Cover photo: The Hall, following the redecoration of Summer 2018. Photo: Elizabeth Abusleme.
EDITORS
Stuart Laing
Paul Davies
Peter Carolin
Brian Hazleman
Peter Martland

Assisted by
John Sargant
Linda Muncaster
Marie Compain

CONTACT
The Editors
The Letter
Corpus Christi College
Cambridge CB2 1RH
lettereditors@corpus.cam.ac.uk

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Members of the College are asked to send to the Editors any news of themselves, or of each other, to be included in The Letter, and to send prompt notification of any change in their permanent address.

Cover photo: The Hall, following the redecoration of Summer 2018.
Photo: Elizabeth Abusleme.
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The Society (as on 1 October 2018)

Master
Professor Christopher Kelly BA(Hons) (Sydney), PhD, FSA
Professor of Classics and Ancient History

Fellows
Dr Christopher Brookes MA, PhD Tutor for Advanced Students, College Teaching Officer in Mathematics, Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics
Professor Christopher Howe MA, PhD, ScD, FLS Professor of Plant and Microbial Biochemistry
Professor Alison Smith BSc (Bristol), MPhil, PhD Professor of Plant Biochemistry
Professor Paul Hewett MA, PhD (Edinburgh) Food and Wine Steward, Professor of Observational Cosmology and Astrophysics
Professor Mark Warner MA, PhD (London), FRS Professor of Theoretical Physics
Dr Patrick Zutshi MA, PhD, FSA Graduate Tutor
Professor Simon Godsill MA, PhD Tutor, Professor of Statistical Signal Processing
Dr David Greaves MA, PhD Senior Lecturer in Computer Science
Professor Emma Wilson MA, PhD Tutor, Professor of French Literature and the Visual Arts
Dr Hugh Robinson MA, PhD Senior Lecturer in Neuroscience
Dr Paul Kattuman MA (Calicut), PhD Reader in Economics, Judge Business School (2020)
Dr David Sneath BSc (Ulster), PhD Graduate Tutor, Reader in the Anthropology of Political Economy
Dr Keith Seffen MA, PhD Reader in Structural Mechanics
Professor James Warren MA, MPhil, PhD Professor of Ancient Philosophy
Ms Elizabeth Winter MA Director of Development & Communications
Ms Sarah Cain MA MPhil College Teaching Officer in English, Fellow responsible for the Taylor Library
Dr Michael Sutherland BSc, MSc, PhD (Toronto) Admissions Tutor, Tutor, College Teaching Officer in Physics, Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Physics
Professor Pietro Cicuta, Laurea (Milan), PhD Professor of Biological Physics
Professor Barak Kushner BA, PhD (Princeton) Professor of East Asian History
Dr Marina Frasca-Spada, Laurea (Rome), PhD Senior Tutor, Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy and in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science
Dr Shruti Kapila BA (Panjab), MA (New Delhi), PhD (London) Lecturer in History
Mrs Susan Ainger-Brown MA FCMA CGMA FCMI Second Bursar and College Treasurer, GB Secretary
Dr Philip Bearcroft MA, MB, BChir, FRCP, FRCR Clinical Director in the Department of Radiology, Associate Lecturer
Professor John Carr BSc, MA, PhD (Liverpool)  Vice President, Graduate Tutor, Professor of Plant Virology
Dr Emma Spary MA, PhD  Tutor, Reader in the History of Modern European Knowledge
Professor Judy Hirst MA, DPhil (Oxford), FRSA  Dean of College, Professor of Biological Chemistry, Deputy Director of the MRC Mitochondrial Biology Unit
Dr Jonathan Morgan MA (Oxford), PhD  Tutor, Senior Lecturer in Law
Dr Pontus Rendahl BA, MA (Lund), PhD (EUI, Florence)  Reader in Economics
Dr Ben Pilgrim MChem, DPhil (Oxford)  Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Research Fellowship, Fellow in Chemistry (2019)
Dr Sarah Bohndiek MA, PhD (London)  Graduate Tutor, Reader in Biomedical Physics
Dr Ewan St John Smith MPharmacol (Bath), PhD  Tutor, Custodian of the Corpus Chronophage Clock, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology
Dr Drew Milne MA, PhD  Keeper of the Lewis Collection, Judith E Wilson Reader in Poetics
Dr Jo Willmott MA, MPhil, PhD  Tutor, Praelector Rhetorica, Keeper of the College Plate, Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Classics (2019)
Mr Tim Harvey-Samuel MA  Bursar
Dr Aaron Rapport BA (Northwestern), PhD (Minnesota)  EB Secretary, Lecturer in Politics & International Studies
The Revd Dr Andrew Davison MA, DPhil (Oxford), MA, PhD  Starbridge Lecturer in Theology & Natural Sciences
Dr Alexis Joannides MA, MB, BChir, MRCS, PhD  Clinical Lecturer in Clinical Neurosurgery
Dr Sophie Zadeh BA, MPhil, PhD  Tutor, Fellow in Social Psychology (2020)
Dr Vickie Braithwaite BSc (St Andrews), PhD  Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow in Biological Sciences (2019)
Dr John David Rhodes BA (Univ. of the South), MA (Columbia), PhD (New York)  Warden of Leckhampton, Reader in Film Studies and Visual Culture
Dr Anastasia Kisil MA, PhD  Sultan Qaboos Research Fellow & College Lecturer in Mathematics (2019)
Dr Fumiya Iida BEng, MEng (Tokyo), Dr Sc Nat (Zurich)  Reader in Robotics
Dr Rune Damgaard BSc, MSc, PhD (Copenhagen)  Marie-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow (June 2019)
Mr Nicholas Danks MA  Fellow in Music (2023)
Dr Felicity Hill, BA (Manchester), MA (London), PhD (UEA)  Stipendiary Research Fellow in Medieval Studies (December 2018)
Dr Sam Behjati MA, BM BCh (Oxon), PhD  Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellow; Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow in Medical Sciences (2019)
Dr Sebastian Pike MChem, DPhil (Oxford)  Herchel Smith Post-Doctoral Fellow; Fellow in Chemistry (November 2019)
Professor David Abrahams BSc(Eng), PhD, DIC (London), AGCI  N M Rothschild and Sons Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences
Dr Kai Ruggeri BA (North Central College), PhD (Queen’s University, Belfast)  Fellow in Psychological and Behavioural Science (February 2020)
Mr Felix Grey MChem (Oxford), MPhil  William Cook Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Economics (2020)
Dr Anastasia Berg BA (Harvard), MA, PhD (Chicago)  Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Research Fellow in Philosophy (2020)
Dr Harriet Soper BA, MSt (Oxford), PhD  Stipendiary Research Fellow in Anglo-Saxon (2020)
Dr Melle Kromhout BA, MA, PhD (Amsterdam)  Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow in Music (2020)
The Revd Dr Andrew Bigg BA (Leeds), MA (Sheffield), MPhys (Oxford), PhD (Durham)  Chaplain
Professor Christopher Hann BA (Oxford), PhD  Fellow in Social Anthropology (2021)
Dr Charles Read MA, MPhil, PhD  British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow; Hong Kong Link Research and
Teaching Fellow in Modern British History (2021)
Dr Andrew Sanger MA, LLM (LSE), PhD  Lecturer in Law
Professor Giulia Viggiani, Laurea (Naples), PhD (City University, London)
Professor of Infrastructure Geotechnics
Mr Thomas Nelson BA, MSt (Oxford)  Stipendiary Research Fellow in Classics (2021)
Dr John Biggins MA, PhD  Lecturer in Applied Mechanics (Engineering)
Dr Patrick Pietzonka BSc, MSc, PhD (Stuttgart)  Research Associate, DAMPT; Non-Stipendiary Research
Fellow in Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (2021)
Dr Claudia Bonfio BSc (Siena), MSc (Padova), PhD (Trento)  Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, MCR
Laboratory of Molecular Biology; Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow in Molecular Biology (2021)

Life Fellows
Dr Michael Tanner MA, PhD
Professor Christopher Andrew MA, PhD
Dr Peter Eggleton BSc, MA (Edinburgh), PhD
The Revd Canon Roger Morgan MA
Professor Paul Davies MA, PhD
Dr John Dingle BSc, PhD, DSc (London), ScD
Professor Craig Mackay MA, PhD
Professor Nigel Wilkins MA, PhD (Nottingham), LTCL
Professor John Hatcher MA, PhD (London), LittD
Revd Professor W Horbury MA, PhD, DD, (Hon)DD (Aberdeen), (Hon)D.Theol. (Münster), FBA
Professor Sir Hew Strachan MA, PhD, (Hon)D.Univ. (Paisley), FRSE, FBA
Dr Fred Ratcliffe MA, PhD (Manchester), CBE, JP
Professor Sir Paul Mellars MA, PhD, ScD, FBA, FSA
Dr Brian Hazleman MA, FRCP (London)
Miss Diane Dawson BA, MA (UC Berkeley)
Professor Richard McMahon MA, PhD
Dr Ruth Davis BMus (Hons) (London), MFA, PhD (Princeton), LTCL, LRAM
Professor Nigel Simmonds MA, LLM, PhD
Professor Sergio Pellegrino MA, PhD, FREng
Professor Peter Carolin MA, MA (Arch) (London), CBE, ARIBA
Dr Mara Kalnins MA, PhD (Edinburgh)
Professor Jonathan Haslam BSc(Econ) (LSE), MLitt, PhD (Birmingham), FBA
Professor Andrew Harvey BA (York), MSc (LSE), FBA
Professor Jean-Pierre Hansen PhD (Paris), FRS
Dr Christopher de Hamel BA(Hons) (Otago), DPhil (Oxford), (Hon)LittD (St John's University,
Minnesota, USA), (Hon)LittD (Otago), PSA
Professor Haroon Ahmed BSc (London), PhD, ScD, FREng

