of interest. I started off in Toronto and then progressed down the east coast of North America, taking in Boston and New York and concluding in Orlando.

I commenced my travels in late June flying to Toronto, where I had arranged a meeting with one of the board members at the highly controversial *Sidewalk Labs* project





at the Waterfront area of the city. I had arrived just after the Ontario general election and this made the discussion even more lively. I'd like to thank St John's alumnus Professor Mark Laird (BA Modern History and Languages, 1971) and Sonja Vangjeli for helping set this up with me.

While in Toronto, I enjoyed meeting with alumni of the College. It made me realise the importance and significance of our shared experience at St John's and the community I am now a part of. Thank you to Peter Goddard (DPhil Modern History, 1983) for your whistle-stop tour of the city and to Helen Graham (BA PPE, 1979) and James Retallack (BA Modern History, 1978), who hosted me for the week. Not only were Helen and James wonderful hosts, but they also invited me to watch Helen perform as part of the Etobicoke Community Concert band at Applewood House. I could see such strong parallels between the sense of community in Etobicoke as I could with the College's common rooms at John's.

Following this, I travelled to Boston, where I met with several postdoctoral researchers at MIT's *Senseable City* lab. I was able to visit Kendall Square and the Stata Centre, the MIT Museum and Harvard's main campus leaving me thirsty for an institutional visit or exchange to build on my academic career at Oxford. Thank you to Anne Licciardello – a friend of Helen's – for keeping me company.

My travels then took me to New York where I'd planned to meet with alumni and explore the city. Thank you to all of the alumni who offered to meet me in New York and to those I narrowly missed meeting.

While in New York, I was able to meet Luis Mancheno: a proudly queer, Latino, immigrant, refugee and an attorney who valiantly fought for and was an imperative cog in the dismantling of Donald Trump's travel ban in January 2017. Luis invited me to march beside him on the 'Community Heroes' float at New York City Pride; an annual protest, march and celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. It had been a difficult year for LGBTQ+ people in America with repeated attacks targeting the trans community and with the Trump administration banning trans people from serving in the military. It was an honour, then, to walk the empty streets of the City lined by an empowered and excited crowd of people cheering alongside inspirational activists such as Emma González.

I concluded my journey in Orlando, where I visited the Pulse Nightclub memorial site. On 12th June 2016,



the club was targeted in a terrorist attack in the deadliest incident of violence against LGBTQ+ people in US history and the deadliest terrorist attack since the September 11 attacks in 2001. It served as a stark reminder of the progress that is still needed to combat hate crime and to fight for tougher legislation on gun control.


I look back with fond memories of watching and listening to Helen play in the Etobicoke Community Concert band perform, marching in the New York City Pride parade or discussing my research with postdoctoral researchers at MIT. I have kept a close eye on Toronto's *Sidewalk Labs* project and it has been enriching to be able to situate those earlier discussions in the context of this programme's emergence as a key smart city case.

Embarking on this journey has truly been transformative for my personal and professional development. I very much look forward to meeting and supporting future Duveen Travel Scholars both as a current graduate and when I, in turn, join the alumni community. I'd like to thank all of the alumni who contacted me and welcomed me. My gratitude goes particularly to Mr Peter Loose and The Mildred Duveen Charitable Trust, whose generosity makes trips like these possible.



# A Social History of College

Peter Burke (Modern History, 1957) is one of Britain's foremost historians. A Fellow of the British Academy and of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he has written on the Renaissance and on history and social theory. His books include *Louis XIV* and *A Social History of Knowledge*. Here, he turns his attention to his own history.

ral historians and experimental psychologists know very well that memories are often inaccurate, so I suppose that what follows is not completely reliable, although the memories are vivid (more vivid now, aged 81, than a few years ago) and focus on impressions rather than hard facts.

I first visited St John's in December 1954 to take the exams for an Open Scholarship. We wrote the papers elsewhere, in the Hall of Keble, smelling of kippers after breakfast, but we were interviewed in College, on arrival and a second time, when the interviewers had our exam papers in front of them. William Costin, then the Senior Tutor, asked the questions and Colvin, who looked younger than he actually was, just smiled (Keith Thomas had not arrived at the College yet). I noticed that in the book-case behind Costin, all the history books dated from the 1930s or earlier. I was asked about hobbies ('heraldry') and possible career ('that depends on my degree'). At the second interview, Costin asked me what I would say if they offered me a scholarship on condition that I did my National Service first, and I replied, 'I would apply to Cambridge'.



When I got back home I found a letter from Costin offering me the scholarship unconditionally but adding 'I must insist that your wisest course' would be to do National Service right away, and so I did. Towards the end of my time in the army, when I was stationed in Singapore, a letter arrived from the College with details of what I would need when I came up: six cups, plates, knives, glasses, etc as if we would give tea parties. I only used the cups, for Nescafé, and of course the glasses for sherry. This was still the age of sherry. We were offered it by our tutors in the last week of term as well as at parties. I never drank so much as at the Schools Dinner, organised by the historians after our final exams, when we ended up in the garden trying to set fire to one of the plants (although, disappointingly, there were no signs of damage when I visited it next day).

I left the army only a few days before going up to Oxford in October 1957. When we matriculated, and the Head Porter, Dick, called the roll, I automatically came to attention (he thought I was mocking him and remained rather frosty for the next three years). Luckily I got on well with Zulo, who came from Estonia and was probably a refugee from the Second World War. Most of us had done National Service before arriving, so we were older than freshers are today. The College was of course very different from the St John's of today: in 1957 it was entirely male and everyone seemed to be anglophone. We were not allowed to bring women into Hall as guests. An enterprising undergraduate once brought in his girlfriend dressed as a man, but Dick the Head Porter spotted her and the couple had to leave (to applause from the rest of us for their daring).

The College consisted of only three quads at that time, plus some adjoining houses such as Middleton Hall, and in winter it was much less comfortable than the College must be nowadays. My cheerful scout George, who called himself a gypsy, brought hot water for me to shave in, but it was no longer hot by the time that it arrived, so like most people I had to queue in my dressing-gown for the nearest hot tap. To dine in Hall in winter, it was sometimes advisable to wear an overcoat under one's gown. In my second year I had a splendid room in the front quad. All it lacked was a sofa, everyone wanted one so as to sit close to our female visitors, but sofas were not provided, probably for the same reason. Female visitors had to be out by nine. According to

College folklore, someone asked the Dean, Holmes, for an extension and he replied 'If you can't get what you want by 9 o'clock, you don't deserve to have it at all'.

I met John Crossley at the beginning of the first term and immediately made friends with him. In the group that became the Argonauts and used to sit at the same table, at the bottom of the Hall, for dinner, I was closest to John, to Don Herbison-Evans, who studied chemistry, loved argument and shocking people; Richard Cherry, who read physics; and a fellow-historian, Brian Halfpenny.

We and our friends were all grammar school boys; the students were more or less evenly divided between public school and grammar school, relations were polite but distant (the problem was that many students came from the same school, Merchant Taylors', and had already formed friendships). John and I were both discovering philosophy at this point, especially Wittgenstein, whose *Investigations* were at the height of their influence in Oxford at that time. I also talked philosophy with Tony Boyce, who was interested

'Like most people I had to  
queue in my dressing gown for  
the nearest hot tap.'

in the relation between logic and biology and excited by the work of Joseph Woodger, a biologist and a philosopher who was a friend of Ludwig von Bertalanffy.

Of course I got to know other historians in my year, especially John Hicks, Brian Wenham, with whom I had many conversations, usually late at night, and, when he arrived in my second year, the visiting American Roger Howell (my tutorial partner, including the time when the *Baltimore Sun* reporters came to interview him and published an article about the oddities of Oxford life, adding that 'Roger doesn't buck the system'). In my second year I made friends with two first-years who later became professional historians, Prys Morgan, who was voluble and witty and later claimed, plausibly enough, to have written the only novel in Welsh that was set in Bulgaria and Brian Harrison (now Sir Brian) who worked harder than I did and once remarked 'What you do depends on what you do without'.

In the first year all the historians studied Latin with A. N. Sherwin-White, who called us all 'Mr' in the old-fashioned manner. Latin was still in use in College, though not as much as in the 17th century. Scholars read Grace, though I was only asked once, since I followed the Italianate pronunciation customary in Catholic schools such as mine and this was considered unorthodox. Sconcing still existed,



a penalty for offences such as mentioning a woman's name during dinner or speaking more than three consecutive words of a foreign language ('Cherchez la femme' was all right). But the person wishing to scone someone had to write to the High Table in Latin, beginning, if I remember rightly, 'Sconso te posco quia...'. Appeals were allowed ('Adpello quia...') and since my Latin was relatively fluent I remember writing a few for my table.

We were taught medieval history by Howard Colvin, who was not yet a Reader in architectural history. His study was impressive because it was full of photostats – there were no xeroxes yet! – of medieval documents (I learned later that they were the Pipe Rolls that he was using to reconstruct the history of the King's Works). Howard was very shy and at the end of an hour I might have to take the initiative in leaving, knowing that the next pair were already outside the door (Howard looked grateful).

He was also uncomfortable with big questions – I remember asking him whether King John was really a bad king and he was reluctant to commit himself, so I asked instead how one stood to fire a crossbow. He beamed and demonstrated the pose on the hearthrug.

Howard hoped I would become a medievalist and once invited me to join him after lunch to look at masons' marks on the facade of the College. For five minutes I could not see any, and then (either because the sun came out or I learned how to look) they were suddenly visible all over the place. He also invited me to tea and I remember meeting his two small sons, one (Lawrence, I think) who behaved like a miniature edition of his father, while the other was rebellious (once again, Howard looked uncomfortable).

It was the Italian Renaissance rather than the Middle Ages that caught my imagination in those years, thanks at least in part to Edgar Wind, whose lectures were the most popular in the university at the time (there was no room big enough to hold the audience, even in the Schools, so he had to move to the Playhouse). I took the Special Subject on the Italian Renaissance and so the College paid for me to spend two summers in Italy, so that I could learn the language and view the works of art. In Siena, on the day of the Palio, I met an American student from St John's, George Thomas (to whom I had never spoken before). Thanks to him, I was elected to the College Essay Society when I returned to Oxford. The convention was to read a paper with a title that was mysterious until the paper was almost over. I gave one

about the Spanish Civil War, calling it 'Sanjurjo, Mola, etc', the 'etc' being Franco, who became the leader after the two senior generals were killed.

I met a few other Fellows at this time, I remember going to hear J. B. Leishman (whose book on John Donne I had read at school) talking about translating Rilke. In London, I once met Will Moore, a College patriot who came over to find out who I was because I was wearing a St John's scarf. I mistook Michael Hurst for an undergraduate when I first met him, he looked so young. He once arranged a tutorial time for me that coincided with his breakfast!

In my second year I was taught by Keith Thomas, then a rather earnest young man, only a couple of years older than I was. We wrote essays every week – do students still do this? – and 'essay crises' were common. I only once stayed up all night to write an essay, not very successfully

.....  
'Keith had the fascinating aura  
of a historiographical heretic.'  
.....

since time passed so quickly, what felt like ten minutes turned out to be an hour. The essay topics were conventional enough, appropriate for answering examination questions,

but we discovered that Keith had just published an article on the history of the 'double standard' of sexual morality, which gave him the fascinating aura of a historiographical heretic. Keith now claims that I wrote unusually short essays that somehow covered all the ground so that he faced the problem of filling up the following 45 minutes. I must say that I don't remember any gaps in the conversation (or indeed, writing less than anyone else), but then memory is treacherous and sixty years is quite a long time.

At the end of a term of tutorials on early modern European history (1559–1715), Keith asked me to choose a topic for my last essay. Thanks to my new interest in philosophy, I chose Leibniz. Keith didn't say anything at the time, but sent me a postcard the next day saying that my tutorial on Leibniz would not be with him but with Herbert Grice. I waited outside Grice's room at the time suggested, and after about half an hour a lively white-haired man arrived, opened the door and told me to sit down. He collapsed into an armchair, closed his eyes and invited me to read my essay, which focused on the question, 'Must philosophers disagree?' I was sure that Grice had gone to sleep, but when I finished he opened his eyes and discussed the essay paragraph by paragraph. He seemed to have total recall but no sense of time – the tutorial took two hours instead of one. That was one of the most memorable experiences of my undergraduate career.





# IN MEMORIAM



## Remembering members of the St John's College Community

**Professor Anthony Atkinson**  
(1969)  
26/08/1951 – 30/03/2019

**Martin Beresford**  
(1958)  
04/07/1937 – 14/01/2019

**Dr Peter Binnion**  
(1950)  
24/06/1923 – 05/07/2019

**Richard Bland**  
(1956)  
12/05/1936 – 30/10/2018

**Raymond Bratt**  
(1958)  
07/01/1937 – 2019

**John Butler**  
(1942)  
18/08/1924 – 18/03/2019

**Michael Chew**  
(1953)  
01/03/1932 – 24/05/2019

**David Conville**  
(1949)  
04/06/1929 – 24/11/2018

**Gyles Cooper**  
(1961)  
08/11/1942 – 04/06/2019

**Alan Crawford**  
(1948)  
21/02/1926 – 30/05/2019

**Marcus Cumberlege**  
(1958)  
23/12/1938 – 30/12/2018

**Ronald Duff**  
(1951)  
04/02/1931 – 12/06/2019

**Dr Derek Earl**  
(1970)  
30/10/1926 – 01/05/2019

**Peter Fidler**  
(1959)  
16/03/1942 – 31/01/2019

**Dr Anthony Flind**  
(1952)  
04/09/1933 – 01/12/2018

**Dr Eric Gerelle**  
(1966)  
06/11/1947 – 04/08/2019

**John Gunnell**  
(1943)  
01/07/1926 – 09/06/2019

**Norman Hale**  
(1952)  
28/06/1933 – 05/10/2018

**Dr John Iles**  
(1965)  
22/12/1946 – 08/06/2019

**Roger Jenkins**  
(1953)  
08/07/1934 – 17/01/2019

**Chris Jukes**  
(1955)  
04/02/1935 – 10/10/2017

**Ronald Kimberley**  
(1975)  
29/07/1949 – 10/01/2016

**Professor Christoph Leidl**  
(1982)  
10/01/1960 – 17/08/2019

**John Malcolm**  
(1958)  
11/08/1938 – 05/02/2019

**John Martin**  
(1955)  
23/07/1934 – 24/06/2019

**Peter Mather**  
(1952)  
11/07/1932 – 01/03/2019

**John Middleton**  
(1956)  
11/02/1938 – 19/11/2018

**Ron Middleton**  
(1952)  
30/04/1932 – 05/03/2019

**Julian Nott**  
(1962)  
22/06/1944 – 29/03/2019

**Freddy Price**  
(1950)  
22/02/1932 – 01/06/2018

**David Proctor**  
(1970)  
26/05/1951 – 25/09/2018

**Professor John Ratcliffe**  
(1957)  
03/11/1938 – 23/10/2017

**Sir Rex Richards**  
(1942)  
28/10/1922 – 15/07/2019

**Dr George Richardson**  
(1947)  
19/09/1924 – 02/07/2019

**Dr Lewis Ryder**  
(1959)  
15/11/1941 – 18/12/2018

**Jon Sheppard**  
(1998)  
15/01/1980 – 07/01/2019

**Paul Simpson**  
(1963)  
24/10/1937 – 06/12/2018

**Karle Simpson**  
(1955)  
20/12/1934 – 02/01/2019

**Tim Stringer**  
(1949)  
01/05/1929 – 01/04/2019

**Julian Tasker**  
(1952)  
02/04/1934 – 15/01/2019

**Canon Edward Townroe**  
(1938)  
14/01/1920 – 17/07/2018

**Louis Wiltshire**  
(1959)  
04/10/1936 – 13/03/2019

**Christopher Wrigley**  
(1940)  
06/06/1921 – 08/04/2019

**Michael Young**  
(1946)  
19/09/1927 – 19/06/2019

This is a record of those whose deaths we have been informed of in the last year. We regret any omission and please do write to us if this has happened. We rely on information given to us by alumni, family and friends. Our publication schedule means we are not always able to include appreciations for all of those listed. If you would like to write an appreciation to appear in a subsequent issue, please do contact us.

