



# TW

The magazine of St John's College, Oxford

2023

Nostalgia

Parliament and the courts

Digital library

A curious Case

Business complexity

# TW

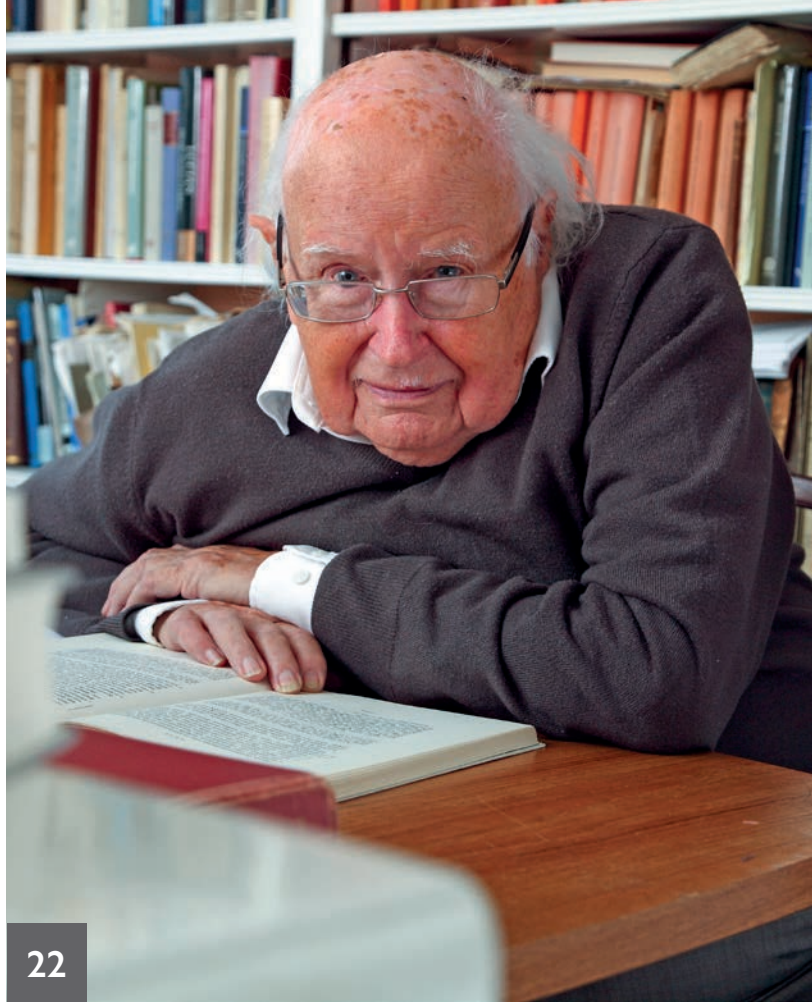
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**St John's College**  
Oxford

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# From the Editor



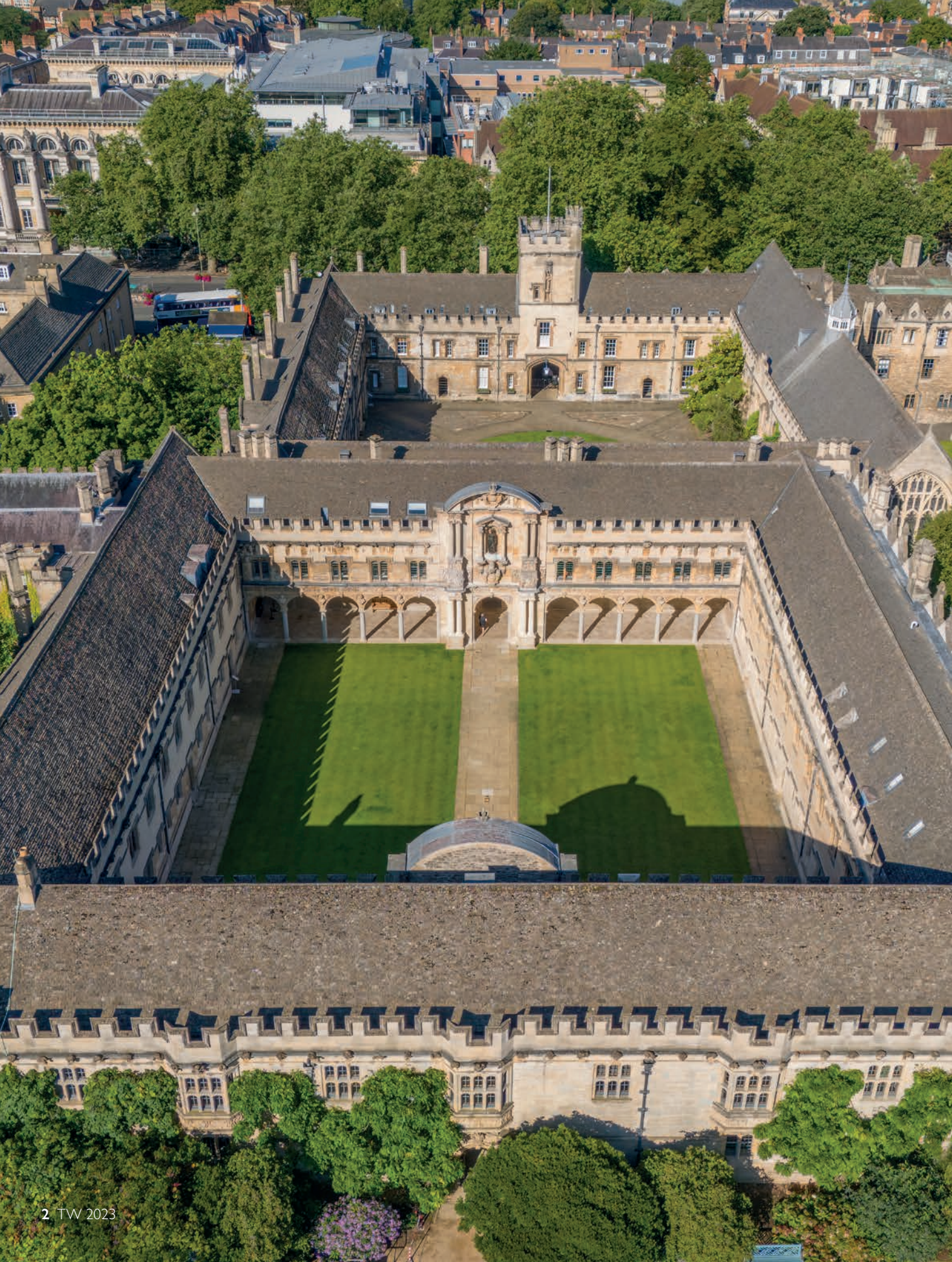
Mid-way through the last lockdown, I remember observing to an undergraduate in an online meeting that it was almost certainly good for historians to experience world-historical events. ‘That may be true,’ he responded. ‘But I think I’ve experienced enough now.’

One can fully see his point. This generation of students has had more than its fair share of disruption and uncertainty. Those who graduate this year had their whole university life overturned by the pandemic. Those who matriculate this year include the cohort most affected by the lockdowns at school.

Yet, as this edition of *TW* shows, their response to all this has been little short of heroic. From Arts Week to various sporting triumphs – as well as in examinations, of course – our students have had a remarkable year. And they are not alone. With our library now fully open and Canterbury Quad expertly restored, the College as a whole has never looked so good. A mile away up the Woodstock Road, St John’s is building a huge new development. Oxford North is every bit as important for the College and the city as the original North Oxford estate. These are exciting times.

Whether you share the excitement, or you are wearied by all this change, I do hope you will enjoy this year’s *TW*. We have lots to share and to celebrate – not least the remarkable resilience of our students.

**The Revd Professor William Whyte**  
Editor



# From the President

The past academic year has been one of measured growth and outstanding achievement for the College. It has been a great pleasure to become part of your community and to see the enormous effort and commitment made by our current students, academics, professional staff and alumni, all in support of primary purpose: to maintain high academic standards and to enable our students to reach their full potential.

As custodians of our magnificent curtilage, the College has continued to invest significantly in the refurbishment of its fabric over the year and has started several new projects, including the development of graduate accommodation on Pusey Lane. It is wonderful that, at the start of a new academic year, the restoration of Canterbury Quadrangle is now complete and the Laudian and Old Libraries are set to open, marking the end of a ten-year project. We are very conscious of sustainability and our carbon footprint, and our Masterplan for the College is designed to ensure that the investment we will make in the coming years, will bring our historic buildings up to the expectations of the current century.

Our outreach programme, Inspire, goes from strength to strength. For the first time, we have been able to track the progress of our participants and an incredible 78% of the students on our programmes go on to gain places in the top third of HE institutions in the UK. The College is also proud that for 2020–22 over 70% of our UK undergraduate intake now comes from state schools.



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As you will read, our academics have achieved many awards and medals over the last year and have been elected as Fellows to the most prestigious learned societies. We have continued to welcome the public into the College through Oxford Open Doors and our arts programme continues to flourish.

I very much look forward to the next academic year. We will continue to see development of our Masterplan and we will consider our governance structure. We will create our new strategic plan and will focus on student wellbeing. We know there will be challenges that will increase the pressure on our finances, whether it be the necessary updates to achieve improvements in the sustainability of our historic fabric, the rising cost of living, or the increasing needs of our students to achieve wellbeing.

I look forward to reporting back on our progress and to meeting many more of you in the year ahead.

**Professor Dame Sue Black DBE, OBE, FRS  
President**



# College News

## Three Royal Society Fellows and a Fellow of the British Academy

The President, Professor Dame Sue Black, Professor James Maynard (Professor of Number Theory and Supernumerary Fellow), and Professor Myles Allen (Professor of Geosystem Science and Honorary Fellow) were elected as Fellows of the Royal Society this year in recognition of their achievements.

Professor Kate Nation, Maggie Snowling Fellow in Psychology, was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy in recognition of her work on the psychology of language. Her work is internationally acknowledged and during the summer in 2023 she presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Reading international conference in Australia with visits also to Macquarie University and the Australian Centre for Literacy.



## Royal Institution Christmas Lectures

In the 2022 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures the President, Professor Dame Sue Black, looked at the real-life scientific detective processes used in forensic science to identify both the dead and the living.

In the first lecture, 'Dead Body', Professor Black showed how the stories of our lives are hidden in the very fabric of our bodies by examining one of the archaeological skeletons discovered in 2008 in a mass burial site underneath St John's by Thames Valley Archaeological Services during preparations for building Kendrew Quad.

Professor Black used the techniques she uses in modern-day forensic investigations to gradually build up the identity of the skeleton until what was a collection of old bones once again became a real person. Her investigations into the trauma marks visible in the 1,000-year-old skeleton's bones revealed how the young man died. The face of the skeleton was reconstructed by Professor Caroline Wilkinson of the Face Lab at Liverpool John Moores University.

Over the three episodes the 30-day All Screens data averaged 1 million views (1.2m for the first lecture, 0.9m for lecture 2, and 0.8m for lecture 3) and the lectures



Paul Wilkinson

were the most watched factual programme on BBC4 in 2022. 97% of the audience in the theatre felt their understanding of forensics had increased, while 72% said their understanding of science's place in our lives had also increased.

Professor Black's media work has continued apace this year with appearances on *The Infinite Monkey Cage* on BBC Radio 4 appearing with Scottish comedian Susan Calman, and recordings with Lucy Worsley and Michael Mosley for television programmes.

## College cats

In November 2023 three eight-week-old kittens appeared in the Lodgings, the first new feline members of College since Oscar, a much-loved St John's cat of yesteryear. Very creative suggestions for names came from all parts of College and included Tibia, Patella, and Fibula (the President's love of bones is well known!), planets, Musketeers, mythological brothers and heroes, and famous alumni. The President's naming committee was not tempted by Tummy White, Mewseum Rogue or Catterbury and settled on Case (the portrait of John Case includes a skeleton), Laud (our famous former President), and Baylie (Richard Baylie was another former President and a devoted supporter of Laud).

The cats hosted weekly visits from members of College and first ventured outside in spring 2023. They now roam all over St John's and are very friendly – and extremely popular on the College social media accounts.





## College events

Professional staff had the opportunity to join the celebrations in January for Burns Night – with the President enjoying the bagpipes, addressing the haggis, and indulging in some post-dinner karaoke.

At the end of March the College hosted its first Staff Guest Night with members of the professional staff and guests enjoying a meal in Hall. It was a great success and was enjoyed by all.

In April the First Annual Arts Dinner was an opportunity to celebrate all who contribute to the rich artistic life of the College which provides a vibrant programme of exhibitions, talks and music-making throughout the academic year.



## Coronation celebrations

College celebrated the Coronation in May with a touch of satire to appeal to both pro- and anti-monarchists. A William Hogarth print in the College's picture collection that mocked both the elaborate wigs and the social hierarchies on display at the 1761 Coronation of George III and Queen Charlotte was turned into a cut-out photo board – and gave many members of College a lot of fun.



## Student successes

Our students continued to succeed, not only academically, but in a whole host of other activities. Carys Owen (2020, History of Art) and Chris Goodwin (2022, Jurisprudence) played in the Oxford University Brass Band at the UniBrass Championships. The band came first in their section and also won Most Entertaining Band.

Alex Norris (2020, Literae Humaniores) won the Hellenic Society's annual essay competition.

Gabriele Paone (2020, DPhil Anthropology) won the 2023 Oxford SU Volunteer Award for his work with under-privileged children in Rio de Janeiro and Naples.

Atharv Mahajan (2022, Physics) was a member of the Oxford team that secured first place at the preliminary of the international theoretical physics competition, PLANCKS.



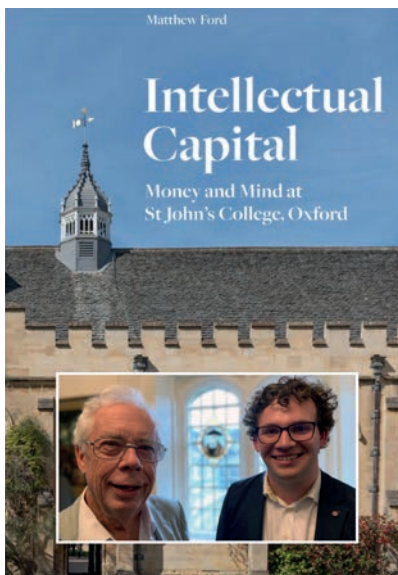


## Fundraising in College

The year was enlivened by fundraising events. The **Saints Rugby Team** organised a charity run in March to support Oxford Pink Week, inviting students from the John's and Anne's JCRs to dress in silly pink outfits and run from College to the Radcliffe Camera, run five laps around it and then run back to College.

Another successful **Macmillan Coffee Morning** was held in September, organised by **Rachel Lockyer** and **Michelle Murray** from the Bursary. Boatman **Jim Ronaldson** has been fundraising with his fellow rower Ian Davies to compete in this year's Talisker Whiskey Atlantic Challenge as the oldest pair to row 3,000 miles across the Atlantic. They are supporting two charities: Myeloma UK and Papyrus, the latter an organisation working to prevent suicide in young people.

And **Kelly Homer** (Events) completed the London Marathon, raising over £1,500 for Cancer Research.



## Intellectual Capital

Matthew Ford's book *Intellectual Capital* (Profile 2023) was launched in May, the culmination of a research project overseen by Professor Sir John Kay and Professor William Whyte. The book offers an overview of the College's financial history from the foundation in 1555 until 1980 – and documents in detail how one of the wealthiest colleges in Oxford very nearly lost everything. Providing a window on the past, the book also gives historical perspective to the challenges the College faces today.

## St Giles House

The refurbishment of St Giles House was recognised at the Oxford Preservation Trust Awards. The project was complex and included a complete rewire, replacement fire alarm system, redecoration, roof replacement, stonework repairs and new mechanical plant and plumbing services. Improvements were also made to the facilities, creating an accessible toilet on the ground floor and the relocation of the kitchen to the basement. Accessibility was also improved through the installation of a retractable stone stair lift at the rear of the building.



## Staff anniversaries

Tim Webber, SCR Front of House Manager, celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday at the start of 2023 and other significant anniversaries continued throughout the year with a long-service tea to congratulate all in September.

Phil Shefford, College Gardener, also celebrated a very special anniversary: forty years at St John's. There was an extra-large turnout for the termly garden perambulation and a surprise tea at which Phil was presented with a long-service medal and certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society.



## Kendrew Songwriting Prize

The second year of the Kendrew Songwriting Prize attracted twenty-eight submissions from students across a number of colleges and degree programmes.

The quality of the songs was unvaryingly high, with a wide range of styles represented. Submissions were reviewed by Tessa Cavanna (singer/producer and Assistant Producer, Oxford Contemporary Music); Sarah Hill (Associate Professor of Popular Music at the Faculty of Music and Tutor at St Peter's College); Daniel Hulme (producer/composer and Electronic Music Studio Manager, Faculty of Music); and Jason Stanyek (Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology at the Faculty of Music and Fellow and Tutor at St John's College).

This year's winning song was 'Don't Hide' by Yvonne Ile (a doctoral student at the Faculty of Music and Jesus College). Second prize went to 'Improbable Things' by St John's undergraduate Ashleigh Davies (2019, Engineering Science). The panel also gave an honourable mention to Leo Geyer (a doctoral student at the Faculty of Music and St Catherine's College) for 'Blink'.



## Mapleton-Bree Prize

The Mapleton-Bree Prize is awarded annually for a piece of creative work by any junior member of St John's. Once again the entries were of a very high quality with Susan Kellaway (2021, Fine Art) and Mingyu Zhu (2022, DPhil Neuroscience) being named joint winners and Khadijah Ali (2020, Modern Languages) being highly commended. Mingyu Zhu's graceful calligraphy features the celebrated text of Li Bai's poem, 'Here Comes the Wine'. The judges wrote of her work: 'Mingyu Zhu demonstrates an impressive command of the art of calligraphy with intricate and beautiful brushwork that also resonates with the landscape she has selected as a setting for her rhythmic characters.'

Susan Kellaway's layered painted work also impressed the judges. They commented: 'Susan Kellaway's painting is ambitious in its scale and expressive intent: her own distinctive gestures and ideas emerge strongly as she draws on contemporary visual art to create an innovative and thought-provoking work.'





## Four Presidents

A new photographic portrait by John Cairns celebrates the four living Presidents of St John's (from left to right, Sir Michael Scholar, Professor Bill Hayes, Professor Dame Sue Black, and Professor Maggie Snowling).



## No Mow May

The biodiversity of College increases year on year and this year the wildflower meadow in the Groves was spectacular. A pyramidal orchid was spotted amongst the unmown grass in North Quad, one of a number of orchids in the gardens.



## Professor Sir John Kay's retirement

A special event was held on 11 March 2023 to mark the retirement of Professor Sir John Kay. After a lecture from Sir John and a presentation by Matt Ford of the 'Intellectual Capital' project and resulting book, there were two panel discussions. In the first Sir John talked with Dame Angela Eagle (1980, PPE), Labour MP for Wallasey, Ross McInnes (1973, PPE), Group Chairman of the Board, Safran SA, and Evan Davis (1981, PPE), journalist and presenter. The second panel featured Lord Mervyn King, former Governor of the Bank of England, co-author *Radical Uncertainty*, Sir Andrew Dilnot (1978, PPE), Warden of Nuffield College, co-author *The Reform of Social Security*, Sir Paul Collier, Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government, co-author *Greed is Dead*, and Bronwen Maddox (1982, PPE), Director and CEO of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House.



Top row and middle left:  
Rhodes reunion

Middle right: Mike Jacobs, the  
President, and Roger Slater

Bottom row: Second Torpid  
reunion

## Alumni reunions

A number of alumni return regularly to College for sporting reunions. The Old Boys' football team visited in June for a Grandads vs Youth Team fixture with Roger Slater (1980, Mathematics) and Mike Jacobs (1982, Physiological Sciences and now Warden of Keble) making an appearance, as did the President (though as a spectator not a player!).

In September the 1978 Second Torpid reunion was spotted in Front Quad and persuaded to send a photo for *TW*. The photo shows: Alex Kidson (1976, Modern History), cox, sitting at the front (he was cox of the 1977 2nd eight and always acts as cox for the reunions); left to right are Bob Lea (1975, Engineering Science; stroke),

Chris Roseblade (1975, Physics), John Coleman (1975, Geography), Dave Turnbull (1975, Engineering Science), Nigel Meir (1975, Medicine), John Pelham (1975, Agricultural and Forest Sciences), Charlie Wright (1975, Oriental Studies), Barry Elkington (1975, Mathematics; bow) and Peter Clayton (1976, English Language and Literature), who rowed with most of the crew and was captain of boats.

In June it was wonderful to welcome so many alumni back to a drinks reception in College when they gathered to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rhodes Scholarships, the 20<sup>th</sup> of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, and the 5<sup>th</sup> of the Schmidt Science Fellows programme.

# Research News

From books to talks to articles, papers, and media appearances, there has been plenty happening at St John's. Here we sample just some of the past year's activity.

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## Founder's Lecture

The annual Founder's Lecture was created in 2005 as part of the 450th anniversary celebrations in College but has had to be postponed in recent years.

This year it returned in a lecture by the President, Professor Dame Sue Black. Sue moved her audience away from the fictionalised world of forensic investigations, familiar from books, television and films, to convey the reality of her field of expertise. She drew on experiences that ranged from the excavation of mass graves in Kosovo during the war crimes investigations, through body recovery from mass fatality events to single deaths associated with murder and suicide.



Professor Brenda Stevenson

## Black History Month Lecture

Professor Brenda Stevenson, Hillary Rodham Clinton Chair of Women's History and Fellow of St John's, gave the St John's Black History Month Lecture in October 2022, speaking on 'The Enslaved Black Family'. She explained how the legacy of the slave family still hung over the status of black Americans in modern US society with stereotypes that first entered the popular imagination in the form of plantation lore continuing to distort African American social identity. Professor Stevenson focused on the multifaceted reality of loss, recovery, resilience and resistance evident in the desire of African/African-descended people to experience family life despite their enslavement. Looking back to the critical loss that Africans – those taken and those who remained – endured, Professor Stevenson also looked forward to the generations of slaves born through the Civil War era who struggled to realise their humanity in the recreation of family ties that linked them, through blood and emotion, to a reality beyond their legal bondage. Professor Stevenson focused on how gender, generation, location, slave labour, the economic status of slaveholders and slave societies' laws affected the black family in slavery.

St John's academics collaborate with colleagues from around the world and their research benefits from the opportunity to host Visiting Research Fellows in College.

PROFESSOR NING DE CONINCK-SMITH

## Queerness: a stranger in the history of universities and in the archives

In Trinity Term Professor Ning de Coninck-Smith (Department of Education, Aarhus University) gave a talk on the entangled lives of Greta Hort (1903–67) and Julie Moscheles (1892–1956). In 1948, the Danish literary scholar Greta Hjord and the Czech and Jewish geographer Julie Moscheles got involved in plans to establish an international university of human sciences. The idea was fostered by the International Association of University Professors and Lecturers (IAUPL), a UNESCO-affiliated organisation. Their proposal is one of the few testimonies to a shared life and academic partnership, which lasted from the early 1940s until 1956, when Moscheles died in Prague and Hjord returned to Denmark. The entangled professional and private lives of these two academic women is part of Professor de Coninck-Smith's ongoing methodological reflection about how to write the history of university as action and from an everyday perspective.



**Professor Aida Maraj** (Postdoctoral Assistant Professor, University of Michigan) gave a research talk on the field of algebraic statistics. Statistical models often involve many random variables or a complicated underlying structure, which poses challenges in applications. To overcome these struggles, Professor Maraj talked about interpreting statistical models as solutions to polynomial systems and taking advantage of the theoretical tools that mathematics provides. She illustrated the approach with practical examples from statistics and phylogenetics.

**Professor Bernard Wood** (University Professor of Human Origins, Center for the Advanced Study of Human Paleobiology, George Washington University) gave a talk with **Dr Samuel Derbyshire** (St John's Research Associate) about research in the Turkana Basin in northern Kenya. A critical site of study for paleoanthropologists exploring human origins and evolution, the Turkana Basin is also home to a pastoralist population whose contemporary livelihoods have been the subject of anthropological research that has reshaped understandings of life in African drylands much more broadly. The talk brought together insights from disparate research to explore some of the challenges of interpreting partial evidence to assess different rates and scales of human change, from the biological to the social.





# Parliament and the courts: a delicate balancing act

Richard Ekins KC (Hon) is Professor of Law and Constitutional Government and is Tutorial Fellow in Law.

For as long as I have been an academic lawyer, I have been interested in the balance of powers within the Westminster constitution and in particular between Parliament and the courts. My first academic article, in 2001, took the New Zealand Court of Appeal to task for misinterpreting legislation that retrospectively increased punishments for murder. I thought the legislation was misconceived but that the Court had acted wrongly in failing faithfully to apply it. In 2003, shortly before coming to Oxford for graduate study, I published a critique of the argument that British judges were free to substitute judicial supremacy for parliamentary sovereignty. I argued that this would flout, rather than somehow give effect to, the rule of law.

My doctoral work did not focus so directly on constitutional law, but instead considered a quandary in legal philosophy, viz. whether modern legislatures form and act on intentions, which the court should aim to infer when reading legislation. In the twentieth century, legal philosophers began to doubt that it was possible for a legislative assembly to have intentions, and some judges, especially in the United States, took up their scepticism. My doctorate, published in revised form in 2012, sought to answer this scepticism, explaining how the legislative assembly is structured in order to make it possible for authority to be exercised for reasons.

I think of my research as aiming to take the legislature seriously as one of our central legal and political institutions, resisting the dismissal of Parliament as

incapable of reasoned choice. When judges read an Act of Parliament, they should aim to understand the action of an institution that is well-placed to decide what the law should be. They are not free to substitute for Parliament's authoritative choice some other legal rule that seems to them more attractive.

Much of my scholarship is a conversation with the dead, which is as it should be. It is a great privilege to be in a profession in which one has time to read and write about Aquinas, Blackstone, Fortescue, Hart, and Hobbes amongst many others. However, I have also had the very good fortune to be able to engage with some contemporary controversies about how we are and should be governed, deploying my academic work in wider public conversation.

I have been doing this for a while now. Before I came to St John's in 2012, I was an outspoken critic of proposals for a libertarian charter of rights in New Zealand, modelled on the UK's Human Rights Act 1998, but giving pride of place to property rights and freedom of contract – and establishing a strong presumption against regulation. My critique helped make the case against the Regulatory Responsibility Bill, as it was called, which was in the end not enacted. My attempts to resist enactment of 'three strikes' sentencing legislation were less successful.

More recently, here in the UK, I have worked with the think tank Policy Exchange, setting up and leading the Judicial Power Project. Since its launch in 2015, the



Project has questioned the rise of judicial power within the Westminster constitution and made the case for the traditional balance of the constitution, in which courts have a vital but limited role. Between human rights law and developments in the ordinary law of judicial review, UK courts have come to play a much greater role in public life than in previous generations. The Project set out to explain this constitutional change, to question its merits, and to make the case for reform.

In the course of my association with Policy Exchange, I have also published papers on the law of treason, the Northern Ireland Protocol, and the dynamics of parliamentary government. But the main body of my work has concerned the constitutional role of the courts. In research papers, articles in the press, evidence to Parliament, and public events, I have challenged what seem to me to be misuses of judicial authority and argued for courts to recognise their limits.

It is a great privilege to be able to draw on my academic research to contribute to public deliberation. I am sure my work has been read much more widely in consequence. It also seems to have had some impact. It helped inform the enactment of the Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 and the Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022, both of which introduce narrowly targeted reforms to the law of judicial review. My critique of the Supreme Court's decision in 2020 to allow Gerry Adams's appeal against his 1975 conviction led the House of Lords, in July this year, to amend the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill so as to reverse the decision's wider legal effects.

There is no shortage of practical problems that raise interesting constitutional questions. In June, I published a detailed critique of the European Court of Human Rights' assertion that it had jurisdiction to grant interim relief, a critique backed by two distinguished former judges, covered in the press, and then raised in both Houses of Parliament. In May, I gave evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights about assisted suicide and human rights law.



***In research papers, articles in the press, evidence to Parliament, and public events, I have challenged what seem to me to be misuses of judicial authority and argued for courts to recognise their limits.***

Participating in public life in this way is not straightforward. It can be highly challenging to communicate complex ideas to a generalist audience, especially when one has only a few hours to write for a newspaper, an hour to speak to a parliamentary committee or a few minutes in a broadcast interview. In addition, not all colleagues in the academy or legal profession share my view about the constitution and from time to time I have been attacked in quite personal terms. However, I have also enjoyed much support, not least from retired judges, and am grateful to have had the chance to help judges and parliamentarians wrestle with important questions.

My work is intended to help encourage judges and lawyers see the moral force of the traditional limits on judicial power. Since Lord Reed became President of the Supreme Court in 2020, the Court has often affirmed these limits and the old balance of powers has been partly restored. This is quite the change since I helped found the Project in 2015 and one that I very much welcome.



# ‘Things aren’t what they used to be’:

## nostalgia in the long fourteenth century

Professor Hannah Skoda, Tutorial Fellow in History, investigates a yearning for a golden age in a world turned upside-down.

I have spent the past few years exploring nostalgia in the fourteenth century in England, France and Italy. This was a century of cataclysmic change – it witnessed massive demographic shock because of famine and epidemic disease; social mobility appeared to be stimulated by these structural shifts; commercialisation, with its attendant practices of lending at interest and monetary fluctuation seemed to intensify; politics continued to develop rapidly, often through warfare which ravaged the countryside, and considerably increased the burden of taxation; cities were ever more prominent. Many contemporaries saw a world which looked, in the words of Thomas Brinton, bishop of Rochester, as though it was being turned ‘upside-down’. One of the ways in which they responded to these great changes was in a nostalgic mode. Nostalgia was expressed across the social spectrum: peasants, kings, merchants and artisans all were swept along in a wave of nostalgia for a time when life seemed safer and more predictable. As we face our own challenges of pandemic, climate change, massive inflation and warfare, these fourteenth-century nostalgias resonate strongly across the webs of time.

Nostalgia, ‘a sentimental longing for, or regretful memory, of a period of the past’ (*OED*) is an immensely powerful emotive force, one which uses yearning for an imagined past to stimulate often dramatic change in the future. We need look no further than Donald Trump and his slogan ‘Make America Great Again’, or the political rhetoric around Brexit and ‘taking back control’, for an indication of its political force today. Nostalgia comes with its own genealogies in European history, from Hesiod’s myth of the golden age, to the pastoral longings of classical poets like Horace or Virgil, Renaissance evocations of past glories, or the longings for nature of the eighteenth century. The term ‘nostalgia’ was only invented in 1688, by one Johannes Hofer: he was a Swiss physician, trying to diagnose the physiological symptoms suffered by Swiss mercenaries who would apparently swoon when



they heard the evocative sound of cowbells reminding them of home. Many scholars have assumed that nostalgia is a uniquely modern phenomenon. Nostalgia does tend to be a symptom of the kind of acceleration of the pace of change which is often associated with modernity, but this instability and unpredictability also characterised the fourteenth century. The fourteenth century is often labelled a century of unmitigated catastrophe, but perhaps the resilience of contemporaries is even more striking. Indeed, nostalgia allows us to recharacterise the fourteenth century as a century of imaginative, considered, and often sophisticated responses to perceived instability and flux. Nostalgia is never a singular phenomenon – contemporaries differed in what they were nostalgic for, and how they articulated this. In turn, these conflicting nostalgias could express radically different views of what people wanted the future to look like: many establishment figures wanted to reinforce past social hierarchies and patterns of power and exploitation; others expressed nostalgia for an imagined former age free of corruption and oppression – a supremely radical vision.



***Nostalgia allows us to recharacterise the fourteenth century as a century of imaginative, considered, and often sophisticated responses to perceived instability and flux.***

I am working on a monograph on the subject, which is structured around five ideals. The first is an aesthetic ideal. The fourteenth-century landscape was changing rapidly owing to climate change, famine, plague, warfare, and continued urbanisation. Many contemporaries responded by harking back to a seemingly lost rural idyll. They expressed this in lyric poetry, imagery, and moral literature. Interestingly, it took rather different forms in different parts of Europe. In England, a nostalgic focus on the countryside of the honest ploughman articulated particular visions of social hierarchy. In France on the other hand, there was a growing obsession with shepherding. King Charles V even commissioned a treatise on the subject, and the duchess of Burgundy had a Marie-Antoinette style life-sized sculpture of herself as a shepherdess commissioned: it was a powerful way to articulate a longing for a simpler life, but could also be turned to sharp critiques of the failure of ‘modern’

rulers to protect their people. The second is a moral and social ideal: this was an era of mass preaching, which often framed nostalgias for a time when ‘everyone knew their place’. Again, though, this could be contested as radical nostalgic visions of former ages of equity and just reward could equally be evoked. An economic ideal provoked nostalgic critiques of apparently new-fangled commercial practices: commentators lamented a time when transactions were apparently underpinned by trust and when greed was not the driving force. And contested nostalgias obviously had an acutely political dimension: this was a period in which political ideals were increasingly framed in terms of conflicting rhetorics of nostalgia through popular protest and political petitioning. My final theme explores the particular configuration of nostalgia in a chivalric context: King Arthur and his knights stood at the heart of nostalgic visions of the apparently lost chivalric glories of the past.

If waves of nostalgia in this period responded to extreme change, they also were articulated increasingly loudly. The idea of the common good was explored with particular clarity in the fourteenth century, and in turn this engaged with increasingly capacious ideas about who constituted political community. In many ways, ‘the commons’ was in flux at this point: predictably, many tried to limit its expansion, whilst others argued it should include everyone. Not only could nostalgias provide emotive force to different conceptions of community by evoking glorious shared pasts, but the centrality of ideas about community meant that voices were effectively shouting more loudly. We can hear expressions of nostalgia voiced with ever more force across the political spectrum in this period: from complaint literature, to sermons, to the demands of rebels, and the vast expansion of political petitions.

The goal of the project is to uncover a mode of thought which could be subversive or reactionary, emotive or calculated, derivative or spontaneous, or, more interestingly, all these things at once. It allows me to shed new light on a universal human tendency to look to the past, but demonstrates the contingency and power of nostalgia in a particular context. In turn, it recasts the fourteenth century as a period of impressive resilience and varied and sophisticated responses to overwhelming circumstances. Now, more than ever, nostalgia seems a phenomenon worth examining, both so that we can take warning, but also so that we can draw on its potential for positive and hopeful framings of the future.

# Companies today: a complicated business

Professor Sir John Kay, Emeritus Research Fellow in Economics, celebrates the complexity of modern business.



