DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES
Page 5

TELETHON UPDATE
Page 8

THE BENNETT INSTITUTE
FOR PUBLIC POLICY
Page 15

CHURCHILL’S DAYS OF DESTINY
Page 16
IN THIS ISSUE

5

8

15

1.6

24

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Published by
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Storey’s Way
Cambridge CB3 0DS

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Design & layout: www.cantelliday.co.uk

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Welcome to this revived Churchill newsletter focusing on alumni and development matters after a break of a couple of years.

As you may know Churchill was established by generous corporate and individual (including international) benefactors with a vision to promote education and research, particularly in science and technology, in honour of the Founder. Churchill himself had imagined an institution resembling MIT as early as 1949.

The College is in excellent shape, coming 5th in the Tompkins table last year (16/17). It topped the league table of colleges admitting students from state schools: 76% of our UK students came from such schools last year. We also have a large international body of students, both from the EU and much further afield. Academically it is an exciting time for the College. Since the last newsletter, we are delighted that several Fellows have won major awards. Professor Bjarne Stroustrup (G75), alumnus and Honorary Fellow, won the Charles Stark Draper Prize in Engineering; neuroscientist Wolfram Schulz was one of the two winners of the 2017 Brain Prize; and Lisa Jardine-Wright was awarded a University Pilkington Prize for teaching in 2017.

Amongst many new Fellows we were delighted to welcome new Fellow and Bennett Professor of Public Policy, Diane Coyle CBE, to the College; she is now on the Council of the ESRC. Her Chair, and the new Bennett Institute of Public Policy, have been generously supported by donations from alumnus Peter Bennett (U75). We were proud to host the launch of this Institute in April this year, the Institute has been funded to enhance examination of the salient issues facing policy makers today. According to its website it will connect ‘the leading work in the sciences at Cambridge with the economic and political dimensions of policy making’ and Diane’s chair has a focus on Inequality. There is a report on the launch on p.15.

The College has also recently won platinum status (the highest level, up from gold last year) from the University of Cambridge’s green impact team. This recognises that the College is working at the highest level to reduce its carbon footprint. It has taken a collaborative effort from the domestic staff, students and Fellows alike to achieve such a high standard and we will work to maintain this in the coming years.

In recent years we have seen a huge resurgence of support for the College from our alumni and friends, with contributions reaching nearly £15 million in the last five years alone. These have supported several studentships for graduates as well as bursaries for undergraduates. Generous gifts also ensured we were able to build Cowan Court. This award-winning building, opened in 2016, means we are now able to house all our undergraduate students on site, whether their course is three or four years long.

We are committed to recruiting the most talented students, whatever their background, and bursaries help us to ensure that we can encourage more applicants from low-participation groups by offering them financial peace of mind during the whole of their studies here. We are particularly proud that we have maintained a very high academic standard throughout this, partly thanks to the extra bursary provision we are able to offer. You can read more about this later in this newsletter.

We are still determined to encourage more young women to apply to the College, as our gender split remains stubbornly below 40% women. We know in part this is due to the emphasis on STEM in College, which means the pool of women is low for subjects such as Natural Sciences (Physical), Engineering and Computer Science due to the choices girls make for their A-levels. Churchill alone cannot change such cultural issues but we can, and will continue to work hard to make sure the College is as welcoming and inclusive to everyone as it can be.

We are also continuing to raise funds to endow graduate student support, and have some generous donations enabling us to fund several...
studentships together with the Cambridge Trusts – the most notable being the Gulbenkian-Yuval Studentship. One of our goals is to increase the support available to graduate students in the arts and humanities, where other funding is often very hard to obtain, and to align this work with the Archives Centre, since 2015 the Churchill papers held by the Archives Centre have been listed by UNESCO as one of the world’s most important cultural holdings. Complementing this emphasis on graduate funding is our current focus on graduate accommodation. Comfortable, affordable and convenient on-site accommodation amongst an international community of students working across disciplines is part of what makes the graduate experience at Churchill College so special.

As we have a growing number of graduate students, we have been extending our on-site accommodation in stages since 2001. More rooms are needed if we wish to achieve our key aim of accommodating all of our graduate students for a minimum of two years. Cottrell and Vermeulen, the firm who designed the award-winning Bondi, Broers and Hawthorne houses (also known as the ‘pepperpots’) are now working on the project at 36 Storey’s Way. Thanks to major benefactions and many other gifts from alumni and friends of Churchill we have now secured almost all the funding we need.

Looking further ahead, the College has ambitions to create more housing on site and have purchased a further house on Storey’s Way as part of this long term goal. Additionally, once we have completed the funding for the new graduate accommodation we will also be fundraising in earnest for the Creative Hub. This is intended to be a multi-disciplinary facility which will be located in the former oil store at the front of the College. We are consulting Turner-prize winning architecture collective, Assemble, on the redesign of this space.

We are very grateful for all the alumni who support the College in a range of ways. This is not limited to financial support, as many of you are advocates for the education Churchill provides by being influencers in your diverse fields. Of course we are grateful for financial gifts, but word-of-mouth, particularly in this age of social media will help us to encourage gifted young people and academics from all over the world to think about coming here out of all the other colleges and other international institutions. You are part of what makes us unique.

I would like to encourage all of you to attend our events or come back to College whenever you are in Cambridge or nearby. We are about to launch a new alumni online networking system, Churchill Connect, and we have a list of forthcoming events at the back of this newsletter.

All your contributions make a difference and enable us to continue to be a centre of academic excellence and innovation. Thank you for helping us to go forward together.

Professor Dame Athene Donald DBE, FRS
Master
Development Priorities

We are very grateful to all of the alumni and friends of Churchill who have supported the College’s educational mission this year, and have pledged to continue to do so through regular gifts or through provision in their Wills.

The College currently receives 30% or less of its funding from student fees, the bulk of its funding comes from other sources of income and donations form an important part of fulfilling its remit as a centre of excellence in Higher Education. We are also in competition with other Colleges for the best students and academics, and continually improving our facilities is important, especially around student accommodation. Our priorities are therefore centred around supporting our students, providing enhanced accommodation, and building our endowment for a sustainable future.

Graduate Accommodation

We are delighted that building is now underway for the three new graduate houses on 36 Storey’s Way, thanks to £1.5m being given or pledged by alumni and friends over the past year. Graduate accommodation is essential to continuing to attract the best graduate applicants and the new accommodation would enable us to house all graduate students for two years. Two of the new houses will be named after former Masters Sir John Boyd and Sir David Wallace.

Student Support

We have excelled as a College around student bursaries. Churchill has approximately 100 undergraduates receiving Cambridge Bursaries, the majority receiving a full bursary (£3,500/year). Many of those have family incomes lower than £35,000 per year – we are proud that we have been able to offer extra support to these students and will continue raising funds for bursaries to do so.

Funding the Cambridge Bursaries currently costs the College over £200,000 per year from unrestricted funds, though there are a growing number which are now funded by specific bursaries which are endowed (for example the Lock Bursary Fund). To endow these bursary funds fully would cost £8.75m; therefore the more donations we can attract to student support funds, the better, either as general donations to the student support fund or as endowed funds for named bursaries.