Honorary Fellows
Professor Sir Tony Wrigley MA, PhD, (Hon)LittD (Oxford), FBA
Professor Haroon Ahmed BSc (London), PhD, ScD, FREng
Sir Peter Marshall MA, KCMG
The Rt Hon Sir Murray Stuart-Smith MA, LLM, KCMG, PC
Sir Richard Armstrong MA, CBE
Professor Sir Colin Blakemore MA, ScD, PhD (UC Berkeley), FRS, FMEDSCI, FRSB, FBPHS
Sir Ronald Hampel MA
General Lord (David) Ramsbotham MA, GCB, CBE
Dr John C Taylor MA, (Hon)PhD (UMIST), (Hon)DSc (Durham), OBE
Dr Richard Henderson MA, PhD, CH, FRS, FMEDSCI, (Hon)FRSC
Sir Alan Wilson MA, FBA, FRS, FACSS
Mr Natwar Singh MA
Mr Shaharyar Khan MA
Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent MA, KCB, CBE, ADC
The Rt Hon Sir Terence Etherton MA, QC, MR
Professor Sir David Omand MA, GCB
Professor Karol Sikora MA PhD (Stanford), FRCP, FRCR, FFPM
Sir Mark Elder MA, CBE, OM
Sir Hugh Roberts MA, GCVO, FSA
Dame Jacqueline Wilson DBE, FRSL
Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss GBE PC
Professor Andrew Hopper BSc (Swansea), PhD, CBE, FRS, FIET, FEng
The Rt Hon Lord (Patrick) Hodge MA, LLB (Edinburgh), QC
Professor Avinash Dixit BSc (Bombay), MA, PhD (MIT)

**Guild Fellows**
Mr Neil Westreich MA
Mr Michael Gwinnell MA
Ms Shawn Donnelley BA (Loyola, New Orleans), MA (Emerson)
Mr Richard Wright MA DL
Dr Laura Young (Hon)PhD (Queen Margaret Univ.), MBE
Mr Liong Seen Kwee BSc (UC Berkeley)
Mrs Wai Phin Kwee
Sir Andrew Cook LLB (London), CBE
Dr Louis Cheung MA, PhD
Dr Hong Siau PhD
Ms Sarah Colclough BA (Exeter)
College life in 2017–18 has been overshadowed by the Hall and Kitchens Project, also called the Spine Project because of its aim of completely renovating the “spine” of the College that connects the Old and the New Courts. Tim Harvey-Samuel, Bursar, gives an overview of the Project in his separate piece in “The College Year”, so I need add little here. Suffice it to say that Fellows, staff and students have been daily reminded of the scope of the Project, principally by the temporary kitchens housed in 17 portakabins on the New Court Lawn, and by the temporary canvas “Hall” beside them in which meals have been served over the summer vacation, when the Hall itself has received fresh paint on its formerly flaking ceiling.

We plan to finish the Project in early 2019. Meanwhile I pay tribute to the Bursar and his team for their impeccable management of the process, ensuring that the normal functions of the College continue uninterrupted (albeit sometimes in different places), that the contractors are kept as far as is feasible up to the mark on their tight timetable, and that the Project costs stay within budget. I should also record appreciation to the “consumers”, the Fellows, staff and students who have all tolerated the disruption with excellent good humour. Personally I am very excited by the prospective outcomes. We shall end up with advanced and fully up-to-date catering facilities (vitally important not only for our own needs, but also for the catering business which has been so successful in recent years), a redecorated Dining Hall, modernised space on the ground floor from Trumpington Street to Free School Lane, and a fine restoration of the upper part of the medieval Hall.

Meanwhile, the preparatory work required, before reconstruction and new interiors were begun, allowed access for archaeologists and architects to some of the earliest structures of the College. In his article The theatre of New Court, on pages 28–38, Peter Carolin describes the origins of the design of the part of the College which is the first aspect for most visitors and newcomers, drawing on discoveries that have been made in the early phases of the Project.

Through all this, as I have mentioned, the regular life of the College has moved forward through the year. Our academic achievements have been more than respectable, although comparison with other colleges has become more difficult as not all results are now published on the Senate House Wall. Congratulations go to the students themselves, and also to the Senior Tutor, Directors of Studies, Supervisors and Tutors. In sports, music and drama, and other extra-curricular activities, Corpus students engage enthusiastically and often with admirable results. I never cease to be surprised by students telling me of how they have competed in this competition at international level, or played in that concert or drama before a large audience, or participated in an aid project in a developing country, as well as produce excellent results for their Supervisors and in the Tripos.
I should like to pay tribute here to some of our Fellows and alumni. I hesitate to single out individuals, because I’ve no doubt that there are others worthy of mention but who have escaped my not-always-fine-meshed information net. Probably the high point in this context was the award of a Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Richard Henderson, closely followed by his appointment as Companion of Honour. We were delighted to see Stephen Lamport appointed GCVO, in recognition of his distinguished service as Receiver-General at Westminster Abbey; and we congratulate Bernard Jenkin on his knighthood, and Mark Elder on his appointment to the Order of Merit. And it gave us great pleasure to hear of Professor Kathy Willis’s election as Principal of St Edmund Hall at Oxford.

I record here also an unusual event – the ordination of three Corpus alumni on the same day (1 July), though in different places: Philip Murray (m. 2007), Christopher Rogers (m. 1999) and Dominic Cawdell (m. 2013) were all ordained Deacon at Petertide. Philip’s ordination in Durham was attended by David Ibbetson (former Fellow and now President of Clare Hall) and by other Corpus alumni, and Sibella and I called in to see him in August in his curacy in Stockton-on-Tees.

As readers will be aware, this is the last Domus that I shall write. During my last few weeks in the summer I was preparing to hand over the Mastership to Christopher Kelly, who is already known to many of you through his long and distinguished career in the University and the College. I have said on several occasions, but I gladly repeat it here, what a privilege it has been for me to serve as Master for the last ten years. Corpus is a very special community. For me, and also for Sibella, it has been inspiring to live and work in a place containing so many – Fellows, staff and students – who are lively, intelligent and strongly motivated to give of their best. As we have been leaving, many have said kind words of appreciation to us. All we can do is to reciprocate that. I hope that we have given and contributed to a College that I love; and we have received – in kindness and friendship, in learning, and in other ways – so much more.

I leave this post at a time of great uncertainty in Higher Education. There is the obvious shadow of Brexit, and the questions that poses to a University which depends not just on EU research grants but on the continental and global exchange of ideas and people. In addition, Cambridge and other high-ranked universities face challenges on admissions and access; we have pushed the boundaries about as far they can go under existing systems, and we shall be called on by Government to find and adopt more radical solutions. Our students are experiencing greater stress than in the past, and placing ever-increasing demands on our counselling, tutorial and other support services. And we need to think more carefully about the conditions of service of our academic staff: strike action in the Lent Term reminded administrators of the need to take seriously concerns about pension provision. These are all serious problems. However, I believe that the University and the College both have the stability and confidence to navigate safe passages through them. I shall watch these matters with keen interest from our home in Wiltshire, and from that distance send best wishes to Christopher and Shawn Kelly for a happy and successful term of office in the Master’s Lodge, and to the College warm greetings for continued success and prosperity. Floreat Antiqua Domus!
The College Year

**Bursary Matters**

*Financial report*

At the unrestricted level and before gains on investments the College recorded a deficit of £80k in the year to 30 June 2017 vs a surplus of £734k in the prior year. The difference principally arises from a very different balance between restricted and unrestricted donations in the two years. Thus when we look at the same line on a whole College basis (ie including restricted and unrestricted donations) we recorded a surplus of £1.0m this year vs £824k in the prior year. This slightly confusing picture is one of the unfortunate outcomes of the change in accounting standards (FRS102) imposed on charities from 2015/16.

The conclusion is that we are operating more or less in balance. However, the underlying trends in cost inflation (rising employment and student support costs) are headwinds with which we must contend in the coming years. We are also in the process of executing the Spine Project, described last year, which is the most demanding construction project we have undertaken for some time. This will bring some extra costs in the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years. We are well into the project as I write and these costs are thus far being controlled within budgetary expectations. The audited financial statements can be found on the College website.

**The Endowment**

At 30 June 2017 the Endowment stood at £104.9m, a growth in the capital value of 7.8% over the year. The total return was 9.9%, which underperformed our benchmarks due to the very sluggish performance of our property investments (2.8% total return), and despite the acceptable 14.4% return of our securities portfolio. This needs to be set in the context of a return on the property portfolio of nearly 60% in the preceding five years so some moderation was to be expected, especially given the impact on confidence deriving from impending Brexit.

Our UK and Asian equity managers performed well, as did our investment in the University’s Endowment fund. We also made new investments in global, Japanese and UK equity funds. The former two have thus far performed very well. In the year just ended our property portfolio has also performed much better. Our positioning has continued to be quite conservative but we have continued our quest to diversify our return-seeking assets.
Projects

The wholesale restructuring of the central spine of Old House between Old and New Courts, driven by the need to refurbish the kitchens, has predictably dominated the year. We completed the refurbishment of C and D staircases over summer 2017 and created excellent new tutorial and postgraduate spaces with views on to Trumpington Street as well as a far superior disabled flat and post room. The Hall ceiling has been restored over this summer and the weather has been extremely kind. The new kitchen is at an advanced stage of construction with completion planned for February 2019. We have now revealed the vaulted medieval roof and the corbels which will be visible in the new servery to the delight of all. We will also take the opportunity to improve the Parker Room so that it can better fulfil its many functions.