# Honorary Fellows



## REX RICHARDS

Rex Richards was born in 1922 and died in July 2019. He came up to St John's in 1942 to read Chemistry.

*Sir Rex Richards DSc FRS Hon FBA FRSC was an enormously distinguished scientist and one of the pre-eminent academic administrators of his generation. He served successively as a Fellow of Lincoln, Dr Lee's Professor of Chemistry, Warden of Merton College, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, and Chancellor of Exeter University. He was also a Director of IBM, the Director of the Leverhulme Trust, and President of the Royal Society of Chemistry.*

This roster of establishment achievements – to which one might add his knighthood, as well as his work as a trustee of both the Tate and the National Galleries – was scarcely imaginable in his early years. Born in Colyton, Devon, his father was a builder. He attended the local grammar school before coming up to St John's to read Chemistry in 1942.

Here he worked with the legendary H. W. 'Tommy' Thompson, developing an interest in infrared spectroscopy and coming to realise the revolutionary potential of nuclear magnetic resonance, or NMR. After graduating with a first in 1945, he moved to Magdalen to write a DPhil: building his own equipment, persuading Morris Motors to make his magnet, winding miles of copper wire, and even breaking up old radar apparatus to make a spectrometer.

Richards' major achievement was to use NMR in the study of enzymes. He was a pivotal part of the Oxford Enzyme Group, which brought together interested parties across the university and attracted substantial funding for a laboratory, staff, and equipment, including an ultra-high field NMR spectrometer.

His research and his impressive capacity as an academic leader were recognised by honorary degrees from thirteen universities, as well as the Royal Society's Davy Medal and Royal Medal, the Chemical Society's Corday-Morgan Medal, the President's Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry, and the Medal of Honour of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität, Bonn. He was made an Honorary Fellow of St John's in 1968.

Rex Richards married a fellow scientist, Eva (née Vago) in 1948. They shared interests in spectroscopy and in modern art. Eva died in 2009 and Sir Rex on 15 July 2019, leaving behind two daughters, five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and an extraordinary legacy of research and public service.



## GEORGE RICHARDSON

George Richardson was born in 1924 and died in July 2019. He came to St John's as a Fellow in 1951. We are grateful to Ross McKibbin who gave this eulogy at George's funeral in College.



*George Barclay Richardson was born in 1924. He said he belonged to the same family as the great Russian general, Barclay de Tolly, though I do not know how true that was. Despite the fact that several of the men George most admired were Scottish, and despite the fact that he had many characteristics which people thought to be Scottish, he was always semi-comically ambivalent about Scotland. He agreed with Dr Johnson that the fairest sight in Scotland was the road to England – which is the road George took. It became a running joke about the horrors that faced George if Scotland left the Union and he were expelled from England. John Kay, appointed George's colleague at St John's scarcely out of his teens, can be sure that he was appointed on merit and not because he was a fellow Scot.*

His took his first degree, Maths and Physics, at Aberdeen University. One of his teachers there was a distinguished German Jewish scientist, the significance of which was not lost on the young George. Towards the end of the war he joined the admiralty research department and became a Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He later served in the intelligence department of the British Army of the Rhine. This period in Germany was very important to him. He arrived in Berlin more or less the day Germany surrendered and he was an observer not only of Germany's ruins, but of the Nuremberg trials. These left their mark on him: a sense of the fragility of European culture to which in its broadest sense, he was very attached, especially to its literature and music. Unsurprisingly, therefore, he deplored the result of the 2016 EU referendum as another blow to that culture. In 1947 he went to Corpus Christi College and read PPE. He then had one year in the Foreign Service before he decided to go to Nuffield College in 1950 as a student in economics. These links with Whitehall were later important and more than residual. During the Suez crisis of 1956 he organized the University's opposition to the government's policy and in doing so he represented not just his own position but the position of the Foreign Office. He was an influential member of the Monopolies Commission. He became a member of that now much diminished body 'the great and good' – an economic adviser to the UKAEA; a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution; a member of the development committee of the Electrical Engineering Industry et al. He had one year in Nuffield before coming to St John's as Tutor in Economics in 1951, a post he held until 1974. In 1969 he became University Reader in Economics. As a tutor he was ebullient and very popular, as I soon discovered when I came to St John's – we had at one point adjacent rooms. Certainly my students did not seem to get

as much out of my tutorials as George's did from his. He was closely involved in College affairs, possibly at the expense of his family life, and was almost always on the side of 'reform', both in the College's intellectual and educational culture and physical appearance. He was, for example, a champion of the Beehive – probably Oxford's first modernist building and a controversial project.

As an economist, he believed that capitalist economies worked best when certain rules of economic efficiency were observed, and his scepticism about 'socialism', which meant the Labour Party, and trade union economics was based upon a feeling that they did not observe those rules. I once suggested to him that his views were close to those of the Austrian economist, Ludwig von Mises, who believed that the enemies of economic efficiency were socialism, Christianity and war. George replied that he probably would not express it quite so boldly, but he knew what Mises meant. Although he was well equipped to write the new economics – his most important publication, *Information and Investment* was if anything ahead of his times – George always thought of economics as a humane discipline. He was inclined to see it as in a tradition of literature and history. The economist should know Smith, Ricardo, Mill, Marshall, Keynes – he was genuinely surprised and a little shocked to hear that a well-known Oxford economist confessed he had not read the General Theory. (Although I suspect George himself did not often dip much into the work of that other well-known 19th-century political economist, Karl Marx.) Indeed, I have always thought George as an economist was rather like Keynes, of whom he was an admirer – though by no means an uncritical one and on a subject central to Keynes's thought he fundamentally disagreed. But he admired Keynes's literary skills – who could not? – his belief that economics had to be a social discipline, connected to the world of ordinary men, and based upon universal civilised values. To some extent this reflected the influence of George's tutor, Sir John Hicks, one of the most distinguished of Keynes's successors – although one who gave Keynesianism a form only partly acceptable to Keynes – and it was Hicks who was primarily responsible for George's decision to leave the FO and go to Nuffield. There is no doubt that as he got older George increasingly felt that economics was abandoning these values and detaching itself from the real world of men into the world of a partly spurious mathematics. Furthermore, he knew that the rather urbane Conservatism he supported – I was once told that George was the only member of the Economics Sub-Faculty to vote Conservative (which I find hard to believe) – was being replaced by a Conservatism to which he was eventually much less sympathetic.

That is probably one reason why George decided to resign his University and College posts and in 1974 to accept an offer to become Secretary to the Delegates and Chief Executive (a title he insisted on) of the Oxford University Press. That post he held until 1988. George himself had become a Delegate in 1971 and he was in many ways an obvious choice to succeed to the position. It would be an exaggeration to say that the OUP was in serious trouble, but it was in some trouble, like many other institutions in the 1970s, and his appointment marked a period of significantly more professional management. The London branch was closed, as were the print works. The book repository was moved from Neasden to Corby; the New York division was gingered up – a reform George found personally very difficult. And he led the Press successfully through the economic crisis of 1980–3 when so much of the rest of the British economy went under. These reforms largely made the Press the cash cow it has become and all of us in the University should be very grateful.

It was assumed at the end of his time at the Press that he would now go into honourable retirement, and his appointment as Warden of Keble in 1989 surprised some. It was not the first time George had been approached by an Oxford college. Nuffield was one and he declined that for partly personal reasons. An outsider should be careful about what he says but it seems that Keble was going through a bad patch and that George, with his emollient common sense, was the right man to bind up its wounds. It is also pretty clear that, given his views, on the evolution of modern economics, he would not any longer do what we might call serious economics. Again, an outsider ought to be careful, but on the basis of what I saw, and grapevine gossip, it appears that he and Isabel, his wife, brought a benign and healing atmosphere to the college. At any rate, they gave very good parties.

In his personal values George was as humane as he believed economics should be. He was, as we now say (though I doubt that George, who was linguistically very fastidious, would say it) non-judgemental. His attitudes were fundamentally live and let live. There is a story, though I cannot vouch for it, that when he was Senior Dean, and still living in College, he was faced at bedtime with a moral complication that would hardly bat anyone's eye now. It is said that he told the student involved in this complication to sin again and come to see him tomorrow. He was very fond of a couplet written by a well-known soldier – so well-known that I can't remember his name – which is something like: 'The older I get and closer to the tomb/the less I care who sleeps with whom'. In many ways he was rather an old-fashioned rationalist and secularist, an important tradition

in Scottish intellectual life: I should probably say that he was not actively religious and leave it at that; except to note that the juxtaposition of George and the *Light of the World* in the same chapel must be one of the oddest juxtapositions in Keble's history. But also to note that George was a great respecter of Oxford's institutions, one of which is certainly the Church of England, which is why he had an Anglican funeral. He was very attached to his family and worried about them. He was concerned that his grandson, Sam, might end up an Australian – I discovered early on that George had the same half-comic ambivalence about Australia as he did of Scotland – and he was very pleased when Sam returned to his homeland, though, as George noted, with Australian residential status still in his pocket.

If George is up there looking down or down there looking up he would be delighted to see so many of the St John's College staff here today – and George was definitely a Common Room man. Their thoughtfulness, good humour and patience, especially as dementia's hand was getting its grip, was touching and remarkable, and much cherished by George and his family. George did not succumb to dementia without a fight. His family took the view, obviously the right one, that George would probably be better off in London nearer his family – though Graham prudently and far-sightedly kept George's Oxford residence in George's name. George lasted three days in London before fleeing to Oxford. And, unlike Louis XVI's flight to Varennes, George made it.

George was a man of great generosity of spirit and sympathy, wit, charm and kindness, and in College the nicest companion to men and women of all ages. He was also a man of great intellectual and cultural range. This combination of qualities is very rare and will be much missed by everyone and every institution who knew him.

#### WE ALSO REMEMBER

**Dennis Clifford** joined the College as Woodsman at Bagley Wood in April 1968 and retired in 2004. He passed away in November 2018.

**Anne Leigh** joined St John's in May 1981, starting as an assistant in the SCR and then working as a cleaner for a while. She worked in the Buttery for many years, alongside her daughter, Maureen Baker, and Kay Fuller. She retired in November 2015 and sadly passed away in March 2019.

**Eric Patmore** passed away on 15 October 2019. He was Head Woodsman at Bagley Wood, joining St John's in March 1955 and retiring 37 years later in 1992.



# Alumni

## PETER JOHN MICHAEL FIDLER

*Peter Fidler was born in 1942 and came up to St John's in 1959 to read Classics. He died on 31 January 2019. We are grateful to his wife, Barbara Fidler, for this appreciation.*

After graduating at St John's with a first-class degree in Classics, Peter moved to London where he qualified as a solicitor (achieving a prize in the solicitors' finals), and specialised in Banking and Insolvency. He was a partner in Stephenson Harwood for many years, where he wrote widely in legal journals and advised clients. Peter updated a standard work for lawyers, accountants and others in his field; Sheldon and Fidler's *Practice and Law of Banking*. Later, he married Barbara, who was the widow of his friend David Gottlieb, and became stepfather to her three children, and father to David. More recently he was a proud grandfather. Peter loved sport; he still ran in the park at age 75, ran in charity legal races until he was 70, (overtaking many much younger people), and played cricket until he was about 70. In his younger days he had played croquet for England and badminton for St John's. Peter was full of admiration for his wonderful tutor, Donald Russell, and kept in touch with him. Peter's time at St John's was one of the happiest periods of his life; he won a State Scholarship to Oxford when he was 16, but was not allowed to enter Oxford until he was 17, the minimum age permitted. By joining St John's, Peter followed in the footsteps of his father, the late Dr Harry Fidler, who died in 2007 aged 95. Peter and Barbara very much enjoyed the College Summer Garden Parties. A donation is being made to the St John's College Bursary Fund in memory of Peter.

## ERIC GERELLE

*Dr Eric Gerelle was born in the UK in 1947 to a French family, and came up to St John's in 1966 to read Natural Sciences (Physics). He died on 4 August 2019. We are grateful to Jim Shaw, his fellow alumnus with whom he enjoyed regular get-togethers with their alumni group in latter years, and Eric's family and friends in Geneva for this appreciation.*

After leaving St John's, Eric pursued his academic interests with a Mathematics doctorate programme at Kansas State University. As well as obtaining his doctorate there, Eric met his future wife Cheryll Suber, a fellow

doctoral candidate, and they married in 1971. After a sabbatical trip to the University of Geneva in 1973, they settled permanently in Switzerland in 1975, where their daughter Gabrielle was born a couple of years later.

After more than a decade working for Digital Equipment Corporation in Geneva, including managing a joint project with CERN, Eric set up his consultancy business IBEX Project Services. Their many projects included several aiming to improve living standards in Africa through the spread of technology and communications, one of Eric's heartfelt passions.

In later years, despite his own health problems, Eric dedicated himself to his young grandson Max, indulging in their mutual love of chess, chemistry and museums, meanwhile seeing to Cheryll's increasing care needs. He was delighted by the arrival of his grand-daughter Charlotte and the nomination of his daughter as consultant in obstetrics and gynecology in 2018.