We are committed to raising more funds for endowed studentships for postgraduates – as students now graduate with more debt, postgraduate study (especially in the arts and humanities) is becoming unaffordable for all but the most privileged, therefore endowing studentships will enable us to support future research.

Looking ahead

The College will also be launching a major fundraising drive for the Creative Hub in the next few months. This development, of the old oil store at the front of the College, will enable our students to undertake collaborative projects in a dedicated space – the idea is to develop artistic, engineering and architectural projects with students from all disciplines. Churchill will be unique in having such a space for use by its students of all levels.

Endowment funding

The College’s endowment, which stands at approximately £90m, contributes just over £2m to fund College expenditure each year. The more this can be grown over the next few years, the more financial stability we can provide to achieve our educational mission. As we face uncertain economic times, and continual changes in policy in terms of funding Higher Education, having our own invested assets helps us to guarantee that we will be able to continue funding education and research for future generations of Churchilians.
Student Support

As outlined in Development Priorities, much of what we are fundraising for is for support of our students. We are pleased to include these accounts from current students of how various funds are helping them achieve their potential at Churchill College. Making sure that the best and brightest can come to Churchill to study, irrespective of background or the ability to pay is only possible with the help of student support.

Harry Ward (U15)

Harry Ward is from Grimsby in Lincolnshire. Both his secondary school and sixth form were non-selective and state-funded and he is the first generation of his family to go to university. He is in his fourth year of his MML degree at Churchill and has completed his year abroad studying Spanish.

Due to his family’s financial circumstances, the provision of bursary support from the College has played a crucial part in Harry’s ability to take up his place and thrive at Churchill. He receives a full Cambridge Bursary and the support he has also received through the College to study abroad and develop his language skills has enabled him to access vital opportunities that would otherwise have been closed to him.

Being part of this community, amongst people I admire so much, is inspiring to me – and it has been this way since my first day. Cambridge hasn’t changed me into someone I’m not, like I feared it might, but rather, at Churchill, it’s enabled me to become myself. The funding for travel that I’ve received has transformed my Cambridge experience in ways I never imagined.

Shauna Gulrajani (U15)

Shauna Gulrajani is a MML student from North London. For Shauna, having access to travel funding through the College has enabled her to benefit from two hugely beneficial travel opportunities that would otherwise have been closed to her. In the summer vacation of her first year she was able to travel to the Galapagos Islands where she taught English for a month and she was also awarded a small grant to help cover the cost of a short trip to Spain just before her second year Spanish oral exam.

Shauna receives a full Cambridge Bursary and she was awarded a choral scholarship in her first year which she used to pay for singing lessons. This wide-ranging support has enabled her to access all the opportunities available and to make the most of her time at the College.

Read both full stories at: www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/giving-college/current-appeals/support-our-students/
In 2012 the College replaced the original Robin Day Dining Hall chairs with 350 new chairs by renowned British furniture designer and manufacturer, Luke Hughes (www.lukehughes.co.uk). He was commissioned to design a new chair, in homage to Robin Day’s original design, that complements the surroundings of Churchill’s Dining Hall, and most importantly provides a comfortable seat for diners over the next fifty years.

You can ‘take a seat’ in the Churchill College Dining Hall by naming a chair. For a donation of £400, you can help the College fund the replacement of a chair and incorporate a dedication of your choice on an engraved brass disc 34 mm diameter on the back of the chair.

For more information visit www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/giving-college/current-appeals/take-seat/ or contact the Development Office.

Take a seat...

‘We hope that over time this new scheme will make a big difference to many young women who one day will become future leaders in innovation.’

Read Sophie’s full story at: www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/giving-college/current-appeals/support-our-students/

Sophie Durrant (U16)

Sophie Durrant is the current holder of Churchill’s first Amazon Women in Innovation bursary and is studying for a Computer Science degree at Churchill College.

Sophie’s interest in Computer Sciences was sparked at a young age on the family computer when she spent her spare time in the holidays playing with the mechanics of programming to create games from Scratch. Having decided that Computer Science was the route she wanted to take, Sophie made a direct application to Churchill, attracted by its reputation, the College facilities and the scholarships and bursaries on offer, and she does not regret her choice.

The Amazon Women in Innovation bursary has provided Sophie with a fantastic package of support that includes an annual bursary of £5,000 for the three years of her course, access to a mentor employed at the Cambridge Amazon Development Centre to provide help and advice on business skills like interview techniques and CV building and access to internship opportunities.

Having the bursary means you can focus on your studies knowing that you have the support behind you to help you out. There are people to talk to if you get stuck, there are internship opportunities available and it takes the pressure off having to think about finances.

Amazon UK recently confirmed that they will fund a further two bursaries for women studying Computer Science at Churchill.

“We want to foster the next generation of high-tech superstars in Britain and help people from all walks of life invent for the future,” said Doug Gurr, UK Country Manager, Amazon. “We hope that over time this new scheme will make a big difference to many young women who one day will become future leaders in innovation.”

Read Sophie’s full story at: www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/giving-college/current-appeals/support-our-students/
From the 23 June – 8 July 2018 current students at Churchill were kept extremely busy in the 2018 Telephone Campaign call room, located in the Sixties Room in Cowan Court. The days were long, hot and sunny but our students enjoyed a wide range of wonderful conversations with 645 alumni, a record 52% of whom decided to make a gift in support of the campaign.

Our student callers gained a huge amount from the life experience of our alumni. The aim of the campaign was to connect with our alumni community, build relationships and raise money for this year’s Annual Fund Campaign benefiting Student Bursaries, Graduate Housing and unrestricted Annual Funds. We have been delighted by the support that the 2018 Telephone Campaign has received to date with over £211k already raised, rising to a record-breaking £460,000 when longer-term pledges are taken into account. The gifts were pledged by 345 alumni, including 157 gifts from first-time donors to the College. These figures are remarkable because Churchill has previously had one of the lowest participation rates amongst Cambridge Colleges and the response to the Campaign is a marvellous testament to the generosity of our alumni. Wide participation is really important and it encourages others to help us too.

These figures do not include the generous matching funds for Student Bursaries and the Graduate Accommodation Project which had a massive positive impact on the campaign. Dr Adrian Hobden (U&G72) generously pledged to match fund, pound for pound, the first £75k of donations raised for Student Support. The Graduate Housing benefited from a matching fund of £250,000 from an anonymous donor.

It is not too late to contribute to the campaign and you can find out more about the case for support and donate using the form in this newsletter. Some people have mentioned that they do not feel able to give, as the amount they might feel comfortable with is too modest to be worthwhile. All donations, of whatever size, are very welcome and really do make a difference. For example, a one-off gift of £50 from everyone contacted on this Telephone Campaign would raise almost £34,000 for the projects we are supporting this year. Hence wide participation is really important.