Overall as I write this we are on track and on budget but we still have five months to go. The College community has weathered the disruption with great resilience, especially the catering team who have been working out of portakabins on New Court all year. Professor Carolin has once again written a fascinating piece on what we are learning about the architectural history of the College, and how we have interpreted that in this project, elsewhere in The Letter.

Nonetheless we also need to continue to invest in our accommodation and so we undertook refurbishments of Bene’t (summer 2017) and Beldam (summer 2018), adding in D staircase this last summer. We have now refurbished a significant proportion of the Old House student accommodation since starting our programme in summer 2016, which is a great tribute to the Clerk of Works and the Maintenance Team’s dedication.

The level of disruption which such a large building project brings necessitates immense professionalism from all staff and I am profoundly grateful to them.

In closing I would like to thank the Master for his steadfast support both for our financial policy and for all the measures taken in recent years to adapt and improve the College’s facilities, as well as for his deep kindness to all the Staff over his tenure, and to wish Stuart and Sibella every happiness and blessing in retirement.

Tim Harvey-Samuel, Bursar

Leckhampton Life

This was my first year warden-ing, and so I approached it with excitement and some apprehension, given the brilliant example set by my predecessor, James Buxton, and the illustrious line of Wardens before him (Haroon Ahmed and Chris Howe, to name only two). I took up residence in the Warden’s flat in late September and began to enjoy the great fortune of taking my morning coffee at a drop-leaf table overlooking Leckhampton’s gardens.

The Michaelmas term began with the organised frenzy of the MCR committee’s impressive matriculation activities and “freshers’ week” social events. I led new members of the MCR on a walk to Grantchester (a tradition established by James Buxton), followed by pints and dinner at the Blue Ball (for my money, the only proper pub in the village). Autumn settled in, and the famous scholarly fury of the Michaelmas term began.
We enjoyed a lively intellectual and literary scene at Leckhampton this year. Our first Stephen Hales talk by Vid Simoniti, research fellow in Philosophy and Art History at Churchill, on artificial intelligence and poetry, set the bar high for the year to come. Undoubtedly the biggest event of the year was Mary Beard’s Stephen Hales lecture in Lent Term. Professor Beard, who is a Fellow at neighbouring Newnham, gave an arresting account of her early years as a female academic at Cambridge, and offered a variety of insights into the dynamics of the struggle for gender equality in the era of #metoo. The hall was packed well over its capacity (don’t tell the head porter), and Professor Ahmed informed me it was the most well-attended iteration in the history of this venerable lecture series. We rounded out the year with two talks by speakers from among our own ranks. Rob Hill, visiting fellow in Physics from the University of Waterloo, demonstrated the material magic of quantum physics, and in the final talk of the year, the (then) Master, Stuart Laing, offered a poignant and insightful tour of his career in diplomacy and his tenure at Corpus.

The Leckhampton Society talks, another feature of intellectual life at Leck, were run with great success by Alvin Djajadikerta. The speakers were Mithuna Yoganathan, Max Leventhal, Becca Frake, Kalifa Damani, Camice Revier, Nick Allen, Jesse Harrington, Jerry Cummins, Guido Giulio Beduschi, Laura Wey, Sebastian Marino and Anya Melkina. The talks were, as one might imagine, impressively diverse, ranging from photosynthesis and environmental sustainability, to a philosophy of language approach to the ‘alt right’, to quantum computing, and to the ‘expert’ in early modern historiography.

Alvin and Rosie Bell also organised the first Post Graduate Conference at Leckhampton on 16 June (see their article on the conference in this issue of The Letter). Twenty-one students at MPhil and PhD levels gave presentations on their research, and Professors Alison Smith and Chris Howe gave presentations as well. The conference will become, we hope, an annual event in the intellectual life of the community, and I am grateful to Alvin and Rosie for organising its inaugural outing.

Socially things were as busy as one might expect, perhaps busier. I am mostly a bystander to these things, but can judge the success of the MCR’s social season by the sounds of hilarity that drift up from the bar. Lee Ann Brown, who was a Visiting Fellow last year as well as Judith E. Wilson Visiting Professor of Poetry in the English Faculty, organised a memorable series of readings and poetry events, including a smashing Burns night in the bar. In a departure from previous years, I held a Warden’s Summer Solstice party, and, thanks to terrific collaboration with the catering team, and in particular Chris Le-Vien, we presented Fellows, Life Fellows, Leckhampton staff members and their families, partners and friends an excellent rendition of a Southern (US) barbeque. (Full disclosure: I was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, so know a thing or two about barbeque, and gumbo, if anyone is interested.) This event I intend to make a tradition during the coming years of my wardenship.

The MCR committee have been a delight this year. Tim Watson and Karla Cervantes served as successive presidents; their intelligence, generosity, wisdom, and poise have set an example for the community as a whole. The rest of the
MCR committee – in its numerosness – have also conspired to sustain the traditions of conviviality and intellectual seriousness that are Leckhampton’s finest features.

Tuesday sitdowns continue to be the occasion for the community to gather for conversation over meals prepared by our wonderful kitchen staff and served by our remarkable catering team. I have instituted an informal aperitivo, during which Fellows, Research Associates, and varying members of the MCR are invited to share a drink in the Warden’s flat. (For any old members or Life Fellows who may be reading this: if you have any plans to come to dinner at Leck some Tuesday, drop in at 6.30pm.)

The gardens have looked amazing this year, thanks to Neil Taylor and his team, who even managed to see that the grounds survived the intense drought and heatwave of the past summer. These same weather conditions brought many more people than usual to the Leckhampton pool, the jewel in the crown of Leckhampton during the estival season.

Leckhampton only works as well as it does because of the incredible team of people who work here: Aldona, our brilliant site manager, Kathy Yallop, head of housekeeping, and her team, and all of the gardeners and groundskeepers. They are as responsible as anyone for the pleasure we all take in Leckhampton.

We look forward to the coming year with anticipation. In particular, a major refurbishment of the library in the GTB (the George Thomson Building) is in the works. We hope to restore the Library as a beautiful place of study, and of quiet congregation for readings, seminars, and the like. The Library has been a special concern of mine since becoming Warden. Its large modernist plate glass windows look out onto the gardens and back towards Leckhampton house and its syncretist architectural style (a combination of Jacobean, Palladian and Queen Anne). Inside this masterpiece of modernist British architecture (designed by Arup and Associates), one feels the interpenetration of old and new, nature and artifice, scholarly industry and pastoral indolence, monkish retreat and social garrulousness. The combinations of these contrarieties are what make up Leckhampton’s (plural) singularity.

John David Rhodes, Warden of Leckhampton

College Staff

The immense commitment and loyalty shown by our staff towards the College is a daily inspiration. Over the course of this last year we celebrated a trio of college staff who between them have accumulated 127 years of service! Neil Taylor, our Head Groundsman at Leckhampton, whose team underpin so much of the College’s sporting activity, celebrated 42 years with us in June 2018. Also in June, over in the Finance Office Steve Symonds completed 45 years with Michael Sutcliffe having completed 40 years in August 2017. Their reflections on their time at Corpus are recorded elsewhere in The Letter.

We bade farewell to our Managing Conservator, Bridget Warrington, after five brilliant years at the heart of conservation excellence in Cambridge and beyond, atop the Elephant Pen. She hands over to Flavio Marzo who joined us
from the British Library. Hayley Fisher also left after four very successful years as Events and Marketing Manager during which time our conference business has grown enormously. We also said farewell to Sapana Gurung in Housekeeping who left to return to Nepal after over seven years with Corpus.

This year has placed particular pressures on all staff due to the disruption caused by the building works for the Spine project, most notably for the maintenance team whose project management has been assiduous, the catering staff who have worked out of a temporary kitchen since January and for the gardeners whose manicured lawns have been transformed into building sites and temporary kitchens. Their immensely positive approach and constructive professionalism across the board has been spectacular.

Tim Harvey-Samuel, Bursar

Development and Communications

To say this year has been busy would be unoriginal but true. The Development and Communications Office continues its programme of fundraising, alumni relations, events and publications, with Lucy Sparke (legacy and alumni fund manager), Jane Martin (office administrator) and Elizabeth Abusleme (communications manager) pulling it all together. Last September Somer Ann Greene joined us as our fundraiser and she has been active in meeting alumni, organising events in London each month and generally getting to know the College and all its activities. Many of you will have met Somer by now either in a one-to-one meeting or at an event, and I hope that many more will come to the interesting and diverse events she arranges. These have ranged from gatherings in London pubs, to a private viewing in an art gallery, to a private showing of an architectural gem of a house, to concerts at the Royal Festival Hall with the world-renowned London Philharmonic Orchestra, and to Shakespeare plays. If you have an idea for something you think other alumni would enjoy please do get in touch with Somer.

Lucy Sparke has been developing our legacy programme and the 1352 Society which currently counts 135 people as members. Lucy also organises and manages the annual telephone campaign, a mammoth task which engages with around 1,000 alumni each year, updating records, garnering information and preferences, discussing experiences and of course, raising badly needed funds to support student need. As I write this year’s telephone campaign is due to begin with 13 enthusiastic current students who are all selected after applying, are then trained, and are properly salaried for their work. We greatly appreciate the time given by alumni to talk with them and for all the regular gifts the campaign produces. Without this support we would not be able to provide the hardship grants and other support that we do.

Elizabeth Abusleme is now in charge of all design work for the Development Office and the rest of the College, including social media, the print publications (Pelican, Donor Report and brochures and posters) and she works closely with the webmaster and other departments to support their design needs. Her talent and creativity have transformed what we produce and the cost efficiency with
which we produce it. Elizabeth has also organised many of the Development Office events, such as the MacCurdy Dinner, the Summer Party and the Friends of Corpus events.

