

# CHURCHILL **REVIEW**

Volume 61 | 2024





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‘It’s certainly an unusual honour and a distinction that a college bearing my name should be added to the ancient and renowned foundations which together form the University of Cambridge.’

**Sir Winston Churchill, 17 October, 1959**



Winston and Clementine Churchill with grandchildren, Emma and Nicholas Soames, in 1951. CSCT 5/7/44



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## EDITORIAL

It was an unusual start to the year: students had to wait until 14th December for their finalised results. It is pleasing to see that our students excelled last year *and* this year, with many receiving University and College prizes in recognition of their outstanding results. Our students also performed well in many extra-curricular activities – suffice it to say that two Churchillians were members of the victorious Cambridge Squad in the 2024 Boat Race. Then at the end of this academic year the College bade farewell to our Master, Professor Dame Athene Donald and welcomed Professor Sharon Peacock as our new Master in October 2024.

This year's **Spotlight** is dedicated to some members of our BAME community. The section starts with 'Notes from the Corridor', where Bhanu Kapil, Churchill College Extraordinary Fellow, reflects on her career, on becoming a Churchill Fellow and on the many events she has initiated at Churchill. This is followed by 'Meeting Osarenkhoe Ogbeide', a Churchill Junior Research Fellow, born in Islington, London who gained his undergraduate Master's degree at the University of Leicester in Interdisciplinary Science and did his PhD at Churchill College. In 'Meeting Emmanuela Bonglack', a Churchill Postdoctoral By-Fellow, Emmanuela tells us about her background, her studies, why she applied to become a Churchill PDRF, and her thoughts on Churchill's EDI initiatives. In 'Meeting Josephine Tumvesige', Churchill MCR EDI Officer, we learn that Josephine was born in Kampala, Uganda. In this piece Josephine tells us about her studies, her research, her involvement with the MCR as EDI Officer. 'Meeting Duaa Elfaki', Churchill JCR Equalities Officer, tells us that Duaa was born and raised in Saudi Arabia before moving to Birmingham at the age of 13. We learn why she chose to study Engineering and what her role as JCR Equalities Officer entails. And finally, in 'Meeting Stephane Antoinette', a Churchill Hospitality Porter, Stephane shares with us his views on working at Churchill.

The **College Events** section begins with 'The Perfect Excuse to be Incredibly Nosy', a conversation with Gillian Tett, an anthropologist, writer of many books and Provost of King's College, Cambridge, who talks about her career path, what Anthropology could teach us and much more. In 'Curiosity and Flexibility are Key', Professor Deborah Prentice, an eminent social

psychologist and University Vice-Chancellor, tells us how she rose through the academic ranks and took on administrative responsibilities of increasing scope. Athene Donald's last conversation was, fittingly, with Professor Sharon Peacock – 'Turning Failures into Successes' – as this was the first female-to-female Mastership transition at Churchill. 'A Force to Be Reckoned With' looks back on the College's first Women in STEM Dinner, held on 8 March 2024, where over 125 undergraduates, postgraduates, Fellows and alumnae gathered. And finally, in 'Building Impact', Dr Rachel Thorley, CORE Fellow, explained that in August 2023 she welcomed forty Year 12 students from diverse and under-represented backgrounds for a pioneering Cambridge's cross-disciplinary innovative residential course focused on addressing UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 – building safe, inclusive homes.

This year's **Student Life** contains many sports and society reports. In the first one, 'Another Year to Celebrate', the JCR President recounts the many sporting successes of the JCR members, the many events organised by the JCR and the many achievements of the JCR committee. In 'Giving our Best', the MCR President recounts how the Churchill postgraduate community has managed to push forward with the help of the committee, and the College.

'Cuppers and League Victories' is the story about the many successes of Churchill Badminton. In 'Going from Strength to Strength', the Overall Captain of the Churchill College Boat Club reports about the women's first boat achieving 'blades', the 'learn-to-row' novice programme and last but not least the contribution of two Churchillians to the victorious Cambridge crews in the 2024 The Boat Race. 'Greater Togetherness Amongst the Club' narrates the trials and tribulations of the 2023–24 Churchill Football team. This year's Conference on Everything, an annual event that brings together the thriving postgraduate community from various disciplines to engage in multidisciplinary discussions and explore the boundaries of knowledge, was the best attended in recent history. There were more than twenty speakers with an even mix of various disciplines, and it showcased 'The Incredible Diversity of Research at Churchill College'. Finally, 'Enhancing Innovative Thinking for Churchill Students' was the first Churchill Ideas Mash programme, an interdisciplinary real-world team problem-solving challenge.

In the section that follows, the College paid **Tributes** to three outstanding Churchillians: Archie Howie, 'A Truly Remarkable Person', who celebrated

his 90th birthday in March 2024; Marcial Echenique, 'An Internationally Renowned Architect', and David Newbery, 'The Economists' Economist', who both celebrated their 80th birthdays in May 2023 and June 2023 respectively.

The **Features** section opens with an interview with 'Professor Sharon Peacock, the Eighth Master of Churchill College'. In 'Remembering the Early Years of the Churchill Archives Centre', we learn about the crucial role played by John Killen – Emeritus Professor of Mycenaean Greek at Cambridge and a Fellow of the British Academy – during those early years. In 'A Time to Reflect', French Government Fellow Dr Cédric Maurange, a developmental biologist and research director at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (French National Centre for Scientific Research), tells us about his research as well as his experience of this unique Fellowship. 'Academically Exceptional' tells us about Churchill College's 2023 First Majority Female Intake and how remarkable they are, even by the College's standards. In 'Pioneering Role of Churchill College', we hear that Churchill welcomed its first cohort of Postdoctoral By-Fellows (PDBF) in October 2013. Although many other Colleges now have similar schemes, Churchill was in the vanguard of providing College affiliations to postdocs. In *Ten Years at Churchill College*, Dr Matthew Donald, a mathematician and a Churchill By-Fellow reflects on his ten years living and working in College. *From Viper's-Bugloss to Hairy Tare*, is the story of Churchill College Plant Audit which identified 292 different plant species on Churchill College's campus. And finally, *Chaplain to God's Bordello* is a humorous account of the Revd Professor Bryan Spinks's time as Chaplain to the Chapel at Churchill College between 1980 and 1997.

In **Going Forward** the Development Director tells us that last year started sadly with the death of our first Winston Churchill Fellow, Michael Cowan, a most kind and generous alumnus. She gives us an extended report on the Development Team's many different schemes to raise money of which the very successful *Think Forward* campaign – that started two years ago – is but one. To date, the College has raised just under £25million donated or pledged which means that our endowment is now close to £140million.

In **Friendship and Fellowship**, Jayne Donora, the new Chair of the Churchill College Association, in her first annual report, briefly reminds us of the history of the Association before reviewing the Association's events, especially the Association Weekend of September 2023. She mentions the Churchill Writing

Group which is going from strength to strength and concludes by thanking Andrew Stephenson, the previous Chair, for his inimitable extrovert style. Martin Wood recounts the exciting beginnings of the 'Churchill Folk Club' which he started with his room-mate Steve Shirley. In 'A Few Gems from the 1960–1961 Years', Stephen Howe recounts with much humour that Freshers in the 1960s wanting to know more about Cambridge life would turn to the Varsity Handbook to get answers to their questions. And finally, the Churchill Writing Group offers us three wonderful pieces: A poignant story, 'DNR', by Liz Forte, followed by a striking excerpt from 'Hydra' by Nick Mira; the third piece is the delightful 'The Fifty Metre Retreat' by Sharmala Naidoo.

This is followed as usual by **Members' News** – the many Churchillians' achievements this past year – **Who's Who at Churchill** and finally the Review closes with '**In Memoriam**' and obituaries for some of our most prominent members. This year has seen the passing away of too many of them.

I take this opportunity to give huge thanks to the Development Office and especially to Elizabeth McWilliams for her forever patient and meticulous proof-reading; to the Vice-Master and Libby Jones for their help with the Who's Who section. And as usual my deepest and most grateful thanks go to Paula Laycock for her unwavering enthusiastic support, and for taking responsibility once more for all the Review photos.

Anny King



# FROM THE MASTER



‘There is no limit to what we,  
as women, can accomplish.’

**Michelle Obama**

*American attorney, author and former First Lady of the United States*

## LOOKING BACK



Ten years sounds such a long time, and yet it has vanished pretty quickly as I prepare to move back to my own house, out of the convenient and pleasant surroundings of the Master's Lodge. Inevitably my time here falls into three parts: the world before Covid exploded, the pandemic itself, and rebuilding the College community after the pandemic receded. It will be no surprise to any reader to know that it was the middle part that was the most challenging and exhausting.

### Reasons for applying to Churchill

Why did I apply to be Master of Churchill? I am often asked that question, and it wasn't because I was already deeply familiar with it. I played squash here once, extremely badly, as an undergraduate. I had also been involved in the organisation of a couple of very different conference series here over my years in Cambridge: one, long-running series on Deformation, Yield and Fracture of Polymers (triennial meetings), the other a new departure on Starch, Structure and Function. I knew the Wolfson Lecture theatre was a great venue, and the conference team really supportive, but that would not have been enough to pique my interest.

However, the answer is straightforward: it was the Cambridge College that I felt most aligned with my interests, experience and character. Old Colleges are of course attractive, not to mention frequently wealthy, but can come with a lot of baggage ranging from duties over the port after high table to many dinners (and portraits) celebrating long dead bewigged gentlemen who once made a difference to the College in question. I liked the sense of progress and modernism the College portrayed. Additionally, as a physicist, the focus on the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects was particularly attractive, giving the College a unique feel. On all these fronts the College has fulfilled, if not surpassed, my expectations.

## Arriving in College

It is a challenge to arrive in a College, lacking essentially all knowledge of what has gone before, the traditions, the mistakes and the triumphs. It is inevitable that, arriving without the knowledge the Fellowship collectively holds is going to lead to mistakes. I am glad to see that the incoming Master has been participating in a much more extensive programme of knowledge transfer and acclimatisation to what



makes Churchill special than I was provided with. I am sure that will help Sharon navigate the idiosyncratic ways of a Cambridge College. However, I will say I was met with nothing but a warm welcome and enthusiasm. I may have been the first female Master, and people have asked me how that felt, but I never felt the least antagonism. Indeed, I was told multiple times the story of William Hawthorne, as the second Master, holding out against the admission of women and, even after the vote had been lost, saying how much he was against the idea. The moral I took from this story was that, as a Master, it was unwise to put something to a vote without knowing the likely outcome and, if the vote went against your own views, not saying so but adopting a position more akin to 'well of course you've all persuaded me I had that wrong.' Luckily, I haven't often found myself needing to default to that position.

## Very few women in Hall

I was fortunate in arriving in a College with a well-oiled senior team. Richard Partington, as Senior Tutor, and Jennifer Brook, as Bursar, had been in their posts long enough they were totally on top of their respective briefs. In my first year it felt as if there was little I needed to do, or should do, to perturb this. But with familiarity of course one starts to see areas where change and improvement could occur. Most notable of these was the moment, at the Matriculation Dinner in 2015 (the start of my second year in College), when I had sufficient confidence to progress from the nerves of 2014 before my first after-dinner speech, to take breath and look around the Hall. Full of eager and/or fearful new students, with Fellows there to encourage them, I was struck by one key thing: there seemed to be very few women in the Hall.





*Matriculation 2015, CCPH/211.*

That perception turned out to be spot on. The Senior Tutor looked at the statistics and reported there were only 28% of women in our new intake. He and I agreed, that was not good enough. We had to analyse why and then, what to do about it.

### Reaching parity

It turned out the numbers of women applying to Churchill as first choice were much lower than for men. Whether that was because of a general suspicion that a College ‘full of engineers’ might not be the best place for them was hard to tell, but even in Engineering the percentages applying seemed to be below the average across the Cambridge Colleges. Work was done on our website and promotional material to try to make the College overall more attractive, but more attention was also paid to the admission process. Over the next few years steady progress was made until – during the pandemic and all the upheaval over the lack of A Level exams and the necessary use of ‘centre assessed grades’ – we reached parity.

And there we have stayed. Importantly, this has been done with no obvious impact on our exam results and standing. There is always more to be done to ensure we admit students from all backgrounds, and we take pleasure in

noting that we have admitted both Ukrainian refugees and care-experienced students, for instance.

### Academic staff changes

Senior Tutors have come and gone: Richard Partington had a year's sabbatical, and then a further term later to enable him to finish his recently published and well-received book with Caroline Burt. First Sally Boss stepped up for the full year, and then Lisa Jardine Wright for the demanding Easter 2020 term and summer, demanding both because of the pandemic and the consequent A Level issues. Richard left us for St John's in the summer of 2022, with Rita Monson first standing in as an interim and thereafter formally appointed. Different Senior Tutors, different ways of working. I've seen a succession of Postgraduate Senior Tutors too (formerly known as Senior Tutor for Advanced Students), with Barry Kingston retiring after many years of splendid service, to be followed by Liz DeMarrais for two years and Mairi Kilkenny for one. Alastair Lockhart came at the start of Michaelmas 2023, and I hope will stay rather longer! It is good to have turnover in the senior leadership, but perhaps not too much....

### Michal Cowan



*Michael Cowan at the Business Network event in 2017*

On the bursarial front there has been less change. Jennifer Brooke (or Jennifer Rigby as was) departed in 2017 to be succeeded by Tamsin James, both doing an excellent job of keeping the College financially in good shape. Here too, the pandemic caused massive upheavals, as both conference and Møller income dropped to zero for an extended period. Both, I'm glad to say, have recovered well, but that couldn't be guaranteed. Many alumni stepped up to help during this difficult period.

At this point it is probably timely to pay tribute to the late Michael Cowan who has been, not only a most generous donor over many years leading him to become the first Winston Churchill Fellow (having donated

over £5M in total) but also served for 24 years on the Investment Committee. The advice he gave us on this committee, based on his long and extensive experience managing funds, was absolutely a boon for us in managing our endowment, which has steadily grown – not least down to the ongoing Think Forward Campaign, to celebrate our 60th Anniversary, that he championed.

### **The pandemic**

I've touched on the pandemic several times in the above paragraphs, and I don't want to dwell on it. Everyone will have their own experiences of that miserable time. I will only say it was an incredibly exhausting experience, trying to keep up with constantly changing legislation, to look after the students who had had to remain on site because they couldn't get home in time; to ensure those staff who were still needed operationally were safe, and those who went on furlough still felt connected to the College closely and efficiently together but the endless stream of Teams and Zoom calls felt relentless at times, something I'm sure most readers will identify with.

### **Financial pressures on the student body**

When I talk to alumni, I always remind them of the academic achievements of our student body. However, there is no doubt that financial pressures continue to pile up on them in a way unfamiliar to most of my generation (and for many years afterwards). Then, those coming from the most disadvantaged backgrounds could rely, if not always on maintenance grants, at least on an absence of fees. That time has long passed, and the high inflation and cost-of-living increases have put ever greater pressure on the student body, particularly in a College like ours that prides itself on widening participation. That second word is key: this is not just about coming to Churchill and working hard in your room, but also about being able to participate in the full College life, be it music or sport, not to mention spending time with your peers in the Buttery with a pizza (which sell particularly well!). Financial support for our students through the Winston Churchill Top-up bursaries or support for rent, plus providing summer opportunities to complete an internship or travel are vital to allow *all* our students to benefit from everything Cambridge and Churchill can provide.

This is as true for our postgraduates as for our undergraduates, but we have tended not to focus so much on this slightly later-stage population and we lack adequate funding for research studentships, particularly in the

Arts and Humanities. With the Archives such a unique collection of 20th century leading figures – one of the great treasures of the College that was unknown to me before my election – it is a particular shame that we don't attract more postgraduates who want to work on the collections, directly or indirectly in their research (we do, of course, have a steady stream of Archives By-Fellows and other scholars who spend time here). Nevertheless, our postgraduate community do remarkable things and go on to contribute greatly to our society, in this country or far away in their home countries. The Conference on Everything, which has a long and venerable tradition of showcasing postgraduate research, continues to flourish. Clearly, over the pandemic, it had to stop, but this year it was back with renewed vigour and more students being willing to talk briefly and accessibly about their research. It is always a splendid day.

### **The after-effects of the pandemic**

Apart from the financial pressures, on undergraduates and postgraduates alike, I worry about how the after-effects of the pandemic will linger in our student population. It will be a decade or more yet before the students we admit will not have vivid memories of how their lives were disrupted by the dreaded words of social distancing and lessons on Zoom, possibly delivered simply on one shared smartphone in their household, so in far-from-ideal circumstances. We know that the mental health of students around the country, and probably the world, has suffered from this and other causes such as social media. It is a major concern for the Tutorial team and providing adequate support at a time when the provision from the NHS is itself in crisis is a real worry, but it is crucial we find ways to support the student body.

### **Diversity among Heads of House**

Heads of House across the Cambridge Colleges are a diverse bunch, coming from many different sectors. No longer are the vast majority career academics like me, and that diversity can prove valuable in many different situations when we gather to discuss the topics we are all confronting, be it regulation or student mental health, finances or our collective interactions with the central University and constituent departments. However, there is no doubt that having spent my life in the University system means I am better equipped to deal with some of these issues than others. The legal niceties may escape me sometimes, but I am well versed in the cycle of the academic year. One thing that has noticeably changed during my tenure is the proportion of women



amongst the Heads. My personal belief – although others may disagree – is that this has led to a much more congenial atmosphere for serious discussion, but other factors may equally have fed into the ‘comradeship’ amongst us and our ability frequently to reach consensus on the pressing problems and their potential solutions.

### Many memorable moments

What is the favourite part of my job? Rather than pick out a single occasion or individual here, I think what I have loved most is the enormous range of both of these I have been able to encounter. There was the memorable drinks reception in the Lodge before the Roskill Lecture given by Margaret MacMillan. Dan Snow – MacMillan’s nephew, looked at the painting on the wall of a WWI battle scene, a painting that has been in my family all my life, and asked me which battle it depicted. Embarrassingly, I’d never thought about that and could give no answer. (It turns out to be Loos 1915.) All

the biennial Roskill lectures have been a joy to attend, opening this physicist’s eyes to new questions and arenas. There was the Pol Roger reception to celebrate the women’s rugby Varsity match moving to Twickenham for the first time, when the captain of the team was a Churchillian. There have been dinners with alumni – in College and many other locations – doing great things in different spheres and Freshers ready to enjoy all that Cambridge and the College has to offer and excited to discuss the place and what they’d done to get here (although perhaps they’d have preferred not being seated next to the Master at their first formal meal here). There was the time President Obama’s Ambassador in London, Matthew Barzun, visited to talk to the students, and it was very clear he wanted to talk to them not the Fellows and he wanted them to be the ones who quizzed him after his brief introductory speech. I could go on, but these few examples span the sorts of activities that make this job so fascinating.



Alison Ming

*Athene and Matthew at the Graduation Garden Party, Summer 2022.*

## The flourishing of sustainability

I have enjoyed watching the College's activities around sustainability flourish, be it the solar cells on the roofs of several courts or the introduction of air source heat pumps to the houses on Storey's Way as they are refurbished. These not only are a way of reducing our carbon emissions, but also saves us money on our bills. We cater as sustainably as possible, with far less red meat served now than when I arrived, and a much broader selection of vegan/vegetarian meals on offer. No more single use plastics and our waste-to-landfill has essentially been eradicated. It is hardly surprising that year on year we win the highest-level award, Platinum, in the Green Impact awards.



*New Buttery with wheelchair access*

## The Sustainability and EDI committees

Both the Sustainability Committee and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee are committees I have instigated during my tenure. The former has clear KPIs which are published on the web. Benchmarking for the latter is hard, as we have very little of the necessary data available to us and we cannot insist people disclose information they do not feel they wish to.

Nevertheless there is plenty going on in this space: improving accessibility (there have been major changes in the Buttery to make sure wheelchair users can access the bar area, for instance); looking at the gender make-up of committees and ensuring a member of the EDI committee sits on high-level appointments committees; running race awareness training for staff and facilitating the student committees to run events such as mandatory consent awareness workshops during Freshers Week. There is always more that can be done.

### **And finally ...**

As I say, ten years has gone by in a blur of activity, challenges and upheavals. All I can do here is give a snapshot of my emotions as I depart. It will be a sad day for me and Matthew (who has his own piece elsewhere in the *Review*) when I pass the baton on, and we leave this wonderful place. But of course, I won't be far away – my house is still in Cambridge – and I will become an Emeritus Fellow so my connection will remain strong with Churchill.

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On Wednesday 10 July, the College gave a special dinner for Athene to thank her for her ten years as Master. Many Fellows attended the dinner and many people – previous Vice-Masters (Professor Ken Siddle, Professor Andrew Webber, Professor Alison Finch), previous Bursar Jennifer Brook and Acting Senior Tutor, Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright – commented on the many achievements of Dame Athene. High on the list were gender parity, EDI and sustainability. It was a wonderful evening. And of course, our Churchill bard was on hand to read her a poem that he penned.



## Archie Howie's poem

### Unstemming STEM at Churchill

In girls' careers, **STEM** – that's a buzzword now –  
For 'Electron **M**icroscopy' once stood –  
A stage for young Athene's research bow  
'**S**canning **T**ransmission' matched her roving mood!

With glory days of Crick and Watson past,  
Sam Edwards to 'soft matter' tuned his brain;  
But, just as Franklin's X-rays insights cast,  
Athene's work Sam's project would sustain!

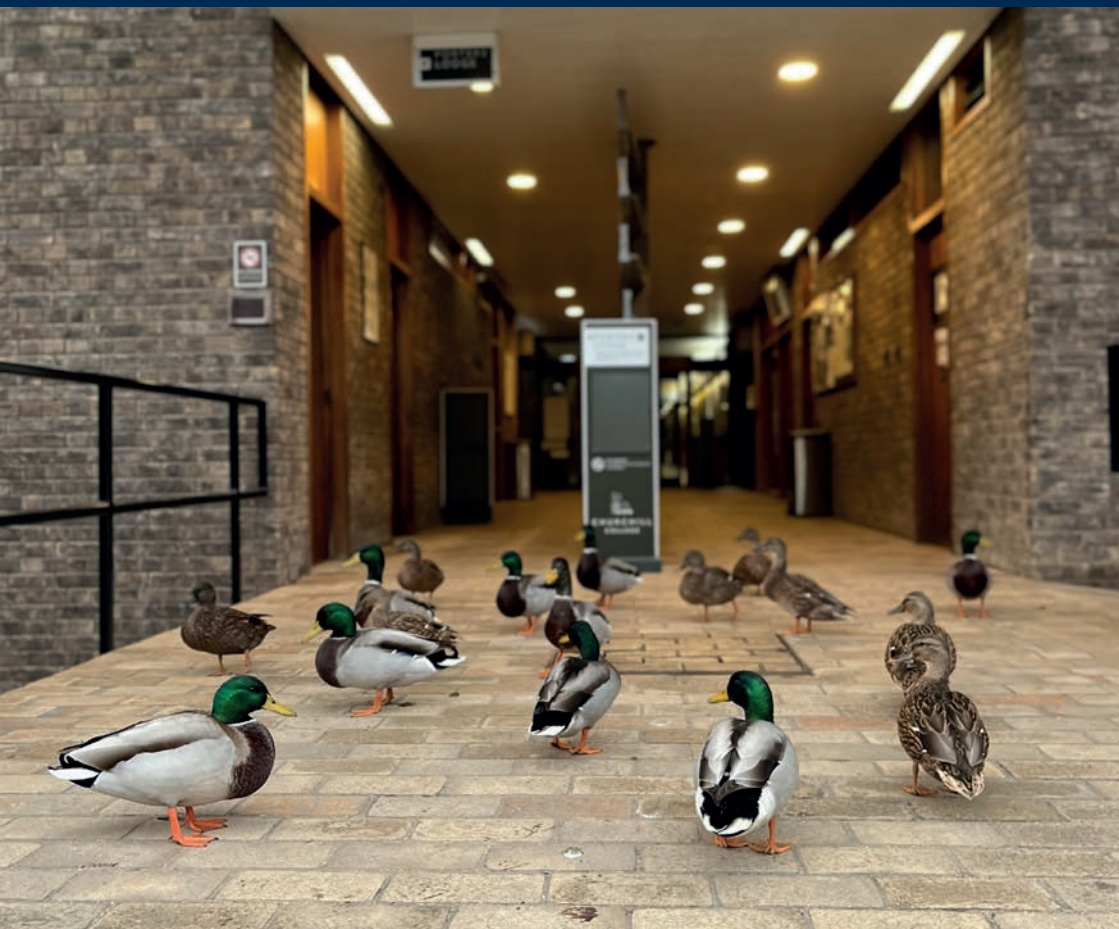
In this replay, diffraction's role would stay;  
There's much biology its path avoids;  
And for Athene paved a shining way  
Through polymers to starch and amyloids!

Her Mastership saw gender balance met,  
Tough problems solved with Covid virus rife.  
From Churchill, Empire Race we can reset  
And deeper understand our Founder's life!

To unstem tide for clever girls she aims!  
Her interviews and book, the blocks unfold.  
Two blocks get Mathew's and Matilda's names!  
Thanks for **her** Matthew's Maths just put on hold!

Walking our streets they'd often, hand-in-hand,  
Cool off from Churchill feasts once they could leave.  
We hope their life together can expand  
With strolls that sometimes through the College weave!

# THE COLLEGE YEAR



‘Education is not preparation for  
life; education is life itself.’

**John Dewey**

*American philosopher and psychologist*



# THE COLLEGEYEAR

## Strength and Resilience in our Student Community

Senior Tutor's Report (2023–2024)



Dr Rita Monson, a Biologist, is Churchill College's Senior Tutor and a Churchill Fellow. She tells us about the unusual start to the year when students had to wait until 14 December for their finalised results. Rita emphasises that our students excelled last year and this year in their results, with many receiving University and College prizes in recognition of their outstanding results. She also talks about the many extra-curricular achievements our students excelled in. Rita was pleased to see increases in the

number of students applying to the College's Summer Opportunity Bursaries. She concludes by saying that our students bade farewell to Professor Dame Athene Donald our outgoing Master.

When we left off last year, results for students still had not been finalised for more than half of our students and there were uncertain times ahead for many. For those of you who were undergraduate students at Churchill, you will remember the excitement marking the start of a new year. The anticipation of seeing everyone again, settling into your new room and dusting off your bike. Now imagine that this is accompanied by **uncertainty** and the release of your previous years results. That is to say, the start of the term was a rather strange one in the College where we embarked on welcoming our new students into the College with traditional activities capped off with both the Postgraduate and Undergraduate matriculation dinners whilst also **wrapping up the previous year's work, informing students of results** and having serious discussions about paper choices in light of newly discovered strengths (or weaknesses). Throughout this all, our students continue to demonstrate strength and resilience, working incredibly hard and pushing themselves to meet their academic potential.

## Last year final results

In the end, the final results for the College were received and finalised on 14 December 2023, well after the end of the term and when we were firmly into the interview season for the current admissions cycle. **Churchill students continue to excel within the University** and this year was no different. Six students came top of Tripos around the University, and many were awarded University prizes. Because of the delays in receipt of results, the Scholar's Feast, normally held in Michaelmas term, was shifted into Lent. It remains a highlight of the year and this year we were delighted to welcome so many students for such a celebratory evening.

## Other achievements

**Student success** here in the College **is not limited to academic achievement**. This past year, I have enjoyed watching as our students have excelled in musical pursuits around the College and the wider University. **The Churchill Jazz band** continues to build on its success and their evenings in the bar are always well attended and enjoyed. Several of our students have been featured as part of the University Lunchtime Concert series, in **the University Ballet** or within the Samulnori (a Korean percussion instrument) society. We have also had students representing the University in **sporting ventures from the Boat Race to Lawn Tennis and the Rugby Varsity match** and many more College sporting successes in rowing, basketball and badminton to name a few (apologies to those who I have inevitably left out here!). It has been incredible to be invited and witness student success across the year be it in the theatre, at the concert venue, on the pitch or beside the river.

## Summer opportunities

It has become increasingly clear that our students are eager and keen to engage with the wider world during their summer. We have continued to see increases in the number of students applying to **our Summer Opportunity Bursaries** and I was delighted to work with the Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States and their Executive Director, Michael Morse, to send Churchill undergraduate students to the USA last summer. Three students worked with faculty at Brown University and one at Williams University. We were indebted to both Universities and the hosts for our students, Professor Brenda Rubenstein (Churchill Scholar in 2007–08) and Professor Steven Miller. This year, I am delighted that we are **returning**



to **Brown and Williams while also sending students to Harvard.**

These opportunities are invaluable to our students, whether they are here in Cambridge working on projects or across in Cambridge, USA. I am delighted that we have been able to get these programmes off the ground and continue to be inspired by the exciting research produced by our students during such short spells across the summer.

### **Excellent 2023–2024 academic results**

Moving on to the end of the 2023–24 academic year, it has again been one of **tremendous academic success in the College.** Results were largely finalised in the second week in July. Our students have been honoured with plenty of University prizes for their academic achievements and their continued research excellence. This extends beyond our undergraduates.

### **The Conference on Everything**

Every year I am delighted to participate in our **Conference on Everything, run by the MCR.** This year it was a pleasure to see several of our alumni present and be a part of it. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing about topics from black holes to Spinoza. It continues to be a highlight of the year for me, and I am tremendously excited to see what is presented next year. It was really lovely to welcome so many alumni back for that event, please look out for it next year and do come along if you would like to hear more.

### **And finally ...**

The end of the year marks a further transition for us in the College with the change of Master from Dame Athene Donald to Professor Sharon Peacock (undoubtedly this will be covered in more depth elsewhere in the *Review*). Students were able to say **goodbye to Athene at the Tutorial BBQ** (when the sun shone briefly for two hours on an otherwise rainy day!) and at the May Ball. Thus, while the College has quieted down with the departure of the undergraduate students, it has been nice to catch up with postgraduates who are still here on site and start to mark the transition into the next year. I am already starting to get excited for what comes next, and I look forward to seeing many of you at events across the summer and into next year.

Rita Monson

# A Positive Year in the Postgraduate Life of the College

Senior Postgraduate Tutor's Report (2023–2024)



Dr Alastair Lockhart, our new Senior Postgraduate Tutor, talks about Churchill's 2024 excellent intake, comments about the social and intellectual life of the postgraduate community, remarks on the strong supportive Tutorial team and others, and concludes on the warm engagement, collegiality and goodwill of the Fellowship and our alumni.

The College admits a good ratio of doctoral and one-year students each year, and the academic standard of direct applicants to the College is consistently excellent.

## Our 2024 intake

In 2024, we admitted about 160 postgraduate students, about a third of whom joined the College for doctoral study and including ten medical students moving to their clinical studies following pre-clinical study as undergraduates. It is a sign of the College's success in building community spirit and achieving positive outcomes that **each year we welcome back a number of alumni for postgraduate study** – some straight after their first degree, others some time after graduation as they seek to enhance their profile, change direction, or just develop new interests. Our ability to **offer studentships and other support** is often a decisive factor in attracting the best students, and these will become increasingly important as the costs of study and competition for applicants with the greatest potential increases. In addition to the twenty postgraduate studentships for MPhil study supported by the Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States, the College offered an impressive eight named studentships this year.

## Social and intellectual life of the MCR community

The busy social and intellectual life of the postgraduate community continues to burgeon as the constraints of the pandemic start to fade. **The Conference on Everything** in the Wolfson Hall in April **was a great success**, with able MCR leadership from the Academic Officers, Belquis Haider (G21) and

Sruthi Srinivasan (G21), and a stirring keynote from College Fellow Professor Sir Mike Gregory. In a record for recent years, there were **more than twenty individual oral presentations and numerous posters**. Prizes for oral presentations were awarded to Katherine Mann (Social Sciences and Humanities session), Payton Rodman (Physical Sciences) and Joshua Weygant (Biological Sciences), with the People's Choice prize going to Juliana Ferraro. The poster prize went to Amy Rachel Hodgson, and the prize for poster presentation with 1-minute pitch to Joseph Asfour. Last year saw the first postgraduate **Two Minute Thesis competition** in the College – in which speakers have two minutes and one slide to communicate their research for a general audience – which was a great success, and the competition was run again in November with eleven presentations. Prizes were awarded to Katie-Lou White, John Mark Poole and Arnab Sarkar – with the People's Choice going to Muhammed Nabil Satria Faradis. Prizes for both events were donated by alumni, and we are most grateful to them for their support.

### **The Tutorial team**

I have been very fortunate to join the College as Senior Postgraduate Tutor with a strong team of Tutors in place. Professor Sally Boss, Dr Liz DeMarrais, Dr Thanuja Galhena, Professor Benedikt Loëwe, Dr Clare Sander, and Professor Alex Webb have provided excellent tutorial guidance to students across courses through the year; they get to share in the successes of the students, but more importantly they are the hand of guidance for individuals when things are at their most challenging too. As Tutors, we have been grateful for excellent support from Rebecca Sawalmeh, the Postgraduate Office Manager, and Lily Hunter, the Postgraduate Assistant who joined the office during the year. The Senior Tutor provides personal support in many of the most difficult student situations alongside her strategic oversight. And, we have all been grateful for the help provided by Louise Ranger, the Wellbeing Coordinator, Karen MacGinley, the College Nurse, Dr Christopher Braithwaite, the Finance Tutor, and many others from the College's staff and Fellowship who contribute in formal and informal ways that come together to keep the postgraduate community thriving. A number of donors from across the College community – from alumni and Fellows to friends of the College – have contributed to our student support funds, and these make a real difference where students face otherwise insuperable circumstances – we are very grateful to those who helped in this way.

### **And finally ...**

Overall, we can look back over a positive year in the postgraduate life of the College. The College is fortunate to have such a strong tradition of academic excellence at this level, which it deftly combines with collegiality and goodwill. While the students are the building-blocks for that, it is clear that the warm engagement of the Fellowship and affectionate support from our alumni provides the foundation. As a newcomer to the College in a demanding role, I have been especially grateful for that positive spirit which is part of Churchill's distinctive character – I don't think there is any other College quite like it.

Alastair Lockhart

## A Good Year, Overall

Bursar's Report (2023–2024)



Tamsin James, Bursar and a Churchill Fellow, gives us an up-to-date account of the state of the College's finances. She reports on the fact that our operating income is forecast to be around £23m – exceeding our budget by over £1m. She adds that the donations this year have increased to around £5m. She tells us that staffing levels have stabilised and that many projects and refurbishments are either under way or have been finalised in record time. Tamsin reminds us that the College adopted new Statutes and Ordinances that will ensure that the College continues to operate with maximum transparency and best practice. Her final words are to thank our alumni community for their generosity.

As planned when I wrote this time last year, we started the financial year in summer 2023 with our highest ever levels of commercial occupancy and followed that with a strengthening pattern of commercial dining over the festive period. Our **operating income** is forecast to **exceed our budget by over £1m**, at c. £23m. This has resulted predominantly from increased investment (£4.7m) and commercial (£2.8m) income, which, together with donations make up nearly 40% of the College's operating income.

### Income and charges

Education and fee income remains **just over £4m**, which represents only 18%. Rent and catering charges will make up another 30%. Whilst charges have increased, we have sought to manage these below inflationary levels to ensure that the College remains competitive within Cambridge and that students are not deterred from Churchill on the basis of cost. In addition, College **spending on scholarships, studentships and grants increased to £1.5m** this year, with additional cost of living bursaries to support both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

### Increase in donations

**Donations have increased to around £5m** (including long-term funds which don't appear as part of our operating income but are invested.

The additional income is now visibly flowing through from the increasing endowment). The return performance of our endowment (which is almost entirely in equities) is amongst the highest in the inter-Collegiate University, so we are very much making the most of the contributions you so generously make. We are forecast to make **a small surplus this year**, improving our position on a budgeted deficit of £0.25m.

### **Stabilisation of staffing levels**

Staffing levels have re-stabilised after a spate of post Covid departures and significant recruitment. With sickness absence levels remaining higher than before the pandemic, we have taken the opportunity to focus on a number of **wellbeing-related policies and training**, including holding our first staff wellbeing day in Lent to inform staff on a range of health and resilience building techniques. This has been very well received and we will in future run a series throughout the year.

### **Projects and refurbishments**

Dave Prinsep joined the College halfway through the year as Estates and Operations Director, along with Paul Lawrence as Head of Buildings. They quickly picked up the major estates' projects underway, **completing the Bill Brown Creative Workshops**, delivering the **kitchen refurbishment** in the tiny window between festive commercial events and students returning, and driving forward the most extensive of the College's graduate house refurbishment projects (76 Storey's Way) – the only one which is also a listed building. This is expected to conclude over the coming months and has helped to clarify the particular challenges faced by the College in achieving sustainability goals within a badly insulated, largely single glazed listed estate. These will feed into the work which is continuing to develop a long-term estate's strategy, incorporating master-planning, decarbonisation and development needs.

### **New Statutes and Ordinances**

The year has also been particularly significant from a governance perspective. The Governing Body has approved new Statutes and Ordinances for the College. These have been substantially updated and modernised, reflecting the College's culture, and ensuring that the College continues to **operate with maximum transparency and best practice**. The revisions are currently

with the Privy Council for approval. The Master elect has been kept informed as these were formalised and has been able to attend several meetings as an observer as well as events, so that we can ensure a smooth transition in the autumn, at what is always a significant juncture for a College.

### **And finally ...**

**The College remains grateful to the alumni** who continue to give their time so generously in support of the College's governance, and particular thanks are due this year to Neil Canetty-Clarke (G88), who stepped down after serving for the maximum term on the College's Audit Committee, much of which as chair, to David Woods (U65), for stepping into the chair and to Saad Sattar (U07) for joining the committee to provide valuable independent cross membership with the Finance Committee.

Tamsin James

# Transitions and Transformations

Estates and Operations Director's Report (2023–2024)



Dave Prinsep, Estates and Operations Director, joined in November, overseeing a period of change with long serving staff leaving, new staff joining and others taking on a wider remit. A busy year for all, some learning about the College, others adapting to new roles, while keeping the College moving forward sustainably. The College achieved Platinum Green Impact status for the 7th consecutive year.

## Sustainable grounds and gardens



*North Court flower border*

**The College's grounds and gardens evolve**, providing a sustainable, calming and welcoming environment for all, wildlife included. Extended wildflower and meadowing, now at c.5 acres, has seen bee, pyramidal and common spotted orchids flowering throughout the grounds. We're experimenting with SUDS wildflower turf to improve drainage while increasing biodiversity.

**Over 30 new trees were planted**, including cherries, almonds, plums and gages, adding to our 920 trees as well as 1,000 Narcissus 'Thalia', 500 Narcissus obvallaris, 1,500 narcissus mix, 2,000 tulips and 2,400 snowdrops. **Two Churchill plants were added** to our Plant Heritage National Collection – Amaryllis 'Churchill Red' and Paphiopedilum 'Winston Churchill'. The orchid house was revamped, adding more vandas and paphiopedilums.



Many birds can be found on site such as blackbirds, tits, robins, green and spotted woodpeckers, red kites, sparrowhawks, treecreepers and gold finches. We are also visited by foxes, badgers and muntjac deer.

### **Warm welcomes and goodbyes**

Our Porters are often the first contact people have at the College, supporting students and Fellows on arrival and throughout their time here. As well as more practical roles, they provide an important welfare role: welfare checks; providing tea and a chat during the quiet holiday periods; or providing an 'unofficial' concierge service. The Porters have undertaken Mental Health awareness and Mental Health First aid training for this aspect of the role.

We're **sad to see Mark Collier and Wayne Allen retire**, wishing them well as we welcome a new generation of Porters.

**Carol Robinson retired** from our Conference team at the end of 2023, having successfully rebuilt the conference business after Covid. **Sue James has been promoted**, wasting no time building on Carol's work with continued sales growth.

### **Keeping the College going sustainably**

The Estates and Operations teams are essential to keep the College functioning. Behind the scenes, our **housekeeping staff and hospitality porters keep the site clean, tidy and ready** for every event, function, conference and visit to the College. A strong team has been built up and retained over the past year making sure that rooms are clean and set up for the wide variety of activities we undertake.

They play an important part in meeting our environmental and sustainability aspirations: we are using waste compactors and concentrated products designed to be diluted on site, minimising transport related emissions; and we use fabrics made from post-consumer recycled plastics when replacing curtains or reupholstering.

The refurbishment of the Kitchen continued with **a new Servery and Salad Bar**, a joint effort between our Maintenance team and contractors. Designed for greater accessibility compliance, it creates more space when



Servery



Salad Bar

accessing the counters. A new array of hot lamps was installed, using modern electrical heat sources to reduce consumption. The changes allow better use of space, more choice and meet our food safety requirements.

As part of the College's sustainability strategy, **we installed Solar PV to South Court**, adding a further 125 kWh capacity. A significant electrical upgrade of panels and switchgear improved our infrastructure, preparing for future projects.

With a target to **reduce energy-related carbon emissions to zero by 2038**, we are reviewing the existing building fabric and mechanical and electrical systems to produce a Net Zero Carbon Implementation Plan later this year.

### Building for the future

We are **refurbishing and upgrading several postgraduate houses**: improving building fabric; increasing insulation; reducing air permeability; and moving to heat pumps. Thermal efficiency and reducing heat demand is a key part of our decarbonisation strategy and gas removal from the site.



*Bill Brown Creative Workshops*

The new Bill Brown Creative Workshops will provide **a hub for creativity and innovation**, including a multi-purpose project space, to explore, design, test, scale, build and present ideas. Providing physical production equipment such as laser cutting and 3D printing, it also offers a virtual reality and digital imaging suite, encouraging all disciplines to work collaboratively.

### **To conclude**

**A challenging year of change** but the team has achieved much, focused on delivering day-to-day activity and projects, and all while keeping sustainability at the heart of what we do.

Dave Prinsep

## Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Churchill Archives Centre

Archives Centre's Report (2023–2024)

Allen Packwood writes: 'This year, in a departure from normal reporting practice, I have asked Cherish Watton, alumna of Churchill College and one of the latest recruits to our archives team, to write about the Centre's Golden Anniversary. Cherish played a key role in coordinating, curating and promoting our activities – though all members of the team contributed to the full programme of events.' Cherish Watton, Archives Assistant, reports.



*The Archives Centre team marking the 50th Anniversary of Churchill Archives Centre on 26th July 2023*

On 26 July 1973, an array of esteemed guests walked through the brand-new bronze doors for the official opening of Churchill Archives Centre. Fifty years later, the Archives Centre team congregated outside these same doors in honour of our **golden anniversary** to film a short anniversary message, so that our supporters across the world could share in our happy celebrations.

## Access Portal

Hours before, we had proudly launched our online Access Portal, <https://oa.churchillarchives.libnova.com>. The Portal provides **a window into the Archives Centre's collections**, sharing digital images of documents, photo albums, and correspondence alongside oral history interviews and video footage with worldwide audiences for the first time. As Archives Centre Director Allen Packwood put it, 'the Access Portal is **a very real link between the past and the future**, a vital first step in helping to take the raw material of history to a wider audience'.

## Collaboration

Collaboration has been the golden thread running throughout our anniversary initiatives. In June, we kickstarted our celebrations by handing over the creative reins to undergraduate History students at Anglia Ruskin University. **Students curated an excellent online exhibition titled 'HiddenVoices'** in the archives. Delving into our collections, students chose to feature histories about the first female MPs, the emotional toll of warfare, the 'Dilly girls' of Bletchley Park, suffrage campaigners, and conservative views on post-war immigration.

## A two-day conference

In September, we hosted a two-day conference, which saw some of our earliest researchers and staff members meet some of our recent academic friends and By-Fellows. The conference struck a balance between **exploring our history, showcasing cutting-edge research, and contemplating the future of archives**. The conference was a vibrant representation of the crucial role the Centre has played in fostering academic partnerships and friendships, which continue to shape people's professional and personal lives to this day.

## '50 stories for 50 years'

We captured some of these enduring partnerships in our '50 stories for 50 years' social media series, comprising images, blogs, and interviews. Former staff members and volunteers shared their memories of working in the early days of the Archives Centre. Other contributors, including researchers and current staff members, drew inspiration from various items as varied as slide rules, scrapbooks, sociological field notes, diaries, and children's letters.

Collectively, our contributors showcased **a chorus of voices**, within and about, the Centre.

### **A powerful symbol**

As the College celebrates the end of the academic year with our annual BBQ, we'll be opening our ceremonial bronze doors once again to Churchill College students, some of whom will be paying their very first visit to our reading room. In many ways, these doors serve as a powerful symbol of our unwavering commitment to sharing our archival material as widely as possible, both now and in the next 50 years.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has joined us in our anniversary celebrations over the last year. To find out more about our 50th Anniversary, please visit: <https://archives.chu.cam.ac.uk/50th-anniversary-of-the-archives-centre/>

Cherish Watton

## Strong Financial Contribution

MD of the Møller Institute's Report (2023–2024)



In this year's report Richard Leather, the Møller Institute's MD, tells us about the success of this past year which lead to a major contribution to the College – a contribution which is expected to increase by June 2024. He also tells us about the global engagement that the Møller now enjoys and the appointment of a new Executive Director of Executive Education who is developing new programmes. He concludes by acknowledging that the high-quality service provided by the conference and catering teams is a critical factor in the success of the Møller Institute.

The past year has seen the Møller Institute build on the success of 2023 with robust growth delivered across all businesses. For the full year to June 2023 the Institute made a **contribution of nearly £1 million to College**. Based on current performance, this contribution is expected to increase by more than 40% for the financial year ending June 2024.

### Global engagement

In March the team delivered **a week-long residential programme** on Foreign Direct Investment for the **representatives of the Government of Ukraine**. This programme was the first in a series of activities which aim to build post-conflict capability and capacity for the embattled country.



*Government of Ukraine representatives*



## Geographic diversification

Beyond this, **the Institute's global reach was extended** through delivery of programmes for groups of international students, academics, and business and government leaders from Taiwan, Denmark, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore.

The year also saw the return of executive education programmes delivered on behalf of a number of highly regarded Chinese universities including groups from Shanghai Jiao Tong, Fudan and Sun Yat-sen Universities.

## Driving quality improvements

The team is pleased to report that many of these organisations have committed to return to the Møller in 2024–25 – which is a clear endorsement of the quality of programme design and delivery.

In this regard, the team is particularly grateful for **continuing support and guidance of the Education Standards Committee**. The Committee – which is chaired by Lisa Jardine-Wright, with the support of Fellows including Anny King and Tim Oates – provides invaluable support and advice and is helping to drive quality improvements across all programmes.

## Building capability in the Executive Team

The team expanded during the year with the **appointment of Michael Cresswell** as the new Executive Director of Executive Education. Michael brings a wealth of experience in commercial development and has worked extensively in programme design and delivery, having previously held senior positions at ICE and Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

## Developing programmes to help navigate uncertainty

Under Michael's leadership, the team will be deepening activities that address the key areas of complexity and uncertainty facing leaders across all sectors and geographies. **Over coming months new programmes** will focus on these major themes which include:

- *Geopolitical Uncertainty* – with a focus on the impact of conflict, the rise of economic nationalism and the challenges to multilateralism



- *Technological Change* – investigating the impact of Artificial Intelligence and Innovation
- *Energy Transition* – providing case studies on the complexity of the push towards Net Zero
- *ESG* – providing a perspective on how ED&I initiatives can shape organisational performance
- *The Future of Work* – with a focus on leading in complexity, building resilience and supporting Mental Health

### Driving high-quality conference service

A critical factor in the success of the Møller Institute is the **excellent high-quality service** provided by the conference and catering teams.

The Institute's conferencing service continues to set a **consistently high benchmark in the industry** and has deep relationships with core commercial and University customers.

Customer satisfaction results are consistently above long-term averages – building completely on the dedication to individualised service and attention to detail.

**The business enjoyed an exceptional year**, generating revenues of more than £3 million and has already secured agreements for 50% of the full year targets that have been set for the 2025 financial year.

Suzanne Purser and her team will be building on this success and would welcome an opportunity to discuss how the Institute can support any conference or event requirements.

Richard Leather



# SPOTLIGHT ON...



‘One thing is clear to me: We, as human beings, must be willing to accept people who are different from ourselves.’

**Barbara Jordan**

*American lawyer, educator and the first African American elected to the Texas Senate*

## ... CHURCHILL BAME COMMUNITY

### Notes from the Corridor

Meeting Bhanu Kapil, Churchill Fellow



Bhanu Kapil is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. She came to Cambridge in 2019 as a Judith E. Wilson Poetry Fellow. Formerly an Artist By-Fellow, she is now an Extraordinary Fellow of Churchill College. She is the author of seven books. Her poetry collection, *How To Wash A Heart* (Pavilion Poetry, 2020), won the prestigious TS Eliot Prize. Here Bhanu reflects on her career, on becoming a Churchill Fellow and on the many events she has initiated at Churchill.