If you boarded a plane this summer, you may not have realised that the airline whose logo is on the fuselage does not own the plane. The largest owner of civil aircraft in the world is AerCap, based in Dublin, with a fleet of 1740 planes. But AerCap does not employ pilots; if you want a job there, better to have an accountancy qualification

or a background in information technology.

It is unlikely that the owner of the fuselage also owns the engines. An airline will usually contract with an engine manufacturer such as Rolls-Royce for the supply of engine services, say for a period of ten years. The manufacturer will take responsibility for arranging the delivery of engines, which it will maintain and perhaps replace during the life of the contract. But that does not mean that Rolls-Royce owns the engines. The manufacturer partners with a leasing company – Rolls-Royce has a joint venture with a US corporation, GATX. GATX also owned the railroad car whose 2022 derailment covered parts of Ohio with toxic smoke.

Few people have heard of AerCap or GATX. Or Prologis, who own most Amazon warehouses. And if Amazon has little physical capital, it needs no working capital. Amazon has typically sold the goods inside to you before it has paid its suppliers so in fact, Amazon owns almost nothing except the cash it has accumulated from its profitable web services business – outside the US, its retail operations make a loss. And that provides a vital clue to the Amazon business – its key strengths lie in its information technology capabilities, which not only power ‘The Everything Store’ but are sold to many other businesses,

large and small. But then, Amazon does not own the data servers on which these activities run; the principal operator of data centres is Equinix. And so it goes on.

When Adam Smith wrote *The Wealth of Nations*, he began with a celebrated description of a pin factory. When he wrote, the largest industrial plant in Scotland (perhaps Europe and if so the world) was the Carron Works thirty miles to the west of his Edinburgh residence. The Works was built by the Cardell and Garbett families, whose wealth originated in agricultural land, enhanced by some earlier successful business ventures. They owned the plant and buildings and the houses of the workers they attracted from the fields of lowland Scotland. And the Cardells and Garbetts supervised the plant on a day-to-day basis. This tripartite linkage from personal wealth to ownership of productive capital to control of business was characteristic of the industrial revolution as observed by both Smith and Marx and defined what would come to be called capitalism.

(The twentieth-century historian Sir John Clapham chided Smith, as he might have chided many modern economists, for his failure to undertake empirical research. ‘It is a pity that Adam Smith did not go a few miles from Kirkcaldy to the Carron works instead of to his silly pin factory which was only a factory in the old sense of the word.’ Scotland’s greatest poet, Robert Burns, did visit the Works and was not impressed: ‘We cam na here to view your works, In hopes to be mair wise, But only, lest we gang to hell, It may be nae surprise’. It is also unlikely that Smith visited the pin factory which he made famous – the University of Glasgow library has a copy of Diderot’s French encyclopedia with an illustration of a Normandy pin factory, from which Smith’s account is probably derived.)

One hundred and fifty years later, Henry Ford’s River Rouge plant at Dearborn, Michigan – then the largest manufacturing facility in the world – shared characteristics with the Carron Ironworks.

Ford's name hung above the gate and was attached to the company of which he was the majority shareholder. Like many founding entrepreneurs he wanted control over every detail of production. His vision was that raw materials would arrive at the Rouge and leave as finished automobiles. An area of Brazil is still known as Fordlandia, following Henry's unsuccessful attempt to grow rubber for use in the company's tyres. Lord Nuffield was similarly insistent on control; when I joked that the only part of the car Morris Motors did not produce was the owner's manual, a business historian friend warned me to check. Morris Motors did indeed establish a wholly-owned subsidiary, the Nuffield Press, to do just that.

The notion of 'software as a service' came into use in the 1960s to describe a strategy pioneered by IBM. The cost of a mainframe computer was then daunting for all but the largest users – I can still remember cycling with a packet of punched cards to The University Computer, housed in a large basement in Banbury Road – so the company shifted focus from selling computers to selling computing. While the vertiginous fall in the price of hardware rendered the original strategy obsolete, the thought behind it took hold. Today, abbreviated to SaaS, 'software as a service' is a major industry, exemplified by Amazon Web Services. And the idea, which takes the division of labour Smith claimed to observe in the pin factory to an extreme conclusion, has been developed more widely.

So today 'capital as a service' is a major industry. That is the product sold by Prologis and AerCap, and the property companies and institutional investors – including St John's – which provide office space to accountants, banks, and dentists, shops to retailers, and warehouses to all manner of businesses. Companies buy capital as a service just as they buy water or electricity as a service. The Amazon workers do not know who owns the warehouse in which they work, and probably neither does their boss. They don't know because it does not matter. Ownership of the means of production no longer means control of business or confers the right to order workers around. This is not capitalism as Smith, Marx, or Ford knew it.

The 'hollow corporation' describes the modern business which has not only outsourced the provision of capital but has outsourced almost everything else. The box that contains your iPhone says 'designed by Apple in California', but the device is not made by Apple. The largest assembler of Apple products is Foxconn, a subsidiary of the Taiwanese company Hon Hai Industries, based in mainland China. The chips came from Intel but the latest generation is from another Taiwanese business, TSMC. The largest supplier of components is Samsung, Apple's principal rival. And of course, the utility of the iPhone is derived from the multiplicity of applications created by many designers. Apple is the coordinator at the centre of a web of activities.

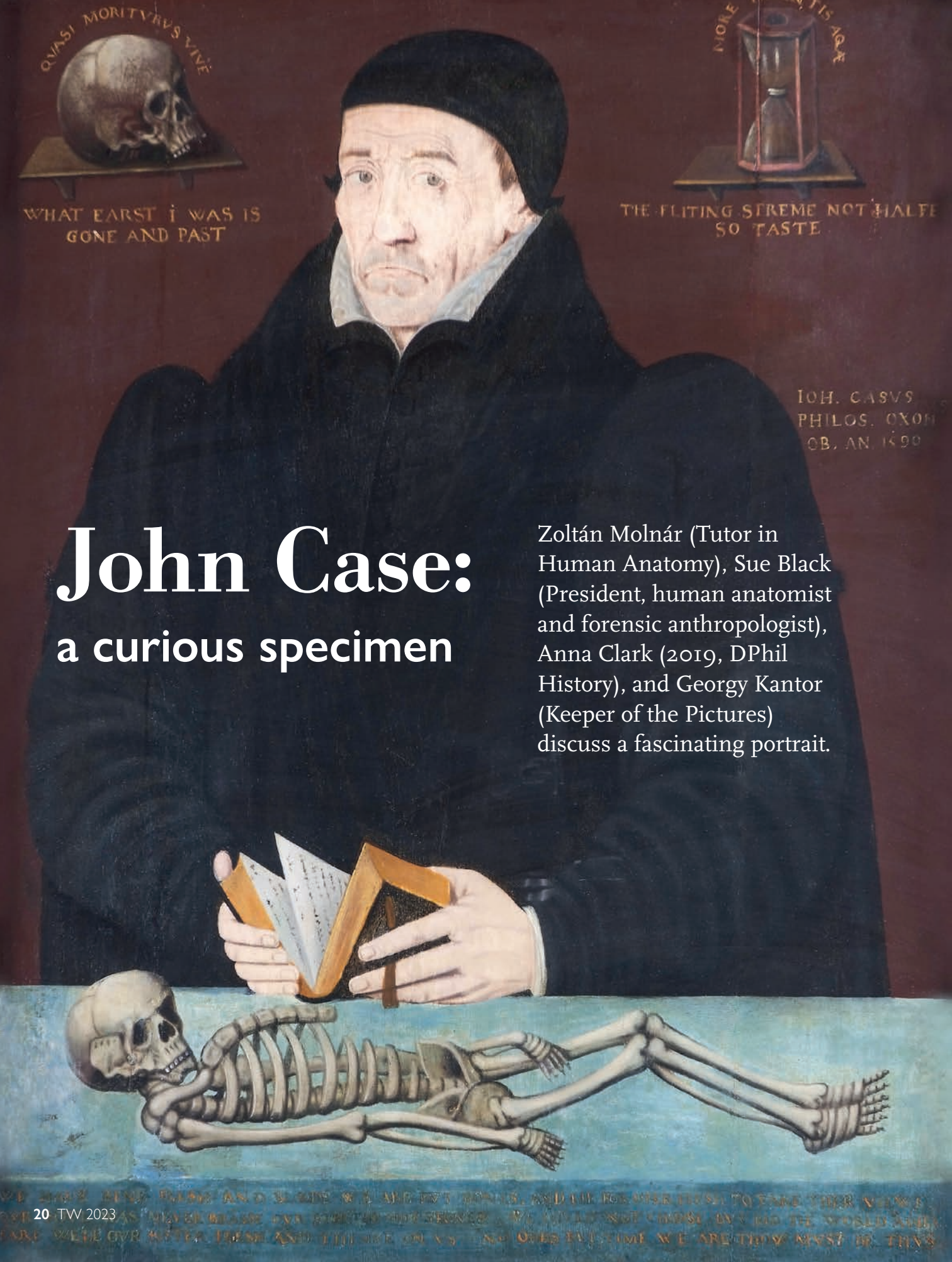
Franchising has a long history. The European imperialist project was in effect franchised to private businesses, such as the Dutch VOC, the English Company of Virginia, and the East India Company. But in the twentieth century franchising took on a greater scale, a new significance, and a much more benign character.

Ray Kroc was a salesman of machines used to prepare milkshakes. His customers included Maurice and Richard McDonald, who owned a hamburger restaurant in San Bernardino, California. Everyone knows how the story evolved. The franchising model Kroc developed from the McDonalds' 'speedee service system' involved a process of rigorous standardisation which gave the customer a predictable product. Today you can enjoy, or at least buy, an almost identical Big Mac in familiar surroundings in thousands of outlets in more than one hundred countries. The formula also enabled inexperienced individuals to establish their own businesses with modest capital and a high probability of success.

That mechanism was imitated by other fast-food chains and in many service businesses, from print shops to pharmacies to hotels. Common branding would help with marketing and give the collective franchise far more bargaining power with suppliers than any individual franchisee could enjoy. Today, franchising even extends to global accounting firms, with country-specific operations trading under one name worldwide. And both McDonald's and KPMG need to inspect the work of their franchisees to ensure that their brand and reputation are sustained.

The customers of Facebook and YouTube are also these companies' suppliers. And much the same is true of eBay and Google. The digital age has created a new type of corporation, the platform. Airbnb and Uber have characteristics of both platforms and franchises. As platforms they link hosts with guests, passengers with drivers; as franchises, they must try to monitor the quality of their lodgings and the reliability of their chauffeurs. But like all hollow corporations, they share the characteristic that the activities undertaken by the business itself have been pared down to the single critical link in the chain of production at which the corporation enjoys an advantage over its competitors.

Modern businesses are defined by their capabilities and their coordinating activities. I wish we would stop using the word 'capitalism'. It obscures rather than illuminates the complex and fascinating character of the modern business landscape.



# John Case: a curious specimen

Zoltán Molnár (Tutor in Human Anatomy), Sue Black (President, human anatomist and forensic anthropologist), Anna Clark (2019, DPhil History), and Georgy Kantor (Keeper of the Pictures) discuss a fascinating portrait.

WE HAVE BEEN BORN AND WE LIVE WE ARE NOT BORN, AND WE REMEMBER THEM TO TAKE THEIR VIEW OF  
OUR LIFE AS NEVER BEING FOR GOOD OR FOR EVIL. WE ARE NOT BORN, BUT DID THE WORLD AND  
OUR LIFE WE GIVE WATER, FRESH AND THE LIFE OF US. NO ONE BUT TIME WE ARE THOW MUST BE THIS

Every time we sit at High Table in St John's College Hall we look on the portrait of John Case and marvel at the anatomical abomination that lies on the table before him. An impressive academician, Case was a Doctor of Medicine, Fellow, and Canon of Salisbury Cathedral (1539–1600), but parts of his portrait are – frankly – a bit of a dog's dinner.

We wanted to explore further and one of the many benefits of being a member of an Oxford college is the ability to engage in interdisciplinary discussions. We took full advantage of this over the portrait of John Case – and this article captures our discussions.

Case was a major figure in Aristotelian philosophy and science in the late sixteenth century. Born in Woodstock in c.1539–41, he was a chorister in Oxford at New College and Christ Church. He was elected to a scholarship at St John's in 1564 and became a Fellow on his graduation in 1568. In 1574, he was compelled by the College Visitor to marry Elizabeth Dobson, the widow of the keeper of Bocardo prison, with whom he had a relationship. As a married man, he was forced to resign his Fellowship. Case became an M.D. in 1589 and practised medicine before leaving the profession in 1589 to become Canon of Salisbury. He died in 1600 and was buried in the chapel of St John's.

The painting is possibly linked to Richard Haydocke, another physician and Fellow of New College with artistic ambitions. In it we see Case with a serious and scholarly face, wearing academic dress with cap and gown set against a simple, sober background, certainly in the upper two-thirds of the painting. We were all very comfortable with the composition above the level of his hands which clasp a book to convey his academic demeanour.

In the top corner there is a representation of a skull and, although abstracted rather than realistic, there are anatomical details that approximate to a recognisable adult human skull. There are sutures between the bones (though not technically accurate), the brow ridges suggest masculinity, the mandible is absent, and the external auditory meatus (opening for the ear) is somewhat illogical in position. The zygomatic bone of the cheek is whimsical and the length of alveolar bone for the upper teeth is absurd. But it is a reasonable representation of a masculine adult human skull. It functions as a *memento mori*, reminding the viewer of human mortality. Was the skull drawn from a specimen or more likely from the recollections of the artist? Dissections and access to the remains of the deceased were not common in Oxford at the time. But an adult skull would be something recognisable to most clinicians through either medical texts or archaeological remains.

It is the table that draws our attention. Here, the line around Case's hands and the book might suggest a later addition. We know that posthumous alterations were made to this portrait, such as the date of his death below the depiction of the hourglass.



**It is the table that draws our attention. Here, the line around Case's hands and the book might suggest a later addition.**

The skeleton in front of Case approximates in size to an extended neonate. But how might someone acquire knowledge of the anatomy of a child's skeleton? The illustrations of Vesalius predated Case, and Richard Haydocke's writing shows that he was interested in European anatomical drawing and so there may have been an awareness of juvenile form. Other examples of locally made portraiture at this date suggest that realism was not necessarily a priority and the artist might have simply 'shrunk' an adult skeleton to fit the frame. The effect is that the skeleton looks child-like.

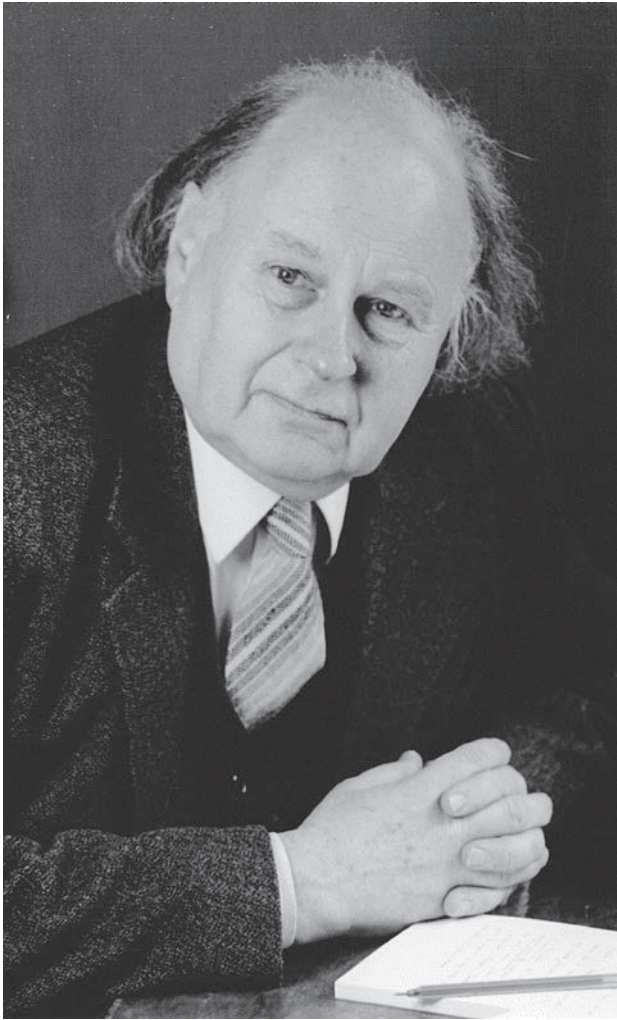
The child's skull is a replica of the adult skull, apart from the addition of a mandible, although with only one row of teeth – which of course would not be present in a neonate. The number of ribs and vertebrae are incorrect as is the appearance of the pelvis and all the long bones of the limbs. The sternum is interesting, though. In the adult it is not segmented as we see here, but it is in the child. In Case's portrait this appears to be surprising realism, or is it perhaps merely a happy accident?

But it is to the hands and feet that we look to see the amateur nature of representation and a clear lack of anatomical understanding or observation. The carpals in the wrist and the tarsals in the feet look like transverse bandages rather than the separate bones that they are in life. Whilst five digits are represented in the right hand, there is no gradation of size and they are represented by four segments and appear as square little blocks. The right foot shows only four toes and the large toe is absent.

Of course, the skeleton might not be related to Case's training as a physician and, like the skull, may simply reference impermanence and mortality for which anatomical realism is unnecessary. Nevertheless, having two skeletons represented in such a portrait is unusual.

We wonder, did Case approve this portrait? Was the child's skeleton added later? Was an additional representation of *memento mori* added posthumously? Perhaps, by submitting the painting to further detailed analysis, we might find out.

So, next time you are in Hall, we urge you to pause for a moment at Case's portrait and contemplate the cycle of life and death and how it was conveyed in portraiture of the time.



# Professor Donald Russell's Memorial Service

Dr Georgy Kantor, Tutorial Fellow  
in Ancient History, reports.

On 14 April 2023, at the end of the Easter Vacation, a congregation of nearly 150 gathered in the University Church to celebrate the memory of Professor Donald Russell FBA (1920–2020), Official Fellow in Classics in 1948–88, in the service led by the College Chaplain, Elizabeth Macfarlane. Old members of the College, current Fellows and Classics students, and Donald Russell's many colleagues in Oxford and throughout the world, were joined by some of his family members and old friends, and three Presidents of St John's, Sir Michael Scholar, Maggie Snowling, and Sue Black. The memorial was followed by a reception in the Senior Common Room, and the Russell Society dinner in Hall, the largest gathering of St John's classicists in a very long time.

The tributes at the memorial included readings from Donald Russell's translations of classical Greek authors, chosen to reflect on his own legacy and character, and of a remarkably accomplished poem he had written when still a student at King's College School, Wimbledon, a superb performance of Beethoven's Spring Sonata by

Ben Cartlidge (a pupil of Donald Russell's and lecturer in classical languages at St John's in 2014–17), and eulogies from former colleagues and pupils. The speakers included Professor Chris Pelling FBA (one of Donald Russell's first doctoral students and Regius Professor of Greek Emeritus at Oxford), Professor Michael Reeve FBA (Woodhouse JRF in Classics in 1965–66, and Kennedy Professor of Latin Emeritus at Cambridge), Dr Katharine Earnshaw (Supernumerary Teaching Fellow in Classics, 2010–16, and now Senior Lecturer of Classics at the University of Exeter), and Professor Patrick Finglass (1997, Literae Humaniores, and now Henry Overton Wills Professor of Greek at the University of Bristol). Attendees also received a booklet with a collection of memories of Donald Russell that were assembled between 2020–23, while the memorial had to be delayed due to the pandemic.

Many of those present at the memorial remarked on the incredibly consistent image of Donald Russell's personality and achievement that emerged from the tributes: his profound love for his wife, Joy, his devotion to his pupils, his tolerance of our foibles, and his care for good style and



good scholarship. Some of the key themes were perhaps best brought out in Katharine Earnshaw's eulogy. The first theme was kindness, patience, and empathy, not as some optional extra, a distraction from intellectual achievement, but as a fundamental part of being an academic, the 'ethics of care' needed in scholarship and teaching, which 'flattened perceived hierarchies'. The second was 'gently provocative humour'. The third was 'welcome homeliness'. Donald (in Katharine's words), 'offered a different perspective on the significance of the College as Domus, the importance of the familiar, the scaffolding thought of local relationships for nurturing intellectual curiosity. He demonstrated supportive affection, not affectation'.

Across generations, the moral and intellectual example of Donald Russell influenced classicists – and not just classicists – at St John's, wider Oxford and beyond. Patrick Finglass spoke of Donald's arrival at St John's, 'together with other legendary tutors such as Howard Colvin and Keith Thomas' being 'part of a movement which transformed the intellectual status of our College', and of his role in shaping the Literae Humaniores syllabus in Oxford, establishing 'the very principle that Classics at Oxford must be reformed to be preserved'. Most appropriately, he quoted an 'ancient Greek orator' (St Paul addressing the Areopagus in Athens, a text included by Donald Russell in his own anthology of

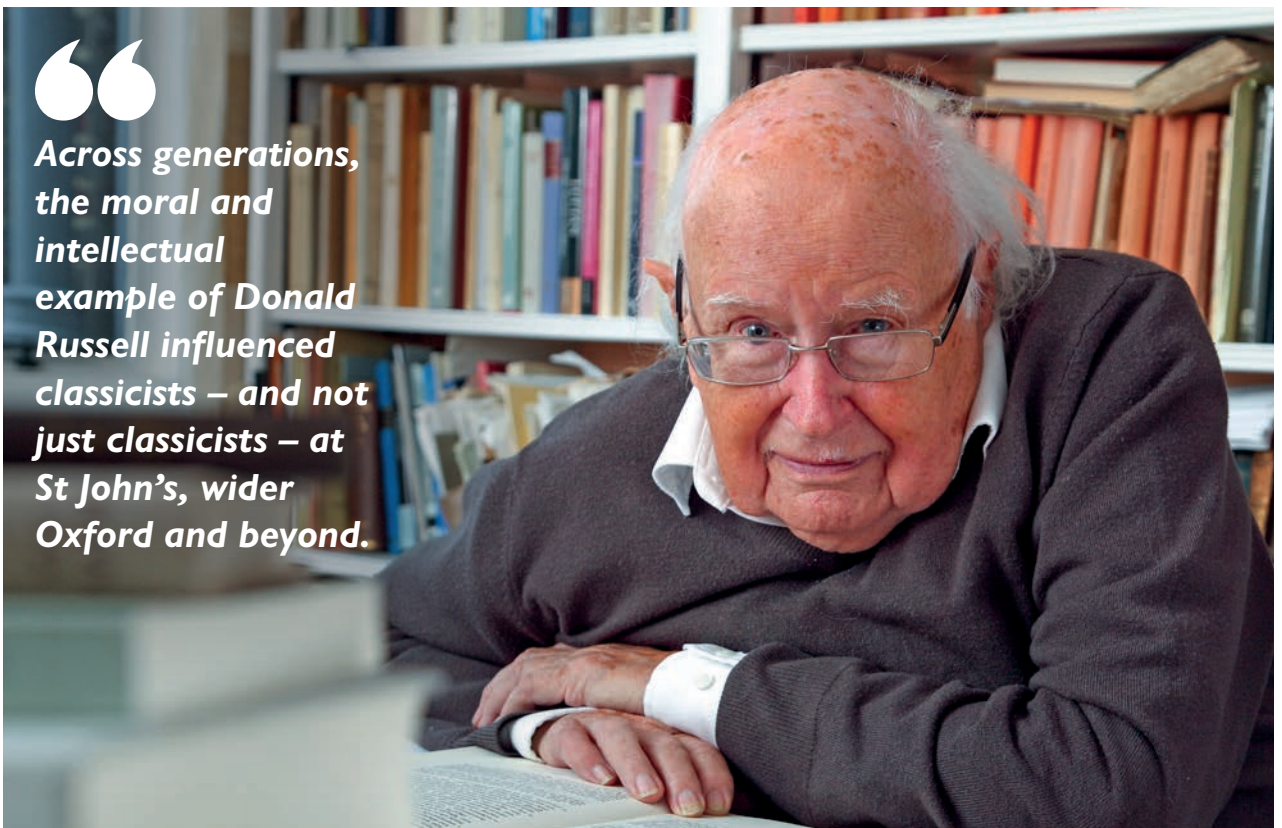
Greek prose), in his turn quoting the Hellenistic poet Aratus to his educated Athenian listeners: 'As certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring (τοῦ γὰρ καὶ γένος ἐσμὲν).'

Reflecting on a lifetime of knowing Donald Russell, Chris Pelling summed it up: 'I know of no-one with so marvellous a feeling for style; an expectation that authors would have something serious to say as well as to be concerned to say it elegantly; and an infectious feeling of the joy of a life of letters. He once wrote that Cicero and Plutarch shared 'a serious, humane, unhysterical preoccupation with duty and morality', and he was the same – and he enjoyed a good story too. He was an inspiration.' Michael Reeve, who treated the audience to the picture of St John's in Donald Russell's much younger years, said 'as a classical scholar... he never put a foot wrong, and none of us can have known a teacher or colleague either wiser or kinder'.

In a speech he gave at the celebration of 65 years of his Fellowship, Donald Russell advised the College 'to excel without ostentation and evolve without discord'. As celebration of Donald's life, of Classics at St John's, of scholarship and friendship, continued late into the evening, hopes were high that we shall continue to follow his precept.



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# Archbishop Laud's secret 'misfortunes': decoding sexual identity in the seventeenth century

Dr Paul Hunneyball, Assistant Editor of the Lords 1558–1603 section for the History of Parliament, explores the problem of interpreting evidence from the early modern period.

I dreamed that K.B. sent to me in Westminster church, that he was now as desirous to see me, as I him, and that he was then entering into the church. I went with joy, but met another in the middle of the church, who seemed to know the business, and laughed; but K.B. was not there' [Works of Archbishop Laud, iii. 217]. We generally associate the analysis of dreams with Sigmund Freud and early 20th-century Vienna, but in this case the date is 1633, and the writer recording his conflicted feelings for another man is William Laud, then bishop of London and soon to be archbishop of Canterbury.

Laud, a life-long bachelor, is now best remembered as the man who refashioned the Church of England along more Catholic lines, and as a leading architect of the royal policies which drove Britain into civil war. By 1633 he was aged 59, one of Charles I's principal advisers, and de facto leader of the church, since the current archbishop, George Abbot, was in disgrace. Noted for his energy, administrative competence and virulent attacks on puritans, Laud seemed to exude confidence and self-assurance. However, unbeknown to his contemporaries, he was keeping a private diary in which he recorded his greatest hopes and fears, triumphs and failures, and – most unusually for this period – his actual dreams. And the diary reveals a very different side to Laud's character, the dominant traits being insecurity, unfulfilled emotional needs, and an unshakeable sense of foreboding.

Some of the root causes of Laud's anxiety are readily identified. For much of his early career he was attacked

and vilified by Calvinist clergy and academics who opposed his theological ideas and obstructed his career progression, an experience which left him with a serious persecution complex. In 1605 Laud also brought disaster on himself by officiating at the illegal wedding of his patron, Charles Blount, earl of Devonshire, who breached both religious and secular law by marrying his recently divorced mistress. This major error of judgment wrecked Laud's chances of significant ecclesiastical promotion for more than a decade. He marked the offending date each year as a day of mortification, and ever after retained a keen awareness of how suddenly he might again fall from grace.

But this is not the whole story. Some 30 years ago, Professor Charles Carlton drew attention to evidence that Laud was sexually attracted to men, and argued that this was another cause of his insecurity. Some details of Laud's homoerotic imagination were in fact already well-known, but in the context of seventeenth-century social conventions were ambiguous enough to have been ignored by previous historians. One notable example is another dream recorded in 1625, which concerned his current patron George Villiers, duke of Buckingham, James I's handsome male favourite and probable lover. 'That night, ... it seemed to me that the duke of Buckingham came into bed with me; where he behaved himself with great kindness towards me, after that rest, wherewith wearied persons are wont to solace themselves' [Works of Archbishop Laud, iii. 170].



In addition to such dreams, Carlton highlighted mysterious coded entries which occur at intervals throughout Laud's diary. Sometimes initials were used rather than names simply for the sake of brevity, as with 'L.D.B.' (my lord duke of Buckingham) and 'A.B.C.' (the archbishop of Canterbury). However, in other cases Laud demonstrably employed initials to disguise personal interactions, and none of the people concerned have ever been identified. What is clear in most cases is that they were men, such as the 'K.B.' referred to earlier. And without question, these diary entries relate to emotional entanglements, rather than business dealings.

1 January 1633: 'My being with K.B. this day in the afternoon ... troubled me much; God send me a good issue out of it.'

15 January 1633: 'K.B. and I unexpectedly came to some clearer declaration of ourselves. Which God bless.'

8 June 1633: 'I received letters from K.B. unalterable, etc.'

19 June 1633: 'I received second letters from K.B. no changeling, etc. Within three hours after, other letters from K.B. Believe all that I say, etc.' [Works of Archbishop Laud, iii. 216-18]

Carlton suggested that such diary entries were further evidence of Laud's sexuality, but he considered them difficult to interpret, and therefore inconclusive as evidence. More recent research into the history of sexuality has provided context that was unavailable to Carlton, and which allows us to move the discussion forward. It's now understood that intense platonic relationships between men were not per se frowned upon in early modern Britain. Where society drew the line was at the physical expression of same-sex desire – the act of 'buggery', for example, being both a capital offence and anathema to the church. In other words, if Laud's mysterious friendships were merely sentimental, he should not have felt the need to conceal them so carefully. In reality, Laud felt very bad indeed about what he was doing. Most of his early liaisons were routinely defined in his diary as an 'unfortunateness' or 'misfortune'. His most enduring love affair, with a certain 'E.B.', brought him to crisis point. E.B. is first mentioned in 1613, and Laud maintained intermittent contact with him until 1624. The most significant record is as follows: 'Cum E.B. July 28 1617, primo' ('with E.B. ... for the first [time?]'). This is almost certainly an admission that their relationship was consummated. Afterwards, Laud was overwhelmed by guilt. That same day he penned a private penitential prayer, confessing that he had 'wandered ... into a foul and a strange path', and bitterly lamenting his folly and weakness [Works of Archbishop Laud, iii. 81, 136].

In short, Laud had good reason to fear exposure. It was not just his career that was at stake. His clerical status was no defence against a charge of sodomy, and indeed John Atherton, bishop of Waterford, was hanged for this crime in 1640. Three years later, with Laud now imprisoned by Parliament on a charge of treason, his private papers were confiscated. His nemesis, the vitriolic pamphleteer William Prynne, published extracts from the diary, including that coded entry for 28 July 1617, commenting that Laud had 'lapsed into some ... special sin (perhaps uncleanness)' [Prynne, *Breviate of the Life of William Laud* (1644), 30]. Laud furiously denied this allegation, and the evidence was too weak for it to be used against him when he finally came to trial. Executed in January 1645, he carried the truth with him to his grave. Nevertheless his diary still remains, published in full in 1853, a lasting testimony to the loves whose names he dared not speak.

**This article was originally published as a blog for LGBTQ+ History Month on the History of Parliament website and is reproduced here by their kind permission. Suggestions for further reading can be found on the website.**



# Library Phase III: completion

The restoration of the libraries, and the link through to the Study Centre opened in 2019, has reinstated the historic heart of St John's, putting the academic life of students and researchers back at the centre of the College.

After the completion of the new Study Centre in summer 2019, work began on the final phase of the ten-year project to restore some of the College's most historic and distinctive buildings: the Grade 1 listed Canterbury Quadrangle and the Laudian and Old Libraries along its eastern and southern borders.

Canterbury Quadrangle is one of the most impressive Baroque architectural masterpieces in England. Built between 1633 and 1635, it remains Archbishop Laud's most generous and enduring gift to the College. The quadrangle has remained largely as Archbishop Laud left it, apart from the replacement of some decayed limestone stonework in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The current restoration has been the work of a wide range of contributors – from artists and craftspeople to specialist conservators and skilled contractors across a range of disciplines. All twenty-eight pillars of the two colonnades and paving in both the east and west ranges had to be replaced due to dangerous fissures. Stone experts including petrologists,



quarry consultants, and stone masons sourced, designed, crafted, and installed new Swaledale fossil columns of carboniferous limestone more than 350 million years old from a quarry near Barnard Castle in County Durham. Through extensive research, these are now as close to the original stonework as it was possible to achieve in the modern day.

Dating from 1598, the Old Library along the southern border of the quadrangle was the first Oxford college library to include upright bookcases with seats and desks. It was extended in the 1630s to link to the Laudian Library along the eastern range. Sensitive and professional restoration has included provision for heating, lighting, insulation, and controlled environmental conditions and all have been achieved with meticulous detail to modern-day requirements focusing on energy and carbon neutrality. The large expanse of the Great Lawn allowed for the installation of boreholes to provide heating and cooling to both the new Library and Study Centre as well as the historic libraries and a large PC array on the Study Centre also allows this low-energy project to generate a significant amount of the energy being consumed.

Working with heritage specialists, paint conservators, and scientists led to many intriguing discoveries including historic painted murals hidden beneath the plaster in the newly restored teaching rooms. Where necessary, the intricate details of the bookcases were analysed, modelled, and recreated as exact replicas to the original to ensure historic accuracy and wood polishers stained the replacements to be indistinguishable from the old.

The project is the result of close collaboration between the College and its architect, Wright & Wright, as well as with Historic England, Oxford City Planning and Conservation Officers, specialist conservators, and artists. We look forward to the buildings serving the College community for centuries to come!



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**Opposite:** The restored Laudian Library

**Top left:** Scaffolding has enveloped Canterbury Quad during the works

**Top right:** Previously hidden wall paintings have been carefully conserved

**Centre right:** The colonnades supporting the quadrangle cloisters in Canterbury Quad have been completely replaced

**Below right:** The historic and aesthetic integrity of the rare 16th-century bookcases in Old Library has been restored





# The St John's Library Digitisation Project

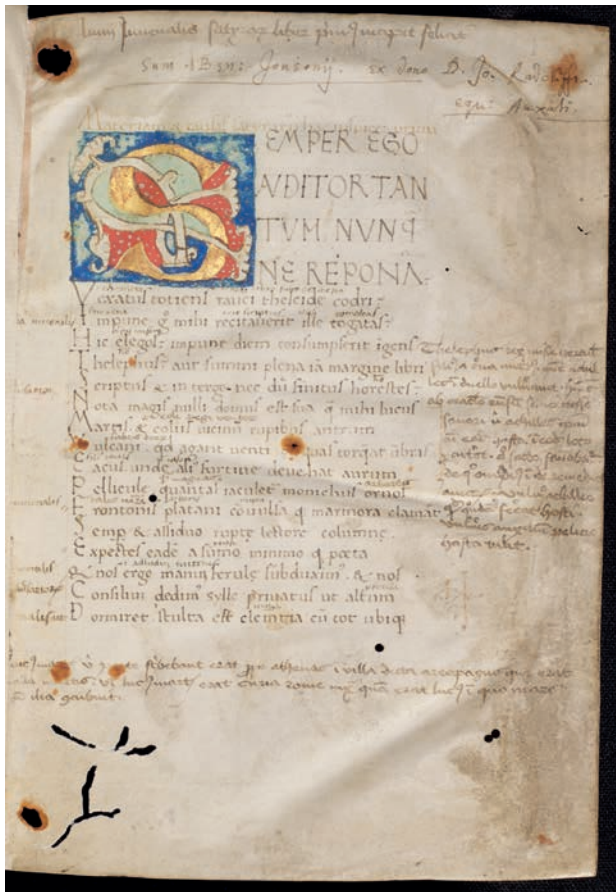
Dr Petra Hofmann (College Librarian), Dr Sian Witherden (Resource Description Librarian) and Sophie Bacchus-Waterman (Special Collections Photographer) explain how digital access opens up the Library's special collections to all.