Jane Martin has spent a good deal of this past year managing room bookings for Old Members, producing and writing the monthly e-newsletter and organising reunion dinners, Old Member Guest Nights and other events. On top of this she looks after gift administration and keeps this writer in order with diary management and much-needed reminders to be in the right place at the right time. Through all her contact with alumni Jane has got to know many of you personally and I know the contact has proved enjoyable and greatly appreciated on both sides.

Following a very successful and enjoyable trip to the West and East coasts of America, which I made with our (then) Master and his wife, Stuart and Sibella Laing, it was Somer’s turn to travel to the Far East. She and Stuart visited Singapore and Hong Kong as part of our fundraising campaign and to give Stuart an opportunity to say goodbye to alumni in those countries which he had been visiting for nearly 10 years. Their visit was planned to coincide with the first visit of the Vice Chancellor Professor Stephen Toope and they enjoyed a full schedule of meetings and social occasions.

On the fundraising side Somer and I have enjoyed meeting and talking with alumni. We were always warmly supported by the bursar, Tim Harvey-Samuel or Stuart Laing. Often our challenge was to convince people to support us for the first time, helping the core needs of the College; student bursaries and hardship, academic fellowships, access and outreach and buildings. I’m always pleased when people push back and ask why we do what we do, or how much it costs to support a student or a Fellow, or even why does a Cambridge college need money at all. It is through these questions that interesting and often very productive conversations start and sometimes lead to the most generous – or unexpected – gifts. The generosity of our Old Members always underpins the work the College does and ensures the future; we remain extremely grateful to everyone who has supported us this year and in the past.

Elizabeth Winter, Development and Communications Director

The Chapel

One of the great things about tradition as that it enables important things to remain in place even during times of change in other respects. As you will all know my predecessor, the Rev’d James Buxton, moved to Izmir to start a new phase in his ministry in the Diocese in Europe in September 2017. The Diocese therefore ‘gained one and lost one’ since I came over from my previous post at St George’s, Paris, to start as the new Chaplain in January. This entailed an Acting Chaplain, Canon Jeremy Davies (an alumnus of Corpus, and to whom I am very grateful) covering Michaelmas Term. Customary patterns of worship were maintained during this period and have since remained stable and with excellent and growing contribution from the Chapel Choir.

There are ups and downs to starting a rôle such as Chaplain in January, and I
should like to thank all those people who have helped me to settle down to life in Corpus, including Fellows, Students and Staff. Thanks in particular to Stuart and Sibella, loyal supporters of both Chapel life and the wider musical activity of the College, and with my warmest wishes for the next stage in their lives. I have also greatly enjoyed working with Robin Walker, our dedicated Director of Music, and the excellent team helping events in Chapel to run smoothly. Our Chapel Clerks, David Horvath-Franco (Second Year, Law) and Alice Gregson (First Year, English) have been superb, as have our placement Ordinands from Westcott House, Tom Pote and David Bagnall. Tom finished his time with us at the end of Easter Term and, along with his wife Maria-Vittoria, will be greatly missed – as I believe was amply proved by our fond farewell to them both. Thanks also to all who have helped with serving and reading in Chapel services and to the representatives of the graduate community, Damien Charlotin and Guido Beduschi. I should also like to note particular gratitude to Linda Muncaster, who did a fabulous job covering for Kate Williams while she was on leave for her knee operation.

This year we have been lucky enough to have some very strong visiting preachers. Before formally arriving in Corpus I made a ‘reconnaissance trip’ over from Paris in October to observe a Sunday Evensong and clear up some advance paperwork. That Sunday I had the privilege of hearing the Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham speaking (and it turned out that his Chaplain – a former Anglican – had trained at the same College as I had). We have also welcomed a few Anglican bishops, including David Hamid (Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese in Europe), Christopher Chessun (Bishop of Southwark) and Nicholas Reade (retired Bishop of Blackburn), all of whom were very well received. In Lent Term we were very pleased to welcome Brother Jean-Marc of the Taizé Community in Burgundy as a visiting speaker, for whom the Chapel was pleasingly packed. The Taizé Community is a shining light for ecumenism, attracting thousands of young pilgrims from all over Europe and beyond, especially over the summer months. During my time in Paris I had had the opportunity to visit the place itself and take student groups there, a practice I have made steps to continue with a group from Cambridge in September (2018). A Taizé style service also replaced a Wednesday Evensong in Easter Term to introduce the idea to those who were unfamiliar with the style, and with such good feedback that such services will continue at least once a term and further increase the variety of things to which the Choir can contribute.

This year we were again delighted to refresh our relationship with our College Livings by hosting a very successful gathering for the incumbents and other representatives of these parishes in Easter Term.

Owing to the Spine Project and temporary kitchens, several wedding couples have postponed their ceremonies until next summer, but we held a very successful blessing service for one of our College Preceptors, Dr Henry Shevlin, and his wife Wanda. I have already received many inquiries for next year. We shall also be hosting a memorial service for David Cobham, an alumnus who will perhaps be known to many of you who have an interest in wildlife films (his most famous production being *Tarka the Otter*).
Visitors continue to visit our Chapel and to write positive remarks and prayer requests in the Chapel book and I wish all of them well, along with all those from among our own community who are living with great concerns at this time. Finally, very best of luck to all those students and staff members who are leaving for pastures new.

**Weddings in the College Chapel**
16 December 2017 Madeleine Heyes (m2012) and James Roberts

**Marriage blessings in the College Chapel**
5 May 2018 Wanda and Henry Shevlin (College Preceptor)

**Parker Preachers**
2017–2018 The Revd Dr Berkeley Zych, Minor Canon Precentor, St Albans Cathedral
2018–2019 The Revd Richard Lloyd Morgan, former Chaplain at King’s College

**College Music**
Music-making provides us with the chance for essential ‘play’, to focus on the detail of a performance and get away from our studies, office work or other stresses of the world. I’m pleased to report that we have had a year of musical participation across all areas of the college, surely a sign of a healthy and happy community.

The staff choir, directed by Director of Studies in Music Nick Danks (Fellow) has enjoyed rehearsals and performed during the year, and provides a welcome Wednesday lunchtime focus to the week. New singers from the staff team are always welcome. A new student-led *a cappella* group has been formed, the *AcaPelicans*, comprising students from right across the College. The aim is that this will continue next year, singing a range of classic close-harmony and music from the new *a cappella* repertoire.

The college has played host to visiting musicians during the year. Highlights include a joint chapel services with the Perse School and Girton College choirs, a concert by the Bergen and Forde Boys Choirs from Norway and a concert in the Cambridge Summer Music Festival. In May we welcomed back a large number of Old Members to join in our Sunday services, and we hope these events will continue to flourish.

In November the Automatronic collective led students in a weekend of workshops and performances of music exploring the combination of live and electronic music. The McCrum theatre provided a perfect base.

More work has been done to ensure the College’s instruments are in good condition, and that we provide the best we can for our students. A missing link in our instruments has been filled this year with the purchase of a chamber organ for the chapel. This new three-stop organ has been built by Lammermuir organs of Scotland and will provide an essential teaching tool for training our organ scholars and other musicians in organ continuo. We use the instrument regularly in chapel services and in concerts.
The chapel choir continues as the College’s première ensemble, with weekly chapel singing together with concerts and other public performances outside College. Singers meet four times each week for services and rehearsal and the focus is on high-quality singing in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The choir sing music ranging from early polyphony to newly composed works, and this year have premiered pieces by student composers David Nunn and Paul Newton-Jackson, and a newly commissioned setting of the *Nunc Dimittis* by Stevie Wishart. Stevie worked with the choir on the piece in preparation for the performance.

This year the chapel choir has been honoured to be selected to sing for both the University Sermon in October and then at the close of the year for the Conferment of Honorary Doctorates in Senate House.

A huge thank you to Paul Newton-Jackson who took on the role of Organ Scholar in his postgraduate year and has grown as a player and conductor. We hope he will continue to be part of the creative life of the College as he begins his doctoral studies.

The choir enjoyed a pre-term weekend of singing in Fulmodeston, and at the end of summer term represented the college on a very successful tour to Malta and Gozo, giving concerts at the British High Commissioner’s Residence (a ticketed event which produced a healthy donation to the Anglican Cathedral restoration appeal) and in Gozo Cathedral, and singing a Sunday morning communion in the Anglican Cathedral in Valletta.

This has marked the final year of Stuart Laing’s time as Master at Corpus. Stuart and Sibella have been strong supporters of college music and we have enjoyed special musical events in celebration. A Fellows’ concert, including the four-hand *Fantasia in F minor* by Schubert, performed by Stuart and Nick Danks, a performance of Brahms’s *Liebeslieder*, and of course Master’s Lodge concerts through the year, have we hope been a fitting way to celebrate their love of music and what they have brought to the College.

*Robin Walker, Director of Music*
The Parker Library

This year has seen us take great strides in making the Parker and its collections more accessible both in terms of public outreach and academic teaching and research, and through the enrichment of our digital outreach via the growing Parker on the Web project. Our dedication to promoting the Parker more broadly as a learning environment has meant both strengthening our commitment to public engagement, and advocating the Library as a resource for research and scholarly discovery.

In terms of public outreach and engagement, we have continued our ongoing programme of tours in collaboration with the Tourist Office, and have increased participation in citywide events such as Open Cambridge. Every day we welcome ever-larger audiences to the Library; in fact, if you are reading this and have not visited the Parker, you are in a dwindling minority of the population! We staged four exhibitions in the Wilkins Room this year, and also contributed our own treasures to large-scale exhibitions across the globe including the celebrated Imagining the Divine exhibition at Oxford’s Ashmolean Museum and the hotly-anticipated forthcoming Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms display at The British Library.

