



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Eagle 2015



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Facing page: new graduands celebrating at the annual garden party in the Master's Garden in June 2015.

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Photo: Nic Marchant

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EDITORIAL

Every day, Johnnians of all ages are busy making their lives in every corner of the world. This issue of *The Eagle* hears from Bishop Peter John Lee about working for the inspirational Archbishop Desmond Tutu on the streets and in the churches of South Africa. Current student Helena Clark-Maxwell recounts her amazing journey to St John's via Cuba, having already had a professional career as a ballet dancer.

We were pleased to welcome Honorary Fellow Professor Eric Maskin to the College during Easter term. He travelled to Cambridge, UK, from Cambridge, Massachusetts, to join up with long-time friend Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta for a series of lectures on 'Reasoning via Formal Models in Economics', which they have summarised in an article.


The College's new President, Dr Frank Salmon, introduces himself, and former President Professor Jane Heal tells us more about the daily duties and responsibilities of the role.

This year, Victoria and Ben joined the editorial team and ably represented the views of the junior membership. The Editors would like to thank them both for their enthusiasm and hard work. As ever, the whole editorial team wish to thank the alumni, Fellows, students and staff who have contributed to this issue and made it such an informative and, we hope, enjoyable read.

Don't forget, *The Eagle* is also online at johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/theeagle

Editors: Jennifer Baskerville, Alumni Relations Officer (Publications), and Mark Nicholls, Librarian and Head of Information Services and Systems.

Editorial Assistants: Victoria Brown (2013) and Ben Atlas (2014).

If you are interested in submitting an article for a future issue of *The Eagle*, or if you have an enquiry or some feedback, please email j.baskerville@joh.cam.ac.uk or write to: The Eagle, Development Office, St John's College, Cambridge, CB2 1TP. 

MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER



Photo: Ben Minnaar.

One of the defining moments of the twenty-first century in St John's so far has been the departure of the last scaffolding pole from the College grounds early this year. It will, of course, be a temporary respite, as a collection of wonderful buildings constructed over 800 years is always going to be in need of maintenance, and the modernisation of our infrastructure and facilities is an essential part of retaining and indeed enhancing our position in the very top rank of educational establishments across the world. We are, however, currently making the most of splendidly uncluttered views of our breathtakingly beautiful environment. The constant activity needed to maintain our buildings reminds me of a postcard that I came across from the 1920s relating to another well-known historic university, which showed an ancient quadrangle wreathed in scaffolding. In the caption, one visitor is saying to another, 'You can see it is New College as they haven't finished building it yet.' And so it goes.

We began this year having nearly completed the most comprehensive restoration of the buildings on this site since the reconstruction of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist to form St John's College some five centuries ago – although there was a certain amount of tidying up to do in the late seventeenth century at the end of the Civil War. The final piece in the modern restoration jigsaw has been the conversion of the School of Pythagoras, that dates from the later part of the twelfth century, into the College Archive Centre, which you can read about on page 14. The stunning refurbishment of the oldest building in any Cambridge or Oxford college has just been recognised by the receipt of this year's award for the best restoration of any building in the Cambridge region. This marks an astonishing double act, as last year's award was also received by the College, in that case for the splendid reconstruction of the Old Divinity School, opposite the Great Gate, which is rapidly becoming one of the most photographed buildings in Cambridge.

As well as congratulating our recently retired Domestic Bursar, Commodore John Harris, on his part in revitalising so many of the College buildings, it is appropriate to congratulate his successor, Mark Wells, on a very auspicious beginning to his time here. He is leading a new venture, the development of a long-term 'estates strategy', to ensure we have the facilities we need to achieve our academic aims and ambitions for the foreseeable future. We are increasingly

aware that St John's not only occupies the largest, and of course most beautiful, site of any college in the University (or indeed in that other place too), but also that it is in a uniquely favourable position within the rapidly expanding city of Cambridge. The Great Gate is located in the historic city centre, but the other end of our site, beyond the Cripps Building, stands at the gateway to the new University developments of West Cambridge and North-West Cambridge. We therefore have tremendous opportunities to ensure that our students and Fellows feel at the heart of the intellectual life of the University, and that they have the best possible access to all its departments and facilities. As in so many other ways, this exercise shows that the College is looking firmly into the future, as well as being deeply proud of its heritage.

St John's is, however, a great deal more than its buildings – indeed the College is fundamentally the whole community of students, Fellows, Teaching and Research Associates, alumni and, of course, staff. We are currently putting great emphasis on bringing this community ever closer together to promote yet further our core objectives, not least of which is ensuring that we can attract and support those students with the greatest potential for the future, regardless of their background or circumstances. It is our overriding aim to ensure that the College is 'needs-blind' in its admissions policy for undergraduate and graduate students, along with ensuring that

all those we admit have ready access to the resources they need to flourish in all their activities and ambitions whilst at St John's. The astonishing response to our long-running campaign to raise bursary funding shows that this message has deep-rooted appeal to Johnnians of all generations, and our next major fundraising exercise will have at its heart the ambition and determination to be even more supportive of our current and potential students, in the light of continuing funding challenges.

Exactly half of our newest cohort
of Fellows are women.

In addition to admitting the best possible students to St John's, we must provide them with the most inspirational teaching. A central element in this objective involves attracting outstanding academics to enhance our Fellowship. Again, with the tremendous support of generous donors, we have already been very successful in this regard, having been able to make a range of key appointments again this year. It is particularly exciting to report that exactly half of our newest cohort of Fellows are women – another milestone in the development of the concept of 'excellence and diversity' that has always been the hallmark of St John's. On the subject of Fellows, I would like to record my immense gratitude to the Reverend Duncan Dormor for his dedication and wisdom over the last four years as President. I am delighted that the Fellows

have elected Dr Frank Salmon to this extremely important position, and I am looking forward immensely to working with him in the future.

The impact of the recent initiatives taken by the College on the academic front has been evident in many ways, not least in the examination results of our undergraduates. Last year I expressed pride in the fact that 25 per cent of our students were placed in the first class in their tripos examinations, and this year the number has risen to within a whisker or two of 30 per cent. While there are many reasons to avoid placing too much emphasis on league tables, it is extremely rewarding in terms of our recent focus on our admissions and outreach programmes to be able to report that St John's is not only rising steadily in the overall rankings, but that it is firmly in the very top group of Cambridge colleges in terms of the results achieved by our first-year students. These examination results have not, however, been at the expense of other aspects of College life. For example, this year we won Cuppers in a range of sports, including rugby, football, squash, swimming and athletics, and Johnnians have led Cambridge to victory over Oxford in activities as diverse as ballroom dancing and boxing!


In this regard it is important that we are able to tell the world about the successes of Johnnians at all stages of their careers, through our websites, our publications and the coverage we receive in the media.

Although a single issue of *The Eagle* can only draw attention to a few of the many achievements of the Johnian community over the past year, I am sure that you will be as deeply impressed as I have been by the variety of successes that are documented within these pages. These include the substantial array of prizes awarded to our undergraduates for outstanding performances in University examinations; the achievements of our staff in their many vital and often challenging duties; breakthroughs in research carried out by our graduate students, Fellows and Visiting Scholars; and the many contributions made by our illustrious alumni in all walks of life. Our diverse cultural activities also continue to flourish and achieve international renown, not least, as you can read later in this issue, through the remarkable events associated with the Choir tour of Singapore and Hong Kong earlier this year.

The Chapel was positively glowing with LMBC blazers worn with pride.

Alongside all the excitement and pleasure that has marked the past year, however, there have been times of great sadness. Amongst the Johnians who passed away this year was of course my very distinguished predecessor Professor Richard Perham. Richard was not only a scientist of huge international renown, but also a man with an extraordinarily wide range of other interests and talents, and

characteristics that emerge so clearly from his obituaries on page 128. There was almost no aspect of College life in which he was not involved during his fifty-seven years at St John's, and his enthusiasm and passion for all things Johnian cannot be expressed adequately in words. It was, however, reflected in the huge number of people from all over the world who came to his memorial service that was, appropriately, held in the College on Saturday of the May Bumps. Indeed, the Chapel was positively glowing with LMBC blazers worn with pride and deep respect for a towering figure in the history of St John's.

Finally, let me say yet again what a privilege it is to be Master of this unique college, and that Mary and I are hugely grateful for all the support and encouragement that we regularly receive from so many members of the Johnian community. We have, as ever, particularly enjoyed seeing large numbers of Johnians and friends of the College in the Lodge and elsewhere on many occasions during the year. We cannot thank enough all those members of staff, from the catering and housekeeping staff to the maintenance team and the gardeners, who make such events so memorable for us all as a result of their skill, enthusiasm and cheerfulness. 

Professor Christopher Dobson



BEAUFORT SOCIETY MEMBERS ARE GIVEN A TOUR OF THE NEW ARCHIVE CENTRE
IN THE RENOVATED SCHOOL OF PYTHAGORAS BY THE COLLEGE ARCHIVIST,
TRACY DEAKIN, IN OCTOBER 2014.



Photo: Ben Minnaar

ARTICLES

PRESERVING THE PAST: THE SCHOOL OF PYTHAGORAS

The School of Pythagoras is the oldest secular building in Cambridge and has been in almost continuous use since it was first built around 1200, as a private house. Since then, the unusually named building, which was owned by Oxford's Merton College from 1267 until 1959, has been used as a classroom, a theatre and even a dance hall.

After three years of extensive restoration, the building has been reincarnated as a state-of-the-art home for the College's Archive Centre and now houses the entire archival collection of documents, maps and artefacts relating to the institutional history of the College itself.

Mike Finch worked in the College's Maintenance Department for almost thirteen years, and retired as Deputy Superintendent of Buildings in December 2014. Alongside Superintendent of Buildings Steve Beeby, Mike oversaw the restoration of both the Old Divinity School and the School of Pythagoras.

It was back in 2011, and after considerable discussion, that the College made the final decision to move the existing archive storage areas on the ground floor of I Staircase New Court, and in the New Court cellars, into the School of Pythagoras. This sought to ensure that the archives could be stored together in one place and under the correct conditions, and also that the oldest and most historic, but underused, building on the College site could be returned to full and meaningful use, befitting both the building and the College's unique collections.

The design and approvals process took considerable time, as the building is Grade I

listed. This made it extremely difficult to meet the very special brief and proposed use as an archive centre with its specific controlled environment (complying with BS 5454 Archive standards), without adversely affecting the historic structure of the School itself.

By June 2012, however, the design and overall scheme of architect Oliver Caroe had received the relevant permissions. The St John's Maintenance team were able to form sub-contractor and specialist contracts, and place the necessary orders to be able to commence their initial strip-out and demolition work in October 2012, working alongside archaeologists from the



Work on the ground floor exposed layers of old fire hearths and wall foundations.

Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU), to achieve a College completion programme of 2014.

The first on-site jobs were removing the roof of the north wing, stripping out the existing building services and demolishing the existing external kitchen wall, to create the opening and space for a new main entrance extension. Temporary works, in the form of steel structures, were then required to support the building and also to allow the archaeologists to carry out their investigations before any major building works took place.¹

The north wing roof, once stripped, had to be virtually rebuilt and then re-covered.



The old timbers on the north wing roof, bridging Merton Hall and the School of Pythagoras, needed extra support from new rafters and ceiling joists.



The new entrance.


A new lift-shaft and passenger lift were installed, going from ground-floor level up to the underside of the new roof. An extension was then added to the rear of the building to create a new, modern entrance, giving access to the ground-floor archive storage racks, the lift and the stairway to the first-floor archive room, office and study room.

A vaulted plaster ceiling was inserted at first-floor level, cast *in situ* in sections with a service gantry running above, to allow access to service distribution – pipes, cables and ducting – from a new plant room in the roof space. Services were inserted to provide mechanical, electrical and ventilation systems, including a new gas suppression system to protect the

building's contents in the event of a fire. The existing internal stone walls were kept and left exposed wherever possible, to give a natural setting for the mobile racking and bespoke timber furniture housing the archive materials.

The building works were completed on schedule early in 2014. However, a proving period for the environmental conditions continued until July 2014, when both the temperature and relative humidity levels were considered stable enough to finally move materials into the building. The monitoring continues today on a daily basis.

The existing internal stone walls
were kept and left exposed
wherever possible.

The College is to be congratulated on taking the bold decision to convert this historic building with all the inherent problems that such a conversion entails. The positive feedback from College Fellows, junior members, staff and visitors serves to vindicate the effort undertaken by all concerned in the project. 

Mike Finch

References

¹ You can read the CAU fieldwork report on the School of Pythagoras excavation (as well as that on the Old Divinity School) by searching for the building's name at <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/query.cfm>

PRESERVING THE PAST: THE COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Tracy Deakin, Archivist, explains how the thousands of papers, books and maps in the College's collection have found a new home.



College Archivist Tracy Deakin (far right) shows Beaufort Society members May Ball posters from the past, stored in the College Archives, during Beaufort Day in October 2014.

I joined St John's in 2012, and – building upon the excellent work of my predecessor, Malcolm Underwood – began a complete inventory and survey of the archives prior to the move to the School of Pythagoras. The collection is made up of the College's administrative, institutional and historical records, some of which date back to the twelfth century.

Many of the items were previously stored in the less than ideal conditions of the New Court cellars, and were at risk of damage from damp, humidity and mould. Given that the archives contain priceless historic manuscripts, including the Foundation Charter signed by Bishop John Fisher in 1511, the need for a new place to house them was emphasised.

With the help of a team of eight volunteers working for several months, I was able to measure, restore, re-box and move over nine hundred boxes of papers, files and records, as well as three thousand maps and plans of College estates and architecture. Each individual map had to be unrolled, measured and replaced in an archival-quality storage container, to preserve it for the next 500 years.

Once everything had been carefully examined, listed and put into new boxes, the moving process began in July 2014, and took over a week to complete. With the help of Rebecca Watts, from the College Library, we moved most of the maps by hand, and placed them in their new home in the School of Pythagoras. Another group of volunteers worked to arrange items on the shelves within the new building, meticulously noting their new location.

With the help of eight volunteers, I was able to measure, restore and move over nine hundred boxes of papers, files and records.

The new Archive Centre not only provides a purpose-built home for the priceless and historic items stored in the collections, with plenty of expansion space for the future, but also includes space for visitors to consult the archives and read ancient manuscripts in comfort, as well as an exhibition area and a large central room, which can be used for teaching, research and public events.




Pythagoras is considerably better as an Archive Centre than the old facilities we had in New Court, in terms of both storage conditions and the space available for readers and visitors. Previously, readers and researchers shared office space with the Archivist or consulted items in the Old Library. Now they can come to the School



of Pythagoras and work in the same building that houses the items. Readers have been coming to visit since October 2014 and many have said how pleasant 'Pythag' is to work in.

The exhibition space, in particular, allows the archives to be more open and accessible to staff, students, Fellows and visitors than ever before. From an exciting new programme of school visits to University-wide festivals and

College poetry competitions, the treasures of the archives are being seen, and used, by a wider audience. With the help of Library and Communications Office staff, we have raised further the profile of the archives and their excellent resources, within St John's and also in the wider community. 

Tracy Deakin

With thanks to Ryan Cronin, Press, Publicity and Communities Officer

FROM POINTE SHOES TO PUNTING

Helena Clark-Maxwell (2012) is reading Modern and Medieval Languages at St John's. She is just starting her third year, having spent the past academic year studying abroad in Bologna.



Helena in action during a performance of *La Fille mal gardée* in Havana.

Up until the age of nineteen, ballet was my main passion in life. I had quite a different childhood to most people, dedicating most of my time to training, and deciding on a career as a professional ballet dancer at around the age of twelve. When I was fifteen, I decided to go to a summer course at a ballet company in Havana called Prodanza. It had been recommended to me by one of my teachers, and, having always been fond of the Spanish language, and curious about Cuba in particular, I was extremely excited about going.

I think very few people come back from Havana without feeling that they have been completely seduced by the city. This was definitely the case with me, and I was thrilled to have such a special reason to be there. At the summer course, it was suggested that I audition for a full-time place at the Cuban National Ballet School, an extremely prestigious institution in the ballet world. It is constantly producing great dancers, such as the world-renowned Carlos Acosta. My audition went very well. The staff at the school seemed very happy with my 'exotic' English style and wanted me to come and train there a year later. The complex political situation, however, meant that it was still to be decided whether foreigners would be admitted to the school that year.

The Cuban ballet style is thought to be the most athletic in the world.

As a dancer, the most important years of your training are the last two or three before

turning professional, from the ages of sixteen to nineteen. I had turned down a place at the English National Ballet School in London in order to go to Havana, so it would be fair to say that I had a lot riding on this decision. I was kept waiting until September a year later, due to never-ending Cuban bureaucracy and a forceful hurricane that upset communications with the island. Finally, I got the go-ahead, and set off for Cuba alone at the age of sixteen.

I am the first and, I think, still the only British person to have trained at the Cuban National Ballet School. The experience was the stuff of dreams for an aspiring young dancer. The school building itself is an astonishingly beautiful marble palace, with huge ballet studios. It is at the centre of the Prado, which connects the Central Park square to the Malecón – the wall that runs along the edge of the city, separating the land and the Atlantic Ocean. The classical ballet training was intensive to say the least. The long hours of physical exertion in the heat and humidity were difficult, but I think these were the perfect conditions for pushing the human body beyond its natural limits – the stretches we did would have hurt a lot more in the cold! The Cuban ballet style, whilst very similar to the Russian school in many respects, is thought to be the most athletic in the world, with a strong emphasis on virtuosic jumps and turns. To give an example, a *fouetté* is a quick turn on pointe with one leg raised, and the maximum number of continuous *fouettés* you ever have to do in a classical ballet is thirty-two. In our final-year assessment, we had to show that we could manage sixty-four without stopping in-



Helena (far right) and her class at the Cuban National Ballet School.

between turns, in order to make the standard number (combined with the stress of performing) feel like a piece of cake in comparison. Such a rigorous way of working would not have been sustainable without my inspirational teachers, such as the father of Cuban ballet, Fernando Alonso, and my resilient, talented and kind classmates. In this respect, Cuba was the healthiest and most constructive dancing environment that I have ever found myself in. I was lucky enough to be given some lead roles in the productions we performed at the beautiful Teatro García Lorca (the national theatre), such as 'Cupid' in *Don Quixote*, the *Grand pas de deux* from *Paquita* and several solo variations in an international competition in Havana (in which I won the silver medal). I felt

privileged to be asked to represent Cuba in Varna, where the most prestigious and long-standing ballet competition is held.

I lived with my teacher and her family in an area of Havana called El Vedado, which is a relatively pristine neighbourhood compared to the severely crumbling colonial buildings you find elsewhere in the city. Whilst the ballet school in Havana is well provided for by the government, much of the rest of Cuba struggles against widespread poverty. Ballet dancers, in general, are seen as national treasures, and I was often stopped on the street so that passers-by could wish me luck in my career. At times, living in this unique socialist environment had its challenges: for instance, the scarcity of day-to-day products, such as

milk and meat, resulted in a thriving black market, which one was forced to resort to. On this island, ironically, even fish was scarce. I was told that, to prevent fishermen from escaping to America, there were heavy restrictions on owning a motor-powered boat. I like to think that I adapted very quickly to my surroundings, and did, in general, feel accepted by everyone as if I were just another Cuban dancer. Learning to talk like a Cuban, and using slang such as '*¿Qué bola, acere?*' ('What's up, man?'), was key to making Cuban friends. One of the harshest realities I faced was knowing how much some of my friends wanted to leave Cuba. Most of them just wanted to have the career prospects and material things that Cuba could not offer, and many admitted that they had started dancing (or had been made to by their parents) with the hope of travelling outside Cuba. Those who ended up defecting would have to leave their families behind, but would at least be able to send back money. Out of the fifty-something girls in my year, the vast majority have now left Cuba: some defecting illegally when taken on tour by the Cuban ballet companies, others leaving legally, having landed contracts with foreign ballet companies, and a few marrying people with foreign passports. It is a good thing that the ballet school is constantly churning out new talent, as few dancers stay in Cuba for long after graduating.

The country's unusual political system also brought about positive qualities: there was an undeniably strong solidarity between Cubans, and families were especially close. My main form of communication with my own family was a government-approved email account



On the Malecón (sea wall) in Havana.

that was only given, at a cost, to distinguished members of society, such as important doctors and teachers. You would often find these email accounts being shared, just like house phones, amongst whole blocks of neighbours. I don't think I ever came across a real homeless person in Havana, and neighbours would usually help you out if you were short of food. I did also, at times, sense a strong you-scratch-my-back-and-I'll-scratch-yours dynamic. The neighbours you were friendly with might discreetly let you know when someone was selling something on the block at a good price, taking care that the elderly designated informants didn't get a whiff of what might be going on. You would then return the favour at some point, in a similar way. Our neighbours, who were doctors, were very good friends of my teacher's family and were extremely helpful when I got a serious kidney infection, taking drugs from the hospital to treat me at home unofficially. Although Cuba's free health system is impressive, I wouldn't have liked to wait in the ordinary line for the medicine I needed so urgently.

I'm also not sure how 'free' it really feels to most people, as bribing doctors with presents seemed very common. That illness made me realise the importance of having the right friends in the right places in Cuba.

After two years at the Cuban National Ballet School, I graduated top of my class and moved back to London to join the English National Ballet (ENB) as an Apprentice Dancer. Early on, I sustained an ankle injury. Being so new in the company, I felt I had to go about things discreetly, and so I kept dancing on my injury for six months without saying anything. Eventually even walking became very uncomfortable and I had to have an operation to remove excess bone and also scar tissue from inside and around my ankle joint. ENB was going through a period of financial and

managerial crisis, which made for a rather unhappy start to my professional career. That year, all the major arts funding cuts were being made, and dancers everywhere were just feeling lucky to hold onto their jobs.

Being stubborn, I decided that I wasn't going to waste any time because of my injury, or because I felt disappointed by the reality of life as a professional dancer. I enrolled at Mander Portman Woodward (MPW) in London, where I was given an arts scholarship to study. Still on crutches, I took A levels in History, French and Spanish in a single year, rather than two. I applied to St John's, with no real expectations of getting an interview, having been out of education for four years and then at MPW for just two weeks. For some reason, I'm still not sure why, St John's actually made



Graduating top of the class in Havana.

me a conditional offer. Even after meeting the offer at the end of the academic year, it still hadn't quite hit me that I could be going to Cambridge. I couldn't imagine what my life would be like with no promise of dancing again in the future. I even went back to Cuba for a month at the end of the summer to see if I really couldn't get my ankle to cooperate. The trip was quite a disheartening one, as I was continuing to experience erratic shooting pains around the injury. On the day before Freshers' Week, I was still overwhelmed by the idea of going to Cambridge, and had not yet packed either. Getting past my own fear of becoming a 'normal person' was difficult, but of course this was before I realised that Cambridge isn't exactly full of 'normal people' at all! Looking back, I'm so unbelievably happy I did decide to get in the car with my parents and make the journey to our beautiful College.

I couldn't imagine what my life would be like with no promise of dancing again in the future.

Freshers' Week and Michaelmas term were hard. The frequent 'so how come you're so old?' question really seemed to rub salt in the wound, and I stopped trying to explain what being a professional ballet dancer actually means. Initially, I felt defined by failure in an environment full of incredibly talented and successful individuals, and was convinced that I really was that admissions error that people were always joking about. However, I soon realised that those negative feelings were coming from me and not from everyone else. Once the year got into full swing, I proved to



Back in London, warming up at the English National Ballet.

myself that I could do well academically in this environment, and I gradually began to feel a part of the Johnian community. Then, allowing myself to socialise a bit more, I made some amazing friends. It's thanks to them that I understood I didn't need to choose between ballet and Cambridge, and they encouraged me to get involved with the dance scene here. I've choreographed and danced in a play (*Molly*, 2013) and also in *Enigma* (2013), a show in which many of the different dance societies came together in one production. I choreographed and rehearsed a lot of the Ballet Club's production of *The Sleeping Beauty* (2014) and taught their advanced ballet class last year, once a week. I'm especially happy that I choreographed and danced in

the Cambridge University Opera Society's production of *The Cunning Little Vixen* (2013), as it led me to meet my boyfriend, also a Johnian, who was singing the lead role. A further highlight was doing a photoshoot for the *Varsity* newspaper's fashion section, involving leotards and some dry paint, which made it into the 2014 *Varsity Graduation Yearbook*.

I'm constantly astounded by the opportunities that Cambridge has to offer, and it's a privilege to spend my years here in such a beautiful and supportive college. I have thoroughly enjoyed my MML degree so far. The idea of giving professional ballet another chance has never quite left me. Though it would be a huge

challenge, and there's no telling whether my ankle would be able to take the strain of professional work, it remains a real possibility, and I may explore my options after graduation. I feel I would be equally happy pursuing a career using my languages. Whichever direction I take, I'm glad that I no longer consider my identities, as ballet dancer and Cambridge student, to be mutually exclusive, and instead realise that both co-exist within me. Thanks to Cambridge, many doors have opened for me, and I look forward to my future career, whatever it may be. 🌟

Helena Clark-Maxwell



The cast of *The Cunning Little Vixen*, choreographed by Helena.

REVISING 'PEVSNER'

Dr Simon Bradley, Joint Editor of the Pevsner Architectural Guides, spent four years, between 2009 and 2013, as an Affiliated Scholar at St John's while he worked on updating Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's guide to Cambridgeshire.



Photo: Yale University Press

Sir Nikolaus Pevsner (1902–83)

For many readers, 'Pevsner' is shorthand for the celebrated Buildings of England series, originally published by Penguin from 1951 onwards. Their founder was Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, who intended that the books should cover the whole of England, county by county, a goal that was achieved – with help from some younger authors and co-authors – within twenty-five crowded years.

The great work was interspersed with countless other projects in Pevsner's overlapping worlds of art history, publishing, broadcasting and public service.

Not least of these activities were Pevsner's academic pursuits at Cambridge: he was Slade Professor of Fine Art between 1949 and 1955, and continued to lecture on architectural

history for the University into the early 1970s. For most of his time as professor, Pevsner was also a Fellow of St John's. Although his family home remained in London, he always felt at home in Cambridge – another name on the University's distinguished roll of refugee scholars of Jewish extraction whose careers in Germany had been brutally cut short.

The first incarnation of *Cambridgeshire* appeared in 1954, and when its stocks were exhausted Pevsner set about preparing a fresh edition. Published in 1970, this was distinguished by perceptive and sometimes trenchant accounts of what the University and colleges had been up to in the meantime. Powell & Moya's newly completed Cripps Building was praised as '*facile princeps*, a mature masterpiece in plan as well as elevation'. By contrast, coverage of the rest of the city and county remained skimpy and (often) out of date.

Pevsner died in 1983, but new editions of his eponymous guidebooks continue to appear, now with Yale University Press as publisher. I joined the series in 1994, working initially as a researcher on the City of London. By that time the books had taken on a larger format, allowing them to embrace a wider range of buildings and themes. They were also much more thoroughly researched, both in terms of time spent looking at buildings, the accompanying trawl through publications and archives, and the sharing of problems and ideas with other scholars.

When I arrived in 2009 St John's soon proved to be both a hospitable home from home and an ideal base for sorties into the city and the

country round about. Much of this fieldwork was done by bike, on a second-hand machine from one of the shops on Mill Road.



Simon carrying out fieldwork at Coton.

Equipped with a front basket big enough to hold clipboard, maps, guidebooks and packed lunch, it functioned as a sort of mobile study, as well as shouting 'Cambridge' to the village householders and churchwardens whose buildings were on my itinerary. Other trips were made on four wheels, thanks to family and friends – St John's own Frank Salmon among them – who kindly gave up their time to act as drivers.

St John's was also the first college to be written up, making use of Alec Crook's two invaluable books on the buildings.¹ Even these left some gaps. One which I was especially keen to fill



A detail of the Chapel pavement.

was the authorship of the noble pavement of tile and inlaid stone around the altar of George Gilbert Scott's Chapel. An invitation to speak at a conference at Oxford devoted to the great architect's life and work presented the opportunity.

The then College Archivist Malcolm Underwood guided me through the archives for the Chapel's construction, which yielded an unexpected answer. I had guessed that the designers might be the firm of Clayton & Bell, who provided the stained glass for the new Chapel and also its fine painted ceiling (a feature which Pevsner mysteriously failed to include). Instead, the pavement proved to be by the partnership of John Burlison and Thomas Grylls, both of whom had

previously worked for Clayton & Bell. Burlison & Grylls are best known as prolific and influential stained-glass makers, and it is unusual to find them designing in the medium of stone and tile.

Correspondence with William Bateson and George Reyner, respectively the Master and Senior Bursar during the Chapel's rebuilding, showed how Scott's uniquely busy practice handled the ongoing commission. The few autograph letters by Scott that do occur are rapid scrawls, finishing in one case by turning sideways to fit the page.² Other letters apologise when even Scott's assistant can't be had for consultation, let alone the man himself; one reassures the impatient Master that he *will* see Scott in person the following

day or day after.³ It also emerged that much responsibility was devolved onto Scott's talented son and assistant, the architect George Gilbert Scott Jr (himself a Cambridge graduate, which no doubt helped to oil the wheels).

Letters from Scott Jr – neatly and carefully written – pass on several of his father's proposals and instructions, such as that of 13 March 1866 advising the use of oak ribs for the Chapel vault.⁴ By 1867 Scott Jr was so far in charge of matters that he even tried angling for the employment of William Morris's firm to decorate the College's newly extended Hall.⁵ That might have given St John's something like the Pre-Raphaelite splendours of the halls of Peterhouse or Queens'; but the College failed to take the bait.

All this was far too much information to cram into the tight paragraphs of The

Buildings of England. Instead, a fuller account of Scott's Cambridge work has been published as an essay in a recent monograph on the architect, a copy of which can be found in the College Library.⁶

Explorations in Cambridgeshire also flushed out some less well-known College connections. Andrew Downes, Regius Professor of Greek (d. 1627), has his monument in Coton church, repainted at College expense in 1968. The Manor House at Thriplow has an extension built by Humphrey Gower, Master from 1679 to 1711. Gower bought the house in 1698, and after his death it served for some years as a summer residence for his successors. Parts of the communion rail from the old, pre-Scott Chapel survive, reused within the staircase balustrade of Horningsea vicarage, a College living. In front of the rectory at Cheveley may be seen a stately pair of early Georgian



The iron bridge at Quy.

wrought-iron gates like those between the College gardens and Trinity Piece, and from the same source, the lost mansion at Horseheath.

The most arresting of these finds was a cast-iron bridge identical to the one installed in 1822 in the College gardens, which now crosses a stream around the grounds of Quy Hall. The bridge was displaced when part of the Bin Brook was infilled in 1854. The squire of Quy at that time was Clement Francis, Solicitor to the University, who snapped it up for reuse. If the bridge is ever displaced for a second time, perhaps it can be brought home.

Pevsner's former presence in Cambridge was constantly before me during the project, and not merely in textual form. I soon lost count of the number of people who described having attended his Friday lectures. One such encounter was at Linton, and another house in the same village furnished a story of a visit by the man himself. The present owner's mother had answered the door, and having satisfied his desire to see the staircase, Pevsner had gone briskly on his way – a little too briskly to avoid leaving the impression of rudeness. As it happened, I had made exactly the same doorstep request, and was able to apologise for any unseemly hurry on Pevsner's posthumous behalf; my schedule allowed a whole day to see Linton; he would have had a couple of hours at most.

Other details emerged from The Buildings of England's own archives. Preparing for the revised edition, Pevsner asked if he might stay in a College guest room for a week or so in April 1968. He was duly placed in Senior

Guest Room 1, E Staircase New Court.

Clipped to this correspondence is the dining list for Sunday 21 April, with a slip of paper on which Pevsner had jotted down the names of those who sat near him that evening, some with a few additional words by way of aides-memoire: Mansergh (then not yet Master), 'tall, long nose'; Brooks, 'old, lively O [round] face'; Barrère, 'French'. In a letter sent a few days later Pevsner thanked the Master for his stay, which was 'really heaven' as a break from London routines.

*Pevsner's former presence in
Cambridge was constantly before
me during the project.*

The New Court guest room was also a homecoming; Pevsner's own set from his days as a Fellow was on the first floor of the same staircase. According to Glyn Daniel's autobiography, Pevsner had even made the provision of a place in New Court a condition of accepting a Fellowship. Pevsner's biographer is sceptical on this point, and sceptical too of Daniel's own claim to have steered Pevsner's election, a process which he said took him the implausible length of fifteen years to achieve.⁷ Either way, the back-jacket image for the 1970 edition acknowledged Pevsner's debt: the central axis of New Court seen from the gardens, first-floor oriel window neatly framed by the gateway arch. In a BBC radio talk in 1952, Pevsner had spoken warmly of his 'Gothic plaster ceiling of the 1820s' and 'polygonal bathroom with the plumbing twining over the walls like ivy'. He was, he said, 'as happy at Cambridge as anyone'.⁸

My room at St John's was in New Court too, but on I Staircase, with a view of the Wedding Cake and the noble tower of Scott's Chapel rising beyond. The finished book was launched with a splendid party at the Master's Lodge, Scott's other major building at St John's, on 28 October 2014. Pevsner's dedication of 1954, to the Master and Fellows of his adoptive college, is gratefully and wholeheartedly repeated in the new edition.

That ought to be the end of the story, but discoveries keep trickling in. One concerns the quietly outlandish terraced house at No. 6 Brookside, alongside Trumpington Road. It turns out to have been built in 1866 for Isaac Todhunter (1820–84), a former Fellow of St John's.⁹ Todhunter had resigned in favour of marriage two years before, hence the need for somewhere to live; steady sales of his mathematical treatises appear to have augmented his post-collegiate income. His architect was Richard Reynolds Rowe, a great figure in Victorian Cambridge, whose best-known work is the Corn Exchange.

A few days before this piece was written, news came of another find. One of the sixteenth-century bench ends at Stuntney church, a few miles south of Ely, is reportedly carved with the rebus of Hugh Ashtyn, as displayed on his tomb canopy in St John's Chapel. Perhaps someone will follow this up one day. My own work has moved on to the revision of faraway Oxford, with a base at the other St John's College, which I try not to call 'John's' in unfocused moments. 🍷

Dr Simon Bradley



Isaac Todhunter's house at Brookside

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- ⁵ D33.3.1.i.48, 30 May 1867.
- ⁶ 'Scott and Cambridge', in P. S. Barnwell, G. Tyack and W. Whyte (eds), *Rewley House Studies in the Historic Environment 3: George Gilbert Scott 1811–1878* (Shaun Tyas, 2014).
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WORKING WITH TUTU

The Rt Revd Peter John Lee (1966) is Bishop of the Diocese of Christ the King in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Peter (left) with Archbishop Tutu (centre) and the late Bishop Duncan Buchanan in Klerksdorp in 1990.

If anyone had asked me, when I became a young historian at St John's in 1966, what I might possibly do in order to live my life with history unfolding under my nose, I would probably not have thought of answering 'work with Tutu'. But it would have been a good answer, and I am grateful that that is what happened.

After squeezing out six years in Cambridge – education and some theology after history – I was ordained into the Anglican ministry in London and then invited to spend

a few years in Durban 'to pick up some wider experience'.

So, my wife, Gill, and I, and our twenty-month-old daughter, parachuted from leafy South Kensington into the national state of emergency declared in South Africa after the Soweto riots of 1976. My first appointment was to attend a synod, at which we were threatened with wholesale arrest if we as much as discussed conscientious objection from army service or the provision of chaplains for the military.

I must have heard Desmond Tutu in the flesh at a meeting in Pietermaritzburg sometime in the next year or two. Having worked for the World Council of Churches in Geneva, he had been asked back to Johannesburg as Dean in 1975 and had issued his famous letter to Prime Minister John Vorster warning of the impending explosion in Soweto. Of course, he was blamed for provoking the very thing he had tried to warn against.

We were threatened with wholesale
arrest if we as much as discussed
conscientious objection.

Tutu was quickly made Bishop of the little landlocked country and diocese of Lesotho, returning to Johannesburg just eighteen months later as General Secretary of the

South African Council of Churches, the role in which he made his name and for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985. It was during his brief tenure as Bishop of Johannesburg after that, in 1985/6, that we connected. I was invited into his 'kitchen cabinet': three of us who regularly fell into the back of his car as he tore off to protect a church from the police or to get between an angry crowd and some threatening presence.

Soon after he became Archbishop of Cape Town, we chopped the overgrown diocese of Johannesburg into four pieces and I was asked to take care of the southern piece, a small peri-urban diocese running from the historic base of Trevor Huddleston's Community of the Resurrection in Rosettenville to Sharpeville on the Vaal River. The civil war that racked the country before the election of Nelson Mandela was in full swing and people were



The Southern African Anglican Bishops in 1992, with Peter second from right in the middle row.

dying in ones and twos in violent clashes all over the townships. Tutu was constantly appearing in what he called 'the ministry of presence' to care for the people and call for calm. He was always in the thick of it. He would announce that he would like to visit and would take a Sunday congregation, in the depths of the most threatened townships, into the Old Testament where Daniel's friends were thrown into the fiery furnace only to discover that Another was there with them – then announce in his dramatic whisper, 'you are not alone'.

One of the most dramatic of those moments came when the migrant labourer hostels in the township of Sebokeng were attacked during a meeting of the House of Bishops in Lesotho. Many died; many were hacked with axes; some were sleeping in tiny workers' rooms with four beds and four tin lockers when a hand grenade fell through the window and blew off the roof, killing everyone. Tutu's response was to abandon the costly and busy meeting and move all those bishops hundreds of miles to the site for a church service and a visit, telling hundreds of angry black youth gathered in the street to 'go back to school – when this is over we will need engineers and teachers and lawyers – you must work hard to be ready when we take over'. A huge armoured vehicle crawled towards him as he spoke, but mercifully passed without incident – though the tension in the air was electric.

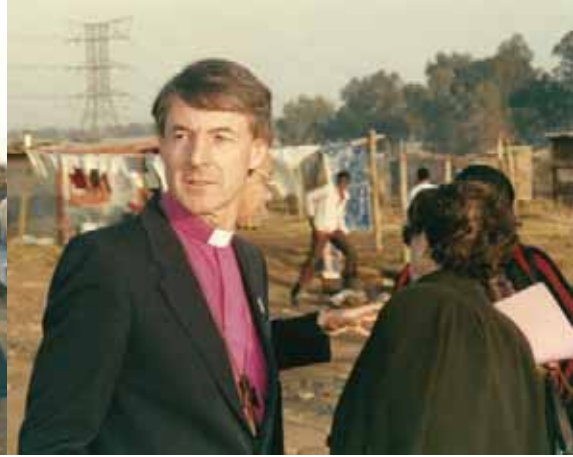
The massacre at Boipatong in 1992 was one of three major incidents of gratuitous killing and maiming of civilians in our area. The funeral at the stadium was one of the greatest feats of peacemaking on the hoof

that I have ever witnessed. As usual the politicians dominated the microphone, whipping up the young people into a fury that would impel them into the fire of the police and create the next funeral platform. The gripes were well founded but the method was sometimes cynical.

The funeral at the stadium was one of the greatest feats of peacemaking on the hoof I have ever witnessed.

So being scheduled for 10.30am, Tutu got to his feet after 1 o'clock, with police helicopters buzzing over to drown his words, a hot and restive crowd, and mourning families beginning to fret about completing the interments before the winter sun went down. As always, he captured the people's anger, but instead of whipping it up further he channelled it into a plea for discipline to avoid confirming white prejudice and fuelling the government's propaganda. He persuaded the crowd to prove them wrong by going home quietly and continuing the struggle by peaceful means. We had to wrestle the coffins through the crowd and the traffic to the cemetery at Sharpeville, in time to bury them all before dark.

One of my vivid memories comes from directly after the Boipatong killings, when a delegation of church leaders was touring the township. We filed into a little corrugated iron house where we lined the walls, while Tutu sat at a tiny table opposite a woman who was describing the murder of her husband before her eyes. Without taking



Peter and Archbishop Tutu in Boipatong on 19 June 1992 – three days after the killings and 10 days before the mass funeral.

his eyes off her, and giving her his full attention, Tutu translated into English out of the corner of his mouth for those who might not follow her seSotho.

It is not well known that Tutu had an extraordinary telephone ministry. When people died in the Hillsborough disaster, he was on the line to the Bishop of Liverpool, David Sheppard, within minutes to express his concern. He set himself as Archbishop to phone each of his thirty bishops every month; he would never identify himself on the line because of who might be listening – just a little voice in the evening asking, ‘ow are you?’ It was always personal – not ‘how is the diocese?’ but ‘your voice sounds tired, have you had a day off?’

Of course, the propaganda machine was alert to every chance to discredit Tutu and the Anglican Church with him. So we hammered out our disagreements in private and then

presented a united front to the world. He had the capacity to embrace some really eccentric causes with the same passion and emotion as the big ones, so sometimes his older friends had to talk him off his high horse before we could agree. The bishops naturally loved and admired him, but without the adulation he suffered in other places; some of them could puncture his balloon in a way that he needed. Like when he started the day saying, ‘when we visited the King of Thailand ...’

By now he was a world figure, forever travelling and picking up American honorary degrees and using the opportunity to preach the cause of peace at home. He used to say ‘tell them I have only one body and it cannot be in three places at once’ – no wonder he quoted his daughter saying, ‘Daddy, my jet is lagging’! He had extraordinary access to the corridors of power and began to move in elevated circles among retired statesmen and informal peacemakers.



Archbishop Tutu preaching in 1990.

It was the bishops who nominated Tutu for the chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in 1996. While that exercise has been much criticised as superficial and ineffective, or as simply trading truth for amnesty, it was immensely cathartic for South Africa at the time. The then Bishop of Virginia, in whose state half the battles in the American Civil War took place, told me they were watching with fascination because a century after the war, every issue in their state would become racially locked – whether the routing of a new road or whatever. They thought it was because they had never flushed the Civil War and its racist issues out of their consciousness.

The TRC required an exceptional person to lead it – a good brain with a clear grasp of restorative justice, coupled with the emotional intelligence to weep with those who wept in the course of everyday business. The stories told were horrendous – fascinating and horrifying for the South African public, but giving them at least the beginnings of some space to come to terms with what they had

experienced, or what others had undergone, or what they had suspected but never known.

Tutu has retired at least three times now, though his latest health issues are making him say it is finally real. The Anglican Church of Southern Africa is already on its second archbishop since he did it first twenty years ago, yet amazingly in the media there will come this little sound bite from somewhere around the world; Tutu has said something so incisive, so sharply phrased, so memorable that it gets taken into the public discourse overnight.

He had extraordinary access to the corridors of power and began to move in elevated circles.

In the middle of that process, at the time when both the African National Congress and the former President de Klerk were at their least cooperative, I turned fifty. Tutu no longer had any responsibility for me, but suddenly at midday during the lunch break at the TRC came a call: ‘The Arch would like to speak to you.’ On came the familiar voice: ‘I know I sent you a telegram yesterday, but I was praying for you early this morning and I realised that it is not just an ordinary birthday – so I just wanted to hear your voice and wish you well.’

That was why, even when we differed strongly, we would have crawled there and back over broken glass for this man. 🙏

The Rt Revd Peter John Lee



Archbishop Tutu in full flight.

REPRESENTING CAMBRIDGE



Felicity and her husband Mike got married in College in July 2014.