‘The days were long, hot and sunny but our students enjoyed a wide range of wonderful conversations with 645 alumni, a record 52% of whom decided to make a gift in support of the campaign.’
We also recognise that alumni support comes in many forms, and not all our alumni are in a position to give financially, but would be happy to offer their time to help our students, perhaps by volunteering to be part of a mentoring scheme, for example. We are excited, therefore, to offer two opportunities to bring our students and alumni together: firstly through the Churchill Business Network, which has already run two successful events so far; and secondly through our forthcoming interactive website, Churchill Connect, which we plan to launch this year.

The inaugural Business Network event was held in October 2017 at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, where the speakers were Sir Peter Gershon (U66), Chairman of National Grid who discussed his seven mantras for success in business, and Dr Steve Churchhouse (G85), a former Director of Rolls Royce, who outlined the various experiences that had informed his career, both at Rolls Royce and now as an investor in start-ups. Greg Lock (U66), who kindly sponsored the event, also addressed the audience to outline the aims of the business network, as did fellow Development Board Chairman Michael Cowan (U70).

The second event was held at the Institute of Directors in April, where we heard from three alumni representing different generations of Churchillians: Simon Henry (U79), James Butler (U66) and Chris Campbell (U08). Simon spoke about new challenges around corporate governance and the implications of changes in the equity markets and financial regulation, drawing on his experience from sitting on the board of Shell. James, currently a non-executive director of Zurich Insurance, spoke about leadership in the context of the Lloyd’s names crisis of the late 1980s when he was on the board there and individuals claimed they were missold investments – the subject of litigation until fairly recently. Chris, currently working at JP Morgan, spoke about the value of the business network to him as a recent graduate, and how friendships have been instrumental to him in developing new career paths.

We are looking forward to hosting more of these events and would love to hear from alumni who would be happy to speak, or could offer a venue to host an event. Do contact us at alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk to volunteer or to be added to the mailing list for future events.

We will soon be ready to launch our new online networking portal, Churchill Connect, which will provide an easy way for those who register to find old friends from your student days and stay in touch with them, as well as network with current students. The site will allow members to create groups (e.g. by subject/matriculation year/interest) to share memories, news, photos and events, post job advertisements, and offer a searchable directory to help you reconnect with alumni you have lost touch with, or make new connections – for example if you relocate or are traveling, you can search for members by city. Alumni will also be able to flag up to student members if they are happy to offer support in various ways.

We can’t wait to launch this new initiative and hope we can encourage as many as you as possible to get involved. Stay tuned for more news as we get ready to launch!
Endowment income is income from invested capital donated to the College since its foundation.

College commercial income is the income from residential conferences, day meetings, Bed and Breakfast in College – mainly during vacations.

Income from subsidiary companies is the profits and rent from the Møller Centre (low following a period of reinvestment and expansion) and the profits of our conference company and building development company (VAT related).

The Churchill Archives Centre is supported by 3 specific endowment funds and by grants raised to cover particular projects and from specific donations.

With regard to donations, in 2016/17 we received nearly £1.5m. £300k was for Cowan Court but the majority of the rest was for student bursaries and other student support.

The College aims to break even financially and in the 12 months to June 17 it had a surplus of £196k on a turnover of £14.9m. In addition, the value of the College’s investments rose by over £12m during the year (reflecting the timing of the snapshot valuations in June each year).

Nearly half of the expenditure is on people: both support staff and academic staff undertaking teaching and research.

We spend a significant amount on repairing and maintaining all our buildings, in addition to major capital projects. Capital expenditure averages about £2m each year. In 2015/16 the expenditure was over £9m because of Cowan Court but returned to a near normal level of £2.3m in 2016/17.
Support for students

We maximise the expenditure on teaching and learning and student support with the following types of expenditure:

- Studentships for graduate students
- Bursaries for undergraduates
- Hardship grants
- Expenditure on our library
- Grants for sport, music and language learning
- Provision of sports facilities
- Support for College clubs and societies

Nearly 350 grants, bursaries and studentships (in addition there are prizes and scholarships) were awarded by the College last year. Total expenditure (excluding prizes and scholarships) by the College in support of individual students was £362k on undergraduates and £522k on graduate students.

The College pays a large share of the cost of the approximately 100 Cambridge Bursaries awarded to Churchill students. For graduate students, the College provided partial or total studentships to 41 students in 2016/17. 11 of these were awarded in partnership with the Cambridge Trusts.

Accommodation for students

We can now house all our undergraduates and more than 75% of our graduate students – with the priority being first year graduate students.

As you will have noticed, we have nearly completed the funding for the new graduate accommodation on 36 Storey’s Way and construction is just starting. In the last ten years, we have refurbished the Sheppard Flats, Wolfson Flats and 70% of the staircase rooms, as well as upgrading all of the graduate hostels. We will have completed the rewiring of all the staircase rooms by 2019.

We still only charge rent to undergraduates for 30 weeks of the year and we charge inclusive rents (no additional catering fixed charge, heating or IT charges). We aim to keep our rents at or just below the average for Cambridge college rooms and below market rents in the city.

A fun place to be

The pavilion now provides gym facilities for College members and Møller Centre guests together.

The squash courts, tennis courts and playing fields on site are still some of the best in Cambridge. All the courts have been resurfaced in the last few years.

The boathouse was replaced in 2015–16 in partnership with the three other clubs occupying it, with a fabulous new building with its own fitness room overlooking the river and the Churchill Mays Room, which was named ‘The Canon Noel Duckworth Room’ by Marcia Miller at its opening in June.

There is also a thriving choir and joint musical activities with the neighbouring colleges. The Chapel choir is also buoyant.

Spring Ball continues to be the highlight of the social year in College.

Formal Halls are among the most popular in Cambridge and the MCR hold termly guest nights attended by as many as 300 graduate students from across the University.

Environmental concerns

When renovating any of our buildings, reducing our carbon footprint is a key objective. We improve insulation in flat roofs, and clad non-sensitive buildings with insulation on the external walls (e.g. Sheppard Flats, Pinchin-Riley House). The efficiency of the district heating system has been improved with new boilers and a new Combined Heat and Power Unit this year to generate electricity with low transmission losses.

New buildings such as Cowan Court are built to a higher standard of insulation than required in current building regulations. Solar PV panels are installed on the roofs of all new buildings.

The College currently has a mixed recycling waste collection in addition to general waste and all gardening waste is composted.

We are delighted that we were awarded platinum status in the University’s environmental awards this year.
Interview
Ben Chisell

Ben Chisell (U02) graduated in 2006 from Churchill having read engineering. He now is Product Director at Starling Bank, a startup in London building a mobile-only bank and taking on the high street banks. It is based in a new ‘fin-tech’ hub in East London and has grown to having just over 120 employees. Like other disruptive banks, Starling is centred around solving problems encountered by customers who like to organise their lives around their mobile phones and who are unlikely to have time or inclination to phone or visit a traditional retail bank to access its services.

Here he talks to the Development Director, Fran Malarée.

Starling was founded by CEO Anne Boden in 2014, who had previously held senior executive roles at other banks, for example RBS, with the goal of helping customers have better financial lives. Anne also started her career out as an engineer and worked on some of the payments systems that are used today by many of the major UK banks.