In addition to students, school groups, College alumni, and guests, we have received visits from film crews making television programmes and documentaries, launched a Twitter account with updates from the Library ( @ParkerLibCCCC ), and appeared in the local, national and international press.

At Corpus itself, we have been gratified to see the Parker play an increasingly central role in College life. We have hosted tours for College and University Open Days, welcomed events for matriculating students and celebratory displays for Graduation, as well as regularly facilitating special exhibition viewings for College feasts and festivities. Most importantly, however, our efforts to encourage participation from College and University fellows in the life of the Parker have also been rewarded. We have developed fruitful collaborative relationships with scholars and graduate students from the ASNC, History, English and Art History Faculties, which see instructors convening their classes in the Library and teaching with our collections, in unprecedented numbers.

At the heart of all our outreach and engagement initiatives over the past year has been the ongoing development of our digital collections. This past January saw the re-launch of our Parker on the Web resource – now dubbed Parker 2.0 – and available for browsing at www.parker.stanford.edu (including digital exhibitions which parallel those in the physical library – you can find two of them under the ‘Curated Features’ tab). The relaunch was marked by celebratory symposia here at Corpus and at Stanford (both in March 2018) and was further promoted at scholarly conferences across the globe in Kalamazoo (Michigan), Washington DC, Cambridge, Glasgow and Leeds.

The release of Parker 2.0 in January marked a major milestone, both in the development of the Parker’s digital presence and in our desire to see our holdings not only appreciated but truly used in the production of new knowledge. The old paywall was demolished and now all of the content is covered under a Creative Commons Non-Commercial 4.0 Licencing structure. Additionally,
the incorporation of the IIIF framework allows users to compare Parker manuscripts to resources from around the world, all within the same viewing window.

Looking to the future, as we develop closer relationships with scholars, manuscript experts, and digital humanists across the globe, we hope to pursue new scholarly and digital projects in collaboration with our users. Come autumn, we will be launching one of the first major online transcription programmes for medieval manuscripts. We will also cultivate our renewed commitment to our printed collections, long deserving of further promotion. Finally, we will be offering a series of practical ‘hands-on’ events relating to the craftsmanship of medieval manuscripts and their makers, including skills workshops in Calligraphy and Illumination. Keep an eye on our Twitter account and blog for periodic updates on plans and scheduling for our digital and practical events, and join us in engaging with some of The Parker’s most famous holdings as never before, whether trying your hand at transcribing their texts or at reproducing their scripts and illuminations!

Alexander Devine and Anne McLaughlin, Sub-librarians

The Taylor Library
This year we have seen substantial system changes in the Taylor Library. The first was the installation of a new (and local) self-issue machine for loaning books, which was completed in September 2017. The second was the replacement of the University-wide library management system, which allows readers to search for Corpus books on the catalogue, and makes it possible to loan books to readers without resorting to pen and paper. It is something of a relief, therefore, to be able to report that both systems are providing acceptable levels of functionality and reliability as the year closes.

Such changes have been accommodated alongside a change in staff: our former Assistant Librarian was offered the role of Whipple Librarian in the University in January 2018, prompting the recruitment and successful appointment of a new Graduate Trainee Librarian in February. Against this backdrop, the purchase of new titles has continued throughout the year, and the librarians provided ‘library tea’ for students during the Summer Term in keeping with the precedent of previous years. This year also saw the long overdue revision of the display cabinets in the Taylor Library, which has provided an opportunity to display the under-exposed early printed materials from the Parker Library. The first arrangement displayed texts relating to the microscopic and the medical in the Early Modern period.

Joe Sandham, Taylor Sub-Librarian
It was an unusual stipulation in a will, even by the standards of the mid-sixteenth century: that an annual sermon should be preached at St Benedict’s Church on one of four themes – the diligent study of scripture; the obedience of subjects to their masters; the relief of the poor; or the daily remembrance of our own mortality. In order to encourage attendance at the event, the Vice-Chancellor was offered sixpence (presumably not to be spent all at once!); the proctors, beadle and bell-ringer four-pence, and the parish clerk tuppence – a kind of ‘reverse collection’ to encourage church attendance which seems to have eluded the church growth pundits today. And in case such carrots proved ineffective, the stipulation also included a stick, in the form of a penalty of ten shillings to be levied on the University, were the sermon not to be preached.

So which of the themes to choose? A brief Internet trawl reveals that obedience and holy dying have most attracted the distinguished preachers of previous years, leaving scripture and the poor languishing far behind. And so I’ve taken it as my challenge, quote, to ‘excite the auditorye to the diligent and reverent hearing and reading of the scripture’ – so that if at some point in the next 20 minutes or so the auditorye – that’s you the congregation – could at least look a little excited, that would encourage this preacher to believe that he’s earned the lavish sum of three shillings and fourpence offered to him for his pains!

And so to my starting point this morning, which is a sonnet written by a former Public Orator of Cambridge University some seventy years after John Mere’s death, and rather pedestrianly entitled, ‘The Holy Scriptures (2)’. Because in this poem, George Herbert expresses something of his own excitement at studying the Bible, and specifically at discovering the interplay between one scriptural passage and another, and how in turn these ‘constellations’, as he calls them, relate to his own life as a follower of Christ.

Here’s the sonnet, which you’ll also find on your pew sheet:

Oh that I knew how all thy lights combine,
And the configurations of their glory!
Seeing not only how each verse doth shine,
But all the constellations of the story.
This verse marks that, and both do make a motion
Unto a third, that ten leaves off doth lie:
Then as dispersed herbs do watch a potion,
These three make up some Christian’s destiny.
Such are thy secrets, which my life makes good,
And comments on thee: for in ev’ry thing
Thy words do find me out, and parallels bring,
And in another make me understood.
Stars are poor books, and oftentimes do miss:
This book of stars lights to eternal bliss.

It’s a playful poem in one sense, despite its solemn theme and tight structure. It compares the reading of Scripture with star-gazing on a clear night, while recognising in its final couplet that this Book of Stars is reliable, unlike the meanderings of the daily horoscope. The human tendency to proof-text – to choose one verse and build a whole theology upon it – is undermined by Herbert’s whole emphasis on constellations, on the need to link one scripture with another, to draw out the big themes. The equally human tendency to make the study of scripture a purely academic exercise is also challenged by Herbert’s image of a ‘potion’ of verses that ‘make up some Christian’s destiny’.

So is the constellation a ‘given’ as we look upwards on a clear night, or does it simply express a further human tendency to make patterns in the sky, to join the dots? In Herbert’s world it is seen as a given, but one that requires both revelation and personal study to uncover. As he later wrote in his book A Priest to the Temple, the country parson should be committed to a ‘diligent collation of Scripture with Scripture. For all Truth being consonant to itself’, he continued, ‘and all being penned by one and the selfsame Spirit … an industrious and judicious comparing of place with place must be a singular help for the right understanding of the Scriptures’.

And so to a case study to discover how all this might work. And I’ve chosen as my Bible text a well-known story from chapter 8 of the Book of Acts, which happens to be one of the lectionary readings for next Sunday, and which you’ll also find on your pew sheet:

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) 27 So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” 30 So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” 35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” 38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched
Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

In choosing this story, of course, I’ve given myself an easy start in my constellation construction: for here is a Bible reading about a man reading the Bible; and very little of Herbert’s industriousness is required of this country parson in linking Acts chapter 8 with the great servant song in Isaiah chapter 53 – the passage about a sheep led to the slaughter that the man was studying on his way home.

But before we get there we are given something of a potted biography of this unnamed Ethiopian eunuch. We are told that he’s an important man, the Chancellor of the Exchequer personally accountable to the Queen of his country. We discover that he’s felt it worth his while to take a very long round trip to worship in the Temple in Jerusalem – around three thousand miles, we surmise, even though ancient Ethiopia was a rather different entity from its modern namesake. And we infer from that, that this man was a so-called God-fearer, a Gentile who had come to embrace the faith of the Jewish people and was now engaged on the pilgrimage of a lifetime – a ‘Hag’, to use the Hebrew term, or in Arabic a ‘Hajj’. Words from one of the Pilgrim Psalms might make up a third star in our constellation:

‘I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the House of the Lord’.

But here’s where some discomfort starts to set in. Because while we have no direct report of the Ethiopian’s experience of Temple worship, we do know where that experience took place. It wasn’t, of course, in the so-called Holy of Holies at the heart of the Temple compound, only accessible to the High Priest once a year on the solemn Day of Atonement. It wasn’t in the priests’ court, or the court of Israel or the women’s court: all were out of bounds for foreigners and, specifically, for eunuchs under the regulations of Deuteronomy 23. Only the Court of the Gentiles was open to the man – a noisy place where money changed hands and sacrificial animals were sold at outrageous prices.

Some years before, a hothead from Nazareth had famously chased out the bankers and the traders from that courtyard, in an attempt to restore a sense of prayerfulness for those not permitted to go any further. As he’d done so, he’d shouted out some words from Isaiah 56, our next ‘star’: ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’, before continuing, in the words of Jeremiah, ‘but you have made it a den of robbers!’ He’d been killed for that public demonstration, crucified at Passover-time. But now the robbers were back, and the place where the Ethiopian was forced to worship was alive with the sounds and smells of cattle and sheep, and dirty money changing hands.