With his close friend Michael Horner, he worked for over two decades on applying physical systems theories to social systems. His love for his family and his passion for 'the model' kept him alive and even in his last moments, he was working hard on his mathematical equations.

He will be sorely missed but his legacy, through research, family and friends, lives on.

## JOHN CLAUDE GUNNELL

*John Claude Gunnell was born in 1926 and came up to St John's in 1943 to read Medieval & Modern Languages. He died on 9 June 2019. We are grateful to his sons, Tim and David Gunnell, for this appreciation.*

John was born in Watford, Hertfordshire, and came to St John's to study Modern Languages in 1943 having first attended Watford Grammar, Fan Court and Leighton Park Schools. His language skills led to him being recruited to serve in the Army Intelligence Corps as a member of the Japanese Section at Bletchley Park in 1945 before returning to his studies.

After leaving St John's he held teaching posts in Toulouse and at Repton College, then going to Epsom College in 1953 to teach French and German. According to one former headmaster, he did this 'with conspicuous

success...with an enthusiasm for his subject and a real interest in the history and culture of both nations, along with the whole problem of international relations' and was 'in short, a first-rate all-round schoolmaster'. John remained at Epsom until his retirement in 1986.

He was successively House Tutor of Hart-Smith, Housemaster of Carr and then of Holman House, ultimately becoming Head of the Modern Languages Department. In this latter role John brought in the new subject of 'O' Level Russian – teaching himself just ahead of his class and taking a party of pupils on an eventful trip to Russia – and oversaw the introduction of a language laboratory.

He is recalled as running the Department 'with vigour and patient consideration', while in the classroom his students benefitted from a teaching style that was consistently energetic and inspiring, whether the focus of the lesson was linguistic or literary. John also took on the development of the College's new Careers Department, giving, in the words of the school magazine in 1986, 'wise pastoral advice and expert guidance to literally hundreds of aspiring students and Old Epsomians'. Keen player and motivational coach in a variety of games, his chief sporting interest at the school was tennis, an activity he ran there for some years.

Passionate about theatre – a former member of the St John's Mummerys – over the decades he acted in many local amateur dramatic productions and produced a large number of House and School plays at Epsom College. In his retirement John worked as a volunteer for Citizens Advice, Keston College and the National Trust. He was Chair of the Epsom Decorative and Fine Arts Society, as well as presenting his own series of lectures at a local theatre on a range of arts-related themes and giving occasional guided cultural tours of London in aid of charity. Meanwhile he pursued other varied interests in music, ornithology, foreign travel and watercolour painting.

John died peacefully on 9 June 2019, aged 92, and is survived by Rosemary, his wife of nearly sixty years whom he met while she was working as a nurse in the Epsom College Sanatorium, his two sons David and Tim, and granddaughters Emma and Rose. Many kind tributes have been received describing John as a true gentleman, always concerned for and interested in those around him, and he is warmly remembered by many former pupils and associates at Epsom College as 'a marvellous colleague and friend'.

## FREDERICK ROGER JENKINS

*Roger Jenkins was born in 1934 and came up to St John's in 1953 to read Literae Humaniores. He died on 17 January 2019. We are grateful to his wife Gillian for this appreciation.*

Roger Jenkins was born in 1934 in Wolverhampton and lived and attended school there and in Newcastle-under-Lyne until he went to St John's to study Greats. He subsequently qualified to practise law. He worked in local government in Stoke on Trent and Luton and then went into private practice for the firm of Linnell and Murphy for eight years before setting up on his own as a single practitioner on the Cowley Road until his retirement in 2009. A former colleague said of him: 'In my life in law I have come across many admirable lawyers, but none so fine as Roger. For his integrity and competence he was almost in a league of his own.'

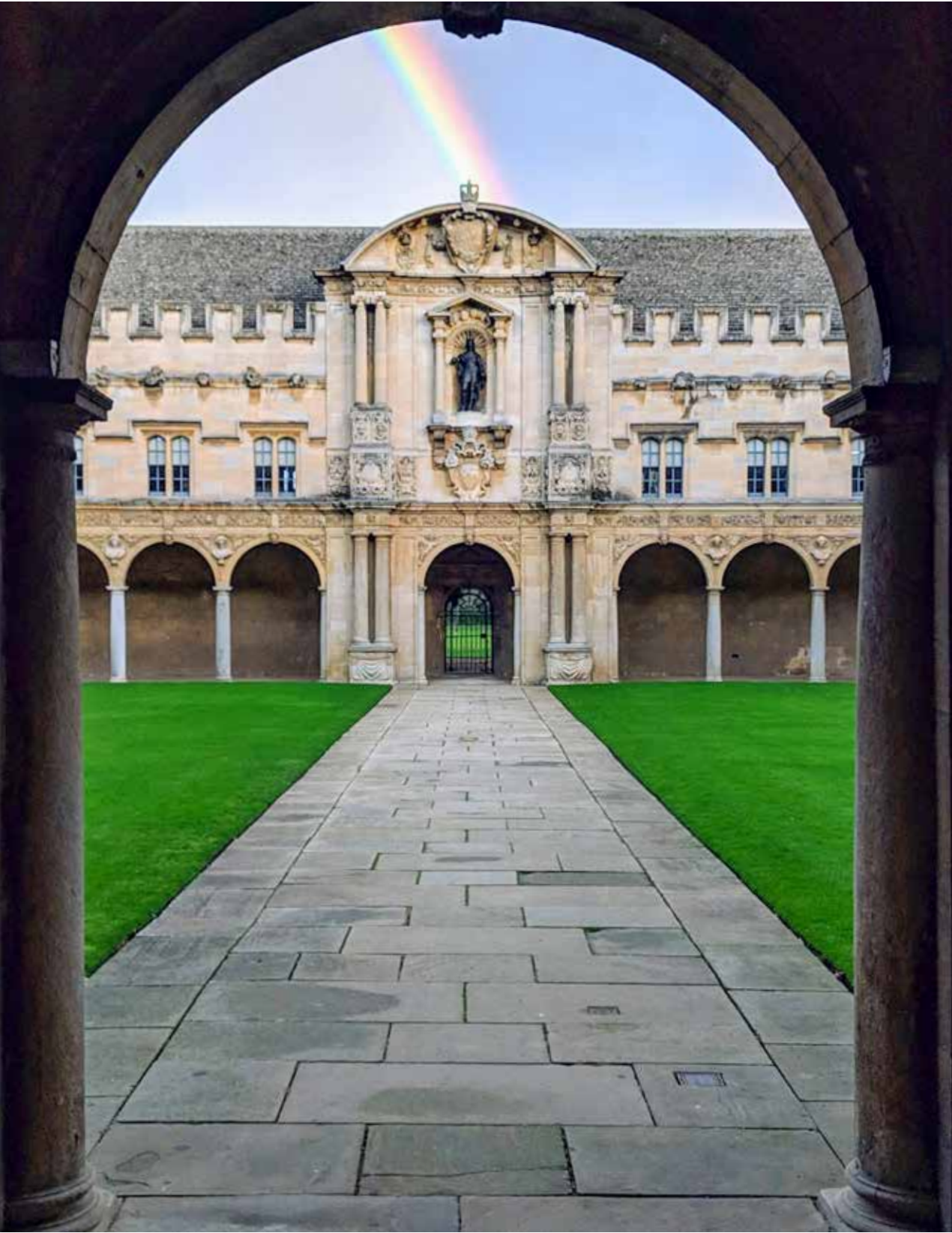
He was a much-loved husband and father of two daughters (and later of four grandchildren). The family spent many happy years in their home near Iffley. His favourite hobby was morris dancing, to which he was introduced during his time at St John's. In February the Oxford City Morris Men gave him a grand send-off after a thanksgiving service in Iffley Church by dancing on the icy road outside.

## PETER DEREK MATHER

*Peter Mather was born in 1932 and came up to St John's in 1952 to read Law. He died on 4 March 2019. We are grateful to his wife, Ann Mather, for this appreciation.*

After his time at St. John's Peter Mather joined Shell and was sent to Nigeria for 18 months in Lagos and then Abba. He and Ann were married in July 1957 and shortly afterwards they both went back to Nigeria where he travelled extensively as a Shell Representative. Their daughter, Penny, was born in Lagos in December 1958 and Richard was born in Owerri in April 1960. After another short time in London with Shell, he was posted to Hong Kong where he spent four years, during which time Philippa was born in 1962. Returning to London for a couple of years before being posted to Malta, he left after 18 months when Malta was granted independence. Going back to work in London he left Shell when asked to join the Alireza group, where he put his law degree into use travelling around the world on their behalf. He soon got weary of the





travelling and decided to take early retirement, moving to farm in the Scottish Borders which he had always wanted to do. He had health problems for several years, including some major operations, but was able to stay at home until he was moved to Kelso Hospital for his last few days where he died peacefully with the family around him. He continued to play sport to a high standard, playing hockey and tennis. Peter also played in the Hong Kong sevens tournaments and became Hong Kong squash champion while there. He enjoyed a very interesting and full life.

### RONALD DAVID MIDDLETON

*Ron Middleton was born in 1932 and came up to St John's in 1952 to read Chemistry. He died on 5 March 2019. We are grateful to his daughter, Jean Croft, for this appreciation.*

Ron was brought up in North London, where he had a very happy wartime childhood. It was clear from an early age that he was extremely clever, winning a scholarship to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Barnet aged 11. Here he discovered the joys of rugby and developed a fascination for Chemistry and its endless possibilities.

Ron would tell his children that 'a chemist is a magician: he can turn a puddle of oil into a pair of nylon stockings'. Ron's enthusiasm for all things chemical eventually took him to Oxford, via National Service with the RAF in Egypt, where he read Chemistry at St John's from 1952 to 1956.

Ron's time at St John's was undoubtedly one of the happiest periods of his life. He seems to have worked hard and played extremely hard. He played rugby for the College, rowed, played tennis and, if the story of his placing a bicycle on the chapel roof is to be believed, he enjoyed the odd arduous challenge. Ron returned to St John's on a regular basis, when he had enormous pleasure catching up with old friends from his time there.

In September 1956, he joined the research and development team at British Nylon Spinners in Pontypool, later to become part of ICI Fibres. In 1957, he met Ann Hughes, a barrister working in their patents department. The happy couple married in June 1958 and they had three daughters. Sadly, in 1976 Ann died of cancer, and the period that followed was very difficult for him, both personally and professionally.

In 1982, Ron decided to switch careers and qualified as a Mathematics teacher. He was an inspiring and enthusiastic teacher.

In 1986, Ron had the great good fortune to meet his second wife, Penny Hindle, the headmistress of Coworth Park School. They married in 1987 and were very happy. Through Penny, he acquired three stepchildren and, eventually, a total of ten grandchildren. Sadly, Penny was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the mid-1990s. She fought the disease with great courage, but eventually succumbed in 2017.

Having lost his first wife when he was so young, Penny's illness and death was very difficult to cope with, but Ron was helped by his strong Christian faith and the support of his family, of whom he was extremely proud.

Ron contributed to the 'Big Society' in so many ways. He sang in various choirs and was both Vicar's Warden and Treasurer at Holy Trinity Church, Sunningdale. He rang the bells and sang in the choir in both Abergavenny and Harrogate. He was a stalwart member of the chorus in numerous performances of Gilbert & Sullivan, and a keen golfer.

Ron was loyal, principled, tough, traditional, devout, intellectually rigorous, plain-speaking (more so as he got older), witty, generous, competitive, kind, proud and utterly self-confident. We are all privileged to have known and loved him as a father, grandfather and friend.

### JONATHAN MICHAEL HALL SHEPPARD

*Jonathan Sheppard was born in 1980 and came up to St John's to read Physics. He died on 29 December 2018. We are grateful to his wife, Ruth Sheppard (1999), for this appreciation.*

Jon and I were introduced at a drunken Boat Club cocktails in my second term at St John's and we hit it off immediately. I had already met a lot of exceptional people at Oxford, but I was intrigued by Jon, who combined a brilliant mind and a love of his subject – physics – with an appealing curiosity about everything he came across, as though determined to understand the universe by understanding all its constituent parts. Moreover, he was kind, funny, and unfailingly modest.

Jon was a Thomas White scholar, having attended Reading School before coming up to College. Dedicated to science, maths and music from childhood, at St John's he discovered a new passion – rowing. In his first year he rowed in the College second VIII, then trained until he got a place in the first VIII, always in the powerhouse middle seats. Later he would coach the College women's crews for several years.

He worked hard for his Part I finals, then worked out exactly how much work he needed to do for his Part II finals to secure a First. This was somewhat irritating to me as I worked in the library knowing he was probably on the river or in the pub, but the plan worked – he got his First, receiving the Lasers Prize for his MPhys project in Optical Physics. After finals we married, then returned to Oxford where Jon started working towards a DPhil in the department of Atomic and Laser Physics. While he enjoyed his research into femtosecond X-ray diffraction and was awarded the North Senior Scholarship, he eventually realised that his future was in sharing his passion for science. He therefore trained to become a secondary school teacher, working first at the Henry Box School, Witney, then Cherwell School, Oxford, before moving to the Bartholomew School, Eynsham, as Head of Science.

Jon was a gifted teacher, and in addition to delivering engaging lessons, he developed teenage-friendly revision resources including YouTube videos and a quiz app for use on smartphones. His desk was always covered in thank-you cards, from those in top classes and also from those who had feared they would fail. His belief that good data was crucial in education – presented in a format understandable by all teachers, not just scientists and mathematicians! – led him to push Excel to its limits to create databases and reporting systems, later consulting for a company developing tech solutions for education.

We moved to Witney and purchased our first house just as Jon began teaching, and decided to settle there. Jon was a doting father to our boys Ben and Jacob, both of whom soon came to share his love of science, and *Star Wars*. Whenever his work allowed, Jon would good-naturedly support my various activities in the town, often introducing himself as ‘bag carrier and tech support’. Jon was my rock for 16 years of marriage, but never more than when he supported me through months of treatment for breast cancer.

Jon’s sudden death at the age of 38 has left a gaping hole in many lives, as attested by the many friends who packed the church at his memorial service. He was an exceptional man and he planned to do so much more good in the world. But he lives on through the love of learning that he instilled in hundreds of students, and in our sons, who have inherited his aptitude for science, maths and music, but more importantly his kindness and generosity of spirit.