I'm sitting in the corridor that extends between the Buttery and the Porter's Lodge at Churchill College, at a copper-bright counter. It's early Spring, and I'm looking out at the Archives Centre, a view I rarely tire of, as much of my work as a poet is about the outside of what is inside. Most recently, I've been making my way through the archive of Enoch Powell, making notes that don't produce what I imagined they might. I haven't written a collection of poetry, for example. Instead, the notes I take on yellow paper: accrue. The hesitation I have to create an artefact, a quality I'd describe as *impasse*, has been the basis of talks commissioned by UCL, UEA, University of York, and Oxford University (Ruskin School of Art). I also gave a version of this talk as part of a symposium, *On Nationalisms*, co-organised by The Racial Imaginary Institute, the CUNY Graduate Center, and The Poetry Project (NYC). In these talks, **I reflected on coloniality and poetics**, what it feels like to be in proximity to archival materials that are (also) the history I lived through as a child, and which my ancestors received, as imprints or blows, but also: possibilities, pathways through. (*To what? From where?*)

I'm sitting here, reading the questions sent by the *Churchill Review*, which invite me to introduce myself, and to reflect on my career, my time at Churchill, what it has meant to be a Fellow, and (also) to share my thoughts on EDI initiatives undertaken by the Churchill community. In fact, the first question

asks me where I was born. Yes, perhaps I can begin there. **I was born**, feet-first, in Hillingdon Hospital, **a month after Enoch Powell gave his Rivers of Blood** or Birmingham **speech in 1968**, in which he called for the repatriation of the Commonwealth-descended population, and not simply or only the cessation of migration to the UK. In this other time, I experienced my birth as a kind of deflection: a way of arriving in this shared world as if from elsewhere, though I was *already here*. I am not sure if deflected is the right word. I am trying to describe the experience of *being born* as something other than *birth*. (What is born in England but is never, not even on a cloudy day, thought of as English?) It was the summer solstice, about half past ten in the morning. Girls with pink ribbons streaming from their hair ran through the ward, my mother recalls.

**For twenty years, I taught seminars** on poetry, creative non-fiction and performance art at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado. During this time, I maintained a blog, *The Vortex of Formidable Sparkles*, a kind of public notebook where I gathered the notes, fragments, images and possibilities that then became my actual books. I had over a million readers! At one point, the blog was installed on public surfaces as part of the New Museum's Triennial in New York, and also as part a solo show at The Printed Room at SALT5 (Art Basel). When **I came to Cambridge as a Judith E. Wilson Poetry Fellow**, I stopped writing my blog. It felt too open, too exposed. Instead, I returned to my notebook practice. Yes, here I am, writing in the corridor, on a windowsill, a cup of tea at my elbow.

Last year, I wrote a poetry/fiction hybrid, *The Secret Garden*, which I'm revising now. I also edited and wrote two new editions of *Incubation: a space for monsters*, newly published by Prototype in London and Kelsey Street Press in Berkeley, California. In a parallel register, **I've been developing performances in the Chapel**, one of my favourite spaces at Churchill College. Every few months, I have a long rehearsal process in this space with Blue Pieta, a dramaturg with the Akram Khan Dance Company. We've developed performances for The Horse Hospital, Burley Fisher Festival, Maximillian William in Fitzrovia, and *Queer Art and Liquid Matters*, a symposium curated by Serpentine Galleries at Stone Nest. Often, we work with other musicians and performers. I hope, in some form, that we can bring a version of these collective performances to Churchill College itself.

Three years ago, Churchill College invited me into the Fellowship on an on-going basis. **Now I'm a Title E, or Extraordinary Fellow.** What felt so magnetising, at the time of the invitation, was the expanded curation on Empire and Race. This felt like the perfect place to do it, to have it. In fact, the reality of that curation was quite difficult. Painful. I continue to be infinitely curious, and perhaps ambivalent about the ways in which **EDI initiatives impact the lived experience of community members.**

This year, I'm curating **A Year of Performance, Poetry, and Practice at Churchill College.** Our first event, a poetry evening with Sandeep Parmar and Safiya Kamaria Kinshasa, was joyful, full of intense contrasts. I felt a lot of hope after that event, which took place in the Bevin Room on Burns Night. **Our second event was a Walk through the Churchill College Grounds** (from the Archives Centre to the snowdrops, and beyond!) with sonic artist/poet, Nisha Ramayya, and filmmaker/poet, Edmund Hardy. We returned to the Bevin Room for a workshop on futurity. 'What does the future smell like?' I think Joshua Fitzgerald, one of our Fellows, said that! Most recently, this April, I invited a Churchill PhD student, Jigisha Bhattacharya (G22), to lead a creative workshop in the Archives Centre.

We just had the first workshop, **Writing with the Archive**, and it was **an extraordinary and moving experience.** We hope to create a zine or chapbook of the collages, poems and notes that emerged from our time with the artefacts, documents and other objects.

Most of all, **I hope for more of these moments** and chances to be with others, experiencing portals of creativity and expression that change and charge what feels possible in the space we share.

Let's see how it goes.



Bhanu Kapil



## Meeting Osarenkhoe Ogbeide

Churchill Junior Research Fellow



Osarenkhoe (Ozzy) was born in Islington, London to Nigerian parents, specifically from the Edo tribe. Despite starting school in inner London, he completed some of his primary education in Lagos, Nigeria before moving to Harrow, in North-west London. He completed his undergraduate Master's degree at the University of Leicester in Interdisciplinary Science. Since the course had no specialisation pathways, he continued studying all the sciences at increasingly challenging levels. He

did his PhD at Cambridge. Annabel Busher, our Communications and Public Engagement Officer, met with Ozzy to find out more about his journey from being a Churchill MCR member to being a Churchill JRF, and to ask what are his plans for the future.

### What first led you to study at Churchill and what do you like most about the College?

Churchill has a beautiful architecture, with a lot of natural light and vast green spaces. This, coupled with its proximity to the West Cambridge labs meant that it was the best choice for me for both my PhD and the Research Fellowship. I've visited a lot of other Colleges, and I can confidently say **Churchill has some of the best facilities for sport, study and leisure**. And I think the comparative informality helps foster a lively College community which helps to make College life even more enjoyable.

### What was your PhD research area?

My PhD research area was on **inkjet printable gas sensors made using functional 2D materials**. The project served as a way to connect research themes I had previously studied in my undergraduate degree, specifically my third-year project in atmospheric chemistry and my final year project in nanoscience, so I felt uniquely suited to this research area and was excited to begin.

## Why did you decide to apply to be a JRF and what will be your area of research?

I applied to be a JRF because I felt that there was a great deal more I could accomplish in my research area. I had some promising results and fresh ideas, so it seemed like **a wonderful opportunity** to explore that and start my research career. A large part of my application stemmed from the encouragement I received from my supervisor, College Fellow Professor Tawfique Hasan, and how enjoyable my time at Churchill has been. My area of research will extend from my PhD and focus on indoor air quality monitoring using nano-engineering.

## What are you most looking forward to as a JRF?

**Being a JRF is a great opportunity to pursue research**, but I'm also really excited to meet and get to know the other Fellows and listen to their stories and experiences. There is so much I can learn so I'm looking forward to meeting everyone.

## What are your career aspirations?

**This is an evolving target**, however currently I aspire to build/develop a lab where I can push industry forward and create usable products while also communicating science more effectively with my art.

## Your thoughts about the EDI activities in College?



### African Legends Art Exhibition Day 1 Responses



As part of our EDI activities at Churchill College, I curated **a digital art exhibition featuring various African legends and mythologies** for Black History Month UK. The exhibition was situated at the buttery, where ten original artworks were showcased. Each piece focused on a different mythological being or legend from the African diaspora, accompanied by a brief

description. Guests were invited to stroll through the exhibition, admire the art, and delve into the rich history and mythology it depicted. **The opening night was a resounding success.** We launched with a drinks' reception with several Fellows, including the Master, in attendance. The exhibition was on display for about a week, offering the community ample time to engage with the pieces.

Additionally, to commemorate Black History Month UK, Churchill College members were invited to a complimentary **screening of the 2022 biographical film 'Chevalier.'** The film chronicles the life of Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, a Caribbean-born maestro once hailed as 'the most accomplished man in Europe'. His remarkable talent even garnered the envy of Mozart. This event provided a wonderful opportunity for our community to learn about and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of Black individuals in history.

## Meeting Emmanuela Bonglack

Churchill Postdoctoral By-Fellow



Emmanuela Bonglack is the Schmidt Science Fellow, at the Inouye Lab in the BHF Cardiovascular Epidemiology Unit at the University of Cambridge. Here she tells us about her background, her studies, why she applied to become a Churchill PDBF, the importance of winning the 'Best Business Idea to Address a UN-SDG' with Nicky Wojtania (G22) last year and her thoughts on Churchill's EDI initiatives.

### What is your background?

I was born in Bamenda, Cameroon, and always had a keen interest in learning about the various forms of nature around me, mainly owing to Cameroon's topography and wildlife diversity as 'Africa in miniature'. As such, I'd always imagined pursuing a STEM career when I grew up. At the age of fourteen, just two years after immigrating to the United States with my family, my father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, eventually passing away less than two years later. While this was undoubtedly one of the most painful experiences I've ever endured, seeing my dad go through what he did inspired me to do the best I could to prevent others from going through the same thing. After enrolling at the College of Saint Benedict in Saint Joseph, Minnesota, for my undergraduate studies, **it was a no-brainer for me to pursue a degree in Biochemistry**, as I felt that would best prepare me for an impactful career in the biomedical sciences. Following three fulfilling summer research experiences in academic and government labs during my undergraduate years, I eventually decided to pursue a PhD in Pharmacology with a certificate in Global Health at Duke University (Durham, NC), completing my thesis in viral lymphoma metabolism under the supervision of Dr Micah Luftig in 2022.

### Why did you apply to the PDBF scheme at Churchill?

After deciding to pursue my postdoctoral training at Cambridge University as a Schmidt Science Fellow in 2022, I knew I wanted to **be part of a community** that would foster engagement, growth, and community involvement at a high level – things that tend to be incredibly lacking at the postdoctoral level. As I learned more about the collegiate system at Cambridge and the integral

role postdocs play in enriching College culture, it became clear to me that the Postdoctoral By-Fellowship at Churchill would be a perfect fit. Coming from a liberal arts education background, Churchill's emphasis on promoting cross-disciplinary collaboration across the sciences and humanities, as well as fostering opportunities for broader Collegial engagement, such as mentoring postgraduate students, further confirmed that Churchill College was exactly where I wanted to be.

### **Why was it important to win the 'Best Business Idea to Address a UN-SDG' with Nicky Wojtania?**

Throughout my scientific journey, I never really considered myself an 'entrepreneurial' person. Still, I understood that my long-term goal of applying cutting-edge science – particularly within the global health space – might, at some point, be better served by an entrepreneurial approach. So, when the call for ideas for the Churchill Enterprise competition to address a UN sustainable development goal (SDG) came up in 2023, I saw this as **the perfect opportunity to test the waters of entrepreneurship** in a 'low stakes' environment. I was paired up with Nicole Wojtania (MPhil, Biotechnology, 2023), and the coaching we received through the Churchill Enterprise team was invaluable in preparing us to pitch our idea for 'CelluSeal,' a sustainable alternative to pharmaceutical packaging and safety. We were extremely fortunate to win the pitching competition grand prize and have since gone on to follow up on our start-up efforts in various capacities, thanks to the support we received through Enterprise. Getting to collaborate with a postgraduate student from a different background while simultaneously expanding my skills-set in entrepreneurship has been one of my most fulfilling experiences so far as a postdoc and is not something I think would have been possible without the Churchill PDBF.

### **What are your thoughts on the EDI initiatives undertaken by the Churchill community?**

As scientific research continues to advance, voices of diverse backgrounds must be heard and amplified for research outcomes to be truly equitable. I believe part of the solution lies in **increasing the visibility and involvement of under-represented minority groups within research**, particularly considering that in the UK, for example, black researchers only make up around two percent of the workforce. Churchill College's ongoing

efforts to foster a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive atmosphere, including increasing outreach efforts to local communities, providing scholarly support for black students through the Black Students' Support Fund, and improving undergraduate female enrollment despite the prevalence of traditionally male-dominated engineering fields, sets it on a positive trajectory towards making Churchill a place where all can not only fit in, but thrive. The challenges that exist in EDI today are rooted in centuries of persistent systemic injustice, and **seeing Churchill's commitment to tackling them holistically is refreshing** and much needed for lasting change to occur at all levels.

## Meeting Josephine Tumwesige

Churchill MCR EDI Officer



Josephine was born in the vibrant heart of Uganda, Kampala, and soon moved to the serene landscapes of Western Uganda, specifically the Mbarara District. Nurtured by her maternal family, she developed a passion for Mathematics, a subject her mother excelled in. This early influence shaped her academic journey. In this piece Josephine tells us about her studies, her research, her involvement with the MCR as EDI Officer. She explains what EDI initiatives the College has undertaken and shares

with us what it means to be part of the Churchill community. She concludes by expressing her gratitude for the support she has received from the EPSRC and is still receiving from many quarters at Churchill.

### My studies

I followed an intense Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Mathematics curriculum during my advanced studies. Returning to Kampala, I attended Makerere University and embarked on an ambitious path, earning a **Bachelor of Science in Telecommunications Engineering**.

The fieldwork during my undergraduate studies proved to be a turning point. I spearheaded a project to integrate mobile money solutions, aiming to enhance the safety of women in marketplaces by reducing their need to carry cash. However, the initiative faced significant hurdles. Many women, often leaving their phones at charging stations due to limited electricity access, could not use the mobile money system during working hours. This community feedback, though challenging, revealed an oversight in my initial approach and sparked **my interest in sustainable engineering practices**. My unwavering determination and resilience in the face of this setback propelled me to pursue an MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development at Magdalene College, with a renewed focus on integrating sustainable principles more effectively into engineering solutions.

## My research

My quest for knowledge led me to Churchill College, where I joined the 2021 Sensor CDT cohort in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology. Having completed an MRes in Engineering, I am now in the second year of my PhD at the Institute for Manufacturing in the Engineering Department. Under the guidance of Churchill Fellow Professor Ronan Daly, my research is **pioneering the use of touchscreen technology** to develop affordable sensors for water quality analysis. This innovative approach has the potential to transform how communities, particularly in developing regions, monitor and ensure water safety – a crucial aspect of public health and environmental protection. My research in developing a prototype sensor has been acknowledged with **the Scientific Instrument Makers Postgraduate Award, 2024**, by the Worship Company of Scientific Instrument Makers (WCSIM).

## My involvement with the MCR

I am fortunate to reside in the College's main grounds, specifically the renowned Staircase 49. There, I met Shanaaz Khan from India, an incoming MPhil student in Education and a well-informed activist. Shanaaz quickly assumed the MCR Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Officer role. Despite missing many events during my busy MRes year due to conflicting commitments, I found inspiration in Shanaaz's passion and dedication.

When Shanaaz left I felt compelled to continue her initiatives. So, **I decided to step into the role of MCR EDI Officer** in 2022 and was then re-elected for the term of 2022–23 and worked with Thea Fennell, to carry forward the torch of promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion among the students.

## The College's EDI initiatives

The EDI initiatives at Churchill College are primarily designed to cultivate a sense of belonging among all members of the community. The College strives to attract the brightest minds from around the world, and a key challenge is ensuring that each individual feels included and valued in College life.

To achieve this, we organise events that **celebrate significant cultural occasions for our diverse community members**. For instance, we



hosted a combined event for the Jewish Sukkot holiday and the Chinese Moon Festival, which saw a robust turnout, including many students and their families. Another highlight was the BAME get-together, a cultural exchange night that featured games, a Dawari-themed dinner, and the distribution of sweets to honour our Indian community members. These gatherings not only provide relaxation and enjoyment but also foster cultural appreciation and exchange.

Additionally, the MCR organised an international potluck, allowing students to share and savour dishes from their various cultural backgrounds. During exam periods, we sent out cards of encouragement to all students, reminding them that they are supported and providing tips on managing stress.

Beyond these activities, we held discussions to **address the unique challenges faced by different groups** within our community. For example, the talk and dinner with Dr David Weston, Senior Director of Emerging Innovations at AstraZeneca, and Professor Shailaja Fennell, Director of the Centre of South Asian Studies, not only enhanced awareness but also demonstrated that these challenges extend beyond the academic setting into workplaces and broader society. These initiatives and conversations are vital in promoting inclusivity and understanding across our diverse community.

### **Being part of Churchill College**

Churchill College has presented a distinct contrast to my experiences at Magdalene College, allowing me the unique opportunity to immerse myself in both a traditional and a more modern collegiate environment. At Churchill, my involvement with the MCR has been **especially rewarding**. I've had the privilege of meeting many passionate and inspiring fellow students, who I am confident will remain lifelong friends. My time here has been enriched with various activities, including yoga and weekly dance sessions with other students from the African continent at the Churchill Dance Studio.

During my tenure as an EDI officer, **I felt a strong sense of support from the College**, which was instrumental in successfully executing our planned initiatives to enhance EDI within the College. I am particularly **grateful to several individuals** who have significantly influenced my journey: my MRes Tutor, **Mr Barry Phipps**, whose invaluable advice and support, including attending my cohort's summer project presentation, were crucial during that

intense year; my current Tutor, **Ms Thanuja Galhena**, for her thoughtful check-ins and the tea parties she organises to foster community; **Professor Andrew Webber**, our EDI Fellow, whose dedication to EDI issues and readiness to support our initiatives have been inspiring; **Ms Rebecca Salwameh**, our Administrator, who has always been encouraging and open to exchanging ideas; and **Dr Rita Monson**, the Senior Tutor, whose tremendous support facilitated both an industrial and academic speaker event on EDI issues and the first EDI dinner at Churchill College.

I am also fortunate to have my PhD supervisor, **Professor Ronan Daly**, as a Fellow at Churchill. Our conversations are invariably engaging, and his innovative ideas have been a great help during my tenure as EDI officer. The camaraderie extends to the catering staff with whom I've worked closely; our occasional laughs in the dining hall continue to brighten my days.

**And finally ...**

**I am immensely grateful to the Sensor CDT and EPSRC** (the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) for their generous support. Without their backing, my enriching experiences at Churchill College would not have been possible.

Josephine Tumvesige

## Meeting Duaa Elfaki

Churchill JCR Equalities Officer



Duaa Elfaki is a second-year engineering student. She is also one of the two JCR Equalities Officers. She was born and raised in Saudi Arabia before moving to Birmingham seven years ago at the age of 13. Here she tells us why she chose to study Engineering, what her role as JCR Equalities Officer entails and the ongoing work related to accessibility issues at Churchill.

### Choosing Engineering

Initially, I was planning to study Medicine at university since I liked science and my parents pushed the idea to me but overtime, I found myself enjoying my maths and physics lessons at school, especially when it came to playing around and manipulating equations to create new identities and theorems. My teachers at the time would also occasionally show us real-life cases where these ideas are being implemented to help society develop further. It was at that point I realised that **engineering was actually the right path for me**, and it has been a difficult, yet exciting journey for me since following that career path.

### JCR Equalities Officer's role

As a JCR Equalities officer, my main role was to attend the College EDI meetings on behalf of the JCR, which occur once per term, to raise any concerns or problems faced by students at Churchill and find ways to tackling these issues to **make the College more inclusive and accessible to everyone**. However, I was still involved with running a couple of events with the JCR committee throughout the year, such as organising fundraiser events for a charity in Morocco, who needed extra support after the earthquakes from September 2023, and the Palestinian Red Cross to aid people in Gaza.

### Accessibility issues

During my time as an Equalities Officer, some of the major things that were raised by either me or Nihar, the other Equalities Officer, included **accessibility issues in College for disabled people**, namely accessing

the printer just outside the Bevin library on the first floor. With the JCR Disabilities officer, Lucy, we all arranged a meeting with the head of facilities and a member of the Estates committee to discuss ways of solving this issue, and we were able to come up with both short- and long-term solutions. We also decided to look at other parts of the College which could be inaccessible to certain groups of people, and the Estates committee member seemed very enthusiastic about sharing some of his ideas for the College, such as installing automatic doors with motion sensors in communal areas like the buttery and asked for feedback to gain insight from a student perspective. This has shown me that despite the fact that there's still numerous areas that the College needs to build on, I believe that **making Churchill more inclusive and accessible** is in the College's best interests and they're actively finding ways to make the place as open and welcoming as possible for current students and potential student applicants.

Despite having to balance my duties as a JCR Officer with my academic studies, I found **the whole experience enriching and worthwhile** as I believe that it's absolutely crucial for the College to hear from the student body if they wish to improve life at Churchill as much as possible, especially as it'd help them to gain insight on any issues in College that they would not notice otherwise. This would not only benefit current students and Fellows, but also future communities.

Duaa Elfaki

## Meeting Stephane Antoinette

Churchill Hospitality Porter



Stephane is Hospitality Porter at Churchill. Here, he shares with us his views on working at Churchill College. He tells us that he has always felt relaxed working at Churchill and finds that the College has a friendly working environment.

There are many nationalities at Churchill College and, even though I am one of only three black people in the housekeeping department, I have **never been made to feel any different from any other employee**.

I have been able to build strong working relationships with my colleagues, management and people in other departments. I would like to think that Churchill College values me as an employee because of my hard work and dedication and would feel comfortable approaching me with any issues that they have with my work.

Likewise, **I have felt secure enough to discuss personal matters**, such as my family commitments and visa application with management who have always done their best to help me in any way they can.

I have **always felt relaxed working at Churchill College**, as there is a friendly working environment where I have always felt included. My first language is not English and when I first started, I was slightly self-conscious that the language barrier would be an issue. However, I feel like I have been able to improve my English with the help of my colleagues, and they have always made sure I understand the task in hand.

As a parent of two young children who, themselves, have experienced racism, I am happy and grateful to say that has never been my experience at Churchill College.

Stephane Antoinette

# COLLEGE EVENTS



‘Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams  
die, life is a broken winged bird  
that cannot fly.’

**Langston Hughes**

*American poet and social activist*

## COLLEGE EVENTS

*In chronological order*

### The Perfect Excuse to be Incredibly Nosy

The Master in conversation with Dr Gillian Tett



On 21st November 2023 the Master, Professor Dame Athene Donald was in conversation with Dr Gillian Tett, Provost of King's College, Cambridge. An anthropologist by training, Gillian is Chair of the editorial board for the *Financial Times*, jointly serving as its editor-at-large, having previously been Managing Editor. She is author of, among other books, *Anthro-Vision: A New Way to See in Business and Life* and the New York Times bestseller *Fool's Gold: How unrestrained Greed Corrupted a Dream, Shattered Global Markets and Unleashed a Catastrophe*. Professor Diane Coyle, Bennett Professor of Public Policy and a Churchill Fellow, reports on the conversation – notably Gillian's choice of Anthropology as a subject, her career path, what Anthropology could teach us and much more.

Dr Gillian Tett is well-known for her role as **a distinguished *Financial Times* journalist**, and one **prescient** enough to have forewarned the world **about the Great Financial Crisis of 2008**. I had first met her in the late 1990s when we were both economics correspondents for our respective newspapers and attended briefings on data releases at the Office for National Statistics. **She stood out** even at that earlier stage of her career for the kinds of insights she brought to bear, on the inflation or growth figures, stemming from her background as a PhD anthropologist. To the rest of our little tribe of economics reporters the fact that Gillian had lived in Tajikistan for her research made her interestingly exotic.

#### Anthropology

The importance of the anthropological perspective was a theme running through her conversation with Athene Donald last November. Asked why she had chosen anthropology (which she studied at Clare College), the



answer was **a desire to travel**, having spent part of her childhood living in Australia, and a gap year in Pakistan. But Gillian also described her **interest in crossing cultural borders** thanks to the experience of navigating different social codes in her family – a combination of upwardly mobile Devon farmers on one side and the downwardly mobile on the other – and also in school (North London Collegiate). Her own mother had left school at 16, so attending this high-aspiration school was the first time she had come across mothers who worked.

‘Anthropology is the perfect excuse to be incredibly nosy,’ according to Gillian, tongue in cheek. ‘Anthropologists are curious about what makes people tick, but without a sense of judgement. Every human is tribal in some way.’ **Studying anthropology helps people understand themselves more objectively**, she argued, enabling them to see ‘how fundamentally weird you are’.

### The evolution of Anthropology

She studied for her PhD in anthropology at Cambridge when Ernest Gellner was head of department and was and is **deeply influenced by the work of Pierre Bourdieu**. This influence is clear in her wonderful book *Anthrovision*, which runs the anthropological lens over the financial markets and economy, and more. In the conversation, Gillian described the evolution of the subject from its imperialist and racist origins, studying peoples perceived to be ‘inferior’, through a turn from the 1930s on to become **one of the most relativistic social sciences**. Indeed, she had found the post-modern perspective of her own time studying ‘deeply frustrating’.

### A three-stage thought process

Asked what any of us could take from anthropology, Gillian set out a three-stage thought process. First, **‘Make the strange familiar’**, take yourself out of your comfort zone by trying to understand the perspective of others. Second, flip the lens and **‘Make the familiar strange’**, or in other words try to see yourself and your tribe as an outsider would see you. Finally, use this insider-outsider perspective to investigate **‘social silences’**, Bourdieu’s concept of the things that are not talked about in order to sustain current social structures.

## The anthro-lens

If only people in the financial markets creating and trading new types of financial instruments in the mid-2000s had taken this approach. They lacked the lateral perspective to appreciate the implications for the system of what was happening in their own small corner. To succeed in business, finance or politics requires a narrow focus, Gillian argued, but when people get to the top, they can rarely escape this tunnel vision, with negative consequences. It emerged from the conversation that Gillian had been turning the anthro-lens on our own little tribe of economists too. **She criticised the discipline's failure to understand changing patterns of behaviour** – whether in Americans' changing attitudes to borrowing two decades ago or changing attitudes to work and careers now. Economists rely too much on top-down models that miss such changes, she argued.

From her PhD, Gillian **worked her way into the FT through a combination of effort and luck**. The Soviet coup happened in August 1991 during an internship there, when the newspapers correspondents were on holiday, so her experience spending time in the USSR and speaking Russian helped get her onto a plane. She finished the conversation with advice for students: luck plays a huge role, but always be prepared to hustle.

Diane Coyle

## Curiosity and Flexibility are Key

The Master in Conversation with Professor Deborah Prentice



An eminent social psychologist, Professor Deborah Prentice pursued her academic and administrative career at Princeton University, which she first joined in 1988. She rose through the academic ranks and took on administrative responsibilities of increasing scope, chairing the Department of Psychology for 12 years, serving as Dean of Faculty for three years, and then serving six years as Provost. She became our new Vice-Chancellor on 1st July 2023. Debbie (as she prefers to be called) came to Churchill on 31 January 2024 to take part in a conversation with

Master. Throughout, Professor Prentice came across as highly astute, warm and witty. Professor Alison Finch, a Churchill Fellow, reports.

Among Professor Prentice's notable areas of research has been '**pluralistic ignorance**': that is to say, the mistaken belief that others predominantly hold an opinion different from one's own. For example, a student might assume that all her or his contemporaries think it's OK to be so drunk that you are out of control, whereas probably very few hold that view. This research is also connected with the 'bystander' effect: you may hesitate to intervene in an unacceptable situation (say, insults directed at a wheelchair user) because you wrongly suppose that nobody else deems it worthwhile to intervene. Professor Prentice's work has been **the foundation of numerous campus alcohol education programmes**.

### Background and education

Professor Prentice described her childhood as the daughter of a single parent in the Bay Area and her achievements at school: doing well in state education could at the time 'get you far'. The Master pointed out that the US system is very different from the British, in that American children do not have to specialise so early: it is unhealthy to have to decide at the age of fourteen whether you are 'arts or science'. Professor Prentice agreed, **emphasising the flexibility of US programmes**, both undergraduate and postgraduate – a flexibility that aids transition between subjects. She herself did a double major at Stanford in Human Biology and Music. (She described music as the

‘ultimate full body, full mind experience’: it is both a metaphor and an analytic experience.) On the other hand, Professor Prentice remarked, the American system meant you could ‘really drift’ – it has disadvantages too.

## Research

Professor Prentice moved on to her research, describing her interest in **the relationship between individual and group**: we are distinct from each other but are adapted to be ‘unbelievably social creatures’, and this relationship is **at the heart of social psychology**. How do we live in groups while retaining our individuality? It took her a while to find social psychology and to realise it provided her with a set of tools to approach this inter-relationship. The Master asked what distinguishes social psychology from anthropology; Professor Prentice replied that different methodologies inform the two disciplines. The Master inquired whether psychology was a hard science. ‘It thinks it is,’ replied Professor Prentice; but if ‘hard scientists’ saw the data, ‘they would laugh,’ and she referred to the ‘replication crisis’ of the 2010s as a ‘wake-up’ call for the field.

[*Author’s note*: The term ‘replication crisis’ (also ‘reproducibility crisis’) denotes the recognition that findings in behavioural science often cannot be replicated: that is, researchers do not obtain results comparable to the original, peer-reviewed study when repeating that study using similar procedures. Many now call for increased scrutiny of research practices in psychology. Cancer research and economics have faced similar questions about methodological rigour.]

The Master asked if policies had been abandoned because of concerns about data flaws, and Professor Prentice cited **the devaluation of the ‘nudge’ concept** (i.e. the notion that behaviour would change if people were ‘nudged’ in the right direction; that idea, once promoted by Government, no longer seems so solid).

## Other noteworthy topics

Discussion moved to ‘imposter syndrome’, Professor Prentice remarking that we are far more likely to perceive shyness in ourselves than in others – but in fact, others may be less extravert than we believe.

Professor Prentice wants to see **‘research that could change the world’** – uttered with a degree of irony! But she spoke eloquently about the all-consuming interest that researchers need to feel, and suggested that it is

useful to move around, to go elsewhere after one's graduate work: here in Cambridge, people tend to stay.

The Master said one thing she found shocking about US universities was the absence of statutory maternity leave; Professor Prentice replied that while this is not a state requirement, institutions do give parental leave; indeed, the terms of this could be a factor in deciding a talented applicant to choose one university over another.

The dialogue drew to a close with talk of the short-term contracts that many postdocs, of necessity, have to accept, the Master remarking that it was not obvious how to change this: if all postdocs got 'jobs for life', that would exclude younger ones coming up through the system.

### Q & A session

A Q-and-A followed, with **discussion, again, about tenure**; about issues that may be 'first-world problems' but that nevertheless need solving; about the fact that we are training people not just for academia but also for, say, industry; and **about inclusivity**. Princeton could be – or appear – rather 'exclusive'; Cambridge, said Professor Prentice, has 'a million ways of being inclusive' – there are many different ways of 'being at Cambridge'.

How do we bring up the younger generation? asked an audience member. Do we stress skills or curiosity? Professor Prentice replied that there is no single answer; young people are growing up in a much more fluid world than heretofore. She herself felt that curiosity and flexibility were key: **one should teach young people to be multifaceted** 'without damage to the self', try to raise robust children who can roll with the punches.

**Other questions focused on leadership, and on how the Arts can be valued** at a time when STEM is emphasised. Here, Professor Prentice suggested that opportunities for Arts people are not as limited as they can sometimes seem to students: Arts talents are needed; it's just that we don't talk about those so much. We need to change the Arts/Science narrative. She ended by claiming that Arts people are 'spunkier' here than in the US (music to your author's ears).

Alison Finch

## Turning Failures into Successes

The Master in Conversation with Professor Sharon Peacock



Friday 10 May 2024 was an evening of firsts and lasts: Athene Donald's last 'In Conversation with...' evening. Her last year as Master. Inspiringly, it was the first female-to-female Mastership transition at Churchill, and it was certainly the first time anyone with such an unconventional start to their professional life had been Churchill Master-Elect. Elizabeth Soilleux, Professor of Diagnostics and Biomarkers and a Churchill Fellow, talks eloquently about Professor Sharon Peacock's unconventional pathway to success and concludes by saying that 'the future of Churchill is in safe hands'.

Professor Sharon Peacock, the daughter of a seamstress and a carpenter, was very clear that she'd grown up in a loving family, but quite simply one in which no one had any concept of going to university. Failing the 'Eleven Plus', she attended a secondary modern school at which continuing education beyond 16 was neither expected, nor, in the view of the pupils, likely to serve any purpose. Sharon mused at length about **the impact of the lack of role models on young people** both then and now, worrying most about those for whom neither school nor home could provide inspiration to achieve their potential. She noted Churchill's commitment to bridging that inspiration gap.

## Inspirational role models

Later inspirational role models provided a stark contrast with her lack of role models, and concomitant lack of direction, during her schooldays. The sole practitioner dentist trusted her as his only colleague and only employee, covering the roles of a dental nurse, receptionist and caretaker, trusted at the age of 17 to open and lock up his practice. Working alongside junior doctors while training as a hospital nurse **gave her a thirst for studying medicine**, inspired by their interactions with patients and their approach to problem-solving. Admiration for a Brighton cardiologist led her to apply for a cardiology postgraduate training position. Working in infectious diseases research in Thailand, a junior member of her team demonstrated the importance of humility and local cultural understanding, for example of eating together to provide a sense of community. These and other **inspirational figures helped craft the person she is today**.

## A rags to riches story

Sharon's story is quite simply **the academic equivalent of rags to riches**. Her approach to success and failure may underpin her many achievements. Where she initially failed, for example not getting the cardiology job she applied for, a better alternative often transpired, such as being offered **a post in microbiology and infectious diseases**, the speciality on which she ultimately built such a successful career. Similarly, she failed two consecutive years to get a place at medical school, which she explained was difficult in those days because only a couple of universities accepted applications from mature students. Entirely characteristically for her, as we began to realise during this conversation, she turned the failure, that she believed that second medical school rejection to be, into a success. At her husband's suggestion, she phoned and **asked to speak to the Admissions Tutor for medicine**. David Wilton, the Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry agreed to see her and asked her to write an essay about why she wanted to study medicine. He then **offered her a place on the spot!** She suspects that someone may just have dropped out, as she was able to start the course within a month.

## 'My greatest supporter'

Of her husband, a fireman, she said, 'together we've had a ball and he's been my greatest supporter'. She described him as seeing moving house, even to Thailand, as an adventure, never complaining, and **credited him with**

**bringing up their three children**, a situation that many career women might envy! Notwithstanding, her description of leaving for Thailand with her husband, two 6-year-olds, a 6-month-old and 12 suitcases full of nappies and baby powder would strike fear into the hearts of many!

She was asked later by an audience member whether there was anything that she had actually failed at that had not turned into a success. She cited getting a grade E in Physics A Level, while working mainly night shifts as a hospice nurse and trying to get sufficient qualifications to go to medical school. She knew this didn't cut it and recognised that she would have to do it again, pulling up to a grade C.

### **Unconventional background**

Discussing exactly how people achieve things in their careers Athene pointed out that a lot of luck was involved. While perhaps true in some situations, this felt less believable in Sharon's case, with her ascent from a 16-year-old with limited CSE qualifications to the Executive Director, of the Covid-19 Genomics UK (COG-UK) Consortium at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic – more of that later. Asked what advice she would have given her 16-year-old self, she was fairly sure that her headstrong 16-year-old self wouldn't have listened! Sharon also made the point that **not all academics have a conventional background**, but many of those who don't, simply don't talk about it.

### **Career path**

**Sharon's meteoric rise in the field of infectious diseases and microbiology** followed a more uncertain start. 'That was also based on a failure...', she rather modestly explained! It took two phone calls from Professor Ledingham (known in medical circles as the author of the Oxford Textbook of Medicine) to persuade her to take a post that wasn't the cardiology post in Oxford that she'd set her heart on. After agreeing to take a job in Oxford, she did her **postgraduate training in infectious diseases and microbiology**, including a PhD (known as a DPhil in Oxford, of course!), including a year at Trinity College Dublin. She became **a consultant in Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford**, explaining that this entailed overseeing the Microbiology diagnostic lab and undertaking 'consults' on the wards, seeing patients thought to have



various infections. She **headed off to Thailand for 7 years**, where her children attended international school, before **returning to Cambridge as the Professor of Clinical Microbiology**. Wanting to do something at the cutting edge, she began applying microbial genomics (i.e., DNA/ RNA sequencing of the genetic material in pathogens) to clinical services. For example, one can follow the evolution or sequence changes in infectious agents, providing a novel way of determining whether there's an outbreak, because, in outbreaks, there are lots of pathogen samples with very similar sequences. She explained that the patchy uptake of this sequencing-based approach across the UK is for a multitude of reasons, but the lack of access to automated interpretation of the sequence data is key. She **dreams of there being a black box solution for sequencing microbes** for patient care and infection prevention and control during her lifetime!

### Sequencing Covid genomes

While no one had a 'good pandemic', Sharon's was perhaps busier than many people's. She realised that **charting the course of this virus by sequencing it as it mutated would be critical** and so picked up the phone to Patrick Vallance and Chris Whitty. She also contacted five colleagues in microbial genomics in February 2020. Things snowballed over the next week and a proposal was written over a weekend, **receiving £16.5M in funding from government** and £20M 'in-kind' contributions from the Sanger Centre.

Involving 21 sequencing facilities (16 universities, 4 public health agencies and the Wellcome Sanger Institute, networked to 100 NHS testing labs and the lighthouse labs), **the Covid-19 Genomics UK (COG-UK) Consortium was born**, with Sharon as its Executive Director. The logistic challenges of finances, ethical approval and data sharing were rapidly overcome, and Sharon described what she had as the 'magic' of having 600 volunteers come together to sequence Covid genomes and relate the data to features such as transmissibility and immune evasion. They worked long hours, but Sharon made the point that she and others involved in the pandemic response didn't want to sit at home. As she put it 'some people had the **privilege to be able to contribute to the response**'.



*Professor Sharon Peacock addressing the Covid-19 Genomics Consortium*

### **And finally ...**

Sharon diplomatically described her perhaps slightly **unconventional approach to work-life balance** in a way that both academics and medics will relate to – work-life balance is inconsistent with no average week, as work and life are joined in the middle; she likes work and she tends to work quite long hours! Even if not, everyone might agree with her definition of work-life balance, I think all of us who attended this fascinating discussion can agree that **the future of Churchill is in safe hands**.

Elizabeth Soilleux

## A Force to Be Reckoned With

First Women in STEM Dinner



On International Women's Day, 8 March 2024, over 125 undergraduates, postgraduates, Fellows and alumnae gathered for Churchill College's first women in STEM dinner. This was a really lively evening bringing together all STEM subjects – Maths, Medicine, Veterinary, Natural Sciences, Engineering, Computer Science, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology! Dr Rachel Thorley, Churchill CORE Fellow, who initiated and organised this first Women in STEM Dinner reports.

The evening started with some fascinating short talks: **Katie-Lou White (U&G17)** gave an introduction to her work on multispectral imaging for early detection of cancer in patients with Barrett's Oesophagus; **Dr Xinyu Bai (G16)** explained her research at the Cavendish Laboratory, improving semiconductors for electronics applications; **Dr Marcela Uliano da Silva** (Postdoctoral By-Fellow), Senior Bioinformatician at the Wellcome Sanger Institute spoke about her work sequencing biodiversity for conservation and evolutionary genomics, and the complex challenges of ensuring access

and development for scientists and research instructions in the global south through JEDI, Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Dr Rachel Thorley, our CORE Fellow in Engineering remarked:

*It is a real privilege to help bring together such talented people from all STEM subjects and walks of life to share stories and build connections. While us women in STEM are a force to be reckoned with, there is still massive under-representation in many areas, especially in senior roles. Making space and time to break down boundaries and forge collaborations and friendships is invaluable.*

We would love to see more community events to celebrate and to build our network as Churchill women in STEM, including guest speakers. If you have a story to tell, or want to support this community in any way, do get in touch with Rachel.

In the meantime, **save the date for next year's dinner: Friday 7 March 2025!**

This event is intended as a celebration and we would like to be as inclusive as possible, so guests of any gender are welcome! Do come along if you did a STEM subject at Churchill, regardless of what you do now, or if you have since moved into a STEM-related field since.

Rachel Thorley

## Building Impact

### *Sustainable Urban Futures Residential Course*

In August 2023, Dr Rachel Thorley, Churchill CORE Fellow, welcomed forty Year 12 students from diverse and under-represented backgrounds who arrived at Churchill College, for a pioneering cross-disciplinary residential course focused on addressing UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 – building safe, inclusive homes. Rachel explains where the idea came from, how the programme demystified Cambridge by breaking stereotypes. By meeting current students, participants gained insights into university life, and discovered first-hand how studying at a top university can equip them to tackle the global challenges they are passionate about. Rachel reports on this exciting and innovative course.

The programme aimed to equip the sixth formers to **make informed choices about degree subjects** and discover first-hand that Cambridge could be for them. Cross-disciplinary subjects like architecture and engineering are not taught in schools. Often, pupils have misconceptions or are unaware of the opportunities these can lead to.



*The forty Y12 participants.*



## Where did the idea come from?

The idea for **Sustainable Urban Futures** came out of many **conversations** with Fellows, staff and students. I was looking for something that would showcase the myriad of expertise here whilst capturing the imagination of young people. I also wanted to **highlight our values of innovation and sustainability**, and the things about College that we all love, our beautiful campus and the bright, diverse community that makes Churchill truly unique.

Over my first months here, while I was writing this first funding application, I was so touched that everyone here made me feel at home from the very beginning. I wanted to recreate this with the young people visiting for the residential, and the idea eventually crystallised around building sustainable homes and communities.

## Building an Eco-Home



*'[For me the highlight of the week was] building the shelters as it was applying what we'd learnt about sustainability rather than just be information' –Y12 participant.*

A highlight of the week for many was building informal settlement shelters. This activity was designed and led by **Engineering undergraduates Lucy Munson and Ewan Collar**. Working in teams, students constructed a full-

scale informal shelter. Primarily, this was intended to empower participants with a sense that they can do really impressive things, by using real tools and construction methods. Also to spark design ideas and understanding through doing and better visualising the space that many families have available as their home.

*'A co-operative task where I was able to speak to new people and work collaboratively to build a shelter, we could all feel accomplished about.'* –Y12 participant.

## Academic Sessions



*'The highlight of my week was interacting with people studying different subjects from all over the UK and being able to collaborate and build such an amazing thing that I'd never have had the opportunity to do outside this programme.'*  
Ffion, Y12 from Wales.

Throughout the week, Y12s worked in small teams to research, design and present solutions to sustainable development challenges. College members attended the final showcase of student work, **including Vice Master Dr Adrian Barbrook**, who presented prizes from the week and **Samantha Chinyoka (G22), who shared her research** from her MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development

*'[The most important skill I gained was...] confidence in presenting my work, the positive feedback I got made more confident in my abilities which greatly helped me overcome academic challenges following the residential.'* –Y12 participant, 6-month survey

There was an action-packed academic programme with contributions from Churchill Fellows. Here are a few highlights:

**Dr Rekha Bhangaonkar led a workshop** on building resilient and sustainable food production systems. Students were guided through

the complex and often competing challenges of deciding land use choices for both food production and agricultural income whilst maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services. The grounds and gardens team ran a session on biodiversity including building hog houses and bug hotels.



**Dr Josh Fitzgerald ran 'Eat your Homework'.** An interactive session on ethnohistory exploring Aztec cultural identity through food and food-object ritual practices, with hands-on making chia seed art, and supported by a visit to the museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

**The group visited the Dyson centre** at the Engineering Department for an electronics workshop making dark-activated solar lights, department tour and using CAD and laser cutters. This activity looked at the principles of solar power generation, and the use of sensors for energy efficiency. Reliable energy supply and effective lighting are paramount to fostering sustainable development. Reducing time on household chores, and improving conditions for studying to gain skills, particularly improving quality of life and prospects for women.



*Y12 students at the Dyson Centre for Engineering Design*



**One of the most popular sessions was on Geopolitics.** Y12s participated in a model UN-style session on environmental justice for unrepresented nations such as Guam and Kosovo. This session was **developed by Dr Liam Saddington** and **facilitated by Churchill students Katie Heggs and Lucy Currid**, both graduated in 2024.

## Impact

**We received 100 applications, and offered places to 40 students**, which meant that we had some really tough decisions to make. The students attending were from across the UK, 77% were from under-represented ethnic groups, and 21% eligible for free school meals.

**77%**

**Underrepresented  
ethnic groups**

**21%**

**Free school meals**

**74%**

**Female**

**Natalie Abbott, Churchill's Widening Participation Officer**, led a session looking in depth into Cambridge applications and student finance, an area in which many students from WVP backgrounds are keenly interested.

## A fantastic group of students

For many attending, this was the first time that they had ever stayed away from their home or family overnight! I was impressed by the determined attitude to learning and curiosity of everyone taking part, **they were a fantastic group to work with** and we hope to see some returning to Cambridge if they make their offers this summer!

**93%**

Applied to Russell  
Group Universities

**9**

Applied to Oxbridge  
(from 15 responses)

**3**

Oxbridge offers

**"[The thing I gained most was...] The confidence to feel worthy of going to incredible institutions like Cambridge"**



### Our thanks to the Isaac Newton Trust

Sustainable Urban Futures was **funded by the Isaac Newton Widening Participation and Induction Fund**. We are delighted that the Trust has funded this residential again for summer 2024.

### And finally ...

One of the challenges of organising a programme like this is securing sufficient funding in time to make arrangements for rooming, programme design and student helpers. Grant funding usually encourages new ideas, expecting tried-and-tested programmes to become self-sustaining. Even though neither the challenge of widening participation in UK Higher Education nor global sustainable development are going away anytime soon.

**We are keen to make this an annual event**, perhaps through sponsorship or business links, and would love to hear from anyone who can help us make this happen.

Rachel Thorley



# STUDENT LIFE



‘Teachers open the door, but  
you must enter by yourself.’

**Chinese Proverb**

# STUDENT LIFE

## Another Year to Celebrate

JCR President's Report (2023–2024)



Scarlett May Hugues is a second-year student reading Human, Social, and Political Sciences. She is also the JCR President. She tells us about the many sporting successes of the JCR members, the many events organised by the JCR and the many achievements of the JCR committee. She concludes by looking forward to the future.

There is always much to be proud of at Churchill. Members of the JCR have continued to excel in every aspect of University life, from sport, to music, to academic success, demonstrating the unique diversity of strengths and interests we are fortunate enough to develop during our time here.

### Sporting success

JCR members have continued to represent Churchill in College- and University- level sport. There was **much success** across lacrosse, rugby, football, badminton, and netball. The boat club had three crews race in the Lent bumps. Despite many of the lower crews missing out due to poor conditions, there was success on both the men's and women's sides, who all look forward to a warmer and brighter term of rowing in preparation for the May bumps – the highlight of the annual rowing calendar. This year, five JCR members embarked on a rigorous training programme with the University squads, and **two members represented Cambridge in the 78th Women's Boat Race** and **the 59th Men's Reserve Race** respectively. JCR members also represented the University in the rugby, lacrosse, football, swimming, and hockey Varsity matches. Three members took part in the University Ballet Club performance of Cinderella, and several others took part in the Half Marathon.

### A year of events

Some highlights from the 2023–24 events calendar include the **annual Burns**

**Night formal and ceilidh** organised in partnership with the University Scottish Society, **the College's first ever Women in STEM dinner**, and **the ever-hugely popular Chu Jazz performances** at the end of each term. JCR members also enjoyed a number of other social events throughout the year, including themed formals, bops, karaoke, quiz nights, fundraising events, and Halfway Hall for current second years. Many people are looking forward to attending the biennial **May Ball, the theme for which is 'Year 3000'**. I wish the May Ball Committee every success in the ongoing organisation, preparation, and operation of the event, which promises to unite the Churchill community in an evening of celebration, reflection, and fun at the end of the academic year.

### JCR achievements

I am extremely proud of all the hard work of the outgoing JCR Committee. It is testament to their tenacity, creativity, and drive that we managed to put on so many great events and make so many meaningful improvements to College life. Some personal highlights include **the opening of a new pop-up bar** in the JCR games room – affectionately named 'The Mighty Mallard' after the much-loved Churchill ducks – having the opportunity to build on the work of the previous JCR in continuing to renovate the JCR games room and helping to organise and run many of the events outlined above.

