



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

# The Eagle 2020





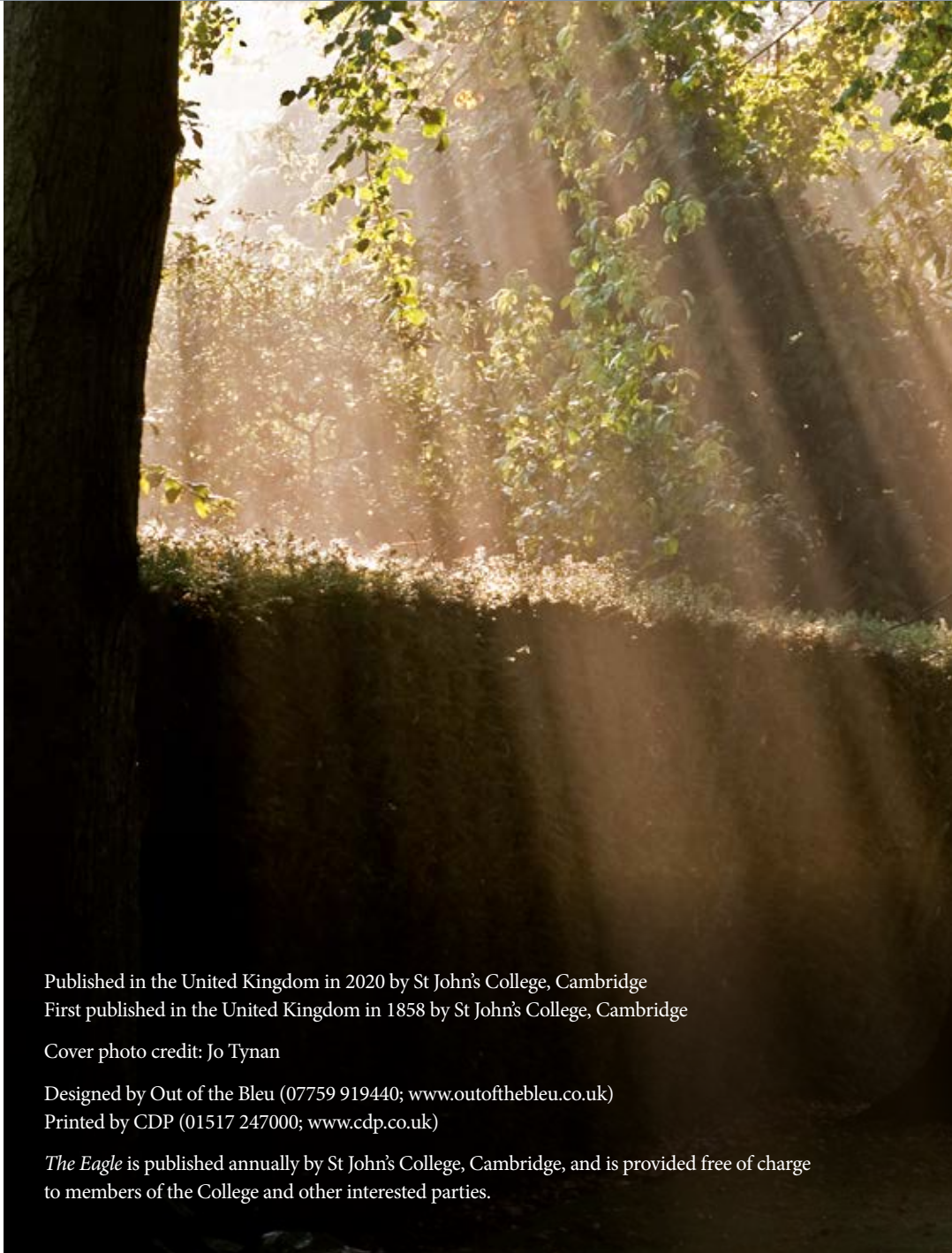
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UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

# The Eagle 2020

Photo: Emma Dellar, Lead Clinical Nurse, living on-site during the lockdown Credit: Nordin Čatić (2017)

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Photo: *Komorebi*  
Credit: Paul Everest

# WELCOME



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# Contributors

Thanks to all who have helped shape this issue of *The Eagle*, including:

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## KADI LIIS SAAR

Kadi joined St John's as a Junior Research Fellow in 2019. Before her university studies, she was a world-ranked junior tennis player and won 'Estonia's got talent' for her mental arithmetic skills. As a Schmidt Science Fellow, Kadi now works between the Centre for Misfolding Diseases and the Maxwell Centre, and her research focuses on developing new experimental methods and predictive computational tools for understanding the behaviour of biological molecules and systems in particular proteins. She is also the mother of two children and has worked on several projects concerning Estonian diaspora abroad, including co-founding the Oxford & Cambridge Club Estonia.

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## RICHARD BROWN

Richard is a veterinary surgeon who divides his time between the North of Scotland and overseas. His diverse research interests reflect the variety of his veterinary work. He jointly discovered a nervous condition in cats called 'Robotic cats', worked on the first field research on haptoglobins in cattle and managed the first 3D printing of a complete Omura's whale skeleton. Richard is one of the founding veterinarians of Hong Kong's first veterinary school. He has also contributed three collections of tropical butterflies to the Boothe Museum in Brighton, and he is a keen amateur photographer who has contributed to past covers of *The Eagle*.

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## USHA GOSWAMI

After graduating in Experimental Psychology at Oxford with the top First in her year, Usha trained and worked as a primary school teacher in London. Noticing a significant research gap to inform teaching practice, she undertook a PhD instead. She joined St John's as a Fellow in 1990, and her research as Professor of Cognitive Developmental Neuroscience focuses primarily on reading development and developmental dyslexia. She founded and directs the world's first Centre for Neuroscience in Education, and in 2019 she was the first academic at Cambridge to be awarded the Yidan Prize.

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## ANDREW CHEN

After studying at Harvard as an undergraduate, Andrew completed an MPhil and a PhD in History of Art at Cambridge. Since 2016 he has been a Research Fellow at St John's, working on a book-length study of Renaissance allegories of navigation in a global context. More broadly, his interests include medieval and early modern art; Renaissance chapel decoration and contemplative practices; and allegory and the history of travel. Andrew lectures second-year History of Art students for the University, and in 2019 he was instrumental in identifying a College-owned portrait of Lady Margaret Beaufort as the work of sixteenth-century Netherlandish artist Meynart Wewyck.

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## JOHN HOYTE

John was born in China to medical missionary parents and was in a Japanese concentration camp as a boy during WWII. He led The British Alpine Hannibal Expedition in 1959, during which he took Jumbo, an Indian elephant from the Turin Zoo, over the Alps in a quest for Hannibal's route. After two years in the Army as an instructor in electronics, he worked in British industry for three years and then settled in Silicon Valley, California, where he held patents at Hewlett Packard. He founded his own company, Spectrex Corp, designing and manufacturing optical instruments, and he has now retired to Bellingham in Washington State, USA.

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## LIISA VAN VLIET

Liisa is an entrepreneur and a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Cambridge. After obtaining her PhD in Biochemistry from St John's, she worked at Accenture in project management. She returned to Cambridge in 2009 and founded Drop-Tech, a microfluidic droplet design and consultancy company. She is currently developing microfluidic systems for drug discovery and diagnostics. Liisa is particularly interested in helping social enterprises. She gives 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship' workshops across Europe and facilitates or mentors for programmes run by the Cambridge Judge Business School.

# Editorial

Although 2019/20 was undeniably exceptional, the truth is that no year at St John's is typical. Fellows constantly break new ground with their research, and the hundreds of students who arrive each October bring enormous individual and collective potential to make a distinctive mark on the College and the world.


Last October St John's appointed a Vice-Master for the first time, and Tim Whitmarsh has led the College through this interim year with characteristic dynamism. As he steps down, we thank him and warmly welcome Heather Hancock into her role as the 45th Master of St John's.

In January the Chapel was filled on two occasions with a multitude wishing to remember and celebrate the life of the late Master Professor Sir Christopher Dobson. Memoirs from his colleagues and friends begin on page 74, and the research that he and his colleagues have carried out at the Centre for Misfolding Diseases is described on page 14. On page 210 you can learn about the PhD Scholarships that the College is setting up in his name.

Lent term saw the 250th anniversary of Wordsworth's birth, and on page 236 Library Projects Assistant Rebecca Watts writes about the related exhibition that she curated in College. The article by Richard Brown (1975) on page 18 may convince anyone who has not yet read Wordsworth that it isn't too late to begin.

At Easter students returned home for distance learning, virtual get-togethers and remote examinations, and this issue's Editorial Assistant Sophie Hill (2017) shares

her personal account in the Last Word on page 242. Elsewhere in the issue we discover that the pandemic, while presenting untold challenges to so many, has also created opportunities for innovation, inclusion, and the implementation of interactive online teaching methods.

As always, we are very grateful to all the alumni, Fellows, students and staff who have contributed to this issue. If you are interested in submitting an article, or if you have an enquiry or feedback on the College's annual record, please email [development@joh.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@joh.cam.ac.uk) or write to *The Eagle*, Development Office, St John's College, Cambridge CB2 1TP. 

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You can read previous issues of *The Eagle* and share the publication online at [johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/theeagle](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/theeagle). All issues, dating back to the 1850s, can be found at [joh.cam.ac.uk/eagle-scanning-project](http://joh.cam.ac.uk/eagle-scanning-project).

**Editors:** Professor John Rink (1985) and Hannah Sharples

**Editorial Assistant:** Sophie Hill (2017)

**Obituaries Editor:** Colin Greenhalgh (1960)

With special thanks to Fiona Colbert, Biographical Librarian

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# Message from the Vice-Master

Whenever one takes up a new post, one is always asked: 'Are you sure you know what you're getting yourself into?' I remember my moment, soon after I had assumed office as Vice-Master on 1 October 2019. At the time it was small talk, but in retrospect that comment has come to seem prophetic. None of us could possibly have predicted how this academic year would play out.

St John's does not usually have a Vice-Master: this is an extraordinary position, which, as far as I know, I am the first person to occupy. The Statutes, those Acts of Parliament that underpin the College's governance, tell us that when there is a sudden vacancy in the Mastership the Governing Body can choose to elect a Vice-Master to cover until a new Master is elected. The process of electing Chris Dobson's successor was already under way when, in February 2019, he sent a characteristically unostentatious email around the Fellowship informing us briefly that he had been diagnosed with cancer but intended to continue in the role.

It is hard to believe, as I write this in May 2020, that only one year ago Chris was looking forward to conferring degrees on hundreds of students in the sweltering heat of a June General Admission. That would prove to be his last major public engagement, although he and Mary continued to host garden parties through the summer.

His death on 8 September 2019 was a devastating blow, not just to his family and the College community, but also to the huge networks of friends and colleagues that he had built up across the world. It was clear that commemorating Chris and celebrating his legacy in an appropriate way would be one of the year's major tasks. In January 2020 we held a Memorial Service twice, on consecutive days — an unprecedented arrangement, reflecting the unparalleled demand.

The two Memorial Services were the largest logistical exercise in the College's history; the attention to detail and preparation, particularly on the parts of the Domestic Bursar and the Catering and Conference team, was staggering. Although these occasions were terribly sad, they also offered a powerful reminder of how much one person can achieve: personally, intellectually and professionally. These were deeply moving occasions, both stately and intimate. The Dean, the speakers and the musicians were magnificent.

Before the Memorial Services came the terrible events of 29 November on London Bridge, when two graduates of the University were killed. They had been involved in Learning Together, a prisoner rehabilitation programme co-founded by Dr Ruth Armstrong, one of our Research Associates. The events of that grim day will never be forgotten, and they underline the need for the humanity and vision at the heart of this pioneering project.



Credit: Nordin Catic (2017)

Michaelmas and Lent terms were beset by industrial action: a substantial number of academics chose to protest against pay and conditions of work. The strike did not touch the College directly (the dispute was with the University, not with St John's). Our students, however, were of course affected by the shutdown of lecture halls and labs.

At the start of January, reports started to arrive of a novel coronavirus circulating in Hubei Province in central China, and by the end of the month the first two cases in the UK had been identified. In February the College began intensive advance planning for the onset, but it was impossible to anticipate the extraordinary speed with which developments occurred from early March onwards. In the first week life was normal; in the second it was not. We took the decision to cancel swathes of events, including the Cripps Feast, which traditionally closes Lent term. Students were encouraged to return home where possible, and the College was rapidly shut down. As I write we have only forty students resident on the main site, and seven Fellows. The College looks as magnificent as ever but is bathed in a surreal calm.

There have been high points too. It was a great pleasure to meet our new intake of students in October and welcome them to the College. We have also greeted a number of new Fellows. The Reverend Andrew Hammond – a former opera singer, and as humane as he is talented – joined us in January as Chaplain. Our most recent arrivals have been Dr Victoria Harvey (as Tutor for Admissions) and Dr Amanda

Sferruzzi-Perri, who were admitted to the Fellowship via Zoom in May: our first ever Fellows to be inducted electronically (an event that narrowly preceded our first electronic meeting of the College's Governing Body). In May we elected four new Honorary Fellows: Dr Heidi-Ann Doughty, President of the Blood Transfusion Society; Dr Claire Craig, Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford; writer and feminist activist Laura Bates, founder of the Everyday Sexism Project; and Dr Eben Upton, founder of the Raspberry Pi Foundation. All of these are pioneers in their fields, women and men of courage and vision, and we look forward to seeing them in College as soon as some semblance of normal life returns.


Sadly, we also bade farewell this year to a number of distinguished Johnnians, including Fellows Dr Gilbert Lewis (1972) and Dr Peter Linehan (1961), Honorary Fellow Sir Jonathan Miller (1953), and Sir Stephen Cleobury (1967).

Our talented students have once again excelled in every field. Esther Luigi (2015), who graduated with an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History, was awarded the 2019 Quentin Skinner Prize. Sam Willis (2016, now a postgraduate student studying for an MPhil in Modern British History) won the History of Parliament Trust Dissertation Competition for his undergraduate dissertation about the political history of the 1990s. The Men's First Boat finished Head of the River in the Lent Bumps, reclaiming their position of 2017 and 2018. The Women's First

Boat had strong row-overs every day and finished fifth on the river. Musically too this was a rich year, at least until the virus hit. We were treated to a number of stellar performances. In January, St John's Voices, the College's mixed choir, released their first CD (featuring music by William Mathias) in collaboration with the Gentlemen of St John's and brilliant pianist Aïda Lahlou. Shortly afterwards the College Choir released *Ash Wednesday*, to rave reviews: it went straight into the Classical Top 10.

The Fellowship have also been making waves. The Reverend Canon Mark Oakley, Dean of Chapel, won the 2019 Michael Ramsey Prize for Theological Writing for *The Splash of Words*. At one point in the year – rather selfishly – he occupied both the no. 1 and the no. 2 spots in the Amazon best-seller list for theology. Dr John Taylor won one of the University's Pilkington Prizes for his superlative maths teaching. Professor Mete Atatüre, Director of Studies in Physics and Astrophysics and in Mathematics for Natural Sciences, won a massive grant from the European Research Council for his research on diamond-based quantum technologies. Most spectacularly of all, Usha Goswami, Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, won the \$3.9m Yidan Prize at a major conference for leading education researchers. Usha's research focuses on understanding brain function to enable educators to design different teaching techniques and tools to help children with dyslexia and special needs learn languages more effectively; you can read more about her findings on page 21.

Although the turn that the year took was unexpected, I have enjoyed, and continue to enjoy, every minute. It is a great privilege to serve in this role and, in particular, to work with such wonderful people. The College has an exceptional team of women and men. I have found it eye-opening and enriching to get to know well many of the dedicated, brilliant staff who make the place work, in offices and on the ground. The inspirational qualities of our Fellows and affiliates are humbling. Our students are by turns witty, joyous, ingenious and profound. Our alumni are humane, open-hearted and inspirational.

For me, however, the highlight of the year was the election of Heather Hancock as Master. Heather is currently Chair of the Food Standards Agency; she has in the past been a managing partner at Deloitte, and she has worked closely with the Football League, the World Athletics Championship and the Prince's Trust. When she joins us in October she will be the College's first female Master, and the first Master not elected from within the Fellowship for over 200 years. I have been in regular contact with her this year and have seen her qualities for myself. She will bring wisdom, vitality and a deep passion about the College's academic standards, its governance, its community and its values. The next few years will not be easy, for reasons we all recognise: there will inevitably be unpredictability, disturbance and difficult choices to be made. But there could be no one better than Heather to lead us through this chapter in the College's history. 

**Professor Tim Whitmarsh,  
Vice-Master**



**Photo:** The Bridge of Sighs illuminated in blue to commemorate the contribution of key workers during the pandemic  
**Credit:** Martin Bond

# ARTICLES



# Research at the Centre for Misfolding Diseases

**Kadi Liis Saar (2010) is a Junior Research Fellow at St John's and a Schmidt Science Fellow, conducting her research at the Centre for Misfolding Diseases (CMD) and the Maxwell Centre. Here she looks at the work in which Sir Christopher Dobson was involved at the CMD and provides an update on the Centre's research goals and findings.**



Kadi Liis Saar (2010)

Credit: Gabriella Bocchetti, @University of Cambridge

I remember talking to Chris during the 2019 summer, a few months before he passed away. A recent development that he seemed very pleased about was the completion of the new Chemistry of Health building, which was opened in late 2018 and is the most recent addition to the Chemistry Department of the University. It is also the new home for the Centre for Misfolding Diseases (CMD), a research centre that Chris had been co-directing together with his colleagues Professor Tuomas Knowles (2004) and Professor Michele Vendruscolo since its foundation. Everyone closely familiar with the execution of this modern multi-storey research facility at a precious location in central Cambridge knows that it is hard to overstate Chris's contribution in ensuring its completion. His charm and passion were paramount to raising donations – such as a £5m personal gift from Cambridge alumnus Derek Finley, which Derek made after hearing Chris talk about his scientific work. These donations, in combination with funding from the UK Research Partnership and Investment Fund (UKRPIF), ensured the timely completion of this state-of-the-art research centre.

The CMD, currently comprising nearly 100 researchers, some as permanent members of the University community and others as short-term visitors from various leading scientific institutes across the globe, had already been an active research community for a number of years, but it lacked a dedicated building for its activities. Since its foundation in the early 2010s, a key research direction of the CMD has been to advance our understanding of the onset and progression of ageing-related diseases, in particular neurodegenerative disorders. Such disorders are proliferating rapidly in Western society, with hundreds of thousands of new cases recorded annually: that equates to one case every three minutes. People living to eighty-five years of age or above have a 50% chance of developing Alzheimer's disease, one of the most prevalent of the wide variety of neurodegenerative disorders. As a result, almost every person above this age is either suffering from such a condition or looking after a relative so afflicted.

To tackle this enormous challenge, the CMD brings together an extraordinarily interdisciplinary community of scientists: physicists, chemists, biologists, engineers, mathematicians and people with medical training. Chris himself is remembered by many as a scientist who not only saw enormous value in cross-disciplinary scientific interactions and in bringing state-of-the-art methods from one research field to another, but also very strongly supported the development and establishment of new methods. He believed firmly that it is through new and interdisciplinary approaches that new and orthogonal insight

can be obtained into questions that we, as a society, have been struggling to address. Thus, it comes as no surprise that this same collaborative mindset and culture to develop new cross-disciplinary methods is a characteristic feature of the research activities of the CMD to this day.

One example in this context is an array of mathematical methods that can be exploited to describe the dynamics of the protein self-assembly process, a pivotal hallmark for a number of neurodegenerative disorders. These methods were first described by Tuomas Knowles over a decade ago, and they have since been expanded by a number of CMD researchers to govern even more complex scenarios. Today they are being used by thousands of researchers across the globe to elucidate the molecular steps that underpin the onset of biomolecular misfolding and assembly. They also remain highly relevant for the CMD's own activities, for instance in the context of guiding the design of molecules that would be capable of binding the diverse array of highly heterogeneous protein species that are linked to the onset and progression of neurodegeneration – a research direction led by Michele Vendruscolo. Over the past few years, key players in the pharmaceutical industry have been all the more active in using these mathematical models to examine the mechanisms through which potential drug candidates inhibit the malfunctioning and aggregation of protein molecules. This insight informs them how to design compounds that could suppress all the routes by which protein self-assembly may occur.

In late 2018 a new microfabrication facility, the Sweetnam Laboratory, was opened in the Department of Chemistry. Supported by the Frances and Augustus Newman Foundation, the laboratory is named in memory of late Sir Rodney Sweetnam, an eminent orthopaedic surgeon and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The Sweetnam Laboratory is a custom-built microfabrication facility where CMD researchers, under the leadership of Tuomas Knowles, bring state-of-the-art micro- and nanofabrication approaches together with a variety of physical chemistry techniques, such as single molecule detection and spectroscopy. It is widely acknowledged that at the onset of neurodegeneration, as well as the majority of other diseases, molecular markers indicative of the onset of diseases are present at ultra-low concentrations. The tools devised in the Sweetnam Laboratory allow the molecular events at the heart of ageing-related disorders to be probed on the level of an individual molecule. This development is now allowing CMD researchers to examine the very first events on the full cascade of protein misfolding and aggregation.

Simultaneously, it is becoming increasingly evident that it is not only a handful of molecules that are central to the onset of neurodegeneration but the full homeostasis that becomes affected when diseases as complex as these progress. Under the leadership of Michele Vendruscolo, CMD researchers are developing computational methods with which to study the transcriptome- and proteome-wide effects that occur while neurodegenerative


disorders progress. These new approaches have allowed us to gain a more complete understanding of the cascade of malfunctioning events that our bodies undergo when such disorders set in and evolve.

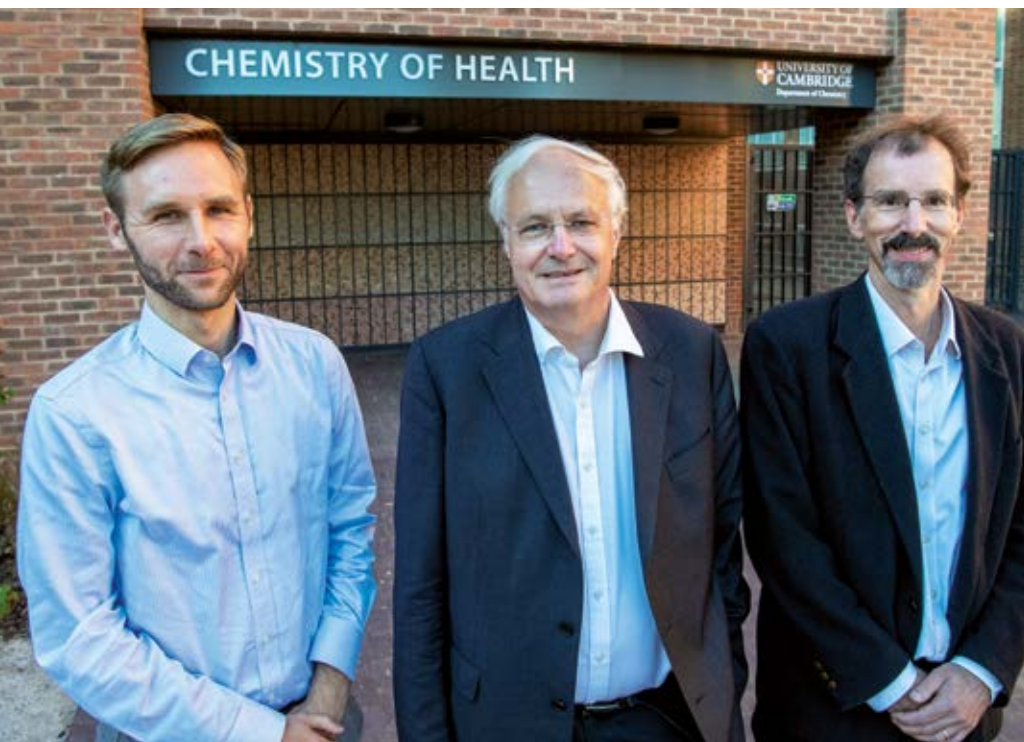
Last but not least, an undeniably active focus of the CMD research today is the development of approaches that would allow neurodegenerative diseases to be cured. Alzheimer's disease was first medically described over 100 years ago, but, regrettably, a person developing this condition today is no more likely to receive a cure than they would have been back then. Out of the top ten causes of death, Alzheimer's disease is the only one that we cannot prevent or cure. As such, recent research of the CMD has also focused heavily on designing new and effective reagents that would have the potential to stop the spread of pathological neurodegeneration.

In addition to being the home of the CMD, the Chemistry of Health Building houses the Chemistry of Health Incubator – the first incubator in Cambridge to be directly integrated into a University department. A few years ago, Chris, Tuomas and Michele, the three founding directors of the CMD, together with a highly acknowledged Swedish protein chemist Professor Sara Linse, established Wren Therapeutics: a spin-off company led by Dr Sam Cohen (2005 Trinity), the Entrepreneur-in-Residence at St John's. Having recently raised £18m in Series A funding, the company is working in close collaboration with the CMD to establish a broad pipeline of therapeutic and diagnostic

tools for neurodegenerative disorders. There are high hopes that by relying on the research performed by members of CMD for over a decade, Wren Therapeutics has the potential to create platforms that will radically advance the drug discovery of these complex diseases, which are often viewed as not only one of the biggest medical but also one of the biggest societal challenges of our generation.

On a final note, over the past few months the CMD research community has been proactive in lending its expertise to

addressing the challenges brought by COVID-19. While the aforementioned methods were originally developed to study neurodegeneration, a notable proportion of them can be used to examine other biological systems where proteins play a key role, including the immune system and our immune response to COVID-19. Results from this work are only beginning to emerge, but there is hope that they will shed light on fundamental questions, such as why the immune response develops faster in some patients than in others. 



**Left-right:** Tuomas Knowles, Chris Dobson and Michele Vendruscolo

Credit: Cambridge Independent

# A word for Wordsworth

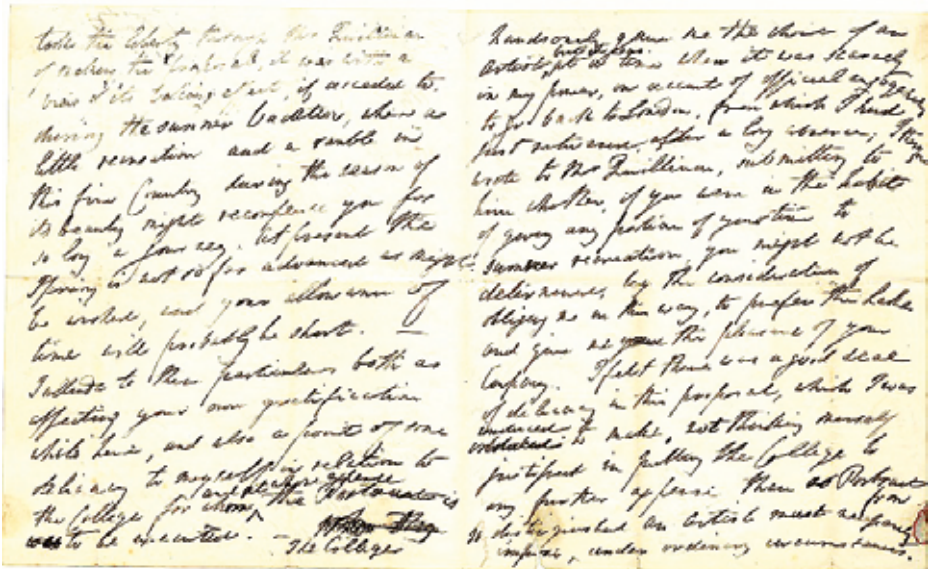
**It took Richard Brown (1975) sixty-two years to read Wordsworth for the first time, and now he wishes he had started sooner.**

A confession: I am a sixty-three-year-old Johnian who, until last year, had never read Wordsworth. Wordsworth is notable among the Johnian pantheon, and while the work of other Johnians such as Dirac may well be inaccessible to many of us, all of Wordsworth's work is in accessible English. So, really, there is no excuse.

Yet I do have my excuses: four, in fact.

First, my school culture was such that we were expected to concentrate on our strengths to the exclusion of other subjects. I excelled in the maths and science stream,

and English literature was therefore outside my expected field of interests. I shared a study at the end of a long corridor with Martin Dickens (1975) and Nick Webster (1975, Corpus Christi), and we enjoyed our status as 'science students'. Evening prep lasted two hours, but it was common for us three to be finished after twenty to thirty minutes. At that point a queue of folk would come down the corridor to our study with their insoluble prep problems: Nick helped the supplicants with the mathematics, Martin with physics or chemistry, and I covered biology. For us there was no time for literature.



Wordsworth/Folder 6

Secondly, I did in fact get a taste of Wordsworth at school, but only such lines as 'I wandered lonely as a cloud' ('Daffodils') and 'Bliss it was in that dawn to be alive, But to be young was very heaven' (*The Prelude*). This unfortunately immunised me against him. I mistook him for being like Bunthorne from Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience* or Basil Fotherington-Tomas from the Molesworth books. Wordsworth appeared to me to be an untrustworthy man: up in the air and not at all grounded.


Thirdly, the preparation offered by the academic system of the time for the 'Use of English' exam (needed to enter Oxford and Cambridge) compounded the science stream's lack of empathy towards the subject. The exam was approached as though it were an engineering project. We knew the main aim was to assess our understanding of the English language and grammar, and we thought that it did not matter what you wrote about so long as your answer showed understanding of the text's meaning and had no grammatical errors. This engineering approach of following instructions used words as though they were nuts, bolts, cantilevers, beams and girders to make a satisfactory construct. The end result, however, was that many of us were not enamoured with English.

My fourth excuse for neglecting Wordsworth is that by accident I became hooked on Shakespeare, and this addiction lasted for four decades. 'If you can drink champagne why look at claret?' was my reasoning. Wordsworth and others barely had a chance.

My addiction to Shakespeare started in a seaside holiday camp, of all places. I had nowhere to stay between school and university, since my parents were working abroad, and so my housemaster found me a job as the youngest of the helpers at the camp. This provided a roof over my head, food and some cash, but it was not a congenial environment. On the advice of one of the 'matrons', I went to the local library and, clueless, took out *Henry IV, Part 1*. I quickly forgot my surroundings: I was hooked on Shakespeare. The library stocked all the Shakespeare histories, and I went through them all consecutively. I loved both the turn of phrases used and the descriptions of the scheming, the betrayals and the brutality. The Tragedies followed, and I was among the Comedies when my time was up.

In 2019 my wife and I decided to winnow our books. I have many surplus copies of Shakespeare books and dutifully went to the relevant shelves. Suddenly, out popped a light blue Penguin paperback. Untypically for our house, there was no inscription inside, no clue at all as to why it was there. Even after asking all the family, no one knew its provenance. It was *Selected Poems* by William Wordsworth. We needed to dispose of more books, so this became a prime candidate. But some sixth sense stopped me. The way the book had presented itself, almost innocently out of nowhere, was intriguing. And besides, Wordsworth was a Johnian – how could I dispose of him? I put it to one side.

I now have some understanding about why authors create a mundane object as a doorway for entering a new world. Alice travels through a looking glass, and in the Narnia books the children disappear through the back of a cupboard. This book in front of me was plain in the extreme. Yet as I read it, I discovered a new world. There was no sudden ‘Silent, upon a peak in Darien’ moment; instead, I underwent a gentle wooing or drawing in. It was as though the book itself knew I had my suspicions that the author was akin to either Bunthorne or Fotherington-Tomas. The book followed me around the house, popping up in the sitting room, the kitchen, the toilet and the hallway. Finally, I concluded that Wordsworth was brilliant and, to quote him, I was ‘surprised by joy’.

I would encourage you to read Wordsworth’s work. It would be ridiculous for me to attempt to write cogent prose explaining why Wordsworth is great. Others can do better. I can, however, introduce you to one of his poems. Wordsworth was a strong believer not only in the intrinsic value of the rural life but also in the long-term health benefits of walking in the countryside and exposing all five senses to the rural environment. I already spend a lot of time outside working in rural practice, but the surprising and immediate practical result of me reading Wordsworth was discovering a different and novel appreciation of the countryside. 



Portrait of Wordsworth by  
Henry William Pickersgill (1833)

## To A Young Lady,

Who had been reproached for  
taking long Walks in the Country

Dear Child of Nature, let them rail!

– There is a nest in a green dale,  
A harbour and a hold;  
Where thou, a Wife and Friend, shalt see  
Thy own heart-stirring days, and be  
A light to young and old.

There, healthy as a Shepherd-boy,  
And treading among flowers of joy  
Which at no season fade,  
Thou, while thy Babes around thee cling,  
Shalt show us how divine a thing  
A Woman may be made.

Thy thoughts and feelings shall not die,  
Nor leave thee, when grey hairs are nigh,  
A melancholy slave;  
But an old age serene and bright,  
And lovely as a Lapland night,  
Shall lead thee to thy grave.

# Dyslexia, poetry, rhythm and the brain

**At a major conference for leading education researchers in 2019, Professor Usha Goswami (1990) was awarded the \$3.9m Yidan Prize for ‘creating a better world through education’. Here she explains the research that led to her receiving this award, and what she is working on now.**

Did you sing your baby to sleep with a nursery rhyme like ‘Rock-a-bye Baby, in the tree top’? If you did, you were unwittingly giving your infant the optimal input for language learning. Accurate perception of speech rhythm turns out to be very important for the learning brain. Indeed, there is something inherently pleasing to the human mind in metrical poetry. Repetitive metrical rhythms are musically harmonious – think of W. H. Auden’s ‘This is the night mail crossing the Border, Bringing the cheque and the postal order...’. The internal rhythmic patterning of the words – their prosodic structure – creates the rhythm of the train. Yet across languages, children with dyslexia find it difficult to hear such speech rhythms. Children with dyslexia also find it difficult to hear musical rhythms. These difficulties with rhythmic timing have been revealed by modern brain imaging. The dyslexic brain is ‘in tune, but out of time’.

One of the most interesting discoveries in brain imaging regarding language processing is that fluctuations in speech energy (signal intensity) are tracked by our brain waves. Fluctuations in speech energy create the natural rhythmic patterning that we call speech prosody. If you are listening to a foreign language that you cannot speak,



Usha Goswami (1990)

you can still hear rhythmic fluctuations at different timescales. Accurate neural tracking of these rhythmic fluctuations is absolutely critical for speech comprehension. Brain rhythms arise from networks of brain cells sending electrical signals and then recovering, so that the networks fluctuate or oscillate continually from an ‘on’ state to an ‘off’ state. The brain computes the speeds of the different energy fluctuations in the speech signal, and then re-aligns its intrinsic cellular rhythms to match these energy patterns, at multiple speeds at once. When this brain–speech alignment or rhythmic synchronisation is successful, we comprehend speech.

My research has shown that children with dyslexia are less sensitive than other children to the energy changes and rhythmic patterning of speech. The dyslexic brain is less efficient at computing the different speeds of energy fluctuations (the ‘rise times’ to the peak intensity of energy) and also less efficient at the process of brain–speech alignment. Rise times in speech are the sensory analogue of ‘attack times’ in music. For example, if two musical sounds reach peak intensity at different times, such as the note ‘G’ played on a violin (slow attack time) versus a trumpet (fast attack time), we perceive one player to be ‘coming in late’. Children with dyslexia find it difficult to discriminate rise times in languages as diverse as English, Chinese, Hungarian and Spanish. These acoustic processing differences have important consequences for their spoken language learning. One way to think about the neural basis of dyslexia is that the brain is always coming in either late or early. The brain waves are not ‘surfing’ the sound waves accurately.

To imagine what this means for speech processing, think about how difficult it can be to listen to a non-native speaker of English. This person may well have learned all the individual speech sounds (the ‘phonemes’) correctly and may be saying them in the right order (the order in which they are written). However, they may still use the stress patterning of their native language. If this stress patterning differs from English, as it frequently does, it can be very difficult to understand what is being said. We need listening experience to ‘train our ears’ to the persistent mis-stressing of the English words.

Prosody (strong and weak syllable ‘beats’) is part of the hidden structural glue that makes individual speech sounds into recognisable words. It is this hidden glue that children with dyslexia find it so difficult to hear.

This does not mean that dyslexic children cannot speak and comprehend language successfully, as these children are typically verbally dextrous. However, they are learning language by relying on different acoustic cues compared to other children. So when they have to learn to comprehend ‘speech written down’, that is, learn to read, they struggle, and this is true in every world spelling system, not just for the alphabet.


Our infant research shows that ‘babytalk’ (variably referred to as ‘caregiver speech’, ‘motherese’ and ‘parentese’) provides the optimal structuring of energy patterns for the learning brain. When speaking in babytalk, parents and carers naturally emphasise the acoustic statistics that are hidden in the prosodic structure of speech and which form the bedrock of phonology (phonology is the sound structure of speech). The brain seems to use babytalk to kick-start its brain–speech alignment system. The language games and rhythmic routines of the nursery also provide examples of this optimal patterning. Clapping games like ‘Pat-a-cake’ and nursery rhymes like ‘Ring-a-ring-o’-roses’ offer metrically structured input. They are composed acoustically of geometrically nested sets of energy patterns that provide acoustic cues to phonological units like stressed syllables, unstressed syllables, rhymes and phonemes. Indeed, when we sing, the temporal hierarchy of



A baby wearing a headcap during Usha's infant research

energy patterning in the speech signal is perfectly aligned, as we are keeping time with a rhythmic beat.

One implication of our research is that music therapies might be very effective for improving speech processing in dyslexia. Rhythm is more overt in music than in language. Coordinating rhythmic movement in time with speech may also be beneficial. Many playground games naturally provide such activities, for example clapping games and skipping games. Interestingly, research with adults who have specific musical difficulties (termed 'amusia', or tone deafness) suggests that these adults are 'in time but out of tune'. They are able to organise rhythm cues but not pitch cues. This is the mirror image of our research findings with dyslexic children.

Winning the Yidan Prize has been very exciting, as it will enable us to extend this research programme to specific language impairment (SLI) and dyspraxia. Children with SLI appear to have difficulties with syntax and grammar rather than with phonology. They make mistakes like 'She comb her hair' and 'Yesterday I fall down'. Behaviourally, however, these children show acoustic discrimination problems related to perceiving the energy modulations in speech. They also have difficulties with speech prosody. Accordingly, one possibility is that the SLI brain is also 'out of time', but is coming in early or late at a different energy timescale compared to dyslexia. The Yidan Prize will enable us to find out whether this is the case. 

# Portrait of a Lady

**When entering the Master's Lodge, visitors are greeted by a large portrait of Lady Margaret Beaufort. Until last year, the identity of the painter was a mystery, but the College now knows the story behind the commission thanks to Research Fellow Dr Andrew Chen (2011).**



Early on in my Fellowship, I heard that my colleagues from the National Portrait Gallery had been studying a painting of Lady Margaret Beaufort currently held in the Master's Lodge. They thought it could be associated with the sixteenth-century Netherlandish artist Meynnart Wewyck, who happens to have been active during my period of expertise (medieval and early modern art). Thanks to this tip-off, when I decided to explore the College Archive I crucially knew what name to be looking for. As luck would have it I found an unpublished document recording a payment

to just this person, and, with the aid of a couple of other archives and my colleague from the National Portrait Gallery, Charlotte Bolland, I began to piece together a story.

Support from the Annual Fund allowed the cleaning, conservation treatment and new technical analysis of the painting, and it acted as a cornerstone for further collaborative research on the portrait, its artist and his culture. One of the exciting ventures made possible by the funding was

a study day held at the institute where the painting was being conserved. This event brought together curators, conservators and academics, as well as six paintings that are stylistically related to the College's Lady Margaret portrait. It was a wonderful opportunity to study these works side by side and to discuss my research with others who have been working on Wewyck and Tudor culture.

Wewyck was an immigrant painter from the Netherlands who rose to prominence around 1500 and became the preferred painter of the Tudors. We are beginning to establish, around the Master's Lodge painting, a corpus of small-scale portraits by Wewyck and his workshop. All of them are of members of the royal family: Henry VII, Elizabeth of York, Prince Arthur and Henry VIII. These small pictures date from both before and after the portrait of Lady Margaret, and they were functional images that were sent to foreign courts for presentation. We know that Wewyck personally delivered portraits of Henry VII, Elizabeth, Prince Henry and Margaret Tudor to James IV of Scotland in 1502.


After the death of Lady Margaret in 1509, the executors of her will commissioned Wewyck to paint her likeness, most probably to serve as a form of memorial. There is no way to be absolutely certain that the Master's Lodge painting is the one mentioned in the document, but various material and stylistic aspects of the painting corroborate our hypothesis of an early date. We have identified distinctive features of Wewyck's style that can be observed

across our corpus of pictures: he likes to show his sitters looking slightly up and away, and he tends to paint them with thin, arched eyebrows, pursed lips and a long philtrum (the groove between the nose and the mouth). Not only is the painting's style commensurate with others from the early sixteenth century, but also dendrochronological analysis showed the panels that form the painting's support to be from trees that were felled at the end of the previous century. It seems to me more likely that the boards were used right away rather than stored for a long time. Furthermore, the painting has an engaged frame – one physically attached to the panels and not removable – a type that became much less common later in the sixteenth century.

What is unusual about Wewyck's painting of Lady Margaret Beaufort is its large-scale independent format. It was unheard of at the time for a representation of such considerable size to be of a woman alone who was not attached to a religious image or paired with a corresponding likeness of her husband. Lady Margaret was the rare lady whose status made such a commission conceivable: she was a noblewoman of independent wealth and status, and, as the King's mother, she wielded great power and influence. Most importantly for us Johnnians, she was also a foundress of colleges! This combination of factors provided both motive and audience for a prodigious standalone portrait.

Art from the past has an impact on us because we can take pleasure in its mysterious appeal. A little over 500 years ago, a Netherlandish artist was asked to use all of his technical skill and mnemonic ability to translate a woman

from recent memory back into the world, and he did this according to the conventions in which he was trained. Flemish artists were particularly well-known for their observation of detail and for the finesse with which they rendered surfaces, especially cloth. The support of the Annual Fund has enabled essential restorative cleaning (more exciting than it sounds!) that will bring the green background fabric, the Tudor rose on the canopy and the lower folds of Lady Margaret's mantle closer to their former beauty. In its renewed form, the painting will provide the kind of aesthetic experience that people around 1500 believed could offer not only joy but also consolation.

Conservation of the past provides culture and enrichment to all of society, but most especially to students on the verge of discovering so much more about the world. I am delighted to have had the opportunity to help re-establish something of such value to us and our College's history. 

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An abridged version of this article first appeared earlier this year in the College's donor magazine *The Marguerite*, which you can read online: [johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/the-marguerite](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/the-marguerite)

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The Lady Margaret painting in the process of restoration

# The Cambridge Carthaginians

**John Hoyte (1953)** describes his experience of receiving one of the early travel scholarships offered by the College and his resulting quest to solve the mystery of how Hannibal crossed the Alps.



The British Alpine Hannibal Expedition group posing during the 1959 trip across the Alps, this time with elephant in tow

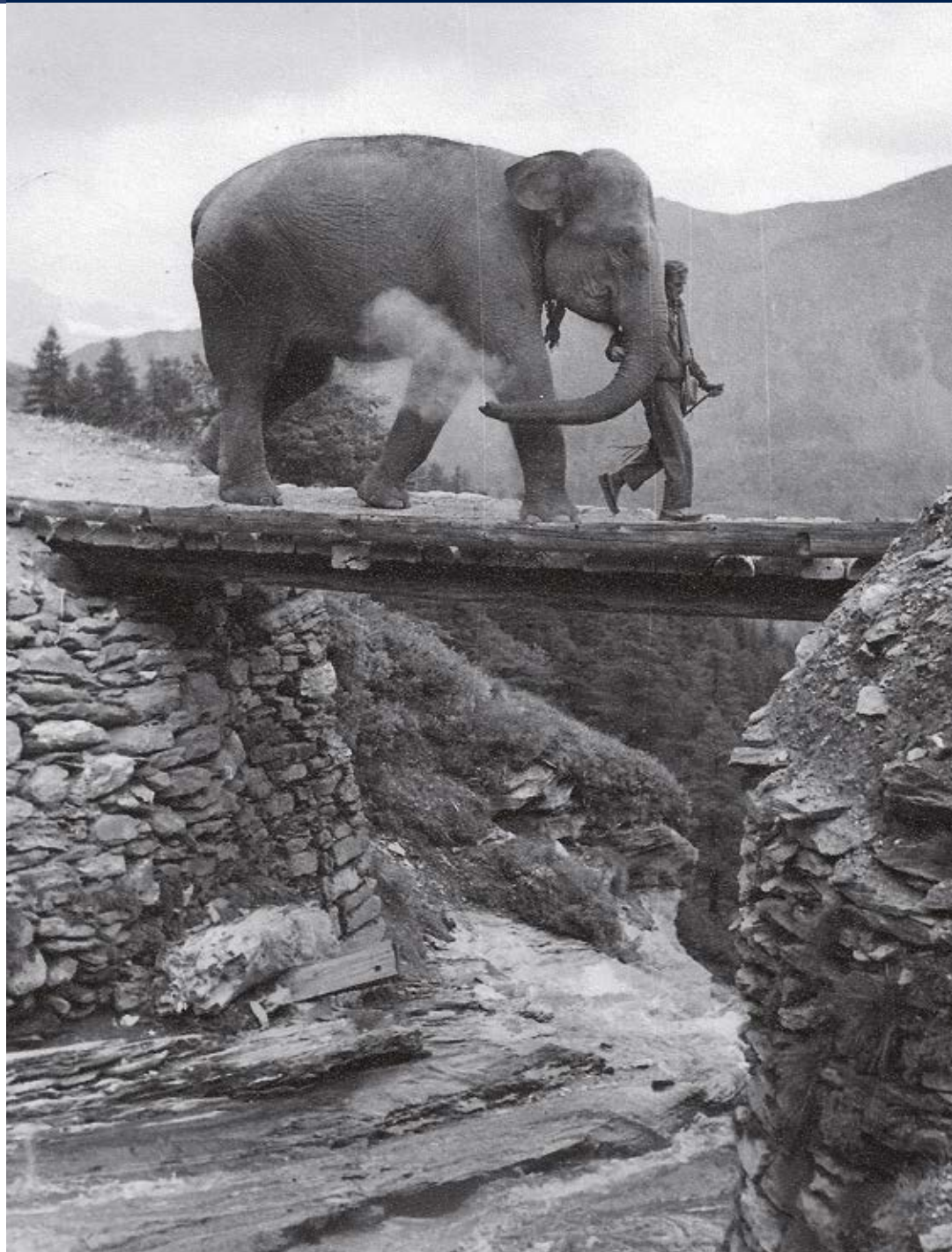
To some extent, student life at Cambridge was much as it had been for hundreds of years. True, two world wars had rolled over the old town in the previous four decades, but the mellow buildings had stayed as beautiful as ever. Memories of ancient comings and goings, the War of the Roses, the civil war of the seventeenth century and the footprints of the learned – Milton, Erasmus, Newton, Wilberforce, Darwin and other greats – provided layers of history that enhanced the soft light of autumn when I went up in 1953 to start my sojourn.

There was also the spirit of adventure. Students seemed to delight in thinking outside the box. When we set out in 1956 to find Hannibal's route over the Alps, there were over twenty other expeditions that summer from the University, some financed by colleges and some self-financed.

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**'Forward, you madman, and hurry over those horrid Alps so that you may become the delight of Schoolboys'**  
 Juvenal, *Satire X*, AD 200

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On one chilly spring evening in March 1956, two friends and I spotted a notice recently put up on the screens outside the Hall. Travel scholarships were to be awarded to members of the College, and to have the exciting word 'travel' next to such an academic word as 'scholarship' was not to be ignored!

'Who gets these kinds of scholarships anyway?' and 'Why can't we have a bash?' we asked after the gas fire was lit and coffee put on in our gyp room. What was clearly needed was a bright and original idea. Alas, each brilliant idea seemed to be quashed by the two who had not thought of it, but we all knew this would be our last long vacation before graduation and the need to get a job in the real world. 'We have got to think of something really original' led to a time of thoughtful reflection.

Someone broke the stony silence with 'How about Hannibal's trip over the Alps?' Another exclaimed 'Of course, we would have to take elephants!' and invited a few derisive 'Ha, ha's. But a seed had been planted, and it began to take hold in our imaginations.