## KARLE ELKINGTON SIMPSON

*Karle Simpson was born in 1934 and came up to St John’s in 1955 to read Law. He died on 3 January 2019. We are grateful to his friend John Pollard for this appreciation.*

Karle and I met at boarding school in 1947, where we shared common interests in music and sport. National Service (1952–5) interrupted our friendship, Karle serving in the Navy while I joined an Artillery Regiment at Plymouth training to blow up ships! Reunited at St John’s in 1956 we were colleagues in the College cricket team and Music Society. On graduating in Law in 1958 Karle moved to Birmingham to work at Fort Dunlop. That summer, Keith Harris-Watson invited his ex-College teammates (including Karle and myself) to join him to play cricket against a local team on a private ground in Oxford. Afterwards the players agreed to form a “wandering” cricket team, later called the Demijohns – to signal that membership was not restricted to John’s men and our interests were wider than cricket! The Club celebrated its 60th birthday last year.

In June 1959 Karle married Susan Ridley, the youngest daughter of Sir Sidney Ridley who, after a distinguished career in the Indian subcontinent and Ghana had been appointed the College Domestic Bursar in 1960. Keeping in touch through Demijohns fixtures I joined Karle and Sue in a performance of Bach’s Matthew Passion in Lichfield Cathedral in 1962, shortly before Karle left for Dunlop Canada to establish its computer section, as he has in Birmingham. Karle returned to the UK in 1967 with Sue and three children Julian, Nigel and Jeremy, Matthew arriving later, but soon left Dunlop to work for Crown Agents to create their Data Processing Department. His new home at Caterham, conveniently opposite a park with a cricket pitch, encouraged Karle to join the local team. He was Club President for many years, and his return to the UK was warmly welcomed at Demijohns matches where our families frequently met.

When visiting Madagascar for Crown Agents, attracted by the varied stones mined there, he decided to form his own company to import them and Malagasy craftwork to Britain. At this time Karle started to collect hats.

Music was always an important part of Karle’s life. As well as singing, he and Sue enjoyed playing duets. With the assistance of a Danish friend, he translated the text of Nielsen’s “Fynsk Forar” (Springtime in Forar), premiered by the East Surrey Choral Society. Karle was also involved



in politics, standing for the Lib Dems in local elections and tirelessly canvassing for other candidates.

In 2014, Karle and Sue moved to Chichester, where their eldest son Julian, also my wife and I, live. Despite deteriorating health and frequent hospital visits, Karle retained his mental acuity and ‘puckish’ sense of humour – he loved to tell a good story! – right to the end. He died in hospital on 3 January 2019 and his wish was that there should be a celebratory ‘wake’. This was appropriately held at the ‘Bat and Ball’ pub in Hambledon, attended by family and friends from many walks of life. The crowning feature of the day was a cricket game, organised by sons Julian and Nigel (also a John’s man) on the hallowed turf of the adjacent Broad Ha’penny Down Cricket Ground with players from the attending cricket clubs, each player wearing one of Karle’s 52 hats!

### HENRY (TIM) STEPHEN STRINGER

*Henry Stringer, known as Tim, was born in 1929 and came up to St John’s in 1949 to read English. He died on 5 April 2019. We are grateful to his daughter, Henrietta Hodgkiss, for this appreciation.*

Tim was born and brought up in Southport before the family moved to Weybridge and he attended Dean Close School, where he excelled in tennis, became captain of hockey and finished up as Head Boy. He went on to do National Service in the East Sussex Regiment before joining St John’s in 1949 to read English.

He made the most of his time at Oxford, making many lifelong friends and playing lots of sport including hockey for the Occasional University Team and tennis. He was also a regular choice for College undergraduate committees.

He remained in Oxford to study his Teaching Diploma before taking his first teaching role at Wellington School in Somerset in 1953 where he became housemaster of a boarding house. In 1958 Tim joined Mill Hill School to teach English and particularly English literature. He loved drama and followed the London theatre scene closely and relished producing many school plays at Mill Hill, particularly the Shakespeare ones. He put on seven major school drama productions and also acted in a number of mixed staff and pupil plays, where he was well known for his impeccable comic timing. During his time at Mill Hill, Tim was a house tutor, Housemaster and ended up as Head of English. He still enjoyed being involved with sport



Sas Butler

and was a referee for hockey. Many pupils remember him for his prowess on the hockey pitch as well as his dapper dress sense and fine taste in sports cars.

After retiring from Mill Hill in 1989, he joined North London Collegiate School where he taught English to the sixth form on a part-time basis until 1995.

Tim was well suited to teaching. He had a good brain, an equable temperament with an excellent though quiet sense of humour. Always cheerful, he had a consistently kindly and modest way with people and was well liked and respected by his peers and pupils. Many former pupils spoke of how they had felt inspired by him and for many he instilled a lifelong love of literature.

Tim enjoyed an active retirement and enjoyed all that London had to offer, with regular visits to galleries, theatre, cinema and ballet. He was something of a bon viveur and thoroughly enjoyed a good meal with friends and family. He remained an avid lover of literature, moving on to audio books when his eyesight began to fail and he would love discussing what he had read. He was also a devoted family man to his wife, two daughters and three grandchildren.

Despite health problems in later life, he managed to deal with difficulties as best as he could with a minimum of complaining or fuss. He remained cheerful and positive and simply enjoyed life, his watchword being 'fun'.

He touched the lives of so many people, those he taught and his many friends and family. The large numbers of past pupils stretching back decades who attended his memorial service is testament to his generosity and warmth, kindly manner and inspiring approach.

## MICHAEL JOSEPH YOUNG

*Michael Young was born in 1927, and came up to St John's to read History. He died on 19 June 2019. We are grateful to James McClean, Michael's son-in-law, for this appreciation.*

Born in Bristol on 19 September 1927, Michael Young died aged 91. After receiving a scholarship, he graduated with a BA in History from St John's in 1948. His love of history, was nurtured at Oxford, remained with him forever. After Oxford, Michael worked briefly at the Wool Exchange in London. In 1949, aged 22, in tune with his sense of adventure, Michael departed for Montevideo, Uruguay to work for BOLSA (Bank of London and South America).

Whilst on ship on his first return trip back to England in five years, he met Jean More, who was born and lived in Brazil. They married in Sao Paulo, Brazil in December 1954.

Michael and Jean set up home together in Buenos Aires, Argentina and then moved to Trelew, Patagonia and Rosario where their eldest daughter, Deborah, was born in 1956. Several postings followed, latterly in Quito, Ecuador where their younger daughter Jackie was born in 1961 with the family transferring more permanently to Guatemala in 1963 where they lived for four years. After 14 years in South America, Michael was promoted to General Manager for BOLAM (Bank of London and Montreal) in Nassau, Bahamas. BOLAM became part of Lloyds Bank International (LBI).

Sailing became a key recreational pursuit in Nassau. Michael's love of water had been kindled through rowing at Oxford and water-borne pastimes continued for the rest of his life. The family remained in Nassau until 1973 before returning to England where they set up home in Haslemere. Following roles in London, Michael left LBI in 1979 to be followed by senior roles at Banco de Galicia, his fluent Spanish being highly valued, and the CBI. He retired permanently in the early 1980s.

Michael's love for travel and adventure continued. He had harboured an interest in China from his studies at Oxford and he travelled the entire length of the Silk Road over three trips with the final section from Islamabad over the Karakorum Pass being completed with his 15-year-old grandson. After this, sadly, he suffered a serious illness which hampered other trips he had planned with his other grandchildren. He did however pass on his love for travel which they have taken up enthusiastically.

Michael also played tennis and golf; and walked many miles with dogs and friends. He studied Mayan history at Guildford University and wrote a book on Admiral Osborn, an ancestor of Naval repute. He continued to be a keen recreational sailor, canoeist and rower.

To celebrate his 90th birthday, his family organised a visit to St John's that included a lunch in the Dining Hall. The staff of St John's made a wonderful effort and were able to provide a copy of the register that Michael had signed on his arrival at St John's in 1946.

Michael is survived by Jean, his wife of nearly 65 years, their two daughters, five grandchildren and one great grandson.





# COLLEGE RECORD



## FIRST IN FINAL HONOUR SCHOOLS 2019

Feyifoluwa Hannah Adegbite, History and Modern Languages  
Oluwakanyinsola Patrick Akinwuntan, Engineering Science  
Thomas Robert Alexander, History  
Isobel Argles, Medicine (pre-clinical)  
Alastair Baldry, Chemistry  
Gareth Bird, Physics (MPhys)  
Stefan Stanislaw Korycinski Butler,  
European and Middle Eastern Languages  
Alice Eileen Cambridge, Modern Languages and Linguistics  
Anton Charman, Engineering Science  
Tilda Coleman, English  
Freya Dixon-Van Dijk, Human Sciences  
Alice Eva, Modern Languages and Linguistics  
Marius Gavrilescu, Computer Science (MCompSci)  
Danielle Christine Green, Philosophy and Modern Languages  
Callum Harries, Medicine (pre-clinical)  
Daniel Alexander Haywood, English  
Greg James Henderson, Physics (MPhys)  
Gregory Howgego, Medicine (pre-clinical)  
Edward Hunt, History  
Leonie Hutch, Archaeology and Anthropology  
Christine Jiang, History and Politics  
Ania Kelly, Modern Languages  
Daniel Timony Kent, Mathematics (MMath)  
Beatrice Angharad Law, History of Art  
Brandon Leathley, Mathematics (MMath)  
Georgia Ling, History  
Hay Yuen Michael Lo, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Nyasha Beth Mbewe, Modern Languages  
Michael Muir, History  
Sebastian Brian Orbell, Chemistry  
Frederick Pringle, Mathematics and Physics (MMathPhys)  
Alexander Rice, Mathematics and Computer Science (MMathCompSci)  
Emma Richards, Literae Humaniores  
Maxim Robertson, Physics (BA)  
Edward Rowe, Physics (MPhys)  
Ishta Sharma, Medicine (pre-clinical)  
Charles Robert Sims, Chemistry  
Etienne Gerald Soubes-Goldman, Biological Sciences  
Teofil Todorov, Mathematics (MMath)  
Benjamin Towle, Literae Humaniores  
William George Underwood, Mathematics and Statistics (MMath)  
Matthew Ward, Music  
Benjmain Wilding, Chemistry  
Alexander Wilson, Music  
Chui Yan Yeung, Jurisprudence  
Penelope Grace Clara Young, Biological Sciences

## DISTINCTION OR FIRST CLASS IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 2019

Joanna Louise Bland, Chemistry  
Tamara Bojanic, Physics  
Daniel Bundred, Engineering Science  
Zeyu Chen, Chemistry  
Xuhui Chen, Physics  
Kiu Sang Max Cheung, Literae Humaniores  
Shuichi Chiba, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Benedict Jerome Charles Clinch, English  
Elizabeth Bryson Davis, Literae Humaniores  
Philip Anthony Fernandes, Biological Sciences  
Konstantin Garov, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Alessandro Giacometto, History and Modern Languages  
Julian Gonzales, Mathematics  
Martha Roma Alexander Gritt, Geography  
Matthew James Heslin Holman, History  
Anisha Kaur Jagdev-Harris, Classics and Modern Languages  
Catherine Jamieson, History of Art  
Suzanne Kapelus, Archaeology and Anthropology  
Shaun Arnold Marshall, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Ava Natalie Mitchell, Human Sciences  
Firdaus Mohandas, Jurisprudence  
Eve Morris-Gray, Geography  
Costin-Andrei Oncescu, Computer Science  
Oliver James Hyatt Parkes, Literae Humaniores  
Tomasz Robert Ponitka, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Julia Ragus, Chemistry  
Harry Joe Renshaw, Jurisprudence with Law Studies in Europe  
Samuel Timothy Saunderson, History and Economics  
Aura Schonfeld, Human Sciences  
Sevven Smith, Chemistry  
Felix Stocker, History  
Yiming Tang, Mathematics  
Andrew Peter Tinkler, Chemistry  
Oliver Frank Tushingam, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Elsbeth Vowles, Archaeology and Anthropology  
Flora Waller, Ancient and Modern History  
Leo Warburton, Geography  
Amy Grace Ward, Theology and Religion  
Yuqing Weng, History and Economics  
Antoni Jan Wojcik, Physics  
Emily Zhao, Jurisprudence

## UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS 2019/20

Erin Ailes, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History  
Anjali Anicatt, History  
Katie Annesley, Chemistry  
Harriet Aspin, History of Art  
Benjamin Bedert, Mathematics  
Joanna Bland, Chemistry  
Tamara Bojanic, Physics  
Astrid Breitenstein, Human Sciences  
Oliver Brown, Engineering Science  
Daniel Bundred, Engineering Science  
Samuel Burns, History  
Cas Burton, Mathematics  
Xuhui Chen, Physics  
Zeyu Chen, Chemistry  
Kiu Sang Max Cheung, Literae Humaniores  
Ee Hsiun Chong, Jurisprudence  
Stefan Clarke, Mathematics  
Benedict Clinch, English  
Clarissa Costen, Physics  
Elizabeth Coyle, Literae Humaniores  
Elizabeth Davis, Literae Humaniores  
Alfred Deere-Hall, History  
Cameron di Leo, English and Modern Languages  
Joseph Elliott, Chemistry  
Marco Fabus, Physics  
Philip Fernandes, Biological Sciences  
Joel Footring, Biological Sciences  
Noah Francis, Chemistry  
Caitlin French, Physics  
Oliver French, Archaeology and Anthropology  
Benedict Gardner, Geography  
Konstantin Garov, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Alessandro Giacometto, History and Modern Languages  
Julian Gonzales, Mathematics  
Rose Gooda, Biological Sciences  
Andrew Grassick, Physics  
Martha Gritt, Geography  
Michael Hasland, Physics  
Leonard Hochfilzer, Mathematics  
Matthew Holman, History  
Lee Horn, Mathematics and Philosophy  
Matthew Hopkins, Physics  
Isobel Howard, Human Sciences  
Christopher Hughes, Mathematics  
Anisha Jagdev-Harris, Classics and Modern Languages  
Rohan Jain, History  
Megan James, Human Sciences  
Catherine Jamieson, History of Art  
Leonhard Kadokura, English  
Taavet Kalda, Physics  
Suzanne Kapelus, Archaeology and Anthropology  
Isobel Kent, Modern Languages  
Dina Khadum, European and Middle Eastern Languages  
Yong Min Kwon, Biochemistry  
Jan Lebioda, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Brian Leong, Mathematics and Statistics  
Diamor Marke, Mathematics and Statistics  
Shaun Marshall, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Eve Miles, Modern Languages  
Ava Mitchell, Human Sciences  
Firdaus Mohandas, Jurisprudence  
Isabella Morris, English  
Eve Morris-Gray, Geography  
Jennifer Moulds, Modern Languages  
Helena Murphy, Oriental Studies (Arabic/Islamic Studies)  
Violeta Naydenova, Mathematics  
Elvi Nimali, Biochemistry  
Costin-Andrei Oncescu, Computer Science  
William Orbell, Chemistry  
Patrick Osborne, Engineering Science  
Jake Owen, Biological Sciences  
Oliver Parkes, Literae Humaniores  
Toby Paterson, Ancient and Modern History  
Tomasz Ponitka, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Hannah Pook, Medicine (pre-clinical)  
Adrian-Mihai Radu, Engineering Science  
Andrei Rducea-Marin, Mathematics  
Julia Ragus, Chemistry  
Harry Renshaw, Jurisprudence with Law Studies in Europe  
Dimitar Ruzhev, Engineering Science  
Samuel Saunderson, History and Economics  
Aura Schonfeld, Human Sciences  
Cara Shearer, Philosophy, Psychology and Linguistics  
Sevven Smith, Chemistry  
Arun Soor, Mathematics  
Nathan Spiller, Engineering Science  
Felix Stocker, History  
Akasha Strub, Engineering Science  
Ana Stuhec, Chemistry  
Harry Sugden, Geography  
Albany Summers, Chemistry  
Yiming Tang, Mathematics  
Martin Tat, Physics