The academic year 2013/14 was an especially proud one for St John's, as two of its members were elected to work on behalf of Cambridge students. Felicity Goodlet served as President of Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU) and Richard Jones was President of the Graduate Union (GU).

FELICITY GOODLET

(2010, née Osborn) studied Theology and Religious Studies at St John's.

In 2013, after spending a year as President of St John's Junior Combination Room (JCR), I was elected as President of CUSU during its fiftieth year. As the central representative body

for Cambridge students, CUSU advocates for students, resources them and provides crucial services and support. I am immensely proud to have led the union and have learnt many invaluable lessons along the way.

Having been the JCR President and therefore involved with CUSU as a College

representative, and also having volunteered with CUSU's Access team, I knew just how much CUSU did for its members. I decided to run for office because I knew how negatively students often perceived their union, and I felt I could change it for the better. Leading the JCR team at St John's had been a fantastic experience and I felt ready to do a similar job in a slightly different setting.

CUSU's organisational structure enables it to achieve for students. The Council, consisting of faculty representatives and members of affiliated JCRs and MCRs, is the democratic heart of the organisation. Volunteer teams of elected students work together with six full-time sabbatical officers, elected annually in a vote that is open to every student in Cambridge, to implement Council policies. Sabbatical officers campaign to improve students' experiences both in Cambridge and nationally; they sit on numerous University committees, influencing the future direction of the institution; they provide student representatives with training; they celebrate good teaching; and they widen access to the University.

An excellent staff team employed by CUSU supports the sabbatical officers in doing all of these things, and together they form groups such as the Business Team, which works to generate commercial income; the Communication Team, which runs CUSU's annual survey and social media; and the Advice Team, who staff CUSU's extraordinarily successful Student Advice Service. They are all irreplaceable to CUSU's success and longevity.

As President, I led this sabbatical team and was responsible for the democratic functions of the organisation. The job is one of the most exciting opportunities available to students, as it enables you to influence and run a sizeable organisation. According to CUSU's Standing Orders, the President's role is to lead the Democracy and Development Team; to act as CUSU's chief spokesperson to outside organisations, including the University and the media; to maintain affiliation ties with JCRs and MCRs; to chair the Trustee Board; and to have regular meetings with college Presidents and external officers.

My job did not, however, stop there!

As a separately elected member of the University Council and therefore a trustee, I saw the machinations of our institution first-hand; numerous committees and Senate votes make it extraordinarily difficult to create change. For an elected student, in position for only a year, this can be both frustrating and fascinating. Nevertheless, there were some perks – I was particularly thrilled to be at a Development and Alumni Relations event on the starting line at the 2014 Boat Race!

Other forums included the Senior Tutors' Committee, Joint Advisory Committee and the Planning and Resources Committee. Respectively, these groups considered issues such as the availability of counselling, disparity in Kitchen Fixed Charge rates across the University, and future financial and property investments.

Playing politics in Cambridge is not an easy game, with power decentralised through the collegiate University's complex structure. It takes political nous to identify the most influential figures in the institution and to lobby for their support on issues affecting students. One of the most problematic aspects here is the turnover rate of student representatives, who must quickly learn to navigate governance structures and employ great diplomatic tact. Campaigning visibly is absolutely crucial to the work of a students' union; it should empower and mobilise the student body to volunteer and campaign about the causes in which they believe. However, it is equally important that sabbatical officers communicate their members' views strongly through committee channels. Thorough discussions and scrutiny of decisions lay the groundwork for real, institutional change.

Playing politics in Cambridge is not an easy game.

One such institutional change that must be considered is the position and function of committees that are inaccessible to student representatives. There are currently Freedom of Information Act appeals under review regarding access to the minutes of these meetings, which remain unavailable. It is my firm belief that discussions concerning issues directly affecting students should be made open to student representatives at the highest levels. I frequently sought greater access for student representatives and I know

that subsequent sabbatical officer teams will continue to do the same.

However, while lobbying for greater levels of student representation and tackling difficult issues, our team made a concerted effort to work constructively with individuals and committees across the University. I believe it was our positive approach that led to our team taking numerous policy papers, reports and plans to committees, and which built on earlier teams' work to develop trust between the students' union and the University.

Outside the Old Schools building (the administrative centre of the University), my main projects while in office were two long-term documents about the future of the union: CUSU's first strategic plan and a proposal for a new student hub at the University Centre. These documents were significant triumphs for an organisation sometimes viewed by senior members of the University as unreliable and disruptive. Backed up by several years' worth of survey data and subsequent analysis, we developed an exciting vision to make CUSU more efficient, communicative and engaged.

I am immensely proud of the 2013/14 CUSU sabbatical team and everything they did while in office to better the lives of students. Taking a brief look at just some of the numerous schemes, events and awards, you will see the breadth of our work and our efforts to be student-led and student-focused.

In 2013 CUSU won a bid for funds from the National Union of Students (NUS) to run our first Student-Led Teaching Awards.

Jia Hui Lee, CUSU Education Officer, pioneered the scheme, where students voted for excellent teachers, be they lecturers, tutors or supervisors, over a number of weeks. We also celebrated the invaluable contribution that administrative staff make to every department and faculty. The winners were chosen by a student panel and announced at our awards evening, which was a resounding success. Occasions like this bring together our increasingly diverse student and teacher populations, and are an opportunity to encourage and celebrate one another. Many of the teachers who received awards were deeply moved by the positive comments that they received from their students.

Another particular triumph was CUSU's groundbreaking Sexual Health Scheme, developed entirely by Helen Hoogewerf-McComb, 2013/14 CUSU and GU Welfare Officer, and 2014/15 CUSU President. Helen made this scheme available to every single undergraduate and graduate in Cambridge by overseeing research into our previous scheme, writing a successful bid for funding, creating the blueprint for our new scheme, and training college representatives to deliver the scheme at twenty-nine of Cambridge's thirty-one colleges. Ensuring the health and well-being of students is CUSU's *raison d'être*, and this scheme continues to do so excellently.

CUSU's brilliant Ethical Affairs team, run entirely by student volunteers, spearheaded our successful effort to achieve Gold Award green status through an environmental accreditation and awards scheme run by the NUS. Vigour and commitment drove this

team to achieve more than any of CUSU's other volunteers during my year in office. They ran an Ethical Festival, bringing together campaigners, charities and green businesses to raise awareness and activity about the environment among students. They rightly won the Best Volunteer Team award at CUSU's Student Awards 2014, for their diligent and inspirational work.

CUSU has five autonomous campaigns providing specific representation for groups of students: The BME (Black Minority Ethnic) Campaign, International Students Campaign, Women's Campaign, LGBT+ Campaign and Disabled Students Campaign. These five groups ran countless events, marches and training sessions for their members. The Women's Campaign led by Lauren Steele ended ten years of campaigning about poor street lighting on Parker's Piece with a landmark victory. They lobbied colleges, resulting in compulsory consent workshops for incoming first-years and ran a hugely successful 'Reclaim the Night' rally. The BME Campaign continues to stand in solidarity with other students globally, and ran a highly successful 'I, Too, Am Cambridge' photo campaign, building on a similar project at Harvard earlier in 2014. They organised thought-provoking events including film screenings, panel discussions and a brand new web forum for BME students.

And finally, CUSU's exemplary access work continues to expand. The annual Shadowing Scheme enables pupils from state schools who may not have considered attending university to visit Cambridge for a weekend.

They are paired with a student and accommodated in a college. They take part in lectures and classes, and enjoy social opportunities with their peers and current Cambridge students. During 2013/14 the scheme had the highest number of participants to date, with more colleges pledging rooms for the visitors and even greater consensus across the University for supporting the scheme. This would not have been a success without countless volunteers and considerable effort from the staff and sabbatical teams at CUSU.

But it wasn't all plain sailing; challenges arose frequently. Primarily, apathy pervades in Cambridge. Students are, of course, incredibly busy with study, sport and social life. Generally, they give little thought to the role of a central students' union in an environment that, for many, almost exclusively revolves around their college. For example, the Sexual Health Scheme, designed and run by CUSU, reaches them through their JCR Welfare Officer, so a CUSU success goes unnoticed. It has always been difficult for CUSU to be perceived as vital to student life because much of its work necessarily occurs on collegiate committees. Following an initial research project that took place during my year in office, a shake-up of CUSU's democratic structures and volunteering opportunities is underway. Our hope is that this reform will dramatically improve participation in, and awareness of, CUSU.

A particular challenge for me was our referendum in April 2014 to reform aspects of our governing documents, in order to


make some of these changes. Unfortunately it was held at that time of the year when students' lives are overtaken by revision and impending exams, and we fell 1.6 per cent short of our required turnout of 10 per cent of the student body voting yes to our proposals. Concurrently we also had sabbatical officer elections with only one candidate running for some of the positions. These failures were difficult for the whole sabbatical team. After nine months of intense work, often with at least twelve-hour days in the office, it was extremely difficult to see our plans fail. Morale was low across the office. Following this, I learnt how to unite the team again and to build motivation to finish our time in office positively.

CUSU must be better resourced to campaign with and for students.

Staying within CUSU a moment longer, I must make the point that Cambridge's students' union continues to be woefully underfunded. It is the only SU in the country not to receive a 'block grant' of funding from the institution, which can be spent as CUSU's Council and trustees decide. Even Oxford now has a grant of £750,000 per year. CUSU's funding is piecemeal, offered after a new bidding process every year against every other department in the institution. There is, on the whole, little to no guarantee that staff members can be kept on, which makes it very difficult for the sabbatical team to plan for the future. CUSU still relies on affiliation

fees from college JCRs and MCRs – extremely unpopular with students – which have been frozen for the past several years and have therefore fallen in value. For the Union to function effectively, a new solution must be developed through dialogue with the University. It is CUSU's constitutional mandate to support both undergraduate and graduate students; as the graduate student population expands, CUSU must be better resourced to campaign with and for those students, and provide them with excellent advice, services and support.

Our successes and challenges have changed me. I am productive and impatient with inefficiency, confident and clear in decision-making, and sensitive and encouraging as

I mentor others. Being President of CUSU improved my ability to speak eloquently and diplomatically, and it showed me just a little of what it takes to lead and support a team. I have taken such a lot from the job that I hope I was able to give just a little of that back to an organisation that does such excellent work in challenging circumstances. As a participant on the 2015 Teach First scheme, I will use all I have learnt to engage my students. I hope one day to lead a team again as part of the senior leadership of a school, and subsequently to move into education policy. Should I be successful, much of that will be down to my formative time at CUSU. 

Felicity Goodlet

RICHARD JONES

(2011) is studying for a PhD in History at St John's.

'Have you completely lost the plot?!'

This was the reaction from one of my colleagues in the History Faculty just after I had told him I would be running for President of the Graduate Union, and had asked for his vote. It was, perhaps, not the reaction I was looking for. Whereas CUSU is famously detached from most of the student community, the Graduate Union is famous – or perhaps even infamous – within the University for undergoing severe governance issues every few years. In 2012/13 these were quite extraordinary, even by the standards of the GU.



I had never thought I would find myself quite so involved in the world of student politics. Back in January 2013, I was happily absorbed in the second year of my PhD in History, exploring the faction fights between different groups of stakeholders when gas and water suppliers were taken to municipal ownership in Britain at the end of the nineteenth century. It was then that the students' union equivalent of the 'men in grey suits' approached me and asked if I would consider getting involved. While the process of reconstructing the GU would be arduous, it also provided an opportunity to reshape the Union as I saw fit to benefit the graduate community of Cambridge. The chance to undertake this sort of complete reconstruction project doesn't appear often – particularly in the realm of academic governance, with the focus on making decisions through large committees (more on that shortly). I decided to go for it.

I faced only one other candidate in the election to be President, and after a gruelling build-up to the vote, that person was disqualified just before voting opened, after a series of campaign irregularities. I was named President at the beginning of March, and hit the books to work on my thesis until my sabbatical role began officially in July. Things became complicated after my predecessor – the 2012/13 President – was suddenly removed from office in May after a vote of no confidence. A power vacuum could have emerged, but this was plugged by the graduate students who came forward from all over the University to serve in the new GU, and I would like to record my gratitude to them again here. We broadly settled the draft of the new constitution during the summer,

so that we could spend most of the academic year doing the real work of a students' union. The job of Graduate Union President splits into two parts: running the GU as a charity with a budget of some £280,000 each year and up to sixty active student volunteers; and representing the interests of Cambridge's graduate community to the University and colleges. This is something Cambridge is actually really good at: student representatives are voting members of almost all of the University's major decision-making bodies. I found myself a member of nearly forty committees, sub-committees and working groups, spanning issues from visa restrictions for international students to a governance review of the University's relationship with the colleges.

However closely student representatives might find themselves working with other members, it is important to remember that we are there representing the consumer interest, whereas almost everybody else around the table will be involved in 'producing' the educational experience in Cambridge. Some of the main issues during my year were the move towards an integrated University and college fee for graduate students (they had previously been separate) and rewriting the Code of Practice for Research Students, which sets out the terms for a research degree here. The issues arising from the fee negotiations were particularly interesting: what do graduate students actually get out of their membership of a college? As a Johnian, I have an entirely atypical experience: the provision made for graduate students at St John's is outstanding, and about as far removed as possible from

some of the issues that graduate students at other colleges encounter.

As it was explained to me by a retired Fellow at my Matriculation Dinner, it isn't just the size of the endowment at St John's that underpins this, but the high expectations that run through every area of life in the College. Across all the things that really matter – accommodation, tutorial support, services running during vacations, interaction with the Fellowship, food and atmosphere – St John's offers the pre-eminent graduate experience in Cambridge. I tried to channel this approach whenever I found myself involved in discussions between colleges about the graduate experience, and found the best use of my involvement was to try and codify as much as possible in writing. This formalises arrangements, which have often grown organically and incrementally over many years, and provides clear avenues of redress – on both sides – when things are felt to have gone wrong. One of the major victories for students during my year was shifting the focus of the Code of Practice for Research Students to be increasingly understood also as a code of practice for those who supervise research students, allowing for easier and earlier interventions when the relationship between a PhD student and his or her supervisor deteriorates.


I also encountered some opposition from other historians regarding why I was taking a year away from my PhD, and whether I was in danger of becoming 'one of them' – an administrator. I was slightly embarrassed by this initially, but as I saw more of how Cambridge works, I realised that this University is special in being an academic-led

institution to a far greater extent than any other British university, and this is only possible because a small number of academics take sabbaticals away from their core teaching and research in order to lead the University and oversee the administration. Once I explained this, and raised the spectre of Cambridge being led by administrators if academics didn't come forward for these jobs, my fellow historians became extremely keen on the idea of sabbatical leave for academic governance!

I raised the spectre of Cambridge being led by administrators if academics didn't come forward.

While I was President, I ran for re-election for the third student seat on the University Council, and won. This meant that I continued serving on Council this year as a trustee and governor of the University, with oversight across the spectrum of its £1.7 billion annual budget. I have continued to push for Cambridge's systems of governance to be strengthened, particularly in the relationship between the colleges and University, and in the way Cambridge approaches philanthropy and benefactions. As the way universities raise money changes, this is likely to become an increasingly important part of academic, as well as administrative, life.

Last year many students still associated me with the GU, but when they stopped me in the street to offer their feedback on the GU in 2014/15, I could smile and explain that I wasn't the President any longer, but that there was a robust constitution in place

setting out exactly how they could make their voice heard. And then when I returned to my desk, I did so safe in the knowledge that no matter how difficult the relationships were between those involved in gas and water companies in Victorian Britain, very little can be as chaotic as the Graduate Union in the summer of 2013. 

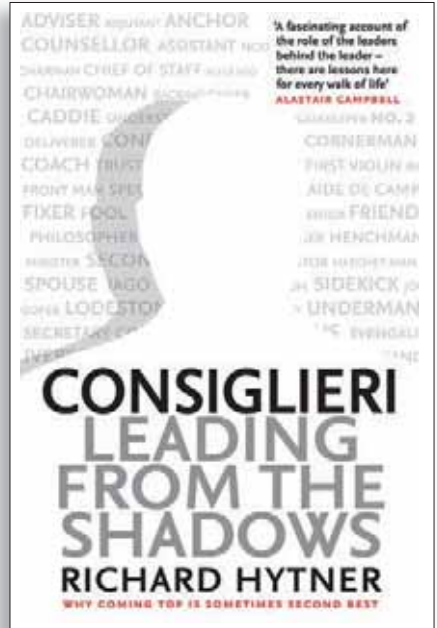
Richard Jones

IT'S TIME FOR A C CHANGE

Richard Hytner (1978) is Deputy Chairman of Saatchi & Saatchi Worldwide, and Adjunct Professor of Marketing at London Business School. His first book, *Consiglieri: Leading From the Shadows*, was published by Profile Books in the UK and the USA in 2014, and in Russia and China in 2015.

'First the worst, second the best, third the one with the hairy chest.'

That rule of the playground didn't make the rounds at my primary school, nor did I hear it in First, Second or Third Court in St John's back in the late 1970s. I only found out that being first might be worst, or at least second best, when I went back to school, aged forty-three. At London Business School I discovered that life without the CEO's armband, the PA and the car-parking space felt like unbridled liberation. Four years later, towards the end of my tenure as CEO of Saatchi & Saatchi Europe, Middle East & Africa, I reflected that I was rarely happy making the big, ugly decisions, and far more happy – and effective – influencing the cause. So I decided to become a deputy instead of an all-singing, all-dancing, always-deciding CEO. Being second became my first choice. It proved to be the best one of my career.



I was rarely happy making the big, ugly decisions, and far more happy – and effective – influencing the cause.

I have wondered ever since why academics, management practitioners and leadership commentators focus on firsts; and why seconds get such little recognition. The regrettable conclusion is that the roles of deputy, adviser, counsellor, assistant – the 'anybody-but-the-number-one' – are seen as less worthwhile and less desirable for ambitious and aspiring leaders. Our relationship with hierarchy remains unhealthy: you are a Number One or a Number Who; the supreme leader or a subordinate heeder. No head for the giddy heights of the top job? You must be a leadership also-ran.



Photo: Paramount Pictures/Movipix/Getty Images

Tom Hagen (Robert Duvall) is the most infamous on-screen *consigliere*, always in the shadow of Don Corleone (Marlon Brando) in *The Godfather*.

We badly need people who are willing to lead from the limelight, decision-makers who are unafraid of the media's punitive glare. Tough decisions are the daily bread of orchestra conductors, naval commanders, chief executives, managers, masters and ministers. While we feel the weight of these tough decisions, they feel the excitement of them. At their best, these leaders – let's call them 'A's, ultimately 'Accountable leaders' – are driven, single-minded, competitive, risk-taking and fearless. They grasp situations quickly, cope with adversity calmly and get the best out of those around them. They are cool in a crisis and, intoxicated by the adrenalin of action, turned on by turnarounds.

Leadership is a collective endeavour, however, and will always reach far beyond the boss's office, the throne-room, the field of play and the stage because no one person can fulfil all the duties of the leading light. Even in organisations with humble, self-aware,

emotionally wise leaders, the corridors of power will be packed with *consiglieri* who check, coach and challenge the ultimately accountable leader.

Consiglieri, advisers to Mafia Dons, made famous by Mario Puzo's novel *The Godfather*, lead from the shadows, with different motivations to those they serve. The *consiglieri* whom I have researched across the worlds of business, sport, politics and the arts, and on whom I shine a temporary light in my book, operate in more legitimate fields. These 'C's, both historical and modern-day, are leader-makers and leaders in their own right, performing roles in which they make, shape, illuminate and enhance the success of the out-and-out A boss and the organisation.

Admire them or not, there is learning to be had from the study of some artful *consiglieri* (some of them specialising in dark arts) who have followed on from Tom Hagen's C to

Don Corleone's A. In politics, think Director of Communications Alastair Campbell to Tony Blair, or any number of Blair's diverse circle of counsellors, including Peter Mandelson, Philip Gould, Andrew Adonis, Jonathan Powell and Anji Hunter. George W. Bush looked variously to Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld and Karl Rove; Franklin D. Roosevelt to Harry Hopkins; Valerie Jarrett acts as a lightning rod of resentment for President Obama; Bharatiya Janata Party President Amit Shah enforces for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi; and German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble has the ear of Chancellor Angela Merkel. In the corporate world, Sheryl Sandberg fixes for Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg; Tim Cook was Steve Jobs's back of house operations chief at Apple and now Cook looks to Lisa Jackson, Jonathan Ive, Angela Ahrendts and record-producer/ rapper Dr Dre for operational support and perspective. In sport, David Gill may have had the CEO's title at Manchester United, but his role was to give Manager Sir Alex Ferguson all that he needed to run the

club and to eliminate anything that got in his way. Sir Dave Brailsford describes himself as the orchestra conductor for British cyclists Sir Bradley Wiggins and Chris Froome, and cornermen Floyd Mayweather Sr and Freddie Roach act as official seconds for their firsts, Floyd Mayweather Jr and Manny Pacquiao. Around the world, a host of other *consiglieri* serve their famous A leaders and remain lesser-known because they value their privacy and are well-practised in the art of staying hidden in plain view.

The cast list of Cs on whom the A depends can be extensive. In business it will include the directors of finance, strategy, operations and human resources, as well as team leaders and others close to the seat of power, such as a chief of staff, project manager or executive assistant. The successful CEO usually has half a dozen people that he or she trusts absolutely and listens to, two or three constant 'deputies', plus a handful of others who come in and out of the inner circle. Don Corleone prescribed a *consigliere* for war and another for peace.



Photo: Bloomberg/Getty Images

Sheryl Sandberg is one of Mark Zuckerberg's closest friends and advisers at Facebook.

There are some people who choose the C role simply out of aversion to the awfulness of the A role, with its sleepless nights and relentless scrutiny. We heap unrealistic performance expectations on our top dogs and feign shock when they fail to meet them. The roll call of rolling heads takes longer to read each year, as do the well-intentioned euphemisms for ritual sacrifice: 'We appreciate all that Alice has done for us. She has been with us for over four months now, so we appreciate her need for a fresh challenge.' 'Thank you Alan, we respect your need to spend more time with your family.' 'For some time now we have been in discussions with Sir Andrew about the future direction of the school, so we were saddened, though not surprised, by Sir Andrew's decision to make this day his last with us.'

We are reluctant to relinquish the crippling short horizons on which we judge managers in charge of football teams, leaders in charge of political parties or CEOs in charge of complex, often multinational, companies. Rarely occupied for longer than six years, the average CEO's corner office is more often vacated before the pot plant has had time to blossom. Marissa Mayer's status as the darling of Yahoo has been shockingly short-lived. The stock may have tripled since she joined the company three years ago, but investors impatient for immediate returns are calling for a rescue by AOL. Need more time Ms Mayer? Yahoo sucks to us, so Yahoo sucks to you.

Here's what Robert Gates, who worked for both Presidents Bush and Obama, has to say about life at the top:

The challenge for historians and journalists and memoirists is how to convey the crushing effect of dealing daily with multiple problems, pivoting on a dime every few minutes from one issue to another, having to quickly absorb reporting from many different sources on each problem, and then making decisions, always with too little time and too much ambiguous information.

Applauding A leaders' performances, gasping in admiration and following them on Twitter are minor inconveniences for Cs given the slice of the organisation's stress that As willingly consume.

The majority of *consiglieri*, however, are not simply escaping the top dog's life; they positively embrace their roles. They have learnt the joys of influencing As who they admire and respect. They wish to be close to power and to have autonomy to get their jobs done. They are insatiable learners and get their kicks by being the person through whom every decision has to be made. When a crisis arises, the A rings them up. The feeling of indispensability can be a bit of an addiction, a galvanising motivation for the C. In the words of Margaret Thatcher, describing her dependence on Lord Whitelaw, 'Everyone needs a Willie' and, for the most part, it feels good to be the Willie that's needed.

The best Cs liberate their As, lightening their load; they educate their As through their fresh ideas, applied creativity and wisdom; they anchor their As, keeping them

authentic until their excessive narcissism finally wins out, which inevitably it will; and they make things happen, either directly or through others.

Paul Deighton (now Lord Deighton) was the fixer for Olympic Games frontman Lord Coe. As head of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Deighton oversaw a workforce of around 100,000 and procured £700 million worth of contracts. Deighton was a virtual unknown at the time, operating outside the considerable spotlight shining on former athlete Coe. Generously, Coe credits not just Deighton's extraordinary ability to deliver, but also his sense of humour – another quality that C leaders need in abundance:

Paul is supremely gifted and quickly grasped the complexity of the Olympic and Paralympic project. He worked tirelessly to create secure, robust relationships that gave confidence globally that we would deliver the Games we promised we would in Singapore. He always understood the nourishing and sustaining role of laughter at such an all-consuming time of our life.

Perhaps the C's greatest quality is an ability to subsume the ego, if not entirely then to the extent that deep contentment can be found in a life spent in the shade. C leadership is, for the most part, a private pleasure. It involves ceding cash, status (beyond a subtle association with the A), recognition, ultimate control and, at least temporarily, the ambition to be A.



William Cecil, Lord Burghley, was chief adviser to Queen Elizabeth I for most of her reign.

The most useful job description might be that which Elizabeth I gave to our very own Johnian William Cecil when promoting him on 20 November 1558:

I give you this charge, that you shall be on my privy council and content yourself to take pains for me and my realm. This judgement I have of you: that you will not be corrupted with any manner of gift, and that you will be faithful to the state, and that, without respect of my private will, you will give me that counsel that you think best. And if you shall know

anything necessary to be declared unto me of secrecy, you shall show it to myself only, and assure yourself I will not fail to keep taciturnity therein. And therefore herewith I charge you.

Cecil's avuncular advice, straight-talking and readiness to speak truth to power earned him this commendation from his queen: 'No prince in Europe hath a counsellor like mine.' It is easy to want the top job, less easy to know whether being the ultimate decision-maker is right for you. Do you really wish to be an A, the main attraction and the ace of absolute accountability, or might you prefer to be a key C, who leads, influences, counsels, guides and helps the A deliver? Some people are markedly predisposed to one type of leadership. Yet, like great sportspeople, musicians and politicians, great leaders are capable of mastering different positions on the field, of playing more than one instrument, of grasping a new brief. Some of the best midfielders in football began as strikers. When they dropped back into midfield, they understood intuitively when to release the ball, and when to keep it.

We need to end the misguided myth of the single, heroic leader and replace it with a series of relationships right across the organisation where responsibilities are clearly defined, where leadership is not the preserve of the tiny few and where opportunities to become the complete leader, playing both A and C roles, are made available early and often. We need more rigour in the management of the relationships at the top, between the first and seconds, and between the seconds.

We need bosses like mine who concluded that I was not past my usefulness just because I did not want his job. We need leaders to value their leading cast members and to give them the space, time and focus to be the best supporting leaders they can be. And, finally, we need more leaders to be content to lead without always having to be the A.

We need to end the misguided myth of the single, heroic leader.

When US Vice-President Walter Mondale was running for president, one of his rivals for the Democratic nomination, Eugene McCarthy, was asked his opinion of Mondale. His reply – 'He has the soul of a vice-president' – was one reason why Mondale never became president. By shining the spotlight on the role of the Cs, I hope to transform slurs like McCarthy's into high praise. The Mafia kings have commissioned more than enough envy, admiration, articles and books. It's time to examine and celebrate the *consiglieri* that make them tick.

It's time for a C change. 

Richard Hytner

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

A new College President was elected in May 2015, to succeed the Revd Duncan Dormor. Below, Professor Jane Heal explains the role of the President and the many daily duties involved. Her reflections are followed by an introduction to the incoming President, Dr Frank Salmon, who takes office on 1 October.

PROFESSOR JANE HEAL

studied History and then Moral Sciences at New Hall, Cambridge, 1964–68, and came to St John’s as a Fellow in Philosophy in 1986. She served as President of the College between 1999 and 2003.

The office of President has existed from the earliest days of the College. Bishop Fisher’s Statutes of 1530 specify the role in terms very similar to those of the current Statute X(2), which reads, ‘The President shall attend, under the Master, to the good government of the Fellows, Scholars, Students, Officers, and Servants of the College. He shall enforce the observance of the Statutes, act as the Master’s deputy in his absence, and perform such other acts as are prescribed by these Statutes.’

Prominent among the ‘other acts’, both now and when the College was founded, is ensuring the orderly election of a new Master when that is required, by summoning a meeting of the electors and overseeing the voting.

One thing, however, has changed since the early days: how the President is chosen. The 1530 Statutes require that the President be chosen by the senior Fellows from among themselves. Now, Statute X(1) lays down that the President shall be elected from

Being President is not conceived as a full-time job.

among the Fellows of the College by the Governing Body as a whole. The early Statutes also stress the disciplinary role of the Master and the duty of the President to back up the Master. Now, the President’s role in relation to the Fellows is more that of representing them and keeping an eye out for their interests, than that of disciplining them. It is still the case that, should there be misbehaviour by some Fellow, it falls to the President to have a quiet word. However, this looms much less large among Presidential occupations in these democratic and well-behaved times than doubtless it did in the turbulent days of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

So what now, in the continuing round of College life and business, does the President actually do? It should be noted first that being President is not conceived as a full-time job. Rather, the President typically brings to the office the perspective of holding at the same time some other substantive role, in the College or University, being thus more like the captain of a team than the coach. And

balancing the commitments of the Presidency with those of the other role may require the planning and juggling of interests.

A fair amount of the President's time is spent attending committee meetings, and hence reading committee papers (on tablets these days) and consulting about College affairs. This is because the President, although not required by Statute to be a member of Council, in practice is always such. And in addition to the Council, the President sits on various other committees. These include ones where decisions on central matters, of finance, development and the like, are taken. Here the President holds a watching brief, keeping an eye out for the interests of the Fellowship in general and also for the observance of the Statutes, where this may come into question. Other committees are chaired by the President, often those dealing with matters of internal College arrangements, such as the disposition of Fellows' rooms or College entertainments.

The academic rites of passage and other significant events that shape the College's year are ever-present in the President's diary. These include the matriculation of new students, admission of new Fellows, Admission of Scholars, the Commemoration of Benefactors, awards of prizes, celebratory dinners, memorial services and many others. Although some duties at some of these events are assigned by custom to the President, the central roles in these ceremonies are typically played by the Master, Senior Bursar, Dean, Tutor or other College Officer, as appropriate. But the President will be there on most such occasions. The President's

attendance (and, of course, that of all others present) marks the importance of the events for the College. The President represents the Fellowship at the events and also encourages collegial and convivial spirit at the accompanying social occasions.

Linking in with this, it is part of the role of the President to be socially active in College, attending (and in some cases organising) dinners, desserts, wine circles and parties of various kinds. Important among these are events for new arrivals in the senior member community, which these days include not only Fellows, but also College Teaching and Research Associates, and Overseas Scholars. The President's role is to welcome them, to explain the College, and to be a known and friendly face to whom enquiries can always be directed. The President also lunches and dines fairly frequently, thus maximising the chances of coming to know most members of the College community.

The College can offer many benefits to those associated with it, including accommodation, meals, access to facilities and the like, and many different groups of people are associated with the College, more or less closely and for longer or shorter periods. Much is laid down and well understood about which benefits go with which status, but among all this variety there are bound to be tricky cases, where the President will be called on to clarify and arbitrate.

The well-being of the College as a rich and complicated academic community is the concern of all its members. But it will be

seen from the above that central to the role of President is giving explicit thought and time to many matters that are important to that well-being, and encouraging the activities by which the community continually renews itself. As with the team, the President aims to lead by example in doing this, and benefits from the support of all fellow members. 🌐

Professor Jane Heal

DR FRANK SALMON

is a College Lecturer in Architecture and the History of Art, and Director of Studies and Senior University Lecturer in the latter. He has been a Fellow of St John's since 2006, and a Tutor since 2008.

It is a huge privilege to have been elected to serve as the College's next President and I am much looking forward to taking up the role in October, even though Duncan Dormor's exemplary tenure will be a hard act to follow. As Jane Heal has written, the role goes back to the earliest days of the College; it was introduced in the 1524 first revision of Bishop Fisher's Statutes, to cope with the fact that the Master was having to travel away from Cambridge a lot in the quest to establish the new College's endowment. The current four-year fixed term is a relatively modern innovation, however, dating only from the 1960s. Before that a ten- to twenty-year stretch was not uncommon. Indeed, Thomas Thurlin had even clocked up thirty years as President by the time of his death in 1714.




His contemporary Humphrey Gower occupied the Master's Lodge for the thirty-two years from 1679 to 1711, so constancy in governance was then the order of the day. Thurlin presumably played a quiet part in helping Gower steer the College through the crisis of the Glorious Revolution, when a third of the Fellows refused to take the oath of allegiance to William and Mary and should, in theory, have been ejected as a result. The current restriction on Presidents being younger than seventy is also recent. John Mayor was eighty-four when he died in office in 1910 – to be succeeded by the eighty-two-year-old George Downing Livinge, who carried on until he was run down by a female cyclist when he was ninety-six!

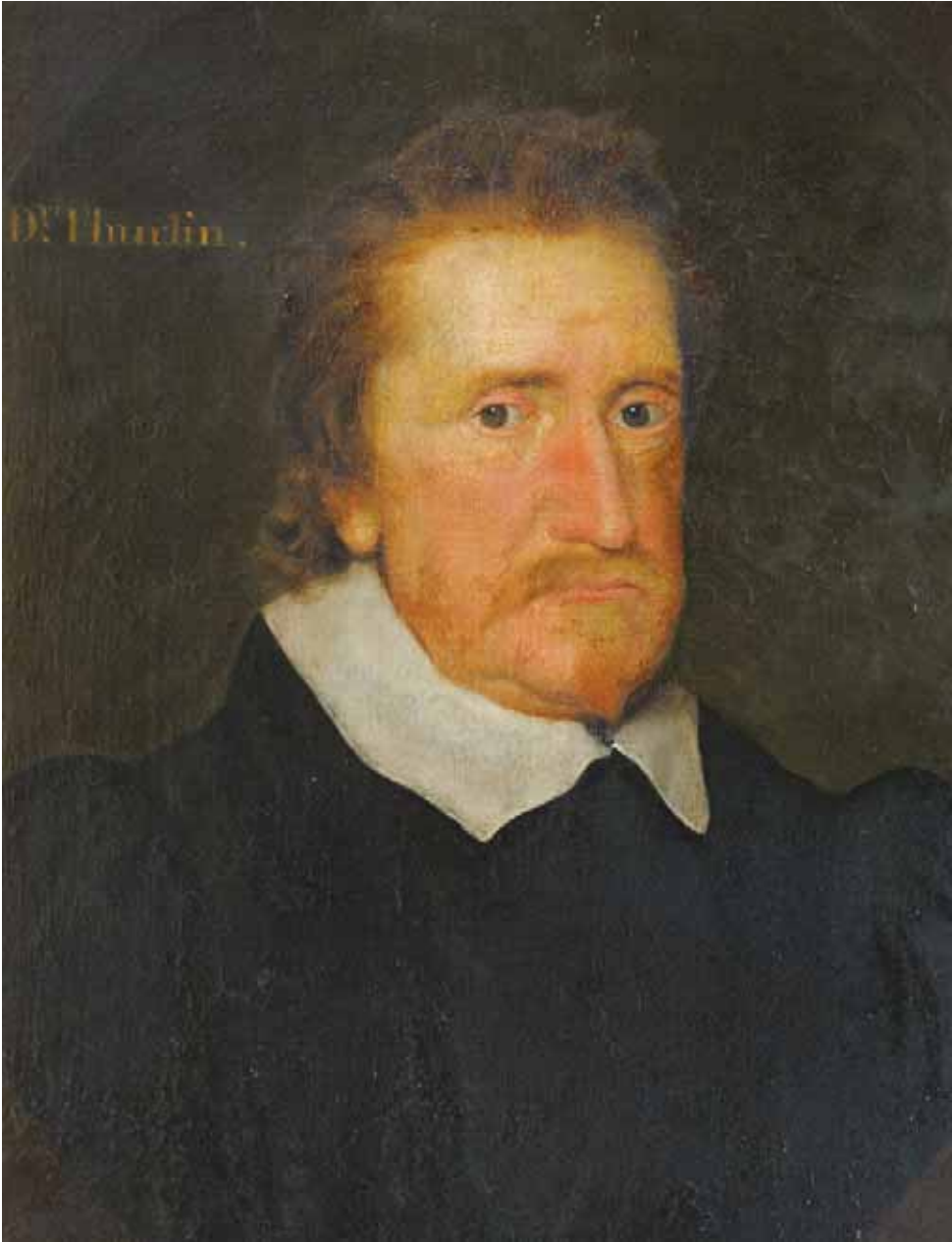
I am an architectural historian, and thus have a particular concern for the College's buildings.

That was in 1924. Nearly a century later the College is a very different place, with over 160 Fellows. Many of these hold University posts, as do I, and for them the balance of time and professional commitment has perhaps shifted in that direction. Also, in an age when older parenting is more common, a lot of Fellows have young children at home well into mid-career, as do I, so that fewer evenings in Hall and weekend activities in College can be managed. On the other hand, Life and retired Fellows now amount to approximately one-third of the total number. One question I

therefore hope colleagues will help me answer over the coming years is that of what it means to be a Fellow of a great college such as St John's in the early twenty-first century. In so mixed an economy there will be no singular response, of course. It is surely good, however, to focus periodically on what we want and expect our collegiate community to be, and especially so at this moment in time because, on 29 July next year, it will be exactly 500 years since the Chapel's licence was granted, the doors were opened to students and St John's announced itself to the world as formally up and running.

As readers will already have noted, I am a historian who, whilst looking at the present and to the future, also retains a keen interest in the past and in what tradition can do for us. More specifically, I am an architectural historian, and thus have a particular concern for the College's buildings, from the sixteenth-century foundation up to the present day. This is something I cannot imagine setting aside, even as I pick up responsibility for helping Fellows, students and staff, and for advising the Master in numerous other areas. As returning Johnians will know, the College's physical fabric largely remains a happy constant, even when the College Officers they knew in their time have changed. One thing I can assure them of when they visit, however, is a warm welcome from the person who happens to have the honour of holding the Presidency for the next four years. 

Dr Frank Salmon



Long-serving College President Thomas Thurlin.

HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE THE EXTRAORDINARY IN WORK, LIFE OR PLAY?

John O'Keeffe (1967) studied Chemical Engineering at St John's, and played hockey for England at the age of nineteen. He then had a twenty-eight-year career with Procter & Gamble, reaching the Global Executive Committee (top twenty). John has used his experiences to develop training to achieve extraordinary results. His work can be found at www.businessbeyondthebox.com and www.newgolftinking.com.



My goal has been to make this the most valuable article you have ever read in your life, or will ever read. And for that to be true for every Johnian reader. Think about it. That would be an extraordinary result. I've already taken a couple of key steps to achieving it. The first and important step has been to

choose that extraordinary result as my aim. I have now taken a second step, by committing myself publicly to that aim. These steps have driven me to a far higher calibre of work on the article than would have been achieved with a lesser aim.

By contrast, when you or others in your organisation start off your day, what sort of results are you seeking? Which of these three levels is your aim closest to: results that are bad, business-as-usual, or breathtaking? Most people agree that the level they are aiming for is 'a bit better than business-as-usual'. Some may claim to aim for breathtaking, but it only needs a little bit of gentle recalibration for them to realise they are not. So the question is this: if you are not aiming for breathtaking results, how on earth will you ever achieve them? There is often an unspoken hope that, if we continue with business-as-usual each day, one day a miracle will happen and all the daily headwinds against top performance will disappear, to be replaced by huge tailwinds, and we'll end up with breathtaking results.

You won't. It's like trying to win the lottery without buying a ticket.

That's some early learning; you'll never achieve the extraordinary by accident. You need to aim for it, and commit to it. The person on top of the mountain didn't fall there.

So how will I achieve the extraordinary and make this article the most valuable you'll ever read? By saddling you with one simple, yet powerful, torture-test question, which we will begin to answer now, and which you can carry with you and ask in many situations for the rest of your life. It is this:

'What can I do **now** to achieve **breakthrough** results in this?'

This question is a torture test for three reasons.

You'll never achieve the extraordinary by accident. You need to aim for it, and commit to it.

Firstly, it demands that you think about what would represent breakthrough results – not just results that are better than last time, or better than budget, or better than could have been expected in the circumstances. It seeks truly breakthrough results. Secondly, it asks you to consider what you can do on your own, and now, even if nothing else changes, and you are the sole warrior. Thirdly, it is not restricted by sphere of performance. It seeks the universal and timeless techniques that you can apply to

achieve the extraordinary in any aspect of work, life and play.

Before we come to the specific answers to the question, let us consider a couple of complementary questions whose answers will help.

Why is it that we've all had the experience that, in a crisis, people and organisations perform brilliantly, but after the crisis they drift back to a business-as-usual level of performance, which is substantially below what they showed themselves capable of in the crisis? So is there a way to achieve crisis-like performance, without the crisis?

Is there a way to cut through today's 24/7 hurly-burly of activity, fuelled by back-to-back meetings and calls, and interspersed by avalanches of messaging – such that it seems a major achievement (and some mistakenly see it as the objective) to keep up with the hour to hour, let alone carve out the time, space and mental energy to create the extraordinary?

I've been seeking the answer to these questions for most of my life. I had already learned some of the answers at Cambridge, without realising it at the time; and it came not from the Chemical Engineering labs, but by being in the GB Olympic Programme for two years. Looking back, I realise I learnt to take on the awesome challenge of aiming to truly be, and measurably be, the very best in the world at something; that's a level of ambition well above the rather trite, commonplace claims to be seeking 'world-class' performance made by many

organisations today. I learnt at a young age that, to achieve this, great talent alone is never enough: will, drive and determination are key. And I learnt how you self-motivate, to translate a goal that might be many years in the future into sacrifices that you will make, and actions you will take, this very day.

In a crisis, people and organisations perform brilliantly, but after the crisis they drift back to business-as-usual.

I pursued the answers as I rose through the ranks in a global career with Procter & Gamble (P&G), an organisation full of very talented people. Why was I achieving breakthrough results that were earning me promotions, and others not? I did not think I was more talented. And why could all of them perform brilliantly in a crisis, but only a few special ones achieve that level day in, day out? What were those special ones doing? I learnt that they simply had a very different way of thinking and a very different way of acting. And that these should be teachable techniques. I left P&G to establish a world-class training programme on how to achieve breakthrough results, some of which I will share here.

The fundamental answer to these questions is this: to achieve breakthrough results in any area of life you need to focus on three things: BIG thinking, BOLD action and IRON intentionality. You may be able to suggest ten or twenty more things that contribute, but experience from around the world, in all spheres of performance, shows these to be the top three.

This is supported by a Japanese saying: ‘Thinking without action is a daydream; action without thinking is a nightmare.’ And beyond these two, all those who have achieved success know that a third ingredient is also needed, what we call ‘intentionality’ – that requisite combination of determination, drive, iron will, desire, commitment, mental energy, resilience and so forth.

So to achieve extraordinary results at anything, commit to making changes in each of these three areas. A short article cannot give you the specific techniques on how to do this, but let me provide below some starter thoughts in each area, which hopefully will give you the momentum to enquire further.

BIG THINKING

Nowadays, is most of your thinking reactive? Are you reacting to incoming messages and getting trapped in back-to-back sessions with no preparation time? Reactive thinking will only ever produce incremental progress at best.