Although the idea then lay dormant for at least a month, it was awakened by an unusually heated discussion between two gentlemen of note, Sir Gavin de Beer, curator of the Natural History Museum in London, and Dr Arthur McDonald, Professor of Classics and Senior Tutor at Clare College, Cambridge. They were having an intellectual argument – a philological sparring match – and were using the media to make their points. The intense debate concerned Roman and Carthaginian history, topography,

toponymy, philology, geology, zoology, astronomy and climate change. The issue was the question, 'Which way did Hannibal and his army cross the Alps?'

That he had made it over the Alps with his army and nearly defeated Rome was one of the great turning points of history. However, the mystery of his route remains, and over the last 2,000 years or more, scholars, generals (including Napoleon) and historians have puzzled over the evidence and come up with differing conclusions. The battle royal over Hannibal's route was certainly raging at a high academic level in England. Sir Gavin had made a first lunge with his *Alps and Elephants*. Dr McDonald replied with a straight-to-the-heart stab in *The Alpine Journal*. Sir Gavin's riposte was his television programme produced by the BBC, which seemed to have won over much of the public in Britain. Dr McDonald stuck to his unassailable 'marching times' argument and the need for a definitive view of the Po valley.

And here we undergraduates had landed right in the middle of it all. Neither I nor my friends were classicists, but we all loved history and mountaineering. We began to think that this debate might indeed lead to a worthwhile summer expedition, and the idea formed to travel the Alps, hike over the possible passes that Hannibal could have taken and compare what we found with the classical texts.

Polybius told us that Hannibal took nine days from his first encounter with the Alps to reach the summit pass, so one of our challenges was finding the nine-day stretch that would best fit Polybius' account. Hannibal and his army

came from Spain, and he set off in 218 BC with a formidable force of thirty thousand men, thirty-seven elephants and several hundred cavalry. The sources tell us that the Pleiades, a very distinctive constellation, was setting over the horizon when Hannibal crossed the Alps, and, after calculating back to 218 BC, we found that the crossing must have taken place in late October.


At the summit, Hannibal gave his exhausted men two days to recover before making his famous speech of encouragement and starting the precipitous descent. This took at least two days because of the steepness and a rock formation that blocked the elephants. Once his force was down on the plain of the Po river, Hannibal captured the capital of the Turini tribe – modern-day Turin – and proceeded to defeat Roman armies in four great battles.

As we studied our maps, it became clear that there were five Alpine passes that should be considered for Hannibal's route: Little St Bernard, Col de Mont-Cenis, Col de Clapier, Col de Montgenèvre and Col de la Traversette. Whichever pass we chose had to provide an expansive view of the Po valley and have room at the summit where thirty to forty thousand men could camp. Also, the descent had to be dangerously steep. We agreed that Col de Mont-Cenis and Col de Clapier should really be the focus of our research expedition, although we would remain open to Sir Gavin's arguments in favour of Traversette.

Happily, the Cambridge Hannibal Expedition of 1956 was a success at every level. The weather was kind, and we were able to reach

each night's destination, usually a youth hostel, without any problems. The 1950s were great for hitchhiking, and the Union Jack attached to our rucksacks inspired friendly drivers to give us lifts.

Making our efforts as scientific as possible, we drew up a spreadsheet listing the nine specifics that Polybius gives for Hannibal's pass. We then awarded up to five points to the ones that met the conditions. Our conclusion was that out of a total of forty-five points for a perfect match, Col de Clapier got forty-two, Col de Mont-Cenis thirty-three and Col de Traversette only twenty-six, since it gave no view of the Po valley, had no space near or at the pass for an army of thousands to camp, and did not lead down to the Turini capital. We knew that Sir Gavin would not like our conclusions but felt sure enough about them to challenge him to a debate on the BBC. Unfortunately, he declined to accept the offer.

Looking back, I now realise how important our exploratory trip was. If we had not completed it and thought through the implications, we would never have been able to consider taking an elephant over the Alps three years later! 

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Read about John's second Alpine adventure – this time with an elephant in tow – on our alumni blog: [bit.ly/AlpineExped](https://bit.ly/AlpineExped). John's writings can be viewed on his website ([johnhoYTE.com](http://johnhoYTE.com)), and his memoirs *Trunk Road for Hannibal* and *The Persistence of Light* can be found in the St John's College Library or purchased online: [bit.ly/JohnHoyte](https://bit.ly/JohnHoyte)

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# Innovation and Entrepreneurship at St John's

**Liisa van Vliet (2002), academic lead for the Johnian Entrepreneurship Committee, reports on the College's vision to provide innovation and entrepreneurship training and support for the Johnian community.**

Technology, robotics and the internet of things are increasingly integrated into the daily lives of the developed world. It is predicted that up to 30% of jobs will be replaced by automation in the UK by 2030. Artificial intelligence and process automation are transforming industries such as management, manufacturing, technical support and transport. Career prospects for the next generation of students will therefore need to focus more on creativity, innovative problem-solving, humanity and emotional intelligence.

To better prepare students for their future, St John's aims to be the leading Cambridge college for innovation and entrepreneurship training, and work has already begun on some exciting new projects.

This vision started in 2016 with the foundation of the Johnian Entrepreneurship Club for students. It was followed by the appointment of an Entrepreneur-in-Residence in 2017, and the theme of entrepreneurship was taken up by alumni at the Johnian Society Day in 2018. An alumni Entrepreneurship Committee was established, and it developed three initiatives to benefit Johnians:

- (i) an academic programme to introduce students to innovation and entrepreneurship;
- (ii) work placements for current students to gain hands-on experience of the day-to-day work in entrepreneurial organisations; and
- (iii) a mentoring network for students and alumni considering or embarking on an entrepreneurial career.



Liisa Van Vliet (2002) and Sam Cohen (2005) at the Johnian Society Day, 2018



Richard Reed (1991) and Jon Wright (1991) at the panel event held for students in College

In September 2019 Mark Wells (1981) and I led the first Innovation and Entrepreneurship residential workshop. Thirteen undergraduates and graduates were introduced to a series of tools to develop value-based businesses that could contribute to delivering the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The students who took part in this pilot were carefully selected by their tutors to represent diverse academic interests, and there was a particular emphasis on those studying arts and humanities who might not otherwise consider entrepreneurial activities.


The five-day residential workshop pilot, generously sponsored by the Annual Fund, was a resounding success. It culminated in three team pitches to a panel of alumni experts of sustainable businesses, with students proposing ventures to help save dying languages, reduce plastic waste or provide medical care to isolated populations.

We followed this with an evening hosted by Julian Mash (1980), who interviewed Richard Reed (1991) and Jon Wright (1991), two of the social enterprise pioneers and founders of Innocent Drinks, in front

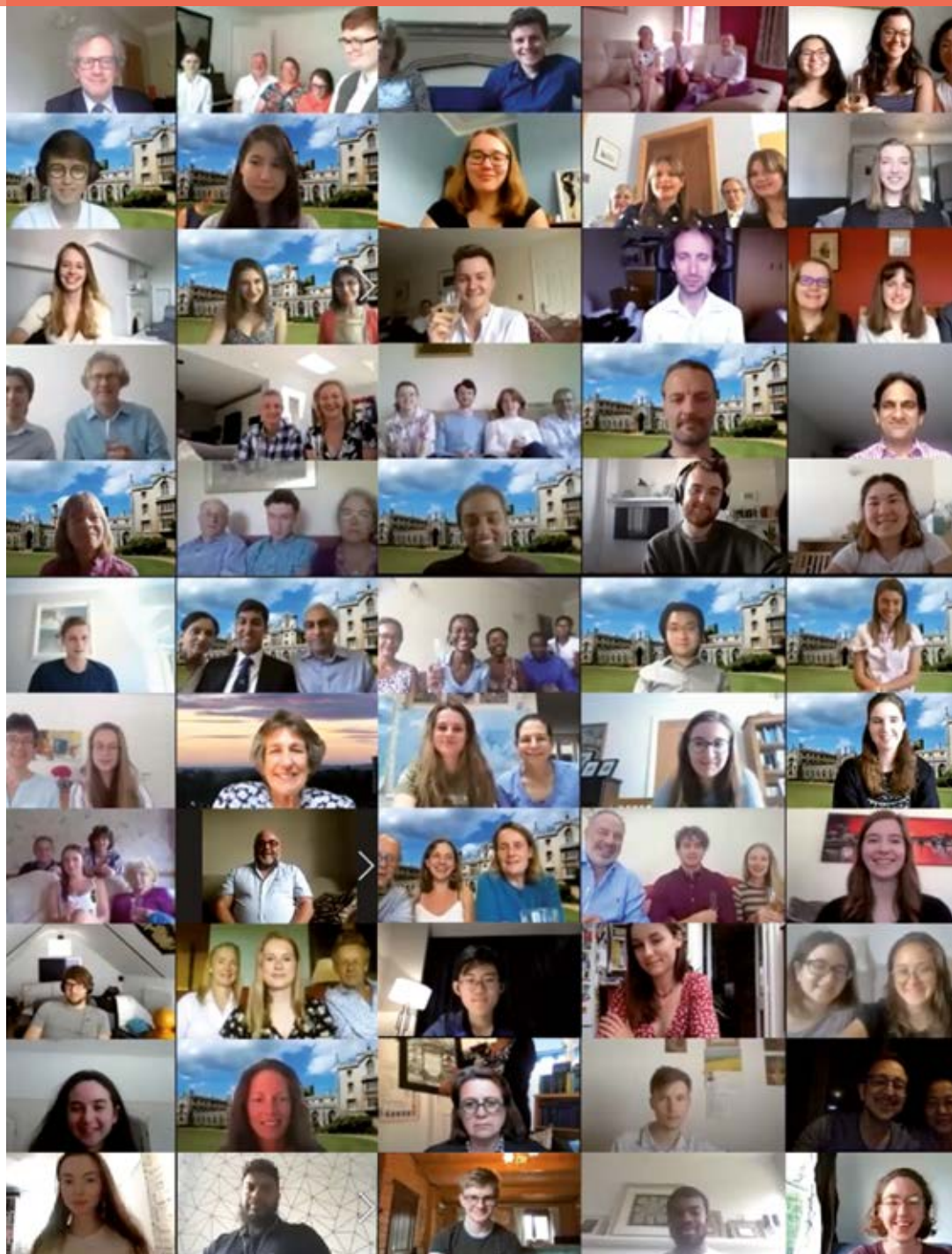
of an audience of students at the end of Michaelmas term. This Johnian-inspired start-up decided from the outset to set aside a percentage of their annual profits to invest in building a world where no one goes hungry. As a result, the company has funded over fifty social projects across four continents. During Lent term we held a workshop for students interested in careers in the creative industries, where they had the chance to speak to two successful entrepreneurs from the world of arts and media: Colin Burrows (1978) of Special Treats and Carolyn Dailey of Creative Entrepreneurs.

With the College firmly supporting all three initiatives, we are now formulating a broader vision for the St John's entrepreneurship programme. Our aim is to help the entire Johnian community of students and alumni, whether they want to create new ventures or to innovate in academia or within an industry. We plan to organise networking events and specific practical workshops that are open to both students and alumni, and we want to develop entrepreneurship-specific support programmes for Johnians beyond graduation.

This year's global pandemic and the ensuing lockdown have given many of us time to reflect on what we value in life. So many people have altered their lifestyles to become teachers, artists, IT consultants, bakers and carers. Local businesses have had to transform their operations to offer deliveries. Fast-food workers have been loading shelves in supermarkets. Furloughed volunteers have started sewing medical scrubs. Students have helped farmers pick their crops. And so on. In short, people have become entrepreneurs to benefit their local communities. At the same time, there is now even greater awareness that, when it comes to health and wellbeing, the world is one global ecosystem and community.

Despite the considerable uncertainty about what lies ahead, there will inevitably be opportunities to create profitable businesses that can have a positive impact on society and the environment. The Entrepreneurship Committee is still in its infancy, but we believe St John's can be at the forefront of making the world a healthier and more sustainable place. We aim to help the next generations of entrepreneurs to use business as a force for good, and we hope that you will join us in inspiring them to do so. 

**Contact the College about  
entrepreneurship on  
[development@joh.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@joh.cam.ac.uk)**



# THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020

**Photo:** Left - The 2020 graduands during their virtual toast  
Below - Mary, Lady Dobson, being welcomed with her son William and their dog Jimbo, just before she led the applause for the 2020 graduands



# Director of Education & Senior Tutor's summary of the academic year

Credit: Steve Russell Studios



Dr Annis May Timpson

This academic year has been marked by significant challenges for our students and the College as a whole, but it has also been full of accomplishments. I have had the pleasure of welcoming eight new Teaching Fellows and Associates, and I am delighted that from our Fellowship four have been promoted to Readerships and two to Professorships.

Our students have continued to thrive in their academic work and their co-curricular activities, moving these online in recent months. In 2019 more than a quarter of our undergraduates achieved First Class Honours, often with distinction, and over three-quarters received a 2.1 and above. It will be interesting to see how new forms of assessment, introduced this year in the face of COVID-19, impact assessment outcomes, but early signs are promising.

With Johnian support the College awarded 128 studentships this year, enabling over a fifth of our undergraduates to concentrate on their studies without the distraction of financial strain. These studentships are a major part of our strategy to ensure that students with academic abilities to undertake a Cambridge education have opportunities to do so.

The other key element of this strategy is reflected in our work to ensure that St John's contributes effectively through undergraduate admissions to the Access and Participation Plan targets that the University has agreed with the Office for Students.

By 2024/25 the University aims to ensure that among its intake of UK students just over 69% come from state schools, more than 21% from areas with the two highest indices of multiple deprivation, well over 16% from areas with the two lowest participation rates in higher education, and 7% from areas with the lowest rate of participation.

Conscious of this, all colleagues involved in selection and interviews looked carefully at candidates and increased the proportion of offers over applications to candidates in all four target communities. Moreover, in the context of COVID-19, we also provided online meetings for all offer-holders.

I am pleased to report that since 2017 the proportion of our UK undergraduates from the state/maintained sector has increased by 31%, from areas with the two highest indices of multiple deprivation by 64%, and from areas with the two lowest participation rates in higher education by 44%.

While there is still work to do to increase admission of students from areas with the lowest participation in higher education, this year, for the first time, St John's exceeded the University Access and Participation Plan target for admitting students from areas with the two highest indices of multiple deprivation.

Following Brexit, undergraduates and postgraduates from the EU will have to pay international fees from 2021. In light of this new challenge, Dr Matthias Dörrzapf, as Director of International Programmes, is planning new initiatives to encourage the brightest EU students to apply to St John's and to the University of Cambridge.


Under my leadership, student engagement in key College matters has continued to expand. The meetings I have held with students, alongside their Tutors, prior to Subject Reviews, have enhanced our understanding of effective outreach to schools and helped us to identify excellent practices across subjects that enable students to perform well at key stages of the Tripos.

This year SBR and JCR representatives were directly engaged in a review of our health and counselling services. This has led to St John's establishing a Health & Wellbeing

Centre, with plans being prepared to enable students, in varied circumstances, to develop key strategies to thrive both at Cambridge and more generally.

The Lady Margaret Beaufort Intellectual Connections Competition continued in 2020 with a team of postgraduates and undergraduates examining Food Security in the twenty-first century. It was an impressive event in which the students brought together academic experts, directors of start-up companies and representatives of NGOs in a fascinating conference, providing sustainable snacks in the breaks between sessions. In addition, the SBR Graduate Research Forum in February highlighted the exciting range of research undertaken by postgraduates at St John's.

As this is my final report as Director of Education & Senior Tutor, I wish to note how much I have enjoyed my role at St John's. I salute the memory of the late Professor Sir Christopher Dobson, note with great appreciation the work of Dr Frank Salmon, Dr Steve Edgley and Professor Tim Whitmarsh, highlight the contributions of our Directors of Studies and Tutors, and thank all colleagues across the Director of Education & Senior Tutor's Department. In particular, I wish to thank Jenni Prior and Emma Clark for their outstanding day-to-day support.

Finally, it has been a delight to work with all JCR and SBR Presidents. I know that as Johnians they will each go on to make important contributions in the world. 

# New Research Fellows



## Virgil Andrei

(BSc, MSc HU Berlin,  
PhD Cambridge)  
*for Chemistry*

After working on  
earth-abundant  
composites for

thermoelectric heat harvesting and sensing at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, I turned my attention to solar energy conversion.

During my PhD at the Department of Chemistry and Trinity College, Cambridge, I developed 'artificial leaf' devices, which only require sunlight to produce useful chemicals from small building blocks such as water and carbon dioxide. Prototypes combining high-performance perovskite and oxide light absorbers with earth-abundant molecular catalysts could successfully produce hydrogen, oxygen and syngas, a crucial intermediate in the industrial production of conventional liquid fuels. My work also introduced state-of-the-art fabrication techniques (e.g. 3D-printing) for fast prototyping of versatile solar reactors, which enabled benchtop device testing.

During my Fellowship, I aim to employ large-scale fabrication techniques and develop catalysts for direct CO<sub>2</sub> to liquid fuel (e.g. ethanol) conversion. This highly interdisciplinary research may ultimately contribute towards a circular carbon economy based on sustainable solar fuels.



## Lucy McDonald

(BA, BPhil Oxford,  
PhD Cambridge)  
*for Philosophy*

I am a philosopher  
specialising in  
philosophy of

language, ethics and feminist philosophy, though my work sometimes dips into linguistics and sociology too. My research at St John's will answer two questions: 'What is speech?' and 'What can speech do?' Modern technology has made speech hard to define. For example, can one speak by texting a friend an emoji or a meme, or by tweeting to no one in particular? I'm interested in how speech relates to action, and what it means to be a speaker or a hearer. I'm also interested in the social power of speech.

My doctoral research focused on the relationship between speech and gender norms, examining sexist slurs, cat-calling, flirting and shaming. At St John's I will explore the relationship between speech and social norms in general, investigating how speech is used to create, bolster and undermine social norms, and how power relations affect who can speak and what they can say.



**Jules O'Dwyer**  
(BA Bristol, MPhil  
Cambridge) *for MML*

Following a degree  
in Politics and French,  
I went to Trinity Hall  
to complete graduate

study in Cambridge's newly established  
Centre for Film and Screen. I joined the  
first cohort of doctoral students in Film  
Studies in 2016, and I currently act as  
Director of Studies in Languages at Corpus  
Christi College.

My doctoral thesis addresses intersecting  
questions of sexuality and spatiality through  
French visual culture and thought. Engaging  
with film theory, cultural geography  
and queer studies, my research tries to  
understand how we approach cinematic  
space as an object of aesthetic enquiry and  
how cinematography shapes our spectatorial  
orientation towards other bodies and the  
built environment. Publications arising  
from this work have featured in journals  
including *Screen*, *Discourse* and *Studies in  
French Cinema*, and I have also contributed  
to edited collections with Bloomsbury and  
Routledge.

I am delighted to join St John's College,  
where I will pursue a project in the field of  
comparative aesthetics. More specifically,  
I hope to rethink the curatorial capacities of  
the filmic medium by offering a theoretical  
account of the relation between cinema,  
the museum and the art gallery.



**Christiana  
L. Scheib**  
(BA NYU, MPhil,  
PhD Cambridge)  
*for Archaeology*

My research focus  
is the intersection

between genes, diet, and infectious and  
heritable disease, which I study primarily  
using techniques from population genetics,  
biological anthropology, archaeology and  
medical biology.

As an MPhil and PhD student at Fitzwilliam  
College, Cambridge, I explored the complex  
genetic history of Native American  
populations using ancient DNA (aDNA).  
During my postdoctoral research, I retrieved  
and analysed pathogen DNA from medieval  
Cambridge skeletons, including those  
underneath the St John's Divinity School.  
I discovered the first molecular evidence  
that the Plague of Justinian (*Yersinia pestis*)  
reached England and, having mortality  
rates as high as the Black Death, was  
probably devastating to early Anglo-Saxon  
communities. I have become fascinated by  
disease and how diet can affect our health,  
and I am currently integrating aDNA and  
proteomics for the identification and analysis  
of ancient pathogens, dietary components and  
host immune response.

During my Fellowship I will apply my  
approach to early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries  
to track the spread and impact of the  
First Pandemic (541–750 CE) in the  
British Isles. 🧬

# In conversation with: the President

**Dr Steve Edgley has been a Fellow of St John's for more than thirty years and is Head of Teaching in the University of Cambridge's Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience. In 2019 he was elected President of St John's, representing the interests of the Fellowship. In this interview, Steve gives an overview of his University and College roles and summarises how COVID-19 has affected St John's and his department.**

**What convinced you to stand for election as President of St John's?**

You don't really put yourself forward: others come and use their skills to persuade you to be nominated, and people I respect very much twisted my arm. It is a privilege to be part of St John's, and I have huge respect for the Fellowship; it is full of amazingly able people who have fascinating stories to tell. I'm more involved in College than I have been for many years, and I never tire of hearing about people's research, meeting students and staff, and listening to fascinating talks and incredible concerts.

**What does the role of President entail?**

At its simplest, the President represents the views of the Fellowship, both within and without the College. The more complex part is standing in for the Master when the Master is not available or is away. No two days are the same in St John's, and many varied issues pop up unexpectedly with the dreaded words 'Have you got just a minute?'

We've lost much of that casual interaction in the last three months because of remote



working and social distancing, and it has been one of my tasks this year to retain social cohesion without in-person discussions and a physical community. We've organised virtual gatherings, where academics share their research, and had drinks via Zoom with the Vice-Master. Regularly we have Fellows coming together from all over the world, and it's a nice way to stay in touch.

**How has the College responded to the pandemic?**

Very early on St John's set up a coronavirus committee comprising key academics and members of staff, and initially this met daily,

often for two hours. Alongside creating new working schedules for departments and deciding on the right balance of on-site and remote provision for those resident students and Fellows remaining in College, the committee had to make decisions about moving the education programme online and how to handle all of the spring and summer events, many of which are planned years in advance.

Policies are shared expertly by the College's Communications Office, despite plans needing to be reworked often to match the ever-changing situation, but much of the operational work is hidden behind the scenes. It will be an interesting process to look back on, and it is an amazing logistical experience, but in the moment we just need to respond.

### What is the focus of your research and what does your teaching role entail?

Most of my neuroscience work over the last ten years has been about trying to understand how we learn to move accurately. Our everyday movements are performed with very little conscious thought, and yet they are remarkably precise. Movement control is not reactive but proactive – you have to predict what is needed in advance. Human movement is incredibly sophisticated. Robots may be able to beat people at chess, but there isn't a robot yet that can tie a shoelace as well as a five-year-old.

The Physiology, Development and Neuroscience Department is the largest

teaching department in the University. We teach almost 400 medical and veterinary students for the first two years of their course and more than 150 natural scientists in their first two years, and we also run a large third-year Part II Natural Science course that develops science skills at an Honours degree level. On an average week, we have 1,500 students through the door of the department for teaching – and all of this has had to move online during the lockdown.

### How has your department responded to the pandemic?

Most academics I know feel almost liberated by the opportunity to put into place changes to their teaching. We had been discussing interactive online teaching methods like this for a while, but the non-stop, demanding nature of the academic year made it too easy to fall into inertia and continue providing the same teaching year-in and year-out. The pandemic has provided a much-needed push to make these improvements a priority. Far from seeing these changes as 'second best', a lot of us in the department have discovered better ways of teaching.

The practical side of teaching has been the most challenging to deliver. It's not easy to learn anatomy from a book or from a two-dimensional screen: you need to think in three dimensions. Similarly, if you want to understand the complex processes of physiology or neuroscience, it's important that you consider dynamic changes in control systems: doing this from static material is challenging.

However, the difficulty of effectively conveying these concepts has been a great drive towards further innovation.

### What do you like to do in your spare time?

Like a lot of academics, my research is my major hobby, and free time is a rare commodity at the best of times. If the summer workload allows, I'm looking forward to publishing a paper based on data I collected more than ten years ago. The data is still relevant, but it's been sitting around for that long because it's been at the end of an extensive list.

I'm also interested in the natural world and I like walking in remote places – the more remote the better – although visiting the Outer Hebrides is on hold this year. Planting was a great way to get outside in

February and March, and our garden is now a riot of colour.

### The future is very uncertain right now, but can you speak to any plans for the rest of your Presidency?

The lack of key events such as Graduation, the May Concert and Matriculation – events which for many of us mark the end or the beginning of the academic year – can leave College members feeling disoriented, and we need to get used to the fact that the coming year will be very different.

Although we don't know what the future holds, we do have several plans prepared, and I will do my best to make sure that St John's remains a collegial place. Our students have phenomenal potential, and I hope that we can continue our mission to enable them to realise it. 🍷



# In conversation with: the Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions

Dr Victoria Harvey (2011) joined St John's in March this year as Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions. For the previous twenty-two years this role was held by Dr Helen Watson, whose dedication to widening participation has had a large and lasting impact on the College's outreach programme. In the interview below Victoria talks about her experience of joining St John's during the COVID-19 crisis, and the innovative ways in which admissions activities in College have adapted to the changing situation.

Tell us about your journey to St John's.

I actually used to be a windsurfer! Then I had a massive car accident fourteen years ago and went to Exeter to study for an undergraduate degree – aged twenty-six as a single mum with a six-month-old baby. After a Master's at Oxford and a PhD at Cambridge, researching sixteenth-century French literature and visual culture, I worked as the Schools Liaison Officer for Robinson and Trinity Hall and then progressed to a Fellowship at Lucy Cavendish as their Admissions Director.

Working in outreach and admissions at Cambridge has given me familiarity with the system and the specific issues involved,



and the fact that I had a life before academia means that I first applied to study at university not all that long ago, which gives me a better perspective on the process that prospective students are going through.

### What are the main responsibilities of your role?

I have overall responsibility for the admissions and outreach team. The team is really committed to being proactive in our approach to widening participation. Part of my role is carrying out a strategic review of admissions and outreach in the College to ensure that St John's makes a good contribution to the Access and Participation Plan and the University's commitment to widening participation in higher education.

St John's has already made great progress when it comes to access, thanks to Helen Watson's commendable focus on widening participation, but there is always more that we can do to enrich our student body. Increasing the diversity of our students internationally, socially and economically is great for the intellectual development that is at the heart of a St John's education.

### What has your experience been of joining the College in such a tumultuous time?

It was a bit of a whirlwind: I had two weeks on the St John's site before the lockdown, and I'd just got used to the lunches, which are quite special. Working remotely, you miss many unplanned discussions that would otherwise take place over lunch or in the College courts. I'm not able to pop into someone's office just to say hello, and most people don't sit down and have a chat over Zoom: an online meeting has a purpose and an agenda. Relationship-building is

a big part of my role, and a big part of the College culture, and trying to replicate these casual yet important discussions virtually is challenging.

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**'Conducting outreach online has opened up a whole new world of opportunities for reaching people and breaking down further barriers'**

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Online platforms have been invaluable, however, in connecting with offer holders. The support offered by schools during this period has been very diverse, ranging from a 'you're on your own' approach to providing a full curriculum online, with everything in between. I sent everyone a survey to see what educational support their school was offering and what concerns they had; 200 out of the 220 offer holders responded. I have also held two large Zoom calls with offer holders to reassure them and to answer their questions: for the most part they were worried about meeting their conditions because of how the assessments are being done this year, but they were still very hopeful. In fact, most of the questions were about how accommodation was allocated, which put things into perspective! We have moved now to subject-specific meetings, which include the Director of Studies, a couple of current students and the offer holders. The support I have received from the Directors of Studies and the current students has been fantastic, especially considering the disruption they are all facing as they grapple with revolutionary teaching systems and new exam formats.

### How is the Admissions Office adapting to the pandemic?

We're regarding the current situation as an opportunity to develop some really strong online provisions, including July Open Days and other sessions for students in our link areas. These include 'Cambridge Explained', 'Making Competitive Applications' and 'Super Curricular Activities' sessions with student Q&As. The online nature of these events allows them to be accessible to a wider range of students than ever before.

During the online July open days, we will be launching a poster competition for Year 12 students with the broad theme of 'Green', which could cover anything from environmental science to the symbolism of the colour green in the ancient world. We're hoping that PhD students can run live sessions explaining how to put a poster together, how to carry out online research and how to present a poster. Outreach is not just about showing prospective students how suitable St John's is for them: it is about enriching their academic proficiency and giving them the skills to bridge that gap between school and what we're looking for.

### How will the next round of admissions take place?


We are actively considering different scenarios for admissions next year so that we can react quickly to the situation at the time. Conducting outreach online

has opened up a whole new world of opportunities for reaching people and breaking down further barriers, and students who might otherwise not have been able to travel to Cambridge for an open day can now join in with the activities.

We hope to keep some of these innovations in our future admissions programme. We are actively exploring ways to make our process more effective, with a constant eye on environmental sustainability, potential barriers faced by applicants, and robust selection decisions.

### How do you spend your time outside St John's?

Although my position at St John's isn't actively academic, I do lecture and supervise students in my ongoing role as Director of Studies at Lucy Cavendish, and I delve back into my research during quieter moments of the year.

I am President of the University's Real Tennis Club, which ties into my current research into sixteenth-century representations of Real Tennis. St John's constructed its first tennis court in 1574, in a spot now occupied by Second Court. The sport is little known now, but in the sixteenth century it was extremely popular – Henry VIII was a fanatical player! – and it is the game from which all other racquet sports originated. 

# Tea with the Chaplain

St John's welcomed Andrew Hammond in January 2020 as the new College Chaplain, a role focused on the face-to-face, pastoral function of the Chapel. Just before the Easter holidays and the College closure, co-Editor of *The Eagle*, Hannah Sharples, visited Andrew to find out more about his position and his personality.



Andrew's set is accessed via North Court and looks out onto Chapel Court. When I visit on a sunny morning early in March, the drawn blinds provide privacy and the lamplight illuminates one of the two bookshelves built into the wall. The books themselves are an informal assortment of variously coloured spines, showing the wear and tear of frequent browsing. They are

stacked haphazardly – some vertical, some horizontal – for optimum pick-up-and-put-down-ness.

As Andrew disappears to make tea, I ponder the large framed photograph of an Indian woman and her son sharing flatbreads in a shanty. Andrew later explains that this was gifted to him after he arranged for

an exhibition to be put on inside St Paul's Cathedral, where 85,000 visitors then saw it. The exhibition, *Being Untouchable*, comprises photographs in full colour of Dalit people, who used to be treated as non-human and were called 'untouchable'. The humanitarian photographer and a colleague from Christian Solidarity Worldwide spent a whole day with each family to take just a few shots, and the photograph above Andrew's mantelpiece shows a mother with her only surviving child, who is telling her that he wants to be an engineer.

I choose the smaller, subjectively comfier sofa beside the lamp, and Andrew sits opposite me on the sturdier looking sofa-bed, the great distance between us interrupted by a long wicker table on which to rest our drinks.

'Have you always been a Christian?' I ask.

Andrew chooses his words carefully: 'More often than not. I've never not been at the very least aware of the presence of God, although at times He may have seemed more at a distance.' He explains that he had a very straightforward, rural, middle-of-the-road church upbringing and ended up at Clare College in Cambridge as a Choral Scholar. After his degree he passed through a period of 'devotional doubt', during which he attended church but didn't get involved. That changed when Andrew lived in Covent Garden and met the parish priest there, Mark Oakley, who now happens to be the Dean of Chapel at St John's.

Within days of his fortieth birthday, a very clear notion formed in Andrew's head that he should be a priest. He spent months wrestling against it, but the concept was 'kind of demanding' and all the necessary people in his church were supportive.

'I call this my mid-life synthesis,' Andrew jokes. 'I didn't have a mid-life crisis. Some people buy a leather jacket and a moped, but I got ordained.'

Andrew worked in two London parishes, including Neasden – one of the most deprived parishes in the Church of England – and St Paul's. He then returned to Cambridge to take on the role of Chaplain at King's College.

'I discovered that working with students is incredibly challenging and demanding, but it is also incredibly engaging. One of the things I love is when students say "You can't say that" or "You've said all that stuff and it didn't make sense at all." At King's, this brilliant mathematician once said, "You're answering questions we're not asking." And that was so helpful! Being held to account by students who say what they think is just fabulous.'

At King's Andrew developed a rather subversive, alternative event called 'Critical Mass', which he has introduced to St John's as 'Wednesday Lates'. It's a service that rebels against the traditional prejudices: there's no endless standing up, no bits of paper with words on and no singing. Instead, everyone sits on the ground, text is projected on a screen, and Andrew gives a talk that relates to the student experience.

St John's is known for dignified, formal and choral worship of extremely high calibre. Andrew is clearly appreciative of this, but he is also keen to open up the Chapel further and introduce innovative activities that might attract new audiences. Ultimately, Andrew wants everyone in College to view the Chapel as 'their Chapel' and to think that something might be happening there that they want to attend. 'Mark and I both advocate warm-hearted, generous hospitality and allowing people to think freely and explore their feelings and convictions.'

There's always hospitality after the services – cheese and wine after Wednesday Lates, and port and hot chocolate after candlelit Compline – where students can mingle and ask questions. Andrew asserts that this is almost as important as the service itself, as it gives people the chance to connect with one another and take him aside for a chat. 'It's all part of creating little opportunities for visibility and accessibility.'

Andrew likens being a Chaplain of a Cambridge college to being a parish priest in miniature: there is a geographical boundary (the college grounds) and a set number of people under his care (the college members). Parish priests have their congregations but are also active in the wider parish, regardless of people's beliefs, and this is true of Andrew's role in St John's, too, where he hopes that the wider College community knows that he is there for them even if they don't share his outlook on life or religious convictions.

'Most undergraduates are only eighteen when they arrive (some are even younger) and they're dealing with things for the first time. Many of them are living away from home for the first time. They're dealing with a style of work that's very different from how they worked for A Levels. Sometimes they're dealing with a level of challenge from teachers that they've not faced before. Then there are the questions of loneliness and homesickness, of course, and relationships and finding out about themselves in terms of sexuality and even identity.'

Although Andrew gives most of his pastoral support one-to-one, he mentions that he had the LGBT group over to his house the night before for drinks. 'The LGBT community is my community,' he states. 'And because the church is so completely hopeless on that subject, it's quite important that a representative of that group goes the extra mile to be affirming.'

The Chaplain's residence is Merton Cottage in the College grounds, on Queen's Road. Andrew refers to it as his 'estate cottage' because he has a garden with deer cavorting about in it, and his enviable morning commute is up the avenue.

'Don't you ever feel trapped "in the bubble"?' I ask. 'You live in John's, work in John's, eat in John's... You don't need to leave the grounds!'

Andrew explains that he used to live over the archway in King's, and that his home in St John's feels rather remote in comparison.



Breakfast in Hall following the Sunday morning service

Being in the midst of things is vital to his way of being a Chaplain, however, which centres on being immensely available and approachable and being trusted with confidences that will go no further.

It strikes me that listening to these raw and sometimes painful student concerns can't be easy, and I'm curious how Andrew looks after himself.

'I have a really high doctrine of holidays!' Andrew laughs. 'I can derive enormous pleasure from the thought that one's coming or when I'm on it.' On a more serious note, he assures me that he is reasonably robust emotionally and was taught about psychological care when he was at theological college.

'Which is not to say that I can't wake up worrying about something at 5am,' he admits. 'Sometimes I get involved in these massive arguments with people who have been annoying me – in the shower, on my own!'

Andrew quickly adds that nobody at St John's has been part of those internal arguments. In fact, he praises the staff and his welcome to the College. In every department he has visited – either seeking practical support or being introduced by way of induction – the people were friendly, constructive and helpful.

Not needing to leave the grounds has taken on a new meaning in the months following this interview, when coronavirus has forced us all to stay put and physically isolate ourselves. St John's set up a 'Virtual Chapel' to run short daily services during the Easter term, such as Facebook Live events and recorded choir performances from the College archive. Although the distance between Andrew and the students has felt bizarre and difficult at times, he has remained available for pastoral contact via various e-communication platforms.

My own introduction to Andrew as Chaplain was in the form of a vlog that he created when he started in the role. He ended the video by inviting members of the College to drop by, asserting that he was 'super-available, super-non-judgemental and super-unshockable'. By the end of our interview, the wind howling outside half-drowns our words, but I am determined to test his statement. I thus disclose the mental health circumstances that led to me losing my Christian faith as a teenager.

Andrew's response is one of warmth, encouragement and affirmation – exactly the kind of Christianity he advocates and strives to embody. If anyone in College is in need of confidential, compassionate support, regardless of faith, Andrew's door is open and his phone is on. 📞

### What's the most eye-opening book you've read recently?

Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, which is the book I chose for the reading group this term. To my shame, up until about eighteen months ago I'd never heard of Toni Morrison, who was one of the great black women writers in America. *Beloved* is her most famous book and is based on the true story of an escaped slave woman trying to kill her children to stop their recapture. It's completely unsentimental, in an eye-watering way, about the slavery experience and its continuation in racism and segregation.

### Which book would you recommend for freshers?

*Great Sunshine of Wonder* by Michael Mayne, who used to be the vicar of Great St Mary's when I was an undergraduate and then went on to be the Dean of Westminster Abbey. This book is a sequence of postcards to his grandchildren, who were two when he wrote it. It gives the most amazing overview of how he understands the world from a Christian perspective. It's deeply human, very non-judgemental and incredibly encouraging: all the things I love about the Christian faith. And it is in fantastically manageable chunks, so you can easily read a chapter at night.

# Changes to the College's Community Hub plans

Student editorial assistant Aoife Hogan (2016) concluded *The Eagle 2019* with a look at the College's plans for a Community Hub in Second Court. Although her description of the project is still accurate, much can happen in a year. In the interview below, the Head of College Buildings, Tim Waters, provides an update on, and explanation of, the progress that St John's is making with these renovation plans.

Briefly explain what the Community Hub is and why the College has decided it is necessary.

The College Masterplan has identified a need for a communal space within the heart of the College for students, Fellows and staff to meet up socially, have relaxed work meetings, and eat and drink. The Community Hub project has been designed to satisfy this need by creating a modern, sustainable and inviting environment where the College community can all come together.

The existing Buttery Dining Room (BDR) is beginning to look very tired: the acoustics are poor, the heating and cooling systems are at the end of their lives, and the setting is not one that College members generally want to relax or have meetings in. Although many students love the Bar, the look is dated, the building services require replacing and the space needs freshening up. While renovating the BDR and the Bar, St John's will also build a unisex toilet block and create a new Junior Combination Room (JCR) area in the heart of the College that meets the students' needs and is an attractive asset.

What are the key considerations taken into account when planning the Community Hub?

The project offers St John's the opportunity to think sustainably about design choices and reduce the College's carbon footprint. St John's wants to be the leading college in Cambridge for sustainability, and it has therefore set strict environmental objectives for this project. Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is a third-party certification of the assessment of an asset's environmental, social and economic sustainability performance, and St John's is hoping to achieve at least a rating of 'excellent'.

The project is partly new build, but we also need to refurbish historic Grade I fabric. This poses certain challenges, especially when it comes to achieving the College's preferred BREEAM rating, and we are working closely with Historic England and the local planning authority to create solutions that all parties are content with.

### What role has Historic England played in this process?


The College and Historic England have had three pre-application meetings to date. The first challenge is the possible relocation of the gate piers in the patio area – this would open up more space around Kitchen Bridge and clearly demarcate the boundaries of the proposed patio area outside the BDR – and the second is the fabric enhancements within the historic areas. The fabric enhancements, which would help reduce the College's carbon footprint, are proving particularly difficult to resolve because the Community Hub project will be one of the first to make these types of modification.

### Why has the College decided to delay construction to summer 2021?

St John's is setting the benchmark with its sustainability objectives and needs more time to work with the local and national authorities to achieve these high standards. The student experience and College life are of the utmost importance, and the project programme needs to fit with the academic calendar, which means that we are limited to starting construction works in the long vacation so that the majority of the noisy demolition works are completed before the start of Michaelmas term. The College therefore made the decision this year to delay construction until summer 2021 as it became clear that the planning process period could be extended.

### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected these plans and your work more generally?

It is too early to say for the Community Hub plans. COVID-19 will have a major impact on the economy of the country as a whole, and the College will also be affected. As a design team we are still working towards achieving the planning permissions that would enable a summer 2021 start date, but we are not sure what the future holds.

The Maintenance Department have had to work from home while still attending College for emergency calls and statutory maintenance. We are still planning to do our programme of summer works, however. We are fortunate to have a talented team, who, if they can source materials, may be able to undertake additional maintenance work while the College is quiet and once we are allowed to move freely. 

Credit: MCW architects



Architect visualisations for the new spaces



# The Master and Fellowship

## College Officers

The College Officers as of 1 October 2020 will be:

The Master	Mrs Heather Hancock
The President	Dr Steve Edgley
Senior Tutor	Dr Mark Nicholls
Senior Bursar	Mr Chris Ewbank
Dean of Chapel	The Revd Canon Mark Oakley
Dean of Discipline	Professor Ernest Laue
Acting Dean of Discipline (LT & ET 21)	Dr Helen Watson
Domestic Bursar	Ms Helen Murley
Librarian	Dr Mark Nicholls
Praelector	Dr Talitha Kearey
Director of Music	Mr Andrew Nethsingha
Chaplain	The Revd Andrew Hammond

## College Council

The College Council as of 1 October 2020 will be (in order of seniority):

The Master  
 The President  
 Dr Helen Watson  
 Professor Ulinka Rublack  
 Professor Ben Simons  
 Professor Christine Gray  
 Dr Paul Wood  
 Mr Chris Ewbank  
 Professor Chris Jiggins  
 Mr Stephen Teal  
 Professor John Rink  
 The Revd Canon Mark Oakley  
 Dr Joana Meier

## Fellowship

The Fellowship of the College as of 1 October 2020 will be (in order of seniority):

The Master (Mrs Heather Hancock)  
 The President (Dr Steve Edgley)  
 Dr Ben Garling  
 Dr George Reid  
 Professor Patrick Boyde  
 Dr John Leake  
 Dr Alan Macfarlane  
 Professor David McMullen  
 Dr Keith Matthews  
 Mr Ray Jobling  
 The Revd Dr Andrew Macintosh  
 Professor Jim Staunton  
 Professor Malcolm Clarke  
 Professor John Iliffe

Professor Malcolm Schofield  
 Professor Roger Griffin  
 Professor Tim Bayliss-Smith  
 Professor Steve Gull  
 Dr Howard Hughes  
 Dr Peter Goddard  
 Professor Peter T. Johnstone  
 Professor Ian Hutchings  
 Professor Richard Beadle  
 Dr John Hutchison  
 Dr Derek Wight  
 Professor Sir Richard Friend  
 Dr Robin Glasscock  
 Professor Robert Tombs  
 Dr Dick McConnel  
 Professor David Midgley  
 Professor Peter Matthews  
 Dr Martin Richards  
 Professor John Kerrigan  
 Professor Graham Burton  
 Professor Geoff Horrocks  
 Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta  
 Dr Hugh Matthews  
 Professor Jane Heal  
 Dr Tom Hynes  
 Professor Nick McCave  
 Dr Andrew C. (Ricky) Metaxas  
 Colonel Richard Robinson  
 Professor Simon Conway Morris  
 Professor Ernest Laue  
 Professor Robert Evans  
 Dr Sue Colwell  
 Dr Helen Watson  
 Dr Joe McDermott  
 Professor Christel Lane  
 Dr Christopher Robinson  
 Professor Yuri Suhov  
 Professor Simon Szreter  
 Professor Deborah Howard  
 Professor Manucha Lisboa

Professor Ulinka Rublack  
 Professor Ben Simons  
 Professor Máire Ní Mhaonaigh  
 Professor Duncan McFarlane  
 Professor Christine Gray  
 Dr Ian Winter  
 Professor Nick Manton  
 Dr Neil Arnold  
 Dr Stefano Castelvechi  
 Professor Ann Louise Kinmonth  
 Professor Janet Lees  
 Professor Andrew Wyllie  
 Professor Stefan Reif  
 Dr David Stuart  
 Dr Mark Nicholls  
 Dr Matthias Dörrzapf  
 Dr Pierpaolo Antonello  
 Dr Preston Miracle  
 Professor Andy Woods  
 Commodore John Harris  
 Professor Serena Best  
 Dr Petra Geraats  
 Dr Paul Wood  
 Professor Emily Gowers  
 Professor Usha Goswami  
 Professor Richard Samworth  
 Professor Graeme Barker  
 Dr David Williams  
 Miss Sylvana Tomaselli  
 Mr Chris Ewbank  
 Dr Frank Salmon  
 Dr Chris Warnes  
 Professor Chris Jiggins  
 Mr Stephen Teal  
 Mr Andrew Nethsingha  
 Dr Tomas Larsson  
 Dr Robert Mullins  
 Professor Tuomas Knowles  
 Professor Jason Robinson  
 Dr Georgina Evans

Professor Mete Atutüre  
Professor Zoubin Ghahramani  
Professor John Rink  
Professor Erwin Reisner  
Professor Ole Paulsen  
Professor Kristian Franze  
Professor Austen Lamacraft  
Professor Uta Paszkowski  
Dr Nathan MacDonald  
Dr John Taylor  
Dr Andrew Arsan  
Dr Meredith Crowley  
Professor Michael De Volder  
Dr Hannah Joyce  
Dr Orietta Da Rold  
Professor Albertina Albors-Llorens  
Professor Tim Whitmarsh  
Dr Edward Tipper  
Mr Tim Watts  
Dr Adam Chau  
Dr Graham Ladds  
Professor Richard Gilbertson  
Dr Fleur Kilburn-Toppin  
Professor Eske Willerslev  
Dr Andy Wheeler  
Dr Gabriella Santangelo  
Dr Laura Torrente Murciano  
Dr Jodi Gardner  
Dr Ruth Abbott  
Dr Nick Blunt  
Dr Adam Bales  
Dr Tristan Brown  
Dr Dorian Gangloff  
Ms Helen Murley  
The Revd Canon Mark Oakley  
Professor Eric Miska  
Dr Jean Abraham  
Dr John Weisweiler  
Dr Giuliana Fusco  
Dr Ester Salgarella  
Dr Helen McCarthy  
Dr Joanna Meier  
Dr Stephanie Mawson  
Dr Dhruv Ranganathan  
Dr Jack Smith  
Dr Rebecca Shercliff  
Dr Kadi Saar  
Dr Talitha Kearey  
Dr Morag Morrison-Helme  
Dr Morgan Ng  
Dr Matt Lampitt  
Ms Anna Plumridge  
Dr Isabelle Roland  
Dr Victoria Harvey  
Dr Amanda Sferuzzi-Perri  
Professor Alexander Bird  
Dr Alex Wong  
Dr Christiana Scheib  
Dr Nicholas Friedman  
Mr Jules O'Dwyer  
Ms Lucy McDonald  
Mr Virgil Andrei

## Honorary Fellows

The Honorary Fellows of the College as of 1 October 2020 will be (in order of seniority):

Dr Manmohan Singh  
 Sir David Wilson  
 Sir Bryan Cartledge  
 Sir Derek Jacobi  
 Professor Sir Roger Penrose  
 Professor Sir David Cox  
 The Hon. Mr Justice R. J. Goldstone  
 The Rt Hon. Lord Hope  
 Sir Timothy Lankester  
 The Rt Hon. Lord Browne  
 Professor Lord King  
 Mr J. M. Brearley  
 The Hon. Mr Justice Frank Iacobucci  
 Ambassador A. J. Jacovides  
 Sir Michael Scholar  
 The Most Revd P. E. Carnley  
 Sir Mark Moody-Stuart  
 Mr D. M. Burt  
 Mr C. N. Corfield  
 Professor E. S. Maskin  
 Professor Lord Renfrew  
 The Rt Hon. Lord Justice Aikens  
 Professor Sir John Ball  
 The Rt Hon. Sir Jack Beatson  
 Professor J. G. A. Pocock  
 Sir David Hopwood  
 Sir Roger Palin  
 Sir David Pountney  
 Lord E. N. R. Eaglescliffe  
 Sir Simon Keenlyside  
 Professor R. M. Goody  
 Professor Lord Hennessy  
 Professor A. D. Hamilton  
 Professor D. W. Harvey

Miss J. C. Egan  
 The Most Revd B. Ntahoturi  
 Professor B. J. Stapleton  
 Mr M. A. Feigen  
 Mr T. J. E. Adès  
 Professor M. Castells  
 Dame Louise Makin  
 Sir Harpal Kumar  
 His Royal Highness The Duke of Cambridge  
 Mr M. I. Coombs  
 Mrs A. Phelps  
 Professor S. E. Radford  
 Ms L. C. Bates  
 Dr C. H. Craig  
 Dr H.-A. Doughty  
 Dr E. C. Upton



# MEMBERS' NEWS

Photo: London  
Christmas Drinks 2019  
Credit: Owen Billcliffe



# Connecting the community

**Head of Alumni Relations Susannah Rose provides an overview of how the College and the Johnian community have revised their practices during the pandemic. From sharing career advice online during a global downturn to keeping the community spirit strong, Johnians have stepped up to the challenge and have worked closely with the Development Office to stay connected.**

At the time of writing, College traditions are rapidly being adapted to the reality of operating in a global pandemic. Core activities such as teaching, research and assessment have been transformed, and so have the practices that enhance the community's identity as Johnians. Communal dining, for example, brings the resident and non-resident community together across subject divisions and year groups.