The collection at St John's College Library was first formed in the sixteenth century when the College itself was founded. It now consists of over 400 manuscripts, and 20,000 early printed books. Among the collection are renowned items such as a second edition hand-coloured copy of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, the earliest known copy of Ælfric's Grammar and Glossary, and the famous Thorney Computus dating back to around 1110.

The digitisation project significantly increases the digital access to the library's historic collections by making formal catalogue records of our manuscripts available online (the metadata phase) and adding images of select books to *Digital Bodleian* (the imaging phase). At the heart of this ongoing project initiated by College Librarian Petra Hofmann are St John's over 400 manuscripts.

### Metadata phase

The metadata phase began in 2020. Put simply, metadata is data about other data. In our case, this means descriptive information about manuscripts. The key goal of the metadata phase has been to make formal catalogue records of all our manuscripts available online.



There are four modern catalogues relating to manuscripts at St John's library, each covering one of the following collections: western medieval manuscripts, western post-medieval manuscripts, Greek manuscripts, and Middle Eastern and North African manuscripts. Prior to the digitisation project, the western post-medieval catalogue was not publicly available and the remaining three catalogues were available in hard copy only.

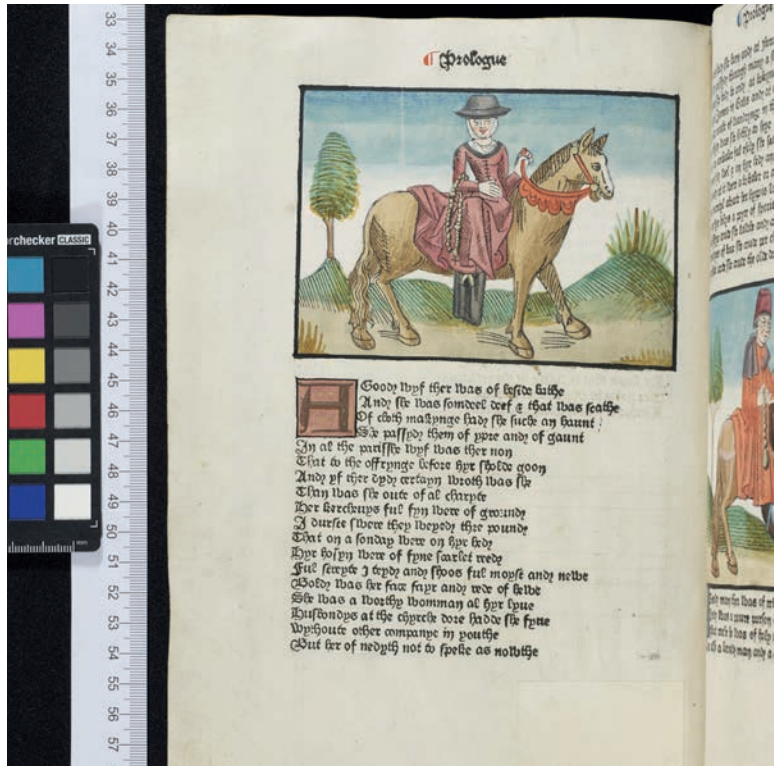
Our Resource Description Librarian, Sian Witherden, has been adding the entries in Ralph Hanna's catalogue of the western medieval manuscripts to *Medieval Manuscripts in Oxford Libraries* (<https://medieval.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>), a conversion process that is now over 90% complete. The entries from Stewart Tiley's unpublished catalogue of western post-medieval manuscripts can now be found on *ArchivesHub* (<https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/data/gb473-ms>). The catalogue entries relating to the Greek collection and the Middle Eastern and North African collection are available as PDFs in the Digital Library of our special collections' website until a more suitable online resource has been found.

### Digitisation shortlist

Shortlisting items to be photographed was a key part of the preparation for the imaging phase. We are often asked why we cannot digitise everything. This is simply not possible due to the labour and time that would take. Therefore, we needed to answer an important question: What items should we prioritise?

We felt that the shortlist should be broadly representative of the relative sizes of our four manuscripts categories, for example, approximately half of the items on the shortlist and in our collection are from the Western medieval period. Though the shortlist is comprised mostly of manuscripts, we are taking this opportunity to digitise some significant items from our collection beyond that, such as a hand-coloured second edition of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, printed by William Caxton in 1483.

The shortlist was ultimately put together with several criteria in mind. For example, we prioritised items with notable provenances. This includes MS 192, a fifteenth-century Italian manuscript of Juvenal's *Satires* and Horace's *Ars poetica*, formerly owned by the English playwright Ben Jonson (1572–1637). Many items on the shortlist were chosen because of their visual appeal, such as MS 131, a fifteenth-century Italian Psalter and Hours of the Virgin. In addition, we prioritised items with significance for the history of the College. A notable example is MS 52. This seventeenth-century manuscript contains an account of the theatrical celebrations that took place at the College at the turn of the year 1608, known as *The Christmas Prince*.



### Imaging phase

The imaging phase of the project began in October 2022, and it consists of three steps. Firstly, pre-imaging checks serve to alert the photographer to any challenges before the photography takes place. This process involves describing the book in detail using a conservation checklist and taking snapshot images of any challenging features. Every item selected for digitisation must be in a suitable condition for photography. If there is any doubt, we consult with the Oxford Conservation Consortium as to whether any work needs to be carried out before digitisation.

Then, the photography itself is carried out at St John's College's Library & Study Centre by the Special Collections Photographer Sophie Bacchus-Waterman. This work takes place in a dedicated studio with two set-ups. A Grazer Conservation Cradle and a PhaseOne camera is used for internal shots, while a flatbed with a wall-mounted Canon 5DS camera is used for external shots.

Finally, post-imaging consists of processing the images with CaptureOne software, including quality checks and file-naming; compiling brief accompanying metadata; and transferring the images and metadata to the *Digital Bodleian* Team.

If you want to learn more about the digitisation project or discover available resources, a great place to start is our Digital Library (<https://stjohnscollegelibraryoxford.org/digital-library/>). This dedicated section of our website offers an introduction to the manuscript

collection as a whole and acts as a springboard for finding descriptions and images online. Our website also hosts a digital version of an exhibition dedicated to the digitisation project (<https://stjohnscollegelibraryoxford.org/2023/04/18/from-ink-to-pixels-digitizing-manuscripts-at-st-johns-college/>).

We would like to thank our generous benefactors as well as Professor Mohamed-Salah Omri (Fellow Librarian, 2019–23) and Professor Maggie Snowling (President, 2012–22) for supporting the digitisation project from the start and for making it possible.







# St John's almost Nobel Laureate: Brebis Bleaney (1915–2006)

Timothy Baker remembers Brebis Bleaney's contribution to major scientific discoveries on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his arrival at St John's.

**B**rebis Bleaney (St John's, 1934; Lecturer, 1945; Fellow, 1947–56; Honorary Fellow, 1968) was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Physics three times. More are nominated than can possibly win, but Bleaney probably came close – twice.

A new DPhil, in 1940 Bleaney joined the Admiralty research group at the Clarendon Laboratory, which was designing transmitters and receivers for centimetric-wavelength radar.

These instruments were powerful enough to detect small targets like U-boats, so were crucial to winning the Battle of the Atlantic. The prototypes, taken to America for manufacture, were described as 'the most valuable cargo ever to cross the Atlantic'.

Bleaney took one of these top-secret new sets to America, ordered never to allow it to leave his sight. But the taxi-driver who drove him to Liverpool Docks insisted on strapping it to the roof of his cab!

Radar pulses and their fainter reflections needed to be as powerful as possible, so wartime research focused on measuring absorption of microwaves by various materials. Different substances absorb radiation at different wavelengths, because only photons of precise frequencies and quanta of energy can make electrons 'jump' between physically permitted energy levels in the atom.

From 1945 Bleaney applied war-surplus radar equipment for fundamental research in microwave spectroscopy. He started with ammonia. Microwaves can make its nitrogen atom 'flip' from one side to the other of its hydrogen triangle, yielding an 'inversion spectrum'. 'Jumps' between different energy levels cause a 'fine structure' in the spectrum, which Bleaney was the first to discover in 1945. In America Charles Townes found it independently, but yielded priority to Bleaney. Townes mapped the spectrum in detail, leading to the discovery

of long-lasting energy states, and so to Townes's invention of the Maser ('Microwave Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation'), the first powerful source of coherent light. Others later invented the equivalent in the visible spectrum, the Laser (Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation).

Townes recalled that, probably in the late 1950s, when Bleaney was nominated twice for the Prize, a member of the Nobel Committee discussed this history with him. Townes regretted that, because there was no clear-cut originator, Bleaney missed being recognised, though Townes himself won the Prize in 1964.

Bleaney turned to electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR), a spectroscopy technique he had co-discovered in 1945, independently of Yevgeny Zavoisky in Russia. Now



College Football team, 1935–6; Brebis Bleaney is sitting at the far right.

it was Bleaney who investigated further and made Oxford the leading EPR research school in the world.

EPR uses microwaves in a strong magnetic field to identify and characterise atoms of paramagnetic materials. Microwaves of the right 'resonant' frequency can make the atom's unpaired electron 'flip' between energy levels, creating a 'line' in its spectrum. Interaction with the changing magnetic field caused by the electron's motion within the atom causes this line to split, creating a 'fine structure'. Interaction with the atomic nucleus creates more splitting: a 'hyperfine structure'. Each element has a characteristic electron structure and

spectrum. Bleaney developed this new technique into a powerful tool for measuring and investigating the magnetic properties of atoms and materials.

In 1966 Bleaney, with Zavoisky, was nominated again for the Nobel Prize. My father Michael Baker (1948, Physics), who recalled the excitement of discussing Bleaney's new results in tutorials, thought Bleaney worthy of the Prize, but that EPR might have been crowded out in the Nobel Committee's thinking by NMR research, for which the Prize had been awarded twice.

Thus narrowly did Bleaney, and St John's, miss Nobel glory.

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# Romance at St John's

Ernest Chapman (1954, Modern Languages)  
wrote to share his love story at St John's.

I first met my sweetheart, Dorothy, on a Saturday night in November 1954. This was during my first term as an undergraduate. The day previous to this encounter, I had had a near-death experience, by a fall of eight to ten metres into the River Isis, or maybe Cherwell, in the town centre, first from the top of a flight of stone steps onto a concrete ledge, along with my ramshackle bike, and thence into the fast-flowing river, which was in spate, hitting the water in an unconscious state. I was rescued by the enterprising and intelligent intervention of a fellow John's man cum Yorkshireman two years ahead of me, Peter Johnson.

Having survived my accident unscathed, I went out the next evening to a popular nightspot, the Forum in the city centre, where the weekend dancing was a popular attraction. There, during the course of my revels, I invited Dorothy to dance. She was an accomplished exponent of the art, having just completed a three-year PE Teacher training course at Chelsea College, Eastbourne. Obviously she found me a passable dance partner, because a week or two later we had jointly adhered to a Scottish Country Dancing Group operating in the City of Oxford. So began our love affair. I turned 21 in early December 1954, and Dorothy was eight months older. Her first teaching post was at Milham Ford Girls' High School in Headington. We both loved many forms of sporting activity, and soon operated as a doughty tennis couple, and also made frequent use of the College's

squash court. Dorothy played county hockey and netball; I was the College's opening bowler for three summers, and right winger or centre forward of its soccer team for three winters. Occasionally, when her work permitted, Dorothy would come and score for the cricket team, much to my teammates' delight. As you can imagine, being a St John's student, and simultaneously embarking on the love of my life, made the years 1954 to 1957 a very, very happy and significant stage of my life.

In 1956 Dorothy suggested that, since we were both Oxford residents, and in my third year I would need to find digs, we should bring forward our legal unification, and live together as a married couple. With the blessing of my tutor, Will Moore, we did just that. In 2023 Dorothy and I are halfway through our sixty-seventh anniversary year, and more in love than ever. We are blessed with four children, three male and one female, two already sexagenarians and two on the cusp of that status. They spoil us, which for me as the ninth progeny of a poor Yorkshire coalminer, is a new and pleasurable experience. We also have nine grandchildren. Dorothy, as she approaches her ninetieth birthday, is immobilised and also suffering a significant degree of dementia. For the past three and a half years I have been her sole carer, but currently also receive a modicum of assistance from social care workers. I look upon my role as my wife's main carer as my privilege and pleasure. Long may it continue.



# From outreach to application:

## understanding the impact of St John's access work

Richard Waters has been Access Programme Lead for the Inspire Programme for the past two years co-ordinating school visits, Inspire Primary – and much more.

### **Our access work**

Access and Outreach at St John's encompasses programmes for ages 4 to 18 that raise the aspirations and attainment of pupils in the local community, in our link regions and across the country. To better understand the effect of the 60,000 annual pupil contact hours within our programmes, we partnered with the Elixir Foundation on an external evaluation of our impact. The Elixir Foundation is the not-for-profit arm of Elixir, a London-based consultancy with expertise in understanding large datasets.



All images © Ian Wallman

### Measuring disadvantage

Our work is, by its very nature, concerned with different forms of disadvantage. There are many ways of understanding and quantifying this. The simple splits between state and independent, selective and non-selective, have never been sufficient to encompass the spectrum of multiple disadvantages that pupils face and how this affects their university application.

The Access Office records participant data on the individual, school and postcode level. This gives a range of proxy data to understand pupils' socioeconomic background.

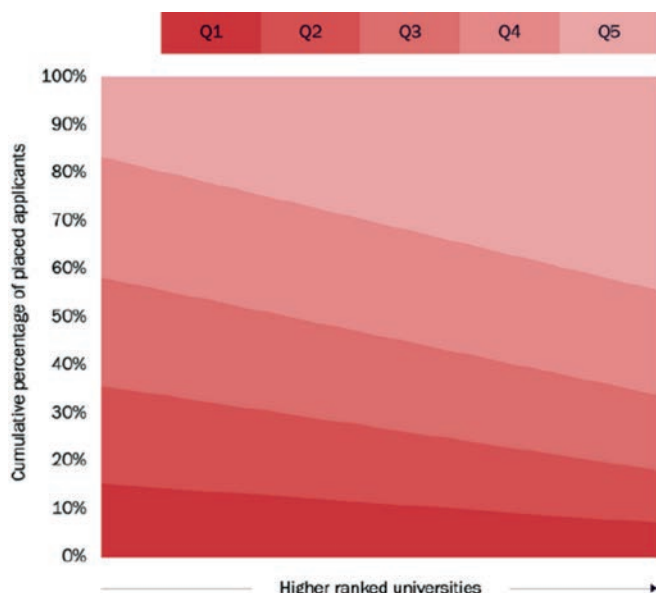
### POLAR4

For the evaluation we focused on POLAR4. POLAR4 is a nationally calculated geographical metric that assesses the likelihood of progression to any HE institution for those in a given postcode, splitting them into five quintiles based on the proportion of people who enter higher education aged 18 or 19. The 20% of areas with the lowest participation are designated Quintile 1 (Q1). The highest levels of participation are designated Quintile 5 (Q5).

### The National Picture

Q5 students outnumber Q1 students at university by a 3:1 margin. But POLAR4 is not just a measure of participation; it also tracks broader disadvantage – and reveals significant differences at an institutional level. Students from less advantaged backgrounds make up a lower proportion of the student body at higher-ranked universities.

This graph maps these trends within university admissions. Quintile 5 is the only quintile that accounts for greater proportions of the student body at higher-ranked institutions than lower-ranked institutions; the trend for every other quintile is to shrink the higher-ranked the university is.



## 2022/23 outreach at a glance



60,000

pupil contact hours



4,000

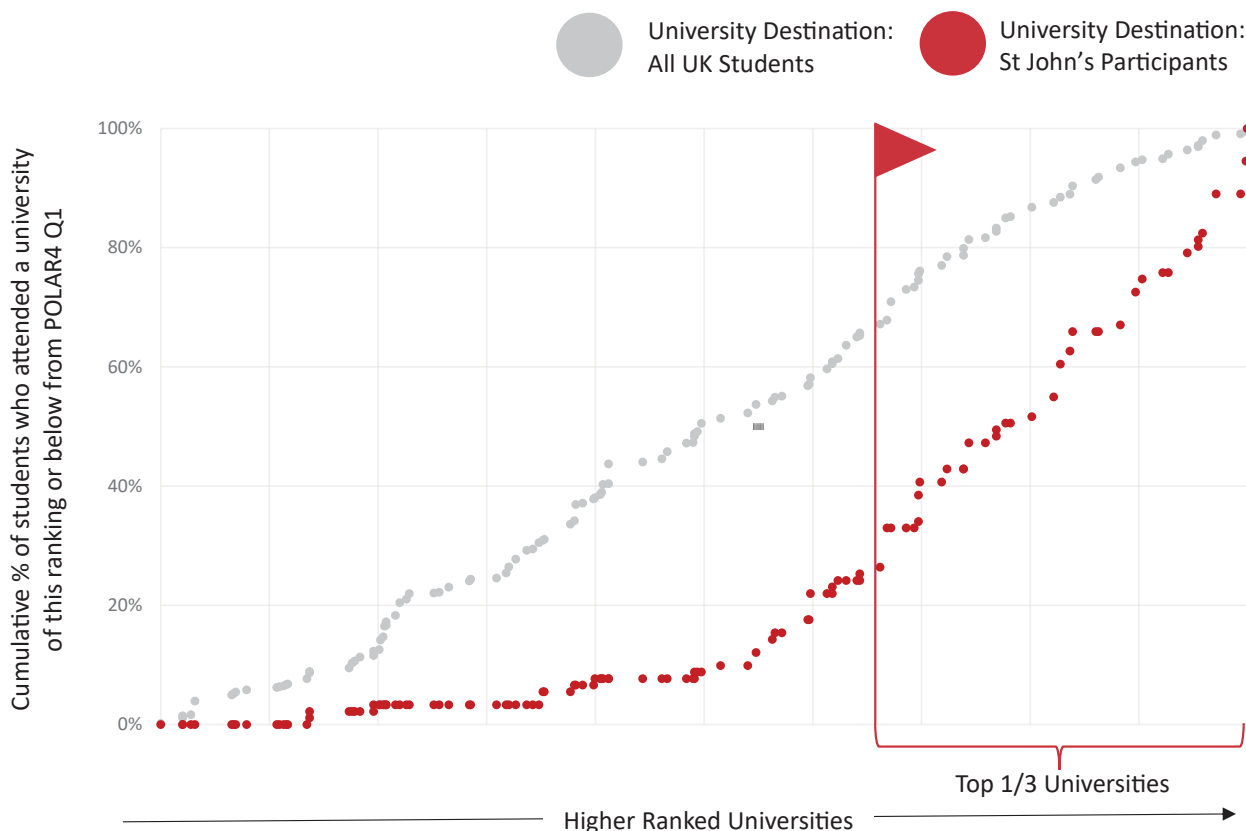
student participants



300

summer school attendees

# University Attendance Likelihood Mapping: POLAR4 Q1



## St John's in context

Our participants compared very favourably against this national picture. 80% of our participants end up attending a top-third ranked university, and 20% end up attending a top-three ranked university.

We're particularly proud of the fact that this pattern can be seen even with the most disadvantaged participants. 78% of our participants from POLAR Q1 postcodes attend a top-third ranked university with 10% attending one of the top three.

The national average, by comparison, shows that 38% of students who go on to Higher Education from these postcodes study at a top-third institution.

We know that proving causality is very difficult when assessing Access and Outreach initiatives. It is, however, clear that ambitious and talented students (regardless of socioeconomic background) were keen to get involved in the College's outreach programmes, and that those who did outperformed their national peers. It's a privilege to work with such talented young people, and to be able to see their successful applications to competitive universities, including to Oxford and, indeed, to St John's.





Participants from recent Study Days have gone on to study at 53 different universities. Three universities – Oxford, Cambridge and Durham – account for 40% of destinations. The infographic sets out the top ten destinations by number of participants.

# The Arts at St John's

This has been a great year for the Arts at St John's. We have had another engaging Trinity Term with our Artist-in-Residence, exciting musical performances, a full rota of exhibitions in the Barn, a successful collaboration with TORCH on their 'Artful Intelligence' season, a well-attended Penson Lecture, and an enthusiastic revival of the JCR Arts Week.

## Exhibitions and Talks

We welcomed many exhibitions and visitors through the doors of the Kendrew Barn. Our members, along with the public, were invited to contemplate works in a variety of media. From the Oxford Art Society's Members Exhibition, to a survey of NASA's early photographs of the Moon curated by Professor Geoffrey Batchen for the Photo Oxford festival, to an exhibition of the multimedia work of artist and alumna Farniyaz Zaker, to a curation of our archival material that accompanied our Vestments Conference, to the first exhibition of works by artists from both cities celebrating Oxford's twinning with Padua, which was opened by the Lord Mayor in July, our Barn was the gathering point in Oxford for artists, scholars, and tourists alike. We look forward to a very full rota of exhibitions for the 2023/24 academic year.

This Trinity we hosted two public events that explored the ethics of AI's incursion into the Arts. We were inspired by the gift of an AI-generated artwork that was added to our picture collection last November. The piece, *Shattered Space*, was conceived of by a robot named Ai-Da and was gifted to the College by the robot project leader, Aidan Meller. We used our acquisition of *Shattered Space* as an opportunity to foster conversations around the ethics of AI creation and gender. In June, we hosted two panels: 'Shattered Space: AI, Art and Gender' and 'AI and Poetry: Ethics, Gender, and Creativity'. We were inspired, not only by the visual work that has come out of the Ai-Da project, but also by literary creations that they have more recently produced. We partnered with our colleagues at TORCH, the Institute for Ethics in AI, and the Humanities Cultural Programme to add to their 'Artful Intelligence' season. Our panels featured outstanding scholars and



Professor Rosalind Harding with Tim Richardson

commentators including Professor Brenda Stevenson, Fellow and Hillary Rodham Chair of Women's History, Estella Tse, Visiting Fellow and Artist-in-Residence with the Humanities Cultural Programme at TORCH, and Hannah Rose Kirk, Oxford DPhil candidate and Alan Turing Institute researcher, among others. It is great to see the Arts at St John's not only tackle the pressing questions in the field but also welcome the public to join our processes of questioning and exploration.

This year's Penson Lecture on Garden History was given by Tim Richardson, garden writer, historian, and critic. He explored the early history of Oxford's academical halls which later became the basis for so many of the colleges, and the garden elements within them.



## Artist-in-Residence

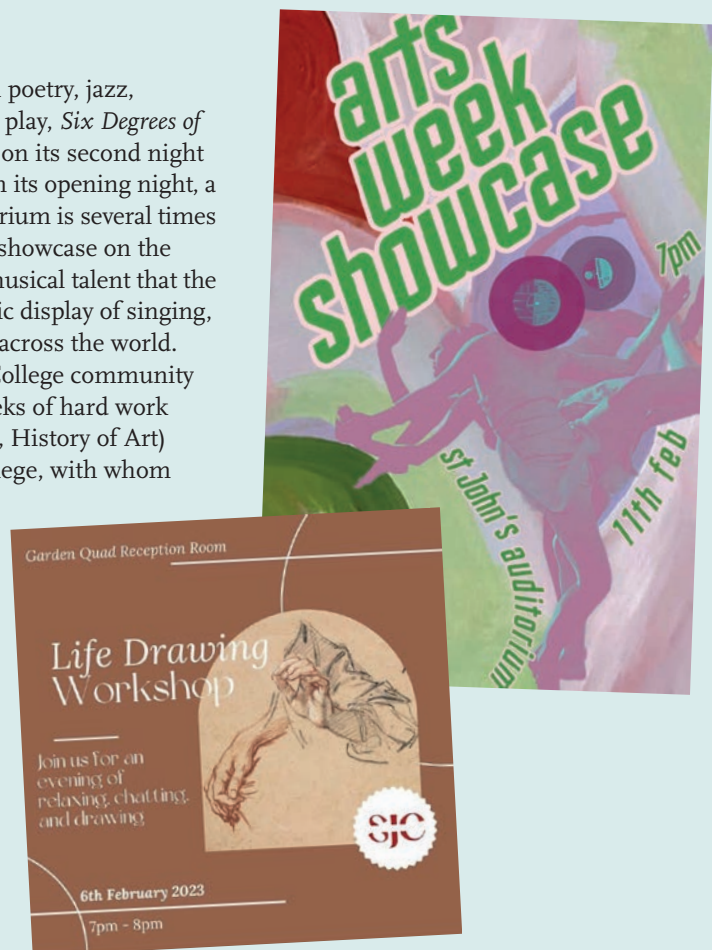
A quickly familiar face around College, our Artist-in-Residence this year was Lara Smithson. With her residency she carved out time equally for rich intellectual conversations with Fellows at College and academic collaborators around the University, for workshops with students, and for fruitful hours creating in her studio in the Barn. She used her term here to explore ‘the juxtaposition of the body as sacrosanct, yet also as something to be torn apart, simulated, cloned for the sake of devotion and science’. She invited us on her journey, contrasting historical and traditional knowledge with the modern scientific understanding of the human body via the medium of art.



## JCR Arts Week

Arts Week ran in Week 4 of Hilary Term with poetry, jazz, textiles, art exhibitions, Bhangra dance, and a play, *Six Degrees of Separation*. The play sold out the Auditorium on its second night and filled the venue to over 80% of capacity on its opening night, a remarkable achievement given that the Auditorium is several times the size of other student theatre venues. The showcase on the Saturday evening displayed the full range of musical talent that the College has to offer, with a particularly fantastic display of singing, dancing, and other performance media from across the world.

Arts Week was an event that brought the College community together, representing the culmination of weeks of hard work by its committee, ably led by Cleo Scott (2021, History of Art) but also by the Communications team in College, with whom the Arts Week marketing team worked very productively to ensure that all who wanted to come to events knew exactly what was happening and where. There were several dramatic workshops, as well as major exhibitions held across the College's exhibition spaces, giving both our Ruskin students, and all other College members, the opportunity to share their work. Our students also took Arts Week to one of our sister primary schools, running a drama workshop there, showing that Arts Week also represents a fantastic opportunity for students to share their talents as part of our outreach programme.



## Music

This year saw a new name for the orchestra supported by St John's and led by conductor Dr Hannah von Wiehler: Orchestra Vox. The orchestra offered an eclectic programme throughout the year, including 'BEAT' which featured works by Steve Reich, Philip Glass, and Caroline Shaw, as well as Rimsky-Korsakov's opera *The Golden Cockerel*. The Recital Spotlight series in 2023 presented concerts by Ben Goldscheider on horn and Milena Simović on viola, with Ewan Miller, winner of the BBC Young Musician of the Year 2021 woodwind division, making his debut on the oboe in a concert in March.

The *World's Music at Oxford* is a project run and supported by St John's, which blends research into global musics with live performance. The 2022/23 season saw concerts by Ukrainian *bandura* duo, Dvi Doli and indo-jazz band Jawari and sitarist-composer Tommy Khosla.

The College Choir has been in excellent voice throughout the year under the expert leadership of David Bannister, Choir Director. In February the Choir sang in a concert in Chapel together with Chelys, performing choral and instrumental works from the Dow Partbooks, including music by Tallis, Byrd and White.





## Laudian Vestments

**Professor Hannah Skoda reports on an exciting spring conference.**

St John's owns a magnificent collection of medieval and early modern textiles, centred around an extraordinary selection of late medieval liturgical vestments. On 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023, we enjoyed a feast of talks, demonstrations and workshops focused on these pieces. We are now working on a scholarly catalogue about our collection, which will be published with the Boydell Press – so watch this space!

We opened with a talk from Malcolm Vale about the dramatic history of the vestments at St John's. The first mention of the College collection dates from 1573 and refers to 'Church stuff'. Malcolm made the strong case that the vestments were most likely provided by the founder of the College, Sir Thomas White, in 1555–7. There are hair-raising stories about the preservation of the vestments in a Welsh slate mine during World War II and the rediscovery of a beautiful liturgical banner in an old chest in the President's attic in the 1990s. The latter narrowly escaped being thrown onto a skip before Malcolm was called to take a look. The St John's archivist, Michael Riordan, then traced what we know of the vestments and their context through the College archives. A 1602 document by the then president of the College, Ralph Hutchinson, refers to the 'superstitious Church ornaments' given by Amy Leech, the founder's niece. She seems to have been instrumental in saving the vestments from destruction during the Reformation, squirrelling

them away at Fyfield manor (she was also, incidentally, an ancestor of Jane Austen). The vestments are an intriguing strand in the religious stance of the College over the course of the seventeenth century (and of course its famous association with Archbishop Laud).

The vestments are now kept and regularly displayed under carefully controlled conditions in a purpose-built room in College. But of course, they were made to be used. Matthew Cheung-Salisbury from University College, Oxford, explained how vestments were employed during the liturgy as it was sung or intoned. The vestments were there to be seen, to be worn, and to be manipulated. A document in Corpus Christi College (MS 44) gives details on how the vestments were to be used in colleges, which colours were to be worn at which times in the Church calendar and so on. A priest wearing these vestments would have felt the sheer heaviness of wearing a cope, and how this made one occupy space differently. A major source is Guillaume Durand's detailed explanation of how vestments should be used, dating from 1226, and very influential right up until the second Vatican council of the twentieth century. Durand listed the symbolic meanings of different aspects of the vestments: the hood indicated supernatural joy, the length demonstrated the perseverance to the end by Jesus, the opening at the front indicated the openness of a life of holiness, the fringe represented the tribulations

of the world, and so on. The sheer beauty of these textiles really mattered: this was the moment when the priest became not just a man, but a priest – worshippers were to be in the presence of divine beauty.

Although profoundly rooted in the history of the College, these textiles also bear witness to wider networks

of commerce and exchange. Many feature the distinctive embroidery technique known as '*opus anglicanum*', for which English craftspeople were particularly well known, and which was highly sought after across Europe. Katherine Wilson from the University of Chester explored the trading networks and commercial relationships which



underpinned the production of these textiles. These objects were part of trading networks which stretched across Europe, and which drew on materials from across the globe: the Persian Gulf, Sri Lanka, India. Richard de Beer from the Catharijneconvent museum in Utrecht provided further evidence of the international scope of this trade. He showed the fabulously wide array of vestments surviving in the wonderful Utrecht collection, and detailed the very different methods used by nineteenth-century collectors which have both assured the survival of these pieces, and in some cases, damaged them quite dramatically.

Kate Heard from the Royal Collection Trust provided a richly detailed account of the embroiderers themselves. This was a London-based craft, and one which operated emphatically in a sellers' market. We also heard from Ingela Wahlberg from Uppsala about the sheer skill and labour involved: it is even possible to distinguish different embroiderers from their techniques, sometimes offering tantalising hints into their personalities. Participants even had the opportunity to try *opus anglicanum* for themselves, and to watch demonstrations of embroidery and tapestry techniques (with Tanya Bentham and Rudi Richardson respectively).

A wide range of medieval patrons were interested in purchasing this material: rather movingly, we heard how parish churches might buy vestments piece-meal as they could afford them, assembling them over time. Adaptation and re-use is part of the story of many of these textiles, especially given the upheavals of the English Reformation. James Clark of the University of Exeter told of the process of finding new homes and new purposes for late medieval vestments at the turn of the sixteenth

and seventeenth centuries. The journeys of these textiles can be traced through inventories, and reveal a fascinating and nuanced history of reuse, often by clergymen themselves as parish churches benefitted from the windfall of rich garments now available.

The St John's collection contains more than vestments, though. An extraordinary pair of mid-sixteenth-century tapestries, as well as an early seventeenth-century panel hang in the President's lodgings. Helen Wyld, from the National Museums, Scotland, demonstrated that these tapestries were probably created for private chapels. The third tapestry depicts the scene of the supper at Emmaus, after a painting by Titian displayed at the court of Charles I in 1627: Charles was trying to present himself as a great collector, but this was an interesting choice of image with its eucharistic resonances. The tapestry was produced by the Mortlake workshop. A guidebook to the College in 1868 states that this tapestry used to hang above the Chapel altar. Mary Brooks (Durham University) explored the history of a cushion in the collection which most likely comes from the workshop of Edmund Harrison (1590–1667). He was a remarkably flexible man: the king's embroiderer, he then made heraldic tabards during the Commonwealth, returning to work for Charles II.

It was a wonderfully informative couple of days, and I would like to thank the College and all the participants for their intellectual generosity, enthusiasm and curiosity. There was such a sense of shared excitement – the College does indeed care for a collection of great historical significance and intense beauty, and we sincerely hope that readers of this magazine will take the opportunity to visit these pieces for themselves in due course.



## Silver Futures

An exhibition in the Barn celebrated two new artworks commissioned by the College as part of *Silver Futures*, a *Hidden Objects Oxford* project. Silver has lain at the heart of the College community since its founding and, as Professor Hannah Skoda, Keeper of the Silver, noted at the opening event, the development of the silver commissioned by, donated to and recycled by the College tells us a great deal about how that community has evolved. The recycling of some damaged pieces from the silver collection into *Here I am* and *Things Change* is an acknowledgement of our connection to earlier members of St John's and an intriguing contribution to the College's work on sustainability.

Above: Simone ten Hompel's piece, *Things Change*

Below: Chris Knight next to the sculptural mirror, *Here I Am*, made with Maria Hanson



# Oxford Open Doors 2023

Denise Cripps, Head of Communications, reports on a warm welcome to over 1,100 visitors on a sunny Sunday in September.



The annual Oxford Open Doors weekend organised by the Oxford Preservation Trust is extremely popular with both local residents and visitors from further afield, and is a great opportunity for the College to welcome visitors who might not usually think of stepping through our gates.

As last year, we offered a full programme to showcase some of the many aspects of College life. As well as self-guided tours, there was a full day of talks in the Auditorium, exhibitions, and a ‘Find the Lambs’ treasure hunt which clearly delighted the 65+ children who took part. The Kendrew Café was also open offering a range of refreshments.