### Looking forward

Looking forward in the spirit of the College motto, I wish everyone the best of luck in their upcoming exams, especially those in their final year. I wish those graduating every success in future, and hope they will continue to support, and be supported by, our Churchill community. **I have loved every second of my time at Churchill and as JCR President.** I will forever be very grateful to the College staff and senior leadership for helping me to understand and navigate such an interesting and important role. I look forward to meeting the new Master, Professor Sharon Peacock CBE FMedSci, and I am sure that she will be made to feel welcome and inspired by the Churchill community. Finally, I wish the new Committee every success during their time on the JCR and wish to thank the outgoing Committee once again for all their hard work over the past year.

Scarlett May Hughes

## Giving our Best

MCR President's Report (2023–2024)



Santiago Agüí Salcedo is a third-year PhD student in Theoretical Physics and the outgoing president of the MCR. In this report, Santi recounts how the Churchill postgraduate community has managed to push forward with the help of the committee and the College. He ends his report with an outlook on how the Churchill MCR is prepared to face the upcoming challenges in the years to come.

I type these words as many other College members do these days, on a train (or a plane) on their way back or to their home country. My term as President was very intense and the success of it was only possible thanks to the support of the Committee and the College.

### A brand-new year

The mission of the MCR at the start of the academic year is to spark the social life of the newcomers and give MCR members the chance to socialise. We are one of the pillars of the welfare of the students at Churchill and we have strived to **maintain an inclusive and welcoming environment** for everyone. The success of the freshers' activities can be measured in the great number of first years that joined the Committee, including the new President or the new bar treasurer.

### A thriving social life

**Churchill is a unique College**, with its distended and relaxed approach to Formal Halls being key in giving the College its welcoming and warm character to Cambridge outsiders. **Guest nights**, both in Michaelmas and Lent terms, **were extremely successful** in bringing out a big part of the MCR and giving a day of celebration. These events were only possible thanks to the involvement of the MCR Committee. Churchill is also a well-recognised College within Cambridge and Oxford. Thanks to the great work of our external social officer, we were able to host tens of other Colleges' students during our Guest Nights and it has made Churchill a well-liked and amiable College. We plan to increase our relationship with Trinity, our



sister College in Oxford. We will have their MCR as guests of our Easter term Guest Night. The organisation of this event has brought together many members of the Committee, including but not limited to the social officer; and the past, current and future President.

### The revamped academic events

Churchill is a College where **the MCR and the Fellowship have a deep relationship**, fostered through the recognition and interest in the work of the first by the second and the tutoring role the Fellows undertake. Thanks to the efforts of the academic officers and Churchill's Tutorial team, there have been many events where MCR members could share the amazing research they are doing. As an example, **the Super Short Thesis** or **the Conference on Everything**. The first encourages MCR members to learn how to communicate their ideas succinctly and quickly. The second is a great chance for MCR members to practise their communication skills in a friendly environment and get constructive feedback.

### Preparing for the long-term challenges of the MCR

The UK has changed a lot in the last decade and so has the University and the composition of the MCR. The MCR, in coordination with the College, aims to maintain the social dynamics we have been able to create, accounting for the increasing number of one-year graduate students. Churchill has the great advantage of being a family-friendly College, which makes it very attractive to international students who bring their families to the UK. Being mindful of the challenges and extra effort this entails has and will be part of the MCR and College efforts to **make Churchill a great place to live, study and develop**.

Santiago Agüí Salcedo

## Cuppers and League Victories

Churchill Badminton (2023–2024)

Jeffrey Lu, a 4th year undergraduate reading Engineering, is the Captain of the Churchill Badminton Club. Here Jeffrey tells us about the many successes Churchill Badminton has had this year.

This academic year has been **another enjoyable and successful season** for Churchill Badminton – two words that are almost synonymous with the club. We put forward three teams – Women's, Open 1st and Open 2nd – to represent our College in the intercollegiate leagues and Cuppers' tournaments, whilst also holding weekly sessions open for all College members to play badminton.

### Merry Michaelmas

Our Women's team kicked off the club's 2023–24 campaign with a bang, **winning Women's Division 1 in Michaelmas term**. Massive congrats to their captain, Sarannia Ragulan, and her team on this achievement! The Open 2nd team finished fourth in Open Division 5, retaining their spot in the division. I must give a shoutout to their graduating captain **Abhay Goel**, who has led the team for all three years of his time at College – he has been a **huge help in running the club** and his service will be missed. Our Open 1st team placed a respectable third in Open Division 1, out of 7 teams.

### Mixed Cuppers Champions!

After a fruitless Cuppers campaign last academic year – despite reaching the semi-finals in all three categories – this year Churchill has successfully regained its mantle as one of the top badminton Colleges in Cambridge by **winning the Mixed category**. Well done to the team for reclaiming the title that Churchill won two years ago! What is encouraging is that most of our winning team will be staying in Churchill for another few years, so hopefully we will be dominating College badminton for a while longer.



## Badminton for Everyone

**We have continued to run casual sessions** at the University Sports Centre every Monday, with as much enthusiasm displayed as from our College teams. Seeing students trying badminton for the first time and becoming addicted to the sport over the course of the year, with the majority attending every session, has made these sessions rewarding to hold. They are also just a great opportunity for students to chill with their friends or meet new people while doing some exercise.

## Looking Forward

The club has continued to **go from strength to strength** both in terms of intercollegiate competitions and accessibility to this great sport for the whole College community. For anybody who still hasn't tried badminton, join us and give it a go!

Jeffrey Lu

## Going from Strength to Strength

Churchill College Boat Club (2023–2024)

Laurie Price is a 3rd year undergraduate in Linguistics, and this is her second year in a row as Overall Captain of the Churchill College Boat Club (CCBC). In her report, she tells us that the women's first boat achieved 'blades', the 'learn-to-row' novice programme and her high hopes for the many competitions ahead – including the Bumps. And last but not least Laurie mentions that two Churchillians were part of the winning Cambridge crews at The Boat Race in London.

We finished last season with many notable successes and history-making performances. In 2023 May Bumps we celebrated our women's third boat becoming the first Churchill W3 in 24 years to qualify for racing.

### Achieving 'Blades'

Meanwhile, **our women's first boat achieved 'blades'** – one of the highest accolades in College rowing, which is awarded to crews that have repeated success across all four days of racing. This, excitingly, means that we will be installing two new additions to the commemorative oars hanging in the buttery. The blades for both W1 in 2023 and W2 in 2022 will soon be visible testaments to the hard work and dedication of the crews and their coaches, and I hope that they will inspire the incoming generations of novices, as well as the wider College community.



*M1 'Bumping' on the third day of the Lent Bumps 2024*

## Learn-to-row novice programme

Building on the momentum from last year, we have been training hard over the past two terms. **Our 'learn-to-row' novice programme continues to be popular** with incoming freshers and returning students; it was truly impressive to witness the improvement and progression shown by our new members this year, and this led to a smooth transition at the start of Lent term into our senior boats.

## Perseverance and optimism

Unfortunately, the more recent poor weather dampened (literally) our efforts to train during Lent term. Despite the challenges of flooding and river closures, I was **deeply impressed by everyone's perseverance and optimism** as we bravely faced the onslaught of yellow and red flags. And whilst our lower boats missed out on the opportunity to take part in Lent Bumps due to race cancellations, I have no doubt that they will flourish and succeed when given the chance to compete later this term.

## Preparing ourselves

More recently, we undertook a week-long training camp in Nottingham. Despite a rather gruelling week, we made the most of our time on a big stretch of river, getting in the mileage and preparing ourselves for the busy term ahead. With the excitement of sunnier outings, regatta races, and May Bumps on the horizon, the club is **gearing up to make the most of this summer rowing season**.

## Churchillians in the London Boat Race

Beyond the world of College rowing, we are also incredibly proud of our members who have gone on to trial for the University squads. This year we had five Churchill rowers trialling with CUBC, and this resulted in both **Iris** (Women's Blue Boat) **and Tom** (Goldie/ Men's Reserve Boat) **being part of winning Cambridge crews at The Boat Race**. The success of our trialists is an inspiration to the rest of the club; we are thrilled at their success, and very excited to have them rejoin and elevate our Churchill crews this term.

Aside from the racing results, it is **truly amazing to be a part of such a friendly club**, and to witness the determination, passion, and love for the

sport that we all share. It has been an absolute privilege to lead the club over the past two years, and I have no doubt that the future of CCBC is looking very bright indeed.

Laurie Price

## Greater Togetherness Amongst the Club

Churchill Football (2023–2024)

Alex Perrin is a 3rd Year Manufacturing Engineering student and the Captain of Churchill College Football Club (CCFC). Here, he tells us of the trials and tribulations of the 2023–24 Churchill Football team. He concludes by saying that the dream of staying up is still very much alive.

### Promising start

All senior members of the CCFC team watched with bated breath as they watched the newest cohort of players partake in the annual trials, in which a large array of footballing skills and talents were shown, giving hope for the season ahead. After our goalkeeper was plagued with unfortunate injuries last year, we crossed all appendages in the hope of obtaining a new goalkeeper, and we were blessed with an agile shot-stopper who was just as comfortable with his feet as he was with his hands. With a new first- and second-team captain, it was decided that we would break previous traditions and train together, **harnessing more numbers and a greater togetherness** amongst the club that would hopefully support greater development of players to advance to the first team.

### A Tough Michaelmas

Keeping in line with CCFC tradition, we started off slowly from the jump. A back-and-forth pre-season game against Pembroke gave players a chance to learn, impress and flourish, but ultimately resulted in a loss due to a lack of fitness within the final third of game time, which proved to be a common theme for the coming season.

Spurred on by our Cup-Final appearance in the Cuppers competition two years prior, we approached our first game against Queens with quiet optimism. Another **tough-fought battle resulted in a 1–1 draw** at the end of normal time, therefore forcing CCFC to penalties. Our previous Captain stepped forward and rifled one into the back of the net, while the current Captain adopted a calmer approach and slotted their penalty into the bottom left. The same can't be said for our newly inducted fresher who sent his penalty into row Z. This was no mark on his quality after putting in a stellar performance for 90 minutes. However, regrettably, this demoted us to the Plate competition **with a 3–4 loss on penalties**.

Trying to instill passion and tempo into his team going into our away game against Downing, the Captain gave a lengthy team talk and warm-up that was reflected by the tenacity and domination showed all over the park for the first 20 minutes and was rewarded by a goal from a long throw-in. This caused us to drop off the pace just slightly and Downing capitalized on some sloppy defending by us, making it 1-1, dropping our heads after a promising start. This was worsened by a stunning goal by Downing from outside the edge of the box however, we continued to show promise in the second half with many chances missed, mirroring the famous style adopted by Arsenal of trying to 'pass the ball into the goal'. Motivation and energy never improved due to no substitutes on the sideline, resulting in **another loss for a struggling Churchill.**



### **New Year, New Start**

Going into the new year, CCFC were determined to rectify the run of losses throughout Michaelmas that put them bottom of the table after showing signs of playing the right football but lacking clinical finishing and committing too many defensive errors. A winnable game against Homerton started the calendar year, filling the team with enthusiasm after a well-deserved break. We started strongly, with one of our attacking players earning a penalty that was coolly dispatched by the Captain. This lead was held for the majority of the game until a late corner, where CCFC heads switched off and Homerton



found a free man that heartbreakingly put the ball away. After multiple chances of our own, we walked away from this game with our first point of the season but still had the resounding feeling that we deserved more, adding to **a growing hunger for our first win.**

Our next game, Girton, looked tough on paper after their run of impressive results in Michaelmas. Despite this, we still turned up with a positive outlook after the previous result and capitalised on their weakened squad with a goal scored from a classy pass over the top of their defence to our winger. Having harrowing visions of the Homerton game, the CCFC players played their hearts out to the final whistle, maintaining composure and solidity in defence, resulting in **our first, extremely rewarding win of the season.**

### **Old Boys' Game**

**A true highlight of the season is always the 'Old Boys' game** where CCFC alumni come back to play against the current first team in a day of football, curry and copious amounts of beer. This year was no different, as the rain seemed to halt for the first time in Lent, as well as the first team coming away with **a 3–0 win against the 'Old Boys'.** This was followed later by a team curry where players discussed past games, current careers and how they found 90 minutes much easier on the Storey's Way pitch when they were 21.

### **Final push**

Sitting at the bottom of the table, CCFC still has 2 games to play against teams destined for relegation, making them '6-pointers', meaning **the dream of staying up is still very much alive...**

Alex Perrin

## The Incredible Diversity of Research at Churchill College

The Conference on Everything, 2024

Sruthi Srinivasan and Belquis Haider, MCR Academic Officers, were the Conference organisers. In their report they tell us that this year's Conference was 'the best attended in recent history'. There were more than twenty speakers with an even mix of various disciplines. Prizes were awarded to Joshua Weygant (G23) for the Biological Sciences, to Katherine Mann (G21) for Social Sciences and Humanities, to Joseph Asfour (G23) for Poster Pitching, to Payton Rodman (G23) for Physical Sciences, to Amy Rachael Hodgson (G19) for the poster prize and the People's Choice Award went to Juliana Ferraro (G23). They concluded by remarking that it was a fabulous gathering of minds.



*Organisers, Conference awardees, and 11 other presenters who delivered excellent presentations during the Conference. Left to right, back row: Dingyun Huang, Iqtedar Alam, Paulius Bergaudas, Belquis Haider (MCR Academic Officer and Organiser), Katherine Mann, Joseph Asfour, Joshua Weygant, Payton Rodman, Juliana Ferraro, Lily Rubino, Sruthi Srinivasan (MCR Academic Officer and Organiser); front row: Gabriel Ong, Pablo Pascual Cobo, Gerardo Patino Guillen, Sarah Sandor, Nabil Faradis, Choonzo Chiyumba, Johannes Wagner.*

The Churchill College *Conference on Everything* is an annual event that brings together our multidisciplinary postgraduate research community to foster engaging intellectual discussions. The Conference serves as a platform for exchanging ideas, fostering collaboration, and pushing the frontiers of research excellence at Churchill College. This year's Conference was held on the afternoon of 27 of April 2024, featuring more than **20 speakers with an even mix of various disciplines** including Biological Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Physical Sciences. This year, the Conference was the best attended in recent history, with more than 100 attendees present, including members of the MCR, SCR, and alumni. The event was followed by a formal Conference Dinner to celebrate the achievements of the postgraduate community at Churchill College.

The judging panel featured SCR President and Conference keynote speaker, Professor Sir Mike Gregory; Dr Rita Monson, Senior Tutor; Dr Alastair Lockhart, Senior Postgraduate Tutor; and Santiago Aguei-Salcedo, outgoing MCR President. This year, monetary prizes were on offer to the winning presenters thanks to the generous support of Churchill engineering alumnus Dr Hua Ye, with prizes ranging from £50–£100.



*Conference on Everything Awardees. Left to right, back row: Katherine Mann, Joseph Asfour, Joshua Weygant, Juliana Ferraro; front row: Amy Hodgson, Payton Rodman.*

Prizes were awarded to speakers in each of the four sessions, as well as a poster prize winner and a 'People's Choice Award,' facilitated by the Conference attendees' votes. For **Biological Sciences**, the prize was awarded to **Joshua Weygant**: 'A drop-on-demand bioprinting approach to spatially arrange multiple cell types in a 3D fibrin environment and monitor their cell-cell interactions towards vascularization'. For **Poster Pitching**, the prize was awarded to **Joseph Asfour**: 'Towards a 3D, flexible, biohybrid device for cell replacement therapy for Parkinson's disease'. In **Social Sciences and Humanities**, the prize was awarded to **Katherine Mann**: 'Aiding empowerment: Democracy promotion and gender equality in politics'. In **Physical Sciences**, the prize was awarded to **Payton Rodman**: 'Simulations of magnetically linked relativistic jets'. The **poster prize** was awarded to **Amy Rachael Hodgson**: 'Validation of a touchscreen-based task to assess spatial working memory in a marmoset model of schizophrenia'. The **People's Choice Award** was awarded to **Juliana Ferraro**: 'Studying aerosol delivery of chemotherapy drugs to target mesothelioma'. Congratulations to all the presenters, each of whom put lots of effort into crafting their presentations and engaging in discussions with Conference attendees.

We had an incredible time planning this year's Conference. Each presenter brought their enthusiasm and expertise to engage with members of the Churchill community, and we are grateful to all of them for helping us put together **one of the most important events in the Churchill MCR's academic calendar**. We are also grateful to the Conference attendees who took time to participate in the Conference and engage with our presenters. It was a fabulous gathering of minds, and we look forward to hearing about the exciting research developments that the Churchill community will make in the near future.

Sruthi Srinivasan and Belquis Haider

## Enhancing Innovative Thinking for Churchill Students

The Churchill Ideas Mash programme

In March 2024 Dr Rachel Thorley, Churchill CORE Fellow, organised the first Churchill Ideas Mash – an interdisciplinary real-world team problem-solving challenge! The three-day programme provided the 13 participants with the opportunity to collaborate and build business development skills through a combination of workshops and networking sessions, culminating in a pitching event with cash prizes of £2,000 generously supported by Churchill Engineering alumnus Dr Hua Ye, Deputy Director of the Kunlun 2050 Research Institute. Annabel Busher, Churchill Public Engagement and Communications Officer, reports.



The participants could either **bring their own business idea to work on** or **choose one from the ideas mash menu** before forming themselves into teams and working with professional business mentors in preparation for the live pitching event. The ideas mash menu included a range of ideas proposed by both current students and external companies looking for innovative solutions to real-world problems.

## The Prizes

The winning idea, defined as the pitch the judges felt to be the most innovative, impactful and likely to succeed was to be awarded £1,000 cash to develop their idea further. Additional £500 cash prizes were available for the team judged to have delivered the best pitch, and for the team which made best utilisation of team diversity.

## The Judges

After an impressive round of pitches, the Churchill Ideas Mash judges made their deliberations. The judges included engineer **Brian Mwanda**, Founder and CEO of Hope Tech plus, winner of the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation and an innovation Fellowship Leader with the Royal Academy of Engineering, **Dr Hua Ye (G02)** and fellow Churchill Engineering alumnus **Rory Geeson (U15)**.

## Ideas and Teams

### 1. Designing a cost-effective way to balance a high renewables and decarbonised power system

Proposer: **Statera Energy**



**Team:** Adolis Bagdziunas (U20, Engineering), Tyler Martin (U21, Engineering), Hannah Cox (U21, NatSci) and Andy Hu (U21, Engineering)



The UK is committed to decarbonising the power system, with a large transition to renewable energy generation imminent. However, renewable energy is often intermittent and constantly fluctuating – with the shortfall today often filled by carbon-emitting power sources. Alternative lower/no-carbon sources are available, but what is the best approach or combination to embracing and deploying these costs effectively? Suggest an approach to developing a power system that balances a high number of renewable generation sources to create a decarbonised power system, which is cost effective to energy users.

## 2. Enhancing Fitness Accessibility for People with Disabilities

Proposer: **Brian Mwanda** from Hope Tech plus and the Global Disability Innovation Hub.



**Team:** Mikan McDonald (U23, NatSci), Mia Fenocchi (U21, English) and Agno Kachappilly Shaiju (U21, NatSci)

Access to fitness and recreational activities is a fundamental aspect of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. However, **people with disabilities often encounter significant barriers** when trying to engage in fitness activities such as gym workouts, park cycling, swimming and more.

These barriers range from physical accessibility issues to a lack of specialised knowledge among fitness trainers regarding how to effectively support individuals with various disabilities. Moreover, fitness applications and equipment are rarely designed with accessibility in mind, particularly failing to cater to the needs of visually impaired individuals.

This not only limits their ability to participate in these activities, but also affects their willingness to seek help due to a lack of understanding or awareness among other gym users. Develop an innovative solution that makes fitness more accessible for people with disabilities.

### 3. Student recycling

Proposer: **Jensen Rocha** (G23, Engineering)



**Team:** Sam Agyapong (G23, Education), Xinyan Huang (G22, Land Economy), Papa Kwarteng (G22, NatSci) and Jensen Rocha (G23, Engineering).

Devise a programme at Churchill to collect items that people can't take out of the country and make available for students coming in.



## 4. AI for Accessibility

Proposer: **Boyin Yang** (G20, Engineering), **Junlong Chen** (G22, Engineering)



**Team:** Boyin Yang (G20, Engineering), Junlong Chen (G22, Engineering), Julie Wang (U23, Psychological & Behavioural Sciences) and Janice Ma (U23, Engineering).

Design a system or not-profit organisation to unite industry, academia, and charities to use AI to help people with accessibility requirements.

### Award winners!

**The overall winner was 'AI for Accessibility'** who pitched an idea proposed by Engineering PhD students Boyin Yang and Junlong Chen. Reflecting on their win, Boyin commented:

*the Churchill Ideas Mash provides an excellent opportunity to meet amazing people and polish our business model of running a tech social enterprise to help people with accessibility needs. This three-day event pushes us forward to think about how to make our ideas come true in the future. The £1,000 prize money will be used as our startup funding to create and maintain our open-source platform, aiming to engage more people in assistive tech research and improve our first assistive product.*

The £500 prize for **the ‘best pitch’ went to project 2 – ‘Enhancing Accessibility for People with Disabilities’** and the £500 ‘Best Utilisation of Team Diversity’ prize was shared between ‘Student Recycling’ and ‘Design a cost-effective way to balance a high renewables and decarbonised power system’. The Team Diversity award recognised the application of a diversity of skills and inter-disciplinary working among the team.

**All participants agreed on the value of the programme**, including English Literature undergraduate Mia Fenocchi, who had originally decided to join the Ideas Mash for a chance to think beyond her current academic studies:

*I hadn’t really thought about enterprise or business or anything to do with my future beyond academics so I thought this would be a really good opportunity to start thinking that way. What I’ve enjoyed most is getting to work with the team – everyone’s so diverse in their approach to problem solving, bringing different expertise and it’s been really fulfilling to work in this way.*

There was also **praise for the programme** from those attending the pitching event, including **Imogen Sheppard**, Junior Asset Manager for Statera Energy:

*I think that being a student what you don’t get is a lot of real-world commercial experience, so something like this, where you practice pitching an idea, might encourage some people to consider that they want to take business ideas forwards and to meet like-minded people they might otherwise not have interacted with as much – I just think it’s invaluable.*

The evening concluded with networking drinks.

### **Our thanks to ...**

**... all alumni** who supported in judging, mentoring and Malcolm Brinded for giving a talk on experiences working with early-stage start-ups, and **Rachel Thorley**, the Community, Outreach and Recruitment in Engineering (CORE) Fellow, who organised the competition!

Annabel Busher



# TRIBUTES



*Waterlily in Buttery Pool, June 2024*

'Start by doing what is necessary, then  
what is possible, and then suddenly  
you are doing the impossible.'

**Francis of Assisi**

*Italian mystic, poet and Catholic friar*

# TRIBUTES

## A Truly Remarkable Person

Archie Howie's 90th Birthday Celebration

On Sunday 17 March members of College joined with friends and family to celebrate the 90th birthday of one of Churchill College's Founding Fellows – Professor Archie Howie.

Archie was joined by his wife of 60 years, Melva, and their children and grandchildren and the throng in the hall was a testament to how much we all value Archie and our shared respect for him. Many had tales to tell, some to remind Archie of his life and career thus far, and others wanted to test their poetry skills on the ears of the Scottish poetry master.



Archie joined the College as a Junior Research Fellow in October 1960, and he is **the only one of the Founder Fellows** who is **still a member of the Fellowship today**: 63 years later! Having begun as a Research Fellow, he followed as a Teaching Fellow, Professorial Fellow and now is an Emeritus Fellow.

While Archie may be the only current Fellow from the founding year, three people with intimate connections to that year group joined us for lunch: **John Killen** (Classicist, arrived 1961, who shared a Sheppard Flat with Archie when both were unmarried Research Fellows); **Margaret Thouless**, whose husband David was a Founder Fellow in Maths, and later winner of a Nobel Prize; and **Lady Lucy Adrian**, whose husband Richard was a Founder Fellow in Physiology, and one of the first three Tutors (later Lord Adrian and Master of Pembroke).

Following the delicious food, master of ceremonies and President of the Senior Combination Room (SCR), **Professor Mike Gregory** took to the microphone to **recite the first poem** of the afternoon before choreographing several themed tributes to Archie.

I hate to interrupt your chatting  
But 'tis down to me to open the  
batting  
To celebrate, with all his chums  
Full 90 years of work and fun

'Twas from the North young Howie  
came  
Determined, not to make his name  
But rather to pursue his passion  
For Physics in the Cambridge fashion

His name was nevertheless soon  
made  
His talent early on displayed  
Though microscopic was the theme  
The impact could be clearly seen

Medals, awards, distinctions came  
And all the while he stayed the same  
Eventually to lead the Cavendish  
Home to many a distinguished  
physicist

And as we know he early made  
His way to Churchill and  
foundations laid  
And from our very first beginnings  
Howie pursued his brilliant innings

But to many here he is best known  
As Archie – friendly, modest and  
prone  
To tend to verse at festive times  
Enhancing them with thoughtful lines

My modest efforts here conclude  
For fear of spoiling all your food  
My lyric skills cannot compare  
With the Scottish master sitting  
there

So, now's the time for us to hear  
From friends and guests who'd like  
to share  
Some glimpses of our favourite son  
Of where he's been and what he's  
done

As Burns would say 'There'll come  
a day  
when sense and worth will show  
the way'  
It's our good luck that's just the  
steer  
That Archie's always given here.

**First to speak was Archie's daughter, Helen**, who expressed her heartfelt thanks for Archie for being a great Dad and Grandad. **Professor Mick Brown**, Archie and Melva's best man, friend, and colleague from the beginning of their careers **told of Archie's fundamental and groundbreaking research** in electron microscopy, inventing novel techniques and equations that now bear his name – the Howie-Whelan equations for interpreting electron microscopy images of defects in crystals.

Within the gathered group were **a few cohorts of students** who had been **lectured, supervised, or mentored by Archie**, they themselves now Fellows of the College, and indeed Master of the College. **Professor Chris Tout** recounted that his lecture notes and recollections of Archie's lectures had provided him with a model of how to lecture with clarity and purpose and how Archie had been a pillar of support as President of the SCR when he first became Fellows' Steward. **Dr Dave Green** described his experience of being supervised by Archie, noting that 'there were two kinds of physics questions, the ones I got right – which Archie said were straightforward and easy to solve, and the ones I got wrong – which Archie then promptly demonstrated were straightforward and easy to solve'. Many generations of Churchill students have since benefited from these supervisions as Dave has gone on to be a supervisor for many a cohort since.

**Professor Douglas Gough** spoke of how well-regarded Archie was as Head of Department (1989–97) at the Cavendish laboratory, so highly regarded that Douglas had to go to Archie to ask him if he would be willing to take a second term. Many will not take up the gauntlet once, let alone twice, but Archie duly agreed.

After these reflections on Archie's highly valued contributions to physics and physics education, it was time for **a second poetry tribute**, a poem telling of Archie's journey from Kirkcaldy to Cambridge, **written and recited**, in a brave Scottish accent, **by John Rawlinson**.

A laddie frae Kirkcaldy  
Took a daunder 'cross the Forth  
Frae auld Fifeshire's bonnie Kingdom  
Tae the Athens o' the North

Then soothwards o'er the border  
An' the soggy fenland edge  
Where he probed the laws o' Physics  
'Mangst the rushes and the sedge  
In the ancient courts o' Trinity.

He sliced awa' Infinity  
By electron bright microscopy  
An' wi' fine auld Scots propriety  
He soon show'd the Roy'l Society  
How tae slice the thinnest bannock  
Into crystals wi'a crummack.

An' oft he lifts the poetic pen  
in this his college but-n-ben.  
So, raise a glass, a cheer let loose  
For Archie's at hame, in his Churchill  
hoose!



**The final recollection and toast came from the Master**, supervised by Archie, and mentored by him throughout her career. She described his support and encouragement, including nominating her for the L'Oreal award which rocketed her and her career into the public eye.

On hearing everyone's stories and anecdotes it was clear to me from this lunch that Professor Archie Howie is **truly remarkable in several respects**. Not only has he taken his role as a teacher very seriously and placed its importance alongside his research, but he has also worked tirelessly to promote others so that their work is recognised, and their future careers are bright. Archie is generous with his time and his company, often presiding over dinners, bringing people together and encouraging the next generation of physicists and Fellows. We were all delighted to be together this time in his honour, not only to wish him a very happy birthday but also to thank him for all his support, kindness, generosity, and wisdom over the last 63 years.

Below are the tributes (in the order they were delivered) from Mick Brown, Emeritus Professor, Cavendish Laboratory; Chris Tout, Professor of Stellar Evolution, Institute of Astronomy; Dr Dave Green, Department of Physics and Professor Dame Athene Donald, Master of Churchill College.

## A Mighty Oak

By Mick Brown



*Professor Mick Brown describing Archie's many physics research accomplishments*

**A pause for ripening** followed Geoffrey Ingram Taylor's famous 1934 paper on the mechanism of plastic deformation of crystals. He included a diagram, much reproduced, of what he called a 'dislocation' progressing through a simple cubic lattice of atoms. The bending of the lattice in the neighbourhood of his dislocation, forces an extra plane of atoms across an otherwise regular array. It is remarkable that Taylor did not receive a Nobel Prize for his seminal work, cited millions of times. In 1933, Ernst Ruska produced the first electron microscope, which by 1939 had become commercially available. It took until 1986 for this epoch-making invention to be recognised by a Nobel Prize. No doubt World War II delayed both its development and recognition. Archie is thus almost exactly the same age as these subjects which he brought together. He joined his supervisor Peter Hirsch soon after the first images of dislocations had been obtained, using Ruska's invention, showing them to be real. Archie's detailed theory for the image interpretation has revealed so many more aspects of the structure of solids that one can say there is scarcely a branch of physical science unaffected by his work.

**His PhD project** produced the first images of dislocations introduced into single crystals purposely grown for observation. There were several hard lessons: one to do with the reluctance of molten copper to flow into graphite moulds designed to cast single crystals suitable for electron microscopy; another to do with cleaning up the mess left by machining graphite; and the third, most famous, the theory of imaging by 'diffraction contrast'. What one sees in an electron microscope is fluorescence caused by electrons impinging on a detector. The electrons are diffracted by the crystal planes through which they pass. Where the planes are bent by the crystal lattice, the diffraction is altered, and so contrast is produced in the image: the dislocation becomes visible. The theory of imaging by diffraction contrast is conveyed by the 'Howie-Whelan' equations. Dislocations play a role in a wide range of material properties: structural ones such as plasticity; functional ones such as electrical conduction and optical appearance; chemical ones, such as surface reactivity and the ability to fabricate semiconductor chips. For this reason, the pioneering book 'Electron Microscopy of Thin Crystals', based on successive summer schools in Cambridge, has been the precursor of many others which form texts in departments of Materials Science, Mineralogy, Mechanical Engineering, Physical Chemistry, and so on. The Howie-Whelan equations, independently proposed by Archie and by Mike Whelan, form the backbone of image interpretation. They make use of complex numbers simultaneously in two different ways: one to treat the scattering by various mechanisms of some of the electrons in the beam so far outside it that they cannot contribute to the image; the other is to follow the quantum mechanical phase of those which do contribute. The equations are a compact, indispensable, and practical tool for electron microscopy.

**In plastic deformation of metals and alloys**, many of the dislocation configurations which arise were classified by Archie. Linking up with the late Peter Swann, of the then Metallurgy Department, he produced the first systematic study of curved dislocations at the edge of faults in the stacking of the planes which make up so-called close-packed crystals. The curvature enables an estimate to be made of the stacking-fault energy which has emerged as a crucial parameter in phase transformations and plastic flow in crystals.

**If the sample is a glass** with a complex, amorphous, assembly of atoms locally ordered around each one, but overall random, the electron image

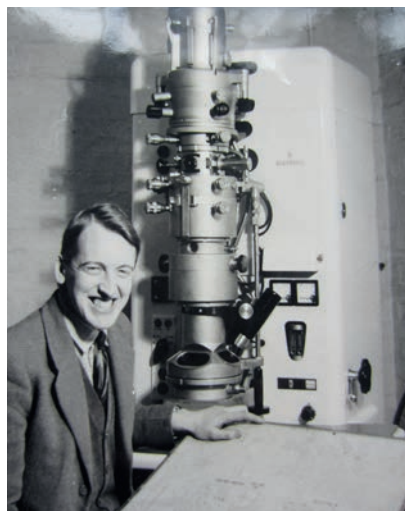
should convey this directly. The work with Phil Gaskell (whom Archie attracted to Churchill) showed how the near neighbours of an atom are structured as they would be in the crystal, but successive neighbouring structures get distorted into a random network. This has implications for how the glass can crystallise. Recent reports from IBM describe a fast memory system based on the control of crystallisation in nanometre-sized glassy drops. However, atom-by-atom imaging of glassy structures is still impeded by the ‘projection effect’ – Archie’s term, I believe – meaning that one sees a two-dimensional image formed by seeing through a complex three-dimensional structure.

**The world of nanoparticles** revealed by electron microscopy contains many surprises. Archie with his students and with Phil discovered ‘multiply twinned particles’, that is, particles grown from the vapour phase which present close-packed planes on their outer surfaces, but are not single crystals. The twins don’t quite fit together, so such particles are automatically strained: a feature which limits the size they can attain to nanometre dimensions.

### **Tube Investments Research Laboratory** (TIRL) in Hinxton

Hall, gave an opportunity to import their techniques to modify electron microscopes to observe the growth of thin films. This type of work is now called ‘operando’, that is the high-resolution study of processes taking place under realistic conditions. It is extremely difficult: one must construct an envelope holding an environment containing the specimen, and get an electron beam through the lot, specimen, environment and envelope, whilst preserving enough of an image to be useful. More important was the extension of the techniques to the

study of catalysts under operating conditions, a development made easier by the availability of high voltage electron microscopes. Archie’s student Prathiba Gai (now Professor Dame Prathiba Gai FRS) and her partner Ed Boyes,



*As a JRF, Archie worked long hours at the electron microscope*

stimulated by and championed by Archie, have carried on this work to very great effect. In the opinion of the late Dr Mike Stowell FRS, who originated the work at TIRL, this collaboration can be seen as an early manifestation of the 'Cambridge Phenomenon': the productive technical collaboration between the University and industry.

**Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy (STEM)** was another technical development with far-reaching consequences exploited by Archie. In addition to diffraction contrast, electrons transmitted through the specimen are scattered locally without sensitivity to lattice rotations near a defect. They can be scattered through very large angles when they pass near atomic nuclei; also, they lose energy and are scattered as they excite X-rays. These events carry chemical information about the sample. This scattering does not depend critically upon the lattice rotations which cause diffraction contrast, but it depends crucially upon the atomic number of the atoms sampled by the beam, so you can identify the atoms: you can tell, for an extreme example, platinum from carbon. STEM enables all this information to be gathered point by point, unlike in a conventional microscope, where the field of view is imaged at once. STEM was the brainchild of the late Albert Victor Crewe, who first used high angle scattering to image single atoms on the surface of thin carbon films.

### **The potential of STEM for high resolution structural investigations**

was recognised by Archie, particularly for catalysts, the domain of chemists. To achieve the necessary reactive surface area, dispersions of nanometre-sized noble metals are held in a neutral medium. Unlike in Crewe's experiments, the metals are dispersed throughout the volume of the catalyst. STEM imaging of nanoparticles of platinum dispersed in graphite at first yielded very disappointing results. The problem was diffraction contrast, which produces confusing effects, obscuring the sharp images of the platinum clusters. Diffraction contrast must be expunged. Archie suggested the trick which worked: it was to form images from electrons scattered by such large angles that they could not have been diffracted but must have been scattered by individual platinum nuclei. The reason for this is that diffraction, at large angles, occurs using very closely spaced crystal planes. Small thermal vibrations blur the spacing between these planes, so no diffraction contrast is possible from them. The new contrast mechanism is called 'high-angle annular dark-field' (HAADF) which means electrons collected to form the image are

scattered through angles large enough that the contrast comes mainly from individual atoms, not from diffraction. This contrast mechanism is now almost universally employed in STEM.

**Maxwell's equations**, describing electricity and magnetism as fields which propagate in space and time, have been an obsession of Archie ever since I first knew him. I clearly remember conversations about the 'displacement current' which produces a magnetic field inside a capacitor even as electrons move outside it charge or discharge it. Is the displacement current real, or not? He was also almost from the start concerned with 'plasma oscillations', the ability of electrons to resonate collectively because their displacement produces a field acting as a restoring force, driving them back. Using STEM, one could see that the electrons which had excited plasma oscillations (plasmons) still showed contrast in the image almost unaffected, even though their phase relative to that incident upon the specimen had been destroyed. The Howie-Whelan equations still work.

**In aloof beam STEM spectroscopy** (a technique pioneered by Archie) involved another novel application of Maxwell's equations. Here the electron beam does not impinge directly on the specimen, but can still experience energy losses due to excitation of plasmons when passing nearby. You can think of it as resembling the operation of a transverse flute: blowing air across the mouthpiece excites resonant vibrations of air inside the flute, the resonant frequencies controllable by fingering the holes in the instrument. In the case of STEM, the electron beam passing near the edge of the specimen excites resonant collective modes of electrons within it. Just as with the flute, the frequencies of the modes depend upon the configuration of the specimen, which can be externally manipulated: tuned. In the case of electrons, the frequencies are mostly in the range of ultraviolet light but extend to soft X-rays and the visible spectrum. This is a whole new area of physics, 'plasmonics'. Archie recognised that this aloof mode of operation can largely avoid the limiting effect of the radiation damage caused when the sharply focused beam strikes the specimen. Electrons in metals, semiconductors and insulators can all be stimulated to resonate. The spectrum of the response can be calculated exactly using Maxwell's equations which treat the fields produced by the fast electron in the resonator, characterised by its dielectric response as a function of position and frequency. Extraordinary, detailed agreement can be achieved with experiment. Using selected frequency ranges, it is possible to

form images of the resonating objects, and these can be accurately calculated. This is another wide-open field for study, not unlike the dislocation imaging by diffraction contrast over sixty years ago.



*Archie as Head of Department in c. 1995*

**As Head of Department** (serving for two terms) Archie managed to continue to lead this research (jointly with me). Under his regime, the Cavendish was rated the top Physics Department in the country. He has a reputation for monetary prudence, illustrated by the following story recounted in *Physics World*. It seems that he found a young research student outside the counter of the Cavendish stores, where the young man was ordering three ball-point pens. Archie enquired why he was so profligate as to order so many, considering that he could use only one at a time.



Of Archie, it is fitting to recall the words of Brian Pippard: the wonder is that under so mighty an oak, how many smaller trees could grow. And now one sees the saplings themselves coming to maturity and contributing mightily themselves.

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## **A Flourishing Working and Social Relationship**

By Chris Tout

My first encounter with Archie was as my lecturer in solid state physics in the Michaelmas term of 1984. I recall his excellent exposition of the subject and looking at the notes I took back then I'm delighted to find my understanding easily recovered. Such was the clarity of his exposition.

Thence fast forward to 2000 when I started as a teaching Fellow at Churchill College. Archie was then President of the Senior Combination Room. This was a position he took seriously, often presiding at high table when the Master and Vice-Master were absent. I signed up for the SCR Committee at the end of my first term and my first act was to introduce weekly informal desserts. Archie encouraged this endeavour reminiscing of the days when Hawthorne as Master would persuade those dining to stay on for such a dessert that would often end with omelettes in the Master's Lodge.

The first was well attended and Archie duly presided. In those days the bell button in the Fellows' Dining Room could successfully summon Joseph the butler who was delighted to replenish the wine and port more than once.

Being a Scot, Archie made sure he partook of his full share, and it was rumoured that his bicycle suffered a minor accident on the way home. Soon after I was encouraged to take on the role of Fellows' Steward and this meant working very closely with the President. Archie was, as always, extremely supportive of someone thrown in at the deep end and we enjoyed a flourishing working and social relationship that saw him continuing in the role of President into retirement and without pay. Happy Birthday Archie!



## Very Grateful to Archie

By Dave Green

We are here to mark Archie's 90th birthday, but I want to back half of this period, 45 years, to Lent term 1979, when I was a first-year undergraduate here at Churchill. That term my College supervisor for Physics was 'Prof. Howie', which was quite a daunting experience because he was also the lecturer of the course. It turned out to be even more daunting, as my supervision partner only attended one supervision, so for the other seven I was by myself being supervised by Archie.

My memory is that there were two types of examples discussed in the supervisions. First were those from the examples sheet which I had basically managed to do, which Archie pointed out were simple and straightforward. Second were those which I had not managed to make much progress with myself, which Archie explained were also simple and straightforward. The key difference was that for the second set of questions Archie *explained* to me what the relevant physics was and made me see how to do the questions. Indeed – when you know the relevant physics from *his* lectures – the initially difficult questions were simple and straightforward after all! Looking back, I am very grateful to Archie for teaching me the specific physics relevant to that term's course and getting me into a good working habit. But I am also grateful for him showing me what good supervisions are all about, which is something I have tried to emulate myself, in many supervisions I have given in subsequent decades.

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## Kind and Supportive

By Athene Donald

I first encountered Archie as an undergraduate, when he supervised me in one of the final year Physics courses, but had far more interaction with him when doing my PhD and he was Head of the research group (Metal Physics, as it was then known) in which I carried it out, although he wasn't my supervisor. I attended the graduate lectures he gave on electron microscopy – twice, because I failed to understand so much of it first time around. Archie was one of the co-authors of a book about electron microscopy known as the

'bible', because it essentially covered everything a student would need to know about how to get the most out of the microscope and then be able to analyse their images.

### **Immensely supportive**

Some years later, when I was back in the Cavendish after a number of years away, and now a young lecturer, he was the Head of Department who was immensely supportive as I got to grips with the system and my wider research group expanded to form a new group, much helped by his wise input. Together we worked our way through the changing financial requirements of the day in the early 1990s; he was very patient with me. Despite being head of department, he managed to find time to attend seminars regularly, often appearing to drop off but then asking a killer question at the end. This was, I suspect, a lifelong habit of his. I am aware some people find him scary, quite possibly because of that sharp intellect and his sometime bluntness of speech, but I never found him anything but kind and supportive.

### **Nominating me**

I had yet another reason to thank him when he successfully nominated me for the 2009 L'Oréal Unesco For Women in Science Laureate for Europe. He came to Paris for the actual award ceremony too, which was an amazing occasion from my point of view. He takes the idea of sponsoring people for prizes very seriously, and I was absolutely the beneficiary in this case. This prize propelled me into the public eye (from Desert Island Discs to a Guardian profile) and almost certainly was instrumental in the award of a DBE the next year – and quite possibly in my appointment as Master here too.

If I were asked to sum up Archie in a few words I would describe him as wise, shrewd, supportive, blunt and modest. He's been a giant in his field who never held back from interacting with students and helping them with their science, long after he has retired.

## And now Archie's response in verse – what else?

### Natural Science for Oldies

Don't buy these two cultures of C.P Snow  
We all get second law decay to know!  
Disorder's certain but still random spread  
The entropy construct can't map ahead.  
In old age Thomas Hardy could confide  
His weak frame shook with throbbings of noontide!

From outside-in mum's dad I got to know  
Through twenty years our mutual bond could grow.  
My father's dad, when I was two, died blind.  
His coded message one my eyes now find.  
Old Archie's genes reveal what they're about  
I'll get to know this grandad inside-out!

I daily learn how all things gravitate  
For falling apples I've no need to wait!  
To cure my stick of frequent dropping faults  
A gyroscope might provoke somersaults!  
Real help with gravity could show up soon  
Should Elon Musk build Care Homes on the Moon!

For now, I'd rather stick with earth's delights:  
Infirmary my daily bike ride fights  
And climate change more lawn-mowing demands.  
Heat pumps and solar cells are in our hands.  
Though global warming they'll not fully tame,  
Trust homo sapiens to up its game!

## An Internationally Renowned Architect

Marcial Echenique's 80th Birthday Celebration

On Friday 12 May 2023 members of College joined with friends and family to celebrate the 80th birthday of Churchill College's celebrated architect – Professor Marcial Echenique. Marcial was joined by his wife Maria Louisa, their children, Marcial Antonio and Alejandra with their spouses and the many people present in the FDR that day were a testament to how much we all value Marcial, are grateful for his enthusiastic and unwavering contribution to the College's evolving buildings and our shared love for him.



Below are the tributes in the order they were delivered. Ying Jin, Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, Cambridge, started by talking about Marcial's research and applications to the planning of cities around the world; James Campbell, Professor of Architecture and Construction History and Head of Department, Cambridge, described vividly how a defiant Marcial saved the Department of Architecture from closure; Simon Tucker, a former student, now Director, Cottrell & Vermeulen Architecture Ltd, who designed the 'Pepperpots' and the graduate housing, enthused about Marcial's teaching in College and his mentoring role; Meredith Bowles, prominent architect, Mole Architects, Cambridge, spoke about some of the buildings Marcial designed in Cambridge and read a letter from Peter Studdert, former Head of Planning of Cambridge City, who couldn't come to the dinner, and finally Mark Goldie, Fellow, told us about Marcial's immense contribution to the College's architecture. To conclude, Professor Archie Howie, our de facto unofficial poet, delivered his tribute in verse.

# A Pioneer in Computer-Based Urban Modelling

By Ying Lin

Professor Marcial Echenique is among the very first in the world to pioneer computer-based urban modelling, a field that is known today as urban data science. What is special about Marcial's research is that he has applied the new theories and models across many countries, thus achieving the greatest practical impacts among the leaders in this field.

## Marcial's research

His research started in the 1960s when he was the first to introduce land use planning into computer models of cities. It is his emphasis on explaining causes and effects rather than replicating observed data patterns that has attracted the attention of foresighted policy makers.

This approach has since benefited to the full from the exponential growth in computing power, data and behavioural models, and this has now segued into the development of AI and wider digital transformation in city planning and design.

His novel research ideas have led to three spin-out companies as well as a world-renowned urban modelling software app MEPLAN. Marcial and his teams have worked in the UK, Spain, Italy, Japan, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, China, etc, with governments, the World Bank, and private investors. His works have also sparked an enormous debate in the US about the role of planning research, and in particular, his call for a greater attention upon suburbs has proven wise post-pandemic.

The extent of his research could be gleaned from the impacts upon the rejuvenation of the former industrial city of Bilbao. Typical of Marcial's model applications, the modelling work has been continuous over a long period with many repeated commissions. For the local governments, 'the results of these studies were key to the formulation of the policies implemented over the years and have contributed to the transformation of the area... Today the Region where Bilbao is the centre has the highest income per capita of Spain'.

## MEPLAN

In Chile, the MEPLAN model was used for a succession of major policy studies including the planning of the Capital City of Santiago, the Greater Santiago region, a national plan of transport and land use, regeneration of key regional centres, and an on-going plan for Chile's future needs of infrastructure.

Closer to home, the MEPLAN model has been extensively applied to London and surrounding regions including high profile projects like London Congestion Charging, the Elizabeth Line and the associated Thames Estuary developments. MEPLAN remains at the core of the Department for Transport's National Transport Model to this day. Locally, we all owe our gratitude for Marcial's modelling work for Cambridge Futures Projects, which led to the development of Eddington and the Biomedical Campus.

### Maria Louisa Echenique's contribution

Marcial's extraordinary achievements in research and practice have had an immeasurable contribution from his wife, Mrs Maria Louisa Echenique. Not only did Maria Louisa provide a direct input, e.g. into the programming of MEPLAN, she has remained to be the person to talk to among Marcial's students and research colleagues who lead urban modelling teams around the world.

As an architect who has designed well-loved buildings – his former home, the 'Echenique House' is now a listed building in Cambridge – Marcial's research and practice in urban modelling is all the more extraordinary for the foundational he has done in making Cambridge one of the leading centres in urban modelling and data science.



*Marcial with Maria Louisa*

## Instrumental in Saving the Department

By James Campbell

When Margaret Thatcher introduced the Research Assessment Exercise, it was envisaged as a way of increasing the amount of research done in universities and of distributing research funds. The exercise has always been controversial and in the longer term led to questionable results. Initially, the Architecture Department in Cambridge did very well. Unlike many Departments in other Universities which were largely vocational, the Cambridge Department had a very active research wing, the Martin Centre, named after Leslie Martin who had founded it in the 1960s.

### The closing of the Department

The crisis came in the 2001 assessment exercise when the units of assessment were changed, and architecture departments were grouped with surveying and the built environment. This favoured huge surveying departments in other Universities with large government planning grants. All Architecture Departments nationally did worse as a result. UCL hugely expanded its Architecture Department (the Bartlett) in response. Cambridge University however decided to close the Department altogether. The Head at the time felt unable to respond. Marcial who held the only other chair in the Department stepped in, taking over as Head.