It therefore doesn’t take the greatest leap of imagination to picture the Ethiopian eunuch climbing sadly back into his chariot to set off on the long journey home. It reminds us perhaps of an earlier story in Luke’s writings – the couple walking along the Road to Emmaus, their conversation heavy with the language of disillusionment expressed in one the saddest phrases in the English language, ‘We had hoped’. ‘We had hoped’, the Ethiopian might also have concluded (deploying the royal ‘we’ as befitted his status): ‘We had hoped for the experience of a lifetime, but all we faced were barriers at every turn’.
So back to the most obvious star in this particular constellation: the servant song from Isaiah chapter 53. And given its proximity to another star, to Isaiah 56 (from which that hothead had quoted before being tried and crucified), it’s hard not to see some connection between the two. So here’s what we find in Isaiah 56:

_Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,_

_“The Lord will surely separate me from his people”;_  
_and do not let the eunuch say, “I am just a dry tree.”_  
_For thus says the Lord:_  
_To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,_  
_who choose the things that please me_  
_and hold fast my covenant,_  
_I will give, in my house and within my walls,_  
_a name better than sons and daughters…_  
_And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord…_  
_these I will bring to my holy mountain,_  
_and make them joyful in my house of prayer…_  
_for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations…_  

An honoured place for foreigners and eunuchs; a place of inclusion not exclusion; a house of prayer for all nations: it’s no wonder that this passage powerfully caught the Ethiopian’s attention, before drawing him back to those mysterious words about a sheep being led to the slaughter. And now a man was approaching his chariot: not the risen Christ who’d patiently explained the scriptures on the Road to Emmaus, but an enthusiastic member of his sales team, the only person specifically called an ‘evangelist’ in all of scripture: deacon, preacher, healer and father-of-four, Philip, fresh from his remarkable ministry in Samaria.

It was Philip who dropped everything in obedience to the call of the Go-Between God. It was Philip who opened the Ethiopian’s mind to understand the scriptures – that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead. It was Philip who performed a sacramental act – baptism, rather than the breaking of bread in the Emmaus story – before being mysteriously spirited away like his Risen Lord. For Philip is not simply the only named evangelist in scripture: he also models the missionary calling of the whole Body of Christ, personally taking the gospel from Jerusalem to Judea to Samaria, and – through the witness of this newest of his converts – to the ends of the earth. And so to one final glimpse of the Ethiopian as he continued on the way, and one final allusion to Isaiah 56. ‘I will make them joyful in my house of prayer’, we read in Isaiah, to which Luke responds, ‘He went on his way rejoicing’.

And so the constellation is formed, drawing together stars from Deuteronomy, the Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah, the gospels and elsewhere in the Book of Acts, to which others could be added. Some of these stars obviously belong together – others sit in tension with one another – but a quality of improvisation is demanded of us here, a playfulness, as we see patterns emerging in the Biblical sky and start to join the dots.

Good improvisation, of course, requires certain fixed points, as I’ve discovered in my occasional forays from classical music into jazz. There’s a rhythmical
structure of some kind and a predictable series of chords, or else the whole exercise leads to chaos. Yet once the ground rules are established, the variations are virtually limitless – or at least, only limited by our lack of skill or imagination.

And here’s where the second part of George Herbert’s poem comes into play. We’ve drawn together these different Biblical references around our case study from the Book of Acts – we’ve mixed the potion – but what difference does it make? How might these scriptures affect ‘some Christian’s destiny’, as Herbert would have it, or ‘find me out and parallels bring’ – let alone ‘light’ the way ‘to eternal bliss’? There are various answers to the question, and the way the preacher takes it from here will depend both on his or her ‘auditorye’ and, we pray, on divinely inspired improvisation.

Here is a constellation, for example, that links to the themes of access and inclusion: ‘In Christ there is no longer Jew nor Gentile’, proclaims the preacher, ‘abled nor disabled, insider nor outsider, but all are one through the so-called ‘foolishness’ of the cross. So that if you feel like an outsider looking in on the Church – or maybe looking in on life itself – with a sense of anxiety, wistfulness or hope, this is the constellation for you’.

Here is a constellation that challenges the church in the warmth of her welcome. ‘We may not have our separate courts for the priests, the Jewish men and women and the Gentiles’, proclaims the preacher, ‘but what are the subtler ways in which we marginalise the newcomer, expecting them to find their way around our 850-page prayer book while simultaneously tut-tutting at the poor behaviour of their unruly children? And while I’m on the subject of welcome, the preacher continues, ‘our collection this morning will go towards the provision of a hearing loop’.

Here is a constellation that reminds us of the work of the Holy Spirit, the Go-Between God, whose quiet presence is evident at every point in the story. ‘What place do we give to the Holy Spirit in our lives?’, asks the preacher. ‘How might we learn from Philip’s keen attentiveness to the still, small voice of his Lord, or from the Ethiopian’s puzzled attentiveness to the scroll that he’d bought in Jerusalem?’

And here is a constellation that reminds us of the Church’s missionary task, of her engagement in the vocation of Christ to ‘seek and save the lost’. ‘When I say the words, “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord”’, says the preacher, ‘it’s not just the cue for a stampede to the après-service drinks and biscuits. It’s a call to be ministers and missionaries in the world God loves so much.’

But there’s a more foundational theme than even these for your preacher today – a theme that draws us back to that final couplet of our sonnet:

Stars are poor books, and oftentimes do miss:
This book of stars lights to eternal bliss.

For while we’ve reflected already on the human tendency to proof-text, to cherry-pick verses from the scriptures so as to support the various fundamentalisms of our age – liberal fundamentalisms as much as conservative ones; and while we’ve reflected too on the dangers of a purely academic take on those scriptures – a missing of the point, as Herbert would have seen it, like the musings of a tone-deaf scholar on a Beethoven Quartet; perhaps the greatest
danger of our age is not the _misuse_ of scripture but rather its _disuse_. That’s a problem in the Academy, of course, where the understanding of much of our history and literature in the West is dependent on at least a working knowledge of the Bible. But it’s a problem too that relates to our quest for roots and values, more specifically British roots and values, as the forces of Brexit push us towards a significantly more semi-detached relationship with our European neighbours.

Back to jazz, and perhaps we can see the point more clearly. For scripture, in the analogy, gives us the rhythmical structure and the chord sequence around which to improvise our way through life. It’s not that knowing the Bible automatically makes us better people, of course, any more than knowing rhythms and chord sequences automatically makes us great musicians. Nor is it that there’s an absence of alternative rhythms and harmonies in other faith traditions and philosophies, though never to have encountered the incarnate, crucified and risen Jesus through the pages of Christian scripture would seem to me an immeasurable loss.

But what of those who seek to improvise without any solid givens: those who, to return to Herbert’s analogy, are ‘living by their own lights’, are making it up as they go along? For one thing, they are often strangely vulnerable to a random host of superstitions, to Herbert’s ‘poor books that oftentimes do miss’. For another, their lives can all too easily lose a sense of purpose, of direction and destiny, and specifically of a self-understanding that propels them beyond the narrow confines of their three-score years or four-score years and ten: for it’s ‘This book of stars’ that ‘lights to eternal bliss’.

We shouldn’t overstate the case, of course. Our Ethiopian friend may perhaps have lived a relatively successful life without his pilgrimage to Jerusalem and his encounter with Philip the evangelist. But given the choice of guesswork and improvisation, it’s improvisation that I’d choose every time. In fact it’s here that we might locate that suggestive phrase from the Book of Common Prayer that speaks of a God ‘whose service is perfect freedom’.

It’s not the Collect for Peace, though, with which I’d like to finish this sermon. It’s another Collect written by one of John Mere’s most famous contemporaries, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. This is a prayer that neatly picks up the sentiments of this Mere Commemoration, and its invitation to attend to ‘the diligent and reverent hearing and reading of the scripture’. This is a prayer with which George Herbert would have been both familiar and perfectly attuned. This is a prayer that wholly expresses the puzzled attentiveness to that scroll of Isaiah as the Ethiopian began his long, slow return to his homeland: a prayer that in turn calls us to discern those scriptural constellations for ourselves and discover our destiny within them.

And so as we finish, let us pray:

_Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen._

Andrew Watson
(The Rt Rev’d Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford, m. 1979)
The story behind William Wilkins’s transformation of the College

The theatre of New Court

Peter Carolin

No other Oxbridge college so explicitly illustrates both the medieval collegiate form and its post-enlightenment reinvention as does Corpus. The little-changed medieval court is almost seamlessly extended by the late Georgian court. As we inhabit the College, we take it all for granted – appreciating neither the critical significance of the screens passage and the difference in levels of the two courts nor the elegance of the location, form and internal organisation of the three principal spaces. Such is the clarity of the overall idea that the arrangement seems almost inevitable. It might be a stage set and, in a way, it is.

Downing College: the first collegiate campus
The architect responsible for this work, William Wilkins, was born and schooled in Norwich. His father was a self-taught architect who also owned the tenancies of the major theatres in East Anglia¹ – which his son was to inherit. William went up to Caius in 1796, graduating as 6th Wrangler in 1800. While an undergraduate, he measured and drew King’s College Chapel. Both his involvement in the theatre and his love of King’s Chapel were to influence his work for Corpus. Spurred on by his interest in Classics and the influence of the Greek Revival, he travelled to Italy, Sicily, Greece and Asia Minor. Returning in 1803, he was elected a fellow of Gonville and Caius and started work on his account of the main Greek sites in Italy and Sicily. The Antiquities of Magna Graecia was published in 1807.

Wilkins’s return to Cambridge coincided with final stages of the selection of an architect for Downing College – the first new college to be established for over two centuries and the first to be planned in its entirety. James Wyatt had produced a design in a Roman Neo-Classical style but those who favoured Grecian classicism, among whom Wilkins was the man of the moment, won the day. He was appointed in 1806 on the basis of a design using the Ionic order and adopting what came to be known as the campus plan.