The talk topics ranged widely and included Michael Riordan, College Archivist, on Jane Austen’s family at St John’s, a look behind the scenes of the Library Digitisation Project, and Professor William Whyte and Dr Geoffrey Tyack exploring the general and architectural history of College. The artist Susanna Heron visited once again to talk about her ‘Stone Drawing’, the relief carving on both the external and internal faces of the stone wall that forms the west side of the Study Centre, and to lead tours of the work.

This year we also had other special tours and events. Dr Georgy Kantor, Keeper of the Pictures, led a tour of the portraits in Hall, and David Bannister, Choir Director,



talked about music in Chapel and gave a wonderful organ recital. Garden heritage specialist and consultants, Michael and Beverley Lear, led three tours of the gardens and set up an exhibition detailing the history of the gardens over the centuries, including a map showing the trees tagged by planting period. Visitors were treated to a visit to the historic 17<sup>th</sup>-century mulberry tree in the President's garden, still in leaf and with fruit again this year, and saw the fastest-growing tree, a Wellingtonia near Garden Quad that is currently growing at 8.5cm girth per year.

An exhibition in Canterbury Quadrangle showcased Inspire, our outreach programme. As the programme is now the largest in Oxford, with 60k pupil contact hours,

1,096 Inspire Critical Thinking pupils, 1,927 pupils visiting on access and primary school visit days and 4k pupils reached through Open Days, there was a lot to tell people about! Professor Hannah Skoda presented an exhibition on 14<sup>th</sup>-century nostalgias, her current research project, with members of College also offering their own longings for the 'good old days', from *Bunty* and *Jackie* annuals to Edinburgh trams and the big red barns of Wisconsin. And, of course, the Laudian Vestments were also open to visit.

Feedback from visitors was overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to the staff, students, and friends of the College who helped make the day such a success.



# Sustainability: front and centre at St John's

Iris Burke, Bursary Manager, reports on the College's progress towards Net Zero and the latest developments in the College's Masterplan.

St John's recognises that climate change is one of the most critical issues facing society. We have an important part to play in tackling the impending dangers of climate change and biodiversity loss, and are committed to ensuring that environmental sustainability is at the centre of our day-to-day operations and activities and how we manage our buildings and holdings.

The College's Sustainability Working Group was set up in early 2022 and was tasked with taking forward the development of an environmental sustainability plan. Its membership comprises representatives from across the College community, including the President, Principal Bursar, academic and professional staff, students, and the College's subsidiary company Thomas White Oxford (responsible for the Oxford North development). The group is chaired by alumna Briony Fitzsimons (2001 Biological Sciences), an expert in sustainability strategy and policy.

As an initial step, the group considered key areas of College operations and activities to identify where and how we can act to reduce our carbon footprint, increase biodiversity and set targets. The work was informed by the Masterplan consultants, our land agents Savills, the University's environmental sustainability strategy, a biodiversity audit of the College gardens, and the College's own baseline assessment of its carbon footprint using 2018/19 data.

The resulting environmental sustainability plan was agreed by Governing Body in early 2023. It focuses on ten areas to reduce emissions with the aim of achieving net zero as soon as possible, but by 2040 at the latest, and of contributing to thought leadership.

#### **In terms of its own operations the College has committed to:**

1. Reduce our carbon emissions from College buildings by adopting an ambitious programme emerging from the Masterplan that considers a combination of fabric improvements and greater use of self-generated renewable energy. The phasing and costings for the various elements of the Masterplan are currently being detailed and will be considered by the new Masterplan working group with the aim to make recommendations to Governing Body by early 2024.
2. Reduce the amount of waste we generate and maximise recycling.
3. Reduce emissions related to travel.
4. Increase the use of sustainable food in College.
5. Increase sustainable resource use in procuring goods and services.
6. Increase overall biodiversity on the College site and at Bagley Wood.



**For operations where the College is in a position to have an influence, it:**

7. Has agreed a responsible investment policy for College equity holdings, which requires an annual screening of asset classes and an annual report by our investment managers on their ESG activities.
8. Has developed through its subsidiary Thomas White Oxford a comprehensive ESG approach for the major Oxford North development and has ensured environmental sustainability principles are a key part of each development and contractual commitments are fulfilled by developers.
9. Is working with our land agents and tenant farmers to reduce the carbon footprint and increase biodiversity of commercial properties and landholdings.

Finally, as an institution committed to research excellence, we are providing funding to foster research and increase engagement on environmental, net zero and biodiversity gain initiatives of our academic community with the public and private sector.

The work of the group has also contributed to increased communications around sustainability and has raised awareness on environmental initiatives. A recycling campaign was undertaken and the College joined *Green Impact*, which is linked to the UN's sustainability goals. *Green Impact* provides additional means of engagement for staff and students by supporting the sharing of ideas and best practice. The College achieved Bronze status in the summer and is working towards Silver accreditation.

The Working Group will be focusing next on collecting updated data on carbon emissions from College operations and the property investment portfolio. We will be commissioning another College carbon baseline survey using 2022/23 data to monitor progress compared to 2018/19. The results will feed into updates to the environmental sustainability plan, as will further outputs and priorities emerging from the Masterplan. All this will help us to set meaningful and realistic targets on our pathway to net-zero. We are particularly grateful for the time and expertise that Briony Fitzsimons continues to give to the working group.

Please take a look at the Environmental Sustainability page on our website to find out more about the group's work and ongoing activities.



**We are committed to ensuring that environmental sustainability is at the centre of our day-to-day operations and activities and how we manage our buildings and holdings.**

# Oxford North: developing at pace

The Principal Bursar reports on the latest developments at Oxford North.

In the last two years, Oxford North has seen an incredible amount of progress. The global innovation district is part of a £700 million investment into the area and will create a new and sustainable community in the north of Oxford to work, live, learn and socialise. As Oxford's largest development project, Oxford North is delivering one million sq ft (92,903 sq m) of laboratory and workspaces to enable and boost discovery, along with 480 new homes, hotel, nursery, cafes, bars, three public parks and infrastructure.

Since August 2021, the College's development company, Thomas White Oxford, with JV partners Cadillac Fairview and Stanhope, and with residential development partner Hill Group, have been on-site with their construction partners delivering enabling

infrastructure works that are nearing completion. Now the first two public parks, laboratories, workspaces and new homes can be seen rising out from the ground.

The first phase comprises the Red Hall which will deliver large co-working areas, meeting and workspaces for science and innovation start-ups and SMEs, along with a café and bar, retail units and community space, and two major lab buildings. Also included in the first phase is a market square and central park that will form the new district's community and cultural centre and be open to the wider local community. Practical completion for the first phase is targeted in the first quarter of 2025.

Oxford City Council has just approved the appearance and layout for buildings and landscaping of the next development phase: three prestigious laboratory and





office buildings totalling 458,100 sq ft (42,557 sq m). As the whole development is aiming for high sustainable-led design, all three buildings will target BREEAM Excellent certification, the world's leading science-based method of assessing, rating, and certifying the sustainability of buildings. The buildings will have 100% electric heating and cooling, efficient lighting, high levels of fabric performance, and optimised ventilation to incorporate heat recovery and solar PV technology. This will achieve a minimum 40% reduction in carbon emissions compared with 2021 Building Regulations.

As part of the development's sustainable travel strategy dedicated and secure bicycle parking will be built. Detailed plans for a landmark cycle pavilion have been submitted to Oxford City Council, which will have 191 secure long-stay cycle spaces alongside short-stay spaces for public use and a bike repair station. Eventually the site will offer around 670 bicycle parking spaces.

On the residential development, the Hill Group is delivering the first 317 new homes and has recently signed an agreement with Oxford City Council and its

housing company OX Place to deliver 111 affordable new homes. The new homes will be launching in the first quarter of 2024.

Oxford North has continued to provide a significant stimulus for the local economy and employment market to create opportunities for local people. An ambitious new Community Employment Plan has recently been published which sets out how the project will maximise the opportunities created for local people and businesses during the next 18 months of construction.

Deliverables have been agreed and include a minimum 15% local Oxfordshire employment, fifty-five apprenticeships, thirty-seven work experience opportunities, 680 hours of volunteering, career events, school engagement and site tours.


A dedicated Jobs webpage has been launched that showcases what roles are available (ranging from managerial to skilled trade roles) and allows people to submit their CVs for future consideration. The project collaborates through its Social Value Steering Group, which meets quarterly and includes representatives from the City Council, Department for Work and Pensions, Jobcentre Plus, and local further education institutions, to establish a local resident talent pool linked to the job opportunities created. Since infrastructure enabling works started in August 2021, 448 jobs have been created of which 22% of people live in Oxfordshire. The project has also enabled eight new apprenticeships so far.

The College is pleased to see that the project is benefitting local people through employment opportunities and helps boosting economic activity and improved infrastructure in the area.

Find out more about the project at [www.oxfordnorth.com](http://www.oxfordnorth.com).



***Oxford North has continued to provide a significant stimulus for the local economy and employment market to create opportunities for local people.***



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.

# Arrivals

## Honorary Fellows

In March 2023, the College elected five new Honorary Fellows. They are notable for their distinction and we are delighted to welcome them back to College.

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### PROFESSOR DAVID EDGERTON FBA

Professor David Edgerton (1977, Chemistry) graduated from St John's in Chemistry and from Imperial College London in History. From 1984 he taught first the economics, and then the history, of science and technology in the University of Manchester. In 1993 he became the founding director of the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at Imperial College London (1993–2003) where he became Hans Rausing Professor of the History of Science and Technology in 2002. He led the Centre to its new home in King's College in 2013, where he is Hans Rausing Professor of the History of Science and Technology and Professor of Modern British History. He also co-directed the Sir Michael Howard Centre for the History of War.

Professor Edgerton has worked mainly in two areas, the history of science and technology and twentieth-century British history. Perhaps his best-known books are *Warfare State: Britain 1920–1970* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), *The Shock of the Old: Technology and Global History since 1900* (Profile 2007, 2019) and *The Rise and Fall of the British Nation: A Twentieth-Century History* (Penguin, 2019). He has also written on the history and political economy of research policy and been engaged in discussion on contemporary research policy with parliament, government departments and learned societies. He is a regular contributor to the press, especially the *Guardian* and the *New Statesman*, mainly on current politics.

Professor Edgerton was a Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellow, 2006–9, and gave the 2009 Wilkins–Bernal–Medawar Prize Lecture at the Royal Society in 2009. He is a member of the Council of the Architectural Association and has chaired the judges of the Orwell Prize for Political Writing. He is a Fellow of the British Academy.

*'The delightful and unexpected honour of becoming an honorary fellow naturally got me thinking about my time in St John's, now more than forty years ago, as well as relishing reconnecting with it. For me St John's was a place of possibility especially so since at the time (1977–1981) there was a strong sense that many sorts of future were open. What they might be we did not of course know, but our guesses probably turned out more wrong than they usually do. I studied chemistry, with*



*little enthusiasm except for synthetic organic chemistry with George Fleet, but I could spend lots of time reading history and politics and spend a whole year doing historical research. So although it was very unlikely that I would become a professional historian, it turned not to be impossible, and I have St John's and George to thank for that. I remember how much I appreciated, as someone on a full grant, that the President, Sir Richard Southern, would not allow students (it was said) to serve in the college bar because he did not want to have poor students serving the rich ones as had happened when he was a student. Little did we expect the new age of inequality that was coming. Nor did we expect the transformation in communications of recent decades. That said I never forgot that in the lunch queue one day Stephen Wolfram casually mentioned that he had spent the night talking to friends in California by computer. In 1977 this made no sense, but looking back it seemed likely he was wired into early foundational elements of the internet. All this is a reminder that good historians are the true experts on the future: we know we can't know what it will bring.'*

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## PROFESSOR JUDY HIRST FRS FMedSci



Professor Judy Hirst (1990, Chemistry) is a physical chemist who combines structural, biochemical and chemical techniques to pioneer studies of energy conversion in complex redox enzymes, and is known particularly for her work on mammalian respiratory complex I, an energy-transducing, mitochondrial redox enzyme of fundamental and medical importance, and for solving its structure by electron cryomicroscopy.

Judy was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 2018 and Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2019.

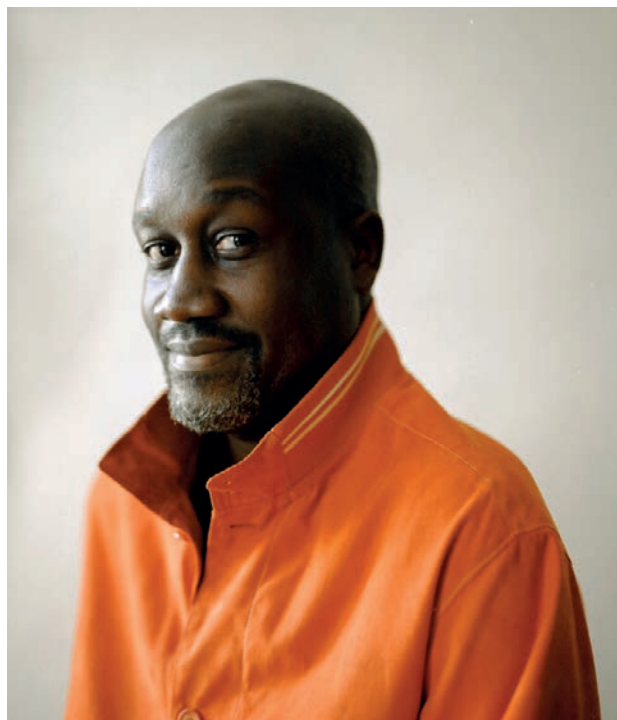
She is Director of the Medical Research Council Mitochondrial Biology Unit and Professor of Biological Chemistry, University of Cambridge and is also a Fellow and Director of Studies for Chemistry at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

*'I am delighted and honoured to have been elected as an Honorary Fellow at St John's, an institution and community that remains close to my heart, where the foundations for my future academic career and path through life were built. I arrived at St John's in 1990 from a state school in Huddersfield in West Yorkshire. I found it exciting, challenging – and intimidating – and it took me time to adjust and to feel I belonged. But I loved my subject, the teaching was inspirational, and once I found my feet and my friendship group, I started to fly. My experiences at this time led to my long-standing commitment to widening participation and equal opportunities in education, which*

*continues in my work in Cambridge. At St John's, my education in chemistry was superb, combining intellectual rigour with a firm foundation in physical principles. I remember revising for finals by starting with quantum mechanics then working my way up through chemistry of increasing complexity, and have applied the same approach to my research: tackling one of the most complicated molecular machines in biology I return time and again to check my proposals against the fundamental principles I learnt at the start. Finally, I am increasingly concerned about climate change, and am working on increasing sustainability in biomedical research, as well as in my Cambridge college. I am very much looking forward to renewing my relationship with St John's, through interactions and collaborations of common interest in which I can use my skills and experience to give something back to the College that has given me so much.'*

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## MR MUSA OKWONGA FRSL



Musa Okwonga (1998, Jurisprudence) is an award-winning author and the co-host of the Stadio football podcast. A Fellow of the Royal Society Literature, after studying Jurisprudence at St John's, he then qualified as a lawyer before leaving that profession to pursue a career as a performance poet and musician.

Musa now writes fiction and non-fiction for children and adults on the subjects of politics, sport, race, music and culture. He has written seven books, the most recent of which, *Striking Out*, was named the 2022 Sunday

Times Children's Sports Book of the Year. His writing has been published by, among others, *British GQ*, *Byline Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Economist*, *The Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, *The New Statesman*, *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*. He lives in Berlin.

*'Recently I made my first visit to Oxford in years. As I got off the train and crossed the railway bridge, I immediately felt at home, which surprised me after so long away. Later, at lunch in College, I ended up staying in the dining hall for two and a half hours – not because I am a slow eater, but because each time I tried to get up to leave someone interesting sat down next to me, someone who was teaching or pursuing some form of research to the highest possible level. It was one of the most memorable meals I have had in a long while and reminded me of something which was remarkable about St John's – the inspiring conversations that pushed my intellect in ways that I could never have imagined, and the community of curious minds that made these exchanges possible.'*

*I am immensely grateful to the Governing Body for electing me as an Honorary Fellow. This is a place whose tutors – particularly Professor Mark Freedland – and students have given me so much, and so to be recognised like this is moving beyond words. Though I live in Germany now I will be sure to come and visit more often. When I do, I hope that I will have helpful things to say about how to make a career as an artist, and about how people at St John's can make even more of their very special time there.'*

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#### **PROFESSOR SIR STEPHEN POWIS MBA PHD FRCP SFFMLM HON FRCP(G) HON MFPH**

Sir Stephen Powis (1982, Medicine) is the National Medical Director of NHS England, a position he has held since January 2018. In this role he is the most senior doctor within the National Health Service in England.

Prior to his current role Sir Stephen was Medical Director (and latterly Group Chief Medical Officer) of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. He held the Moorhead Chair of Renal Medicine at University College London from 1997 to 2017. His research interests include the human major histocompatibility system, transplant biology and the genetics of membranous nephropathy. Upon leaving UCL he became an Honorary Professor.

Sir Stephen is executive lead for the NHS national cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, stroke and prevention programmes. He is the senior responsible officer in England for the human health workstream of the UK government's antimicrobial resistance strategy. At the request of the Prime Minister, he has undertaken a review of the core publicly reported English NHS clinical access standards. He led a review of transplant services, again at the request of the Secretary of State for Health



and Social Care. Sir Stephen co-chairs the National Quality Board with the Chief Inspector of Hospitals.

Sir Stephen played a key role in the NHS response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He was a member of the Scientific Advisory Group on Emergencies (SAGE) and advised senior ministers within HM Government throughout the pandemic. He is the NHS England national director responsible for the deployment of Covid antiviral therapeutics. He appeared at over thirty live Downing Street press briefings. Sir Stephen was knighted in the 2022 Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to the NHS, particularly during Covid-19.

*'I consider it a huge honour and privilege to become an Honorary Fellow of the College.'*

*I studied clinical medicine at St John's between 1982 and 1985 and have very fond memories of my time in College. Since then, I have kept in regular touch through the alumni network and have been delighted to see how St John's continues to thrive, providing such a wonderful environment for students. A key component of that support is the superb accommodation the College offers – in my day Tommy White (where I lived for my first year) was the latest and greatest, but of course since then the Garden and Kendrew Quads have been magnificent additions.*

*I come back to College as often as I can. A real highlight in recent years has been attending the Torrance Society of clinical students – not least because Bob Torrance was my tutor when I studied in College. It was a huge honour to be asked to deliver a lecture at last October's meeting focusing on the Covid pandemic and my own role in the UK response.*

*As an Honorary Fellow I'm looking forward to getting even more involved in College life, visiting more frequently, and supporting the President and Governing Body in whatever ways they find useful.'*



Professor Salim Yusuf (1976, DPhil Clinical Medicine) is Distinguished University Professor of Medicine, McMaster University and Executive Director, Population Health Research Institute. He holds a Heart and Stroke Foundation Research Chair and was a Senior Scientist of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (1999–2004).

Professor Yusuf's work has advanced the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases around the world and has pioneered and demonstrated the value of

dual antithrombotic therapies, ACE-inhibitors and the polypill to reduce CVD substantially around the world.

He has received the Lifetime Research Achievement award of the World Heart Federation, the Paul Wood Silver Medal of the British Cardiac Society, the European Society of Cardiology gold medal, the American Heart Association Clinical Research Award, the Canada Gairdner-Wightman Prize, the McLaughlin medal of the Royal Society of Canada, the Killam Prize of the Canada Council of Arts and over eighty other international and national awards for research. He has also been inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada. He has been conferred four honorary doctorates.

Professor Yusuf has led over fifty major international studies in over 100 countries and several of these have changed medical practice. He has published over 1200 articles in refereed journals, was the second most cited researcher in the world for 2011, the highest cited researcher in cardiology over several years and has the 17th-highest H factor in history.

He is a Past President of the World Heart Federation, where he initiated the Emerging Leaders program (now named after him) to build capacity for implementation and policy research in all continents of the world, with the aim of halving the CVD burden globally within a generation.

*'My time at St John's and Oxford was one of the highlights of my career, and I am grateful for the rich experiences. I am honoured to accept being an Honorary Fellow of the College, and look forward to visiting the College periodically and spending a few days interacting with colleagues and students.'*





## Governing Body

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### PROFESSOR RANJIT LALL

Ranjit Lall joined St John's in October 2022 as Tutorial Fellow in Politics from the London School of Economics where he was Assistant Professor in International Political Economy. Professor Lall read PPE at Oxford and received his PhD in Government from Harvard University. Before beginning his graduate studies, he worked as an economist at the Bank of England and as an editorial writer at the *Financial Times*. Professor Lall's recent work seeks to understand why some international institutions perform better than others.



### PROFESSOR ROBERT HOYE

Robert Hoye is Tutorial Fellow in Chemistry and joined St John's from Imperial College where he had been a lecturer since 2020. He completed his PhD at the University of Cambridge in 2014, followed by a postdoc at MIT and two independent Research Fellowships at Magdalene College and then Downing



College in Cambridge. Professor Hoye has won many awards including being named Young Engineer of the Year by the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2018 and receiving the Imperial President's Award for Outstanding Early Career Researcher in 2021. His research focuses on developing a new generation of energy materials that can tolerate defects to achieve efficient performance when grown by cost-effective, scalable synthetic approaches.

### PROFESSOR LAURENCE HUNT

Laurence Hunt is Tutorial Fellow in Psychology. Professor Hunt read pre-clinical Medicine at Cambridge before his DPhil in Neuroscience at Wadham College. After a Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship at University College London, he returned to Oxford with a Sir Henry Dale Fellowship in 2018. His research addresses the cognitive and neural mechanisms by which human make decisions. Professor Hunt was awarded the FENS EJNI Young Investigator Award 2020 in recognition of his outstanding scientific contributions to an area of neuroscience.



**Professor K. J. Patel FRS**, Supernumerary Fellow, was also elected to Governing Body in 2022.

## Supernumerary Teaching Fellow

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### PROFESSOR CRAIG MACLEAN

Craig MacLean is Professor of Evolution and Microbiology and Supernumerary Teaching Fellow in Biology. His research is focused on understanding the fundamental evolutionary processes that drive the spread and maintenance of antibiotic resistance in pathogenic bacteria.



John Cairns

## Supernumerary Fellows

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### DR LUCY FOULKES

Lucy Foulkes is an academic psychologist and a Prudence Trust Research Fellow in the Department of Experimental Psychology. She conducts research about mental health and social development in adolescence, with a particular focus on the possible negative consequences of increased public mental health awareness and school-based mental health interventions. Dr Foulkes also holds part-time posts as a Senior Research Fellow at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families and as an Honorary Lecturer in Psychology at UCL.



### JOHN FULLJAMES

John Fulljames is Director of the Humanities Cultural Programme (HCP) at the University of Oxford. The HCP will bring to life state-of-the-art performance and cultural venues in the future Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities, including a 500-seat concert hall, a 250-seat theatre and a 100-seat 'Black Box' space for experimental performance. The building will open in 2025. John read Natural Sciences at Christ's College, Cambridge and over the past twenty years has been a creative director in leading arts organisations. He was Associate Director of Opera at the Royal Opera from 2011–17 and, until 2022, he was Director of the Royal Danish Opera and the Royal Danish Orchestra, directing performances across seven stages and three buildings, as well as a large outdoor summer stage, and with responsibility for artistic and general leadership of the company.



## Research Fellows

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### DR SEUNGHOO CHAE

Seunghoon Chae is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in Politics. His research seeks to understand how state capacity (specifically the state's ability to detect and punish non-compliance) may influence the effectiveness of social distancing measures in a pandemic. He is also interested in state capacity's role during conflict. He was a DPhil student at Nuffield College.



### DR ALEXANDER WEIDE

Alexander Weide is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, focusing on socioeconomic and ecological interactions during the Neolithic transition in southwest Asia. He completed a PhD in Archaeobotany at the Eberhard Karls University Tübingen in 2018 before coming to the School of Archaeology in Oxford with a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship.



### DR TERESA WITCOMBE

Teresa Witcome is a British Academy Postdoctoral Research Fellow in History. She completed her BA in History at St John's, her MA in Paris, and her PhD at the University of Exeter. Dr Witcome's research focuses on the religious, cultural, and intellectual history of the Iberian Peninsula in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Her current project looks at the movement of people – specifically slaves and captives of war – between Muslim and Christian societies over those centuries.



## Junior Research Fellows

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### DR ALEXANDRA GRIEVE

Alexandra Grieve is Junior Research Fellow in Modern Languages. After undergraduate studies at the University of Cape Town, Dr Grieve received an MPhil in Film and Screen Studies from the University of Cambridge and continued to a PhD in the same area, funded by a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. Her research interests are situated across disciplines and include filmmaking in Africa and its diasporas, global postcolonial cinemas, women's filmmaking, cinematic embodiment and material culture.



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### DR PRIYA URS

Priya Urs is Junior Research Fellow in Law. She is an international lawyer with a PhD from University College London (2021), a Master of Law from the University of Cambridge (2014), and a Bachelor of Arts and Law from the National Law School of India University (2013). Her previous positions include a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, Blavatnik School of Government (2021–22) and a Research Fellowship at the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law (2014–17). Dr Urs's research interests span across public international law and, in addition to general aspects, include international criminal law, the law on the use of force, and international dispute settlement.



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### DR AUGUSTE VADISIUTE

Auguste Vadisiute is Junior Research Fellow in Neuroscience. She has a BSc in Medical Genetics and an MSC in Neurobiology. Her DPhil in the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics at Oxford examined the role of microglia in activity-dependent neuronal network maturation and maintenance.

Dr Vadisiute's current research focuses on the role of the immune system during brain development, specifically the role of microglial cells interaction with developing neuronal network in sex-specific manner and their involvement in neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism and schizophrenia.



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### DR DANIEL ZHANG

Daniel Zang is Junior Research Fellow in Mathematics. He is a mathematical physicist working in quantum field theory, the main framework used by physicists to describe nature. In particular, he is interested in the rich cross-fertilisation of ideas between quantum field theory and areas in pure mathematics such as geometry, topology, and representation theory. He was an undergraduate and graduate at Trinity College, Cambridge and for his PhD was based in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, carrying out research on mathematical aspects of quantum field theory.





## Leavers 2023

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.

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### PROFESSOR SIR RORY COLLINS FRS

Professorial Fellow; Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Head of the Nuffield Department of Population Health (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

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### PROFESSOR RICHARD COMPTON

Tutorial Fellow in Chemistry and Aldrichian Praelector in Chemistry (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

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### DR GUY COOPER

Junior Research Fellow in Biology

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### DR SAMUEL DERBYSHIRE

Research Associate

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### MATTHEW FORD

Research Associate

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### DR DARREN GAFFNEY

Junior Research Fellow in Archaeology

---

### SARAH GREER

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow

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### PROFESSOR NICHOLAS HARBERD FRS

Professorial Fellow and Sibthorpean Professor of Plant Sciences (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

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### PROFESSOR CAROLYNE LARRINGTON

Tutorial Fellow in English and Professor of Medieval European Literature (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

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### MS SALLY LAYBURN

Finance Bursar (now Emeritus Fellow)

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### DR OLIVER PADGET

Research Associate

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### PROFESSOR CATHERINE WHISTLER

Supernumerary Fellow in Art History, Professor of the History of European Art and Keeper of Western Art, Ashmolean Museum (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

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### PROFESSOR SIMON WHITTAKER

Tutorial Fellow in Law (now Emeritus Research Fellow)

# The Reading List

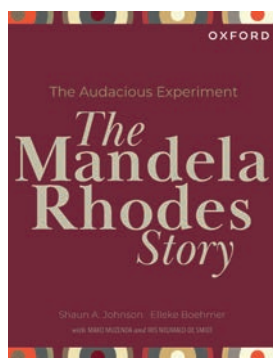
St John's Fellows have been responsible for many publications over the last year, covering a range of diverse subjects. A small sample of their work is included below.

**PROFESSOR ELLEKE BOEHMER**  
**THE AUDACIOUS EXPERIMENT: THE MANDELA RHODES STORY**  
Elleke Boehmer and Shaun Johnson (OUP, 2023)

Tracing the emergence of the 'unlikely idea', this book reveals the reasons for Nelson Mandela's agreement to the partnership with President Frederik de Klerk. It tracks the roles played by influential figures, while bringing to light important contributions made in unrecognised ways – often by women. The Mandela Rhodes Foundation emerges as an eminent African institution developing leaders for the continent's future, born out of an impetus towards redressing historical injustices. The fruition of the Foundation's early promise is conveyed through the stories and reflections of Mandela Rhodes Scholars.

**NELSON MANDELA: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION**  
Elleke Boehmer, 2nd edition (OUP, 2023)

This book outlines the long trajectory regarding on the life of Nelson Mandela. It also considers images, narratives, politics, and more critical revisionist literature on Mandela in an effort to create the iconic image of Mandela. Mandela's life greatly coincides with the historical and political context of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and the post-apartheid



period of difficult reconciliation. The book features the character and achievements of Mandela through the perspective of his influences, interests, and leading ideas. It explores the literature responding to Mandela's death in 2013 and the subsequent legacy he left behind.

**DR JOSEF BORONSKI**

Dr Boronski has published two major articles this year, both highlighted in many journals, including the *New Scientist*: J. T. Boronski *et al.*, 'Diberyllocene, a stable compound of Be(I) with a Be–Be bond', *Science*, 2023 and J. T. Boronski *et al.*, 'Inducing Nucleophilic Reactivity at Beryllium with an Aluminyl Ligand', *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 2023.

**PROFESSOR PETER BURKE**  
**IGNORANCE: A GLOBAL HISTORY**  
Peter Burke (Yale University Press, 2023)

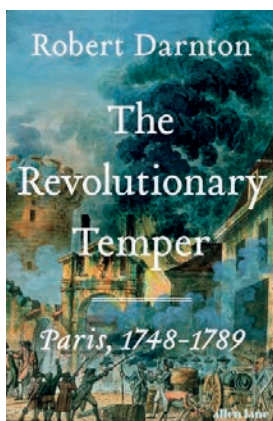
Throughout history, every age has thought of itself as more knowledgeable than the last. Renaissance humanists viewed the Middle Ages as an era of darkness, Enlightenment thinkers tried to sweep superstition away with reason, the modern welfare state sought to slay the 'giant' of ignorance, and in today's hyperconnected world seemingly limitless information is available on demand. But what about the knowledge lost over the centuries? Are we really any less ignorant than our ancestors?

Peter Burke examines the long history of humanity's ignorance across religion and science, war and politics, business and catastrophes. Burke reveals remarkable stories of the many forms of ignorance – genuine or



feigned, conscious and unconscious – from the wilful politicians who redrew Europe's borders in 1919 to the politics of whistleblowing and climate change denial. The result is a lively exploration of human knowledge across the ages, and the importance of recognizing its limits.

**PROFESSOR ROBERT DARNTON**  
*THE REVOLUTIONARY TEMPER, PARIS, 1748–1789*  
Robert Darnton (Penguin, 2023)



To understand the rise of what he calls ‘the revolutionary temper’, Robert Darnton draws on a lifetime’s study of pamphlets, books, underground newsletters, songs, and public performances, exploring Paris as an information society not unlike our own. Its news circuits were centred in cafes and market-places, on park benches, and under the Palais-Royal’s Tree of Cracow, a favourite gathering-place for gossips. He shows how the events of forty years – from disastrous treaties, official corruption and royal scandal to thrilling hot-air balloon ascents and a new conception of the nation – all entered the collective consciousness of ordinary Parisians. As news and opinion travelled across this profoundly unequal society, public trust in royal authority eroded, its legitimacy was undermined, and the social order unravelled.

**PROFESSOR ROBERT HOYE**

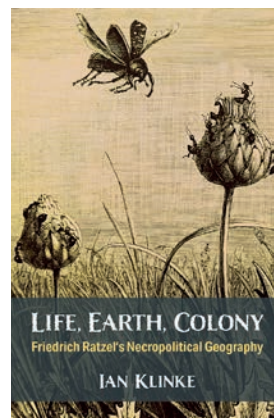
Significant publications this year included:

‘Layered BiOI single crystals capable of detecting low dose rates of X-rays’, R. A. Jagt,† I. Bravić,† L. Eyre, K. Gałkowski, J. Borowiec, K. R. Dudipala, M. Baranowski, M. Dyksik, T. van de Goor, T. Kreouzis, M. Xiao, A. Bevan, P. Płochocka, S. D. Stranks, F. Deschler, B. Monserrat,\* J. L. MacManus-Driscoll,\* R. L. Z. Hoye\*, *Nature Communications*, 2023, 14, 2452. This article was featured in press releases from Oxford, Cambridge and *Chemistry World*.

‘Development of Nanopackaging for Storage and Transport of Loaded Lipid Nanoparticles’, A. Kaur, D. Darvill, S. Xiang, J. Y. Y. Heng,\* P. K. Petrov,\* R. L. Z. Hoye,\* R. Chen\*, *Nano Letters*, 2023, Article ASAP.

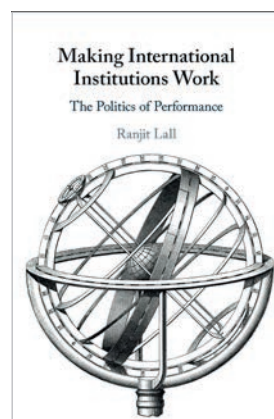
‘Preventing Lead Release from Perovskites’, Robert L. Z. Hoye, *Nature Sustainability*, 2023.

**PROFESSOR IAN KLINKE**  
*LIFE, EARTH, COLONY: FRIEDRICH RATZEL'S NECROPOLITICAL GEOGRAPHY*  
Ian Klinke (University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, 2023)



*Life, Earth, Colony* explores the ideas, life, and historical significance of German zoologist turned geographer Friedrich Ratzel (1844–1904), famous for developing the foundations of geopolitical thought. Ratzel produced a remarkable body of work that revolutionised the study of space, movement, colonization, and war. He also served as a source of intellectual inspiration for national socialism, particularly through his *Lebensraum* (living space) concept, which understood all life as being caught in an eternal struggle for space. This book closely analyses this radical conservative intellectual, focusing on his often-overlooked ethnography, biogeography, travel, and creative writing, and colonial activism as well as his more widely known political geography. *Life, Earth, Colony* finds that there is an as yet unexplored necropolitical impulse at the heart of Ratzel’s entire oeuvre, a preoccupation with death and dying, which had a profound impact on twentieth-century history.