Clare Tierney, Modern Languages  
 Andrew Tinkler, Chemistry  
 Sebastian Towers, Mathematics and Computer Science  
 George Umbrurescu, Chemistry  
 Sophia Vaughan, Physics  
 Elspeth Vowles, Archaeology and Anthropology  
 Flora Waller, Ancient and Modern History  
 Leo Warburton, Geography  
 Amy Ward, Theology and Religion  
 Yuqing Weng, History and Economics  
 Georgiana Wilson, History of Art  
 Emma Wilson-Kemsley, Biological Sciences  
 Antoni Wojcik, Physics  
 Håvard Yttredal, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
 Pengcheng Zhang, Mathematics  
 Emily Zhao, Jurisprudence  
 Guo Zheng, Physics



Monika Papayova

## UNIVERSITY PRIZES 2018/19

**Isobel Argles**, Wronker Research Project Prize for excellence in research project in the Honour School of Medical Sciences

**Benjamin Bedert**, Gibbs Prize for overall performance in Final Honour School of Mathematics and Mathematics and Statistics Part A

**Joanna Bland**, Turbutt Prize in Practical Organic Chemistry in the 1st year organic chemistry course

**Stefan Butler**, James Mew Senior Prize for outstanding performance in FHS Arabic Language/Rabbinical Hebrew papers, Joseph Schacht Memorial Prize for outstanding performance in FHS Islamic religion, law or history papers, and Gibbs Prize in FHS of Medieval and Modern Languages

**Kiu Sang Max Cheung**, Gibbs Prize for best overall performance in Honour Moderations in Classics and Hertford Prize for best performance in Latin papers in Honour Moderations in Classics

**Xenia Knoesel**, Duns Scotus Medieval Philosophy Prize for excellent performance in Medieval Philosophy papers

**Jessica Larwood**, Brian Johnson Prize in Pathology 2018/19

**Hay Yuen Michael Lo**, Hicks/Webb Medley Prize for best overall performance in Economics (split between three students) in FHS of Philosophy, Politics and Economics and John Hicks Foundation Prize for best performance in FHS Microeconomics papers in the schools of Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and History and Economics

**Shaun Marshall**, Gibbs Prize for Mathematics & Computer Science for performance in Computer Science papers in the Preliminary Exams

**Oliver Parkes**, Harold Lister Sunderland Prize for best performance in Greek papers in Honour Moderations in Classics  
**Alexander Rice**, Hoare Prize for best overall performance in the FHS of Mathematics and Computer Science

**Emma Richards**, 1st De Paravicini Prize for performance in Latin papers in the FHS of Literae Humaniores

**Aura Schonfeld**, Gibbs Book Prize in Human Sciences

**Martin Tat**, Gibbs Prize for practical work in FHS Part B in Physics

**Ellen Tims**, Clifford Chance Prize (shared) for best performance in the Principles of Civil Procedures paper in the BCL examination

**Oliver Tushingam**, Proxime Accessit Gibbs First Public Examination Prize

**William Underwood**, Gibbs Prize and Royal Statistical Society Prize for best overall performance in Final Honour School of Mathematics and Mathematics and Statistics Part C

**Chi Yan Yeung**, Gibbs Book Prize in Law

**Yilin Zhao**, Turbutt Prize in Practical Organic Chemistry in the 1st year organic chemistry course



## UNIVERSITY COMMENDATIONS

**Beatrix Banks**, Commendation for performance in the Psychology for Medicine paper in 1st BM Part II  
**Lucy Denly**, Commendation for performance in the Psychology for Medicine paper in 1st BM Part II

## COLLEGE PRIZES 2018/19

**Isobel Argles**, awarded DL Davies Bursary  
**Benedict Gardner**, awarded Duveen Travel Scholarship  
**Marius Gass**, awarded Sir Roy Goode Prize 2019  
**Alexis Kallen**, awarded Burke Knapp Travel Scholarship  
**Isobel Kent**, jointly awarded 2019 Hanlon Prize  
**Christine Jiang**, awarded Hans Caspari UN Travel Grant  
**Oscar Lyons**, awarded Mapleton-Bree Commendation Prize  
**William Orbell**, jointly awarded Christopher Coley Prize, and jointly awarded Dr Raymond Lloyd Williams Prize (Chemistry)  
**Elvi Nimali**, awarded Dr Raymond Lloyd Williams Prize (Biochemistry)  
**Emma Platt**, jointly awarded 2019 Hanlon Prize  
**Emma Richards**, jointly awarded 2019 Ancient History Prize  
**Noam Rosenbaum**, awarded Mapleton-Bree Prize  
**Greta Sharp**, awarded Mapleton-Bree Commendation Prize  
**Eiko Soga**, awarded Mapleton-Bree Commendation Prize  
**Ana Stuhec**, jointly awarded Dr Raymond Lloyd Williams Prize (Chemistry)  
**Albany Summers**, jointly awarded Christopher Coley Prize  
**Flora Waller**, jointly awarded 2019 Ancient History Prize

## CHORAL SCHOLARS 2018/19

**Elizabeth Bryson Davis**  
**Nathaniel Robinson**  
**William George Underwood**

## IOAN AND ROSEMARY JAMES UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLAR

**Yiming Tang**, Mathematics (2018/19)  
**Ilker Can Ciek**, Mathematics and Computer Science (2019/20)

## GRADUATE DEGREES CONFERRED 2018/19

### Doctor of Philosophy

**Phakpoom Angpanitcharoen**, 'Substituted indenyl complexes for ethylene polymerisation'  
**Christopher David Arran**, 'Techniques for High Repetition Rate Laser Wakefield Acceleration'  
**Timothy Jonathon Stockton Bourns**, 'Between Nature and Culture: Animals and Humans in Old Norse Literature'

**Carl Denis Britto**, 'The Molecular Epidemiology of Paediatric Enteric Fever in Nepal between 2008 and 2016, and South India between 2016 and 2017'

**Alexandru Calin**, 'Monitoring and controlling GABAergic interneuron subtypes during epileptiform activity'

**Kieran Renfrew Campbell**, 'Probabilistic Modelling of Genomic Trajectories'

**Shi Yu Chan**, 'Investigating the molecular, metabolic, and psychological effects of minocycline'

**William Clement**, 'Giving the Worker His House': Intervention, Interaction, and Inaction in Three French Cities, c. 1840-80'

**Jan Frances Cosgrave**, 'Unravelling the links between psychotic-like experiences, sleep and circadian rhythms'

**Ines Laura Dawson**, 'Free-flight Kinematics of Diptera'

**Sven Ernst**, 'Studying the Altered Reactivity of Electrochemical Systems in Room Temperature Ionic Liquids'

**Katherine Ann Fender**, 'When Tuneful Bards Awak'd the Song Sublime': The Bardic Sublime in Romantic Poetry, 1750-1825'

**Giuseppe Marcantonio Del Gobbo**, 'Placement of Fluid Viscous Dampers to Reduce Total-Building Seismic Damage'

**Suzanne Abigail Ford**, 'Coevolutionary interactions between a defensive microbe and a pathogen within a *Caenorhabditis elegans* model host'

**Francesco Giuli**, 'Study of the Drell-Yan process with the Atlas detector at the LHC'

**Mahdieh Godazgar**, 'Properties of voltage-gated Na<sup>+</sup> channels in pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells'

**Laura Grima**, 'Investigating the neurochemical basis of action initiation, selection, and inhibition'

**Xue Jiao**, 'Electrochemistry of Platinum Nanoparticles'

**Ainslie Johnstone**, 'Investigating the role of inhibition in healthy human motor plasticity'

**William Kelley**, 'Intellectuals and the Eastern Question: 'Historical-Mindedness' and 'Kin Beyond Sea', c.1875-1880'

**Omar Ahmed Kidwai**, 'Spectral networks, abelianization, and opers'

**Vadim Koren**, 'Structural plasticity and network dynamics in the dorsal hippocampus-accumbal circuitry'

**Sally China Le Page**, 'Family and familiarity in flies'

**Rhodri David Llewellyn Lewis**, 'Multigene Studies of Cercozoan Phylogeny and Evolution'

**Jessica Lauren Lightfoot**, 'Wonder and the Marvellous from Homer to the Hellenistic World'

**Maclej Jacek Lisik**, 'Status, Signalling and Positional Competition'

**Yingqi Liu**, 'The Role of the Forward Capacity Market in Promoting Electricity Use Reduction: Case studies of the Electricity Demand Reduction (EDR) Pilot in the UK and international schemes in North America and Europe'

**Tsz Woon Benedict Lo**, ‘The Structural Study of Host-Guest Chemistry in Zeolites’

**David Anthony Maguire**, ‘Learning to Serve Time: Troubling Spaces of Working Class Masculinities in the UK’

**Joseph Mason**, ‘Towards the Total Synthesis of a Dolabellane Diterpenoid, and Studies in Synthetic Organic Electrochemistry’

**Muhammad Meki**, ‘Equity-based Finance for Firms’

**Rebecca Leigh Morgan**, ‘Evolution of Volcanic Rifted Margins: Origin of Seaward Dipping Reflectors with Insights from Flexure and ‘Process-Oriented’ Gravity Modelling’

**Kamonwad Ngamchuea**, ‘Chemical Analysis of Biomarkers and Silver Nanoparticles’

**Joseph Noonan-Ganley**, ‘The Contagion of Desire: Two Case Studies of Appropriation Art’

**Anthony Joseph Payne**, ‘Transcriptional mechanisms influencing glycaemic traits and risk of Type 2 diabetes’

**John Stuart Pouncett**, ‘Neolithic occupation and stone working on the Yorkshire Wolds’

**Peter Santer**, ‘Iron, Hypoxia and Chronic Disease’

**Jack Alexander Seddon**, ‘Between Collapse and Decline: The Dissolution of International Monetary Systems in Comparative Historical Perspective’

**Freya Maree Shearer**, ‘Improving geospatial models of risk for vector-borne, zoonotic diseases’

**Semira Nasreen Sheikh**, ‘Translational development of MyD88 as a biomarker for selecting patients with lymphoma responsive to histone deacetylase inhibitors’

**Max Willem Eline Smeets**, ‘Going Cyber: The Dynamics of Cyber Proliferation and International Security’

**Gizem Tongo-Overfield-Shaw**, ‘Ottoman Painting and Painters during the First World War’

**Aimee Rebecca Taylor**, ‘Estimation of Plasmodium falciparum allele and multi-SNP haplotype and genotype frequencies’

**David James Townsend**, ‘Free Trade Federalism in Australia and the European Union: Judicial Delimitation of Legislative Competence’

**Cameron William Turtle**, ‘Altered Contractile Mechanics and Ca<sup>2+</sup> Handling Contribute to Cardiomyopathy Pathogenesis’

**Martin Johannes Urschel**, ‘Making Progress with Wittgenstein and Popular Genre Film’

**Hildward Vandormael**, ‘Optimal decision agents? Biases during voluntary information sampling’

**Gareth Robert Wilkes**, ‘Profinite Properties of 3-Manifold Groups’

**Aidan Wimshurst**, ‘Tip Flow Corrections for Horizontal Axis Wind and Tidal Turbine Rotors’

**Elizabeth Woodward**, ‘Sleep Disturbances in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder’

## Master of Science

**Joseph Doyle**, Economic and Social History

**Matthew Lee Jordan**, Psychological Research

**Saad Labyad**, Mathematical and Computational Finance

**Morgan Kilgore Mohr**, Comparative Social Policy

**Rolf Morel**, Computer Science

**Claudia Rella**, Mathematical & Theoretical Physics

**Ann Simone Nissenbaum Sarnak**, Comparative Social Policy

**Yuhan Xu**, Environmental Change and Management

**Mingqian Yu**, Social Anthropology

## Master of Philosophy

**Arkaprabha Chakraborty**, English Studies (Medieval)

**Laura Agatha Courchesne**, International Relations

**Olivia Marie Graves**, Archaeology

**Andrew Nathaniel Kaplan**, Comparative Social Policy

**Un Sung Kwak**, Theology

**Jack Alexander Seddon**, International Relations

**Aidan Luke Robert Smith**, Economics

**Chun Xue**, Economics

## Master of Studies

**Alice Marie Alcaras**, Classical Archaeology

**Steffen Bosse**, Modern Languages (German)

**Robert Britten**, Modern Languages (German)

**William Hayden Brown**, History of Art and Visual Culture

**Sophia Rosa Mara Buck**, Modern Languages (German)

**Charlotte Rachel Churcher**, History of Art and Visual Culture

**Daniella Cugini**, English (1900 – present)

**Marion Doris Doerr**, Modern Languages (German)

**William Kelley**, Modern British and European History

**Karolin Vera Kupfer**, Modern Languages (German)

**Florentine Schaub**, Modern Languages (German)

**Laura Susanne Seeman**, Modern Languages (French and Italian)

## Master of Public Policy

**Nadev Lidor**

**Maximilian Schuessler**

## Bachelor of Civil Law

**Matthew William Hoyle**

**Harjeevan Singh Narulla**

**Sophie Larelle Westenra**

## Magister Juris

**Chris Kruizinga**

## Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

Adam Nathaniel Grey  
Michael Alexander Jennings

## Bachelor of Philosophy

Thomas Joseph Carswell

## NAMED AWARD SCHOLARS 2019/20

### 450th Anniversary Fund Scholars

Maja Friedemann, Experimental Psychology (joint with ESRC)  
Pol Hernandez, Synthesis for Biology and Medicine  
(joint with EPSRC)  
Alice Huxley, English (joint with AHRC)  
Andreas Kjær, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with MRC)  
Victoria Pike, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with EPSRC)  
Tereza Ruzickova, Psychiatry (joint with MRC)  
Ashkan Sepahvand, Fine Art (joint with AHRC)  
Alice Watson, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Yining Yang, Synthesis Biological Chemistry (joint with EPSRC)