Instead there are three main strategies for effective breakthrough thinking. I will just cover the first strategy, which is to start by proactively ‘picturing a step-change’ rather than ‘being happy doing a bit better’. Imagine your goal is to touch as high up a wall as you can. You have a mark where you touched it last time; you aim to do better this time. You stretch. This is the problem with ‘stretch goals’ – they put a picture in your mind of doing the same thing you’ve always done, but trying harder. That gets, at best, a stressed incremental progress.

By contrast, picture a step-change of how you could reach not just up the wall, but to the ceiling. That immediately gets rid of incremental thoughts, because you know current stretching will not be enough. Instead the mind moves to thinking of getting a chair or ladder to stand on. Often this process will come up with ideas that are not immediately usable, but we are good at making things work. It is far easier for us to make a powerful idea practical, than it is to make a pedestrian idea powerful.

The main issue is that nowadays you may not have the time for such thinking. But even in the era of George Bernard Shaw, he was able to say, 'Most people don't take the time to think. I made an international reputation for myself by deciding to think twice a week.' And therein lies a starting point for you. Your diary is probably currently very full, but look ahead to future dates and find space to block out two lots of one-hour 'thinking time' each week. Then protect that time from being stolen, as you would for a meeting with the board. It may not be clear to you now what you will need to think about during those periods; what is certain is that, when the time comes round, you will be grateful for the thinking time.

BOLD ACTION

In your current hectic world, are you good at distinguishing between action and activity? And what is the difference between ordinary action and the bold action needed to make big things happen? Unless you start to distinguish, your life will be taken up in endless 'busyness', without achieving the

extraordinary. The key difference between activity and action is that action has both direction and strength. Much of what we do is activity, because although worthy it is not focused on the direction of a step-change goal; it is more of a tangential help only, rather than a direct help. Then again, you will find some activity that is in the direction of a step-change goal, but lacks strength; for example, a meeting on the right subject, but where you are just 'spinning wheels'. By contrast, the bold action you need is a major step forward to achieving a step-change goal.

The issue then becomes how best to generate that action. Often you hear mantras such as 'actions speak louder than words' and 'all talk, no action', and from the Chinese culture 'talking doesn't cook rice'. But unless you do everything yourself, working with and through others requires words and talk. So the issue then becomes 'how to focus on the words that create action'. In the military, the words would be orders, which would be followed to the letter. Between organisations, the words that get action are often those of a formal written contract. Within organisations, the equivalent is a verbal contract. They start with a bold request, 'would you please do a big X by a challenging Y?' And then end up, after discussion and negotiation, with bold verbal contracts. So a key start for you, to generate the action that makes big things happen, is to check 'how many bold requests have I made today?' 'How many bold verbal contracts have I established on this project?'


IRON INTENTIONALITY

A big mistake is to assume that this area is one of individual personality trait, and so is not trainable. It clearly cannot be only a personality trait because you will find the same person is highly driven on one project but not another, or is often quite driven one day but not the next.

One of the easiest ways to move to getting breakthrough results is to improve your intentionality to achieve those breakthrough results. Earlier we talked about three levels: aiming for bad results, business-as-usual or breathtaking. But there are two levels above this: putting your heart and soul into getting breathtaking results, and the highest level – committing to getting breathtaking results, come hell or high water. What are the ways to reach that level five?

Let's look at a way to start you off. Use self-push as well as self-pull. A runner with goals to achieve and a race to win will run fast, but a runner with a man-eating tiger behind him may well run faster, and indeed will likely run a lifetime best. The secret is to do both –

have goals to move towards, but put a tiger behind you to move you away from where you are. That involves getting purposely dissatisfied with the status quo, however good you otherwise think that is. Consider 'a hot shot replaces you': imagine that tomorrow a newcomer takes over your responsibilities and they elect to make a name for themselves by highlighting all the things you haven't done or have done wrong in the job – even if it makes you look stupid – and declaring what they will do to achieve far better results than you did. Consider this, then make that your agenda – from tomorrow.

Has this article achieved the stated goal? Its value may not lie in the relatively few specific techniques there has been room for. More fundamentally, I hope it has disturbed you from your satisfaction with the status quo, opened up the possibility that there are techniques to help you achieve the extraordinary in any area of your life, and triggered an ongoing search for it, rather than staying trapped in business-as-usual. 

John O'Keeffe

A LONG-TERM COLLABORATION

Fellow Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta (1962) and Honorary Fellow Professor Eric Maskin explain the thinking behind their lecture series on economic research, given during Easter term 2015.



Photo: Leslie Griffith

Eric (left) and Partha at Grantchester.

Eric first came to Cambridge in 1975, having just finished his PhD at Harvard under the renowned economist Kenneth Arrow. Eric was interested in Cambridge in part because of C. P. Snow's novels, which gave the place a romantic allure. But the University also had an unparalleled reputation in economics. Indeed, the Johnian Alfred Marshall and his student John Maynard Keynes were among the founders of the modern subject. Arrow gave Eric additional encouragement to come to Cambridge because Frank Hahn, the leading economic theorist in the UK and a professor at the University, was a close friend and collaborator. Eric saw his visit as an

opportunity to continue his education, this time under Hahn's tutelage.

In late autumn 1975, Eric and Partha first met, in the tearoom of the Economics Faculty building on the Sidgwick site. Partha was then a lecturer at the London School of Economics, but as he and his family were living in Cambridge, he visited the faculty from time to time. It was the beginning of what is now nearly forty years of the closest of friendships.

Scientific collaborations are often prompted by a common interest in unsolved problems,

but in our case collaboration was something of an after-thought: a break from discussions on movies, baseball, novels and books on popular science, among many other subjects. Eric was then a bachelor, and once Partha, his wife Carol, and their daughter Zubeida moved to London in spring 1976, Eric made it a point to visit them at weekends. There the friendship grew to include the entire family, which meant his visits now involved preparing gourmet meals (Carol and Eric are both good cooks), teaching Zubeida the music of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin, and playing the piano at her birthday parties. When there was time to spare, we discussed economics.

We soon realised that the prospect in economics that excited us above all else was bringing together seemingly disparate modes of analysis into a unified theoretical framework. At the time we first met, there was a growing literature on the economics of imperfect markets. But the conceptual apparatus used to study such markets differed from case to case, even from author to author. And yet we felt there must be a unifying theoretical construct underlying it all. Our first collaboration was an attempt to provide just that. We made some progress during the next year; Eric got a Research Fellowship at Jesus College, which enabled him to stay on in Cambridge through the spring of 1977. We still had a lot left to do when he returned to the US for a teaching job at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but we used research grants at both our ends to finance his visits to London on a regular basis. This allowed our work to continue, even after the arrival of Carol

and Partha's younger children, Shamik and Aisha. That personal engagements trumped academic collaboration at every step was reflected in the fact that the paper begun in autumn 1975 appeared in print in 1986! Long gaps between the start of joint projects and their publication have been a defining feature of our work together.

Eric's fondness for the UK grew to the point where, at the invitation of Frank Hahn, he returned to Cambridge for another extended stay (1980–82), as an Overseas Fellow at Churchill College. Partha returned to Cambridge in 1985 as Professor of Economics in the University and Fellow of St John's College. Since then our collaboration has continued via telephone calls, letters, and in recent years by email, interspersed with visits by each of us to the other's institution.

Our joint work, which has been strictly theoretical, has often been prompted by stray questions we have asked each other. In one paper we considered whether scientists in a given field are led to choose research projects that are overly similar; we found that under a wide range of circumstances they are! In another, we looked into why pigeons gradually become more 'impatient' and tend to choose a few seeds now over a lot of seeds later; we found that uncertainty in the time when seeds become available later is a defining factor. In a third paper, we investigated why simple majority rule is the 'best' method for electing candidates to political office; we showed that it satisfies the properties one would want in a voting rule more often than any other method.

On Eric's most recent visit, for the duration of Easter term this year, we thought it would be interesting to spice up our collaboration by offering a course of lectures to a general audience on the character of economic research. That idea was not a happenstance. A recurring topic of our conversations over the years has been the purpose of theoretical reasoning in economics. Our discipline is frequently criticised for its inability to make sharp predictions. Worldwide, the criticism became more insistent after the financial crisis of 2008. But economists, unlike weather forecasters, are not usually trying to predict exactly what lies ahead. Instead, they generally focus on explanation: understanding what has already happened to shed light on what economic forces (if not their precise timing) may be at work in the future. On that front, economics has been quite successful. In the course of our discussions we realised that there are further purposes to which economists put theoretical modelling to work.

Models can be parables, in that they may be too simple to be useable directly for empirical investigations but nevertheless helpful as a way of thinking coherently, or checking loose intuitions, about complex phenomena. Models can also be tools for attacking problems that appear repeatedly in very different settings. And models are enlightening in showing that the distinction between 'is' and 'ought' is frequently so blurred that errors in the design of public policy can sometimes be traced to the entanglement of 'facts' and 'values'.

We asked Professor John Toland, Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences at Cambridge and Fellow of St John's,

whether the Institute would be a good place for a set of lectures on models in economics. Not only did John support the idea, he and his colleagues at the Institute provided us with a most welcoming place in which to offer three sessions of afternoon talks (available on the Newton Institute website at www.turing-gateway.cam.ac.uk/rfme_2015_programme.shtml), where we each gave illustrations of models as parables, models as tools, and models that entangle facts and values.

In the first session Partha presented a model in which cooperation among members of a community in the use of a resource that is common property (e.g. village woodlands or grazing fields) is sustained by obedience to social norms. The word 'cooperation' suggests that everyone gains from engaging in it. Partha showed, however, that in some circumstances social norms can sustain allocations of resources and tasks in which some members are actually worse off than they would have been had there been no cooperation. In other words, exploitation by one group of members of another group in the community can masquerade as cooperation. Eric, in turn, illustrated two features of money that continue to intrigue economists. Money is the medium that people in the modern world use for exchanging goods and services. It is also a store of value – we hold money to purchase goods and services in the future even though it may yield no financial return. There are well-known models to explain the latter, but until recently there was nothing convincing that explained the former. Eric presented a stark model to show why it is money, rather than goods themselves, that usually becomes a society's medium of

exchange. Curiously, there has been no unifying model to date that captures both features of money.


In the second session Eric observed that in economics, politics and ecology, people (and even many animals) often need to distinguish between empty threats and those threats that should be expected to be delivered on. Eric showed that there is a simple and powerful way of making this distinction in theoretical models. A similar distinction can be made between social norms that will survive the incursion of 'mutant' behaviours and those that won't. Partha presented work that showed that the proper index of the economic progress or regress of nations is an inclusive notion of wealth, not GDP or any of the many ad hoc indicators in current use (e.g. the United Nations' Human Development Index). He used that finding to sketch why and how national economic accounts should now be altered, and noted that statistical offices in several countries, such as India, have started moving in this direction.

In their third session Partha illustrated the entanglement of facts and values by presenting a simple model in which the productivity of a person's labour depends on his nutritional status. This leads to a conundrum that markets in poor countries cannot solve effectively: a person needs nutrition in order to work, but she must find work to afford nutrition. Partha showed that markets resolve the conundrum by creating poverty traps – while some people find employment at a wage that enables them to work effectively, others are shut out of the labour market altogether. Words like 'malnutrition' and terms like 'poverty traps'

contain both descriptive and evaluative features, which is why it isn't ever clear whether someone studying them is engaged in objective or prescriptive analysis. Partha used what amounted to a purely descriptive model to show that governments in poor countries need to install redistributive programmes if they are to prevent people from falling into poverty traps.

Eric turned to theories of decision under uncertainty to illustrate the entanglement of facts and values. Appealing to normative axioms, the mid-twentieth-century theories of von Neumann-Morgenstern and Savage derived decision rules that rational persons would follow in choosing among uncertain prospects. Despite their normative nature, those rules were applied successfully for many years to explain a large range of actual human behaviour. Eventually, however, too many systematic deviations from the rules were detected for the anomalies to be ignored any longer. This has opened the door to a new branch of enquiry: behavioural economics.

The audiences for our lectures at the Newton Institute may or may not have found our lectures illuminating. We certainly hope they came away with something positive. But even if they didn't, we definitely accomplished one of our goals: to continue our long-term collaboration and have fun in the bargain.

We would like to thank the Master, Professor Christopher Dobson, for making Eric's visit in the Easter term possible. 

**Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta and
Professor Eric Maskin**

THE HISTORY OF ST JOHN'S INNOVATION CENTRE: PART THREE

Dr Christopher Johnson's previous articles in *The Eagle* (in 1998 and 1999) took the story of the Innovation Park from its 'pre-history' and planning to the stage just after construction and inception of the Innovation Centre in 1987. Following the Centre's twenty-fifth anniversary and recent refurbishment, this article brings the story up to date, with reflections on how it has evolved and the successes it has achieved. Dr Johnson (1950), Senior Bursar 1970–91 and Chairman of St John's Innovation Centre Ltd 1987–96, authored this update alongside David Gill, Managing Director of St John's Innovation Centre Ltd since October 2008, and Bill Wicksteed, Co-founder of SQW Ltd and co-author of *The Cambridge Phenomenon Re-visited* (2000).



Photo: Michael Manni Photographic

The Duke of Edinburgh receives a tour of the Centre in March 1988, guided by (left to right) Dr Bill Bolton, Sir Harry Hinsley and Dr Chris Johnson.

The two earlier articles can be summarised as follows. Dr Johnson, then Senior Bursar, was inspired by the increasing success of the 'Cambridge Phenomenon', the cluster of high-tech firms directly or indirectly connected with the local research base. After

a study-tour of US incubators, with a small group of like-minded enthusiasts he put forward the concept of a development to foster the exploitation of University inventions and make good use of College assets. This would create a nurturing

environment with start-up office units, on land to the north of the city that the College had owned since at least 1534. This site east of the Cambridge Science Park (founded by Trinity College in 1970) comprised relatively poor-quality land previously used as a tank-marshalling site ahead of D-Day in 1944. The first building to go up was the Innovation Centre itself, completed in July 1987 and expanded in several stages in the early 1990s to include a restaurant and conference suite.

The level of interest generated by the Centre can be gauged by a succession of distinguished visitors. The Duke of Edinburgh, then Chancellor of the University, who visited in March 1988, was the first of many. In the following years, the Centre hosted – in no particular order – the King of Jordan, the King of Sweden, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Prince Michael of Kent, the President of Uganda, Lord Sainsbury of Turville (then Minister for Science and now the University's Chancellor), Tony Blair MP, David Cameron MP, George Osborne MP, Paddy Ashdown MP and numerous overseas ministerial delegations looking to understand the role of incubation and the secret of the Cambridge Phenomenon.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Centre's opening was marked on 3 October 2012 by the unveiling of a commemorative plaque by Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, who earlier in the day had spoken to a packed house on a joint platform with Mike Lynch, founder of Autonomy plc, the most successful graduate company (so far!) of the Innovation Centre.



Dr Vince Cable and David Gill marking the Centre's twenty-fifth anniversary in 2012.

Photo: Business Weekly

Dr Lynch transcribed and signed two autograph copies of Bayes' Theorem, the algorithm on which Autonomy was built; one is now housed in the Mott Boardroom in the Centre and the other was auctioned for charity. Further celebrations followed: as the Centre's business review put it, 'On 7th December 2012, St John's College hosted current Innovation Centre tenants, staff, former staff, some distinguished former tenants and individuals associated with the Centre at a dinner in the college hall to round off the anniversary year.'

INTENTIONS AND OUTCOMES

During the past quarter-century, the Centre has demonstrated success on three fronts. It has provided a sound commercial return to the College, nurtured many successful

businesses and helped to develop the University's (and the region's) excellence in entrepreneurship and research commercialisation. Dr Johnson's earlier articles explained how the RH Partnership came to be the architects of the Innovation Centre. Revisiting the Centre in May 2012 to dedicate the refurbished conference rooms, Dr Johnson was:

struck by how well the original design still works: plenty of natural light and ventilation, both formal and informal meeting spaces, and a great deal of flexibility in the configuration of tenant units. Despite benefiting from only limited upgrading over the years, the building still feels welcoming with the authenticity of its 'light industrial' origins. Perhaps the lesson here is the importance of quality design, materials and construction techniques from the outset; over the years, such investment saves money.

The original concept was that support for the Centre's tenant companies would include scientific expertise (to be accessed through College Fellows) and financial support from a dedicated seed-capital fund. In these respects there was a lack of realism in the initial thinking: a successful seed fund would have required wider scope than that offered by the tenant companies, and the tenants needed less help locating scientific and technological expertise than originally expected.

In the event, support has mainly taken the form of business advice and helping tenants

The original concept was that support for tenant companies would include scientific expertise and financial support.

to make effective links with the relevant local networks. Walter Herriot, the Centre's director for eighteen years, had previously been active in providing finance and advice to firms in the Cambridge cluster; initially as a banker with Barclays and then as a consultant for Coopers & Lybrand. He came, therefore, in 1990 with both business expertise and a deep knowledge of the Cambridge scene. As the reputation of the Innovation Centre grew, Walter used this to attract regional, national and European funds to support SME development, which he and colleagues administered for the benefit of both tenants and firms in the wider area.



Prime Minister Tony Blair visited the Centre in September 1999 to deliver a speech on e-commerce and met with staff at the Zeus offices.

These activities, together with a steady stream of overseas consultancy appointments, further strengthened the Centre's international profile and were recognised in Walter being appointed as an OBE in 1999 and awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion in 2006. In addition to Autonomy, prominent Cambridge firms that have been associated with the Innovation Park include Jagex Ltd (www.jagex.com), Zeus Technology Ltd (now part of Riverbed Technology Inc – www.riverbed.com), Owlstone Ltd (www.owlstonenanotech.com), Breathing Buildings Ltd (www.breathingbuildings.com), Scientia Ltd (www.scientia.com) and Datanomic Ltd (now part of Oracle – www.oracle.com), among many others. Some tenants 'graduated' to other buildings on the Innovation Park, though a few – such as Red Gate Software Ltd (www.red-gate.com) – started in the adjacent Jeffreys Building rather than in the main Innovation Centre.

DEVELOPING THE INNOVATION PARK

As the article in *The Eagle* 1999 (p. 64) made clear, endowment considerations meant that the Innovation Centre had to generate a sound stream of rental income. This it has done. Furthermore, the Innovation Centre has acted as a magnet for the twenty-one-acre Innovation Park as a whole, and five other buildings were erected in the decade or so from 1994. The Innovation Centre – situated on war-damaged farmland opposite the sewage works when the original building went up in 1987 – now represents approximately five

per cent of the College's investment property portfolio. Future expansion of the Innovation Park may be possible when opportunities arise, as the building density on the site is still relatively low.

At the same time, the Centre's relationship with the College has been changing. A new Senior Bursar was appointed in 1991, who was content to deal with the Centre as an investment whose performance needed to be kept up to the mark from time to time. Moreover, the rising value of the Innovation Park meant that by the early 1990s the College had adopted a general policy that further developments on the Park should be funded by external sources. Notable exceptions to this policy were the construction by the College in 1994 of the extension to the Innovation Centre and the Ionica Building (now St John's House). In line with the policy, long leasehold interests were sold to enable construction of Edinburgh House by the Scottish Life Assurance Company in 2000, the Vitrum Building by the British Gas pension fund in 2001, and the Platinum Building by Pearl Assurance, also in 2001. From the College's perspective, the Innovation Centre was seen less as a pioneering initiative contributing directly to the advancement and exploitation of knowledge, and more as an investment that would contribute indirectly to those objectives through its financial performance.

From the perspective of the wider University, however, the Centre continued to make important contributions to improving the effectiveness of knowledge dissemination and exploitation. Both Walter Herriot and,

in particular, Dr Tim Minshall (a member of the Centre's Board since 1999) played active roles in establishing the University's programmes to encourage entrepreneurship and restructure its technology-transfer activities. In 1997 the Gatsby Charitable Foundation (endowed by David, later Lord, Sainsbury) established a fund, which Tim and Walter managed, to provide matched funding through which small firms needing help with technology development could access expertise from the University. Gatsby grants also supported other work by the Centre to assist entrepreneurs, which indirectly helped in the establishment of Cambridge Enterprise, the University's technology-transfer company, and in supporting the Cambridge Technopole Group – which brought together the diverse bodies concerned with the well-being of the technology cluster.

Dr Johnson continued as Chairman of the Centre after stepping down as Senior Bursar on 30 September 1991, serving a three-year term to 30 September 1994 and then a two-year extension to 30 September 1996. Ian Hutchings (GKN Professor of Manufacturing Engineering) took over as Chairman on 1 October 1996.

LOOKING FORWARD

The past twenty-five years have witnessed radical and welcome changes to the environment within which the Innovation Centre operates. As a result of increased levels of engagement with both start-ups and spin-outs in the University, the Innovation Centre no longer needs to be all things to all

people, as it came close to being during its early days. Specific agencies for technology transfer are now in place elsewhere, and during the brief 'dot.com' era either side of the year 2000 a number of venture funds were set up in Cambridge, alongside two or three angel-investment groups.

The Innovation Centre no longer needs to be all things to all people.

In 2009, with a generous donation from Dr Hermann Hauser CBE and support from the regional development agency, the University opened ideaSpace – a 'pre-incubator' – on the West Cambridge site. Today, a dozen science parks or incubators can be found within easy reach of the city, and more are being planned.¹ These developments have further sharpened the focus of the Innovation Centre on 'second-stage' start-ups: the majority of new entrants coming to the Centre today have already formed the nucleus of their management team, set out a business plan and raised some external funding, often in the form of grants or angel investment. That said, the Centre does still cater for smaller, younger firms through its virtual tenancy scheme, the Star Service, which allows firms to use the Centre as their address and take advantage of the meeting rooms, networking and advice. Star Service firms must demonstrate the ability to exploit innovation commercially.

Furthermore, since 2009 some of the larger units in the Centre have been converted to a greater number of smaller rooms suitable for



Photo: Miranda Edwards

The Master helps celebrate the completion of the centre's refurbishment in November 2014.

two to three desks. While tenants may occupy more than one unit, no single tenant is now permitted to take more than five per cent of the lettable space. This approach encourages firms to 'move in, move up and move on'. It also reduces the risk to the College that is inherent in the simple, standard lease that gives tenants the right to leave on one month's notice. Recent annual surveys of tenants show a fairly consistent picture: most move in as later-stage start-ups comprising two or three people, tenants often switch at least once within the building as they grow, and they typically move out after roughly four years, at which point they employ ten or more people.


THE INNOVATION CENTRE TODAY

After a major tidy-up of the Innovation Park in 2010, substantial internal refurbishment was carried out in phases between early 2012 and late 2014.² This helped the Centre meet the increased expectations that tenants and conference users now have of professional business premises compared with the 1980s, when little if any direct competition existed for the space provided by the Centre. On 20 November 2014, the Master, Professor Christopher Dobson, unveiled a plaque in the bistro to commemorate the completion of this major overhaul of the premises.

However, the Centre's fundamental goals remain unchanged: to provide a dynamic and supportive environment for accelerating the growth of ambitious, innovative firms in the Cambridge technology cluster – and to do so in such a way that the longer-term endowment considerations of the College are properly addressed.

No single tenant is now permitted to take more than five per cent of the lettable space.

Both objectives (which, taken together, may be characterised as 'doing well by doing good', to borrow a phrase from Tom Lehrer) are best fulfilled through active engagement on the part of the Centre's management team in the wider cluster. While external developments in Cambridge over the past fifteen years – including enhanced technology transfer in the University and

the creation of other incubators – were catalysed by the St John's Innovation Centre, and in turn helped it sharpen its focus, the need for the Centre to lend its experience to entrepreneurs and policymakers alike has not gone away. SJIC, as it is popularly known, continues to be widely consulted on issues as diverse as innovation funding in the UK or the design of science parks overseas. And the innovation centre concept has been copied across Europe and beyond. Not a bad outcome for war-damaged farmland on the fringe of the city, held by the College since the reign of Henry VIII. 

**Dr Christopher Johnson, David Gill
and Bill Wicksteed**

References

¹ Cambridge Science Park (1970), St John's Innovation Centre (1987), Babraham Research Campus (in its current guise from 1993), Granta Park (1997), Wellcome Trust Genome Campus (1993), Melbourn Science Park (run by TTP Group since 2000), ideaSpace West (2009), ideaSpace City (2013), Cambridge Research Park (in its current form from 2011), Cambridge MediPark (from 1999), Peterhouse Science Park (c.1998) and Chesterford Research Park (late 1990s).

² All conference rooms, previously known simply by letters (A, B and so forth) were renamed to honour prominent scientists associated with the College, hence the Appleton Room, the Cormack Room, the Dirac Room and the Mott Boardroom. The double conference room became the Sanger Suite, as the late Fred Sanger had the unusual achievement of winning the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in both 1958 and 1980. The 'B' room was renamed 'Johnson' in recognition of Dr Johnson's vision and planning (while Senior Bursar) leading to the creation of the Centre.

MAKING GOOD: GIFT-GIVING AND THE GIFT

The Revd Duncan Dormor (1998) is Dean of the College Chapel and Director of Studies for Theology, and served as College President from 2011 to 2015. This article is a transcript of the sermon Duncan delivered at the College's Commemoration of Benefactors service on 1 May 2015 in the Chapel.

'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.' James 1:17



Photo: Nic Marchant

One of the humbling and intriguing aspects of this annual commemoration is a reminder of just how deeply the College is indebted to

the generosity of those individuals who were not themselves members of College, and whose motivation cannot be ascribed simply to that of 'giving back' to an institution from which they, themselves, had received. There are various groups of such people, but perhaps the most conspicuous are our female benefactors, who were, for the overwhelming part of our history, excluded from the benefits of direct membership, some of whose names we have just heard recited – Elizabeth Lucy Cobb, Johanna Cornelia Gurney, Janet Margaret Beith and Mary Fuller, widow of former Head Porter, Bob Fuller. Ultimately, as with all those who give, we cannot truly know the 'secrets of the heart' involved; the legacy bequest for the support of choristers from Mary Fuller was, for example, one of the more unexpected gifts of recent years. In some cases, however, the nature of the gift itself communicates insights about the thoughts or affections of the benefactor more directly.

One such is Mildred Cecil, the wife of William Cecil, Lord Burghley, who in 1580 gave to the College one of the most impressive and beautiful fruits of sixteenth-century scholarship – an eight-volume

polyglot Bible.¹ An accomplished, though unrecognised, scholar of Greek, Mildred, though an outsider, was clearly in an excellent position to identify strongly with the spirit and aims of the College. But this was not her only gift. On a more practical note, the mother of five, who ran a very large household, also gave the handsome sum of £20 to provide fuel for fires on the Sundays and feast days between 1 November and 25 March.²

Gift-giving is intimately connected with both our external reputation and status, and our inner sense of well-being and self-worth.

The first of these gifts was given ostensibly as a token of appreciation in response to the hospitality of the College; the second, on the clear understanding that some of those feet, duly warmed, were then exercised by finding their way to pulpits so that Mildred herself and others could benefit from the scholarship and insights of College members by listening to four sermons a year. An early modern manifestation of what we might now document under ‘public benefit’.

Such gifts are clear examples of a reality, very well-established by anthropologists, which we might call the ‘paradox’ or even the ‘deception’ of the gift and the activity of gift-giving: namely that whilst we talk of gifts as freely given, as if disinterested, the reality is that the giving of a gift sets up an expectation or obligation of reciprocation. Furthermore, that in receiving a gift, even the most

concrete and material, one receives also the ‘Spirit of the Giver’.³

Sometimes the accompanying obligations are known; sometimes their character is not fully understood: sometimes the Spirit of the Giver is to be welcomed, embraced, celebrated and indeed commemorated from generation unto generation; sometimes wariness or even rejection is the order of the day. For, as we all know, not all that is gift-wrapped contains something of real value – and sometimes gifts are simply too costly to receive. This is, of course, because gifts symbolise and express human identity and social status, and reciprocity is deeply inscribed in our being. We are radically social, beings-in-relationship, and gift-giving is intimately connected with both our external reputation and status, and our inner sense of well-being and self-worth. To give is the work of a moral agent and harnesses our deepest motivations, desires and affections. As Shakespeare observed, ‘For to the noble mind [even] rich gifts wax poor when givers prove unkind.’⁴

Like anthropologists, good fundraisers down the centuries have appreciated this. They know that donors and benefactors need to be cultivated and stewarded; that true motivations need to be discerned and understood; and that building good relationships involves genuine, sincere and sensitive acts of inclusion, appreciation and recognition. In this context, the commonplace ‘deception of the gift’ can be re-described as the ‘dance’ or even the ‘decorum’ of the gift. None of this is new: the portraits of significant benefactors,

such as the former Fellow and later Bishop John Williams, paid for by the College, look down upon us in Hall, and records of the College detail numerous to-ings and fro-ings by Masters and others, and even the employment of gilt paper and a calligrapher for the writing of elegant letters to donors.

As I have suggested, gift-giving brings potential dangers. Gifts can be ‘purchases in disguise’, paying as it were for a place at the table usually merited on other grounds; they can be so riddled with agendas as to make them too costly to receive; they may consolidate or enshrine certain groups or privileges to the detriment of the common good; or even, potentially, have corrosive effects upon the integrity of the values or founding vision. All institutions, not least the College named for the Beloved Disciple, must therefore engage in a moral policing of gifts. And in the world of the ‘dance’ of potential gift-giving, there is, as it were, inevitably a shadowy oral history of unfulfilled obligations, of misunderstandings, of promises broken, of deeply human failures and mistakes – sometimes on one side, sometimes on another – the memory of which largely passes away quietly in the ever-rolling stream of successive generations.

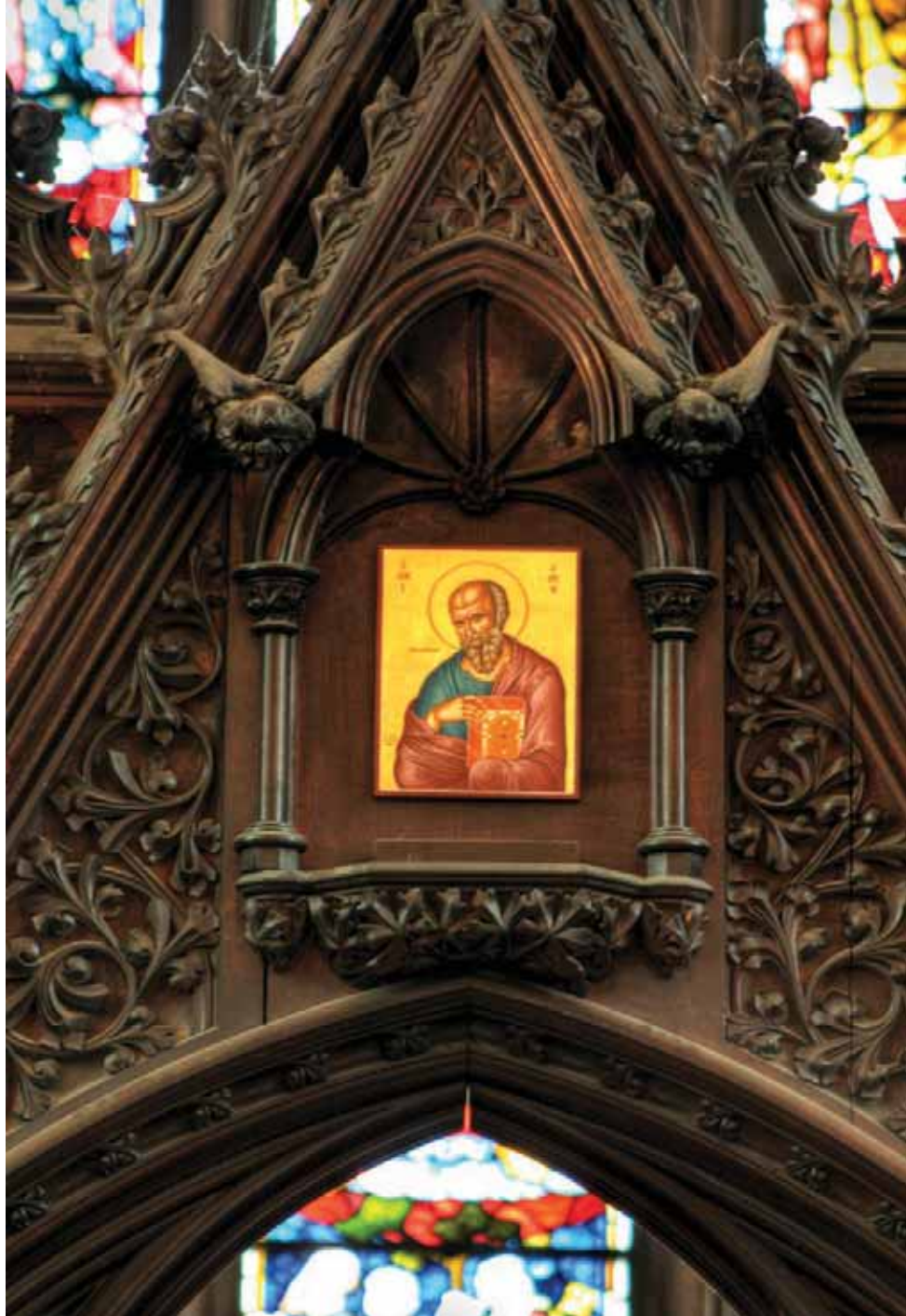
I mention such a shadowy history only to cast into sharper relief the generosity, and on occasion the sacrificial generosity, of those who have made good in this place through their gifts; those whom we, very appropriately and explicitly, acknowledge today, in fulfilment of a clear obligation: the remembrance of whom is ‘our duty and our joy’; a veritable ‘sacrifice of praise

and thanksgiving’. And in so doing, let me briefly outline three characteristics of gifts that ‘make good’.

The simplest and most obvious is that gifts really do make significant good in the world, through the provision of opportunities to study, to undertake research and to travel. The open-handed generosity of our historic and contemporary benefactors has opened up, moulded and transformed the experience of generations of members of this College. Education is one of the most life-changing of experiences, and its beneficiaries are frequently transformed as people as a direct result of such gifts.

Engagement with benefactors demands of the College an openness and hospitality.

Secondly, for gifts to be positively beneficial, for them to make good, the ‘Spirit of the Giver’ and quite possibly their actual person has to be consciously and actively received by the community or its key representatives. All communities have to navigate the fundamental paradox of social solidarity: that the forces that create the identity of *us*, inevitably create boundaries and a *them*. Engagement with benefactors demands of the College an openness and hospitality. It also offers a lens through which the Fellowship, in particular, can see how it is seen by others, and it brings a degree of external but sympathetic accountability, reminding all those who are beneficiaries of historic benefactions that they themselves are also stewards of this rich inheritance.




This icon of St John the Evangelist was presented to the Chapel by the Orthodox community and is positioned on the east side of the rood screen.

In a very tangible, if less visible, sense, benefactors thus make up a fourth substantial part of the residential community – alongside students, Fellows and staff.

Finally, it is clear that gifts that make for good, that are truly beneficial, will contribute directly to the fundamental aims of ‘education, religion, learning and research’. To do so most effectively, however, such gifts must also share in the spirit of this foundation, like a branch successfully grafted into the stock, drawing sustaining life from its deep historic roots, from the foundational gift of the College so successfully established on behalf of the Lady Margaret by the mid-1530s through the extraordinary energy and vision of John Fisher. We live, of course, in a very different world from that of our Tudor forebears, dominated by patronage and personal relationships, yet that founding gift has prospered, and scholarship and learning and the pursuit of intellectual truths remain firmly rooted in the context of a community that might be described as involving ‘a Christian faith in love, and an Enlightened faith in reason.’⁵

Whether we share the Christian conviction that ultimately ‘every good gift ... is from above’ or not, the pursuit of learning in this place has been firmly embedded in a context designed to promote ‘bonds of affection’. And the implications for community living of a Christian faith in love could not find stronger articulation in that tradition than in the New Testament writings associated with St John, for whom we are named, which speak so clearly of the fundamental nature of

reality, of God – as Love – and of the obligation that those who would wish to follow must ‘love one another’ in imitation of him whose sacrificial love stretched to the point of ‘laying down his life for his friends.’⁶ To that end, here, it places upon all of us, whatever our religious, philosophical or political beliefs, an expectation that we, the happy beneficiaries of those who have gone before us, will in addition to expressing our gratitude to those who have gone before, in turn seek to reciprocate; to make good by discerning the shadows and secrets of our own hearts; and to make good through the active pursuit of virtues such as hospitality, forbearance, self-control, gentleness, kindness, and indeed all that makes for the flourishing of this community and beyond.

Grant, O Lord, as we go about our daily business in this place, grateful hearts for all the benefits that we have received and enlightened minds that might ever seek the light of truth, deepen our love for one another and promote sound learning after the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen. 

The Revd Duncan Dormor

References

¹ More information on Mildred's donation, and other historical donations and bequests, can be found at

www.joh.cam.ac.uk/library/special_collections/provenance/benefactions/.

² R. Rex, 'The Sixteenth Century', in *St John's College Cambridge: A History*, ed. P. Linehan (The Boydell Press, 2011), 83.

³ The key ideas about the paradoxical nature of gift-giving were articulated by French anthropologist, Marcel Mauss, in *Essai sur le don* in 1925. Mauss's essay has had a profound influence on the work of a wide range of thinkers, including Claude Lévi-Strauss, Michael Polanyi, Maurice Godelier, Marilyn Strathern, Pierre Bourdieu, Jacques Derrida and the theologian John Milbank.

⁴ *Hamlet*, Act 3 Scene 1, lines 100–1.

⁵ D. Martin, *Religion and Power: No Logos without Mythos* (Ashgate, 2015), 87.

⁶ John 15:13.



THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/15

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015: 'VIEW OF BACKS FROM ABOVE'
BY ABBY CARRUTHERS (2011).

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR TUTOR: EXPANDING OUR ACADEMIC HORIZONS

Every student at St John's comes to the College with the potential to explore, broaden and challenge their ideas and academic horizons; and it is our fundamental belief and aim that we should help them to achieve this. The College, and the University as a whole, prides itself on academic excellence and world-class results; our historic institution regularly tops the worldwide university league tables. But is it enough that our students arrive, study with us and graduate with honours? If we are not careful, both the College and our students may miss or not even recognise the numerous opportunities and academic activities which lie beyond and around the tripos. As Senior Tutor, I have endeavoured to build up and maintain our students' interest in and access to academic research projects, starting at undergraduate level.

I have experienced first-hand a number of different academic institutions around the world and am always greatly impressed at how they view extra-curricular, academic-focused activities, and the importance that is associated with them. Heidelberg University, for example, currently has over four hundred links with worldwide institutions, providing summer internships, projects and interactions for their students. We are all aware that for many years US universities have successfully offered their students summer projects and research opportunities. Many of us have also heard in the last few years that more and more of the brightest students from the UK are being tempted by places at universities abroad, in particular in the US. In order to remain competitive with the top US universities we need to ensure that we not only continue to provide world-class teaching, but that we also realise and



Photo: Nic Marchant

utilise the importance of academic opportunities, whether they be research projects, student exchanges, national connections or international links. I believe that the University as a whole is still far behind many other institutions, both in the

UK and abroad, in its ability to make these connections and opportunities a reality, and I want St John's to be at the forefront of their creation in Cambridge.

Is it enough that our students arrive, study with us and graduate with honours?

In 2009 I started the Undergraduate Academic Research Project Scheme for our undergraduate students, with two main aims: firstly to formally introduce and start building our students' interest in research, and secondly to provide funding for these activities. Other institutions may have numerous links and opportunities, but students are often required to self-fund them and I wanted to take our scheme further to ensure that our students would not miss out due to lack of funding. In the initial stages, funding was modest, and most students who applied wanted to stay in Cambridge over the summer to work in laboratories and departments. Some of our students still apply to the scheme for funding of this kind and it is particularly great for those who may spend the summer working with potential PhD supervisors and other academics in the University. By 2015, however, the projects have grown and so too has their geographical reach. We have an Economics student who took part in the Beijing Summer School this year, studying for a course called 'Corporate Finance in a Global World: Challenges and Opportunities'. The summer school was run jointly by the London School


of Economics and Peking University. On the other side of the world, a student from the Human, Social and Political Sciences Tripos joined a summer programme at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations to study Russian Policy and Russia in Asia. We also had students taking part in projects closer to home, such as a Physics student attending Imperial College London to focus on a project at the Centre for Cold Matter.

We need to utilise the importance of academic opportunities, whether they be research projects or student exchanges.

What is really encouraging is that we not only have students from across all disciplines applying to the scheme, we also have students from across the undergraduate year groups as well.

In 2009 our budget was not much over £3000. Now in 2015, as a result of further fundraising and a donation from the Annual Fund, we have nearly £20,000 to award to our students. This year we had more than thirty students applying for funding, which is more than double the number in previous years, and for the first time we cannot cover the full costs for every student. We can, however, provide every student with a portion of their funding needs, and in some cases a full grant. Our aim is that in the coming years we can increase not only interest and applications, but also our funding, so that the full costs can once again be met for all students.

Undergraduate student funding and support remains an important topic for the College, and I hope next year to be able to report on a number of new initiatives that we have planned. We would like to create a Student Opportunity Fund, for undergraduate research projects and many other activities, as part of a wider undergraduate funding scheme. This fund would build on donations and other money already in place, and would be open to all undergraduate students. A number of our students are clearly ready to embrace research projects and vacation schemes abroad, but we often find that it is

those with international experience who do so. Our vision, by 2018, is that every undergraduate student *has* the opportunity, and wants to *take* the opportunity, to participate in at least one academic activity during their time at the College. Thus, our aim is that in a number of years all our students are aided, both ideologically and financially, to embrace these new ventures, ensuring both that we can send our students out into the world and that they will bring their experiences of the world back to us. 

Dr Matthias Dörrzapf

(AD)VENTURES IN ADMISSIONS

Dr Helen Watson is Admissions Tutor, Director of Studies in Archaeology and Anthropology, and a College Lecturer in Anthropology.



Photo: Nic Marchant

Last week a journalist asked me to explain what Cambridge admissions 'is about' in five key words. I failed dismally. Later, listening to the recording, I was struck by the number of times certain words had been repeated in the course of the interview. At the top of the list were academic excellence and potential, information and communication, opportunity and access, continuity and change.

It is interesting to note the broader overlap of such terms with those found in the final report of the Undergraduate Admissions Strategy Working Group, an initiative directed by the College Council, which was set up in 2013 and consisted of Teaching Fellows and Directors of Studies. A starting point for review was the recognition that the College's ability to flourish as a place of education, learning and research is directly

linked to its ability to attract and admit students of the greatest ability and promise. The core values of the College are not only deeply embedded in our admissions ethos and policies, but played out in everyday procedures and practices.

We tackle teachers' concerns about how competitive it is and the prospect of unsuccessful applications.

Undergraduate admissions is a cyclical process. Where 'the round' starts and finishes is a moot point. What we can be sure of is that at any point in the year, whether academic or calendar, we will be beginning or ending some important phase of activity. In spring I give presentations at higher-education fairs, and we welcome prospective applicants to admissions clinics and subject taster days. After the open days and summer schools in June and July, we confirm places to offer-holders from the previous round in August. A month later, information and recruitment activity closes with the September open day. When last year's successful offer-holders arrive at the start of the new academic year, we're also anticipating 15 October – the application deadline in the new admissions round. For most of Michaelmas term the scrutiny of application materials lays the groundwork for the interview season. By early December we're fully immersed in the extensive and exhaustive process of interviewing, testing and identifying candidates for inclusion in the offer, pool and reject lists. In the new year we shift from assessment mode into a period

of communicating feedback to schools on hundreds of disappointed candidates. Finally, as spring arrives, admissions beginnings and endings converge once again as my last feedback conversations overlap with education fairs.