Downing was the first example of this type of plan. Thomas Jefferson’s plan for the University of Virginia followed a decade later. The buildings at Downing were ranged around a large, grassed space distantly echoing the traditional court form. But the similarity to the medieval precedent for the college form went no further: the building ranges were not continuous at the corners and the principal elements – chapel, library, hall and lodge – occupied discrete

¹ Norwich, Cambridge, Bury St Edmunds, Colchester, Great Yarmouth, Ipswich and King’s Lynn. For this and other details, see Liscombe RW (1980) ‘William Wilkins 1778–1839’ CUP.

Opposite page: Wilkins’ original site plan. North to left. Jacobean chapel shown retained and extended by two bays. Note cloister to each side of Chapel front. Old Hall retained with kitchen in old Master’s Lodge an M staircase. Student accommodation where new Hall now is
buildings, symmetrically arranged and embellished with stylobates, columns and pediments. The accommodation ranges had, in contrast, an austere simplicity. The obvious influence on the plan is that of the Roman forum. The College owned the land to the north of its site and Wilkins proposed a formal approach lined on each side by terraces, leading from Downing Street to the propylaea which was to form the College entrance. But the money ran out – his approach, propylaea, chapel and library and much else remained unbuilt.²

**Wilkins adopts a medieval style**

Following the Napoleonic wars, Cambridge expanded and, throughout the 1820s, Wilkins was working in the town. He fitted out the first, temporary, home of the recently established Fitzwilliam Museum and refurbished the University Church, providing additional galleries for the expanding congregation. Invitations to work at Trinity (New Court), Corpus (New Court) and King’s (the South Range and Screen) came in 1821, 1822 and 1823 respectively. At Corpus, the proposed site was set in a medieval context; at Trinity, there was the challenge of Wren’s great Library; and King’s, dominated by its great late medieval Chapel and classical Fellows’ Building was, as ever, a special case. In all three projects, Wilkins abandoned the Greek Revival architecture of Downing and adopted a medieval or Gothic style. It is most convincing at King’s and has been most criticised at Corpus – notably by Hugh Casson who described the building front, quite correctly, as a Gothic ‘veneer upon a Classical framework,’ a form of scenery.

It is not so much the articulation of the facades that is of real interest at Corpus as that of the plan. Time has been unkind to the New Court facades – the Ketton stone has not weathered well and the attic floors added in the 1920s have for ever destroyed the proportions of the buildings as seen both from the street and the court. The plan, however, is masterly.

**The cloister that never was**

No record exists of the brief given by the College to Wilkins but we can assume that it was substantially to increase the residential accommodation and to do so on the land occupied by the Dolphin Inn, Small Court, Stable Yard and a portion of the Fellows’ Garden. We may also assume that the existing Jacobean Chapel and the Hall were to be retained. These assumptions are confirmed by the only complete plan by Wilkins that exists for the New Court. The existing Chapel, extended to the east by two bays, and the Hall are retained. The existing kitchens to the west of the Hall are replaced by the ‘North Building’ – almost certainly new accommodation. The kitchens are shown as occupying the Master’s Lodge and M staircase. The Master’s Gallery, built by Matthew Parker in the 1540s is replaced by a ‘Fellows’ Building’.

This plan shows the east or Chapel side of the new court lined by an ‘intended cloister’ passing not in front of the Chapel but abutting it at each side. We know this was a serious intention because there are drawings for the new Master’s Lodge showing the cloister in section, with a sloping roof. The northern half of this cloister runs from the screens passage and along the existing route to the fine stone doorway which formed the entrance to the ante-chapel – the
The first campus plan. Downing College as originally proposed by Wilkins, 1806. Foreground left to right: Hall, Library and Chapel, Master’s Lodge. The entrance propylaea is at the rear centre. All other buildings are Fellows and student rooms. Photo © Tim Rawle and Louis Sinclair. Model by Andrew Ingham Associates for The Age of Wilkins exhibition at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 2000

Corpus in 1820, before the site was cleared for the new court
1. Houses belonging to College
2. Old Court
3. Master’s garden
4. Small Court
5. Dolphin Inn
6. Stable Yard
7. Fellows’ garden
   a. Hall
   b. Master’s Lodge
   c. Chapel with Library over
   d. Pensionary
   e. Tennis Court

Wilkins’ first plan for Corpus, 1823, incorporating a cloister. Note increase in width of Trumpington Street when compared to 1820 plan
1. Houses belonging to College
2. Old Court
3. Stable yard
4. Fellows’ garden
5. New Court
6. Master’s garden
   a. Hall
   b. Cloister
   c. Existing Chapel enlarged
   d. Masters’s Lodge
   e. Library
   f. Coach house
New Court, as built, with new Chapel and Hall
1. Houses belonging to College
2. Old Court
3. Stable yard
4. Fellows’ garden
5. New Court
6. Master’s garden
   a. Hall
   b. Chapel
   c. Master’s lodge
   d. Library
   e. Coach house

The three principal spaces
1. Hall with high table at far end
2. Chapel with altar at far end
3. Library with Parker Collection enclosure at far end
   a. Old Court
   b. New Court
   c. Screens Passage Axis with stairs to Hall and Library at each end
   d. Gatehall entrance from street
foundations of which were partially excavated last year. But there is a flaw in this plan for the Chapel – Wilkins has shown two attached half-towers on its court elevation, directly opposite two similar elements on the gatehouse: the axis of the Chapel interior is not aligned with that of its court facade.

The cloister was never built. By now, the new Library was under construction and there must have been questions as to what would happen to the old Library, above the Chapel, when it was vacated. Wilkins must also have had doubts about the possibility of enlarging the existing flat-ceilinged Chapel in a satisfactory manner. Returning to the drawing board, he designed a completely new Chapel with its entrance and interior aligned on the axis of the court and its west facade flush with the Lodge and Fellows’ accommodation to each side. The cloister, which had been a device to solve the problem of the old Chapel’s projection into the new court, was abandoned.¹

The screens passage axis

But it was not just the hearts of the College’s spiritual and scholarly activities that were to be relocated – the locus of its social activity was also altered in Wilkins’s revised plan. Instead of the student rooms in the ‘North Building’, a new Hall was proposed and the old Hall converted into a kitchen. The latter’s ground floor location was, clearly, less than ideal to serve the first floor Hall but it was far better than the original proposal involving M staircase. The current (2018) reordering of the kitchen and servery arrangements will finally overcome the resulting inconveniences of the last 190 years.⁵

Locating the new Hall at first floor level symmetrised the arrangement of the three principal communal spaces – Hall and Library at an upper level, opposite each other, with the Chapel at ground level between them. One can’t help feeling that this was what Wilkins always had in mind – but needed time to bring the Fellows round. The interest of this rearrangement lies in far more than its symmetry. The entrances to all three spaces are arranged in a straight line – an axis along which the daily rituals of College life, dining, worship and study, are acted out. That axis, moreover, is determined by the position of the screens passage which links the two parts of the College, the old and the new – it is the generating point for Wilkins’s idea of the College. When completed next year, its rearrangement and enhancement will, following the depredations of 1948 and 1981, be an appropriate recognition of its significance.

Wilkins rebuilt the screens passage to incorporate the stairs up to the new Hall. The passage also accommodated the change in level between the two courts. There’s something theatrical about the stairhall with its broad flight of steps rising up below the vaulted ceiling, to the landing from which the view of the lofty (candlelit) Hall is suddenly revealed. The Library stairhall is a much more modest affair, sized – not for the entire student body noisily assembling for a meal – but for individuals arriving for quiet study, passing through the door into the book-lined interior. As for the Chapel, the view from the entrance, through the ante-Chapel into Wilkins’s luminous vaulted space would have evinced a feeling of awe. But no longer – because that Chapel was virtually destroyed in the enlargement of the 1870s.

4. Wilkins’s cloister proposal may owe something to John Masters’ 1747 plan for a new court at Corpus. Masters, the Bursar, was not an architect and James Essex claimed that the design was his (see Willis R and Clark J W (1886) ‘The architectural history of the University of Cambridge and of the colleges of Cambridge and Eton’, CUP pp. 298–301.) The idea of a cloister with a centrally placed chapel must have been based on Christopher Wren’s 1666 building at Emmanuel – itself based on the earlier chapel and arcade at Peterhouse.

5. See my ‘Working with the past’ in The Letter 95 (2016), 12 – 21.
Left: Hall with high table at west end
Centre: Chapel before its alteration in 1870, with altar at east end. John Le Keux c. 1840
Right: Library with enclosed end bay for Parker Collection at west end

North-South section with Old Court at left, New Court to right. Note steps in screens passage. Broken line indicates site level before Wilkins raised it

West-East section with Gatehall at left, Chapel at right

Rituals of College life:
Top left: Anthems on Corpus Christi Day
Top right: A Masters’ funeral
Bottom left: Mere’s Sermon procession
Bottom right: New Court gave the College, for the first time, a street presence. Trumpington Street was widened by Wilkins and his work at King’s opened up the view to the Senate House. John Le Keux 1841
The discovery, last year, that the partially enclosed two end bays of the Library (now known as the Wilkins Room) were intended for the Parker Collection confirms that the far ends of each of the three principal spaces accommodate, like stages, their most significant function: in Hall, for the high table; in the Chapel, for the altar; and in the Library, for the College’s greatest treasure.

A setting for the rituals of College life
The sections across New Court are as interesting as its plan. The site for the new court was neither raised nor flat. From east to west, it fell from Free School Lane, across Small Court and the Stable Yard, down towards Trumpington Street. It also sloped gently in a north-south direction – as can be seen to this day along the street frontage. There had been many buildings on this site – the pensionary, the Dolphin Inn, numerous outhouses and dwellings. Following demolition, some of their brick, stone and tile remains were left on the site, gradually raising its level. So, too, were the remains of the old Chapel, kitchens and pantry as well as the excavated soil from the new crypt, cellars and foundations. Much of this material was found during last year’s excavations.