### A defiant Marcial

The University had instructed the Department to close down quietly and not to talk to the press. Marcial, in defiance of this, immediately launched a massive media campaign. He contacted leading architects, academics and media personalities around the world and urged them to write in. The result was a media frenzy. TV cameras appeared to show students protesting outside the Senate house accompanied by TV stars. There was an outpouring of support from around the globe and the University backed down. Marcial negotiated with an extremely hostile General Board the terms of a complete overhaul of the Department. Loss-making courses were closed. Lecturer-practitioners who did not do any research were offered early retirement. They were replaced by architect-academics with PhDs who were to give the lectures. It was agreed that studio, traditionally the heart of architectural education, was to be taught by practising architects on part-time contracts. The space occupied by the Department was drastically cut.

## Saving the Department

The Martin Centre's building in Chaucer Road was given back to the University and sold off, and part of the money was used to refurbish Scroope Terrace and build a new studio building behind to bring research and teaching under one roof. Marcial masterminded the design of the building, which was built in timber to highest sustainability specifications with a ground source heat pump to reduce fuel bills and roof lights to reduce the need for electric lighting. For the first time all the students could sit in one space. The school was transformed.



*The new studio*

There was no doubt that Marcial was instrumental in saving the Department. He had both the standing within the University, and the strength of will, to negotiate at the highest levels, and he won a reputation in the upper echelons of the University for getting his own way. The restructuring of the staff was a painful process, but the results spoke for themselves: Cambridge came top in the following Research Assessment Exercises. Since then, it has doubled in size. Without Marcial the department would have been closed.

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## Guidance and Mentoring

By Simon Tucker

Marcial was the first person I met at Churchill College. A few months before I had an unpleasantly combative interview at one of the older Colleges which left an impression that reinforced my pre-conceptions of Cambridge. Marcial, however, was welcoming and charming. Rather than an interrogation, we had a stimulating conversation about the nature of architecture. The openness and modernity of the College provided a parallel contrast to the intimidating classical setting of the previous interview. Both Marcial and Churchill had changed my mind about Cambridge.



## Marcial as DoS

I accepted an offer and started studying architecture at Churchill in October 1986. Marcial was my Director of Studies, reviewing and guiding my work and providing a vital counterpoint to the studio teaching. Through this relationship I learnt that there was no one way to design a building, but that it was an iterative, manifold process. Supervisions with Marcial helped me realise that I would need to remain open to many viewpoints and that architecture could provide a medium to resolve, distil and express my ideas. This influenced my own attitude towards teaching later in my career.

Marcial also taught a series of lectures at the department. His courses on urban theory provided an understanding of the history and form of cities and an essential context for my studio work.

## The Pepperpots

Not too long after leaving Cambridge, I joined a very small, very new practice. I wrote to Marcial by way of introduction, and after a remarkably short time, he invited us to participate in a design competition at Churchill. Despite some very stiff competition, we were successful and went on to design what became known as the 'Pepperpots'.



*The Pepperpots and the new Graduate Houses*

This was an incredible opportunity for the practice, and a dream project for me. The final design, however, was not achieved without several reviews with Marcial, which felt very redolent of my undergraduate supervisions. The completion of the Pepperpots marked a critical milestone in the growth of our practice. 20 years on, it remains one of my favourite projects.

After the Pepperpots, Marcial continued to invite us to participate in Churchill design competitions. We duly lost them all, but always to architects I respected, who designed buildings I appreciated.

### **Extending the Pepperpots site**

In 2015, we were finally successful once more, landing a project to extend the Pepperpots site. The previous scheme was delivered by Tim Pitman, a fellow Churchillian. In this next phase, Priscilla Fernandes, also a Churchillian, was the project architect from the competition stage to completion. This gave us an understanding of life at Churchill: Marcial and the competition committee saw as much in our proposals.

We were keen to build upon the ideas established in the first project, but also to develop and evolve our approach. During the presentation, Marcial asked a simple, yet pertinent question: why re-invent the wheel? That is – why should we move away from the ideas proposed in the first scheme? Once again, I felt as if I was back in a supervision, some thirty years before. This question influenced the course of the design: how do we innovate, whilst ensuring continuity? The final scheme does demonstrate an evolution of the original ideas. However, there is a consistency in the architectural character of the scheme and the landscape, which helps to tie the whole site together. This, of course, is thanks to Marcial.

Often the most difficult aspect of being an architect, is simply getting an opportunity to build. Along with the early guidance and mentoring, Marcial has not only provided this, but in the landscape of Churchill College, a place which has great personal importance for me.

## Clear Conceptions about Sustainable Buildings

By Meredith Bowles

Before his distinguished career in urban planning, Marcial demonstrated his skills as an architect in building his own house at the age of twenty-eight. Located in Chesterton, the house was Grade II Listed in 2012 and now stands as an example of low-cost experimental lightweight timber housing. It is connected to a rich theme in British architectural history of the late '60s and early '70s, of making buildings with simply expressed construction.

### Marcial's house



*The house in Chesterton Road*

The construction was unusual and inventive, utilising standard timber sections and a sandwich of insulated panels that served as internal finish and external wall. This was a building looking at economy and efficiency, in an early incarnation of sustainable construction. It's a modest building that is filled with light, looking onto mature trees at the rear, and has a playful and

inventive section. Its complex internal spaces recall those of the Cornford House, designed by fellow academic Colin St John Wilson, although Marcial's house of lightweight timber contrasted with St John Wilson's masonry enclosure, a dialogue to which he would return.

### **A rescue plan for the Department**

Both men went on to become Head of the School of Architecture, St John Wilson in 1975, shortly after completing his extension to the Department at Scroope Terrace, and Marcial in 2003. During Marcial's tenure the School was threatened with closure, and Marcial was instrumental in coming up with a rescue plan; part of the solution was to bring the Martin Centre for research into the main Departmental building at Scroope Terrace, which required a new building at the rear. This building was to be positioned to be in dialogue with St John Wilson's earlier brick and concrete building, widely considered to be the first example of Brutalist architecture in the UK, and now Listed Grade II.

### **A light-filled studio place**

Marcial had a very clear idea of what he wanted for the new studio and why; this was to be: a sustainable timber building; to be one space that the whole undergraduate studio would be in; it would be light-filled and well-ventilated; it would need cooling in the summer. It was not to be an old-fashioned masonry building or separated into different studios. The University commissioned my practice to work with Marcial on the building, which was completed in 2008. The resulting building remains a light-filled simple studio space that the whole of the undergraduates work in, and the unification of the research and design work of the Department has been a success. Marcial's conception of the building was a good one and demonstrates a clear commitment to sustainable design.

At the time I had just received awards for my own house in the Fens, which is a low energy timber house, raised off the ground on stilts, and clad in a corrugated agricultural cladding. Marcial was really interested how it was made and told me at the time that his own house in Chesterton was originally intended to have the same cladding; he showed me some photos of the original model. What he didn't say was quite how extraordinary it was.

# The Right Person, at the Right Time in the Right Place

By Peter Studdert

Cambridge is extremely fortunate that Marcial is one of those rare people who was the right person in the right place at the right time. The time was 1997, when Cambridge was having to wake up to the fact that it was no longer sustainable to ignore the growth dynamic that had been building up over the previous 25 years. The formal planning processes were struggling to cope, and a catalyst was needed to generate new thinking about growth. That catalyst was Cambridge Futures, a joint initiative between the University and the City that developed into a broadly based options exercise, with a research team led by Marcial in the Department of Architecture at its heart.

## Collaboration between Town and Gown

This was not just a unique collaboration between Town and Gown – it also pioneered innovative ways of illustrating growth options to the wider community through a 25-minute video produced by the Architecture School's Moving Image Studio. This video was the centrepiece of public exhibitions and featured on local TV news programmes. (I still have a copy of the video but nothing to play it on!).

The innovation shown by Marcial's work led to Cambridge Futures being awarded the Royal Town Planning Institute's Annual Award for Excellence in 2000. But more importantly it enabled a sea-change in the political environment for grasping the opportunities that Cambridge's growth dynamic presented, and through subsequent regional, county and city plans, a positive and forward-looking approach to growth was embraced. The new neighbourhoods of Great Kneighton, Trumpington Meadows, Eddington, Marleigh and Darwin Green, as well as the new towns at Northstowe and Waterbeach, owe their origins to these plans.

## Cambridge Futures 2

Transport planning of course lay at the heart of Marcial's work, and the follow-up initiative of Cambridge Futures 2 confronted the challenges head on, and in turn influenced subsequent transport policy for the Cambridge sub-region.

Cambridge's continuing growth remains controversial of course, and maybe there is yet time for a Cambridge Futures 3 to help inform the debate! But although feelings run high over matters such as congestion charging and low traffic neighbourhoods, there remains an underlying consensus about the need to continue to support the Cambridge success story in a post-Brexit world, and creative solutions will still be needed to the challenges that growth brings.

Cambridge will always be fortunate to be able to look back at the Cambridge Futures project, and Marcial's ground-breaking research, as a model for how to get things right.



*The Cambridge Futures Airport*

## Respecting College Buildings, Adapting College Buildings

By Mark Goldie

For five decades – he became a Fellow in 1972 – Marcial Echenique has been the unofficial, but tenacious and influential, custodian of the College's built fabric, and the design impresario of its future building needs. Now retired, he was, in the University, Professor of Land Use and Transport Studies and head of the Architecture Department. He came to Churchill in succession to the College's first Director of Studies in Architecture, Colin St John ('Sandy') Wilson, later renowned as the designer of the British Library at St Pancras.

### A tricky balancing act

Caring for the College's buildings is a tricky balancing act because respect for their architectural integrity and aesthetic character needs to be balanced



against adaptation to meet new needs and new technical standards. The main body of the buildings, designed by Richard Sheppard and built in the 1960s, are 'listed', which means they are designated by government as being of architectural and/or heritage significance, and can only be modified with permissions called 'listed building consent'. But the College's buildings fail present-day sustainability requirements (although their flat roofs are a now godsend for solar panels), and, though they were a Cambridge marvel of undergraduate comfort when first built, they have needed adaptation, notably to introduce ensuite facilities. Then there are questions, as the College expands, of where to place future buildings and what kind of visual 'conversation' they should have with existing structures.

### The inspiration behind adaptations



*The Fellows' corridor*

Marcial has been the inspiration behind a long series of adaptations, such as the insertion of additional rooms into the ground floors of the residential courtyards; the enclosure of the entrance concourse, which did not originally have offices and glass walls along its length; the redesign of the buttery, including the Fellows' 'by-pass' that extended the Buttery westwards; and the remodelling of the Fellows' corridor into a broader gallery.

## Providing initial outline proposals

It has not been Marcial's role to act as architect as such, but to provide initial outline proposals. Detailed design work has been done, variously, by a series of College Consultant Architects, or by practices commissioned through competitions. On no less than eight occasions, subsequent to the major competition to build the original College in 1959, there have been competitions to select an architect, most notably those for the design of the Møller Centre (now Institute), won by the Danish architect Henning Larsen; for the 'Pepperpots' graduate housing, won by Cottrell & Vermeulen; and for Cowan Court, won by Tom Emerson of 6A.

In one competition, a practical consideration prevailed. The second Study Centre and Music Rooms was awarded to Deborah Saunt of DSDHA, a scheme which enabled the first Study Centre, to which it was attached, to continue in commercial operation during construction. There has been a cost to this: the new building abuts very close to Churchill Road. Having a 'thin' skin, of glass, its character is very different from every other building on campus. It was intended to make the building self-effacing, and to offer reflections of the trees opposite.

## Putting his foot down

On one occasion Marcial put his foot down firmly. In the 1980s there was need for additional graduate housing. Looking to save money, the then Development Director got a 'Design and Build' firm to run up a scheme (a procedure which dispenses with the distinction between architect and contractor), which was touted in search of funding. Marcial pronounced the design an 'atrocious' and a resignation matter: he won the argument.

## Losing to Larsen

He did not always get his way. Architects are meant to evolve designs in consultation with clients. Henning Larsen tended to be emphatic about the superiority of his design solutions. The Møller Centre tower has its emergency escape staircase right through its core, instead of external to the tower, which disrupts the sightlines, audial lines, and communal unity of the dining and lounge areas. Marcial lost to Larsen on that one; although he redesigned the location of the kitchen, and insisted on a brick façade that respected the 'old' courts. There's a touch of *schadenfreude* in Marcial's recollection of



Maersk McKinney Møller later telling him that he had been right to stand up to Larsen: Møller had long fights with Larsen over the Copenhagen Opera House project.

Another intervention was to encourage Tom Emerson of 6A, in designing Cowan Court, to (literally) dig deeper, so that the height of the building was not out of kilter with the neighbouring existing courtyards. Marcial is especially pleased with Cowan Court, not least because it so manifestly speaks to our current sustainability agenda.



*Cowan Court*

### **Retaining a Consultant Architect**

Marcial believes it valuable for the College regularly to retain a Consultant Architect, who is external to the College, but who, having a longish term commitment, is able to consider individual projects in the context of the whole site, its history, and character. The Consultant Architect may be commissioned to undertake minor works, but not, other than through competition, major projects. The College's original architectural practice, Sheppard Robson, continued to attend the Buildings Committee and to design for the College after completion of the original courtyards: the Chapel, the Archives Centre, and finally the (later superseded) Music Rooms.

A Consultant Architect was first appointed in 1991 and for several years it was David Thurlow, who designed the (first) Study Centre, a wraparound of the old gymnasium, though not before Marcial had successfully pressed for the long, low, linearity of the building's profile. Thurlow went on to design the Archives Centre Extension, opened in 2002, with its distinctive glass 'butterfly wings', inserted to relieve the mass of brickwork. In this instance, considerations of archival conservation vetoed a full glass wall.

### **Refurbishing the College's housing stock**



Many of the College's projects are quieter, less noticeable. We have progressively refurbished our housing stock along Storey's Way, which provides postgraduate accommodation. In the case of No. 70, insertion of insulation, heat pumps, and solar panels has dramatically reduced energy usage. It is a sign of our times, that, in the case of No. 36A&B, a modest house which an earlier generation would have knocked down and replaced (indeed a former Bursar recommended this), was retrofitted and given new life in 2022–23.

Marcial has not hung up his T-square yet. As a member of the Estates Committee, he remains engaged in our current projects. On the agendas are the completion of the Bill Brown Creative Workshop, and the redevelopments of the Archives Centre and of Churchill Road.

## Archie's poem

Etxenike – Arkitekto Unibertsala!  
Where's Chile when you stand in King's Parade?  
He drew it in his first post prandial  
In fine perspective brilliantly displayed;  
This sketch conveyed the skill of Marcial!  
Cross Oxford's spires, wide seas – then Andes scaled,  
Find the long country whence he hailed.

Plans of his early modest home came next,  
No wooden shack but more a symphony  
Composed from light-weight off-the-peg rejects,  
A room of double height with balcony;  
This house would duly grade II status gain!  
Can living there a blue plaque case sustain?

Design *and* history have Farm Hall blessed!  
His country seat gave enforced residence  
To German physicists at A-bomb's test;  
Their conversations bugged for evidence.  
To win the war with rockets was the aim  
No A-bomb guilt so moral high ground claim!

Why stick with houses when whole cities wait  
To meet the challenge of the modern world?  
They seek creative plans to change their state  
Revealed as Martial's schemes are then unfurled.  
From Spain and Italy his writ runs round  
From Cambridge to all Chile, fame he's found!

## The Economists' Economist

David Newbery's 80th Birthday Celebration

On Friday 9 June 2023 members of College joined with friends and family to celebrate the 80th birthday of one of Churchill College's celebrated economists – Professor David Newbery. David was joined by his wife Terri and their children, Miranda and Julia, and the many people present that day were a testament to how much we all value David and our shared love for him.



*David speaking at his 80th birthday celebration in College on 9 June 2023*

Below are the tributes (in the order they were delivered) from Michael Pollitt, Professor of Business Economics, Judge Business School, Cambridge; Richard Green, Professor of Sustainable Energy Business Imperial College; David Reiner, Professor of Technology Policy, JBS, Cambridge; Dr Georgina Santos, Reader Cardiff University, and last but not least his daughter, Miranda. A message from Georgia Kaplanoglou, professor of Economics, University of Athens, who was unable to attend the reception was read out. To conclude, Professor Archie Howie, our de-facto unofficial poet, delivered his tribute in verse. And finally, David responded warmly by first thanking the contributors and then by telling us the crucial role Churchill College played in his career.

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## The Very Best Microeconomist

By Michael Pollitt

David is one of the very best microeconomists that Cambridge has produced. David has made many contributions to economics over the years, in development economics, public economics, industrial organization, economic regulation, transport and energy economics.

This includes his work: with Nobel Laureate, Joe Stiglitz, on commodity price stabilisation; and with Nobel Laureate, Eric Maskin on optimal oil import taxes. The *Palgrave Companion to Cambridge Economics* has a chapter on David's work.

It is a pleasure to be invited to be part of tonight's celebrations in honour of our dear friend and colleague Professor David Newbery, CBE.

I first met David when I was a fresh-faced junior lecturer in the Faculty of Economics in 1994. Some of David's first words to me were 'Are you on email?'. To which my reply was 'No'. Once I caught up with this new technological trend, I quickly found my inbox filling up with emails from David! David has always been a man with a strong interest in new technology!

David has been an inspiration in my academic life. I remember often coming into David's large but extremely cluttered office in the Austin Robinson Building and him very enthusiastically telling me what he had JUST learned about some detail of the operation of the electricity market. I thought: if I am as old an academic as David and still as enthusiastic about economics that would be great. David was younger then than I am now!

David's infectious enthusiasm for learning new things about electricity markets – and explaining them to those around him – continues to this day!

David, it has been a true blessing to have worked with you. You have always been an extremely generous academic leader and all of us associated with the Energy Policy Research Group are so proud of you. Thank you and Happy Birthday!

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## **The Right Mix of Freedom and Support**

By Richard Green

I joined the Department of Applied Economics in 1989, one of the earliest members of what became the Energy Policy Research Group, when we would hold our meetings between the (then well-attended) coffee break and lunch, on a morning that rotated according to people's teaching commitments – and the group fitted easily around David's office table.

One of my first academic conferences was the 1990 World Congress of the Econometric Society (of which David is a Fellow), and I remember his acceptance speech on receiving the Frisch medal for the best paper in their journal *Econometrica* (one of the ‘big five’ in economics) – he pointed out that the paper had been rejected by another top journal, and that *Econometrica*’s referees were sceptical, but that Angus Deaton (the journal’s editor and sometime Churchill Visiting Fellow) had supported it through to publication. (In David’s own speech in reply, he spoke of the wonderful atmosphere for economists at Churchill, helped by the steady stream of excellent visiting fellows that Frank Hahn hosted.)

David was my PhD supervisor and gave me exactly the mix of freedom and support that I needed, quickly providing detailed and most helpful comments on the work I showed him, while letting me develop my own research interests – I was a co-investigator with him on all the subsequent grants that supported me through a happy and productive decade and was privileged to start my career with David.

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## **Inclusive, Responsive and Tolerant**

By David Reiner

I would like to highlight three main takeaways after having worked with David within our Energy Policy Research Group over these past two decades: (i) David’s inclusiveness and support for multi-disciplinary approaches; (ii) the importance he has placed on responding to policy and influencing the world as it is, in reality; and finally (iii) his tolerance of dissent and the value of having intellectual disagreements.

As the token political scientist within EPRG, even though David is in many ways the economist’s economist, I always felt that my contributions and those of colleagues from other disciplines were genuinely appreciated and integrated in with main thrust of EPRG’s work in economics. Too often, there is a professed support for interdisciplinary work but the reality on the ground speaks differently whereas David always demonstrated his unwavering commitment to true inclusivity, which is something I have benefited from enormously throughout my career.

On policy relevance, David has likewise set the gold standard for how to advise government and regulators while sticking to a strong commitment to speaking truth to power. By investing significant time and effort, he reaffirmed the importance that as researchers we have a duty to improve the policy process even though it often feels like pushing water uphill. My own inclination would always have been to get more involved in policy advice but as a new academic his example provided me with both the reassurance that this was acceptable, and a good use of scarce time and he also provided a model for how to do this well.

Philip Wolmuth



*David chairing the launch event of the Govt Office of Science Land Use Futures Report in 2010.*

Finally, although David will always make strong, cogent arguments to support his preferred approach, what I have always appreciated most is his ability to ‘disagree agreeably’. For example, there is little I enjoy more than visiting a government department or one of our industry sponsors and watching David and Michael disagree passionately over some issue. Both government officials and corporate types could never imagine disagreeing publicly with a colleague no matter how much they might personally disagree and so watching them watch the sparring between Michael and David is always a highlight. At first, they are horrified but gradually they begin to appreciate the disagreements and might even take sides or at least listen carefully to the different arguments.

All three of these threads reflect a common theme of openness, intellectual curiosity and generosity of spirit that has characterised all my interactions with David.

## Indebted to David

By Georgina Santos

Many supervisors are knowledgeable, passionate and supportive, and so was David. Many people will say: 'I wouldn't be where I am, were it not for my PhD supervisor', but in my case that could not be a better reflection of the truth.

I met David for the first time in July 1996. It was a lovely summer afternoon and I had jumped on the train from London to come and meet one of the lecturers in the Faculty of Economics and Politics, who was supposedly going to be my PhD supervisor. I also needed a bit of money as my scholarships did not cover everything.

But this lecturer told me he was leaving the University, so I was left without a supervisor or any hope of finding money. He said... let me email the Director of the DAE – this is how we communicate with each other, by email, even though he is just upstairs (this is the 1990s!).

### Meeting David

He invited me for tea in the staff room and introduced me to David and explained the situation. David was extremely welcoming and immediately mentioned an opportunity. There was a researcher with a project who could employ me as his research assistant and also supervise me for my PhD. Within days I had been interviewed and offered the job, and everything was perfect. I had a PhD supervisor and the money I needed. And all thanks to David.

Except that... I declined the offer and off I went to a different university in the South to do a PhD there, again, working as a Research Assistant. It did not take long before I realised I had made the biggest mistake in my life. How had I declined my place to do a PhD, research assistantship included, at Cambridge?! Just before Christmas, I plucked up the courage and wrote a letter to David (we still wrote letters in those days) and I explained what a big mistake I had made and asked if I could have a meeting with him. My place at Cambridge and my scholarships were there for me if I wanted them but I needed a supervisor and money.

Of course, he could have told me, I found you both a supervisor and a part-



time job, you declined the offer, good luck. But instead, he agreed for me to come and see him.

## **Grateful to David**

I am and will always be grateful to David. I came to see him, and he agreed to supervise me for my PhD. First supervision: with incredible contagious enthusiasm he talked for an hour and a quarter, graphs on the board, explaining exactly what my PhD could be about. He also said we would apply for a grant to the ESRC together; he would be the PI and I would be his Research Assistant. The plan was for the project to become my PhD thesis, and it did. In fact, we ended up with 2 ESRC projects and also money from the Department for Transport.

David was generous with his time, patient when little progress was made, and supportive when things went well and when things did not go so well. I passed my viva without any corrections, except for a few typos that I had identified myself.

Not a day has gone by since then when I have not felt extremely lucky to have bumped into David in my life. Had it not been for David, I would have never completed my PhD at Cambridge, certainly not, after turning down the initial offer. David made Cambridge possible and viable for me, and for that, I am and will always be indebted.

Happy Birthday, David!

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## **A Role Model**

Message from Georgia Kaplanoglou

I was one of David's PhD students in the '90s, and I have always admired two of his qualities; how hardworking he is and the way he uses his theoretical background to find solutions to real-world problems. In both respects, he has been a role model. Whenever I was cycling from town to Wolfson College along Sidgwick Avenue, sometimes early in the evening, I would always turn my head up to have a look at David's corner office in the Faculty of Economics and Politics. Seeing the lights on was the best disciplining device for me.

Many years later, in 2015, we met in Dublin, as one of his electricity board meetings coincided with the annual conference of the International Institute for Public Finance taking place at Trinity College Dublin, which I attended. David always has a genuine interest not only in how his former students are doing but also in their countries. At the time, Greece was in the middle of an economic crisis and under severe pressure, particularly from the IMF, which urged for rapid liberalisation of practically all markets, including the electricity market. While strolling in Dublin we bumped into a top IMF staff member, who was part of the mission to Greece and also attending the public finance conference. I introduced him to David, and he was most impressed. While saying how honoured he was to meet David in person, David took the opportunity to give him a short lecture right there on the pavement on what a bad idea it was to liberalise the electricity market unless it was first properly regulated. I felt really grateful, on behalf of Greece too.

Happy birthday David and I thank you so much for being such a role model as an academic and as a person.

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## Rocket Grandad

By Miranda

My kids called my dad (David), 'rocket grandad', to distinguish him from their other grandfather.

And rockets have been around for pretty much as long as I can remember. I was very young when my Dad and our Berkeley friends were about to fly rockets on the beach at Chincoteague, Virginia when the park rangers arrive to say that it was illegal to discharge a firearm in a state park so he could not launch there. I also wonder if there are any statutes written into the Churchill College charter about the use of the



grounds for rocketry after our occasional launches there. Of course, now my dad can launch his rockets on the straight and narrow as part of the East Anglian Rocket Society, EARS.

### The East Anglian Rocket Society

Thinking about it, rockets are a pretty good symbol for many of my dad's endearing (if sometimes annoying) qualities. My dad once told me, that he saw the EARS trips a bit like golf. You launch a rocket (like hitting a ball) and then go walk in a field to find it (like finding your ball). Of course, unlike golf, rockets are not about social standing, wearing the right clothes, doing business deals or being part of a fancy club, but about the sheer joy of launching something into the sky and then the frustration about whether you can find it or not, with a group of people who are interested in the same thing (a bit like academic research). Something that my dad has successfully modelled to both me and my sister is that he is always passionate about his work and that it is more important to do something interesting than just go for the money and status. It sounds like this is a feature his work colleagues can relate to (and maybe also find occasional frustration in as well).



My dad is pretty well known, within the EARS group (I even recently emailed a model rocket vendor who knew him to get advice on a birthday present and there was no confusion we were talking about the same David). This is partly because my dad's rockets do not always fly as intended. Or as SpaceX would say, they sometimes go into a 'rapid, unscheduled disassembly'. That is because he often comes up with elaborate prototypes (emphasis on prototype) with multiple moving parts, that he has carefully crafted out of various pieces of other rockets (and other materials) that he has at home. But again, this willingness to try, his optimism and lack of fear of failure is another one of my dad's great qualities, which I can imagine many of you have come across in your interactions as a member of the College and in his work as an economist.

And of course, I'm sure that my dad's interest in making things and the many fun toys he procures (which he also let me play with) did have some influence on my first degree in engineering. I'm grateful for his infectious enthusiasm

of work and life, unending encouragement, and the fact he never indicated there were 'girl' or 'boy' jobs which I used to take as a given, but now know is something very precious.

So, thank you rocket grandad and happy 80th birthday.

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## Archie's poem

### The Burning Issue

To rescue us from climate change malign  
From oil and gas bad habits we'll resign.  
Once Cockcroft atoms split then fused (he thought)  
And Bondi to the tide attention brought.  
To drive big change needs a smart funding scheme –  
Our youngest ever Teaching Fellow's dream!

When Hawthorne brought in cavity-filled walls,  
The College energy requirement falls.  
But student bills, based on the hours fans go,  
Reached zero and killed Bursar's income flow!  
Frank Hahn might view such issues with disdain:  
But David adds more real-world skill to brain!

From Tripos Maths to Economics flip:  
At Hahn's request then Churchill Fellowship.  
Did PhD with teaching on the hoof,  
And kept from wrangling Faculty aloof!  
To sign that letter from these 364  
Economists he sensibly forbore!

On World Bank staff his reputation grew  
This funding, network-management guru  
Favours the auction process to proceed.  
If his all-Ireland body can succeed  
His schemes may faster, crucial progress drive:  
Raise hopes our progeny can better thrive!

## Churchill – A Rich Source of Friendship and Stimulation

By David Newbery

Thank you all so much for coming tonight and for your kind words. Throughout my adulthood, Churchill has been a rich source of friendship and stimulation. I cannot imagine anywhere else I would have enjoyed such wide engagement with the ideas of this diverse, brilliant community. But tonight, I will focus on its crucial role in my career as an economist – a very accidental economist, with Churchill driving my good fortune.

I came to Cambridge to read maths but after two years was faced with a choice of either Part III, or another subject. I was advised to discuss that option with Jim Mirrlees, also a mathematician turned economist, and he rapidly persuaded me to do Part II economics. On graduation, Frank Hahn, who with Mirrlees taught theory and mathematical economics, asked me to consider a teaching fellowship at Churchill as he was leaving for a chair at the LSE. I pointed out that I already had agreed to an ODI fellowship to join the Tanzanian treasury, but they were willing to cut short that posting to one year so I could return to Churchill in 1966. While in Dar es Salaam I was invited to apply for an Assistant Lectureship, and, without interview, was appointed to start on my return – with no PhD, and only two years' undergraduate study in the subject (although with some practical experience as one of the four economists in the Tanzanian Treasury). Those were the days!

I returned to share an office with Tony Atkinson in 1966, I think the first Churchill undergraduate to become a professor (at Essex, at the age of 26, shortly after I returned). At that time, I met Joe Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate amongst many other honours and roles. I have just returned from his 80th birthday Festschrift conference in Milan, where I could claim to be his earliest colleague present. I followed Joe to Yale in 1969 and in 1976 for a longer sabbatical at Stanford, where we started working on a major project that grew out of the oil crisis and turbulence in world commodity markets, resulting in a major joint book, *The Theory of Commodity Price Stabilization: A Study in the Economics of Risk*, as well as a number of joint articles. That project continued when Joe took up the Drummond chair at All Souls' Oxford and then to Princeton. So, my arrival in Cambridge at the right time led to a collaboration with arguably the most creative economist of the 20th century.

Back in Cambridge Frank Hahn collected the cream of the rising generation of young economists and invited as overseas Fellows a series of subsequent Nobel laureates. That tradition of overseas Fellowships and the College as host is one of the most productive and enjoyable aspects of Churchill – where else can one lunch, dine and talk with the world's most creative academics? Frank also ran supper seminars in the College for the faculty's young Turks while Dorothy Hahn not only taught my first-year economists on my return, but hosted Frank's evening meetings for selected undergraduates to give papers. I count myself incredibly fortunate that my career as an economist was launched from this productive College and faculty environment.

Last – but certainly not least – it was here in 35B where I met Terri at a party that Edward Craig and I held for our students, and this is the very room in which we held our wedding reception. I count myself incredibly lucky to have met and married Terri, and that we were blessed with two wonderful daughters here tonight, and four gorgeous grandchildren. So, thank you, Churchill College for being at the epicentre of so many good things in my life.



*David, Terri and daughters collecting his CBE at Buckingham Palace*





# FEATURES



*Viper's Bugloss on the College site*



'It is never too late to be what  
you might have been.'

**George Eliot**

*English novelist, poet, journalist and translator*

# FEATURES

## Sharon Peacock, the Eighth Master of Churchill College

An interview with Mark Goldie

**‘As transient custodians, Masters need to create a continuum by embracing long-term planning that strengthens the College for future generations – and not simply maintain the status quo.’**

Professor Sharon Peacock succeeded Professor Dame Athene Donald in October 2024. Professor Peacock is Professor of Microbiology and Public Health in Cambridge. Her scientific career has been devoted to pathogen genomics, antimicrobial resistance, and tropical diseases. She was founding director of COG-UK, the Covid-19 Genomics UK Consortium, which delivered SARS-CoV-2 sequencing to UK public health agencies, governments, and researchers during the pandemic. Author of over 550 papers and 22 book chapters, she has raised

£60 million in research funding. She holds an honorary degree from the Royal Veterinary College, was made a CBE in 2015 and was awarded the Medical Research Council Millennium medal in 2021. Professor Peacock is a Non-Executive Director on the Board of Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, an Honorary Fellow of St John’s College Cambridge, and a member of University Council. She is the seventh STEM Master of the College, and the first in the medical sciences. You can listen to her on the BBC’s ‘Desert Island Discs’ archive. An interview with Professor Mark Goldie, an historian and Churchill Fellow, on 22 February 2024 informed the contents of this article.



*I begin with two apologies. First, today's discussion is about the College rather than your scientific work and career. Second, I expect I'll repeat some of the questions put to you by our Search Committee. But this conversation is for the wider College community.*

### **How has the role of a Cambridge Head of House changed in the past thirty years?**

Several generations ago, a Master would most likely have been a man, often drawn from the existing membership of the College. Since then, there's been a notable shift towards greater diversity in recruitment, as well as an acknowledgement of the importance of Colleges being more outward facing. Today, **around half of Heads of House in Cambridge are women**, and there is growing diversity in terms of ethnicity, social background and the professional expertise and experience that people bring to the role. But many of the core duties are much the same as they were 30 years ago or more. As well as supporting and promoting academic excellence, **the Master is the glue of the College**. They need to be a visible and effective leader to all constituencies of the College and beyond. As temporary custodians, Masters need to create a continuum by embracing long-term planning that strengthens the College for future generations, and not simply maintain the status quo. I aim to take a 50-year forward view when thinking about the sustainability of the campus, whether the estate and its buildings are fit for purpose, and what level of philanthropic funding we will need to continue to foster academic achievements and innovation by students, Fellows, and members of the College.

### **Why would such a talented and successful scientist want to spend time on the sometimes vexing concerns of College Fellows and students?**

I'd have two answers to that. **There isn't a better job on the planet than supporting, educating, teaching, and nurturing young people**. I am convinced that tackling the many global challenges that we face requires us to invest in the education and learning of future generations. Supporting young people at Churchill College to become their best selves and to enter the wider world ready to make a difference is hugely fulfilling. My second response is that, although I will miss research, this feels like **I am coming full circle in my academic life**. I didn't do well at school and left at sixteen. I trained as a dental nurse, then a nurse, a doctor, and a researcher. At sixteen

it wouldn't have occurred to me that I would become Master of a Cambridge College, but right now it feels like a natural progression in my working life. I want to use my back story to reflect on the power of intellectual curiosity combined with academic training to change lives and encourage students thinking about university to feel that anything is possible.

### **What percentage of your time have you agreed with the College to devote to the Mastership?**

I was given the choice of between 50 and 80 per cent and opted for 80 per cent. **The Mastership will be my overriding commitment.** But it's important to have outside perspectives. I'll retain my professorship in the Department of Clinical Medicine. I sit on Council at the University, as well as the Advisory Councils for Cambridge Life Science, and the Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP). I will continue as a Non-Executive Director on the Board of Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust until March 2025, when I will step down after 9 years. These roles give me greater knowledge of the wider Cambridge landscape. On that subject, I note the expansion of West Cambridge and Eddington, which has meant that Churchill finds itself at the centre of the University geographically. I want to look at how we might forge closer links with our near neighbours in pursuit of academic advancement.

### **The College is rightly proud of several early commitments: 70 per cent STEM, one third postgraduates, the first men's College to decide to admit women. But all that was a long time ago. Is it time for new defining commitments?**

It's important to preserve and consolidate these unique fundamentals. I appreciate how special it *still* is to be 70 per cent STEM and one third postgrads, now combined with the achievement of gender parity in student numbers. So, I don't agree that it's time for new defining commitments in terms of core subjects. But there is more we can do to attract the strongest students and make their experience at Churchill College an exceptional one. I care a lot about the College being accessible to students who would otherwise not be able to afford it. **Diversity isn't just about gender and ethnicity: it's about poverty too.** We also need to maintain a relentless focus on how we help students at the different stages in their Churchill journey, including *after* university – captured by the phrase 'Getting in, Getting on, and Getting out.'

**Arguably the University is two-faced. We worry about access at undergrad level; but at the postgrad level we cater for the world's elite who can afford the fees.**

I agree that it's troubling that there are talented students internationally who can't afford to benefit from what Churchill College has to offer. For this reason, I am keen to work with colleagues to **review the scale of our ambition in relation to postgrad studentships** as one component of our development plan to allow us to educate academically gifted people from across the world.

**Churchill is one of the largest Colleges. Is continuing growth inexorable?**

It's not inevitable. The question I would ask is – what is the optimum size? There would need to be a compelling strategic reason for further expansion. **A possible driver of expansion is the growth in new subject disciplines among the Triposes.** A question to ask me again in a year!

**Many Fellows are chiefly department-facing; some rarely set foot in the College. How do you avoid the College being, for Fellows, just a dining club?**

I would be horrified if anyone thought of Churchill College as just a dining club! Every member of the College community should expect to actively contribute towards our purpose.



**Fellows are vital for teaching, for the wider running of the College,** and they directly contribute to research outputs through their academic positions, together with Churchill research fellowships and by-fellowships. The College is self-governing, and we will be most effective if Fellows get involved and support the work of its committees. But having said that, I want to defend the value of eating together. This is an important time to socialise and maintain the cohesion of the Fellowship, as well as to talk about our research interests across the academic disciplines.

**Day-to-day, the Master spends time in the ‘admin corridor’ and interacts with the Vice-Master, Senior Tutor, and Bursar (traditionally known as the ‘College Officers’). How do you avoid a bunker mentality?**

I aim to spend a lot of time out and about talking with students, Fellows, staff, and alumni. I’m keen to meet with staff groups and to understand how departments that manage areas such as catering, hospitality, the estates and gardens, function day-to-day. I want people to feel they can tell me what it’s like to work here. I also aim to be visible at lunch and dinner. **Being the human face of the College is important, but listening to people is even more so.** I hope that this is the opposite of bunker mentality.

**Cambridge Masters’ Lodges tend to be, at least on the ground floor, semi-public spaces. Shall you mind that?**

I thought a lot about this before applying. But **using the Master’s Lodge** in such a way as **to maximise its value to the College is important.** It’s a place where, for example, people can be invited to celebrate their successes, or discuss support for what they are trying to do. I’ve talked with the Senior Tutor about meeting student groups. And I hope that alumni would enjoy visiting me in the Lodge.

**Do you have a sense of the relationship between the College Council and the Governing Body?**

Not yet! But **I’m open to having conversations about how we can function even better together.** I will also advocate for good communication and information flow from these key committees to the wider College. But I need to experience them first and then reflect.

### **Sitting in committees, what have you learnt about chairing meetings?**

Really listen to what people are saying: **make sure that all voices are heard**; be clear about what you are trying to achieve by having the meeting; be ready to evaluate whether the meeting has delivered its expected outcomes. Meetings may be more effective if its members have good working relationships – but look out for group think. Preparing is important: know the paperwork inside out. Be sensitive to potential conflict, which may need further discussion beyond the meeting to resolve it.

### **The College is a national memorial to Winston Churchill. You will be aware that a couple of years ago we had a torrid time when we walked blindfold into a national culture war over Churchill's reputation. What are your thoughts?**

It's not possible to give you my response as a simple one-liner, but I can explain my current thinking. I am clear about my bottom line, that Churchill College is a place of learning and education for current and future generations, and that my role as Master is to ensure that the real treasure – our community and their potential to improve society and the wider world – is allowed to flourish for many generations to come. But I appreciate the complexity and many facets of the debate that developed around the time that a series of seminars were held on *Churchill, Empire and Race*, which were associated with the expression of very strongly held views. We are fortunate to live in a pluralistic society where people with different backgrounds, beliefs, opinions, likes, and dislikes co-exist, and where we are free to advocate for different causes and values. I note that opinions around this debate often resided at ends of the spectrum, and **further discussion of Sir Winston Churchill and his legacy** will require a spirit of true collaboration and a commitment to listening to and exploring different points of view.

### **The College has a secular tradition. Does that suit you?**

I knew it was secular when I took on the role. But it's not a question of whether it suits me – if I want to practice a religion then I can do that privately. Does it suit our students is more the question. We should be clear that **the College welcomes people who practise a religion or are non-religious**. If we were to say that the College is only for secular people, we would exclude a large and important part of the population and that would go against our principles of diversity.

## **Was there anything strange about the College's selection process for the Mastership?**

Appointing a Head of House is a very protracted process. Perhaps unsurprisingly since you are choosing someone who's not just going to do a job of work but also live on site and be the face of the College. It's no coincidence that I've just read C. P. Snow's *The Masters*, a novel about the election of a Master, first published in 1951 but set in 1937. The intrigue of the book lies in the political manoeuvring of Fellows in support of two quite different internal candidates. But I am glad to say that today **the process is much more open**, and importantly involves seeking views from a wider number of people – **including non-academic staff and students**.

## **To close, a change of mood. A few questions that are more personal. What is your earliest memory?**

As a toddler I remember having a nasty infectious disease – measles or mumps – quite close to Christmas Day. Feeling sorry for myself I was sitting on my mother's lap in the kitchen; we heard jingling bells in the distance and my mum said that was Santa on his way. I believed her completely!

## **Who are your heroines or heroes?**

**Scientists who make the world a better place.** Working on DNA, I look up to Rosalind Franklin and Fred Sanger. But we need to look beyond 'hero worship' too and balance out this discussion to recognise the many people who work to make our communities function effectively and safely.

## **In what other historical period would you have liked to have lived?**

**No other.** Whilst recognising today's global problems, I've been lucky to live in a period when we have access to antibiotics and other drugs, vaccinations, medical care, and scientific technologies that improve the way we live. I also acknowledge that in this country, we have not suffered the wars that my parents and grandparents lived through.

## **If not an academic scientist, what other career would you have liked?**

**There isn't any other.** I didn't discover clinical medicine till I belatedly went to university – but once I did, I was completely hooked. You couldn't tempt me away from that.



Churchill College probably holds the Cambridge record for the proportion of Masters who have been on ‘Desert Island Discs’ (three out of eight). What one book and one track did you select for your desert island?

The book was **the Oxford Textbook of Medicine**. I first read it as an undergraduate. Medicine moves so fast; there’s so much I could learn from it. My track would be Nick Drake, **Time has Told Me** – it would remind me of my husband, who wouldn’t be with me on the island. He has been my lifelong supporter.



Desert Island Discs

## Remembering the Early Years of the Churchill Archives Centre

### Recollections

John Killen is Emeritus Professor of Mycenaean Greek at Cambridge and a Fellow of the British Academy. He was a Fellow of Churchill College from 1961 to 1969 and Fellow Librarian of the College from 1962, in which capacity he was responsible for overseeing the early growth of the archives and the plans for a dedicated Churchill Archives Centre.



John was sadly unable to take part in the Archives Centre's fiftieth anniversary conference, but prompted by last year's special Archives edition of the *Review*, he has kindly submitted some of his own recollections of his crucial role during those early years.

Until 1964, there was no thought of collecting papers other than Churchill's. In December that year, however, following a remark by Frank Hahn in the SCR that we should try to acquire the papers of Lord Woolton, a major figure in the Conservative Party in Churchill's time, who had just died, to stand alongside Churchill's, I had the idea of greatly extending this concept and trying to **collect papers of as many as possible of Churchill's significant contemporaries**, particularly those with whom he had had direct dealings. I was thinking at that stage mainly of the political figures, such as those who had served in Churchill's wartime Cabinet or governments.

### Enthusiastic response

I first tried out this idea on Jock Colville when I happened to sit beside him at a College dinner, and he was extremely enthusiastic about it, and became a great supporter of and helper with the project. I then, of course, consulted the Master, John Cockcroft, who was also very enthusiastic about the idea, and suggested that we should also try to collect the papers of leading scientists of the Churchill era, an endeavour with which he promised to help, as indeed he did. Finally, the Fellowship at large were consulted; and **there was again**

**general enthusiasm for the project**, with only one dissenting voice being heard, that of Richard Adrian (afterwards Master of Pembroke College).

### **A suitable repository**

If the policy of collecting the papers of Churchill's contemporaries had not been established, Jock Colville would not have got us the Attlee and Lloyd of Dolobran papers; and John Cockcroft would not have got us the Chadwick and Lise Meitner papers. And because he knew, as a Fellow, that **this was now the plan for the archives**, when Stephen Roskill was asked by the de Robeck family to advise on a suitable repository for Admiral Sir John de Robeck's papers, he suggested the College, where they became the archives' first major acquisition. De Robeck was the Admiral in command at the Dardanelles in 1915 during the First World War, a campaign strongly advocated by Churchill as First Lord of the Admiralty.

### **In charge of the archives**

From 1965 to 1969, I was in charge of the archives, as well as being Librarian, College Lecturer in Classics and from 1967, a University Assistant Lecturer. In that period, **I had to deal with various hot potatoes**, such as being interviewed by Randolph Churchill, Sir Winston's son, to see if he thought I was a suitable person to be in charge of the family papers (I passed!), and being summoned by Professor Margaret Gowing CBE FBA FRS, the archivist at the archives of the UK Atomic Energy Authority in Whitehall to be dressed down over the College's acquisition via John Cockcroft of the papers of Sir James Chadwick, which she thought ought to have gone in their entirety to her archive. In the end, we agreed on a compromise, with her taking a few important papers which the UKAEA lacked and the College keeping the rest.

### **Collecting papers**

I also did quite **a lot of travelling in this period to collect papers** which Jock Colville had secured for us (such as those of Reginald McKenna) or to meet people who Jock had arranged for me to see in connection with their papers. Some of these meetings were successful, like the one with Lord Attlee in his retirement flat in the Temple in London, with whom I spent a very pleasant morning sipping sherry and chatting before he gave me the small but choice collection of papers which were the Centre's first acquisition. Other meetings, however, did not yield results (though my reception was

always very friendly), like that with the famous Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union about Ernest Bevin's papers, which they wanted to keep at Transport House [later some of Bevin's papers were deposited by his biographer Lord Bullock and the collection is now split between the Churchill Archives Centre and the Modern Records Centre in Warwick]. One of the last visits I made was to Randolph Churchill's house at Stour to inspect and arrange transportation for Clementine Churchill's papers, which she had given to the College, and which Churchill's biographers, Randolph and Martin Gilbert, no longer required for their purposes.

Finally, I **had to deal with staffing and finance**. Towards the end of my time, I persuaded the College that we needed a professional archivist and subsequently a conservationist. My work on the archives was entirely voluntary: I received no payment for it over and above my stipend as College Librarian, though of course **I very much enjoyed a great deal of it**.

John Killen

## A Time to Reflect

Meeting Dr Cédric Maurange, French Government Fellow

French Government Overseas Fellows and By-Fellows have been a part of Churchill College since the scheme's inaugural Fellow, Dr Christian Colliex, arrived in 1976. The scheme was conceived in 1974 as the brainchild of the College's first Master, Sir John Cockcroft. The scheme flourished over the years as support for the Fellowship increased on both sides. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the French Government Fellowship at Churchill and current and former French Government Fellows celebrated this momentous event at Churchill on the weekend of 19–21 July.



French Government Fellow **Dr Cédric Maurange** is a developmental biologist and research director at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (French National Centre for Scientific Research – CNRS), where he has led a research group at the Developmental Biology Institute of Marseille (IDBM) since 2009. Annabel Busher, Public Engagement and Communications Officer, met with Cédric to find out more about his research as well as his experience of this unique fellowship.

### What is your area of research?

**I am a developmental biologist**, which means that I try to understand how tissues are made from a small pool of stem cells in the embryo. I mainly **focus on the stem cells in the brain**, although I have interests in other types of stem cells. By deciphering the genetic programmes that regulate stem cell activity in the developing brain, we discovered that mis-regulation of these genetic programmes during specific temporal windows could cause brain tumours. We believe this is reminiscent of what initiates and propagates brain tumours in children, so we now put a lot of effort into deciphering further the rules that regulate tumour growth in children.

### What inspired you to develop an interest in this subject area?

I have always enjoyed **biology and particularly all things gene related**. During my studies in the 90s there emerged progressively the idea that a

common set of genes was used in all animals to grow from an embryo to an adult. That meant that using animals as ‘simple’ as worms and flies, one could make discoveries highly relevant for humans, for example revealing the basic principles of embryonic development and diseases. This is a direct consequence of the theory of evolution conceptualised by Charles Darwin.

When I visited Professor Renato Paro in 1998 for a PhD interview in Heidelberg, I was struck by the way his lab was using genetic engineering in the fruit fly *Drosophila* to understand in unmatched molecular details how genes were regulated during embryogenesis. I realised that **Drosophila was a fantastic model organism to do all sorts of in vivo experiments** without raising too many ethical problems. I fell in love with this model organism, which I still use as a main model for my research, although we are also trying to translate our discoveries in vertebrates and humans now.