Chisell’s role at Starling is a mix of strategy and technology. He works with customers to understand what problems they have with money and then leads teams at Starling in developing new features and systems to solve the most important problems. Chisell says, ‘because we always have the customer’s financial health at the forefront of our minds, we have a different mind-set to traditional banks. Our approach isn’t to think about revenue from the outset – we solve problems that customers have with their money, and then we will consider monetisation later.’

Starling, for example, offers up-to-date spending analysis in its app, while with other banking apps customers would have to download spreadsheets or use another programme to look at where they are spending. Also with its overdraft the customer can set their own level at any time in the app, compared to having to call up or visit a branch at most high street banks.

I ask Chisell what the bank’s business model is, since so many banks use free banking but then have many extra charges for various transactions or they try to sell extra services. Starling does not cross-sell other products like insurance; it charges fees for facilities such as overdrafts but they are more transparent than other banks. It does not have the costs of premises or counter staff that other banks have and is one of the easiest accounts to open requiring hardly any time – customers can do everything through their phone including scanning photo ID or passports to prove identity. Starling is integrating with other banking and financial services products where possible, such as Moneybox, which allows users to save by rounding up expenditure to the nearest £1, and Tail who provide customers with cashback at a curated list of merchants. Allowing other organisations and individuals very easy access to APIs is...
another way of meeting consumer needs, stimulating innovation and presumably monetising Starling’s service.

One of the distinctive things about Starling is that it is run with its technology developed in-house, meaning Starling has the flexibility to solve customer problems that more established banks can’t because of their outdated systems. Most traditional banks do have their own banking apps but these are bolted on to existing systems, and their retail business model remains quite traditional.

One of the other ways Starling is different is that they don’t have an ‘IT Department’; instead they have many technologists in leadership positions in the company, which ensures that the business and technology have a better understanding of each other, meaning they can make decisions quickly and deliver new experiences to customers faster.

What made him go into this area? Before graduating Chisell had placements at Rolls Royce and at a structural engineering business in his native Liverpool. He quickly realised he did not wish to be a civil or aerospace engineer and worked for Arthur D Little in management consulting. There he enjoyed the variety of work and using his problem-solving skills for a diverse range of issues and companies. He then joined eBay as a product manager developing its search engines, using machine-learning to predict the best value and most relevant items for customers to buy. He moved to California to work with eBay and greatly enjoyed the experience as it is a technology-driven company, and he was working with people similar to him in outlook.

He recounts how he directly used his degree to solve a range of mathematical problems encountered at eBay, for example trying to predict the saleability of an item and how it moved up and down the list of search results. He found that items moved up and down in a way similar to the motion of a mass in a spring-damper system, and as a result was able to improve the stability of the search results, and help sellers sell more predictability using mathematical methods learnt at Cambridge.

Chisell moved from eBay to Amazon and feels that his experience at Amazon was hugely influential and was a great help in refining the problem-solving skills learnt at Cambridge and throughout his career.

He feels strongly that the engineering degree at Cambridge should market itself as a ‘problem solving’ degree from which people can go into many different areas and solve problems that can have a meaningful impact on people’s lives. Chisell says ‘I chose Cambridge because I wanted to challenge myself, and I’ve found that the high standards, critical thinking, and analytical skills that I learned throughout my engineering degree at Cambridge gave me a strong foundation from which to build my career.’ He goes on to say: ‘I chose Churchill because it is known for being a college that was strong in subjects like engineering, and because it has a reputation for having a large state school intake, which made it feel more accessible for me at the time’.

He would like to build stronger connections between Cambridge and the UK technology sector in London, and is keen to offer advice to students and alumni who are interested in working in the sector.

‘He feels strongly that the engineering degree at Cambridge should market itself as a “problem solving” degree from which people can go into many different areas and solve problems that can have a meaningful impact on people’s lives.’
Due to our excellence in the STEM disciplines, people may not associate Churchill with the subject of law, but in the last year some of our law alumni have been notable for making exceptional early career progress, as well as making headlines.

27 October 2017 marked the first time that a Divisional Court (High Court) set to rule on a case was composed entirely of Churchill graduates: the Right Hon. Lord Justice Sales (Sir Philip Sales, U80) and the Hon. Mr Justice Lewis (Sir Clive Lewis, U78). The case was that of The Queen (on the application of McClean) v First Secretary of State, and was a challenge to the lawfulness of the confidence and supply agreement between the Conservative Party and the DUP, which was subsequently reported in the National press.

The claimant, MP Ciaran McClean, an unsuccessful Westminster candidate for the Green Party in Northern Ireland in the general election, sought a judicial review of the legality of the £1bn deal between the two Parties, which Theresa May sought to give her government the majority in the House of Commons that it lacked following the general election.

McClean alleged the deal breached both the 1998 Good Friday agreement and the Bribery Act, and raised tens of thousands of pounds for the legal action via crowdfunding, accusing the government of ‘buying DUP votes’ to hold on to power.

Sales ruled that neither of the two grounds relied on by McClean in his application were ‘properly arguable in a court of law’. On the first ground – the use of public expenditure powers for ‘an improper purpose’ – he noted it is well established that parliamentary privilege prevents a court from reviewing what is done in Parliament by way of voting. On the second – a commission of an offence under the Bribery Act 2010 – he found there to be no arguable case that MPs would be acting improperly in respect of any of the three conditions set out in the Act.

The two Churchill Judges were in agreement that permission to apply for judicial review should be refused.

This was not the first time that Lord Justice Sales had been in the news in 2017. A controversial article in the Daily Mail branded him and two other judges ‘enemies of the people’ after they ruled that Theresa May did not have the power to trigger Article 50 without the approval of Parliament and that MPs must be given a vote on Brexit. The article prompted outrage on social media due to the paper’s headline description of one of the other judges presiding on the case as being ‘openly gay’ – words which were later removed from the digital edition of the article.

Turning to a Churchillian at a much earlier stage of a hopefully illustrious legal career, we were thrilled to hear of the success in the Singapore Bar exam of one of our more recent law alumni, Ben Chester Cheong (G14). Ben earned three distinctions for outstanding performance in the subjects of Family Law Practice, Ethics and Professional Responsibility, and Advanced Corporate Practice in the 2016 exam. He was ranked third out of 664 candidates, making him the best-performing Cambridge graduate in that year group.

The award of distinction recognises the top performers in the Bar Examinations, rewarding exceptional talent in the respective subjects tested. Very few students earn even one distinction in these exams, and Ben’s achievement would have seen him top the Singapore Bar in the 2015 and 2017 exams.

The Singapore Bar Examinations are the equivalent of the Bar Vocational Course and Legal Practice Course in England: a postgraduate practical law course that all students (whether local or overseas law graduates) are required to sit for and pass in order to be admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore.

Ben says that the teaching at Cambridge and here at Churchill ‘produces the best law graduates in the world, who can perform exceptionally well in any given situation and make a truly lasting impact in the world’.