### Nicholas Bratt Scholar

Andriko Von Kügelgen, Molecular Cell Biology in Health and  
Disease (joint with Oxford University)

### Drue Heinz Scholar

Charlotte Hand, English

### Elizabeth Fallaize Scholar

McNeil Taylor, Modern Languages

### Angela Fu Scholar

Sara Spiller, Music

### Higby Trust Scholar

Ebenezer Azamati, International Relations

### Ioan and Rosemary James Graduate Scholars

Diego Berdeja Suarez, Mathematics  
Patric Bonnier, Mathematics (joint with Mathematical Institute)  
Sabrina Chou, Fine Art (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Alejandro De Los Angeles, Psychiatry (joint with Clarendon  
Scholarship)  
Sergio Giron Pacheco, Mathematics  
Hira Javaid, Oncology (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Saad Labyad, Mathematics  
Jan Steinebrunner, Mathematics (joint with Mathematical Institute)  
Jane Tan, Mathematics (joint with Mathematical Institute)

## Kendrew Scholars

(all joint with Clarendon Scholarship)

Helio Cuve, Experimental Psychology  
Sally Galal, Women's Reproductive Health  
Claire Keene, Clinical Medicine  
Saeed Mahdisoltani, Theoretical Physics  
Qiujie Shi, Geography and the Environment  
Erika Vega Gonzalez, Music



Monika Papayova



### Lamb & Flag Scholars

Eleanor Baker, English (joint with AHRC)  
Rebecca Buxton, International Development (joint with ESRC)  
Lucian George, History (joint with ESRC)  
Alexander Hibble, Experimental Psychology (joint with MRC)  
Helena Karlsson, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with EPSRC)  
Sebastian Kopp, Inorganic Chemistry (joint with EPSRC)  
James Linyard, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with EPSRC)  
Alexander Manby, Geography (joint with ESRC)  
Miriam Pfister, Experimental Psychology (joint with ESRC)  
Tomos Potter, Environmental Research (joint with EPSRC)  
Aleisia Preite, Philosophy (joint with AHRC)  
Lola Salem, Music (joint with AHRC)  
Björn Vahsen, Clinical Neurosciences (joint with MRC)

### Angus McLeod Scholar

Romain Fournier, Statistics (joint with Oxford University)

### North Senior Scholars

Asher Leeks, Zoology  
Barbara Souza, Engineering

### Lester B Pearson Scholar

Kaitlyn Cramb, Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics  
(joint with Oxford University)

### St John's Alumni Fund Scholars

Brook Andrew, Fine Art (Aurora Project)  
Gwen Antell, Earth Sciences (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Sarah Bourke, Anthropology (Aurora Project)  
Anna Clark, History (joint with AHRC)  
Rachel Coombes, History of Art (joint with AHRC)  
Julia Ebner, Anthropology (joint with ESRC)  
Andrea Estandia, Environmental Research (joint with EPSRC)  
Aidan Gomez, Computer Science (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Ioana Grigoras, Clinical Neurosciences (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Jan Grohn, Experimental Psychology (joint with MRC)  
Soufiane Hayou, Statistics (joint with EPSRC)  
Gabiella Kountourides, Anthropology (joint with ESRC)  
Asher Leeks, Systems Biology (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Suraj Mahato, Inorganic Chemistry (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Matthew Mason, Fine Art (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Amadeo Minichino, Psychiatry (MRC)  
Jana Muschinski, Anthropology (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)

Adam Packer, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Lorika Shkrelidze, Psychiatry (joint with MRC)  
Kristyna Syrova, Medieval and Modern Languages  
(joint with AHRC)  
Szilvia Szanyi, Theology (joint with AHRC)  
Collis Tahzib, Philosophy (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Xingchen Wan, Engineering Science (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Lee Young, Biochemistry (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)



Stas Butler

## SENIOR MEMBERS 2019/20

### Members of Governing Body

**Margaret Jean Snowling**, CBE (BSc Brist, PhD UCL), FAcSS, FBA, FMedSci, Professor of Psychology, President

**John Anderson Kay**, MA, (MA Edin), FBA, Supernumerary Fellow in Economics and Investment Officer

**Charles James Keith Batty**, MA, MSc, DPhil, Tutor in Mathematics and Professor of Analysis, Statutes Officer

**Richard Guy Compton**, MA, DPhil, Tutor in Chemistry, Professor of Chemistry and Aldrichian Praelector in Chemistry

**Simon John Whittaker**, MA, DPhil, DCL, Tutor in Law, Professor of Comparative European Law and Fellow for Early Career Researchers

**Alan Grafen**, MA, MPhil, DPhil, FRS, Tutor in Quantitative Biology, Professor of Theoretical Biology

**Anthony Robin Weidberg**, MA, DPhil, (BSc Lond., PhD Cantab.), Tutor in Physics and Professor of Particle Physics, IT Fellow

**Andrew John Parker**, (MA, PhD, ScD Cantab.), FSB, Tutor in Physiology and Professor of Physiology, Principal Bursar

**Fraser Andrew Armstrong**, MA (BSc, PhD Leeds) FRS, Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, Fellow for Research

**Stephen John Elston**, MA, (BSc, PhD Exeter), Tutor in Engineering Science and Professor of Engineering Science, Acting Estates Bursar

**Catherine Whistler**, MA, (PhD National University of Ireland), Supernumerary Fellow in Art History, Professor of the History of European Art and Keeper of Western Art at the Ashmolean Museum, Fellow for Graduates

**Zoltán Molnár**, MA, DPhil, (MD Szeged), Tutor in Human Anatomy and Professor of Developmental Neurobiology, Sports Fellow

**Mark Cannon**, MA, MEng, DPhil, (SMMech, MIT), Tutor and Associate Professor in Engineering

**Kate Anne Nation**, MA, (BSc, PhD York), Tutor in Psychology and Professor of Experimental Psychology, Domestic Bursar, Steward of High Table, Steward of Common Room

**Walter Mattli**, MA, (BA University of Geneva, MA New York, PhD Chicago), Tutor in Politics and Professor of International Political Economy, Estates Bursar and Deputy Bursar

**Philip Kumar Maini**, MA, DPhil, FRS, Professorial Fellow in Mathematical Biology and Fellow for Ethnic Minorities

**Carolyn Ann Larrington**, MA, DPhil, Tutor in English, Professor of Medieval European Literature and Vice-President Academic

**William Hadden Whyte**, MA, MSt, DPhil, FRHistS, FSA, Tutor in History, Professor of Social and Architectural History and TW Editor

**Daria Martin**, (BA Yale, MFA California), Supernumerary Fellow in Fine Art and Professor of Art

**Alison Hills**, MA, (BA, PhD Cantab.), Tutor in Philosophy and Professor of Moral Philosophy

**Rosalind May Harding**, MA, (BSc Brisbane, PhD La Trobe), Tutor and Associate Professor in Human Sciences, Vice-President Domus and Keeper of the Groves

**Heather Bouman**, MA, (BSc Guelph, MSc, PhD Dalhousie), Supernumerary Fellow and Associate Professor in Biogeochemistry

**Nicholas Paul Harberd**, (MA, PhD Cantab.), FRS, Professorial Fellow and Sibthorpe Professor of Plant Sciences, Keeper of Bagley Wood

**Simon Robert Myers**, MMath, DPhil, Supernumerary Fellow in Bioinformatics

**Alastair Ian Wright**, MA, (BA Cantab., MA Minnesota, PhD Columbia), Tutor and Associate Professor in History of Art

**Andrei Starinets**, (CandSci, Dipl Moscow, PhD New York), Tutor and Associate Professor in Physics

**Jason Schnell**, (BS Minnesota, PhD Scripps Institute La Jolla), Tutor and Associate Professor in Biochemistry

**Theresa Burt de Perera**, DPhil, (BSc Wales), Tutor and Associate Professor in Zoology

**Sally Jayne Layburn**, MA, FCA, Supernumerary Fellow and Finance Bursar

**Mohamed-Salah Omri**, (Maîtrise Tunis, MA, PhD St Louis, Missouri), Tutor in Arabic Language and Literature, Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature, Fellow Librarian, Keeper of the Archives

**Hannah Skoda**, BA, MSt, DPhil, (DEA Paris), Tutor and Associate Professor in History, Keeper of the Silver and Keeper of the Laudian Vestments

**Nikolaj D'Origny Lübecker**, (DEA Paris, MA Copenhagen, PhD Paris), Tutor in French, Professor of French and Film Studies

**Patrick Ronald Hayes**, MA, MPhil, DPhil, Tutor and Associate Professor in English, Senior Dean

**Angela Russell**, MChem, DPhil, Bernard Taylor Fellow, Tutor in Chemistry, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Safety Officer

**Charles Richard James Carruthers Newton**, MA (MB ChB, MD Cape Town), FRCPCH, MRCP, Professorial Fellow and Cheryl and Reece Scott Professor of Psychiatry

**Georg Gottlob**, MA (MSc, PhD TU Wien), FRS, Professorial Fellow in Informatics and Fellow for Graduates

**Richard Edwin Ekins**, BCL, MPhil, DPhil (BA, LLB, BA Auckland), Tutor and Professor of Law and Constitutional Government and Information Reviewer

**Jan Krzysztof Oblój**, (MSc, MA Warsaw, MSc Paris VI, PhD joint Paris VI and Warsaw), Tutor and Professor in Mathematics, Pinkernes

**Georgy Kantor**, MA, MPhil, DPhil, (MA RSUH Moscow), Clarendon Fellow, Tutor and Associate Professor in Ancient History, Keeper of the Pictures

**Barry Murnane**, (BA Trinity Dublin, PhD Göttingen), Clarendon Fellow, Tutor and Associate Professor in German

**Jason Stanyek**, (BM City University of New York, MA, PhD University of California, San Diego), Tutor and Associate Professor in Ethnomusicology, Music and Visual Arts Officer

**Julia Margaret Bray**, MA, DPhil, Professorial Fellow and Laudian Professor of Arabic

**Dominic Peter Kwiatkowski**, MA (MB, BS London), FRCP, FRCPC, FMedSci, FRS, Professorial Fellow in Genomics and Global Health

**Katherine Emma Southwood**, MSt, DPhil, (BA Durham), Tutor and Associate Professor in Theology and Religion, Fellow for Women

**Jaideep Jagdeesh Pandit**, MA, BMBCh, DPhil, FRCA, FFPMRCA, DM, Supernumerary Fellow, Professor and Consultant Anaesthetist

**Zuzanna Olszewska**, MSt, DPhil (BA, Harvard), Tutor in Archaeology and Anthropology and Associate Professor in Social Anthropology

**Sir Rory Edward Collins**, (BA George Washington University, MSc Oxon, PhD London), FMedSci, FRS, Professorial Fellow, BHF Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Head of Nuffield Department of Population Health

**Ian Thomas Klinke**, (BA Maastricht, MA, PhD London) Tutor and Associate Professor in Human Geography, Fellow for Equality

**Lloyd Pratt**, (BA Louisiana, MA Temple, PhD Brown), Professorial Fellow and Drue Heinz Professor of American Literature

**Christopher John Beem**, (BSc, MSc Stanford, MA, PhD Berkeley), Tutor and Associate Professor in Mathematics

**Luca di Mare**, (Laurea Naples, PhD Imp), Tutor in Engineering and Associate Professor in Engineering Science

**Gillian Rose**, (BA Cantab., PhD Lond) FBA, Professorial Fellow in Geography, Professor of Human Geography

**Stefan Martin Kiefer**, (PhD Munich, Dipl Stuttgart), Tutor and Associate Professor in Computer Science

**Nöel Kimiko Sugimura**, DPhil (MA Yale), Tutor and Associate Professor in English

**Séverine Toussaert**, (MA Sciences PO Paris School of Economics, PhD New York), Tutor and Associate Professor in Economics

**Amia Srinivasan**, BPhil, DPhil (BA Yale), Tutor and Associate Professor in Philosophy

**Rebecca Slater**, MA, (BSc, MSc, PhD London), ARSM, Professorial Fellow in Paediatric Neuroimaging and Fellow for Graduates

**Robert Crow**, MA, Director of Development and Alumni Relations

**Stuart Andrew White**, (BA Cantab., PhD Edinburgh), Tutor and Professor of Mathematics

**Emma Marie Greensmith**, (MA, MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Tutor and Associate Professor in Classical Languages and Literature

**Ben McFarlane**, MA, BCL, Professorial Fellow in English Law

**Supernumerary Fellows**

**Dorothy Vera Margaret Bishop**, MA, DPhil, (DM Lond), FMedSci, FBA, FRS, Professor of Developmental Neuropsychology

**Sir Nicholas John White**, OBE, MA, (BSc, MB, BS, DM, DSc London), FRS, Professor of Tropical Medicine

**Katherine Mary Blundell**, OBE, MA, (MA, PhD Cantab.), Professor of Astrophysics

**Sandra Campbell**, (BSc Edin, MSc, PhD Dundee), Tutor in Physiology, Fellow for Access and Admissions, Dean of Degrees

**Katherine Doornik**, BA, MPhil, (PhD Stanford), Supernumerary Fellow in Economics and Prevent Coordinator

**Elizabeth Clare Macfarlane**, MA, DPhil, Chaplain, Welfare Dean

**John Duncan**, DPhil, FRS, FBA, Professor of Experimental Psychology

**The Rt Hon Lord Drayson of Kensington**, PC, (BSci, PhD Aston), FREng

**Karthik Ramanna**, (PhD MIT), Professor of Business and Public Policy

**James Alexander Maynard**, DPhil, (BA, MMath Cantab.), Research Professor, Mathematical Institute

**Matthew Charles Nicholls**, MA, MPhil, DPhil, SFHEA, Senior Tutor

**Supernumerary Teaching Fellows**

**MaryAnn Philomena Noonan**, (BSc York) MSc, DPhil, Psychology

**Michael Hetherington**, (MA, MPhil, PhD Cantab.), English

**Natalie Mrockova**, (BA Nottingham), MSc, MSt, DPhil, Law

**Zeynep Pamuk**, (BA Yale, PhD Harvard), Politics

**Rachel James**, BA, DPhil, Physical Geography

**Gemma Tidman**, BA, MSt, DPhil, French

**Emeritus Research Fellows**

**Robin Clayton Ostle**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Modern Arabic

**Elizabeth Dorothea Harriet Carmichael**, MBE, MA, DPhil, BM, BCh, (MRCS Eng, LRCP London), formerly Tutor in Theology

**George William John Fleet**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Chemistry

**Mark Robert Freedland**, MA, DPhil, (LLB London), Hon QC, FBA, formerly Tutor in Law

**Ronald Lee Bush**, CBE, MA, (BA Pennsylvania, BA Cantab., PhD Princeton), formerly Professorial Fellow and Drue Heinz Professor of American Literature