While the doors of Hall remain closed, the College, like many communities, has tried to recreate these social encounters as best as it can online. Our recent 'virtual toast' for graduands and their families was a symbolic event to mark a significant moment for our finalists following the cancellation of the usual General Admission and associated celebrations.

Our last in-person event for alumni was the Johnian Society dinner in London, just before the lockdown; since then we have cancelled all in-person events in College and around the world. We recognise that these moments are critical in forging bonds of friendship, and that you may have your own St John's traditions that have been put on pause since the College gates shut in March. We don't yet know when we will be able to

bring large groups of Johnians together, either in Hall or elsewhere, to enjoy these traditions once again.

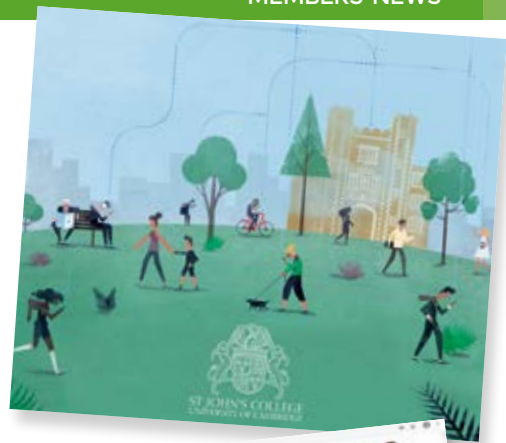
In the meantime, thousands of Johnians are tackling the immediate challenges of the pandemic and supporting their local communities and the wider society, from delivering health care and education to managing vital industries. You can stay connected and show support by reading the Johnian stories that we have published on our blog during the crisis, including accounts of rapid reinvention and adaptation to serve new and pressing needs.

It is a challenging environment for all of us in which to thrive, but in particular for the students who have completed their studies in 2020. They are kick-starting their careers in a global downturn and have fewer choices than their predecessors in 2019. Students can access support through the University Careers Service, and here in the College we are scoping out ways that this year's cohort of graduates can benefit from the real-world experience and insights that other Johnians can share from their own industries. We can only conceive of doing this because of the generosity of alumni who are willing to give their time to the next generation.

The 2020 graduates have met a most challenging situation with creativity, resilience and flexibility. Living through this crisis at such a pivotal moment in their lives may well have influenced their career goals, and their working lives could end up being radically different from our own. But whatever they do, it is certain that they will be a wonderful asset to the alumni community.

Johnian Hub continues to be the best platform that we offer for alumni to connect directly with one another. Those on Johnian Hub can establish informal mentoring relationships with other Johnians across continents and generations or offer quick, tactical help. They can also share photos and memories from their time in College and reconnect with old friends. It is a democratisation of the St John's network. Since launching, thousands of people have signed up and offered help to other Johnians.

In a recent survey that we conducted, we established that there are several forms of support that Johnians want from the alumni programme in relation to career development: stories of life experiences, career profiles, inspirational role models, industry-specific networks and informal mentoring. The 2020 graduates, in particular, want to hear from alumni working in industries of interest to them. In the last few months, Johnian support for one another has taken off through the platform, and we hope that everyone will take a look, join in and thereby make it even more useful.



Screenshots from [johnianhub.com](http://johnianhub.com)

We know that these online connections can never replace the experience of spotting an old friend approaching through shafts of sunlight falling across the cloisters of New Court. That pleasure will have to wait. But while the College grounds remain closed, friendship and support are available whenever you want it. 🌿

You can sign up to Johnian Hub at [johnianhub.com](http://johnianhub.com). Read about how you can get involved with the alumni programme at [johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk).

# Members' News

The following pages are dedicated to sharing the news of alumni, Fellows, Honorary Fellows and students, listed in order of matriculation year in the University or the year of joining the College as a Fellow. Please note that we rely on those submitting entries to check that they are correct and we cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies.

You can contribute your news to next year's issue of *The Eagle* online at [johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/members-news](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/members-news) or by filling in the paper form accompanying this issue.

If you've lost touch with other Johnians, please contact the Development Office at [development@joh.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@joh.cam.ac.uk) or on **01223 338700**. If we have their contact details, we will try to help you reconnect.

1951 ARROWSMITH, Dr David played as an amateur violinist in the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra from 1973. In October 2019 he retired after a final concert performance of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* at Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

1956 MITCHELL, Dr Kit was awarded a Written Paper Prize by the Royal Aeronautical Society for a paper on Concorde's vibration during take-off. This work was done at RAE Farnborough in the late 1960s. He was previously awarded an RAeS Branches Prize and a Certificate of Merit from the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation.

1957 ADAMS, Robin published a couple of art historical papers in 2019. These comprised "'You cannot be serious, Mr Reay?': The Bewicks argue intellectual property" in *The Cherryburn Times (The Journal of the Bewick Society, volume 7, number 5, 2019)* and 'Joseph Atkinson

and the early images of the Tanfield Arch' in *Early Railways 6* (edited by Anthony Coull).

1957 GRANT, Sandy published *Botswana: Choice and Opportunity, 1963–2018* with Zeticula Ltd.

1958 MALEY, Professor Alan edited the volume *Developing Expertise Through Experience*. In the past four years, he has written and edited four other books and published two collections of his haikus.

1959 AVERY, Dr Charles published *Il Bresciano, Bronze-caster of Renaissance Venice* (Philip Wilson Publishers).

1959 HOPE OF CRAIGHEAD, The Rt Hon. the Lord David published the final volume of his five-volume series, *Lord Hope's Diaries*. Ranging from 1978 to 2015, the series covers his legal career from the Bar to the UK Supreme Court.

1960 BETHELL, Dr Hugh started a blog on exercise, fitness and health to inspire everyone to keep active, and he would be pleased if Johnnians signed up for regular updates. The blog can be found at [exercisefitnessandhealth.info](http://exercisefitnessandhealth.info) and the associated Facebook page at [facebook.com/Exercise.Fitness.Health](https://facebook.com/Exercise.Fitness.Health).

1960 HOUGHTON, Brigadier Ivan is the President Elect of the Medical Society of London and will be inducted as the President in October 2020. He continues as the (Honorary) Researcher in the Paintings & Frames Conservation Department at the Tate.

1961 GREAVES, Bernard was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) by the University of Leicester 'in recognition of his many contributions to public life in this area, and in particular his work for the LGBT community'.

1963 RUSSELL, Professor Michael was elected to a fellowship in the American Association for the Advancement of Science on 25 October 2019, 'for distinguished contributions to the field of mucosal immunology with novel approaches to mucosal immunisation and the induction and function of secretory and serum IgA antibodies'.

1966 BULLOCK, Peter retired from teaching physics full-time but is still engaged in part-time work and is a church organist. His wife Sarah and he have moved to Shrewsbury.

1966 CARNLEY, The Most Revd Dr Peter had two companion volumes of academic

theology published by Wipf and Stock (USA) in 2019: *Resurrection in Retrospect: A Critical Examination of the Theology of N. T. Wright* and *The Reconstruction of Resurrection Belief*.

1966 YOUNG, Professor Robert was awarded the Platinum Medal of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3) 'in recognition of outstanding contributions to materials, science and industry'. He was presented with the medal at the 150th Anniversary Dinner of the IOM3 by Professor Serena Best, President of the IOM3 and a Fellow at St John's.

1967 NEFF, Michael wrote a memoir about his time at St John's with one of his best friends, Raymond Neinstein (1967). Both came from the USA, and, embracing the American hippie culture, they experienced the late 1960s Cambridge from an unusual perspective. Connect with Michael and read his story on [johnnianhub.com](http://johnnianhub.com) or email him on [neffart@hotmail.com](mailto:neffart@hotmail.com).

1968 BROWNE, David contributed a chapter on medieval castles to the *Cardiganshire County History* Volume 2 (2019 UWP) and published on the subject of a Nasca ceremonial site in Llipata, Peru.

1968 DINGWALL, Professor Robert was awarded the 2019 Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community by the Socio-Legal Studies Association. Read the full citation online: [bit.ly/RDingwall](http://bit.ly/RDingwall).

1971 MILLER, Dr Alastair continues as the Deputy Medical Director of the Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board (JRCPTB). This year the board implemented the new curriculum for Internal Medicine Training Stage 1 and continues to develop new curricula for all thirty physician specialities, with a view to having these in place by 2021 and 2022. Alastair continues to work one day a week as an Acute Medicine Consultant in Carlisle.

1971 MOORE, Andy was elected as a Councillor for the Newbury Central Ward of West Berkshire Council in May 2019. He stood as a Liberal Democrat candidate.

1973 OUGHTON, Richard married Dr Gwenda Porter, a retired Consultant Anaesthetist, at Shotesham All Saints, Norfolk, on 29 June 2019. It was the first marriage for both parties, who had a combined age of 127 years. Richard continues to practise as a chancery barrister in Manchester and Norwich.

1974 POLLARD, David ceased practice as a solicitor at Freshfields (where he worked for thirty-five years) and started practice as a barrister from Wilberforce Chambers in Lincoln's Inn. The staircase and court of the Chambers remind him a lot of St John's.

1974 STEWART, The Revd Canon Charles was made an Honorary Canon at Winchester Cathedral, having previously been a Residentiary Canon and Canon Emeritus. He is also an elected member of the Bishop's Council and the Diocesan Standing Committee.

1975 BRAMLEY, Paul was awarded the 2019 Callendar Medal for 'outstanding contribution to the art of instruments or measurement' by the Institute of Measurement and Control.

1975 DUCKWORTH, Colin was selected for the Great Britain team at the World Trail Orienteering Championships in Portugal in June 2019, finishing fifteenth in the PreO Paralympic class.

1975 MARCOFF, Tony had his poetic autobiography *River of the World* published as seventy-five pieces of tanka prose, many of which appear in *Atlas Poetica* in the USA and other journals. If anyone would like a copy, they can email Tony on [aamarcoff@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aamarcoff@yahoo.co.uk).

1976 BASHALL, Nick continues to paint portraits across the UK and in the Middle East. He is represented by Fine Art Commissions in St James's, London, and his work can be found on Instagram (@nickbashall.artist) or on his website ([www.nickbashall.com](http://www.nickbashall.com)). Recently he collaborated with Nicky Philipps on 'paint-off' performances, painting portraits from life in two hours accompanied by rock music and watched by an audience.

1976 GRAHAM, Martin initiated the Permission to Smile campaign, which has partnered with 155 Birmingham organisations to encourage friendliness, smiling and public greeting, and to facilitate the formation of street communities in an effort to combat social isolation.

1976 HOLMES, Simon is a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Competition Law and Policy at Oxford University, a Non-Governmental Advisor (NGA) to the European Commission in relation to the International Competition network, and an NGA for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. These roles are in addition to his position as a judge at the Competition Appeal Tribunal and advisor to the environmental activist law organisation ClientEarth.

1976 REIF, Professor Stefan was honoured at an international conference in Germany last year with a second Festschrift entitled *On Wings of Prayer* in honour of his seventy-fifth birthday. He received his first Festschrift in 2010.

1976 SMITH, Peter stepped back from his eight-year role as Managing Editor of Spend Matters Europe, a leading procurement and supply chain website, at the end of 2018. He then used his time to compile *A Procurement Compendium*, a collection of his articles, which was published in September 2019. A book of new material, entitled *Bad Buying: How Organisations Waste Billions Through Failure, Fraud and F\*ck-Ups*, is due to be published by Penguin Business in the autumn 2020.

1976 WHITFORD, Professor David was appointed President, CEO & Registrar, RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus (formerly Penang Medical College) on 1 August 2019.

1977 MINTON, Professor Timothy was awarded an OBE in the 2020 New Year Honours List for services to UK/Japan relations.

1978 COUPLAND, The Revd Dr Simon was appointed Vicar of St Richard's Ham. He was also appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of the Liebenstein Foundation in Rhineland-Palatinate.

1980 BRIEGAL, Mark was appointed Chair of Archery GB in April 2019, the governing body for archery in the UK. Archery GB has a membership of over 40,000 archers and is preparing teams for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

1982 HANNING-LEE, Dr Mark has co-authored a Test Operations Procedure (TOP) 08-2-199 Collective Protection (ColPro) System Chamber Test. This TOP provides information to facilitate planning, conducting and reporting on testing of collective protection (ColPro) active and passive systems in a chamber.

1983 BROWN, Stephen was appointed Editor in Chief of *Politico*, a European digital and print newspaper, based in Brussels and dedicated to politics and policy. He was part of the team that launched *Politico's* European edition in 2015. Stephen is happy to hear from young Johnnians trying to break into journalism or from more experienced alumni with interesting story ideas and pitches.

1983 FLETCHER, John and Catheryne are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Philippa Elsie, on 9 June 2019.

1983 WALSH, Professor Toby was invited to give the Richard Selby Smith Oration in Hobart, Tasmania, in 2019. He was also granted a private audience with the King of Bhutan to discuss artificial intelligence and his new book, *2062: The World that AI Made* (Trobe University Press). Toby is currently Chair of the Learned Academies expert group that advises the Australian government on AI, and a member of the working group preparing an ethical framework for the implementation of AI.

1984 ISRAEL, Professor Mark took up the position of Professor and Dean, Learning and Teaching at Murdoch University in 2019.

1984 NIENOW, Professor Pete was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE) in 2019.

1984 PHELPS, Annamarie was appointed Chair of the British Horseracing Authority in June 2019. She is currently also Vice-Chair of the British Olympic Association; Associate Consultant for Safe Sport International; and Vice-Chair of the European Rowing Board.

1985 DALTON, Dr Sarah obtained a PhD from the University of Westminster in 2017, entitled 'Modelling the Perinatal Network System'.

1985 KENNEISON, Dr Rebecca published *The Special Operations Executive in Malaya: World War II and the Path to Independence* with Bloomsbury in 2019. It features, among others, the well-known Johnian Freddie Spencer Chapman.

1986 PERSIDIS, Dr Aris was included as one of the world's top-50 Futurists, according to the Tofler Foundation.

1987 BAKER, Dr Frederick won the European Heritage Europa Nostra Grand Prix in Paris 2019 for an interactive digital project about the Nazi Annexation of Austria in 1938.

1987 ESPOSITO, Dr Giampiero published a new book with Nova Science called *Paths in Complex Analysis*. He also co-edited lectures on the *Theory of Surfaces in the Work of Ricci-Curbastro* with Luca Dell'Aglio, published by the Italian Mathematical Union.

1987 METAXAS, Dr Ricky now has two named awards. The Ricky Metaxas Pioneer Award is intended for an individual with an outstanding record in the Microwave Energy Applications field. The Ricky Metaxas Young Researcher Award was inaugurated at a conference of the Association of Microwave Power for Education and Research in Europe (AMPERE) held in Valencia, September 2019. This new award in the field of microwave and RF heating concerns activities in academe, industry or related areas. It is intended for a young researcher who is in the process of establishing a solid reputation in this field.

1988 KING, Dr Jeremy served as Chief Invigilator at the International Maths Olympiad held at Bath University in July 2019. He also gave the International Maths Olympiad Celebration Lecture held at

Westminster Central Hall in September 2019, in recognition of his nine years chairing the British Maths Olympiad Setting Committee.

1989 GRADE, The Hon. Alison published *The Freelance Bible: Everything You Need to Go Solo in Any Industry* in March 2020. Find it online: [bit.ly/FreelanceBible](http://bit.ly/FreelanceBible).

1989 YANG, Professor Rui (Title A Fellow 1992–95) completed a stint as Director of the Institute of Metal Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Shenyang, which remains his primary attachment. In addition, he recently became the Director of the Center for Adaptive System Engineering in the newly established ShanghaiTech University.

1993 LISBOA, Professor Manucha published *A Heaven of Their Own: Heresy and Heterodoxy in Portuguese Literature from the Eighteenth Century to the Present* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2018) and *Essays on Paula Rego: Smile When You Think About Hell* (Cambridge: Open Book, 2019).

1993 ZATSCHLER, Carsten was appointed Director of Legal and Executive Affairs of the EFTA Surveillance Authority in Brussels in 2015 and was in charge of enforcing European internal market law in Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. In 2018 he was admitted to the degree of Barrister at Law and called to the Bar of Ireland, and in 2019 he was elected a Governing Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, London. Carsten has three children: Paul (born 2013), Konrad (born 2015) and Clara (born 2017).

1994 SCHULZ, Professor Jennifer is pleased to announce the publication of her book *Mediation & Popular Culture* (Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2019).

1994 SHARMA, Dave was elected as a Member of Parliament for the seat of Wentworth in Australia in the 2019 general election. This followed a career as an Australian diplomat, with postings in Papua New Guinea, Washington DC and Israel as Ambassador. Dave is married to Rachel and they have three daughters together.

1996 DAS, Professor Santanu was elected to a Senior Research Fellowship in English at All Souls College, Oxford, in January 2019. At the same time, he also became Professor of Modern Literature and Culture at the University of Oxford. In 2018 his monograph *India, Empire, and First World War Culture* was published and widely reviewed.

1996 HILL (née Scott), Dr Amy and her husband Tim welcomed a son, Samuel Jeremy, born 19 September 2019.

1996 LANGLOIS, Dr Adèle married Geoffrey Cochran in June 2017, after they met playing in their local orchestra. In October 2018 they were blessed with the birth of twin girls Emma and Hannah. Adèle is Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of Lincoln and specialises in bioethics.

1997 GREEN, Dr Frederik published *Bird Talk and Other Stories by Xu Xu: Modern Tales of a Chinese Romantic*, a study of short stories by the Chinese author Xu Xu (1908–80), with Stone Bridge Press in May 2020.

1998 GOOCH, Dr Megan completed her AHRC-funded 'Lest We Forget' research project on World War I commemoration at the Tower of London. She also moved from her role as Creative Producer and Research Fellow at Historic Royal Palaces to her new role as Head of the Centre for Digital Scholarship and Digital Humanities Support at the University of Oxford in October 2019.

1999 RISSO, Dr Nadine and her husband Dr Graham Smith were delighted to welcome the birth of their son, Cesare Graham Henry Risso Smith, on 8 February 2020.

1999 VALLEJO VEIGA (née Jones), Catherine and Ivan (1998, Churchill) were delighted to welcome their second son, Peter Xavier Ioan Vallejo, on 12 February 2018. Catherine also received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2018 as one of the peer support volunteers for the South Gloucestershire Breastfeeding Support Services.

2001 PONTZEN, Professor Andrew was awarded the Gerald Whitrow Lectureship in the Royal Astronomical Society Awards.

2003 CHELIOTIS, Dr Leonidas, currently Associate Professor of Criminology in the Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science, won the prestigious Gerhard O. W. Mueller Award

in 2020. The award is given annually by the International Section of the American Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences for 'an outstanding contribution to the field of comparative/international criminal justice'. Leonidas won the award for his published work on crime and criminal justice in Greece, the UK and the USA from both national and international comparative perspectives.

2005 JAMES, The Revd Thomas and Surg. Lt Cdr James are pleased to announce the arrival of Persephone Hope, who was born on 24 April 2020.

2008 WALERUD, Caroline is co-Founder and Executive Chairman of Volumental, a deeptech company that makes retail personalised and efficient, starting with footwear. Volumental operates in over forty countries and works with top brands like Bauer, New Balance and Fleet Feet. Caroline was named Swedish Supertalent of the Year in 2013 and Forbes 30 in 30 in 2016, among other accolades.

2010 PURCELL, Jennifer founded WithU, an audio-led fitness app, where on-demand personal training is delivered by expert coaches. The company has grown to a team of fifteen and has raised nearly £1.5m in seed funding. The app can be downloaded from the app stores, and you can read more about it on our alumni blog: [bit.ly/PurcellWithU](http://bit.ly/PurcellWithU).

2011 KENT, Dr Brianne was appointed to serve as Governor-In-Council on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research

(CIHR) Governing Council. The public announcement was made by the Canadian Minister of Health on 6 June 2019. The Governing Council ensures that CIHR fulfils the mandates outlined in the CIHR Act, which are to excel according to international standards of scientific excellence and that the progress being made supports the health of Canadians.


2011 RESPONDEK, Luisa spent a semester abroad working with curator and notable architect Rem Koolhaas on the *Countryside, The Future* exhibition for the Guggenheim Museum in New York. Find out more: [youtube.com/watch?v=eTbH5RWb66o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTbH5RWb66o).

2011 STAPLETON, Professor Jane was appointed an Honorary Queen's Counsel.

2012 BRAZIER, Randolph was elected as one of the 100 World Energy Council Future Leaders (FEL-100) in 2019. The programme helps shape, inspire and nurture the next generation of energy leaders capable of solving the world's most pressing challenges regarding energy and sustainability.

2015 AMAR, Dr Yehia published a paper entitled 'Machine learning and molecular descriptors enable rational solvent selection in asymmetric catalysis' (*Chemical Science*, June 2019). Read the paper online: [bit.ly/Amar0619](https://bit.ly/Amar0619).

2015 BARKER LIMON, Elise was awarded the prestigious 2020–22 Bass Fellowship to Yale School of Architecture, which is a two-year full scholarship.

2017 MILLER, Professor Robert was a Beaufort Visiting Scholar at St John's. He published *Baal, St. George, and Khidr: A Study of the Historical Geography of the Levant* (State College, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2019). 

# Larmor winners

2016 BOUCHARD, Juliana received a Larmor Award for achieving a First so high it is 'unprecedented' in recent memory in Chinese Studies, an undergraduate course in which students learn Chinese from scratch. Dr Adam Chau, College Lecturer in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, described her as 'intelligent, pleasant, diligent, conscientious and intellectually curious'.

2016 CASSON, Freya received a Larmor Award for her commitment to her studies and for being a prominent member of the Lady Margaret Boat Club (LMBC). She achieved a First in Natural Sciences, was Women's Captain of the LMBC and Lower Boats Captain, and won a Blue in the 2019 Varsity Boat Race in the lightweight reserve pair. She was elected a scholar in 2019 and won a College Wright Prize, the Hughes Year Prize, and the Frances Willmoth Prize for the best third-year dissertation in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science.

2016 McKEOWN, Rosie received a Larmor Award after achieving a First during every year of her Modern and Medieval Languages (MML) studies and for making history in her first year as a member of the first St John's team to win University Challenge. Following this success, Rosie was invited to contribute pieces to both *The Guardian* and the *New Statesman*. She also had a short story printed in the student publication *Notes*, participated regularly in writing and critique groups, and received

the Kurt Hahn Prize for her performance in German.

2016 SCHRAGER, Plum received a Larmor Award after securing a First in Modern and Medieval Languages (MML) with 'special excellence' and becoming the first female Captain of the Varsity Polo Team. She was an Access Mentor and worked as a member of the Cambridge University Shadowing Scheme to increase the number of students from low-income and disadvantaged backgrounds at Cambridge. She was also a founding member of the St John's College Labour Society and she volunteered extensively, working during summers for the Royal Mencap Society at Mencap Outdoors, the UK's leading learning disability charity.

2016 WHITMORE, Dmitri, described as the 'strongest maths student at St John's in the last five years', received a Larmor Award after securing extremely high Firsts in Mathematics in every year of his studies. He won multiple prizes during his time at Cambridge, including the 2019 Horne Scholarship, the Adams Memorial (Wright) Prize, the Ian Hall Year Prize, the 2018 Horne Scholarship, the Lapwood-Towle (Wright) Prize, the Quass (shared) Year Prize, the 2017 Horne Scholarship, the Leathen (Wright) Prize, the Johnstone (shared) Year Prize, and the Pythagoras Prize in 2016. In addition to his studies, Dmitri served as Secretary of the Adams Society for two years, helped organise and teach the STEP school each year, and represented the College in the Chess team.



2017 ASHOK, Anusha received a Larmor Award for her commitment to improving the life of students at the College. She achieved a 2.1 in Mathematics, was JCR co-President in her final year, and was commended for being an ambassador for students' views on the Black Lives Matter campaign and for being 'instrumental in helping the College address questions of diversity'.

2017 GRANT, Liam received a Larmor Award after achieving a First in Economics, with a mark of 78 in his dissertation. He was President of the Marshall Society, the College Economics society, in his second year, and he personally raised £25,000 when he worked on the 2019 College fundraising Telethon. Outside of College, he was Vice-President of the Association of British and Chinese University Students, and he worked with Project Access to aid under-represented students applying to Cambridge. He also played Blues

Table Tennis, helping win the Oxford vs Cambridge Varsity match twice.

2017 MAÑÁ MESAS, Ignacio (Nacho) received a Larmor Award for his 'truly outstanding' academic performance, achieving a First during every year of his studies. Nacho was awarded the Earle Prize and the Wright Prize in 2019 by St John's, in addition to the Donald Wort Prize by the Cambridge Faculty of Music for the best academic results across the whole year group. Described as a 'performer of the highest artistic standard', Nacho was Vice-President of the St John's College Music Society and performed on the saxophone at countless College concerts. His composition 'Elegy', written in commemoration of the late Master, Professor Sir Christopher Dobson, premiered earlier this year. 🎷



Photo: Starry night  
Credit: Nordin Čatić (2017)

# OBITUARIES



# Professor Sir Christopher Dobson FRS, 1949–2019

Dr Frank Salmon remembers Chris Dobson in the context of his Mastership of St John's.



Professor Sir Christopher Dobson and Mary, Lady Dobson, in the Master's Lodge garden, 2018

Credit: Ben Lister

The broadsheet obituarists did a good job in summarising the entirety of Chris's life and career, but, for anyone connected to St John's, the relatively brief notice they gave of his activities as Master of the College will have seemed strangely unrepresentative. Chris was a part-time Master, paid to give us 40% of his time in addition to his University duties, but, as he himself used to joke, he could never remember what

that percentage was. For those of us who worked most closely with him the question was in any case irrelevant, as it seemed he was omnipresent in College. Indeed, his typical working week involved only one day at his Department – a situation made possible because of the way leading academics in the sciences now head large, well-managed teams. On the other four weekdays, Chris would be hurrying

between one or more of the seventeen College committees he chaired, taking part in official commitments with students, staff or alumni, lunching or dining to catch up with Fellows, or meeting and talking privately with individuals from any of these constituencies in the Lodge Study – all aided by his dedicated office staff. At weekends, he and Mary were frequently encountered walking around the College courts and gardens, or chatting over food in the Buttery, while on Sundays he was regularly in his Chapel stall at the Eucharist and/or Evensong.

From the time he assumed the Office in 2007, Chris increasingly identified himself in the personage of Master of St John's, and this was surely the reason why, after receiving the hammer blow of his likely terminal diagnosis, there was no question in his mind of resigning in order to spend his remaining time doing other things. He was determined to carry on with his life as he knew it. From speaking at Halfway Hall in February 2019 on the very day of his diagnosis to staying on for dinner with the Provost and Fellows of King's after the annual Joint Evensong in late June, he courageously fulfilled all of his official duties as Master and continued to participate in the College's governance and management as and when he could. Although he had announced that he had cancer, most Johnians therefore had no idea how serious it was. His last wish, as Master, was to die in the Lodge but, sadly, although the College's Maintenance Department quickly fitted up appropriate facilities, this was not to be.

In the autumn of 2006, Chris was a compelling candidate in the election for the forty-fourth Master. A key concern for the College at that time was the lead-up to its 500th Anniversary in 2011 and the associated campaign to raise £50m. To many that seemed a worryingly ambitious target, but Chris had said at the hustings it was not ambitious enough for a College like St John's. He was a vigorous supporter of the newly established Development Office under Stephen Teal, fully understanding that fundraising to support the College's core activities was the inevitable corollary of the rapidly changing nature of university finances. He also backed the foundation of the Beaufort Society as a way of embracing, here and now, Johnians who remember the College in their wills. Success in the 2011 Campaign left the College better placed than any other to respond to the government's abrupt abolition of student maintenance support in 2016. Working with Stephen, Senior Tutor Matthias Dörrzapf and others, Chris launched a second major campaign, *Free Thinking*, for £100m to provide studentships designed to ensure that financial need would not stop talented students from coming to St John's. A pilot scheme funded by a donor enabled the College to begin offering bursaries straight away. This caused upset in some other colleges, which felt that a big college was competing with them on the matter of access. Chris toughed out some difficult Heads of Houses meetings – it helped that he was regarded in that forum with some awe – because he was sure St John's was doing the right thing in responding to a crisis immediately and in leading by example.

Other colleges and the University itself have now followed suit, and by the time of his death more than 130 students at the College had already benefited from its bursaries.

Chris was very well attuned to modern times – highly appreciative of the changing needs and concerns of the College’s students, Fellows, staff and alumni. He was particularly proud of progress towards gender balance in Fellowship elections and of the foundation of Aquila and St John’s Voices, musical groups for and including women. During his time the Communications Office was established to ensure that the achievements of members of St John’s reached the widest possible audience through the College’s website and social media, while financial support for summer internships enabled students to engage in research and entrepreneurship beyond academia during their time at St John’s, rather than after graduating. His frequent speeches to students and Fellows demonstrated his acute awareness of the major issues facing the world today – including climate change, disease and inequalities – and inspired the thousands who heard them towards future endeavours to overcome these problems. He never lost sight, however, of the character of St John’s as the specific place where Johnians would learn. His speeches were studded with relevant references to episodes from the College’s past history and figures, all captured by Chris’s formidable memory. That memory – and its speed – were often put to use, for example in the detailed knowledge he habitually displayed of fortnightly Council papers numbering

several hundred pages, or the minutiae of the work of some eighty applicants from across the academic spectrum longlisted for Junior Research Fellowships each year. He took a more traditionalist view of the Mastership when it came to governance, expressing the view in 2012 that St John’s moved ‘by evolutionary rather than revolutionary means.’ He was content to operate within the limitations of statutes that are now, in essence, almost a century old; he preferred to proceed by seeking consensus rather than with potentially divisive votes, and he sought to keep thorny issues at arm’s length, so that he could give everyone a sympathetic ear.

Chris’s legacy at St John’s is a concrete one: the transformation of the College into a foundation more obviously responsive to the twenty-first-century expectations of students and Fellows; and the transformation of interrelations between the four bodies of Fellows, students, staff and alumni – all achieved through his force of personality. For Chris there was no need to choose between, say, holding large-scale dinners and providing more student support, or between the quest for academic excellence and the maintenance of excellence in the College’s sporting and musical traditions. He believed St John’s could and should do it all, and he led from the front through his ubiquitous, encouraging presence – invariably accompanied by Mary, whose support he never ceased to acknowledge. Extracurricular activities were rebranded as co-curricular activities, and undergraduates were invited to continue in residence through the Christmas and Easter vacations in a rebalancing of the College’s educational

activities against the conference trade.

The high point came in the 2016–18 period when the College, after lingering in the middle of the Tompkins Table of academic performance since 2002, rose to third place and won television's University Challenge for the first time, while simultaneously maintaining its supremacy on river and field, winning *BBC Music Magazine's* award for best choral recording, and supporting students of professional level in the performing arts.

Chris was also instrumental, along with Chris Ewbank as Senior Bursar and John Harris, Mark Wells and Helen Murley as successive Domestic Bursars, in the physical development of the College – some of it achieved, some yet to come. Only after his death did many of us discover that his early ambition had been to be an architect. It helps explain the close attention and excellent eye he brought to decisions concerning buildings and their fittings throughout his Mastership, a period that saw complete refurbishment of the Maufe and Cripps Buildings, of the west end of the Master's Lodge, of Merton Hall, of the School of Pythagoras as the College's Archive Centre, and of E Staircase New Court (the 'Wedding Cake') for the use of Fellows. The successful redevelopment of the Old Divinity School as an educational and cultural centre is the building project with which he will perhaps be most associated, but he also had the vision to back the production of a Masterplan for the College's operational estate that has been described as a model by the local authority and Historic England, one that will greatly aid developments both architectural and



ecological in the coming decades. The lying of his coffin, surrounded by flowers, in the Sanctuary of the Chapel whose traditions and music he loved was therefore as apposite as it was moving for all who visited it on the eve of his funeral, and it is singularly fitting that Chris's final resting place is the graveyard just up St John's Lane from the Cam at Horningsea Church, a College Living since the sixteenth century. 🕊

**Dr Frank Salmon (2006; President 2015–19), with thanks to Dr Mark Nicholls (1978; President 2007–11) for his helpful comments on this memoir.**

**Professor Máire Ní Mhaonaigh remembers Chris Dobson's kindness and humanity as a friend, mentor and colleague.**

In what was to be one of our last conversations in August last year, Chris Dobson reflected on his decision to step aside – we hoped temporarily – from his duties as Master of St John's. He expressed with obvious delight how much he enjoyed the whole experience of the College community, noting what he described as the astonishing level of support, tolerance and friendship that he received from Fellows, staff, students and alumni alike. It was indicative of Chris's innate humility that this should have surprised him; nor would he countenance the notion that this love and loyalty was engendered by the consideration and affection underlying his own engaged interactions with people.

Those interactions took many forms, including conversations in a College court as Chris was on his way to an appointment; discussions around the table at one of his many meetings; and lunch- or dinner-time chats. College business in Chris's case was always guided by human concerns, whether for long-standing friends and colleagues or for the innumerable people he fleetingly encountered. After a concert in the College Chapel, he deliberately sought out one of the musicians he had met briefly once before, a sixteen-year-old school pupil who was feeling very out of place. Immediately put at ease by Chris's well-chosen words and warmth, the youth in question – my older son – was both encouraged and inspired.

Encouragement and inspiration emanated naturally from Chris, whose approach was positive and enabling. Obstacles were there to be surmounted; problems to be puzzled over and solved. Constantly curious, his pertinent questions and unaffected interest in all manner of things put people at their ease, as did frequently uttered words of affirmation. Genuine admiration was articulated by Chris easily and eloquently – in praise of the research of colleagues, of a piece of Bach beautifully interpreted, of well-cooked food enjoyed with friends.

Arguably, the meal and the music would have been even more awe-inspiring for Chris than the research, since he claimed to lack practical skills in both these areas. Nonetheless, his keen interest in music especially brought with it a deep appreciation of this creative form. That was aptly reflected at his Memorial Service in the playing of a new arrangement by Iain Farrington of the Adagietto of Mahler's Symphony No. 5, bringing the special connection that Chris and Mary had with Venice to mind. Other pieces played on that occasion, including works by Fauré and Duruflé, were prompted by conversations Chris had had with Andrew Nethsingha and Jo Tynan, as well as Mary, and by a list of favourite pieces made by him while in hospital, jotted down on what is now a precious page.

Another page that Chris wrote about the same time contains notes for inclusion in *The Eagle*, reflecting on the previous year. During that period, Chris worked towards the completion of multifarious tasks and continued to play a vibrant part in the interlocking spheres of his remarkably full life, to such an extent that many were unaware how unwell he actually was. It was how he wished it. During the months of his illness, with Mary's constant support and the help of their sons, William and Richard, not to mention the companionship of newly acquired greyhound Jimbo, Chris embraced and enacted the rituals of the academic year – Halfway Hall, the May Concert and May Ball, and Graduation, to name but a few. At the summer party in the Master's Lodge on a balmy mid-July evening, his concern

was with how others were, enquiries about his own health brushed to one side. A realistic optimist, he partook fully of life and gave continually to the end.

That spirit of giving still reverberates, thanks to the enduring influence of the support and stimulation that Chris provided to so many. Projects and initiatives that he shaped and inspired continue to prosper, his vision remaining to the fore. His legacy as an exceptional scientist and as an outstanding Master of St John's will be long-lasting – but by those who had the privilege of knowing him, it is as a friend, mentor and colleague of extraordinary humanity and kindness that Chris Dobson will be remembered most of all. 🐾

**Professor Máire Ní Mhaonaigh**



**Professor Tuomas Knowles had the chance to work very closely with Chris Dobson for fifteen years in Cambridge. He delivered the following abridged address at the Memorial Services on 24 and 25 January 2020.**

Chris spent most of his career in Cambridge and Oxford. He liked to say that he had followed a logical progression from Oxford University, as an undergraduate and Research Fellow, to Oxford Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts, during his time as Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Harvard, and finally here to real Cambridge, where he was the John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Chemical and Structural Biology and Master of this College for twelve years.

His career was characterised by his life-long enthusiasm to tackle truly big problems. Chris devoted the first part of his career to the problem of protein folding (at the time the greatest unsolved problem in biochemistry), understanding how proteins, the fundamental building blocks of life, acquire their functional three-dimensional shapes. This work earned him widespread scientific recognition, including election to a Fellowship of the Royal Society in his mid-forties.

What distinguished him even more, however, was his focus during the second half of his career on the exact opposite of the protein folding problem: what happens when proteins do not fold correctly. At the time, this phenomenon was thought of as a curiosity, but Chris's truly pioneering work brought chemical thinking and methodology to the study of this



phenomenon, and he was able to show that it is of much wider consequence.

Chris attributed his entry into this research area to a chance event: a postdoctoral researcher in his lab left a protein sample in a spectrometer over a long weekend, and, as a result of this unintentional extended incubation, the sample turned into a gel.

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'Those who had the chance to work with Chris will remember his warm, encouraging approach.'

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Most people would have told off the postdoc for taking such a long weekend and for wasting a precious sample, but Chris, characteristically visionary, recognised that something truly interesting was going on. Further investigation revealed that the sample tube was full of amyloid fibrils that to date had been associated only with diseases, including Alzheimer's disease.


Starting from this chance observation, Chris and his group established a truly world-leading research activity that generated the modern framework for understanding the molecular basis for dementias and other increasingly prevalent neurodegenerative disorders. Chris was very quick to recognise the societal importance of the problems that he was studying, and he increasingly took on the role of ambassador for the field of protein misfolding and aggregation, devoting a significant fraction of his time to travelling and giving lectures, activities that he particularly enjoyed.

It is through his work on protein misfolding that Chris became ultimately known as one of the leading chemists of his generation. He received some of the highest honours that are awarded in science, including being awarded a knighthood for services to Science and Education, and the Heineken Prize from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, the major international prize for

biochemistry and biophysics and, according to statistics, an excellent predictor for the subsequent award of the Nobel Prize from the Swedish Academy.

Chris possessed an astonishing ability to move things forward, both on a small scale in finishing papers and also in much bigger initiatives. He set up the Cambridge Centre for Misfolding Diseases, which I am privileged to co-direct with my colleague Michele Vendruscolo, and he led the fundraising activities for the new Chemistry of Health Building in Cambridge, which brings together academic and translational research and has resulted in the launch of the drug discovery company Wren Therapeutics.

Finally, Chris was a uniquely inspiring and dedicated mentor. Those who had the chance to work with Chris will remember his warm, encouraging approach. Most of us will also remember his systematic and very detailed approach to correcting any document that he got hold of with very insightful – but typically not very legible – comments. The ability that he had to help people understand their own talents and strengths, as well as the route to fulfilling them, resulted in over 100 of his former students and postdocs taking up independent positions at academic institutions all over the world.

We all remember and will sorely miss Chris and mourn the loss of a great scientist, scholar and friend. Chris's legacy will live on through the lives of all those whom he inspired with his science, leadership, vision and kindness. 

**Professor Tuomas Knowles**

**Bill Tyrrell met Chris Dobson at Oxford and had the pleasure of being his friend for fifty years. As a representative of a close group of Chris's friends, he delivered the following abridged address at the Memorial Services on 24 and 25 January 2020.**

On 17 August 2019 I was at Lord's cricket ground with Chris, watching the second test against Australia. Followers of the game will remember this as the day the leading Australian batsman was concussed by a bouncer, but I will remember it as the day I realised that Chris had very little time remaining. Although he managed to climb three flights of steps to the stand, and was absorbed all day by the action on the pitch, it was clear that he was fading fast. Three weeks later he died, exactly a month short of the seventieth birthday he had been so hoping to reach.

I first met Chris as a chemistry student in Oxford in the 1960s, when he still had (quite long!) black hair. Chris worked hard, but like everyone else he drank a lot of coffee, listened incessantly to The Beatles and played a mean game of bar football. Most memorable was his enthusiastic, although not entirely skilful, participation in student skiing trips, where he earned the nickname 'The Eagle' for keeping his arms outstretched in an attempt not to fall, and on one famous occasion wound up with his skis on either side of a pine tree!

Far more dashing than the rest of us, Chris had a green MGB sports car in which he and Mary toured Europe. He was fond of saying that the car was a regular collector's item – he had to regularly stop to collect all the bits that fell off! Yes, Chris was at heart an immensely funny man, and all who knew him will have delighted in his sense of humour and his

fund of anecdotes, such as the time Chris helped build a six-foot snowman in an upstairs corridor of Keble College, directly outside the door of his early-rising tutor. You can imagine the result when the unfortunate tutor emerged to find a ghostly apparition confronting him in the moonlight!

Over many years of friendship, I have been honoured with a glimpse – perhaps rather more than that – into Chris's family life, yet the only vices I can think of were his legendary aversion to washing up and a weakness for Italian ice cream. In his private life Chris was just as you would expect – kind, caring and hospitable. Above all, Chris loved Mary deeply and always had her happiness and fulfilment uppermost in his mind, readily acknowledging that his role as Master would have been impossible without her support. And of course he was an affectionate and proud father to Richard and my godson William. Before they were born, the midwife asked Chris whether he wanted a girl or a boy, and he joked that all he wanted was a dog. Eventually, though rather late in life, Chris did get a dog – and Jimbo has become a prominent figure in the College.

It is a salutary thought that just twelve months ago, before his unexpected cancer diagnosis, Chris seemed on top of the world. He had recently received a supremely well-deserved knighthood, which he accepted with typical humility, and was thrilled when




it was conferred by Prince William, Honorary Fellow of this College. Chris confided later that he had found some spots of blood on his tie shortly before the ceremony, which he had fortunately managed to cover up by re-tying the knot. However, being Chris, he was ready with a story to say that the sword had slipped!

Just a year ago, Chris was looking forward to continuing his research and, as his term as Master came to an end, making some travel plans. But it was not to be. Nevertheless, despite his hopes and dreams for the future cruelly evaporating, Chris was never bitter: he said on many occasions that he had had a marvellous life, and he faced death with immense courage. Chris believed that, through research, presently incurable medical conditions would one day be tackled effectively. Accordingly, as an experimental scientist he stoically underwent various rounds of cancer chemotherapy, trying in turn three different regimes, including novel drug combinations.

With loving care from Mary, Richard and William, who somehow retained their sense

of humour and composure throughout it all, as well as help from friends and colleagues, Chris bravely carried on almost to the end with his work. On visits to the Master's Lodge one would generally be greeted with a smile, a joke and the comment: 'You see, I'm still here.'

Although even his closest friends knew only a fraction of what Chris contributed to Cambridge life, all were constantly struck by how much he adored this College. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of its history and, it appeared, knew everyone by name. Chris was unique in his ability to relate to absolutely everyone with whom he came into contact: he wanted everyone to flourish, and he gave generously of his time to provide encouragement and support. 

### Bill Tyrrell

The Memorial Services were recorded and are available to watch and re-watch on the College's Youtube channel: [bit.ly/CDMemorial](https://bit.ly/CDMemorial)

# Sir Jonathan Miller CBE, 1934–2019

When asked about himself, Jonathan Miller rejected many of the epithets used by others: not a polymath; definitely not a ‘Renaissance man’; unable to identify as a Jew (‘just a bit Jew-ish’). Even with roles he did recognise – theatre and opera director and producer, writer and journalist – he talked of falling into them by invitation only, of feeling unqualified. He confessed to not knowing what a director does and being unable to read music. The goal to which he did commit, to be an outstanding doctor, he describes as missing against his will.

His father Emanuel (1892–1970), who was such a doctor, has been called ‘the father of British child psychiatry’. Born in Spitalfields, Emanuel escaped the family fur business in a social leap mediated by St John’s to read Natural Sciences and Philosophy at Cambridge. He founded the first child guidance clinic in the United Kingdom in 1927, served in the Royal Army Medical Corps during the Second World War, and helped found the Campaign for Mental Health and the Portman Clinic. The Association for Child Psychology and Psychiatry established the Emanuel Miller Memorial Lecture series, and former Master of St John’s, Robert Hinde, delivered the fourth lecture in 1975.

Jonathan’s mother Betty (1910–65) was born in Cork, where her father Simon Spiro landed aged twelve while fleeing



Jonathan Miller on *After Dark*

anti-Semitism in Lithuania. The family then fled the Irish civil war in the 1920s and re-established themselves in London, where Betty studied Journalism at University College London. She became a successful novelist, writing extensively for literary journals, and was elected to the Royal Society of Literature in 1952.

Listening to interviews with Jonathan, one feels strongly the intellectual (rather than affectionate) influence of these formidable parents on the young boy. He loved the brass microscope his father gave him when he was fourteen, engaging his interest in biology, as well as Emanuel’s edition of *Alice in Wonderland*. His mother gifted him an interest in the particularity of ordinary

Credit: Open Media Ltd, CC.

things and behavioural minutiae. When he asked to travel in Europe in his teens, she apparently told him that 'travel narrows the mind'.

Jonathan's wartime childhood was marred by feeling overlooked, unloved and passed over, and he developed a stutter and night terrors. His father introduced him to Donald Winnicott, who reputedly offered to take the eight-year-old into analysis, but Jonathan demurred, preferring to play cricket.

From early on he was an imitator, taking in both the particular characteristics and the contexts of things: the social chat of chickens; the music of trains; and a masterly soundscape of bombing raids, from benign daily noises to the air raid warning, the bombs falling and the 'All clear'.

Jonathan's preparatory education was chaotic. The family followed Emanuel's postings around the military hospitals of England, and Jonathan attended at least eight schools between Dunkirk and D-Day, leaving him educationally bewildered. Nevertheless, he secured a scholarship to St Paul's in the Classics stream, and then successfully transferred to Science.

He met Rachel Collet at a school play reading at St Paul's, and they married in 1956. At St Paul's too he met his life-long friends, Oliver Sacks and Ernest Korn, and his inspiring Biology teacher, Mr Pask. Mr Pask appeared unhindered by the curriculum. He took the Piglet approach to education – 'I say, I wonder what's going

to happen exciting today?' – and somehow that exciting thing covered the curriculum too. The boys joined with other eighth-formers (the Gang) who valued the arts as much as the sciences, and Miller and Korn ad-libbed their way to success in the St Paul's regular comedy show, the Colet Club revues.

Jonathan arrived at St John's in 1953 with a scholarship and his father's approval. He read Natural Sciences and extended his intellectual life with membership of the Apostles. He completed his medical training at University College Hospital and received his BChir (1959) and MB (1960) from the University.

His teachers mattered to him and he remembered them. He sought out Robert Hinde to discuss topics in ethology, such as imprinting, and they remained in touch. Robert enjoyed their wide-ranging discussions, although he once noted, 'I was always a bit frightened that he might be gathering satirical material.'

Jonathan had lifelong interests in the difference between looking and seeing and between action and volition (What decides what is going to happen?). These interests were nurtured in part by two other Fellows of St John's: Fergus William Campbell (1924–93), an ophthalmologist who worked on neurosensory physiology of the eye, and Norwood Russell Hanson (1924–67), a talented philosopher of science who argued that what we see and perceive is not what our senses receive alone but is moderated by existing preconceptions.