If you would like to support our upcoming lawyers then we invite you to donate to the David Stokes Memorial Fund. This was set up in 2005 as a memorial to alumnus David Stokes QC (U63) to provide financial assistance to current and future Churchill law students. This year the Bursary has been awarded to student Annabel Winsor (U15) and we wish Annabel the best of luck in her studies. For more information and to donate online see www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/giving-college/current-appeals/stokes-memorial/ or contact the Development Office.
We were delighted to host the launch of Cambridge University’s Bennett Institute for Public Policy in April 2018, named after Churchill alumnus and philanthropist Peter Bennett (U75).

The launch of the ground-breaking new Institute at the University is dedicated to researching solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing society in the 21st century. The Institute will look at solving public policy problems across four main strands: the technological policy challenge; issues around space and planning; health and wellbeing; and the future of democracy. It will involve thinkers and researchers from across the social sciences and sciences to work in an interdisciplinary way to find cost-effective means of tackling policy questions.

On the day there was a fantastic speaker line up, including new Bennett Professor of Public Policy (and co-director of the Institute) Diane Coyle (pictured above), former cabinet secretary Lord O’Donnell, and Martha Lane Fox. There were over 250 delegates attending the opening event and discussions on themes such as 21st-century approaches to tackling inequality and developing policies for environmental sustainability.

The Institute was formally opened by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Stephen Toope. Speaking at the launch, Peter Bennett said he hoped that the Institute might help policy makers make the world a better place, and deal with some of the pressing issues facing humankind, such as climate change, more effectively. He also paid tribute to his parents who had met in Hong Kong when his father was a serving officer in the RAF and dedicated the Institute to their memory.

‘The launch of the ground-breaking new Institute at the University is dedicated to researching solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing society in the 21st century.’
Blood, Toil, Tears and Sweat

It is 3pm on Monday 13 May 1940. Winston Churchill has just made his first speech as Prime Minister to the House of Commons. He has announced that he has ‘nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat,’ and has pledged himself to a policy of waging war ‘by sea, land and air’ with the single aim of victory: ‘victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory, however hard and long the road may be’. This short speech is now seen as an iconic moment in British history; one that is commemorated on the new £5 note, where the hands of Big Ben are set to reflect the hour of this celebrated address. But our view of that moment is coloured by hindsight, and by our knowledge that victory will be achieved. No such luxury was granted to Churchill and his audience at the time. In the short term, things would only get worse, much worse.

The Political and Military Weakness of Mister Churchill

Churchill became prime minister on 10 May 1940, the very day that Hitler launched his blitzkrieg offensive against France and the Low Countries. He was not elected prime minister. He was there because the Labour Party would not serve under Neville Chamberlain in a national coalition; and because Lord Halifax, the Conservative foreign secretary, was not willing to try and lead a wartime government from the House of Lords rather than the Commons. It was a Westminster coup from which he emerged as the only leading Conservative with the popular credibility and political ability to form a government.

True, Churchill’s long record of warning about Nazi Germany, coupled with his obvious determination to take the fight to the enemy, had won him public and press support; but there were many throughout the corridors of power, and even within his own party, who regarded him with suspicion as an opportunist and a maverick who might lead the country into the most dangerous paths. Moreover, he had no political powerbase of his own. To form a national coalition he had to offer places in his war cabinet to the Labour leaders, Clement Attlee and Arthur Greenwood. To keep his own Conservative Party on side he had to give the two remaining seats to Chamberlain and Halifax. As he looked around that famous cabinet table he was confronted by his predecessor, his main Conservative rival, and the representatives of a socialist Party that he had spent much of his political life attacking.

Nor was he to be given any time to establish himself. The military situation deteriorated faster and further than he could possibly have anticipated. The Dutch were quickly overwhelmed, but that was just the first wave. Heavily armoured Panzer divisions supported by a ferocious aerial bombardment soon cut off the French northern Army and the British Expeditionary Force. Churchill was suddenly facing the possibility of the destruction of his army and the loss of his main ally.

26 May: ‘Where then could France look for salvation’?

Sunday 26 May was definitely not a day of rest for Churchill and the British war cabinet. It had become clear that the British Expeditionary Force was at risk of being annihilated, and would have to make a fighting retreat towards the port of Dunkirk. French premier Reynaud flew over to discuss the crisis with Churchill bringing bleak news. The French had only 50 divisions to field against 150 German, and their supreme commander General Weygand did not think that resistance could last long against a determined onslaught. ‘Where then could France look for salvation?’ Reynaud felt that France’s only hope lay in an approach to Fascist Italy, still neutral at the time. If Italy could be bought off, 10 divisions might be released from France’s eastern borders. But the price Italy might demand for her non belligerence was expected to include the demilitarisation of Malta and the neutralisation
of Gibraltar and the Suez Canal. As these territories were all under British control, Reynaud was asking Churchill to keep France in the war by making concessions to Italy.

Churchill’s personal response to Reynaud was unequivocal: ‘We would rather go down fighting than be enslaved to Germany.’ Yet when he reported his conversation to his war cabinet colleagues at 2pm that afternoon, it was clear that not all of them shared such a black and white view. Lord Halifax favoured an approach to Italy, arguing that it was not in Mussolini’s interest to allow Hitler to dominate Europe. Peace terms with Germany might be explored through Italy. While expressing doubt as to the value of any such approach, Churchill agreed that it should be further considered by the war cabinet. The military situation was simply too uncertain for him to be able to rule it out and his priority remained getting British troops out of France. Politically he needed to carry his war cabinet with him.

What Churchill could and did do was to control the process. As Prime Minister it fell to him to convene the meetings and set the agendas. The discussions about an approach to Mussolini were restricted to a very small group: the five members of the war cabinet, supplemented from 27 May by Alexander Cadogan, a senior civil servant at the foreign office, and Archibald Sinclair, the latter in his capacity as leader of the Liberal Party (and key coalition partner) rather than secretary of state for air. This inner circle held three separate meetings to thrash out the issue; in Admiralty House mid-afternoon on 26 May, at 4.30pm in Downing Street on 27 May, and at 4pm in the prime minister’s room at the House of Commons on the 28 May. With such unimaginable levels of stress it is not surprising that their words became heated and emotions ran high.

26 May: ‘…no harm in trying this line of approach’

The discussion resumed in earnest later on 26 May.

Churchill was clear that we still had the power to resist and attack and France should not be allowed to drag us into a settlement which involved intolerable terms. Lord Halifax countered with cold logic and diplomatic language. France should be allowed ‘to try out the possibilities of European equilibrium’. He was not quite convinced that the Prime Minister’s diagnosis was correct and that it was in Hitler’s interest to insist on outrageous terms; and Italian claims might be considered as part of a wider settlement about the balance of power. ‘Ultimately, if we found that we could obtain terms that did not mean sacrificing our independence, we should be foolish if we did not accept them.’ He also reported on a preliminary discussion with the Italian Ambassador, preparing the ground for a more formal approach.