**PROFESSOR RANJIT LALL**  
*MAKING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WORK*  
Ranjit Lall, (CUP, 2023)



International institutions are essential for tackling many of the most urgent challenges facing the world, from pandemics to humanitarian crises, yet we know little about when they succeed, when they fail, and why. This book proposes a new theory of institutional performance and tests it using a diverse array of sources, including the most comprehensive dataset on the topic. Challenging popular characterisations of international institutions as ‘runaway bureaucracies’, Ranjit Lall argues that the most serious threat to performance comes from the pursuit of narrow political interests by states – paradoxically, the same actors who create and give purpose to institutions. The discreet operational processes

through which international bureaucrats cultivate and sustain autonomy vis-à-vis governments, he contends, are critical to making institutions ‘work’. The findings enhance our understanding of international cooperation, public goods, and organisational behaviour while offering practical lessons to policymakers, NGOs, businesses, and citizens interested in improving institutional effectiveness.

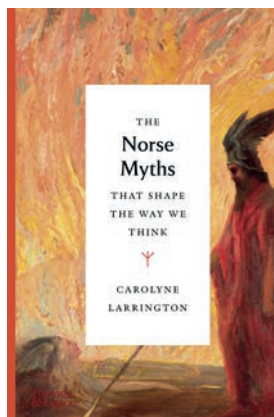
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**PROFESSOR CAROLYNE LARRINGTON**

**THE NORSE MYTHS THAT SHAPE THE WAY WE THINK**

Carolyn Larrington  
(Thames and Hudson, 2023)

This original and accessible guide explores how Valhalla and its Valkyries have inspired our cultural landscape, from Wagner to the Marvel Universe. Elegantly written retellings capture the beauty of the original myths, while also delving deeper into the history of their meanings, offering the reader an intelligent and up-to-date take on these powerful stories.



A ruggedly handsome blond man swings his huge hammer. Gaunt-faced figures with icicle crowns and frost-rimmed cheekbones march from the north through an endless winter. These strange supernatural figures might sound familiar – and also like creatures of myth and legend. Yet they have not stepped straight off the vellum of ancient manuscripts. Rather, these compelling characters are contemporary reimaginings of mythic figures from Old Norse mythology. All speak to our contemporary hopes and fears, bridging the gap between a vanished medieval past and a vibrant, living present.

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**PROFESSOR JANE LIGHTFOOT**

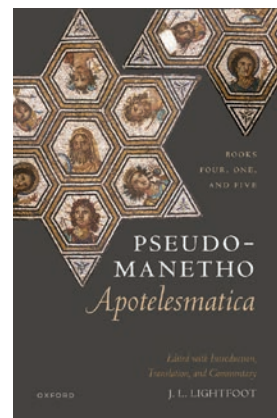
**PSEUDO-MANETHO, APOTELESMATICA, BOOKS FOUR, ONE, AND FIVE:**

Jane Lightfoot, edited with Introduction, Translation, and Commentary (Oxford, 2023)

The corpus of astrological material ascribed to the Egyptian priest Manetho consists of six books of poetry. This book serves as the companion to the one published by OUP in 2020, which was the first commentary in any language on the earliest three books of Manetho’s poetry (two, three, and six as they appear in the manuscript). This volume supplies the

remainder (books four, one, and five).

Manetho was credited with a series of didactic poems which list outcomes for planetary set-ups in a birth chart. The books covered in this volume are not as easily dated as those in the first volume, but the most recent is probably no later than the fourth century and they are still Egyptian. As in the first volume, their descriptions of the kinds of person who are born under happy and unhappy configurations of stars speak to the lived realities, aspirations, and fears of the astrologer’s clientele. Unlike in the first volume, however, the individual books treated here have different authors, and there is more emphasis on profiling individual poets in terms of style, metre, and mannerisms. As in the first volume, there is a Greek text with English translation and an apparatus with parallel material to enable comparison with related works. But this volume pays more attention to the transmission of traditional material from one author to another, and to the special approach required of an editor of material which, being in practical use, circulated in unstable and minutely-varying textual forms.



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**PROFESSOR ZOLTÁN MOLNÁR**

The Hungarian translation of *Body, Brain, Behavior* (2022) was published this year.

Articles published over the past year include:

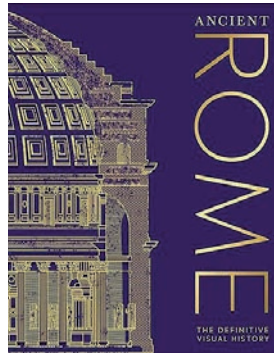
‘Temporal origin of mouse claustrum and development of its cortical projections’, A. Hoerder-Suabedissen, G. Ocana-Santero, T. H. Draper, S. A. Scott, Sophie A. Scott, Jesse G. Kimani, Andrew M. Shelton, Simon J. B. Butt, Zoltán Molnár, Adam M. Packer, *Cerebral Cortex* 33 (7), 3944–3959

‘Characterization of a Bioactive Peptide T14 in the Human and Rodent Substantia Nigra: Implications for Neurodegenerative Disease’, S. A. Greenfield, G. Ferrati, C. W. Coen, A. Vadisiute, Z. Molnár, S. Garcia-Rates, Sally Frautschy, Gregory M. Cole, *International Journal of Molecular Sciences* 23 (21), 13119.

**DR MATTHEW NICHOLLS**

**ANCIENT ROME**

Matthew Nicholls, Consultant Editor (with Dr Matthew Sillett), and author of several chapters (DK, 2023)

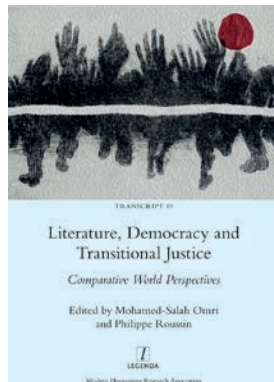


Covering more than 1,000 years of history, and an empire that stretched from Scotland to Syria, Ancient Rome reveals in vivid detail all of the key political, cultural, and military events that shaped the Roman Empire and explores what it was like to live in a society that laid the foundations for many aspects of the modern world. Sumptuous photography and engaging text cover every facet of life in ancient Rome, from art, entertainment, and fashion to engineering, medicine, and war, while detailed maps trace the rise of the mighty Roman Empire.

**PROFESSOR MOHAMED-SALAH OMRI**

**LITERATURE, DEMOCRACY AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE: COMPARATIVE WORLD PERSPECTIVES**

Mohamed-Salah Omri and Philippe Roussin, co-editors (Legenda, 2022)



When a society emerges from authoritarian rule, and the State no longer claims a monopoly on the truth, writing becomes essential – in representing rights, calling for justice, staking claims and counter-claims over what has happened, testifying to abuse, directing collective memory, or simply resisting amnesia. Such writing is a key element of Transitional Justice, whose juridical and historical origins lie in the Nuremberg trials of 1945–46, and which has since become increasingly important in former colonies and emerging democracies. Truth and reconciliation commissions are now able to hear narrative evidence of a kind which no court would previously have considered.

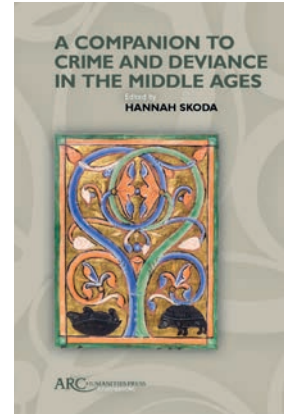
This multi-disciplinary collection of essays focuses on the comparative study of literatures and testimonies written in the wake of violence and on their role in the aftermath of conflict. Scholars from the fields of literary studies, history, art, politics and philosophy engage with each other, and with case studies ranging across the world: from Algeria, Argentina, Colombia, Portugal,

Rwanda, Spain, South Africa, Syria, Tunisia, Taiwan and the former Yugoslavia.

**PROFESSOR HANNAH SKODA**

**A COMPANION TO CRIME AND DEVIANCE IN THE MIDDLE AGES**

Hannah Skoda, editor (Arc Humanities Press, 2023)

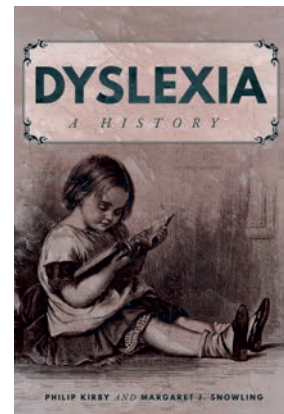


This reference work examines the ways in which some medieval behaviours and identities were categorised as criminal or deviant. It also explores the implications of modern demonization of the Middle Ages. As well as discussing constructions of deviance, this book also explores the behaviours and identities which provoked these labels and processes. The model is one of reciprocity between behaviours and processes of demonisation and criminalisation. Each authoritative essay engages carefully with this approach, examining behaviours, the ways they were demonised, and the relationship between the two processes. The three parts of the volume are centred around forms of discursive and normative power – religious ideologies, political ideologies, and legalism. The authors also explore issues of political discourse, spiritual censure, justice and punishment, and the construction of taboos.

**PROFESSOR MAGGIE SNOWLING**

**DYSLEXIA: A HISTORY**

Philip Kirby and Maggie Snowling (McGill-Queens, 2022)



In 1896 the British physician William Pringle Morgan published an account of 'Percy', a 'bright and intelligent boy, quick at games, and in no way inferior to others of his age'. Yet, in spite of his intelligence, Percy had great difficulty learning to read.

Percy was one of the first children to be described as having word-blindness, better known today as dyslexia. In this first comprehensive history of dyslexia the authors chart a journey that begins with Victorian medicine and continues to dyslexia's current status as



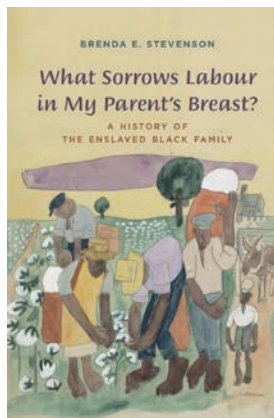
the most globally recognised specific learning difficulty. Kirby and Snowling tell the story of dyslexia, examining its origins and revealing the many scientists, teachers, and campaigners who put it on the map. Through this history they explain current debates over the diagnosis of dyslexia and its impact on learning.

**PROFESSOR BRENDA STEVENSON**

**WHAT SORROWS LABOUR IN MY PARENT'S BREAST? A HISTORY OF THE ENSLAVED BLACK FAMILY**

Brenda E. Stevenson  
(Rowman and Littlefield, 2023)

This book provides a comprehensive analysis of African and enslaved African American family life from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, concluding, through investigation of the available documentation that, despite the violence and brutality of enslavement, Black families were the often-unacknowledged source of happiness, personal identity, spiritual wellbeing, and a sense of self-worth and purpose. Brenda Stevenson describes the social and economic circumstances that produced the distinctive African-centred cultural beliefs and practices that sustained enslaved African American families,

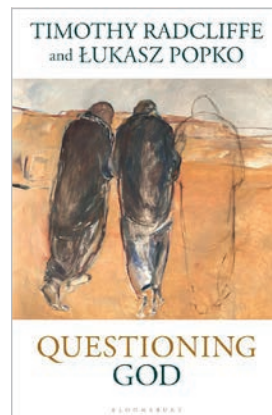


examining family formations, kinship relations, working conditions, courtship and marriage rituals, parenthood, communal activities, and the terrifying impact of the domestic slave trade on the families of the enslaved.

**THE MOST REVD. FATHER TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE**

**QUESTIONING GOD**  
Timothy Radcliffe, co-authored with Lukasz Popko (Bloomsbury, 2023)

This book explores Biblical conversations with God and there is no genuine conversation without true questions. God questions us, from the first conversation of God and humanity in the Bible, where God asks Adam, 'Where are you?', to the Risen Lord's questioning Peter on the beach: 'Do you love me more than these others?' But humanity questions God too, as in the audacious questioning of Jesus by the Samaritan woman at the well. In this process of mutual questioning, humanity is drawn ever deeper into the life of God, the eternal conversation of the Trinity. Insights into these transformative conversations are helpful as the Church questions how to be faithful to God in this uncertain time.



# Senior Members' News

**Professor Dame Sue Black** (President), **Professor Myles Allen** (Honorary Fellow) and **Professor James Maynard** (Supernumerary Fellow) were elected as Fellows of the Royal Society this year.

**Professor Dame Sue Black** was also appointed as Co-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Miscarriages of Justice and, amongst a number of media appearances, recorded an episode of BBC Radio 4's *The Infinite Monkey Cage* with Professor Brian Cox and Robin Ince.

**Professor Elleke Boehmer**, Honorary Fellow, was appointed Extraordinary Professor in the Department of English at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.



**Professor Heather Bouman**, Supernumerary Fellow, was awarded the title of Professor of Biogeochemistry by the University in September.

**Professor Stefan Kiefer**, Tutorial Fellow in Computer Science, was awarded the title Professor of Computer Science by the University in September.



**Dr Josef Boronski**, Junior Research Fellow, was awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry's Dalton Emerging Researcher Prize 2023.

**Professor Sir David Cannadine**, Honorary Fellow, retired as Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University and delivered a valedictory lecture to mark the occasion. He received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Strathclyde and continues as President of the Birmingham and Midland Institute. He is currently making a third and final series on 'Prime Ministers' Props' for BBC Radio 4.

**Dr Marco Cappelletti**, Junior Research Fellow, was awarded the Grand Prize of the International Academy of Comparative Law, also known as the Canada Prize, for his monograph, *Justifying Strict Liability: A Comparative Analysis in Legal Reasoning* (OUP 2022).

**Dr Jane Coons**, Supernumerary Teaching Fellow in Mathematics, won a L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science UK and Ireland Rising Talents Award.

**Professor Richard Ekins**, Tutorial Fellow in Law, was awarded Honorary King's Counsel (KC) in January in recognition of his contribution to the law of England and Wales, outside practice in the courts.

**Dr Chao He**, Junior Research Fellow in Engineering, won a £1m research grant to develop next-generation optical techniques for advanced biomedical imaging.

**Professor Robert Hoye**, Tutorial Fellow in Engineering, received a Wellcome Grant from St John's to develop a new generation of perovskite nanoplatelets for linearly polarised light emission. This can be used for non-invasive imaging through human tissue, as well as for optical communication (e.g., ultrafast internet). He was also named as one of the MIT Technology Review Innovators Under 35 Europe in 2023 for his work on developing sustainable semiconductors.

**Professor Ian Klinke**, Tutorial Fellow in Geography, was awarded a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship.



**Professor Carolyne Larrington**, Tutorial Fellow in English, appeared on BBC R4's *Start the Week* and at the St Magnus Festival in Orkney. She had a Visiting Fellowship funded by DFG at the University of Siegen, Germany in July and retired at the end of September with plans for more research and public engagement in the future, and frequent visits to Iceland.

**Professor Philip Maini**, Professor of Mathematical Biology, was awarded the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications Gold Medal for 2022.

**Catherine Mallyon**, Honorary Fellow, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters by Warwick University in July 2023.

**Professor James Maynard** was awarded a New Horizons Prize for Early-Career Achievement in Mathematics. This is one of the Breakthrough Prizes, the world's largest science awards, and was founded by Sergey Brin, Priscilla Chan, and Mark Zuckerberg.

**Professor Zoltán Molnár**, Tutorial Fellow in Human Anatomy, was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology in 2022 and as Fellow of the Linnean Society of London this year. He is also Einstein Visiting Fellow at Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany until 2024.

**Dr Matthew Nicholls**, Senior Tutor, was elected as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and made a radio documentary with Mary Beard.

**Professor Jan Obloj**, Tutorial Fellow in Mathematics, won the Polish Mathematical Society's 2022 Hugon Steinhaus Award.

**Dr Marc Olivier**, Lecturer in Linguistics, received a John Fell Fund grant for a project entitled 'The Effects of Syntactic Operations on Cognition'. The aim of this pilot study is to understand the scale of the interaction between parameters that dictate rules of syntactic operations in different languages, and the high-level cognitive capacities that speakers of these languages possess.



**Professor Mohamed-Salah Omri**, Tutorial Fellow in Modern Arabic, has led a number of initiatives linking Oxford, and the UK more widely, with Tunisian universities. He organised a high-level visit to St John's by officials from Tunisian Universities, the Minister of Higher Education and the UK ambassador to Tunisia in March 2023. He has subsequently organised three workshops in Tunisia, one for Early Career Academics in the Humanities and Social Sciences from Tunisia and the UK; another on Comparative Literature, a joint workshop with Oxford Comparative Criticism and Translation and Tunisian comparatists with a focus on African literatures; and a third for contributors to his book on Tunisian literatures.

**Professor Jaideep Pandit**, Professor of Anaesthesia and Tutor in Clinical Medicine, was awarded the Gold Medal by the Royal College of Anaesthetists in recognition of his achievements in research, nationally and internationally. He was also appointed Editor-in-Chief of *Anesthesia & Analgesia* and its companion journal, *A&A Practice*. In September, Professor Pandit was awarded the Sir Ivan Magill Gold Medal by the Association of Anaesthetists, becoming the first person ever to receive the highest awards of both the UK's national anaesthesia organisations.

**Professor K J Patel**, Supernumerary Fellow and Director of the Medical Research Council Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine and the Molecular Haematology Unit, was appointed as Chief Scientist at Cancer Research UK.



**Peter Phillips**, Honorary Fellow, and the Tallis Scholars joined Lincoln Cathedral Choir in a joint Evensong on July 4th, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the death of William Byrd, one time Organist of the Cathedral. A plaque was unveiled on the floor of the Quire.

**The Most Revd. Father Timothy Radcliffe**, Honorary Fellow, was invited by Pope Francis to lead a retreat for all 400 participants in the Synod in Rome in October. It is part of what is probably part of the biggest listening exercise in the history of humanity, with over a billion people being consulted, an attempt radically to transform the culture of the Church. He was also made an Honorary Doctor of Divinity by Liverpool Hope University.

**Professor Maggie Snowling**, Emeritus Research Fellow, was elected as a member of the Academia Europea and was a member of the expert panel for the Department for Education's Reading Framework 2023. She also delivered the 2023 Anne Treisman Lecture in the Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford.

**Bernard Taylor**, Honorary Fellow, was appointed CVO, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, in the 2023 New Year Honours.

**Professor Sam Wolfe**, Lecturer in Linguistics, was awarded a prestigious Philip Leverhulme Prize by the Leverhulme Trust to support his research into Romance languages and how they change over time.

**Professor Stuart White**, Tutorial Fellow in Mathematics, has been appointed as Managing Editor of the Journal of the London Mathematical Society from September 2023, a journal that has been publishing leading research across a broad range of mathematics since 1926.

Alex Upton

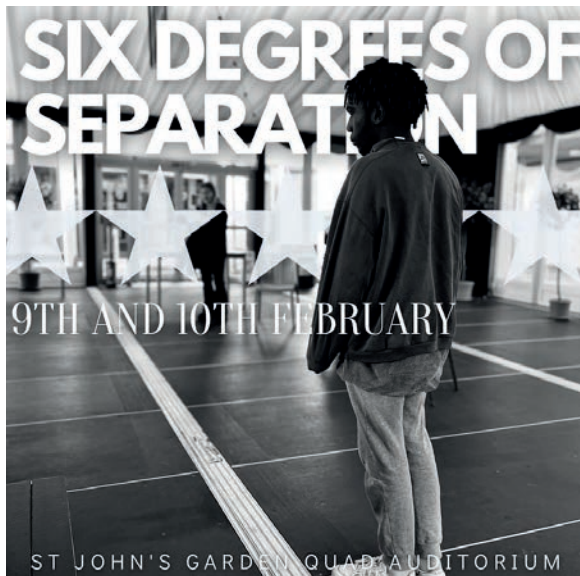


**Professor William Whyte**, Tutorial Fellow in History, published essays on Victorian sculpture and church architecture and on contemporary university buildings. He was appointed to the Fabric Commission of Westminster Abbey and the Oxford Diocesan Advisory Committee. He also became a Trustee of English Heritage and Chair of the Blue Plaques Panel.

**William Whyte at the Blue Plaque unveiling for Yehudi Menuhin**

# From the JCR

PATRICK BREEZE  
(2021, LITERAE HUMANIORES)  
JCR PRESIDENT



Cleo Scott

In previous editions of *TW*, my predecessors have written of the challenge of establishing what constituted the ‘new normal’ as we emerged from the pandemic; fortunately, social distancing and isolation played no such part in my efforts to determine what the JCR wanted to be, and how best it could provide for its members.

A key part of my election manifesto was a pledge to improve the College’s provision for Arts and Sports, outlets for our members which offer them respite from the often-relentless academic grind. Our opening task was therefore the delivery of the first St John’s Arts Week since Hilary 2019, which was a fantastic success. Led by its Creative Director, Cleo Scott, the Arts Week team staged a two-night play in the Auditorium, ran several musical workshops, and organised exhibitions of student art around College. Due to its success, I am delighted to report that the College intends to continue supporting Arts Week as a recurring annual event: an enduring legacy of Cleo and her team’s hard work and commitment. As for Sports, our main aim was to try to translate the generous financial support sports teams receive from the College into a communal passion for sport and exercise which could form a core part of students’ lives, should they wish it to. This plan was kickstarted by a resurrection of our Sports Exchange with Sidney Sussex, masterfully coordinated by our Sports Officer, Ian. Nearly every college sports team, from Rugby to Ultimate Frisbee, journeyed to Cambridge, and the afternoon was a fantastic opportunity to strengthen ties with our sister college.

As we entered the warmer months of Trinity, we pivoted to addressing organisational changes, both within the JCR, and in College. In this regard, I was incredibly grateful for the assistance of the Sports Fellow and the Domestic Bursar in producing St John’s first codified Sports Arrangements document, which clearly sets out the funding arrangements and parameters for events which govern sports teams. We have also looked inwards, thinking hard about how we can best deliver for students. In our 2023 budget, we nearly doubled the funding that our Equality and Diversity Reps receive and worked hard with that team to ensure that all communities in College feel welcome and valued. Other Trinity term highlights included ferrying the whole JCR to Isis Farmhouse for an

end of Trinity open-bar night that has become something of a tradition, and this year's event was wonderfully organised by our Entz Officers, Raghav and Lizzie.

Michaelmas always brings with it fresh challenges for the JCR: a new influx of freshers who need to be welcomed into our undergraduate community, and a JCR Committee weary after two terms of hard work. Our Freshers' Week team have been working hard to plan a range of activities which balance fun with a deluge of important information. In combating the second issue, we have implemented a new internal digital infrastructure platform, which will allow us to build up information more efficiently, and reduce the handover burden. So far, the year has been strong, and we hope to end on a high as we enter 2024.

Lastly, and on a personal note, it has been a great privilege to serve the undergraduate community of St John's as its JCR President, a role that I have relished and which has taught me many important lessons for the rest of my university career, and beyond.



Former JCR President, Andrew Hangchi (left) with Patrick Breeze (right)

# From the MCR

**BOMIKAZI MARINOS LUPINDO**  
(2022, DPHIL EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY; RHODES SCHOLAR)  
MCR PRESIDENT



Writing this reflection is bittersweet as it is a reminder that I have completed an academic term as MCR President of this amazing college. This role came with a whirlwind of emotions, both joys and challenges, as do many solemn roles. In the past year, I have transitioned from being the Welfare Officer, a position that I was passionate about because of its focus on student wellbeing, to being the MCR President charged with improving the quality of student lives in the MCR.

As Welfare Officer, I became aware of the strong needs of our MCR members for support in mental health and wellbeing as well as some of the challenges they experience in accessing such support. Firstly, opening up about such personal needs and seeking help is a particular challenge for many students. An added challenge was limitations in accessibility due to needs arising outside of term times, for which many MCR members remain in College. In my role, I had the pivotal task of strategically brainstorming ways in which this challenge could be resolved. Collaboratively with the



College, we have held in mind and worked towards a plan that ensures that welfare and wellbeing for current and future MCR members is a priority. Also holding in mind the strong impact of COVID-19 on the community spirit of the MCR, which became evident by the low turnout of students for some of the events at the beginning of the year, we made efforts to revive traditional events such as the wine and cheese evenings, BOP, and exchange dinners. The MCR committee further had to introduce new ideas and social events including cultural activities including museum visits, garden parties and Easter egg hunts to revive our spirits.

Our social activities also made us realise the importance of the academic community, with events like 'Shut up and write' (an academic space that allows graduates to come together and engage in their academic work) becoming crucial for intellectual stimulation and productivity. In the remainder of our tenure as the current committee, we also intend to introduce academic and professional support workshops to help MCR members excel during and beyond their St John's experience. It is our hope that such activities will help MCR members feel safe and lead to more robust communities beyond the College.

Student engagement was also pertinent as part of my role as President. The rent and charges process survey required the gathering of student feedback regarding financial and wellbeing-related needs. The critical

findings are helping us to have student needs in mind while formulating future policies that are all-inclusive and that will lead to better communities and greater fulfilment. Indeed, this process gave me insight into the needs of our members, and the MCR committee is resolved to influence the best decisions for the MCR and the College at large. As a committee, these new insights are also driving the next phase of activities for our members to ensure that their wellbeing is paramount. We will support these needs to the best of our abilities. For instance, the survey revealed that many of our MCR members experience high stress levels and we will thus plan our events to be positive outlets to relieve student stress. We aim to build more trust to ensure that students can always seek help from us and the College.

While my term is coming to an end, I am super-excited for Michaelmas Term. Welcoming the new students and the new MCR will be fulfilling because of the hope that the community we have started building will continue to blossom. I would also like to take this opportunity to send my unreserved appreciation to the entire MCR committee. Their relentless efforts have made a collective impact on our students. The College's receptiveness and responsiveness also cannot go unmentioned. Lastly, a huge thank you to the MCR members who continue to help build a community where we can thrive.

# Sport Review 2022–23

Professor Stuart White, Tutorial Fellow in  
Mathematics and Fellow for Sports

It's been another very active year of sport at St John's, including students performing at international level, and crucially with wide engagement in sport for recreation and wellbeing: this is why our sports facilities and teams are such an important part of College life.

Congratulations to the Saints lacrosse team (joint with St Anne's), led by Sophia Lubiecki (2021, Jurisprudence) — who competed for GB in her main sport of Modern Pentathlon earlier in the year — on winning this year's Cuppers competition. The Saints got revenge from a loss in the group stages to 'Hildaville', beating them 4–2 in the final. Our College dancesport team came joint first in the Acheson Shield (against an amalgamated team of Magdalen, Queen's, and Christ Church). The same team just pipped them to the Rob Stevens cup — it takes three colleges to compete with our dancers! Huge thanks to Anna Clark (DPhil History) for all her work setting up these popular dance classes which have been running ever since the end of lockdown. The Saints men's rugby team also had a second year of incredible success, making it to the Cuppers final for the second year running. Unfortunately, while things looked very promising at half-time, things did not go our way in the second half, and the Saints lost a tight game for the second year running. Nevertheless they have had another excellent season, and are a major focal point for College sporting activity. On the river, our boat club has had its most successful year during the time I've been in office, culminating in an excellent performance

at Summer Eights. Our women's first boat are back in the top division, and the men's side also made very good progress (despite almost sinking when another college, which shall remain nameless, managed to put a hole in our boat during the penultimate race). This has been achieved by the hard work of a number of captains over many years. A sports trip to Sidney Sussex, Cambridge took place for the first time since lockdown thanks to huge efforts on the part of Ian Pebody (2021, Engineering Science), the JCR Sports Officer.

The sports budget aims to be inclusive of a wide range of sports. New arrangements have been made to hire badminton courts for the MCR over the summer, and also new for this year are termly self-defence classes (open to all College members). Expanded coaching activities, aimed at increasing participation for racket sports have worked well. It has been great to see so much more use of our excellent on-site squash courts.

This year three students have been funded by the new international sports grants scheme in modern pentathlon, ice hockey (impressively Natasha Durie (2022, DPhil Anthropology), this year's Sportswoman of the Year, only converted from field hockey at university, and she has now represented the UK at the World University Games), and judo.







# In Memoriam

Remembering members of the St John's College community

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**1942**

**Robert Gambles**  
23/06/1923 – 19/04/2023

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**1943**

**Geoffrey Eve**  
29/03/1925 – 12/07/2023

**Dr John James**  
26/03/1925 – 23/08/2022

**Douglas Nicholson**  
28/05/1925 – 25/09/2022

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**1944**

**Alfred (John) Barker**  
15/08/1926 – 21/12/2022

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**1946**

**Geoffrey Drinkwater**  
03/08/1924 – 23/05/2023

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**1947**

**Thomas Nurser**  
08/05/1926 – 11/01/2023

**Professor Robert Spencer**  
09/11/1920 – 28/08/2022

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**1948**

**John Ling**  
16/06/1927 – 13/02/2023

**John Thornton**  
14/11/1927 – 10/11/2022

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**1949**

**Colston West**  
31/12/1929 – 10/12/2022

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**1950**

**Peter Hermon**  
13/11/1928 – 01/11/2022

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**1951**

**Sir Alan Bailey**  
26/06/1931 – 22/04/2023

**The Revd David Joynes**  
15/08/1931 – 13/10/2022

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**1952**

**Bill Carson**  
13/02/1929 – 15/06/2022

**Barwell Dibben**  
23/05/1934 – 02/05/2023

**Peter Johnson**  
28/07/1932 – 29/01/2023

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**1953**

**The Revd Geoffrey Lang**  
26/12/1933 – 23/04/2023

**Dr Charles Taylor**  
09/11/1934 – 10/01/2023

**Ben Travers**  
13/03/1933 – 06/06/2022

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**1954**

**Antony Breckons**  
01/03/1933 – 15/06/2022

**Ian Farquharson**  
26/09/1932 – 23/05/2023

**Professor Herb Morris**  
28/07/1928 – 14/12/2022

**Dr John Possingham**  
28/10/1929 – 30/04/2023

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**1955**

**Dr Colin Heald**  
25/07/1936 – 01/05/2022

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**1956**

**Dr Rodney Ashman**  
10/06/1935 – 16/05/2023

**Peter Exworthy**  
07/03/1937 – 03/07/2023

**Denis Moriarty**  
27/07/1935 – 09/08/2022

**Keith Wills**  
13/03/1936 – 13/10/2022

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**1957**

**Professor Michael Pratt**  
14/05/1937 – 12/02/2023

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**1959**

**Peter Sadler**  
15/12/1939 – 25/03/2023

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**1961**

**Ritchie Perry**  
07/01/1942 – 16/11/2022

**Dr Barry Thomas**  
17/10/1942 – 25/04/2023

**Dr Richard Trounce**  
28/05/1943 – 10/01/2023

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**1964**

**Dr David Lee**  
08/04/1942 – 17/03/2022

**Timothy O'Sullivan**  
03/01/1945 – 31/12/2022

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**1966**

**Dr Richard Cook**  
18/09/1947 – 09/09/2022

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**1967**

**Adrian Lloyd**  
27/03/1948 – 02/09/2022

**Professor Keith Reader**  
20/12/1945 – 22/07/2022

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**1968**

**John Haworth**  
29/05/1947 – 29/04/2023

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**1970**

**Brus Watters**  
23/10/1950 – 14/08/2022

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**1971**

**Howard Cockcroft**  
23/11/1951 – 10/08/2023

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**1972**

**Dr Zahir Jamal**  
02/02/1950 – 29/06/2023



**1974**

**Dr David Hope**  
02/09/1955 – 04/12/2022

**1975**

**Ian Salisbury**  
26/04/1957 – 19/11/2022

**1976**

**The Hon Professor Ashton Carter**  
24/09/1954 – 25/10/2022

**1984**

**Michael Diamond**  
06/10/1965 – 13/07/2023

**1987**

**Susanna Naylor**  
19/03/1965 – 28/10/2019

**1989**

**Dr Saul Kripke**  
13/11/1940 – 15/09/2022

**2019**

**Ciaran Crawford**  
30/01/1997 – 12/10/2022

This is a record of those whose deaths we have been informed of in the last year, up to 31 July 2023. 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.

# Fellows

## SIR ALAN BAILEY KCB

Sir Alan Bailey (1951, PPE) died on 22 April 2023. He was a distinguished public servant and was Principal Private Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer between 1971 and 1973, Under Secretary at HM Treasury between 1973 and 1978, Deputy Secretary at HM Treasury between 1978 and 1983, Permanent Secretary at HM Treasury between 1983 and 1985, and Permanent Secretary at the Department for Transport between 1986 and 1991. Sir Alan was appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath in the 1982 New Year Honours and was made Knight Commander in the 1986 Birthday Honours. He was elected as Honorary Fellow in 1991.

A full appreciation of Sir Alan Bailey's life will appear in next year's *TW*.

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## DOMINIC KWIATKOWSKI FRS FMEDSCI FRCP FRCPCH

*Dr Gavin Band (Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics), writes:*

Dominic Kwiatkowski (1953–2023) was an internationally recognised figure in the field of human infectious disease genetics and malaria epidemiology, and had a profound professional and personal influence on those of us who interacted and worked with him. His research group, which in recent years spanned the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics and the Big Data Institute in the University of Oxford, and the Wellcome Sanger Institute, was focused on measuring and interpreting the genomes: the genomes of malaria parasites, the mosquitos by which they are transmitted, and the human hosts they infect. The rationale was to better understand the biology of malaria infection, and establish genetic surveillance of parasite and mosquito populations, as part of a global effort to reduce the burden of this deadly disease.

The focus on genetics, which Dominic first developed in the 1990s after early work studying the role of cytokines in severe malaria, led to several important discoveries and to new methodological developments



that transformed the field. Among these were the mapping of genetic variation in the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*, and the discovery of the rapid spread of multiple forms of parasite resistant to frontline antimalarials in the 2010s. His group also generated similar insights into mosquito populations. Motivated by the famous discovery of protection due to sickle haemoglobin, and his earlier work with Brian Greenwood and Adrian Hill in the Gambia in the 1980s, he also conducted the first really comprehensive study of human genetic effects on malaria – discovering an important new locus of resistance along the way. And he began to bring these approaches together to analyse these genomes jointly, in a study which uncovered a surprising new interaction between sickle haemoglobin and parasite genomes, whose implications are still being explored.

Underlying these discoveries however was a deeper plan. His vision was of a global network of researchers who would collect samples, undertake fundamental research, and generate genomic data on a large scale, with the ultimate aim of informing new interventions and global malaria control programmes. The first iteration of this network, known as MalariaGEN, was initiated in 2005 through a series of meetings held in malaria-endemic countries and in Oxford, and its first order of business was to establish a set of sample and data-sharing policies that would ensure equitable benefits to members. Kirk Rockett, who accompanied Dominic on the trip and was a mainstay of his lab until 2020, remembers the first meeting at the University of Ghana in Accra this way:

*'Enthusiasm abounded. Everyone was very excited with the plans for so many reasons, and one of the best parts was just the people – wonderful, talented, enthusiastic and knowledgeable, and often very patient. Most of all, everyone wanted to work together, even though they could have been considered competitors in the science they were doing and the funding they sought [...] And Dominic had such a way with him that he brought them all together.'*

For pragmatic reasons the plan involved shipping samples to Oxford and the Sanger Institute – put simply, that's where the sequencing machines were – but what Dominic really wanted was for partner sites to develop their own analysis capacity. He personally trained or mentored many MalariaGEN members through studentships with his group. Meanwhile, he attracted formidable teams of researchers to Oxford and the Sanger Institute who set to work curating and analysing the network's data, and unravelling malaria and mosquito genome biology. Paradoxically, while he was always

adamant that any scientific discoveries were attributable to the network rather than him personally, the network was also working to his vision – so they were both personal and global achievements at the same time.