Jonathan completed his clinical training at University College, while Rachel was at the Royal Free, and he then worked as a house physician at central Middlesex. He maintained that he merely dabbled in theatre and the arts during his medical education, but the evidence is against him. In 1960, the year he qualified as a doctor, he was asked to devise a late-night review for the Edinburgh Festival with Alan Bennett, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore. *Beyond the Fringe* transferred to the West End and to Broadway. It drew Jonathan away from serious academic neurology or neuroscience and the full-time practice of medicine forever.

The group's humour lay partly in pushing the boundary of the acceptable – in the televised West End show the audience, up and coming young intellectuals, seem keen to laugh at every clever allusion – but mostly in the kaleidoscopic combination of mimicry, timing and rhythm in their interactions with one another, and in their use of words, especially the surprise of misclassification and of misconception. An early example of this wit is Jonathan's *Granta* cartoon, from his Cambridge days, of a man with a long beard who has wheels under his long coat instead of feet. The caption reads, 'God moves in a mysterious way'.

From these beginnings Jonathan moved apparently effortlessly into directing. His first play was John Osborne's *Under Plain Cover* at the Royal Court in 1962, and his second play, Robert Lowell's *The Old Glory*, was performed in New York and voted the best American play in 1965. In the late 1980s he became artistic director of The Old Vic,

where he had previously directed Laurence Olivier in *The Merchant of Venice*.

He branched out into opera in 1974 with Mozart's *Così fan tutte* for Kent Opera. More than fifty further productions followed over the next four decades with the English National Opera at the Royal Opera House and around the world. His energy was prodigious. At one point he was working on six international productions simultaneously while salvaging the BBC Television Shakespeare project (1978–85) and presenting for television.

Jonathan drew upon his experiences as a physician to write and present television series, including *The Body in Question* (1978), *States of Mind* (1983), *Born Talking: A Personal Inquiry into Language* (1990) and *Madness* (1991). He had an exceptional talent for placing his productions in time and space. Thus, in Verdi's recast Mafia-inspired *Rigoletto* he drew on memories of New York and took his designer to the exact bars and fire escapes that set the opera scenes.

Miller's 1966 television adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland* also drew on personal experiences. For example, Alice runs through the nightmare corridors of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital in Netley – a scene from his own childhood following his father around such places after the Second World War.

Jonathan presented growing up as catastrophe, and it is perhaps no accident that the last thing that Alice sees before



Here we see Alice (Anne-Marie Mallik) seeing us, framed by vine leaves, from the television adaptation.


drifting off is the Victorian profile of her matronly sister, already beyond childhood and, in her stiff dress and rigid hat, offering a real put-off to growing up. The programme was shown after 9pm as it was considered unfit for children. But it was actually the adult world awaiting Alice that was unfit for this blank-faced child surrounded by annoying Oxford dons with odd behaviours.

Alongside Jonathan's wide-ranging, risk-taking explorations were strong continuities: of friendships from St Paul's and Cambridge days, of marriage and of place. From 1961 until death Jonathan lived on Gloucester Crescent in Camden Town, not far from Park Crescent, where he was born.

In 2015 he directed *King Lear*, a fitting near-finale for one who shared depression with his father. He hated his critics and suffered terrible feelings of having fallen below the expectations 'set by certain phantom goal setters'. Cruelly, he also shared Alzheimer's with his mother, although it claimed her at an earlier age.

Jonathan was exceptionally gifted, and he was curious and inventive with language and ideas. He loved knowing. He hated being bored. He gave us wit, wordplay, the embodiment of humour, and original productions across the arts and sciences. He excelled at conversation, pausing sometimes, as if waiting, as we were, to see what his extraordinary brain would offer up next.

Those of us who have the privilege to work with gifted students like Jonathan might reflect on being exciting and enjoyable companions in academic endeavour, like Mr Pask and the several Fellows of St John's described here, and not just stringent goal setters and critics.

Jonathan is survived by Rachel and their children, Tom, William and Kate. 

**Professor Ann Louise Kinmonth (1969), with thanks to Joan Stevenson Hinde, Michael Bate and John A. Davis for their helpful comments on this memoir.**



Credit: Walter Bellamy/Getty Images

Jonathan acting as Queen Elizabeth, at Cambridge

# Professor Louis Cha GBM OBE, 1924–2018

This memoir follows the brief notice of Louis Cha's life in *The Eagle* 2019.



Louis Cha with members of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at St John's College

Louis Cha came late into St John's. He matriculated in 2005, at the age of 81, shortly after the University had admitted him to the Degree of DLitt, *Honoris causa*, on 22 June. He was awarded the MPhil in 2007 and the PhD in 2010. His research

was in the violent palace politics of the seventh and early eighth centuries in Tang China. At a ceremony in Hong Kong on 10 September 2010, the Master of St John's, Professor Christopher Dobson, admitted him to an Honorary Fellowship of the College.

The dinner for this occasion was organised by Sir David Li, Chairman of the Friends of Cambridge and of the Prince Philip Scholarship Scheme. Mrs May Cha and members of Louis' family and guests were present. Louis gave a fine speech describing his experiences of St John's and his gratitude to the College.

Louis had by then built up for himself a reputation that was quintessentially East Asian. He had come to Hong Kong from mainland China as a refugee in 1948. His father was murdered by the Chinese Communist Party and his brother fled to Taiwan. Louis remained in Hong Kong, and here his fame and influence as a novelist, newspaper publisher and essayist grew incrementally. From 1985 he took part in the Basic Law Drafting Committee, under which the sovereignty of Hong Kong was to revert to China in 1997. Here, his position was similar to that of Sir Percy Cradock, Honorary Fellow of St John's from 1982 and, also controversially, like Louis, an advocate of accommodation with Beijing. But Louis resigned from the Committee after the Tian'anmen massacre of 1989, to live on quietly in Hong Kong. By the end of the millennium, his was a household name, not merely in Hong Kong but throughout East Asia.

## II

On 27 February 2017 the Hong Kong Heritage Museum opened the Jin Yong Gallery dedicated to Louis. Here are exhibited the memorabilia of a long and productive career. The items on display,

apart from drafts of his novels in his own hand, included his many honours and his Cambridge MPhil degree certificate, the Cambridge degree of which he was proudest. For the opening of the Gallery, some dozen Hong Kong notables, including the Chief Executive, assembled on stage. The Cultural Secretary gave a speech, and then, as Louis' Cambridge graduate supervisor, I spoke briefly in Chinese of a long friendship with Louis and of Louis as quintessentially a Hong Kong figure. 'Without Hong Kong, there would have not been a Louis Cha, and without Louis Cha Hong Kong would not have been the same.'

Louis' funeral was held in Hong Kong over two days in November 2018. In a space larger than most Cambridge college dining halls, the north wall was covered by the white chrysanthemums of mourning, surmounted by a large photograph of Louis. Over two days, the family received the many visitors who came to bid him farewell. Two screens relayed a sequence of scenes from Louis' life, to include the Great Gate of St John's with the flag at half mast. Down the two side-walls of the Funeral Parlour were hung giant bouquets, each displaying the name of its donor. The bouquet from the Master and Fellows of St John's headed these tributes on the left side, facing directly opposite the bouquet donated in the name of Xi Jinping on the right side.

China has always had a rich repertory of rituals for commemorating members of the elite. In the period in which Louis' research interests centred, the state ritual code prescribed that even the Heir Apparent



June Manjun Zhang and Avital Rom, two recipients of the Louis Cha scholarship, next to the Louis Cha stone at St John's College

should, in a rite commemorating Confucius, acknowledge the authority of moral teaching. In this rite, conducted at the State Academy, the Heir Apparent should take a position in the East facing West, the direction of ritual submission. In the Funeral Home at North Point, the Cha family delivered a variant of this ritual and its message: an institute of learning, albeit one in distant Europe, was granted symbolic authority over the political leadership of China.

### III

Louis Cha came from an eminent southern Chinese family that lived in Haining, near Hangzhou, in Zhejiang Province. By the end of the Ming dynasty (1368–1644), the family had acquired a substantial reputation. A traditional measure of their standing is provided by their repeated success in the prestigious, empire-wide *jinshi* examination.

Six family members so graduated under the Ming. After the Manchu conquest of China, they served the Manchu Qing dynasty, and indeed earned an encomium from the Kangxi Emperor (reign 1662–1722). A further ten attained the *jinshi* under Qing rule. But anti-Manchu loyalties persisted among the scholarly clans of south-east China. In 1724 this cost one of Louis' ancestors his head, disgraced his close family and, centuries later, helped determine Louis' own attitude to politics.

Louis' fondness for this episode indicated that politics were in his blood. The political editorials in his newspaper, *Ming bao*, earned him the crude hatred of extremists, and, during the 'Cultural Revolution,' even in Hong Kong his life was in danger. As time passed, however, his outlook softened. Yet significantly, his martial arts novels, written in Hong Kong between 1955 and 1972, were infused with opposition against autocratic vengeance. Here was a profound response to tyranny, both to the decapitation of his ancestor and to the murder of his own father.

#### IV

The martial arts tradition of fiction, of which Louis was acknowledged as a supreme master, has deep roots in China. Although elite critics largely withheld recognition of popular martial arts stories, over centuries the tradition developed and prospered, often in times of political and military instability, but also in the verse of the eighth century, the period of Louis' research at Cambridge. This was

escapist literature, but with a keen edge. The tradition continued to appeal in China into late dynastic times and even to the war-lord period of the 1920s and 1930s. It also appealed to successive generations of the young oppressed by the high seriousness of the traditional educational syllabus in China.

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'As Louis' Cambridge graduate supervisor, I spoke briefly in Chinese of a long friendship with Louis and of Louis as quintessentially a Hong Kong figure. "Without Hong Kong, there would have not been a Louis Cha, and without Louis Cha Hong Kong would not have been the same."


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When, after World War I, a literature modelled on Western genres and styles replaced the Confucian educational syllabus, the elite tradition of Chinese culture continued to consider martial arts fiction largely beneath notice. When from 1949 an intolerant orthodoxy dominated education, popular martial arts fiction, anarchic, high-spirited and liberating, was outlawed. But over the 1970s to 1990s, through Louis' novels, it flourished massively among the young in China and in Chinese East Asia. They procured, read and re-read his stories. It was and still is a commonly heard remark: 'We owe much to Louis Cha: he told our young people that traditional Chinese culture was exciting; he taught them to relish reading.'

No scholar of China's literary heritage literature writing today would deny that popular literature over time has influenced and revitalised the elite tradition. Yet critics have to this day remained wary of martial arts fiction. This is well demonstrated by an incident set in Cambridge itself. Louis Cha was related by marriage to the romantic poet Xu Zhimo (1897–1931); both came from Haining, and their families had intermarried over generations. Xu Zhimo visited Cambridge and was received with generous hospitality by King's College from 1920 to 1922 and on later visits. In China he became a symbol of the elite tradition of early- and mid-twentieth-century literature. In 2011 Professor Alan Macfarlane, Fellow of King's, was staying at Tsinghua University and I was a visiting scholar at neighbouring Peking University. We met on the Tsinghua campus and talked over the two literary protagonists of our respective colleges, Xu Zhimo at King's and Louis at St John's. The idea of a short pamphlet in Chinese introducing both, for Chinese visitors, seemed attractive, but because Louis' fiction was seen as essentially popular it was eventually dropped. The martial arts tradition is now being reassessed, and by Chinese literary scholars with impeccable credentials. Both literary giants, moreover, are commemorated in Cambridge, Xu Zhimo by a garden and by stones on King's Backs, inscribed with couplets from his famous poem of 1928, describing the River Cam, and Louis, through the generosity of his wife May, by a couplet he composed and wrote in his own hand, also engraved in

stone, set in its own garden in the Spinney at St John's, describing the Bridge of Sighs and the sound of rowing and singing.

## V

Few Cambridge cognoscenti have appreciated the rich back story to Louis' late registration as a graduate student in the College. To do so would be to unpack long and complex narratives of cultural and literary, regional, historical and political interest. Moreover, the diminutive, quietly spoken gentleman with his courtly manners, briefly resident here, understated his own story. But successive Masters of the College, and their wives, Richard and Nancy Perham and Chris and Mary Dobson, responded warmly to the generous welcome that Louis and May gave them in Hong Kong and to the enthusiasm of the Chinese student community for Louis here in Cambridge. In turn, the Cha family, in particular May Cha, conveyed a message of gratitude to the College. The graduate studentship in Chinese Studies they endowed is a permanent testimony to Louis' hope that research in the Chinese culture he loved would ever prosper here. 

### **Professor David McMullen (1959)**

Download the unabridged memoir, complete with bibliography, from our alumni website: [johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/file/Jin-Yong.pdf](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/file/Jin-Yong.pdf)

# Alumni obituaries

Compiled by Colin Greenhalgh CBE DL (1960), Fellow Commoner

St John's College aspires to a meaningful relationship with all Johnians, of whom there are over 13,000. Maintaining up-to-date records of the lives of alumni can present a challenge for the College, even though many Johnians respond gratefully to various opportunities to return to or otherwise stay in touch with St John's. Johnians are therefore encouraged to keep the College informed on a regular basis about their career, voluntary activities, recreational interests, family, and honours and awards received. Such information establishes a rounded picture of a Johnian life. The College's Biographical Librarian, Fiona Colbert, is always pleased to hear from Johnians, and she keeps a meticulous, secure record of information shared with the College.

**1936 KITTEL**, Professor (Jerome) Charles, died 15 May 2019, aged one hundred and two. Charles came to St John's from MIT, and he read Natural Sciences before completing a PhD at the University of Wisconsin. During the Second World War, Charles was Head of the US Navy team attached to the British Admiralty at Helensburgh, Scotland, and then Head of the Submarine Operations Research Group, US Navy, Washington. His career was primarily in academia, initially at the Department of Physics at MIT and then as Professor, Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley (1951–78; Emeritus Professor, 1978–2019). Charles was also consultant to E I Du Pont & Co., Westinghouse Corporation, Hughes Aircraft Company and the Chevron Corporation. Awards and honours included Guggenheim Fellowships, membership of the US National Academy of Sciences and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Distinguished Teaching Award, University of California, Berkeley. He published authoritatively, including his classic *Introduction to Solid State Physics* (1996).

Charles's mentoring of graduate students produced world-renowned scientists, including a Nobel Laureate. In 1938 Charles married Muriel, who predeceased him. They had three children, Peter, Timothy and Ruth.

**1937 MERSON**, Ronald (Ron) Leslie, died 7 June 2019, aged one hundred. After The Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne, Ron read Modern and Medieval Languages (Sizarship), played Tennis and was a member of the University Socialist Club and the University Communist Party. In the Second World War he served in the Pioneer Corps, taking part in the 1943 Salerno landings; as Liaison Officer to the Italian Army in Naples, witnessing the 1944 eruption of Vesuvius; and as Officer Commanding Italian Pioneer Companies 240 and 241. Ron's career was in education. Following a DipEd (Liverpool), he was Assistant French Master, West Hartlepool Grammar School; Assistant French Master, Chipping Sodbury Grammar School; Senior French Master, Downham Market Grammar School; and Principal Lecturer in French and

Head of Modern Languages, Alsager College of Higher Education. A lifelong supporter of the Labour Party, Ron remembered attending a meeting with his mother, when the speaker was Ramsay Macdonald. On his death, Ron was the oldest member of the Crewe and Nantwich Labour Party. In 1945 Ron married Marjorie, who died in 1992. They had two daughters, Carole and Valerie.

**1938 LEWIS**, Owen Calder, died 25 May 2019, aged ninety-nine. Born in Australia, after Sydney Church of England Grammar School and St Paul's School, Hammersmith, Owen spent one year at St John's. Apart from service as a Captain in the Australian Imperial Force during the Second World War, the College has no knowledge of Owen's career. In 1945 in Sydney, Owen married Enid, who predeceased him. They had three children, Annette, Susie and Tony.

**1938 MALINS**, Robert Edward, died 21 February 2019, aged ninety-eight. After Radley College, Robert read Natural Sciences and joined the Officers' Training Corps. In May 1940 he enlisted in the Royal Artillery and was posted to the Sound Ranging Battery near Dover, later serving in other parts of the UK. Robert's Commanding Officer referred to 'a most valuable officer, showing great devotion to duty, gallantry, cheerfulness and resource'. Following D-Day, Robert was on the Normandy beaches, saw the bombing of Caen, and served in Belgium and Holland. He then volunteered for air observation work, achieving his ambition to fly. Demobbed in 1946, Robert found that the City did not suit him and returned to St John's, later completing a surveying

qualification. Robert finally settled in Kent for over sixty years, working predominantly freelance as a chartered surveyor. He was also a Lloyd's Name. Well-known in Cranbrook, where he was a churchwarden, Robert liked to play golf and to travel. He was loyal to Radley, St John's and Army colleagues. In 1954 Robert married Jean, who predeceased him. There were no children but many nieces and nephews.

**1938 PEARCE**, Eric George, died 8 December 2019, aged one hundred. After Haileybury College and Hill School, Pottstown, Eric read Economics and rowed for the LMBC. During the Second World War, he served as a Lieutenant in the Fleet Air Arm. While testing an Air Rescue Sea Otter plane at Lee-on-Solent, a connecting rod in the engine broke off, leading to a horrific crash on a shingle bank between the runway and the Solent. Eric suffered severe injuries and was unconscious for six weeks. He was one of the few non-RAF personnel to become a member of the Guinea Pig Club, airmen who underwent pioneering surgery and rehabilitation at the Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead. *Half a Man* by Michael Morpurgo (Candlewick Press, 2005) is dedicated to Eric. His subsequent career was as chairman or director of various companies. Eric was also a Freeman of the City of London; Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights; and Chairman of the Institute of Commerce (1989). In 1953 Eric married Jean. They had one son, Roger.

**1939 DAVIDSON**, Dr Donald Georges, died 29 August 2019, aged ninety-eight. After

Shrewsbury School, Donald read Natural Sciences and Medicine, in 1946 completing an MB and a BChir. He was Captain of Cricket, Captain of Football and Treasurer of the Medical Society. Following service with the Royal Army Medical Corps in India, Donald became a well-respected GP in Chertsey, where he practised for thirty-eight years. Donald was a member of the St John's Ambulance Fellowship. In 1952 Donald married Rachel, who survived him. They had three children, William, Sarah and Jane.

**1941 CAMPBELL**, Adrian Hugh Ward, son of Archibald Young (1904) and cousin of Colin (1942) and Alasdair Boyd Macneil (1958), died 11 March 2019, aged ninety-five. After Bryanston School, Adrian read Natural Sciences. Called up for military service, Adrian was declined because of asthma and chose to act rather than return to College. He joined E. Martin Browne's Pilgrim Players and then the Old Vic Company, acting alongside Laurence Olivier and Ralph Richardson. Adrian's asthma also frustrated this ambition. He trained at Bath Academy of Art, Corsham, and taught in Hertfordshire. Adrian held numerous exhibitions and sold to patrons in the UK, Germany and Canada, and his painting *Four Positions of a Nude Figure* was presented to the College. Adrian was also a poet. His publications included *Vincent van Gogh* (about the artist's life and paintings), *River of Years* and collections of poems published by Cassandra Press and Fire River Poets, of which Adrian was a member. In 1954 Adrian married Irene, who survived him. They had four daughters, Catherine and Sally, who are deceased, and Rosemary and Alison.

**1941 STEWARDSON**, (John) Rennie, died 10 May 2019, aged ninety-five. After Charterhouse, Rennie read Law and rowed for the LMBC, intermitting his studies to serve as a Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, during which he saw action in the Battle of the Atlantic. Following a brief spell as a barrister, called by the Inner Temple, from 1954 to 1979 Rennie was a solicitor, his appointments including Legal Adviser, Imperial Tobacco, and Group Company Secretary, Consolidated Gold Fields Plc. From 1980 to 1989, Rennie was Secretary to the Advertising Association. Rennie published *The Ratchet: A Cool Look at the European Union* (June Press Ltd, 2000), describing what he saw as the inexorable progress towards European political union at the expense of the nation state. Rennie believed that the disadvantages of UK membership of the EU are colossal, destroying sovereignty, damaging investment and businesses, increasing costs and resulting in a substantial net contribution to the EU. Rennie was married twice: first, in 1951, to Donny, with whom he had three children; and second, in 1977, to Bridget, who survived him.

**1942 ANDREWS**, Dr Peter Searell, died 25 November 2019, aged ninety-four. After Wycliffe College, Peter read Natural Sciences, rowed for the LMBC and completed a BChir and an MB, following medical training at Middlesex Hospital. He undertook National Service as a Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Peter was then Junior Lecturer in Pathology at Middlesex Hospital and a member of the External Scientific Staff



Peter Andrews (1942)

at the Medical Research Council. His MD researched 'Rodent Ulcers Induced by Xrays Irradiation'. Peter published on radiosensitivity of tumours, chondromalacia patellae, Q fever endocarditis, sudden infant death syndrome and hospital autopsy rates. He was Consultant Pathologist at Kettering General Hospital (1958–90), also working as Home Office Pathologist for the East Midlands and completing a Diploma in Medical Jurisprudence. Developing the services offered by the pathology laboratory, Peter liked to discuss patient diagnoses with clinical consultants and GPs. He also

enjoyed teaching and engaging with the police and the legal profession in his forensic work. At his funeral service, Peter was described as 'a doctor without borders'. Peter married Josephine, who survived him. They had five children, Janet, Keith, David, Mark and Neil.

**1942 HURRELL**, Arthur, father of Timothy John (1973), died 20 October 2019, aged ninety-five. After King Edward's High School, Birmingham, Arthur read Mechanical Sciences, received a Larmor Award and became President of the College Athletics Club. Following a position as Assistant Research and Development Engineer at Boulton Aircraft Armament Ltd, he completed a PGCE and entered the teaching profession as Assistant Master at King Edward's School, Birmingham, later becoming Senior Mathematics Master at Wallasey Grammar School. In both schools, Arthur was Group Scout Master. Subsequent appointments included Principal of Queen Victoria School, Matavatocu, Suva, Fiji; Assistant Master, Marlborough College; Senior Mathematics Master, Sixth Form College, Ghana; and Senior Lecturer, Mathematics Education, University of Lesotho. Arthur contributed to School Mathematics Project (SMP) publications and Macmillan Bolesla School Mathematics textbooks; he and his wife, June, also published their late son Tim's diary of his last mountaineering expedition, *Kuksar Conquered*, later republished as *A Step Too Far*. In 1949 Arthur married June, who survived him. They had four children, David, Tim, Elspeth and Peter.



Brian Pothe Cary (1942)

**1942 POTHECARY**, Brian Peter, died 15 December 2019, aged ninety-five. After Marlborough College, Brian read Mechanical Sciences and was Captain of the College Squash and Tennis Clubs. He was then commissioned into the Army, serving in Sudan and Egypt as a Captain in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Following an MSc in Agriculture at the University of Durham, Brian became an agricultural engineer. Appointments included Senior Agricultural Engineer, HM Overseas Civil Service, Gold Coast; Export Manager, Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies Ltd, Ipswich; and Agricultural Engineering Adviser, Sudan Gezira Board. From 1968 to 1988 Brian worked as a Consultant in Overseas Agricultural Development, his clients including the World Bank, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, and Hunting Technical Services. Severe hearing loss resulted in early retirement, after which Brian emigrated to New Zealand in 2009 to be with his family. In 1958 Brian married Sheila, who survived him. They had three

daughters, Sue – who said Brian often talked about his time at St John's and was an avid reader of *The Eagle* – Frances and Sarah.

**1943 BARGH**, The Revd (George Edward) Norman, died 5 December 2015, aged ninety. After The Leys School, Cambridge, Norman read Mathematics and Law. He served in the Home Guard from 1942 to 1944 and intermitted his studies to join the Royal Navy as a Petty Officer from 1944 to 1947. After taking an LLB (Leeds, 1950) and admission to the Roll of Solicitors of the Supreme Court (1951), Norman worked for twenty-three years as a solicitor for Temple and Bargh, Kendal. From 1974 to 1980, he was Bursar at Wesley House, after which he entered the Ministry, first as Non-Stipendiary Minister at St Mary with Holy Trinity, Ulverston, Cumbria, and then as Priest-in-Charge at Egton cum Newland and Lowick, Diocese of Carlisle. On retirement in 1990, Norman was given Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Carlisle. Norman was married to Margaret, who survived him. They had four children, Judith, Donald, Katherine and John.

**1943 BRIGGS**, Geoffrey Hugh, died 10 November 2019, aged ninety-three. After King's School, Rochester, and Ashby de la Zouch Grammar School, Geoffrey read Classics as a Choral Scholar and was awarded a Strathcona Travel Exhibition (1947). He was also involved in establishing a small orchestra, performing in the Hall, and as *The Eagle* (1946) recorded, 'discoursed divertingly on Early English Music with appropriate illustrations on a clavichord'. Geoffrey's career was as a

university librarian in the UK, New Zealand and Canada, in preparation for which he was awarded a Diploma in Librarianship (1949) and a Diploma in Archive Administration (1950). Appointments included Assistant Librarian, University of London; Deputy Librarian, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand; Deputy Librarian, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada; and University Librarian, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada (1969–91). Well respected by colleagues, Geoffrey was elected President of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (1978–9). In addition to music, Geoffrey enjoyed fishing. In 1950 Geoffrey married Judith, who predeceased him. They had two sons, Nicholas and Peter.



Geoffrey Briggs (1943)

**1943 BRIGHT**, Gerald (Gerry) Emery, died 3 July 2017, aged ninety-one. After Launceston College and Dartmouth Grammar School, Gerry read History, played for the Rugby First Team, and rowed for the LMBC. He was also a Royal Navy Cadet, becoming Sub-Lieutenant. Gerry then enjoyed a long career in the teaching profession, adding to his qualifications by taking a PGCE. Early appointments included Assistant Master at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, and at Exmouth School. Gerry was then Headmaster in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, and in Broadclyst, Devon. Gerry's school career culminated as Head of Ivybridge County Secondary School, which he led through a radical transformation to become Ivybridge Community College, remodelling both the curriculum and the pastoral system to respond to the needs of a comprehensive intake. Gerry's final position was as Course Director and Consultant at the Community Education Development Centre, resulting in an association with the University of Exeter. Gerry was married to Mae, who survived him. They had two children, Paul and Janice.

**1943 ELLIS**, David Edmund, died 14 January 2019, aged ninety-two. After The Perse School, Cambridge, David read Architecture. He went on to be awarded an Architectural Association Diploma (London), and was an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects.



Desmond Julian (1943)

**1943 JULIAN**, Professor Desmond Gareth, died 26 December 2019, aged ninety-three. After Leighton Park School, Desmond read Natural Sciences and trained at the Middlesex Hospital. After consultant appointments at Sydney Hospital and Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, Desmond was Professor of Cardiology, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, and Medical Director, British Heart Foundation. His advocacy of closed chest massage and coronary care units saved many lives. He published authoritatively, including *Julian's Cardiology*, and edited the *European Heart Journal*. Desmond was President, British Cardiac Society; Second Vice-President, Royal College of Physicians; and Chair, Action on Smoking and Health. Honours included Consultant to World Health Organisation; the International Service Award, American College of Cardiology; Mackenzie Medal, British Cardiac Society; Gold Medal, European Society of Cardiology; Honorary

MDs from Gothenburg and Edinburgh Universities; and a CBE. A distinguished, modest, wise and kindly man of integrity, Desmond was admired and revered. Interests included Chapel Elder, the Garrick Club, walking, croquet, skiing, windsurfing, reading, writing and enjoying his own jokes. Desmond was married twice: first, in 1956, to Mary, whose fatal accident left him with two adopted young children, Paul and Claire; and second, in 1988, to Claire, who survived him.

**1943 PARKES**, Sir Edward Walter, father of Christopher Edward Rupert (1973), died 25 September 2019, aged ninety-three. After King Edward's High School, Birmingham, Edward read Mechanical Sciences (Exhibitioner). He then worked at the Royal Aircraft Establishment before returning to St John's for a PhD. Edward enjoyed a distinguished academic career. He was Fellow and Tutor, Gonville and Caius College, and University of Cambridge Lecturer in Engineering; Visiting Professor, Stanford University; Head of the Department of Engineering, University of Leicester; Professor of Mechanics and Deputy Head, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge; Vice-Chancellor, City University; Chairman, University Grants Committee; Vice-Chancellor, University of Leeds; and Chairman, Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of Universities of the United Kingdom. He published *Braced Frameworks* (1965) and papers in journals of the Royal Society. In addition to an ScD, Edward was awarded honorary degrees by City, Leicester, Loughborough and Wales Universities. For services to the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee for Hong Kong, Edward

was awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star (1999). He was knighted in 1983. In 1950 Edward married Margaret, who predeceased him. They had two children, Christopher and Catherine.

**1944 ALLAN**, Peter Gerald, great uncle of (William) Lennie Wells (2017), died 6 March 2019, aged ninety-two. Born in New Zealand and raised in Egypt, after King's School, Ely, Peter read Mechanical Sciences and was Captain of Hockey. He served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, rising to Captain, before holding positions with Rank Precision Industries; PA Management Consultants; and Ideal Standard. From 1970 to 1995 Peter worked in France as a Partner for Allan & Co. and was renowned as a head hunter. He was also Director and President of the Franco-British Chamber of Commerce and Industry, his distinction recognised by an OBE (1996) and appointment as Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (2002). Finally, Peter was Director, the Hertford British Hospital, Paris (1994–2014). He published *The Memoirs of Peter Allan* (Biograph Ltd, 2007) and wrote an article, 'From Cairo to Cambridge 1943–1944', describing a fascinating voyage evading German aircraft and U-boats. The Master, Chris Dobson, commented, 'thrilling ... your commitment is inspiring'. Peter also supported College travel scholarships, the Library, sports and the Choir. Peter was married to Colette, who predeceased him. They had five children, Diana, Isabelle, Muriel, Mary and Frederick.

**1944 CROSS**, David Anderson, brother of John Stanley (1947), died 18 January 2019,

aged ninety-two. After Uppingham School, David read Agriculture and rowed for the LMBC. He relished academic debates and delighted in reminiscing about and returning to the College. As a farmer, first with his family's company and then with his son, Richard, David loved Red Poll cattle, applying a scholarly approach. He introduced Devons to enhance the beef side and Danish Reds to improve milk output, reciting poetry at milking time. A winner of many prizes, including five at the Royal Show, David was elected to the Red Poll Council, later becoming President. He judged all over England and Scotland and travelled to the USA and Colombia. A keen sportsman, David enjoyed rowing, punting, hockey, tennis, badminton and bowls. He played golf at Flempton Golf Club, proud to be Captain in 1993–94. Community life was very important. David served the District Agricultural Club, the Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall, the Parish Council and Edmundsbury District Council. In 1957 David married Sally. They had two children, Sarah and Richard.

**1944 DRAKE**, Dr Brian John, cousin of Michael John (1962), father of Laurence Karsten (1982) and Marcus John (1985), and grandfather of William Karsten (2015), died 1 January 2019, aged ninety-two. After the Perse School, Brian read Natural Sciences and rowed for the LMBC. Following military service, he switched to Medicine – his dissection group was Swallow, Swift, Swan, Drake and Pond – and earned his oar in the May Bumps. Nocturnal escapades included scaling the roof of the Bridge of Sighs and placing a lavatory bowl on the Great Gate's

flagpole, with the *Cambridge Daily News* commenting, 'Come and see what you never did see – a WC where the flag ought to be'. In 1951 Brian transferred to Balliol College, Oxford, to study Clinical Medicine. He became GP for Histon, Consultant Venereologist at Bedford Hospital and President of the Cambridge Medical Society. Brian was a kind, good-humoured, gentle and generous man, who played the organ in King's and St John's Chapels and regularly attended College events. Drake Way, Histon, was named in his honour. In 1960 Brian married Vibeke in Denmark. After their divorce, Janet was his partner.



Brian Drake (1944)



Austin Hall (1944)

**1944 HALL**, (John Frank) Austin, died 22 May 2019, aged ninety-three. After Hulme Grammar School, Oldham, and serving as Sub-Lieutenant, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, in minesweepers in the Mediterranean and the North Sea, Austin read Modern and Medieval Languages, played for the Football First Team and represented the University. Nephew Chris said that Austin and his family were 'very proud of ... achievements whilst at Cambridge' and of 'photographic memorabilia'. Austin became a Dunlop overseas representative, enjoying trips to Europe and promotion to Overseas Sales Manager. Sadly, he never recovered fully from a minor operation, and returned to Oldham, successfully joining a solicitor friend's firm. In 1969 Austin married Sheila, a great support to him. Founder members of Oldham Talking Newspaper for the blind, Sheila was Secretary and Austin was Editor. Their happy marriage ended with Sheila's death in 2005. Austin then reconnected with Joan, whom he had known previously. They enjoyed a happy relationship and attended Hallé concerts and jazz performances. Austin's other interests were golf, photography, the piano, theatregoing and watching Joe Royle's Oldham Athletic.

**1944 LAING**, Peter Elston, brother of Charles William (1942), died September 2019, aged ninety-two. After Durham School, Peter read Mechanical Sciences, rowed for the LMBC and was a Royal Engineers Cadet. He intermitted his studies to serve as a Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers. After brief periods as Technical Design Assistant at Twyfords Ltd and Research Assistant at the Furniture Development Council, Peter returned to Cambridge to take a PGCE and entered the teaching profession. He was Assistant Master at the Skinners School, Tunbridge Wells (1954–59), and Assistant Master at The Royal Tunbridge Wells Technical High School for Boys (1959–72). Peter then left the profession to establish his own business, making and marketing model soldiers. Peter's family said that he 'went through life with humour and was interested in others' lives'. Well-known in the village of Marden in Herefordshire, where he lived, Peter was involved in many community activities, treating everyone with kindness and respect. In 1957 Peter married Helen, who predeceased him. They had two children, Charles and Sarah.

**1944 TAYLOR**, Dr Henry (Harry) Dennis, died 23 July 2019, aged ninety-four. After Magdalen College School, Brackley, and serving in the Second World War as a Radio Officer in the Merchant Service, Harry read Natural Sciences. His career was as a consulting scientist and forensic investigator of marine fires and explosions. At various times Harry worked with the British Coal Utilisation Research Association, Imperial College, Esso, the Central Electricity

Generating Board, the Fire Protection Association and Bowings. Harry married twice: first to Helen, with whom he had four children, Ailsa, Rona, John and Donald, and who predeceased him; and second to Hannah, who also predeceased him.

**1944 WICKENS**, Robert, died 26 February 2019, aged ninety-three. After Town and County School, Northampton, Robert read Natural Sciences, followed by a Diploma in Agriculture. He played for the Rugby Second Team (Colours) and was Honorary Secretary of the Cygnets. He then spent a year in Trinidad and completed a Diploma in Tropical Agriculture. Robert's long career was as an agronomist, starting with the West African Cocoa Research Institute. His first appointment in the UK was at Drayton Experimental Husbandry Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon. He was then promoted as Assistant to the Director of Experiments in London. Robert was later transferred to Arthur Rickwood Experimental Husbandry Farm, where he was made Director. In 1982 he became Director of Experimental Centres for the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service, the advisory and research arm of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Robert was married to Valerie, who survived him and spoke warmly of his affection for the College, saying that Robert was proud of his education.

**1945 LEEMING**, John (Jack) Coates, died 23 March 2019, aged ninety-one. After Chadderton Grammar School, Jack read Mathematics (Scholar, Wright's Prize), played for the Football First Team (Colours, Secretary) and rowed for the LMBC.

Following two years teaching at Hyde Grammar School, Jack joined the Civil Service, holding important positions in HM Customs and Excise, HM Treasury, the Civil Service Department and the Department of Industry. A man of intelligence, warmth, wit and kindness, Jack encouraged younger colleagues. He was seconded to the World Bank in Washington, DC, and became Director General of the British National Space Centre, subsequently helping Helen Sharman to become the UK's first astronaut. From 1988 to 1997, Jack was a consultant to aerospace companies and space agencies. Jack was a Manchester United supporter and he played golf. He was Captain of the RAC Golf Club and a founder member of the Claret Club, RAC members who met to 'sort out the world'. In 1949 Jack married Dorothy. They had two sons, Barry and Peter. After divorce from Dorothy, Jack married Cheryl, who shared his interest in space and technology and was MP for Chesham and Amersham.

**1945 MOODY**, Bernard John, died 16 December 2019, aged ninety-two. After Handsworth Grammar School, Bernard read Natural Sciences (State Scholar), the College influencing 'much of his thinking and approach to life'. Following a PGCE (Birmingham), Bernard taught in London at Highgate School and Latymer Grammar School before becoming Head of Science at Bristol Grammar School. In 1961, at Preston Grammar School, he became one of the youngest head teachers in the country. Bernard wrote *Comparative Inorganic Chemistry* and became a Chief Examiner for A Level Chemistry, shaping the education

of a generation of young scientists. Bernard's next Headship was at Maidstone Grammar School and his final one at Sandown High School, Isle of Wight. Contemporaneously, he was also Director of Studies, responsible for the officer education programme, at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Recreational interests were wildlife, painting, kite flying and fly fishing. Bernard was married twice: first to Rosemary, with whom he had Catherine, Sarah, Edward and Richard, and who died in 1981; and second to Katharina, with whom he lived near Flensburg and who died in 2017.

**1946 GREGSON**, Major Howard Davenport, known as Tim, died 17 April 2019, aged ninety-five. After St Paul's School, Tim completed a civil engineering programme before joining the Royal Engineers. Landing on Sword Beach on the day after D-Day, Tim spent the remainder of the War designing Bailey bridges to cross the great rivers of northern France, Belgium and Germany. At St John's, he read Mechanical Sciences and played for the Tennis First Team. Returning to the Army as Instructor at Mons Officer Cadet School, he had other postings, including Gibraltar, Nepal, Singapore, Germany and the Royal Armaments Research and Development Establishment, before retirement as Major in 1964. Tim then taught Mathematics for twenty years at Cranleigh School, his practical experience of engineering inspiring many pupils. He was also Housemaster, Careers Master, and rugby and tennis coach, and he preached in the School Chapel. On retirement, Tim and Susan, whom he married in 1956 and who survived him, devoted their lives to the village and church of Tarrant Keyneston, Dorset. They had three children, Peter, Nicola

and Philippa. Sir Roger Palin, Honorary Fellow, described Tim as 'a true gentleman who lived a good life'.

**1946 ROSEVEARE**, Robert (Rob) William, great grandson of William Done Bushell (1857, Fellow), grandson of William Nicholas (1882, Fellow), related to five other Johnians, died 8 July 2019, aged ninety-four. After Gresham's School, Holt, a Naval Short Course at University College, Oxford, and Second World War service in the Fleet Air Arm, Rob read Mechanical Sciences, won a College Prize and played for the Hockey First Team (Secretary, Vice-Captain) and the University Wanderers. He joined the Chapel Committee and the University Musical Society and was Treasurer of the University Archaeological Field Club. At the Ministry of Power, Rob worked in the Minister's Private Office, the Cabinet Secretariat and the Washington Embassy. He then became Secretary and Managing Director of the British Steel Corporation, liaising with the Government, Parliament and media. Other appointments included council member at the Confederation of British Industry; Consultant, Marks and Spencer; Non-Executive Director, Community Industry Ltd; and Anglican Church lay roles. Rob was awarded a CBE in 1977. Recreational interests included hill-walking, bird-watching and music. Proud of his family's connections, Rob remembered the College with affection. In 1954 Rob married Paddy, who survived him. Their children were Elizabeth, Catherine, Nicholas and Bridget.

**1947 BLENCH**, Dr (John) Wheatley, died 31 May 2019, aged ninety-two. After The

Grammar School, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Wheatley read English (Major Scholar), followed by a PhD. His career was as a Lecturer in English, holding appointments at the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Durham. He published articles in the *Cambridge Journal* and the *Review of English Studies*, and a book, *Preaching in England in the Late Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries: A Study of English Sermons 1450–c.1600*. Wheatley was a longstanding member of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Civic Society, serving on the Executive Committee and becoming Vice-Chairman from 2001 to 2003. He gave a talk entitled 'Two Otter Men' on the subject of authors: his friend, Henry Williamson, and Gavin Maxwell. On another occasion, Wheatley spoke on the writer and broadcaster Alan Melville, who came from Berwick. He also wrote Society reports for the *Berwick Advertiser*. One of Wheatley's great passions was Christianity. He was a dedicated High Anglican. Two months before he died, he converted to Roman Catholicism, while retaining his affection for the Church of England.

**1947 BURNS**, Professor John Carlyle, died 26 May 2019, aged ninety-three. After Mount Albert Grammar School, Auckland, and Auckland University College, John read Mathematics (Scholar), was awarded the Adams Essay Prize and was Treasurer of the Adams Society. Awarded a Research Scholarship, he completed a PhD at the University of Manchester. John then lectured at Victoria University College, New Zealand, before moving to Australia. Following a Senior Lectureship and Readership at the Australian National University, Canberra,

John became Professor of Mathematics, Royal Military College, Duntroon, Faculty of Military Studies, University of New South Wales, Sydney. Subsequently, he became Dean of the Faculty and then Inaugural Professor at the newly established Australian Defence Force Academy. John was Founding Treasurer and Secretary of the Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee and was presented with the Bernhard H. Neumann Award by the Australian Mathematics Trust for his enrichment of mathematics learning in Australia. He published *Seeking Solutions* (2000) and approximately thirty papers in mathematical journals. In 1952 John married Eleanor, who survived him. They had two children, Keith and Hilary.

**1947 MALTBY**, Antony (Tony) John, brother of Christopher Hugh Kingsnorth (1948), died 18 May 2019, aged ninety-one. After Clayesmore School, Tony read History, played for the Tennis First Team and represented the College and University in Athletics (Blue) and Squash. Tony was Assistant Master, Dover College; Head of History and Housemaster, Pocklington School; and an outstanding Headmaster of Trent College. Staff were chosen shrewdly; sixth-form girls admitted; academic results emphasised; art, drama, music, sport, the Chapel and the CCF celebrated; new buildings erected; and computing introduced. On a trip to Thailand, Tony was meeting two Old Tridents, the Prime Minister and the former Prime Minister, when there was a military coup. One headline read, 'Old School Thais'. Tony served the wider community in the Rotary Club, as JP, and as Deputy Lieutenant of

Derbyshire. Moving to Kent in retirement, he played bridge, continued as a JP, served as a Councillor and taught pupils with special needs. In 1959 Tony married Jill, who predeceased him. They had four daughters, Claire, Anita (died 2006), Katrina and Lucy. In 2001 Tony married Liz, gaining one stepson and three stepdaughters.

**1948 ALLISON**, Harold, father of (Ian) Martin (1976), died 26 February 2019, aged ninety-one. After Pocklington School and service in the Intelligence Corps in Gibraltar, Harold read Geography and Modern Languages and played for the Rugby Second Team. He then enjoyed a career as a chartered accountant. Harold was married to Hazel, who predeceased him. They had two sons, David and Martin.

**1948 BURY**, Dr Henry Philip Roberts, father of David Philip (1984), died 10 February 2019, aged eighty-nine. After Eccles Grammar School and Manchester Grammar School, Henry read Natural Sciences (Somerset Exhibitioner) and Archaeology and Anthropology, was awarded the Henry Humphreys Prize and a Travel Exhibition, and rowed for the LMBC. In 1952 he was nominated to the Crewdson-Benington Studentship to research the skeletal remains uncovered by excavations at St Bride's, Fleet Street. He then completed an MB, a BChir and an MSc. Henry's clinical and academic appointments included Registrar in Clinical Pathology, Children's Hospital, Sheffield; Lecturer in Pathology, University of Sheffield; and Consultant in Histopathology, Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, Humberside. He wrote a number of articles for medical

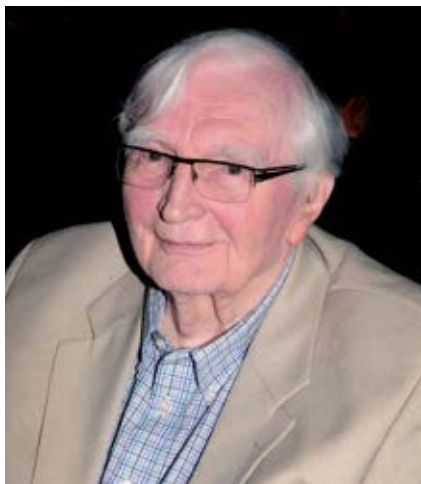
journals, particularly on skin tumours, and was a member of the Royal College of Pathologists. In 1960 Henry married Mary. They had five children, Henry, James, Richard, David and Catherine.

**1948 HARRIS**, Desmond John, died 6 January 2019, aged ninety-one. After Durban High School and the University of Cape Town, Desmond read Mathematics and was Chairman of the Adams Society and of the University's Archimedean, his love of mathematics awakened by G. H. Hardy's *Pure Mathematics*. Desmond also became a member of the Cambridge Philosophical Society and of the London Mathematical Society. Returning to South Africa, Desmond began an academic career at the University of Natal, Durban, and became an opponent of apartheid. He was then appointed Lecturer in Mathematics at the University of Durham before moving to the College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, University of Wales, remaining there for thirty-five years. His good friend and colleague, Professor Des Evans, referred to Desmond as 'a true gentleman', and wrote, 'Desmond had a deep and encyclopaedic knowledge of classical and functional analysis, and an enviable ability to recall obscure facts and details of proofs'. In 1953 Desmond married Stella, who predeceased him. His last years were still full and happy, shared with his musical friend, Peter Wood. Desmond and Peter also travelled widely.

**1948 MacROBERT**, Alexander (Sandy) Edgely, died 13 July 2019, aged ninety-one. After Glasgow Academy and National Service in the Royal Artillery, Sandy read

History (Exhibitioner) and rowed for the LMBC. His early career was in the Colonial Administrative Service, Uganda. He then returned to Scotland, teaching at Glasgow High School and completing an MEd (Glasgow). In 1968 Sandy was appointed Assistant Director of Education in Dunbartonshire, serving for twenty years and enjoying promotion to Deputy Director, Senior Deputy Director and Senior Education Officer. He was also Chairman of the Scottish Central Committee on Religious Education (1983–86). During retirement Sandy published several historical reappraisals, including *Mary Queen of Scots and the Casket Letters* (2002), *Mary Queen of Scots and Her Escapes* (2012) and *The 1745 Rebellion and the Southern Scottish Lowlands* (2006). He also contributed to *The Historian* and the *Journal of the John Buchan Society*, gave talks on local history and was an extramural lecturer at the Crichton Campus, University of Glasgow. In 1955 Sandy married Irene, who survived him. They had three children, Sandy, Alison and Andrew.

**1948 ROBERTS**, Dr Donald (Don) James, died 14 March 2019, aged ninety-one. After Batley Grammar School and National Service (RAF), Don read Natural Sciences and Medicine (BChir, MB) and played Chess and Football. Following Guy's Hospital, Victoria Hospital in Blackpool, General Practice and a Diploma in Public Health (University of Leeds), Don became Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Southport. As Medical Officer of Health, Barrow-in-Furness, Don wrote the *Centenary and Annual Report 1867–1967*, analysing a century of improving health. As Medical Officer for the City of Salford,



Don Roberts (1948)

Don was involved in planning housing, sanitation and the first health centre. When Prince Philip visited to inspect the outcomes, Don was among those presented. The first industrial city to achieve 100% smoke control, Salford was awarded the Arnold Marsh Clean Air Award. While working as District Community Physician at Withington Hospital, Don's research on disabled school leavers won the Society of Community Medicine's Arthur Newth Memorial Prize. Don's final appointment was as District Medical Officer, Knowsley and St Helens. In 1957 Don married Chris, who survived him. They had two children, Jonathan and Elizabeth.

**1948 RODGER**, William (Bill) Rhodes, father of Jane Louise (1985) and father-in-law of John Meurig Taylor Davies (1981), died 7 September 2017, aged eighty-nine. After Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh, Bill read Natural Sciences and

Chemical Engineering, was Secretary of the Cygnets, played Rugby, and rowed for the LMBC. His career was in the chemicals industry, beginning as Management Trainee at Laporte Chemicals Ltd, Luton. Bill then worked for almost thirty years in Production (Acrylics) at Imperial Chemicals Ltd, Runcorn and Billingham. His final appointment was in Contract Design for Imperial Consultant Design Ltd, Yarm, Cleveland. Bill was a long-serving Honorary Treasurer of the Northumbrian Cambridge Association, whose former Honorary Secretary, Heather Russell, said in her appreciation, 'Bill was always a courteous and gentle soul – a real gentleman ... content to work quietly in the background'. In 1961 Bill married Vilma, who predeceased him. They had two children, Elizabeth and Jane.