**Paul Kevin Dresch**, MA, DPhil, formerly Fellow by Special Election in Social Anthropology

**David Robert Stirzaker**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Mathematics

**Linda Margaret McDowell**, CBE, (BA Cantab., MPhil, PhD London), DLitt, FBA, formerly Professorial Fellow in Human Geography

**Kenneth Paul Tod**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Mathematics

**Malcolm Davies**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Classics

**Paul Philip Craig**, Hon QC, MA, BCL, FBA, formerly Professorial Fellow in English Law, Data Protection Officer

**Research Fellows**

**Natalia Gromak**, (BSc Belorussian State, BSc Edin, PhD Cantab.), Biochemistry

**Dalel Benbabaali**, (PhD Paris Ouest-Nanterre), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Area Studies



**Elizabeth Fouksman**, MPhil, DPhil, (BA UCLA), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Area Studies  
**Cyril Closset**, (BSc, MPhys, PhD ULB), Research Fellow in the Sciences and Mathematics, Physics  
**Heather Harrington**, (BS Amherst, PhD Imperial), Research Fellow in the Sciences and Mathematics, Biology  
**Lars Jansen**, (PhD Leiden), Research Fellow in the Sciences and Mathematics, Biochemistry  
**George Potts**, (MA, PhD London), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, English  
**Sarah Greer**, (MA Auckland, PhD St Andrews), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Medieval History  
**Mishka Sinha**, MPhil, (PhD Cantab.), Research Associate, St John's and the Colonial Past

### Junior Research Fellows

**Hannah Alfonsa**, (MRes, PhD Newcastle), Kilner Junior Research Fellow in Medicine  
**Ilya Chevyrev**, DPhil, (BSc Auckland, MSc Paris VI), Ioan and Rosemary James Junior Research Fellow in Maths  
**Jennifer Johnson**, MSt, DPhil, (BA Cantab.), History of Art, Assistant Dean of Degrees  
**Harry Desmond**, MPhys, (PhD Stanford), Physics  
**Lydia Audrey Beresford**, DPhil (MPhys Manchester), Physics  
**Karolina Sekita**, DPhil, (Magister Warsaw), Woodhouse Junior Research Fellow in Classics, Assistant Dean of Degrees  
**Guy Cooper**, (BSc Sewanee: University of the South, MSc Lausanne), Zoology  
**Samuel Derbyshire**, MSt, DPhil, (BA UCL), Archaeology  
**Oliver Padget**, DPhil, (BSc Nottingham), Biology  
**Darci Sprengel**, (BMA, BA Michigan Ann Arbor, MA, PhD UCLA), Music  
**Keno Juchems**, (BSc Hamburg, MSc Osnabrück), Psychology  
**Marco Cappelletti**, MJur, (Laurea Magistrale Perugia, LLM Harvard), Law  
**Emilija Talijan**, (MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Modern Languages  
**Bradley Roberts**, DPhil, (BA Maryland), Physiology

### Lecturers

**Christoph Bachhuber**, DPhil, (MA Texas), Archaeology  
**Ben Bollig**, (BA Nottingham, MA, PhD London), Spanish  
**Simon-Pierre Chevarie-Cossette**, DPhil, (MA Montréal), Philosophy  
**Tom Crawford**, MA, (PhD Cantab.), Mathematics  
**Julie Alexander Evelyn Curtis**, MA, DPhil, Russian  
**Dejan Draschkow**, (MA LMU Munich, PhD GU Frankfurt), Psychology  
**Marion Durand**, (BA Cantab., PhD Toronto), Ancient Philosophy  
**Sebastian East**, (MEng Bath), Engineering Science

**Marie Elven**, (DEA Paris III), French Language  
**Paul Griffiths**, (BSc, PhD Liverpool), Quantitative Methods and Statistics  
**Carlos Fonseca Grigsby**, (BA Barcelona, MA Edinburgh), Spanish (HT, TT)  
**Adam Guy**, MA, DPhil, (MA London), English  
**Matthew Hosty**, MSt, DPhil, Classics  
**Lyndsey Jenkins**, DPhil, (BA Warwick, MSc London, MA UEA), History  
**Claudia Kaiser**, (MA Erlangen-Nuremberg, Dipl Bamberg), German Language  
**David Lee**, BA, (MA Nottingham, PhD Bristol), Ancient Greek and Latin Philosophy  
**Matthew Mills**, BTh, DPhil, (MA Durham), Theology and Religion.  
**Annika Münster**, (BA, MA Bonn), German Lektorin  
**Alison Pollard**, MA, MSt, DPhil, Classical Archaeology  
**Matthew Roby**, MSt, DPhil, (BA, BEd Queen's University at Kingston), English  
**Andréa Rosinhas**, (BA, MA Université Paris Nanterre), French Lectrice  
**Joe Sampson**, (MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Roman Law  
**Devinderjit Sivia**, (BA, DPhil Cantab.), Mathematics for the Sciences  
**Alan Strathern**, DPhil, (MA London), History  
**Leila Tai**, MSc, (BA, LLB Melbourne), Law  
**Emmanuela Tandello**, MPhil, DPhil, Italian  
**Patrick Tiney**, BA, (MSc London, MA Maryland), Politics  
**Georg Viehhauser**, (PhD Vienna), Physics  
**Sophie Westenra**, BCL, (LLB London), Law  
**Cornelia Wiedenhofer**, (MA Graz, MPhil Graz (Austria)), German Language  
**Rohan Wijesurendra**, DPhil, MRCP, (MB, BChir, MA Cantab.), Clinical Medicine  
**Samuel Wolfe**, (MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Linguistics

### Emeritus Fellows

**Sir Royston Miles Goode**, CBE, QC, MA, DCL, (LLD London), FBA, formerly Norton Rose Professor of English Law  
**Iain McLaren Mason**, MA, (BSc Cape Town, PhD Edin), FRS, formerly Tutor in Engineering Science; Professor of Geophysics, University of Sydney  
**Donald Andrew Frank Moore Russell**, MA, DLitt, FBA, formerly Tutor in Classics and Professor of Classical Literature  
**Wilferd Ferdinand Madelung**, (DPhil Hamburg), FBA, formerly Laudian Professor of Arabic  
**Sir Anthony John Patrick Kenny**, MA, DPhil, DLitt, FBA, sometime Master of Balliol College; formerly President of the British Academy; formerly Chairman, British Library Board; sometime Warden of Rhodes House; formerly Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development); formerly President of the University Development Office  
**Oliver Louis Robert Jacobs**, MA, DPhil, (MA, PhD Cantab.), formerly Tutor in Engineering Science

**Paul Lansley Harris**, MA, DPhil, FBA, formerly Tutor in Psychology and Professor of Developmental Psychology; **Victor S Thomas** Professor of Education, Harvard; Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

**Desmond Stephen King**, MA, DLitt (BA Mod Dublin, MA, PhD Northwestern), FBA, MRIA, FRHistS, FAacSS, formerly Tutor in Politics; **Andrew W Mellon** Professor of American Government and Professorial Fellow, Nuffield College

**John Alexander Montgomery**, MA, FCA, formerly Finance Bursar and Supernumerary Fellow

**Christopher John Leaver**, CBE, MA, (BSc, ARCS, DIC, PhD London), FRS, FRSE, MAE, formerly Professorial Fellow and Sibthorpe Professor of Plant Sciences

**Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson**, MA, DPhil, FBA, formerly Tutor in German; **Taylor** Professor of the German Language and Literature, Fellow of The Queen's College

**Nicholas Purcell**, MA, FBA, formerly Tutor in Ancient History; **Camden** Professor of Ancient History, Fellow of Brasenose College

**Gerard Jan Henk van Gelder**, MA, (kandidaatsexamen Amsterdam, doctoraal examen Leiden and Amsterdam, PhD Leiden), FBA, formerly **Laudian** Professor of Arabic

**David Llewellyn Bevan**, MA, formerly Tutor in Economics

**Terence Christopher Cave**, CBE, MA, DPhil, FBA, formerly Tutor in French and Professor of French Literature

**Ross Ian McKibbin**, MA, DPhil, (MA Sydney), FBA, formerly Tutor in History

**Peter Stephen Michael Hacker**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Philosophy

**Joel Ouaknine**, MA, DPhil, (BSc, MSc McGill), formerly Tutor in Computer Science and Professor of Computer Science, **Domestic Bursar**

**Ian John Sobey**, MA, (BSc Adelaide, PhD Cantab.), formerly Tutor and Associate Professor in Engineering Science

**Marlia Cordelia Mundell Mango**, MA, DPhil, (BA Newton, Mass, MA London), FSA, formerly Fellow by Special Election in Byzantine Archaeology and Art

**Thomas Stainforth Kemp**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Zoology

**John Stephen Kelly**, MA, DPhil, (MA Dublin), formerly Tutor in English

**John Langton**, (MA Cantab., BA, PhD Wales), formerly Tutor in Geography

**Malcolm Graham Allen Vale**, MA, DPhil, FRHistS, formerly Tutor in History

### Honorary Fellows

**The Right Revd Andrew Alexander Kenny Graham**, MA, (DD Lambeth), formerly Scholar; formerly Bishop of Newcastle, Hon Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Carlisle

**Sir Keith Vivian Thomas**, MA, FBA, formerly Professorial Fellow and Tutor in History; sometime President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford; formerly President of the British Academy; Honorary Fellow of All Souls College

**Ioan MacKenzie James**, MA, FRS, formerly Fellow and Tutor in Pure Mathematics; sometime Savilian Professor of Geometry

**John Carey**, MA, DPhil, FRSL, FBA, formerly **Lambe** Scholar and Fellow and Tutor in English; sometime **Merton** Professor of English Literature

**Alan Marshall Bailey**, KCB, MA, BPhil, formerly Exhibitioner and Honorary Scholar; formerly Permanent Secretary of the Department of Transport; sometime Chairman of London Transport Buses

**Sir Michael John Anthony Partridge**, KCB, MA, formerly Fish Scholar; formerly Permanent Secretary of the Department of Social Security; Pro-Chancellor and Governor of Middlesex University; sometime President of the Old Merchant Taylors' Society

**The Most Revd Father Timothy Peter Joseph Radcliffe**, OP, MA, DD, formerly Commoner; sometime Master of the Order of Preachers

**Anthony Charles Lynton Blair**, formerly Commoner; formerly MP and Prime Minister; formerly Special Envoy to the Middle East; Chairman of the European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation

**John William White**, CMG, MA, DPhil, (BSc, MSc Sydney), FRS, FRSC, FAA, formerly Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry; Science Policy Secretary of the Council of the Australian Academy of Science; Professor of the Research School of Chemistry, Australian National University

**Peter Day**, MA, DPhil, (DSc Newcastle, DSc Kent), FRSC, FInstP, MAE, ForMemIAS, FRS, formerly Junior Research Fellow, Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry; sometime Director and Fullerian Professor of Chemistry, Royal Institution; Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at the University of London

**Terence James Reed**, MA, FBA, formerly Fellow and Tutor in German; sometime Taylor Professor of the German Language and Literature; Corresponding Fellow of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences

**Paul Alexander Slack**, MA, DPhil, DLitt, FBA, FRHistS, formerly **Casberd** Exhibitioner and Scholar; sometime Professor of Early Modern Social History; formerly Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford and Principal of Linacre College

**Quentin Bone**, MA, DPhil, FRS, formerly Exhibitioner and **Casberd** Scholar; Hon Research Fellow of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom

**Sadayuki Hayashi**, Hon GCVO, MA, formerly Commoner, Ambassador of Japan to the Court of St James; sometime Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

**Sir Christopher Hubert Llewellyn Smith**, MA, DPhil, FRS, formerly Professorial Fellow and Tutor in Physics; formerly Director General of CERN; formerly Provost and President of University College, London; Director of Energy Research at the University of Oxford; President of the Council of Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME)



Hiral Javali

**Geoffrey William Anderson**, MA, DPhil, FSA, FRSE, formerly Casberd Exhibitioner; formerly Director of the British Museum; Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge

**Robert Darnton**, DPhil, formerly Rhodes Scholar; sometime Professor of History, Princeton University; Carl H Pforzheimer University Professor and University Librarian, Harvard

**William Hayes**, MA, DPhil, (MSc, PhD, National University of Ireland), Hon MRIA; formerly Professorial Fellow and Tutor in Physics; sometime Principal Bursar; formerly Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University and President of St John's

**Sir Stuart Hampson**, CVO DL, MA, formerly Commoner; formerly Chairman of The Crown Estate; formerly Chairman of the John Lewis Partnership; formerly Chairman of the Royal Society of Arts

**Timothy Patrick Lankester**, KCB, MA, (MA Cantab., MA Yale), formerly Fereday Fellow; formerly Permanent Secretary of Overseas Development Administration and the Department of Education; formerly Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies; sometime President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford; Chairman of the Council of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

**Sir Andrew William Dilnot**, CBE, MA, formerly Commoner; formerly Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies; sometime Principal of St Hugh's College; Chairman of the UK Statistics Authority and Warden of Nuffield College

**Sir Simon David Jenkins**, MA, formerly Commoner; sometime editor of the *London Evening Standard*; sometime editor of *The Times*; sometime political editor of *The Economist*; formerly Deputy Chairman of English Heritage; sometime Chairman of the National Trust

**Edward Brian Davis**, MA, FRS, formerly Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics; Professor of Mathematics, King's College, London

**John Graham Cottingham**, MA, DPhil, formerly Thomas White Scholar; Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Reading University

**Sir Michael Sydney Perry**, GBE, MA, formerly Commoner; sometime Chairman, Unilever Plc and Centrica Plc, the Senior Salaries Review Body, the Leverhulme Trust and the Shakespeare Globe Trust

**Sir Keith Burnett**, CBE, MA, DPhil, FRS, FAPS, FOSA, FInstP, formerly Tutor in Physics and Professor of Physics, Head of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division; sometime Vice-Chancellor, Sheffield University

**The Rt Hon Sir Stephen Price Richards**, MA, formerly Scholar, Lord Justice of Appeal; Deputy Head of Civil Justice for England and Wales; Privy Counsellor