Those who attended the memorial for Dominic at St John's this week heard about the manifold personal qualities that made all this possible – great humour and charm, integrity, compassion, enthusiasm and tenacity among them. My overriding impression was of a deep thoughtfulness; his papers – highlights of which have been collected on the MalariaGEN website – are characterised by a lucidity and clarity that makes them a pleasure to read, and many colleagues benefited from his thoughtful advice. But this could instantly switch to joyous warmth when discussing family and friendships, or to an almost boyish excitement when a scientific discovery was in the air. These qualities also seemed to radiate outward through his group and the wider network, and made everybody want to work with him. The yearly 'GEM' events, which grew out of those early MalariaGEN meetings, exemplified this. Part scientific conference, part network get-together, they were hugely enjoyable. Where else could you find yourself playing human table football whilst discussing epidemiology with the world's malariologists?

In 2018, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation supported Dominic to set up a surveillance unit that would carry out this programme on a large scale – aiming to analyse tens of thousands of malaria and mosquito genomes each year. In response he placed his group on a war footing and restructured it to focus on data production. But in 2019 the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic began. Almost overnight, genomic surveillance became a major tool of public health in the UK, and Dominic and his team at the Sanger Institute were drawn into running the UK's virus sequencing programme. The pandemic set back work on malaria, but vastly expanded the capacity and appetite for genomic surveillance in the UK and elsewhere.

Dominic retired from Oxford in 2020 and, unexpectedly, from the Sanger Institute faculty in 2022. When I last spoke to him over lunch at St John's in February this year (which I thank Rosalind Harding for arranging), he expressed some regret that he was 'out of the field' just when things had become so exciting. (Although Dominic's version of 'out' was that he had completed writing up his new framework for parasite population genetics – the 'genomic transmission graph' paper.) He was referring to his discovery of genetic interaction between humans and malaria parasites, which opened up many questions he was fascinated by, as well as to the new outputs from the genomic surveillance unit. We had been working to dissect these interactions in the historical samples that Dominic had collected during his original research in The Gambia in 1988–90,

and I assured him we would keep him very much involved. It is a matter of great sadness that we won't now be able to do that.

But Dominic's vision was for the long term, and there remains deep desire within the network to continue the work – to build on the collaborations, to leverage the deep datasets, to gain new biological insights, and to track the effects of new interventions and vaccines on parasite and mosquito populations – in short, to make real gains against this deadly disease. Thank you, Dominic, for showing us the way.

*With thanks also to Dr Kirk Rockett, Professor John Todd and Professor Julian Knight for their input.*

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## WILFERD MADELUNG FBA

*Professor Julia Bray writes:*

Professor Wilferd Madelung (1930–2023) became a Fellow of St John's in 1978 as the thirteenth Laudian Professor of Arabic and, after his retirement in 1998 until the advent of Covid, he remained a shy but kindly presence in the Common Room, in the intervals between his weekly journeys to the Ismaili Institute in London where he was a Senior Research Fellow, and, for several years, between annual trips to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he was a Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies. He had previously held positions in America, including at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Chicago.



Besides these fellowships, he received other honours, in recognition of his unique and lifelong contribution to the historical understanding of Shi'ite Islam. In 2013 he was awarded the Farabi International Award by the Iranian Ministry of Islamic Guidance and Culture for his significant contributions to the fields of Islamic and Iranian studies.

At the start of his career in the 1960s, he was one of only a sparse handful of scholars in the western academy to challenge and, in the end, overturn the long-held belief that the only form of Islam worth taking seriously, historically, politically or intellectually, was Sunnism. The picture is very different today. Thanks to Wilferd Madelung, Shi'ite studies are now one of the most flourishing branches of the study of Islam in western universities. Wilferd's *Dokortochter* Sabine Schmidtke (Oxford 1990), now at Princeton's Institute for Advanced

Studies, carries Wilferd's standard with all of his dedication and distinction; but she is only one of many younger scholars to be fascinated by and drawn to explore Shi'ism's misunderstood beliefs, political regimes, and intellectual traditions, which took root in societies in some of the most remote and romantic parts of the old world, across North Africa, the Gulf and Yemen, and rose to empire over and over again, most recently in the Iranian Revolution of 1979.

Wilferd was both a historian and an intellectual historian, two things that are hard to separate in the discipline of Islamic history. Just as he was unusual and quietly contrarian in his championship of Shi'ism as the root rather than an offshoot of Islam, so he was also courageously unfashionable in telling the story of how other narratives got the upper hand. His own narrative of how Islam developed and how it ought to have developed was underwritten by his feminism. Who should have succeeded the Prophet Muhammad, who had no living sons? His daughter Fatima of course. But a patriarchal society robbed her of her inheritance in favour of her husband and relegated her to symbolic spiritual roles. Wilferd himself was devoted to his wife, Margaret, a scholar of Icelandic, who predeceased him. He had hoped to prepare her last, uncompleted book for publication and to return to Chicago to be laid beside her, but the world pandemic intervened. A prolific scholar, Wilferd's major works included *Der Imam al-Qasim ibn Ibrahim und die Glaubenslehre der Zaiditen* (1965), *Religious Trends in Early Islamic Iran* (1988), *The succession to Muhammad: a study of the early caliphate* (1997), *Studies in medieval Shiism* (2012), and *Studies in medieval Muslim thought and history* (2013).

I have happy memories of Wilferd and Margaret together – which because of Margaret's commitments in Chicago they could not always be – on conference trips, which they enjoyed greatly. The last one we spent together was in Helsinki, in 2014. Before that, I remember him, at my very first meeting with him, as the internal examiner of my DPhil. I had no idea then that our paths would ever cross again, or that we would be Fellows of the same college.

Those were happy times. Succeeding times were not all so happy: Margaret died, and to Wilferd's great grief, because of Covid, he was not able to travel to Chicago to wait for death and burial at her side. During this awful period, partly spent in the St John's flat in Belsyre Court that he had shared with Margaret, and finally, contentedly, in an Oxford care home, Magda Borouba cared for him and sustained him. She has never failed him.

Magda came to know Wilferd through working in the St John's Senior Common Room, and her dedicated care of him, especially through the solitary days of Covid, mirrors Wilferd's own values of dedication to understanding his field of study in human terms, regardless of academic fashion.

Born in Stuttgart, Wilferd Madelung emigrated to the United States with his parents after World War II, studied at Georgetown University, then in Cairo and at the University of Hamburg, where he wrote his PhD; and from 1958 to 1960, he served as Cultural Attaché to the West German Embassy in Baghdad. He came to Oxford from the chair of Islamic History in Chicago, where his son, Michael, still lives. After a cosmopolitan career, and despite continuing international engagements, Wilferd chose to make Oxford and this college his home, and we are grateful for his choice, for his service to his subject, and for his companionship.

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## MARK STOKES

*Professors Laurence Hunt and Kate Nation write:*

Professor Mark Stokes passed away on Friday, 13 January 2023. He was an internationally renowned cognitive neuroscientist who changed the way that we understand 'working memory' in the brain – the act of keeping a thought in mind and actively manipulating it.

Mark's undergraduate studies at the University of Melbourne underlined his passion for the arts as much as the sciences. He graduated in 2003 with a triple major in English, Philosophy, and Psychology. Yet his early experiences conducting undergraduate research in cognitive neuroscience led him in 2004 to pursue a PhD at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit in Cambridge, under the guidance of John Duncan. With John he began to develop new, multivariate approaches for studying human brain responses while participants performed working memory tasks. The unique aspect of these approaches was that they allowed Mark not only to ask *which* brain regions were important for working memory, but also *what* they were representing about the task being performed. This set the stage for his subsequent research at Oxford.

In 2007, Mark was elected to a Junior Research Fellowship in Psychology at St John's, working on both



attention and memory. The intellectual freedom afforded by this JRF allowed him to develop his most influential theoretical proposal. Since the late 1970s, it had been argued that working memory was the result of ‘persistent’ activity within the frontal lobes of the brain – a finding supported by recordings of neuronal activity within these regions. By studying the representational content of human brain activity, and how this evolved over time, Mark discovered that much of the working memory coding in frontal cortex was in fact ‘dynamic’ rather than ‘persistent’. He provided clear evidence that the act of stably sustaining a thought in mind was in fact underpinned by an ever-evolving landscape of brain activity under the surface. The JRF years also saw Mark engage fully with College life. With his gentle manner, keen curiosity and winning grin, he soon became a valued member of College’s social community. He inspired peers and students; collaborations were born, most notably with Kia Nobre in Experimental Psychology, and lifelong friendships were made.

No sooner had Mark completed his JRF, he received an MRC Career Development Award to pursue his research further. Happily for St John’s, this allowed him to return to College in a new guise, this time as a Science Research Fellow. Mark’s intellectual contributions continued to build through this period. He became interested in aspects of brain activity that were difficult to measure directly. These were ‘hidden state’ changes at the synaptic level – known to exist from animal recordings on neural tissue, but impossible to record directly using conventional techniques in humans. So, again, Mark innovated methodologically. He turned to active sonar (or echolocation) as an inspiration. Through this he developed an approach of ‘pinging’ the brain with a pulse of noise, to interrogate the underlying state of the brain during a cognitive task. His marriage of theoretical creativity with empirical rigour and methodological innovation again led him to challenge the received wisdom about how working memory was subserved in the brain.

Mark’s election to a Tutorial Fellowship at New College in 2015 set the stage for what should have been a lifelong career as a world leader in cognitive neuroscience. But it wasn’t to be: his life was cut short far too soon by cancer, first diagnosed in 2021. His wisdom and clarity of mind were evident throughout his illness – where friends and colleagues could find no words, Mark’s humanity shone through. His legacy is not only felt in terms of the impact of his research, but also in his warmth and kindness as a collaborator, colleague, teacher, mentor, and friend. This was in abundant evidence at a final event to celebrate his career, ‘StokesFest’, held at New College in the summer of 2022. The sun sparkled and, despite the desperate underlying sadness, there were smiles and laughter. The affection in which we all held Mark was on clear display. His final tweet received over 55,000 replies, and 760,000 likes, and we leave you with his words: ‘Hi folks, I’m

afraid it’s time for me to say goodbye. Not just leaving Twitter, but the whole show. I’ve been battling cancer last 2 years, but now only have a few days left now. Thank you wonderful people, I leave this crazy world with much love in my heart.’

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## JOHN WHITE FAA, FRS

*Professor Richard Catlow FRS writes:*

John White (1937–2023), who sadly died on 16 August was a scientist of great distinction, whose long career exemplified all that is best in academic life by making lasting contributions to scientific knowledge and by nurturing and mentoring students and younger colleagues.

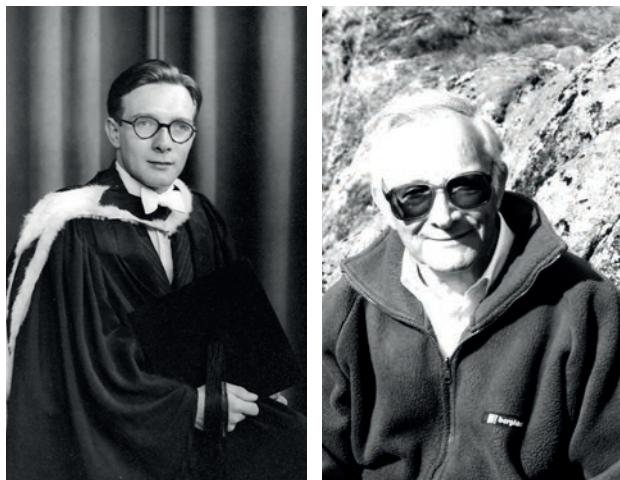
John was appointed a Fellow of St John’s at the age of 26 in 1963 – a period of expansion and optimism in the academic world. I was amongst his early students, and I remember well the support and encouragement I received from John when I arrived in St John’s in 1966 as a somewhat uncertain and anxious undergraduate. He communicated and shared his own enthusiasm and confidence and was indeed an inspirational tutor: he ensured that his students received a broad education in chemistry, but also encouraged them to develop their own interests and directions. He was always available for discussion and advice, An example that helped shape my own career were my discussions with him over my choice of research field for DPhil study; and, as I indicated that I wanted something with a strong physics component, he arranged a meeting with Roger Elliott, the Physics Tutor who in turn advised me to work with the theory group in the AEA at Harwell – excellent advice for which I will always be grateful. John always unselfishly wanted the best for his students and was indeed a superb teacher and mentor.

John was, of course a scientist of great achievement and originality – a pioneer in the rapidly developing field of neutron scattering. In the words of Dame Julia Higgins, his first PhD student: ‘John White had a lifelong interest in the use of neutron scattering techniques for investigation of structure and dynamics of soft materials, and a wide international involvement in the scattering scientific community’. His pioneering contributions were extensive and influential and were recognised by many accolades and awards including election to Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1993.

John also contributed to scientific leadership as Director of the Institut Laue-Langevin – a world leading centre for neutron scattering – from 1975–81. and in several senior roles after he returned to ANU in Canberra in 1985; but he will perhaps be most remembered for his selfless generosity in guiding and mentoring successive generations of young scientists of which I was fortunate enough to be one.



# Alumni



## ROBERT GAMBLES

*Robert Gambles was born on 23 June 1923 and came up to St John's in 1942. He died on 19 April 2023. We are grateful to his son, Brian, for this appreciation.*

Robert Gambles, teacher, historian and author, died in April. Born to an industrial blacksmith and a domestic servant, his was the first generation of the family to attend higher education. A frail child, his mother was advised not to expect him to live beyond his fifth birthday. It is remarkable that he died just two months before his 100th birthday.

His working life was in two parts: as history schoolmaster and in retirement as a prolific author, many of his books being about historical aspects of Cumbria.

He was educated at Ashby-de-La-Zouch Grammar School, eventually winning a scholarship to St John's, where he read Modern History, matriculating in 1942. Oxford was a huge influence on his life. He thrived on the tutorial system and sought to adapt the seminar approach to his teaching of A level history. The friends he made at St John's influenced his lifelong interest in the wild outdoors – cycling on the Isle of Skye and especially walking the fells of the Lake District.

Robert's first teaching post was at King's, Ely. There he met and married Hannemor, a Norwegian girl. They were happily married until her death in 2008. In 1952, he became Senior History Master at Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, where he remained for thirty-one years. Three sons – Brian, Peter, and Ian – all attended the school. Brian and Brian's daughter Kate are both alumni of St John's – 1973 and 2003 respectively. It was a proud moment for Robert when he gave a reading at Kate's wedding (to Charles Heald, 2003) in the college chapel in 2011.

He later assumed responsibility for university liaison, encouraging, guiding and coaching many generations of boys and (later) girls towards Oxford and other universities.

Family holidays were always taken in either the Lake District or Norway, and when, in 1983, Robert retired, it was to Kendal. By this time his first book, *Man in Lakeland*, had been published. He joined the committee of the Friends of the Lake District, campaigning for the protection of the natural environment.

He also pursued a second career as a writer, publishing numerous books about the history of the Lake District, its place names, and guides to lesser-known walks on the borders of Lakeland. His fluent Norwegian and love of Norway encouraged him to translate two collections of Norse Folk Tales.

Robert lived independently until just after his 99th birthday, then relocating to residential care in the Midlands, nearer to his family, three sons, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He remained mentally acute: two books will be published posthumously.

Former neighbours, pupils and colleagues remember Robert as a man of great kindness, integrity, and thoughtfulness. They greatly valued his support, advice and particularly his warmth and friendship, and respected his huge depth and breadth of historical knowledge.

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## GEOFFREY EVE

*Geoffrey Eve was born on 29 March 1925 and came up to St John's in 1943. He died on 12 July 2023. We are grateful to his son, Tim, for this appreciation.*

Dad was born on 29 March 1925 in Leek, Staffordshire, to Kathleen Bailey and Stuart Eve. Dad's early years were happy, but upset came when he was about five years old. His parents split up and his father left the marital home.

Early schooling was at Rhos Prep School in north Wales. By all accounts he was happy there. He took up riding lessons and there was canoeing on the sea. The education was good, too, but after the school passed through a succession of owners, standards fell, and one term Dad refused to go back to waste his time there and demanded he be allowed to further his education at Newcastle Under Lyme School. He passed the entrance exam and was admitted to the A stream.

There he met lifelong friend Philip Bowcock. Other friendships from Leek lasted a lifetime, too, including Gerald Mee, Pat Evans, and Henry West. From Newcastle Under Lyme School, Dad went up to St John's where he



read History. He regularly returned there after graduating to attend Gaudy dinners and summer garden parties.

While completing teacher training at Oxford he met his future wife, our mum, Marguerite Hall. Mum had read French at King's College, London, where her parents had both read History. Dad recounts being smitten by Mum's grace and beauty during a college event and approached her, asking if she would be his tennis partner at the St John's College tennis party. Mum accepted. They lost the tennis match, but a romance had started.

Dad took up a teaching post at Ardingly College in East Sussex and Mum a teaching post at St Margaret's School in Shropshire. Because of the distance that separated them their relationship was somewhat off and on, but at some point, they realised they were deeply in love and they married on 5 August 1951.

Dad's teaching job at Ardingly was a live-in one with boarding house responsibilities. Unfortunately, there was no married accommodation there, so, newly married, a new job was called for. His mother-in-law spotted an advert in the *Times Educational Supplement* for a teaching post with the Sudan education department. Dad applied for the job, was accepted and in no time he was in a Dakota flying off to Khartoum, and from there journeyed on to Omdurman where the new job was based. Mum joined him soon after. For a while, in spite of the basic facilities and remoteness of the location, life was good. There was swimming, and sailing on the Nile. But there were troubles, too. The students were repeatedly on strike and, when Sudan was seeking independence, things became difficult and so it was back to the UK for the young couple.

Dad then took up a couple of posts teaching in Singapore, with return travel to the UK for leave. Dad did not like flying so, instead of a Dakota for those journeys, a P&O passenger liner was the order of the day. By now there were three children: Julia, Timothy, and Diana, with Diana being born during one of the stays in Singapore. Life was good again. There was a beautiful government

house to live in, an Amah to help with the children and a gardener to look after the lush garden. Children's parties would see swings and slides hired in with many children invited. Dad was a keen photographer and he took cine films, which record just how much fun everybody had.

Singapore was now also seeking independence and, because of that, Dad's job with the British Government was ending, so the family returned to the UK. This time it was for good. Back in the UK Dad found a temporary teaching job at Crown Woods Comprehensive school in London. We were living in Mum's aunt's house, May Cottage, in Bacton, Norfolk, which had kindly been lent to us.

Dad would work in London and return to May Cottage at weekends. It was another idyllic time for us children. Walking to the village school each day and having the countryside, beach and sea as our playground. We weren't there for long before Dad secured a permanent job teaching English and History at Warwick School, so in 1961 the family moved to Myton Road, Warwick, and that has remained the family home ever since. Dad loved that house and garden. He was a very good gardener, growing flowers, fruit, and vegetables and was an expert compost maker. He especially loved his shrub roses and apple trees, and we children were blessed with every imaginable Bramley Seedling Apple recipe you could think of for puddings for many weeks after each apple harvest!

Not long after arriving in Warwick, Chris and then Helen were born. We all went to Coten End School in Warwick and then on to either Warwick School for the boys, and King's High School or St Joseph's Convent for the girls. Dad made sure we all had a good education! When the children became more independent, Mum resumed her teaching career teaching English as a foreign language and, later, French to A level standard at Myton High School where she was a very popular teacher with the pupils.

In around 1971, Mum's aunt, the one whose house we'd stayed in at Bacton, offered her the chance to buy a small plot of land, close to the sea in Bacton, on which stood a converted wooden railway carriage. This was old rolling stock from the Great Eastern Railway that had been put there in the 1920s as temporary accommodation. It was a common sight, in Norfolk, to see old railway stock, with bogeys removed and mounted on brick or old railway sleeper pillars, converted into cottages. She offered it to Mum knowing she was fond of Bacton. Despite Dad's opposition, mum bought 'Mon Repos'. It was pretty rundown having been empty for a while. But after an Easter week during which we scraped off old paint, made repairs and painted the carriage, and cleared the overgrown garden and burnt huge bonfires, the place looked lovely, and Dad was converted. He loved the place as much as Mum did.

Our parents, we children and further issue have spent many happy holidays there over the years. Dad particularly

enjoyed collecting flints off the beach and building flint walls, in the Norfolk style, around the garden. The stays at Mon Repos became more comfortable after Mum sent the old carriage off to a railway museum in north Norfolk and had a small chalet bungalow constructed in its place.

Eventually both Mum and Dad retired from their respective teaching jobs, and both became guides at Warwick Castle. They loved their time there. Dad was especially proud of the fact he could speak Malay to the Malay tourists, much to their amazement, a language he'd learnt while in Singapore. They made frequent visits to Mon Repos. They learnt Japanese for a trip to Japan to see Chris and his family out there. They regularly attended Warwick School plays and concerts as guests of the headmaster. They were involved with the University of the Third Age. Dad took an interest in the County Records Office in Warwick and was a trustee of the St Mary's Church Hall Trust.

Sadly, Mum died in November 2002. Dad now had to learn a new skill: cooking. Mum had done it all for him. We set him up with a microwave oven, but he soon tired of ready meals and taught himself how to cook. He became a very good cook!

Over the years eleven grandchildren came along: James, Edward, Katherine, Victoria, Sarah, Alison, David, Simon, Yurianne, Kimmy, and Alex, and then five great-grandchildren: Toro, Oscar, Archer, Atticus, and William. Sadly, Mum didn't live to see her great-grandchildren, but together she and Dad enjoyed seeing their many grandchildren. Dad was thrilled with his great-grandchildren, and loved their visits, and to hear news of them as they grew up so fast!

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## ALFRED (JOHN) BARKER

*Alfred Barker was born on 15 August 1926, and came up to St John's in 1944. He died on 21 December 2022. We are grateful to his daughter, Rosemary, for this appreciation.*

Alfred (also known as John) was at St John's College 1944–47 and matriculated with a BA in Physics, later to become an MA.

On leaving university, John entered National Service, 1947–49. After training at Catterick, Yorkshire, he served as an Officer in the Royal Corps of Signals, and was posted to Hamburg, Germany. It was during this time that he was guided into the telecommunications field, which was to influence his later choice of career.

After his army service, John began a long career working as a Chartered Engineer for Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd (later STC plc, and then bought by Nortel in 1991). Based first at Woolwich he was involved in pioneering work in telecommunications. This work included overseeing the manufacture and laying of under-sea cables, and also trouble shooting. His work

took John overseas, including Scandinavia (particularly cable laying between the islands of Denmark), South Africa, Japan and United States of America.

John progressed through various management roles, including Technical Director and Manufacturing Director at the Basildon, New Southgate and Harlow factories of STC, ending his career as Director, Switching. John was also a Board Member of STC Telecommunications Ltd. He joined the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEE now IET) in 1959, and became a Fellow in 1969.

Upon retirement in 1985 after thirty-five years' service, John used his skills and experience in many ways, including fulfilling various key roles in Christian organisations which he supported throughout his life.

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## JOHN LING

*John Ling was born on 16 June 1927, and came up to St John's in 1948. He died on 13 February 2023. We are grateful to his daughter, Heather, for this appreciation.*

'Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof' was one of Grandpa Ling's favourite sayings, and Dad certainly followed his father's advice: he lived a life full of his interests and enthusiasms.

Dad grew up as an only child in Wolverhampton, eventually becoming head boy of Wolverhampton Grammar School. He won a scholarship to St John's where he read Greats – Latin, Greek, Ancient History and Philosophy. However, National Service intervened, and Dad spent two years as a fitter in the RAF. There he honed his repairing skills which he continued to develop over the years; Dad never belonged to the 'throwaway society'! It was during his time in the RAF that he actually flew in a Lancaster Bomber, much to the admiration of his great-grandson Bertie, but it was the last time he ever flew – he did not enjoy the experience.

Daddy began his degree course in 1948, described by his tutors as 'a modest, pleasant, sensible man' whose work showed 'great vigour, care and a real interest in the classics'. He made many friends while at university and remained in touch with them throughout his life.

He was best man for one of his close friends, Gordon Rock, at whose wedding he met our mother for the first time; she was the chief bridesmaid. Dad kept all the letters he and Mum exchanged before they were married, and they are a touching memory of their love. They married on 6 August 1955; I was born the following year, Boey in 1957, and Chris in 1960. Family life was so important to Dad; over the years he loved to spend time with his family, latterly with his grandchildren and then great-grandchildren, who he called his 'Littlies'.

Following his graduation, Dad became a schoolmaster, first at Stourbridge Grammar School, then Llandoverly

College in 1960, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Mansfield in 1966, before finally moving to Loughborough Grammar School in 1979; he wrote that Loughborough was the happiest school he had been in, only finally retiring at seventy. His colleague, and head of department, Tony Payne, wrote in a tribute that Dad was the 'classics enthusiast, generous of time and skills, and ready to adapt to a challenging teaching post; an example then and now'.

Dad also found time to write four articles on the theory of classics teaching, all published in various journals, an article on the philosophy of history, published in *Mind*, and last, but not least, a booklet called 'Advice on Buying a Spool-to-Spool Tape Recorder', which was commissioned and published.

Dad was always keen to promote learning in Classics and was happy to encourage my husband Glyn when he was studying for Latin GCSE at the age of 55; they enjoyed working on Latin translations together. Dad's classics skills never left him: the day he moved into his care home, just before last Christmas, he translated a piece of Latin for his neighbour.

Dad's headmaster at Wolverhampton wrote, 'his interests are not narrow'. His first great passion was chess, playing chess for Oxford while an undergraduate; he was for many years chess problem editor for the *Observer* and then *The Problemist*. He continued to be involved in editing chess problem magazines for the whole of his life, latterly his own publication, *Problem Observer*. He was always keen to share his interest with Boey, Chris, and me, and I can remember all three of us sitting at tables with our chess boards in front of us, and Dad playing chess with us simultaneously. Those chess sets have been passed on to Dad's grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Another great interest was for steam railways, particularly branch lines. He claimed that this enthusiasm began in 1929 when he was two! As branch lines began to close, Dad and a group of enthusiasts gathered at Stourbridge Grammar School for the first meeting of the Branch Line Society in 1955; it is still flourishing today. I can remember travelling with Dad and others on the last train along a closing branch line. Steam train rides continue to be enjoyed by Dad's whole family.

Music was always a part of our lives when we were growing up. Dad enjoyed making collections by different composers, so sometimes we listened to Saint-Saëns, another time maybe Debussy. Only two Christmases ago he asked for the complete set of Haydn's symphonies, listening to one each morning at breakfast. He encouraged all of us in our musical interests, taking us to concerts, ballets, and operas. I remember coming home from school at the age of six, just before Christmas, and excitedly telling him that my teacher had played and sung to us from Handel's *Messiah*. He immediately found me the full score and sat me down to listen to the whole oratorio.

While in Wales, we began to go for family walks in the countryside. Dad encouraged us to identify birds and flowers, fostering a love for the outdoors we all share. He knew that his children loved to play in streams and rivers, so he planned walks to include that experience. He and Mum shared a love for country walks, which Dad continued until well into his nineties.

Dad developed a passion for motor-caravanning – acquiring his first in the early 1960s. This meant we were able to explore further afield, and often went away for the whole summer holiday. Five people in a small motor caravan was sometimes rather 'cosy', but with Dad's careful planning we explored most of the British Isles. I often told my children when on holiday, 'I remember visiting here as a child'. We all have particularly fond memories of staying in Gairloch in north-west Scotland. Chris remembers Dad's inventive meals, usually based on tins with 'stodge' as I called it – mince and beans being a culinary favourite. Boey has special memories of visiting St David's and seeing JB Priestley's, 'They Came to a City', in the ruined abbey grounds, and playing a crazy game of netball for five while on holiday in Berwick.

Our home was full of books; Dad enjoyed visiting second-hand book shops. I remember his Thomas Hardy days, and later the novels by Olivia FitzRoy. He loved to share books with us and would read to us at bedtime until we were quite grown up. I'm afraid we didn't always appreciate the experience – Chris not being too keen on 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' aged five! We all loved Olivia FitzRoy stories though, and now Dad's great-grandchildren are enjoying them too. We were able to find Dad a rare Olivia FitzRoy book for his ninety-fifth birthday last year; he had never read it before.

Dad enjoyed new technology, beginning when we were children with spool-to spool tape recorders. He loved computers, especially programming his Sinclair, which he used for managing the increasingly complex external exam system at school. He never threw away any of his treasured equipment and many, with his computer books and magazines, have now been taken to The Retro Computer Museum in Leicester; he would have been thrilled. Dad progressed with the times, and for his ninetieth birthday, the family gave him an iPad. It was invaluable during Covid and for the rest of his life; he learnt to access FaceTime and Zoom, so Boey, Chris and I took turns to FaceTime him every day to play card games.

Dad and Chris shared a love for football; Dad supported Wolverhampton Wanderers all his life, and Chris remembers going to the semi-final of the League Cup at Molineux, standing in the North Bank as Dad did as a boy, then going to Wembley, to see them win the trophy.

An enduring commitment was Dad's Christian faith. He was confirmed in Worcester Cathedral; Mum was received at the same time into the Church of England. He liked to go to an early communion service, and as we

grew up that is what we did as a whole family. He also enjoyed choral evensong, taking us to Southwell Minster, and then afterwards out to high tea for a treat.

Daddy lived independently at home until just before last Christmas but, realising he needed more care and support, he asked us to find him a care home where he died very peacefully.

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## JOHN THORNTON

*John Thornton was born on 14 November 1927, and came up to St John's in 1948. He died on 10 November 2022. We are grateful to his daughter, Fenella, for this appreciation.*

John Thornton of Quogue and New York City died on 10 November after a brief illness. He was 94.

Born in 1927 in Grimsby, England, he was a graduate of St John's. He arrived in New York City on a work visa to manage the New York office of the *Manchester Guardian* newspaper and made New York his home for the next seventy years. After a long career as a magazine circulation promotion executive, Thornton retired from *Forbes* magazine in 1995.

He and his family spent summers and fall weekends on Quogue in the same yellow house he bought in 1962. His hobbies included gardening, swimming, reading, and painting the house, a never-ending endeavour. In the city, he enjoyed opera, art exhibits, and classical music concerts. He was well known for his cooking skills, and his family recalls fondly the many Sunday dinners he prepared.

He is survived by his wife Joan, to whom he was married for more than sixty-six years; his three children Christopher, Fenella, and Hugh; six grandchildren; and his brother David. He was predeceased by his son Robert.

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## PETER HERMON

*Peter Hermon was born on 13 November 1928 and came up to St John's in 1950. He died on 1 November 2022.*

Peter Hermon (1950, Mathematics) was notable for many achievements in the IT industry and in the application of IT to various businesses.

Peter was a pioneer of business computing. He joined Leo Computers in 1955, a subsidiary of J Lyons & Co, as a way of getting out of teaching which he did not enjoy. He was initially tasked with programming the payroll for the Ford motor company and then oversaw the design of a highly complicated invoicing application for Imperial Tobacco. His next contract was for Dunlop where he headed the implementation of worldwide computer systems. In 1965 he moved to BOAC (later British Airways) and developed BOADICEA, a network that computerised not only its reservations system, but also the scheduling

of aircraft departures, route planning, rostering of crew, and all the services needed to keep the business running. In 1972 Peter was promoted to head the management services division at BOAC, sitting on the board. He was later a member of the British Airways board.

Peter was co-editor of *User Driven Innovation: The World's First Business Computer* (1996) and author of the two-volume guide, *Hillwalking in Wales* (2006).

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## PROFESSOR HERBERT MORRIS

*Professor Herbert Morris was born on 28 July 1928, and came up to St John's in 1954. He died on 14 December 2022. We are grateful to his former colleagues, Miriam Meyerhoff, Laurence Houlgate and Joseph Grodin, for this appreciation.*

Herbert (Herb) Morris was born 28 July 1928 in New York. He was the youngest child of Peter Morris and Minnie (Miller) Morris. Morris moved to Los Angeles as a child and became a dedicated Angeleno thereafter. He undertook all his schooling there, first in the Fairfax District – then a remote part of town where he remembered watching jackrabbits as he crossed the fields to and from home. He graduated with a BA in philosophy from UCLA in 1951. He then moved east and in 1954 he completed an LL.B. from Yale. For his doctoral studies, he resolved to combine his joint interests in law and philosophy, and in 1954 he took up a Fulbright Scholarship to study at St John's. The legendary scholar of legal philosophy, H.L.A. Hart, had only recently taken up the Oxford chair of jurisprudence and in 1956 Morris was the first of Hart's students to graduate with a DPhil. The combination of philosophy and law was by no means as common then as it is now; it marked Morris's lifelong commitment to pushing the envelope and to exploring new intellectual avenues and fields of enquiry.

Upon returning to the United States in 1956, Morris took up a tenured position in the UCLA Philosophy Department and in 1962 he was offered a joint appointment in the Law Faculty – a first at that time. He continued to teach in both Philosophy and Law until his retirement in 1994, when he became Emeritus Professor in both programmes. He was both an exacting and stimulating teacher who held students and himself to the highest intellectual standards, and who always infused his classrooms with wit and solidarity. In his 80s and 90s, he continued to teach at UCLA. His lectures in Philosophy in Literature increased enrolments every year, and the engagement of the students in these classes made it clear that they appreciated his self-deprecating style at the podium, his erudition and the rare opportunity to encounter genius.

His scholarly achievements gained him considerable international renown. From an intellectual start that valued logical positivism and observable data above all

else, he gradually came to see questions of morality and justice as worthy of philosophical consideration, no doubt partly under the influence of his friend Ronald Dworkin and by his independent study of psychoanalysis. He was particularly fascinated by the most human and moral dimensions of law, and his writings on punishment (*Persons and Punishment*, 1968), guilt (*On Guilt and Innocence*, 1976) and shame are milestones not only in his own quest to better understand the failings and richnesses of human existence, but also in the development of philosophical thinking on these topics. The influence of his work can be seen in later writings on justice, free will and forgiveness.

From 1983 to 1993, Morris held senior posts at UCLA (Dean of Humanities and Interim Provost) and through these positions exerted a steady and quiet influence on the direction of the Humanities in the shape of academic appointments and fundraising.