**1948 WHITMORE**, Dr David Noel, died 22 December 2019, aged eighty-nine. After Wintringham Secondary School, Grimsby, David read Natural Sciences (Physiology) as a Lister Scholar and was awarded College Prizes in 1949, 1950 and 1951. After completing a BChir and an MB, he enjoyed a long career in hospital medicine. Appointments included Senior Registrar in Pathology, Guy's Hospital and Lewisham Hospital; Consultant Pathologist, Lewisham Hospital Group; and Consultant Haematologist, Lewisham Hospital. After retiring from full-time work, David held a number of part-time posts. As a consultant, his skills and experience were also in demand in strategic and quality assurance roles. David was Consultant Member, District Management Team; Consultant Member, Lewisham and North

Southwark Health Authority; Consultant Member, South East Region, Haematology Committee; and Examiner in Haematology, Royal College of Pathology. David's outstanding contribution was acknowledged when his name was associated with the Cancer Suite at Lewisham Hospital. In 1955 David married Elizabeth, who survived him. They had three sons, John, Richard and Michael.

**1949 BARTHOLOMEW**, Alick Nairne, died 29 December 2015, aged eighty-five. After The Edinburgh Academy and National Service in the Gordon Highlanders, Alick read Geography and Geology and represented the College at Athletics. He spent a year at the School of Business Administration, University of Chicago, before embarking on an international career in publishing, including positions with McGraw Hill, Alfred Knopf, Houghton Mifflin, Macmillan, Victor Gollancz and Turnstone Press. Alick then practised as a transpersonal psychotherapist before returning to publishing with Gateway Books. In his later years he was a consultant editor, literary agent and author. Alick was a lover of nature, researching and writing on environmental issues; a member of the Scientific and Medical Network; and a trustee of two charities. His own publications included *Crop Circles: Harbingers of World Change* (ed. 1991); *Kombucha Tea for Your Health and Healing* (1998); *Hidden Nature* (2003); and *The Story of Water* (2010). In 1955 Alick married Ann, who predeceased him, and with whom he had Sara, James and Kate. Alick was also married to Mari, who survived him.

**1949 CELLAN JONES**, (Alan) James Gwynne, died 30 August 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Charterhouse, James read Natural Sciences, was Captain of University Swimming (1951/2) and a Hawk. Following National Service (Royal Engineers), James worked in television, theatre and film, and was one of his generation's finest directors. *The Stage* admirably referred to James's 'style, substance and success.' Adaptations of classic novels and period drama were prodigious, including *The Forsyte Saga* and *Fortunes of War*, the former's Sunday evening screenings depriving vicars of their congregations. James was Head of Plays, BBC Television; Chairman of BAFTA; and Chairman and Honorary President, Directors Guild of Great Britain. Honours included the Directors Guild of America Award (1976); the American 'ACE' Award (1986), for *Oxbridge Blues*, shot in St John's; and the Golden Nymph Award for Best TV Film, Monte Carlo Festival (1994). The television drama, *A Perfect Hero*, was also shot in College. James published *The Novel on the Screen and Forsyte and Hindsight: Screen Directing for Pleasure and Profit*. Following a relationship with Sylvia Rich, James had a son, Rory. In 1959 he married Margaret, who predeceased him, and with whom he had three children, Simon, Deiniol (who died in 2013) and Lavinia.

**1949 FAIRBAIRN**, Professor Walter McArthur, died 18 August 2019, aged ninety-one. After Glasgow High School and the University of Glasgow, Walter read Mathematics, was awarded the College's Adams Memorial Prize and the University's Mayhew Prize, and played for the Football

First Team. He studied for a PhD at the University of Birmingham before embarking on an academic career, including a Research Fellowship at St John's (1956–59). Walter played a crucial role in the development of the new University of Lancaster, where he was Senior Lecturer, Reader and Professor in Theoretical Physics; Head of the Department of Physics, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor; and Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics. In all these roles his deep commitment, modesty, characteristic wit and careful judgement were greatly valued. Walter was also Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins University, University of Waterloo, and the University of New South Wales. In retirement Walter and his wife, Barbara, continued to take an active part in the University of Lancaster's cultural affairs. The couple had three children, David, Gordon and Margaret.

**1949 HYATT**, John Hampden, died 2 March 2019, aged ninety. After Sedbergh School, John read Engineering and rowed in the LMBC First Boat. He enjoyed a long career, first with Dorman Long, Taylor Woodrow, John Howard & Co. Ltd, and then with Freeman, Fox and Partners, during which time John also worked for the Mekong Secretariat (United Nations) in Thailand. Major projects included the Forth Road Bridge; the Auckland Harbour Bridge; the M5 Motorway; the Humber Bridge, which at the time of construction was the world's longest single-span bridge; the First Stage Expressway in Bangkok; and the Huai Mong Irrigation Project, Thailand. John also worked in the United Arab Emirates. His significant contribution was recognised in

membership of the New Zealand Institute of Engineers and the Society of Professional Engineers, Thailand. John published *The Construction of the Din Daeng to Port Section of the First Stage Expressway System in Bangkok*. In 1962 John married Cynthia, who predeceased him. They had three children, Michael, Juliet and Susan. The family described John as 'an absolute gentleman' and said 'his kindness and positivity are an inspiration to us all'.

**1949 JACKSON**, (Francis William) David, died 27 May 2019, aged ninety. After Trinity College, Glenalmond, and National Service in the Royal Corps of Signals, David read Modern and Medieval Languages (Minor Scholar) and took a particular interest in Russian. His career was as a chartered accountant (Scottish). David's appointments included Partner at Turquands Barton Mayhew and its successor firm, Ernst & Whinney. A major recreational interest was military history. David published articles and book reviews in various journals, including 'Isandhlwana 1879 – The Sources Re-examined', published in the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research* (1963). He also took a Diploma in Medieval Mongol. In 1969 David married Sheila, who survived him.

**1949 MARK**, Peter Hinton, son of Douglas Scott (1918), died 8 December 2018, aged eighty-eight. After Repton School, Peter read Law and played for the Football First Team. His career was in the financial world, and Peter held an FCA qualification. Appointments included Accountant to the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Chairman of House at Fulford Golf Club, and Chairman of W. D. Mark and Sons. Peter had one son, Julian.

**1949 RUSHTON**, Stanley John, brother of Donald Frederick Harvey (1942), died 18 July 2019, aged ninety. After Solihull School, Stanley read Mechanical Sciences. He then worked for Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co. Ltd, first holding a College Apprenticeship, followed by positions as Cost Investigation Engineer and Manufacturing Development Engineer. Moving to papermakers Wiggins Teape Co. Ltd, where he worked for seventeen years, Stanley fulfilled a number of roles within the Group: Assistant Scientist, Research and Development; Assistant Engineer, Buckland Mill Dover; Chief Engineer, Vegetable Parchment Mills, St Mary Cray; Deputy Chief Engineer, Wiggins Teape Converters; Senior Engineer and then Contract Manager, Project Engineering Division; and Consultant, Technical Service Division. Stanley's last appointment before retirement was as Area Engineer, Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Area Health Authority (Teaching). In 1958 Stanley married Dorothy, who survived him. They had two daughters, Elizabeth and Sally.

**1949 THOMSON**, Dr Christopher Bruce, died 29 January 2019, aged eighty-nine. After Cranleigh School, Christopher read Natural Sciences and rowed for the LMBC. Choosing a career in Medicine, he trained at Guy's Hospital, London, in 1956, being appointed LRCP and MRCS. After a decade of General Practice in South Devon, Christopher was appointed Medical Officer

at Qatar Petroleum Company and was awarded a Diploma in Industrial Health by the University of Dundee. He then spent twenty years with the Employment Medical Advisory Service (UK), which became part of the Health & Safety Executive. Concurrently, Christopher was also Employment Medical Adviser, Plymouth, and Senior Employment Medical Adviser, Bristol, and he became a Fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine. Other appointments included Regional Specialty Adviser to the Joint Committee for Higher Medical Education and Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Occupational Medicine at the University of Bristol.

**1949 TROTT**, John Michael (Mike), son of Alan Charles (1913), nephew of Francis William (1912) and brother of Peter Alan (1953), died 6 September 2019, aged ninety. After Repton School, Mike read Economics and Law, was a member of the Winfield Society and played for the Rugby Second Team. His long career was as a solicitor, becoming a Partner of Trott and Battell in Camborne. Rugby Union was Mike's passionate interest. He was Committee Member, Chairman, President (1970–91), and Life Member of Camborne RFC (Cherry & Whites), during which time the club became the dominant force in Cornish rugby. He was President of Cornwall RFU (1990–91) when the Senior XV became County Champions at Twickenham for the first time since 1908. He also held office as Chairman of the Camborne Twinning Association and as Chairman of Crofty Cricket Club. A generous, genuine and modest man, with a dry sense of humour,

Mike served Camborne RFC, Camborne and Cornwall with great dedication and distinction. Mike was married twice: first to Joan, and then to Sylvia. His children were Frances, Steve and Natasha.

**1950 BATEMAN**, David Ernest Robson, died 26 July 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Epsom College, David read Natural Sciences and Medicine. He rowed for the LMBC, in 1952 coxing the Gentlemen's VIII that won its blades, and he was awarded a Roger Neville Goodman Travel Exhibition. David's medical training was at St Thomas' Hospital, where he was a House Surgeon and completed a BChir and an MB. David then joined the Royal Navy for three years, serving as a Surgeon Lieutenant. Subsequent appointments included Surgeon Registrar at Selly Oak Hospital; Resident Medical Officer, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital; and Obstetric Registrar, St Thomas' Hospital. Following a brief appointment as Senior Registrar in Wales, for twenty-three years David was Consultant Gynaecologist at the County Hospital, Hereford. An Examiner for the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and for Birmingham University, David published articles in medical journals and became President of the Herefordshire Medical Society. A keen golfer, in 1991 he was elected President of the Herefordshire Golfing Society. David was married to Joan, who survived him. They had one daughter, Diana.

**1950 CHARTERS**, David Dennison, son of Alan Dumergue (1921) and brother of John Dumergue (1949), died 3 November 2019, aged eighty-seven. After St Andrew's

College, Grahamstown, David read Law and represented the College in Boxing, Rugby, Squash and Tennis. He was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 1954 and was then appointed Prosecutor in the Attorney General's Chambers in Kenya, where he was Deputy Official Receiver and Senior Crown Counsel (1955–64). David also worked as a solicitor, barrister and judge in Australia, becoming a Partner in Jackson McDonald in Perth (1965–80) and a District Court Judge (1988–2001). He was also Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board of Western Australia (1980–88). A supporter of the Swan Animal Haven, David was described by his colleagues there as 'a kind man and a wonderful human being ... greatly admired, respected and loved'. David was married to Claudine, who predeceased him in 2018. They had two children, Joscelyn and Roderick.

**1950 COOPS**, Michael Edward, died 11 March 2019, aged eighty-nine. After William Hulme's Grammar School, Manchester, and National Service (Royal Artillery), Michael read English and History and rowed for the LMBC. In Cornwall's Planning Department, he began a lifelong love of the county and enjoyed involvement with the Truro Opera and Amateur Dramatic Society. While Assistant Clerk of the Court, University of London, Michael obtained an LLB. As Secretary, British Postgraduate Medical Federation (University of London), he worked with many distinguished postgraduate medical institutes. Finally, as Director of Planning and Development, London School of Economics, Michael played a crucial role in project management

and in acquiring freeholds of buildings. Holding the LSE in great affection, he remembered many surprises, including three drunks stealing a heavy penguin sculpture. Courteous, intelligent and at ease with others, Michael could, when necessary, show a steely side. He was a church warden and school governor, and he served on the London Diocesan Board for Schools. He loved family life, reading – especially history, literature and philosophy – music, travel in Europe, and food and wine. In 1960 Michael married Jean, who survived him. They had one son, Thomas.

**1950 McGLASHAN**, Iain Sillars Stuart, died 1 September 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Fettes College and Glasgow Academy, Iain read Economics (Choral Scholar) and performed Sir Amorous La-Foole with the Lady Margaret Players. Following RAF service in Iraq, Pakistan and the UK, Iain's varied career involved marketing in the UK and East Africa; singing with the BBC Singers, Scottish Opera, Covent Garden choruses, and Glasgow Cathedral Choir; producing plays and operas; conducting orchestras and choruses; involvement in radio, TV and cinema; Managing Director, Anderson Stewart (Castings) Ltd; Campaigns Consultant, Scottish Opera; and Bursar, Kelvinside Academy. He was a Life Member of Equity. Voluntary activities included President, Nomads Literary and Debating Society; Trustee, McGlashan Charitable Trust and the Buttle Trust; Chairman, Glasgow Cathedral Organ Restoration Fund, which raised almost £400,000; and Chairman, Opera Nova, the Kentish Opera Group, and the Scottish

Bursary Fund for Dyslexia. Iain campaigned for music in hospitals and care homes and read for RNIB and the Samaritans. Described as 'a grand old man of Glasgow', Iain's passion and generosity towards the arts, architecture and learning, not least for the disadvantaged, characterised a life full of service and commitment.

**1950 SPINNEY**, Peter Michael, brother of Alan Neville (1951), died 2 February 2016, aged eighty-six. After Sedbergh School Peter read Engineering, rowed for the LMBC, represented the University Rifle Association (Half Blue) and joined the University Air Squadron. National Service was with 603 City of Edinburgh Squadron, flying jet fighters. Peter's career was in the refrigeration industry, first as an Engineer and then as Export Manager with L. Sterne & Co., Glasgow. He then founded SIEG Refrigeration Ltd. An innovative engineer, Peter designed and built one of the first refrigerated trucks, the prototype carrying a cargo of whisky to Moscow. He also invented an ice-making plant that transformed working conditions in hot countries. Peter published three patents in the field of refrigeration, and he was a member of the Merchants House, Glasgow. Recreational and voluntary interests included membership of Scotland's Shooting Team; Trustee, the Mugdock Trust; Chair, the Mugdock Association; and Chair, Scottish Branch, Association of British Drivers. Peter was also instrumental in repatriating the 603 Squadron Gloster Meteor training jet to Montrose Air Museum. In 1959 Peter married Irene, who survived him. They had one son, Ian.

**1950 WILSON**, John James Hiam, died 30 May 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Winchester College and National Service as 2nd Lieutenant, 7th Royal Dragoon Guards, John read Agriculture and played for the Squash First Team, winning Second V Colours. His long career was as a farmer, beginning in Pembrokeshire in 1954 and concluding as Chairman (1987–95) of the East Anglian family firm, Frederick Hiam Ltd, which owned Manor Farm, consisting of over 9,000 acres. A keen ornithologist, John was involved with most of the pre-eminent ornithological organisations in East Anglia. He was also on the RSPB National Reserves Committee. John served on the Middle Fen and Burnt Fen drainage boards and on the Great Ouse Flood Defence Committee. Other interests were the Cereals and Gamebirds Research Project, under the auspices of the Game Conservancy Trust, and membership of the Suffolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group. John was awarded an OBE in 1988 in recognition of his outstanding work for public benefit in wildlife conservation. In 1965 John married Jane, who survived him. They had one son, Christopher.

**1951 LANCE**, Graham Edward Newby, died 26 July 2019, aged eighty-six. After King's College School, Wimbledon, Graham read Natural Sciences (Major Scholar) and was Secretary and Captain of the Chess Club. Following National Service (RAF), his career was with Fisons, first at Cliff Quay, Ipswich, then at Immingham, and subsequently as Chief Chemist at Shellstar (later UKF and now Kemira) at Ince, where Graham was responsible for quality control, laboratory

services and fertiliser legislation. A leading member of the Analytical Committee of the Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association (FMA), Graham chaired national and international committees. As a member of the Fertiliser Society, Graham served on the Council for nine years, and was President (1987) and Secretary (1988–98). On retirement from Kemira, he became Secretary of the Fertiliser Society and Technical Adviser to the FMA, continuing to work in international standardisation. Graham edited the Society's newsletter and wrote papers on its history and work. On the Society's fiftieth anniversary, Graham was awarded the Francis New Memorial Medal. He was also appointed an Honorary Member. In 1961 Graham married Mary, who survived him. They had two children, Vanessa and Martin.

**1951 LEWIS**, Professor (Reginald) Ivor, died 11 January 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall, and National Service flying gliders, Ivor read Mechanical Sciences, was awarded College Prizes and a Scholarship, and studied for a PhD. He also found lifelong Christian faith. Industrial experience with British Thompson Houston and English Electric, and pioneering work in computational fluid dynamics, led to an academic career as Professor of Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics, University of Newcastle (1967–95), and Specialist Quality Assessor, Higher Education Funding Council for England. With implications for air and marine propulsion and wind generators, Ivor published over one hundred papers, covering turbomachinery fluid mechanics, general fluid dynamics and vortex dynamics,



Ivor Lewis (1951)

and two seminal books, *Vortex Element Methods for Fluid Dynamic Analysis of Engineering Systems* and *Turbomachinery Performance Analysis*. Awards included the Viscount Weir Prize, the Thomas Hawksley Gold Medal and the James Clayton Prize.

Ivor loved hill-walking, playing the piano and choral singing. In 1960 Ivor married Daphne, who died in 2018. They had three children, Helen, Stephen and Richard.

**1951 ROWE**, Christopher (Chris) Richard Tarrant, died 2 July 2019, aged eighty-six. After University College School, Hampstead, Chris read Mathematics, played Cricket and Hockey, and was a member of the Music Society. He was also a member of the University Musical Society and of the Cambridge Union. Chris then enlisted as a Lieutenant, Instructor Branch (Meteorology), in the Royal Navy, before entering the teaching profession, where he served for thirty-six years. Chris was an Assistant Master and Undermaster at St Paul's School, London, and, subsequently, Head

of Middle School at Dulwich College. His professional body was the Association of Teachers and Lecturers. Chris was married to Sue, who survived him. They had four children, Jeremy, Simon, Matthew and Liz.

**1951 SNOW**, Cdr John Frederick Tremayne, died 1 April 2019, aged eighty-five. After Stonyhurst College, John read Engineering. His son said, 'My father certainly loved his time at St John's and maintained close contact with a group of inspirational engineers, who went from Cambridge into the Royal Navy together, throughout his life.' John enjoyed a long career in the Royal Navy, retiring in 1985 with the rank of Commander. John married Ruth, who survived him. They had two daughters and two sons.

**1951 THOMAS**, David Llewelyn, son of Alfred Llewelyn (1919), died 4 March 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Tonbridge School, David read Mathematics and Physics and represented the College in Basketball (Captain and organiser of the first Cuppers Competition), Lacrosse, Swimming, Tennis (Colours) and Water Polo. From 1949 to 1952 he also played Basketball and Ice Hockey for the University against Oxford. After a brief spell as a teacher of English as a foreign language at Rossall School and at Concord College, Tunbridge Wells, David's career of over thirty years was as a telecommunications engineer, with an apprenticeship and posts at Automatic Telephone & Electric and BICC Ltd; British Telecommunications Research Ltd; and GPT (GEC/Plessey Telecoms).

David's final position was as Consultant in International Telecommunications at the Department of Trade and Industry. David was married twice: first, in 1964, to Lollie, who died in 2005, and with whom he had Michael, Susan and Jennifer; and second, in 2011, to Elizabeth, who survived him.

**1952 DAVIES**, David Howard, died 18 April 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Uppingham School, David read Engineering Studies, was Captain of Hockey (1954/5) and rowed for the LMBC. He entered employment with Metal Box Co Ltd, Aintree, Liverpool, and then completed his National Service with the Welsh Guards. David's later career was as a Director at Ash and Lacy Ltd and then Chairman and Managing Director of Rolflex Doors Ltd. In 1957 David married Janet. They had two children, John and Sian.

**1952 DHAR**, Prateep Mohan, known as Toby, died 21 September 2017, aged eighty-three. After St Xaviers College, Calcutta, Toby read Mechanical Sciences and participated in Cricket, Golf and Shooting. His career was in the field of power and telephone cable manufacture. Toby was Adviser (Operations) and Vice-President (Works), INCAB Industries Ltd, and Director, Hermesetas of India Ltd. He also worked as a consultant, serving on both boards of companies and technical committees. Toby was a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, India, and a Member of the United Kingdom Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He had many recreational interests, including Western classical music; wildlife; indoor and outdoor land- and water-based sports; vintage cars;

aeroplanes; classic trains; great ocean liners; and galleons. Toby was married twice: first to Denise, and then to Tara. He had two daughters and one son.

**1952 MANGLES**, Major Robert (Rob) Miller, died 18 June 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Winchester College and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Rob read Mechanical Sciences and Engineering Studies, and he rowed for the LMBC. Between 1951 and 1967 he served in the Royal Engineers, rising to the rank of Major and serving in Kenya, the Persian Gulf and Bahrain, Malaya, Hong Kong, British North Borneo and Singapore. UK postings included the School of Military Survey, Newbury, and the Royal School of Military Survey, Hermitage. After leaving the Army, Rob farmed in Somerset, raising beef cattle and pigs, and growing cider apples. He painted in oils and watercolours and participated in local artists' groups. Learning to sail as a boy, Rob continued in the Army and in retirement, when he owned his own yachts for family holidays and teaching his sons to sail. For many years Rob organised pheasant shoots in Dorset, to where he retired in 1995. In 1959, in St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, Rob married Mary, who predeceased him. They had two children, David and Charles.

**1952 MARSHALL**, Richard (Dicky) Carlile, father of Christopher Brian (1977), died 9 July 2019, aged eighty-four. After Oakham School, Dicky read Natural Sciences (Exhibitioner) and Engineering, and he was Secretary of the University Wireless Society. He had a varied career in the electronics

and instrumentation industries. Dicky was a designer, inventor and innovator. His career was characterised by a constant need for fresh challenges, which involved him working for a wide range of companies, including De Havilland Propellers Ltd, George Kent Ltd, Rank-Xerox Ltd and Rotork Instruments Ltd. On reaching retirement age, Dicky set up his own consultancy, Richard Marshall Ltd, and was still establishing good design practices at the time of his death. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, a Fellow of the Institute of Physics, Member of the Radio Society of Great Britain (G3SBA), and worked on the British Standards Institution, British Electromagnetic Compatibility and the European Computer Manufacturers Association Committees. In 1956 Dicky married Brenda, who survived him. They had three sons, Christopher, Adrian and Jolyon.

**1952 MILLER**, James Lawson, died 10 January 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Lower School of John Lyon and National Service (Royal Engineers) in Austria, where he learned to speak German, James read Engineering. He won a College Prize, rowed for the LMBC, which became a lifelong interest, and was Secretary of the University Heretics Society. James's career was in the construction industry. Following Sir William Halcrow & Partners, he was a structural engineer with Principal Investments Ltd, Toronto; Director of J. Lawson & Co. Ltd; Chairman of James Lawson Holdings Ltd; Director of R. Harding (Cookham) Ltd; and Non-Executive Director of Saxon Developments Ltd. He was also Chairman of the Building Estimating Research Group, President of the Builders' Conference,

and Chairman of Fisher Hollivan Ltd, manufacturers of caravans. A family man and church-goer of strong faith, James loved theatre and music. He founded Austinwood Bridge Club. In 1957 James married Ann, who predeceased him. They had three children, Charles, Jeremy and Jane. Charles wrote, 'My father had great affection for his College and he was buried in his Lady Margaret Boat Club blazer wearing his St John's tie.'

**1952 MORREAU**, Patrick Mark, son of Cecil Joseph (1924), died 30 June 2019, aged eighty-four. After Ampleforth College, Patrick read Mechanical Sciences. His long career in engineering in London and the USA began with W S Atkins & Partners. He then moved to San Francisco, working for Western-Knapp Engineering and GFDS Engineers. Following four years at Davis & Morreau, Berkeley, Patrick moved to the East Coast as Associate Partner responsible for the Cambridge, Massachusetts, Office of Paul Weidinger Associates, Consulting Engineers. Returning to London in 1972, Patrick worked for twenty-four years for Ove Arup & Partners, becoming Associate Director in 1982. For over thirty years, Patrick also held academic appointments in structural design at Berkeley; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; University College, London; and the University of Bath. He made generous contributions to charities, including trusteeships and senior roles at Abbeyfield North London Society; Lewis and Mary Haynes Trust; and Age Concern Haringey. In 1959 Patrick married Jacqueline, who predeceased him. They had three children, Mark, Cecilia and Andrea.

**1952 SCHIØLER**, (Peter) Arthur, died 16 May 2016, aged ninety-three. After the University of Copenhagen, where he was awarded a Magister Scientiarum, Arthur came to St John's as a Research Student to undertake work on cancer (radiotherapeutics). The College has no further knowledge of his academic or professional careers. In 1948 Arthur married Birgit. In 1952 he married Lizzie, who died in 2019, and with whom he had twin daughters, Kit and Tina.

**1952 SENARATNE**, Dr Suranjith (Ranjith) Prasadth Fernando, died 31 August 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Royal College, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Ranjith read Archaeology and Anthropology and played for the Cricket First Team. He also studied for a degree in Sociology and Economics and a PhD in Social Anthropology at the University of London. In a long career as a social anthropologist, Ranjith was Deputy Director of National Museums, Sri Lanka; Co-Founder, Director of Urban and Rural Studies, and Board Member, Marga Institute, Sri Lanka Centre for Development; and Founder and Chairman, Coastal Fisheries and Industries Trust, Sri Lanka. In his research, he developed a new approach and conceptual framework to identify, formulate and analyse development problems, and this framework has been applied to policy problems in India and Bangladesh, as well as Sri Lanka. One of Ranjith's former colleagues wrote, 'We all miss him. Dr Senaratne lived such a good exemplary life and always expended his knowledge in support of and for the benefit of others.' Ranjith was married to Lalitha, who survived him. They had one daughter, Sunari.

**1953 MARSTRAND**, Professor John Martin, died 29 May 2019, aged ninety-one. John was a St John's Research Fellow (1953–6) after attending Pickering College, Ontario; Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he intermitted for National Service; and Keble College, Oxford. Appointed Lecturer at the University of Bristol, John subsequently became Professor of Pure Mathematics. As part of its 150th Anniversary celebrations, the London Mathematical Society recognised John – together with Hardy, Ramanujan, Turing, Atiyah and Donaldson, giants of twentieth-century mathematics – for his landmark paper, *Some fundamental geometrical properties of plane sets of fractional dimensions* (1954), which contained the prototype result for the now flourishing area, fractal geometry. A loveable eccentric, John jumped out of a lecture room window to honour a promise to any student who spotted a mistake. He was the source of the remark, 'I dislike Wednesday lectures. They cut into the weekend – from both directions.' John was a veteran fell-racer, becoming British Over-50 Champion in 1982. Competing in the Paps of Jura Race, he won a barrel of whisky. A kind and considerate man, John was modest about the enduring quality of his work.

**1953 SUTCLIFFE**, David Brook, son of Richard Brook (1922), nephew of John Herbert Holman (1920), cousin of John Haddon Frowd Holman (1962), died 11 November 2019, aged eighty-four. After Sedbergh School, David read Modern and Medieval Languages (Exhibition), won a Larmor Award, and was Captain of Rugby. Strongly adventurous – he crossed the

Atlantic single-handed – and encouraging students' involvement in rescue services and the community, David made an outstanding contribution to Kurt Hahn's United World Colleges (UWC), believing education was 'a force ... for peace and a sustainable future'. After Salem School, Germany, and Gordonstoun School, Scotland, David was a founding staff member at UWC of the Atlantic, progressing to Chief Coach of the Beach Rescue and Inshore Lifeboat services and Headmaster (1969). In 1982 he became Founder Headmaster of UWC of the Adriatic, Duino, Italy. David played a crucial role in UWC leadership worldwide, also publishing several books. He was honoured by Albania and Italy and was Founder of UWC, Mostar, in war-torn Bosnia. In 1961 David married Elisabeth, who survived him. They had a son Edward, who died in 1993, and two other children, Michael and Veronica.

**1954 CHARNAUD**, (Christopher) Adam, died 7 November 2019, aged eighty-four. After early years in Northern Rhodesia, Downside, and National Service in the Fleet Air Arm, Adam read Economics (Exhibitioner) and flew with the RAFVR. Qualifying as a chartered accountant, he worked for Shell in Indonesia. Returning to the UK, he worked for Peat Marwick and Warburg's Bank before moving to Australia to set up Grindlays Bank, Melbourne. Back in the UK, Adam joined Inbucon before setting up his own printing business in Yattendon. Reflecting his knowledge of the strategic importance of maritime air power, in 2007 Adam arranged a fly-past over the College by the Royal Navy Historical



Adam Charnaud (1954)

Flight. He also wrote *Two Navies Second to None: The Development of U.S. and British Naval Power* (Casemate, 2020). A keen oarsman, Adam kept a scull in the College boathouse. A member of Marlow and Henley Rowing Clubs, he also kept two boats on the Thames. In 1959 Adam married Elizabeth, with whom he had Emma, Giles, Ben and Amelia. The marriage was later dissolved and Adam married again twice. Elizabeth and the children survived him.

**1954 CRONE**, Dr Hugh Donal, son of Gerald Roe (1918), brother of Robin FitzGerald (1952), died 3 December 2018, aged eighty-two. After Latymer Upper School, Hugh read Natural Sciences. His career began as Experimental Officer and Civil Service Research Fellow, Agricultural Research Council, Slough, including a year as Research Associate at Oregon State University. Hugh then emigrated to Australia, where he became internationally recognised in biochemistry, his significant contribution to scholarship recognised by the award of a Cambridge PhD without thesis. He was involved with Australia's

Defence programme for over thirty years, rising to become Research Leader, Nuclear Biological and Chemical Defence and Disarmament, Aeronautical and Maritime Research Laboratory, Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation in Victoria. Hugh contributed to The Technical Cooperation Program and jointly initiated the Defence Human Sciences Symposium. He wrote several books and many scientific papers, including *Chemicals and Society: A Guide to the New Chemical Age* (CUP, 1992), which received the Phi Beta Kappa Science Book Award (1987), and *Banning Chemical Weapons: The Scientific Background* (CUP, 1992). Hugh was married to Elizabeth, who predeceased him. They had two daughters, Bridget and Erica.



Peter Graham (1954)

**1954 GRAHAM**, Sir Peter, died 20 October 2019, aged eighty-five. After St Bees School and service as a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm, Peter read Law (Exhibitioner) and won College Prizes. A member of

the Winfield Society and of the University Water Skiing Club, he also played the alto sax and clarinet in the University Moonrakers Dance Band. Peter's thirty-five-year career was in the Parliamentary Counsel Office, where he rose to become First Parliamentary Counsel (1991–94), calmly advising the UK Government on legislation and constitutional matters. Peter drafted over one hundred Acts of Parliament, a huge challenge well suited to his keen and meticulous intellect and pride in high standards. He graduated LLM (1985), became Queen's Counsel (1990) and Bencher of Gray's Inn (1992), and worked as consultant to overseas governments. In recognition of his distinguished service, Peter was awarded a CB (1982) and a KCB (1992). In retirement he moved to France, restored a chateau and played the organ at weddings, sometimes doubling up as chauffeur of his vintage Rolls-Royce. Married successively to Judith, Anne and Janet, Peter had two sons, Ian and Alistair, from his first marriage.

**1954 LINSTEAD**, Roger Harvey, died 13 March 2019, aged eighty-three. After Nether Edge Grammar School, Sheffield, Roger read English as an Exhibitioner and rowed in the LMBC First Boat. He was also a member of the College Debating Society and of several University societies: the YHA; the Mountaineering Club; the Union; and the Heretics. After five years as an Administrative Officer with London County Council, Roger joined the teaching profession. He was Assistant Teacher of English at Abbeydale Boys Grammar School, Sheffield, and then at Abbeydale Grange

School, Sheffield, where he was promoted to Head of the English Department. The latter part of Roger's career was as an inspector of primary, secondary and special schools. Long after he had left the classroom, Roger was remembered by former students as 'a kind and patient teacher' with 'talent and dedication.' In 1967 Roger married Dilys, who survived him. They had three children, Jane, Peter and Susan.

**1954 RILEY**, Phillip John, died 26 April 2019, aged eighty-three. After King Edward's School, Birmingham, Phillip read English (Minor Scholar) and Modern and Medieval Languages, and rowed for the LMBC. He was Secretary and President of the Heretics and Secretary of the Jazz Club, and he worked for *Varsity*. A dynamic, complex man, Phillip had a career in advertising and as a journalist, progressing in the former to creative director and owning the Golden Square agency. Overseas assignments included Buenos Aires, Brussels and Paris, where Phillip converted to Roman Catholicism. He founded a newspaper for the unemployed, wrote for *Reader's Digest*, worked for the BBC World Service and taught in Outer Mongolia. Phillip also wrote, performed and directed for Sidmouth Amateur Dramatic Society, took plays to the Edinburgh Festival and Australia, and was Editor of the Shaw Society magazine. Phillip was married three times: first to Dawn, with whom he had Tabitha and Rachel; second to Anne; and third to Ann, with whom he had Alexander. In later years, with his friend Shona, Phillip visited galleries and museums and returned to Cambridge, where he loved attending reunions.

**1954 ROFE**, Professor Brian Henry, great-great-nephew of John (1846), died 7 May 2019, aged eighty-five. After Shrewsbury School and National Service (Lieutenant, Royal Artillery), Brian read Mechanical Sciences, rowed in the LMBC First Boat (Vice-Captain) and competed in the Henley Ladies' Plate Final; he was also a member of the University Cruising Club. He joined the Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union, later serving on the Church Advisory Committee (Guildford). Brian was Resident Engineer at Rofe and Raffety; Partner, Senior Partner and Consultant at Rofe, Kennard & Lapworth; Consultant at Arup Water; and Visiting Professor, Engineering Design, University of Hertfordshire. Professional associations included Fellow and President, Institution of Water and Environmental Management; Chairman, Institution of Civil Engineering Water Board; and Member, Council of Civil Engineers, Senate of the Engineering Council, British Dam Society, All Reservoirs Panel, British Hydrological Society, Association of Consulting Engineers, and American Water Association. Brian's publications included *Reservoirs – An Environmental Gain* (1995) and *Blue Patches and Clear Water* (2003). In retirement he enjoyed sailing and gardening. In 1962 Brian married Ann, who survived him. They had three children, Katharine, Christopher and Andrew.

**1954 SEMPLE**, Andrew Greenlees, son of William Hugh (1925), nephew of John Greenlees (1925), nephew of Robert Hugh (1928), died 26 November 2019, aged eighty-five. After Winchester College, Andrew read Classics, was President of the Classical

Association, and was awarded the Wright's Prize, a John Stewart Rannoch Scholarship, and the University's Henry Arthur Thomas Scholarship (1951) and Travel Exhibition (1955). A varied career included Private Secretary, Principal and Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, and Private Secretary, Under Secretary and Principal Finance Officer, Department of the Environment. Andrew was then Secretary to the Water Authorities Association; Managing Director, Group Managing Director and Vice-Chairman, Anglian Water; and Board Member of EurEau. His final position was Consultant, Samuel Montagu Ltd. Other appointments included Chairman, Huntingdonshire Enterprise Agency; Governor, Huntingdon Regional College and Kimbolton School; and Chairman, Plumstead Almshouses. His interests were reading, gardening and Surrey County Cricket Club. In 1961 Andrew married Janet, who died in 1993. In 2000 he married Susan. Andrew had one daughter and one son.

**1955 BOOTH**, Roger John Nimmo, son of John Charles Hedley (1923), nephew of Norleigh (1926) and cousin of Neil Lancelot (1958), died 18 January 2019, aged eighty-three. After Sedbergh School and National Service in the Royal Armoured Corps, Roger read Natural Sciences and Economics. He was then awarded a qualification in Technical Biochemistry (Brewing) at Heriot Watt University. The first part of Roger's career was in the drinks industry, as Assistant Brewer with John Aitchison Co. Ltd; Second Brewer at J Nimmo Ltd, Castle Eden, County Durham; Workstudy

Executive, Whitbread & Co. Ltd, London; and Managing Director, Sodastream Ltd. In 1960 Roger became a member of the Institute of Brewing. His later career was as a Partner at Ivesley Equestrian Centre, Waterhouses, and as a farmer. Recreational activities included travel, shooting and highland cattle. Roger was married twice: first, in 1958, to Joanna; and second, in 1985, to Pauline, who survived him.



Bryan Coleby (1955)

**1955 COLEBY**, Dr Bryan, died 20 February 2019, aged ninety. After Rutherford College of Technology and King's College, Durham, where he read Chemistry followed by a PhD, in 1955 Bryan joined St John's on appointment as a Broodbank Fellow in Biochemistry at the Low Temperature Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, University of Cambridge. There he remained until 1960. Subsequent appointments and career choices included: Office of the Science Adviser, NATO, in Paris, when he became acquainted with international diplomats; Technical Policy Planning Manager, Pilkington

Brothers, St Helens, Lancashire; private consultant providing market research to the pharmaceutical and shipbuilding industries; Price Commission and Pay Board, London; and Principal Officer, Department of Trade and Industry, London. Bryan published approximately thirty scientific papers, mostly on radiation chemistry and the preservation of foodstuffs using ionising radiation. An accomplished pianist, his other interests were holidays in France and Italy, good food and wine, art, culture, gardening, and ginger cats. Bryan was married twice: first, in 1954, to Christine, with whom he had three daughters, Wendy, Nicola and Carolyne; and second, in 1984, to Anne, from whom he gained three stepsons.

**1955 KEAM**, Professor Ronald (Ron) Frank, died 6 February 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Mount Albert Grammar School and Auckland University College, New Zealand, where he took undergraduate and higher degrees, Ron read Mathematics. He enjoyed a lengthy career (1958–2006) in the Department of Physics, University of Auckland, rising to Associate Professor. Ron taught undergraduate and postgraduate geophysics courses and supervised numerous postgraduate theses. He published widely on the Waimangu thermal system and on geothermal topics generally. Together with Ted Lloyd, Ron identified the decline of geysers at Whakarewarewa. The Royal Society's New Zealand Science and Technology Silver Medal (2002) was awarded jointly to them for this work, citing their 'outstanding contribution to the understanding and conservation of geothermal features in New Zealand'. Ron

was awarded a DPhil (1969, Oxford) and the New Zealand Book Award for Non-Fiction for *Tarawera* (1989), a historical account of the volcanic eruption in 1886 that buried forever the famous Pink and White Terraces. A painting of the eruption through the eyes of a survivor was part of Ron's extensive collection of related material. Ron had two children, Glenda and Nigel.

**1955 THIRLWAY**, Professor Hugh Wilfrid Augustine, father of Sebastian Stephen Paul (1989), died 13 October 2019, aged eighty-two. After Bradfield College, Hugh read Classics (Minor Scholar) and Law, coxed for the LMBC, and completed an LLB. Following work as a solicitor in Cambridge, he moved to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, becoming Secretary, First Secretary and, on three occasions, Principal Legal Secretary. Hugh was also Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva. In a distinguished career, Hugh was Visiting Fellow or Professor in Cambridge, Leiden, Geneva, Bristol, Shanghai and Wuhan, and was awarded Docteur en Droit (Nancy) and LLD (Cambridge). He also published monumental books, book chapters and many articles on the International Court of Justice and International Law. Recreational interests included music, and, while at The Hague, Hugh conducted chamber ensembles, staged two operas, and composed orchestral and choral music. He also enjoyed poetry and limericks, and he held a pilot's licence. In 1962 Hugh married Christine, with whom he had Margaret, Frances, Clare, Sebastian and Cecilia. In later years, Hugh's partner was Elisabeth.

**1956 BRISCOE**, Dr Charles Edward, died 31 January 2019, aged eighty-one. After Eton College, Charles read Medical Sciences, played Chess, and completed a BChir and an MB. He was Medical Assistant in Anaesthetics, Norwich Hospital; Anaesthetic Registrar, United Cardiff Hospital; and Senior Registrar Anaesthetics, St Thomas' Hospital, London. Returning to Norwich as Associate Specialist in Anaesthetics, Charles served for nineteen years. He published on his medical speciality and on meteorology. Aged nine, Charles wrote to the Met Office to report a rare sighting of a blue moon, believed to have been caused by ash blown from a forest fire in Canada. Later he wrote about tornadoes in Norfolk, appeared on Anglia TV Weather and was known as 'keeper of the weather' in his village of Buxton. He also wrote about his Ebstein's Anomaly, a heart condition that can result in sudden death. In 1963 Charles married Avril, who died in 2018, and to whom he was grateful for taking 'a gamble on my life'. They had two sons, Timothy and Jonathan, and one daughter, Nicola, who died in 1992.

**1956 BROGAN**, Professor (Denis) Hugh Vercingetorix, uncle of Benedict Marius (1987), died 26 July 2019, aged eighty-three. After Repton School and National Service (Royal Artillery), Hugh read History (Major Scholar), winning a host of prizes and studentships. Following work for *The Economist* and a Harkness Fellowship to the United States, at St John's he was Research Fellow; College Lecturer, Supervisor and Director of Studies in History; Title B Fellow; and Assistant Lecturer in the Faculty of History. Moving to the University of

Essex, Hugh became R. A. Butler Professor of History, Research Professor and Emeritus Professor. In 2007 he was awarded a DUniv (Essex). Perhaps best known for his sweeping and elegant *History of the United States* (Longman 1985, Penguin 1990), Hugh also published on John F. Kennedy, Rudyard Kipling and Arthur Ransome. He wrote the magisterial biography, *Alexis de Tocqueville: Prophet of Democracy in the Age of Revolution* (2006). Revered for his good humour, warmth and wisdom, colleagues paid tribute to Hugh for making Essex his 'intellectual home', for his 'wonderfully humane and enlightening presence, much-loved by students and colleagues alike', and for enabling thousands of students to discover 'the joy of history through his teaching'.

**1956 HENRY**, Dr (Robert) Falconer, died 24 January 2019, aged eighty-two. After Daniel Stewart's College, Edinburgh, and the University of Edinburgh, Falconer studied for a PhD at St John's in Mechanical Sciences. He then became a Research Fellow at Caius College. In 1964 Falconer moved to Canada, where he enjoyed a career as an oceanographer, his appointments including Associate Research Officer at the National Research Council of Canada and Research Scientist at the Institute of Ocean Sciences, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, British Columbia. Later, Falconer was Senior Research Associate at the National Tidal Facility, The Flinders University of South Australia. He published in numerous journals and was co-developer of a software package, TriGrid, an automatic modelling system for building triangular grids for use by oceanic modellers. A kind, intelligent

and practical man, Falconer was an avid reader, an engaging conversationalist, a keen photographer and a lifelong beekeeper. He travelled widely and had friends in many countries. Falconer married Gloria, a New Zealander, who survived him. They had two daughters, Karen and Sandra.

**1956 KABELL**, Terence (Terry) Colin, son of Alfred Colin Maher (1924), died 21 September 2019, aged eighty-four. After childhood in Rhodesia, Dulwich College and National Service (Royal Engineers), Terry read Mechanical Sciences and rowed for the LMBC. Returning to Rhodesia, from 1961 to 2002 he worked for what became the Ministry of Water Development. As Deputy Director, Designs, Terry designed large dams, many incorporating his trademark drop inlet spillways, as well as numerous smaller dams and canals. Renowned for his mentoring of young engineers, patience and dry wit, Terry served as Vice-President, Africa and Australasia, of the International Commission on Large Dams. A Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, and of the



Terry Kabell (1956)

Institution of Engineers, Zimbabwe, Terry was a member of the Dam Safety Panel for the Kariba Dam and of various review panels. He was appointed Member of the Legion of Merit, Rhodesia, and in retirement he undertook consultancy in the Zimbabwe region. Recreational interests included family pursuits, squash, reading, Scrabble, music and the outdoors. In 1959 Terry married Sheila, who survived him. They had four children, Peter, Caroline, Liz and Sarah.

**1956 RICHMOND**, Thomas Albert, died 17 November 2019, aged eighty-four. After Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall, and National Service (RAF), Thomas read English. He taught in the Birmingham area throughout his career, and he met Mary, his partner of forty years, through teaching. In 1981 he was awarded an MSc by the University of Aston. A talented pianist, Thomas is remembered by friends for his determined views on piano tuning and a range of topics, and for his enjoyment of holidaying in the New Forest with Mary, who survived him.

**1957 HANKINSON**, Gerard Stephen, died 5 March 2019, aged eighty-seven. After Salesian College, Battersea, and Norwood Technical College, Gerard read Moral Sciences and was awarded a Strathcona Studentship. His career was in the University's General Board of the Faculties, as Administrative Assistant (1962–73) and Assistant Registrar (1973–88), where he was affectionately known as 'Hank'. James Wright, a Johnian and former Secretary General of the Faculties, referred

to ‘sharing a belief in the traditional way of administering (not “managing”) the University and its staff’. Graham Allen, former Deputy Secretary General of the Faculties and currently Vice-President of Wolfson College, said that ‘Hank was a well read and affable colleague.’

**1957 MACLAREN**, Antony John Shaw, son of Archibald Shaw (1921), died 1 March 2019, aged eighty-one. After Rugby School, Antony read Law, was Junior Treasurer of the College Law Society and rowed for the LMBC. After a brief employment as a solicitor with Ashurst Morris Crisp, Antony became Partner with Thomas Eggan & Son, where he worked for twenty-four years. In 1972 Antony married Gabrielle, who survived him. They had two sons, Angus and Robert, and two daughters, Louise and Elisabeth.

**1957 TAYLOR**, Dr Brian, died 5 January 2018, aged seventy-nine. After Latymer Upper School, Brian read Natural Sciences as an Exhibitioner, played Rugby and rowed in the LMBC Second Boat. In 1960 he was awarded a College Prize for achievement in Part II, a Hutchinson Studentship and a Scholarship. Brian then completed an MASc at the University of Toronto before spending three years as a Research Investigator at the Alcan Aluminium Company, Kingston, Ontario. Moving to the USA, he studied for a PhD at Brown University. The major part of Brian’s career was as a Development Engineer with the General Motors Corporation in Warren, Michigan, where he remained for thirty-four years. Brian’s recreational interests were gardening,

photography, sport, travel and culture. Brian had two sons, Paul and Eric. In 2001 in Las Vegas he married Sharon, who survived him.

**1958 BUTTREY**, Dr John Moulton, died 17 December 2019, aged eighty-eight. After Fort Street High School, Sydney, Australia, John read Music (Choral Scholar), was Junior Treasurer of the Musical Society, performed solo for the University Music Club, singing Schumann, Mahler and Britten, and completed a MusB and a PhD on seventeenth-century English opera. Music-historical research remained a lifelong interest. In Lent term 1981 John returned as a Schoolteacher Fellow Commoner. His career was as a professional musician. Lay Vicar at Westminster Abbey (1964–91), other appointments were Tenor Lay Clerk, St Andrew’s Cathedral, Sydney; Lay Clerk, Winchester Cathedral; Tenor, Deller Consort; Tenor, St Paul’s Cathedral Choir; and Tenor, The Purcell Choir and Consort. John was involved in many recordings, often contributing scholarly liner notes. He was in demand as a soloist, including roles as Evangelist in Passions, and composed settings of preces and responses, canticles, anthems, and descants to hymns. John’s publications included *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Herbert Howells* (revised, OUP, 1979); *Te Deum Laudamus by Herbert Howells* (Novello & Co., 1991); and articles on Purcell, Elgar and Howells.

**1958 NEWMAN**, Dr William Maxwell, son of Professor Maxwell Hermann Alexander (1915, Fellow 1923–45), brother of Edward (1954), stepbrother of Sir Roger Penrose (1952, Honorary Fellow and former Fellow),

died 11 June 2019, aged eighty. After Cambridgeshire High School for Boys and Manchester Grammar School, William read Mechanical Sciences (Minor Scholar). His career was as a computer scientist and consultant, appointments including Assistant Professor at the University of Utah and at the University of California, Irvine; Research Staff, Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, California; Research Manager, Logica; Assistant Director, Alvey Directorate, Department of Trade and Industry; and Principal Scientist, Xerox European Research Centre, Cambridge. William was also Visiting Professor at the University of London. A pioneer in computer graphics, human-computer interaction, PCs and local networks, he published widely, including articles on family history, and (with Rob Sproull) wrote *Principles of Interactive Computer Graphics*, the first major text on this subject. A kindly man, William brought wisdom, insight and fresh perspectives to both teaching and research. William was married twice: first to Karmen, with whom he had Damien and Chantal; and second to Anikó, from whom he gained two stepchildren, Alice and Mathew.