Multiple channels of information and communication flow through each stage of the admissions process. We engage with many different audiences, not just the bright and keen sixth-formers searching for 'the best college' and pupils in younger year groups, but also families and teachers from across the UK and beyond. The aim is to debunk myths, correct stereotypes and challenge prejudices that underlie the negative perceptions of applying to Cambridge. We clarify how to apply and what we are looking for. Presentations and workshops describe how to make a competitive application, write an effective personal statement and prepare for interview. We encourage schools that are keen to boost access to Cambridge to visit the College, so that we can discuss how they might transform academic aspiration into applicant success. At the same time, we tackle teachers' concerns about how competitive it is, the prospect of unsuccessful applications and forms of financial support.

What makes St John's attractive is not just what is most apparent: the excellence of our accommodation, food, grants, library, music-making, playing fields, prizes and teaching. They all get a mention, of course, if not always in this alphabetical order. The Old Divinity School is an ideal venue for all

admissions events, from residential summer schools to subject specialist workshops. Visitors never fail to be impressed by the look and feel of St John's. But the success of every event depends critically on the people involved. Visitors comment on the dynamic and enthusiastic team in the Admissions Office, and the value of face-to-face meetings with Directors of Studies and Teaching Fellows. However, most frequent mention is made of our students. The teams of subject ambassadors and undergraduate volunteers are a wonderful advertisement for our community and make invaluable positive impressions on prospective applicants. The new St John's prospectus places our students centre stage, where they speak up for the College.

The importance of collective enterprise is especially evident in taster days – an innovation in the last admissions round. The aim is to provide an inspirational introduction to particular subjects and an insight into University life. Typically the programme involves mini-lectures, seminars, supervision-style discussion and workshops in which Fellows, College Research Associates, graduate students and other specialists showcase exciting aspects of the subject they teach and research. Current students explain what they study and a built-in admissions session allows for discussion of the application process, interviews and what we are looking for. Whether the focus is on familiar A level subjects such as Biology or History, or on Archaeology or Law, subjects that few sixth-formers study, the programme seeks to stretch, inspire and even surprise. The events are extremely popular and a high proportion of participants actually apply.

Comments in evaluation of recent taster days are particularly pleasing: 'Academically challenging, really informative and great fun.' 'If this is what studying at university is like, I can't wait!'

'What next?' is the obvious question in each phase of the admissions process. As taster days grow in scale, we are introducing new elements to the successful model. A particular highlight of the summer was 'Women Count', a multi-disciplinary event targeting female applicants in Engineering, Mathematics, Economics and Computer Science. The speakers, all women and Johnians, made an exciting team of young, cutting-edge teachers, researchers and entrepreneurs.

Although one annual round of admissions activity flows into the next, it's never dull. Earlier this year I met primary-school pupils visiting from inner-city Birmingham who have been studying Philosophy in a brilliant project connected to the College School. I was answering questions about admissions and what I do as Lecturer, Director of Studies and Tutor, using the tired old metaphor of a number of 'different hats'. A small hand shot up: 'Do you have to take one hat off before putting another on?'

What an excellent question. What distinguishes us from universities where the admissions process is run by a centralised administration is precisely our experience and insight into teaching and learning as academics. During a recent visit to schools in New York, student counsellors were astonished by the absence of a specialist admissions secretariat in Cambridge.

‘Cambridge academics do the selection, not professionals?’ they asked, bewildered. In all seriousness, I believe that effective admissions decisions actually derive from our own personal connections to teaching and research. Arguably, that’s why undergraduate admissions works so well. We know what we’re looking for. We benefit from the simultaneous wearing of many hats.

‘Cambridge academics do the selection, not professionals?’

The pursuit of excellence in admissions, as in everything else, requires mining rich seams of financial, as well as human, resources. One of the particular highlights of the year for me has been the introduction of pre-admissions prizes, worth £5000, in each subject area. Our message is that we are looking for people who would benefit from some extra money to help them go even further at St John’s. Entrants can kick-start their studies by using the prize money on whatever they feel would benefit them most, such as a laptop or to help cover rent. The scheme is tangible evidence of our admissions philosophy that academic ability and potential matter, not socio-economic and educational background. And the prizes don’t stop there: we have a generous range of grants, scholarships and awards to ensure that every student can make the most of their time at St John’s, whatever their financial circumstances.

Has it been a successful year? In the face of fears about the future of education, examination ‘reform’, financial costs, student stress and peer pressure, there is indeed much uncertainty and anxiety in the world of admissions. However, admissions is a complex process and we cannot measure success by mechanistic factors and performance indicators, whether by record quantity and quality of candidates or ultimate academic league table domination. Similarly, I suspect that, externally, admissions is judged not by the glossiness of a college’s prospectus, the sophistication of its website, or even the generosity of its bursaries. Arguably, it is a college’s reputation for openness, fairness, accessibility and efficiency that matters much more.

When I attend reunion dinners and meet the cohorts of Engineering students I have interviewed or the Anthropology students I have taught, it’s striking how the years fall away as we recall common memories. It is this blend of a sense of enduring relatedness and belonging that makes the admissions process so central to the life of St John’s – past, present and future. This year some of the most exciting new ideas and proposals for admissions have come via alumni: seeds to sow in new projects and future developments. There are additional echoes across the decades when I meet prospective applicants with Johnian parents, and even grandparents.

People are the key part of every phase in the admissions process. What makes for success in the attraction and selection of the best

candidates is the time, energy and care that members of the College invest in admissions. At every stage of the process we are dealing with an individual applicant's hopes, dreams and ambitions. It is imperative that we don't lose sight of this, and that we keep applicants' interests at the heart of a holistic admissions process that is equitable, transparent and fair in the search for academic excellence and potential.

Someone once said that admissions is about building the future. I can't but agree. 

Dr Helen Watson

THE PURPOSE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Katy Theobald (2011) completed an MPhil in Educational Research at St John's and is author of *Education and Learning: An Evidence-based Approach* (2014). She is now Performance and Impact Manager at a national education charity that provides school leadership development.



Our higher education system is at a turning point. We've never had so many people studying at a higher level. We've never had so many institutions with degree-awarding powers. The system should be thriving, but instead it's in a state of disarray. Academics protest at increasing pressure to quantify the value of their teaching and research. A broken funding structure means that students are accruing thousands of pounds worth of loans

that most will never fully repay. Graduates sold a vision of improved employability and higher salaries are finding that it's not grades but work experience that gets your foot in the door. Employers complain about applicants who have endless qualifications but lack the right skills. So how did we get here? And what do we do now?

Responses to these issues abound. Politicians say universities should do more to boost their students' employability. Commentators call for a return to the good old days where there were fewer graduates and degrees were 'worth the paper they were written on'. Academics, meanwhile, make a plea for a return to learning for learning's sake. The arguments are well rehearsed and yet we never seem to reach a resolution. So why can't we agree?

It all boils down to a single point: the purpose of higher education. We all have views about the benefits of studying for a degree, but all too often we debate the higher education system without making those views explicit. And if we can't agree what is to be achieved through higher education, how can we ever create a system that delivers it?

Of course, there's more than one reason to value a degree. In fact, Roy Chan and colleagues¹ synthesised research with American students and higher-education institutions and found that they saw not one but nine reasons for higher-level study:

- Developing social democratic values and action; civic engagement
- Advanced intellectual skills
- Advanced communication skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Vocational and employment preparedness
- Personal life quality enhancement (improved quality of life through a sense of purpose and perspective)
- Personal integrity
- Graduate school education preparedness
- Family expectations / reasons

All of these reasons are valid, but some of these aims can be satisfied by means other than higher education. So we need to focus on the differentiating factor. What is it that gives higher education, as opposed to any other option, its unique value? What distinctive qualities should we expect to see in everyone who has a degree?

There's an urgent need for this debate because our system is increasingly being shaped by an implicit assumption: that higher education is primarily an economic good. That's why we see university rankings based on student employability and salaries. It's how politicians justify charging students for their degrees. But where did this idea actually come from? We know that education levels are correlated with employment rates and salaries. There is also plenty of historic evidence showing that

graduates earn more over a lifetime. So the conclusion has been drawn: increase participation in higher education, and you increase salaries and GDP. But the logic doesn't necessarily hold.

Historically we had a situation where graduates were few in number and where only those with the highest academic attainment could get into university. Employers knew that a graduate would be academically competent and capable of independent work. For a long time, most graduates also came from a narrow sphere of society. They had an easy route into the professions through social connections and the avenues of the 'old boys' club'. So historically there was a strong correlation between having a degree and having a higher salary and likelihood of employment.

However, recent research shows that this relationship is weakening. There are many more graduates in the market, many of whom do not benefit from the same social capital. For the jobs where it still matters who you know as much as what you know, their degrees don't put them at an advantage. For the open recruitment rounds of larger employers, supply often exceeds demand. It is unsurprising, therefore, that the average wage returns for a degree are declining and that graduates don't find themselves falling into jobs.

This isn't to say that levels of education are unimportant. There is still a strong economic argument for having a highly skilled workforce. But we need to challenge the assumption that for individuals, a high salary

or employability comes only from having a degree. We need to challenge the idea that the core point of higher education is to get a better job.

Universities, polytechnics and further education colleges were established to serve very different purposes.

Clarifying the real purpose of higher education is made no easier by the evolution of the British system. In the past thirty years we've seen the conversion of polytechnics into universities and, more recently, degree-awarding powers conferred on some further education colleges. This means that a broad range of courses taught in very different ways and with very different aims result in the acquisition of the same qualification – a degree.

While the aim of these changes was to equalise esteem and funding for different institutions, the net result is confusion over the core attributes of degree-level study. Universities, polytechnics and further education colleges were established to serve very different purposes. England's earliest universities grew out of scholarly communities. The foundation of study was a broad-based liberal arts curriculum and students only progressed to study for any specific profession once they had completed this course; their vocational training was conducted at Master's-degree level. In contrast, the core purpose of polytechnics was to deliver applied, professional education at a degree-equivalent level. Further education colleges traditionally served the

more specific vocational needs of local communities and delivered a much broader range of short and long courses.

With the broadening of degree-awarding powers, much of the country's higher education is now delivered at institutions whose founding purpose was to develop the workforce and to increase individuals' employability. But crucially, these institutions served the same purpose before they could confer degrees. So one certainly cannot present the development of the workforce as the distinctive purpose of higher education.

So what is the point of studying for a degree? In my view, the core aim – at Bachelor's and Master's level – has to be an intellectual one: to develop students who view the world critically, who recognise that there are different perspectives in society and that often there is no right answer in a debate; and to develop independent thinkers, who extend their thinking through collaboration and critique.

If we accept that the central purpose of higher education is the intellectual development of the individual, what are the practical implications?

First, we must challenge everything that has resulted from higher education being presented as an economic good. We must stop taking financial returns as the core indicator of quality and prioritise the intellectual development that students achieve. We need to recognise that the benefits of a highly educated society are broader, less tangible and less easily quantified than the benefits of a

technically skilled labour force. We know these can include greater social and political engagement, improved health and increased well-being. If we value these things as a society, then they should be seen to justify investment in higher education as much as the economic returns of a degree. We should therefore support equal public investment in the arts and the sciences, since graduates of both disciplines give a richness to our culture that it would be dreadful to lose.

Second, we must stop conflating technical or vocational training and higher education. While some degrees – Medicine, Law or Architecture to name a few – are vocational, we should acknowledge that an individual can often acquire the technical skills necessary for a specific role, whether accountancy, design or project management, without participating in higher education. If an individual chooses to study for a degree, it should be with the recognition – both personally and by employers – that they aim to develop general and transferable intellectual skills. If they expect to increase their employability, it should be because employers want someone who can work independently and think flexibly, not because they want someone pre-trained for a specific job.


Can this education be delivered only at ‘old’ universities? Not necessarily. New universities have been emerging for hundreds of years, so why should the process stop now? If lecturers and tutors at newer institutions have developed courses that are sufficiently rigorous, and are teaching them in an appropriately challenging way, then there is every reason to classify this as higher

education. The test should be in the skills that the students develop, not where they have studied.

However, if we accept the distinction between a vocational and intellectual education, we might set less store on the traditional route from school into a three-year Bachelor’s degree. Many individuals may find it more productive and financially practical to start with vocational training and go on to higher education later in life, or for a shorter time as a Master’s student. The average life expectancy has increased by twenty-five per cent since early scholars began their higher studies aged fifteen or sixteen, so it seems reasonable to consider spreading our educational endeavours more evenly across our lifetimes, bringing to bear some of the maturity and experience gained in adult life.

It seems reasonable to consider spreading our educational endeavours more evenly across our lifetimes.

Finally, we should be careful to protect and foster the culture of scholarship found at our best institutions. As higher education becomes an increasingly global enterprise, we should recognise why students come from all over the world to study in Britain. It is not to memorise papers or textbooks, or to master widespread technical skills. It is because, at their best, our universities offer access to leading academic experts, cutting-edge research and an environment of genuine intellectual challenge. If we want

our higher education system to remain an attractive, competitive proposition, these are the qualities we must protect. We should ensure that students are not given an easy ride in exchange for better grades or feedback scores. Students should expect to be challenged at university. They should face hard questions, engage in ambiguous research and realise that sometimes the most exciting thing they can learn is all that we do not know. 

Katy Theobald

References

¹R. Chan, G. T. Brown and L. Ludlow, 'What is the purpose of higher education? A comparison of institutional and student perspectives on the goals and purposes of completing a bachelor's degree in the 21st century', paper presented at the annual American Education Research Association (AERA) conference, Philadelphia, USA, 5 April 2014.


ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015: 'BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF MARCHING BAND, TUSCANY' BY CHARLOTTE BRITTON (2013). CHARLOTTE TOOK THIS PHOTO FROM THE WINDOW OF THE HOUSE IN MONTEPULCIANO THAT SHE WAS STAYING IN WHILST LEARNING ITALIAN IN SUMMER 2014.



STUDENT AWARDS

Student awards, prizes and scholarships conferred between
1 May 2014 and 30 April 2015.

- 1998 NANGALIA, Dr Jyoti was awarded the Johnstone & Florence Stoney Studentship by the British Federation of Women Graduates in September 2014.
- 1998 WADDILOVE, David started as a Junior Research Fellow at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, in Michaelmas term 2014.
- 2010 PUEBLA, Lira won seventh prize, sponsored by STARLAB, in the annual departmental poster competition for second-year PhD students. It was awarded on 3 October 2014 in the Sanger Building, Department of Biochemistry.
- 2010 SCHOENHENSE, Benedikt won a BP-Neville Mott Prize in summer 2014.
- 2011 DESAI, Somil was awarded the Cambridge Neuroscience Seminars Prize for the Best Overall Performance, in summer 2014.
- 2011 FERGUSON, Nicky was awarded the Cambridge Finance Best Student Paper Award, in spring 2014. This is a University-wide award for the best paper by a graduate student in the area of finance, which comes with a £1000 prize.
- 2011 HUTCHINSON, Jack won the George C. Newton award for best undergraduate laboratory project in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at MIT, while on the MIT exchange programme in May 2014.
- 2011 HUXTABLE, Matthew won the Gloucester Research Prize for Best Individual Project in the Computer Science Tripos, in 2014.
- 2011 MAMBWE, Joseph was part of the team that won first prize in the national Appathon competition 2014. Appathon matches school pupils with university students to create a smartphone app that enhances people's lives. Joseph helped design Smart Wear, a functional prototype app that displays virtual clothing over a photo of a subject. The award was presented at a reception at the House of Commons in November 2014. The team are due to travel to California's Silicon Valley during the summer, where they will visit the offices of technology giants such as Google, Facebook and LinkedIn.

- 2011 SCHMIDHUBER, Christoph was awarded the Department of Archaeology Merit Prize for his third-year results, in summer 2014.
- 2012 GLEAVE, Adam was awarded the Gloucester Research Prize for Best Student (Computer Science Tripos Part IB), in 2014.
- 2012 HUANG, Jarret was awarded the George Long Prize for Roman Law, Part IA, in 2013; the George Long Prize for Civil Law, Part IB, in 2014; and the Linklaters Prize for Environmental Law, Part IB, in 2014.
- 2013 ADRIAENSSENS, Arthaud was awarded the Integrated Electrical Engineering Project Prize by his department in May 2014.
- 2013 ANDREWS, Laura was awarded the Integrated Electrical Engineering Project Prize by her department in May 2014.
- 2013 FLAGMEIER, Patrick was awarded a German National Merit Foundation Scholarship in October 2014.
- 2013 GAMSE, Joseph was jointly awarded The Anthony Dorrell Prize in summer 2014.
- 2013 SCHNEIDER, Sabine was awarded a History Project Research Grant in May 2014 for a project on Bank of England crisis management in the mid-nineteenth century.
- 2014 WÜRGER, Takis was awarded the Writing for CEE (Central and Eastern Europe) 2014 journalism prize in November 2014. He received the award at a ceremony in Vienna for his report from Illichivsk, a provincial town in southern Ukraine. Takis has written for German news magazine *Der Spiegel* for more than five years, and is currently on a three-year sabbatical to study Human, Social and Political Science (HSPS) at St John's. 

THE MASTER AND FELLOWSHIP

COLLEGE OFFICERS

The College Officers, as of 1 October 2015, will be:

The Master	Professor C. M. Dobson
The President	Dr F. E. Salmon
Senior Tutor	Dr M. Dörrzapf
Senior Bursar	Mr C. F. Ewbank
Dean of Chapel	The Reverend D. J. Dormor
Dean of Discipline	Dr A. O. Wilshaw
Domestic Bursar	Mr M. N. Wells
Librarian	Dr A. M. Nicholls
Praelector	Professor P. T. Johnstone
Director of Music	Mr A. M. Nethsingha
Chaplain	The Reverend E. Adekunle

THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

From 1 October 2015, the following will be members of the College Council:

The Master	
The President	Dr Nicholls
Dr Hughes	Miss Tomaselli
Professor Tombs	Mr Ewbank
Dr Hynes	Professor Toland
Dr Watson	Dr Wilshaw
Professor Kinmonth	Mr Wells

THE FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship of the College, as of 1 October 2015, will be (in order of seniority):

The Master (Professor C. M. Dobson)

The President (Dr F. E. Salmon)

Dr E. D. James

Professor R. A. Hinde

Dr J. A. Charles

Dr D. J. H. Garling

Dr G. A. Reid

Professor P. Boyde

Dr J. A. Leake

Dr P. A. Linchan

Dr A. J. Macfarlane

Professor D. L. McMullen

Dr E. K. Matthews

Mr R. G. Jobling

Dr A. A. Macintosh

Professor J. Staunton

Dr C. M. P. Johnson

Professor M. A. Clarke

Dr A. G. Smith

Professor J. A. Emerton

Professor J. Iliffe

Professor M. Schofield

Dr G. A. Lewis

Professor R. F. Griffin

Professor T. P. Bayliss-Smith

Professor S. F. Gull

Dr H. P. Hughes

Dr P. Goddard

Professor P. T. Johnstone

Professor I. M. Hutchings

Professor H. R. L. Beadle

Dr J. B. Hutchison

Professor S. F. C. Milsom

Dr D. G. D. Wight

Professor Sir Richard Friend

Dr R. E. Glasscock

Professor R. P. Tombs

Dr R. E. McConnel

Professor D. R. Midgley

Professor P. H. Matthews

Dr M. Richards

Professor J. F. Kerrigan

Professor G. J. Burton

Professor G. C. Horrocks

Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta

Professor Sir Mark Welland

Dr H. R. Matthews

Professor B. J. Heal

Dr T. P. Hynes

Professor I. N. McCave

Dr A. C. Metaxas

Colonel R. H. Robinson

Professor S. Conway Morris

Professor E. D. Laue

Dr S. A. Edgley

Professor R. A. Evans

Dr S. M. Colwell

Dr H. E. Watson

Dr J. P. McDermott

Professor C. O. Lane

Dr C. J. Robinson

Professor Y. M. Suhov

Professor S. R. S. Szreter

Professor D. J. Howard

Professor M. M. G. Lisboa

Professor U. C. Rublack

Professor B. D. Simons

Dr K. C. Plaisted Grant

Professor M. Ní Mhaonaigh
 Professor D. C. McFarlane
 Professor C. D. Gray
 Dr I. M. Winter
 Professor N. S. Manton
 Dr N. S. Arnold
 Dr S. Castelvechhi
 Professor A.-L. Kinmonth
 Dr J. M. Lees
 Professor A. D. H. Wyllie
 Professor S. C. Reif
 Dr D. M. Fox
 Dr D. M. A. Stuart
 Dr A. M. Nicholls
 Dr M. Dörrzapf
 Dr P. Antonello
 Dr P. T. Miracle
 Professor A. W. Woods
 Commodore J. W. R. Harris
 Professor S. M. Best
 Dr P. M. Geraats
 Dr P. T. Wood
 Mr D. J. Dormor
 Dr E. J. Gowers
 Professor U. C. Goswami
 Professor R. J. Samworth
 Professor G. W. W. Barker
 Dr D. L. Williams
 Miss S. Tomaselli
 Mr C. F. Ewbank
 Dr C. G. Warnes
 Professor C. D. Jiggins
 Mr S. W. Teal
 Mr A. M. Nethsingha
 Dr T. Larsson
 Dr R. D. Mullins
 Professor T. P. J. Knowles
 Dr J. J. W. A. Robinson
 Dr G. L. Evans
 Professor M. Atatüre

Dr A. B. Reddy
 Professor Z. Ghahramani
 Professor J. S. Rink
 Dr T. E. C. Button
 Dr E. Reisner
 Professor J. Toland
 Professor O. Paulsen
 Dr I. Palacios
 Dr K. Franze
 Dr A. Lamacraft
 Dr J. P. Slight
 Dr U. Paszkowski
 Dr N. MacDonald
 Dr A. O. Wilshaw
 Dr J. R. Taylor
 Dr A. Bouayad
 Dr M. J. V. P. Worthington
 Dr A. K. Arsan
 Dr M. T. G. Humphreys
 Dr R. S. Weatherup
 Dr S. I. A. Cohen
 Dr M. A. Crowley
 Professor S. J. Peacock
 Dr M. F. L. De Volder
 Dr H. J. Joyce
 Dr S. Shao
 Dr T. M. Adamo
 Dr O. Da Rold
 Mr M. N. Wells
 Dr S. H. Martin
 Dr S. McDowell
 Dr A. Albors-Llorens
 Professor T. J. G. Whitmarsh
 Dr E. T. Tipper
 Dr E. M. Steiner
 Mr T. J. Watts
 Dr A. Y. Chau
 Dr M. G. Elliot
 Dr H. S. Knowles
 Dr F. Vella


Dr G. R. Ladds
 Dr P. J. Lennon
 Dr O. E. Griffiths
 Dr A. T. Wong
 Dr E. H. Wickerson

Mr B. Peruvemba Narayana
 Dr Q. Berthet
 Dr C. C. Sahner
 Miss E. Giusti

HONORARY FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows of the College, as of 1 October 2015, in order of seniority:

Sir Jonathan Miller
 Dr Manmohan Singh
 Sir Douglas Wass
 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. the 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. F. Carnley
 Sir Mark Moody-Stuart
 Mr D. M. Burt
 Mr C. N. Corfield
 Professor E. S. Maskin

Professor Lord Renfrew
 The Rt Hon. the Lord Justice Aikens
 Professor Sir John Ball
 The Rt Hon. Sir Jack Beatson
 Professor J. G. A. Pocock
 Sir David Hopwood
 Sir Roger Palin
 Mr D. W. Pountney
 The Rt Hon. the Lord Crisp
 Mr S. J. Keenlyside
 Professor R. M. Goody
 Professor L. Cha
 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 



ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015: 'THROUGH GENERATIONS' BY KLA KARAVA (2013)
WWW.KLAKARAVA-PHOTO.COM. KLA TOOK THIS IMAGE IN SHANGHAI IN JULY 2014, WHILST ON A
ONE-MONTH BACKPACKING TRIP TRAVELLING BY TRAIN THROUGH CHINA WITH FRIENDS.



MEMBERS' NEWS

FOCUS ON A FELLOW

Dr Emily Gowers is a Fellow and Director of Studies in Classics at St John's. She is currently on leave, having been awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship for 2014–16 to work on her research project 'Maecenas: Transformations of an Augustan Patron'. She is also a Reader in Latin Literature at the University's Faculty of Classics.

I have to admit: I became a classicist by accident – the first time, anyway. I arrived aged nineteen at Trinity College, Cambridge, fully intending to change to History of Art for Part II. In a minor act of rebellion, I'd applied to a large, central, mixed college – because my headmistress had told me she could see me at Girton. Classics turned out to be far too engrossing. I 'majored' in Greek literature and art, but by the time I started my PhD I was becoming more and more interested in the many-layered culture of Rome. I stayed at Trinity for nine very comfortable years, as undergraduate, graduate student and Research Fellow. St John's was the place over the wall which had built the ugly Buttery that ruined our bowling green, had hard stone staircases and was difficult for women (the College went mixed in my first year). I'd been warned that writing a PhD could be a depressing period of one's life and was given a fearsome self-help book by one George Watson, called *Writing a Thesis*. Much later, I learned that Mr Watson – of St John's College – had never written one himself. I chose the then unusual topic of food in Latin literature, which sustained me very well. I had a brilliant supervisor, John Henderson at King's, who saw me



for one three-hour session each term, from which I emerged wiser, I hope. John's approach has inspired me ever since.


I then did something very risky for a female academic: I resigned from my first job, in London, after my first child and my first book came out. This was considered suicidal; one female mature student told me bitterly I had 'shot women in the foot'. I had been told I could only work part-time if I commuted to London four days a week, and I was sensationally bad at negotiating. It was a bleak time for jobs and I had to repent at leisure, waiting nine years for anything realistically

worth applying for. This, as it happened, was a lectureship in Cambridge, which I got following a part-time post at Princeton, a wonderful re-entry into work. I count myself astonishingly lucky that people here kept faith in me, partly because I could claim that I had a book on the go, a commentary on Horace's *Satires*, which I used to work on at night in our attic, often disturbed by a neighbour's son's drum kit on the other side of the wall. Academia is tough for women, whatever their circumstances, but some things are improving work-wise for mothers: there are more women in jobs, more nursery places and, above all, an expectation that of course you will carry on and colleagues and employers must help you make it work. But women have been so anxious over the years to fit in and not seem to be slacking that it's often young male colleagues who have insisted on family-friendly hours and moved the system forward.

Second time around, I hope I'm more appreciative of the unique privileges and freedoms of academic life.

Out of four colleges that expressed an interest in having me, I chose St John's – one decision I have never regretted. I love my daily walk through three red-brick courts and Gothic cloisters to my room, the friendly Fellows and staff, the huge stretches of green space and the stately lunches in the Combination Room with its cheering fire. There's still an annoyingly persistent stereotype of a St John's student, but in

Classics we have an incredibly varied mix, enriched in recent years by students from Australia, Germany, Hong Kong and Italy. I'd rather be at St John's than Oxford – or anywhere else in Cambridge!

Second time around, I hope I'm more reflective, and more appreciative of the unique privileges and freedoms of academic life. While lecturing on Latin literature I've learned to improvise more. My most recent lectures, on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, don't even exist in scripted form. Now I've been blessed with a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship, which gives me two years to write about Maecenas, patron of Horace and Virgil, a central but very curious figure about whom almost nothing solid is known (Jay Gatsby is one of his spiritual descendants). It's a chance to explore what I have always suspected: how much his personality was manipulated by the writers he knew, rather than the other way round. Having unlimited time is odd if you're used to being frenzied. I once realised I'd left home wearing one boot and one shoe, and it was too late to go back. By an extraordinary fluke, I was lecturing on Latin love poetry, so I swiftly decided to tell my students about the poem where Ovid dreams he is being fought over by two females – Elegy, who has one (metrical) foot shorter than the other, and Tragedy, who wears high-heeled boots. I think I just about persuaded them that my mistake was some kind of visual aid. 

Dr Emily Gowers

FOCUS ON A FELLOW

Dr Philip Murray joined St John's in 2013, and is a Fellow and Director of Studies in Law.



My life in Cambridge began in September 2007. I arrived from the north-east of England as a fresh-faced eighteen-year-old, feeling very lucky to have been given the opportunity to study at Cambridge. My college was not St John's, but Corpus – older, smaller, poorer (in material wealth), but equally welcoming. My subject was to be Law, and I came up with the firm intention of leaving after three years to practise as a barrister.

Soon into my studies, however, I realised how enjoyable, wide-ranging and intellectually satisfying law could be as an academic discipline. I had expected, coming up to Cambridge, that reading Law would involve rote-learning copious amounts of rules, rather like learning by heart a longer and more complicated version of the rules of Monopoly or Risk. Thankfully I was wrong. Lectures, supervisions and many hours reading case reports in the Library soon revealed law to be a dynamic social phenomenon; one that could not properly be understood without reflection on its history, philosophy and so on. As I entered the third year of the Law Tripos, and much to the bemusement of my parents, whose desire to have a son earning a comfortable living at the Bar was, and is, very understandable, I was in no doubt that I wanted to stay in Cambridge and continue researching law.

During my undergraduate studies I developed a particular interest in the constitutional law of the United Kingdom, in particular administrative law – the law governing judicial review of governmental decisions. I found constitutional law, and judicial review in particular, academically taxing. At the same time, it was a dynamic

subject, constantly evolving in response to changes in the UK's political complexion. I came to constitutional law in the wake of New Labour's numerous constitutional reforms. Lawyers were just coming to terms with the Human Rights Act, the Freedom of Information Act, the Constitutional Reform Act (creating a new Supreme Court) and the new devolution settlements in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It was an exciting time to be learning and researching the subject.

I had expected that reading Law would involve copious amounts of rules... rather like Monopoly or Risk.

In Michaelmas 2010 I began to write a PhD thesis on judicial review. As well as constitutional law, I had also nurtured a real interest in English legal history, so I wanted to find a research topic that combined the two. My choice was the history of judicial review, particularly in the nineteenth century. My doctoral research sought to explore the historical development of the courts' powers to review governmental decisions. Given the radical changes in government during the nineteenth century (increased centralisation, increased professionalisation, increased bureaucracy – *plus ça change!*), my PhD was surprisingly enjoyable to write. I finished my PhD in July 2013, and three months later was admitted to my Fellowship at St John's. My research interests have

evolved somewhat during my time as a Fellow, but the main theme remains the same: taking a historical account of judicial review, and using it as a measure by which modern constitutional law can be assessed.

Many people think that judicial review is a modern phenomenon. Yet, while it's true to say that the courts' judicial review powers have exploded in scope over the last fifty years, and while judicial review cases are ever more prominent in the popular press, the courts' powers of judicial review can be traced right back to the legal practice of the king's courts in the thirteenth century. Indeed, one of the first people ever to write about this was another Law Fellow of St John's – Professor Toby Milsom. A more accurate perception of judicial review, however, is that the courts have become increasingly interventionist in exercising their judicial review powers. Legitimate concerns are now quite vehemently expressed that the courts use judicial review to invalidate perfectly reasonable governmental policies and decisions, simply on the basis that they would prefer a different decision to be made.

While much hyperbole is vented about all this, my own feeling is that, unlike in the earlier history of judicial review, courts today show much less deference to the decisions of democratically accountable members of government. I don't doubt the need for judicial review in cases of clear illegality,

procedural unfairness, or where the decision is stark raving mad. And there's certainly a need for careful scrutiny of governmental decisions that imperil minority interests or values held dear by the common law: freedom of speech, a fair trial, and so on. However, there's a danger that if judicial review becomes too invasive, or acts as a barrier to the business of government, public goodwill will be undermined and an important aspect of our constitutional law will be lost forever. This is the driving factor behind my research. I explore some of the ways the courts historically engaged in judicial review in such a manner that respected the limits of their constitutional role. By bringing these out into the open, I hope that the courts might again be more conscious of the need for restraint today.


Sitting alongside my research, my main role at the College is to teach and direct studies for our undergraduate lawyers. I started teaching undergraduates during my doctorate, and it now takes up a good part of my working week. Thankfully, teaching is something I rather enjoy. We're lucky in Cambridge to have some of the brightest, hardest-working and most enthusiastic Law students in the world, and, trite though it might sound, it's a privilege to teach them. I'm lucky too that the tripos papers I supervise coordinate perfectly with my own research interests. I take first-year students for the mandatory paper in constitutional law, and second- and third-year students for

an advanced optional paper in judicial review. I'm also lucky to supervise a few third-year students writing dissertations on these subjects. When students have really engaged with their reading, the line between an advanced seminar on my own research and an undergraduate supervision for the tripos starts to blur.

Will Law students in a decade's time be faced with the legal intricacies of federal constitutional law?

I mentioned above that one of the most engaging things about my field is its ever-changing nature. Never has this been more apparent than since the general election in May. Between sending my students away at the end of the Lent term and meeting them at the beginning of the Easter term for revision supervisions before their exams, the constitutional landscape of the United Kingdom altered dramatically. There is now a good chance that my students will be the last to learn constitutional law and judicial review under the auspices of the Human Rights Act. Radical changes to the UK's relationship with the European Union are also on the agenda, promising, if the UK votes to leave the EU, to throw in the air a series of important constitutional law cases on the nature of parliamentary sovereignty. More fundamentally, the complete rewriting of Scottish politics brought about by the rise of the Scottish National Party throws

into doubt the future of the UK itself. Will St John's Law students in a decade's time be faced with the legal intricacies of federal constitutional law? The imminent future could be far removed from a constitutional law today that's not too distant from that described by Bagehot and Dicey, all those years ago.

Political views aside – which, like religion, ought never to be discussed at High Table, or in an alumni publication – the challenges facing those of us researching and teaching British constitutional law are great, let alone the generations of students that have to study it. This, however, is both our burden and our joy. The dynamism of our subject is why we find constitutional law so attractive. It's the main reason that being a Law Fellow at St John's is so enjoyable. 

Dr Philip Murray

MEMBERS' NEWS

The following pages are dedicated to sharing the news of alumni, Fellows and Honorary Fellows, 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 they are correct, and 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, or by filling in the paper form that accompanied this issue.

If you've lost touch with another Johnian, please contact the Development Office at development@joh.cam.ac.uk or on 01223 338700, and if we have their contact details we will try to help you reconnect with them.

1940 NICHOLLS, Professor William served in the Second World War, (re)joining the College in 1945. As Professor and Head, he founded the Department of Religious Studies at the University of British Columbia in 1961. His family tell us that he published *Christian Anti-Semitism: A History of Hate* in 1995. Professor Nicholls died in Vancouver on 10 November 2014, a month after his ninety-third birthday.

1945 HEAD, Kenneth published volume three of the third edition of his *Manual of Soil Laboratory Testing* (joint author R. J. Epps) in July 2014.

1945 HINDE, Professor Robert published *Our Greedy Society: when is enough enough?* (Spokesman, 2015).

1948 CARLISLE, Professor Raymond has collected his weekly correspondence, with replies from Dr Peter Doll, the Canon Librarian of Norwich Cathedral (theological) Library, on ten topics of relevance to a Christian atheist. Copies are available on request.

1948 DORMAN, Richard Bostock has written a memoir of his life and that of his wife. *A Family Memoir* was published privately, for the benefit of Richard's family and friends.

1950 BOWDEN, Dr Hugh is working on a project on management and ethics.

1952 HASLAM, Dr Michael is currently the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Society of Clinical Psychiatrists. He has also recently edited *Psychiatry then and now: A history of the Society of Clinical Psychiatrists* (York: Quacks, 2013). Michael is still playing croquet for Ryedale; he learned his skills on the St John's lawn and his handicap is now ten.

1954 MATTHEWS, Professor Peter turned eighty in March 2014, a year which also saw two publications: a third edition, thoroughly revised, of his *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Linguistics*, and a new monograph on *The Positions of Adjectives in English* (both Oxford University Press).

1955 THIRLWAY, Professor Hugh wrote *The Sources of International Law* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

1956 EAGLEN, Dr Robin published *The Abbey and Mint of Bury St Edmunds from 1279* in October 2014. This is a sequel to *The Abbey and Mint of Bury St Edmunds to 1279* (London, 2006).

1960 HELLBERG, Professor Manfred was honoured by the South Africa Institute of Physics (SAIP) with the award of the SAIP De Beers Gold Medal in 2014.

1961 WRIGHT, James reached the French–Swiss frontier on Sunday 19 April 2015, thus completing, with a friend appropriately named ‘Walker’, a double traverse of France on foot, from the Channel to the Mediterranean (Ouistreham, the port of Caen, to Cassis), and from the Atlantic to the Alps (Port-du-Pavé, north of La Rochelle, to just east of Pontarlier). This walk took sixty-six days, spread over seven annual visits, and covered 1743km at an average speed of 4.6kph. For unknown reasons, the routes chosen passed through some of the finest vineyards in France, but, regrettably, no statistics appear to exist for the number of bottles of wine that perished in the endeavour!

1963 MITCHELL, Dr David has decided – after a career-break of some forty years spent running independent bookseller and publisher Scarthin Books – to apply to rejoin academia as an ‘annuated independent post-doc’ with *Lattice Labyrinth Tessellations; bold art from modest mathematics* (Tarquin, 2013) and a paper on the same delivered in Seoul at the Bridges 2014 Conference on Mathematics and the Arts.

1964 HOWARD, Professor Deborah received an Honorary Doctorate of Letters (LittD) at University College Dublin on 1 December 2014. Professor Howard was appointed a Trustee of Venice in Peril on 1 January 2015.

1968 WALKER, John Granville ended his long association with the Dortmund Opera in Germany, as Chorus Master and Conductor, with two gala concerts and the world premiere of his setting for chorus and orchestra, '*Die Zeit des Singens*', of texts from the 'Song of Songs'. He will continue in Dortmund as the Musical Director of the Philharmonischer Musikverein, which, together with the Dortmunder Philharmoniker, gives regular concerts in the Konzerthaus Dortmund and the surrounding area. His 'retirement' will be enriched by an increased involvement in chamber music and further commissions as a composer.

1970 HUMPHRIES, Canon Christopher William left Chester Cathedral in May 2014 after nearly nine fruitful and enjoyable years as Canon Precentor. He is now Vicar of two rural parishes in Chester Diocese, a role that includes links with the lively church primary school.

1970 MASEFIELD, Robin published a book in December 2014 entitled *Policing in Northern Ireland: Delivering the New Beginning?* (Liverpool University Press), with Professor Sir Desmond Rea. The book comprehensively chronicles the transformation of policing in Northern Ireland since 1999, as seen through the eyes of the cross-community Northern Ireland Policing Board.

1970 ROE, Alan was re-appointed as Chairman of the British Chapter of the 1818 Society, the retirees' association of the World Bank. In retirement, he continues to work as an Associate Consultant at Oxford Policy Management, having been a Director there. In that capacity he has been the lead author of two recent publications on the economic impact of mining in low- and middle-income economies: *Brazil* (2013) and *Zambia* (2014). Details are available on request.

1971 MILLER, Dr Alastair retired from full-time NHS practice in May 2014, but retains his links with Liverpool University as an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Infection and Global Health. He works part-time in London as Deputy Medical Director of the Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board; part-time in Carlisle as an acute physician; and is an external examiner for Edge Hill University.

1971 SPOONER, Graham was appointed Trustee of The Honorary Treasurers Forum (a registered charity) in November 2014.

1971 TAYLOR, Dr Phil has been appointed UK Honorary Consul Trade in Italy, following approval from the UK's Ambassador in Rome. Phil has lived in Italy for thirty-two years and is now based in the beautiful Valsamoggia, between Bologna and Modena.

1972 CONWAY MORRIS, Professor Simon's book *The Runes of Evolution* (Templeton Press) was published in April.

1974 NOBLE, Chris moved to California in 1994 with his wife, Peta, and two sons. After a career in the oil, engineering and music industries, he is now the CEO and part-owner of a large Californian winery. He welcomes visits from Johnian friends at his California home or at his other residence in Oxford. Chris has recently become a grandfather and loves it.

1975 BREEN, Dr John has been a professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan, since 2012. There he edits the journal *Japan Review*. Among his publications are four recent books on Japanese history: *A new history of Shinto* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011), as co-author with Mark Teeuwen; *Girei to kenryoku: tenno no Meiji ishin / Power and ritual: the emperor and the restoration of 1868* (Tokyo: Heibonsha, 2013); *Yasukuni, the war dead and the struggle for Japan's past* (Oxford University Press, 2013), as editor; and *Lust, Commerce, and Corruption: An Account of What I Have Seen and Heard, by an Edo Samurai* (Columbia University Press, 2014), as co-translator.

1975 GILBERT, Dr Francis was made Professor of Ecology at the University of Nottingham on 1 August 2014.

1975 LEWIS, David has retired from the European Broadcasting Union in Geneva after nineteen years in positions including Spokesman, Head of Communications, Head of Member Relations, and Assistant Director General. Like the author and eponymous hero of *Candide*, he will now cultivate his garden in Ferney-Voltaire.

1976 TRANMER, John plans to leave the Froebelian School in Leeds in August 2015, where he has been Head Teacher for twenty-four years, and will take up a new post as Chairman of the Independent Association of Prep Schools for three years.

1980 SKINNER, Geoff obtained an MA in International Relations in 2014, and will be commencing study for a PhD in History at Exeter University in autumn 2015.

1983 CROWTHER, Dr Daniel returned from Indonesia *en famille* in 2010. He has now finished a doctorate in Masoretic Studies and is a Research Associate at the Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies in Oxford.

1986 BALDWIN, John was appointed a District Judge sitting in the Civil and Family Courts at Liverpool and Birkenhead, with effect from 1 May 2014.

1986 BUCHHOLZ, Todd and his daughter, Victoria BUCHHOLZ (2010), have co-written the script, music and lyrics to a new musical, *Glory Ride*, which is set during Mussolini's Fascist reign. The New York performance starred Tony Award nominee Josh Young, Alison Luff (who starred on Broadway in *Matilda*) and Quinn VanAntwerp (who starred on Broadway in *Jersey Boys*). After its showcase performance in New York last winter, *Glory Ride* will probably move on to a full production at either a prominent regional theatre in the US, or possibly to the West End. Todd, a former White House economic adviser and author of numerous books on economic history, served as a Fellow Commoner in 2009; Victoria is a graduate student in Law at Stanford University.

1986 HUNTINGTON, Richard was promoted to Group Chief Strategy Officer of the advertising agency Saatchi & Saatchi.

1987 NETHSINGHA, Andrew was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal School of Church Music.

1988 CHAMBERS, Tim got married to Clare (née Thomas) in August 2013. Having spent twenty years working in finance with PwC and British Telecom, latterly as BT's CFO for Italy and then Latin America, in 2013 he started training for ministry in the Church of England. He is studying at St Mellitus College in London, and hopes to be ordained in the summer of 2016. He would be delighted to hear from any of his contemporaries, and can be contacted at timothyjchambers@hotmail.com.