### **What attracted you to apply for a French Government Overseas Fellowship at Churchill?**

**Cambridge is such an inspiring environment for researchers.** There are so many brilliant minds thinking about how the world works and trying to decipher the rules that govern the universe and societies... Moreover, there is an outstanding community of molecular biologists, some of them using tools and technology that I was interested in to investigate how a couple of genes I am particularly fond of, are regulated. I thought it would be great to come for a sabbatical in order to learn some techniques and test some of my hypotheses. I was lucky enough that Professor Sarah Bray at PDN agreed to host me so that we could work on a project together. Unfortunately, there are very few funding opportunities to help researchers to move abroad with their family for several months. A colleague of mine told me about the French Government Overseas Fellowship Scheme at Churchill, which provides accommodation for the whole family together with the possibility to **meet the community of Fellows and participate in the life of the College.** We were enthusiastic about the opportunity, and I applied with great hope.

### **What have you enjoyed most thus far and what are you most looking forward to?**

It is a unique experience for me and my family to live an academic life in the heart of a College. **Churchill is a fantastic place** because of the wonderful

grounds and gardens resplendent with trees, and all the activities organised for those with families. The location is so peaceful and yet so close to the city centre where I go to work every day. We have been lucky to attend some of the public seminars at the Astronomy Institute and see Saturn and Jupiter through the telescopes with my 9-year-old daughter, listen to musicians on Friday evenings, or attend seminars in College.

I have also enjoyed High Table dinners with my wife. They provide an opportunity to **meet Fellows from all areas of research** and is also a deep dive into Cambridge traditions. I am now looking forward to the spring season when all of nature will be in bloom. It will certainly be a spectacle at Churchill, thanks to the incredible work of the gardeners.

**Can you describe the experience of living on-site at Churchill College with your family?**

**This is a true family experience** and it's amazing to see how rapidly my two daughters have adapted to their new school and new life, and to see them progressing in English. I think this will be a milestone in their childhood that will help to shape their future.

**What are your expectations about this sabbatical?**

I was warmly welcomed in Professor Bray's lab. We are testing some of the tools we have generated. I hope our results will lead to an exciting collaboration. In addition to the opportunity to meet many brilliant scientists, learn new technologies and topics, and develop new projects, this sabbatical is **a time to reflect on my past, present and future research**, and to be inspired by the spirit of the giants that haunt this city.

## Academically Exceptional

### Churchill College's 2023 First Majority Female Intake

There's no such thing as a normal year in Cambridge admissions. However, Churchill's 2023 entrants are remarkable, even by the College's standards. Dr Jonathan Padley, our Lead Admissions Tutor and a Churchill Fellow, reports.



For the first time in the College's history, we've admitted a new undergraduate cohort in which **the narrow majority identified as female** in UCAS. Having had essentially gender-balanced intakes for the last three years, this is a significant moment for a College that's statute-bound to comprise 70% science, technology, engineering, and maths students; fields in which women remain under-represented in schools and universities.

### Diversity – a wider priority

Of course, this being Churchill, diversity has remained a wider priority too. This year, **77% of our home fee entrants applied from state schools and Colleges**, up a touch on last year and comfortably exceeding the University's 67.6% target with the regulator. Amongst this state intake, just under 75% went to comprehensives or colleges (further education, sixth form, or tertiary), with the remainder having attended grammars.



**Ten of our Freshers come from the August Reconsideration Pool**, the University's means by which widening participation UK-domiciled candidates who didn't get a conditional offer in January can put themselves forward for review in August, if they achieve results commensurate with entry. 22% of our home fee entrants live in areas ranked in quintiles 1 and 2 of the Index of Multiple Deprivation, compared with the University's target of 20.5%.

### High level entrants

These data are perhaps even more noteworthy given that this year's students faced historic disruption from Covid and reversion in large part to 2019 (pre-Covid) patterns of grading. Against this backdrop, Churchill's incoming undergraduates haven't skipped a beat.

In 2019, 76% of Cambridge's A Level STEM entrants achieved **A\*A\*A\* or better**. This year, **89% of Churchill's A Level STEM entrants** have this profile. Similarly, in 2019, 64% of Cambridge's A Level entrants in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences achieved A\*A\*A or better. This year, **73% of Churchill's A Level AHSS entrants** have this profile. Overall, the average A Level profile of Churchill's 2023 entrants is 3.1 A\*s, identical with the College's 2019 intake.

### Churchill's 2023 Freshers

Just over fifty years ago, Churchill was the first formerly all-male College in Cambridge to vote to admit women. It's amazing to work here now, as we're joined by **our first majority female intake** – also a cohort that's varied in so many ways. Irrespective of everything else, Churchill undergraduates are defined by the fact that they're academically exceptional. We're **privileged to be their destination of choice**.

Our Senior Tutor, Dr Rita Monson, remarked, 'All Churchill's new students should be proud of what they've achieved. We are, and we hope they're going to love it and thrive here.'

Jonathan Padley

## Pioneering Role of Churchill College

### Postdoctoral By-Fellowships

It can be alienating to be employed in a departmental research role and have no access to the social and intellectual benefits of College life. Churchill created its Postdoctoral By-Fellowship (PDBF) as a direct response to this need and around sixteen PDBFs are now appointed by the College each year. Although many other Colleges now have similar schemes, Churchill was in the vanguard of providing College affiliations to postdocs, and in terms of the number of positions and the status and privileges offered, we were and remain among one of the most generous of all the Colleges. Annabel Busher, Churchill Communications and Public Engagement Officer, reports.



*'The College has now offered in excess of 100 PDBF appointments and I think the College's commitment to supporting the University's 'non-established' staff is something we can be very proud of.'* – Professor Ken Siddle

## A short history of PDBFs at Churchill

The idea behind providing College affiliation for postdoctoral researchers working within the University and its associated institutes grew out of discussions between **Professor Ken Siddle** and the then **Senior Tutor Richard Partington**, when Professor Siddle first became Vice-Master in 2012. Professor Siddle was heavily involved in the creation and evolution of the Graduate School of Life Sciences in his University role and was aware of moves within the University to better support the large number – around 4,500 – of contract research staff (postdocs), mostly holding short-term positions with a median duration of around 3 years. Unlike students and tenured academic staff, **postdocs were effectively excluded from College membership**, and whilst Churchill had for some years offered limited dining rights to postdocs working with Fellows of the College, very few took up this opportunity. In 2013, the pair proposed to Governing Body that the College should offer affiliation to up to 10 postdocs per year, for two years initially with the possibility of renewal for a further two years. Governing Body approved the title of ‘Postdoctoral By-Fellow’, with a level of privileges comparable to other classes of By-Fellowship, and **the first cohort of PDBFs was admitted in October 2013**. The PDBF offer was soon changed to 3 years (conditional on a continuing University position) and the privileges were increased.

Around the same time in 2013, the University established an Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPdA), with Karina Prasad as its administrative head, later to become a Professional By-Fellow at Churchill. The OPdA morphed into the Cambridge Postdoc Academy, with its offices and main base in Eddington.

## Churchill's PDBF scheme

From the start, PDBFs were advertised and filled by annual open competition, with a ‘light touch’ assessment process and a policy that appointments should broadly reflect the numbers of postdocs in different disciplines across the University. There was no specific requirement regarding engagement within the College, but **involvement in College teaching and mentoring postgrads was encouraged** and a series of postprandial talks was trialled. After a few years the scheme was expanded to offer PDBFs to a small number of research Fellows appointed by the Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication (of which Professor David Spiegelhalter was head at the time) and the Isaac Newton Trust.

## **A vibrant and lively community of academics**

The College's PDBF scheme has now matured, and as the current Vice-Master of the College Dr Adrian Barbrook reflects, 'given it a vibrant and lively community of academics which links to both SCR and MCR, from a constituency that often miss out on the connections, inspiration and support that we can offer. It has been pleasing to **see several past PDBFs subsequently become full Fellows** and in that way further their commitment and engagement without activities.'

## Ten Years at Churchill College

### A Few Brief Comments

Dr Matthew Donald is a mathematician and a Churchill By-Fellow. Here he reflects on his ten years living and working in College.



Sometime in early 2013, Athene and I went out for a Sunday afternoon walk which happened to take us up Storey's Way. As we passed the entrance to Churchill College, Athene remarked that someone had suggested she apply to be Master. My reply was along the lines that it wouldn't do any harm to apply, as long as she didn't mind being turned down, and that if she did get it then it might be interesting. Well, she did apply, she did get it, and it has been extremely interesting.

### A caring community

I have been asked to write about the last ten years. I could write about the joys of living in the College and about how well we have been looked after by housekeeping and maintenance and how much we love the gardens. This could easily become an Oscar speech of gratitude. Instead, I will only mention **the care with which the College helped those of us** who stayed in College **during the pandemic**, and also the personal kindness and help which the community gave to me after I tripped on a stair in the Lodge and snapped a patella tendon, rendering me unable to walk for a couple of months.

### Many memorable events

If I wanted to be indiscreet, I could write about watching Athene grow into her role and how she dealt with some of the challenges she faced; particularly during the pandemic when, for example, **she played a vital role negotiating with the University** on behalf of the Colleges to ensure that graduate students had somewhere legal to live before they were asked to return to the University. It has been a joy to accompany her on this adventure. It is hard to forget the lunch early on in her tenure when we found ourselves, **sitting between two other Heads of House**, one a former Archbishop of Canterbury and the other a former Head of MI6. I will also not forget the

College **dinner with Senator Marsha Blackburn**, unafraid to reveal her ignorance of the dangers of climate change. On the latter occasion, I enjoyed mentioning Sir Winston's attitude to those who ignored obvious perils, but of course it didn't do any good.

### Our astonishing Fellowship

However, if I am going to drop names, let them be names of four of our astonishing Fellowship. Sadly, the first two of these four have recently died. **Michael Cowan, our greatest benefactor since the foundation**, was always friendly, always kind, and a great advertisement for the College's long-standing agenda to widen participation. **Ross Anderson** was always interesting, and his strong opinions were very often right. Not only was he **a world-renowned expert on computer security**, but he was also a good piper, and like me he went to school in Glasgow. Another Scot, **Archie Howie** has been **a pillar of the College almost since its foundation**. He has supported and encouraged Athene throughout her career. Finally, there is **David Spiegelhalter**, who proved during the pandemic, the **vital importance of having mathematicians**, ready in an emergency to stand up and count.

### Introducing myself

For myself, one of the greatest challenges was to work out how to introduce myself, as my career path has been unconventional. It was therefore very helpful that when we first arrived, I was asked to give an **after-dinner talk to the Fellowship about my research**. I had twenty minutes and a general, but very intelligent, audience, and the title I chose was 'From Quantum Theory to Philosophical Idealism'. A nightmare to write, it is the only talk I have ever given where I wrote out every word beforehand, because I had no time for digression.

### The advantage of the supervision system

Even more helpful in embedding me into the community, was being **allowed to supervise**. I have enjoyed that immensely, and have been very proud to be able, in due course, to call myself a teaching By-Fellow of this College. All the undergraduate Churchill mathematicians over the last ten years, have had some supervisions in the Master's Lodge. They have taught me a great deal. **I am a great believer in the Cambridge supervision system**, and I have

been happy to try to give back some of what I was given fifty years ago when, at a different College, I was a maths undergraduate myself. Not the least advantage of this system is the way in which **it feeds into pastoral care**, so that we notice when a student is failing to thrive, and we can mention it to their DoS or their Tutor. In such circumstances, I have found that the student is almost always already on their radar, and they are trying their best to provide support. Another advantage is to be able to adjust supervisions to the level of the student, so that one can provide appropriate encouragement both to those who are working hard and doing well, and to those who are finding things more difficult.

### **External income and donors' generosity**

The supervision system is the very heart of the College, but, unfortunately, there is a growing crisis in the University sector in this country. Churchill College and the wider University are not immune from the problems. The College, for example, loses several thousand pounds per year on every single UK undergraduate. We mitigate this by our income from the conference trade, including from the Møller centre. **We also rely on our donors**. I myself am happy to be a donor along with Athene, and also to have given the College all my supervision income. Very few supervisors, however, are in a position to do this. In general, supervisors are underpaid and overworked. The University, doing what it does best, is in the process of producing a report on the problems.

### **A symbol of the true purpose of the College**

On a happier note, let me end by mentioning what for me perhaps best symbolises the true purpose of the College. **The Conference on Everything**, an annual event produced by the MCR, provides an afternoon of short talks for the College community from the College's graduate students. The students have detailed knowledge of their often highly technical subjects, which they usually do well in explaining. They also reveal their ambition that with their knowledge they will be able to make a real difference to the world. Some of them no doubt will. **They are our hope for the future in these perilous times**. Sir Winston's original aim is being fulfilled.

Matthew Donald





## From Viper's-Bugloss to Hairy Tare

### Churchill College Plant Audit

Jonathan Shanklin, the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland Recorder for Cambridgeshire, identified – during a year-long audit – 292 different plant species on Churchill College's campus by showing the impact of our Grounds and Gardens team in supporting biodiversity on site.

Churchill College's near 50-acre site spans a variety of habitats including sports pitches, meadows, garden beds, copses, former private gardens in Storey's Way, a winterbourne (weather-dependent stream) and isolated trees and lawns. **Biodiversity is a prime consideration on our site**, so as well as beautifully tended borders, we also make space for wilder areas, to allow many kinds of wildlife and plant life to thrive.

### Plant audit at Churchill

During twelve months from Autumn 2021 to Autumn 2022, Jonathan visited the site roughly quarterly to audit the plants in the grounds. He took a general look over the whole area, so there may still be some undiscovered gems, but the audit provides a good overview of the types of flora on site.

While almost 300 different plant species were identified, 15 were noted as species on the county Register of Plants of Conservation Concern. A further 34 were 'axiophytes' which means they indicate a good or interesting habitat. The 292 species excludes all the planted trees and borders.



Jonathan noted that some of the axiophytes and RPCC species were **introduced as part of the biodiversity improvement work** undertaken by the Grounds and Gardens team. Some of these plants are becoming established, while others have either been present in the College grounds for a long time or have been able to arrive and persist thanks to the development of 'nature friendly policies'. Notably not using total weedkillers and not spraying the lawns has encouraged more biodiversity.

## Improving habitats

When thinking about actively targeting areas for biodiversity improvement by introducing species, the Grounds and Gardens team have planted to **add diversity as well as improve habitats**. A large spring flowering bulbs project took place last year, and wildflower plugs and seed have been sown which are suitable for our site's conditions. Other plants, like yellow rattle were introduced to naturally slow the growth of the more vigorous grasses allowing the wildflowers to flourish. Yellow rattle is a hemiparasitic plant that grows on the roots of grasses.

Mistletoe is another hemiparasitic plant, which has both male and female forms. Mistletoe takes water and nutrients from the tree, but it has green leaves which photosynthesise. Mistletoe can weaken trees but rarely kills them, so it's allowed to flourish on site.

## Green roofs

In the last year, **the College has also invested in 'green roofs'**, using the covered walkways, bike sheds and garages to grow sedum. This has a twofold benefit, in that the plants help absorb some of the water and slows down the rest that goes into the drainage, and also creates more green space to support insect and other plant life.

## Natural arrivals

As well as the proactive approach to planting, **the Churchill College site has benefited from 'natural' arrivals**. These include the pyramidal and bee orchid, whose seeds only germinate if it finds the right fungal partner, subject to suitable habitat being provided. Hawkweed oxtongue and cotton-thistle are also new arrivals.

John Moore, Head of Grounds and Gardens, said 'Churchill College is favoured with a wide variety of habitats across its acreage, and the Grounds and Gardens team work hard to make sure that biodiversity is supported and integrated across it. It's been fascinating working with Jonathan, and **it's very rewarding to see efforts paying off** with the wide variety of both established and new plants that the grounds support.'

## Chaplain to God's Bordello

Reminiscences and Reflections more than 25 years on

The Revd Professor Bryan Spinks, DD, FRHistS, Bishop F. Percy Goddard Professor Emeritus of Liturgical Studies and Pastoral Theology, Yale University, was Chaplain to the Chapel at Churchill College 1980–97, and Overseas Fellow 2003. Here, he recounts with much humour his time as Chaplain at Churchill.

**I succeeded Richard Cain**, who was a colourful and controversial figure, and was full-time Welfare Officer for the College as well **as Chaplain to the Chapel**. He and his wife Judith had become followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, a self-professed Indian guru, with a reputation for owning many cars and advocating free love. I was at Churchill to complete my PGCE, and worshipped in the Chapel, and got on well with Richard, providing we kept off theology. He persuaded me to read some of Bhagwan's writings, but I found them rather shallow and often contradictory. But in the summer of 1980, there had been a falling out between Richard and the Trustees of the Chapel, and the Trustees would not renew his appointment to the Chapel, though the College did renew his appointment as Welfare Officer.

### Priest-in-Charge of the Chapel

I was invited to lunch by the Trustees, and by the end of lunch had been **appointed Priest-in-Charge of the Chapel**. Richard and I overlapped for a year when he finally resigned, hoping to go to India to join the community. Instead, he was directed to a new British commune in Herringswell near Newmarket. It was during the overlap that he and another priest officiated at my wedding to Linda in the Chapel. I have always found it strange that Richard stayed as long as he did, because he made it quite clear to me that he despised academics and found them pretentious. It seemed to me rather akin to being a zealous pacifist and ministering as a chaplain to the armed forces.

### Chaplain to the Chapel

The College advertised for a new Chaplain, and I declined to apply since the job description was a compilation of very divergent views canvassed from various Fellows on what the role of the Chaplain should be, and each subsequent sentence contradicted the previous one. In the end, a secular

counselor was appointed, and **I was then appointed Chaplain to the Chapel**. At that point, the Bishop of Ely, Peter Walker, granted me a Licence under Seal. Richard Cain's popularity was such that he came back to Cambridge from time to time to take weddings and funerals. Members of the public began to urge the Bishop to withdraw his licence because of the reputation of the commune. When I went to sign for my licence, Peter Walker explained why he was unable to revoke Richard's licence: since Richard did not need a licence to officiate in Churchill Chapel (it is an independent ecumenical chapel), he could not revoke what had never been given.



### **My first years as Chaplain**

**The first year at the Chapel was a transition.** Several of the members of the congregation sat lightly to Christianity, and would not have fitted well into most churches, regardless of denomination. I gradually changed the style and shape of the services, and I used forms that accorded with the tradition of each guest preacher, which I thought was the best way of honouring the **ecumenical nature of the Chapel**. From time to time during the first couple of years I received distressed phone calls, or on one occasion was accosted at a lecture I was giving, from parents accusing me of indoctrinating their children when College students, to become followers of Bhagwan. I had to explain that that was the last guy, not me.

I have counted about twelve students who did become followers (there may have been more), and the 'free love' element resulted in some broken marriages. It always baffled me as to why the College had seemed either oblivious or indifferent to this. I have always speculated that had my ministry resulted in a series of monastic professions, someone might have thought some heavy-handed indoctrination was going on.

## Francis Crick and the Chapel

The archives hold the correspondence between Sir Winston, the College, and **Francis Crick**. Crick, a genius in his own field, **objected to the founding of a chapel**, since he regarded religion as a superstition that would die out in the next few years, and not appropriate in an institution dedicated to science and technology. A Fellow who knew him remarked that Crick's knowledge and understanding of Christianity was that of a four-year-old Sunday School child. Crick had a wicked sense of humour, and **he sent a cheque for £10 to found a bordello at Churchill College**.

Thanks to Sir Timothy Beaumont, the College got a chapel ('God's bordello'), but to my knowledge no one followed up on fund raising for a bordello. I tried to lay claim to the cheque, though it had by that time disappeared. **The controversy happened in the 1960s**, and contrasts with the later founding of Robinson College where Mr Robinson sent the plans back to the architect for a chapel to be included. As culture was passed from modernity into post-modernity, the pundits have suggested that the old hostility towards religious belief would subside, especially since it has become clear that science neither proves nor disproves religion and is itself not a totally disinterested objective endeavour.

## Many Fellows at Chapel services

In my first years, **Sir William Hawthorne** was Master, and he **frequently attended Chapel services**, and entertained the guest preachers at High Table. His successor, **Sir Hermon Bondi**, who had advocated for the now obsolete Steady State Theory of the universe, was **a prominent humanist and did not**. However, **several of the Trustees**, notable in their scientific fields, **did support and attend the Chapel** – Tony Hewish, Graham Allen, Phil Gaskill, Michael Hoskin, Ken Livesley and Richard Hey, and the noted navel historian, Stephen Roskill. What puzzled me was just how many Churchill students in scientific fields attended churches of a more evangelical nature, and apparently some of the Fellows did too. All this was an obvious demonstration that the Crick story re: **science v. religion** had become something of **a self-perpetuating Churchillian myth**, but it managed to keep alive a hostility to and suspicion of the Chapel. My recollection is that most Fellows remained agnostic and were neither for nor against the Chapel and the Chaplain, seeing that Christianity might be useful for some in College,

and in the words of Sir Winston, **the Chapel provided a useful amenity** for those who passed through, and no one was forced to enter it.

### **My three roles**

I was able to take up the now part-time position at Churchill because I had been appointed to teach RE at St Peter's School, Huntingdon. The Headmaster, George Thomas, was supportive of my dual role, that then became a triple role. I had specialised in liturgy for my BA Theology degree at Durham, and went on to complete an MTh in liturgy at London.

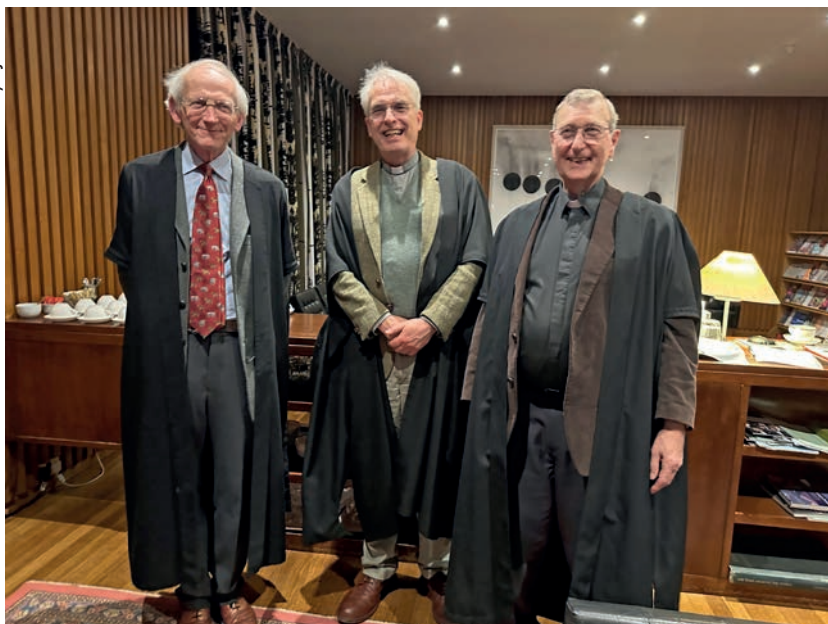
After that I **worked on a thesis for the Durham Baccalaureate in Divinity** (BD), which then, as at Oxford and Cambridge, ranked above PhD, but without the title of doctor. My BD was published as two books, and I had also studied Syriac, and had published several articles on Syriac liturgy as well as Reformed liturgy. As a result, I was **invited to become an affiliated lecturer in the Divinity Faculty to teach liturgy**.

### **Support from the Chapel's Trustees**

The Trustees of the Chapel were **very supportive of my academic work**, and they gave generous grants for me to attend international conferences. They also funded my examination for the Doctorate in Divinity which I gained in 1988, and they were delighted that I was appointed by the Archbishops to **serve on the Church of England Liturgical Commission**, 1986–2000. The College also gave me generous dining rights. I think that many Fellows too, while certainly not flocking to Chapel, were pleased that the Chaplain was an academic who happened to like academics!

### **Highlights as Chaplain**

There were many highlights in my seventeen years as Chaplain to the Chapel, but looking back it was probably **the celebration of 21 years of the Chapel that stands out**. I managed to persuade Archbishop Robert Runcie and Cardinal Basil Hume to preach that year. My wife and young family were also invited to attend graduation parties and it was at one graduation that Lady Barbara Hawthorne gave my daughter Rachel her first strawberries and cream. I was **married in the Chapel, Rachel was baptised there, and there I celebrated the 21st anniversary of my ordination**.



*The three Chaplains: L to R – John Rawlinson, Nigel Cooper and Bryan Spinks.*

I was back in College in March 2023, and at High Table met up with my successor, John Rawlinson, and his successor, Nigel Cooper. A photograph was taken to capture this unique occasion – **three Chaplains to God's Bordello!** Natasha Squire was also at High Table (Peter had been very kind to me when I was doing my PGCE) and she said, 'Bryan, you have come home'. How true that was in so many ways.

Bryan Spinks



# GOING FORWARD





'If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.'

**Maya Angelou**

*American poet and civil rights activist*

# GOING FORWARD

## Getting There!

The Development Director's Report (2023–2024)



Francisca Malarée, Development Director and Churchill Fellow, tells us in this extended report that last year started sadly with the death of our first Winston Churchill Fellow, Michael Cowan, a most kind and generous alumnus. She continues by telling us how successful the 2023 alumni Association weekend was. She goes on to describe the many events that took place internationally and in the UK, and then speaks at length about the Think Forward Campaign and its recent achievements. To-date the College has raised just under £25million donated or pledged, which means that our endowment is now close to £140million. She concludes by thanking Professor Dame Athene Donald for all her support.

The academic year 2023–24 started very sadly for the College and its wider community as news came that the Chairman of the Development board, and our first Winston Churchill Fellow, Michael Cowan, had died on 1 October 2023. As has been noted elsewhere **Michael was a most kind as well as generous alumnus and sage advisor to the College** and we miss him terribly. There are tributes to Michael on p. 287.

### Alumni Association weekend (September 2023)

Prior to the start of the academic year, we had our usual round of alumni events, including an entertaining alumni Association weekend, which at the last-minute featured **Alumna and Forensic Linguistics Professor Luna Filipovic** (G98) speaking on her research and reflecting on many friendships made when she was a postgraduate at Churchill.

Earlier that day we had had **a talk by Allen Packwood, Director of the Churchill Archives Centre**, on fifty years of the Churchill Archives Centre, and a panel on the future of engineering at Churchill, chaired by Professor



*Allen Packwood giving his talk on 'A Brief History of the Churchill Archives Centre'*

Sir Mike Gregory. We also had a wonderful **piano concert by** postgraduate student **Lena After** earlier in the weekend and the ever-popular **wine tasting with Paul Russell**.

Our office continues to organise events to engage the alumni community around the world and many of our events are filmed if you are unable to get back to Cambridge. But we've also had a strategy recently of trying to establish more alumni networks in two different ways.

### **International events**

First, College has expanded international activity around the globe. However, recent world events put a stop to this temporarily, but we are pleased to have reignited them and have a **new colleague, Sebastian Peel**, who has particularly **focused on the USA**. As part of this he has been hosting various events and 'happy hours' for alumni in Washington DC, Houston and Boston MA.

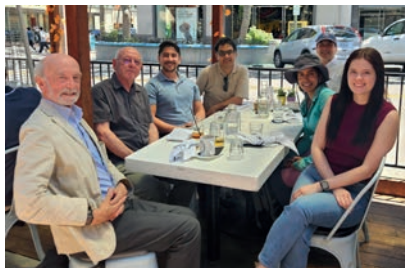


*Washington DC Alumni 'Happy Hour'*

We also have a **global networking platform Churchill Connect**, which is only for alumni to use to share information, job opportunities and mentoring

or simply try to find someone you have lost touch with (though the office can also help with this!).

In December we were pleased to **host an event in New York** featuring our **alumna Wendy Chin-Tanner** and her new book, *King of the Armadillos*, at the Harvard Club. Wendy's book explores the isolation felt by a child receiving treatment in a leprosy hospital and is also a coming-of-age novel.



*Mike Gregory and alumni at the Brunch in San Francisco in June 2024*

We also hosted an **alumni brunch in San Francisco in January 2024**, which 15 attended, and took part on Cambridge in America's event for the San Francisco healthcare conference. Later in the year we were pleased to host **events in New York** (one of which sadly had to be cancelled, as the Master was unable to travel) **and in Washington DC**.

In Washington DC, together with the Winston Churchill Foundation USA, we also were delighted to host a talk, with **Dr Adrian Barbrook** (Vice-Master) standing in for the Master, **celebrating five years** of the Winston Churchill Foundation Kanders Scholarships, which are for science policy. The Foundation now funds eighteen scholars for masters' programmes each year, two of which are in science policy. The scholars spoke about their experiences in Cambridge and what they planned to do next – research ranged from access to clean drinking water to comparison of different health insurance schemes. The Vice-Master also hosted **a dinner for our supporters in Toronto**, Canada on the same trip.



*The Washington DC Kanders Churchill Scholars event in April 2024*

Meanwhile Sebastian went southwards to Texas to host **alumni events in Houston and Austin!** There are many groups of Churchill alumni around the world so if you would like to form a local chapter please get in touch with our alumni office at [alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk)

### The Year Group Representatives scheme

We have also connected to Year groups with our Year Group Representatives scheme – so each Churchill matriculation year has its own representative. This works closely as part of the Churchill Association to engage members of the College. **The first assembly of the Year Group Representatives** was held in September 2023.

### Events in the UK

In terms of events closer to home, **thanks to alumnus Jeremy Amias (U81)** for hosting an event at the offices of Standard Chartered Bank in September with a talk by Lord Sales (U80) on the role of the Supreme Court in the United Kingdom.

We were also delighted that we were able to **host Professor Catherine Green (U93)** from the University of Oxford at the Royal Society in December 2023. Nearly 300 alumni enjoyed Cath's talk (a recording of which is available on our networking platform Churchill Connects) which told the story of her experiences **developing the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine with her collaborator** (and co-author of her book *Vaxxers*, Professor Sarah Gilbert).



*Catherine Green event*

This event was tinged with sadness as Michael Cowan had been instrumental in planning it, but sadly did not survive to see it happen.

We also had another event in London hosted thanks to sponsorship from Orrick, by **alumna Katie Cotton** (U98) who is a partner at the firm, early on in 2024. We are grateful for this support. Katie was joined by a panel including Ian Coles (U75) and the Rt Hon Lord Justice Clive Lewis (U78), **speaking about careers in law**.

Overall, it's been a true delight to be able to meet alumni again face to face!

### Alumni Events 2024 – 2025

#### 2024

Association Weekend	Fri 27 Sept–Sun 29 Sept	College
Bill Brown Creative Workshops <i>exclusive preview</i>	Sun 29 Sept	College
Engineering Dinner	Thurs 14 Nov	College
Winston Churchill 150th Anniversary	Sat 30 Nov	College
<b>Meet the Master Reception</b>	<b>Tues 3rd Dec</b>	London
Cambridge in America event	Tues 10 and Thurs 12 Dec	NY, USA

#### 2025

*All the Events below will be happening in College.*

Engineering Dinner	Wed 12 Feb
Student Support and 1960 Club dinner	Fri 28 Feb
WSC lunch (Legacy Society)	Wed 19 March
1985–90 Reunion Dinner	Sat 12 April
Master's Circle Dinner	Fri 16 May
1975 50th Anniversary Reunion	Fri 11 July
2012–17 Reunion Dinner	Sat 12 July
Association Weekend 2025	26–28 Sept

## The Think Forward Campaign

As many of you will know, we launched the campaign in September 2020, during the College's 60th anniversary. We are now approaching the half-way mark, and we are pleased that so far just **under £25million has been donated or pledged** by alumni for the campaign.

The campaign aims to increase the College's endowed funds to £200million (these are its long-term investments, where only the returns are spent each year), by adding £60million to the endowed funds by 2030. At the start of the campaign the endowment was £100million, thanks to the campaign and to increased investment returns, **it now stands at close to £140million**.

Donations and bequests (which usually come from those closely connected with Churchill) are an important part of the College's future funding because they give some financial stability to College to fund education. **The College subsidises each student by over £8,000 per year** (it receives only half of the £9,250 tuition fee, the other half goes to the central University), we can only make up the funding gap by donations and commercial income. **Commercial income is highly variable** and was badly hit during the Covid pandemic. Building up our invested funds shelters Churchill from some aspects of the economic cycle that are negative, though of course these funds can also be adversely affected.

The endowments currently fund educational purposes including supporting teaching and research and students through **bursaries for undergraduates and studentships for postgraduates**. With more endowed and stable funding through investment returns, we can make a bigger impact in research and providing the excellent education which was the aim of the Founder and is still the *raison d'être* of the College.

We are delighted then to have received **over £8million for the College's endowed funds** and expendable purposes **thanks to over 1,500 donations** from alumni and friends, at many different levels.

### The Class Giving Initiatives

We have had sustained support for our student bursaries, particularly **the Class Giving Initiatives** which coincide with alumni reunion dinners. We



now have fully endowed the 1977–81 Bursary Fund and the 1988–92 Bursary Fund, with the 1972–77 Bursary Fund 90% endowed and three others on their way to providing long-term bursary support for current students.



*Reunion Dinner 2000-2004*

**The 2000–04 reunion** that took place last summer (which wasn't included in my report then as it was after the deadline), also **raised over £20,000**. We were pleased to host a student intern, Elisha Dosanjh, from Downing College, over the summer and she greatly enjoyed speaking to our alumni from 2000–04.

We welcomed back the years 1979–84 on March 24, and so far, **over £20,000 has been contributed** to the endowed 1979–84 Bursary Fund. In July we launched fundraising for the **2006–11 Bursary Fund**, to raise enough for an expendable undergraduate bursary, where £14,500 is needed and so far, we are at **over £5,000 donated or pledged**.



In other highlights we have had donations of **over £1million for the College's endowment** from one Benefactor Fellow and a significant gift for the endowed Palestinian Studentship. **A donation realised by selling stock** donated a few years ago also has **contributed over £2million**, all to the College's unrestricted funds. We have also had specific new bursary endowments created with **generous gifts of £100,000 from John Sawtell (U91)**, for the Sawtell Bursary fund; and **one from Simon Henry (U79)**, for the Henry Bursary fund.

## Telethon

Thanks to over 400 donations, **the telethon** which took place in September 2023 **raised over £400,000** including matching funds generously provided by three alumni, mostly for student bursaries and studentships. The students involved enjoyed speaking to former students of Churchill and sharing experiences of College life and how their courses have changed.

## Giving Day

We held our third Giving Day in February 2024. As it was Valentine's Day, the theme was love and friendship. **Over £140,000 was raised**, including matching, for student support funds, especially the Winston Churchill top-up bursaries and funds to support medical students, who have faced real-terms cuts in UK government support, and rising costs due to inflation.

Development Officer Rosalyn Hart also created a montage both of Churchill couples and medical alumni at work, both of which can be seen at: [thinkforward.chu.cam.ac.uk/news/giving-day-2024-thank-you/](http://thinkforward.chu.cam.ac.uk/news/giving-day-2024-thank-you/)

## Events

We have held our usual calendar of events for our generous donors, including **a dinner for the 1960 Club donors** and students who receive the Winston Churchill top-up bursary, and our student support dinner at which holders of named bursaries and studentships are able to meet with those who fund their awards, if they would like to.

We also continue to recognise those who leave legacies to the College in our **annual Winston S Churchill 1958 Society luncheon** each March. Leaving a legacy may be the most significant way alumni and supporters are



*Winston Churchill 1958 Society Lunch*

able to benefit future students – if you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

The last event for our donors was also a special one as it was **the Master's last Donor Garden Party**, held on 7 July. We were delighted that **Ramit Debnath**, an assistant Professor and Churchill Fellow working on the new Design Tripos, gave a talk entitled, 'Is data justice key to climate justice'. There were many questions following from the talk, including how to rationalise with some of the conspiracy theorists posting about climate change, and how to better understand how some false ideas spread.

In her speech at the event Professor Dame Athene Donald spoke about how she was proud of two lasting achievements in College: **the focus on sustainability**, as we have managed to improve insulation in various houses, and install solar panels on our rooves; and the fact the College is now 50:50 male and female. **The gender balance** is a change which has been quite rapid as it was 28% women in 2015. However, another achievement that she doesn't always mention, is her leadership and support for Development.

## College's recent achievements

The College successfully built **the Graduate housing at 36 Storey's Way**, opened in 2019, which enables graduates to be housed for two years on site. This is becoming more important as the private rental market in Cambridge becomes more difficult for students to navigate, as well as rental being extremely expensive in most cases. As well as this, the College has also successfully completed the **first phase of fundraising for the Bill Brown Creative Workshops**. Athene has been instrumental in promoting the Workshops and the concept that our students require this space to be creative and play with different materials and equipment outside the academic setting.

**The Think Forward campaign** – though launched in less-than-ideal circumstances, with a global pandemic – **has achieved** on average **over £6million every year**. A large proportion has been promoted by the Master herself, as student support both at undergraduate and postgraduate level is so important for the values of equality of opportunity and diversity that she espouses.

## And finally ...

We would like to record **our thanks here to Athene as outgoing Master** for all she has done to meet and engage alumni and support our efforts in the Think Forward campaign and wish her the very best for the future.

Francisca Malarée

# DONATIONS



‘Giving does not only precede receiving; it is the reason for it. It is in giving that we receive.’

**Israelmore Ayivor**

*Ghanian writer and blogger*

# DONATIONS AND BENEFACTIONS

## 2023–2024

We are very grateful to all the following alumni and friends who have chosen to support Churchill College. All those listed below have made a gift during the period **1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024**. (N.B. Gifts made after this date will be acknowledged in next year's Review.)

- \* Donors who have been giving for 5 or more consecutive years
- \*\* Donors who have been giving for 10 or more consecutive years
- \*\*\* Donors who have been giving for 15 or more consecutive years
- \*\*\*\* Donors who have been giving for 20 or more consecutive years

Participation rates are given for each year group and are calculated based on both one-off gifts and regular gifts and include anonymous donors.

For the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the year groups with the highest participation rates in each decade are 1961, 1972, 1983, 1996, 2003, 2011 and 2022.

### 1960

**Participation Rate: 10%**

Mr A S Taylor

Dr R Roden

Mr G Thomas \*

Mr A Thomson \*

### 1961

**Participation Rate: 25.7%**

Dr P Barton \*

Mr P Clarke

Dr I Duncan

The Rt Rev J Gladwin \*

Mr D King \*\*

Mr N Kingan \*\*\*\*

Mr T R Latton \*

Mr A Leigh-Smith \*\*\*

Mr M Litherland \*

Dr A Macrae

Dr J Mapes

Professor I McCausland

Professor R Oldman \*\*\*

Mr S M J Peskett \*\*\*

Professor M Pilling

### 1962

**Participation Rate: 24.0%**

Mr W Aitken

Mr D Armstrong

Dr G Bibby \*

Mr C Clark

Dr J Connor

Mr R Davies \*\*\*

Mr D Dutton \*\*\*\*

Dr P Gait

Mr M Hayles \*

Dr P Jackson

Mr R Kirk

Mr D Marshall \*

Mr C Pennant

Mr R Salmon \*

Mr G Smith

Dr M Stroud \*\*\*  
Mr M Upton  
Dr J G Wolff  
Dr D Woodall \*\*\*  
Mr H Woods  
Mr B Yates

## 1963

### Participation Rate: 24.4%

Dr R Aldridge \*\*  
Dr R Barras \*  
Mr K Bond  
Mr W Bulcraig  
Mr W Cowell \*  
Mr T Culver  
Professor S de Grey \*\*\*\*  
Mr P Goldstein \*  
Dr O Hargrave \*  
Professor G Heal  
Professor D Knight \*  
Mr H Marriott \*\*\*  
Mr J Mason  
Dr M Menke  
Professor P Morisset  
Dr D Pinder \*  
Mr G Rock-Evans \*\*\*  
Mr J Rowett \*  
Mr A C Symes  
Mr R Tarling \*\*  
Mr F E Toolan \*\*\*\*  
Mr R Walker \*\*\*  
Mr D Watson \*  
Dr R Whitmarsh  
Dr E D Williams \*  
Mr F J Wilton  
Mr N Wrigley \*\*\*

## 1964

### Participation Rate: 17.2%

Mr J A Ballard \*\*  
Dr R M Carson  
Mr N Denbow \*\*\*\*  
Mr M Dixon \*  
Mr H Gray  
Dr M Green \*  
Professor R Holmes  
Professor R Jackman \*\*  
Dr D Lancashire \*

Mr R Loe \*  
Dr C Myerscough \*  
Mr N Seymour-Dale \*\*\*  
The Rt Hon Dr G Strang \*  
Mr C Village \*  
Mr J Waters \*\*\*  
Professor R Williams

## 1965

### Participation Rate: 16.2%

Mr D Abbott  
Dr J Barton \*  
Dr A Burton \*  
Mr P Cooper  
Dr J Crabtree \*\*\*  
Dr N Dean  
Mr J Edwards-Moss \*  
Dr G Forder  
Professor Sir Christopher Frayling  
Mr N Gamble \*  
Dr J Gluza  
Mr C Harvey \*\*\*  
Mr S Hoather \*  
Mr T Key \*\*\*  
Mr H Lake \*\*\*  
The Rt Hon The Lord Low  
Mr C Markham \*\*\*\*  
Mr C Pegler  
Dr T Roberts \*\*\*  
Dr R Smith \*  
Professor R Spear  
Dr P Tomlinson  
Dr P N Trewby \*\*\*\*  
Mr N Wilson \*  
Mr D Woods

## 1966

### Participation Rate: 19.6%

Mr S Andrews \*  
Dr R Barklie  
Mr J Barrett \*  
Professor R Bromley  
Mr J Brookes  
Professor D Campbell  
Mr A Docherty \*\*\*  
Mr A Eastwood \*  
Mr J Farrell \*  
Mr P Flake

Sir Peter Gershon \*  
 Dr D R Grey \*\*\*\*  
 Mr J Hazelden \*\*  
 Mr T Ingram \*\*\*  
 Professor B Jarrott \*  
 Professor D Kittelson  
 Dr E Libbey \*\*\*\*  
 Mr G Lock \*\*\*  
 Mr P Locke \*\*\*  
 Mr S Mackie  
 Mr N Miskin \*\*\*  
 Mr I Partridge \*  
 Mr M Redhead \*\*\*  
 Dr A Repko  
 Professor N Russell  
 Professor D Schwartz \*\*\*  
 Mr D Singer  
 Mr R Triance

## 1967

### Participation Rate: 17.6%

Mr J Berriman \*\*  
 Mr L Bigler  
 Professor S Blackburn  
 Mr I Carnaby \*\*\*  
 Dr A Cole \*\*  
 Dr I Colquhoun  
 Dr I P Evans  
 His Honour Judge Goldstone  
 Mr G Gomberg \*  
 Mr M Harper \*\*\*  
 Dr P Hilton \*\*  
 Dr M Keavey \*  
 Mr S King  
 Mr R Larkin \*  
 Dr L P M Lloyd-Evans  
 Mr S Longbottom \*  
 Dr D Moore  
 Dr B O'Neill  
 Mr M Otway \*\*\*  
 Dr E Powell  
 Mr A Ramsay \*\*  
 Dr D Secher \*  
 Mr M Slack \*  
 Mr M Smyth \*  
 Mr W Stow \*  
 Mr M Trier \*

## 1968

### Participation Rate: 16.3%

Dr G Booth \*\*\*\*  
 Mr M Bowden \*  
 Professor J Challis  
 Mr M Dixon \*  
 Dr G Evans \*\*\*  
 Mr I Gardiner \*  
 Dr J Gill  
 Professor D Hamblin \*  
 Mr A Hutchinson \*\*\*\*  
 Mr D S Levin  
 Mr R Maslin \*  
 Dr R G Mercer  
 Professor P Mitter  
 Dr S Mitton \*  
 Mr J Mullen  
 Dr D J Norfolk \*\*\*  
 Mr D Schwarz  
 Dr S S Seyan  
 Mr A L Smith \*  
 Mr C Stoddart  
 Dr A Wild

## 1969

### Participation Rate: 17.7%

Professor R Adrian \*  
 Mr M Coad  
 Mr R Everett  
 Dr J Farrington \*  
 Mr C Fraser \*  
 Mr M Frith \*\*\*\*  
 Mr S Green \*  
 Dr D M Jones \*  
 Mr M Kirby-Sykes \*  
 Professor J Kittler  
 Mr C Lipson  
 Professor D Mant \*\*  
 Mr J M McGee \*\*\*  
 Professor D Meldrum  
 Mr P Merson \*\*\*  
 Mr D Mills  
 Dr P Morris \*  
 Mr R Phillips  
 Mr J Pocock \*\*\*  
 Mr D A Robinson \*  
 Dr J Rooke  
 Professor J K M Sanders \*



Mr R F Squibbs \*\*  
Mr P Stanton \*  
Dr A Stevens \*  
Mr J H Stott  
Mr J Williams

## 1970

### Participation Rate: 21.0%

Mr P Bossom \*\*  
Rear Admiral T Chittenden \*  
Mr N Cooper \*  
Mr MV Crabtree \*  
Professor M Flemings  
Mr P R A Fulton \*\*\*  
Mr N Garthwaite \*\*\*  
Dr R Grant \*  
Dr M Hyldon  
Mr W M Kinsey \*\*  
The Rev I Knowles  
Dr S Kyle  
Professor A V P Mackay \*\*\*  
Professor B Martin \*  
Professor J Neoptolemos  
Dr M O'Connor \*  
Mr C Pocock \*\*  
Mr D Potts \*\*  
Mr G Sellers \*\*\*  
Dr C Slinn  
Mr C Stephens \*  
Mr J Stewart  
Mr D Storey  
Mr R Sutcliffe  
Mr N Thripp  
Mr R Upton \*  
Dr B Walters \*  
Mr N Ward  
Dr A Willoughby  
Mr I Wilson \*\*\*

## 1971

### Participation Rate: 19.6%

Dr N L Anderson  
Professor D Armstrong \*\*  
Dr R Bremner \*  
Mr M A Brinded  
Mr J Bruce  
Mr R Carew-Jones \*  
Professor R Carter

Mr T Cave  
Mr A Ford  
Dr A Gillespie \*  
Mr P Gover \*  
Dr J I Grayson \*  
Mr R Hall \*  
Dr P Highfield \*  
Mr J Hudson \*  
Mr A Kramvis \*  
Dr G J Le Poidevin \*\*  
Dr MA Ledwich \*  
Dr P Mole \*\*\*  
Mr L Peden \*  
Mr N Sherwood \*  
Dr C Shewchuk  
Mr J Shields \*  
Mr J Soar  
Mr D Stevenson  
Dr J G Vernon  
Mr G Vincent \*  
Dr A Woodhead

## 1972

### Participation Rate: 22.0%

Mr H Brockbank \*  
Mr J Cavanagh \*  
Mr J Cavanna  
Mr H A J Davies \*\*  
Mrs K Dresdner (Broeman) \*  
Dr G Duckworth \*  
Dr A R Feltbower \*  
Mr M Field  
Dr A Findlay \*  
Dr A Hobden \*  
Dr I Holyer  
The Rev Dr J Holyer (Probert)  
Mr J Ingle \*\*\*  
Dr M Johnson \*\*\*  
Dr J Jones \*  
Mr T Jones  
Mr T R Joyce \*  
Professor J Kent  
Dr B J Knight  
Mrs S Kramvis (Newcombe) \*  
Dr J Nicholas \*  
Dr T Orr \*  
Mrs G Potts (Black)  
Dr D Race

Ms A Sutherland  
 Mr J Tickell \*  
 Mrs S Walton (Mackinney) \*  
 Mr R Wenzel \*\*\*  
 Mr A Woodland \*\*\*  
 Mrs I Woodland (Waghorne) \*  
 Professor P Wright  
 Mr I Zant-Boer \*

## 1973

### Participation Rate: 17.7%

Mr R Aspden  
 Mr C Aston  
 Mr P Blythe \*  
 Mrs W Blythe (Knowles) \*  
 Ms T Brown  
 Mrs H Cave (Perry) \*  
 Dr R Cleaver \*  
 Ms M Dixon \*  
 Dr C Elliott (Mills) \*\*  
 Professor J Elliott \*\*  
 Dr R Fields  
 Dr F Furniss \*\*  
 Mr P Goodland \*\*  
 Dr J Grzeskowiak (Ellison) \*\*\*  
 Dr N Grzeskowiak \*\*\*  
 Dr J Gurdon \*\*  
 Mr I Hatfield \*  
 Mr D M Johnson  
 Ms V Jolliffe \*\*\*  
 Dr O Jones  
 Dr K Knowles \*  
 Professor F K P Lu  
 Mrs S Makoieva (Wilson) \*  
 Mr G Newman  
 Ms K S Riviere \*  
 Professor D Rutledge  
 Mr A Schofield \*  
 Professor M Stark \*\*\*  
 Dr G F Stott  
 Dr Z Stott (Tkaczyk)  
 Dr J Thackray  
 Mr G Thomson \*  
 Mr R E Williams \*