The other members of the war cabinet were torn between these competing views. Greenwood had no objection to an approach being attempted but doubted Mussolini’s independence of Hitler and
27 May: ‘Let us therefore avoid being dragged down the slippery slope with France’

When the discussion resumed at 4.30pm the following day in 10 Downing Street, Archibald Sinclair was there to reinforce Churchill. It is tempting to speculate that the Prime Minister had brought him in especially for this purpose. As leader of the Liberal Party it was appropriate for him to have a voice in a discussion that might affect the future of the coalition, but as secretary of state for air he was not a member of the war cabinet. He was, however, a close friend of Churchill’s. They had served together in the trenches in the First World War and thereafter Sinclair had been Winston’s private secretary (when Churchill was a Liberal minister in Lloyd George’s government). Sinclair argued against any negotiation on the grounds that it would only undermine British morale and encourage our enemies.

The focus of much that has been written about these events has been the dramatic exchange at the heart of this meeting between Churchill and Halifax. The Prime Minister, ‘increasingly oppressed with the futility of the suggested approach’, feared being forced into negotiations from which it would be impossible to turn back, and stated, ‘Let us therefore avoid being dragged down the slippery slope with France’. His subsequent remarks, including, ‘If the worst came to the worst, it would not be a bad thing for this country to go down fighting’, prompted Halifax to threaten to resign. He later told Cadogan that he could no longer work with Winston, and it took a private and unminuted conversation in the garden to ease the immediate tension between the two men.

Reminding the Prime Minister that just yesterday he had been prepared to consider terms that did not affect British independence, Halifax demanded to know whether, if Hitler were to offer peace terms, Churchill would discuss them. Here was a direct challenge to Churchill’s stated policy of waging war until final victory. Backing away from an open breach with Halifax, and unable to say that he would never negotiate, Churchill replied that ‘he would not join France in asking for terms; but if he were told what the terms offered were, he would be prepared to consider them’.

It might have seemed like a small victory for Halifax, or even an indication that Churchill was wavering, but the Foreign Secretary was already losing the support of his colleagues. Attlee and Greenwood joined Sinclair in opposing the suggested approach to Italy, while Chamberlain now argued that it might serve no useful purpose as Mussolini would simply wait until France had fallen and then enter the game. Churchill expressed his preference for a rival approach to Mussolini from President Roosevelt, which would smack less of British weakness. He knew that the Dunkirk evacuations had begun, and that morning his military chiefs of staff had confirmed that a German invasion could be resisted by the navy and the Royal Air Force, as long as a sufficient air force remained in being, and as long British morale remained high. He also knew that nothing was more likely to reduce British morale than public knowledge of an approach to Italy for peace terms.

28 May: ‘He is a real war leader and one whom it is worth while serving under’

Churchill had been playing a waiting game, allowing the matter to be talked out at great length, so as not to alienate his colleagues. But, on Tuesday 28 May, he made his move. Faced with the need to respond to the latest news of the surrender of Belgium, and to prevent any fall in that all-important public morale, he moved the playing field to parliament. After publicly reaffirming his commitment to fighting on in the chamber of the Commons, he chaired another meeting of the war cabinet in his parliamentary office. Declaring that the chances of Britain receiving decent terms were a thousand to one against, he expressed his view that ‘nations which went down fighting rose again, but those which surrendered tamely were finished.’ He then unveiled his final and most effective ploy, breaking the smaller war cabinet discussion halfway through to call his first meeting of all his government ministers outside of the war cabinet. Seizing the moment, he addressed the wider group with a powerful off-the-cuff speech in which he described the serious nature of the crisis, before announcing that he would rather go down choking in his own blood than entertain surrender. It was a brave and emotional performance, but it won him an ovation from a hardened political audience. More crucially, it won their support for his policy of continuing to wage war. Leo Amery, the secretary of state for India, was present and wrote that it, ‘left all of us tremendously heartened by Winston’s resolution and grip of things. He is a real war leader and one whom it is worth while serving under’.

When the war cabinet meeting resumed at 7pm, immediately after Churchill’s speech, it was clear that he had effectively won the argument against any exploration of negotiations. He had judged his moment well.

Did Churchill waver? 1940 has become part and parcel of our national myth, and Churchill’s role in that myth is that of the uncompromising, cigar chomping war leader. Reality, particularly in the chaos of war, is inevitably more nuanced. Churchill clearly wanted to fight on but had to accept that there might be circumstances in which we would have to seek terms. Whereas Halifax favoured exploring terms, but accepted that if our independence were threatened we might have to fight. There was much that united as well as divided these very different characters. Churchill was shrewd enough to know that he could not carry on alone. He had to keep Halifax on side and ensure that his war cabinet colleagues, the chiefs of staff and the wider political establishment were behind their prime minister. The episode reveals how he survived the first great test of his wartime leadership and helped steer Britain away from a negotiated peace.

Allen Packwood is the Director of the Churchill Archives Centre and a Fellow of Churchill College.
Events 2017

We do hope that our alumni have noticed that in the past year or so we have tried hard to offer more events and ways to get involved with Churchill. It’s been great to meet many more Churchillians, whether at College talks and reunion dinners, Churchill Business Network events in London, or opportunities to get together at the international Global Cambridge series of talks run by the University of Cambridge. Below is a round up of some of the ways we have been reconnecting with our non-resident members of College over the past year.

July is the month we invite back a group of years for their decennial reunion dinner. In 2017 this was the turn of those who matriculated between 1993 and 1998 inclusive. On a lovely summer evening we welcomed over 200 guests to a drinks reception and dinner, along with a chance to participate in a unique, free leadership development session at the Møller Institute. Some guests reported that this was their first time visiting College since graduation and we were delighted to have them back and show them that College is still the familiar, warm and welcoming place it was in their undergraduate days.

In addition to those year groups, the same month we hosted our first Donor Garden Party, and also plan to make this a regular feature of our events calendar (as a biennial event). We invited all those who had given a gift of any size within two calendar years prior to the event. Not only were guests blessed by stunning sunshine, but also live jazz, a talk by Mark Goldie about the decision to admit women to Churchill, Pimms, tea, scones, strawberries and cake. We hope we showed our donors how much we appreciate every gift.

September 2017 saw our biggest and best Association Weekend in memory, if not ever, as we commemorated the 50th anniversary of the death of Founding Master, Sir John Cockcroft. A packed programme of events included fascinating reflections on Cockcroft’s life, work and legacy, as well as an after-dinner speech by broadcaster Jim Al-Khalili, who entertained the 276 guests dining in Hall.

In October we joined University colleagues in Leeds at the Global Cambridge event where a small group of Churchillians enjoyed exploring the Armouries Museum for a private viewing with a glass of wine in hand after a fascinating talk about groundbreaking research and advances in regenerative therapies for bone and cartilage repair.

The same month saw the launch of the Churchill Business Network at the Oxford and Cambridge Club (you can read more about this in our article about connecting students and alumni), as well as a celebration back at College of the 50th anniversary of the Chapel.

In November, two events brought students and alumni together: the first a symposium for medics and vets, and the second a pitching competition as part of our Churchill Enterprise programme, both allowing ample networking opportunities, as well professional development. The Master also hosted a dinner for alumni in Paris after being part of a panel discussion surrounding the ethics of science as part of the University’s Global Paris event.