1988 GILL, Stephanie took up the post of Principal of Altrincham Grammar School for Girls in September 2014.

1988 RUBBLACK, Professor Ulinka co-curated the Fitzwilliam Museum exhibition 'Treasured Possessions from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment', from March to September 2015.

1992 COBB, Dr Adam has been appointed a Research Professor and Director of the Mahan Advanced Research Project at the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

1992 MCLOUGHLIN, Dr Kate was elected Fellow and Tutor in English at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, in September 2014.

1992 OWEN, Dr Judith Margaret returned to Perth in 2010 after ten years in the UK, following the marriage of her son, Richard, to Robin Schaefer. Since 2012 Judith has been teaching part-time in the Classics and Ancient History Department at the University of Western Australia.

1992 VARDEN, The Right Reverend Dr Dom Erik, Research Fellow at St John's 2000–2, has been elected Abbot of the Cistercian (Trappist) monastery of Mount Saint Bernard in Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire, and received his abbatial blessing on 19 May 2015.

1993 MOTALLEBZADEH, Dr Reza was awarded the junior basic science grant from the European Society of Organ Transplantation in June 2014.

1994 CARR, Dr Gillian married Jonathan Bartlett in August 2013. The ceremony was held at St Catharine's College, where Dr Carr is a Fellow, but the champagne reception was held at St John's. Many Johnians attended the event. In 2014 Gilly published two monographs: *Legacies of Occupation: heritage, memory and archaeology in the Channel Islands*; and *Protest, Defiance and Resistance in the Channel Islands: German occupation 1940-1945* (the latter co-authored with Paul Sanders and Louise Willmot).

1994 PIERCE (née ARMSTRONG), Dr Nicole and Dr Christian Pierce (Downing 1995) are delighted to announce the birth of their third son, Euan, in August 2013 – a brother to Finlay and Ronan.

1994 SCHULZ, Professor Jennifer was a Visiting Scholar in Residence at the Centre for the Legal Profession at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, in autumn 2014. She remains a Fellow of the Winkler Institute for Dispute Resolution at Osgoode Hall Law School.

1994 WHITMARSH, Professor Tim rejoined the Fellowship of St John's College in October 2014, taking up his University appointment as A. G. Leventis Professor of Greek Culture. In January 2015 his book *Beyond the Second Sophistic: Adventures in Greek Postclassicism* won the Charles Goodwin Order of Merit, awarded by the Society for Classical Studies, formerly the American Philological Association. His new book, *Battling the Gods: Atheism in the Ancient World*, will be published in the USA by Vintage in November 2015, and in the UK by Faber and Faber in February 2016.

1995 GIL AGUADO, Iago took up the position of Deputy Head of Mission at the Spanish Embassy in Kiev during 2014. In 2013 he received the 'Premio Virgen del Carmen', the annual

naval history award of the Spanish Navy, for his biographical work *Francisco Gil y Lemos: marino, virrey y ministro. Una vida al servicio de la Monarquía Española* (*Francisco Gil y Lemos: naval officer, viceroy and minister. A life in the service of the Spanish Monarchy*). This book is being edited by the Ministry of Defence of Spain and will be published shortly.

1996 JACKSON, Anna and her husband, Worth Anderson, have welcomed two boys into their family – Alexander in 2013 and Bennett in 2014.

1996 ROSS-JONES, Kiri and Andrew were pleased to welcome Maia Violet Lily Davis-Jones on 16 December 2013. Kiri, along with her colleague Lynn Parker, had a book, *The History of Kew Gardens in Photographs*, published in 2013.

1996 SAMWORTH, Professor Richard was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics for 2014. He was also awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize for 2014.

1997 HUNT, Harriet married David Moss Anthony Cross on 12 October 2013. Their son, Matthew Vaughan Cross, was born at the Rosie Hospital in Cambridge on 30 March 2014.

1999 VALLEJO VEIGA (née JONES), Catherine and Ivan (Churchill 1998) are very pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, Joseph Arturo Glyn Vallejo, born on 30 July 2014.

2000 HIRANO (née LEE), Lorraine and James are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Theo Masahiro, on 28 August 2014. Theo has an older brother, Steven Masayoshi, aged three.

2001 BUTTON, Dr Tim was awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize, with a value of £100,000. This award will fund a two-year research project, during which Tim will write a book on the way in which attitudes towards the self influenced English-speaking philosophy during the twentieth century.

2001 KING (née BARNES), Dr Anita would like to announce that Christina Patricia King was born on 28 March 2015 – a little sister for Peter Robert King, born on 10 August 2012.

2001 LUCIA, Professor Christine (Overseas Visiting Scholar), author of *The World of South African Music* (2005) and *Music Notation: A South African Guide* (2011), was recently repatriated to the UK after a forty-year career in South Africa as a university academic.

2002 KOMISSAROVA, Dr Alexandra and her husband are excited to announce the arrival of their son, Leonard Felix – their ‘wonderful little guy!’ He was particularly welcomed by his sister, Vanessa, who’d been so patiently waiting for her little brother to appear. Leonard celebrated his first birthday in February 2015.

2003 AUSTIN, Daniel recently published two books about Madagascar: one called *Madagascar Wildlife* on the island’s flora and fauna, and the other *Madagascar: The Bradt Travel Guide*. This brings the number of books he has written to three, the other being *Madagascar Highlights*. Daniel specialises exclusively in this island as a writer and photographer, as well as leading tours there. He is Secretary of the Anglo-Malagasy Society and Curator of the Madagascar Library.

2003 CHELIOTIS, Dr Leonidas was appointed Assistant Professor in Criminology at the Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science, from September 2014. He and his wife Sappho Xenakis are also delighted to announce the birth of their daughters Clio and Hypatia in London on 16 January 2014.

2004 LARKIN, Dr Hilary has published two books, *The Making of Englishmen: Debates on National Identity 1560-1650* (Brill, 2013) and *A History of Ireland, 1800-1922: Theatres of Disorder?* (Anthem, 2014).


2005 PONG, Dr Ian and Crystal (née CHENG, 2006) are very pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Catherine Pong, in 2015.

2008 MOORE, Dr Ursula won the Great Britain Ski Mountaineering Championships (women’s) in February 2015. She completed her medical degree in summer 2014 and feels that all the sports she was able to take part in while at St John’s hugely contributed to her training.

2009 WIMBUSH, Stuart Christopher and his wife, Makiko, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Julian Yasuaki Wimbush, in Lower Hutt, New Zealand, on 22 February 2014.

2011 TAYLOR, Dr Alex’s research, in Phillip Holliger’s group at the Medical Research Council’s Laboratory of Molecular Biology (MRC LMB), is being published in *Nature* (Taylor et al. 2014). The article reports the world’s first artificial enzymes, named ‘XNAzymes’, evolved in the test tube using synthetic biology. This proves that life’s biomolecules (proteins, DNA and RNA) are not the only options for catalysis, a key hallmark of life, and in principle many ‘alternative biologies’ may be possible.

2011 WATSON, Dr Aleksandra Anna (College Research Associate) was elected Fellow in Biochemistry and appointed Director of Studies for Biochemistry at Murray Edwards College, Cambridge.

2014 STEINER, Dr Eva received the Aareal Award of Excellence in recognition of outstanding scientific research in real estate economics. She also organised a team of six Cambridge Land Economy students, including four Johnians, to take part in the Cornell Real Estate Case Competition in November 2014. The annual contest invites students from around the world to put the concepts and theories that they have studied to the test, as they compete for a prize worth \$22,000. Dr Steiner's research this year included co-authoring a report alongside Dr Timothy Riddiough, from the Wisconsin School of Business in the US, which suggested that patterns in the financing activities of firms could be used as a litmus-test to determine company value. The study was commissioned by the European Public Real Estate Association. 




ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015:
'THE MEN AND THE SEA' BY SZYMON PANCEWICZ (2013). SZYMON'S IMAGE
OF THE REGATES ROYALES RACE IN CANNES IN SEPTEMBER 2014 WAS
HIGHLY COMMENDED BY THE JUDGES.

It is with great sadness that we must record the passing of the following members, listed in order of matriculation year to the University, as notified to the College between May 2014 and April 2015. Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list.

- 1932 PFAFF, Philip Reynold, 4 March 2014, aged 99.
- 1934 SANDBACH, Richard Stainton Edward, 10 January 2015, aged 99.
- 1936 FELTON, Dr William Fowler, 30 August 2014, aged 96.
- 1937 COLE, Dr Robert Templeman CBE, 15 October 2013, aged 94.
MCKENDRICK, Dr Charles Stewart, 25 June 2014, aged 94.
POWER, Basil Dixon, 24 June 2013, aged 94.
SMITH, Dr Ian McNicol, 10 June 2014, aged 94.
WOLSTENHOLME, Dr Allan Grant, 24 December 2014, aged 97.
- 1938 HOWARTH, Ronald Matthews, 13 August 2014, aged 94.
TEMPLEMAN, The Rt Hon. the Lord Sydney William MBE, 4 June 2014, aged 94.
An obituary appears on page 147.
WILSON, Major General (Ronald) Dare CBE MC DL, 15 August 2014, aged 95.
- 1939 JOHNSON, 'Iain' John Aylmer, 23 July 2014, aged 93.
NOBLE, Basil, 4 December 2014, aged 94.
O'NEILL, Hugh Cecil, 27 October 2011, aged 90.
SILBERSTON, Professor (Zangwill) Aubrey CBE, 23 March 2015, aged 93.
- 1940 BUTSON, Dr 'Dick' Arthur Richard Cecil GC OMM CStJ CD, 24 March 2015, aged 92.
LEAPER, Professor Robert Anthony Bernard CBE, 22 December 2014, aged 93.
NICHOLLS, Professor 'Bill' Charles Geoffrey William, 10 November 2014, aged 93.
- 1941 RHODES, Donald Horsfall MBE, 18 November 2014, aged 89.
RUSHTON, Philip Lawler, 21 February 2015, aged 91.
WILLCOCK, Dr Richard Mellor, 30 June 2014, aged 91.
- 1942 BROOMHEAD, Ivor William, 25 September 2014, aged 89.
DARMON, Dr Stanley Edward, 16 October 2014, aged 90.
EVANS, Commander Vincent RN, 3 November 2014, aged 90.
MOFFAT, Barry John, 25 August 2014, aged 89.
REID, (Raymond) Warwick Harry, 7 November 2014, aged 90.
WEIR-RHODES, David Edward, 17 February 2015, aged 91.
- 1943 GITTINS, Dr Peter Robert, 6 May 2014, aged 88.
HUNT, Dr (Leonard) Bryan, 28 July 2014, aged 88.

- KING, Dr Roy Favell, 20 August 2014, aged 89.
 SCOTT, Peter, 7 January 2015, aged 88.
- 1944 FORSTER, The Revd Dr Kenneth, 13 December 2014, aged 87.
 GOUDY, 'Alick' Alexander Porter, 26 May 2014, aged 88.
 JONES, David Pritchard, 14 October 2014, aged 88.
 PROSSER, (John) Michael, 14 July 2014, aged 87.
 STOKES, Robert Ian, 29 September 2014, aged 89.
 WILLIAMS, Dr Peter Orchard CBE, 25 July 2014, aged 88.
- 1945 PEEL, Dr Michael John.
- 1946 KHONG, Kit Soon, 17 January 2015, aged 90.
 LEWIS, Dr John Scott, 3 November 2014, aged 86.
 MORWOOD, Bryan, 17 July 2014, aged 91.
- 1947 BEAUMONT, Henry Francis MBE, 6 August 2014, aged 89.
 GRAAFF, Dr Johannes de Villiers, 6 January 2015, aged 86.
 MACKLIN, David Drury CBE DL, 29 March 2015, aged 86.
 MAYALL, Dr Gordon Francis, 2 November 2014, aged 85.
 MULLENDER, Professor Pieter, 31 July 2014, aged 97.
 STOPES-ROE, Dr Harry Verdon, 11 May 2014, aged 90.
- 1948 BERRY, Donald, 9 April 2015, aged 86.
 BEWICK, William Alfred Malcolm, 16 March 2015, aged 84.
 BOUMPHREY, John Michael Howorth, 31 August 2014, aged 87.
 HAMBLING, Andrew, 16 August 2014, aged 84.
 SISSENER, John, 1 March 2011, aged 79.
 SMITH, Dr Russell Alexander, 19 August 2012, aged 86.
- 1949 CANNY, Professor Martin Joseph Patrick, 29 October 2013, aged 82.
 COUTIE, (George) Angus, 18 November 2013, aged 84.
 DOWN, (Arthur) Graham, 30 August 2014, aged 85.
 GILMORE, Professor Paul Carl, 8 April 2015, aged 89.
 SCOTT-PARK, Jock Hargrave, 17 February 2015, aged 84.
 TEMPLE, (James) Muir, 7 November 2014, aged 85.
- 1950 BURGESS WATSON, Richard Eagleson CMG, 2 June 2014, aged 83.
 HARRIS, Simon Joscelyn Fulke, 13 February 2015, aged 85.
 LYALL, Henry George, 26 December 2014, aged 83.
 PENN, Christopher Lawrence, 19 September 2014, aged 85.
 SELICK (formerly CLARK), Dr John Thomas Clark, 18 September 2014, aged 82.
 WAITER, (Robert) Eric, 4 March 2013, aged 81.

- 1951 HEAL, Dr Philip Carlton, 7 April 2015, aged 82.
 MARSH, Captain John CBE, 2 December 2014, aged 82.
 MUSTILL, The Rt Hon. the Lord Michael John FBA, 24 April 2015, aged 83. An obituary appears on page 144.
 POKORNÝ, John Frank, 4 March 2015, aged 83.
 SOAR, Geoffrey David Ellery, 29 November 2014, aged 82.
- 1952 COWLEY, Dr Martin Duncan, 20 October 2014, aged 81.
 GOODSON, Brigadier (Harold) John OBE, 26 January 2015, aged 85.
 MAGNAY, Harold Huntley, 18 August 2014, aged 81.
 PEACOCK, John Douglas Collins, 20 August 2014, aged 83.
- 1953 NICHOLLS, Professor Peter, 7 October 2014, aged 79.
 PLOWMAN, John Richard, 24 July 2014, aged 81.
 RUDDEN, Professor Bernard Anthony FBA, 4 March 2015, aged 81.
 VILES, John Ernest, 6 January 2015, aged 80.
- 1954 ALLDAY, William John, 2 March 2015, aged 78.
 COOK, David James Robert, 7 April 2015, aged 82.
 LALLEMAND, Dr Roger Christopher, 16 January 2015, aged 79.
 NORTHAM, John Barrett, 5 November 2014, aged 79.
 REDFERN, Professor Walter David, 10 October 2014, aged 78.
 SMITH, Donald Joseph, 7 April 2015, aged 81.
- 1955 CONSIDINE, (Christopher) Rupert Kelly, 10 May 2014, aged 78.
 DURWARD, (Alan) Scott, 26 August 2014, aged 78.
- 1956 FRASER, The Revd Edward, 7 October 2014, aged 76.
 SARABHAI, Dr Anand Suhrid, 2 February 2013, aged 74.
 STODDART, Professor David Ross OBE, 23 November 2014, aged 77.
- 1957 BEVAN, Dr Christopher Henry Knatchbull, 20 September 2012, aged 79.
 WORDSWORTH, Ian Sinclair, 6 February 2015, aged 78.
- 1958 JORDAN, Dr Robert Richard, 15 December 2014, aged 77.
 PERHAM, Professor Richard Nelson FRS FMedSci, 14 February 2015, aged 77. An obituary appears on page 128.
 SYKES, The Rt Revd Professor Stephen Whitefield, 24 September 2014, aged 75. An obituary appears on page 139.
- 1960 LOCKWOOD, Professor David CBE FBA, 6 June 2014, aged 85.
 MACINNES, Malcolm Peake, 3 September 2014, aged 86.
- 1961 D'ALQUEN, Francis Norman, 10 July 2014, aged 71.
- 1962 RATHJEN, Dr Anthony John, 24 June 2014, aged 74.
 WOODHOUSE, Richard Michael, 27 September 2014, aged 71.

- 1963 BANKS, Michael Hugh, 8 January 2015, aged 70.
 HILL, Colonel Peter Michael Reynolds, 18 August 2014, aged 71.
 TAMBIAH, Professor Stanley Jeyaraj FBA, 19 January 2014, aged 85.
 WHALLEY, Norman, 15 August 2014, aged 69.
- 1964 AUSTEN, Derek, 8 July 2014, aged 68.
 WICKER, Dr Frederick Douglas Peter, 30 January 2015, aged 93.
- 1967 KERMODE, Dr John Cotterill, 31 July 2013, aged 64.
 PEEL, The Revd Jonathan Sidney CBE MC DL, 11 December 2014, aged 77.
- 1968 DAVIS, Thomas Samuel, 27 September 2014, aged 65.
 GILL, Sir 'Ben' Arthur Benjamin Norman CBE, 8 May 2014, aged 64.
 KETTLE, Dr Paul Raymond, 14 March 2015, aged 65.
 LEWIS, Robert James Pinson, 9 March 2015, aged 78.
- 1971 CRABTREE, Richard David, 6 July 2014, aged 62.
- 1974 AVERY, Michael Andrew, 2 June 2014, aged 67.
- 1976 HAWKINS, Dr (Thomas) Desmond, 2 January 2015, aged 91.
- 1978 MURRAY, Andrew James, 16 February 2015, aged 56.
- 1980 SUCHY, Professor Kurt, 26 May 2013, aged 86.
- 1985 BURTON, Professor Elizabeth June, 12 November 2014, aged 47.
- 1986 PATON, James, 24 July 2014, aged 46.
- 1987 KAPPAGODA, Dr (Chulani) Tissa, 28 January 2015, aged 71.
- 1989 WHEELWRIGHT, John David, 6 November 2014, aged 44.
- 1991 KEW, Dr James Nicholas Chadwick, 24 July 2012, aged 41.
- 2001 AHUJA, Dr Vijay Yogesh, 2 December 2014, aged 32.
- 2007 GROSS, Kate Elizabeth OBE, 25 December 2014, aged 36.
- 2012 COLEMAN, Robin Joseph, 17 December 2014, aged 21.
 An obituary appears on page 151. 



ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015: 'RING OF BRODGAR' BY IAN OSTERICHER (2014)
WWW.IANOSTERICHERPHOTOGRAPHY.COM. IAN IS AN ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH STUDENT WHO WORKS IN ORKNEY AND MONGOLIA.
HIS IMAGE WAS TAKEN AT THE RING OF BRODGAR NEOLITHIC SITE IN APRIL 2015 DURING A FIELDWORK TRIP.



OBITUARIES

Professor Richard Nelson Perham, ScD, FRS, FMedSci, 1937–2015

It is a privilege to write this obituary for Professor Richard Perham, who died on 14 February 2015, aged seventy-seven. Many of you reading this will know of Richard in the many roles he held with St John's College in fifty-seven years of dedication to the cause and well-being of the College, and we have all lost a friend and colleague. Those of us who worked academically with Richard will also miss him as an inspirational biochemist who had a passion for multidisciplinary science before it became the norm; as a shining example for those of us now running our own research groups; and as an inspired teacher and mentor. Richard was fond of reminding us that we 'worked with him and not for him', and that ethos underlay the whole philosophy of his laboratory and helped our learning process.

Richard was distinguished for his work on the chemistry of proteins and the assembly of giant protein complexes, and was a leader in bringing the power of protein engineering approaches to problems of protein structure and function. He pioneered the development of chemical tools to understand protein structure and function, revealing how enzymes are able to generate energy from glucose (via the remarkable, massive, 2-oxoacid dehydrogenase multi-enzyme complexes) and how viruses assemble their capsid coats. Richard was also a pioneer of the important, and hugely topical, area of protein engineering and its use in understanding the fundamental principles of protein structure and function and in altering the functioning of enzymes. He was the first to switch the co-enzyme requirement of an enzyme, altering glutathione reductase from using NADPH to NADH for catalysis and lipoamide dehydrogenase from NAD^+ to

NADP⁺. He also made outstanding contributions to our knowledge of the structure and assembly of filamentous bacteriophages, and was amongst the first to use these phages to display foreign peptides on their surface, opening the door to their use for the production of novel vaccines.

Richard always said that he 'found inspiration walking down the streets of Cambridge that Newton and Darwin walked down, in this place where so much has happened'. Richard's own lectures on his research were, in turn, stunning, and he inspired many to get involved in this area of research. He would delight audiences with his descriptions of multi-enzyme complexes and how they worked, using entertaining and real-world analogies to communicate his ideas (e.g. the 'hot potato' hypothesis for 'handing over' reaction intermediates). What came through was a strong passion for his science, a tenacity



Portrait from 2007 by Keith Breeden.



Richard in 1969.

and long-term commitment to his work, a charm and charisma that captivated his audience, and a deep respect for the contributions made by collaborators, students and 'competitors' alike. The recognition Richard received for his achievements is equally outstanding, including election as a Member of the European Molecular Biology Organisation (1983) and the Academia Europaea (1992), and as a Fellow of the Royal Society (1984) and the Academy of Medical Sciences (2005). He was awarded the Max Planck Prize (1993), the Novartis Medal of the Biochemical Society (1998) and the Diplôme d'Honneur from the Federation of European Biochemical Societies (2011).

Richard said we 'worked with him and not for him', and that ethos underlay the whole philosophy of his laboratory.

Richard was born on 27 April 1937 in Hounslow West, Middlesex. He went to Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith, having secured a scholarship. Richard thought Latymer was 'a kind of intellectual heaven, with able boys as colleagues and an array of teachers of outstanding ability, many having recently returned from war service and all dedicated to the education of the young in the broadest possible way'. The school's liberal outlook and broad curriculum, including the arts and sport (both of which remained passions of his for life), inspired and nurtured the budding scientist. Richard's experience at Latymer founded his strong belief in the importance and value of education for all, irrespective of background and wealth. Richard remained a loyal devotee of Latymer School, first by election as Governor of the Latymer Foundation in 1991 and then as Chairman of Governors from 2005 until 2010. At Latymer Richard was influenced by several outstanding teachers: Messrs Howard (Maths), Abbott (Physics) and Moody (Chemistry). Bernard Moody had recently graduated from St John's College, and had introduced Richard and others to physical sciences of a high order, including Linus Pauling's *Nature of the Chemical Bond* – according to Richard 'a work a bit beyond the capacity of the boys, but a magnet to

those who saw in it a whole new world of physics and chemistry beyond the normal curriculum’.

Having completed A levels in Pure and Applied Maths, Physics and Chemistry in 1955, Richard was encouraged by Latymer to sit the examination for entry to Cambridge. The first of his family to go to university, Richard had to choose a college, and here Moody’s influence came into play. Richard applied for, and was offered a place at, St John’s College. Richard had learned to row at Latymer, and the Lady Margaret Boat Club was therefore an added incentive. The LMBC allowed Richard to maintain his love of this sport and row for the College, and he was ultimately proud to be awarded his First May Colours when he was President of the LMBC and Master of the College. Before coming up to St John’s, Richard undertook his national service in the Royal Navy in signals and cryptography, partly in the Daring-class destroyer HMS *Defender* during the Suez operations. Richard thought that national service had been good for him. It widened his knowledge of the world, taught him self-sufficiency, helped him to get on with people from any walk of life and illustrated the importance of working together. Those of you who visited Richard’s office will remember a photo of *Defender* sharing pride of place on his desk with a photo of his wife, Nancy.

After this deferment, Richard joined St John’s, firstly as an undergraduate in



Inspecting a DNA sequencing gel in the mid-1980s.

Natural Sciences (1958), and then as postgraduate (1961), Fellow (1964), President (1983–7) and ultimately Master (2004–7). Richard also served for a number of years on the May Ball Committee. On coming to St John’s, Richard’s first inclination was to specialise in physics or chemistry, but his tutor, the Revd Alan Welford (a Lecturer in Experimental Psychology), told him that he could hardly call himself a scientist if he knew no biology, and advised him to try physiology or biochemistry. One taste of the latter and Richard was hooked. In the 1950s the field of biochemistry was a hothouse of discovery and achievement: the structure of DNA had been solved in 1953; the first sequence of a protein (insulin) obtained in 1955; and the first three-dimensional structure of a protein (myoglobin/haemoglobin) in 1956. A whole new world was opening up and Richard was inspired to join this exciting and burgeoning field. A PhD with the future double Nobel

laureate, Dr Fred Sanger, at the then newly formed Laboratory of Molecular Biology, was his next step. Richard worked on the structure and mechanism of glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase under the immediate supervision of Dr J. Ieuan Harris. Together Richard and Ieuan identified a key cysteine residue required for protein activity, and went on to hold the world record in the mid-1960s for determining the longest amino acid sequence of a protein: over 330 residues. This work merited Richard's first major article in *Nature*, which was published in 1968. In 1965 Richard was appointed Demonstrator in the University's Department of Biochemistry and, at the same time, was awarded a Helen Hay Whitney Fellowship to study at Yale University with Professor Fred Richards in the Department of Molecular Biophysics. There he met (over a shared electron microscope) the young and gifted biologist, Dr Nancy Lane, later to become his wife. Nancy and Richard returned to Cambridge, married in Halifax Nova Scotia in December 1969 and had two children, Temple and Quentin. Today, the family is increased by their son-in-law, Barney Schauble, and grandchildren, Isabella and Tristan.

Richard made many significant contributions to science in the fifty years he worked in the Department of Biochemistry in Cambridge. In the late 1960s he uncovered the importance of charge-charge interaction between protein subunits in the self-assembly of tobacco mosaic virus capsids, and later

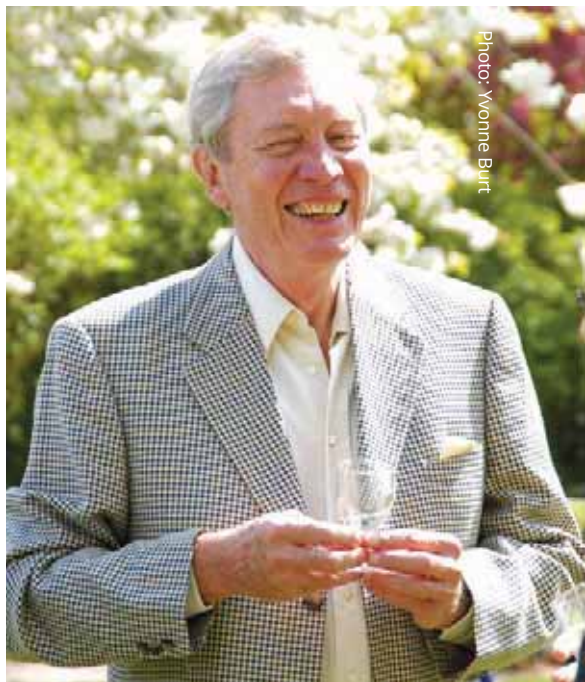


Photo: Wonne Burt

elucidated the novel mechanism of protein-DNA charge interaction that governs the assembly of filamentous bacteriophage virions. He introduced a number of important techniques in the chemical modification of proteins, in particular based on the reversible amidination and trifluoroacetylation of lysine residues. After some thirty years of effort, he and his colleagues produced the first complete description of the structure and assembly pathway of the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex (whose molecular mass is 10 MDa). He also uncovered a new mechanism of active site cooperativity, distinct from allostery, in enzyme activity, and elucidated

unexpected mechanisms of active site coupling in his multi-enzyme complexes based on motile protein domains.

Richard's scientific achievements were juxtaposed with his strong commitment to serving the scientific community, not only as a senior academic at the University of Cambridge, but also in his membership of the Executive Council and as Trustee of the Novartis (formerly CIBA) Foundation; as Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine; and on the Scientific Advisory Committee and as Vice-President of the Fondation Louis-Jeantet de Médecine in Geneva. Richard also took over as Editor-in-Chief of the *European Journal of Biochemistry* in 1998, revolutionising the journal into what is now the *FEBS Journal* and remaining at the helm until 2013. Within Cambridge, Richard served as Head of the Department of Biochemistry from 1985 to 1996, hiring and inspiring the next generation of researchers, and as Founding Chairman of the Cambridge Centre for Molecular Recognition, 1988–93. He was always engaging and had a wide vision in structural molecular biology, and it was during his tenure that the Department acquired its first high field NMR spectrometers, under Professor (then Dr) Ernest Laue. Richard was never afraid of experimenting and trying the high-risk strategy. Even today, most NMR spectroscopists would shy away from putting a ~10 MDa protein complex in their NMR instrument, but Richard tried, found that

some sections of this protein gave remarkably sharp signals expected for very mobile portions of proteins and thus was able to understand more fully the 'swinging arm' hypothesis for the action of pyruvate dehydrogenase. Richard's laboratory at the time was based in the Sir William Hardy Building and was a far cry from today's modern, air-conditioned laboratories, but he had a vision of uniting the various sections of Biochemistry, then spread over four different buildings. He led the fundraising efforts to enable the new Biochemistry building to be built, and was proud when it opened in 1997.

His achievements were juxtaposed with his strong commitment to serving the scientific community.

Richard made lifelong friends with all he met, and he made lasting collaborations nationally and internationally with many, including Dr Ettore Appella, National Institutes of Health, which began in 1966 and resulted in more than a dozen papers together, on immunoglobulins, the chemical modification of proteins, peptide synthesis, and peptide recognition in the immune response; as well as significant other papers with Wim Hol (Washington) and John Guest (Sheffield). In 2004, at a symposium arranged to mark Richard's retirement, more than a hundred of his friends, colleagues and ex-group members congregated in Cambridge to celebrate with him the end of an era. But Richard's passion for

biochemistry continued and he kept working, most recently in writing and preparing a new textbook on molecular machines with the late Dame Louise Johnson FRS (Oxford), who he had met as a postdoc in Yale, Professor Wolfgang Baumeister (Martinsried, Germany) and Professor Alasdair Steven (NIH Bethesda). He was greatly looking forward to seeing this mammoth effort in print.

Richard was a truly exceptional scientist with an impressive knowledge of art, literature, history, sport and all types of music, but he was also an inspired teacher and mentor, who was loyal to his students. We will remember the annual lab punt trips up to Grantchester, followed by barbecues at Barton Road with Richard and Nancy, and various lab Christmas parties where Richard led the festive carol singing while trying to keep his remarkably tuneless group in tune by playing the piano. A lasting memory is Richard's great passion for making science accessible to all, irrespective of

gender or nationality, and based only on ability. Richard indeed was a keen supporter of Women in Science and did all he could to promote women both in the department and the College. Richard leaves a legacy of more than 350 scientific papers, an array of well-trained graduate biochemists, and family, friends and the scientific community proud of such a brilliant man.

We must surely leave the last words to Richard, to encourage all of us ex-group members and all Johnians: 'Onwards and upwards!'

**Professor Alan Berry (1987),
Professor Sheena E. Radford (1984) and
Professor Nigel S. Scrutton (1985)**

Parts of this piece first appeared in an obituary for Professor Perham in *The Biochemist*, the members' magazine of the Biochemical Society, and are reproduced here with the magazine's permission. 

I first met Richard Perham in 1968 when he coached the LMBC second May Boat in which I rowed. He learnt that I was a Royal Navy (RN) University Cadet and, as Richard had done his national service in the RN, we had a common bond and became firm friends. Richard had joined the RN as a 'rating', but quickly became an 'Upper Yardman' and thereby an officer. He saw active service at Suez and in the Cyprus 'emergency'. Always a good linguist, he learnt Russian and was his ship's

intelligence officer, decrypting Russian navy signals. He also acted as unofficial ship's 'schoolie', teaching both officers and ratings the mathematics of projectile trajectories. All this achievement, in two years, was a model for things to come. Richard's intelligence, hard work and ability to get on with people enabled him to advance to the top. If Richard had stayed in the RN, he would have become an admiral, not least because he was 'never, never sick at sea' – unlike many of his RN career contemporaries.

Richard's *cursus honorum* as scientific academic of the first rank has already been noted: he won prizes as an undergraduate, was awarded the Slater Studentship 1961–64, gained the Henry Humphrey Prize in 1963, was made a Research Fellow of the College in 1964 and was later Director of Studies in Biochemistry, Biology of Cells and Genetics, until appointed University Professor of Biochemistry in 1989.

Richard's swift rise through the academic ranks was only a part of his huge contribution to the University and St John's. In College he was a Tutor for lawyers, geographers, economists and historians from 1967 to 1977. Those were tempestuous years in Cambridge. Richard provided ballast and kept the ship afloat by being skilled at good relations with both firebrands and conservative undergraduates alike. Many of us became his friends for life. He had the ability

to seem like a wise elder brother to his pupils and his many undergraduate friends, urging caution where necessary, but otherwise joining in the fun, whether at Eagles desserts, the Committee dining club or in the College bar. Above all, Richard believed that the College should help those who, like him, came from modest backgrounds, so they could have the best education possible. He often pointed out that, prior to the abolition in 1976 of the grammar and direct-grant schools (like his and mine), over seventy-five per cent of the undergraduates at St John's had had a state secondary education. Richard was also an early advocate of the admission of women to the College.

When I was up, Richard was President of the May Ball Committee. In the photograph of the 1969 committee you can see, amongst others, Lord Browne of Madingley, Lord



The May Ball Committee of 1969.

He had the ability to seem like a wise elder brother to his pupils.

Hennessy of Nympsfield and Derek Lyon, Captain of the Cambridge rugby side and later a distinguished businessman. I am also there! Standing next to Richard is Nancy Lane. They had met at Yale and Richard became smitten. They married in 1969 and their daughter, Temple Helen, was born in 1970 and their son, Quentin Richard, in 1973. Richard and Nancy asked Derek Lyon and me to be Quentin's godfathers, which we both regarded as a great honour. It became clear that Quentin suffered from cerebral palsy, which has resulted in progressive physical and mental difficulties for him. But Richard and Nancy were always determined that Quentin should do as many things as he could. Despite Quentin's increasing immobility, there were family holidays all over the world. Richard and Nancy were fearless in taking the young Quentin everywhere in his wheelchair: the Royal Academy, the British Museum, concert halls, opera houses, theatres and cinemas. As a result, Quentin has a remarkable knowledge of music, paintings and history. Richard lifted Quentin and wheelchair where necessary – even in the most difficult situations, such as up many steps in Jerusalem. Richard and Nancy regularly visited Temple, her husband, Barney, and their two children, Isabella and Tristan, who have lived in California for some years.

Despite the huge demands of Richard's scientific work and his family, he remained a devoted College man and always immersed himself in its affairs. He had no time for the '9 to 5' College academics. He was particularly devoted to the Lady Margaret Boat Club (LMBC), and from 1972 until 1994 he was the Senior Treasurer, then President. Subsequently, the post of Vice-President was created for Richard and then, when he was elected Master of the College in 2004, he became President of the LMBC again.

Despite the huge demands of Richard's scientific work and his family, he remained a devoted College man.

However, Richard's greatest contribution to the LMBC was to instigate the Fellows' Boat in 1970, which was conceived as a blow against bolshevism, then all too fashionable. Richard (with some help from me) persuaded two other Fellows and some undergraduate friends to form a crew that was intended to be the LMBC's lowest (eleventh) boat on the river – a slot the LMBC would otherwise have lost. I was the coach. In the event, after beating the second boat in a paddle on their first outing, the Fellows rowed as sixth boat. Owing to an unfortunate 'crab' by Dr Linehan on the first night, the crew did not win its oars. Richard next rowed in the 1973 Fellows' Boat, which did get its oars. It was coxed by Lord King, later Governor of the Bank of England, but known then as 'Merve the Swerve'. Richard thereafter

rowed in or coached numerous Fellows' Boats, even when he was Master.

Richard had wide-ranging interests. He was a keen and knowledgeable gardener. He made Seville orange marmalade and chutney. He was a talented landscape photographer and musician: a pianist and singer. He and Nancy were keen theatre- and opera-goers, and Richard enthusiastically accompanied Nancy to the many plays, musicals and other dramatic events that she attended whilst serving as a judge for the annual Olivier

Awards. Richard was a collector of modern art and of antique furniture and, when younger, of vintage cars.

Richard was a vivid raconteur with a huge fund of College stories. He had particularly fond memories of J. S. Bezzant, Dean of the College from 1952 to 1967, an office which at that time combined responsibility for both the Chapel and the discipline of junior members. Bezzant had been an RN chaplain during the Second World War and was serving in HMS *Repulse* when she was sunk




The Fellows' Boat of 1970, with Richard sitting far left on the centre row.

by Japanese warplanes on 10 December 1941. Bezzant inhaled oil whilst struggling for survival in the filthy, oily water. Richard had rooms near Bezzant's in the Wedding Cake and the RN bond made them good friends. Richard would recount how Bezzant would take neat gin at intervals throughout the day to relieve the pain in his lungs. As an undergraduate and young Fellow, Richard became known for his ability to judge whether Bezzant was in the mellow or irascible stage of the daily gin cycle. Richard recounted the evidence of the Revd Dr Andrew Macintosh (College Chaplain at the time) that, on his death bed, Bezzant was asked by the College Nurse if he wanted some water. He raised himself from his incipient coma and retorted, 'No, Sister, that is not my favourite beverage.'

From the early days of his Fellowship, Richard seemed destined for high office in the College. In 1983, not long after the College had decided to admit women, Richard was elected President for four years – an office he filled ably. Nancy skilfully supported him in this and, given his success, it seemed natural that Richard should one day become Master. In fact, it was only in 2004, when he was nearly sixty-seven, that Richard was elected. He was persuaded to stand and won an outright majority on the first ballot. He had many hard and personally very difficult decisions to take as Master, which he found distressing yet necessary, but he was an outstanding Master. He enthusiastically endorsed the plan to use

the Old Divinity School/triangle site exclusively for College purposes, and started the huge fundraising campaign that successfully raised £50 million to celebrate the College's quincentenary in 2011. He also inaugurated, and was first President of, the Beaufort Society, an association of Johnnians who have pledged to remember the College in their wills.

When Richard was installed as Master, he rightly spoke of St John's as being 'not a grand college, but a great one.' The same is true of RNP himself. He was reserved, but had a great sense of fun; always modest, despite his great achievements in all he did; never ostentatious in his loyalties or friendships, but devoted to his family, his friends, his many pupils and colleagues, and to his College. 'Onwards and upwards' indeed! 

The Rt Hon. Sir Richard Aikens (1967)

The Right Revd Professor Stephen Whitefield Sykes, 1939–2014

I vividly remember the last feast in St John's College that I attended with Stephen Sykes. He was in a wheelchair, suffering from a somewhat mysterious illness, often uninhibited in what he said, disabled in certain ways, yet capable of wonderful warmth and very frank conversation, and with something radiant about him. This was Stephen in weakness. But for most of his life, Stephen was one of the strong. There was what a colleague called his 'Rolls Royce mind'. He was an all-rounder: thinker, teacher, sportsman, family man, friend, public speaker, author, senior academic, leading churchman, pastor, college principal, international ecclesiastical statesman, and more. The velvet voice, the graciousness, the combination of humour, reserve and a probing intellect, the extraordinary skill at handling meetings and seminars, and what can only be called 'charm': all this made for a winning yet definite personality, and a distinguished career.

After schooling in Monkton Combe, first-class theological qualifications at St John's College, and ordination training in Oxford, for ten years he was Dean and Fellow of St John's and a lecturer in our Faculty of Divinity. Then for another decade he was Van Mildert Canon Professor of Theology at Durham University and Cathedral before returning to Cambridge to become Regius



Professor of Divinity, Fellow of St John's and an Honorary Canon of Ely Cathedral.

Then in 1990 he accepted the invitation to become Bishop of Ely, a decision that surprised many. He gave himself utterly to the work and found it a fulfilling vocation. He was a dedicated teacher, of his clergy above all, and I have heard from many how

nourishing and encouraging were the theological sessions he presided over so capably. I have been especially struck by how hidden much of his ministry was during these years, and it is therefore very difficult to have an overview of it. In recent weeks, as I asked people who knew him how he was as a bishop, there has been one story after another of gratitude, of hours spent in one-to-one conversation, of support for good initiatives, of encouragement given to vocations, not just in church ministry but in all areas of society, and of handling those difficult, often disciplinary, cases that take up so much of a bishop's time today.

In 1999 he took up his last post as Principal of St John's College, Durham. After the institutional weight of Ely Diocese, this return to his dear Durham was something of a liberation. He revelled in the conversational and worship life of a small college, while continuing to chair the Doctrine Commission of the Church of England and maintaining international commitments through the Inter-Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Commission, as well as with Lutheran churches in continental Europe and beyond. Of all the other Christian traditions, Stephen was probably closest to Lutheranism.

What about Stephen's theology? His concern for doctrine, and an insistence that Anglicans do have important doctrines that matter, meant that he continually engaged with and taught the best theology he could find, past

He continually engaged with and taught the best theology he could find, past and present, whether Anglican or not.

and present, whether Anglican or not. He maintained that 'Anglicanism has a specific content, and that it ought to expose that content to examination and criticism; it ought also to encourage specific individuals to write systematic theologies or extended treatments of Christian doctrine.'¹ He did strongly encourage many of us younger Anglicans to become systematic theologians, by which he meant doing constructive, rigorous and imaginative thinking for the contemporary church and world.

Rowan Williams writes:

[Stephen] had a massive influence on a generation of younger theologians learning their trade in the 1960s and 1970s. When I went to Stephen for supervision in my student days, I found a teacher of exceptional commitment and integrity – and a very demanding one, who would relentlessly question clichés, inspirational vagueness, and attempts to be too clever. At a time when British theology departments were dominated by a combination of skeptical biblical scholarship and extremely cautious philosophy of religion, it was bracing and encouraging to find someone who believed so strongly in the actual study of doctrine as a serious intellectual exercise.

This did not endear him to some fellow Anglicans, and there were parts of his own church with which he did not have great sympathy, especially the liberal-to-radical broad church Anglicanism represented in Cambridge most radically by Don Cupitt. Stephen's books on the integrity of Anglicanism and on unashamed Anglicanism deserve to be read and reread by those in any church seeking a corporate Christian wisdom for today. It is a wisdom that is scriptural (Stephen's evangelical roots continued to nourish him); liturgical (for him worship was the place where Anglican theological understanding is best appreciated); richly ethical (he was morally passionate on many issues); and modern, in the sense of facing thoroughly the challenges of modernity, especially as thought through by leading Christian thinkers of the past two centuries, beginning with his beloved Friedrich Schleiermacher, on whom he wrote a short book. And it is a civilised wisdom – informed by literature, music, the arts and several cultures.

His Anglicanism was ecumenical in the sense that what he found essential to Christianity – as articulated in his major work gestated over so many years, *The Identity of Christianity* – is shared with many mainstream churches, while also allowing for deep disagreement on important matters. But I think the publications cannot do justice to the core dynamic of his theology, which was conversational. I think of hours and hours spent with him over forty-five years. He was

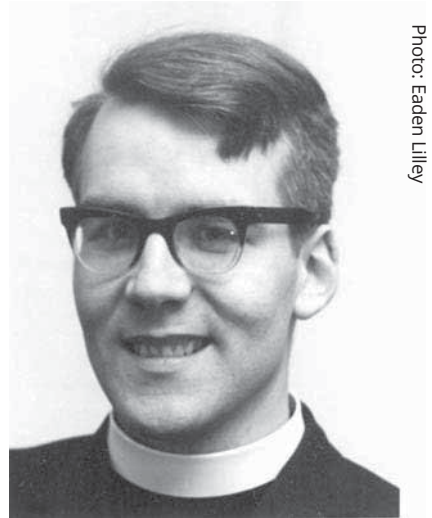


Photo: Eaden Lilley

Stephen in 1969.

my Director of Studies at St John's – I recall the extraordinarily sensitive, rigorous yet humanely gentle introduction to theology as not only a discipline but also a vocation. There were weekends with other St John's Theology students in Wales at his summer home, when theology was woven into long walks and climbs, followed by musical evenings. There were innumerable supervisions, seminars and discussion groups. And so it went on over the decades, for me and also for many others who took part in this stimulating conversational theology.