**Bernard John Taylor**, CBE, DL, FRSC, CChem, CSI, LRPS, MA, formerly Scholar; formerly Vice-Chairman of JP Morgan; formerly Member of the Council of the University of Oxford; Chairman of Evercore Partners International LLP; Chairman of Isis Innovation Ltd; Chairman of Garsington Opera; Chairman of the Ashmolean Museum Board of Visitors; Deputy Steward of the University of Oxford; Deputy Lieutenant of Oxfordshire



**Ulick Peter Burke**, MA, FRHistS, FBA, formerly Scholar, formerly Professor of Cultural History, University of Cambridge; Life Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge

**Andrew Frederic Wallace-Hadrill**, OBE, MA, DPhil, FBA, FSA, formerly Senior Scholar; formerly Director of the British School in Rome; formerly Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge; Professor of Roman Studies and Director of Research for the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge

**John Lawson Thornton**, MA, (AB Harvard, MPPM Yale), formerly Commoner; formerly President of Goldman Sachs; Professor and Director of Global Leadership at Tsinghua University, Beijing and Chairman of the Board of the Brookings Institution; Chairman of Barrick Gold

**Ian Bostridge**, CBE, MA, DPhil, (MPhil Cantab.), formerly Scholar; Concert and Operatic Tenor

**Charles Richard Catlow**, MA, DPhil, FRS, FRSC, formerly Exhibitioner, formerly Wolfson Professor of Natural Philosophy, the Royal Institution; Professor of Solid State Chemistry and Head of Mathematics and Physical Sciences Faculty, University College London; Foreign Secretary, Royal Society

**Sir Brian Howard Harrison**, MA, DPhil, FBA, FRHistS, formerly Scholar, formerly Professor of Modern History, University of Oxford; sometime Editor of the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*; Emeritus Fellow of Corpus Christi College

**Anthony John Boyce**, MA, DPhil, formerly Scholar, formerly Tutor in Human Sciences; sometime Principal Bursar



Gwen Antell

**Henry Reece**, MA, DPhil, (BA, Bristol), formerly graduate student; formerly Secretary to the Delegates and Chief Executive, Oxford University Press; Emeritus Fellow of Jesus College

**William Joseph Burns**, MPhil, DPhil, (BA LaSalle), formerly graduate student; formerly US Ambassador to Jordan, US Ambassador to Russia; formerly US Under Secretary for Political Affairs and Deputy Secretary of State; President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Stephen Wolfram**, PhD Caltech, formerly Scholar; creator of Mathematica and Wolfram/Alpha; Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Wolfram Research

**Sir Michael Charles Scholar**, KCB, MA, DPhil, (MA, PhD Cantab.); formerly Permanent Secretary of the Welsh Office and the Department of Trade and Industry; sometime Chairman of the UK Statistics Authority; formerly President of St John's

**Sir John Tooke**, KB, FRCP, FMedSci, formerly Commoner; formerly inaugural Dean of the Peninsula Medical School; President of the Academy of Medical Sciences; Vice-Provost (Health), Head of the School of Life & Medical Sciences (incorporating UCL Medical School), University College London

**Angela Eagle**, MP, MA, formerly Commoner; MP for Wallasey; formerly Shadow Leader of the House of Commons; formerly Minister of State for Pensions and the Ageing Society and Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury

**Ruth Harris**, MA, DPhil, (BA, MA, Pennsylvania), FBA, formerly Junior Research Fellow; Professor of Modern History and Senior Research Fellow, All Souls College

**Evan Davis**, MA, formerly Scholar; formerly Economics Editor for the BBC and presenter of *Today* and *Newsnight*; presenter of *PM* on BBC Radio 4

**Ann Jefferson**, MA, DPhil, formerly Junior Research Fellow, FBA; Professor of French and Emeritus Fellow of New College; *Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques*

**Sir David Nicholas Cannadine**, DPhil (MA, LittD Cantab.), formerly Junior Research Fellow, FBA, FRSL, FRHistS; formerly Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge; formerly Moore Collegiate Professor of History, Columbia; formerly Director, Institute of Historical Research; Chair, National Portrait Gallery; Editor, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*

**Andrew Harrison**, MA, DPhil, MRSC, FRSE, formerly Fereday Junior Research Fellow; formerly Research Fellow, Nuffield College; formerly Professor of Solid State Chemistry, University of Edinburgh; Founding Director, Centre for Science at Extreme Conditions; Director General, Institut Laue-Langevin (ILL), the Neutron Source, Grenoble; Director, Diamond Light Source

**Barbara Jane Slater**, MSc (BA Birmingham, PGCE Loughborough), OBE; Director of BBC Sport

**John Darwin**, BA, DPhil, formerly Scholar, FBA, Professor of Global and Imperial History, Nuffield College, Fellow of Nuffield College, FBA

**Rushanara Bini Ali**, BA, formerly Commoner; MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, formerly Shadow Minister for Education, and for International Development; Co-Founder of the charity Uprising

**Rt Hon Sir Keith John Lindblom**, QC, PC, BA, formerly Commoner; Lord Justice of Appeal

**Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Hamblen**, QC, PC, BA, (LLM Harvard Law School); formerly Scholar; Lord Justice of Appeal

**Sir Robert Devereux**, KCB, BA, (MA Edin), formerly Commoner, formerly Permanent Secretary for the Department of Work and Pensions

**Sir Nigel Carrington**, Vice-Chancellor of University of the Arts London; formerly Managing Partner and European Chairman at Baker & McKenzie and Managing Director of McLaren Group, Chairman of the Henry Moore Foundation and of Advance HE, Founder Director of the Creative Industries Federation and member of the Board of Universities UK

**Stephen Mitchell**, MA, DPhil, FBA, formerly Leverhulme Professor of Hellenistic Culture at Exeter University; member of the German Archaeological Institute; honorary doctorate Humboldt University Berlin, formerly President of the British Epigraphy Society and of the Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine, Council of the Arts and Humanities Research Board, Chairman of the British Institute at Ankara

**Lionel Tarassenko**, CBE, MA, DPhil, CEng, FIET, FMedSci, FEng, FIEE, formerly Professorial Fellow in Electrical and Electronic Engineering; founding President, Parks College









# NEWS OF ALUMNI

**Mr Hubert Allen** (1951) is active in New Marston parish church. He is also one of three lay people representing the Thames Valley (i.e. Berks, Bucks and Oxon) on 'PPI' – a committee established by the National Institute of Health Research to improve Patient and Public Involvement in the work of medical and allied fields of research. This past year, for example, the Committee has been trying to help research workers in Oxford to find out how best to communicate with the general public and also with specialist practitioners, medical professionals and charitable trusts. Hubert also enjoys seeing as much as their successful parents' lives allow of his six grandchildren – in London, in Oxford and in Seattle.

**Professor Ulick Peter Burke** (1957) is happy to report the publication in 2018 of Volumes 2 and 3 of his collected essays, 34. *What is History Really about?* and *Identity, Culture and Communications in the Early Modern World*. He has just finished a cultural history of polymaths, sent to the publishers recently. TW made him conscious of how much the College has changed since he was up in 1957–60 – six quads instead of three, so many females (including Fellows), so many people whose first language is not English (Emmanuel is going the same way, but more slowly). He wishes it had been more like that when he was there!

**Professor David Winter** (1960) published *Roots of War: Wanting Power, Seeing Threat, Justifying Force* (Oxford University Press, 2018), a study of certain psychological factors associated with conflict escalation and war. But those research findings are set in comparative 'stories' of July 1914 versus the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, as well as other historical cases and examples. One of the origins of this book, and the years of research behind it, was James Joll's wonderful lectures on international relations between WWI and WWII, which he attended at Oxford in Michaelmas term 1961.

**Mr Anthony Portner** (1963)'s fourth grandchild and third grandson Rey Adam was born on the 1 November 2018.

**Professor Leslie Hannah** (1965) was elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

**Sir Geoffrey Tantum CMG OBE** (1966) was made a Knight Bachelor in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

**Dr Richard Emmerson** (1968) was a graduate student from 1968 to 1971, with a research project at the Department of Engineering Science, leading to the award of his DPhil degree in 1973. His career has largely been in the telecoms industry, starting with Philips in the Netherlands and ending with a 15-year role with BT in Martlesham Heath, Ipswich. He retired in June 2014, was shocked to see the result of the EU referendum in 2016, and now lives in France, enjoying the warmer weather but deploring the senseless bureaucratic efforts being deployed across continental Europe to deal with Brexit and the ex-pat community.

**Professor Hugh Macdonald** (1971) has published *Saint-Saëns and the Stage: Operas, Plays, Pageants, a Ballet and a Film*, Cambridge University Press, March 2019.

**Sir Nigel Carrington** (1975) was made a Knight Bachelor in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

**Dr Alan Halliday** (1975) has been invited to participate in the exhibition at the Musée Marcel Proust at Illiers-Combray to mark the centenary of Proust winning the Prix Goncourt. His painting of the 'Grand Hotel at Cabourg', where Proust used to stay when he was writing the Novel, will be exhibited alongside Jacques-Emile Blanche's iconic portrait of Proust on special loan from the Musée d'Orsay in Paris alongside works by Paul-César Helleu, Eugène Carrière and Man Ray as well as original manuscripts and letters by Proust and his contemporaries. The exhibition, which runs from April to August this year, has been curated by Jerome Bastianelli, the Director of the Musée Quai-Branly in Paris. In 2000, Alan was invited by the National Theatre in London to paint Harold Pinter's adaptation of Proust, and one of these paintings can be seen in the Kendrew Café at SJC. One of his larger oils on canvas, 'La Musique', has recently been acquired for the new Library at St John's and celebrates the Orpheus legend of the power of music to tame and soothe wild animals and beasts.

**The Rt Hon Lord Justice Hamblen** (1976) was appointed to the UK Supreme Court. He will take up his appointment in January 2020.

**Mr Paul Clarke CBE** (1977) was made a CBE in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

**Mr Robert Gibson** (1977) has retired from Siemens AG where he was Head of Intercultural Business Competence. He continues to be Adjunct Professor of Cross-Cultural Management at the University of Bologna Business School and lives in Munich with his wife Qiyu Tang who he married in 2014.

**Dr Peter McDonald** (1978) has retired from a senior executive position in the Australian Public Service and is now an independent researcher.

**Mr Keith Jewitt** (1978) has returned to tax consultancy after four years of retirement. He is now a Tax Senior Manager at Newcastle firm UNW.

**The Revd John Gillibrand** (1979) in November 2016 became the Vicar of Llandeilo Tal y Bont, in the Church in Wales Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. In April 2019, this parish was united with a neighbouring parish, so that he is now the Vicar of Llandeilo Tal y Bont (Pontarddulais) with Penllergaer. He is also part time Bishop's advisor on disability issues. In 2019, he is celebrating the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the Anglican priesthood.

**Dr Simon Spencer** (1980) completed a PhD in Finance at University College Dublin last year and so far has two journal publications from the thesis: Spencer, Simon, Don Bredin, and Thomas Conlon, *Energy and agricultural commodities revealed through hedging characteristics: Evidence from developing and mature markets* (Journal of Commodity Markets 9 (2018): 1–20) and Spencer, Simon, and Don, Bredin, *Agreement matters: OPEC announcement effects on WTI term structure* (Energy Economics 80 (2019): 589–609).

**Mr Andrew Roby BEM** (1984) was awarded the BEM in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

**Professor Ricardo Martinez-Botas** (1989) was elected to the Fellowship in the Royal Academy of Engineering.

**Dr Chris Dorman** (1990) was made an OBE in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

**Katie Ross** (1991) and **Jonathan Ross** (1991) appeared on the BBC's new game show *The Family Brain Games*, along with their two children, reaching the semi-finals.

**Mr Anthony Williams** (1994) has published the second edition of his book, *C++ Concurrency in Action* (Manning).

**Professor Greg Currie** (1999) was elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

**Dr Terry Babcock-Lumish** (2002) was appointed Executive Secretary of the Truman Foundation

**Dr Dov Fox** (2004) published *Birth Rights and Wrongs: How Medicine and Technology are Remaking Reproduction and the Law*, (Oxford University Press, July 2019). Birth control, IVF and genetic testing is the medicine of miracles. It fills empty cradles, frees families from terrible disease, and empowers them to fashion their lives on their own terms. But accidents happen: Pharmacists mix up pills. Lab techs misread tests. Obstetricians tell women their healthy foetuses would be stillborn. The book critically analyses the legal complexities when wrongdoing leaves patients with: (1) no baby, when they undertook reliable efforts to have one; (2) any baby, when they set out to avoid pregnancy and parenthood; and (3) a baby born with different health, sex, and other traits than the ones they'd selected.

**Dr Daniel Stubbs** (2004) was awarded the Macintosh Medal by the Royal College of Anaesthetists.



Dr Charles McFadyen (2006) was awarded the Macintosh Medal by the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

Miss Hannah Scott Deuchar (2009) is in the penultimate year of a PhD in Arabic Literature at New York University.

Miss Beth O'Leary (2010) has published her first book, *The Flat Share*, which appeared in most top-ten listings for fiction.

Mr Rowland Bagnall (2011)'s debut poetry collection, *A Few Interiors*, was published in May 2019.

Mrs Deborah Cox (2011) has launched a publishing venture, Little Ox Press, turning children's own storybooks into printed and illustrated works.

Mr Michael Song (2012) has conducted groundbreaking experiments into the importance of sleep to the human body, by studying the fruit fly. Now a medical student at Dartmouth College in the United States, his research whilst at St John's has been published in *Nature*.

Dr Martine Abboud (2017) was listed in the Forbes 30 Under 30 list of industry leaders in the Science and Healthcare category.



Ruby-Anne Birin

# Calendar

## 2020

**13 March**

Holdsworth Society Dinner

**14 March**

Russell Society Dinner

**20 March**

Gaudy for the Years 2002–2003

**27 March**

Gaudy for the Years 1983–1985

**17 April**

Gaudy for the Years 2008–2009

**14 May**

Founder's Lecture

**3 July**

Gaudy for the Years 1962–1965

**18 September**

College Society Dinner

**2 October**

History Dinner



Alexandra Pannan

## Gaudies

**W**e currently hold four Gaudies each year, inviting alumni by matriculation year. We now invite alumni to most events by email. Therefore, in order to be kept up to date (and to assist us in complying with General Data Protection Regulations), please update your details via our website, or by emailing [alumni@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@sjc.ox.ac.uk).






Hira Javadi


@Huford+Crow

Visit the Alumni and Benefactors pages at [www.sjc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk)

Find details of Oxford University alumni events at [www.alumni.ox.ac.uk](http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk)

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Development and Alumni Relations Office

St John's College

Oxford OX1 3JP

+44 (0)1865 610885