**1958 SAUNDERS**, John Herbert George, died 25 April 2019, aged eighty-one. After Christ's Hospital, Horsham, and the Perse School, Cambridge, John read Archaeology and Anthropology and was a committee member of the University Archaeological Society. He also played Badminton, Rugby, Squash, Tennis and Table Tennis for the College, and captained the College and University Swimming and Water Polo Teams. An accomplished trumpeter, John's

National Service included a spell as Sergeant of the Guard at the Tower of London. His career was primarily in management of the gas industry, much of it with British Gas, including spells in Leeds and Newcastle upon Tyne. For a short time, John was also Deputy General Manager at Heffers in Cambridge. A keen angler and angling correspondent, John was Secretary and President, Northumberland Branch of the Salmon and Trout Association; Committee Member, River Tyne Improvement Association; and Member, Environment Agency Fisheries Forum. A keen advocate of mini rugby, John's lifelong interest in the sport resulted in roles as President of both Tynedale RFC and Northumberland Rugby Union. In 1961 John married Fay, who survived him. They had twins, Edward and Claire.

**1958 STEVENSON**, James Falconer, son of James (1920), brother of Mark Maclaren (1962), uncle of Sophie Mack Smith (1983), died 6 November 2019, aged eighty-one. After Marlborough College, James read Natural Sciences (Minor Scholar). His career was primarily as an educational psychologist, working in London for many years. For a time, he was also a consultant psychologist. In 2000 James added to his qualifications and was awarded an MSc degree by the University. James married Jacqueline, who survived him. They had three children, Heloise, James and Rupert.

**1958 WILLIAMS**, Professor Frederic (Fred) Ward, father of David Ward (1988), died 23 April 2019, aged seventy-nine. After Shrewsbury School, Fred read Mechanical

Sciences (Scholar), won College Prizes and rowed for the LMBC. During a distinguished academic career, which included the award of a Cambridge ScD, Fred enjoyed a number of major appointments: Lecturer in Civil Engineering, Ahmadu University, Nigeria; Lecturer in Civil Engineering, University of Birmingham, where he jointly created the Wittrick-Williams algorithm; Professor in Civil Engineering, Institute of Science and Technology, University of Wales; Head, Division of Structural Engineering, University of Wales, Cardiff; Professor, Department of Building and Construction, City University of Hong Kong; and Distinguished Research Professor, University of Cardiff. Fred was also consultant to NASA and British Aerospace, Founder and Chairman of the Cardiff Advanced Chinese Engineering Centre, and Guest Professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and at the University of Science and Technology of China. He authored 276 papers. From 1994 to 2000 Fred was Secretary, Llanishen and Lisvane Council of Churches. Fred was married twice: first, in 1964, to Jessie, who predeceased him; and second to Anne, who survived him. Fred had two sons, Frederic and David.

**1959 EARDLEY**, Graham Alexander, died 12 July 2019, aged seventy-nine. After Newcastle High School, Graham read Modern and Medieval Languages. He lectured at Keele University for a short time, then for most of his career taught languages in secondary education in Staffordshire and, later, in Cumbria. He was an accomplished organist and a committed Christian, described by those close to him as 'A truly

special man who had an impact on so many people's lives.' Graham was survived by his wife Janet and his three children, John, Rachel and Matthew.

**1959 GLOVER**, Christopher (Chris) Whelpdale Merriam, cousin of Terrot Revealey (1888, Fellow), grandson of James Alison (1894), son of Colin Merriam (1930), nephew of Eric Charles (1935) and of Michael Alison (1940), died 29 July 2019, aged seventy-nine. After Oundle School and Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, Chris read Economics and Law. His working life began as an articled clerk, with a view to becoming a chartered accountant, an aspiration that was not fulfilled. Chris then moved into stockbroking, becoming a Member of the London Stock Exchange. Finally, he became a banker, and, as a result of the 'Big Bang' in 1986, joined the merchant bank Flemings. Chris's recreational interests included fly fishing. He became prominent in the local branch of the Salmon and Trout Association, as well as fishing for salmon in Scotland and Ireland. He also enjoyed cruising in the Mediterranean and around South America, sailing round the Horn, through the Panama Canal and heading back to the UK via the Caribbean. In 1963 Chris married Elizabeth, who survived him. They had two children, Fiona and Charles.

**1959 GRIGGS**, David, died 31 December 2017, aged seventy-seven. After Bede Grammar School, Sunderland, David read Classics and Law. After five years working in the UK for Legal and General Assurance Company, London, Consett Iron and

Steel, County Durham, and John Lewis Partnership, Stevenage, he emigrated to Canada. There David became a dedicated public servant, working for thirty years for the Federal Civil Service, first in Ottawa and then in Vancouver. Although a modest man, David found great personal satisfaction in his family and recreational accomplishments. He was a devoted husband, father and son; a lifelong jazz musician and aficionado, with a particular liking for Gerry Mulligan; a talented photographer and rugby player; an avid reader and deep thinker, who appreciated fine invective and absurd humour; an animal and nature lover; and a connoisseur of single malt. David married Christine, whom he met in Cambridge. She was the love of his life and survived him, along with their four children, John, Jeremy, Alison and Penelope.

**1959 WICKEN**, Professor Anthony (Tony) John, died 3 October 2017, aged eighty-six. After the University of Cape Town (BSc, PhD), Tony read Natural Sciences and was awarded a Wright's Prize and a Scholarship. Following a Senior Research Fellowship at the University of Newcastle and a Lectureship at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, Tony pursued an academic career at the University of New South Wales, Australia, for over fifty years. His initial appointment was as Senior Lecturer in Microbiology, with progressions to Associate Professor, Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Biological and Behavioural Sciences, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), and Emeritus Professor of Microbiology. Tony was President and Honorary Life Member

of the Australian Society for Microbiology; President of the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies; and Director of the University of New South Wales Union. He was proud of his involvement in the Aboriginal Education Program and the Australian Defence Force Academy. Tony published extensively on the interaction between microbiological surfaces and their environment, establishing an international reputation for the quality of his research.

**1959 WYMAN**, Howard John, died 30 August 2019, aged eighty. After Bablake School, Coventry, Howard read Mechanical Sciences and played for the Rugby First Team (Colours) and for the University. His career involved a number of engineering-related appointments: Chief Engineer, Vehicle Evaluation, Coventry; Field Engineer, Hewlett Packard, Winnersh; Director, Advanced Systems, GKN Technology Ltd, Wolverhampton; Computer-aided Engineering Director, Austin Rover Ltd; Operations Director, Press and Tooling, Rover Ltd, Swindon; and Operations Director, Aerostructures Ltd, Hamble. Building on his sporting reputation at Cambridge, Howard played more than two hundred games for Coventry RFC and also represented Warwickshire. He joined a distinguished line of players who wore the number two jersey for Coventry, his immediate predecessor being England international Bert Godwin. Although by modern standards he was relatively small for the position of hooker, Howard more than compensated through his exceptional mobility and lightning strike at set scrums. In 1963 Howard married Christine, who survived him. They had three children, Nicola, Marian and Neal.

**1960 HUSSEY**, Ian Redmond, died 17 December 2018, aged seventy-seven. After Trinity School of John Whitgift, Croydon, Ian read Natural Sciences. His career was at Skinners Dog Food until he took early retirement because of ill health. Ian and his wife, Gail, had many shared interests. Gail bred Dalmatians and Norwegian Buhunds, and she and Ian would travel to shows in their motor home. While Gail was judging, including at Crufts, Ian would watch and chat with other spectators. Another joint interest was the East Anglian Air Ambulance, their involvement prompted in 2004 by an appeal for funds to build a helipad at West Suffolk Hospital. Their enjoyment of cruising was highlighted in 2013 when an episode of the BBC2 programme, *The Cruise: A Life at Sea*, featured their Golden Wedding and the renewal of their wedding vows. Ian married Gail in 1963. She survived him but died in January 2020. They had two children, Elizabeth and Keith.

**1960 McMUNN**, John Hetherington, known as Jock, died 25 November 2018, aged seventy-nine. After Dumfries Academy and the University of Glasgow, Jock was awarded a Scholarship by the Department of Agriculture for Scotland and studied for a Diploma in Agriculture at St John's. He then became Warden and Lecturer at Lancashire College of Agriculture before moving to Fisons Fertilisers, where Jock was successively Technical Sales Representative, Wholesale Representative and Sales Manager for the North of Scotland. In 1969 Jock was appointed to Nottinghamshire College of Agriculture, later subsumed into

Nottingham Polytechnic and Nottingham Trent University. He remained for twenty-five years and became Head of Department. Jock then ran his own consultancy business and later became a Director at Andy McMunn Crop Protection. He was awarded the Agricultural Medal by the College of Agriculture, Auchincruive, Ayr. Jock was married to Jackie. They had four sons, Andy, Ian, Peter and Simon. A Service of Thanksgiving for Jock's life was held in Southwell Minster.

**1960 SANDEMAN**, Professor (Ronald) John, died 13 July 2019, aged ninety. John came to St John's for a PhD in Engineering after attending Norwood High School, Adelaide; the University of Adelaide; the Long Range Weapons Establishment, Woomera; and the Aeronautical Research Laboratories, Melbourne; and after completing an MSc (Melbourne). Returning to Australia, he was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Physics, Australian National University, Canberra. Subsequent positions included Deputy Dean, Faculty of Science, and Head of the Department of Physics, with a personal Chair. One of Australia's leaders in the search for gravitational waves, John's specialist skills enabled research into high temperature plasma physics and shock boundaries for the new space shuttle's re-entry. He published authoritatively, was Visiting Professor at Harvard and Zurich, and was much in demand by learned societies and committees. John helped establish and chaired the National Science Summer School, earning the Order of Australia Medal for services to education and a Vocational Excellence Award from the Rotary Club of Ginninderra.

In later years he became concerned about environmental issues and sustainability. In 1952 John married Kath, who survived him. They had four children, Mark, Robert, Helen and Ruth.

**1960 WOOD**, Dr Jeffrey (Jeff) Thomas, died 22 April 2019, aged seventy-nine. After King Edward's School, Bath, Jeff read Mathematics, followed by an MSc (Wales) and a PhD (Birmingham) in Statistics. He then worked at the National Vegetable Research Station, Wellesbourne, before emigrating to Australia. There he became an applied statistician of considerable stature, making significant contributions to biological and ecological research at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation; the Australian National University (ANU), Canberra; Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga; and in the ANU's Conservation and Landscape Ecology Program, Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, ending his career as Visiting Fellow. Recognised with awards by colleagues, who found him generous and good humoured, Jeff was a committee member of the Birmingham Local Group, Royal Statistical Society; President of the Australasian Region, International Biometric Society; National Treasurer, Statistical Society of Australia; and beta tester for the Genstat statistics package. He published prolifically. In 1968 Jeff married Jenny, who survived him. They had two children, Caroline and Stephen.

**1962 STAUDER**, Dr Jack Richard, died 3 October 2017, aged eighty-six. After Harvard College, Jack read Archaeology and Anthropology on a Marshall Scholarship,

followed by a PhD and a book, the research for which involved living – together with his then wife, Wunderley, whom he married in 1964 and divorced in 1974 – with the Majangir tribal people of south-western Ethiopia. During his time in Cambridge, Jack was Secretary of Americans in Cambridge Against the War in Vietnam. Returning to the United States, Jack taught Social Anthropology at Harvard. His course, *Radical Perspectives in Social Change*, was very popular. Jack then taught at Northeastern University before moving to the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, where he remained for over forty years as Professor of Sociology and Anthropology. A dedicated and serious teacher, Jack enjoyed working with each generation of students. His lifelong love of travel took him to all fifty states and to over one hundred countries, although he avoided tourist sites, preferring to interact with local people and their culture. Jack was survived by his two sons, Sam and Jeff.

**1963 STONE**, (Alan) Martin, died 14 December 2015 aged seventy-four. Born in New South Wales, Australia, after The Scots College, Bellevue Hill, and the University of Sydney, Martin read Classics at St John's (Commonwealth Scholar). He then returned to Australia, where for thirty-seven years he was Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer in Ancient History in the Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Sydney. Although jointly responsible for a higher-level course on Athenian Democracy, Martin's major contribution to classical scholarship involved the Roman Republic. The relatively small number of his publications, notably on the Sullan senate, the Optimates, the Cardinal

Virtues and Tiberius Gracchus, did not do justice to his profound influence. Martin's obituary in *The Australasian Society for Classical Studies Newsletter* (April 2016) referred to students experiencing a 'deeply loving supervisory blowtorch' and colleagues admiring Martin's 'incisive analysis,' 'seeming omniscience' and 'Socratic gad-fly' interrogations of their latest work. Martin was married to Jennifer, who predeceased him. They had three sons, Michael, Andrew and Rob.

**1964 HARRIS**, Anthony (Tony), died 21 June 2019, aged seventy-three. After King's School, Rochester, Tony read Law and then completed an LLB. He was awarded a Squire Scholarship by the University (1964) and a Travers Smith Scholarship by the Council of the Law Society (1969). Tony's long career was as a solicitor, including qualification as a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner. He worked in the South and West of England as a partner with Church Adams Tatham, Laytons, Thring Townsend, and Thring Townsend Lee & Pembertons. He was also a Director of the Bath Investment and Building Society and an Independent Lay Chair, NHS Complaints. Tony was survived by his third wife, Katherine. He had two children, Michael and Emily.

**1964 HATTON-ELLIS**, Dr Gerald Willmott, son of Alfred Willmott Balfour (1920), died 17 July 2019, aged seventy-three. After Blundell's School, Tiverton, Gerald read Natural Sciences and Medicine, completing a BChir in 1970 and an MB in 1971. During his long medical career, Gerald worked in Child Health and Paediatric Audiology in

the South West Peninsula Deanery, and in Community Child Health, Torbay. Gerald was married to Gerda, who survived him.

**1965 SAINSBURY**, Professor John Albert, died 14 November 2017, aged seventy-one. After Cowbridge Grammar School, John read Geography and History. Following his PhD at McGill University, John's career was primarily in Canada, although his academic work also took him to Brown University and to the American University, Cairo. For a time, John was a journalist, writing for the *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *Toronto Star*, *Ottawa Citizen* and *National Examiner*. The culmination of John's career was his appointment as Professor of History (1990–2014) at Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario. As department Chair, the first-ever Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research for the Faculty of Humanities, and a Brock Senator, John was a powerful and persuasive voice, highly respected by colleagues and students. He exuded imagination, drive, erudition, wit and warmth. John's first book, *Disaffected Patriots* (1987), made a major contribution to research on English sympathisers of the American Revolution. His second book, *John Wilkes: The Lives of a Libertine* (2006), also received high praise. John was married to Lisa, who predeceased him. They had two sons, Edward and Ben.

**1966 BEDDOW**, Professor Michael, died 9 September 2019, aged seventy-one. After West Park Grammar School, St Helens, Michael read Modern and Medieval Languages (Scholar), later taking a PGCE and a PhD. He then became

Foundation Scholar at King Edward VII British-German Foundation, University of Tübingen; Fellow at Trinity Hall and University Assistant Lecturer in German; and Lecturer in German at King's College, London. From 1986 to 1998, Michael was Professor and Head of the Department of German at the University of Leeds. A gifted, witty and popular teacher, he successfully led curricular transformation and the introduction of modern technology to maintain standards while admitting students from more diverse backgrounds. Michael's publications included *The Fiction of Humanity* (1982); *Goethe's Faust: A Critical Guide* (1986); *Thomas Mann: Dr Faustus* (1994); and articles in learned journals. Finally, Michael became an IT consultant and web developer. His scholarship, intellectual brilliance and technical skills were widely admired, and his work included the *Anglo-Norman Dictionary*, the *Digital Dictionary of Buddhism* and the *CKJV-English Dictionary*. From 1993 to 2001 Michael was Vice-Chairman of Governors at Silcoates School, Wakefield. In 1976 Michael married Helena. They had one son, Andrew.

**1966 BENNETT**, Professor Grahame, died 16 December 2016, aged seventy-one. After Rutherford Grammar School and Newcastle University, Grahame completed a PhD in Mathematics. His career was at Indiana University, where successively he was Vaclav Hlavaty Research Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor of Mathematics (1979–2008) and Professor Emeritus. In addition to teaching and research, Grahame contributed generously

to committees. He was awarded a prestigious Sloan Research Fellowship, spent partly at the University of British Columbia; received several National Science Foundation grants; and won a Teaching Excellence Recognition Award. Grahame was invited to speak in the United States, Canada, Europe, South America and the Far East. He published over fifty high-quality papers. His major research interest was inequalities, achieving 'very deep and beautiful results'. A modest, highly intelligent man, Grahame was a considerable problem-solver and loved setting his children mathematical challenges. As a Tynesider, soccer was a passion. Grahame's brother, Colin, said, 'Grahame was a Geordie in Wonderland ... he shared his native wit with all around him, making the world a brighter place. Howay the Lad!' Grahame had three children, Julie, Gordie and Tracie.

**1966 COULSON**, Francis (Frank) Owen Harrison, nephew of Bernard William (Bill) Harrison (1930), brother of Charles Lewis Harrison (1960), cousin of Edward William Harrison (1973), father of Matilda Rosalind Wilding (2007), died 30 June 2019, aged seventy-two, while on holiday in Salzburg. After Westminster School, Frank read Modern and Medieval Languages and fenced for the University, winning a Half Blue. He formed lifelong passions for both the academic and the sporting aspects of his time in Cambridge. Frank's career was as a lawyer for the UK Civil Service. Frank was married to Carole, who survived him. They had two children, Oliver and Matilda.



Stephen Cleobury (1967)

**1967 CLEOBURY**, Sir Stephen, died 22 November 2019, aged seventy. After King's School, Worcester, Stephen read Music (Organ Scholar) and received a Larmor Award and the University's John Stewart of Rannoch Scholarship in Sacred Music. Celebrated as Director of Music and Organist at King's College (1982–2019), Stephen proudly commissioned new works for the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, and he created *Easter at King's*, resulting in many BBC broadcasts. Other positions were at Westminster Abbey; Westminster Cathedral; Cambridge University Musical Society, as Conductor, Chorus Director and Conductor Laureate; and BBC Singers, as Chief Conductor and Conductor Laureate. Stephen contributed generously to music colleges and societies, and to the recording of choral music. Honours included doctorates from Anglia Polytechnic University and York University; Lifetime Achievement in Choral Music, Worshipful

Company of Musicians; President of the Friends of Cathedral Music; a CBE; and a knighthood. Andrew Nethsingha eulogised: 'one of the giants of the choral music world'. Stephen married twice: first, in 1971, to Penny, with whom he had Suzannah and Laura; and second, in 2004, to Emma, with whom he had Olivia and Frances, and from whom he gained a stepdaughter, Alexandra. All survived him.

**1968 KENDALL**, James (Jim) Philip, died 9 August 2019, aged sixty-nine. After Tiffin School, Kingston upon Thames, Jim read Natural Sciences, hitchhiking to Istanbul in one vacation, before taking an MSc (Eng) at Imperial College. His career was with Hewlett Packard, where Jim was Research and Development Project Leader and then Manufacturing Engineering Section Manager, his technical expertise well respected by colleagues. Jim enjoyed his time at St John's, where he developed lifelong friendships and his musical and culinary interests. He lived most of his adult life in Scotland, appreciating the beauty of



Jim Kendall (1968)

the landscape, coastline, skies and wildlife. Jim also had a great zest for family life, and he didn't allow the tragic loss of two much-loved wives to subdue the joy, warmth and laughter of his relationships with his family and friends, or to impact the good conversation, food and drink that they enjoyed together. Jim was married three times: first, in 1982, to Meg, who died in 2001, and with whom he had Jane and Anne; second, in 2011, to Helen, who died in 2015, and from whom he gained two stepsons, Charlie and Laurie; and third to Marion, who survived him.

**1968 MONTAGNON**, Peter James, grandnephew of Arthur (1912), son of Philip Edward (1936), brother of Christopher Edward (1962) and of Timothy John (1965), died 25 June 2019, aged sixty-nine. After St Paul's School, Peter read Modern and Medieval Languages. His career was in financial journalism, investment and business ethics. Appointments included Reuters, with assignments in Hong Kong, Zurich and Washington, and the *Financial Times*, including World Trade Editor and Asia Editor; Director of Investment Affairs, Association of British Insurers, and Senior Investment Advisor, Financial Reporting Council; and Associate Director, Institute of Business Ethics. Peter was also in demand as a board member with financial institutions such as the International Corporate Governance Network; the Royal Institute of International Affairs; and Norges Bank Investment Management. He was Visiting Professor of Corporate Governance at the Cass Business School. Highly respected by colleagues for his wide experience,

wisdom, integrity and wit, Peter encouraged shareholders to exercise their rights and to demand good governance. He was contributing editor to *European Competition Policy* (1990). In 1973 Peter married Isabel, who survived him. They had two children, Tamsyn and Giles.

**1970 LEWIS**, The Very Revd John Thomas, died 18 February 2019, aged seventy-one. After Duffryn Grammar School, Port Talbot, and Jesus College, Oxford (Mathematics, Scholar), John read Theology, played Football and rowed for the LMBC. Following Westcott House, he served his curacy in the parishes of Whitchurch and Lisvane, after which John became Chaplain to the University of Cardiff and Warden of Ordinands. He then served in Swansea and Brecon, and Monmouth dioceses, before becoming Dean of Llandaff (2000–12). John was closely involved in the selection and nurturing of trainee priests, most notably as Secretary to the Provincial Selection Panel and Board of the Church of Wales. Highly intelligent, John was an able and serious preacher. Many spoke of his skill as a teacher, warmth as a pastor and ability to relate to the young. As Dean, John was innovative and embraced a liberal theology, a generous and questioning faith, and support for overseas missions and aid. One of his final acts was to host a visit from the Queen celebrating her Diamond Jubilee. In 1976 John married Cynthia, who survived him. They had two sons, James and Andrew.

**1970 von TUNZELMANN**, Professor George Nicholas (Nick), died 28 May 2019, aged seventy-five. After school and

university in Christchurch, New Zealand, and Nuffield College, Oxford, Nick came to St John's as a Fellow (1970–84) and Director of Studies for Economics. He involved himself in the wider life of the College, becoming an Eagle and Senior Treasurer of the Field Clubs, as well as holding University Lectureships. Nick then moved to the University of Sussex, became Professor and Director of the Economics of Science and Technology at the Science Policy Research Unit, and changed emphasis from classical economic history to the economics of innovation, in which he developed an international reputation. Nick published prolifically and wrote *Steam Power and British Industrialization to 1860* and *Technology and Industrial Progress: The Foundations of Economic Growth*. Colleagues and students valued Nick's generosity and empathy towards them. In his leisure time, Nick was the first person to climb the North Ridge of Mount Sefton (3,151 metres), one of the most dangerous climbs in the New Zealand Southern Alps. In 1975 Nick married Carol, who survived him. They had two daughters, Alexandra and Eugénie.

**1972 LLOYD**, Professor Noel Glynn, died 7 June 2019, aged seventy-two. After Queens' College, Cambridge, BA, MA, PhD (Rayleigh Prize), Noel was Research Fellow at St John's. An eminent mathematician, with interests in nonlinear analysis and dynamical systems, Noel published *Degree Theory* (1978) and numerous articles. At the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, Noel was Head of the Mathematics Department; Dean of Science; Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Registrar and Secretary; Vice-Chancellor and Principal;

Distinguished Research Professor; and Professor Emeritus. He was also Chair of Education Wales; Vice-President, Universities UK; and board member of the Universities and Colleges Employers' Association and of the Quality Assurance Agency. Noel was awarded a CBE (2010) and was appointed Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales (2011) and Member of the Gorsedd of Bards (2012). An accomplished organist, he was a Fellow of Trinity College of Music, London. Retirement appointments included reviewing Welsh devolution; the Judicial Appointments Commission; and Chair of Fair Trade Wales and of the Church and Society Board, Presbyterian Church of Wales. On Noel's death, tributes referred to 'his intellect, integrity, wisdom, modesty, generosity and compassion for others'. In 1970 Noel married Dilys, who survived him. They had two children, Hywel and Carys.

**1972 ODOM**, Benjamin (Ben) William, brother of Nicholas John (1968), died 20 May 2019, aged sixty-five. After Shrewsbury School, Ben read Music (Choral Scholar) and rowed for the LMBC. Remembered as 'a brilliant musician, very good looking, and with a beautiful baritone voice', he became Manager of Church's Shoes in Burlington Arcade, combining this with his singing career. Ben sang with the Monteverdi Choir and The Sixteen, and performed at the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey. He directed children's and adult choirs, such as the Marlowe Singers, served as an ABRSM examiner, and played as accompanist and organist, much loved by his pupils. In 1975 Ben married Judith, who sadly died soon after the birth of their fourth child, Rebecca.

Ben cared for her and for their other three children, Helen, Juliet and Jonathan, with great fortitude and devotion. In 1998 Ben married Janet, with whom he had Jemima and Elliott. At Ben's funeral, Tallis's *If Ye Love Me* was sung by former Choral Scholars, and Richard Suart sang Brahms's *Wiegenlied*. A friend wrote that Ben was 'kind, thoughtful and sensitive ... always fun to be with ... highly intelligent and talented'.

**1972 TAYLOR**, Philip (Phil) Gordon, died 15 October 2019, aged sixty-five. After Reading Grammar School, where he was Head Boy, Phil read Natural Sciences as an Exhibitioner and was College representative for the Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union. Phil had a passion for computing, and joined Plessey Communications after graduation. In 1978 he moved to Digital Equipment Company Ltd, where he stayed until he and his wife, Karen, established their own management and IT consultancy, Profound Solutions Ltd, providing services to a range of corporate clients. Phil was a committed Christian from an early age and was well-known and well-respected in churches in the Reading area. He played an active part in the Faith in Business community based at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. Phil's family remember him as a devoted family man, who was financially astute, intellectual and always eager to help increase the knowledge and understanding of everyone around him. Phil was a keen photographer and something of a foodie, and he also attempted poetry. In 1978 Phil married Karen, who survived him. They had two sons, Stephen and Michael. When

in recent years Phil's health deteriorated, Karen became his primary carer.

**1974 RILEY**, David, died August 2019, aged sixty-four. David read History at St John's after attending West Derby Comprehensive School, where he was the first pupil from the school to come to Cambridge; the London Bible College, where he was awarded a Certificate in Christian Studies; and the Open University, where he completed a Diploma and a Master's degree in Classical Studies. Following a decade as an accountant, he entered the teaching profession as Assistant Co-ordinator for GNVQ Business at John Henry Newman School, Stevenage, moving on to Cressex School, High Wycombe. David's final post before retirement was as Sixth Form Tutor and Teacher of Business Studies, Economics, General Studies, and History at Sir Thomas Rich's School, Gloucester. In retirement, David was researching the naval history of the Second World War, including the battles of the Coral Sea, Midway, Guadalcanal and Leyte Gulf, using the resources available at the University Library. He was a member of several Church of England Synods. In 2002 David married Anne, who survived him.

**1975 STANHILL**, Dr Gerald, uncle of David Bernard (1979), died 3 May 2019, aged ninety. After John Bright Grammar School, Llandudno, Hertfordshire Institute of Agriculture, and the University of Reading, where he completed a first degree and a doctorate, Gerald worked as Scientific Officer at the Irrigation Department, National Vegetable Research Station, Agricultural Research Council. In 1958 he

moved to Israel to become Research Officer in the Irrigation Division (1958–65), and then Head of the Agricultural Meteorology Division (1965–77) at the Institute of Soils and Water, National and University Institute of Agriculture, Rehovot. Gerald was an Overseas Visiting Fellow at St John's 1975/6, returning to Israel to hold senior posts at professorial level, including ones with the Agricultural Research Organisation, as well as appointments in the United States, Canada and Australia. In 1993–94 Gerald came back to Cambridge as Visiting Researcher at the Scott Polar Research Institute. He was much in demand internationally as researcher, editor and author of scientific publications concerned with agriculture. In 1963 Gerald married Rachel, who survived him. They had three children, David, Michal and Ariel.

**1976 BRODZKI**, Waclaw Wiktor, died 13 May 2019, aged sixty-two. After St Albans School and the Perse School, Cambridge, Waclaw read Mathematics as an Exhibitioner. He then worked as a computer programmer at Cambridge University Press. Waclaw was born into the Polish Catholic community, which his relatives regarded as their own extended family. An intelligent and interesting person who was willing to share his knowledge, Waclaw was generous in helping others, including tutoring students before examinations and assisting and visiting, with his accordion, people in need. He enjoyed the company of his nieces and nephew, who also appreciated his arrival with a bag of tricks, activities and juggling balls, accompanied by singing, on Christmas Eve. Waclaw's family said that

he was 'a wonderful son, brother, uncle and good friend. He was a clever mathematician, a talented musician, singer and band player, a good laugh ... and a really wonderful person. He was much respected and loved, and he will be greatly missed'.

**1977 WINDSOR-PLYDELL**, John Bernard, died 30 September 2018, aged ninety-six. After Salford Grammar School, John joined the RAF, serving during the Second World War and travelling all over the world. In 1977 he came to St John's and spent two years studying for a Diploma in Historical Studies and a Diploma in Legal Studies. John was a supporter of the Bournemouth homeless charity, Hope for Food, donating £35,000 for the purchase of a mobile shower for use by homeless people while their clothes were also being washed. He spent his last years at the Lindsay Bupa Care Home in Poole, where he was regarded with affection by other residents and by staff. John was married to Annis, who predeceased him.

**1978 SMITH**, Neil Harold Kirkpatrick, died 25 July 2019, aged sixty. After Royal Belfast Academical Institution, Neil read Natural Sciences and rowed for the LMBC and the University. His career was as a petroleum engineer in Europe and Australia. Neil's employers included BP Exploration, London; Maersk Olie og Gas, Copenhagen; Reservoir Management Ltd, Aberdeen; PGS Reservoir, Weybridge; Senergy, Aberdeen; and Woodside Energy, Perth, Australia's largest independent oil and gas company, to which Neil moved in 2008. Neil also continued his elite commitment to rowing. Having been a member of Thames Tradesmen's Rowing

Club and Aberdeen Boat Club, he was a huge contributor to Perth's ANA Rowing Club, serving on the Club Committee and spending many hours as Vice-Captain (Maintenance) responsible for the club's boat fleet. Neil was also a passionate and active Director on the Board of Rowing Western Australia, with special responsibility as Director Regattas. His enduring legacy will be improvements to the regatta calendar and programme, as well as his passion for the participation of schools in rowing. In 1988 Neil married Alison, who survived him. They had four children, Calum, Finn, Dan and Lachlan.



John Burrows (1979)

**1979 BURROWS**, Professor John Frederick, died 15 December 2019, aged ninety-one. After Scots College and the University of Sydney, John became a teacher, later completing an MA (Sydney) in English Literature and a PhD (London). Following a lectureship at the University of Sydney, John led the English Department at the University

of Newcastle, New South Wales, and became Dean of the Faculty of Arts. He created a new field of study, computational stylistics, and became Founding Director of the Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing, studying the texts of Jane Austen, Henry James, E. M. Forster and Virginia Woolf. His *Computation into Criticism* (Oxford, 1987) is still studied. In 1979–80 John was at St John's for his Commonwealth Research Fellowship and Honorary MA (Cantab), 'one of the greatest highlights of his long career'. Internationally distinguished, John received an Australian Centenary Medal (2001) and the International Busa Award for outstanding achievement in the application of information technology to humanistic research. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (2011). In 1954 John married Pamela, who predeceased him. They had three daughters, Catherine, Alison and Elizabeth.

**1980 HOLT**, Dr Sidney Joseph, died 22 December 2019, aged ninety-three. After Haberdashers' Aske's School, Sidney attended Reading University. He was an Overseas Visiting Scholar at St John's (1980–81). Kindly and charismatic, Sidney was a marine biologist relentlessly committed to conservation, and his mission became to save great whales from extinction. He co-authored *The Dynamics of Exploited Fish Populations*, establishing a world reputation. Sidney spent twenty-five years at the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, serving as Director of Fisheries Resources and Operations. He also spent time at UNESCO in Paris. One of the 'three wise men' advising the International



Sidney Holt (1980)

Whaling Commission (IWC), Sidney's scientific, communication and diplomatic skills converted the IWC from pro-hunting to conservation. He had a long association with the International Fund for Animal Welfare and also with Greenpeace. He published prolifically. Sidney's distinctions included: Officer, Royal Netherlands Golden Ark; Blue Planet Award; Global 500 Award; Gold Medal, World Wildlife Fund; Annual Award, American Wildlife Federation; and Chairs in California, Rhode Island and Malta, where he was Director, International Ocean Institute. With his former wife, Judy, Sidney had three sons, Timothy and Nicholas (both deceased) and George. Sidney's partner, Leslie, survived him.

**1981 NAYLOR**, Christopher (Chris) John, died 28 October 2019, aged fifty-seven. After Gillingham Technical High School, Chris read Natural Sciences, followed by a PGCE (Nottingham). He taught Biology at Cherwell School, Oxford, becoming Head of Department, before moving to Kuwait English School to teach Science. Chris's later career was in the charitable sector, primarily

at A Rocha, an international network of environmental organisations with a Christian ethos. He was co-Founder and Director of A Rocha Lebanon, where, with his wife Susanna, also a teacher, Chris was involved in habitat restoration at Aammiq Wetland. There he developed environmental activities for schools and helped to identify eleven new Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. He published *Postcards from the Middle East*. Chris then became Executive Director of A Rocha International and was visiting South Africa, seeking to establish new environmental partnerships, when he and Susanna were involved in a fatal car crash on the Swartkops Bridge, Port Elizabeth. Family and colleagues referred to Chris and Susanna as loving, generous, kind, courageous, inspiring and remarkable. Chris married Susanna in 1987. They had three children, Samuel, Chloe and Joshua.

**1982 TASKER**, Sarah Alexandra, died 15 May 2019, aged fifty-eight. After Orange Hill Senior High School and reading Chemistry at the University of Southampton, Sarah completed a PGCE, played for the Hockey First Team and rowed for the LMBC. She was a member of the Cambridge Union and of the University Explorers and Travellers Club, participating in an expedition to Norway. Her qualifications included a Certificate in Technical Writing (Northeastern University) and a Diploma in Law (London School of Management and Law). Sarah's career was primarily in education. She was a teacher, examiner, manager and administrator in schools and in higher education in the UK and in the United States, including MIT. Sarah worked

briefly in the private sector with John Lewis and Lloyds Bank Plc and for a time was Corporate Membership Secretary for the Cambridge Society for the Application of Research. Together with Patrick Henry Winston, Sarah edited *Artificial Intelligence at MIT: Expanding Frontiers, Volume 1* (MIT Press, 1990). Interested in campanology, Sarah was a member of the Ely Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers and of the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers, Eastern District.

**1983 MEHROTRA**, Professor Sri Ram, died 17 July 2019, aged eighty-eight. After KP Intermediate College, Allahabad, and the University of Allahabad, Sri Ram was Assistant Professor of History, University of Sagar. After a PhD (London), he became Lecturer in South Asian Politics, SOAS; Professor of History at Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (Hon DLit 2014, conferred by the Dalai Lama); and Nehru Professor of History, MD University, Rohtak. Sri Ram was also Visiting Professor, University of Wisconsin (1974), and Overseas Visiting Fellow at St John's (1983/4), a 'very fruitful' experience. He was an excellent teacher, devoted to his students, a dedicated researcher and a prolific writer. Books included *India and the Commonwealth* (1965), *Towards India's Freedom and Partition* (1979) and *A History of the Indian National Congress* (1995). In *The Mahatma and the Doctor* (2014), Sri Ram argued that Dr Pran Jivan Mehta, Gandhi's greatest friend and benefactor, first addressed Gandhi as Mahatma. Gentlemanly and kindly, Sri Ram fought legal battles in pursuit of academic improvement and filed

a public interest litigation to improve the drinking water in Shimla. In 1957 Sri Ram married Eva, who predeceased him.

**1984 SCHUEPPERT**, Michael Tehan, died 7 June 2019, aged fifty-three. Born in Oshawa, Ontario, and growing up in England, Michael attended Harrow School, after which he read Engineering and Architecture at St John's, regarding his involvement with the College affectionately and becoming a member of the Johnian Society of the USA. He later received an MBA from INSEAD in France, and, after being diagnosed with cancer, Michael was awarded a graduate certificate in Biomedical Informatics by Stanford University while learning as much as he could about cancer research. Michael started his career in consulting and saw the future of wireless communications working for Cable and Wireless based in London, where he focused on business development around the world. Cell phones were in their early days when Michael joined Crown Castle, which had just acquired the BBC transmission service in England. He moved to Houston in 2000 and helped Crown Castle grow to be the largest United States cellular tower company. In 1999 Michael married Janine, who survived him. They had three daughters, Lily, Amelia and Chloe.

**1985 DAVIS**, Robert Martin, brother of Charles Hector (1982), died 4 August 2019, aged fifty-three. After Wellington College, Robert read Natural Sciences. His first appointment was with Price Waterhouse Coopers, qualifying as a chartered accountant and involved with asset-backed

securities. Robert then joined Robert Fleming, working in corporate finance, followed by JP Morgan and Chase, where his particular expertise in mergers and acquisitions came to the fore, resulting in appointment as Head of European Mergers and Acquisitions at Nomura International. Robert was then Managing Director and Head of European Business at Avendus Capital before moving to Calculus Capital as Investment Director, responsible for the development of the company's portfolio of companies and building value. On his untimely death, colleagues paid tribute to Robert as 'wise, kind, warm, inspirational and a natural leader'. In 1997 Robert married Kathryn, who survived him. They had two daughters, Tamsin and Tara.

**1985 HOUGHTON**, Kirsten Annette, died 4 July 2019, aged fifty-three. After Gateway Sixth Form College, Leicester, Kirsten read Law and remembered her time at St John's with affection. Subsequently, she practised at the Bar in London for over fifteen years in two leading sets of commercial Chambers, appearing regularly as an advocate on behalf of corporate and private clients in the High Court and the Court of Appeal in cases concerned with commercial disputes, including shareholder issues. An experienced mediator and construction industry adjudicator, Kirsten was a member of the Nominet UK Panel of Experts for deciding .co.uk cybersquatting disputes. In 2004 she won the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' President's Prize for arbitration award writing. In later years Kirsten was a member of the Bar in the Cayman Islands, working as a Senior Associate at Campbells



Kirsten Houghton (1985)

Law Firm, and was a Barrister of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, British Virgin Islands. A kind and generous person, who was also an outstanding cook, at a tragically young age Kirsten was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. Kirsten was married to Andrew, who survived her.

**1990 INGLIS**, Professor Kenneth Stanley, died 1 December 2017, aged eighty-eight. After the University of Melbourne and an Oxford DPhil, Kenneth's distinguished career began at Adelaide University, the Australian National University, and the University of Papua New Guinea, where he was Professor of History and Vice-Chancellor. He returned to the Australian National University and was Visiting Professor at Harvard (1982) and Overseas Visiting Fellow at St John's (1990). Prolific publications included *Hospital and Community: A History of the Royal Melbourne Hospital* (1958); *Churches and the Working Classes in Victorian England*

(1963); *The Australian Colonists: An Exploration of Social History 1799–1870* (1974); *This is ABC: The Australian Broadcasting Commission 1932–38* (1983); and *Anzac Remembered: Selected Writings* (1998). Kenneth was lead editor of the *Bicentennial History of Australia*. An inspiring storyteller, revered by colleagues, Kenneth was committed to social justice, defending Jewish refugees and an Aboriginal man accused of murder. He was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia. Kenneth was married twice: first, in 1952, to Judy, who died in a car crash, leaving him with children Jamie, Kate and Louise; and second, in 1965, to Amirah, who predeceased him, and from whom he gained three stepchildren.



Arthur White (1992)

**1992 WHITE**, Arthur Noad, son of Dennis John (1961) and Cilla, died 14 April 2019, aged forty-four. After Banda School, Kenya, and Harrow School, Arthur read Natural Sciences, won Larmor and McAulay Awards, played Bridge and rowed for the LMBC. In 2000 he completed an MBA with Distinction at INSEAD. Arthur worked as a management consultant for Mercer and Oliver Wyman, specialising in finance and insurance services, and he became a Partner in 2007. All his life, Arthur read broadly and delighted in sharing the joy of learning with his family and wide range of friends. He was sociable and outgoing, and went out of his way to help those he met. Arthur was a skilful photographer, and he greatly enjoyed sailing and travel. Sadly, Arthur was vulnerable to depression when over-stressed, and he ended his own life. With the help of the charity Trees for Cities, his friends are planting a memorial woodland of 5,000 trees in west London. In 2001 Arthur married Jayne, who survived him with their two children, Fraser and Elizabeth.

**1996 DOWSON**, (Jonathan) Mark, died 16 February 2019, aged forty. After Outwood Grange School, Wakefield, and Wakefield College, Mark read Mathematics and Management Studies. A keen and diverse sportsman, he represented the College at Badminton, Darts, Football, Hockey, Squash and Table Tennis. Mark's career was in finance and business. His appointments included Assistant Manager, Deloitte and Touche

LLP; Systems Advisor, Mowlem Plc; Executive, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP; Finance Manager, IT, Bradford & Bingley Plc; and Chief Financial Officer, Oodle Car Finance. He was also a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. In 2003 Mark married Erin, who survived him.

**1998 GOH**, Dr Cheng Teik, father of Alvin (1997), died 17 March 2019, aged seventy-five. After St Xavier's Institution, Penang, Cheng Teik studied at Harvard, Oxford and Leiden. Following a Lectureship in History and International Relations, University of Malaya, he spent twenty-five years as an MP, standing unsuccessfully for the Presidency (1987) and becoming Deputy Minister of Land and Co-operative Development and Deputy Chief Minister, Penang. Cheng Teik's last twenty years were as a board member and Adjunct Professor at Sunway University. Cambridge connections were as a board member of the East Asia Institute and membership of St John's. Cheng Teik published profusely on politics, multiracialism and history; *The May Thirteenth Incident and Democracy in Malaysia* (OUP, 1971) warns of the dangers of extremism. He was President of the Harvard Club of Malaysia and of the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Malaysia; Life Member of the Malaysian Association for American Studies; and Vice-President, Badminton Association of Malaysia. Gentle, principled and calm, Cheng Teik was married to Winnie, who survived him. They had three children, Anthony, Alvin and Angeline.



Arthur Henderson (1998)

**1998 HENDERSON**, Arthur Smythe, died 4 December 2019, aged ninety-three. After Stamford School, Arthur trained as an architect and worked on the Harlow New Town Master Plan. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Yale University; worked in City Planning at the University of North Carolina; held a Government Fellowship in Community Planning at McGill University; and was Senior Planner

in the Aluminium Company of Canada. In Europe Arthur worked with Professor Max-Erich Feuchtinger in Stuttgart, learning German techniques for road design, and then as consultant to Sir Colin Buchanan's report, *Traffic in Towns*. He was also consultant to the British Airports Authority, British Steel, Greater London Council and the City of London, of which he was a Freeman. Arthur developed correct geometries for turning vehicles and was one of the inventors of the guided bus concept. A member of numerous transport organisations, Arthur owned several vintage buses. Later in life, at St John's, Arthur was awarded an MPhil for his thesis on Highway Curves and began a PhD. A member of the RNVR, Arthur also played the organ and was a member of the University Heraldic and Genealogical Society.

**2004 NÖRR**, Professor Dieter, died 3 October 2017, aged eighty-six. After the University of Munich, where he took first and second degrees in Law, and postdoctoral studies at the Universities of Heidelberg and Rome, Dieter enjoyed a distinguished academic career. Following the Chair of Roman and Civil Law at the University of Hamburg and an appointment as Professor of Roman Law at the University of Münster, Dieter was, from 1970 until 1999, Professor of Roman Law and Civil Law and Director of the Leopold Wenger Institute for Legal History and Papyrus Research at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. He held Emeritus status until his death, during which time Dieter was Overseas Visiting Scholar at St John's (Lent term, 2004). Dieter's research focus was

Roman Law and legal philosophy. An inspirational teacher who enriched the lives of students and colleagues, many of Dieter's doctoral students became professors in Germany and further afield. Dieter published prodigiously, received three honorary doctorates and was honoured as a member of many scholarly academies. He married Dorothea, who survived him.

**2010 PURDY**, Connor, died 14 October 2019, aged twenty-eight. After St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena, Connor read Modern and Medieval Languages. As the May Ball (2012) Drinks Officer, his budget was £45,000. Connor enjoyed using his organising, analytical, problem-solving and linguistic skills in high-pressure situations. He was Founder of Klubnacht, Cambridge, providing alternative music and flying in DJs from Miami, Detroit and Berlin. At PSD Bank, Germany, Connor analysed the bank's property assets, using data to report on housing investment opportunities. Following a spell of private tutoring, Connor became Strategy Consultant for AMR International, coordinating an intensive due diligence project for a potential \$50m investment in a financial data platform. He was then Head of Operations for EurOUT, responsible for organising Europe's major LGBT conference for top business school students. Finally, Connor was Sales and Marketing Executive, VITA Vodka. In 2018 the London Business School awarded him a Master's degree. Connor was survived by his parents, Lawrence and Catherine, his brothers, David and Michael, and his partner, Mitch. 



# SOCIETIES AND SPORTS

Photo: W2 celebrating  
after Lent Bumps



# Aquila taking flight

**Aquila is the College's first all-female *a cappella*, or unaccompanied, vocal singing group, formed in January 2018. Web and Internal Communications Officer Louise Hanzlik explains how it all began.**



Aquila on Kitchen Bridge, October 2019

In 2017 the Director of Music at St John's, Andrew Nethsingha, became Chair of the College Music Society. A recent survey of College members had revealed an appetite to make music at St John's, and the Society in particular, more inclusive and accessible. One of Andrew's ideas was to launch an all-female, secular singing group in College that would complement the all-male College Choir and the mixed-voice St John's Voices. He wanted the new vocal ensemble to be

open to undergraduate and postgraduate students, staff and Fellows, and to bring together a broad range of College members in a fun, relaxed environment. This initiative was financially backed by the College Annual Fund, which supports new and innovative projects every year that benefit St John's.

The next step was to find a director for the vocal group. Andrew approached composer,

singer and vocal coach Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, both of whose sons were at that time Choristers in the College Choir. Former Musical Director of the Grammy award-winning *a cappella* group The Swingles, Joanna has coached *a cappella* groups all over the world and has appeared as a judge on Sky One's *Sing: Ultimate A Cappella*. Andrew describes Joanna as 'one of the most talented, inspiring and experienced people in the world in this genre of music-making', and she was delighted to be asked to be founder and director of the College's first all-female *a cappella* group.


The group's first task was to come up with a name. They decided on Aquila, which is Latin for 'eagle', the symbol of St John's College. To be part of Aquila, no previous experience or sight-reading ability is required – just the desire to make music together as a group. Joanna records demo tracks of all the vocal lines so that the singers can practise their part between rehearsals and learn the songs by ear. She encourages a group mentality, with everyone communicating and consciously blending their voices. The group generally sings in three- or four-part harmony, but it has been known to sing in twelve parts.

Aquila sings a variety of musical styles – folk, gospel, jazz and pop – and although they are primarily an *a cappella* group, they also perform some pieces with piano or guitar accompaniment. The songs are generally written, arranged or performed by female composers or singers, such as Eva Cassidy, The Staves, The Wailin' Jennys and Sweet Honey in the Rock. The group also performs

Joanna's own compositions, including 'Give Us Grace', a Jane Austen prayer set to music, and 'Twenty-first-century Woman', a gospel-style song that made history by being the first recording session at London's famous Abbey Road Studios of a song written, conducted, sung, played, engineered, produced, mixed and mastered entirely by women.

There are currently eighteen members of Aquila, comprising members of staff, undergraduates and postgraduates. Fellows are also very welcome. Members come and go as students finish their studies or staff members change roles, but there is a small core who have been present from the start and have seen the group develop in confidence over the course of these two years.

Since it was launched, Aquila has performed in the Old Divinity School, the Chapel, the College Bar, and the Fitzwilliam Museum, and at the St John's May Ball and private dinners. The group has also sung on several occasions with the College Jazz Band, which was created at the same time as Aquila.