Perhaps Stephen's main formative contribution to theology in this country was in brokering a conversation between theology here and both continental European and North American theology. His time at Harvard was important in

widening his horizons to include Americans, though it was with the Yale theologians that he talked most, especially valuing the friendship of Hans Frei. Among the Europeans, he knew Schleiermacher and Barth best, and valued the whole tradition of German-language Protestant and Catholic theology that developed in continental universities in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. At Cambridge he brought such theology into the syllabus for the first time, and in the Christology seminar that he founded he made sure that it was integrated into Faculty discussion.


Stephen was fascinated by questions of power, authority, force and influence.

I am unusual, though not alone, in considering Stephen's last book, *Power and Christian Theology* (2006), to be his best and most profound. Brian Hebblethwaite has called it 'one of the most important books to come from the pen of a British theologian since the Second World War'.² Stephen was fascinated by questions of power, authority, force and influence. He wrestled with them year after year, through the Bible, theology, philosophy, history and sociology, and in practice in his positions of responsibility in academic, ecclesiastical and political institutions (he greatly relished his time in the House of Lords). In *Power and Christian Theology*, Stephen's wrestling with the

complexities and ambiguities of power in theory and in practice, his striving for discernment of what responsible leadership might be like in the light of the Gospel, his treatment of tradition and the multifaceted hermeneutics of suspicion, his nuanced retrieval of the wisdom of Pope Gregory the Great's sixth-century *Liber Regulae Pastoralis* (*Book of Pastoral Rule*, or *Pastoral Care*), and much more, result in a book that all bearers of power and responsibility in the twenty-first century could profitably have by their bedsides and on their Kindles and tablets.

But the last word on Stephen should not be about theology or about power. It should be about Joy – Joy his wife, who only survived him by six weeks, and with whom he shared a wonderful marriage and family life. I loved the welcome from Joy that was printed in the service sheet at Stephen's funeral. She said:

It is 55 years almost to the day since, having walked out of the schoolroom in Bristol into the lecture theatre at Cambridge, I met a handsome if rather smug young man hosting a bible study meeting. We quickly established that he and I lived in the same street and were keen to see each other again; it took a little while longer to realize that we shared the desire to raise a family in the knowledge and love of God.

We share in the grief of that family at the double loss of both Stephen and Joy, and ask God's blessing on them and on all who mourn and are deeply grateful for Stephen. 

Professor David F. Ford OBE (1970)

This is an abridged version of the speech delivered by Professor Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity, University of Cambridge, during Professor Sykes's memorial service at Great St Mary's University Church, Cambridge, on Saturday 14 February 2015. The funeral also included the following readings: Proverbs 1:1–34; John 1:1–18.

References

¹ Stephen W. Sykes, *The Integrity of Anglicanism* (London: Mowbray, 1978), p. 68.

² Personal communication, quoting from his reference for Stephen in support of the conferral of his Doctorate in Divinity by the University of Cambridge.

The Rt Hon. The Lord Mustill of Pateley Bridge, 1931–2015

Michael John Mustill matriculated at St John's in 1951 as a scholar from Oundle School and after national service in the Royal Artillery. He was born in Yorkshire on 10 May 1931 and remained, at heart, a Yorkshireman all his life. He died there on 24 April 2015 as Lord Mustill of Pateley Bridge after a brilliant career as a lawyer, judge, arbitrator and writer. Michael's career was fashioned as much by his remarkable personal qualities – his wit, friendliness, generosity and modesty – as it was by his formidable abilities.

Michael read Law at St John's and graduated in 1954. He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1955, and after pupillage with Michael Kerr (later Lord Justice Kerr) he joined London's leading set of commercial law chambers, then headed by A. A. Mocatta QC (later Mr Justice Mocatta). He soon made his mark at a time when work was scarce and it was difficult for young barristers to succeed. His association with St John's continued: he returned at weekends and brightened his supervisions with stories from real-life cases in which he was involved. That was no mean feat when they were mostly concerned with issues of law arising from commercial disputes.

His practice grew and he took silk in 1968, became Head of Chambers and, in 1976, a



Bencher of Gray's Inn. His appointment as a High Court Judge assigned to the Commercial Court followed as early as 1978. There his judgments, particularly in shipping cases, were marked not only by his unrivalled knowledge of the case-law, but also by his command of language and his enquiring mind, always searching for underlying principles and

identifying them in the light of legal history. He was an editor of the leading textbook, *Scrutton on Charterparties and Bills of Lading*, from 1964 for the next thirty years.

In 1982 he was made a Presiding Judge on the North Eastern Circuit. It was an inspired choice by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice at the time. The appointment engaged Michael with the courts in Yorkshire and Northumberland, and with what he had already discovered (as a Recorder of the Crown Court, appointed when the office was instituted in 1972) was the second area of the law that was of special interest to him: the criminal law. His legal talents and down-to-earth human sympathies were combined to good effect. He engaged naturally with juries and with counsel, and he respected defendants. Later, as an appeal judge, these qualities came to the fore. It is no coincidence that his judgments in criminal appeals, even when dissenting from the majority decision, were and are regarded with particular respect.

Appointed to the Court of Appeal in 1985 and to the House of Lords in 1992, Michael retired in 1997. Ill health was responsible for his decision, but he may also have been attracted by the opportunities that retirement gave him to play an active part in the world of international arbitration, where he was already established as the author, with Stewart Boyd QC, of a leading textbook, *Mustill and Boyd: Commercial Arbitration*. It was published in 1982 and immediately became, as it remains today, a recognised authority in

this rapidly developing area of legal and practical expertise. It was an enormous and ambitious project for anyone to undertake, let alone a busy practitioner as he was, and he did much of the initial research during summer vacations away from chambers. The story that an Italian policeman was surprised to find fifty volumes of *Lloyd's List Law Reports* in the rear of his car is probably apocryphal, but it is true that once, as a Law Lord, Michael was showing his new bicycle to a group of young barristers when a passer-by asked to have a ride on it; neither the bicycle nor the stranger was ever seen again.

His legal talents and down-to-earth human sympathies were combined to good effect.


Following his retirement from the Bench, he was in demand as a practising arbitrator and he maintained his association with leading arbitral bodies until his death; in particular, the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce), the LCIA (London Court of International Arbitration) and the LMAA (London Maritime Arbitrators Association). He was Honorary President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators from 1994 to 1997.

Michael achieved similar distinction as an academic lawyer. He was an Honorary Fellow of St John's and was awarded a Doctorate of Laws by the University. He was the Yorke Distinguished Visiting Fellow and

later the Arthur Goodhart Visiting Professor of Legal Science at Cambridge, and thanks to that generous endowment he was able to live in Cambridge for twelve months, where he relished taking part in University life. Academic recognition was not limited to Cambridge: he was a Fellow of the British Academy and an Honorary Professor of Law at Birmingham University.

The necessarily long recital of his public achievements does not begin to do justice to the engaging and outgoing personality that ensures Michael a lasting place in the memories and affection of all who knew him. They recall his restless enthusiasm for the topic of the moment and what might be called his peripatetic style of advocacy in court. As a Judge, adjourning a case without a fixed date, he half intoned ‘we’ll meet

again, don’t know where, don’t know when’. His wit as a speaker is legendary, and he enlivened any company that was fortunate to include him, whether the College’s High Table, the House of Lords, an informal group, or something in between.

Michael married Beryl Reid Davis, but their marriage was dissolved in 1983. He and Caroline Phillips married in 1984 and their family life brought him great happiness. She and their two sons, Thomas and Oliver, survive him. For the College, he was the outstanding lawyer of his generation. His reputation and friendships were international, but he never lost touch with Cambridge and, especially, his Yorkshire home. 

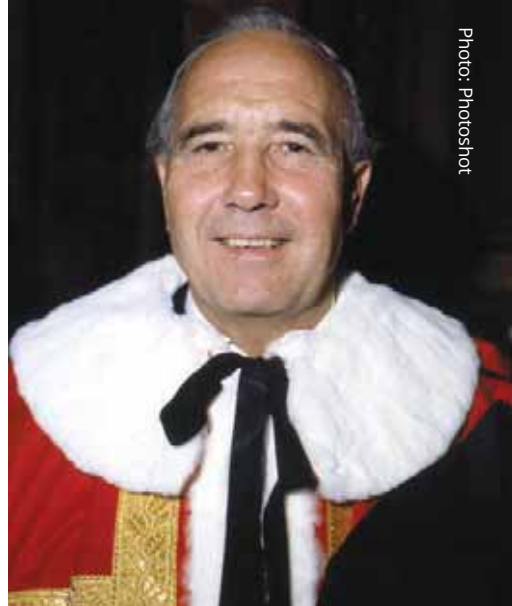
Sir Anthony Evans (1954)

The Rt Hon. The Lord Templeman of White Lackington, 1920–2014

Sydney William Templeman, who died at the age of ninety-four, grew up in Middlesex, where his father was a coal merchant. Educated at Southall County School, he came up to St John's to read History in 1938 as a College Major Scholar and a Whytehead Scholar. His tutors were J. S. Boys Smith (until 1939) and S. J. Bailey, and his Directors of Studies were the Master, E. A. Benians (until 1939), and Geoffrey Barraclough. He completed Part I of the History Tripos in 1940, and in 1941 he was called up and took his BA degree. Commissioned in the 4/1st Gurkha Rifles, he saw action on the north-west frontier of India, at Imphal and in Burma, was mentioned in dispatches, was appointed MBE in 1946 for his work as a staff officer, and was a Major on discharge.

On his return to the College, Sydney read Law. His tutor was Frank Thistlethwaite and his Director of Studies was S. J. Bailey. It is said that his interest in the law was sparked by his reading the works of Charles Dickens when, as a twelve-year-old, he was confined to bed by illness. While at the College he played cricket and football and took part in the Debating Society. In 1946 he married Margaret Rowles, who he met at the Arts Theatre in Cambridge.

After completing Part II of the Law Tripos in 1947, he read for the Bar. He was awarded a



McMahon Scholarship by the College and a Harmsworth Scholarship by Middle Temple, where he was called in 1947. He practised at the Chancery Bar and joined chambers at 2 New Square in Lincoln's Inn. Another Johnian member was John Brightman (1929), and Lord Morton (1906) had practised there. Starting at the Bar in the post-war era was precarious, but Sydney, who was said to have a brisk, business-like manner and few doubts, gradually established himself as one of the leading juniors, with strength across all Chancery work, including company

law and taxation. He took silk in 1964 and was elected a Bencher of Middle Temple in 1969, serving as its Treasurer in 1987.

It was, perhaps, his experience of tax that led to his later trenchant views about sham and contrived transactions. Interestingly, in a number of cases he built on John Brightman's approach in a 1984 case to distinguish shams from genuine commercial transactions. His most memorable pronouncement is the much-quoted one in *Matrix Securities*, a case about a sophisticated tax avoidance scheme of circular self-cancelling payments. Sydney declared that 'every tax avoidance scheme involves a trick and pretence. It is the task of the Revenue to unravel the trick and the duty of the court to ignore the pretence.'

Sydney had a distinguished record of public service before and after he became a judge. He was a strong believer in an independent profession and the independence of the judiciary, but very willing to criticise the shortcomings of the legal system and the fostering of a culture of litigation by some practitioners. He served on the Bar Council for two periods between 1961 and 1972; was President of the Senate of the Inns of Court between 1974 and 1976; Attorney General of the Duchy of Lancaster between 1970 and 1972; and a member of the 1971 Tribunal of Enquiry into the failure of the Vehicle and General Insurance Company. After his appointment to the Chancery Division in 1972, he served on the Royal Commission on Legal Services.

He was a forthright judge. It was said of him that 'Sydney Templeman did not descend into the arena; he has never left it.' In a case involving a question of company law, one who was present in court recalls that, when counsel suggested that an approach which the judge floated during argument would not be favoured by the government department responsible for this area of the law, the response was that 'if some pipsqueak from the Department thinks that is wrong, he had better come to court and explain why.' Some found his approach helpful because they were given an idea of the points on which he needed to be, and could be, persuaded. Others were bruised, and at some stage he was given what some of the obituary writers described as 'an affectionate nickname' of 'Syd Vicious'. But his intellectual rigour and integrity were admired.

He saw action on the north-west frontier of India, at Imphal and in Burma, and was mentioned in dispatches.

His strengths were his sense of justice and a mind capable of producing the technical analysis that led to the result that met his view of its needs. Those qualities and his ability to express complex matters in accessible language led to success and, after only six years, he was appointed to the Court of Appeal, where he was equally successful. One of his notable decisions was a case in which he gave the leading judgment

authorising potentially life-saving surgery for a baby with Down's Syndrome, against the wishes of the parents and although, even with surgery, the child might die within months. He stated that this was 'a very poignantly sad case', but also had no doubt that it was the duty of the court 'to decide that the child must live ... It is not for [the] court to say that life of that description ought to be extinguished.'

Only four years after his appointment to the Court of Appeal, Sydney was one of the front-runners to succeed Lord Denning as Master of the Rolls. When, in September 1982, the job went to Sir John Donaldson, Sydney's merits were recognised by his appointment as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary on the very same day. He was, for the majority of his time, not the only Johnian law lord. The others were John Brightman (until 1986), and from 1992 and 1993 Michael Mustill and Hugh Griffiths, who both sadly died recently.

Sydney was party to the decision to continue the ban on *Spycatcher*.

Sydney took a distinctly uncompromising approach to moral and ethical issues. In 1985 he was in the minority that would have found in favour of Victoria Gillick in her battle to stop doctors from prescribing contraceptives to girls aged under sixteen without their parents' consent. John Brightman was in the majority. Sydney stated that 'social issues are

not best determined by lawyers or by doctors'. He reasoned that because 'legislation [made] it an offence for a man to have unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under the age of 16', Parliament had 'indicated that an unmarried girl under the age of sixteen is not sufficiently mature to be allowed to decide for herself that she will take part in sexual intercourse and cannot, therefore, be regarded as sufficiently mature to be allowed to decide for herself that she will practice contraception for the purpose of frequent or regular or casual sexual intercourse'. In 1993 he was one of the bare majority who held that those who inflicted sado-masochistic injuries on each other for sexual pleasure were guilty of criminal assault even though they consented to what happened. Society, he stated, 'is entitled to protect itself against a cult of violence. Pleasure derived from the infliction of pain is an evil thing. Cruelty is uncivilised.' Michael Mustill was one of two dissenters. In his view the case was about the criminal law of private sexual relations and not the criminal law of violence.


In other areas, Sydney was party to the decision of the House of Lords to continue the ban on the publication of the former MI5 officer Peter Wright's memoirs, *Spycatcher*. Sydney later suggested that he regretted this, and that the court had been 'too backward-looking'. He was one of those who decided that the mother of the final victim of Peter Sutcliffe could not sue the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire for negligence in apprehending Sutcliffe. He gave the leading speech in a decision that ruled that

Coca Cola did not have a monopoly by way of a trademark in its familiarly shaped bottle, and was party to important cases about proprietary rights in the assets of an insolvent bullion company, and the admissibility of evidence in criminal and extradition cases. His belief in efficiency is illustrated by his pithy statement that, in disputes about the relative merits of trial in England and trial abroad, 'submissions [should] be measured in hours and not days.'

Sydney's service to the Church of England included chairing the Ecclesiastical Committee guiding the 1993 measure that enabled the ordination of women to the priesthood through Parliament. He was delighted that his daughter-in-law was subsequently ordained. He also chaired the Bishop of London's Commission on Churches in the City of London. A real but sensitive problem arose from the reduced number of residents, lower church attendance, and the cost of maintaining the City's churches, many of which were listed. There was no obvious practical way forward which would satisfy all interests. The Commission grasped the nettle and, in 1994, recommended that twenty-four of the thirty-six Anglican churches in the City be closed as places of regular worship and become 'reserve' churches, which could be used for educational and cultural purposes. This was welcomed by the Corporation of

London, but criticised as 'defeatist' by others. The recommendation, however, led to the revival of a charity under the wing of 'The Friends of the Friendless Churches', which, by using volunteers, has made regular opening of the 'reserve' churches possible.

Sydney was a strong family man. He and his first wife, Margaret, had two sons, both of whom graduated from Oxford. Michael became a barrister and Peter went into the church. When, in 1979, Peter was appointed Chaplain of St John's, one of the Fellows wrote to Sydney, teasingly saying that *his* college thought that his son's education was incomplete, hence the appointment. In 1996, eight years after Margaret's death, Sydney married Sheila Edworthy, who died in 2008. His recreations included skiing, swimming and golf. Family skiing holidays in Austria were, however, replaced by family holidays in Portugal when, at the age of forty, he abandoned the slopes and became a keen golfer.

Sydney's obituary in the *Daily Telegraph* described him as 'one of the outstanding law lords of his generation'. His combination of intellect, quickness and wit certainly made him a formidable law lord. 

Sir Jack Beatson (1994)

Robin Coleman, 1993–2014

When I interviewed Robin Coleman in December 2011, it was clear then that he was not going to be an ordinary student, and that was not just because he suffered from cystic fibrosis. Like many others, he was very well informed and very articulate, but what distinguished him was his willingness to argue his point. He gave me a spirited defence of his choice of Land Economy as a subject, of why tuition fees were a bad thing, and of the book he told me he was writing. He was clearly a young man who got fired up about things. As his Tutor I discovered that he had a great passion for memorising lists of facts and figures, and the ability to deploy them in debate. He was always very persistent in his lines of reasoning and I had many long, heated arguments (whoops, discussions) with him about all sorts of things, most of which he won.

Being able to come to Cambridge had been a dream for Robin, and he was determined to live that dream to the full. He threw himself into College activities as much as he was able, even participating enthusiastically in the May Ball at the end of his first year.

He necessarily had a lot of interactions with our College Nurses, first Maggie Hartley and then Rachel Iftikhar. Maggie remembers that when she first met Robin it was very clear that he wasn't intending to let his health concerns get in the way of anything else.




She says he was 'extraordinarily determined in everything he touched! He went on to become the JCR voice of disability – again determined to enable others, and very keen on the red hoodie that came with the job!' Rachel remembers Robin as 'an extremely kind and caring young man, full of wit and humour even at times when he clearly felt dreadful'. She also remembers driving him to Papworth Hospital on many occasions in her 'very bouncy, impractical Mini, rammed to the rafters with all his kit', and Robin managing to smile through even the most uncomfortable journey. Both remember his love of ginger biscuits and College port.

'An extremely kind and caring young man,
full of wit and humour.'

Robin wanted to be as normal a student as possible, and did not want any academic concessions. Nevertheless, the rigid Cambridge terms and examination system do not cope easily with those who need intermittent periods of hospitalisation and so we had to explore parts of the University regulations that others never reach. Indeed we invoked a provision that the University had only ever used twice before to try to

enable Robin to pace his studies and to complete his degree.

Unfortunately this was not to be; Robin completed Part IA Land Economy, and managed to study for most of his second year, but was too ill to return to College for what would have been his third year. He died peacefully on 17 December 2014, of respiratory failure arising from cystic fibrosis.

He was immensely proud to be at St John's, and we were proud to have him. 


Dr Sue Colwell (1970)

Throughout the time I knew him, since we were eleven, Robin had always been one for unusual ideas. Two weeks into year seven he had spotted a niche on the web: a low-key website that would bypass the school's internet filters and provide us with an endless source of games at lunchtime. Friends often greeted such ideas with some scepticism, if only because we had immense fun disagreeing. Robin showed that spirited discussions need not be confined to the usual topics, such as economics or history. He challenged our Maths teacher on the finer points of arithmetic – and there were certainly times when poor Mr Rayneau seemed a little less sure of himself. In such debates, Robin's reasoning was greatly helped by his encyclopaedic knowledge.

Conversations with him would range from the price trends of oil in the last few decades to the features of recent video games, and from the culture of Eastern Europe (visited while he was inter-railing) to the places for the best coffee in Oxford.

Over time Robin's health problems came to light. Against this knowledge, what stood out was his consistent optimism and determination to delve into his interests fully – however eccentric they might be. The year after I first visited him in hospital, he went on to ace his GCSEs, launch a multimedia website and buy a moped. Back from roaming the county, he would often be seen in a motorbike jacket, helmet in one hand and, of course, a latte in the other.

With an energetic and easygoing personality, Robin got along with people from all walks of life, at school and here at St John's. In particular, he had a loving relationship with his wife, Rachel Mann. They began their relationship on a German exchange trip in 2009 and were married in Oxford on 16 December 2014. By this point Robin's health had worsened and he had difficulty breathing. Though in some respects the ceremony was familiar – the drinks, speeches and teasing from friends and family – what was quite clear as he pushed through and finished the wedding vows was the strength of his character, and that of the bond between them.

In memory of an old friend who pursued life with passion, and livened all those around him. 

Boyuan Xiao (2012)



ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2015: 'JOHN'S V JESUS' BY EDWARD HEZLET (2011), RUGBY
CAPTAIN GEORGE BILCLOUGH MAKES A TACKLE AS ST JOHN'S BEAT JESUS COLLEGE IN OCTOBER 2014.



SOCIETIES AND SPORTS

DANCING UP A STORM

Jolyon Martin (2010) is studying for a PhD in Biological Sciences.
He captained the Cambridge University Dancesport Team in 2014/15.

Dancesport is the competitive side of Ballroom and Latin American dancing, featuring five dances for each style: Waltz, Quickstep, Tango, Foxtrot and Viennese Waltz for Ballroom, and Cha Cha, Jive, Samba, Rumba and Paso Doble for the Latin American dances. The Cambridge University Dancesport Team (CUDT) has been going for roughly fifty years, and this year we held the forty-second Varsity Match against Oxford. The number of different dances each couple learns and trains in relates to their level. Beginners start with four dances, whereas advanced dancers compete in all ten. CUDT is split into a Beginners' team, for people completely new to the sport, and a main team; both teams represent Cambridge at inter-university competitions. The two teams comprise around fifty-five couples, making CUDT one of the largest sports teams in the University, if not the largest. The Beginners' team is an excellent foundation, and many of the dancers within the main team have come up through the Beginners' team; although every year experienced and highly talented dancers join the main team directly.

I, like many people on the team, originally started with ballet dancing and switched dance styles whilst at school. Even beyond

the university circuit, Cambridge has a phenomenal reputation for Dancesport, so I was keen to get involved as soon as I came up. When I turned up to trials it was clear that the team was of a very high standard, and was also a tight-knit community of friends, making it something I very much wanted to be part of. Dancesport hits all the right buttons for me, as it is physically demanding, competitive, requires dedication to achieve success and allows scope for artistic expression at the same time. I had four highly enjoyable years as a member of the team, three of which were spent on the committee in various roles, and in my fifth year I decided I wanted to put more of myself into the team by running for Captain.

One can never really prepare for what captaincy entails, mainly because there is so much going on behind the scenes that only becomes apparent when one takes on the role. Thankfully CUDT has a great tradition of legacy, with plenty of ex-Captains within the team and coaching staff on hand to help and advise. The Captain is responsible for everything beyond the actual coaching, such as venue and transport hire, the format and focus of team training sessions, managing interpersonal aspects of the team, and all of the relationships CUDT has within and



Jolyon with his dance partner, Kateryna Pavlyuk.



Photo: Snap Media Productions
www.fb.com/snapmediaproductions

Members of the Dancesport team, with Jolyon and Kateryna centre.

without the University. I only had to oversee most of these activities, as I had a fantastic committee who executed the bulk of these tasks. However, one individual does stand out from all of the rest. My Vice-Captain, fellow Johnian Max Moll (2011), was invaluable throughout the year, and has taught me the importance of having someone dependable and trustworthy at your side when in a leadership position.

Dancesport is very demanding on your body, your time and your wallet. Lessons are extremely good value by national standards, but having three every two weeks can soon add up, and then you need shoes, training wear and all the other accoutrements of the sport. Thankfully the team has a number of

dressess, tail suits and other costume items, so students can compete in these without having to spend over £800 buying their own. Furthermore, twelve to fifteen hours of training a week, not including the five day-long competitions we attend up and down the country, means that we really have to keep on top of our work and manage our time well. One of the benefits of a team that represents the whole cross section of the University, in terms of ages and subjects, is that there is usually someone to talk to who has already been through the same problems, and so advice and support are plentiful.


Every dancer on the team faces these challenges, but the biggest challenge I faced as Captain was the pressure to maintain the

standards CUDT has upheld for the last few years. Our results have been getting better year on year: we have won the national championships in eight out of the last ten years and the Varsity Match seven out of the last nine. Last year the team did not lose a single match out of the thirty-five or so in which it entered. Whilst the Captain is not responsible for the standard of the competition, or how the dancers perform on the day, I felt a lot of pressure to do everything within my power to optimise our chances. We also organised the nationals this year, which were the biggest they have ever been, and so that put the focus firmly on Cambridge – yet another reason we needed to shine. Even with all this pressure, and with other very strong teams on the circuit, CUDT managed to maintain the undefeated streak, making it two years without a single loss at any level. At some point it is inevitable that the team will lose something, but hopefully that won't be for some time yet.

This year brought a number of non-competitive highlights too. CUDT secured a sponsorship deal with Catherine Jones of Cambridge, who aside from their financial support have also lent jewellery for the team to wear at competitions. This sponsorship enabled small bursaries to be awarded to students, improving the accessibility of the sport, and hopefully laying a foundation for more assistance in the years to come. Needless to say, the team is always on the lookout for further support, as well as

opportunities to perform at events both in and beyond Cambridge; please email cudtcaptains@gmail.com for more information.

The biggest moment of the year for me, without any doubt, was the decision of the Men's Blues Committee to award an Extraordinary Full Blue (EFB) to one of the men on my team, Kien Trinh. CUDT achieved discretionary Full Blue status for women three years ago, and so it has long been a goal of the team for men to receive this same recognition. The EFB is just a start down this road, and the team and I recognise that Blue status has to be earned. Nonetheless, it is a very positive and deserved step.

I have learned a lot, and really benefited from my time as Captain. I am happy to pass on the mantle, safe in the knowledge that the team is in good hands and that I have realised my aims for them this year. The team, of course, gets the credit for their results, but there were some structural and other intangible changes that I hope will be my legacy. I am looking forward to having more time now for my degree and non-dancing life, and also to have more time to focus on developing my own dancing in the coming two years at Cambridge and after I graduate. As can be seen at the reunion match, no one ever really leaves CUDT, and I believe it's for all the right reasons. 

Jolyon Martin

THE JCR

It is a great pleasure to report on the achievements of the 2014 Junior Combination Room Committee (JCRC). Serving as JCR President is a huge privilege, and I was particularly fortunate to work with a team who were prepared to give up so much of their time to champion the issues they cared about, and to represent student opinion in College and beyond. Members of the JCRC are elected to particular roles, but also support JCR events throughout the year. A particular highlight of being part of the JCRC is the opportunity to meet members of the extended College community – the alumni, Fellows and staff who contribute so much to the life of the College. The JCRC works very closely with the College Officers, in particular the Domestic Bursar. It was therefore a huge pleasure to spend the first part of the year working with Commodore John Harris, and then to welcome his successor, Mr Mark Wells.

During our term of office we have managed to initiate some changes of our own. We gave a new lease of life to the debate about mixed sharing of College double sets. We assisted the Development Office in organising the College's inaugural Careers Fair and in establishing a graduands' giving scheme called 'Go forward, give back', a project devised by previous committees. Ensuring that students are properly supported is a core aim of the JCR, and I hope that this innovation, part of the commitment to making St John's affordable for all, will have a long-term impact.

Vice-President Alex Ballard played a key role throughout the year, particularly in organising Freshers' Week. Feedback from previous years helped to shape the programme and we were grateful for the hard work of all those who supported the running of the event.

Max Paulus, as Academic Affairs Officer, took a keen interest in College education matters, and organised the annual *University Challenge* tryouts. Access Officer Jasmine John coordinated numerous outreach initiatives in College, including the University-wide Shadowing Scheme, and also led the production of the JCR's Alternative Prospectus.

Alfie Wallace, Computing Officer, maintained the JCR website and kept abreast of College computing matters. Ents Officer Abi Adebayo took on the task of organising and reinvigorating College Ents throughout the year. A particular highlight was the hugely popular JCR Garden Party in May Week, which brought the College together for an evening of music, comedy and celebration.

Minaam Abbas, as the JCR's first Equal Opportunities Officer, relaunched the


Equal Opportunities Committee with a series of events throughout the year, and is now JCR President 2015/16. Meanwhile, Ethical Affairs Officer Helena Jones was an active member of the Green Week organising group and the College Environmental Committee. She also supported fundraising for the JCR's charity of the year, MQ: Transforming Mental Health (www.joinmq.org).

Facilities Officer Catriona Parry played a leading role in everything from Library matters to College food and the opening of the new laundry. Publicity Officer Sophia Crüwell produced the weekly newsletter and updated the JCR website to keep junior members informed.

Neel Jain, Secretary and External Officer, worked closely with Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU) and ensured that JCRC meetings ran smoothly and efficiently. Sports, Services and Societies Officer Chris Brook took a keen interest in supporting College sports teams large and small, and successfully secured new funding for College sport. He also looked after the Common Room, which benefited from a new pool table, a ping-pong table and a fresh coat of paint.

Josh Mustill was our Treasurer, taking good care of the finances and providing support on

a wide range of matters throughout the year. Our proactive Welfare Officer, Lizzie Bamber, worked hard to keep all junior members of College happy and safe throughout the busy year. The introduction of 'Week 5 Cake' was a welcome addition for many.

I would like to conclude by expressing my deepest thanks to those students, staff, Fellows and alumni who have supported the JCR, in a multitude of ways, in its efforts to represent junior members and contribute to the life of the College this year. I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to the Master and Dr Dobson for their support over the year, and also to our Senior Treasurer, Dr Nicholls, whose wisdom, advice and good counsel has been invaluable. Finally, I would like to offer my congratulations to Minaam and his committee on their election, and my best wishes for their year in office. 

Robert Cashman, President

THE SBR

As Samuel Butler observed, ‘intellectual over-indulgence is the most gratuitous and disgraceful form which excess can take’ (*The Notebooks of Samuel Butler*). In this light, the SBR Committee has resolved to distract from research, waylay experiments, and prevent – at all costs – the final submission of PhD theses. This year, when I was forced to microscopically shrink the SBR calendar’s font to display all our events, I knew that we had discharged our duty.



My personal highlight was the SBR Christmas party, when we welcomed three hundred graduates to a dinner and ceilidh in Hall. It was special to bring so many of the graduate community together at the end of term, and meant a great deal particularly to those students who had just joined the College.

Our biggest events usually involve food. In Easter term 2014 we held a barbecue for graduating MPhil students – and narrowly avoided burning down Corfield Court. In Michaelmas term the Catering Department had to bring in reinforcements, in the form of spare plates, when our ‘Comedy & Chill’ night topped one hundred attendees.

In Lent term 2015 the St Patrick's Day dinner sold out within hours.

With Johnian graduates living and working throughout the city, the SBR has worked hard to draw the community together at such events. We are very grateful to Bill Brogan, Malcolm Pearson and everyone else in the Catering Department for their help with this – thank you so much!

Our busiest period was Freshers' Fortnight: two weeks of orientation activities for new and current students at the start of the academic year. Graduates tested themselves in quizzes and video game tournaments; burned off brunches during inter-collegiate bike rides and punting (only two fell in the river); and discovered city life on Fitzwilliam Museum tours, ADC Theatre trips, and an ale expert's tour of lesser-known pubs.

This year, we organised a 'buddy' orientation scheme for new students. Current graduates volunteered as an informal contact for two or three new Johnians. Besides offering new students a friendly face for their first few weeks, this was a chance to ask a current graduate about Cambridge life and study. Over a series of coffee mornings, new Johnians met their 'buddies' and, we hope, started new friendships.

The SBR committee has also worked with the College to improve graduate life. Above all, we have seen the renovation of two new graduate study spaces: the Fred Sanger

Room, opposite the SBR, and the graduate study room in All Saints Passage. Both rooms now have wireless internet, new desks and chairs, and (crucially!) immediate access to coffee-making facilities. We are grateful to the College for working so hard to improve these spaces, which are very popular with the graduate community.

More widely, the SBR has worked with the College to cut bar prices and start quiz nights, forcing me to learn about sport and geography, in exchange for my recurrent Pokémon-themed picture rounds. Working with the JCR, we encouraged graduates to bring colleagues to lunch by removing the guest surcharge in the Buttery, started a consultation on improving hostel living rooms, and re-evaluated rents to reflect changes in bedmaking provision.

At the same time, the SBR has had its own facelift. It now boasts a new cinema system with a Netflix subscription, a games console, a range of magazines and journals, a sophisticated coffee machine with a daily provision of biscuits, and an array of new kitchen equipment. In the digital realm too, the SBR has ascended to new heights: our new Facebook page has more than two hundred fans.

Outside Cambridge, we built up graduate involvement with St John's sister colleges and universities. Graduates have taken trips to Pavia, Italy; Trinity College Dublin; Uppsala, Sweden; and another collegiate

south-west Midlands university south of Warwickshire. Johnians have hosted students in return, sharing research presentations and city tours. Thanks go to Jean Maillard, Rox Middleton and Kathryn Santner for giving up so much time to organise these trips.

The most exciting part of College life is meeting early-career researchers from a range of disciplines, specialisms and backgrounds. The SBR, with particular thanks to Mike Keebler, has offered a relaxed platform to exhibit a range of Johnian research interests. Our presentation evenings have seen graduates discuss such diverse topics as the origins of the universe, espionage, EU politics, solar cells, and ancient coins. Maybe we weren't so successful at honouring Samuel Butler's words after all.

Working as SBR President has been the most exciting and rewarding experience of my six years at St John's. I am grateful to the committee for creating such an active year, and wish our new President, Nate Davis, every success for the year ahead. 

Daniel Ryan, President

JOHNIAN SOCIETY

The Johnian Society was established in 1923 to allow alumni to keep in touch with each other and the College after graduation. Today, the society has over 10,500 members, representing alumni interests and supporting current students through bursaries and travel grants. To find out more about the Johnian Society and its committee, please visit johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/johnian-society.

In 2015 we held a record number of events:

CAREERS FAIR

We supported the College's inaugural Careers Fair for current students and recent graduates in February. The event was led by the Development Office, with support from the Domestic Bursar, Mark Wells (1981), who is one of our committee members. Our Secretary, Colin Burrows (1978), and committee member Treeva Fenwick (1995) were amongst the keynote speakers.

This event will be held annually from now on and we are keen to continue our support.

LONDON DINNER

We hosted a dinner for Johnians and their guests at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in March. Colin Greenhalgh (1960), our President, gave the toast to the College, with Mark Wells responding with the toast to the society. We plan to hold this event annually in the spring.



Alumni at the Oxford and Cambridge Club for the London Dinner in spring 2015.



Alumni at the Oxford and Cambridge Club for the London Dinner in spring 2015.

GOLF

Dr Nigel Snaith (1979), who joined our committee in 2014, organised four matches, including the annual Johnian Society Golf Day in July with hospitality in College.

ANNUAL DAY

The society's Annual Day is held in College and incorporates tea in the Old Divinity School, a lecture in the

afternoon, and the general meeting and dinner in Hall in the evening.

In recent years, attendance has increased three-fold. This year we invited a panel comprising two Fellows and two students, chaired by our Finance Secretary, Emma Clutton-Brock (2006), to give their views on 'Life at St John's in the Twenty-First Century' and to take part in a question and answer session.

Following drinks in the Senior Combination Room, a short general meeting and dinner, Colin Greenhalgh gave the toast to the College, with the Master responding with the toast to the society.

Johnian Society events are included in the events calendar at johnian.joh.cam.ac.uk/events and are listed on the back page of *Johnian News*. Please contact Colin Burrows at colin@specialtreats.co.uk if you wish to host or organise an event for Johnians in conjunction with the society. We are particularly keen to hold regional events throughout the UK, and our Vice-President, Professor John Wyn Owen (1961), is planning to host a dinner in Wales in 2016.

We are keen to include the current student body in our activities, and so we co-opted the JCR and SBR Presidents to our

committee in 2014. We also supported College events, such as the Economics Society reunion lunch in Hall.

Whilst not a fundraising body for the College, we continue to provide Open Access Bursaries and Travel Exhibitions to current students (totalling £8000 in 2014/15), funded by our membership income and past endowments to the College.

Our committee membership spans the past seven decades, with matriculation years from 1957 to 2012, and we elect two new alumni members each year. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact me at gmspooner@mentoruk.com. 

**Graham Spooner (1971),
Chairman**

THE CHOIR

The start of a very busy Michaelmas term was marked by the Matriculation Service, when the Choir introduced the Freshers to Chapel music by singing music by Clucas and the 'Gloria' from the 'Missa Brevis' by Jonathan Dove. There were ten new faces in the Choir stalls – Jack Hawkins (Alto); William Ashford, Michael Bell and Benedict Flinn (Tenor); James Adams, Stephen Matthews and Oliver Morris (Bass); along with Choristers Matthew Brown, James Buttery and Adam Chillingworth. Five new Probationers also joined the Choir this year – Alan Chen, Jaylen Cheng, Lewis Cobb, Freddie Harrison and Philip Tomkinson.



Photo: Matthew Cobb

Mid-October saw the Choir join forces with the St John's Sinfonia to sing Bach Cantata no. 96 'Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-sohn' and Vivaldi's 'Magnificat'. On 24 October, a convoy of four coaches left Cambridge bound for the Royal Albert Hall, carrying the choirs of St John's, Clare, Gonville and Caius, and Jesus Colleges, along with the University Chamber Choir and recent alumni of the choirs, to take part in a performance of Verdi's 'Requiem' with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by our Director of Music, Andrew Nethsingha. An almost full house gave the massed choirs a standing ovation at the end of the concert.

A fine group of student instrumentalists assembled on 31 October to perform Bach's Cantata no. 54 'Widerstehe doch der Sünde', with three different countertenor soloists from the Choir.

A memorial service for Dr Frederick Sanger (1936), Honorary Fellow of the College and twice Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, was held in the Chapel on 8 November. Music for the service included excerpts from Duruflé's 'Requiem Mass' and John Clapham's arrangement of 'What a wonderful world'.

In recent years the Choir has commissioned a number of works for unusual scoring of choir with a single orchestral instrument. 'Echoes', by newly elected Fellow Tim Watts, is scored for men's voices, organ and timpani. This setting of a poem by R. S. Thomas was premiered on 19 November.



Photo: Matthew Corb

Harpist Alison Martin during the Choir's April recording sessions.

The Chapel was packed to capacity on the final weekend of Michaelmas term for the annual Advent Carol Services, broadcast live on BBC Radio 3. Music for the services included a new commission, 'John the Baptist', by Michael Finnissy.

The last engagement of Michaelmas term was a concert at the Royal Festival Hall on 5 December with the English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Nethsingha. The centrepiece for the evening was Vivaldi's 'Gloria'. Other items included Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and 'The King shall rejoice'.



Photo: Eric Lee

Choristers warming up at the Hong Kong Club.

The first weekend of Lent term saw the Chapel packed once again for the candlelit Epiphany Carol Services. The Saturday service was attended by a large group of members from the Choir Association, along with their families and guests.

On 1 February the Choir's latest CD, *O sacrum convivium*, was released. It comprises French masses by Vierne and Langlais, alongside motets by Poulenc and Messiaen. *Choir & Organ Magazine* reviewed it thus: 'If you buy one choral recording this year, make it this one!' The following weekend, the Choir welcomed Jaylen Cheng as a full Chorister.

The Lent Term Bach Cantata, sung on 31 January, was No. 22 'Jesus nahm zu sich die Zwölfe', performed with St John's Sinfonia. Movements from Bach's 'Concerto for violin and oboe' were also played. The following Thursday, the Choir was joined by Gonville and Caius College Choir for a joint evensong. On 11 February, during the College Music Festival, the men gave the first performance of 'Salve Regina', composed by James Welland for men's voices and marimba. The following day a fine composite organ recital was given by our Organ Scholars and by three Choristers, Joel Branston, David Bryson and Blake Chen.

Evensong for Ash Wednesday was broadcast live by BBC Radio 3, and included Allegri's 'Miserere mei, Deus' and Byrd's 'Afflicti pro peccatis nostris'. The Lent Meditation Service, held on the final Saturday of Lent term, included Harvey's haunting 'I love the Lord' and music by Bach, Bárdos, Handel, Lotti and Wesley.

The highlight of the Choir's year was the twelve-day tour to East Asia over the Easter vacation. Having touched down in Singapore during the late afternoon and checked into the hotel, most of the Choir immediately headed for the outdoor pool. Following a rest day when the men explored the city and the boys experienced the delights of Universal Studios theme park, work began in earnest with a concert at the Esplanade Concert Hall on 24 March. This began with the Master dedicating the concert to Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the founding Prime Minister of Singapore, who had passed away the day before, followed by two minutes' silence. The audience of just over 1100 greatly enjoyed the choral classics performed by the Choir, including Mozart's 'Ave Verum Corpus', Rossini's 'O salutaris hostia' and Arvo Pärt's 'Magnificat'. In tribute to Mr Lee, the Choir ended the concert with John Tavener's 'Song for Athene', which was also performed at the funeral service of Princess Diana in 1997. Prior to the tour, the Choir had been coached in Mandarin by a Fellow of the College, Dr Adam Chau, in order to perform an arrangement of the Chinese folk song

'Mo Li Hua' (The Jasmine Flower song) as an encore, which received huge applause.



A hotel information board commemorates the death of 'the founding father of Singapore', Lee Kuan Yew.

The following morning the Choir was greatly honoured to receive a request from the family of Mr Lee to sing during the lying in state at Government House that afternoon. Having sung a lunchtime concert at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and eaten a hasty lunch, the Choir began to learn an arrangement of Singaporean folk song, 'Home', which had been a particular favourite of Mr Lee. All credit to Organ Scholar, Joseph Wicks, who worked through the lunchtime concert to arrange the music, using only an old audio recording, and then went on to perform the tenor solo part in front of Mr Lee's family and the world's media gathered at Government House. The first of two exceptionally long and busy days finished with the Choir performing at the Development Office dinner hosted for Singapore-based Johnians at the Tanglin Club.



Photo: Eric Lee

Oliver Brown performing the treble solo in Mendelssohn's 'Hear my prayer' at the Hong Kong City Hall.

A very early start on Thursday morning saw the Choir head for the airport to fly to Hong Kong. Following check-in at the Mariners' Club and a quick lunch, the Choir headed to RTHK studios to record a concert to be broadcast later in the year. In addition to the concert, the Choir also made a recording of 'Home', which was sent to Mr Lee's family.