## 1974

### Participation Rate: 15.6%

Dr R Atwood

Mrs J Bacon (Rushton)  
 Canon N Bacon  
 Mr N Bane  
 Ms C Blackmun \*\*  
 Mr D Brown  
 Dr J Cave \*  
 Mr P Clarke \*\*  
 Mr D Dobson  
 Ms A Farrell  
 Mrs J Goodland (Terry) \*\*  
 Dr J Hale \*  
 Dr R W Holti \*\*\*\*  
 Dr C Leach  
 Professor J Marsh \*\*\*\*  
 Professor G Morgan  
 Dr S Oldfield \*\*  
 Mr M Prior \*  
 Mr A Reed \*  
 Mr M Rees \*\*\*\*  
 Mr A Smith  
 Professor Dr B Urban  
 Mrs C Williams (Varley) \*

## 1975

### Participation Rate: 14.2%

Mr D Armstrong \*  
 Mr P Bennett \*  
 Mrs A Canning (Jarrett) \*\*\*  
 Professor C Clauoué-de-Gohr \*  
 Mr N Clemo \*  
 Mr D Coates  
 Mr I Coles  
 Mr M Cox  
 Mr A Cullen \*\*\*  
 Mr D D'Cruz \*  
 Mr M Duerr  
 Professor D Gale  
 Mr SA Hai  
 Mr N Hazell \*\*  
 Mr A John \*  
 Dr S Kremnitzer  
 Mr M Lewis  
 Dr D Morris  
 Dr H Mulligan  
 Dr D Reynolds \*\*\*  
 Dr R Reynolds (Dixon) \*\*\*  
 Professor D Rothery \*  
 Mr A Shenton

Professor B Stroustrup  
Dr G Tyndall

## 1976

### Participation Rate: 12.3%

Mrs J Armstrong (Hickman) \*  
Mr J Barker  
Dr I Bratchie \*\*  
Mr D Burrows  
Dr J Fielden  
Dr C Fraser  
Mrs A Gill (Bradshaw) \*  
Mr S Gill \*  
Mr P Goldsbrough \*  
Dr D Jaffer \*\*  
Mr D H Jones  
Professor P Kalra \*\*  
Professor F Lamb \*  
Mr B A Moore  
Ms J Moore (Gray)  
Mrs S Pearce (Bailey) \*\*\*  
Ms S Phillips (Damsell)  
Mrs J Salmon (Mathie) \*\*  
Mr D E Simpson  
Mr A Sternberg \*  
Mrs K L Trigg (Clipsham) \*

## 1977

### Participation Rate: 21.5%

Professor J Bagger  
Dr P Blair \*  
Professor A Bowman  
Mrs J Bowman (Forster)  
Mrs C Cleaver (Martin) \*  
Mrs H Dedic (Chandler)  
Mr I Dedic  
Professor M Gibbs  
Dr K Gilroy \*  
Dr M Goodman  
Dr C Goulimis \*\*\*  
Dr H Greenwood  
Ms D Grubbe  
Mr J Hawkins \*  
Professor A Heavens \*\*  
Professor S C Inglis \*  
Mr M Jackson  
Professor T Kailath  
Dr S G Martin \*\*\*

Dr P Mitchell  
Mr T Oakley  
Dr M Ockenden \*  
Ms S Poland \*\*\*  
Ms S Press \*  
Dr I Pullen \*  
Dr S A Rawstron  
Dr E J Rennie  
Dr G Smith \*  
Professor M Smith \*  
Mr J Stanton \*  
Mrs L Stead (Bibby) \*  
Mrs S L Stewart (Crampton)  
Mr D J Storkey \*  
Mrs I Thompson (O'Hara) \*\*\*  
Mr R C Weeks \*  
Mr J M Wilkinson \*

## 1978

### Participation Rate: 12.8%

Dr A Bond \*  
Professor E Boulpaep  
Dr D Butcher \*  
Dr R Dixon \*\*\*  
Dr A Fisher  
Ms W Franks \*  
Mrs E French (Medd) \*\*  
Mr P French \*\*\*  
Dr E Garner-Richardson (Richardson) \*  
Mr K Herrmann  
Dr C N Jones \*\*\*\*  
Dr R I Jones \*\*  
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Lewis \*\*  
Professor V Luis Fuentes \*  
Dr S Martin  
Mr A Richardson \*  
Mr D S N Saul \*  
Mr A Scott \*  
Mr A Shinder  
Mr I Standley  
Dr D Waterson \*

## 1979

### Participation Rate: 20.9%

Mrs S Angel  
Mr S J Aspden \*  
Dr N Baker  
Dr J Barry

Mrs J Blair (Bell) \*  
 Mr T R Blurton  
 Dr T Borer  
 Dr J Bryce  
 Mrs A Chappell (Harding)  
 Mr P Chappell  
 Mrs L Doble (Kendall) \*\*  
 Mr A Duff \*\*\*  
 The Rev J Dyer (Lloyd) \*\*\*\*  
 Mr A Foster \*  
 Professor R Gilbert  
 Mr A Golby  
 Professor M Goldie \*\*\*  
 Dr D Graziano \*  
 Mr N Hawkins \*  
 Mr S Henry  
 Dr P D Hodson \*\*\*  
 Professor T Jenkinson \*  
 Dr P Leighton \*  
 Dr W Lewis-Bevan  
 Dr N S MacLeod  
 Dr A Mather \*  
 Mr P McCann  
 Dr M Mendall  
 Ms E Newbery  
 Mrs C Pilgram (Robbins)  
 Dr W Rothwell \*  
 Dr T Sharrock  
 Professor R Stables  
 Mr C Sweeney \*\*\*  
 Mr A Witts  
 Dr Y Wong

## 1980

### Participation Rate: 15.8%

Mr K Beaven  
 Mr A Campbell \*  
 Mr B Collings \*\*\*  
 Mr H de Lusignan  
 Mrs J Donora (Tyrrell) \*  
 Dr D Eagle \*  
 Dr A Farmer \*  
 Mr J Farrell \*\*\*\*  
 Mr R Fielding  
 Mr B Harris \*\*\*  
 Mrs R Jenkinson (Priestman) \*  
 Professor J Marshall  
 Mr L Mirza \*

Mr S Parker  
 Dr J Potter  
 Mr P K Ray  
 The Rt Hon The Lord Sales \*\*\*\*  
 Mr M Schwarz \*\*\*\*  
 Mr P R J Smith \*\*  
 Mr J Wainwright \*  
 Professor A Wierzbicki \*\*\*\*

## 1981

### Participation Rate: 19.0%

Dr R Aggarwal  
 Mr J Amias  
 Mr K Bhargava \*\*\*  
 Dr A Blackwell (Jenkins)  
 Mrs A Campbell-Preston (Smith)  
 Mr M Cattermole \*  
 Ms S Clements (Burton) \*\*\*  
 Mr A Dickens \*  
 Dr E Ditzel  
 Ms C Dixon \*  
 Mr K Doble \*\*  
 Mr A France  
 Mr G Halliday  
 Dr L Halliday (Hluchowecykyj)  
 Dr C Harper \*\*  
 Professor C Harwood  
 Mr M Higgins  
 Dr J A Horrell \*  
 Mr I Jones \*\*  
 Dr R Luke \*  
 Mr P Manley  
 Dr C McGill  
 Mr M Percy \*  
 Professor T Perring  
 Professor D Rockwell  
 Mr A Thomson \*  
 Dr W Y Tsang \*\*\*  
 Professor M R Wolpert  
 Mrs K Woodward (Samy)

## 1982

### Participation Rate: 18.6%

Dr D Apsley  
 Mr T Armitage \*\*\*  
 Mrs M Arundel (MacKay)  
 Mr M K Asardag \*  
 Dr C Aucken

Dr P Blenkiron  
 Mr T Bond \*  
 Dr N S Brabbs  
 Dr K C Burn  
 Ms A Calvert \*\*\*  
 Mr G M Chambers  
 Dr A Cooper  
 Dr S Dinsdale  
 Dr D Hall \*  
 Mrs T Hall (Prosser) \*\*\*  
 Mrs S Hawkings (Frederick) \*  
 Mr E Hick  
 Mr S Higginson  
 Mr A Ho  
 Dr A Johnson  
 Mr A Lea  
 Mrs K McConnell (Dunn)  
 Professor D Peate  
 Mr G P Phillipson  
 Dr A Pullen  
 Mr C Rees  
 Mr S Rothman \*\*\*  
 Mrs L Rothwell (Pollock) \*  
 Mr MT Rutter \*\*\*  
 Professor K Siddle  
 Dr N Skelton  
 Mr M Watterson \*  
 Dr P Williams

### 1983

#### Participation Rate: 19.3%

Dr J Apsley (Brown)  
 Mr P Brittain  
 Ms J Bryant \*  
 Mr R Coull  
 Dr R Crole  
 Mr S Gupta  
 Ms N Hartley (Sharp)  
 Dr C Hughes  
 Dr G Hunter  
 Dr R Hutten  
 Mr R Jones  
 Mr D J Lambourn  
 Dr A Lewis  
 Dr M Mahon  
 Mr R Miller \*\*\*  
 Dr S Montgomery  
 Mrs S Neal (Degg)

Professor T D Pollard \*  
 Mr S Ringland  
 Mr A P Saul  
 Dr C Scrase \*\*\*  
 Dr R Shenoy \*  
 Professor J Sumida  
 Mr R Tabberer  
 Dr K Tomlinson  
 Mr B Watson  
 Ms L Whitfield

### 1984

#### Participation Rate: 12.1%

Professor K Asanovic  
 Professor J Bennett \*  
 Dr D Chaplin  
 Ms J Clyde  
 Dr G Corder  
 Dr A Crossman  
 Mrs G Dambaza (Bruce) \*  
 Mrs W Dumbrell (Edwards)  
 Dr R Elias  
 Mr A R F Guare  
 Mrs S Havers (Hooker)  
 Mr S Havers  
 Professor M Jaspars \*  
 Dr S Kukula \*\*\*  
 Mr P Mains  
 Ms M-F Mathes  
 Professor R Mattingly  
 Mr R Patterson  
 Mr J Reilly \*\*\*\*  
 Dr Roddom  
 Mr S Roughton-Smith  
 Mr G W Russell  
 Mr J Stark \*  
 Mr E Steedman \*\*\*\*  
 Mr G Tillman \*\*\*  
 Dr S Williams \*

### 1985

#### Participation Rate: 13.9%

Dr G Aziz-Scott (Aziz)  
 Mrs R Barker (Clarke)  
 Dr S Churchhouse \*\*\*  
 Professor L Cohen  
 Mr M Craven \*\*\*\*  
 Mr R Dixon \*\*\*

Mr G Dumbrell  
 Mr D Edmonds \*  
 Professor R Jain \*  
 Mr S Jennaway \*  
 Mrs S Knighton (Spear) \*  
 Dr S Lim  
 Mr P Mackereth  
 The Rev Dr P Miller \*\*\*  
 Mr K D Morris \*\*\*  
 Professor J Norris \*  
 Mr D O'Brien \*  
 Dr C Phoon \*  
 Mr G Shaw  
 Mrs N Shaw (Wilson)  
 Professor W Soboyejo  
 Dr S West

## 1986

### Participation Rate: 11.8%

Mr V Abrash  
 Mr A M F Bailey \*\*\*  
 Mr H Basu  
 Dr D Dankworth  
 Mrs J Edmonds (Dann) \*  
 Professor P Foulkes  
 Professor J Golinski  
 Mr C Hurlstone  
 Dr M Johnston \*\*\*  
 Mr J C Olson  
 Ms C Rolleston-Brown  
 Mr R Thomas \*\*  
 Dr R Thorpe \*  
 Mr J Walker \*  
 Dr C Walter \*  
 Dr A White  
 Mr A C Worrall \*\*\*

## 1987

### Participation Rate: 16.8%

Professor G Amaratunga  
 Dr R Black \*\*\*  
 Mr G Campbell  
 Professor C-C Caulfield  
 Mrs R Cumming (Watson)  
 Professor G Ellison  
 Mr A Fearn  
 Dr S Fisher Ellison (Fisher)  
 Mr M Franklin

Mr J A Graham  
 Dr J Hobdell \*\*  
 Mr S M Howard  
 Mr A Innes \*\*\*  
 Mr R Khatib \*  
 The Rt Hon The Baroness Brown of  
 Cambridge  
 Mr I Lawrie \*\*\*  
 Dr C Lee-Elliott \*\*\*  
 Professor N Mathur  
 Mr M Minhas  
 Mrs C Narracott (Crocker) \*\*  
 Ms G Nurse \*\*\*  
 Dr K M Pang \*  
 Dr J Parker  
 Mr B J Patel \*\*\*  
 Ms C P Salters  
 Mr C Sinclair  
 Mrs I Tooley (Bush) \*  
 Mr S Tooley \*  
 Ms J Turkington \*\*\*  
 Mr J Wadsworth \*\*\*

## 1988

### Participation Rate: 14.3%

Professor T Basit  
 Dr V Beattie \*  
 Dr A Brown \*\*\*  
 Dr W G Burgess \*\*\*  
 Dr P Catarino \*\*\*  
 Mr P Clapperton  
 Professor J Coffey \*\*\*  
 Dr R Fragaszy  
 Mr D Ireland \*  
 Professor A Jenkins \*  
 Mr G Lambrou \*  
 Mr B Mulvihill \*  
 Mr S Narracott \*\*\*  
 Mr S Nicholson  
 Mr M Pelletier  
 Dr K-H Pwee  
 Mr R Shaw  
 Dr I Stephenson  
 Mr R Turnill  
 Mr A Tylee \*  
 Dr C Wartnaby  
 Mr J Williams \*  
 Professor A E Willis

## 1989

### Participation Rate: 12.9%

Mrs H Arrowsmith (Oxtoby) \*  
Dr H Ashraf \*\*  
Ms J Bent \*  
Mr P Blake  
Dr E Callery  
Mr L Crisp \*  
Mrs S Galloway \*\*  
Mr J Hart \*  
Mrs M Hawn (Ker)  
Dr C Hicks \*\*\*  
Mr A D Hurlstone  
Dr M Kettle  
Mr J Lucas \*\*\*  
Dr V Lyell  
Dr O Lyne \*\*  
Mr L Martin \*  
Mrs N Martin (Young) \*  
Mr J Mayhew  
Dr G Morales-Espejel  
Mr S Morrish \*\*  
Mr P Nash  
Dr P J Parsons \*\*  
Dr A Stephenson \*\*  
Dr M Thomas  
Dr N Yamamoto

## 1990

### Participation Rate: 12.3%

Dr A Ball \*\*\*  
Dr G Beckett  
Dr T Bicanic \*\*  
Mr J J Bissek \*  
Mr C Brehm  
Dr V Carreno-Coll (Carreno)  
Professor G Chen  
Mr P Chown  
Mr A Congleton  
Mr R Fry  
Professor M Hardcastle  
Dr J Kanagalingam \*  
Mr H Laffling  
Mr R T Milner \*  
Dr J Myles  
Mr J Peters \*\*\*  
Mr A D Ponting \*\*\*  
Dr V Preece

Mr C Pretzlik  
Mr I Richards \*  
Ms H Richards-Jones  
Dr K Stott  
Dr J Watters (Marinescu)  
Professor A Webber \*  
Dr P J Wilson \*\*

## 1991

### Participation Rate: 13.2%

Dr N Baynes  
Dr R Beroukhim  
Mr D Boyle \*  
Ms C Brett \*\*\*  
Mr J Chaudhuri \*  
Mr D Fineman \*\*  
Mr D Franklin  
Mr C Glencross  
Dr J Hobro \*\*\*  
Dr A Karimu \*  
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Mr B Robinson \*\*\*  
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Ms G Taylor \*  
Mr Y Tordoff  
Mr S Tucker  
Mr R Warden  
Mr K Yogasundaram \*

## 1992

### Participation Rate: 11.3%

Mr S Aitken \*  
Dr R C Armes  
Ms G R M Brown  
Mr L Brown \*  
Ms S Butlin  
Mr S Clements  
Mrs C Folley \*  
Dr S Ford (Masters) \*  
Professor M Gutperle  
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Mrs E McWilliams (Hyde)  
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 Mr D Roberts \*\*\*\*  
 Mrs L Rodgers (Yates) \*  
 Professor S Savory  
 Mr R Smith \*\*\*  
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 Ms L Wright  
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### 1993

#### Participation Rate: 14.2%

Mr A M Aicken \*  
 Mr R Brookes  
 Dr A Crisp \*  
 Mrs J Falconer-White (Falconer)  
 Mr J Gale  
 Mr J Gibbs \*\*\*\*  
 Mrs H Groves (Maudslay) \*  
 Mr D Gwilt  
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 Mr A Hall  
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 Dr M A Lantz  
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 Mr S Smith \*  
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 Mr M Wakeford  
 Dr C Walker  
 Mr M H Wallis \*  
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### 1994

#### Participation Rate: 13.8%

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 Dr K Bishop  
 Dr T Bowler  
 Mr B Brierton \*\*\*  
 Dr K Brierton (Pratt) \*\*\*  
 Mrs C Dixon (Strutt) \*\*  
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 Ms M Fahey  
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### 1995

#### Participation Rate: 12.1%

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 Professor A Barr \*  
 Ms L Berzins  
 Mrs D Bounds (Kemp)  
 Mr M Brazier \*\*\*\*  
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 Professor B Brooks-Gordon  
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Professor J Marcus  
Mr P McCarthy \*\*\*  
Mr J Page  
Mr A Pickles  
Mrs H Pickles (Wood)  
Mrs K Prodromou \*  
Ms C Reed  
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Mr S Thornhill

## 1996

### Participation Rate: 15.7%

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Mr J Askew  
Mr R Bounds  
Mr R Brockbank  
Dr C Burt  
Mr R Carreño  
Ms W Chin-Tanner (Chin)  
Mr D Christie \*\*  
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Professor S Ozanne  
Mr P Pinto  
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Mrs K Sydow \*  
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## 1997

### Participation Rate: 9.2%

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Mr T Bruner  
Professor A Buckley \*  
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Mr C Howell \*\*  
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## 1998

### Participation Rate: 10.1%

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Mr S Burnett  
Dr E Conradie  
Dr P Desyllas  
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Dr K-T C Yeung \*\*\*  
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### Participation Rate: 10.6%

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Mr D Deboys \*\*  
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## 2000

### Participation Rate: 10.9%

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 Dr F Brossard  
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 Professor M Ferme \*  
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 Professor E Soilleux  
 Professor C Tout \*  
 Dr P van Houten  
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## 2001

### Participation Rate: 12.5%

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 Mr M Mkushi  
 Dr D Mohan  
 Mr D O'Connor  
 Mrs S O'Connor (Lee)  
 Professor A Webb  
 Mr N Wells  
 Mr J Wilson

## 2002

### Participation Rate: 11.7%

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 Dr U Akuwudike \*\*  
 Dr J Ali  
 Mr H Almusaad  
 Professor R Bertelsen \*  
 Mr G Burgess  
 Dr H Chappell  
 Mr A Chappelow \*  
 Mr B Chisell  
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 Mr P Nery \*  
 Mr A Packwood \*  
 Dr S Rose \*  
 Dr J Schmidtke

Dr S Velamakanni  
Mr L Weir \*  
Professor A Yasukouchi \*  
Dr H Ye

### 2003

#### Participation Rate: 13.5%

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Mr J Burke  
Mr M Clay \*  
Dr E Farnell  
Mr C Glover  
Dr S Goffri  
Dr N Gouwens  
Dr B Greenhalgh \*  
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Mr P Turner  
Mrs J Weir (Morgan) \*  
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Mr L Yang  
Ms B Zygarlowska (Wroblewska) \*\*

### 2004

#### Participation Rate: 4.9%

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Dr C Collins  
Professor H Englund  
Mr R Giniyatov  
Mr J Harvey  
Mr J Hook  
Dr Y Matsumiya  
Mr T P F Robson \*  
Dr A Sdei  
Mr J Singleton

### 2005

#### Participation Rate: 7.5%

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Mr H Y K Low \*  
Dr R Nigmatullin  
Mr S Ortega \*  
Dr T Perry  
Dr S Rabin  
Mr D Sharkov  
Mr B K Y Shin \*  
Ms L Sparrow  
Mr J Spence  
Mr A J Woodland \*  
Dr J Yuen

### 2006

#### Participation Rate: 9.3%

Professor S Boss \*\*\*  
Mr H Bullivant  
Dr R Carr  
Dr J Gaillard  
Dr A Hendrick  
Dr J A A Holland  
Dr B Kress  
Mrs P Laycock (Le'cand Harwood)  
Professor D Liang  
Mr C Macgregor \*  
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Dr A Taylor \*\*  
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Sir David Wallace  
Ms H Wang \*  
Dr I Wassell \*\*\*  
Dr S Williams \*  
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### 2007

#### Participation Rate: 9.5%

Mr M Anderson  
Dr R Anderson (Welbourn)  
Mr D Brannan  
Mr A Chongo  
Dr A Collins \*  
Dr C Darwen

Mr C De Rivaz  
Professor R Goldstein  
Professor J Hart  
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Dr C McEniery  
Dr R Monson  
Mr R Partington  
Dr E Russell  
Mr W Taylor  
Ms L Williams  
Mr C Wilson  
Dr N Xiao

## 2008

### Participation Rate: 10.6%

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Ms S Bowler  
Mr C Campbell  
Dr C Catherwood  
Mr T Charoen-Rajapark \*  
Dr X Chen  
Mr A Cruickshank \*  
Ms J Dunne \*  
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Mr D Hill  
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Mrs B Roullier (Corns) \*  
Miss I Scott Moncrieff  
Mr A Smith  
Mr P Tinton \*  
Mr P Whiteley \*  
Dr M Yates \*

## 2009

### Participation Rate: 8.1%

Ms F Beresford \*  
Dr B Ding  
Mrs S Hubert  
Mr S Khandelwal

Dr A Kinnersley (Livesey)  
Mr S Kinnersley  
Dr B Kuhlenschmidt  
Mr A Quanstrom  
Ms H Sainsbury  
Dr S Scellato \*  
Mr H Tang \*  
Ms A Tonna (Edge) \*  
Ms J Trainor \*  
Mr A White \*  
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Dr Y Yiu  
Ms C Zhang

## 2010

### Participation Rate: 6.1%

Mr J Ballard  
Mr M Cohen  
Dr L Denault  
Ms A Glover (Mirza) \*  
Mr C Hardy  
Mr K Komorowski  
Dr S Linderman  
Dr M Linterman  
Dr H Liu \*  
Mr T Milburn \*  
Dr F Mocanu  
Mr D Pennefather \*  
Miss R Roberts  
Ms R Sargeant  
Mr L Saul

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### Participation Rate: 9.3%

Dr X Bian \*  
Dr H Bower  
Mrs A Cabico \*  
Dr N Cutler \*  
Mrs S Davidmann (Stowell)  
Mr F de Grey  
Dr M Eriksson \*  
Mr G Feinson  
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Mr D Onsiong  
Professor D Ron  
Miss E Sweet  
Mr K Tajbakhsh  
Miss B Wang  
Professor R Wightman \*  
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## 2012

### Participation Rate: 6.4%

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Dr MT Biberauer  
Mr S Brown  
Dr M Chen  
Mr J Goodman \*  
Miss A Hamilton \*  
Mr M Hastings  
Dr J Huang  
Dr L Jardine-Wright \*\*  
Dr W Meng \*  
Mr I Nadeem  
Dr M Nair  
Dr R Sidortsov  
Ms S Squires (Carter)  
Mr V Vasudeva \*  
Mr F Vatemán \*  
Ms Y Yan \*

## 2013

### Participation Rate: 7.8%

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Mr C Chang \*  
Dr N Davies  
Dr J Evans \*  
Mrs E Feinson (Fox)  
Mr G Funk \*  
Dr K Griffith  
Dr K Gueye  
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Mr N Rogers  
Mr F Ruess  
Professor J M Shull \*  
Mrs S Shumate  
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## 2014

### Participation Rate: 8.9%

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Miss I Bica  
Ms C Boucher (Sayers)  
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Dr E Farrar  
Professor M Holmes  
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Mr N Neggatu  
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Professor A Onatski  
Mr D Stanley  
Dr V Thacker  
Mr M Weber  
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## 2015

### Participation Rate: 6.9%

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Dr T Burghi  
Miss I Cechladze  
Mr S Cheong  
Dr R Daly  
Dr M Donald \*  
Mr R Geeson  
Dr H MA Hamad  
Professor D Holcman  
Professor T Minshall  
Miss N Morgulchik  
Ms I Muir  
Dr A Sharma \*  
Dr P Sloman  
Mr R Strachan  
Mr E Tasos  
Mr S Vora  
Mr J Yuan

## 2016

### Participation Rate: 6.2%

Miss S Anderson  
Mrs C Banner (Marsh)  
Dr E Birch  
Miss V Cachoux  
Dr S Dunbar  
Dr S Khoury  
Dr B Li  
Dr A Ming  
Mr T Paraschivescu  
Mr D Roy  
Mr C Saville-Ferguson  
Mr K Schwonik  
Dr S Teichmann  
Professor S van der Linden

## 2017

### Participation Rate: 5.5%

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Mr E Bedmar Fresneda \*  
Mr M Bin Affian  
Mr A Chellappa  
Dame Polly Courtice  
Mr M Derenthal  
Miss G Ganzer  
Mrs T James  
Mr J Li  
Ms F Malaree \*  
Mr G Morgan  
Mr K Onuora  
Dr J Padley  
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### Participation Rate: 6.0%

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Dr S Cox \*  
Professor Dame Diane Coyle \*  
Mr T Haslam  
Mr M Henley  
Professor Mate Lengyel  
Mr N Ling  
Mr A Nesteruk  
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## 2019

### Participation Rate: 3.9%

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Mr A Arun \*  
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Professor L Berthier  
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Miss M Chakraborty  
Mr W X D Chew  
Dr R Fell  
Dr A-M Kypraiou  
Dr S Lambert  
Mr Q Wu \*

## 2020

### Participation Rate: 1.5%

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Dr J Fitzgerald  
Professor A Liston

## 2021

### Participation Rate: 1.7%

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Dr P Harrison  
Professor P Landrock  
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### Participation Rate: 3.3%

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**Legacies have also been received  
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All care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. However, if there are any errors, please accept our apologies and inform the Development Office if your gift has not been recognised. We will ensure your name appears in the next issue of the Review.



## Donations to the Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States 2023–2024

We are very grateful to all the following who have chosen to support Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States. All those listed below have made a gift during the period **1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024. (N.B. Gifts made after this date will be acknowledged in next year's Review.)**

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We are very grateful to all the following who have chosen to support Churchill College by leaving a gift in Will. All those listed below have been formally admitted to the WSC 1958 Society at the annual gathering of members and have given permission for their names to be listed.

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†Sir John Boyd	Dr S K Greene 1983	Mr A T Richardson 1978
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†Mr M Cowan 1970	Ms V C Jolliffe 1973	Miss R C Stott 1987
Mr M A Craven 1985	†Professor A Kelly	Sir John Stuttard 1963
Dr A J Crisp	Mrs M Ker Hawn 1989	Lady Stuttard
Professor T W Cusick 1964	Mr R G Larkin 1967	Dr M Tippet
Dr N W Dean 1965	†Mr M A Lewis 1964	Mr F E Toolan 1963
Mr M G Dixon 1964	Mr G S Littler-Jones 1965	Dr P N Trewby 1965
Mrs V Dixon	Mr G H Lock 1966	Sir David Wallace
Mrs J M Donora 1980	Mr P N Locke 1966	Lady Wallace
Professor S B	†Dr F W Maine 1960	Dr A J Walton 1960
Dunnett 1969	†Mr J R Maw 1964	Dr A H Wild 1968
Mr D M M Dutton 1962	Mr C Markham 1965	Mrs B Wilson
Mrs S Elliott	Professor D	Mr I S Wilson 1970
Dr I P Evans 1967	Meldrum 1969	Mr A Woodland 1972
Mr G Farren 1966	†Mrs M Miller	Mrs I Woodland 1972
Dr A-M T Farmer 1980	Dr S A Mitton 1968	
Dr H Farmer	†Dr J H Musgrave 1965	

For further information and advice on how to make a legacy gift to Churchill College please visit [www.chu.cam.ac.uk/giving-College/leaving-a-legacy/](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/giving-College/leaving-a-legacy/)

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☐

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Teaching and Fellowships

Other (please state)

Please tick if you would prefer your donation to remain anonymous

☐

Please tick if you would like to receive information about leaving a donation to Churchill in your Will

☐

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☐

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☐

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☐

One-off donation by cheque (cheques should be made payable to Churchill College)

## One-off gifts by card:

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Amount:

Type of card:

☐☐☐☐

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Expiry date:

/

CCV no:

Issue no: (Maestro)

Registered card address:

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Churchill College, Cambridge, CB3 0DS

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UK bank accounts only

I intend to make a gift of £  for  year(s). (Please leave blank if no end date applies)

☐ Every month on ☐ 15th ☐ 25th

☐ Quarterly on 20th Mar, Jun, Sep & Dec

☐ Annually on 10th Mar, Jun, Sep or Dec (Earliest date after receipt of form will be used.)

### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit:

Name(s) of account holder(s):

Account no:         Sort code:

Bank name:

Bank address:

Date:  /  /  Signature:

Originator's Identification No: 837061

Please pay Churchill College Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safe-guards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Churchill College and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

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This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits. If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit Churchill College will notify you 20 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Churchill College to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request. If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by Churchill College or your bank or building society you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Churchill College asks you to. You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

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# FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP



‘Friendship is a sheltering tree.’

**Samuel Taylor Coleridge**

*English poet and literary critic*

# FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

## An Evolving Association

Churchill College Association Chair's Report

Jayne Donora is the new Chair of the Churchill College Association. In her first annual report she briefly reminds us of the history of the Association then goes on to talk about the Association's events, especially the Association Weekend of September 2023. She mentions the Churchill Writing Group, which is going from strength to strength, and concludes by thanking Andrew Stephenson, the previous Chair, for his inimitable extrovert style. She also extends her thanks to the College for its support and particularly the Alumni and Development Office.



I am greatly indebted to Anthony Bainbridge (U64), whose entertaining account of the (rather chequered) history of the Churchill College Association has been passed on to me as the new Chairman.

### A brief history of the Churchill College Association

The Association was initiated in 1965; various alternative membership models ensued (opt in/opt out, membership fee/no fee etc.) until in a major step forward during the late 1970s, the Association was incorporated as an integral part of the organisation of the College. The express aim of the Association is '...**promoting good fellowship** among resident and non-resident members of the College **and encouraging non-resident members to maintain links with the College and with each other**'. Our Association is comprised of all members of the College, and lifelong membership of the Association starts on the very day of our arrival.

The ways in which the Colleges can keep non-resident members in touch with news and events have evolved beyond all imagining from the early years of Churchill College. The hard working and creative team in the Alumni and Development Office now arrange many varied opportunities for us all, as and



when we wish, to connect with the College and each other; and the role of the Association also continues to evolve.

### Association Weekend Events

Events during the year included a **highly convivial evening of wine exploration** brilliantly hosted by Professor Peter Landrock (Supervisor in Mathematics) to kick off the Association Weekend of 2023. Peter's extensive knowledge of and love for the subject were eloquent and beautifully conveyed. The Club room was full to bursting – as ever this was a sold-out event – and the hubbub exuberant.



*First meeting of the Year Group Reps in 2023*

Saturday morning saw the **first meeting of Year Group Reps**. The Reps have been recruited by the Development Office in fulfilment of a long-held plan to expand the previous Decade Rep system. It's a tribute to the warmth and enthusiasm of all in the Office to note the quick success of this scheme; **more than 40 Reps are already on board**, covering every decade of the College up to 2018, and comprising past Undergrads, Postgrads, and Fellows.

Huge credit and gratitude are due to Kathryn Hawkins for her role in this recruitment. Please do contact Kathryn if you are interested in volunteering ([alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@chu.cam.ac.uk)).



The 2023 Association Weekend coincided with the 50th anniversary celebrations for the Archives Centre and we were very fortunate to entice Allen Packwood, Director of the Archives Centre, away from finalising plans for events taking place the following week to spend an hour **entertaining and informing us** during the afternoon. The title of Allen's presentation – 'Celebrating a half century of preservation and access: A brief history of the Churchill Archives Centre' – succinctly encompasses the activities of the Archives Centre – **'preservation' and 'access'** – but the scope of both is quite extraordinary. Allen's talk is still available on the College's YouTube channel, I highly recommend it.

### **After dinner speech**

After dinner, Professor Luna Filipovic, Visiting Professor of Language and Cognition at UC Davis, gave a fascinating introduction to her research, which focuses on connections and relationships between **different approaches**

**to learning and studying language.** The intriguing title, 'Multilingualism and Forensic Linguistics: it all began on Staircase 5D' – was quite beautifully tailored for a Churchill audience, for whom those staircases with their peculiar Proustian lino polish can be so evocative.

### **Grateful thanks to Andrew Stephenson**

The dinner also afforded the opportunity to offer grateful thanks on behalf of all to Andrew Stephenson (G89) for serving as Chairman for the past 5 years in **inimitable, extrovert style** – Andrew truly is, in that over-worked phrase, a hard act to follow.

### **The Churchill Writing Group**

The Churchill Writing Group, **established and run by published author Rosie Johnston** (U73), continues to grow and goes from strength to strength. Meetings are held on several Saturday afternoons during termtime; there is information on the Churchill website if you would like to find out more about this friendly, supportive group.

In May, Churchill Association members were invited to dine at High Table at Trinity College Oxford, Churchill's Sister College. Churchill diners were joined by Trinity Fellows for this highly popular and successful evening, enjoying Trinity's generous hospitality.

### **And finally ...**

My sincere thanks to all at Churchill for their support of the Association, particularly the Alumni and Development Office. Please do get in touch if you would like to be further involved with the Association, or have ideas, suggestions, feedback – we would love to hear from you.

Jayne Donora

## The Churchill Folk Club

### The Beginning

Martin Wood (U65) read Law at Churchill. Here he recounts the exciting beginnings of the Churchill Folk Club which he started with his room-mate Steve Shirley, who read Natural Sciences.



*Martin Wood*

I enjoyed the articles in the *Churchill Review* Volume 59/2022 describing the music scene in Churchill College during its early years and I was delighted to see the Churchill Folk Club was thriving well into the 1970s. But how and when did the Folk Club begin?

In my second year at Churchill, 1966–67, I shared a set (7E) with Steve Shirley. This was in the days when only the North and East Courts had been completed and students shared the larger rooms so that more of us could be accommodated on site.

**Steve was an accomplished folk singer and guitarist** who played in folk clubs in the Croydon area. He also played regularly at a folk club in Cambridge. For a little insight into Steve's music try dipping into Jackson C Frank's 'Blues Run the Game'.

Steve (Natural Sciences) and I (Law) often sat up till very late with Steve playing guitar or with us both listening to pirate radio. During these late nights, we would discuss all manner of things, from The Incredible String Band to the equally incredible square root of minus 1.

One such night we were talking about Steve's regular appearances at a folk club in town and the question was asked ... **'What about if we could start a Folk Club in Churchill?'** But would there be sufficient interest, and would we have enough willing performers?

### Starting the Churchill Folk Club

A couple of days later, a handwritten note was pinned up on the notice board outside the Buttery asking for anyone interested in singing and playing to come along to 7E. To our surprise, three or four volunteers turned up with

guitars at the appointed hour ready to demonstrate their skills. All were rather self-conscious at first, but confidence grew as they played. **We had the performers**, but what about a venue?

It took a week or so to decide upon the Clubroom (on the first floor of the main building) as the most suitable venue. Next there was the matter of refreshments. (It wouldn't be much of a folk club without any booze.) Here we stumbled upon a possible problem with the licensing law. This we got round by deciding to charge an entry fee which included a glass (or two) of beer ... Watneys red barrel served from the historic Party Seven kegs.

I also recall a meeting with the Dean somewhere along the line to get official clearance.

### **The Churchill Folk Club**

I cannot remember the date of the opening night, but I think it was midway through the Lent Term of 1967. **It was a great success**. All the Churchill volunteer singers turned out and gave excellent performances. We also had a guest artist from New Hall (now Murray Edwards). And just as important, **we had an enthusiastic audience**.

The Churchill Folk Club continued to meet with a full complement of performers and a good audience every other Sunday evening during full term through to our graduation in 1968 and was left in safe hands to be continued after we had gone down.

So, what happened to the founding father, Steve Shirley? After graduating, **Steve joined the Medical Research Council** doing research into sleep, the ideal subject for someone who rarely emerged from his bed before mid-morning. He later moved to Germany to work on cryotechnology at the Fraunhofer Institute, returning to the UK about ten years ago. Sadly, Steve passed away in April 2020 and so it has fallen to me to write this story on his behalf.



*Steve Shirley*

Martin Wood

## A Few Gems from the 1960–1961 Years

Churchill College and the Varsity Handbook

Stephen Howe (U86), from the Classics Faculty Library, recounts with much humour that Freshers in the 1960s wanting to know more about Cambridge life would turn to the Varsity Handbook to get answers to their questions.

Freshers who came up in October 1960 might turn to the *Varsity Handbook* for a concise briefing on Cambridge life. If they did, they would discover that something momentous was happening in the *terra incognita* of the Madingley Road...

p. 34: A Note on Churchill College. On May 15th 1958, it was announced that **a new College, to be known as Churchill College, was to be founded at Cambridge**, as a permanent memorial to Sir Winston Churchill's services to Britain and the world. In accordance with Sir Winston's wartime interest in technology, and the growing needs of the age, the College would have **a strong bias towards science and technology**.

Like every Oxbridge College at this date, Churchill College would be a single-sex institution. The number of male students who matriculated at Cambridge University in the academic year 1960–61 outnumbered female in the ratio 8:1. In the same year, around half of male second and third years had completed two years of military service before they came up. And all members of the University *in statu pupillari* were subject to the discipline imposed by the magisterial Proctor and his trusty Bulldogs, with fines levied in multiples of 6s.8d. 'Name and College, sir!'

Thus, while the buildings which arose at Storey's Way are familiar to us all, the Cambridge of that distant era is emphatically not...



Nick Denbow, CCPH/10/22

The construction site, c. 1964.



pp. 47–48: **‘Men Only’** [contributed by ‘Les Third-Year Girls’]

*One of your most valuable Cambridge discoveries will be the fact that women are people too – and many a friendship has been hammered out in the common-or-garden atmosphere of a science practical. Artists have fewer opportunities for social shop-talk, since no girl looks or feels her best in the perpetual twilight of the Mill Lane Lecture Rooms...but there’s always the tea-room of the University Library...*

The Mill Lane Lecture Rooms, housed in imposing neo-Georgian premises dating from 1933, were gradually deserted by Arts students as **Faculties moved to the Sidgwick Site**. The building was sold by the University to Pembroke College and demolished in 2022.

#### p. 59: **Cinema**

*Audience reaction is not all it was, or all it could be. Nowadays the critical element is less riotous and tends to the deep introverted silence. Gone are the improvised dialogues, the bawdy suggestions, the parades in the aisles, the open umbrellas and the community chanted ads. Even 25 minutes of tortuous advertisements draws scarcely a flick-knife.*

[Cambridge possessed two first-run cinemas, the Victoria on Market Hill, and the Regal in St Andrew’s Street, both run by the ABC chain. The Central in

Hobson Street boasted exceptional legroom in the stalls, and a high quota of Teds. The Arts Cinema in Market Passage featured bookable seats (ring 52001!) Black-and-white revivals were standard at the Kinema in Mill Road, and at the hard-to-find Rex in Magrath Avenue.]

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*Churchill planting the oak tree on 17 October 1959.*

**The first College buildings to be completed were the two-storey Sheppard flats** (built 1960–61), which initially housed teaching rooms, offices, and the library. The first undergraduates were admitted to Churchill College in October

1961. No doubt some used the 1961 *Varsity Handbook* to probe the veiled mysteries of Cambridge life!

pp. 40–41: *...the twinge of schizophrenia you may feel at the beginning and end of Term. Standing on Scrooby Station, you have to pinch yourself as dad grabs your case and mum gushes. No Arts cinema here; no blokes on the staircase, College Servants, credit, Backs, Bowes & Bowes, Union, not even the same safe old group in Hall...somehow, it's all a little different, and (wicked thought!) a little beneath you. Well, remember the statistics say that anon you'll be coming permanently to such a place, to help Britain sweep the Common Market with new, incomparable, toothpaste and tractors.*

[The European Economic Community or Common Market, now known as the European Union, had been founded in 1957. Britain applied to join in 1961 and 1967, but President de Gaulle of France interposed his veto on both occasions. Britain joined in 1973 and left in 2019. The premises of Bowes & Bowes, booksellers, on the corner of Trinity Street and St Mary's Street, are now occupied by the CUP Bookshop.]

pp. 45–47: **Women's Page**

*...you will notice that there are more of Them than there are of You. This is a man's world. If you want to kick and scream about it, do so by all means, but remember that the last campaign to admit women to Union membership was a complete failure. Remember, too, that equality consists, very largely, in good manners.*

*There is a prevailing misconception among University women that going to lectures in Mill Lane and turning in that essay for Friday constitute a colossal advantage; the lamentable fact remains that the highest compliment you can be paid is the incredulous 'You're not up here, are you?' – all too frequently followed by the complimenter vanishing to London.*

pp. 61–62: **Dancing**

*If you want to meet girls in Cambridge (and most people do) the best way is at a dance or party. The person who can dance well, or even just dance, stands a far better chance than the man who can at best just stand around being charming and getting the drinks.*



[Readers should note that at this date the words ‘person’ and ‘people’ were often elegant synonyms for ‘man’ and ‘men’.]

*For those who prefer ballroom dancing... The Dorothy holds regular Wednesday and Saturday evening dances, with a good ballroom, which is used not only for regular dances, but also by the popular up-to-midnight clubs... If you, like many others, are fascinated by foreign girls, you will enjoy the frequent dances at the Language Schools.*

*p. 5: Having a Party... know the inclusive price before you start! Our catering manager, Mr Dawson, can arrange a Candlelit Dinner in the mellowed atmosphere of the Dorothy's OAK ROOM for small and large parties (20 to 100) at a cost of 27/6 per head – including Sherry, 2 Table Wines of your choice, and Port or Brandy. Call or Telephone 53493.*

[‘27/6’ is 27 shillings and sixpence, or £1.7s.6d, which would convert into £1.37½ following decimalisation in 1971. The former premises of ‘The Dorothy’ in Sidney Street house Waterstone's bookshop.]

Stephen Howe

## The Churchill Writing Group



The Churchill Writing Group has been going since early 2012 and is free and available to anyone connected with the College. All sorts of writing are welcome from fiction through memoir to poetry and just anything that arrives on the page or screen. There is no age limit – range is from 20s to 70s – and great friendships have grown amongst group members over the years. The Group has been mentored by published author and journalist Rosie Johnston (U73) since its birth. The Group gathered at Churchill College for a weekend of writing on 24 and 25 June this year.

We have three pieces on offer in this year's *Review* from the Churchill Writing Group (in alphabetical order): A poignant story *DNR* by Liz Forte, followed by a striking excerpt from *Hydra* by Nic Mira whose connection to Churchill College is through his partner Catherine Tilley (G16); the third piece is the delightful *The Fifty Metre Retreat* by Sharmala Naidoo (G20), who has been a member of the Churchill Writing Group since 2022.

## DNR

by Liz Forte

She insisted on having ‘DNR’ – ‘Do Not Resuscitate’ – written on her notes.

Alan continued to inform the doctors, nurses and all who would listen that he was her ‘Appropriate Adult’ as well as her designated ‘Power of Attorney’ and he did NOT authorise DNR.

Jade pestered all the medics and junior doctors to top up her morphine. One newly appointed nurse reported to senior staff that she had been implored by Jade on a number of occasions to increase the morphine dose. The junior nurse was offered money and given promises of being included in Jade’s Will if she could smuggle in pain-killing drugs and be careless with the valves on the drip feeds. The young nurse was so emotionally affected by Jade’s utterances and confidences that she had to be transferred to a different ward and a concrete-faced nurse was subsequently assigned to attend to Jade.

When Alan visited, Jade implored him to ‘let her go’ but he would not entertain such thoughts. He did understand she was in excruciating pain, and he recognised that if they were in a different country, her wishes to leave would be respected but Alan was not a lawbreaker.

On Friday night, Alan visited Jade with grapes, bananas and gossip.

She called him to her bedside.

On Saturday morning, Alan woke to Jade’s lifeless body, cold to the touch.

Her arms were around his neck, and she would not let go.

## Excerpt from **HYDRA** (chapter 3)

by Nic Mira

Outside the church door, Zoe realised she was having second thoughts. She looked over her shoulder briefly, hesitated, then she silently chastised herself and crossed the threshold, her eyes struggling to adjust to the darkness. It was cool inside, and quiet, and it pleased her, how the heat and bustle from outside seemed to be muted by the presence of the Lord. Slowly, her eyes grew accustomed to being away from the glare of the noon sun, the pews and the chapels with their sacred images surfacing like silhouettes from the shadows, as her vision adjusted.

She walked up a side aisle towards the confessional. She knew from long habit Father Corrigan would be in at this time of day, for the few faithful coming in to pray or snatching a moment of peace during their lunch break. A meagre harvest for the priest, but Zoe had never known him to complain about it.

As Zoe approached the confessional, she finally recognised the urge that had prompted her to come. She wanted not so much to confess, but to unburden. To talk to someone who would not judge her, who would be content to listen. It was a conversation she wasn't prepared to have with herself alone, for she knew she could be merciless with herself.

In the last three weeks, her new-found knowledge had been preying on her, and she had cached it behind a closed door in her mind, something she was usually proficient at. But Zoe was a practical woman, and years of careful policing of her imagination meant that there were only so many rooms in her mind where she could stow this knowledge. She had been passing by that particular locked door so many times in the last few days that it had become unbearably conspicuous. What lay behind it kept clamouring for her attention, but she didn't want to deal with it alone. Father Corrigan, she hoped, would listen, would understand, would help.

There was no one else waiting, and Zoe stepped forward into the shelter of the confessional's dark wood enclosure, redolent of polish and time and guilt, kneeling down with something like relief.

'Bless me father, because I have sinned.' Barely more than a whisper.

She was still unsure of what she was going to say, a part of her vaguely hoping Father Corrigan wouldn't recognise her. Of course he'd recognise her, even through the grille, the glimmer of her hair, the paleness of her pinched face before she bowed her head in submission.

'Bless me father, because I have sinned,' repeated Zoe, her voice faltering, like her willpower.

'What is it, my dear?'

Zoe knew there would be no point in dithering. Father Corrigan was well aware that her outward meekness was a self-imposed foil to the inner strength she harboured, that she wasn't one to tiptoe around issues. In the recent past, she had confessed to falling in love with another man and leaving her husband, to hating her husband enough to take their son Tom with her, out of selfishness and obdurate pride.

She always spoke matter-of-factly, without needless embroidery. She was devout, after her own fashion, and at a shade under forty, a practising Catholic her whole life, she knew what confession was all about.

Now, she remained silent.

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## The Fifty Metre Retreat

by Sharmala Naidoo

I am furious with my mother, again. She does not understand me at all, refuses to listen, and provokes me constantly. This time I'd had enough and said that I am leaving. I was lucky, I had a family who all loved me, and they were right next door. They were sure to welcome me with open arms. After all, when I did sleep over, they all fought for me to sleep with them. My mother responded that since she had bought me my clothes, I had to leave them behind if I left.

This put me in a quandary. I had to walk out naked or accept defeat and submission. I refused to submit, so I stripped off my clothes and walked right out of that front door. All the way down the passage of the flat, to outside.

Once outside I could see my other home, but it felt too far to walk naked to the fence fifty metres away. Those fifty metres were too overlooked by other apartments, and besides, I would have to scale the fence naked to avoid going the long way around, walking on the street and entering through the front door.