Andrew Nethsingha recently commented that 'Hearing and watching the inaugural concert of Aquila in March 2018 was one of the most enjoyable, rewarding experiences of my twelve years as Director of Music – simply joyous.' The fact that 'Aquila is now a central part of music-making in College', as Andrew put it, is a matter of celebration to all of us in the group and, we hope, well beyond. Long may it continue! 

# The Johnian Society

The Johnian Society was established in 1923 to ensure that alumni could keep in touch with one another and the College after graduation. All Johnians become members of the Society at the end of their first term, so we are one of the largest and most active alumni societies across the Cambridge colleges, with approximately 10,000 members.



Members of the Johnian Society dining at the German Gymnasium, March 2020

As a committee, we organised a wide range of social events this year, although sadly we had to postpone or cancel those planned for the second half of 2020 because of the coronavirus crisis. We also supported current students through travel grants and bursaries and donated £3,000 to these causes this year, funded by past endowments and from membership income. In addition, we represented alumni interests on various College committees.

This year, the Johnian Society was ably chaired by Mark Wells (1981), the former

Domestic Bursar of St John's, and had as its President Graham Spooner (1971), who has also enjoyed deep ties to the College for many years. Committee meetings take place every term and are attended by the Master and representatives from the College.

We are proud that our committee is truly reflective of the Johnian community. We have representatives from (almost) every decade of matriculation, ranging from 1957 to 2002, and the committee includes Johnians from a range of backgrounds, with a variety of career interests. Membership of

the committee is dynamic, and we try to elect two new committee members each year. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact the Chair, Mark Wells:

[mark@marknwells.com](mailto:mark@marknwells.com).

### Events we have organised this year include:

- Informal Drinks. This year's informal drinks programme began on 12 February 2020 at The Hoxton bar, which proved easier to find than last year's venue (at the British Film Institute) and was well attended by over thirty-five Johnnians after work. These events are deliberately informal, advertised on Johnnian Hub and with no need to pay for a ticket or book in advance. Just drop in to catch up with old friends and make new ones.
- The London dinner. The annual London dinner took place at the German Gymnasium on 12 March 2020, just before the lockdown was imposed. Notwithstanding this, it was very well attended and for many will have been their last meal out before an extended period at home!

Well-made plans for the annual pub quiz (8 June 2020), Annual Golf Meeting (9/10 July 2020) and a (new) West Country Summer Picnic (16 August 2020) were laid to rest as a result of the pandemic. Still, we plan to reschedule these events when possible, and we also intend to extend Graham Spooner's Presidency (and the equivalent for the Vice President, Annamarie Phelps) for a further twelve months.



Collin Burrows and Mark Wells at the Johnnian Society Day 2019

Credit: Ben Lister

The Johnnian Society Day in September was reimagined as a digital event. This year's virtual celebration featured a welcome message from the Vice-Master, Professor Tim Whitmarsh, a panel discussion on food sustainability and a virtual pub quiz.

While all our events are promoted through the Development Office, we increasingly use Johnnian Hub, which is proving a popular way for Johnnians to keep in touch with one another and reconnect with old friends. If you would like to find out more about what is going on across the Johnnian community we would encourage as many of you as possible to register: [johnnianhub.com](http://johnnianhub.com).

New members join the Johnnian community each year, and the committee members are looking forward to hearing from you soon and to meeting you at some of our events in 2021. 🍷

**Zip Colley, Hon. Secretary**

# The JCR



Co-Presidents Tim d'Aboville and Candela Louzao Carabel in Second Court

When we decided to run for the role of co-Presidents, our predecessors warned us that the most difficult part of the role was dealing with the unexpected. This certainly proved to be true. While this year could be described as peculiar, however, it has also offered us opportunities to innovate as a JCR. When we started in January, we were very excited to work with our new committee to meaningfully improve students' lives at St John's. This has been our focus throughout the year, even as we have had to rethink the way we do this. Our committee has worked hard to innovate, and

we are sure that many of these new ideas will be worth keeping when things regain a sense of normality.

The first issue we dealt with as co-Presidents was related to accommodation. The previous committee had started a discussion with the College regarding improving overall student satisfaction with the ballot. After hosting a poll, we decided to shift the focus away from the ballot and instead address broader issues tied to accommodation. We have pushed for all undergraduate houses located outside St John's to be open to group applications.



Izzy McIntyre (Female Welfare), Mark Pepper (Male Welfare) and Paula Espada (Publicity) during the Pink Week Super Ent

Additionally, we have asked that these rooms be included in the College's long-term renovation plans to increase their appeal. We have also pursued the previous committee's idea that all freshers be accommodated in Cripps to avoid a division in the year group. While some of these reforms may not happen in time for next year, we are happy to have received full support from College when we brought them forward.

Another key issue we sought to address was widening access to the College. We had campaigned with the idea of organising a virtual open day, a project that was

supported through the Annual Fund. Unfortunately, our plans were held back because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are hopeful that this will be up and running before the next round of applications. Additionally, our Equal Opportunities Officer, Will Tan, had the idea of putting together a new Alternative Prospectus to allow prospective applicants to discover St John's through the eyes of its current students.

Shifting the focus to student life, a highlight of Lent term was our Pink Week Super Ent hosted with St Catharine's and Emmanuel.



**Zac Bischoff (Sports, Services and Societies)**  
at a chocolate fountain welfare event

Together we raised over £1,000, which we subsequently donated as part of the Cambridge Pink Week. Our plans for the much-anticipated June Ent were paused, but, if conditions allow it, we hope to make up for this before the end of the year. On a more positive note, our Annual Fund application to purchase sustainable and eco-friendly flooring for the Palmerston Room was successful, and this will allow us, and the next committee, to host Ents there.

Welfare has continued to delight the students who take part in our events. Chocolate fountains and free fudge have now become regular offerings, and we also hosted Chapel events, a movie night with John's Picturehouse, and a sports taster day co-hosted by our Welfare Officer and our Sports, Services and Societies Officer. The addition of the Mental Health Officer on the committee has also been a great help, and events such as affirmation card-making and the mental health and eating disorders awareness weeks have been excellent at raising understanding of the importance of maintaining good mental health and checking up on others.

Our social media presence has helped us to communicate with students, both while we were in Cambridge and now from our homes. The committee adopted formal guidelines on what should and should not be included in our publications, especially the bulletin, and adding a Publicity Officer to the committee made it clear how important it is to facilitate student engagement with the JCR. From publicising our events to hosting our Bake-Off competition during Easter term, our Facebook and Instagram pages have proven to be invaluable assets, and their continued growth is very encouraging.

This social media presence proved crucial when entering Easter term. The coronavirus forced the committee to innovate in new ways to maintain engagement between students and also with the College in general. We wanted to maintain the sense of community defining St John's, and with


the help of the SBR we put together a weekly timetable of events ranging from (zoom)ba classes to baking competitions and quizzes. These were hugely rewarding, and they succeeded in bringing students together again. Moreover, they gave Johnnians the opportunity to showcase skills and talents that we would otherwise not have discovered. We also organised a fundraiser, during which the JCR matched student donations targeted to the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust.

JCR–SBR collaboration was not limited to Easter term, and we are happy to say that both committees worked closely together again this year to bridge the divide between graduates and undergraduates. Collaborating with Matt Linley, the outgoing SBR President, we ran a Giant Bar Quiz in Lent, which was a great success, bringing together students in the Palmerston Room and raising money for Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. In Easter we did not have the opportunity to co-host the June Ent, but Debby Wehner, the incoming President, co-organised the events that we put together online. We hope to build upon these two terms and continue to strengthen our relationship.

It is now clear that Freshers' Week 2020 will be very different from what we had originally imagined. While it is probable that some of the most popular events of the week will not take place (at least not in their usual form), we hope to provide incoming students with the best possible experience. With Anna Stevenson, the JCR Vice-President, we have put together

not one but three different timetables to accommodate the differing circumstances in which we may find ourselves at the beginning of Michaelmas. Building on the feedback that we received from previous years, we sought to improve our consent workshops by replacing them with Good Lad ones, which we hope students will find more engaging. Once again, we also hope that this chance to innovate will benefit future years.

We are especially grateful for the continued support that we received from the Vice-Master, Professor Tim Whitmarsh, the Senior Tutor and Director of Education, Dr Annis May Timpson, our Domestic Bursar, Helen Murley, and the Dean of Discipline, Professor Ernest Laue. Throughout our time as JCR co-Presidents we have always felt that senior members of College have a genuine desire to help us achieve the goals we set for ourselves. We are also very excited to meet and work with the incoming Master, Heather Hancock, in October.

Finally, we would like to thank the members of our committee for all their hard work and determination throughout the past two terms. We look forward to returning to Cambridge in Michaelmas for our last term as co-Presidents, and to welcoming the new cohort of Johnnians. We wish our successors the best of luck and hope they will build on our efforts and enjoy the role as much as we have. 

**Tim d'Aboville and Candela Louzao Carabel, co-Presidents**

# The SBR

In 2019 the SBR garden party was integrated for the first time with the Fellows' garden party, with drinks and food served in the Scholars' Garden. This relaxing, sunny afternoon at the end of May Week 2019 provided a perfect opportunity for the graduates and Fellows, along with their families, to mingle and reflect on the academic year that had just come to a close. Students and Fellows alike were happy to have shared the event with one another, and we plan to continue the format in years to come.



Mark Wells (1981) presenting at the SBR symposium



The SBR Christmas dinner

While the undergraduates vacate Cambridge for the long summer, many graduates remain to continue their research. During this time the SBR hosts their annual formal Summer Hall, giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy the excellent food served by Catering during the summer vacation. In July 2019 we were joined by members of Darwin MCR, who travelled to and from St John's on punts!

The end of the summer marked the end of Dr Colwell's time as the Tutor for Graduate Affairs, a position she had maintained for twenty-two years. During this time Dr Colwell was a huge advocate for the graduate community and constantly put the needs of the graduate students first. For this, the SBR was hugely grateful, and we decided to organise a surprise retirement dinner in Hall

to recognise and thank Dr Colwell for the fantastic job she had done. Unsurprisingly the event was well attended, and we were joined by graduate students, alumni, Fellows and staff.

The run-up to the new academic year was marred by the tragic passing of Professor Sir Christopher Dobson. He was an exceptionally caring person and Master, who never lost sight of the needs of the students within the College. He always found time, despite his busy schedule, to listen to anyone who needed him, and he often welcomed students into the Master's Lodge with a variety of entertaining events. The SBR is extremely grateful for all that Professor Dobson did to welcome and grow the graduate community within St John's.

Despite the sad news, this academic year began with the typical buzz of excitement as the new students arrived. The SBR committee hosted many events during Freshers' Fortnight to welcome the newcomers into the graduate community. The wine reception kicked things off as a fitting icebreaker for the year ahead, and then the SBR BBQ was once again held on the playing fields, thanks to the incredibly generous groundskeeper Keith, who also cooked all the food for the night. The fortnight also saw tours of the College and historic walks around Cambridge, led by Professor Patrick Boyde, as well as a few trips to the local pubs, led by the SBR committee. The introductory events were rounded off with academic talks, courtesy of current Johnians and accompanied by some brain food: pizza!

Once everyone was settled, term continued as normal. Coordinating with other MCRs, the SBR committee was able to arrange formal swaps, allowing members to dine in several other Cambridge colleges; the luxury of having such an incredible Hall means that we are never short of colleges to swap with. The Borderer, Professor Boyde, continued to run his varied cultural events, to the enjoyment of many graduate students, and the academic talks given by graduate Johnians offered an exciting window into our peers' research findings.

We are extremely lucky to have such a devoted and talented catering team at St John's, and we appreciated their talents in Michaelmas term with a themed SBR Halloween formal, which saw the Hall illuminated in green while students donned spooky attire. The term finished with the hugely popular SBR Christmas Dinner, which comprised traditional British Christmas food, Christmas crackers and bad jokes, and was followed by an exciting Ceilidh in Hall.

The New Year brought a new term that began with a 'Roaring 20s' themed party, which was a great opportunity for friends to catch up after the Christmas break. The new term saw plenty of swaps, with three swaps at the end of January celebrating Burns Night, which gave us our fill of haggis for the year. In Lent term we also introduced an academic formal swap, where we had the opportunity to learn about academic research being carried out by graduates from Christ's College before joining them for dinner.

The SBR Graduate Research Symposium was, once again, a fantastic success. This conference-like day in February gives graduates the chance to present their research to their peers. JCR members were also invited to join, giving those interested in continuing their studies a glimpse at what an academic career might have in store. This year's keynote speakers were the College's own Director for Education & Senior Tutor, Dr Annis May Timpson, and alumnus and former Domestic Bursar, Mark Wells (1981).

Following yearly traditions, we also enjoyed international swaps. This year we hosted students from Collegio Ghislieri in Pavia, Italy, whom we invited to our Christmas Dinner and Ceilidh. During their stay we also shared academic talks, took them on tours around Cambridge and ventured to Grantchester. Unfortunately, because of the coronavirus pandemic, we were unable to make our way to Pavia in May for their May Ball. We were, however, lucky enough to head to Trinity College, Dublin, in February to enjoy their Scholars' Ball, and during our trip we were treated to a historic tour of the college. However, they were unable to travel to St John's in March for the SBR Spring Ball, which was cancelled because of the global pandemic. We remain in contact with both groups and look forward to arranging similar trips in the future, when possible.

The collaboration with the JCR, initiated by former SBR President Jessica Tearney-Pearce, has continued into this year and has enabled a friendly dialogue that benefits all

the students within the St John's community. We have collaborated on the June Ent; weekly bar quizzes, including the Big Quiz; and events and initiatives to improve student wellbeing. This has enabled the continuation of the hugely successful Chapel Welfare Events: evenings in the beautiful College Chapel with calming music, hot chocolate and biscuits, and therapeutic activities, such as knitting, colouring and Lego.

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in the biggest change of our lifetimes. Now, more than ever, the SBR and JCR are working together to provide entertainment, support and welfare events virtually to the students of St John's. This has been possible through the work of the SBR and JCR committees, and especially through the JCR co-Presidents Tim and Candela and the new SBR President Debby Wehner, who are working tirelessly alongside the College. I would like to thank them for all they are doing, as well as members of the SBR committee for all they have done throughout the year.

The College is doing everything it can to help students in this time, and on behalf of the SBR I'd like to thank Dr Mark Nicholls, the Graduate Tutor, for all he has done this past year in supporting us, and Professor Tim Whitmarsh, the Vice-Master, for stepping up and maintaining the interests of students throughout the year. Finally, thank you to everyone else who works in the College and makes it a fantastic place to be a student. 🍷

**Matt Linley, President**

# The Chapel



Sunday morning College Communion service

This year Chapel was as busy as ever – until lockdown, of course, when everything changed. For the first term the Dean, Mark Oakley, ‘flew solo.’ Then in January our new Chaplain, Andrew Hammond, previously Chaplain of King’s College, joined the St John’s community.

We continued our regular schedule of Evensong each day and sung Eucharist on Sunday. There was also Morning Prayer each weekday – a new addition – and College Communion early on Sunday morning. The latter has grown noticeably, with a regular gathering of more than twenty students at 8.30 at the Ante-Chapel altar. This is followed by breakfast in Hall, when friendships are built and conversation enjoyed.

In the Michaelmas term we invited Sunday Evensong preachers to choose a topic often avoided in ‘polite society’ but nevertheless crucial to consider from a faith perspective, and they chose subjects such as class, nationalism and race. Our commitment

to hospitality meant that doughnuts disappeared fast at our Beat the Winter Blues event in October, and the mince pies and mulled wine went down a treat at Mince & Mulled in November. These were events that provided students with the opportunity to engage with the Chapel Team in a very different setting. The Advent Carol Service in November proved yet again to be one of the most popular services of the year.

Lent term began with the Epiphany Carol Service, a highlight of the Chapel’s year. The Chapel is lit purely by candles, which makes for a unique atmosphere. We also hosted the Memorial Services for Professor Sir Christopher Dobson, our beloved Master – and there were two services because so many wanted to come and celebrate the life of such a remarkable man.

Our Sunday Evensong sermon series was entitled ‘Professors Professing’. All the preachers were Fellows of the College. The Dean invited each to talk about what their

academic discipline might have to say about the human search for God, and the range of subjects and treatments was broad and engaging, with many members of College coming to listen. The sermons are available still as sound-files on our webpage. The Dean also hosted a fascinating discussion evening with the Cambridge Centre for Applied Research in Human Trafficking on modern-day slavery, with a variety of international speakers.


Andrew, the new Chaplain, began late evening events on Thursday evenings. These included Choral Compline and an experimental service, 'Critical Mass'. All were followed by hospitality and a time for conversation. There was further hospitality to be enjoyed when we joined forces with the JCR to host a welfare night of games, craft activities, chat and hot chocolate.

Andrew also led a Reading Group in his study, during which members worked through Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*. This is perhaps her best-known book, and it takes us to a time when there was still slavery in America. It is a life-changingly powerful book. What we did not know then was how emphatically the ongoing horrors of racism and discrimination and violence would surge across the world after the death of George Floyd only two months later. And talking of books, the Dean published two new books this year: a collection of sermons and an exploration of George Herbert's poetry.

Just as the Lent term was drawing to a close, the coronavirus pandemic was affecting our life together. We were approaching the

vacation, and so services would have stopped anyway, but a significant casualty for the Chapel community was the Annual Retreat with the Chaplain. We were due to spend a few days at Claret House in Buckden, which would have been a time for quiet contemplation and rest, but this was not possible with the social restrictions coming into force.

By the time the Easter term began, we were familiar with lockdown, social distancing and indeed social isolation. All our usual Chapel services and activities could not happen. We therefore developed a schedule of remote services, which we called 'Virtual Chapel', and which happened every day during the term. This combined Facebook Live and pre-recorded services. The Facebook Live events were said services, principally for those who would have been there anyway: Morning Prayer and the Sunday 8.30 Communion. The pre-recorded services included tracks of the Choir singing, taken from our archive of recorded services, and premiered each day on the Choir or St John's Voices Facebook pages. These attracted a lot of attention and favourable comment, which prompted us to continue the endeavour during the Summer Residency period.

At the time of writing we have no idea what next term will look like, but we will do our utmost to sustain the life of the Chapel and to live out a pattern of prayer and loving service for the whole College community, our hearts and minds oriented towards faith, beauty and justice. 

**Andrew Hammond**  
Chaplain

# The Choir



Credit: Marif Deruffi

The Choir performing at the Grand Théâtre de Provence, Aix-en-Provence 2019

Although together for only the Michaelmas and Lent terms, the Choir had a busy schedule with the regular cycle of weekly services, and special services including the Advent and Epiphany Carol Services, Lent Meditation, termly Bach Cantatas with St John's Sinfonia, and Joint Services with the choirs of Gonville & Caius and Clare Colleges. Just before the lockdown we managed to conclude our four-term series of Organ Recitals by former Johnian Organ Students. We are very grateful to all those who returned to play.

The Choir sang at the Memorial Services for the late Master held at the end of January, with a packed Chapel on each occasion. Music before the services included the Adagietto from Mahler's Fifth Symphony, especially arranged for the occasion by

former Organ Scholar, Iain Farrington, and played by Anne Denholm (harp), Julia Hwang (violin), George Herbert (organ) and Graham Walker (cello). Henry Laird's solo during Franck's *Panis angelicus* was particularly moving.

Music commissioned by the College during the year included *Hark the glad sound* by Judith Bingham, which was premiered at the Advent Carol Service, and three pieces by student composers – *Quiet Stream* by Sophie Westbrooke for choir and recorder, a setting of the Magnificat by Ignacio Mañá Mesas and a setting of the Nunc Dimittis by Katrina Toner. The Choir also premiered *O virgo virginum*, composed by Chorister Harry L'Estrange. We are grateful to the Johnian donors who so kindly support these commissions.


Two CDs, *Magnificat* and *Ash Wednesday*, were released to wide acclaim in October and February respectively. *Magnificat* was selected as Editor's Choice in *Gramophone* magazine, and BBC Radio 3 Record Review said of *Ash Wednesday*, 'It is the most glorious, glorious music making.'

In preparation for the concert in France at the beginning of December, the Choir sang a concert at St Mary the Virgin Church, Fen Ditton. The logistics of adapting the staging to fit around the church's architecture resulted in some interesting gradients; however, there were no complaints from the audience about not being able to see! The following weekend a very enthusiastic audience at the Grand Théâtre de Provence in Aix en Provence became even more enthusiastic when, at the end of the concert, Andrew Nethsingha invited them outside for drinks and an encore. Later in December the Choir travelled to the Netherlands for three concerts in The Hague, Breda and Groningen. The planned Easter tour to the USA (with concerts planned in Atlanta, Grand Rapids, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco and Dallas) was a casualty of the restrictions in place owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we hope to reinstate the tour in the not too distant future.

Daily virtual services, streamed via the Chapel, Choir and St John's Voices Facebook pages, replaced live services during the Easter term. The services contained a mixture of spoken word and prayers said by the Dean and Chaplain, and included music from the archives of St John's Voices and of the Choir. Plans for a live BBC broadcast of

Choral Evensong in April had to be replaced with a repeat of a service from May 2018, and Classic FM repeated a service first streamed via their Facebook page in 2018. All services were extremely well received by listeners worldwide, many of whom have commented on the comfort it gave them during a period when it was not possible to worship in church. We are very grateful to the Dean, Chaplain, Chapel Clerk, James Beddoe and Simon Grant for their support in making this possible.

While the Choir was unable to assemble after the end of the Lent term, the use of video technology enabled online singing lessons to take place during the Easter term.

Unfortunately the Choir could not be together to mark the end of the Choir's Period of Residence in the traditional celebratory manner with the final Evensong of the year. We send our best wishes to those who leave us this year – Choristers William Buttery and Thomas Watkin; altos George Gibbon, Will O'Brien and Laurence Trowsdale-Stannard; tenors Gopal Kambo, Henry Laird and Louis Watkins; and basses Jamie Conway, Matthew Gibson, Simon Grant and Oliver Morris. 

**Caroline Marks,**  
**Choir Administrator**

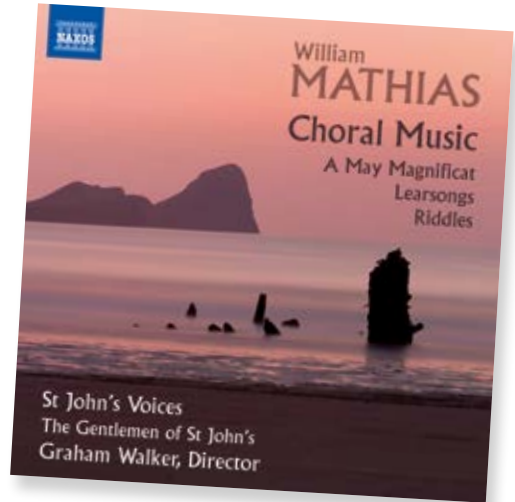
# St John's Voices

Writing from the enforced distance of our quarantine, looking back on the past year feels like dreaming of a different world. But the fact remains that these twelve months have been some of the most significant in the choir's short existence, capped undoubtedly by the triumphant release of our debut album – of music by William Mathias – on the Naxos label in January.

The year began, however, as they all do, with a hectic round of auditions to fill gaps in the ranks. We were extremely fortunate to gain several fine new singers from these auditions, as well as through the intercollegiate Choral Trials, which take place nowadays in March. The choral sound had gained in flair and brilliance, and the small teething troubles that every new group of singers encounters were quickly dealt with. A fine series of Evensongs ensued, with a Eucharist thrown in mid-term to encourage the students to relish the joys of early-morning singing.

The Michaelmas term finished with the usual run of events: Foundation Dinner Grace anthems, Christmas Carol Service, and a concert, this time featuring Handel's Coronation Anthems, with Bach's *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen* sung by Jessica Kinney. We were fortunate, as so often, to be joined by the wonderful players of the Cambridge Baroque Camerata for this performance, which was enthusiastically applauded by a large audience.

Our students returned refreshed and re-invigorated after their Christmas break, and we launched our Mathias CD at our first Evensong of term. A series of exceptionally complimentary reviews followed at various



points during the term: 'The singing is first-class throughout: a fine recording!'; Andrew MacGregor, BBC Radio 3 Record Review; 'The whole programme is thoughtfully chosen, superbly executed, beautifully recorded – and, best of all, hugely enjoyable', Philip Reed, *Choir & Organ*; 'Highly impressive ... a matchless and hugely entertaining display of dazzling choral singing', *Gramophone*. These served to give our students a real sense of their place in the choral world, and to tell the wider world about the remarkable work of St John's Voices.

Towards the end of term we premiered three works by female members of our choir – Lara Weaver, Eve Machin and Katrina Toner – as part of the Minerva Festival. This technically challenging Evensong was the most recent manifestation of our commitment to new music in general, and specifically to working with our student composers. The experience of seeing your music brought to life by your friends and colleagues is inspiring and highly educational, and we were extremely proud to be able to perform three such different and interesting works.

Unfortunately, as the term ran to a close, the increasing restrictions meant that we were unable to perform to an audience our planned concert of Bach, Scarlatti and Howells. However, we managed to record some sections of the music to video, and Johnnians may enjoy hearing and seeing the opening three movements of Bach's majestic *Jesu, meine Freude* on our brand new website, [www.stjohnsvoices.org](http://www.stjohnsvoices.org).

At the time of writing it's hard to know when we may be able to sing together again, but I know that our students are hugely proud of all they have achieved over the past months and years, and that they will be determined to pick up where they left off as soon as they are able to do so. And in the meantime, their friendships and their shared music will give them much solace and comfort.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt thanks to all those who, through their tireless work, make it possible for us to sing. I would mention, among many others, Caroline Marks, Stephen Stokes and Mark Oakley, whose support has consistently gone far beyond what we could reasonably have expected. We are hugely grateful to you and to everyone who has helped us along the way. 🎵

**Graham Walker (1996),  
Director**



Credit: James Proctor

# Music Society



The Music Society has seen an incredibly active year, with a full programme of events in the Michaelmas and Lent terms complemented by a (hopefully temporary!) move to online music-making in the Easter term. The range of events has been broader than ever, from large-scale ticketed concerts to the intimacy of the Lunchtime Recital series and the atmosphere of the Chapel Lates. On top of that, the Big Band (formerly known as the Jazz Band) has had a very successful year, and the Music in the Bar events on Fridays and Saturdays have provided a great platform for Johnian students, Fellows and staff alike.

Michaelmas term began with the freshers' drinks, giving us a chance to meet new faces, and this year's freshers have gone on to make a fantastic contribution to the Society, even taking up positions on the committee.

The weekly Thursday lunchtime recital series hit the ground running in October, and for the first time we invited some of these performers back to play in the new Bridgemas Concerts, each built around a theme; this year they were centred on folk music, impressionism, and mysticism, and they proved a great success, packing out the New Music Room. Michaelmas also saw the Big Band and Aquila join forces for a brilliant concert in the Old Divinity School – a very exciting precedent for future musical collaborations in College.

The two largest single events of the Music Society calendar took place in the Lent term. For the first of these, TCMS and SJCMS combined with tenor Ruairi Bowen on 21 February to perform Johann Sebastian Bach's epic *St John Passion* – a moving and dramatic telling of Christ's crucifixion.

Many of the instrumentalists and singers (including soloists) were Johnnians, and the electrifying performance in Chapel was very well attended by both members of College and the public. At the end of term Matthew Gibson (SJCMS President 2018/19) returned to conduct a concert as part of the nationwide Beethoven 250 festival. The performance included Beethoven's *Coriolan Overture*, the Third Piano Concerto (with our own amazing Aïda Lahlou as soloist) and the Second Symphony. This brilliant concert was one of the last public events in College before its closure in March, and it leaves the Society in a great position from which to continue when we return to make music in College together again.

The Chapel Lates this year have given us the opportunity to use the building in an atmospheric and intimate concert setting. The first, on 30 January, was a selection of sacred choral music from pre-revolutionary Russia, directed by our own Tom Butler, using the richness of the acoustic to complement the warmth of the characteristically low Russian bass parts. The second, later in term, saw Johnnian alumnus Hugh Cutting (now studying at the Royal College of Music) team up with a band of musicians led by second-year violinist Leo Appel to perform a varied selection of songs and arias on the theme of 'Courtly Love'. Both concerts were brilliantly presented.

Aside from the individual SJCMS concerts, one thing remains consistent in the musical life of the College – the Thursday

Lunchtime Recitals in the NMR. It's hard to imagine there being a more varied set of instruments and pieces ever before in a recital series: in the sixteen performances, we heard singers from St John's Voices, Aquila, pianists, violinists, duets, the long-awaited return of Professor David Midgely (now with his own quartet) and, rather memorably, the sound of the Great Highland Bagpipes. These are to name but a few. In the confines of lockdown, we are very proud that our Lunchtime Recitals have been able to continue online from the SJCMS Facebook page and YouTube channel, and they serve as a platform for anyone to play or sing anything they want to on any instrument at any standard.

It just remains for me to give a few thanks. First, I would like to thank everyone who participated in any capacity at any of our many events. It was fantastic to host our first SJCMS formal in March to bring performers together and to say thank you, and I hope this can happen again next year. Second, I would like to thank everyone on this year's amazing committee, perhaps with particular thanks to Aïda Lahlou for masterminding the lunchtime recital series so magnificently, Joseph Hancock for stepping into the shoes of Secretary at very short notice, Sophie Kirk for her utmost patience and hard work, and Dr Robin Glasscock for being such a diligent Treasurer. A final big thank you goes to anyone and everyone who supported SJCMS or attended any of our events throughout the year, in person or online. 🍷

**James Anderson-Besant,**  
**SJCMS President**

# Adams Society

The Society enjoyed many fantastic talks this year. To name just a few, Professor Jack Thorne spoke about 'Equidistribution in Number Theory', Dr Ailsa Keating presented on 'Braid Groups' and Professor Imre Leader gave a talk on graph theory entitled 'Cops and Robbers'. The Castlereagh Room was only just large enough to accommodate everyone for many of these talks.



The Adams Society committee members 2019/20


The proportion of women studying Maths is still below what we would expect, and so this year the Adams Society introduced a Women's Officer. Sophie McInerney held the role in 2019/20 and organised chats over coffee aimed specifically at female Mathmos in John's. We also exchanged emails and had a meeting with Dr Evans to find out why the gender balance is so low across the University as a whole – and to find out what can be done to address this issue.

Overall, it has been a successful year for the Adams Society, even without a repeat this Easter term of our fantastic garden party (which we shared with the Lamor Society last year), desserts and annual dinner. I have very much enjoyed my year as President, and I hope the committee has another great year under our new President, Nic Janisch. 🍷

**Mark Pepper, President**

# Architecture

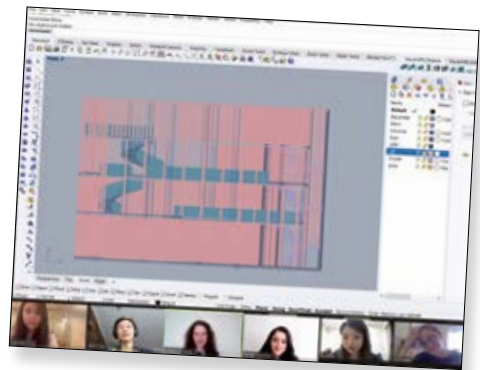
This year the Architecture Society continued to present a selection of esteemed speakers from related disciplines. These speakers included art photographer Sergei Petrov and architect Simon Aldridge, as well as notable Johnian architecture alumni such as Luisa Respondek (2011), Hamzah Ahmed (2013) and Gábor Tajnafői (2014). These talks not only provided members with insights into practice as an architect but also showcased the different disciplines that students may be interested in pursuing using the skills acquired from the course. Model-making, rendering and three-dimensional visualisation workshops were taught by members and external guests, and these enhanced students' abilities to operate programs such as Rhino6 and Enscape to show new ways of presenting ideas through different mediums.

The funding available for the Society allowed us to provide our members with access to shared resources essential to our work in the Art Room, such as the cut-sheet plotter, light-box and scanner. Additionally, in-College reviews and critique sessions were held once every term with our Director of Studies. These allowed members to engage with each other's projects by sharing ideas and providing feedback, which strengthened the projects before they were handed in to be graded. 

## Papawarin Pinij, President



Society members in College



An online three-dimensional visualisation workshop

# Aquila

Aquila, the College's all-female *a cappella* group, has had another wonderful year so far, welcoming seven new members. The eighteen singers, who comprise staff (of the College or of St John's College School) and students (both undergraduates and graduates), meet once a week during term time for a rehearsal in the New Music Room (NMR).



Aquila performing in the Fitzwilliam Museum

The group gave two performances in the Michaelmas term: an evening rendition of jazz songs with the Big Band; and a well-attended lunchtime recital in the NMR two days later. In Lent term, the group was invited to perform at the Love Art After Dark event at the Fitzwilliam Museum, giving a thirty-minute recital in the stunning acoustics of one of the galleries. To mark International Women's Day, Aquila presented an evening of songs written and/or recorded by women, which took place in the Lecture Theatre of the Old Divinity School.

As a result of the lockdown restrictions during Easter term, the group has been meeting for weekly Zoom rehearsals, learning new repertoire and revising other songs, ready for future performances once this is possible. We are also planning a remote recording, which we are looking forward to sharing via our Facebook page. 🎵

**Joanna Forbes L'Estrange,**  
Director

# Big Band

This has been another excellent, albeit slightly shortened, year for the St John's Big Band.

Our first performance took place at the end of Michaelmas term in the Old Divinity School's Central Hall. It had a casual yet lively atmosphere, with seating dotted around the room and drinks served on the side. We played a split set, with the College's *a cappella* group, Aquila, singing between the two halves of our performance. We came back with some of our classics including *Fever* by Peggy Lee and *The Chicken* by Jaco Pastorius, as well as a debut of an original arrangement from our conductor, Ollie Lepage-Dean, of *Can't Stop The Feeling*.

We had a quick turnaround for a Battle of the Bands two days later, organised by Jazz@John's, a jazz and blues club that puts on regular events in St John's. For this concert we performed with Caius Big Band and Fitz

Swing Band in the Palmerston Room, with a slightly shorter but more energetic set to match the atmosphere of the event.

After the success of our earlier Old Divinity School concert, we returned at the end of Lent term with a set that included a debut of an original arrangement from our bassist, Robert Capodilupo, of *Back Pocket* by Vulfpeck.

We had been looking forward to more performances in Easter term, but unfortunately circumstances did not allow this. Although we must sadly say goodbye to a few of our members whose time at Cambridge is coming to an end, we wish them the best and hope we can make them proud with more brilliant performances next year! 🎉

**Eugenio Nanni, President**



The Big Band at St John's May Ball, 2019

# Christian Union

In Michaelmas term, St John's Christian Union (CU) was delighted to welcome many first years, whose enthusiasm and love for Jesus injected fresh energy into the College group.

We enjoyed our weekly meetings to read through Bible passages, pray together, and share the ups and downs of university life (often with hot chocolate and biscuits). Each term we organised one or two 'Text-a-Toastie' events for our College community, inviting them to text in their questions about faith and life.

We have been heartened to see a strengthening relationship between the Chapel and the CU this year. It was especially fun to end Lent term with a 'Sharing Stories' event, where we invited our new Chaplain and other CU and Chapel regulars to share with us their journeys of faith.

St John's CU members have also been actively involved in supporting the wider Inter-Collegiate Christian Union's events, such as the international freshers' welcome dinners, the carol services and the 2020 events week 'LIFE: Is there meaning in the mess?'

The College group continued to meet virtually in Easter term, supporting one another even while away from Cambridge. We have been blessed to see God working in our midst over the past year, and we are convinced He is still doing so even now! 🙏



*God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.*

*Therefore we will not fear, though  
the earth give way*

*and the mountains fall into the  
heart of the sea. – Psalm 46*

**Carrie Tan and Hannah Lawson,  
College Representatives**

# Economics Society

This is the first Economics Society report in *The Eagle* since 2016, so I will begin by reassuring everyone that we do in fact still exist!



While this year has been cut short, it was nevertheless a successful one for the Economics Society, and it began with us welcoming the new first-year students to St John's and our community in October. We hosted our annual Options Desserts evening in Lent, which provided not only a night of tasty food, but also an insight into the optional papers and Master's courses offered by the Economics Faculty. Engaging speeches were made by Master's and undergraduate students alike, making the evening as entertaining as it was useful. In attendance were Dr Petra Geraats and Dr Isabelle Roland, who gave advice on

Tripods and how to succeed as a Cambridge economist.

Had Easter term gone ahead as planned, it would have seen our annual dinner with a guest speaker, and also our May Week garden party. All being well, the rate of infection and danger to public health will have diminished enough for us to return to Cambridge for the next academic year. I have high hopes for the future of the Society, and I am thoroughly looking forward to the events of 2020/21. 🍷

**Patrick O'Keefe, President**

# Johnian Entrepreneur's Club

The Johnian Entrepreneur's Club (JEC) finished the academic year 2019/20 renewed, ready to establish itself as a leading force in Cambridge entrepreneurship and eager to support budding Johnian founders. The JEC was founded in 2016 and placed on hiatus in 2018, and this year saw it regenerated and thriving under a new committee.

In the week preceding the start of Michaelmas term, the JEC'S new committee met at the Innovation and Development Workshop, a week-long pilot programme funded by the College's Annual Fund, facilitated by Johnians Mark Wells (1981) and Liisa Van Vliet (2002), and designed to teach the practical skills of entrepreneurship.


With the support of the Development Office, the JEC hosted four exciting events to discuss everything from entrepreneurship in the arts to how to construct a 'pitch deck' (a brief presentation to provide an audience of investors with a quick overview of one's business plan). Johnians and wider Cambridge students alike especially valued the fruitful panel discussion around entrepreneurship for creatives with Colin Burrows (1978) of Special Treats and Carolyn Dailey, founder of Creative Entrepreneurs. Building upon this event, we collaborated with Cambridge Global Challenges to host Shorn Molokwane from BITRI for a stimulating lecture on Design Thinking and how to apply this methodology to the developing world.

The highlight of the year for the Club was our 2020 Annual Business Competition, which allows students to challenge themselves in pitching their venture and to receive valuable feedback. As a result of COVID-19, we were unable to host the competition on College grounds as expected. However, through the generous support of Johnian and Director of Embryo Ventures, Dr Arash Moavenian (2008), the JEC was able to host the competition virtually. In addition to Dr Moavenian, we were excited to have Johnian Peter Le Voir (1973) as a valued member of the judging panel. We are proud to announce the winner as AceSym, a vet-tech start-up proposed by Honoria Brown, Yoav Nir and Rebecca Richmond-Smith (2015, a founding member of the JEC). The company aims to combat lameness in the equine world with a device they have designed that enables a precise and quantifiable detection of lameness in equines, allowing it to be recognised at an earlier stage than is possible by eye.



Committee members at the Innovation and Development Workshop

Throughout the year we have adhered to the values on which the JEC was founded – inspiring Johnnians to act on their brilliant ideas and providing the resources and opportunities in the field

of entrepreneurship necessary for their success – and we are excited to see what innovative ventures the future brings. 

**Mary Letey, co-President**

# History Society



Society members at the annual dinner

The History Society's term card got off to a flying start this year as we welcomed Bim Afolami MP to address us. His talk on 'Brexit: thoughts on England's twenty-first century revolution' saw an excellent turnout and a lively Q&A, both at the event and at the formal afterwards.

Keeping the theme current, we then hosted a joint event with the Clare Politics Society, inviting John Simpson to reflect on the fall of the Berlin Wall and its significance for politics today. In the final event of a programme that spanned some 2,000 years, we heard Dr Caroline Goodson talk about 'Greening Rome', touching on the urbanism and ecology of the Roman Empire.

As ever, the annual History Society dinner in the Combination Room was a highlight, and on this occasion our own St John's Professor Robert Tombs gave a few thought-provoking words on academic freedom in universities.

It has been a pleasure to be involved in the History Society this year. Thanks go to Miss Tomaselli for all her help, to co-President Radka, and to everyone on the committee who lent a hand organising this year's events. 🏰

**Harry Camilleri, Co-President**

# Lady Margaret Players

The Lady Margaret Players are the resident College theatre society, newly revived at the start of this academic year. We fund and promote the dramatic arts within College and beyond, strive to encourage Johnnians and non-Johnnians alike to take part in the performing arts, run theatrical events and aim to build an inclusive community of theatre lovers.

Some college theatre societies are mainly funding bodies, but we have branched out this year. After putting on a freshers' play in Michaelmas term, we collaborated with Queens' theatre society BATS on a Lent term production of Tom Stoppard's and André Previn's underperformed play, with full orchestra, *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*. We also ran regular events such as writers' get-togethers, film nights and ice-breaker sessions.

A highlight of our year has been the newly instated Scratch Night series at the Maypole pub. These informal performance evenings allow any student or small group of students to perform stand-up, spoken word, a bit of a new play script, sketches, and more, providing packed audiences with a relaxed, free night of student-written entertainment.

We pride ourselves on the variety of students we have engaged this year – indeed, our current committee contains students studying English, Natural Sciences, Music, HSPS, and Theology, many of them first years – and we aim to increase this engagement and the diversity of our artistic activities in the future. 🐞

**Beatrix Swanson Scott,**  
President



Credit: Anna Gawedzka

# Larmor Society

In addition to our usual weekly talks by Cambridge academics on a variety of topics across Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Psychology, the Larmor Society also added a few novel events to our term card this year.



The 2019/20 committee. Left-right: Marina Rodriguez Lopez (Socials), Eleanor Sheridan (Treasurer), Becky Langdon (co-President), Kyanna Ouyang (Secretary), Dilyara Sabirova (Academic Affairs), Mahika Dixit (co-President), Ahu Aydin (Publicity), Hamilton Allport (Webmaster).

In Michaelmas term we collaborated with St John's FemSoc to organise a panel on 'Women in Science', hosting four leading female scientists at different stages in their careers. The panel discussed the challenges faced by women in science, and we enjoyed listening to our inspiring panellists, who are helping to break down the conception of science as a 'boys' club'.

In Lent term the Society hosted a Q&A session on internships. Six second-, third- and fourth-year Natural Sciences students shared their internship experiences, which ranged from research to consulting. This event was geared towards students in

their first and second years and provided an opportunity to demystify application processes and to facilitate inter-year cohesion.

We concluded Lent term with our much-anticipated annual dinner in the Combination Room, which brought together Fellows and science students across all year groups to celebrate the past year. We also thanked last year's committee (pictured) for their wonderful work and handed over the Society to our new committee for 2020/21. 🍷

**Dilyara Sabirova and Kyanna Ouyang, Academic Affairs Officer and Secretary**

# Medical Society

The St John's Medical Society is a core part of the medical and veterinary students' community here in College. We have run a number of social and academic events throughout Michaelmas and Lent terms to bring students together from across the years and promote integration.



Society members at the annual dinner

Michaelmas term saw the first talk of the year given by Professor Mark Holmes on the discovery of mecC MRSA, highlighting the importance of vets and medics working together in the face of disease. This was followed by our research opportunity evening, where students presented the projects they had taken part in the previous summer, ranging from lab work in Cambridge to clinical placements in China.

The highlight of the year was, as ever, the annual dinner. We were delighted to host Mr Grant Stewart, a consultant urological surgeon, as the speaker, and the evening opened our eyes to the potential technology we might be working with in the future.

The disruptions to the academic year meant that a number of annual events could not take place, including the Linacre Lecture and garden party hosted by Professor Woods. We look forward to their return next year.

All these events would not have been possible without such an excellent committee, and I'd like to thank Anna Stevenson, Faris Khan, Emma Warburton, Lucy Chinnery, Imy Arden-Jones, Anastasia Blamey, Firnaaz Mohideen, Viral Guiwala and Chrissy Ellis for all their work to keep the Society going. 🍷

**Elizabeth Bearblock, President**

# Parsons Society

The Parsons Society had another successful year providing events for the Engineers of St John's. Members feasted like Viking Lords at the annual hog roast event, held jointly with the Larmor Society, and, thanks to our Junior Treasurer Benj Parikh's excellent accounting skills and committee member Ollie Barnard's aggressive negotiating tactics, we were able to continue financing events throughout the year.




The committee at the annual desserts party. Left-right: Benj Parikh, Thea Krumins, Zac Bischoff, Ollie Barnard and Parth Kotwal.

The annual desserts party – a night that would not have been possible without the elegant invitations sent out by our Secretary Parth Kotwal – was attended by record numbers, with port and butterscotch sauce flowing alike.

With great sorrow, this was to be the final event of the Parsons Society calendar this year, as, because of a disrupted Easter term, we were unable to hold the remaining welfare events meticulously planned by our Welfare Officer Thea Krumins. The highlight of every Johnian engineer's year, the Parsons Society annual dinner, was also postponed indefinitely. However, we will aim

to re-organise it for the first plausible date, and we hope that our guest speaker will be available.

This year also saw the appointment of a new Senior Treasurer for the Parsons Society, Dr Hannah Joyce, who we know will continue to work with and support our great Society for many years to come. It has been an honour to lead such an esteemed Society, and I pray I have done justice to all the engineers who have graced the courts of our fine College, including Sir Charles Algernon Parsons himself. 

**Zac Bischoff, President**

# Picturehouse

This year, as ever, St John's Picturehouse enjoyed screening a diverse programme of films. Particularly popular screenings included *Booksmart* and *1918*, as well as *Little Women*, which we screened in collaboration with Pink Week to a full house, raising over £1,000 for their charity. We also hosted several free screenings, including *Queen & Slim* with the African and Caribbean Society, and *Wall-E* in collaboration with the JCR welfare officers.

My personal highlight of the year was welcoming Amrou Al-Kadhi, non-binary

Muslim drag performer, filmmaker and founder of Cambridge's first student drag troupe, for a screening of their short films followed by a Q&A hosted by current members of Dragtime!

Picturehouse is great fun to be involved with behind the scenes, and a special mention must go to our amazing head projectionist Giulio for keeping things running smoothly in the face of unexpected technical challenges this year. 🍷

**Coral Dalitz, President**



Still from one of the short films screened during the event with Amrou Al-Kadhi

# Wilkes Society

Despite the disruption to the year, it has been another busy one for the Wilkes Society, with a variety of social, academic and career events. The year kicked off with the traditional tea and cakes welcome event, giving members a chance to catch up after the summer and to meet the new Part IA students.

One of the most career-focused events of the year was the CV and Technical Interview Workshop. This event, led by a number of Part II and Part III students, was aimed at helping members to improve their CVs, teaching them how to approach technical interview problems and giving general career advice.

For those considering a career in academia, we also hosted Part II project presentations. Part II students gave talks on their dissertations, which were on topics ranging from an analysis of the dark web to teaching robots to learn new skills.

Plenty of social events also took place throughout the year, including pub socials and the annual Christmas quiz.

A new event this year was the Wilkes Society Hackathon. Teams competed over three hours to create bots, which were then pitted against each other. The event was a great success, and we hope to repeat this in the future. 🤖

**Saaras Mehan, Co-President**



Wilkes Society annual dinner

# Women's Society

St John's Women's Society (FemSoc) had an impressive year. We increased the frequency of our events, diversified our activities and debuted a more active online presence. In trying to achieve an optimal balance between formal and informal initiatives, the Society experimented with different kinds of events, ranging from academic panels to laid-back group discussions. Moreover, we hosted numerous collaborations with other St John's societies and other colleges' femsocs.



Members of the Society with Hélia Correia

We hosted an International Women's Day event with over a hundred attendees, which included a drinks reception and Formal Hall with inspiring speeches. This was organised jointly with the JCR and University societies. We also hosted an award-winning Portuguese writer, Hélia Correia, who discussed the history of female activism in Portugal and Britain. Liaising with the Larmor Society, we created a Women in Science Panel, and we also collaborated with the College's Art Society and ran two open-mic nights for women and non-binary students. A number of other informal events were arranged during the year, including lively discussions.