Morris held a deep compassion and respect for the striving inherent in the human spirit and brought this to all dimensions of his life. He combined a formidable intellect with an unalloyed joy in all manner of expression of human creativity. He was a man who could recall and recreate for others the tastes and sensations of a good meal, a fine wine, the first moment of entering a church in Italy, the aria in an opera, the glorious way in which sculptures and trees might off-set each other in a garden, and the shift in lighting or weight of a momentary silence in a movie. In later years, he astonished friends and colleagues alike by establishing an entirely new career for himself in art and literary criticism, but in some ways, he had been in training for this his entire life. He fully appreciated and was attracted to beauty in all its forms – the beauty of artefacts and the beauty of the soul. This embrace of what might be regarded as spiritual inquiry was a matter of personal as well philosophic development.

Morris was a loyal man who placed tremendous value in friendships. For over seventy years he played weekly tennis with a friend from high school, and he relished his regular lunches with other friends who he drew from diverse walks of life. He was extremely proud of the achievements and growth of the UCLA Humanities Division while he was Dean (1983–92), a role in which he exerted a steady influence on the direction of the Faculty through careful academic appointments and fundraising. Morris was intensely competitive – he always approached a board or court game as something to win. He channelled this competitiveness constructively, fully understanding the social bonds that underpin competition, and the capacity for mutual growth that any competitive endeavour engenders. He was a warm and good-hearted host, and his guests remember not only the fine food, good wine and excellent conversation in his company, but also Morris's genuine welcome and

interest in every one of them. He generously mentored generations of students in his long life, many of whom have gone on to be thoughtful and compassionate teachers, mentors, scholars and members of the judiciary themselves.

Morris is survived by two sons from his first marriage, four step-children from his second marriage, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They, along with the thousands of friends, students and colleagues who had the good fortune to know him, mourn his passing. In recent years, Morris had much cause to regret the loss of civility, moral depth and interpersonal decency in much of everyday life and politics. Despite this, he managed to find humour in dark times – past and present – and to seek solace in his own capacity for empathy. Those who knew Morris will cherish him and his memory for this. The best tribute we can offer him is to insist with empathy and passion, as he did, on the need for the constant renewal of our beliefs in decency, civility and beauty.

Morris died of kidney failure in the company of family in his home on 14 December 2022.

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## DR DAVID LEE

*Dr David Lee was born in 1942 and came up to St John's in 1961 to read Modern Languages. He died on 17 March 2022. We are grateful to his wife, Susan, and Andrew Crawford (1982) for this appreciation.*

We are deeply saddened to report the loss last year of David Lee (1961) after a long illness. Many people have given long service to the College. Few have done so with such modesty, generosity and lack of fanfare.

David read Modern Languages at St John's, gaining a BA that led on to a DPhil and successful career teaching Modern Languages at Reading University. But it's his alternative parallel career as visiting coach of the St John's 1st VIII for almost fifty years that is just as remarkable.

David was a gifted academic, awarded the Casberd Scholarship while studying for his BA. He still found time



to pursue a young radiographer from the nearby John Radcliffe hospital, marrying Susan in the St John's chapel in the summer of 1965. Five weeks later, a Fulbright Scholarship and the Queen Mary took them both to the USA where David studied and taught at Boulder University in Colorado for a year, before returning to St John's in 1966 to continue work on his DPhil.

David rowed for St John's including the summer VIII that secured four bumps and blades in Division 1 in 1965 and membership of Leander that same year. Returning to St John's from the USA in 1966, he coached the 1st VIII to what proved to be the zenith of the Boat Club's achievement. The Torpid VIII became Head of the River in 1967. In 1968, David left for a position at Aberdeen University and two years later began his long-term tenure at Reading, where he spent the rest of his academic career.

Remarkably, after his return south, David continued to coach the St John's 1st VIII for most of the next five decades, until illness forced his retirement in 2009. He made the forty-mile round trip voluntarily – sometimes more than once a week – to pass on his skills and expertise in the quiet, unassuming manner familiar to generations of St John's rowers.

David and Susan and their three children were extraordinarily kind and generous with their time, taking a constant interest and successions of sweaty crews under their wings and into their house.

David's loyalty and dedication never wavered, rain, snow or shine, and was rewarded periodically with success. As a result, a number of blades now hang in dusty splendour in the homes of ageing rowers. The Boat Club recognised his unique contribution by naming a new IV after him and the College by conferring him with SCR and dining rights.

David's outwardly diffident, gently authoritative and genial approach was underpinned by a mischievous undercurrent. Earnest discussions on points of technique would be punctuated by wry laughter and wafts of smoke from his pipe. There was always a twinkle in his eye. His passion for rowing was obvious. He ability as a mentor unmatched. He made it fun. He cared.

That care extended beyond St John's. David became a governor at various schools and colleges.

I suspect many of us just assumed David's extraordinary dedication was something normal and not the exceptional thing that it was. I know many old crew members look back at those hours on the water as being very special as a result. That's why – as David and those of us he coached fade away like the framed photos in the boat house – it's important to mark his contribution. As much as we know his family will miss him, so too will the crews who benefited from his quiet generosity and kindness over an extraordinary fifty years.

On behalf of all of us – and far too late – thank you, David. Easy all.

## TIMOTHY O'SULLIVAN

*Timothy O'Sullivan was born on 3 January 1945, and came up to St John's in 1964. He died on 31 December 2022. We are grateful to his friend, Richard Graves (1964), for this appreciation.*

After being educated at St Benedict's School (where he once bowled out the future Governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten), in the autumn of 1964 Timothy O'Sullivan came up to St John's. Here he read Modern History under three of our most remarkable historians: Howard Colvin of *The History of the King's Works*, Keith Thomas of *Religion and the Decline of Magic*, and that lecturer of eccentric genius, Michael Hurst. With his well-informed and witty conversation and his talent for sociability, he was a popular member of the two most prestigious Clubs at St John's, the King Charles and the Archery; he also formed numerous lifelong friendships with his fellow-historians, among whom his exact contemporaries included Geoffrey Tyack, Michael Pye, Richard Berthoud, and Richard Perceval Graves, all of whom, like Timothy himself, became published authors.

It was after a brief and unsuccessful flirtation with merchant banking at Kleinwort Benson, that Timothy became an assistant to the eccentric handle-bar-moustachioed Sir Gerald Nabarro MP. This was intended as his introduction to the political world; but Nabarro asked him to ghost-write two books, *Severn Valley Steam* (1971) and *Severn Valley Railway* (1972), and the high quality of his prose caused such a stir in the literary world that before long he was under contract to Macmillan to write the text of an illustrated biography of Thomas Hardy (1975). Although his text is only 40,000 words long, it is written so well and contains so much original and penetrating thought, that it has not only been immensely popular, being constantly reprinted, but it remains one of the very best books about Hardy ever written.

As he began to move in literary circles, Timothy worked for a while as an assistant to Peter Hopkins of Routledge & Kegan Paul. In this capacity he gave much wise advice to other writers, such as: 'If you want to be popular, don't be too academic – write for an intelligent 11-year-old.' Sadly his own next book, a biography of the Welsh entrepreneur and banker Sir Julian Hodge, though characteristically well-written, was less appealing than his Hardy. He also published several other works simply for the money, such as a biography of the TV personality and gardener Percy Thrower, which he gave his friends strict instructions not to read. Nor did he mention to us, except as a work in progress, his *Royal Marriages*, declared online to have been first published in 1981, though I personally have never seen more than its cover.

Despite having suffered from one love-affair so tragic that in some ways it blighted the remainder of his life, and meant that he never married, his charm made him

immensely popular with women and he enjoyed close relationships with a number of them to whom he gave enigmatic but affectionate nicknames such as 'BV' or 'The Widow'.

Chosen by the Roman Catholic Church to write an account of Pope John Paul II's visit to the United Kingdom in 1982, for which he was awarded a Papal decoration, he remained a devout Roman Catholic all his life. Finally, he passed out of this world on New Year's Eve 2022 peacefully and with a minimum of fuss, after a brief illness, bravely borne, having made arrangements to be cremated not only privately, but also secretly.

Having published very little during his lifetime, Timothy O'Sullivan could well attract a considerable posthumous reputation with the publication of his long-awaited biography of Margaret Thatcher. It is to be hoped that his two volumes of autobiography may also be published, perhaps alongside a selection of his letters which were beautifully written and always memorable. In the political world, he met everyone from Bill and Hillary Clinton to his close friends Neil and Christine Hamilton. Taken together, his autobiography and his letters would give a remarkable and entertaining insight into the literary, political and social world of the past sixty years.

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## DR RICHARD COOK

*Dr Richard Cook was born on 18 September 1947, and came up to St John's in 1966. He died on 9 September 2022. We are grateful to his wife, Jenny, for this appreciation.*

After training posts Richard John Cook moved to Ross on Wye with his wife, Jenny, and their young family.

He joined what was to become Alton Street Surgery in 1977 and eventually became senior partner.

Richard was the epitome of a local GP, contributing fully to the community in so many ways. He was a passionate advocate for preventing poor health, and in particular the benefits of staying active and keeping to a healthy weight. A map on the waiting room wall marked out walks of different lengths with leaflets to encourage patients to take up exercise. He practised what he preached, enjoying and leading walks for patients and practice staff.

He was ahead of his time in many ways.

Richard leaves Jenny, three children, and six grandchildren.

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## PROFESSOR KEITH READER

*Professor Keith Reader was both on 20 December 1945 and came up to St John's in 1967. He died on 22 July 2022. We are grateful to his brother, Ian, for this appreciation.*

Keith Reader, who died in July 2022 aged 76, after a long and distinguished academic career in French Cultural

Studies at universities in France and the UK, did a BPhil and DPhil on French literature at St John's starting in 1967. During the early 1970s he worked as a *lecteur* at the University of Caen in France, and then at the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* in Paris before returning to the UK and spending twenty years at Kingston University, where he was awarded a personal chair. In 1995 he moved to Newcastle University as Professor in French Studies and then in 2000 to Glasgow University as Professor in Modern French Studies. After (theoretically) retiring from Glasgow he took up a visiting emeritus professorship at the University of London in Paris, where he continued teaching part-time until shortly before his death. During his career he published numerous books and countless articles on a wide range of areas related to France, its culture, politics, intellectual traditions and its cinema. When Keith began his university studies of French, the curriculum was predominantly language and literature based, and he strove to broaden it by paying attention to French intellectual history, political thought, and above all, by developing courses on and writing extensively about cinema. He taught the first-ever course on French cinema, at Kingston, and along with other colleagues pioneered this field – one that has grown substantially as a result. His knowledge of France and its cultural, political, and social history, literary and intellectual dynamics – and its culinary riches and traditions – was encyclopaedic, something that his French friends, who were legion, commented to me when I visited Paris recently to attend a memorial dinner in his honour there. They happily acknowledged that he knew far more about their country than they did, and was the prime source to consult about restaurants, bookshops and other matters whenever they needed to visit anywhere in France they had not been before.

Alongside research he was a dedicated and enthusiastic teacher, who continued to enjoy teaching right to the end of his life; he also devoted significant time to mentoring younger colleagues in the field. Among the many tributes posted on French Studies websites and articulated at a memorial tribute conference on July 1 at Senate House, London, were testimonies from scholars whom he had taught and whose careers he had supported. He had a lifelong commitment to social justice and a fairer society and was a strong critic of the managerialism and marketisation of higher education in Britain. He developed a following on Facebook because of his scathing comments about such matters and the current political situation, but behind the occasionally acerbic public voice there was always a warm and generous spirit, who was a caring friend and mentor to many and a deeply missed brother.



## DR DAVID HOPE

*Dr David Hope was born on 2 September 1955 and came up to St John's in 1974. He died on 4 December 2022. We are grateful to his friend Keith Jackson (1974) for this appreciation, which has been written with the help of email correspondence from Professor Sir Tony Cheetham, Dr Michael Prior (1974), family, friends, and former colleagues of Qinetiq.*

David Hope came up to St John's in 1974 from Bedford Modern School as an Exhibitioner to read Chemistry.

David's early life centred around Henlow in Bedfordshire and later St Neots, Cambridgeshire. During this time at age 11 he was introduced to a hobby that became a lifetime passion and at which he excelled, bellringing. His natural brilliance earned him early exposure to new levels of Surprise Major and Royal Methods. At Oxford he would naturally join the OUS and continue to ring the most complex methods with apparent ease.

The 1974 St John's chemists were a pretty close-knit group. We stuck together as undergraduates and much of the social side of life was spent with each other – not necessarily all seven of us at any one time, but often in groups of three or four. I think we had similar values, outlook, and sense of humour and got on well together. Many of us (David included) enjoyed playing table football in the college bar, and I'm sure we spent far too many hours doing this – often late at night! Unlike the rest of us, though, David succeeded in playing the real thing for College! One interesting fact was that, including David, three of seven St John's chemists were accomplished bell ringers. Interesting, because that proportion is much higher than the population at large. Anyway, most weeks in term those three went off ringing – often to churches some way outside of Oxford.

David excelled in chemistry, receiving a scholarship in recognition of achieving a distinction in his supplementary subject crystallography. David continued this theme into his Part II research as one of Dr (now Professor Sir) Tony Cheetham's early graduate students with his work on conformations of *cis*-1,4-dihydro-4-tritylbiphenyl using x-ray diffraction and <sup>1</sup>H nmr studies – revealing one of the first examples of an edge to face aromatic interaction in a molecular crystal.

Armed with a First Class Honours degree in chemistry, David remained in Dr Cheetham's group to pursue a doctorate with a foray into the field of magnetic interactions in stoichiometric and non-stoichiometric transition metal oxide solid solutions. Employing neutron diffraction and Mössbauer-effect techniques alongside magnetic susceptibility measurements he provided new insights into the magnetic ordering of the metal ions in these antiferromagnetic solutions and the formation of defect clusters. Some of David's work in this period

remains a reference standard and continues to be cited to this day.

David became a great ambassador for Oxford Chemistry during his visiting collaborative work on Mössbauer spectroscopy at the University of Missouri/Rolla, and his trips to the L'Institut Laue-Langevin in Grenoble to collect neutron diffraction data accompanied by Dr Cheetham who recounts being frequently chased by a large guard dog on their return to the hotel; perhaps this is where David's affinity for our canine friends began.

Following completion of his DPhil and marriage to Pam in 1981, Malvern and the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment beckoned with the promise of working with semiconductor materials, which seemed an appropriate chemical transition to undertake! It was also a nod to his father who had worked in the field of radar with the RAF. David was to spend his entire working life at the RSRE and its successor organisations DERA and QinetiQ.

Making good use of his crystallography experience David began work with the growth and characterisation of dislocation structures of Silicon/Germanium doped Gallium Arsenide. This led to studies on formation mechanisms of dislocation centres and their effect on the IR transmission properties of GaAs. Work on control mechanisms for dry etching of organic polymers in plasmas followed, in particular methods for monitoring and moderating the rates of etching and their agreement with modelling techniques. He moved on in later years to monitoring and controlling the growth of SiGe transistor and quantum well structures under different doping regimes using insitu spectroscopic ellipsometry and laser light scattering. The existence of many of the semiconductor devices used in the mobile phones and laptops that we take for granted today owe much to David's innovations and insights as an extremely talented researcher.

Away from research, David was a dedicated father for two children, Jennifer (1983) and Nicola (1985), and he continued his keen interest in bellringing and conservation, joining the Malvern Hills Conservators. I enjoyed many rambles with him and his dog, Holly, across this well-loved landscape.

This phase of his life, however, was disrupted by treatment for a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. Although never fully recognizing the condition or accompanying consequences, David was able to manage it sufficiently to resume his career until an early stress related retirement from Qinetiq in 2005. However, the impacts on his relationship with Pam were considerable, with an amicable separation, then divorce in 2002, but maintaining frequent family contacts and involvement.

Following retirement, David became very active in the local community, maintaining his interests in conservation and developing new skills especially in rural crafts – typically becoming an expert pole lathe operator.

He generously apportioned some of his time assisting local people as a citizen advisor with navigating the bureaucracy of life and accessing care and benefits. Like many of us David became concerned about his carbon footprint; his (very!) humble vehicle was discarded in favour of becoming a volunteer for the Malvern Hills car share club. His trips abroad to join myself and other friends from college days on an extended hike would be initiated by a long train journey rather than taking the plane. This could lead to an unexpected bonus for our EU colleagues as David was adept at unwittingly parting company with items of outerwear along the way resulting in a resupply crisis prior to commencing our trek.

David was elected Master of the Ringers at Worcester Cathedral, a prestigious post, but accompanied by considerable stress from dealing with the egos and politics of ringing circles. After stepping down as Master, the campanology theme continued with an extensive body of research into the history of the bells at Malvern Priory and their connections with local prominent recusants in the 17th century. By this time David had become increasingly busy as a devoted grandparent with the arrival of children for his two daughters.

David was a marvellous companion. I can particularly recall a two-day hike with David as leader and friends along the Worcestershire Way in which we were entertained and educated along the path at Abberley Hill with accounts of Henry IV in 1405 looking across to the Iron Age fort of Woodbury Camp and the Welsh/French forces of Owain Glyndŵr. David was also a fount of knowledge about the geology of the area. Regrettably the lessons could not continue into a second day as our leader succumbed to blisters rendering his further progress on foot unlikely, so the remainder of the party was left to navigate the fifteen or so miles remaining without his expert guidance.

From here the annual hike theme begun with the Worcestershire Way by David, including a regular group of companions, continued both in the UK and abroad until Covid intervened. Unfortunately, with David's untimely passing, there cannot be a resumption with a full complement.

Our world is diminished by the loss of such a wonderful, modest human being and gifted scientist.

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## MICHAEL DIAMOND

*Michael Diamond was born on 6 October 1965 and came up to St John's in 1984. He died on 13 July 2023. We are grateful to his friend, Robin Gorna (1984, *Theology*), for this appreciation.*

Our much-loved friend Michael Diamond died on 13 July 2023, aged just 57. He matriculated in 1984, and many of us enjoyed his energetic, expansive friendship for two-thirds of our lives.

Michael was a great lover of life, of family, of friends, of books and bookshops, of learning, of theatre, of his wife Amy, of sailing, of poetry, of Judaism, of St John's, of food, of travel, of tennis, of teaching, of data visualisation, of pickleball, of pretty much everything – and especially of Cordelia and Oliver and Leo, his adored children.

We met as students, in a production of *The Selfish Shellfish*, one of the first environmental shows designed for children, which won the 1984 University Cuppers. Theatre was one of his constant passions, and it was through this shared love that he met his beloved wife Amy Miller, when his Harkness scholarship took him from studying English at Oxford to Theatre Management at Yale. He settled on the East Coast, eventually glorying in the best of picket fence suburbia in Rowayton, Connecticut, shuttling easily into New York City for work and to relish the best of Broadway.

Last year he reflected that his Cuppers character – the grumpy Hermit Crab – was the perfect fit for what he knew to be his destiny. He was proud to arrive at St John's College having already settled on the persona of a middle-aged Jewish husband. When we shared a house in Museum Road in our second year – with other members of the cast – his was the comfy, welcoming room where we all congregated, and he had installed a phone (no-one else had such a thing). Many of us were sitting there, drinking late one Friday night, when he received the call from the mother of our friend Jonathan Prestwich, telling us that our housemate and fellow Shellfish star had just been killed in a car crash. That moment bonded our friendship group and we have stayed close through the years, becoming even closer through the COVID years. Our St John's crowd became early adopters of WhatsApp friendship groups and social Zoom calls – moving our postponed 2020 Gaudy into virtual space and relishing regular chat and reconnection.

When Michael was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer in August 2022, he used his various WhatsApp groups to send exceptional, erudite, and heavily researched messages sharing vivid updates on his medical situation, the drugs that his team was experimenting with, the trips he had taken, the friends and family who had visited him, the plays he had seen, his latest academic passion, and his favourite poets and writers. From his home in Connecticut he shared his boundless curiosity and his love of authors such as Ada Limón and bell hooks in long reports (the last one was 17,000 words). Six months ago he told us things were getting tough, quoting the Revd Henry Melville: 'We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibres connect us with our fellow men; and among those fibres, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects.'<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In his usual way, he checked the source, and would happily remind us that this quote was often incorrectly attributed to Herman Melville.

Michael was wonderfully connected with people and ideas. In 2016 we spent an intense, fascinating time together, debating wildly as we travelled through Israel, Jordan, and Palestine. It was a time of transition for both of us. He was pivoting from a long career as Chief Marketing Officer at Time Warner Cable into the academic world. His last job was as Academic Director and Clinical Assistant Professor of Integrated Marketing at New York University. When his illness progressed, he happily ditched the Director bit, exhausted by tiresome bureaucracy and workplace politics, and focusing his now erratic energy on his beloved family and his boundless interests.

He loved to teach – in all aspects of his life. From him I learned the phrase FOMO, and over the years we realised how much we shared – including time optimism, trying to squeeze in too much, and being distracted by shiny new things.

In 2020, I ran an online writing group and expanded the hours so Michael could dial in from the US, and we

spent many weekends bemused by our procrastination — which was always at its greatest when we were writing about the things we cared about most. In my head I can hear him chuckling at how long it has taken me to write this piece about him. In large part because I do not want to believe that this wretched cancer took him so fast. We had far too many discussions and projects unfinished.

There was always so much more that he wanted to do. He had a long-standing dream of running an independent bookstore – and more than enough stock already crammed into every room of his home. As his daughter Cordelia said, at his funeral, ‘He never passed a book shop he didn’t love’. The only small comfort is knowing that he faced his illness and his dying with his usual honesty, curiosity, love of life and of family, and a contentment that he was living his life full on and without regrets.

Rest in peace, dearest Michael. You were the best of the best of us.



# College Record

## FIRST IN FINAL HONOUR SCHOOLS 2023

Xingjian Bai, Mathematics and Computer Science (MMathCompSci)  
Jamie Archibald Baillie, Literae Humaniores  
Adem Berbic, English and Modern Languages (French)  
Itrisyia Dayini Binti Kamarul Baharin, Oriental Studies (Arabic and Islamic Studies)  
Giacomo Alexander Bognolo, Jurisprudence  
Isabella Boileau, History  
Juan Antonio Davila Desmonts, Engineering Science (MEng)  
Chloe Lorraine Davis, Medicine – Preclinical  
Alfred Conor Dry, Human Sciences  
Iain Herschel Duncan, Physics (MPhys)  
Dominic Enright, Literae Humaniores  
Ozan Erder, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Lilia Evgeniou, Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry (MBiochem)  
Felix Gerard Farrell, Music  
Gessienne Grey, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Peiyang He, Physics (MPhys)  
Simeon Joel Hellsten, Mathematics (MMath)  
George Hosking, Geography  
Ruksar Hussain, History  
Gareth Ryu Edward James, Oriental Studies (Chinese)  
Megan Leanne Jaschinski, Chemistry (MChem)  
Petar Langov, Mathematics and Statistics (MMath)  
Joe Arthur Lee, Mathematics (MMath)  
Ruining Li, Computer Science (MCompSci)  
Alexander Nikolaev Makaveev, Chemistry (MChem)  
Callum Michie, Literae Humaniores  
Lily Una Middleton-Mansell, English Language and Literature  
Fiona Neave, Geography  
Sergiu-Ionut Novac, Mathematics (MMath)  
Emily Grace Oldridge, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History  
Zhe Ren Ooi, Mathematics and Statistics (MMath)  
Carys Louisa Owen, History of Art  
Tade Marozsak, Engineering Science  
Rachel Louise Pindar, Chemistry (MChem)  
Felipe Pinto Coelho Nuti, Computer Science (MCompSci)  
Ella Frances Piron, Medicine – Preclinical  
Rachel Marion Prince, Fine Art  
Nicolas David Rix-Perez, Theology and Religion  
Robert Sabovcik, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Lochie Springett, English Language and Literature  
Rachel Stacey, Modern Languages (French and Italian)  
Stephanie Francesca Targett, Philosophy and Theology  
Alexander Teeger, European and Middle Eastern Languages (Russian and Arabic)  
Charmian Ella Lane Thwaites, History  
Maria Emma Tucci, Philosophy and Modern Languages (Italian)  
Ayla Amy Webb, Biology (MBiol)  
Ramarni Treyvone Jayden Wilfred, Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics  
Ziyang Zhang, Mathematics and Statistics (MMath)

## DISTINCTION IN PART C (MMATH)

Andrew Yian Chen, Mathematics and Computer Science (MMathCompSci)  
Ilker Can Cicek, Mathematics and Computer Science (MMathCompSci)  
Scott Degraw, Mathematical & Theoretical Physics (MMathPhys)  
Samuel Matthew Gunatilleke, Mathematical & Theoretical Physics (MMathPhys)  
Yizhang Lou, Mathematics (MMath)  
Wilfred George Beckwith Offord, Mathematics (MMath)  
Jack Joseph Rawson, Mathematics (MMath)  
Tang Sui, Mathematics (MMath)  
Si Suo, Mathematics and Computer Science (MMathCompSci)  
Ioan-Paul-Petru Tirlișan, Computer Science (MCompSci)  
Kristiyan Vasilev, Mathematics (MMath)

## DISTINCTION OR FIRST CLASS IN FIRST PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 2023

Yusuke Atsuta, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Junyuan Chen, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Bulscú Dìossi, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Ben Gascoyne, Biology  
Richard Gong, Pre-clinical Medicine  
Edward Huang, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Haozhe (Kevin) Huang, Chemistry  
Jan Huebel, History and Economics  
Ali Imam-Sadeque, Mathematics  
Haru Ishizaka, Physics  
Supatpong (Nat) Juntarawatt, Chemistry  
Mehmet Koca, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Zhi-Xuan Koh, History and Politics  
Louisa Kotzee, Experimental Psychology  
Atharv Mahajan, Physics  
Alex Middleton-Hill, History  
Matilda Noble, Biology  
Atharva Parulekar, Mathematics  
Adam Rashid-Thomas, Arabic  
Raabia Saleem, Pre-clinical Medicine  
Jihwan (Ben) Shin, Engineering Science  
Alice Simmerson, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Elsa Tamayo Diaz, Chemistry  
Flora Timney, Biology  
Andy van Horsssen, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Chirag Verma, Mathematics  
James Wakefield, Biology  
Shaun Walker, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Eleanor Wilson, Experimental Psychology  
Sol Woodroffe, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Xinran (Nicole) Zhang, Biomedical Sciences

## UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS 2023/24

M Ahsan Al Mahir, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Adam Arnfield, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Cosimo Asvisio, History  
Yusuke Atsuta, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Xingjian Bai, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Ciara Beale, English & Modern Languages  
Allanah Jade Booth, Biochemistry  
Patrick Breeze, Literae Humaniores  
Benjamin Cave Calland, Chemistry  
Junyuan Chen, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Zeyu Chen, Chemistry  
Alejandra Cilleruelo Pascal, Jurisprudence  
Malina Constantinescu, Physics  
Bulscú Diosi, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Alexandru Dobra, Physics  
Sara Dragutinovic, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Flora Dyson, Music  
Saifir Elliott-Goddard, Oriental Studies  
Jacob Feldman, History & Economics  
Sorcha Finan, Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics  
Suki Fogg, Biochemistry  
Liam Fowler, Chemistry  
Damyán Frantzov, Chemistry  
Gregor Gajic, Physics  
Ben Gascoyne, Biology  
Sarv Gersten, English  
Richard Gong, Pre-clinical Medicine  
Christian Goodwin, Jurisprudence  
Guy Griffiths, Modern Languages  
Edward Huang, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Haozhe (Kevin) Huang, Chemistry  
Jan Huebel, History and Economics  
Simeon Hellsten, Mathematics  
Ryan Heppell, Mathematics  
Eleanor Hetherington, Chemistry  
Alice Hill, Music  
Jacob Hill, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
James Hindle, Engineering Science  
Ben Holdsworth, Biology  
Candice Holloway, Geography  
Ali Imam-Sadeque, Mathematics  
Haru Ishizaka, Physics  
Nathaniel James, Engineering Science  
Yuchen Jiang, Biochemistry  
Supatpong (Nat) Juntarawatt, Chemistry  
Kush Kale, Medical Sciences  
Jasmeet Kaur, Chemistry  
Susan Kellaway, Fine Art  
Wolfgang Kellerman, History  
Mehmet Koca, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Zhi-Xuan Koh, History and Politics  
Louisa Kotzee, Experimental Psychology  
Petar Langov, Mathematics  
Joe Lee, Mathematics  
Ruining Li, Computer Science  
Tevez Lotric, Physics  
Atharv Mahajan, Physics  
Isabella Malvisi, Human Sciences  
Tade Marozsak, Engineering Science  
Jake Masters, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Alex Middleton-Hill, History  
Luke Moore, Biochemistry  
James Morgan, Chemistry  
Georgi Nedyalkov, Chemistry  
Xingyu Nie, Mathematics  
Matilda Noble, Biology  
Sergiu-Ionut Novac, Mathematics  
Zhe Ren Ooi, Mathematics and Statistics  
Atharva Parulekar, Mathematics  
Edward Patrick, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Ian Pebody, Engineering Science  
Catherine Pile, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Felipe Pinto Coelho Nuti, Computer Science  
Isabella Preschern, Law with Law Studies in Europe  
Adam Rashid-Thomas, Arabic  
Cameron Renwick, Biochemistry  
Matthew Reynolds, Geography  
Emilia Rose-Fyne, History of Art  
Raabia Saleem, Pre-clinical Medicine  
Cleo Scott, History of Art  
Joshua Sharkey, Physics  
Jihwan (Ben) Shin, Engineering Science  
Adam Sikorjak, Chemistry  
Alice Simmerson, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Yasmina Slaoui, Oriental Studies (Arabic and Islamic Studies)  
Aoife Soni, Ancient and Modern History  
Michael Sopp, Biomedical Sciences  
John Spence, Modern Languages  
Xavier St John, Biochemistry  
Margarita Stefanova, Mathematics & Statistics  
Antonia Sundrup, Law with Law Studies in Europe  
Elsa Tamayo Diaz, Chemistry  
Flora Timney, Biology  
Jemma Tweedale, Biology  
Andy van Horsen, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Chirag Verma, Mathematics  
James Wakefield, Biology  
Shaun Walker, Mathematics & Computer Science  
Katherine Wang, Experimental Psychology  
Eleanor Wilson, Experimental Psychology  
Sol Woodroffe, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Yu Xiao, Mathematics  
Xinran (Nicole) Zhang, Biomedical Sciences  
Ziyang Zhang, Mathematics

## UNIVERSITY PRIZES 2022/23

Katherine Wang, awarded Proxime Accessit Weiskrantz Prize for second-best overall performance in Psychology papers in FHS Experimental Psychology Part I

Lilia Evgeniou, awarded Gibbs Prize for overall results in FHS Part I and Part II Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry examinations

Luke Moore, awarded Biochemistry Departmental prize for top mark on Paper VI in FHS Part I examination

Ioan-Paul-Petru Tirlisan, awarded Hoare Prize for best overall performance in FHS Computer Science, Part C

Jamie Baillie, awarded joint Gibbs Prize for best performance in Philosophy papers in FHS Literae Humaniores

Andy van Horssen, awarded Department of Computer Science Prize for Mathematics & Computer Science for performance on Computer Science papers in Preliminary Examination

Maria Tucci, jointly awarded The Pagett Toynbee Prize for best performance in Italian Paper IX in FHS Medieval and Modern Languages

Ziyang Zhang, awarded Gibbs Prize for best performance in FHS Mathematics and Statistics Part B

Sergiu-Ionut Novac, awarded Gibbs Prize for best performance in FHS Mathematics Part B

## COLLEGE PRIZES 2022/23

Khadijah Ali, highly commended, Mapleton Bree Prize

Benjamin Cave Calland, awarded Dr Raymond Lloyd Williams Prize (Chemistry)

Benjamin Cave Calland, awarded Christopher Coley Prize

Ashleigh Davies, awarded second prize, Kendrew Songwriting Prize

Yuzhen Dong, awarded Duveen Travel Scholarship

Sophie Erfurth, awarded Hans Michael Caspari UN Travel Grant

Yuchen Jiang, awarded Dr Raymond Lloyd Williams Prize (Biochemistry)

Daniela Johnstone, awarded DL Davies Bursary

Susan Kellaway and Mingyu Zhu, jointly awarded Mapleton-Bree Prize

Sophie Kenelm, awarded Hanlon Prize

Ségolène Michel, awarded Sir Roy Goode Prize

Judit Molnár, awarded Duveen Travel Scholarship

Emily Oldridge, awarded Ancient History Prize

Ella Piron, awarded Burke Knapp Travel Scholarship

## CHORAL SCHOLARS 2022/23

Iris Corran

Ozan Erder

Rachel Ing

Ella Jackson

Maria Torras Perez

Lochie Springett

## IOAN AND ROSEMARY JAMES

### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS 2022/23

Zhe Ren Ooi, Mathematics and Statistics (2020/21)

Ziyang Zhang, Mathematics (2020/21)

Juanru Zhao, Mathematics (2020/21)

Sara Dragutinovic, Mathematics and Computer Science (2021/22)

Atharva Parulekar, Mathematics (2022/23)

Martin Kopchev, Mathematics and Computer Science (2023/24)

## REACH SCHOLARS 2022/23

Ahsab Al Mahir, Mathematics and Computer Science (2021/22)

Artharv Maharjan, Physics (2022/23)

James Wakefield, Biology (2022/23)

Burak Karatas, Mathematics and Computer Science (2023/24)

## SIMON & JUNE LI SCHOLARS 2022/23

Zaheen A-Rahman, Engineering

## GRADUATE DEGREES CONFERRED 2022/23

### Doctor of Philosophy

Casey Adam, Condensed Matter Physics

Katharine Burnett, Ancient History

Joseph Carlsmith, Philosophy

Sabrina Chou, Fine Art

Laura Courchesne, International Relations

Ioana Grigoras, Clinical Neurosciences

Mario Hensen, Biochemistry

Rachael Hodge, English

Robert Hortle, International Development

Fu-Lien Hsieh, Biochemistry

Andreas Kjær, Biochemistry

Alice Kerr, Mathematics

Olivier Robert Edward Vigny Lennon, Theoretical Physics

Angelika Love, Experimental Psychology

Edward Love, Oriental Studies

Yuanyuan Lu, Physical and Theoretical Chemistry

Michael McAuley, Mathematics

Nur Hannah Mohamed Nazri, Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Giustina Anna Addolorata Monti, Classical Languages and Literature