December sees the annual clash of the blues on the rugby pitch for the Varsity games and we were excited to offer alumni and their guests
a package to watch the light blues triumph in both the women’s and men’s games (the former being all the more exciting for having two current Churchill students on the pitch!) We are already looking forward to returning this year so do keep an eye out for more details of the coming December’s offer in our monthly E-bulletin.

Alumni in the US were not forgotten either, as our Development Director and Senior Tutor took a trip Stateside to San Francisco and New York early in the month.

The New Year kicked off with alumna and broadcaster Helen Czerski (U&G97) in conversation with Master as part of the Paradigm Shift series of discussions, followed shortly after by the follow-up to the pitching workshop: our Churchill Enterprise pitching competition. The College was also delighted to welcome Professor Margaret MacMillan, who gave the annual Roskill lecture, exploring parallels between our time and the period leading up to the Second World War.

In March we hosted two of our annual lectures: the Computer Science lecture, and Alex Hopkins lecture, in memory of the student and Fellow who passed away at a young age and is remembered so fondly by many.

April was busy as the Master and Development Director took another trip to the US, meeting again with alumni in New York at a Cambridge in America event where the Master delivered an inspiring talk, and then enjoying a relaxed lunch with alumni in Seattle.

We also hosted the second event in our Churchill Business Network series in London, this time at the Institute of Directors. The Churchill Association – existing to promote friendship across generations of Churchillians, and of which all alumni, Fellows and staff are automatically members – also organised trips to HMS Belfast and the Henry Moore Studios and Gardens.

Hot on the heels of these latter two events, the first May bank holiday weekend saw us head to Oxford for what we hope is now an annual event dining at High Table at our Sister College, Trinity, and also to St Martin’s in the Field in London for an exceptional performance by Inter Alios, the combined choirs of Churchill and Murray Edwards, rounding off the long weekend with drinks in All Bar One, Covent Garden.

Rest assured we have plenty more exciting opportunities to meet up with other Churchillians planned, and we do hope to meet lots of you in the coming year. Do keep an eye on our events page at www.chu.cam.ac.uk/alumni/events/to join us!
Alumni pictured with the Master, Professor Dame Athene Donald after her talk in New York to Cambridge alumni ‘On Science and Leadership’

Churchill alumni pictured with Elizabeth McWilliams, Alumni Officer, at the Global Cambridge: Leeds event in November 2017

Alumni and friends gathered in New York in January 2018 for a brunch kindly organised by alumna Kit Cheung (G00), pictured here bottom right

Professor Sir Mike Gregory pictured with alumni at the China Club, Hong Kong, in August 2017. Thanks to KK Chan (pictured in blue shirt, centre) for hosting

Alumni at the Business Network launch event at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, London, October 2017

Alumni gathered for dinner with the Master, Professor Dame Athene Donald, after the Global Cambridge: Paris event in November 2017

The Development Director, Fran Malarée pictured with Churchillians in Singapore at an event kindly hosted by Susan Lim (GB8) and her husband, Deepak Sharma. Deepak is on the right-hand side, Susan 2nd from right
‘Damn the Dardanelles. They will be our grave.’ Such was the prescient proclamation made early 1915 by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fisher, then First Sea Lord. The Dardanelles, that fabled waterway leading to the military target Constantinople, became in actuality the political grave of Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty. Was it altogether his responsibility? To find the answer was my first task as historian.

Churchill had become First Lord in 1911 to May 1915, when the exasperated First Sea Lord, Fisher, found that he could not, as he told his political opposite, ‘out-argue’ him. Churchill ran the naval show, issued the orders. Fisher walked from his post at the Admiralty in what I have described as a discreditable act. I say discreditable, for it left the Navy without its top-ranking officer ashore. This occurred just when the Dardanelles naval expedition had become the challenging Gallipoli campaign. Unravelling the particulars of this saga led to an inside look at leadership under crisis. Here was a war behind the war.

Factors of personality and character enter my story. Fisher, always a contentious fellow, was loved by many and feared by those unwilling to do his bidding. He believed that favoritism bred efficiency. He went about the business of backing his professional favourites while damning his enemies. He backed the design of the revolutionary capital ship Dreadnought, wisely thought the submarine to be the naval vessel of the future, and championed oil as best fuel for warships. With one swift stroke of the pen he scrapped the old gunboats on distant stations. He also upset the social status quo with naval education reforms. He could be charming, too. He wrote wonderful letters. Many politicians, principally Conservatives and Unionists, adored him. Churchill, who was then a Liberal, fell under Jacky’s spell. Truth to tell, Winston needed just such a naval adviser. Jacky was his man. In October 1914 Winston brought him back as First Sea Lord. The war claimed the reputations of many, not least Churchill. When he was swept out of the Admiralty he fell into despair. His wife Clementine thought he would die of grief.

What happened to Churchill after this is a story about aspects of the First World War that we might well call ‘the politics of naval supremacy’ – British naval supremacy, that is, and how to keep the Imperial German Navy from seizing the Trident of Neptune.

Fisher’s death in 1920 led to reappraisals of his conduct, not least by Churchill in his multi-volume The World Crisis. As the younger man,
and the survivor, Churchill had the advantage, and with his skilled pen he was able to craft a literary masterpiece that put himself in the best light, and ‘the old Malay’ as he called Jacky Fisher – for the Admiral had a uniquely Asiatic appearance so unusual among British naval officers of that age. The Churchill view is that he was let down badly by an ageing admiral in the moment of crisis; he even says that Fisher went through an emotional breakdown at the time. This is far from the truth, however.

My quest to get to the root of these and related issues began in 1984 with my happy election as Archives By-Fellow at Churchill College. The Churchill Archives Centre is a world famous archive containing among its many treasures some of the greatest political and military records of the twentieth century. Mrs Thatcher’s handbag surely ranks as one of its prized possessions, always on display to visiting ambassadors and dignitaries. In the same repository are the papers of Winston Churchill, and I recall the days and weeks when these had arrived at the Centre becoming arguably its greatest holding. Closer to the date of my first arrival, however, the correspondence of Admiral Fisher found its way to the same Centre. So too had so many important collections of ‘literary gold’, including the diary and letters of that curious background ‘fixer’ of British politics, Lord Esher. Then, too, there were the papers of Shane Leslie, intimate with the story about Admiral Earl Beatty, who had been in command of the Battlecruiser Squadron at Jutland in 1916 (and later fudged the books of the official record of the battle).

The then keeper, Correlli Barnett, had enlisted my introduction to these records. Since then my efforts have been warmly supported by his successors Piers Brendon and Allen Packwood. On periodic occasions from my own university duties in Canada I made expectant excursions from Canada to the Fens. My files bulged with insights into the past. New questions were opened. To complete my book I was again elected a By-Fellow.

To the Master and Scholars of Churchill College I owe a debt for the months and years I spent in College and in the Archives Centre. In the Senior Common Room in earlier days I had many an intriguing conversation with some of the Founding Fellows: they had contributed much in theoretical, scientific and technical ways to winning the Second World War. Many of them knew about Fisher and the Navy. All of them had lived during Churchill’s (and their) ‘Finest Hour’. They regaled me with stories of Captain Stephen Roskill, a Senior Research Fellow and famed historian, and those he was wooing to deposit papers in the Centre. I recall it all with pleasure. I truly was eavesdropping on history. And now Churchill and Fisher: Titans at the Admiralty is finished, released to the world. Like many another historian, the separation from a very long process of bringing such a study to completion and publication has left a great void. Still the historical ventures continue, and the Churchill Archives Centre holds many keys to our recent past. I am already planning my next visit.