Friday was a welcome and much-needed rest day for the Choir. Many of the men visited a bespoke tailor and are now sporting a

colourful array of suits. A trip to Ocean Park for the Choristers proved immensely popular, with the boys taking full advantage of the stomach-churning rides. On Saturday evening the Choir performed for Johnnians at the Development Office dinner held at the Hong Kong Club.

On Sunday the Choir travelled to the University of Hong Kong to sing an afternoon concert, and were joined on stage for the final piece, Parry's 'Hear my words, ye people', by the university's Chamber Singers. The final concert of the tour took place at Hong Kong City Hall on 30 March, when the Choir sang to an audience of 1200 people. The programme included Mendelssohn's 'Hear my prayer', with a stunning treble solo sung by Oliver Brown, and two particularly challenging piano solos played by Edward Picton-Turbervill. Andrew Nethsingha valiantly conducted the concert with his foot in a cast, having suffered a broken bone the previous day. The Choir returned to the UK on an overnight flight, very tired but with many happy memories of a wonderful tour. We hope to return in Easter 2018.

The weekend before the start of Easter term the Choir returned to record a CD of popular classics, which was released by Chandos Records in September. The Choir welcomed Freddie Harrison as a full Chorister from the beginning of the term. The first Joint Service of the term was sung with the Choir of Clare College on 28 April, and included Leighton's



On stage at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music with the Conservatory Chamber Singers.

Second Service (composed in memory of former Organ Scholar, Brian Runnett) and Wesley's *Blessed be the God and Father*.

The Choir was up bright and early on 10 May to take part in a live broadcast of BBC Radio 4's *Sunday Worship*. The theme for the programme was 'What kind of victory?' and it formed part of the VE Day commemorations. The guest speaker for the service was Major General Timothy Cross, a retired British Army Officer and Lay Reader in the Church of England, and music included Douglas Guest's 'For the fallen' and 'But thanks be to God' from Handel's *Messiah*.

On 21 May, a large number of parents and children from St John's College School attended the Parents' Association evensong,

which was followed by refreshments in the Master's Garden. A Bach Cantata evensong was sung on Saturday 23 May and included two complete Cantatas – Cantata no. 10 'Meine Seele erhebt den Herren' and Cantata no. 172 'Erschallet, ihr Lieder, erklinget, ihr Saiten'.

At the end of May, the Choir was delighted to welcome Dr David Hill and members of Yale Schola Cantorum to College for a joint evensong, followed by a reception in the Master's Garden. This was one of the finest services of the year. Another premiere was performed on 3 June: Philip Moore's 'Hear my prayer, o heavenly Father' set words by Charles Dickens to music for double choir of men's voices, with countertenor solo. During the final week of term, the Choir joined with

St John's Voices to sing evensong, with music by Stanford, Bullock and Parry.

A memorial service for former Master Professor Richard Perham (1958) was held in the Chapel on Saturday 13 June. The music included Tavener's 'Song for Athene' and 'Wie lieblich sind deine wohnungen' from the Brahms Requiem. Following the final hymn, 'Eternal Father, Strong to Save', the Royal Marines' tune 'Sunset' was played by trumpeter Joel Newsome-Hubbard.

The beginning of the May Week celebrations was marked by the May Concert, which included Parry's 'Hear my words, ye people' sung by the Choir; a new work, 'Child'; by Tim Watts, sung by St John's Voices; an organ solo by Edward Picton-Turbervill; and Vaughan Williams' 'The Lark Ascending', played by the Brandenburg Sinfonia, with a stunning violin solo from Julia Hwang. Choral Scholar Quintin Beer conducted Mozart's 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik'.


The Choir Period of Residence included two special services – the Graduation Service on 24 June, always a joyful occasion for the graduands and their families, and the annual joint evensong with King's College, which was broadcast from King's College by the BBC to mark the five-hundredth anniversary of their chapel.

The Choir reassembled after a short break in mid-July for a marathon recording session

of music by Jonathan Harvey. The CD, to be released in 2016, would not have been possible without the generosity of donors who have responded to the Choir's fundraising campaign to 'buy a minute of music' for £100. There are still some unsold minutes of music available to buy – if you are interested in supporting the project, please contact the Development Office on 01223 760988 or development@joh.cam.ac.uk.

Another busy year drew to a close at the end of the recording and we were sad to say farewell to Choristers Max Boorman, William Collison and Peter Nethsingha; the first Herbert Howells Organ Scholar, Edward Picton-Turbervill; Choral Student Quintin Beer; and, following three years as Choral Scholars and a fourth year as Lay Clerks, John Clapham, Gus Perkins Ray and Alex Simpson. We wish them all well for the future.

For up-to-date information on Choir activities, and to listen to the weekly webcasts, please visit www.sjcchoir.co.uk. You can also follow the Choir on Twitter (@SJCChoir) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/stjohnschoircambridge).

The Choir would like to thank patrons, benefactors, members of the Choir Association and other supporters for their kind donations to support the work of the Choir. 

Caroline Marks, Choir Administrator

ST JOHN'S VOICES

Graham Walker (1996) is a former Chorister and Choral Scholar in the College Choir, and is now Musical Director of St John's Voices.



Photo: Zhao Songyuan



In concert at St Paul's, Covent Garden

Set up in 2014, St John's Voices has continued to flourish and develop during its second year of existence. This choir, which sings evensong on Monday evenings during full term, includes both female and male students.

From the earliest days it was clear that St John's Voices was an entirely different group from the old St John's Singers, which existed throughout the 1990s and 2000s. The 'official' nature of the Voices, combined

with the commitment to a weekly evensong in the College Chapel, gave the ensemble a clear sense of purpose and determination. It became obvious from the initial auditions that there was a real appetite for this kind of opportunity amongst students in the College.


During its second year, whilst maintaining the weekly schedule of Monday evensongs, St John's Voices has continued to explore an



interesting and innovative repertoire, as well as giving its first performances beyond the Chapel. In Michaelmas term, All Souls' Day was transferred to a Monday, and the Voices were given the opportunity to sing Fauré's 'Requiem', the first major piece undertaken by the choir. It was performed with great intensity, poise and precision, and was warmly received by those who heard it. The work was repeated in February, when St John's Voices took part in the

Brandenburg Choral Festival, in a concert at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden.

Two other notable performances took place in Lent term. On 2 February a world premiere was given of 'Child', a work by Tim Watts, Fellow in Music, commissioned by the Master and Fellows. The anthem, scored for choir and solo violin (performed by Julia Hwang), sets text from the Antiphon for the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary alongside poetry by Wordsworth. Later in February St John's Voices were honoured to be invited to sing at the memorial service for The Right Reverend Stephen Sykes (1958), held at Great St Mary's Church.

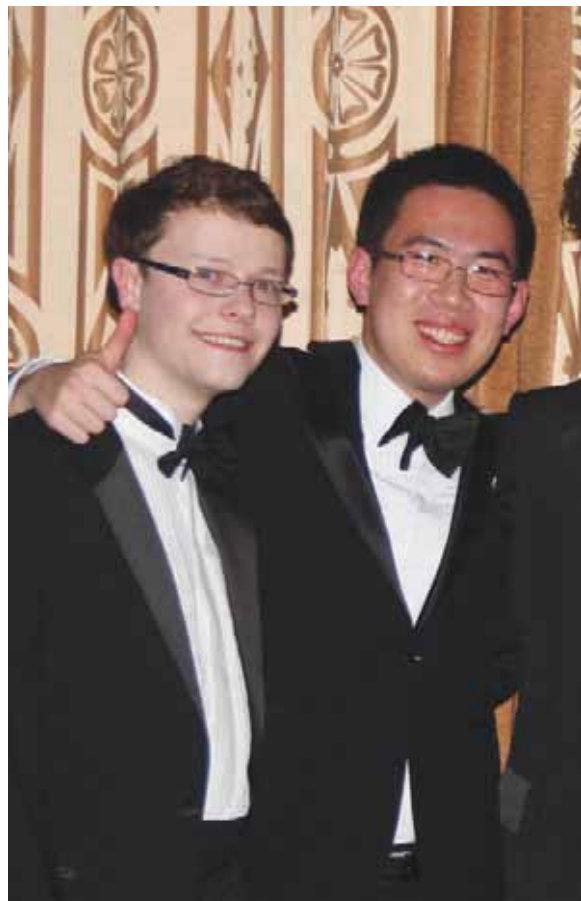
Exciting plans are underway for next year: we received a grant from the College's Annual Fund, thanks to the generosity of alumni and other friends, and are purchasing cassocks and surplices for use in the weekly evensong. It is hoped that we will be able to go on tour to Vienna in December, as well as taking part once again in the Brandenburg Choral Festival in London. But the most gratifying and rewarding aspect of St John's Voices will be to continue to recruit students, many of whom would otherwise go through their time in College without singing a note, to instil in them a love of singing, and to be able to watch them become a part of the extraordinary tradition of choral music that exists in the College. 

Graham Walker, Director

ADAMS SOCIETY

The Adams Society (Mathematics) continues to flourish. The speaker series started in Easter 2014 with Fellow Dr Alexandre Bouayad's talk on quantum groups, which proved a popular digression from intense exam revision. Michaelmas began with Professor Tom Körner exploring submarine hunting strategies in the Second World War. This was followed by Fellow Professor Richard Samworth (1996) speaking on Stein's lemma in decision theory, and Professor Michael Potter from the Faculty of Philosophy on Gödel's incompleteness theorems. The last talk even managed to attract a few Philosophy students, for the first half at least.

Kick-starting Lent term was Professor Kevin Buzzard from Imperial College London, who led us into the strange world of p -adic numbers. Professor Colm-cille Caulfield then traced the steps of fluid mechanics giant Sir Geoffrey Taylor. Later in the term, Dr Amanda Turner (1998) spoke on the young yet fascinating field of random growth. The series ended with a bang when our own Director of Studies, Dr Matthias



Dörrzapf, delivered a talk on risk evaluation in financial markets, which saw the highest turnout of any talk last year.

On the social front, our garden party was open to University members for the first time in recent memory, and enjoyed a record attendance. We narrowly lost to Trinity in the annual cricket match by a mere two runs, but I'm sure a magnificent



comeback awaits us next year. The desserts party and annual dinner were the social highlights, as usual, with Professor Chris Rogers (1972) kindly appearing as speaker for the latter. We also added a Christmas party to our social calendar and revived the football match against Clare College (we won approximately 9-1) in Lent term – all thanks to the tireless work of Vice-President Maria Tang.

I would like to thank the committee for ensuring the smooth running of the society, and to the Fellows for their unrelenting support. Thanks also to the Archimedean for advertising all our talks to their mailing list. Finally, I'd like to wish future committees all the best in years to come. 🍷

Zhaoxin Wang,
President

CHESS SOCIETY

Since its resurrection in 2011, St John's Chess Society has been going from strength to strength. The aims of the society are to promote critical thinking through the study of strategy, tactics and nuances in the game of chess.




The society has had a busy programme of events this year. As well as regular coaching sessions, held for two hours every fortnight by the captain of the St John's team, we held termly coaching sessions run by selected international players, which provided the opportunity for the society's members to gain insight into the game at the highest levels. Furthermore, the society provides the opportunity for members to play competitively against each other on a weekly basis, which prepares them well for the inter-collegiate competitions.

This year, St John's again participated in the University College League and has had a successful season. We are delighted to have won most of our matches, and we managed

to secure a promotion. Next year we hope to continue this success and participate in more national competitions as a team.

For the forthcoming year, the society plans to both increase the number of invigorating coaching sessions provided by international players, since these have proved such a success, and introduce a lecture series over the course of the year.

With the current captain winning the presidency of the University Chess Club, this will allow St John's Chess Society to grow even further and increase its involvement in University and nationwide events. 

Anna York-Andersen, President

CHRISTIAN UNION (CU)

This year we were just as delighted to welcome on-board a lovely group of freshers in Michaelmas term, as we were to see old hands continue to muck in with CU. The society exists to make Jesus Christ known to students at St John's, and provides Johnian Christians with encouragement and support. To those ends we've put on several extraordinary events and continued to meet regularly

to study the Bible and pray. College group meetings have also benefited from the introduction of the Tangent Board, which records bizarre tangential comments, and is currently dominated by the phrase 'squirrel milking a badger', for which thanks must go to Jonathan Hunt.




Easter 2014 saw us meeting on the Backs in glorious sunshine and then attempting to capitalise on this success by holding a May Week picnic, which was promptly moved indoors due to rain, but proved very enjoyable nevertheless.

Michaelmas term was preceded by our annual retreat, which this year turned out to be at a horse farm with a lodge attached. We resumed friendships after the break and prepared for the new academic year. We helped the freshers to move in and held Church Breakfasts to help people get settled into the Cambridge churches. Nearer Christmas we also took people to the CU's central carol services, which went extremely well. In Lent term 2015 the University CU held 'The Search' – a week of events aimed at giving all

students the chance to explore the claims of Christ. We joined in with the practicalities, and held a Text-a-Toastie beforehand, so people could begin the conversation with their own questions.

Finally, in Easter term we served the College community by offering hot drinks outside the Library to help people get some rest, which seems to have been greatly appreciated by our now-frequent flyers.

Thanks to my co-representative Jess Gorman for her dedication, and all the best to Daniel Burton and Jasmine John as they take us forward! 

Josh Hinton

CLASSICAL SOCIETY


St John's Classical Society has been undergoing a bit of a makeover this year. The College has an illustrious history in the subject and a range of eminent Fellows, but the society has been quiet in recent years. Therefore, we have put together a template for the next year or so whereby graduates, undergraduates and Fellows can meet as a group more frequently to engage in intellectual silliness.



Third-year Ashwin Ahuja gets immersed in the role of 'in-law' at our wine-led reading of the *Thesmophoriazusae*.

In Michaelmas term, we had a spirited reading of Aristophanes' comedy the *Thesmophoriazusae*, accompanied by wine. Lent term followed with our annual highlight, the Classics Dessert, held in the gorgeous Wordsworth Room. We also had a fascinating informal talk from Dr Ingo Gildenhard on the topic 'Did Ovid read the Bible?' Our final event of the academic year was a post-tripos lunch.

Looking to the future, we now have a social media presence with our very own Facebook page! We would love to follow in the footsteps of certain rival colleges' classical societies, and next year we are hoping to have a big lecture at the beginning of Easter term from a celebrity classicist. A Johnians-only 'show-and-tell', with each member talking about their favourite classical object or poem, has also been added to the agenda.

I would like to thank the previous president, Hannah Kirk-Evans, as well as all the Johnian Classical Fellows, for deciding to re-establish the society. 

Natalie Spong

ECONOMICS SOCIETY

This year was a very successful one for the Economics Society, with several new events added to our calendar, as well as some augmentations to the traditional events.

The society began the year by welcoming the new Economics undergraduates to the College with the annual Welcome Dinner. We were also very lucky to be able to start the year with a talk by Dr Jeff Campbell from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.


The success of the first term was built upon with our events in Lent term. In addition to the annual Options Desserts evening, the society organised the inaugural SJC Economics Society Alumni Lunch, attended by over a hundred current and former economists from the College. The Alumni Lunch represents the first step the society has taken in extending its links to alumni of the College. We hope to strengthen the opportunities for both alumni and students alike to enjoy the experience of Economics at St John's. Many thanks to Ravi Prasad, our Alumni Relations Officer, for his innovation in conceiving and facilitating this event, which represents an excellent template for future committees to develop.

The society's business for the year concluded with our Annual General Meeting at the beginning of Easter term, which this year was attended by Stephen Pickford (1968), who has held many



Attendees at the inaugural Economics Alumni Lunch in March.

high-profile roles at the Treasury. We were delighted to have Stephen with us and were very lucky to hear him speak in the fantastic setting of the Senior Combination Room.

This has thus been a very strong and enjoyable year, and we look forward to seeing the incoming President, Edmond Cheng, and Junior Treasurer, Henry Stevens, build on our success and take the society to new heights in the coming academic year. 

Karthik Raghavan,
President

GENTS OF ST JOHN'S

This year the Gentlemen of St John's welcomed seven new members, who have seamlessly integrated themselves into the fabric of the group.



During the academic year the College Choir has performed four national broadcasts and recorded two CDs. However, the highlight was a wonderful tour to Singapore and Hong Kong. During our stay in Singapore, former Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew passed away, and the Choir were asked at the shortest of notice to sing at his lying in state. In the space of a few hours, Joseph Wicks transcribed, arranged and sang the solo in the Singaporean song 'Home'. This performance has had over one million views online.

It has been a very operatic year, with no fewer than thirteen Gents having been part of various student operas, in a great variety of roles. Special mention must go to Quintin Beer, who conducted Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* – this year's main show. Gents

have also played principal roles in the aforementioned *Eugene Onegin*, Britten's *Albert Herring*, Handel's *Semele*, Bernstein's *Candide* and Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

The group's latest CD, *Indulgence*, was recorded in September 2014 and released in June this year. It encompasses the musical range of a typical Gents' concert, with both sacred music and close-harmony arrangements.

We bid farewell to five Gents this year, all of whom will continue to pursue their musical interests. Alex Simpson will study singing on a full scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music; John Clapham will sing freelance in London and as a Fellow of the National Youth Chamber Choir; Augustus Perkins Ray will continue his studies abroad; Edward Picton-Turbervill will study the piano and environmental politics; and Quintin Beer will take up the position of Graduate Musician in Residence at North London Collegiate School. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

Tom Lilburn, Manager

HISTORY SOCIETY


This year was formative for the History Society; it began with redrafting a constitution that prescribed the roles for the committee (George Hallas, James Gilchrist, Davide Martino and Katherine Reggler) more clearly after the heroic efforts of last year's President, Bethan Charnley. This should translate itself into a fuller term card of speakers and social events in the coming years.

In the past year, attendance at our events has increased significantly. In Easter term 2014 we hosted one speaker event. We showed a documentary called *Riots Reframed*, and followed it with a discussion panel and refreshments. It was well attended, attracting over a hundred students and Fellows who filled the Main Lecture Theatre in the Old Divinity School. We also held our annual garden party, which was attended by over forty members and Fellows, and is an opportunity for all historians to relax and enjoy each other's company outside the stressful work environment.

In Michaelmas term 2014 we hosted four events. The first was a welcome gathering

followed by historical discussion and an introduction to Historical Argument and Practice for the first-year students. This was followed by a talk by Dr Catherine Burns on 'The Archives of Louisa Mvemve – a herbalist and midwife, and her struggles with the South African State'. The next speaker event was delivered by Dr Colin Shindler, titled 'March on Time: Inside Nazi Germany 1938'. We also had our annual 'History Hall' to improve the integration of historians across all year groups.

In Lent term 2015 we invited Professor David Carpenter from King's College London to speak about the Magna Carta, a talk which attracted a good turnout of students and Fellows. We also hosted our annual History Society Dinner in the Combination Room, where we were lucky enough to have Dr Anna Abulafia of Lucy Cavendish College as our guest speaker.

The new committee is already in place, and they hosted an excellent garden party in May Week. We wish them all the best for the year ahead. 

George Hallas, President




HUMANITIES SOCIETY

The Humanities Society has enjoyed a successful year and has hosted three fantastic speakers, beginning with Amy Basil from MUBI in Michaelmas term. This was followed by a highly praised and inspirational talk from Jay Hunt (1985), Chief Creative Officer of Channel 4, in Lent term. Jay spoke passionately about her career in the media, which began with her degree in English Literature at St John's. From controlling BBC channels, to now choosing the shows to be aired on Channel 4, Jay has experienced great success in her life post-John's. She spoke enthusiastically about the controversial programmes Channel 4 is known for, citing *Benefits Street* amongst her favourites, in terms of the groundbreaking context of the show.



Members of the Humanities Society with Laura Day (far left) and Jay Hunt (second from right).

Easter Term opened with the annual Humanities Society Dinner, taking place in the wonderful Combination Room. It was attended by almost forty guests, all of whom enjoyed speeches from two alumni. The evening started with a champagne reception in the Senior Tutor's set in Second Court, before dinner was served by candlelight in the Combination Room.

The society is going from strength to strength at the moment, and there are plans for more speaker events in the coming academic year. Currently, the committee is looking to develop the society's profile amongst the new freshers. The aim is to raise the profile of the society further, allowing it to become bigger and better. 

Laura Day, President

JAZZ@JOHN'S

This year, Jazz@John's has continued to thrive as a prominent member of the Cambridge jazz scene. We have been fortunate enough to show a host of talent, with fourteen bands playing over the course of the year, each with different styles. The intimate venue of the Fisher Building foyer, combined with great music and student prices, has enabled us to attract a mixed crowd of both undergraduates and graduates, who have shown great enthusiasm for our events.



Musicians have come from near and far to play at Jazz@John's this year, leading to a diverse selection of talent, including local favourites Kevin Flanagan, Andy Bowie, Q3 and Fromage a Trois. The annual Varsity Battle of the Bands between the Cambridge and Oxford Jazz Orchestras was a showcase of student talent, rousing the crowd to dance with infectious energy. Resolution 88 were a particular highlight of this year's calendar, with their jazz-funk sound quite unlike anybody else around, bringing soulful music played with incredible passion and skill.

Our events would not be possible without our fantastic committee, who have helped enormously in running Jazz@John's this year. In particular, I would like to thank Sam Thompson (Vice-President) for his tireless work in making our events so successful, as well as the technical team, Leonardo Impett and Plamen Ivanov. I am happy to hand over presidency and vice-presidency to Runqiao Dong and Abimbola Adebayo, and am confident that Jazz@John's will continue its success in the coming year. 🎷

Nadia McLurcan, President

LARMOR SOCIETY

The Larmor Society has enjoyed another very successful year, encouraging Natural Sciences students at St John's to engage with topics outside their immediate field of expertise and to consider how the work that they do in the lab impacts on the outside world.



We have done this by organising academic talks on topics we find interesting, and socials where Johnians can meet scientists from other colleges and disciplines. To this end, in Michaelmas term we organised a series of talks titled 'Science in Society', which included 'Science in Politics' by Dr Julian Huppert MP, and 'Science in the Media' by Mark Henderson, Head of Communications for The Wellcome Trust. In Lent term we organised talks with a more academic focus, giving students a glimpse into some of the exciting research that goes on in Cambridge. We also took on organisation of the May Week Hog Roast for the first time in summer 2014 after Dr McConnel's retirement. This

was a great opportunity for scientists to come together to let off some steam after working hard through exam term, and we were blessed with great weather.

Our annual dinner was, as always, a great success in giving undergraduates, graduates and Fellows the opportunity to talk in a relaxed environment. We were delighted to be joined by the Master as our guest speaker.

We wish Trang-Anh Nghiem all the best as she takes up the baton and continues the Larmor legacy next year. 

Ben Walker, President

MAY BALL

This year the St John's May Ball paid tribute to the world of children's classics and the stories that have furnished a lifetime of dreams. The event was a resounding success, excelling in all aspects including entertainment, food and drink.

Peter Pan shadows floated around First Court where guests could indulge in the treasures of the Mermaid Lagoon. Second Court was ambitiously transformed into a Narnia snowscape that guests entered by walking through a giant wardrobe created by the centrepiece team. Stepping into the court, many would pause to wonder at the novelty of a snowstorm in the middle of June.

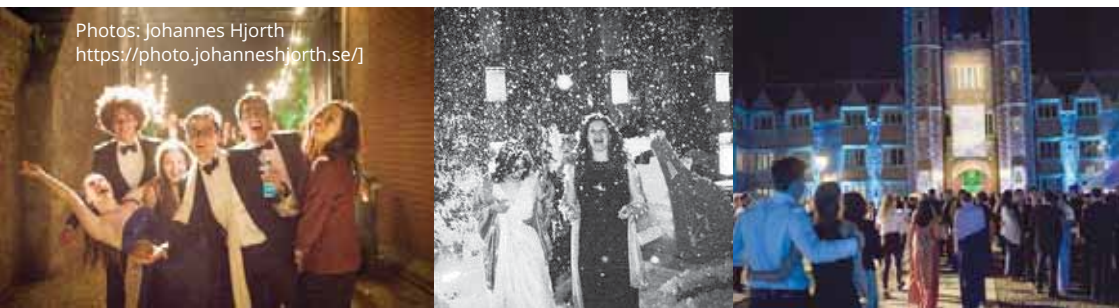
Hall became *The Secret Garden*, where world-class classical performers entertained the masses. For those who preferred their music a little louder, the ever popular rave tent in Third Court allowed guests to party in the style of *Where The Wild Things Are*. Those who passed through the keyhole into the *Alice in Wonderland*-themed Chapel Court were treated to a mesmerising light display projected onto the Chapel Tower – this attraction was new, but looks certain to be continued in future years. New Court was transformed into the Emerald City, and the yellow brick road under the cloisters led the way to the main stage, where crowds

watched comedy headliner Alex Horne and other musical acts such as the hugely energetic Gorgon City and a night-stealing performance from a Beyoncé tribute act. The Backs were heavily used this year to create a *Mary Poppins* Victorian-style fairground bustling with stalls and rides. The fireworks were nothing short of extraordinary.

What is remarkable to note is that all of this was achieved by a committee with barely any previous experience of organising a May Ball. The team spirit that was shown by the committee members from the start of the year to the end of the clear-up was exemplary and fully embodied the true Johnian spirit. None of this would have been possible without the assistance and support of College staff, to whom we are extremely grateful. Once again, the May Ball has provided the canvas to put on show everything that is great about this magical College. 🍷

Ilia Cherezov, President

Photos: Johannes Hjorth
<https://photo.johanneshjorth.se/>



MEDICAL SOCIETY


The Medical Society enjoyed another rewarding year, confirming our position as one of Cambridge's largest and most active college medical societies.



We have been privileged to host some impressive speakers, including Dr Peter Walsh from the University's Division of Biological Anthropology, who delivered a well-timed talk on the Ebola crisis; Dr Keith McNeil, Chief Executive of Addenbrooke's Hospital and former sniper in the Australian special forces; and Professor Mike Kelly, former Director of Public Health at the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). For our annual dinner, the highlight of the year's events, we were delighted to be joined by the Master and Dr Mary Dobson. Dr Dobson enthralled us with her take on the history of medicine.

As well as talks, the society has also worked to support its members. We started things

off with a social to encourage the new intake to get to know the older medics. At Christmas time we enjoyed mince pies as we heard about people's experiences with summer projects and how they organised them. We also hosted a Part II options discussion for second-years, and the mentoring scheme had another successful year.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the current committee for making this year so successful, and to wish the incoming committee the best of luck. I am sure the society will continue to thrive under Minaam Abbas's leadership. 

Neel Jain, President

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

This year the MML Society welcomed Part II students back from places as diverse as Santiago de Chile, Bologna and Kazan after successful years abroad. As ever, the 'Year Abroad Evening' was a very popular event, with newly world-wise finalists sharing titbits of their weird and wonderful experiences to first- and second-years planning their own time away. Michaelmas term also saw members of the society attend a performance of *Golem* at the Young Vic.


Lent term was the busiest for events, with proceedings kicked off by a discussion evening on the topic of 'Why do Cultures Clash?' It is a highly relevant question in the modern age and the wide-ranging experiences of the academics and students involved made for some very interesting insights. The society was lucky enough to host some of our colleagues from the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, and their participation gave some valuable perspectives from outside the world of MML.

Lent term also featured two more London theatre excursions: *Multitudes* at the Tricycle Theatre and the much anticipated *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* at the Playhouse Theatre. The latter, adapted from the Pedro Almodóvar film of the same name and starring Tamsin Greig, delighted students with its blend of music and madcap farce, and provided the perfect respite before Easter term revision.

Easter was inevitably a quieter term for the society as exams loomed, but with May



The Festival de la Candelaria in Puno, Peru – just one of the experiences witnessed by MML students on their years abroad.

Week came the usual celebrations of the garden party and annual dinner. This year these events were especially poignant as we said a fond farewell to Dr David Midgley and Dr Rosemary Clark, who retired from their positions as Directors of Studies after many years of service. They have both been invaluable to the College and we are sad to see them go, but wish them all the best in their future endeavours. 

Claire Huxley, President

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

This year marks the re-establishment of the Mountaineering Club, a society that aims to revive the College's proud tradition of adventurous pursuits. The club has met regularly throughout the year at the climbing wall at the Kelsey Kerridge Sports Centre. Beginners had the opportunity to be tutored by skilled climbers, while more seasoned members were able to benefit from shared experience.



With the support of the club, members have organised a number of trips throughout the UK and Europe, including a ten-day expedition to Arctic Norway, hiking trips to the Dolomites and the Scottish Highlands, and climbing in Yorkshire.

A number of events are being planned for the next year, including ski mountaineering trips and trail running. Competition for mountaineers is traditionally against themselves and nature. However, in future the club is also planning to send members to

competitive events, such as bouldering competitions and mountain marathons.

Considering that many members are completely new, this has been an exceptional year. Our thanks go to Sandro Bauer, Johannes Bausch, Conrad Koziol, Rebekah Larsen, and Lucie Studená for organising and running events. I am confident that next year's committee will be able to take the club to new heights, quite literally. 🏔️

Jean Maillard


MUSIC SOCIETY

Alongside the usual programme of events, this year has been one of consolidation and reorientation for the society. We have attempted to reach out to Johnnians for whom music is not a first priority, through informal performance events, open microphone nights in the College Bar and music appreciation evenings. In recognition of the fact that the society is currently weighted towards classical music, we have submitted an application to the College's Annual Fund to build a band practice space and recording studio in the basement of the Cripps Building.

We have also hosted a number of very successful concerts, including a concert of compositions by Johnnian composers, a complete performance of the Bach keyboard Partitas by James McVinnie, a concert of modern choral music in the Chapel and a silent film improvisation also in the Chapel. The Combination Room concert was an extremely enjoyable evening, consisting of a selection of solo songs, Brahms' 'Liebeslieder Waltzer' and a performance by a Johnnian jazz trio.

Looking towards the future, we have created an electronic database of the members of the society and have designed an online room-booking system, which will replace the current paper system in Michaelmas term 2015. After conducting an assessment of the New Music Room, we have arranged a programme of renovation works for the summer.

The society also helped to arrange the St John's College Music Festival, which took place from 11 to 14 February. This was an

unprecedented success. The festival, which was made possible by a grant from the Annual Fund, consisted of eight concerts by a mixture of students and professionals. It included nine world premieres and was attended by over a thousand people. A review of the final concert was published in *The Guardian*. 

Edward Picton-Tubervill, President

PALMERSTON SOCIETY


The Palmerston Society was blessed in 2014/15 with a time where politics were never far away from the headlines. This allowed for another successful year of combining the exciting realities of political life with an academic approach to be expected from a college with as fine a political history as St John's.



The May hustings took place in the Old Divinity School.

The Scottish referendum debate, with guest speakers Sir Richard Aikens (1967) and Professor Lord Hennessy (1966), provided an invaluable insight into the real questions at the heart of independence, at a time when the result seemed far too close to call. The chance to hold another debate following the referendum, and again in conjunction with the History Society, also provided an incredibly valuable opportunity to examine the long-term consequences of the decision Scotland had made. The excellent attendance for both events was testament to the engagement of the student population on the issue.

With 2015 being an election year, the society reached out to former Cambridge MP Julian Huppert, who narrowly lost his seat in May,

to speak about his work for the constituency and also the position of his party, the Liberal Democrats, nationally. This was followed in May by a lively and engaging hustings between the parliamentary candidates for the Cambridge seat, in conjunction with the Cambridge European Society, which came just days before the election and helped many undecided Johnian voters make up their minds. Combining such events, which sit at the heart of current politics, with other no less important issues, such as our Michaelmas 2014 panel on freedom and bureaucracy, will remain the hallmark of the society's engaging series of political talks and events going into the next academic year. 

Daniel Outhwaite, Treasurer

PARSONS SOCIETY

The Parsons Society's year began in October with the introduction of sixteen new engineers at the traditional first-year dinner. This is a well-established event in which old and new members convene for a meal at a local Italian restaurant. The first-years were warmly welcomed and given the chance to get to know our members, whilst finding out more about the society and the opportunities it offers.

This year the society's focus has been on reaching out to alumni and asking them to speak at our events. This is an extension of our usual talks by Fellows, and has broadened the horizons of our society. For instance, we were privileged to host Mathonwy Thomas (2008) from McLaren, who gave a fascinating talk about McLaren's latest projects in the automotive industry. Students were inspired by this to work harder in their exams, and were given an insight into the exciting places their degrees might lead them.

Midway through Lent term, the annual dinner was held in the sparkling candle-lit Senior Combination Room, and students were treated to a champagne reception beforehand. This was a memorable occasion, giving students the chance to meet other engineers and Fellows, strengthening the bonds of the Engineering community at St John's. The year culminated with

the joint Larmor-Parsons Societies' hog roast in the Scholar's Garden which was a joyous occasion to round off the exams.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members, Saskia Fullerton-Smith and Alix Regnier, for their invaluable support throughout the year, and Professor Ghahramani for his role as Senior Treasurer. We wish the new committee the very best. 🍷

Fritz Kirchner, President



PUNT SOCIETY

The Punt Society enjoyed another strong year, with some novel challenges courtesy of the Cripps refurbishment. The problems introduced by the moving of the stores away from the river were solved with some imaginative collaboration between the site crew and the society members, as seen in this photo. The season's punts were mostly served from a temporary scaffolding pier, a fine replacement.

With a membership of around thirty and a fleet of ten punts, we continue to be one of the larger fleets on the river. The society hosted another Gilbert and Sullivan show during May Week. This time *The Gondoliers* was performed, made all the more exciting by the partial sinking of the stage – a problem which was quickly rectified in time for the second performance. No punts were harmed.

New focus has been put on the social side of the society, with the new role of Social Secretary being added to the committee line-up. As a result we've had some great punting expeditions and plenty of food for the crew.

Many thanks must be given to our departed Domestic Bursar, John Harris, for his sterling work over the years. In honour of his contribution to the society and his naval heritage, our newest punt has been named after one of his commands: the *Argyll*. The new Domestic Bursar, Mark Wells, has already been a great help to the society and will continue the office's invaluable role as Senior Treasurer.



Moving the punts during the Cripps refurbishment.

Thanks also go to the departed and new committee for their fantastic and hard work in keeping the society (literally) afloat and thriving. 🍷

Giles Barton-Owen, President


PURCHAS SOCIETY

Our annual 'Paddlings' event in October 2014 introduced the Geography and Land Economy freshers to St John's over dessert in the Wordsworth Room, where we shared adventurous stories from the summer. Having whetted our appetites for adventure, later in the term Dr Lizzie Richardson (2006) offered useful practical tips on research in the field. We heard about Dr Richardson's experiences of Geography at Cambridge as an undergraduate Purchasian and her work since graduating. Her stories and advice left us with lots to think about in relation to our own dissertation research.

The Lent term programme began with Dr Michael Bravo speaking on 'The Digital Pan-Inuit Atlas'. Not only does his atlas challenge many dominant narratives of an 'empty and vast' Arctic, but Dr Bravo also challenged us to rethink orientation in our own everyday lives. A highlight of the year was our annual dinner, held in the beautiful Senior Combination Room. In particular, we toasted and thanked Dr Bayliss-Smith, who retired after forty-two years of dedicated Geography teaching within the University. We wish him all the best for his retirement, and hope to welcome him back for future Purchas Society events.

Our recently established annual garden party was hotly anticipated after exams. We had a delicious brunch, and Dr Piers Vitebsky and Spike Reid were our distinguished guests, speaking informally on ethnographic and climate change research, respectively. We hope that Purchas Society

alumni might be able to join us at this event in future years.

We eagerly welcome the new committee for 2015/16 led by Helena Jones as President, who has done a sterling job as my deputy this year. Many thanks also go to Mary Nower, who has been invaluable in reordering our accounts, and Dr Glasscock for his continued support of the society. I have every confidence that the new committee will continue to lead the society from strength to strength, and look forward to seeing their progress. 

Rosie Baker, President



ST JOHN'S PICTUREHOUSE

This year has marked a very exciting development for the Picturehouse – we've gone digital! Upgrading our projection equipment means that in addition to continuing to show films on our classic 35mm projector, we will also be able to return to showing the latest releases. The upgrade proved to be quite challenging during Easter term, but we felt it to be necessary, as most new films are no longer released on 35mm.



Our new digital equipment!

Despite these difficulties, we have continued to show films throughout the year, albeit on a less regular basis than we'd like, mixing new and classic films with popular showings including *Casablanca* and *Interstellar*. The excellent technical knowledge of our projectionists has meant that any problems have been dealt with quickly and professionally, and their hard work is invaluable to the society.

We're hoping the upgrade will also allow us to bring back many popular features of the society, as well as introducing lots of new ones. Collaborations with other societies have unfortunately not been possible this year, but with the new equipment we hope to be able to restart these, as they make for some of our most interesting showings.

This year, which has at points been a challenging one for the Picturehouse, has been made possible by the hard work of the whole committee – Chris McNicol, Jess Gorman, Robin Younghusband, Martin Szoke, Hauke Neitzel and Andrew Scull – whose efforts have enabled us to keep putting on showings.

Finally, I would like to thank the College for their continued support, especially in the upgrading of equipment, and wish the new committee and members of the society all the best for the coming year. I look forward to seeing what is in store in this exciting new chapter for the society. 🍷

Hannah Kirk-Evans, Chairwoman

WILKES SOCIETY

The Wilkes Society for Computer Science has enjoyed another busy year. It began with our traditional welcome evening for freshers in October. This saw us introduce eight students coming into Part IA with advice and opinions on courses and options in abundance.


This year the society embarked once again on its extensive schedule of events. In Michaelmas term we hosted several talks on internships undertaken by current students at organisations ranging from research institutes to world-leading technology firms. We also heard from postgraduates about their path into research.

Lent term saw the direction of talks turn more directly to tripos-related topics. Demonstrations, both successful and less successful, were presented on a number of exciting projects. The society concluded the term and year with its much anticipated annual dinner, which was well received by all members, and the garden party.

It has been my pleasure to work for the society alongside a dedicated student committee of Alistair Fisher (Secretary) and Sanil Roy (Junior Treasurer), and I thank them for their efforts.

I would also like to wish the new committee of Alistair Fisher (President), Ying Liu (Secretary) and Amardeep Chawla (Junior

Treasurer) the best of luck for the coming year. I must further extend my gratitude to Dr Martin Richards, our Senior Treasurer, and Dr Robert Mullins, our Director of Studies, for their continued support of the society's work.

I very much look forward to seeing the society continue to thrive next year. 

Michael Hsu, Treasurer

WINFIELD SOCIETY

The society has, once again, had an exceptionally busy and successful year, with a focus on providing a combination of academic, career and social events for our members.


We began the year with a dinner in Hall for students and Fellows, to welcome the new first-years and get to know one another. We are also exceptionally fortunate this year to welcome a new Fellow, Dr Albertina Albors-Llorens, to the College.

Michaelmas term was a whirlwind of careers events with presentations on a number of different topics and mock interviews, often given by generous Johnnians who are now in practice. We also co-hosted a number of law discussion groups, in conjunction with Fellow Dr Philip Murray, welcoming speakers to talk to the society on a variety of interesting subjects. It wasn't all hard work, however, and we managed to squeeze in a theatre trip to watch the very impressive *1984* in Cambridge.

The highlight of Lent term and our year overall was the annual dinner, attended by a great number of students and alumni. This year we had the pleasure of The Hon. Judge Nicholas Forwood (1966) from the European General Court as our guest speaker. Throughout Lent term we also ran our annual mooting competition for first years, which was a great success. Congratulations go to James McKean who won the first prize. A number of our



members also attended a Johnnian networking event in London over the Easter vacation.

Easter term was quieter, as usual, but in conjunction with the History and Palmerston Societies we co-hosted a post-Scottish referendum debate with Sir Richard Aikens (1967) and Lord Hennessy (1966). This proved to be a very interesting forum for discussion on the constitutional implications following the result. We concluded with our annual garden party, to celebrate another excellent year. 

Ross Macgregor, President

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

This academic year has been spectacular for the Women's Society. We have transformed ourselves from a relatively small discussion group into a much bigger society that attracts a diverse following from across the University. We've held symposiums on a number of feminist topics, ranging from the introductory to the more theoretical: questioning what the term 'feminist' even means; investigating 'lad culture' and drinking societies within Cambridge; the second wave maxim 'the personal is political' and its implications on sexual practice; the construct of virginity; and even the possibility of a world without gender. Our format usually involves kicking off with a few short presentations and then opening up to general discussion.



I am very grateful to everyone who has contributed this year, both our speakers and those involved in the debate. We were also very lucky to have Jane McNeill QC visit us in January to give a talk and question and answer session on sexual discrimination law and how true gender equality can be achieved in the workplace.

I want to say a huge thank you to the committee: Ellie Hornsby (Vice-President), Ruth O'Connell Brown (Events Officer), Fay Davies (Publicity

Officer) and especially to Cara Atkinson (Secretary) who is leaving us this year while hoping to carry on the flaming feminist torch with a Gender Studies MA. I'm really proud of what we have achieved, in creating a name for the Women's Society as a respected, but simultaneously inclusive and fun, feminist society. Our events have had a real impact on our members and, I think, on the atmosphere of St John's as a whole. 

Albinia Stanley

ATHLETICS

The 2014/15 season could quite possibly be classified as the St John's College Athletics Club's best season yet. The men's team rose to the challenge during the two-day Cuppers competition, avenging last year's narrow defeat at the hands of Emmanuel by edging them out in the final tally by eight points, despite a questionable penalty levied on the 4x100 team. This victory returned the 1909 Rouse Ball Bowl to St John's for the first time in over thirty years, and for only the fifth time in the competition's history.



Ed (left) and Lorenzo with the Rouse Ball Bowl

The size and quality of the team is undoubtedly responsible for this success. Sportsmen from all backgrounds, including rugby, football, hockey and swimming, helped us to enter two athletes in every single event – all with a level of consistency that could not be matched by any other college. Ed and I are immensely proud of this huge accomplishment.

The team also had a strong showing in the spring competitions, with Chidera Ota, Laura Andrews, Lucy Sharples, Daisy Irving-

Hyman, Ed Hezlet, Peter Cameron, Tom Walters and I all competing in the 141st Varsity Match against Oxford.

With new team singlets and spikes provided as part of the College's recent push towards sports helping both team spirit and performance, Ed and I have no doubt that the team will be able to build on its success in the coming year. 🏆

Lorenzo Aversa (and Ed Hezlet)

THE EAGLES

This has been a ridiculously good year for Johnian sport: at college level we have won football, rugby and athletics Cuppers, and the Eagles have been a dominant force in the university sporting scene.

Rugby: Eagles Cherezov, Pascoe, Kelly and Baker all started in this year's Varsity Match, winning their Blues. Eagles Bilclough and Jones played in the LX's Varsity Match (second teams), beating Oxford. All six players were instrumental in the Red Boys' Cuppers victory, along with Eagle Cliffe, who has barely missed a game at fly-half in four years.

Football: Eagles Forde, Hilton and Gaskell all earned their Blues at the Varsity Match, with Eagles Brown, Filippa and Letrilliart representing the Falcons (University second team). Eagle Drysdale captained the College team to a fine Cuppers victory.

Athletics: Eagle Hezlet pulled together a motley crew of Johnnians to win athletics Cuppers. Eagle Hilton proved his pace over Hezlet in the 400m and Eagles Kilbourn, Baker, Parsloe and Sharpe helped drive the team to victory. Eagles Sharpe and Hezlet competed for the University second team, beating Oxford, and Eagle Hezlet captained the Blues team to victory.