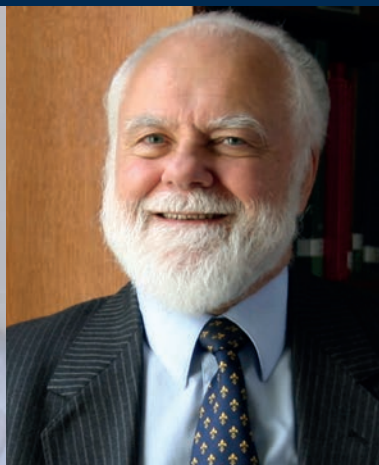
No – that was all too much for my 5-year-old self, and I had to concede defeat. I turned around and walked back in. She had won the battle, but one battle was not the war.

Life next door was so much better than life at home. Firstly, mummy there was a ‘real’ mum. She was kind and gentle and never raised her voice. We could spend hours together in companionable silence pickling lemons, cleaning rice, or plucking chickens to prepare them for the pot. Unsurprisingly, the warm, comforting scents of baking and cooking lingered on her. Naina, the father, was home more often than my dad was, and I was his little shadow. He took me everywhere with him – to the bustling market to buy vegetables, to the bakery with the enticing aroma of fresh baking in the whites-only suburb next to ours, and best of all, to the club up the road where he bought me a drink, always granadilla juice with soda water, which made me feel very sophisticated!

My four older sisters and one brother of my next-door family loved having me around. I could choose to walk to the beach and pick wild plums with Ruben, stay with mummy and clean vegetables, work in the garden with Naina or sit with the girls and listen to their stories about school and boys. Whatever I chose to do, I would be welcomed with open arms, and I would feel loved.



# MEMBERS' NEWS







## Members' News

In alphabetical order

**Congratulations to** three Churchill Fellows who have been promoted in this year's round of University promotions: **Peter Sloman** and **Xavier Moya** have been promoted to Professorships, grade 12; and **Christophe Gagne** to a Teaching Pathway professorship, grade 11.

---

### Congratulations also to ...

**Sally Angel** (U79), on being made an Honorary Visiting Professor in the School of Communication and Creativity at City University.

**Professor Sir John Aston Kt FRS**, Fellow, for being elected a Fellow to the Royal Society and for being appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research at the University.

**Professor Manish Chhowalla**, Fellow, for being awarded a Royal Academy of Engineering Chair in Emerging Technologies.

**Dr Ramit Debnath**, Fellow, for being on the grant winning team of ai@cam's flagship mission to drive AI innovation that benefits science, citizens and society.

**Professor Melita Gordon** (U84), on being made Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) for services to Global Health.

**Professor Tawfique Hasan**, Fellow, on being elected as one of the 2024 Optica Fellows for his transformative and sustained contributions in photonic applications of nanomaterials and pioneering ultraminiaturised computational spectrometers

**Jennifer R. Hedgecoth** (G18), US Navy Lieutenant, for being honoured as the Naval Submarine League's 2023 Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood Award winner. This annual award recognises individuals for achievement, specific action or consistent performance which best exemplifies the traditional spirit embodied in the Submarine Force.

**Professor D. Laurence Hurst** (U84) and past Fellow, Professor of Evolutionary Genetics, for being awarded the Humboldt Prize in recognition of his lifetime's research achievements.

**Professor Anna Korhonen**, Fellow, who directs the Centre for Human Inspired Artificial Intelligence, for securing a major partnership deal with Google UK.

**Professor Markus Kraft**, Fellow, and his team for being awarded the prestigious Ricardo Award by the Combustion Physics Group at the Institute of Physics. This award recognises significant technological advances and contributions to the advancement and understanding at a fundamental level in the field of combustion physics. Professor Kraft has also been named a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng). The prestigious accolade highlights his profound impact on interdisciplinary research and innovation in Engineering and Science.

**Professor Benedikt Löwe**, Fellow, on being elected as an ordinary member of the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg (AWHH). And also, on being elected to serve as one of the three Vice-Presidents of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) for a four-year period from 2023–27.

**Chris McDonald** (U96), on being elected Member of Parliament to represent Stockton North in the 2024 General Election.

**Dr Bhramar Mukherjee**, visiting Overseas Fellow, for receiving the Harvard University's 2024 Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science.

**Colm O'Reardon** (G92), on being appointed Secretary General of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in the Irish Government.

**Dr Keith Palmer KCMG OBE** (G73), on being made Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) for services to International Development.

**Professor Bobby Reddy**, Fellow, on being appointed as a J M Keynes Senior Fellow in Financial Economics.

**Dame Carol Robinson** for becoming the first woman former Fellow and first woman alumna of Churchill to be awarded an honorary degree by the University.

**Professor Wolfram Shultz**, Fellow, for being awarded a Citation Laureate 2024 by Clarivate for his pioneering work in the field of Physiology.

**Dr Mari Takayanagi**, Archives By-Fellow, for being elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

**Ian Wilson MBE** (U70), on being made Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to Education.

**Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann** (Past Fellow), on being listed among Australia's top 30 'living legends of research' by The Australian newspaper (2024) and for being awarded the Rubinlicht Prize for his outstanding contribution to Yiddish scholarship (2023).

## Members in the News

**Congratulations to Professor Paul Emery**, (U&G71) for being awarded a **CBE for services to rheumatology**. His research on early intervention in inflammatory arthritis has been adopted around the world. Alongside his student teaching and supervision roles in the Faculty of Medicine and Health, he is Versus Arthritis Professor of Rheumatology at the University's Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Disease, and director of the NIHR Leeds Biomedical Research Centre.

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**Congratulations to Professor Douglas Gough**, Emeritus Fellow, on being awarded **the 2024 Crafoord Prize in Astronomy** for developing methods that reveal the secrets inside the Sun and stars.

The Crafoord Prize is one of the world's most prestigious science prizes, awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for excellence in disciplines chosen to complement those for which the Nobel Prizes are awarded. Professor Gough received the award with Jørgen Christensen-Dalsgaard from Aarhus University, Denmark, and Conny Aerts from KU Leuven, Belgium.

Professor Gough tells us: 'I received a phone call out of the blue late one mid-January afternoon from the President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences telling me that I had been awarded the Crafoord Prize. I was both stunned and elated.'

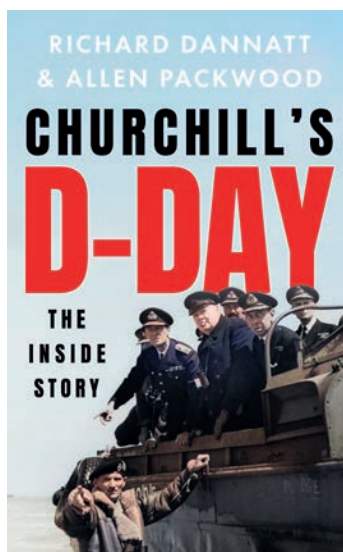
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**Congratulations to Professor Nick Paton**, (U&G84) for being awarded an **OBE for services to global health**. He has led major global trials including for treatments for HIV and TB, and holds a joint appointment at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the National University of Singapore.

### **Congratulations to Allen Packwood,**

Fellow, for the publication of the book *Churchill's D Day* – co-authored with Lord Dannatt – to mark the 80th anniversary of the landing of the Allied Forces in Normandy. We learn that on 6 June 1944, 'over 5,000 ships had landed 133,000 Allied troops, supported by 14,476 air sorties and immense naval gunfire.'

Simon Heffer from the Telegraph gave 4 stars to the book and remarked: 'Dannatt and Packwood's book is well judged and well resourced (...) Dannatt (...) brings a soldier's expertise to the technical digressions in the narrative; Packwood is director of the archive at Churchill College, Cambridge (and) is well aware of the distinction between the familiar and the less familiar (...) For new readers the book will be a superb primer – and one of impeccable historical accuracy – on the events around D-Day.'

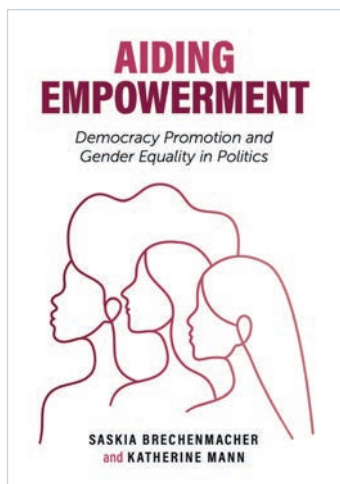


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**Congratulations to Professor Peter Stott,** (G83) for being awarded an **MBE for services to Climate Science and International Climate Action**, for his work at the Met Office and the University of Exeter. Peter Stott is a Science Fellow in Climate Attribution at the Met Office and Professor in Detection and Attribution at the University of Exeter. He has made a significant national and international contribution to the development of climate science and to establishing and supporting the scientific case for action on climate change, marking him out among his peers.

On hearing the news, Peter wrote on LinkedIn, 'I was really delighted to receive an MBE in the New Year Honours. I have fond memories of being at Churchill College, University of Cambridge studying for Part III maths (...). It was an important stepping stone to my career using mathematics in the service of understanding climate change ...'

**Congratulations to Katherine Mann,** PhD student, for being the co-author of the book, *Aiding Empowerment: Democracy Promotion and Gender Equality in Politics*, published by Oxford University Press. The book covers themes related to gender, democracy, and international development.



# WHO'S WHO 2023–2024

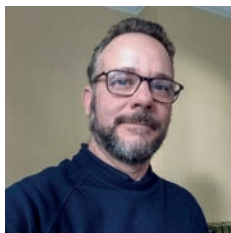






# WHO'S WHO 2023–2024

## Introducing ...



### **Alastair Lockhart, our new Senior Postgraduate Tutor**

I first came to Cambridge in the mid-1990s to study Theology at Magdalene. I began playing around with programming in my spare time as an undergraduate, and after finishing my BA in 1999, I studied for an MSc in Computer Sciences at the University of London. I

like to think I completed one millennium as a Theologian and started the next as a Computer Scientist.

After further Master's study in London, in the Psychology of Religion, I had the good fortune to return to Cambridge to study for a PhD on the history of the relationship between religion and psychology. I don't fit any particular disciplinary category very well, but I normally call myself an historian and social scientist of religion. Either way, I have always worked in very interdisciplinary ways, and I am most interested in critical and fundamental questions in non-standard and awkward subjects in my field. In the past few years, I have mainly worked on twentieth-century apocalyptic groups and movements, and my current focus is the 1945 atomic bombs.

During my postdoc I joined Hughes Hall, a postgraduate College of the University, as a Research Fellow. Over time, I became increasingly involved in the governance and tutorial side of College life, eventually becoming Deputy Senior Tutor. Postgraduates really do stand at a transitional point between being students and fully fledged academics, and between academia and commercial/professional worlds – that overflows with possibilities, but it can be vertiginous. I have found working with postgraduate students as they navigate that pathway to be enormously rewarding. When the Senior Postgraduate Tutor post at Churchill was advertised it appealed to me as a distinctive postgraduate tutorial role embedded in the life of a unique and academically outstanding College – so far, it has proved to be that, and a lot more besides.

## Introducing ...



### **Dave Prinsep, our new Estates and Operations Director**

Cambridge is a really special place and I've worked here for the past 20 years. Having admired Churchill College from the outside during that time, I was delighted and excited to start as Estates and Operations Director in November 2023.

I was previously Assets and Property Assistant Director at Cambridge City Council, with a focus on making sure that the Council's properties work well for delivering services, helping customers and meeting wider objectives such as supporting net zero carbon aspirations and generating income.

From my early days building with Lego and playing Monopoly, through to real-life property management, development and refurbishment, buildings have always interested me. The things that get me really excited are the buzz of doing a 'deal', finding or creating a property that is perfect or having a challenging property problem to solve.

I started working as an apprentice with a small surveying practice, becoming Chartered in 1994. I moved on to public and private sector organisations, learning something different in each role to add to my experience. A two-year Canadian adventure saw me undertake an MBA and upon my return to the UK, management and more commercially focused roles widened my knowledge.

I've been fortunate to be involved in many fantastic projects: Park Street Car Park redevelopment; bringing forward numerous redevelopment sites including Orchard Park, Clay Farm and North East Cambridge; solar schemes both large and small scale; producing/implementing asset management plans; enabling a community co-housing scheme, Marmalade Lane; acquiring numerous housing and commercial properties; and most Cambridge of all, managing punting!

Outside of work, of course I enjoy a spot of DIY but also walking our dog Skye, organising our village social badminton club, going to the cinema, 80s music and watching a variety of sport.

## Introducing ...



### **Karen MacGinley, our College Nurse**

I joined Churchill College as the College Nurse in October 2023. I feel extremely privileged to be working in this modern, friendly and supportive workplace, providing support to students, Fellows and staff and becoming part of a community dedicated to the advancement of education, learning and research.

Alongside my colleagues, I hope to provide a high-quality health and wellbeing service to the College.

I am originally from Clacton-on-Sea and moved to Cambridge in 1987 to train as a Registered Nurse at Addenbrookes Hospital. After qualifying in 1990, my first post was on a Neurology ward, and it was there that my passion for Neurosciences began. I completed a post-registration module in Neuromedical and Neurosurgical Nursing and then took a post as a Junior Sister.

Throughout my 36-year career at Addenbrookes Hospital, I have worked in various roles, including Neuro-Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Parkinson's Disease Specialist Nurse, Tracheostomy Specialist Nurse and Neurology Specialist Nurse. In order to identify problems, maximise treatment plans and maintain patient safety, I completed the Clinical Assessment Skills for Health Professionals module in 2015 and the Non-Medical Prescriber module in 2016 at Anglia Ruskin University. In 2017, I attended Swansea University and completed the Parkinson's Disease Management module.

I work one day a week in a four-bedded home for children with complex health needs. This work is very rewarding, and I am often seen out and about with the children doing various activities such as swimming, sailing and fundraising.

I have four grown up children who have flown the nest and in my spare time I enjoy walking and have completed three 100-kilometre walks for various charities in the past. I am a keen fundraiser and enjoy organising events. I love cooking and am often found with my head in a cookery book, and I love eating out and trying new gourmet experiences.

# Who's Who in Churchill College

This is the list of Fellows and By-Fellows between October 2023 and September 2024. Where Fellows died during the year, this is marked by an asterisk.

## Fellowship Categories: Fellows and By-Fellows

*Honorary Fellows: honorific positions bestowed on outstanding figures who have normally had a prior connection with the College; Benefactor Fellows: a title bestowed by the Governing Body on major donors to the College; Title A (Official): our main teaching Fellows and senior College Officers; Title B (Research): Junior Research Fellows are early career researchers, usually immediately postdoctoral; Senior Research Fellows are well established researchers, usually with positions in the University or associated institutes; Title C (Professorial): holders of a Cambridge University Chair (but Professors who opt to continue with a teaching stint may remain in Title A); Title D (Emeritus/Emerita): Fellows who have retired from their University position; Title E (Extraordinary): academics or other persons of distinction whom the College wishes to include in its number but who may not be resident in Cambridge; Title F (Overseas): Fellows staying in Churchill as academic visitors and normally collaborating with Churchill Fellows in the same subject, for periods ranging from a term to a year; Title G (Supernumerary): those who do not belong to any of the above categories but who are performing an important function in the College.*

*Teaching By-Fellows: assisting in specific areas of teaching need (usually postdoctoral status; may also be Fellows of another College); Academic By-Fellows: visiting researchers nominated by the Archives Centre or by a Fellow of the College; Professional and Møller By-Fellows: having professional links particularly relevant to Churchill; Staff By-Fellows: non-academic staff members with senior managerial positions in the College; Postdoctoral By-Fellows: drawn from the University's 3500-strong postdoctoral community.*

## Master

Donald, Professor Dame Athene, MA, PhD, DBE, FRS

Theoretical Physics

## Honorary Fellows

Gurdon, Professor Sir John B, DPhil, DSc, FRS,  
FMedSci

E73–75; C83–95; Developmental and  
H07 Stem Cell Biology

Ndebele, Professor Njabulu, MA, LLD (Hon)	G73; H07	Literature
Green, Professor Michael, MA, PhD, FRS	U64; H10	Mathematics
Holmes, Professor Richard, MA, FBA, FRSL, OBE	U64; H10	Biographer
Nurse, Sir Paul M, PhD, FRS, FEng	H10	Microbiology
Robinson, Professor Dame Carol V, PhD, DBE, FRS	B(SRF)03–4; C04–09; H12	Chemistry
Soyinka, Professor Wole, DLitt (Hon)	F74; H12	Literature
Vargas Llosa, Dr J Mario P, PhD, DLitt	F77–78; H12	Literature
Churchill, Mr Randolph	H15	Great-grandson of Sir Winston
Sales, Rt Hon Lord Justice Philip, QC	U80; H15	Lord Justice of Appeal
Ugla, Mrs Ane Maersk McKinney	H15	Møller Foundation
Blackburn, Professor Simon, PhD, FBA	B(JRF)67–69; H17	Philosophy
Bradley, Professor Donal D C, PhD, CBE, FRS, FlntSP, FIET, FRSA	G83; A89–93; H17	Physics
De Grey, Professor Spencer, CBE, PhD, RA, RIBA	U63; H17	Architecture
Jacobus, Professor Mary, PhD, FBA, CBE	C00–11; H17	Literature
Mairs, Professor Christopher, CBE, FEng	U76; H17	Engineering
Nelson, Professor Jennifer, PhD, FRS	U80; H17	Physics
Stroustrup, Professor Bjarne, PhD, NAE, FACM, FIEEE, FCHM	F12; H17	Computer Science
Hart, Professor Oliver, MA, PhD, FBA	A75–81; H18	Economics
Brown of Cambridge, Baroness, DBE, PhD, FRS, FEng	A87–94; E02–17; H18	Materials Science and Engineering
Spaldin, Professor Nicola, PhD, FRS	U88; H18	Materials Science
Czerski, Dr Helen, MSci, PhD	U97; G02; H20	Ocean Physics
Humphreys, Professor Sir Colin, PhD FEng FRS CBE FlntSP FIMMM	G63; H20	Physics
Thornton, Professor Dame Janet M, PhD DBE FRS FMedSci FRSC	E02–19; H20	Computational Biology

## Winston Churchill Benefactor Fellows

*Cowan, Mr Michael J J, MA, FCISI	U70; BenF10; WCBenF20	Investment Adviser
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## Benefactor Fellows

Lock, Mr Gregory H, MA, FRSA	U66; BenF15	Chairman, Non-Executive Director
Wild, Dr Anthony H, MA, PhD	G68; BenF15	Investor and Mentor
Luckevich, Ms Lydia	BenF16	Widow of Don Pinchin (G73)
Powell, Dr Eddie, PhD	U&G67; BenF19	Law
Li, Mr Yingxu	U02; BenF22	Investor
Gerschel, Mr Patrick	BenF23	President of the Winston Churchill Foundation of the US

## Fellows in Order of Precedence

Barbrook, Dr A C, MA, PhD	A	Vice-Master
Biochemistry		
Gregory, Professor Sir Michael J, MA, CBE, FEng	D	President of the SCR Manufacturing/Management
Broers, Rt Hon Lord Alec N, PhD, ScD, FRS, FEng	D	Microelectronics
Wallace, Professor Sir David J, CBE, PhD, FRS, FEng	D	Theoretical Physics
Howie, Professor A, PhD, CBE, FRS	D	Physics
Dixon, Dr W G, MA, PhD	D	Applied Mathematics
Schofield, Professor A N, MA, PhD, FRS, FEng	D	Engineering
Craig, Professor E J, MA, PhD, FBA	D	Philosophy
Newbery, Professor D M G, MA, PhD, ScD, FBA, CBE	D	Economics
Westwood, Dr B A, MA, PhD	D	Computer Science
Tristram, Dr A G, MA, PhD	D	Pure Mathematics
Thompson, Professor J G, MA, PhD, FRS	D	Pure Mathematics
Abrahams, Dr R G, MA, PhD	D	Social Anthropology
Cribb, Mr T J L, MA	D	English
* George, Mr H, MA, CMG, OBE	D	Bursar 1971–90
Finch, Professor A M, MA, PhD	D	French
* Findlay, Dr A L R, MA, PhD, VetMB	D	Physiology
Gough, Professor D O, MA, PhD, FRS	D	Astrophysics
Echenique, Professor M, OBE, MA, DArch, ScD, RTPI, RIBA	D	Architecture
Fraser, Dr C, MA, PhD	D	Social Psychology
Gaskell, Dr P H, MA, PhD	D	Physics
Milne, Professor W I, MA, PhD, FEng	D	Engineering
King, Dr F H, MA, PhD	D	Computer Science
Goldie, Professor M A, MA, PhD	D	History
Bolton, Professor M D, MA, PhD, FEng	D	Engineering
Mascie-Taylor, Professor C G N, MA, PhD, ScD, FRSB, FNAS	D	Biological Anthropology
Siddle, Professor K, MA, PhD	D	Biochemistry
Hurst, Mr H R, MA	D	Classical Archaeology
Dawes, Professor W N, MA, PhD, Ceng, FEng, FRAes	C	Engineering
Green, Dr D A, MA, PhD	A	Physics/Radio Astronomy
Allen, Mr M J, MA, OBE	D	English; Bursar 1990–98
Norris, Professor J R, DPhil	C	Mathematics
Amaratunga, Professor G A J, PhD, FEng	C	Engineering
Knowles, Dr K M, MA, PhD	A	Materials Science
*Walters, Dr D E, MA, PhD	D	Statistical Consultancy
Chatterjee, Professor V K K, MA, FRS, FMedSci, FRCP	D	Pathology

Webber, Professor A J, PhD, FBA	A	Vice-Master; German
Laughlin, Professor S B, MA, PhD, FRS	D	Neurobiology
Crisp, Dr A J, MA, MB, BChir, MD, FRCP	D	Clinical Medicine
Kramer, Professor M H, PhD, LLD, FBA	A	Law
King, Mrs A N, MA, FRSA	D	Linguistics
Brendon, Dr P, MA, PhD, FRSL	D	History
O'Kane, Professor C J, MA, PhD	A	Genetics; Postgraduate Tutor
Boksenberg, Professor A, MA, PhD, FRS, CBE	D	Astronomy
Kinsella, Professor J, MA, PhD	E	Poet
Yuan, Dr B, PhD	D	Chinese and Linguistics
Brook, Mrs J M, MA, MBA	D	Bursar 1999–2017
Kraft, Professor M, MA, Dr.rer.nat, ScD	C	Chemical Engineering
Sirringhaus, Professor H, PhD, FRS	C	Physics
DeMarrais, Dr E, PhD	A	Archaeology
Van Houten, Dr P, MA, PhD	A	Politics
Tout, Professor C A, MA, PhD	A	Astronomy; Fellows' Steward
Mathur, Professor N D, MA, PhD, APS Fellow	C	Materials Science
Soilleux, Professor E, MA, MB, BChir, PhD, FRCPPath, PGDipMedEd	A	Pathology
Gopal, Professor P, MA, PhD	A	English
Webb, Professor A, PhD	A	Plant Sciences; Postgraduate Tutor
Harris, Professor P A, LL.M, PhD	C	Law
Kendall, Miss M, MA	D	Librarian 1984–2015
Packwood, Mr A G, MPhil, FRHistS, OBE	A	Director, Churchill Archives Centre
Hicks, Dr C M, MA, PhD	A	Engineering
Fawcett, Dr J, MA, PhD	A	Computer Science; Tutor
Schultz, Professor W, PhD, FRS	C	Neuroscience
Kingston, Dr I B, PhD	D	Pathology
Ozanne, Professor S E, PhD, FMedSci	A	Biochemistry
Englund, Professor H M, MA, PhD, FBA	A	Social Anthropology
Caulfield, Professor C P, MAST, PhD	C	Mathematics
Reid, Professor A, MSc, PhD	A	Geography
Wassell, Dr I J, PhD	A	Engineering
Ludlam, Dr J J, MA, PhD	A	Mathematical Biology; Tutor
Taylor, Dr A W, MA, PhD	A	English; Tutor
Sunikka-Blank, Professor M M, PhD	A	Architecture; Postgraduate Tutor
Boss, Dr S R, PhD	A	Chemistry; Deputy Senior Tutor; Postgraduate Tutor
Hines, Professor M M, MA, PhD	D	Psychology
Liang, Dr D, PhD	A	Engineering
Ralph, Professor D, PhD	C	Operations Research



Goldstein, Professor R E, PhD, FRS	C	Mathematics
Wickramasekera, Professor N, PhD	C	Mathematics
McEnery, Dr C M, PhD	A	Physiology
Spiegelhalter, Professor Sir David J, PhD, OBE, FRS	C	Statistics
Russell, Dr P A, MA, MMath, PhD	A	Mathematics; Wine Steward; Admissions Tutor
Phipps, Mr B J, MA, MSt, MPhil	A	Curator of Works of Art; Director of Creative Hub; Postgraduate Tutor; Tutor
Knight, Mr N V, MSc	A	Economics; Tutor
Frayling, Professor Sir Christopher, MA, PhD	E	Historian, Critic and Broadcaster
Linterman, Dr M A, MA, PhD	A	Biological Sciences
Denault, Dr L T, PhD	A	History; Tutor
Monson, Dr R E, PhD	A	Senior Tutor; Cell Biology
Ron, Professor D, MD, FRS, FMedSci,	C	Metabolic Science
Jardine-Wright, Dr L J, MA, MSc, PhD, CPhys, FInstP, OBE	A	Physics
Biberauer, Dr T, MA, MPhil, PhD	A	Linguistics
Stott, Dr K M, MA, PhD	A	Chemistry
Davies, Professor N S, PhD	A	Earth Sciences
Akroyd, Dr J W J, MA, MEng, PhD	A	Chemical Engineering
Gagne, Dr C A, MA, MPhil, PhD	A	French
Hasan, Professor T, MEng, PhD	A	Engineering
Toner, Dr J P, PhD	A	Classics; Tutor
Mei, Professor J, MSc, PhD	B (SRF)	Archaeology
*Anderson, Professor R J, PhD, FRS, FREng	B (SRF)	Computer Science
Holmes, Professor M A, MA, VetMB, PhD, FRCVS	A	Veterinary Medicine; Tutor
Moya, Dr X, PhD	B (SRF)	Materials Science
Onatski, Professor A, PhD	A	Economics
Oates, Mr T, MA, CBE	A	Cambridge Assessment
Holcman, Professor D, PhD	F	Applied Mathematics
Ali, Dr J M, MA, MB, BChir, MA (Med Ed), FHEA, PhD, MAcadMed, MRCS	A	Medical & Veterinary Sciences
Daly, Professor R, PhD	A	Engineering; Admissions Tutor
Minshall, Professor T H W, PhD	C	Engineering Innovation and Outreach
Savory, Professor S J, MEng, MA, PhD	C	Engineering
Sloman, Professor P, PhD	A	Politics; Dean
Kim, Professor J M, PhD	C	Engineering
Birch, Dr E, PhD	A	French
Teichmann, Dr S, PhD FRS FMedSci	B (SRF)	Molecular Biology
van der Linden, Professor S, MA PhD, FRSA	A	Psychology
James, Mrs T M, LLB	A	Bursar
Loewe, Professor B, MA, Dr. rer. nat., SCD, MAE	E	Mathematics, Philosophy

Malaree, Mrs F A, MA	A	Development Director
Farmelo, Dr G, PhD	E	Biographer and Historian
Braithwaite, Dr C H, PhD	A	Physics; Finance Tutor
Reddy, Dr B V, MA, LL.M, PhD	A	Law
Padley, Dr J P H, MA, PhD, PGCE, LMusTCL, ATCL	A	Education; Lead Admissions Tutor and Tutor
Coyle, Professor Dame D, CBE, PhD, FAcSS DBE	C	Economics
Cox, Dr S J, MSci, PhD	A	Chemistry
Chhowalla, Professor M, PhD, FInstP, FRSC	C	Materials Science
Dunbar, Dr S, PhD	A	Natural Sciences; Admissions Tutor and Tutor
Lengyel, Professor M, MSc, PhD	B (SRF)	Computational Biology
Mallucci, Professor G R, MBBS, MRCP, PhD, CSST, FMedSci	E	Medicine
Ming, Dr A D, MA, PhD	A	Applied Mathematics; Admissions Tutor
Kypraiou, Dr A-M, MPhil, PhD	A	Engineering
Fitzgerald, Dr J, MA, PhD	B (JRF)	Art History
Johann, Ms C, MPhil	B (JRF)	History
Kapil, Professor B, MA	E	Poetry
Korhonen, Professor A, MA, MPhil, PhD	B (SRF)	Computer Science and Linguistics
Matravers, Professor D, PhD	E	Philosophy
Meier, Dr L J, BPhil, PhD	B (JRF)	Philosophy
Courtice, Dame V A Polly, MA, DBE, LVO	E	Sustainability Leadership
Harrison, Dr P M C, MSc, PhD	A	Music and Science
Kapil, Dr V, PhD	B (JRF)	Chemistry
Aston, Professor Sir John A D, PhD	C	Statistics
Rouach, Dr N, MSc, PhD	F	Neuroscience
Thorley, Dr R M S, MA, QTS, PGCE, PhD	A	Engineering (CORE) Fellow
Bale, Dr G, MRes, PhD	A	Physics and Engineering
Galhena, Dr Thanuja, MPhil, PhD	A	Engineering
Ini, Dr M, MSc, PhD	A	History
Lambert, Dr S, PhD	A	Genetics
Rom, Dr A, MPhil, PhD	B (JRF)	Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Salter Fitz-Gibbon, Dr O, MAst, PhD	A	Mathematics
Shah, Professor R, PhD	A	Statistics
Maurange, Dr C, PhD	F	Biology
Cicirello, Dr A, PhD	A	Engineering
Coleman, Professor M, PhD	B (SRF)	Neuroscience
Ogbeide, Dr O, PhD	B (JRF)	Engineering
Lockhart, Dr A, MSc MA MA PhD FRAI	A	History; Senior Postgraduate Tutor
Debnath, Dr R, MTech, MPhil, PhD	A	Sustainability

Morgan, Mr G H, MA, MPhil, MSc	A	Computer Science
Nall, Dr J, FRAS	A	History and Philosophy of Science
Sander, Dr C, MA BMBCCh PhD FRCP	A	Medicine
Achnich, Dr M, BA, MPhil, DPhil	A	Anthropology
Bellia, Dr E, PhD	B (JRF)	Modern & Medieval Languages
Gilkis, Dr A, MSc, PhD	A	Astrophysics
Mukherjee, Professor B, MStat, MS, PhD	F	Biostatistics
Treacy, Professor M, PhD	F	Physics
Eloy, Professor C, PhD	F (French Govt)	Fluid Mechanics
Frisbie, Professor D, PhD	F	Chemical Engineering & Materials Science
Medina, Professor R, PhD	F	Psychology

## By-Fellows

Tasker, Dr A, MB BChir, MRCP	BF (Teaching)	Medical Sciences
Bianchi, Mr A S, MA	BF (Teaching)	Spanish
Laycock, Mrs P, BA, FRSA	BF (Staff)	College Registrar 1991–2014
Bittleston, Dr S H, PhD	BF (Professional)	Formerly Vice President Research, Schlumberger
McMeekin, Mrs S M, BA, BFP, ACA	BF (Staff)	Finance and Business Processes Director
Donald, Dr M, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Mathematics
Russell, Dr M, PhD	BF (Professional)	Head of Office of Intercollegiate Services
Davison, Mr S, MA	BF (Professional)	Deputy Director, Cambridge Zero
O'Donnell, Dr P J, MSc, MA, DPhil	BF (Teaching)	Mathematics
Campbell, Dr E A H, MPhil, PhD	BF (Artist)	Music; Director of Music
Griffiths, Dr O E, MPhil, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Philosophy
Jozwik, Dr K, MPhil, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Neuroscience
Hodgson, Dr P J, Meng, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Chemical Engineering
Ireland, Mr M, MA	BF (Teaching)	Computer Science; Praelector
Landrock, Dr P, PhD, DSc (Hon)	BF (Professional)	Representation Theory and Cryptography
Iadevaia, Dr G, MSc, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Chemistry
Juric, Dr D, MS, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Engineering
Leather, Mr R, BA	BF (Møller)	Managing Director of the Møller Institute
Rasiah, Mr N, MA	BF (Professional)	Law
Welche, Dr P R L, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Physics
Bulat, Dr L-T, PhD	BF (Teaching)	Computer Science

López-Gómez, Dr C E, MPhil, PhD	BF (Professional)	Industrial Innovation Policy
Agarwala, Dr M K, MA, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Economics
Burton, Dr A R, MSc, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Immunology
Gillett, Dr A J, MSci, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Physics
Karasik, Dr A, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Physics
Shirley, Mrs K, MA, MCIPD	BF (Staff)	HR and Governance Director
Uliano da Silva, Dr M, MSc, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Bioinformatics
Un, Dr H-I, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Chemistry
Wang, Dr Y, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Materials Science and Engineering
Ward-Williams, Dr J, MSci, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Chemical Engineering
Zorzan, Dr I, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Epigenetics
Torres Ferrera, Dr P, MSc, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Engineering
Kazlauskaitė, Dr I, MMath, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Engineering
Bromley, Dr J, PhD	BF (Professional)	Plant Sciences
How, Mr T	BF (Professional)	Chairman of Møller Institute
Fazmin, Dr T, MA, MB, BChir	Teaching By-Fellow	Medicine
Slaughter, Dr J, MSci, PhD	Teaching By-Fellow	Chemistry
Coelho Lima Junior, Dr J, MD, PhD, DipRCPPath	Teaching By-Fellow	Medicine
Rognin, Dr E, MSc, PhD	Teaching By-Fellow	Engineering
Alban-Paccha, Dr M, MEng, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Medicine
Bhangaonkar, Dr R, MA, MPhil, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Land Economy
Bonglack, Dr E, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Medicine
Chaubet, Dr Y, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Mathematics
Chua, Dr P, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Molecular Ecology
Fang, Dr X, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Biomedical Sciences
Hadjidemetriou, Dr G, MEng, MSc, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Engineering
Lerner Patrón, Dr A, MA, MPhil, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	History
Ligthart, Dr R, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Engineering (Innovation)
Piratla, Dr V, MTech, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Engineering (Machine Learning)
Read, Dr N, MPhys, MRes, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Engineering (Nuclear)
Schran, Dr C, MSc, Dr. rer. nat.	BF (Postdoctoral)	Chemistry
Visser, Dr M, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Theoretical Physics
Vulic, Dr I, MEng, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Computer Science
Watson, Dr W, MBBChir (Cantab), PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Medicine
Pankhurst, Dr T, MCI, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Biomedical Sciences
Van der Velden, Dr A J L, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Classics
Ladokun, Mr A, MSc	BF (Archives)	Digitisation and Collaboration
Lucks, Professor J, MPhil, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Molecular Biologyma
Jacques, Professor G, PhD	BF (French Government)	Linguistics

Koseff, Professor J R, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Environmental Fluid Mechanics
Vinen, Professor R, PhD	BF (Archives)	History
Welbanks, Dr V, PhD	BF (Artist)	Music
Anzolin, Dr GM, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Economics
Berger, Dr F, AMRSC	BF (Postdoctoral)	Chemistry
Bignardi, Dr G, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Psychology
Boland, Dr E, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Climate Science
Dubajic, Dr M, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Materials Science
Dufva, Dr O, MD, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Molecular Medicine
Konstantatou, Dr M, PhD MRes MSc MSci	BF (Postdoctoral)	Structural Engineering
Kurian, Dr N, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Education
Opengin, Dr E, MA, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Languages and History
Oyarzun-Aravena, Dr AM, MSRC	BF (Postdoctoral)	Chemical Engineering
Parutto, Dr P, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Neuroscience
Pearce, Dr A, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Pharmacology
Wampler, Dr M, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Theoretical Physics
Xu, Dr Y, PhD	BF (Postdoctoral)	Human Genetics
Liu, Dr C, PhD	Teaching By-Fellow	Law
Machado, Mr R, MA MPhil	Teaching By-Fellow	Classics & Linguistics
Rocheteau, Dr E, MA MB BChir PhD	Teaching By-Fellow	Medicine
Saddington, Dr L, MSc DPhil	Teaching By-Fellow	Geography
Innes, Professor JM, MA, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Social Psychology
Fielding, Professor S, PhD	BF (Archives)	History
Phillips, Dr L, MA(cantab), MSci, PhD	Teaching By-Fellow	Materials Science
Sayadi, Professor T, PhD	BF (French Govt)	Fluid Mechanics
Guzman-Verri, Professor G, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Materials Science & Engineering
Liberati, Professor P, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Public Finance
Thune, Professor E-M, PhD	BF (Visiting)	German
Kaul, Professor C, MA, DPhil	BF (Archives)	Modern History
von Hippel, Professor T, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Astrophysics
Wotshela, Professor L, DPhil	BF (Archives)	National Heritage & Cultural Studies
Casilli, Professor A,	BF (French Govt)	Sociology
Alford, Professor M, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Oceanography
Fukuta, Dr J, PhD	BF (Visiting)	Linguistics
Irvine, Professor A,	BF (Visiting)	Philosophy
Cooper, The Rev'd Canon N	Chaplain	Chaplain to the Chapel at Churchill College

## New Fellows 2023–24

*In alphabetical order*



**Dr Marthe Achtnich**

Title A Fellow

Marthe Achtnich is Assistant Professor in Development Studies at the Centre of Development Studies and the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS). Before starting at the University of Cambridge, Marthe was a Fellow by Examination in Anthropology (Junior Research Fellow, JRF) at Magdalen College, University of Oxford, and previously also a Wiener-Anspach Postdoctoral Fellow in Anthropology at the Laboratoire d'Anthropologie des Mondes Contemporains (LAMC), Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), in Brussels, Belgium. Marthe holds a DPhil (PhD) in Anthropology from the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford.

Marthe is an anthropologist working on migration and mobility. Her research centres around the lived experiences, governance and economies of migration, with a focus on migrants' journeys, particularly to and through Libya, the Mediterranean and Europe. Marthe's most recent work engages with the concept of the 'bioeconomy' in relation to mobility, examining the intersections between migration, economy and health.



**Dr Erica Bellia**

Junior Research Fellow

Erica Bellia is a Gulbenkian Early-Career Research Fellow in the Arts and Humanities (Italian Studies). She is currently working on a comparative research project entitled *Anthologising Blackness in Post-Fascist Italy* and looking at anthologies of Black Literature translated and/or published in Italy from 1945 to the present. This project aims to use the anthology format as a lens to consider the importance of Black Literature in 20th- and 21st-century Italy. In 2021 Erica obtained a PhD in Italian from Selwyn College with a thesis on industrial writing and anticolonial discourse in Italy, 1955–65.

Erica's research focus is on 20th- and 21st-century Italian culture. Her work so far has positioned itself at the intersection of two fields of inquiry: the study of labour narratives and the investigation of Italian colonial, anticolonial and postcolonial experiences from a transnational perspective. Her projects aim to bridge these two areas and contribute to both. Research interests also include Italian Periodical Studies, Neomodernism, Leonardo Sciascia, the reception and production of African and African American literatures in Europe, among other lines of inquiry, which she has pursued in different ways.

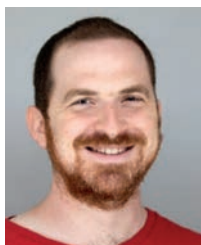


### **Professor Michael Coleman**

#### **Senior Research Fellow**

Michael Coleman is the van Geest Professor of Neuroscience in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Cambridge. His research groups studies mechanisms of axon degeneration and synapse loss, in particular the mechanism of programmed axon death (or Wallerian degeneration) that can be activated by axon injury, gene mutation, toxins and viruses. When activated specifically, this mechanism can be fully blocked by removing the gene for SARM1, one of a number of observations that has led to SARM1 becoming an important drug target. In addition to evidence in animal models of involvement in many neurodegenerative disorders, his group and their collaborators have used human genetics to establish roles in some types of polyneuropathy and motor neuron disease.

Professor Coleman previously led research groups at the Babraham Institute, Cambridge, Cologne, Germany and Oxford, leads a Wellcome Trust Collaboration Award project on programmed axon death in human disease together with groups at UCL, Oxford and Baltimore, cofounded the Axon Degeneration Workshop series, served on grant review boards for Alzheimer's Research UK, BBSRC, DFG, ALS Association and AriSLA, and was a joint winner of the Lalji Family ALS Award in 2021.



### **Dr Avishai Gilkis**

Title A Fellow

Avishai obtained a BSc degree from Tel Aviv University, and MSc and PhD degrees from the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology. Upon completing his PhD, Avishai was awarded the Blavatnik Fellowship by the British Council and commenced a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Cambridge. After a second postdoctoral position, at Tel Aviv University, Avishai moved back to Cambridge, and has been an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Astronomy since 2024. His research focuses on the evolution of massive stars and their explosions as core-collapse supernovae.



### **Dr Alastair Lockhart**

Title A Fellow and Senior Postgraduate Tutor

Alastair Lockhart is a College Lecturer in Modern History. His research focus is in 20th-century religious history with a special interest in new and non-mainstream belief and the psychology of religion. He has worked extensively on the archives of the Panacea Society, an apocalyptic and millenarian group based in Bedford, UK, which was active from the 1920s and closed as a religious organisation in 2012. His monograph, *Personal Religion and Spiritual Healing: The Panacea Society in the Twentieth Century* (State University of New York Press, 2019), used letters written to the Society to investigate the religious and metaphysical thinking of people around the world across the 20th century. He has also published critical and historical work in the psychology of religion, and he is editor of the *Critical Dictionary of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements* – an open access encyclopedia of apocalyptic and millenarian movements from ancient times to the present.



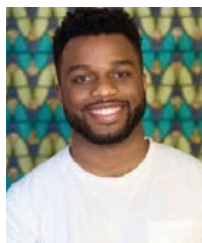


### **Dr Joshua Nall**

Title A Fellow

Dr Nall's research focuses on the physical sciences between the 18th and 20th centuries, with a particular interest in material culture and the role of scientific instruments. He teaches in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, where he also serves as Director of its museum, the Whipple Museum of the History of Science.

His first book, *News from Mars: Mass Media and the Forging of a New Astronomy, 1860–1910*, analyses the varied and often close relationships forged between astronomers and new forms of mass media at the turn of the 20th century. Its focus is the era's most public astronomical debate, over whether or not there was evidence of life on Mars. In October 2020 the book was awarded the Philip J. Pauly Prize by the History of Science Society. At the Whipple Museum he has curated a variety of exhibitions and displays, including on globes, science and industry in Cambridge, and the history of brewing.



### **Dr Osarenkhoe Ogbeide**

Junior Research Fellow

Osarenkhoe Ogbeide is a Junior Research Fellow and recipient of the William and Barbara Hawthorne Fellowship and Sydney Harvey Research Fellowship in Engineering. Ogbeide pursued his doctoral studies in Engineering at Churchill with funding from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), supplemented by industrial support from Alphasense Ltd.

During his PhD journey, he delved into the realm of next-generation printed gas sensors using 2D materials, leading to the production of the most authoritative review in the field and the development of a predictive gas sensor that has the capacity to detect gases at untrained concentrations within mixed gas environments. His current research focus continues on the theme of gas-sensing applications enabled through nanoengineering.



## **Dr Clare Sander**

Title A Fellow

Clare is an Affiliated Assistant Professor in Clinical Medicine, Respiratory teaching lead and College lecturer in Medicine. She is a Consultant Respiratory Physician at Addenbrookes Hospital, specialising in acute and chronic respiratory infections including TB, NTM and respiratory complications of both primary and secondary immunodeficiency. She is involved in clinical research and guideline writing in these areas. She is also the East of England Respiratory training programme director.

Clare completed her undergraduate training at Queens' College Cambridge and Lincoln College Oxford, returning to Oxford years later to complete her PhD in TB vaccinology at the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine. She completed her Clinical postgraduate training in Edinburgh and London and has been back in Cambridge since 2010.

## New Overseas Fellows 2023–2024

*In alphabetical order*



### **Professor Taraneh Sayadi**

French Government By-Fellow, February – July 2024

Professor Sayadi received her PhD from Stanford University in 2012, after which she spent a few years as a postdoctoral researcher in internationally renowned institutions: Ecole Polytechnique, Imperial College London and RWTH-Aachen University. She held a position of Chargée de Recherche (CNRS) at Sorbonne University from 2018 to 2023. In 2023, she was awarded a Chair Professor position in Scientific Computing at Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers Paris (CNAM, Paris) and still holds a position of research group leader in the combustion institute at RWTH-Aachen University.

Her research interests are in HPC, Data-driven model design and model reduction, and optimisation of interfacial and reactive flows.

# IN MEMORIAM



## In Memoriam

*In alphabetical order*

For obituaries where we have them, please see [www.chu.cam.ac.uk/obituaries/](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/obituaries/)

**Professor Ross Anderson FRS FREng** (Fellow), 15 September 1956 – 28 March 2024 (see p. 283)

**Doug Ashman** (Groundsman 1961–1978, Head Groundsman 1978–1999), died on 2 February 2024 (see p. 303)

**Professor James [Jim] Bennett** (Past Fellow, Former Senior Tutor), 2 April 1947 – October 2023 (see p. 279)

**Mr Raymond Chadd** (U62), b.26 March 1943

**Mr Richard Conlong** (U88), b.27 June 1969

**Mr Michael Cowan** (U70, Winston Churchill Fellow), 24 May 1952 – 28 September 2023 (see p. 287)

**Mr Peter Crutchett** (U70), 27 November 1951 – January 2024

**Professor Paul David** (Past Fellow), 24 May 1935 – 23 January 2023

**Ms Helen Dean** (U09), 5 September 1989 – 5 June 2023

**Mr David Egerton-Smith** (U61), 20 June 1942 – 17 February 2024

**Dr Alan Findlay** (Fellow, former Senior Tutor), 13 December 1939 – 31 October 2023 (see p. 276)

**Mr Howard Fisher** (U&G71), 8 December 1952 – 1 October 2023

**Mr Paul [Robert] Fulton** (U70), 20 March 1951 – 7 May 2024

**Mr Nicholas Garthwaite** (U70), 26 March 1952 – 30 June 2024

**Mr Hywel George OBE** (Fellow, former Bursar), 10 May 1924 – 3 March 2024 (see p. 272)

**Professor Alfred [Fred] Goldberg** (G63), 3 September 1942 – 18 April 2023

**Mrs Jenny Greene** (Wife of Past Fellow), d.30 March 2024

**Mr Robert Gregory** (U79), 17 May 1957 – 4 February 2024

**Mr Mark Handley** (U61), 27 January 1943 – January 2023

**Mr Jerome Hasenpflug** (U73), 11 June 1955 – 21 November 2023

**Mr Martin Hilder** (G61), 16 June 1940 – 3 September 2023

**Professor Stanley [Paul] Hmiel** (G80), 2 October 1958 – 28 August 2023

**Dr Ian Hunter** (G75), 8 July 1952 – 8 March 2023

**Professor Eyo Ita** (G04), 1 July 1968 – early 2024

**Mr Sanjay Jhawar** (U87), 20 May 1968 – 8 August 2023

**Dr Robert [Bob] Jones** (G67), 3 July 1941 – 2023

**Dr Richard Kay** (U&G70), 8 August 1950 – 13 February 2024

**Dr Michael Lavington** (U61), 21 February 1943 – 3 September 2023

**Mr Christopher Lloyd** (Former Boatman), d.2 May 2024

**Professor Dr Robert Loov** (G67), 29 October 1933 – 28 April 2024

**Mr Alan Lorenz** (U61), 31 May 1942 – 13 February 2021

**Dr Jonathan Musgrave** (G65), 12 February 1940 – 20 May 2023

**Harmer Parr** (U68), 13 March 1949 – 22 July 2024

**Dr Anne Pickard** (G74), 23 July 1953 – 13 April 2023

**Professor John Pocock** (Past Overseas Fellow), 7 March 1924 – 13 December 2023

**Mr James Potter** (U63), 22 March 1944 – February 2024

**Mr Graham Sampson** (U65), 20 February 1946 – 26 May 2022

**Professor Dr Karl Schulte** (Past By Fellow), 8 September 1946 – 12 March 2023

**Professor Robert [Bob] Solow** (Past Overseas Fellow), 23 August 1924 – 21 December 2023

**Mrs Natasha Squire** (Widow of Founding Fellow Dr Peter Squire), d.22 February 2024 (see p. 295)

**Dr Theodorus Thiadens** (G71), 30 August 1946 – 2023

**Dr Maria Tippet**, 9 December 1944 – 8 August 2024 (see p. 291)

**Mr Philip Turner** (U70), b.12 October 1950

**Professor Helen Vendler**, (Past Overseas Fellow), 30 April 1933 – 23 April 2024

**Dr David [Eurof] Walters** (Fellow), 13 February 1936 – 26 December 2023 (see p. 281)

**Dr David Watson** (G60), 25 November 1934 – 13 March 2023

**Dr Mengqi Xia** (G88), 18 December 1962 – 1 December 2021

## Obituaries

*In order of precedence*

### Remembering Hywel George

CMG, OBE (1924–2024)

**By Mary Beveridge**

Hywel George was appointed as Assistant Bursar in 1971 and as Bursar from 1972 on the retirement of Major-General Hamilton.