By Barry Gough, Archives By-Fellow, Churchill College

Sport

Boat Club Update

Churchill College Boat Club had a solid start to the year. In Lent bumps they were chasing Trinity Hall in the case of the men (placed 15th in Division 1) currently and chasing Pembroke in the case of W1 were placed 12th in the first division. There was in fact, no change, during a Lents bumps mostly characterised by poor weather which prevented racing on several days!

In the Fairbairns cup novice men’s 1 was the 15th fastest NM1 and NM2 as the 13th fastest NM2. While our mixed novice boat was racing for time only, they beat 25 other novice boats on the day!

The senior crews did well with M1 finishing as the 9th fastest college M1, M2 as the 10th fastest college M2 and our W1 finishing as the 4th fastest college 4+.

In the Easter term, the first men won their category at Peterborough Regatta (photo below) and the College’s boats did well in preparation for May bumps with the women coming 2nd in the Xpress Head and M2 and M3 both winning their respective divisions.

In May bumps we had a great start with three boats bumping up on the first day. The first men were unluckily bumped down into the 2nd division however, due to equipment failure, but more happily the women finished 9th, bumping up three places, their equal highest-ever position on the river since women were allowed to row in Vllls.

We are delighted that this year, we had a Churchillian in the 2018 Boat race squad, Sarah Carlotti, who is reading MML and is in her fourth year, and Kathryn Dodds in the lightweight squad.

We are pleased that the winner of the Pinchin Prize in 17–18 was Vicky Lee, who was also Overall Captain. The Pinchin Prize was established last year by Lydia Luckevich, the widow of alumnus Don Pinchin (G73) to recognise the student who has contributed most to the boat club in the preceding year.

We are grateful that the Pinchin-Luckevich family are funding the purchase of a new eight for the first women to use from October 2018. This will be named at a special event on 20 September 2018 at the Combined Colleges Boathouse, and we are grateful to the family for their continuing support of CCBC and the College.

We are grateful to everyone who supports CCBC through coaching, supporting financially and otherwise, and helps it to go forward faster than any other boat clubs on the river!
This year has seen a run of victories for Churchill teams in a variety of Cuppers competition finals.

Our badminton teams were hugely successful with the men’s team this year winning their final to become Cuppers champions! The women’s team, having only been established this academic year as the first-ever Churchill College women’s badminton team, should also be congratulated having made it to the semi-finals of their Cuppers tournament.
Churchill student and President of the University Cycling Club, Jess Atkinson (U14), headed up a very strong Churchill cycling team for the 10 mile Cuppers time trial. Jess won the women’s race in a time of 25:07 leading Churchill to victory overall.

In football, the combined women’s team from Churchill, Lucy Cavendish and Christ’s Colleges won the Plate Finals. The Cambridge University Association Football League (CUAFL) is the primary league for college football. It involves approximately 900 players, with 58 teams competing across six divisions and four cup competitions – the highest participation of any sport at the university.

The women’s netball team beat the St John’s team 19:17 in their final on home turf. Churchill has never won the netball Cuppers before, so this is a fantastic achievement and reflects the strength and dedication of this year’s team and is the culmination of a very successful season for them.

Congratulations to all our sports teams and athletes who have represented the College and the University.

Stay up to date with Churchill sports news on the Churchill Sports Facebook page.
The Alumni and Development Team

The Alumni and Development team are here to welcome all alumni (including past Fellows) back to College and please call in to visit us any time. We are based in the administrative corridor in College.

Francisca Malarée, Development Director
01223 336197
dev.director@chu.cam.ac.uk

Fran is responsible for fundraising and alumni strategy and management of the development function in the College. She previously worked at two different Cambridge Colleges and the London School of Economics, her alma mater.

Elizabeth McWilliams, Alumni Officer
01223 336083
alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk

Elizabeth is an alumna of Churchill, having come to College to study English as an undergraduate in 1992. She joined the Alumni and Development Office in 2017 after a brief time in media research in the advertising industry, followed by over twenty years in academic publishing.

Annabel Busher, Development Officer
01223 331660
annabel.busher@chu.cam.ac.uk

Annabel joined the Alumni and Development Office in 2015 and her current position is Development Officer, responsible for the Annual Fund and marketing. She previously worked at the Arts Marketing Association, Almeida Theatre and the Royal Opera House.

Annabel is responsible for the College’s Annual Fund campaign and can help with all aspects of making a gift to the College.

Elizabeth can help with any queries relating to alumni benefits, such as dining at High Table, as well as event enquiries.

Anna-Maria Piotrowska, PA to Development Director
01223 331546
annamaria.piotrowska@chu.cam.ac.uk

Anna joined the Alumni and Development Office in late October 2015 as Assistant to the Development Director. She previously worked at BirdLife International, which is the world’s largest nature conservation Partnership.

Hilary Stimpson, Development Officer
01223 336240
hilary.stimpson@chu.cam.ac.uk

Hilary joined the Alumni and Development Office in 2009 having previously worked at the Faculty of History and the Judge Business School at the University of Cambridge.

Hilary is responsible for donor stewardship and our legacy programme, and can help with general queries about making a gift to the College.
# DIARY OF EVENTS

## 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geneva Alumni event, Global Cambridge</td>
<td>Saturday 8 September</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alumni Association Weekend</strong></td>
<td>Friday 21 – Sunday 23 September: includes talks by Sir Christopher Frayling and Allen Packwood</td>
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<td>Allen Packwood talk in NYC</td>
<td>Thursday 11 October, Cambridge in America offices</td>
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<td>Folger Library event, Washington DC</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni London drinks, with Corpus Christi</td>
<td>Thursday 15 November, Cittie of Yorke, High Holborn</td>
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<td>The Conversation: Jocelyn Bell Burnell</td>
<td>Wednesday 28 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Varsity Match alumni event, Twickenham</td>
<td>Thursday 6 December</td>
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<td>Global Cambridge: Seattle</td>
<td>Thursday 6 December</td>
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## 2019

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Hopkins Lecture</td>
<td>Friday 22 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s Circle Dinner (for £100k+ donors)</td>
<td>Friday 10th May (By Invitation)</td>
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<td>50th Anniversary Dinner 1969</td>
<td>Friday 5 July</td>
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<td>1977–81 Reunion Dinner</td>
<td>Saturday 6 July</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alumni Association Weekend</strong></td>
<td>Friday 27 – 29 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bursary Donor Dinner</td>
<td>Thursday 21 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>East coast of USA and Canada alumni visit by the Master</td>
<td>Dates TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘The Conversation’ with Alison Finch</td>
<td>Friday 8 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winston Churchill Society Legators lunch</td>
<td>Thursday 14 March</td>
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</tbody>
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Events listed will be hosted at the College unless stated otherwise.