Bryan Ng, Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics

Anna Olerinyova, Physical and Theoretical Chemistry

Tereza Ruzickova, Psychiatry

Isabelle Scott, Mathematics

Kum Foong Larissa See, Organic Chemistry

Aislin Sheldon, Clinical Neurosciences

Roman Stasinski, Statistics

Szilvia Szanyi, Theology

Alexander Thorne, Mathematics

Mels Jakob Verburg, Oriental Studies

Dante Wasmuht, Experimental Psychology

Jing Ye, Mathematics

### Master of Science

Henry Bambury, Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science

Homero Barrocas Soares Esmeraldo, Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics

Ngai Lam Chung, Biochemistry

Garima, Desai, Economics for Development

Hugh Goatcher, Advanced Computer Science

Orsolya Lili Janzer, Advanced Computer Science  
Yuanyuan Pu, Theoretical and Comp Chemistry  
Maryia, Shymanovich, Theoretical and Comp Chemistry  
Evan Walker, Sociology  
Sholto Wright, Modern Middle Eastern Studies

### Master of Philosophy

Mariana Canales, Law  
Nicholas Carverhill, Development Studies  
Alexis Kallen, Development Studies  
Tatiana Kurschner, Law  
Carla Schröder, Economics  
Liana Wang, Politics: Political Theory

### Master of Studies

Vighnesh Hampapura, Comparative Literature and Critical Translation  
Gabrielle Samra, Medieval Studies  
Eli Zuzovsky, Modern Languages (French and German)

### Master of Business Administration

Rui Li  
Pawel Rzemieniecki  
Daven Subbiah  
Jagan Subbiah  
Xiao Wei

### Master of Fine Art

Hannah Lim

### Master of Public Policy

João Arthur Da Silva Reis  
Hannah Foxton

### Bachelor of Fine Art

Anna Busuttill  
Alice Hackney

## NAMED AWARD SCHOLARS 2022/23

### Nicholas Bratt Scholar

Guokin Liu, Engineering

### Elizabeth Fallaize Scholar

Lynn Nguyen, Medieval and Modern Languages

### Drue Heinz Scholars

Rebecca Bradburn, English  
Sara Lopes Borga, English

### Beeston Scholar

Zaki Rehman, History

### Ioan and Rosemary James Graduate Scholars

Simone Hu, Mathematics  
Rosemary Huck, Geography (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Yuze Jin, Mathematics  
Hsuan-Hsien Lee, Mathematics  
Utkarsh Saxena, Public Policy (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Michal Szachniewicz, Mathematics

### Michael Pragnall Scholar

Roberto Interdonato, Medieval and Modern Languages

### North Senior Scholars

Rebecca Bradburn, English  
Carles Falco, Mathematics  
Michael Nastac, Physics  
Sahba Seddighi, Biochemistry  
Yuan Zhang, Anthropology

### Kendrew Scholars (all joint with Clarendon Scholarship)

Tesfahivet Abraha, Earth Sciences  
Adam Bin Salmaan Hussain, Nature, Society & Environmental Governance (MSc)  
Guneet Dhillon, Statistics  
Yunchuan Huang, Engineering  
Ainura Moldokmatova, Clinical Medicine

### Lester B Pearson Scholars

Lea Anderson, Geography (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)  
Katherine Saverd, Astrophysics (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)

### St John's Alumni Fund Scholars

Sakina Amin, Biochemistry (joint with Clarendon)  
Yi-Ting Chang, Geography and the Environment (joint with Clarendon)  
Laura Dillon, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with Clarendon)  
Genevieve Hayes, Engineering Science (joint with Clarendon)  
Denis Lan, Experimental Psychology (joint with Clarendon)  
Shuyi Luo, Experimental Psychology (joint with Clarendon)  
Erik Moreno Superlano, Migration Studies (joint with Clarendon)  
Michael Nastac, Physics (joint with Clarendon)  
Ronya Ramrath, Philosophy (joint with Clarendon)  
Xingchen Wan, Engineering Science (joint with Clarendon)  
Qiming Yuan, Experimental Psychology (joint with Clarendon)  
Ekaterina Zhigileva, Chemistry (joint with Hill Foundation)

### UKRI Partnership Scholarships

Sparshita Dey, Physics (joint with EPSRC)  
Chinedu Chukwudinma, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Isabel Brooks, Clinical Medicine (joint with MRC)  
Peter George, History (joint with AHRC)  
Sylvia McKelvie, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Judit Molnár, Anthropology (joint with ESRC)  
Katie Croft, Medical Sciences (joint with MRC)  
Ruthanne Brooks, Theology and Religion (joint with AHRC)  
Natasha Gasparian, Fine Art (joint with AHRC)  
James Glover, Philosophy (joint with AHRC)  
Abigail Hayton, Theology and Religion (joint with AHRC)  
Ahmet Inan, Fine Art (joint with AHRC)  
Elliot Koubis, Modern Languages (joint with AHRC)  
Richard Rehman, History (joint with AHRC)  
Javier Chico Vazquez, Mathematics (joint with EPSRC)  
Gabriel Flath, Statistics (joint with EPSRC)  
Arianwen Herbert, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with EPSRC)  
Martin Mosny, Physics (joint with EPSRC)



Eduard Oravkin, Statistics (joint with EPSRC)  
Joseph Pollacco, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (joint with EPSRC)  
Rachael Chan, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Natasha Durie, Anthropology (joint with ESRC)  
Alessandra Enrico Headrington, Migration Studies (joint with ESRC)  
Ibrahim Ince, Anthropology (joint with ESRC)  
George Kirkham, Geography (joint with ESRC)  
Jamie Sandall, Geography and the Environment (joint with ESRC)  
Hannah Dobbs, Clinical Medicine (joint with MRC)  
Konstantinos Lekkos, Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics (joint with MRC)  
Amy McCall, Psychiatry (joint with MRC)  
Holly Roach, Clinical Medicine (joint with MRC)

Gustavo Fernandes Pedroso, Oriental Studies (joint with AHRC)  
Isaac Ellmen, Biomedical Sciences (joint with EPSRC)  
Helena Harpham, Molecular Cell Biology in Health and Disease (joint with MRC)

**Black Academic Futures scholar**

Chinedu Chukwudinma, Geography and the Environment

**Daniel Slifkin Scholar**

Veronika Galka, Bachelor of Civil Law

**Neil Matheson Scholar**

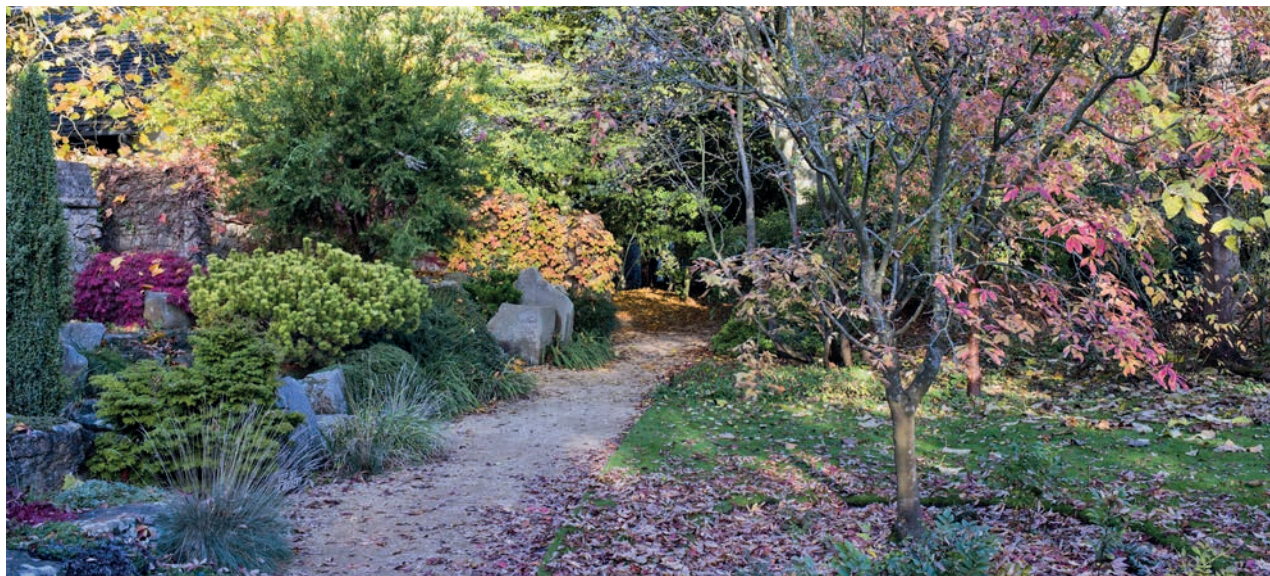
Antonia Delius, Economics (joint with Clarendon Scholarship)

**Angus McLeod Scholar**

Rachel Hurwitz, Anthropology



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## SENIOR MEMBERS 2023/24

### Members of Governing Body

**Susan Margaret Black, Baroness Black of Strome**, (BSc, PhD Aberdeen), DBE OBE BSc PhD FRSE FBA FRAI FRSE ChFA, Visiting Professor of Forensic Anatomy, DPAG, President

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

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

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

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

**Kate Anne Nation**, MA, (BSc, PhD York), FBA, FAcSS, Tutor in Psychology and Professor of Experimental Psychology, Steward of High Table, Steward of Common Room and Provost for Academic Affairs

**Philip Kumar Maini**, MA, DPhil, FRS, Professorial Fellow in Mathematical Biology

**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, Keeper of the Groves

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

**Andrei Starinets**, (CandSci, Dipl Moscow, PhD New York), Tutor and Professor of 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 Professor of Animal Behaviour

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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

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

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

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

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

**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 Professor of Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Fellow for Research

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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, Dean of Degrees

**Ben McFarlane**, MA, BCL, Professorial Fellow in English Law and Fellow for Sports

**Elizabeth Wonnacott**, (MA Edinburgh, PhD Rochester NY), Associate Professor in Applied Linguistics

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

**Nicholas Kenneth Jones**, (BA, MA Leeds, PhD London), Tutor and Associate Professor in Philosophy

**Zoe Julie Clare Hancock**, MA, ACA, Principal Bursar

**Sandra Campbell**, (BSc Edin, MSc, PhD Dundee), Tutor in Physiology, Fellow for Access

**Katherine Doornik**, BA, MPhil, (PhD Stanford), Supernumerary Fellow in Economics and Fellow for Equality

**Brenda Elaine Stevenson**, (BA Virginia, MA, PhD Yale), Professorial Fellow and Hillary Rodham Clinton Professor of Women's History

**Ketan Jayakrishna Patel**, FRS FMedSci MRCP, (MBBS London, PhD Cantab.), Director of MRC Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine and Fellow for Ethnic Minorities

**Robert Hoyer**, MA (BE Auckland, PhD Cantab.), Tutor and Associate Professor in Chemistry

**Laurence Tudor Hunt**, MSc, DPhil (MA Cantab.), Tutor and Associate Professor in Psychology

**Ranjit Lall**, BA (MA, PhD Harvard), Tutor and Associate Professor in Politics

**Tahera Qutbuddin**, (BA Ain Shams, Cairo, MA, PhD Harvard), Professorial Fellow and AlBabtain Laudian Professor of Arabic in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

**Armin Lak**, (BSc, MSc, Trieste, PhD Cantab.), Tutor in Neuroscience

### Supernumerary Fellows

**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

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

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

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

**James Alexander Maynard**, DPhil, (BA, MMath Cantab.), Professor of Number Theory, Mathematical Institute

**Walter Mattli**, MA, (BA University of Geneva, MA New York, PhD Chicago)

**Georg Viehhauser**, (PhD Vienna), Physics

**Jessica Omukuti**, (BSc Nairobi, MSc Sussex, PhD Reading), Net Zero Fellow

**Lucy Foulkes**, (PhD London), Youth Mental Health Research Fellow

**John Fulljames**, (MSc Cantab.), Director, Humanities Cultural Programme, University of Oxford

**Peter Martin Visscher**, (BSc Dronten, MSc, PhD Edinburgh), FRS, Professor of Quantitative Genetics

**Matthew Winterbottom**, (BA Leeds, PGDip Manchester), Assistant Keeper (Curator of Decorative Arts and Sculpture), Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology

**Heather Harrington**, (BS Amherst, PhD Imperial), Academic Faculty, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford; Director for the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden and Head of the Center of Systems Biology in Dresden

### Supernumerary Teaching Fellows

**Jenny Claire Jones Richards**, BA, DPhil (MRes London), Geography

**Jordan Stanley English**, BCL (LLB, BCom, Queensland), Law

**Jane Ivy Coons**, (BA, State University of New York at Geneseo, MSc, PhD, North Carolina State University), Mathematics

**Alice Roullière**, (BA, MA Paris Sorbonne and ENS Ulm, PhD Cantab.), Medieval and Modern Languages, French

**Craig MacLean**, (BSc McGill, PhD McGill), Biology

**Nicholas Geraint Jones**, (MSc, PhD Bristol, MSc Waterloo), Mathematics

### Emeritus Research Fellows

**Fraser Andrew Armstrong**, MA (BSc, PhD Leeds) FRS, formerly Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry

**Charles James Keith Batty**, MA, MSc, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Mathematics

**Julia Margaret Bray**, MA, DPhil, formerly Abdulaziz Saud AlBabtain Laudian Professor of Arabic

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

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

**Richard Guy Compton**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Chemistry

**Paul Philip Craig**, Hon KC, MA, BCL, FBA, formerly Professorial Fellow in English Law

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

**Alan Grafen**, MA, MPhil, DPhil, FRS, formerly Tutor in Quantitative Biology

**Nicholas Paul Harberd**, (MA, PhD Cantab.), FRS, formerly Professor of Plant Sciences

**Sir John Anderson Kay**, MA, (MA Edin), FBA, formerly Supernumerary Fellow in Economics

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

**Carolyn Ann Larrington**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in English

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

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

**Andrew John Parker**, (MA, PhD, ScD Cantab.), FSB, formerly Tutor in Physiology

**John Charles George Pitcher**, MA, DPhil, FEA, formerly Tutor in English

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

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

**Catherine Whistler**, MA, (PhD National University of Ireland), formerly Supernumerary Fellow in Art History, Research Keeper, Western Art Department, Ashmolean Museum

**Simon John Whittaker**, MA, DPhil, DCL, formerly Tutor in Law

### Research Fellows

**Akanksha Awal**, DPhil (BEng LondonMet, MSc London), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Anthropology

**Teresa Rachel May Witcombe**, BA (MA Paris IV and EHES, PhD Exeter), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, History

**Alexander Weide**, (BA Marburg, MSc, PhD Tuebingen), Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Archaeology

**Seunghoon Chae**, BA, MPhil, DPhil, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Politics

### Junior Research Fellows

**Jennifer Johnson**, MSt, DPhil, (BA Cantab.), History of Art, Assistant Dean of Degrees

**Emilija Talijan**, (MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Modern Languages

**Emily Alexandra Katzenstein**, MPhil (BA London, MA, PhD Chicago), Politics

**Justine Laura Potts**, MA, MSt, DPhil, Woodhouse Junior Research Fellow in Classics, Assistant Dean of Degrees

**Zhenyu Cai**, DPhil (BA, MSc Cantab.), Physics

**Isabella Eileen Maudlin**, (BSc, PhD Edinburgh, MPhil Cantab.), Biochemistry

**Josef Boronski**, (MChem York, PhD Manchester), Chemistry

**Chao He**, DPhil (MEng Tsinghua, MRes London), Engineering Science

**Laura Flannigan**, (BA, MA York, PhD Cantab.), History

**Auguste Vadisiute**, DPhil (BSc LUHS, MSc VU), Physiology and Medicine

**Daniel Baiding Zhang**, (BA, MMath, PhD Cantab.), Mathematics

**Priya Urs**, (PhD UCL, LL.M Cantab.), Law

**Alexandra Simone Grieve**, (BA University of Cape Town, MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Modern Languages

**Christopher David Frugé**, (AB Harvard, MA Houston, PhD Rutgers), Philosophy

**Kaitlyn Mary Louise Cramb**, (BSc British Columbia, MSc ETH Zurich), Biochemistry

**Aniruddha Saha**, (BA Manipal, MA, PhD London), Politics

**Sean Alexander Hardy**, (BBiotech, PhD Newcastle, Australia & Graz, Austria), Biochemistry

### Lecturers

**William Ludwig Allen**, MPhil, DPhil (BA Alma), Politics

**Christoph Bachhuber**, DPhil, (MA Texas), Archaeology

**Laurence John Belcher**, (BSc, MRes Exeter, PhD Bath), Biology

**Ben Bollig**, (BA Nottingham, MA, PhD London), Spanish

**Conor Fergus Brennan**, MSt (BA, PhD Dublin), German

**Nadine Isabelle Buchmann**, (MA Geneva), German Lektorin

**Benedict David McKay Bunting**, MCompSci, Computer Science

**Marco Cappelletti**, MJur, DPhil (Laurea Magistrale Perugia, LL.M Harvard), Law

**Penelope Clare Louise Coombe**, MA, DPhil (MA London), FSA, Classical Archaeology

**Aled Davies**, MSc, DPhil (BA Exeter), History

**Susan Michelle Doran**, BA (PhD London) History

**Marion Durand**, (BA Cantab., PhD Toronto), Ancient Philosophy

**Marie Elven**, (DEA Paris III), French Language

**Lydia Gilday**, MChem, DPhil, Chemistry

**Patrick Gill-Tiney**, BA, (MSc London, MA Maryland), Politics

**Francesco Giusti**, (BA, MA L'Aquila, PhD SUM – Florence), Italian

**Paul Griffiths**, (BSc, PhD Liverpool), Quantitative Methods and Statistics

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

**Adam Harper**, DPhil (MA London), Music

**Anna Hoerder-Suabedissen**, DPhil, MSc (BSc Lancaster), Neuroscience

**Matthew Hosty**, MSt, DPhil, Classics

**Sanjay Jain**, (BA Delhi, MA Johns Hopkins, PhD Princeton), Economics

**Claudia Kaiser**, (MA Erlangen-Nuremberg, Dipl Bamberg), German Language

**Tamar Koplataдзе**, DPhil (BA Bristol, MA London), Modern Languages

**David Colin Lee**, (MA Nottingham, PhD Bristol), Philosophy

**Max Marcus**, MSc, DPhil, Chemistry

**Louise Nelstrop**, (BD AKC, PGCE, MA Bristol, PhD Birmingham), Theology  
**Marc Olivier**, (BA Tours, MSc, PhD Ulster), Linguistics  
**Luisa Matilda Ostacchini**, MSt, DPhil (BA Warwick), English Literature  
**Michelle Pfeffer**, MSc (BA, PhD Queensland), History  
**Alice Bethany Rose Raw**, MSt, DPhil, History  
**Devinderjit Sivia**, (BA, DPhil Cantab.), Mathematics for the Sciences  
**Nathan Paul Spiller**, MEng, Engineering Science  
**Ana Maria Stoienescu**, (MA Paris Nanterre), French Lectrice  
**Reinier van Straten**, MSt, DPhil, German  
**Alan Strathern**, DPhil, (MA London), History  
**Stephen David Watkins**, (BA Southampton, MA York, PhD Southampton), FHEA, English  
**Rohan Wijesurendra**, DPhil, MRCP, (MB, BChir, MA Cantab.), Clinical Medicine  
**Samuel Wolfe**, (MPhil, PhD Cantab.), Linguistics

### Emeritus Fellows

**Sir Royston Miles Goode**, CBE, KC, 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  
**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

**Joel Ouaknine**, MA, DPhil, (BSc, MSc McGill), formerly Tutor in Computer Science and Professor of Computer Science  
**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  
**Mark Robert Freedland**, MA, DPhil, (LLB London), KC (Hon), FBA, formerly Tutor in Law  
**Paul Kevin Dresch**, MA, DPhil, formerly Fellow by Special Election in Social Anthropology  
**Peter Stephen Michael Hacker**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Philosophy  
**Ross Ian McKibbin**, MA, DPhil, (MA Sydney), FBA, formerly Tutor in History  
**John Langton**, (MA Cantab., BA, PhD Wales), formerly Tutor in Geography  
**Thomas Stainforth Kemp**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Zoology  
**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  
**Malcolm Graham Allen Vale**, MA, DPhil, FRHistS, formerly Tutor in History  
**David Robert Stirzaker**, MA, DPhil, formerly Tutor in Mathematics  
**Sally Jayne Layburn**, MA, FCA, formerly Finance Bursar and Supernumerary Fellow

### Honorary Fellows

**Sir Keith Vivian Thomas**, CH, 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  
**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  
**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

**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)

**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, CVO, DCL, 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 Emeritus of Evercore Partners International LLP; formerly Chairman for the Royal Commission for the Great Exhibition of 1851; 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

**Sir 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

**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), Director of the CIA; formerly graduate student; formerly US Ambassador to Jordan, US Ambassador to Russia; formerly US Under Secretary for Political Affairs and Deputy Secretary of State; formerly 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

**Dame 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; formerly Dodge Professor of History, Princeton University; Chair, National Portrait Gallery; Editor, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*
- Andrew Harrison**, OBE, MA, DPhil, FRS, 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**, KC, PC, BA, formerly Commoner; Lord Justice of Appeal
- Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Hamblen**, KC, PC, BA, (LLM Harvard Law School); formerly Scholar; Lord Justice of Appeal; Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom
- Sir Robert Devereux**, KCB, BA, (MA Edin), formerly Commoner, formerly Permanent Secretary for the Department of Work and Pensions
- Sir Nigel Carrington**, formerly 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, Reuben College
- Jane Lucy Lightfoot**, MA, DPhil, FBA, Professor of Greek Literature and Charlton Fellow and Tutor in Classics, New College
- Catherine Rowena Mallyon**, CBE, MA, formerly Executive Director, Royal Shakespeare Company; Chair of Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre Trust
- Dorothy Vera Margaret Bishop**, MA, DPhil, (DM Lond), FMedSci, FBA, FRS, formerly Professor of Developmental Neuropsychology
- Myles Robert Allen**, DPhil, FInstP, Professor of Geosystem Science, Fellow of Linacre College
- Alexander Bird**, MA (PhD Cantab.), Bertrand Russell Professor of Philosophy, Cambridge University
- Christopher Joseph Schofield**, FRS, FRSC; DPhil (BSc Manchester), Head of Organic Chemistry, Oxford University
- Khoo Boon Hui**, MA, Légion d'honneur, Ordre national du Mérite; formerly Police Commissioner, Singapore (1997–2010) and President of INTERPOL (2008–12)
- Peter Sayer Phillips**, MA, former Organ Scholar; Bodley Fellow, Merton College; founder of The Tallis Scholars
- Sarah-Jayne Blakemore**, BA (PhD London), FBA, FRSB, Professor of Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Cambridge and Co-Director of the Wellcome Trust PhD programme in Neuroscience at University College London
- Elleke Deirdre Boehmer**, FRSL, FRHistS, MPhil, DPhil (BA Rhodes), Professor of World Literature in English, Oxford University
- Sir John Oliver Frank Kingman**, KCB, BA, FRS, Chairman, Legal & General Group
- Sir Michael Graham Jacobs**, KCB, BA (MB BS, PhD London), MRCP, FRCP, FRCPEd, formerly Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, Warden of Keble College
- David Andrew Flood**, BA (PGCE Cantab.), formerly Organist and Master of the Choristers, Canterbury Cathedral
- Pratap Bhanu Mehta**, BA (PhD Princeton), FBA, formerly Vice-Chancellor of Ashoka University, and President, Center for Policy Research, Delhi, Laurence Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching at Princeton University
- David Edward Herbert Edgerton**, BA (PhD London), FBA, Hans Rausing Professor and Professor of Modern British History, King's College London
- Judy Hirst**, DPhil, FRS, FMedSci, Director of the Medical Research Council Mitochondrial Biology Unit and Professor of Biological Chemistry, University of Cambridge
- Musa Olara Cwa Okwonga**, BA, FRSL, award-winning author and co-host of the Stadio football podcast
- Sir Stephen Huw Powis**, MMed (PhD London, MBA Warwick), FRCP, SFFMLM, Hon FRCP(G), Hon MFPH, National Medical Director, NHS England and Professor of Renal Medicine at University College London
- Salim Yusuf**, DPhil, FRCPC, FRSC, OC, Distinguished University Professor of Medicine, McMaster University and Executive Director, Population Health Research Institute, Hamilton General Hospital, Canada

# News of Alumni

The College thanks alumni who have supported College committees and activity over the past year:

**Committee for the Promotion of the Arts:** Matthew Morrison (1997, Jurisprudence).

**Development and Alumni Relations Committee:** Dr Jutta Huesmann (1996, Modern History), Dr Kate Molesworth (1985, Biological Anthropology), Jonathan Ross (1991, PPE), Bernard Taylor CVO (1975, Chemistry).

**Development Board:** Chair: Bernard Taylor CVO (1975, Chemistry), Dr Genevieve Davies (1994, Modern Languages), Tom Ewing (1995, PPE), Edward Hocknell (1980, Classics), Dr Yungtai Hsu (1971, History), Michael McDonough (1994, Visiting Student Programme), Dr Nigel Meir (1975, Medicine).

**Finance Committee:** Sir Robert Devereux KBC (1975, Mathematics), Tom Hill (1980, Physics), Dr Nigel Meir (1975, Medicine), Nicholas Dunning (1981, Chemistry).

**Investment Advisory Group (IAG):** Chair: Michael McLintock (1980, History and Economics), Nick Bratt (1967, PPE), Neil Matheson (1976, PPE), Peter Wilson (1985, Engineering, Economics and Management).

**Oxford North:** Bernard Taylor CVO (1975, Chemistry), Dr Isobel Pinder (1980, Literae Humaniores).

**Remuneration Committee:** Chair: Sir Nigel Carrington (1975, Jurisprudence), Alison Lakey (1998, Human Sciences), Jeanette Holland (1985, Jurisprudence), Simon Forshaw (1997, Jurisprudence).

**Research Committee:** Professor Sir John Darwin CBE (1966, History), Professor Andrew Harrison OBE (1978, Chemistry), Professor Jane Lightfoot (1988, Literae Humaniores), Professor Chris Schofield (1982, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry).

**Sustainability Work Group:** Chair: Briony Fitzsimons (2001, Biological Sciences).

**Women's Network Steering Group:** Chair: Dr Kate Molesworth (1985, Biological Anthropology), Alex Bollen (1991, History), Joanne Harrison Gross (1981, Modern Languages), Rose Sundt (2015, Oriental Studies).

## 1955

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**Richard Trist** has retired as Chairman of the Finance Committee for St John's Catholic Cathedral in Portsmouth but continues to serve on the altar. His five grandchildren are flourishing.

## 1957

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**Tim Ambler** recently had his book *Shrinking Whitehall to Improve Government Efficiency* published by the Adam Smith Institute.

## 1960

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**Dr Rowland Burdon** FRSNZ, FNZIF, was elected Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science (FIAWS).

## 1966

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**The Reverend Canon Dr John Twisleton** broadcasts regularly on Premier Christian Radio and has published two books: *Guyana Venture – A Church of England Mission* (2022) and *Thirty Walks from Brighton Station – Catching sights and sea air* (2022).

## 1972

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**Giles Dawson** staged a concert for his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in Wantage in May 2023. Among the performers was **Tim Smithies** (1976). In spring 2024, Giles will be curating an exhibition in London to celebrate the life and career of Sir Neville Marriner (1924–2016). A version of this is expected to be viewable online, by googling Academy of St Martin in the Fields – the globally successful musical organisation founded by Marriner in 1958.



1973

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**Dr Thom Braun** recently published his new novel *Hungerford Stairs: An Untold Tale of Charles Dickens* (2023, Troubador Publishing Ltd).

**Professor Roger Woods** recently published his new book *The Palgrave Handbook of Testimony and Culture* (2023, Springer International Publishing AG).

1974

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**Stephen Barber** has just completed a history of the 217-year-old Pictet Group, where he worked for twenty-seven years. The book, entitled *La Maison*, was privately published by Bloomsbury in early 2023.

**Dr Jonathan Duke-Evans** belatedly has his first book, *An English Tradition? The History and Significance of Fair Play*, published by Oxford University Press in January 2023. It is an attempt to analyse and explain in historical terms the centuries old relationship between English culture and the idea of fair play, in warfare, sport, law, politics, and many other fields.

**Professor Christopher Fitter**, Professor of English at Rutgers University, has been appointed by Routledge to create and edit *The Routledge Companion to Shakespeare and Politics*, which will feature thirty contributors.

1975

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**Mark Abley** was awarded a DLitt by the University of Saskatchewan in November 2022 in recognition of his services to Canada's literary community. His new book of narrative nonfiction, *Strange Bewildering Times: Istanbul to Kathmandu in the Last Year of the Hippie Trail*, appeared in February 2023.

**The Rt Revd Dr Lawrence Cross** recently published his newest book *An Illusion of Division*.

1983

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**Kishor Kale** was made homeless recently and had to show photo ID for the Emergency Accommodation that the local Council had offered him and used his old Cambridge University Library Card with his Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics affiliation. This must have been the only time a Housing Officer had seen such identification in this context. The comment of Dr Colin Crouch, then Chair of the Oxford Undergraduate Admissions Committee, to Kishor's 1994 newspaper article about how he got into St John's, which was on the noticeboard of the Cambridge DPMMS

for several weeks and discussed in the Common Room there, was that it was a 'remarkable story'. He has been told by someone else that it is a 'feat' to have peer-reviewed publications in two such diverse fields as Pure Mathematics and English Literature as he has. There are others who have published in two unrelated fields, and there may well be some who have done so after being homeless, but it must be a feat and a remarkable story to be homeless after publishing in two fields.

1988

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**Natasha McMichael (nee Hutchinson)** was ordained deacon in Chelmsford Cathedral on 11 September 2022 by Bishop Guli, having studied for three years part-time at St Mellitus College. She is serving her curacy in the United Benefice of Kelvedon and Feering.

1990

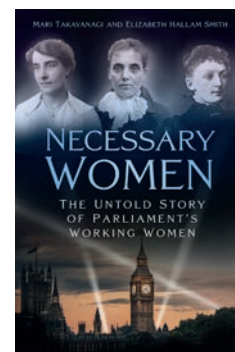
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**James Stewart** has recently finished a double stint at the Edinburgh Fringe, in 'Shakespeare Up Late!' and 'The Railway Children', both for C Theatres. He is also guiding visitors through Edinburgh's history at the Real Mary King's Close. He now also provides voice over work and works as an Associate Coach offering accent softening and public speaking coaching.

1992

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**Dr Mari Takayanagi** co-authored a book, *Necessary Women: the Untold Story of Parliament's Working Women* (History Press), available from all good bookshops. Drawing on unique research based on the Parliamentary archives, government records and family history sources, *Necessary Women* shows how women touched just about every aspect of the life of Parliament, largely unacknowledged – until now.



1997

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**James Holden** released his fourth album *Imagine This Is a High Dimensional Space of All Possibilities* – the vintage rave soundtrack he would have wanted as a teenager.

1998

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**Jennifer Allen**, aka Quilla Constance, is delighted to announce a solo exhibition at The Higgins Bedford. *Teasing Out Contingencies* will be available to view

between 17 June 2023 and 7 January 2024, and is compiled of eight new large-scale oil paintings and a costume installation. The exhibition seeks to create exciting new narratives, exploring – what is British society now and where are we going? These are timely questions as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, and as we re-examine our relationship with the British monarchy in the wake of the Queen’s passing and the Coronation of King Charles III.

**Gawain Little** was appointed General Secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions (GFTU) earlier this year.

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## 2002

**Rasha Barrage** recently co-authored *No More Fairy Tales: Stories to Save our Planet* (2022, Habitat Press). The book is an anthology of stories that propose inventive solutions to tackle the climate crisis. The anthology was distributed to all COP27 delegates and is now available to purchase.

**Andrew Henderson** and Verity welcomed Gregory Alexander in July 2022, a brother to Edward William, born in November 2018 and who has Simon Hunter (also 2002) as a godfather.

**Dr Mantha Zarmakoupi** has authored the forthcoming book *Shaping Roman Landscape: Ecocritical Approaches to Architecture and Wall Painting in Early Imperial Italy* for the J. Paul Getty Museum. In this book, author Zarmakoupi explores how landscape emerged as a significant theme in the Roman Late Republican and Early Imperial periods. This illustrated volume examines how representations of real and depicted landscapes, and the merging of both in visual space, contributed to the creation of novel languages of art and architecture. Drawing on a diverse body of archaeological, art historical, and literary evidence, this study applies an ecocritical lens that moves beyond the limits of traditional iconography.

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## 2005

**Emily Rookwood** and **Carl Baatz** (2002) would like to announce the birth of their daughter Linnea Rose Baatz on 14 April 2022 in Zurich.

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## 2006

**Dr Alex Niven** has recently published his new book *The North Will Rise Again: In Search of the Future in Northern Heartlands* (2023, Bloomsbury).

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## 2007

**Dr Michelle Leese** recently had her 2019 PhD thesis in German Linguistics from the University of St Andrews published by Peter Lang Oxford as a book entitled *Form, Meaning and Aspect in the German Impersonal Passive*.

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## 2009

**Jack Bradley-Seddon** and **Dr Michelle Leese** (2007) are delighted to announce they were married on Saturday 16 September 2023.

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## 2010



**Holly Creevy** and **Tom Doak** wed in a pantheist ceremony in August 2023 at Long Meg Stone Circle in Cumbria. The new Mr and Mrs Doak thank their St John’s friends who celebrated with them.



**Lena Lee** never knew where she belonged growing up. As the daughter of a diplomat, she moved countries every three years, her world swinging between East and West. As a Third Culture Kid, she has lived in Seoul, Paris, Oslo, Kuala Lumpur and New Jersey. After struggling for many years with her mental health, Lena wrote a deeply

personal memoir about her global upbringing and the ensuing search for a sense of identity and belonging: *Girl Uprooted: A Memoir* (2023, Little Koo Press).

**Ed Love** is pleased to announce the publication of another monograph: *Petitioning Osiris*. *Petitioning Osiris* edits, analyses, and contextualises the ‘Letters to Gods’ from Ancient Egypt, in which individuals petitioned deities about their struggles and aspirations. From healing a relative to cursing an adversary, this trilingual corpus provides a wealth of insights not only into the conceptions of the divine but also the social history of ‘ordinary’ Egyptians.

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## 2011

**Jakov Milatović** was elected the President of Montenegro declaring victory over the long-standing leader Milo Djukanovic. Jakov’s inauguration took place on 20 May 2023.

**Dr Peter Rackstraw** was awarded the Nuffield Medal for coming top in the country at the primary examinations of the Fellowship of the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

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## 2019

**Nancy Powell** has started a collective/charity/company called the Young Pilgrims. They have just finished their first pilgrimage which was a great success! They spent four days in Dorset, sleeping in churches, dancing on the Cerne Abbas Giant at midnight, singing and hiking! They walked about eleven–thirteen miles a day, each with their own hazel staffs and ate in village pubs in the evening.





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