To attract more support from students, this year we also modernised our online presence, revamping our Facebook page and creating an Instagram account to publicise our events. This initiative proved highly successful, and it was a great way to connect directly with our members. Finally, we produced personalised laptop stickers, and we have developed a plan for selling eco-friendly Society keep cups and tote bags. We are very proud of what we have achieved recently, and we hope to carry on inspiring Johnian women in the years to come. 🍷

**Clara Martins Brelaz de Castro,**  
President

# Badminton

This year was a highly successful and enjoyable one for Badminton at St John's. The First Team topped their division in Lent term's College Open League, earning a promotion for next season, and the Men's and Mixed Cuppers Teams both made it to the semi-finals. We welcomed many new, regular players to the team, including Gaurav Kakkar, Rohan Mudkavi, Anosh Bonshahi, John Zhu, Benjamin Wang and Amartya Maheshwari, and several of us continued from last year, including Nasser Chowdhury, Karthick Murukesan (vice-Captain), Shreshth Malik and Tanmay Dixit.

Competitive play in Michaelmas term was encouraging, and we ranked in the middle of our division within the College Open League after winning three out of six matches. We had some very strong players, and we committed to regular practice sessions, which clearly improved our performance as a team, as our win rate increased later in the term.

We sustained our momentum into Lent term and went unbeaten, winning six out of six matches. Among the victims of our Lent term 'slaughter' were King's, Peterhouse and the Hughes Hall/Lucy Cavendish team. We have been promoted for next season, and we are determined to continue our winning streak. Personally, I'm extremely proud of the team for their commitment and efforts this year, which led to such a positive result for the College.

College Badminton has also been a great chance for students to get to know others from different years and subjects, and I have really enjoyed the social aspect of the sport. I am so fond of every member of the team and want to thank them for putting in the time and making this year's badminton experience at St John's so enjoyable for me. I look forward to continuing in this spirit next year, with Nasser and Gaurav as our co-Captains. 🐉

**Arin Ward, Captain**



The 2019/20 First Team. The photo was inventively created during lockdown

# Dancesport

Although only recently recognised as an official College society, the Dancesport Team includes members who have represented the Cambridge University Dancesport Team (CUDT) for many years, and the 2019/20 season has been no exception.



The St John's Dancesport Team at the 2020 Cuppers competition

This year has been another highly successful one for dancers from St John's representing CUDT, and they celebrated fantastic competition results throughout the Michaelmas and Lent terms. The University circuit concluded with the Inter-Varsity Dance Championships held at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool. As well as contributing to the Cambridge overall team victory, members of St John's came away with excellent individual results: notably, Benedek Váli (Advance Ballroom semi-final, Advance Latin semi-final); Alex Ivanov (Advance Ballroom semi-final, Advance Latin final); Daphne Theresa (Advance Latin semi-final, Intermediate Ballroom final); and Lara Weaver (Intermediate Latin final).

We were fortunate to gain fresh talent this year, as well as seeing the return of many

familiar faces for the Cuppers competition, where new dancers are partnered with experienced ones. The calibre and enthusiasm of the College dancers were demonstrated by St John's being the only College able to put forth two teams. The dancers' talent and dedication paid off with a victory for the First Team, and our Second Team came in fifth overall, beating many colleges' first teams.

It has been a wonderful season for the St John's College Dancesport Team, and we hope that the dancers at St John's will repeat the victories of this season while continuing to represent the University in future years. 🍷

**Daphne Chia and Lara Weaver,  
Captain and Secretary**

# Men's Football

Freshly promoted to the top division, and with seven of the previous season's starting XI having graduated or on a year abroad, the 2019/20 season was going to be – on paper, at least – a challenge.

It was evident that strong recruitment would be necessary. Fortunately luck was on our side, with the addition of first years Ben Tatters (2019/20 player of the season), Josh Adeyemi, Will Pocock and Sang Wee. Additionally, Jonathan Stelzer, Alex Mercer and James Clark joined the First Team, having spent much of the previous season playing for the Second Team.

Spurred on by the challenge of top division oppositions, the team produced some of the most cohesive performances in recent memory, with a strong emphasis on nailing the basics, playing out from the

back and movement off the ball. Every opposition was given a run for their money. This included a crucial 1–0 win against Homerton early in the season and a hard-fought 6–5 win away at Robinson from 4–1 down, featuring Abhik Vinod's forty-yard volley into the top corner – which, unsurprisingly, was voted goal of the season. One other match worth mentioning was the agonising late defeat to frontrunners Churchill, one of the finest performances in recent memory.

The team finished the season with fourteen points, our highest Division 1 tally in over a decade. I'd like to thank all the players for their hard work, and in particular the committee members: Nick Palmer, Ewan Salter and Jon Carter. 🏆

**Dan Osborne, Captain**



# Women's Football

St John's and King's Women's Football Team had another fantastic season. Following last season's success, the newly promoted team battled hard in League 2, securing the second spot. Away from the league, the team had a magnificent Cuppers campaign, making it all the way to the semi-finals, where they lost to an impressive Queen's team.



My co-Captain, Mikaela Thordson, and I were delighted to see our efforts in promoting the profile of women's football in College succeed, with many new faces joining the team and contributing to its

success. Mikaela and new Captain Emily Smith are excited to carry on this success into the 2020/21 season. 🏆

**Lucy Carson, co-Captain**

# Graduate Football

This year the St John's SBR Football Team, which enables graduate students and staff to play alongside each other, has once again competed on both the league and the cup fronts. Although we lost a few key players at the end of last year, the team has grown in strength throughout the current season, with new players entering the fray, as well as old stalwarts finding new levels.

The team have fought hard to avoid relegation in the past two seasons, and this year was no different. However, the increasing quality of the squad enabled us to obtain our highest points tally in recent memory. We had a notable victory against Hughes Hall, a team that has often beaten us comprehensively, and against Zoology, an

exceptionally physical side who have on multiple occasions stolen three points from us. It seemed those cold Thursday evening training sessions were proving their worth.

On the cup front, we qualified for the quarter-finals of the 'UEFA cup' and came third out of five in a very tough group. As we prepared to take on Jesus, the COVID-19 pandemic closed in on the hallowed playing field turf, preventing a single ball from being kicked. This prematurely ended our season, which was nevertheless a successful one. We will return next year with the desire to bring the trophy home to St John's. 🏆

**Brett Wilson, Captain**



# Men's Hockey

The 2019/20 season was one of success and growth for the Nogs as we consolidated and advanced the progress made last year. While the Trinity-Fitz team snatched the Michaelmas league from our grasp, Lent term saw the Nogs reach the semi-final of Cuppers, and the Nogs and Nags convincingly secured both the Division 1 and the Division 3 titles.

Indeed, St John's was the only side to field two teams following a successful recruiting drive of both freshers and existing Johnians. It was especially pleasing to see the development of players who had never picked up a hockey stick before joining the Nogs. St John's was also well represented in the Cambridge University Hockey Club, with seven players on the pitch across its four sides.

A new ethos was established this season, thanks to every player buying in: for the first time in years, instead of having eight players at push-back, the Nogs have consistently enjoyed fifteen players at training sessions and warming up in time for push-back. With such a high level of continuity going into next season, the Nogs' unique, but dominant, brand of hockey – which can only be described as 'ruthlessly agricultural' – will be feared for seasons to come.

Special thanks must go to Mark Wells (1981) for his generous sponsorship and relentlessly unbiased umpiring skills. It has been an absolute pleasure to lead the Nogs this season, and I'm excited to see Connor Bennett take the club to new heights next year. 🍷

**Max Antcliff, Captain**



# Mixed Netball

This year has been very successful for the Mixed Netball Team. In Michaelmas term we won all of our matches and came top of the second division. As a result of this we were promoted into the first division for Lent term. Although we faced some challenges because of the jump in standard of play, we continued to perform well. This is a particularly amazing result, given that we started the 2018/19 season in the third division.

We were able to compete so strongly as a result of the continued commitment from

many familiar faces and the welcoming of some new members. Noteworthy performances include 20–3 against Caius and 22–2 against Clare, and a special mention should go to Elle Wilkinson and Charlie Friend, whose excellent shooting made these results possible.

I wish the team the best of luck for next season, and I look forward to seeing how it continues to grow in Division 1. 🦅

**Anna Chalmers, Captain**



# Women's Netball

The St John's College Netball Club has had another strong season, building on its reputation as one of the top netballing colleges in the University. In a season marred by injuries, Ladies 1 nevertheless placed third in the college league, showing the incredible depth of the team. Great attacking play and strong defence throughout the court gave many great results, including a 22–6 win over rivals Churchill, whom St John's beat in the Cuppers final last year.



The 2018/19 Women's Netball team

St John's also had strong representation at the University level this year, with India Foster, Chloe Fairston, Jemima Currie and Thea Krumins playing for the Cambridge teams.

Ladies 2 was bolstered by a great influx of freshers, who brought huge enthusiasm and spirit to the 2019/20 season. Despite a slow start to the year, with several tight losses, Ladies 2 came into their stride during Lent

term, securing a 19–10 win over their rivals in the third division, Queens 2.

Overall, it has been another great season for College Netball. I would like to say well done to all of the girls who played, and to give special thanks to Elle Wilkinson for captaining Ladies 2. 🍷

**Thea Krumins, Captain**

# Men's Rugby

The 2019/20 season was, overall, a strong and enjoyable one for the Redboys. A very impressive fresher contingent made up the bulk of our league team, and Ramsay Hodgson, Matt West and Hugo Lloyd-Williams even went on to represent the Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club under-20s in a rare win at Iffley Road.

After brushing aside Caius and Downing, we couldn't quite overcome Fitz in the league decider, and we finished in second place. The Cuppers run was, in hindsight, possibly too easy. A first-round bye, a 68–5 win over the All Greys in forty-five minutes (falling just short of our 77–7 target) and a Robinson forfeit in the quarter-finals saw us in the semi-finals without having played a competitive match.

The semi-final against Fitz was by far the toughest game of rugby I have ever played. Led by the carrying of Tom Walton and Dan MJ, we fought hard for eighty minutes, but it was not to be. We fell agonisingly short of victory, with a final score of 18–17. This marks two years since the Redboys hoisted

the Cuppers trophy, but I highly doubt that there will be a third.

In collaboration with ConSenTJohns and Caius4Consent, the Redboys raised £160 this year for Cambridge Rape Crisis, and members of the team also volunteered as coaches at The Galfrid School. I would like to thank Tom Walton and Dougal Russell for their help coaching the side, and Social Secretary Jack Beevers for leading the vibrant Redboys social scene. I wish the best of luck to incoming Captain James Laudage and his committee.

*Ad gladium.* 🏉

## Will Saunter, Captain

The Redboys' 2018/19 Captain Sam Fitzsimmons sadly passed away on 16 May 2020 after a two-year battle with cancer. He was an outstanding leader and a kind friend to so many on this team and beyond. His impact on this club as a Captain, a player and a person was phenomenal. We love you and miss you. [bit.ly/SamF](https://bit.ly/SamF)



# Women's Rugby

The St John's Women's Rugby players have this year focused on uniting with players from other colleges to massively increase the women's side at the Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club.

Development days have successfully drawn in talent from across the University, allowing the Club to send a third team to play a Varsity match against Oxford this year for the first time in history. The St John's Redgirls have had a very successful presence within the University Rugby scene; they made up three of the twenty-three putting on the striped jersey at Twickenham in December, and three of the starting fifteen at the Tigers Varsity match in March.

Cara Prowling has proved herself to be an impressive carrying and tackling force throughout the season, and she made excellent use of these skills as she came

off the bench at Twickenham. Emma McLoughlin also earned her place on the bench at Twickenham in a sport she picked up under a year ago. She has been extremely hardworking and has displayed a breadth of skill, able to move between the forwards and backs with ease.

In the coming season, the Cambridge Women's Blues will be captained by Johnian Elisha Clarke. Gaining her Blue this season, Elisha displays excellence both on and off the pitch, and she will no doubt carry this into her season as Captain. With the girls working hard in isolation to complete their Strength and Conditioning programme in order to improve their strength and speed, she has every faith 'that more Redgirls will be making the twenty-three we take to Twickenham than ever before.' 🏉

**Karen Valland, Captain**



# Swimming

This year has witnessed outstanding swimming from Johnnians. Despite the disappointment of missing Cuppers because of lockdown, our swimmers made up for this with fantastic swimming earlier in the year as part of the University teams.



The Women's University Blues team in St John's. Katy Wilson is fourth from right.

There was strong representation from St John's in the Marlins Team. As Captain, Nat Amos was responsible for training and motivating the squad throughout the year. Despite a narrow defeat, he led the team to a successful Varsity in late February. Fellow Johnnians in the team included Nick Maini, Anna Stephenson and Jonnie Jones. All swam exceptionally well to hold Oxford to tough competition. Special mention goes to Nick, who came remarkably close to a Blues time – an amazing achievement for a swimmer from the Second Team, and a testament to his drive and dedication to training throughout the year.

I represented St John's on the Blues Team, competing in BUCS and team competitions throughout the year, but unfortunately had to miss Varsity because of injury. The Cambridge Men comfortably beat Oxford to win the Men's title. However, after a tough-fought

match, Oxford maintained the overall victory by winning the concluding relays.

Going into the future, many of our current swimmers will be graduating. Nevertheless, the 2020/21 season brings prospects of recruits and competitions. I hope the team continues to thrive, and I look forward to the possibility of a St John's training group to allow a wider community of Johnnians to swim without being on a University team.

On a personal note, it has been a pleasure to represent the College and the Cambridge University Swimming and Water Polo Club over the past three years. I wish continuing success to the team, and I await the excellent results that I have no doubt our incoming Captain will produce. 🦊

**Katy Wilson, Captain**

# Tennis

This year also saw the return of social tennis to St John's, and it was a great pleasure to be able to enter a second team into the competition. The hard luck this team encountered in the matches was overshadowed by the excellent spirits in which the game was played.

By Lent term, Cuppers had returned, and the St John's line-up had been significantly strengthened by returning University players from the higher years. A bye in the first round and a comfortable win against

Magdalene in the second were just the prelude to the real drama of the year: against Churchill in the quarter-final we went 3-0 then 4-1 down ... only to bounce back to a 5-4 win! Had the pandemic not intervened, we may have been in serious contention for the title.

Thanks, as ever, go to Keith and the grounds staff for their help, and everyone who played this year. 🍷

**Harry Camilleri, Captain**



Tennis courts in the St John's College sports ground

# Ultimate Frisbee

On a sunny October afternoon the St John's Ultimate Frisbee Team faced up against Jesus. This curtain-raiser for the Michaelmas league was set to be our hardest game. We were blessed with a strong core of committed veterans, an overly enthusiastic Captain and a throng of new recruits. The match was close. Blows were traded with the wind. The Jesuits got a break, and half-time ended with us 7-4 down. After a rousing team talk and plenty of tangerines, something clicked – and we went on to win 9-7. Great debuts from Sam and Rob deserve special mention in this tale of victory.

The second week of term saw us cruise to success against Penguins, helped by strong performances by Tasneem and Lois. However, other than an impressive performance against Homerton, the rest of the term was something of a disappointment, and we slumped to a mid-

table finish despite regular tangerines and brownies.

Lent term saw a new start. The squad bonded during Cuppers and reached the plate final. We teamed up with Chrembroke to hold bigger training sessions, and Renee and Koji joined the team. Alas, we again underperformed in the league. However, training developed personal play – for James, Alexei and Chrissy, in particular – and left us in a good position for the future. Ultimate Frisbee is after all a summer sport. The warmer weather traditionally bulks out the team and heralds Johnian triumphs. Unfortunately, biology can silence even the most important of sports.

I'd like to thank everyone for playing, and especially Alfie, Patrick and Ed for covering me when I was injured. We will be back! 🐉

**Lennie Wells, Captain**



# Volleyball

After a Cuppers victory last year, the St John's Volleyball Team was hopeful for another successful season. Unfortunately, a loss early on to the Queen's-Trinity combined team meant that it was to be an uphill battle. A combination of injuries and other sporting commitments meant that we struggled to field a strong team for the second match in the pool, and so a second loss followed the first, this time to Girton. This was the end of our campaign – not the way we had hoped the tournament would go. Our initial disappointment was later tempered, however, by the fact that this dominant Girton team went on to win the tournament without dropping a single match.

Setting results aside, the keenness of the players for a sport not commonly played in Cambridge has been wonderful over the last two years, and I am sure the following years will see them be successful again. Not many people would cycle in the rain to play a sport they've barely tried before, and this level of enthusiasm has been great to see.

Overall: not the results we wanted, but a fun time was had by those playing the matches! 🍷

**Eleanor Sheridan, Captain**



Members of the 2018/19 Volleyball Team

# Lady Margaret Boat Club – Men

The 2019/20 season was extremely successful for the Lady Margaret Men's side, with strong results across the board before the season was curtailed. The Club retook the Lents Headship after losing the position last year, and M2 retained their position as the highest-placed Second Boat in the Lent Bumps.

The season started well for the Men's side, with a large contingent of new novices and experienced rowers joining returning squad members to give a depth of talent throughout the crews. In the early races of the season during Michaelmas term, the University IVs races saw three strong Senior IVs competing, with the First and Second winning both of the Men's divisions between them. In the Fairbairn Cup a Senior IV and VIII were entered along with two Novice VIIIs. The Second Novice VIII won their division and placed 4th overall, while the promising First Novice VIII was unfortunately impeded by another crew, preventing them from competing for the top positions. These results demonstrated significant potential and gave the Club good momentum early in the season.

A week's training ahead of the start of Lent term quickly got everyone back in form after the Christmas break. The Men's side crews continued to find success, with excellent race wins at Newnham Head and the Head of the Nene in Peterborough, which built experience, confidence and consistency.

At Lent Bumps, starting from second position, M1 made the bump needed to move up to the Headship station on the



M2 racing in Lent Bumps

first day, catching the boat in front by first post corner. Strong performances during the rest of the week saw the crew breaking away from the chasing boats to retain the position and become Head of the River. M2, meanwhile, put in the hard work needed to row-over every day and hold their position as the highest M2 crew, surrounded entirely by other colleges' First Boats. They even managed to close down on the crew ahead – the only one lying between them and a spot in the first division – but unfortunately they were left just shy of making the bump, as each day the Churchill M1 crew they were chasing managed to find enough speed to hold them off. The crew of M3, after being bumped on the first two days, stopped the slide with two gutsy row-overs to round off the week well and hold a good position.

The success of the Club is greatly facilitated by the continuing support received from the College – especially from the Domestic Bursar, Helen Murley, whose dedication to helping the Boat Club and College sport on the whole is much appreciated. Thanks must also go to the Lady Margaret Boat Club Association (LMBCA), the alumni group who work to maintain the long-term prospects of the Club, and whose aid and guidance enables us to attend national events and employ high-level coaches.

We are also extremely grateful for the hard work and commitment of our Head Coach Pere Gisbert, without whose technical guidance and motivation we would never have achieved such success this season.

With two eights entered for the Head of the River Race on the Thames in London, and

with excellent prospects for further successes in Easter term and beyond, it was with sadness that we watched the sporting calendar clear through what remained of the season. However, this has done little to dampen our enthusiasm to train, which we continue to do remotely with group ergs via video call.

Although the committee for next year remains to be chosen, I wish them all the best for steering the Club through the complexities presented by this crisis, and I am confident that they will find the best path back to competition and success.

*Viva laeta.* 🍷

**Harry Fieldhouse, Captain**





M1 cox Tristan Bromley holding the LMBC flag after securing Headship

# Crews

## The University IVs

### *The First Coxed IV*

C: Isobel McIntyre  
4: Maciej Maruszczak  
3: Matthew Paterson  
2: Tassilo Bulfon  
1: Harry Fieldhouse

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*Won the First Division*

### *The Second Coxed IV*

C: Benji de Almeida Newton  
4: Harry Bradshaw  
3: Thomas Hasson  
2: Sebastian Venter  
1: Nordin Ćatić

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*Won the Second Division*

### *The Third Coxed IV*

C: Sophie Compton  
4: Frederick Kohlhas  
3: Jakub Wornbard  
2: Maximilien Lentz  
1: Matthew Seah

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*Lost in Quarter-final*



## The Fairbairn Cup

### *The First Senior IV*

C: Benji de Almeida Newton  
 4: Maciej Maruszczak  
 3: Matthew Paterson  
 2: Tassilo Bulfon  
 1: Harry Fieldhouse

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*2nd Senior IV*  
*(after Magdalene I)*

### *The Second Senior VIII*

C: Benji de Almeida Newton  
 8: Alexander Atanasov  
 7: Philip Sosnin  
 6: Sebastian Venter  
 5: Samuel Kitto  
 4: Jonas Knecht  
 3: Jakub Wornbard  
 2: Frederick Kohlhas  
 1: Nordin Ćatić

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*8th Senior VIII*

### *The First Novice VIII*

C: Peixuan Song  
 8: Alex Kingston  
 7: Finn Meinecke  
 6: Nikolai Madland Shorter  
 5: William Wright  
 4: Charlie Francombe  
 3: Jordi Buckley  
 2: Gregory Serapio-García  
 1: Oscar Saharoy

Coaches: Jon Rhodes,  
 Thomas Hasson and  
 Sebastian Venter

*7th Novice VIII*  
*(impeded on course)*

### *The Second Novice VIII*

C: Tristan Bromley  
 8: Dewi Gould  
 7: Simon Heuveline  
 6: Francis Treherne Pollock  
 5: Owen Ayers  
 4: James Lazenby  
 3: Jascha Achterberg  
 2: Alejandro Lemus-Gomez  
 1: William Tan

Coaches: Patrick Meere,  
 Nordin Ćatić and Harry  
 Bradshaw

*1st Novice Second VIII,*  
*4th Novice VIII*

### *The Third Novice VIII*

C: Luc Liedtke  
 8: Rajeev Kumar  
 7: David Cummings  
 6: Jonathan Whitesman  
 5: Harsh Singh  
 4: Naunidh Dua  
 3: Bo Peng  
 2: Yang Hu  
 1: Jorge Baeza Ballesteros

Coaches: Samuel Kitto  
 and Tassilo Bulfon



## The Lent Bumps

### *The First Lents VIII*

C: Tristan Bromley  
 8: Matthew Paterson  
 7: Harry Bradshaw  
 6: Tassilo Bulfon  
 5: Maciej Maruszczak  
 4: Jakub Wornbard  
 3: Sebastian Venter  
 2: Samuel Kitto  
 1: Harry Fieldhouse

Coach: Pere Gisbert

*Up 1, Head of the River  
 (bumped Caius I)*

### *The Second Lents VIII*

C: Chloe Wanley  
 8: Alex Kingston  
 7: William Wright  
 6: Alexander Atanasov  
 5: Finn Meinecke  
 4: Francis Treherne Pollock  
 3: Nordin Ćatić  
 2: Nikolai Madland Shorter  
 1: Jonas Knecht

Coach: Jon Rhodes

*Rowed-over four times*

### *The Third Lents VIII*

C: Peixuan Song  
 8: Patrick Meere  
 7: Jascha Achterberg  
 6: James Lazenby  
 5: Matt Seah  
 4: Charlie Francombe  
 3: Owen Ayers  
 2: Yang Hu  
 1: William Tan

Coach: Isaac Webber

*Down 2 (bumped by Jesus III  
 and Queens III)*

# Lady Margaret Boat Club – Women

What a year this has been for rowing.

Michaelmas started off strong, with W1 and W2 racing consistently throughout the term. University IVs was a mixed bag, with the first four losing out to Caius, but they were avenged by the second four, who went on to win their division. Winter Head was a success, with both W1 and W2 competing, and W1 came top of their division. We also entered our first sculler into the Ely Head Race, with Emma Pruin putting in incredible work alongside two W1 IV+ crews. Fairbairns saw the return of Maggie legend Karen Weimer, who graciously stepped in to fill the spot left by Freya Casson, who was unavailable on the day. W2 also performed

well in Fairbairns, and they were cheered over the line by spectators. Alongside the seniors, the novices were hard at work. Maggie sported four novice crews, who survived and thrived on the early mornings and dedication shown by their coaches.

Lent term was fraught with challenges for the Club, with a flooded river and storms making it near impossible to train. Both W1 and W2 travelled to Head of the Nene, battling through tough conditions that resulted in the course being shortened. W1 IV+ defied competitors and kept their calm in the storm to win their category, while W2 inspired much hope for next year with their strong performance.

W1 had a solid Lent Bumps campaign, with strong row-overs every day to maintain their position as fifth on the river. On the first day we were eager to bump Downing; however, all four crews ahead of us bumped out to give us clear water to row the whole of the course. The second day saw a chunky row-over keeping within sight of Emmanuel for the length of the course, and day 3 saw Emmanuel bump Newnham before we could bump them. Day 4 looked to be our chance to finally bump and give Newnham Spoons; however, Emmanuel started off on an angle and were caught by Newnham just after first post corner. Then Downing bumped Jesus just in front of the plough reach, and we were left with no one to chase and a gutsy row-over in a strong headwind.





LMBC rowers supporting Jamie Bailey, former W1 cox, in his race coxing the lightweight men's boat at Ely

W2 survived being sandwich boat in the Lent Bumps but were sadly bumped on day 2 by Downing W2, who went on to achieve Super-Blades. On day 3 W2 were bumped by St Edmund's, but they got their revenge on the final day by bumping St Edmund's on the long reach to earn their greenery.

W3 narrowly missed out on inclusion in the Lent Bumps this year and will sadly miss out on their chance to achieve Bumps glory in the Mays, although I have every faith they will do well next year.

In Ely Jo Matthews and Gemma King were hard at work training for the openweight women; however, sadly their race was

cancelled. I wish them every luck against Oxford next year. Also in Ely, former W1 cox Jamie Bailey was coxing the Lightweight Men's Boat. It was a great joy to round off the term by supporting him in his race on the Thames, and we are all so proud of his accomplishments.

Once again the quality of coaching on the Women's side has been exceptionally high this year, and I'd like to thank Lance Badman, Karen Weimer, Julie Hogg, Thomas Cowie and Jay Richardson. 🍷

**Rachael Speed, Captain**



# Crews

## The Lent Bumps

### *LMBC Lents W1*

C: Marina Rodriguez-Lopez  
 8: Sophie Michalski  
 7: Freya Casson  
 6: Anna Odorici  
 5: Rachael Speed  
 4: Eliza Leake  
 3: Nele Vauth  
 2: Manuela Zimmermann  
 1: Emma Pruin

Coaches: Lance Badman  
 and Karen Weimer

### *LMBC Lents W3*

C: Julia Fierek  
 8: Chloe Felton  
 7: Kimberlee Bartle  
 6: Jill Rushbridge  
 5: Amanda Burcroff  
 4: Frances Whittaker  
 3: Rebecca Pickering  
 2: Jasmin Regan Feldman  
 1: Billie Williams

Coaches: Julie Hogg  
 and Jay Richardson

### *LMBC Lents W4*

C: Tasneem Kenny-Ali /  
 Rebecca Gutteridge  
 8: Marianthi Koutri  
 7: Lydia Carter / Grace  
 Finnigan  
 6: Diana Arman / Beatrix  
 Swanson Scott  
 5: Annabelle Richard-  
 Laferriere  
 4: Michelle Lee  
 3: Silvia Binenti  
 2: Adi Levin  
 1: Hani Ifran

Coaches: Freya Casson,  
 Anna Odorici and  
 Rachael Speed

Trialists: Jo Matthews  
 (OWomens), Gemma King  
 (OWomens) and Jamie  
 Bailey (LWMen Cox)

### *LMBC Lents W2*

C: Sophie Evans  
 8: Emily Murdoch  
 7: Lois Walker  
 6: Charli Hendy  
 5: Lauren Holmes  
 4: Rebecca Howitt  
 3: Rowan Saltmarsh  
 2: Lara Weaver  
 1: Meg Cullen

Coaches: Tom Cowie  
 and Julie Hogg





Photo: The Old Library  
Credit: Paul Everest

# DONORS



# Sir Christopher Dobson

## PhD Scholarship

**Development Director Stephen Teal reflects on Chris Dobson's connections, how he might have reacted to the current pandemic and what the College is doing to commemorate him.**

I write this short article in the midst of the great lockdown, and I am fervently hoping that by the time it is read the world will have resumed turning on a reasonably familiar axis. It is now some nine weeks since I last set foot in St John's, and I am craving a glimpse of Second Court or Hall – or even the Chapel car park! Many Johnians lament that, in retrospect, they had not taken full advantage of all the College had to offer – the social, cultural, sporting and academic opportunities that went a-begging – and I am now feeling much the same way.

The one person who surely would have had no such regrets was Chris, since he was at the heart of every single aspect of College life. He hated to miss out on any social event, lecture, musical performance or sporting occasion ... and he rarely did. As many Johnians could attest, he genuinely enjoyed meeting people, and he would invariably find some common interest or contact with every person he chatted to. He travelled to all parts of the globe to meet Johnians and always made a connection.

I recall that one of my all-too-frequent diary mishaps led to him missing a meeting. It turned out that I had sent him to the wrong hotel. At the wrong time. In the wrong city.




Typically, he laughed it off. Thinking about that, when one hit Chris's funny bone his laugh would sound like trying to start an Austin Allegro with a flat battery.

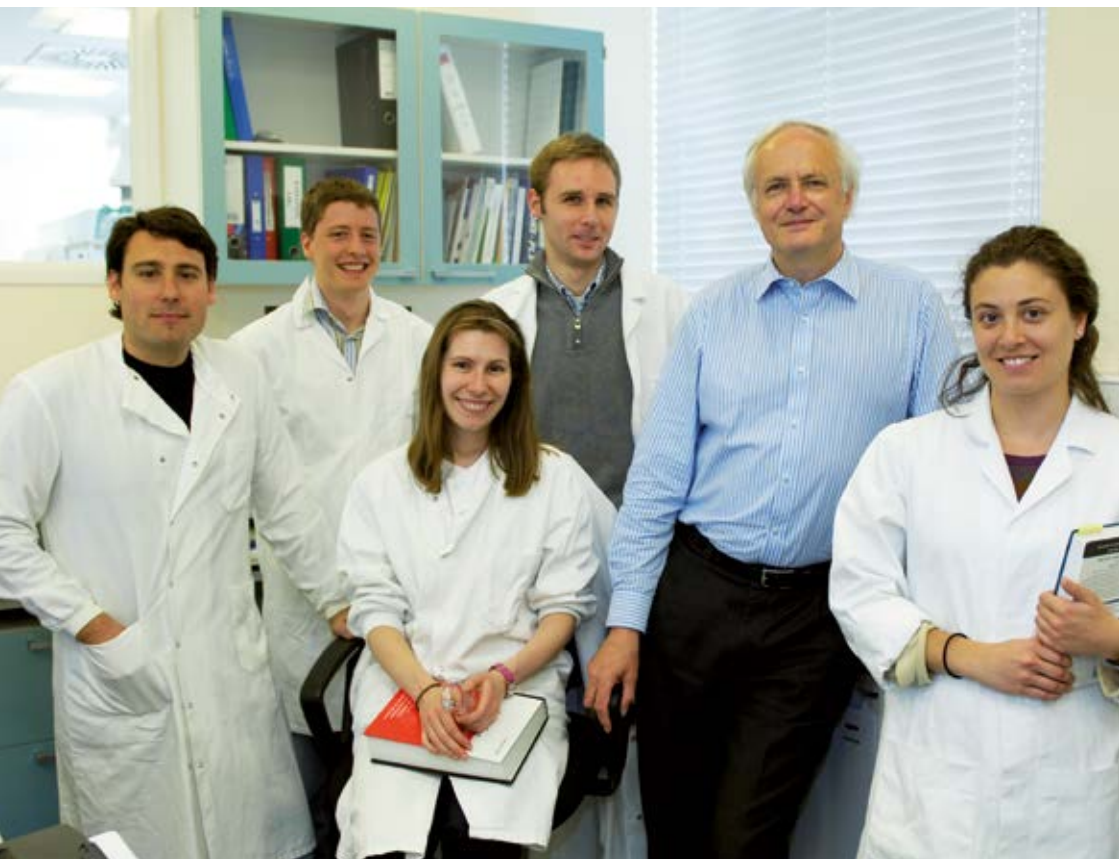
It goes without saying that he would have found the current situation frustrating, and yet he would have offered support and help wherever it was needed. I am also sure that he would have been fascinated by COVID-19 and the search for a vaccine. Even during his own dreadful illness he seemed to find comfort in the science.

When deciding how to honour Chris's contribution to St John's it was clear that scientific research had to be at the fore.

His great commitment to the nurturing of academic talent in general, but particularly through science, made the creation of the Sir Christopher Dobson PhD Scholarship an easy choice. I feel confident that he would have relished the idea of generations of Dobson Scholars going on to change the world for the better. Maybe one will find the vaccine for the next pandemic?

I do hope that many of you will support this project, which will do so much good for so many people, and which will provide a fitting and lasting tribute to Chris and to all that he gave to St John's over many years. 

Read more about the Sir Christopher Dobson PhD Scholarship online:  
[johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/  
 dobson-phd-scholarship](http://johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/dobson-phd-scholarship)



Chris with Tuomas Knowles and some of his students in the lab

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The Development Office has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list (as of 1 July 2020). If you discover an error, please contact us at [development@joh.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@joh.cam.ac.uk). Please accept our sincerest apologies for any inaccuracies or omissions.

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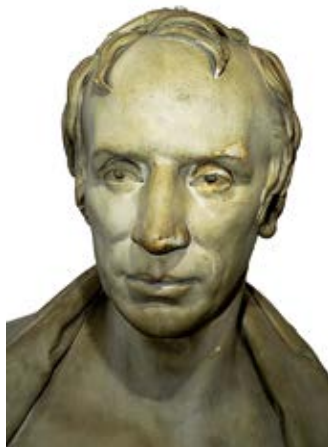
Mr Jon Wright (1991)

# Wordsworth at 250

**Tuesday 7 April 2020 marked the 250th anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth (1770–1850), arguably the most well-known alumnus of St John's. In this article Rebecca Watts, Library Projects Assistant and published poet, reflects on Wordsworth's life and the College exhibition mounted in his honour.**

Precisely ten years ago, on a snowy January day, I arrived in Grasmere to take up an internship at the Wordsworth Trust, where I spent a year showing visitors around Wordsworth's former home and becoming intimately acquainted with the details of his daily life during the 'Dove Cottage period' (1799–1808). It was a treat – and somewhat serendipitous – to be asked to begin the new decade by researching other aspects of Wordsworth's life, in order to curate an exhibition about one of modern poetry's most important forebears.

When the seventeen-year-old William Wordsworth arrived in Cambridge in October 1787, he wasn't exactly bowled over by what he saw. 'It was a dreary morning when the chaise / Roll'd over the flat plains of Huntingdon,' he later recalled in his book-length autobiographical poem *The Prelude*. A native of Cumbria, he had spent his childhood and school years roaming free amid the dramatic fells and picturesque lakes of northwest England. By contrast, the 'three gloomy courts' that comprised St John's at that time (New Court was yet to be built) held little inspiration for him.



Plaster bust by Sir Francis Leggatt Chantrey, 1820

He complained of the 'humming sound, less tuneable than bees' coming from the College kitchens directly below his room on F staircase, First Court, and of the noise from 'Trinity's loquacious clock' and 'pealing organ', both adjacent to his window.

It is perhaps not surprising that he shirked his 'College labours' and 'the Lecturer's room', choosing instead to 'pace alone the level fields' beyond the city's confines. Passionate about literature from an early age, he read widely as an undergraduate and also studied Italian. Unfortunately, his knowledge of literature was of little use when it came to sitting his exams, because the Cambridge curriculum in the late eighteenth century was predominantly mathematical. Having been awarded a scholarship on the basis of academic merit in his first term, he saw his marks steadily dwindle, and in January 1791 he graduated without Honours.

This white porcelain breakfast set, which Wordsworth purportedly used from 1816 to 1850, was a gift to the poet from Sir George Howland Beaumont (1753-1827). Beaumont was a powerful patron of the arts and a poetry enthusiast. He was a friend to all the Lake Poets (Wordsworth, Coleridge and Southey), viewing Wordsworth in particular as a kindred spirit.



Was it in spite of or thanks to his indifference to academic life that Wordsworth went on to become one of the world's best-loved poets? His older brother Christopher had excelled at Cambridge, and via a distinguished career in the Church he became Master of Trinity College. William, by contrast, was a rebel spirit. In the decade after leaving St John's he moved between London, revolutionary France, South West England and Germany, deriving inspiration from the places he visited and the people he met, and developing his own radical ideas about politics, philosophy and poetry.


By the time he returned to his native Lake District in December 1799, he had published three volumes of poetry and had inherited from a friend a modest legacy that enabled him to live independently and pursue his literary ambitions. Over the course of the following decade he wrote some of the most memorable and enduringly popular poems in the English language, including the daffodils poem ('I wandered lonely as a cloud'), which was inspired by reading his sister Dorothy's description of daffodils in her journal, two years after they had encountered them when walking together on the shore of Ullswater.

While it is easy to portray Wordsworth – later Poet Laureate to Queen Victoria – as the archetypal Romantic poet, literary success did not come to him straight away. His landmark volume of poetry, *Lyrical Ballads* (a collaboration with Samuel Taylor Coleridge), left the critics baffled when it was first published in 1798, and Wordsworth was forced to add a lengthy preface to the second edition, explaining the key ideas behind his radical poetic 'experiments.' Throughout his career, his work was championed by some and ridiculed by others. Reviewing *The Excursion* (1814), a book-length poem Wordsworth composed as a companion-piece to *The Prelude*, one critic commented: 'This will never do. ... The case of Mr Wordsworth, we perceive, is now manifestly hopeless; and we give him up as altogether incurable, beyond the power of criticism.'

An original printed copy of that wonderfully savage review was among a number of items displayed in the Library Exhibition Area during Lent and Easter terms, to commemorate Wordsworth's

250th birthday. Drawing on the Library's Wordsworth Collection, the Archive's admissions records and the College's picture collections, the exhibition told the story of Wordsworth's time at St John's, as well as charting his friendships with some of the greatest poets and artists of his time (including fellow Lake Poets Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Robert Southey) and reflecting on his literary career and his enduring reputation.

Several unique artefacts, shown alongside the manuscripts, correspondence and printed books, offered a more intimate glimpse of the man behind the poems. The beautifully decorated porcelain breakfast set that Wordsworth purportedly used every day between 1816 and 1850 had been a gift to him from the poetry enthusiast and powerful art patron Sir George Howland Beaumont, whose vigorous campaigning and substantial donations brought about the founding of the National Gallery, and who proved a loyal friend to all the Lake Poets. Wordsworth's life mask – a cast of his face, taken by the artist Benjamin Robert Haydon when the poet was 45 – preserves exactly to scale the distinctive high forehead, strong nose and shapely mouth that we have come to recognise from the numerous painted portraits. The seriousness of Wordsworth's expression is justified by the image of the famous poet in a dressing gown, his face smothered in wet plaster and straws stuck up his nose, sitting perfectly still while his friends peeked round the door to laugh at him. According to Haydon's diary, when the cast was

removed Wordsworth 'came into breakfast with his usual cheerfulness and delighted & awed us by his illustrations & bursts of inspiration.' 

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Access a digital version of the *Wordsworth at 250* exhibition on the College website: [joh.cam.ac.uk/online-exhibitions](http://joh.cam.ac.uk/online-exhibitions). Read Rebecca's published poetry on her personal website: [rerebeccawatts.weebly.com](http://rerebeccawatts.weebly.com)

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Henry William Pickersgill completed this preliminary drawing of Wordsworth at Rydal Mount (Wordsworth's family home, just north of Ambleside). He then began work on the large canvas shown on page 20. The original drawing was donated to St John's in 1897 by the artist's granddaughter.

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Tony Greeves

Professor (George) Adrian Horridge

## 1947

Patrick Field\*

Dr Peter Hacking\*

## 1948

Hugh M. F. Barnes-Yallowley\*

## 1950

Dr John H. W. Shaw\*

## 1951

Professor Richard Tomlinson\*

## 1952

Professor Bob Aliber

John R. Morris\*

## 1953

David M. Wright\*

## 1955

Estate of Dr Edward James (Fellow)

Professor Claudio Vita-Finzi

## 1956

Professor Francis M Burrows

Nicholas Wood\*

## 1957

Dr D. J. H. (Ben) Garling (Fellow)

Sandy Grant

## 1958

Dr John Crompton

Christopher Joseph\*

Michael O'Hara

## 1959

Professor David McMullen (Fellow)

Dr James McMullen

Sir Roger H. Palin (Honorary Fellow)

## 1960

Professor Edmund King

Professor Malcolm Schofield (Fellow)

## 1961

The late Dr Peter Linehan (Fellow)

## 1963

Bill Ball\*

Alan Daniels (in memoriam Reginald W. Daniels)\*

## 1964

Stephen Boys Smith

**1965**

Dr Martin Heyworth

**1967**

Dr Peter Cunningham

**1968**

Dr Michael Neiditch

**1969**

Dr Gareth Jones

**1970**

Professor Martyn Barrett

**1971**

Ian Boulton\*

**1972**

Peter Hartnell

**1973**

Christopher Brain

Peter Hardyman

The Revd Dr Malcolm Torry

**1975**

A. A. Marcoff

Barney McCullagh

David Shilston

**1976**

Dr Paul Cockerham\*

Dr Terence Denman

Simon Holmes

Professor Stefan C. Reif (Fellow)

**1977**

Garth Lindrup\*

Stuart Southall

**1981**

Clive Horrell

David Hughes

Mark Wells

**1982**

Dr Greer Haskell

**1984**

Professor Geoffrey Horrocks (Fellow)

**1985**

Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta (Fellow)

**1993**

Professor Deborah Howard (Fellow)

Professor Manucha Lisboa (Fellow)

**1997**

Professor Tim Whitmarsh (Fellow)

**1999**

Dr Mark Nicholls (Fellow)

**2000**

Francesca Frame

Anita (née Moss) and Lionel James Lee

**2001**

Dan Burt (Honorary Fellow)

Christine Schoenzart

Dr Martin Worthington (Fellow)

**2003**

Dr Bernard Freudenthal  
Greg Lowden\*

**2004**

Sylvana Tomaselli (Fellow)

**2012**

Christina Ostermann  
Sarah Wayman

**2014**

Hayk Saribekyan  
Nora Topor-Kalinskij

**2015**

Skye Fletcher  
Jean-Robert Lalancette

**2016**

Dr Mark Breeze  
Fionn Dillon Kelly  
Samuel Watt

**2018**

The Revd Canon Mark Oakley (Fellow)


**2019**

Professor Gabriel Cornelli  
(Beaufort Visiting Scholar)

**Private individuals, foundations and  
other institutions**

ASA Cultural Tours  
David Baker  
Mrs C. Barringer  
Dr John Battley  
The Bhavaraju Family  
Katie Ann-Marie Bugyis

Robin A. Butlin  
Mervyn Capel  
Shane Carmody  
Roderick Conway Morris  
Robert Garry  
Andrew Ginger  
Hilary Glasscock  
Barbara Goodman\*  
Judith Hinsley  
Iacovos Kareklas  
Hazel Lawrence  
Rebecca Le Marchand  
Professor Arthur M. Lesk  
The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization  
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    Anthropology  
Kathryn McKee  
Dr Juliet Mitchell  
MJP Architects  
Dr John Pickles  
Michael Pitman  
Jo Tynan  
Irene Vest\*  
Rebecca Watts  
Anne Williams  
Tim Wright

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# THE LAST WORD

Photo: 'The Fire Juggler',  
Winner of the Staff  
Photography Competition 2020  
Credit: Louise Hanzlik



# Goodbye and thank you

This year's adverse and unprecedented circumstances resulted in Cambridge students returning home for Easter term, taking part in distance learning and virtual examinations. Editorial Assistant Sophie Hill (2017) is a 2020 graduate, and in this concluding article she reflects on the rapidly changing global political and health situations, how the College and University have had to adapt, and the effect that this had on finalists who missed out on their final term in the city.



Sophie with the Master's Garden in the background

It is June, and my friend just told me that he has a leek in his fridge. That spelling is correct, although I did initially wonder whether New Court was now flooded and slowly evaporating some toxic chemical into an already gasping and polluted atmosphere. Rather, his concern was about having to deal with the aforementioned vegetable, now probably in an advanced state of decay, on his return. As a result of the pandemic, Cambridge students returned home at the end of Lent term, and my final glimpses of the eerily empty cloisters and courts were a strange way to leave a place that had been, for the most part, a vibrant and joyous home for me for almost three years. To those remaining, whether because of estrangement, homelessness or the closing of borders, it must have seemed a ghost town.

There is a broad disparity between individual student experiences, with many of us suffering the consequences of not prophetically preparing our home lives for a worldwide shutdown and a global apocalypse-esque pandemic. Poorer students have fewer resources, space and support than their more affluent peers; students with disabilities are navigating their own adjustments to working routines; and the difficulties that any number of students are facing during the lockdown further highlight the existing issue of attainment gaps, created through varied schooling, which reverberate into adapting and thriving in an academic environment at university level. Furthermore, examinations have been thrown into turmoil, with the faculties employing a

range of approaches to managing forms of distant assessment as diverse as there are subjects, as I can well attest to.

I am one of the lucky ones. I have a home in England that I returned to without issue, I have not been seriously ill with COVID-19 and I have not been working in hospitals at the peak of the crisis. When I first arrived at St John's, I was incredibly apprehensive, pre-emptively homesick and worried about fitting in. On my first day, at a prize-giving ceremony, my family and I started chatting to a man and woman hanging around the Master's Lodge, and it transpired that they were the Master of the College, Chris Dobson, and his wife Mary – which surprised us more than it should have, given the venue. Sadly, Chris died last year, but I will always remember how kind and down to earth he was, and the role that he and Mary played in making me feel at home here, not to mention the parts played by porters, Fellows, friends and a whole host of other wonderful people. I'm aware that not everyone is fortunate to settle into university life as easily as I did, but Cambridge was for me a hugely liberating and inclusive place, and the students and staff here are working hard to make such a prevailingly positive experience be as universal as can be hoped for.

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**'For me, losing this final term on-site has proven what I love most about St John's and what I will miss the most: it is a huge ecosystem of incredible people, beautiful buildings, learning and opportunities.'**

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This year all final students, regardless of familial or economic circumstances, will be missing the traditional rites of passage that mark the progression from one chapter of life to the next: the much-mythologised graduation, lying on the Backs in a self-deluded pretence at revision on a summer day, and walking to Grantchester when exams are over with friends one might not have seen for the duration of revision. For me, losing this final term on-site has proven what I love most about St John's and what I will miss the most: it is a huge ecosystem of incredible people, beautiful buildings, learning and opportunities. It is not a museum but a home, and this experience can never fully be regained by later visits or distance learning. University is a time of great change in the lives of many undergraduates, but now the University itself is having to change and to adapt to the world around it, as it has so many times before.

When I first planned this article, the biggest political demonstrations on our radar were Extinction Rebellion turning Trinity's lawn into a jigsaw puzzle, and our lecturers striking in the hope that they might be allowed to properly commit to a career in academia and be supported in their professions of learning and teaching. In what now feels like the distant past, LGBT+ activists campaigned for gender-neutral toilets, which the College has included in the plans for the proposed Community Hub, and student unions promoted gender equality and championed the consent workshops we held in Freshers' Week.

Now the 'pandemic of racism', after the horrific death of George Floyd at the hands

of American police brutality, has resulted in protests and a drastic re-evaluation of racial issues across the world. After having to partially rewrite this article because my comments had become dated within a few days, I cannot begin to say what the situation will be like when these words finally make it to press, and whether the righteous anger that this has prompted will result in meaningful change or will once again have died out. As we try to navigate a complex College and University heritage with regard to the past, the words of one canonically famous alumnus, William Wilberforce, remain relevant: 'you may choose to look away, but you can never again say that you did not know'.

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**'Cambridge taught me the value of having critical conversations, and it is in this engagement with wider issues and world events that student contributions remain relevant.'**

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The status quo is leaking, and how exactly to mop up its pollution is a complex matter, by no means settled. Cambridge taught me the value of having critical conversations, and it is in this engagement with wider issues and world events that student contributions remain relevant. The burning political questions with which we are all faced have indelibly shaped our unique personal experiences in this place we have called home. And it is for that reason that I express my own heartfelt thanks as I bid a warm goodbye to Cambridge and to St John's. 🍷

**Sophie Hill (2017)**



Credit: Sophie Hill (2017)

The Backs, as seen from the Bridge of Sighs, approaching sunset



Beccy Pickering's entry for the St John's welfare bake-off





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