Cricket: Eagle Hearne looks well set for yet another cricket Blue, with Eagles Hallas and Martin also very much in contention.



Hockey: Blue for Eagle Kilbourn.

Boxing: Nearly half the University boxing team were Johnnians. Eagles Hezlet, Würger, Birk and Williams drove the University team to its first victory in five years. Eagle Birk will captain the Blues next year.

Basketball: Eagle Skorić captained the Blues team to a Varsity victory.

This phenomenal success is a fitting tribute to Dr Dick McConnel, who has been the driving force behind the Eagles for so many years. We will greatly miss all his help and support – a heartfelt thank you from us all. 🍷

Ed Hezlet, Captain

MEN'S FOOTBALL – FIRST TEAM

On the back of promotion to the top flight and with many Johnians involved with the University squad, expectations for the 2014/15 season were understandably high. Michaelmas term began with a convincing 2-0 win over Caius, last season's league runners-up, swiftly followed by away victories against Fitzwilliam and St Catharine's. The 'John's Juggernaut', as it became known, was quickly building momentum.



Photo: JET photographic

A home fixture against Downing saw two as yet unbeaten sides clash before a raucous crowd, but despite our best efforts the eleven-man Downing defence held firm. The opposition's wild celebrations after having secured a point from a goalless draw said it all, but John's had bigger fish to fry.

Cuppers threw us in at the deep end, with another away match against Fitzwilliam. An enthralling, incident-packed game ensued. The ninety minutes saw John's concede early on, equalise, take the lead, lose it, make it 3-2 and then concede an outrageous goal scored directly from a corner in the final minute of injury time. In between came penalties conceded and saved, goal-line clearances, various bookings, and trips for both teams to A&E. The penalty shoot-out saw John's convert every spot-kick with aplomb, and with a fine Alex Ballard save we proceeded to the quarter-finals.

St John's then defeated Girton 8-0. A hat-trick from right-back Ollie Horan (this season's players' player of the year) helped a rampant John's secure a semi-final at Churchill – a game we proceeded to win by the narrowest of margins, with a Dan Forde penalty making the difference.

The final was played under the lights at Grange Road. The two most recently promoted Premier League sides, St John's and Pembroke, exchanged early blows, with Charlie Selway's bundled equaliser making it



1-1 at full time. In extra time the superior fitness of the St John's players shone through. The early morning training sessions and all that relentless Johnian effort, both on and off the pitch, this year and in seasons gone by, proved worthwhile with a timely brace from Alex Gaskell emphatically bringing a ten-year wait for silverware to an end.

Captaining the team has been a genuine privilege, and I extend thanks to my fellow committee members for their help with running the club. Deserved congratulations go to Alex Gaskell and Nicholas Hilton for earning their Blues, and to Daniel Forde for claiming a remarkable fourth. Thanks also go to Head Groundsman Keith Ellis and his colleagues for providing us with superb training and match facilities every week. I wish Captain-elect Martin Letrilliart the best of luck for what I'm sure will be another successful season. 🏆

Duncan Drysdale, Captain

MEN'S FOOTBALL – SECOND TEAM

The Second Team finished this year in their highest league position in living memory. If last year was all about success, victory and promotion, this year was about remoulding, grafting and cementing our place in our new division. We faced a tough year, and our goal was simple: not to repeat the immediate relegation that followed the team's last promotion.



The season started promisingly with a comprehensive win in a friendly against Magdalene II, followed by a 3-0 win in our first league game versus Homerton II. Our form took a turn for the worse, however, with subsequent losses against Jesus III, Corpus Christi and Emma II. Any dreams of a cup run were crushed with a defeat in the first round to Christ's II.

With Lent term came a turnaround in form, with a friendly win against Jesus III – a game in which we trialled a 3-5-2 formation, suggested by self-appointed chief tactician

and lifetime achievement award-winner Ashwin Ahuja. A 7-1 league win over Cambridge University Cypriot Society followed, with tough losses against Sidney Sussex I and Churchill II ending the season. Our season record ended up at P7, W2, D0, L5, placing the team sixth.

Congratulations to top-scorer Harry Cheatle, who was voted player of the season, and who, along with Isaac Haq, will captain the team next year. We say goodbye to injury-prone Declan Tuffy, who has been solid in goal over the past four years, often battling on with broken limbs; fullback-cum-winger Ashwin Ahuja; and marshalling central midfielders Greg Burke and Chris Watkins. Finally, we bid farewell to our timeless number ten, Dan Lu, who, with over a hundred caps, has given more to the team over the years he's been here than anyone else. 🏆

Dan Brookes and Casey Swerner, Captains

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL


After struggling for players in the previous season, the St John's Women's Football Team merged with Newnham College for the 2014/15 season. This merger gave us a much-needed boost in squad numbers and team morale, although it meant dropping down a league to Division Two. We had a mixed season, the highlight of which was our 7-0 Cuppers win against Division One side Pembroke. Unfortunately, we fell in the quarter-finals against eventual finalists Emmanuel, in a game that was delayed for almost half an hour as Boris the Labrador invaded the pitch.



In the league, we came fifth out of six teams, beating Magdalene-Sidney Sussex through superior goal difference to avoid relegation, by a margin of minus three compared to their minus seventeen. This narrow goal difference demonstrates how close all the games we played were, and how fortunate we were to have such a strong defence and goalie this season.

I would like to thank Head Groundsman Keith Ellis for all his help throughout the

year and especially during my time as Captain. I would also like to thank the College for giving us funding for our own set of footballs and equipment.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who played or supported the team in some way this year. I have really enjoyed my time leading and developing the team, and I'm sure that whoever succeeds me will do a great job. 

Zoe Bond, Captain

HOCKEY

The Hockey Club has had another positive year. This season's notable highlights included our storming Cuppers runs to the semi-final of the men's tournament and the final of the mixed tournament. Of course, it is a shame that we did not quite finish the job, but with the taste of success so close, I am positive that we can go one better in 2015/16. The excellent performances of Giles Kilbourn (who once again represented the Blues in their victorious Varsity Match this year) as well as Adam van Schaik, Matthew Rogers and University player Jim Dickinson, were vital in bringing out the best in our team as we went so close to glory.



The mixed hockey team at Cuppers final.

The Cuppers runs were made all the more impressive, albeit surprising, by our indifferent league form – the loss of several key players from last year clearly weighed heavily on our league results. However, encouraging performances towards the end indicated that next season should be more rewarding.

As a quick review of the year, Michaelmas term started with the annual training session, which was as fiercely competitive as ever. Due to the traditional administrative

deficiencies of our Curry Captain, Bobby Longman, the new members of the team were already firmly established by the time of our belated welcome dinner, and it remains to be seen whether his replacement Kevan Bhate will be any more organised. The annual Old Nogs fixture in late October was as competitive as ever, and ended in an unprecedented 3-3 draw – a result which reflected the performance of both teams.

I would like to thank all the players for their efforts this season, and also our Head Groundsman Keith Ellis, who is always there to fight our corner when needed. I would like to welcome incoming Captain Adam van Schaik and Vice-Captain Bobby Longman onto the committee for next year, when our successes will hopefully multiply. 🍷

Harry Martin, Captain

LADY MARGARET BOAT CLUB – MEN

This year the men's side has continued to prove that it has the greatest strength and depth of any college on the Cam. In the Mays, our first boat retained its competitive third station on the river in its new shell, the *Roger Silk*. Meanwhile, the second and third boats remain the highest in their categories. These results are produced by a squad which boasts more boats on the river than any other college this year, with five LMBC men's crews getting on for the Bumps for a second year running. The summer was matched by strong performances throughout the year.



Roger Silk at the ceremony for the new shell named after him.

The presence of flashing scarlet on the Cam has been matched by strong national performances. Lady Margaret rowers have competed at Bedford, Kingston, Marlow, Henley and Reading. The particular highlight was a victory at Kingston with an LMBC four being the fastest over the course that day. Like many before me, I can finish my tenure as Captain with the knowledge that the LMBC is poised to go head, and continue to hold its own in the rest of the country.

As ever, the year's campaigns have incurred many debts. I must thank the LMBCA

and alumni who make so much of our programme possible, and inspire us with the history of this, the proudest of clubs. The College too is indispensable to our success, in particular the Master, the Domestic Bursar and the Dean.

Once again, I must thank above all others Roger Silk, whose time and patience ensure the continuity of our programme and the quality of our coaching. The usual suspects of Lance Badman, George Irwin and John 'Fitz' Durack are all worthy of our gratitude, as are some newer faces, in Paul Wright and Ian Middleton. Finally, I wish the new Captain Hatem Sadik all the very best. I know he will be a fine steward of the LMBC and I look forward to seeing the rise of the LMBC as I leave – in the words of our late patron Richard Perham, 'onwards and upwards'.

Viva Laeta, Margareta!

Jack Emmins, Men's Captain



The University Fours Second IV 'B' leaving everything on the course.

MICHAELMAS TERM

The University Fours

The Light IV

Str. Wilfried Genest

3. Hatem Sadik

2. Jack Hutchinson

Bow. Ben Langslow (Steerer)

The First Coxed IV

Cox. Rosa Jenks (Newnham)

Str. Jack Emmins

3. Erlend Fleisje

2. Florian Schnurr

Bow. Tom Cowie

The Second Coxed IV 'A'

Cox. Alicia Recuerda

(Newnham)

Str. Paul Glade

3. David Jones

2. Max Paulus

Bow. Wenda Zhou

The Second Coxed IV 'B'

Cox. Aneesh Aggarwal/

Amy Spruce

Str. Ashwin Ahuja

3. Clemens Loschnauer

2. Davide Martino

Bow. Tom Carbonero

The Fairbairn Cup

The First Senior

Fairbairn VIII

Cox. Rosa Jenks (Newnham)

Str. Jack Hutchinson

7. Ben Langslow

6. Wilfried Genest

5. Erlend Fleisje

4. Florian Schnurr

3. Tom Cowie

2. Jack Emmins

Bow. Clemens Loschnauer

Coaches: Roger Silk,

Jon Rhodes



***The Second Senior
Fairbairn VIII***

Cox. Aneesh Aggarwal
Str. Ashwin Ahuja
7. David Jones
6. Max Paulus
5. Wenda Zhou
4. Patrick Flagmeier
3. Brett Wilson
2. Davide Martino
Bow. Tom Carbonero
Coaches: George Irwin,
Tony Pryor

***The First Novice
Fairbairn VIII***

Cox. Sneha Naik
Str. Henry Stevens
7. David Williams
6. Martin Sonntag
5. Vincent Ruland
4. Max Jenkins
3. Harry Cross
2. Paul Myatt
Bow. Peter Damerell
Coaches: Hatem Sadik

***The Second Novice
Fairbairn VIII***

Cox. Carrie Soderman
Str. Mike Yousef
7. James Alvey
6. Shuaib Chowdhary
5. Tom Walters
4. Ray Dong
3. Ben Atlas
2. Sam Gould
Bow. Gábor Tajnafoi
Coaches: David Jones,
Brett Wilson,
Davide Martino

The Fairbairn Cup *cont.****The Third Novice
Fairbairn VIII***

Cox. Natasha Chaudhury
 Str. Clifton Yeo
 7. Andrew Tan
 6. Laszlo Seress
 5. Pascal Grobecker
 4. Charlie Song
 3. Alex Ayuso Garcia
 2. Aryan Sabir
 Bow. Sonny Gupta
 Coaches: Clemens
 Loschnauer,
 Jack Hutchinson

***The Fourth Novice
Fairbairn VIII***

Cox. Katie Staunton
 Str. Konradin Muskens
 7. Varun Nadkarni
 6. Josh McQuail
 5. Rajesh Kumar Bhagat
 4. Isaac Haq
 3. Alistair Fisher
 2. Alejandro Gonzalez
 Gomez
 Bow. Tim Rajaratnam
 Coaches: Brett Wilson,
 Davide Martino

LENT TERM***The First Lents VIII***

Cox. Carrie Soderman
 Str. Jack Hutchinson
 7. Ben Langslow
 6. Daniel Lauber
 5. Erlend Fleisje
 4. Wilfried Genest
 3. Hatem Sadik
 2. Florian Schnurr
 Bow. Clemens Loschnauer
 Coaches: Roger Silk,
 Paul Wright, Jon Rhodes,
 Rob Milner

Bumps: -3

The Second Lents VIII

Cox. Sneha Naik
 Str. Jack Emmins
 7. Tom Cowie
 6. David Jones
 5. Nate Davis
 4. Davide Martino
 3. Brett Wilson
 2. Max Paulus
 Bow. Wenda Zhou
 Coaches: George Irwin,
 Lance Badman

Bumps: +3. Won:
 Newnham Shortcourse,
 Pembroke Regatta

The Third Lents VIII

Cox. Samantha Royle
 Str. Henry Stevens
 7. Vincent Ruland
 6. Patrick Flagmeier
 5. Harry Cross
 4. Pascal Grobecker
 3. James Alvey
 2. Paul Myatt
 Bow. Tom Walters
 Coaches: John 'Fitz' Durack
 Bumps: +4 (won blades)

The Fourth Lents VIII

Cox. Jack Emmins
 Str. Peter Damerell
 7. Martin Sonntag
 6. Laszlo Seress
 5. Gábor Tajnafoi
 4. Shuaib Chowdhary
 3. Ben Atlas
 2. Josh McQuail
 Bow. Sonny Gupta
 Coaches: Jack Emmins,
 Hatem Sadik
 Bumps: Did not 'get on'
 (reduced divisions)



Photo: Vincent Ruland

Novice Fairbairn Cup Winners 2014 'The Glorious NM1'.

Kingston Head of the River: 21 March 2015

IM3 4+

Cox. Carrie Soderman
 Str. Jack Hutchinson
 3. Ben Langslow
 2. Wilfried Genest
 Bow. Erlend Fleisje
 Coaches: Roger Silk,
 Paul Wright

Won: Category (fastest 4+
 over the Course)

Nov. 8+

Competed in by the
 Second Lents VIII

MAY TERM

The First Mays VIII

Cox. Carrie Soderman
 Str. Chris Snowden
 (Goldie 2013, 2015)
 7. Charlie Fisher
 6. Wilfried Genest
 5. Carlos Schuster
 4. Jack Hutchinson
 3. Erlend Fleisje
 2. Ben Langslow
 Bow. Moritz Matthey
 (CULRC 2015)
 Coaches: Roger Silk,
 Paul Wright,
 Ian Middleton,
 Rob Milner

Injured: Daniel Lauber

Bumps: third on the river
 (bumped Downing M1,
 bumped by Pembroke M1)

The Second Mays VIII

Cox. Sneha Naik
 Str. Jack Emmins
 7. Clemens Loschnauer
 6. Paul Myatt
 5. Hatem Sadik
 4. Haofeng Xu
 3. Tom Cowie
 2. David Jones
 Bow. Wenda Zhou
 Coaches: George Irwin,
 Lance Badman,
 Bill Budenberg,
 Jon Rhodes,
 Will Gray

Bumps: Head of the M2
 River, no change

The Third Mays VIII

Cox. Samantha Royle
 Str. Pascal Grobecker
 7. Brett Wilson
 6. Patrick Flagmeier
 5. Nate Davis
 4. Ashwin Ahuja
 3. Christian Lund
 2. Paul Glade
 Bow. Tom Walters
 Coaches: George Irwin,
 Tony Pryor

Other members:

Vincent Ruland, Francis Lake

Bumps: Head of the M3
 River, +3

The Fourth Mays VIII

Cox. Tim Rajaratnam
 Str. Peter Damerell
 7. James Alvey
 6. Martin Sonntag
 5. Biko Agozino
 4. Konradin Muskens
 3. Harry Cross
 2. Josh McQuail
 Bow. Ben Atlas
 Coaches: John 'Fitz' Durack,
 Hatem Sadik,
 Jack Emmins

Other members:

Florian Schnurr, Max Paulus,
 Henry Stevens, Tom Walters,
 Tom Carbonero, Will Marks,
 Steven Tilbury

Bumps: -3

The Fifth Mays VIII – 'RBBC'

Cox. Lydia Hudson
 Str. Reece Harrison
 7. Ed Hezlet
 6. Jack Baker
 5. Giles Kilbourn
 4. Takis Würger
 3. Wesley Guinchard-Cox
 2. Ashkon Seyed-Safi
 Bow. Jack Morris
 Coaches: Wilfried Genest

Bumps: -1



'Superior Bumpage' – the third boat winning their blades in the Lents.

*The Sixth Mays VIII –
'The Fellows'*

Cox. Sarah Dore

Str. James Rogers

7. Sipke Shaughnessy

6. Tim Bayliss-Smith

5. Mick Elliot

4. Renaud Lejosne

3. Simon Martin

2. Matteo Mannino

Bow. Alex Wilshaw

Coaches: Jack Hutchinson

Other members: Will Marks

Bumps: Did not 'get on'

*The Seventh Mays VIII –
'The Original Fifth VIII'*

Cox. Jack Emmins

Str. Tom Carbonero

7. Steven Tilbury

6. Laszlo Seress

5. Gábor Tajnafoi

4. Will Marks

3. Andrew Tan

2. Shuaib Chowdhary

Bow. Sonny Gupta

Coaches: Jack Emmins

Bumps: Did not compete



Photo: Peter Damerall

SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Racing at Marlow (Eton Dorney), Henley Royal Regatta Qualifiers, Reading Town Regatta

The Prince Albert Challenge Cup 4+

Cox. Carrie Soderman
Str. Jack Hutchinson
3. Erlend Fleisje
2. Ben Langslow
Bow. Moritz Matthey
Coaches: Roger Silk

The Temple Challenge Cup 8+

Cox. Sneha Naik
Str. Jack Emmins
7. Haofeng Xu
6. Paul Myatt
5. Hatem Sadik
4. David Jones
3. Tom Cowie
2. Wenda Zhou
Bow. Clemens Loschnauer
Coaches: Lance Badman,
Will Gray, George Irwin

THE COMMITTEE 2014/15

Men's Captain: Jack Emmins
Men's Vice-Captain: Ben Langslow
Men's Lower Boats' Captain: David Jones
Men's Lower Boats' Vice-Captain:
Hatem Sadik


Women's Captain: Alice Farrell
Women's Vice-Captain: Meike Wiese
Women's Lower Boats' Captain: Sarah Dore
Women's Lower Boats' Vice-Captain:
Nate Davis

Chief Cox: Abbi Brown

Honorary Secretary: Wilfried Genest
Web & Publicity Officer: Alice Spencer
Sponsorship: Max Paulus
Social Secretary: Jack Hutchinson
Technology & Coaching Resources:
Wenda Zhou

Junior Treasurer: Francis Lake
Senior Treasurer: Professor Tim Bayliss-Smith

Boatman: Lance Badman
President: The Master, Professor Christopher
Dobson

Vice-President: Professor Steve Gull
Director of Rowing: Roger Silk 

LADY MARGARET BOAT CLUB – WOMEN

The Lady Margaret women had a great year this year.


We began with a small but loyal foundation of senior rowers due to a number of last year's W1 crew either having graduated or being on their year abroad. Fortunately, Michaelmas term is fairly well suited to small boats rowing. W1 rowed strongly in Uni IVs, losing only to the tournament's winners. Our novice recruitment programme was one of our most successful to date, with five full boats of women signed up for novice term.

In January we took eighteen of our best senior and novice rowers and coxes to training camp in Eton Dorney, our first off-Cam camp in three years. Our novice recruitment and training programme paid off as we fielded three women's VIII boats for the Lent Bumps campaign. Beyond the on-Cam racing schedule, which included Robinson Head, W1 competed in two off-Cam races this term, Bedford and Kingston Head, and won their category in both. These fantastic results were in large part thanks to our loyal coach, Roger Silk, and supplied an excellent motivation for our Easter training camp and the oncoming Mays campaign.

For our Easter training camp we stayed on the Cam, coached by Dan Janes and

putting in two training sessions a day. This was a great foundation on which to build our Mays campaign. As part of our preparation, W1 raced in the Head of the Cam, the Champs Eights and the Nines Regatta, each time building on our performance in the previous race. By the time we reached June we had really come together as a crew and were looking forward to a successful May Bumps, competing with the top eight crews in the river.

For the first time in several years we managed to put together a Fellows and staff boat, who had a great time learning to row and bonding with student rowers and coaches. Unfortunately, they did not get on. W2 also competed in Champs Eights, and were looking forward to a strong Mays campaign.

I have really enjoyed my captaincy this year and am enormously grateful to all our coaches and to our endlessly supportive boatman, Lance Badman. Most of all, I am incredibly proud of this year's women's side, all of whom have worked hard to uphold the LMBC's reputation as one of the strongest boat clubs on the river. 

Alice Farell,
Women's Captain

MIXED NETBALL

The mixed netball team went from strength to strength this year, finishing top of the league and being promoted to the first division for next season. A combination of old and new players can claim credit for this. In some weeks, interest was so high that play was limited to just a quarter of a game per person in order to ensure everyone got a fair amount of playing time!



This surge was formed of fresh-faced first-years and previously undiscovered talent amongst the second-years. Dommy Goddard and Holly Hampton became invaluable mid-court players, as did Sam Watts, who won the prize for most enthusiastic player. Sam also supplied the whole team with iced doughnuts at Cuppers, for which we are forever grateful. Martin Letriliart and James Gilchrist juggled the wings between them, and Milo Gordon-Brown showed off his hand at shooting on several occasions. Fay Davies provided ferocity across the court, and Tabitha Hutchison joined the new recruits in attack to our great advantage. Finally, the team was rejuvenated in height and flair with the late addition of Takis Würger.

The loyalty of our returning players was particularly noteworthy. Helen West providing some much-needed height in defence; Kweku Abraham shot endlessly and with apparent ease; and Dan Lu, Chris Berrow and Matt Naughton tore up the centre-field and played across the court when necessary. Hannah Mills, despite co-captaining the two ladies teams, rarely failed to share her talents with us at weekends.


With our killer-looking new stash, we hit Cuppers and played a number of great matches – unfortunately falling just short of the requirements for qualification to the next stage. However, having firmly beaten last year's aim of winning two matches in a row – this year we won five – I think the team is ready for a new goal that will take us to the afternoon round of Mixed Cuppers. Under the new captaincy of Milo Gordon-Brown, I am confident that this is achievable. 🏆

Charlotte Britton,
Captain

RUGBY

The 2014/15 season was a vintage year for St John's College rugby. In Michaelmas term, the league was our predominant focus. It had been three years since the league trophy had last been at St John's, but some hard-fought victories brought it home. Particularly notable were those against Jesus, both home and away, and a crucial win at home against Selwyn in November. Losing key players to the University teams was one of the major difficulties for the Red Boys in Michaelmas term over the past few years, but the strength in depth of the squad this year meant that the team was able to respond to such a challenge. The squad's effort was phenomenal – Wesley Guinchard-Cox, Chris Brook, Tom Zhang and Tom Saunders were amongst the standout performers.



Cuppers started in February. With the return of four starting Blues (Jack Baker, Tom Pascoe, Hugo Kelly and Ilia Cherezov) bolstering what was already the league-winning side, expectations were high. The Red Boys opened their account for the campaign with a convincing 48-0 win away at Fitzwilliam. The next game, against Jesus away, presented a bigger obstacle, but the performance from St John's on the day blew their old rivals out of the water. The final score of 46-7 reflected St John's absolute supremacy. Number eight Hugo Kelly's hat-trick was noteworthy and a testament to the dominance of the Red Boys' pack. The final against Emmanuel at Grange Road was a more nervous affair. It was a close-fought game, but John's were always just on top, and the final whistle went with the score at 18-10 in their favour. St John's thus retained the Cuppers trophy and appropriately rounded off what has been a fantastic season. Congratulations to all those involved. 

George Bilclough, Captain

LADIES' SQUASH


The last year has been a huge success for the ladies' squash team. Coming second in the Michaelmas League only four points behind Magdalene got the year off to a great start. Due to this success and the number of novices who joined in 2014, John's entered a team in both divisions of the Lent League, coming in second and first respectively. Part of that achievement can be attributed to the increase in training sessions held per week.



Cuppers saw John's winning week after week, until finally facing Fitzwilliam. After three hard-fought matches, John's were beaten 2-1.

It has been an unbelievable joy to have been captain of such an enthusiastic team, both on and off the court. I am happy to announce Abbey Dalgleish and Charlotte Britton are taking over captaincy in the upcoming year. Abbey has been very committed since Michaelmas, coming to training regularly,

practising by herself and improving her game exponentially. Charlotte remains unbeaten as first seed of the second division. Together, I have no doubt that they will continue to improve on the success and spirit of the team.

The squad, the wall and the ball will continue to be a very strong trio. 

Caroline Ernst, Captain

MIXED VOLLEYBALL

This has been a very successful year for our new volleyball team. We reached the second division by Lent term, after starting in the lowest (fourth) division at the beginning of the year. Our most notable wins came against Girton, Trinity Hall and Corpus Christi.



Back row, left to right: Edmond Cheng, Robin Younghusband, Hauke Neitzel, Tomas Kesek, Eshan Singhal.
Front row: Hannah Brown, Vicky Butt, Anna Klucnika.

Despite looming exams, many of us also made it to Summer Cuppers games where we were very successful, winning about half our games in a strong pool of teams. This promising start could not have been achieved without our regulars: Eshan Singhal, Anna Klucnika, James Devine-Stoneman, Tomas Kesek, Hauke Neitzel, Hannah Brown and Robin Younghusband.

We would like to thank the College, and in particular the Domestic Bursar, Mark Wells, for supporting the new team. 🏐

**Edmond Cheng and Vicky Butt,
Captain and ex-Captain**



ALUMNI DONORS AND CURRENT STUDENTS MET FOR AFTERNOON TEA
AT THE MASTER'S LODGE IN NOVEMBER 2014.



Photo: Ben Minnaar

DONORS

THE RISE OF LAND ECONOMY



Dr Eva Steiner took up the first permanent Fellowship in Land Economy at St John's in October 2014. Born and raised in Germany, Eva moved to the UK to read for a Master's degree in Real Estate at Peterhouse in 2007. After a brief spell at an investment management firm in London, she returned to Cambridge to complete her PhD at the Department of Land Economy. In 2014 she received the Aareal Award of Excellence in recognition of outstanding scientific research in real estate economics, and Land Economy at St John's is thriving under her leadership.

The creation of this Teaching Fellowship was made possible by a generous donation to the College in 2010 from Aubrey Adams (1967). Professor Andrew Baum was hired in 2011, and due to the success of the new position, Aubrey decided to endow the role in 2014 when Andrew moved on.

What made you apply for the role here at St John's?

Professor Baum was my secondary PhD supervisor and we published a paper in Cambridge together. When he made the decision to leave, it became clear that St John's would be looking to appoint a successor and I applied based on his recommendation. Some junior academics choose not to take a Fellowship, but I decided that it would be a great opportunity to make a difference at a college that doesn't have a long tradition in Land Economy. I think that's what ultimately made me apply for it.

What do you do on a daily basis?

I split my time between teaching, research, administration and other duties. I teach two courses for the department: a final-year, undergraduate-level paper in Finance for Land Economists and a Master's course in Econometrics. I supervise for another paper and do the supervisions for my own finance paper as well. There is also my research; I have a number of working papers in the area of empirical corporate finance, especially capital structure. I recently won a Cambridge Finance Fellowship, which is supported by the Cambridge Endowment for Research and Finance. Through that,

I have started a joint project examining the long-term performance of real estate by analysing the holdings of the main Cambridge colleges. I think it is going to be quite exciting and I'm going to spend a lot of time with Tracy Deakin, our Archivist here.

What is Land Economy all about?

Land Economy is unusual in that it is quite interdisciplinary. The main teachings are economics and law, but then of course there are other subjects that students can choose, including urban planning, environmental policy, and policy making. I would describe it as a degree in applied economics with law, the application being land and the built environment.

How many students gained a place last year?

We had nineteen applications and we interviewed all of them. Our applicant numbers are slightly up from previous years, which to a large extent is due to Andrew Baum's presence here – he's made a huge difference to Land Economy as a subject. A dedicated subject Fellow matters a lot in a college and we're hoping to continue this upward trend next year.

I only had two places to fill but there is a wish list system whereby if there are two more students that I want, I can put them on the wish list. Then if other subjects don't find suitable applicants to fill their quota, I can give places to more students. Luckily that

happened this year, so we have four new Land Economy students for 2015/16.

What careers do your students aspire to?

A lot of people go into investment banking, consulting, financial services, chartered surveying, policy-making institutions, the Treasury or academia. I think the course covers a broad range of subjects and opens up a lot of possibilities, often ones that you wouldn't necessarily think of when you start studying Land Economy.

How do land economists contribute to the wider world?

I think the most important contributions that we make in Land Economy are on two fronts. The first is quite important because the real estate industry and the built environment are major contributors to the environmental issues that we face, such as energy efficiency and our carbon footprint. The industry is aware of these issues and a lot of firms are at the forefront of developing policies to improve their environmental impact and invest responsibly, being cognisant of the broader implications of their investments. The environmental aspects of real estate are a major area where we can try to make positive changes to the world today.

Secondly, we carry out research that concerns policy, especially housing policy, such as the affordability of housing, poverty and relation to housing, and the provision of housing in socially disadvantaged and economically disadvantaged areas.

What difference does having a Director of Studies in Land Economy make to the College?

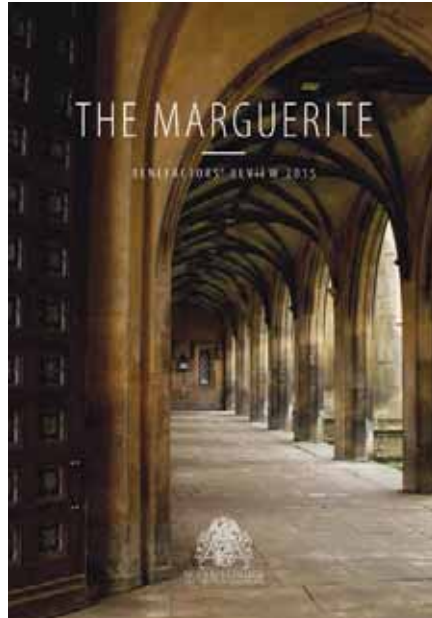
I think having a Director of Studies significantly improves the student experience, because students have a dedicated Fellow who is there to support them through their academic life at St John's. We can see evidence of that in the growing numbers of applicants since Professor Baum arrived. There is also evidence in the number of places that the College is allocating to the subject. So what you get when you have a dedicated Fellow is growth in the subject.


They can also act as a direct liaison for alumni, so there is a wider role here I think for the Director of Studies to help to grow the subject, raise awareness, and to involve alumni who are working in industry.

What is your vision for the future of the subject at St John's?

What makes attending university special is the community – all of the contacts, the experiences that you share with your peers, teamwork in projects, and the personal face-to-face time that you get with the leading academics in the field. The people you meet are what make the university experience special. Therefore, to develop the subject is to develop the community in that subject, which means finding not necessarily more students, but the right students. We want students who have the skills and the enthusiasm for the subject, with a genuine interest in real estate and the environment.

We must also develop relationships with alumni. Past generations of students are currently creating the legacy in their work today that our students will eventually take over when they enter the workforce.



This interview was conducted by Emma Talibudeen, Development Officer, for *The Marguerite*, our annual magazine exploring the impact of philanthropy at St John's. You can read the second part of the interview in the 2016 issue, which will be sent to donors early next year. 

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St John's College is grateful to the following donors for their support between July 2014 and June 2015. We would also like to thank the 88 donors not listed below who wish to remain anonymous.

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The Development Office has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list (as of July 2015). If you discover an error, please contact us at development@joh.cam.ac.uk. Please accept our sincerest apologies for any inaccuracies or omissions.

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2010

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1943

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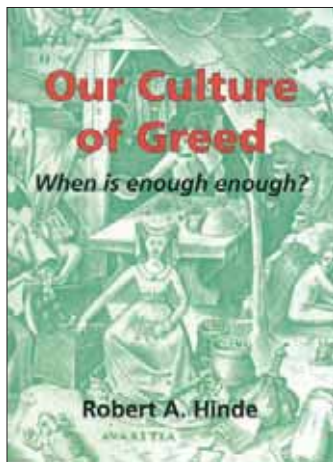
1944

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1945

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1960

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1961

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1962

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Lord Crisp (Honorary Fellow)
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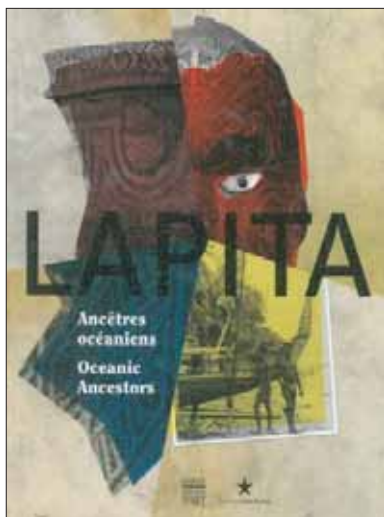
Jonathan Warner from the Library of
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1972

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Keith Hann

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The Revd Dr Malcolm Torry



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David Pollard

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1976

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Professor Stefan C. Reif (Fellow)

1977

Stuart Southall
Philip Squires

1978

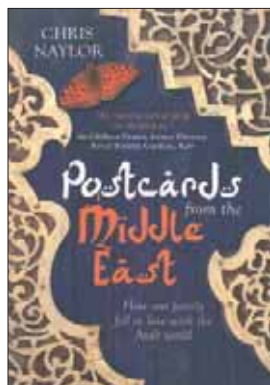
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Professor Joseph Zund

Ten years ago Joseph D. Zund, a retired professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at New Mexico State University, visited the Rare Books Room of the College Library one Saturday morning to work on the extensive papers held there relating to nineteenth-century Johnian scientists. The then Special Collections Librarian, Jonathan Harrison, welcomed him with customary courtesy, discussing his needs carefully and suggesting a number of sources not included on the original list submitted. Jonathan's helpful approach made a deep impression. Although Professor Zund had no prior connection with St John's, he subsequently made donations of around \$40,000 every year towards the work of the Library. At his death in July 2014 he left the College over £1 million for Library purposes. Professor Zund's remarkable generosity has paid for – among other things – cataloguing posts, lovely display cases, and the new book *The Treasures of St John's College Library*, for which he provided a foreword. All who work in the Library will long remain in his debt. 

EDDIE REDMAYNE AND FELICITY JONES IN
THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING, FILMED AT ST JOHN'S.





Photo: Courtesy of Universal Studios Licensing LLC

THE LAST WORD



David Walliams (left) and Professor Stephen Hawking were filming in New Court in early 2015 for Comic Relief.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Victoria Brown (2013) and Ben Atlas (2014) have been part of the editorial team for *The Eagle* 2015. Victoria is studying History, and Ben is studying Social and Political Sciences.

In January the College was thrust into the international spotlight as the set for the biopic of Stephen Hawking, *The Theory of Everything*. The film won a Screen Actors Guild Award, two Golden Globe awards, three BAFTAs and an Oscar, making it one of the most celebrated releases of the year.

Trinity alumnus Eddie Redmayne certainly did well out of the movie, winning an Oscar, a BAFTA and a Golden Globe for his lead performance, yet we can't help but feel that the magic of St John's added the special something that made the film so great. The picturesque setting of our College in the summer added a golden glow to accompany the heart-warming scenes of Stephen and Jane's courtship, and Titanium Fireworks, who created the firework display for the London 2012 Olympic Games opening ceremony, were on hand to create three identical displays for the filming of the spectacular 1963 May Ball scene. Johnian and CEO of film production company Special Treats Colin Burrows (1978) described the film as 'a love-letter to Cambridge', saying that the College 'complements the cast and filming wonderfully'.

In the midst of the excitement after this film's release in Lent term, comedians David Walliams and Catherine Tate visited

the College for two days to film a *Little Britain* sketch for Comic Relief in New Court. Featuring Stephen Hawking and some impressive CGI, the final product became the most watched Comic Relief 2015 sketch on BBC iPlayer and can still, at the time of writing, be found on YouTube.

Although this year has been an exciting one for St John's, it is only the latest in five decades of service to the film and television industry. So many productions have chosen to use our College to represent Cambridge, the University and Britain that it is impossible to go through them all. Instead, we will look back on a number of particularly successful examples filmed at or inspired by St John's.

In 1979 director Pennant Roberts and producer Graham Williams came to Cambridge to shoot the epic six-part conclusion to the seventeenth series of *Doctor Who*, the longest-running science fiction programme of all time. The episode features the fourth Doctor, Tom Baker, and his companion Romana, whose first scene depicts them punting along the Cam discussing notable alumni of the University – including our very own William Wordsworth – after the Doctor



Catherine Tate, David Walliams and Professor Stephen Hawking all appeared in a Comic Relief 2015 sketch filmed in New Court.

misses out on his promise to take Romana to May Week. St John's provided the inspiration for St Cedd's College, the fictional college from which the Doctor accepted an honorary doctoral degree in 1960. That's right. The Doctor is a Cambridge man! Although these episodes were due to be aired in January 1980, they were not seen until 1992, when the BBC released the unaired finale on VHS – allowing the world to finally see the simple and elegant beauty of Cambridge and St John's, contrasted with the drama of the episodes.

In 2008 the College was on the BBC once again for the drama *Einstein and Eddington*,

featuring Andy Serkis as Albert Einstein and former *Doctor Who* star David Tennant as Arthur Eddington. For one scene, several tennis courts were set up on the Backs, replicating the real courts that were in use in the early 1900s.

Moving to the silver screen, St John's was notably used for the making of the 2007 film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, which was nominated for four BAFTAs and won an Academy Award for Best Costume Design. The film follows the tale of Elizabeth I (Cate Blanchett) blossoming into her role as Queen of England. One criticism it faced was a lack of historical accuracy, stretching dramatic licence to allow Sir Walter Raleigh

(Clive Owen) to become a leading player in the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and Dr John Dee (David Threlfall) to replace Sir William Cecil as one of Elizabeth's closest advisers. Similarly, cinematographer Remi Adefarasin OBE and director Shekhar Kapur supplemented filming in First Court, the sixteenth-century part of St John's that Elizabeth would have seen when she visited the College in 1564, with action set against the Bridge of Sighs, New Court and the Chapel. This was a conscious decision relating to other choices of location, including Westminster and Winchester Cathedrals. The neo-Gothic architecture of these parts of St John's emulates the medieval architecture of the

cathedrals, allowing for better continuity and a setting filled with light and beauty, correlating more closely to the ideal of a 'golden age'.

St John's provided the inspiration for St Cedd's College, from which Doctor Who accepted an honorary doctoral degree in 1960.

More recently, the film *A Brilliant Young Mind* (formerly titled *X+Y*) told the story of a socially awkward prodigy competing in the International Mathematics Olympiad. The prodigy, played by Asa Butterfield, tours Cambridge with his team, chiefly



Filming for *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* took place along the river.



Eddie Redmayne filming the 'fall' scene in Second Court for *The Theory of Everything*.

represented in the film by St John's. As he walks towards New Court, an instructor proclaims 'this is the most prestigious place to study mathematics on the planet.' The BBC film, released in the UK in March 2015, has been honoured with multiple awards, winning Best Feature Film at the Palm Beach International Film Festival and Best Film at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. This demonstrates just one example of the way that St John's has been portrayed, not only as a place of beauty and history, but also as a seat of academic rigour and intellectual brilliance.

From major productions to smaller ones, not all filming at St John's has been for the purpose of cinema or television. In 1994 Pink Floyd chose the College as a location for their music video for 'High Hopes', the final track on their fourteenth studio album, *Division Bell*. David Gilmour, vocalist and guitarist, claimed that the inspiration for the song came from the early days of Pink Floyd and the experience of leaving his home town – Trumpington. His father had been a lecturer in Zoology at the University. In the same spot in Second Court where Eddie Redmayne would dramatically collapse in

The Theory of Everything, two conjoined jesters balance on each other in the surreal manner expected from a Pink Floyd video. St John's was chosen to feature in the music video because the sixteenth-century architecture worked well with the costuming of the jesters, whilst also symbolising Cambridge, regarded as the home of Pink Floyd.

The Theory of Everything may be a highlight of 2015, but it is clear that it is just one work in a long line of cinematographic excellence at St John's. Our College has hosted some of the biggest names and programmes in

popular culture over the past fifty years, serving to provide a quintessentially British ideal through its reflection and celebration of history in its very stonework. The iconic shot of Cambridge may often be regarded as the Backs of King's College, but St John's College is just as much a symbolic setting for diverse forms of cinematic art. Just like those who study here and make it their home before graduating, the College continues to represent Cambridge and Britain on an international scale. 

Victoria Brown and Ben Atlas



A carousel was part of the May Ball scene in *The Theory of Everything*.

POETRY IN THE ARCHIVES

To celebrate the opening of the fantastic new Archive Centre within the School of Pythagoras, Archivist Tracy Deakin ran a poetry competition for staff and students in April. 'Poetry in the Archives' presented ten items from the archives and invited entrants to write a poem inspired by one of these pieces.

The winning poem was 'Scribe' by Paul Everest, who works in the College's Biographical Office. Paul's poem focused on a prick wheel, which is a tool used in the preparation of parchment deeds.

Second prize was awarded to Library Projects Assistant Rebecca Watts for 'Sportsman'. Rebecca chose to write her poem about three rugby caps left to the College by E. W. Chilcott in 1883.

Three other poems were highly commended by the judges: 'One Glance' by Philip White, 'Badge' by Adam Crothers and 'Elizabeth' by James Hartley.

The competition was made possible by the support of the College's Writer-in-Residence, Michael Schmidt OBE, who was one of the four judges. Michael is Professor of Poetry at Glasgow University, founder of Carcanet Press and editor of *PN Review*.

‘Scribe’ by Paul Everest

He glides his hand
over taut parchment,
marvelling at the contrast
of skin - blank page
innocence against
stressed palimpsest
of trial and experience -
the difference between
thick and thin.

With a sigh, he rolls the
wheel down each side margin
rules faint lines for composition,
ruers the stricture of precision
and again sweeps hands
over virgin vellum.

He smoothes his fingers
along unbarbed length
of goose quill,
lost in the disjoint of death
and at how
under his craft and skill
these things before him,
things once living, will
long outlive his final breath.

He sharpens the tip
to dip in the inkwell, dwells
on the link between context
and text and accepts that
the words pay well, but won't
be his. Resigned, he touches
nib to page and writes with
a flourish: his tales, his codex,
will be written between
the lines, not scratched
into the surface.



From your brawn
 brute muscular height
 squat strength light-
 as-a-feather sidesteps
 eel-in-a-slipstream
 dodges immaculate
 catches bullet passes
 backspin dropkicks
 gunsight focus flick-
 ings of mud the thud
 of your boots on cold
 fields whole-team
 huddles lock shove
 together *push* for
 the love of the game
 crowds roars
 charges forward
 dives sprints leaps
 bundles slams the
 growing grip of
 drying dirt baths
 jokes poses in sepia
 thumps on the back
 chants cheers laughs
 bets exam stress
 letters home
 schoolboy charm
 Sunday piety
 Friday guile
 good luck bad luck
 moments lost to
 private thought
 pub talk beers drunk
 songs sung names
 made honours won –
 we have these
 three embroidered caps. 🦅

‘Sportsman’ by Rebecca Watts