After serving as an RAF navigator in the Second World War, Hywel returned to the University of Wales, Aberystwyth to complete his degree, and in 1947 joined the Colonial Service. In 1948 he was posted to North Borneo and appointed District Officer for the Ranau region, a remote mountainous area where carrying out administrative and governmental duties meant lengthy treks on foot through dense tropical forest between village settlements. In the 1960s, Hywel was closely involved in the complex negotiations regarding the future status of North Borneo during its transition to Sabah as part of the Malaysian Confederation. By now he had a young family, having met his future wife Edith when they were both taking courses at Madingley Hall in Cambridge in 1954–55, and life for them became increasingly dangerous due to the insurgency campaign launched by Indonesia. It was discovered that their household had been infiltrated by an Indonesian agent whose mission was to set fire to Government House, although fortunately the agent was unmasked before he could carry out his arson attack.



Hywel left Malaysia in 1966 and in 1967 was sent as Administrator to the Caribbean Island of St Vincent, a complete contrast to Borneo but with equally challenging duties. His first task was to resolve a dispute between two political parties deadlocked after a general election and restore an elected government. There was severe poverty and child malnutrition, and Hywel worked closely with the new prime minister to promote the local economy

and improve the provision of education for children. He was also responsible for the work of the judiciary. When the island became independent, Hywel was appointed Governor, but by then he felt that his own future lay elsewhere, and in 1970 decided on the change of direction which brought him to Cambridge.

The George family took up residence in 70 Storey's Way, whose garden backed on to the College private road. The family consisted of Hywel, Edith and their three young daughters, together with their dog Kim, a large unfriendly labrador who terrorised the College gardeners (they frequently sought refuge in the garden shed). Kim also served as a useful deterrent to gatecrashers at the weekly disco, held in those days in the Pavilion: his appearance on the scene, accompanying his master on bouncer duties, usually resulted in the swift exit of the unwanted visitors.

The early years of Hywel's Bursarship were challenging, coinciding with a period of industrial unrest, miners' strikes and rampant inflation. In 1973, the stock market collapsed and with it the College's endowment. At the same time, there was a dramatic increase in the price of oil and the College's operating costs soared. The Heath government introduced a three-day week to save electricity, resulting in unpredictable power cuts which made running a residential College extremely difficult. Over the years that followed, Hywel gradually brought Churchill's finances to a healthy state through prudent investment, the introduction of energy-saving measures, and careful budgeting. In those pre-IT days, calculations were done manually, and a late announcement by the Senior Tutor that the number of estimated admissions for the following October had gone up or, worse, down meant that all the figures had to be re-worked – the only occasions when Hywel's usual calm was seriously ruffled.

Hywel quickly realised that the College's administrative structure needed to be reorganised. He appointed a conference manager to handle the growing conference business, recognising that there was no way the Bursar could manage this in addition to dealing with the College's finances and introduced executive committees with junior representation which saved lengthy discussions about day to day matters at Council meetings. The 1970s were years of general student unrest and there were many issues which required sensitive handling, but Hywel's ability to operate firmly and fairly earned him the respect of senior and junior members and staff even if they did not always



like his decisions. He could appear gruff until you noticed the twinkle in his eye and anyone with a problem very quickly came to appreciate his great capacity for kindness and sympathy.

The 1970s and 80s were a time of growth and change as the College matured and expanded. The first women undergraduates were admitted in 1972. A number of major building projects were under way, firstly the construction of the Archives Centre, completed in 1973. This was followed by the in-filling of the open corridor between the Porters' Lodge and the Buttery foyer, the building of the Music Rooms and Study Centre, and eventually the Møller Centre.

Hywel was as much at ease dealing with the complex security arrangements required for the attendance at the formal opening of the Archives Centre of the Duke of Edinburgh, the US Ambassador and members of the Churchill family, as in breaking out a barrel of beer in the Buttery for the visiting crew of HMS Churchill. One evening, when General Hamilton was still Bursar, an anonymous telephone call was received saying that a bomb had been planted in the Dining Hall where an Army Board dinner was in progress. The police declined to give any advice, so Hywel assessed the situation and decided that as the call was probably a hoax there was no need to evacuate Hall. However, as a precautionary measure, he sent two of the Porters to carry out a check. What Jack Hamilton, attending the dinner, thought on receiving a note from Hywel saying, 'If you see a Porter under the table, he's looking for a bomb' can only be imagined, but Hywel's intuition proved correct, and the dinner continued without incident.

A keen sportsman, Hywel was a staunch supporter of the College teams, attending Cuppers matches and encouraging the Boat Club crews (even when their activities resulted in the infamous headline in the local press 'College boat sinks cabin cruiser'). His enthusiasm for tennis in particular led to group matches of the annual LTA County Cup tennis tournament being played on Churchill's grass courts for several years. He was a Chapel Trustee and a regular attender at Chapel services, as well as honorary treasurer of the Churchill Association and a supporter of institutions such as the Welsh Society.

When he retired in 1991, he was elected to a Pensioner Fellowship; but retirement did not mean inactivity. He was appointed to the Council of

Bangor University from 1999 to 2018, chairing their Audit Committee as well as serving on their Development Trust and Management Board. He was also non-executive director of a company which made furniture for care homes.

Hywel died just two months short of his 100th birthday – though as Dr Rawlinson, the former Chaplain, remarked, he was certainly qualified to raise his bat in celebration of his century. He would have appreciated the fact that the daffodil bulbs, planted in the copse beside the Chapel at the time of his daughter Tamara's wedding, were in full bloom on 21 March when his family and many friends and former colleagues came together in the Chapel for a service of thanksgiving to commemorate his remarkable life.

## Remembering Alan Findlay

By Mary Kendall

Alan Findlay was born in Liverpool on 13 December 1939, attended a school called Liverpool College and lived in a house in the grounds of Broadgreen Hospital, where his father was Medical Superintendent. His father, mother and one of his two brothers were all doctors.

Notwithstanding an absorbing interest in medicine, Alan suffered from severe over-exposure to the profession during his childhood. So, he decided to become a vet.



Alan arrived at Christ's College, Cambridge in 1958 where he grew to love Physiology. He *did* qualify as a vet, but practised for only a few weeks before starting his PhD on lactation. This was followed by postdoctoral research in Los Angeles, 1967–68.

He returned to a job in the Cambridge Anatomy Department before moving to the Department of Physiology where he became Secretary to the Faculty Board. In 1970 he became acting Director of Studies for Medicine in Churchill College, standing in for Grahame Cooper, who was on sabbatical. Grahame never returned to Churchill and Alan became a Teaching Fellow there in 1972, in which post he remained until 2005, being in later years Director of Studies for Veterinary Science as well as Medicine. Alan published his book *Reproduction and the Foetus* in 1984. This became a standard text for medics, and it as always been a huge pity that he never had time to write a second edition.

During his time at Churchill, Alan's involvement and influence was immense, broken only by a sabbatical year at the University of Pennsylvania in 1978–79, where he worked on salt appetite, and another sabbatical in Melbourne during the 1990s. On his return from Melbourne, he served as Head of the Department of Physiology for one year, then Chairman of the newly united Faculty Board of Biology for five years, which involved sundry Tripos reforms

and Quality Assessment exercises to ensure he was never bored. All this in addition to his College responsibilities: he was an Undergraduate Tutor from 1979 to 1987, Tutor for Advanced Students from 1988 to 1996 and Senior Tutor from 2000 until his retirement in 2007. Whether teaching or tutoring, Alan was tireless in giving encouragement to his students and in looking after the welfare of those in his care. He continued his teaching briefly after retirement, giving a course on *Understanding the brain* for the University of the Third Age in 2012.

Alan had two four-year stints on the University Council, where his dogged perseverance in the cause of transparency in accounting within Cambridge University Press led to CUP providing all College libraries with a healthy annual sum for the provision of CUP books, a practice which continues to this day.

Alan's interest in libraries was long-standing. He was Fellow Librarian in Churchill College from 1976 to 1986; but far from providing aloof, academic oversight, he was hands-on, involved, always available and brimming with ideas. His outstanding achievement was the automation of the College Library. With no prior computer or programming experience, Alan taught himself how to program in dBASE and, beginning with the transfer of all library card catalogue records to electronic machine-readable format, he developed a full-blown automated library system which became the envy of other Cambridge Colleges. It was widely adopted and at its height was running 10 libraries round town, becoming the foundation on which future library automation systems could be built as technology advanced. Subsequently he helped the Archives Centre to adapt the National Library of Scotland's cataloguing software to Churchillian requirements.

Alan's involvement with University and College life was by no means limited to academic and administrative activities. His love of music making, which began in his schooldays, is well-known. He had a wonderful singing voice and was a member of the Cambridge University Music Society (CUMS) from his advent in Cambridge, regularly performing all the great choral works and many others besides to audiences in a packed King's College Chapel. His contribution to the musical life of the College is legendary. It was Alan who in 1980, inaugurated the Music Sizarship, whereby a student receives an allowance for fostering the musical life of the College, and it was Alan who in 2007, created the senior post of Director of Music Making, both

positions flourishing to this day. It was Alan who was chiefly responsible for the gift of the Yamaha Grand piano in 1981 and the acquisition of the David Rubio harpsichord in 1983, and it was Alan who played such a key part in the planning and design of the new purpose-built Music Rooms.

Alan also loved organising informal music evenings for the Fellows, memorable among which was the Olde Tyme Variety Hall with Alan in fine voice – who can forget his rendering of ‘Come into the garden, Maud’? Equally outstanding was a wonderful performance of the Brahms’ *Liebeslieder* given on a perfect summer’s evening, in the grand drawing room at Madingley Hall by some of Alan’s CUMS chums accompanied by Hugh Wood on the piano. But foremost among the music memories of senior members of the College must surely be the traditional carols at the Fellows’ Christmas Dinner in the dining hall. Here, before dessert was served, the lights were dimmed and Alan would lead a procession of singers bearing candles and carol books, penetrating the darkness with their heraldic voices before processing out of the hall and leaving the diners feeling that Christmas had now truly arrived.

Alan was a competent sailor and keen rower. For a number of years, he spent the summer sailing in the waters around Papua New Guinea with marine biologist and Churchill Fellow Martin Wells. Of these occasions Martin wrote in 1996: ‘Our preferred crew is Alan Findlay...’. Alan also spent a week one summer sailing in Holland with his colleague Andrew Tristram, for whom he also crewed in a cold New Year’s Day race. He rowed in the Churchill College Fellows’ Eight and was regularly seen out on the river with the Free Press (now X-Press) Boat Club, a socially minded 18+ rowing club.

Alan was a genial companion at dinners. He had interesting things to say on all subjects and was a good listener. He was always ready to discuss matters rationally and to give advice and help where it was sought. Even if he didn’t agree with you, he would always take on board your point of view. He was devoted to the College, a man who understood the meaning of ‘Fellowship’ in all senses.

Alan died on 31 October 2023. He is survived by his wife, Judith, whom he married in 1966, and his two sons, Matthew and Tom.

## Remembering Jim Bennett

Jim's area of activity was the history of science, including practical mathematics from the 16th century to the 18th century; scientific instruments; and astronomy. As well as being a Fellow and Senior Tutor at Churchill College, during his career, Jim was also Curator of the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, whose collection he used to good effect in teaching undergraduates.

He was also president of the Hakluyt Society, Keeper Emeritus at the Science Museum, London; President of the British Society for the History of Science; and President of the Scientific Instrument Commission of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science.

Professor Anthony Geraghty, University of York commented:

*Jim Bennett made a deep and enduring contribution to the study of Sir Christopher Wren. Wren was an astronomer of international repute before he became the architect of St Paul's Cathedral, and it was Bennett who first demonstrated the essential unity of these things.*

*In his PhD thesis, and then in his subsequent book The Mathematical Science of Christopher Wren (1982), he showed how the beauty and consistency that Wren found in the natural world was then translated into the design and construction of the churches that he rebuilt after the Great Fire of London. Bennett's writings inspired a new generation of Wren scholars (including me), to whom he was unfailingly kind and generous.*

And Jenny Woodhouse, from Bath wrote in the Guardian, 2 January 2024:

*In the late 1970s, I worked in the department of history and philosophy of science at the University of Cambridge. One of my abiding memories of Jim Bennett, then the curator of the Whipple Museum, is of a time when the Museum's alarm system was distressingly unstable. He told us one morning how he had arrived in Free School Lane in the middle of the night, in response to the alarm.*

*He was wearing his usual donkey jacket, with his shock of grey curls, when he was accosted by the police. In his unmistakable Belfast accent, he assured*

*them that he was the curator. He was never a man to pull rank, but his possession of the keys to the building and his ability to reset the alarm finally convinced them.*

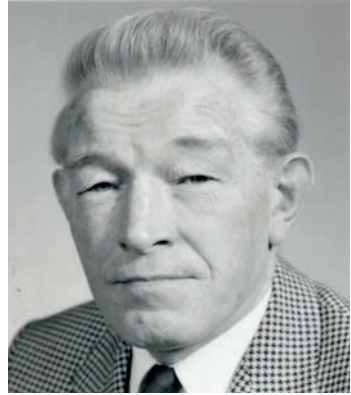
*It is a measure of his humanity that this anecdote, as much as his work, remains with me.*

## Remembering Eurof Walters

By Professor James Norris

Dr Eurof Walters joined the College in 1988. He was for many years a College Lecturer in Mathematics for Natural Sciences, and also served as an Undergraduate Tutor.

He worked as an applied statistician for the Agricultural (and Food) Research Council, holding positions in the Department of Applied Biology and then at the Babraham Institute.



From 1989, while continuing at Churchill, he worked as an independent statistical consultant, his main areas of interest being in medicine and biology. He contributed notably to guiding statistical evaluation of treatments in reproductive medicine, where he worked over a long period with Professor Bob Edwards, also a Fellow of Churchill. In the intense period of debate around *in vitro* fertilization, Eurof brought a clear sense of statistical principle to evaluating the outcomes, when these were of much public interest.

For example, embryos *in vitro* inevitably have some differences in their nutritional environment from those in the womb, and an important question concerned the possible long-term effects of this difference. Eurof stressed the importance of recognising the structured nature of the relevant trial data, for example, multiple embryos of the same parents, allowing to correct earlier work making erroneous (and worrying) conclusions.

Eurof deployed his statistical expertise widely: for example, he was engaged as statistician in a study of the question of whether sheep recognise the bleats of their own lambs. Early work was inconclusive – the lambs find their way to the ewe, but the ewe apparently does not react to their bleats. However, it emerged that the ewes bleat more rapidly in response when they hear their own lambs.

Eurof was born on 13 February 1936 in a Welsh-speaking community, Trebanos, near Pontardawe and was the first of his family to attend university, studying



Physics and Mathematics, followed by a postgraduate course on Statistics, at University College Swansea.

He played rugby with distinction, from schooldays into middle-age, at university and for clubs including Neath and Shelford.

After spells working at Calder Hall, Cumbria, then in Zambia (where he met his wife Dawn) and Malaysia, he joined the ARC Statistics Group in Cambridge in 1970.

For many years, Eurof compiled the 'Walters Tables' to assist the Senior Tutor in assessing academic performance in the College. He would also help with running voting procedures. Along with other matters benefiting from his statistical expertise, Eurof made his valuable contributions without fuss.

He was excellent company in the SCR, though taking a laconic view, in most years, of the current state of Welsh rugby. I enjoyed sharing Tutorial Parties for our two 'sides' with him – and he was forbearing about the fact that I was a member the Statistical Laboratory in Cambridge while not being a proper statistician.

Eurof passed away on 26 December 2023. He is survived by Dawn and their two sons, Bryn and Leigh.

## Remembering Ross Anderson

Professor Ross Anderson was loved and admired by all at Churchill. Dr John Fawcett, a Churchill Fellow, who nominated him for a Senior Research Fellowship at Churchill wrote at the time that ‘Ross is a VERY big name in his field and on the international stage is universally recognised.’ Ross had for many years resisted becoming a Fellow and turned down many offers. However, one day Ross contacted John ‘on the grounds of Churchill’s strong performance in undergrad teaching of Computer Science.’ And the rest is history. Ross’s interests were wide and one of these was the evolution of folk music in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Ross quickly became our in-house piper at Burns Nights. We all have fond memories of Ross climbing the stairs and entering the Dining Hall in splendid Scottish regalia, playing the pipes movingly and beautifully.

John Fawcett gives his appreciation of Ross’s academic brilliance while John Rawlinson gives us a glimpse of Ross’s human kindness.

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## A Legacy of Cybersecurity Innovation

**By John Fawcett**

Ross Anderson was a luminary whose groundbreaking work laid the foundations for connecting modern computer security to the economics of improving security. His commercial, consultancy work and his research spanned a vast array of topics, including secure hardware, cryptographic protocols, and the societal impacts of digital security.



A prolific author, Ross penned numerous influential papers and books. His work not only pushed the boundaries of academic research, but also provided practical solutions that bridge the gap between technical and business minds. Ross’s work has been adopted globally, shaping the way organisations and individuals protect their digital information.

Ross was not only a brilliant scientist, but also a dedicated mentor and educator. He inspired countless students and colleagues with his intellect, curiosity, and probing questions. Often seen at High Table in Churchill, Ross gave his time generously to his postgraduate mentees, helping everyone individually to frame their work in a broader context and teaching everyone to challenge the basis of every component of a thesis. Ross's ability to translate complex concepts into accessible knowledge made him a beloved figure in both academic and professional communities.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Ross was known for his influence on public discourse and regulatory approaches worldwide.

Ross enjoyed College life and never seemed more at home than when he played the bagpipes, always preferring his pastoral set. A member of the Cambridge University Ceilidh Band, Ross enthusiastically piped in the haggis at Burns Night Supper and brought diners to their feet as he played to *Auld Lang Syne*.

In remembering Ross, we celebrate a life dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the betterment of society through technological advancement. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, but his impact on the Churchill community and the world of cybersecurity will resonate with the sound of his bagpipes for years to come.

Ross passed away on 28 March 2024. He is survived by his wife Shireen and daughter Bavani and grandchildren.

Rest in peace, Ross Anderson. Your brilliance, integrity, and rigour have left an indelible mark on the world.

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## **A Wonderful Family Man, Lecturer, Author and Academic Mentor**

**By John Rawlinson**

The fact is that I know next to nothing about computers and the world of digital communication. 'Cybersecurity' and 'Cryptography' for me are as intelligible as mediaeval Sanskrit. Therefore, when I fell into conversation with

Ross in the SCR it would have been around quite other enthusiasms held in common – Scotland and bagpiping mainly and perhaps, if I felt strong enough about the retirement age of academics! However, cyber-naïve though I may be, after a career in medical practice I reckon to know a thing or two (or three) about human beings and their behaviour; it didn't take me long therefore to realise that behind the sometimes arcane computer-speak of Professor Anderson there was a warmth of humanity, deep sincerity and friendliness bursting to bubble forth through the dour Scottish veneer.

Words of appreciation that Shireen and the family have received in sacks-full have invariably referred to Ross as a kindly, painstaking mentor for whom going the extra mile in assistance was utterly 'nae bother'. He was as vigorous a husband, father and grandfather as he was a lecturer, author and academic mentor. Shireen, the brood of young and the 'twa wee dogs' were the treasured ambience of his living. He loved them and, how they loved him!

He also loved woodlands and doubtless took great delight in being flanked by the sturdy Scots pines of the Caledonian forest and he would cheerfully pass the hours in 'The Birks of Aberfeldy'. The latter is the title of a song by Robert Burns, Ross Anderson's National Bard, and the poet's richly Scottish effusions featured prominently in the services held for Ross after he left us. Lines from 'A man's a man for a' that' provide a fitting epitaph for a man whose razor-sharp mind, boundless energy and powers of compassion were integral to his very being:



'A man of independent mind,  
is king o' men for a' that....  
for a' that an' a' that,  
it's coming yet for a' that,  
that man to man the world o'er  
shall brothers be, for a' that!'

## Archie's poem

### The Man's the Gowd for a' that

Never a one to hang his heid  
Or shrink from challenging his boss;  
On many topics, talk could lead  
Authority shone from our Ross!

His engineered security  
Our use of internet sustained;  
Saw risks with great acuity;  
So Ada Lovelace Medal gained!

This man of independent mind  
More closely showed a softer side;  
A host or supervisor kind  
In toasting Burns a helpful guide!

Piped music could his life fulfil  
With learning to performance  
geared  
And Shireen's expert dresser's skill  
In kilted finery appeared!

He piped us to the dining ha'  
To greet the haggis every year.  
Climbing that stair we watched  
with awe.  
'Flowers of the Forrest' next we  
hear!

Through death we learn the risks  
Ross ran  
This climbing route he'd not  
rescind;  
Sunk heart and soul into his plan,  
Threw his own safety to the wind!

# Remembering Michael Cowan

Winston Churchill Fellow

**By Jennifer Brook**

Michael was born in Hillingdon on 24 June 1952, the youngest of three children. He contracted measles when he was about 8 months old which left him with severely impaired hearing and from the age of eight, he wore hearing aids. His father, Kenneth, died when Michael was 3 years old, and the family moved near to Midhurst in Sussex and his grandmother. Money was very tight and the money all the children later earned – from newspaper rounds, picking up potatoes in a farmer's fields, etc. – went into the family finances. Michael went to grammar school in Midhurst and was offered both a scholarship and exhibition to Churchill College but, as he had only turned 17 during his exams, he was forced to wait a year before going up. He spent this time working for what is now BAe Systems, helping out on the Concorde project, which was underway at Filton, near Bristol.



He spent three years studying engineering at Churchill College. He said later that he wished he had a bit more fun while a student, but he valued the teaching and the accommodation and comfort of living in College greatly. During his last year he was introduced to stocks and shares and decided, despite the financial turmoil of the early seventies, that he wanted to work in investment. His first job was as research assistant to Sir John Redwood (now MP) at Rothschilds in the City, followed by a successful stint at Lazards.

In the early 1980s, Michael met Hilary, characteristically through helping a friend to move house. They were married and had three children: Eleanor, Philippa and Christopher.

A great friend, Stephen Butt, then recruited Michael to work with him at Morgan Stanley to run their global equity programme which involved a lot of international travel. He had to use Concorde to get quickly to and from

meetings in New York, which he found totally absorbing, having known the planes from the inside out in his pre-university life.

After some time at Morgan Stanley, Stephen left to set up Silchester International Investors. Michael joined him there soon after. There followed 28 enormously successful years, managing funds for US-based, mostly institutional clients.

Michael was the first Churchill alumnus I contacted to see if he might be interested in joining the Investment Advisory Committee; until 2000 the committee was made up of Fellows, with a discretionary fund manager present. The performance of the investments was average at best. The alumni database in the College was a shadow of its current self and the only criteria for selection of possible committee members was the word 'Bank' in the employer category. It was so out of date that Michael was still recorded as working for Rothschilds. Happily for us, there was no conflict of interest since Silchester was not seeking UK clients. I do not think that anybody in the College realised quite what a star Michael was in the investment world.

Michael expressed clear views about the principles of sound investing and won over those Fellows who served with him on the committee. After two years, he won the support of the committee and then the Governing Body to change the investment process for Churchill by moving from a single firm with their own funds and a discretionary mandate, to a portfolio of different specialist Fund Management firms selected by the committee. I enjoyed many visits with Michael to various investment firms, to listen to him gently grilling the fund managers about their methodology, conviction and commitment. He also believed strongly in employee participation in the success of the companies in which they were employed. He was a thoughtful, kind man with a strong moral compass, deep intellectual curiosity and a dry sense of humour.

As Tim Ingram (U66) who served on the committee with him for over 8 years says:

*Michael was a fervent believer that a good, sound fund manager will outperform an index fund and, while always carefully and patiently listening to other points of view, staunchly held this opinion at the Churchill College*

*Investment Committee meetings. His view was, of course, backed up by his own excellent track record as a fund manager at Morgan Stanley and then at Silchester International Investors. For the College Investment Committee, Michael used his extensive market knowledge and his astute judgement of the investment capabilities of various fund managers (and their investment processes) to steer the Committee to select fund managers who themselves should have the ability to outperform. He was invariably correct, and the College has thereby benefitted considerably from the overall performance of its investment portfolio.*

Dr Jerry Toner, Fellow and current Chair of the Investment Committee said:

*What always struck me about Michael was his gravity. He had a moral purpose about him and he knew that his financial leadership could bring great benefits to the College, which I think he felt deserved his support in return for the benefits it had given him as an undergraduate. He understood that the growth of the endowment underpinned everything that the College wished to achieve in the future and so made sure that investment decisions were never taken lightly. He was also extraordinarily disciplined and looked for that quality in the College's fund managers. He knew flannel when he saw it, and I can remember several managers getting unstuck under his questioning. The power of compound interest was one of his favourite topics and he would never be carried away by the latest fad. He always hunted out value and looked for managers who shared his appreciation of intrinsic worth. His investing timeframe was long term – really long term. Not just the next few years but decades, and I have no doubt that students at Churchill will continue to benefit from his generosity and wisdom for generations to come.*

Over the next twenty years, Michael began, initially modestly, and then with increasing generosity, to support Churchill College in projects which he believed in; providing enough accommodation to house fourth year undergraduates and later graduate students as well. He believed in leading by example; he rated fund managers who co-invested with their clients and likewise, he would not ask others to donate to a cause unless he believed in it himself. He never sought recognition and it took some persuading for him to agree to the College naming its new undergraduate court Cowan Court in 2016. He was elected a Benefactor Fellow by the University of Cambridge and later, in 2020, as the first Winston Churchill Fellow of Churchill College.



When the College created a Development Board in 2015, of senior alumni who were donors to the College to help with formulating fundraising strategies, he took on the role of Chair and as ever, gave his time willingly to help the Development team.

Michael was generous with his time but always stated that it was only with Hilary's support. He would often talk about his children: Eleanor, Pippa and Kit. He was delighted to become a grandfather and he loved his home life, even though he was frequently away for meetings. The cricket field at his house, Sendholme, was a particular joy to him. He said that he never wished to retire but Hilary managed to persuade him to take some holidays with her in last ten years or so and he confessed that he did really enjoy them.

Hilary and Michael were also great supporters of a number of other organisations, including the Yehudi Menuhin School, Royal Horticultural Society and Grange Park Opera. It was in the auditorium of Grange Park Opera close to their home near Cobham, that the first celebration of Michael's life was held in November 2023, with wonderful music from both the world of Opera, and senior pupils from the Yehudi Menuhin School. An extraordinary cross-section of people who knew Michael from all parts of his life joined the family for this very special occasion.

Michael worked full-time right up until the last few days of his life despite suffering from pancreatic cancer. He had completed fifty years working in the City in September and he died in hospital on 1 October 2023, four days after attending a board meeting.

Dr Maria Tippet, a celebrated Art historian, author and biographer – known for her biographies of famous Canadian artists – was a Churchill Fellow from 1995 until 2004. When she became a Fellow there were only five women Fellows at Churchill College. She worked tirelessly to promote women's participation in College and in the University at large. She was the mastermind behind the celebrations of 25 years of Women at Churchill College. She was quietly determined and undeterred by rebuttals and achieved much success in her endeavours. Whenever Maria visited Churchill, she often commented – with a big smile on her face and a twinkle in her eyes – on the increasing number of women Fellows, year after year. Churchill now boasts 77 women Fellows, By-Fellows and Postdoctoral By-Fellows. Thank you, Maria!

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## Tragedy, Shock, Celebration

Maria Tippet, 9 December 1944 – 8 August 2024

**By Peter Clarke**

A commemoration took place on Sunday 25 August 2024 at the home Maria had shared – and had built – with her husband Peter Clarke. The house itself was constructed initially in 2003–4 by Pender master builder Dave Dandenau, working to the designs of Pender architect John Roberts in fruitful collaboration with Maria herself. (Peter was otherwise preoccupied at the time with his day job as Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Professor of Modern British History in the University until taking early retirement in September 2004).



In December 2004, the house was fit for occupation; the garden was created later, mainly in 2007, on its two terraces. This garden was Maria's own domain, growing apple trees, fruit, vegetables and nourishing a wonderful array of flowers, both wild and cultivated. It was, by her own wish, to be her final resting place, with her ashes scattered there on 25 August.

This event was designated as a celebration of her life, as Peter tried to make clear when he spoke. There had thus been three phases. The first was ‘Tragedy’, when Maria had been diagnosed in the summer with pancreatic cancer, which tests showed to be inoperable. One of the books on her desk is a life of John Donne, the English poet who memorably warned: ‘never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee’. Maria knew that the bell had now tolled for her. She was consciously living on borrowed time, hoping for a few months’ remission through chemo treatment at the BC Cancer Agency – to which she luckily now had access, with much neighbourly help in fulfilling appointments.

The second phase, ‘Shock’, came all too quickly: the spiral of her sudden descent into death on 8 August. Peter’s daughter Libby, to whom Maria was much attached, arrived from London just too late to make contact – just as Maria had feared – but Libby was on hand for the rest of the month in helping Peter. One of his own immediate tasks was to notify as many of Maria’s friends and neighbours as possible of her sudden death. A striking feature of their reaction was to tell him of their ‘shock’ at suddenly receiving this ‘shocking’ news, and that so many – over and over again – confessed themselves ‘shocked’...

Hence the third phase, ‘Celebration’, that Peter suggested to the gathering on 25 August: now celebrating Maria’s extraordinary life and career. He had invited all neighbours on Gowlland Point itself. He had accordingly restricted other invitations to a few very close friends of Maria who lived further away: just a handful invited to come down, on a Sunday, through ‘the Dip’ from North Pender. Only Fran Gundry, Maria’s oldest friend from days at the Archives, came from as far as Victoria; none of the valued old friends in Vancouver who offered to attend was encouraged to travel on that day; and of course those from further east were excluded – with one exception. This was Wesley Kovalou, Maria’s only full-blood nephew, who drove from his professional Mounties’ base in Alberta with his partner Elizabeth Sierocinske.

The total attendance of around forty was thus a token sample of all the many, many friends, colleagues and acquaintances who mourned Maria across several continents. The flag had flown at half-mast at the Union Club in Victoria, BC, on the same day that it had been lowered at Churchill College, Cambridge, England, where Maria had been a Fellow.

After a short speech from Peter, along the lines of the account above, he scattered Maria's ashes in the garden that she had created from a rocky slope (acknowledging the crucial help and advice from neighbours that her ambitious plan had received). And now it was 'open house' at 9919 Gowlland Point Road, with a number of informal exhibits on display, celebrating the various and diverse aspects of her career – books, photographs, artefacts, paintings, sculptures...

For example, Maria was herself 'Made in British Columbia' – to steal the title of her book of essays; but she was also 'The Cosmopolitan Canadian', with notable links to:

- GERMANY: as explained in her memoir, *Becoming Myself* (chapter 4, 'The Honorary European') and she regularly listened to the daily news in German.
- RUSSIA: where, as a budding art historian in the 1970s, she had discovered the Kostakis Collection in Leningrad (St Petersburg) ... no wonder that, decades later, she collected the place mats now on the dining table, showing the work of Marc Chagall at an exhibition of his works in Sicily. The photographs of Sergei Petrov (one of them on display) a dissident who also ended up on Pender Island, naturally attracted Maria's attention. And in Maria's last weeks, the only world news that cheered her was the release from Russian prison of Vladimir Kara-Murza – an old student at Trinity Hall who had become a friend.
- CHINA: where she and Peter went three times in the course of research for Maria's book on the life of Paul and Sonia Ho, *Eating Bitter* (2010). This had been commissioned by Dennis Avery (of the Avery sticky-label fortune) who had encountered Maria while she was living in the Master's Lodge at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. (Yes, the Master had cultivated the connection, much to the benefit of Trinity Hall fund-raising, and had sternly forbidden Maria to accept Dennis's offer of support for her work too; but after she had left Cambridge, Dennis pursued his favourite author to Pender Island).

Other artefacts on display were linked to her publications and career, especially of course to the dozen or so books of which she was author, too numerous for separate mention here. It was her biography of Emily Carr

that first brought her fame as winner of the Governor-General's Prize, now over forty years ago. Other notable biographies of the painter Fred Varley, of the carver Bill Reid, and of the photographer Youssef Karsh were to follow. Her book, *By a Lady* was a path-breaking study showing the range, quality and sheer number of women artists in Canada – many of them thus retrieved from undeserved obscurity. Latterly, her book on Canadian sculpture, sponsored by the sculptor Jeffrey Rubinoff, himself long resident on Hornby Island, BC, had a similar impact (while the establishment of a Rubinoff Fellowship at Churchill College was a happy by-product). And, now living on Pender Island, Maria followed her early volume *Gulf Island Stories* with a more broad-ranging collection of short stories, *Art for Art's Sake*... Altogether, a formidable and wide-ranging oeuvre, with half a century of hard work behind it!

News of Maria's death has been circulated by Churchill College, where she was a Fellow 1995–2004, and also by Trinity Hall, where she lived with Peter in the Master's Lodge, 2000–04. In Victoria, the *Times Colonist* covered her death; and in Toronto, the *Globe and Mail* propose to run an illustrated obituary article of a prize-winning author who also won scholarly distinction as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and had been awarded three Honorary Degrees (at Windsor, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria). Not least, at her Canadian home on Pender Island, BC, the *Pender Post* published a full tribute in its October edition. Amid our loss, then, much to celebrate!

# Remembering Natasha Squire

By Mark Goldie

Natasha Squire has good claims to have been an honorary foundress of Churchill College. She was there at the beginning. As soon as the Sheppard Flats – the first building on the site – were opened in 1961, she and her husband, founder Fellow Peter Squire, moved in, and their flat became an annexe of the Senior Common Room, breathing life into the embryo College.

As a teacher of Russian, she was among the first women to be given dining rights. (Although in those days, women weren't even given their forenames – it was 'Mrs P S Squire'.) Natasha was present at the key moments: when Winston Churchill visited the site and planted a tree in 1959; when the Dining Hall was opened in 1964. Not content with helping create one College, Natasha was also formative at Lucy Cavendish, where she became Senior Tutor.

There's another, unusual College connection. The house in which Natasha and Peter lived for several decades, in Grantchester Road, is a showpiece of modernist architecture and design, opened in 1964. (You have to like concrete and rectilinearity to enjoy it.) This house, along with the College's magnificent Dining Hall, are both illustrated in Elaine Harwood's



book on post-war architecture, *Space, Hope, and Brutalism*. The house, and its twin next door, was designed by the College's first Fellow in Architecture, Colin St John ('Sandy') Wilson: Sandy lived in the 'twin'. (There are plenty of images online if you search for 'Colin St John Wilson Grantchester Road'.)

A White Russian by heritage, Natasha had tales to tell about being a child in Nazi-occupied Paris. One evening her view of the stage at the opera was blocked by a German officer in the row in front of her. He courteously swapped seats. Even more courteously, he said that he, too, had a daughter of the same age, and that perhaps, after the War, they might meet. Natasha's mother coldly, and bravely, said she thought not.

The Cold War brought Natasha together with her future husband. Both were Russian teachers in Cambridge for the government-sponsored Joint Services Language course, which trained diplomats, intelligence officers, and military personnel. Among Natasha's pupils were Alexander Todd, the Nobel chemist, who visited the Soviet Union several times, and Rodric Braithwaite, future British Ambassador in Moscow. Peter had served in the British delegation in Moscow during the Second War and had been exposed to the appalling risks of being torpedoed on the Arctic convoys.

A tribute to the young Natasha turns up in an unexpected place, in a book called *Reflections on Liquid Helium* by Levter Andronikashvili, a Soviet physicist, a student of Nobel physicist and Honorary Fellow of Churchill College, Pyotr Kapitza. In 1960, Andronikashvili visited Cambridge, hosted by David Schoenberg. He writes:

*I spent several remarkably interesting, pleasant, and memorable hours in lively discussion with the charming Mrs Squire, a twenty-nine-year-old lady of ideal Russian beauty, a Parisian by birth and manner, and lecturer in Russian language at Cambridge University. 'So did you like Natasha Squire?', Shoenberg asked me next day. 'She is a very beautiful and charming woman and, what is important, very clever.'*

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Natasha left us on 22 February 2024. Below are some of the tributes of her many friends in College (in alphabetical order). Shireen Anderson remembers Natasha's *Unique Smile*; In *Belle Comme un Coeur*, Anny King reminisces about the many things Natasha and she had in common; Paula Laycock and Natalie Adams think of her as *A Wonderful Friend*; in *Radiating Warmth and Friendship* Allen Packwood recalls her many qualities; John Rawlinson reminds us that Natasha, although born in France, was without doubt *A Lady of Cambridge*. And finally, Archie Howie, our de-facto unofficial poet, wrote a beautiful poem on *Natasha's Passing*.



## That Unique Smile

**By Shireen Anderson**

I first met Natasha when we sat next to each other at a College dinner. The connection was immediate and afterwards Natasha and I would often refer to each other as kindred spirits.

We spent many long happy hours together! She loved exploring new and interesting places to shop and of course lunch at her favourite restaurant, Cote.

I think my most memorable times with her were spent at her home talking about her past, including her wonderful years with her dear Peter, travelling together in France and Italy. We talked a lot about food and wine, naturally! These times very often included a glass of something delicious and almost always French.

The Christina Kelly Association was very important to Natasha, and a few years ago, she asked me to be her successor. She was a wonderful mentor and together we improved and expanded the basic principles to create a more inclusive group. She was very proud of what we had achieved and was my greatest support, almost never missing an event, even towards the end when it was clearly becoming an effort.

It's really hard to imagine Cambridge life without Natasha. She sprinkled her love, warmth and generosity on so many of us. Her joie de vivre was infectious – we were all drawn into it and loved her for it.

Whenever I think of Natasha, I'll remember her opening her door to me with that unique smile and welcoming me with open arms.

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## Belle Comme Un Cœur !

**By Anny King**

I met Natasha soon after I was appointed in the Language Centre in 1990 in the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages (as it was then known) in the Raised Faculty Building. She came up to me and with the most beautifully



warm smile and holding out her hand said 'Bienvenue à Cambridge!' This really stunned me as most people in the Faculty either did not say much to me or simply ignored me. From then on, we met regularly for coffee in the staff room or for dinner at High Table at Churchill and started exchanging memories.

It so happened that both Natasha and I had a lot in common. Both French, we both came from Paris; we both went to the same French lycée in Paris – *Lycée La Fontaine* in the XVIth arrondissement; we both studied Russian at La Sorbonne in the Grand Palais where the Russian Faculty was situated; we both liked or disliked the same professors; we both went to the same jazz clubs – *Le Tabou* in St Germain; we both loved the Petit Palais; we both spent an inordinate amount of time at exhibitions and cinemas; we both loved walking on the banks of the Seine from the Grand Palais to St Germain des Prés – and yet we never met in Paris as I was about 15 years her junior.

Once we both retired, I visited her regularly for lunch or tea/ coffee in her home on Grantchester Road. She would show me her garden with pride in her eyes. She loved flowers and always had a bouquet of flowers in her living room. We would talk about Peter, the College, language education, French or British politics for hours on end while eating dark chocolates or some Italian cake. We would laugh uncontrollably at the same silly jokes or be outraged at the same world disasters.

Natasha loved Venice and she gave me many tips about the best Venetian restaurants to eat in and the most beautiful churches to visit and she was, of course, right. I admired her love of life, her energy, her courage (especially after Peter's death) and alertness. She was a polyglot who, apart from French, Russian and English, also spoke fluent Italian. She loved Churchill College and Churchill College loved her. She was simply a beautiful and very bright lady – interested in others, listening intently to their stories, very welcoming, warm at heart and so friendly. She was learned and opinionated with a charming and at times wicked smile and I loved her dearly and miss her terribly.

## A Wonderful Friend

By Paula Laycock and Natalie Adams

What I loved about Natasha was her enormous generosity of spirit and her overwhelming love for Churchill College. Between 2014 and 2016, Natalie Adams and I spent several hours recording some wonderful oral history interviews with her. She would greet us with open arms, settle us down in chairs in the lounge of her beautiful house in Grantchester Road, ply us with coffee and cake, and then she would happily launch into an hour or more of her reminiscences – with Natalie and I hanging on to every word, not wanting the session to end.

We were in awe of her wartime childhood in Paris, of hearing about Peter – ‘my darling Peter’ – how they first met and their work teaching Russian for the Joint Services Language Courses. She spoke movingly of her early days at Churchill, too, with her reminiscences of the first Fellows and staff, of the many events that took place in those early years, and of the active role she played, and continued to play, in creating a community at Churchill. Even at one of the celebrations of her 90th birthday not that long ago, she was able to command the audience, speaking at length and without notes. It was the Natasha we loved. We will miss her so much.

*Paula*

I felt that her instinctive understanding of and connection to people was part of what Paula and I responded to so strongly with the oral history interviews and that had helped to build the community at Churchill. She also had an ongoing sense of responsibility to maintain and contribute to the community, e.g., turning out for Archives Centre events (and sometimes being rather critical of people who didn’t take those responsibilities as seriously!). She took such care to put people at their ease and put effort into the small details that can make all the difference to getting the best out of people. I continued to visit her regularly after I had left Churchill – I enjoyed her friendship, advice, and company so much that each time I felt on a high for a few days afterwards (just as I did after those first oral history meetings). She had a very special and rare gift with people and that all of us who enjoyed her friendship were very fortunate. As Paula says, we will miss her terribly.

*Natalie*

## Radiating Warmth and Friendship

By Allen Packwood

It is very difficult to do justice to Natasha with words. They struggle to capture her vitality and character. She was one of those rare people whose presence would light up the room. She radiated warmth and friendship. I picture her greeting me with *'Oh Allen – how wonderful to see you'*, then a kiss, followed by a lively interrogation about all the recent news, from College meetings to international events.

She would tell the most amazing stories, of growing up in Paris during the Nazi occupation or travelling in post-war Europe and had the ability to engage with College guests from across the generations and around the world, often in a variety of different languages. I treasure my memories of visiting her house in Cambridge for occasional catch-ups. I never came away sober or hungry and I always departed feeling much better than when I had arrived.

Natasha's skills as a networker, hostess, and friend were always on show and I can see that they must have been crucial to establishing the community spirit in Churchill College during its formative years, a period of which she always spoke so fondly.

She was rightly proud of her own role as a teacher and Tutor and relished the ongoing contacts with her former students. Though she would not have presented herself as a radical, she was a pioneer in advancing the role of women within the University and was a force for good within Churchill College, bringing people together in a spirit of positivity and friendship.

I will miss seeing her at Archives Centre events and dinners. She was a great supporter of all we did and would always follow up with a personal message of thanks.

I knew Peter but slightly, though he gave me his copy of Roy Jenkins' biography of Churchill, marked up with his handwritten correction relating to the foundation of College. Natasha clearly missed him every day, but she continued to embrace life and encouraged myself and many others to do the same. A couple of years ago we talked about Venice, one of her favourite places, and the fact that I had not yet visited the city. Within days a guidebook

had arrived in my pigeonhole. It is a trip that I have not made yet, but when I do, I will sit in the sunshine, order a glass of something suitably refreshing, read the book and think of Natasha.

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## A Lady of Cambridge

By John Rawlinson

No-one could be in Natasha's company for more than a minute without realising that here was a woman of remarkable intellectual prowess, emotional warmth and determination. Hers was the distillation of European culture that rejoiced in the artistic fruits of Italy and France in particular. And yet she was also, and to us most importantly perhaps, a lady of Cambridge who, notwithstanding her Russian family origins and Parisian upbringing had settled well and successfully in our city and University of Cambridge. More specifically again, a part of the impact Natasha had on us was her focus on Lucy Cavendish and Churchill Colleges, the first her professional milieu and the second the comforting and stimulating environment of her life with Peter. One could never be in any doubt that Churchill College was a very special community for Natasha. She valued it, and it valued her highly.

The reason we miss her so much in the corridors of College life is that she reflected in the vibrancy of her conversation the interest she took notably in the worlds of art, food, history and politics but also in the fact that she was enjoying the conversation and the company of whoever she was with. In short, she was as interested in us as we were in her. There was nothing 'limp-lettuce-leaf' about Natasha; hers was a constructive Passion that would not be suppressed! She brought colour into our lives, like the light reflected from the waters of a Venetian lagoon, and the richness of music heard in Parisian salons. A telling image stays with Sally and me from a visit to Natasha in Grantchester Road just before Christmas, of her serving Stollen cake but not just any Stollen, this was of a particular quality not to be found elsewhere. And so, it was with Natasha herself.

## Archie Howie's Poem

### Natasha's Passing

What Shakespeare likened to a summer's day  
The dazzling young Natasha held in spades!  
My lines won't immortality convey  
But point a side that ageing never fades.

With Peter she a splendid life evolved  
True minds in style and hospitality;  
With many friends the passing hours dissolved  
Choice circles of conviviality!

Then more alone, a tougher spirit shows,  
Resilient to the changing tides of fate.  
Keeps mentally her friends upon their toes  
Her conjured dishes taste buds agitate!

Wise kindly words that graced our dinner board  
We'll hear no more than memory can afford!

## Doug Ashman (7 May 1934 – 2 February 2024)

Groundsman 1961–1978, Head Groundsman 1978–1999

By Paula Laycock

Doug Ashman was the College's first Groundsman and the second member of staff to be appointed to the newly established grounds department. He arrived on 6 March 1961, when the College was still being built and before the arrival of the first students.

A familiar sight in his red boiler suit, and easily distinguishable from afar, Doug worked on the grounds for nearly forty years until his retirement in 1999. In an oral history recording in 2017, he recalled working on the ditch along Madingley Road:



*When we used to do the ditch, we used to do it with secateurs. Secateurs! It used to take us months to do the ditch. We had to use hooks to hook the stuff out of the ditch. Now, of course, they've got all the equipment!*

He had many funny stories, too, including an incident on the old tennis courts which were sited where the Møller Institute stands today:

*Tom Hitchens [Head Gardener 1963–70] was working on the match tennis courts. He was spraying poison [herbicide] and George Orr [Head Groundsman 1961–78] shouted to him 'I hope you haven't any of that on your shoes! And he had, you could see where he had walked the next day!*

On another occasion, he recalled playing squash with one of the Fellows:

*... they were very good, and I wasn't very good, I can assure you, but as I went to go home, one of the Fellows put a towel round my neck and pushed it down. He said, 'You don't want to get cold!' I thought, 'that's uncomfortable'. But when I got home, I found I'd got a squash ball pushed down between my towel and my neck!*

Speaking on a BBC Radio Cambridgeshire documentary in 1985, Doug talked about the sports that would regularly take place on the playing fields:

*In the winter we cater for hockey, rugby, and football. In the summer we cater for tennis, croquet, and cricket. Every year at College, we have the County Colts which is the second week in August ... We have five games of them. We also have the Prudential tennis tournament on here every year, and we had Division Three Men's last year which was quite something. They are all doubles which is quite some tennis to watch ... We've had softball and we cater for volleyball as well. Anything that's asked for we cater for.*

Doug was a main player in the first Staff Social Club and was its chairman for a number of years. They would organise dances and outings which were extremely popular. At its peak, the Club had over ninety members.

Dave Hale has been a Groundsman since 1991 and worked with Doug for eight years. He recalls:

*Doug was a real character ... Churchill was his second home. He worked so long on that field, very nearly from the start, and the grounds were like his child. He loved it. Everything – apart from his family – everything revolved around Churchill College. He would come in at weekends, happily work Saturdays and Sundays, just because he loved being here.*

In his retirement speech in 1999, Doug reflected on his time at Churchill:

*I started at Churchill College on 6 March 1961, just after Sir Winston Churchill had planted two trees, a mulberry and an oak. I saw Lord Tedder lay the foundation stone in the foyer ... When I started, they were still working on the Sheppard Flats. We had four hard tennis courts and grass seed was just coming up on the field. There was no College, no Wolfson Flats, no Chapel and no Møller Centre. I laid the cricket square with Mr Orr and the grounds staff and gardeners landscaped all the College.*

The College flag was flown at half-mast on 29 February 2014, the day of Doug's funeral, in memory of a long-serving and loyal member of staff who dedicated most of his working life to the College.







**Churchill College**  
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