Raising the level of the court had the effect of raising the height and thus the prominence of the new building, as seen from the street. It also separated the intimate world of learning inside from the busy life of the street outside. Having ascended the steps, visitors would pause in the gatehall, from where they could observe the daily rituals of college life – compulsory chapel and hall – being acted out on the opposite side of the court, along the screens passage axis. Wilkins, theatre owner and impresario, surely saw the new court as a stage – which subsequent generations have adapted as the setting for Name Day anthems, for funerals and special processions. The return to the street with its descent down the entrance steps had further symbolism – departing the college after graduation, the graduate was going forth into the world to perform ‘good works’.

The Trumpington Street alignment
Hidden away, at the end of the Bene’t Street passageway and turning its back onto Free School Lane, Corpus had never before had a street presence. Wilkins made the most of his opportunity. Having raised the building to the new court level, he terminated each end of the elevation with attached towers. Unfortunately, the construction in the 1930s of the Golden Gate, abutting the northernmost tower, greatly diminished the prominence of this street elevation. He also aligned the street façade with that of the tower of St Botolph’s Church. The effect was significantly to widen and regularise Trumpington Street (and, in so doing, to require the College to give over some of its land to the town). This was part of a larger plan by Wilkins to reorder the southern approach to the city centre for, at the same time, the houses which used to align the west side of what is now King’s Parade were being torn down and the splendidly picturesque King’s screen and porters’ lodge which he had designed were under construction.

The link with King’s went further. Corpus was, we know, Wilkins’s favourite building – indeed, he is buried in the Chapel crypt. But there was another building to which he was greatly attached – King’s College Chapel which, as an

6. By Anne McLaughlin, Sub-librarian in the Parker Library.

7. See my ‘Commemoration Address: William Wilkins’ in the Letter of the Corpus Association, No 81, 2002, pp. 18–25, for the references in the court’s design to Trinitarian doctrine.
8. The late Tony Baggs, architectural editor of the Victoria County History, drew my attention to this.
9. And also to provide space for the attached towers.
10. Another link between Wilkins, the College and King’s Chapel lies in some of the stained glass which he gave Corpus and was sold to King’s in the 1920s.

undergraduate, he had surveyed. Now, if, on descending the gatehouse steps, you look to the right, you will find that the College’s street facade is aligned exactly with the southern of the Chapel’s two eastern towers. Is this alignment a coincidence or intentional? No drawing survives of the setting-out of New Court and its relation to the street and neither has any written explanation by Wilkins of the building. However, the plinth along the street frontage may offer us a clue. The edge of the plinth marks the boundary between the street and the College. The generous space between that edge and the façade suggests that the façade was moved back in order to ensure the alignment with King’s Chapel – Wilkins’s private link between the site of his first architectural endeavour and, later, his favourite building and final resting place. 

Top: The two axes (shown in blue). The screens passage axis aligns with the fleche on the tower of St Bene’t’s (1). The Trumpington Street façade axis aligns at one end with the south-eastern tower of King’s College Chapel (2) and at the other with the tower of St Botolph’s (3). Wilkins was also responsible for the King’s screen and porter’s lodge and for the opening up of the view towards the Senate House. Centre left: An unresolved relationship. Wilkins’ stairhall wall does not align with the buttress which was an extension of the old Hall end wall. Centre middle and right: The double-light that … inside the stairhall, becomes a single light. Bottom left: Wilkins’s elevation drawing of the double-light above the entrance to the Screens Passage and stairhall. Bottom middle: Plan of the stairhall as built by Wilkins, before the construction of the bridge linking the servery and Hall. The blue line indicates the axis which runs through the single light to the tower of St Bene’t’s. Bottom right: The view of the tower of St Bene’t’s as seen from the Hall stairhall. The fleche lies at one end of the axis which, running along the stairhall centre-line, links Old and New Courts and the College’s three principal internal spaces.
A recent revelation – the link to St Bene’t’s

But there’s another hitherto unappreciated alignment. Two years ago, while researching the history of the medieval Hall and the Wilkins stairhall, we had been puzzled by the fact that Wilkins demolished the west wall of the old Hall and rebuilt it slightly to the east of its previous position. As a result, the old Hall’s westernmost roof truss (and its supporting corbels) were lost and the adjacent window reveal was cramped into a corner. Why, we wondered, had he not left the old Hall as it was, widened the new stairhall slightly to the west and shaved a foot or so off the length of the new Hall?

There was something else that attracted our interest. As seen from New Court, a double light is centred at the upper level of the stairhall bay. But, inside, there is only a single light centred on the peak of the stairhall’s vaulted ceiling – one of the two external lights is blind. We enjoyed this wonderful stage trick but thought no more about it until late this July, when the partition built in 1948 to separate the stairhall from the bridge linking the new servery and Hall, was demolished. For the first time in 70 years, it was possible to understand what a fine space Wilkins’s stairhall had been before the bridge obstructed it. Then, standing at the centre of that offending bridge, an astonishing realisation gripped us. Looking through the large north window, we saw that the stairhall’s centreline exactly aligns with the fleche on the top of the Saxon tower of St Bene’t’s church. We realised, for the first time, that, by widening the old screens passage towards the east, Wilkins had ensured that the ‘screens passage axis’ links not just the College’s three principal spaces and its two courts but also its first place of worship, after which, as Bene’t College, it was for some time named. The reason why Wilkins had shifted the position of the old Hall’s west wall became clear. So, too, did the significance of the transformation of the double light to a single light.

A master class in scene-setting

Wilkins loved the theatre – he and his family appear attired in Caroline dress in the family portrait painted by Chalon at the time New Court was being built. As a theatre owner, he was ultimately unfortunate. The times were against him and, at one point, only the profits from his architectural practice kept the theatres in business. Today, all that remains to remind us of his theatre buildings is the beautifully restored and currently thriving Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds. As an architect, he is best remembered in Cambridge for the astonishing invention of Downing’s campus plan and the subtle elegance of the King’s screen. New Court at Corpus, subverted by its 1870s chapel enlargement, its intrusive 1920s attics addition and its appallingly inappropriate 1962 Hall wallpaper, is widely seen as of little interest.

Such a perception is misleading. Wilkins gave the College a court that has fulfilled its purpose well. It certainly cost more than was expected but he built with economy – innovating and economising by the use of cast iron and Roman cement and only using stone for the fronts of his buildings (the backs are in brickwork). The almost seamless way the two courts combine, the clarity and elegance of the three principal spaces (and their original interiors, which we have not discussed) and the extraordinary development of the screens passage
axis and its link to St Bene’t’s reflect compositional skill of a very high order. All this comes together in Wilkins’s superb scene-setting, in which he draws both on his architectural skill and his love of the theatre. The three great interiors are (or were) stage sets for three scenes, the court is a setting for both regular and occasional College rituals, and the widened street outside provided an appropriate setting for the newly visible college – ‘A fine pile’ as one contemporary described it. Progressing northwards, the street opened up between the new parade and Wilkins’ screen, terminating at the University’s heart, the Senate House. Wilkins had overseen all of these moves. It is not difficult to understand why New Court was his favourite building.  

12. Although, as Nikolaus Pevsner remarked, ‘it can hardly be ours’ – which was the King’s screen.
Every day, as I walk through the Lodge entrance hall into my study, I see the subject of this year’s Commemoration Address; and every time that you dine or take lunch in the Hall, you walk upon his floor. I am talking of Robert Townley Caldwell, Master 1906–1914. His portrait hangs on the right of the front door of the Lodge, and I often comment to visitors that he was distinguished as being the first person – so it is said – to die in a motor accident in Scotland. But, apart from that and his material donations to the College, he was distinguished in several much more important ways, and I invite you to join me in spending a few minutes reflecting on his life and times, and to consider the several benefits that he conferred.

Caldwell was elected Master in February 1906, just two weeks after the death of his predecessor Edward Perowne. The College was in decline at the turn of the century. Perowne had been Master for almost 27 years at his death, and during this period – and indeed before – the College had become virtually a training-house for Anglican clergymen. In his history of the College, Patrick Bury tells us that by far the majority of students took Holy Orders. At first this led to a growth in the College’s fortunes: there were about 130 undergraduates in 1871, and the College was the third largest in the University after Trinity and St John’s. This was when our Chapel was extended eastwards, and as a result lost the fan-vaulted ceiling designed by Wilkins in imitation of that in the King’s College Chapel.

Perowne continued Corpus’s strong low-church tradition. From the undergraduates of his first 17 years as master, eleven graduates became bishops. Eventually some of the Fellows rebelled against this narrow outlook in the College, and its connection with Evangelicalism declined; but it took time to build up a broader tradition which would attract good applicants. I suspect that the foundation of the theological colleges of Westcott House and Ridley Hall in 1881 may also have attracted away some of Corpus’s natural clientele. And perhaps by this stage in his life Perowne no longer had the energy to steer the College in new directions. By 1903 there were only 48 undergraduates in Corpus.

Caldwell was aged 63, and had been a Fellow for 40 years when he took office as Master. His degree was in mathematics, he did not become ordained, and he was Bursar for 28 years, from 1871 to 1899. He was very successful in this rôle. The country was experiencing an agricultural depression, and much of the College’s income was in the form of rents from agricultural land. According to an entry made in the Chapter Book – this is where we keep minutes of the Governing and Executive Bodies, and other important documents relating to College life – Caldwell showed skill and patience in his relations with tenants, and sound...
judgement and prompt action in his administration of the finances. I know what it feels like: in modern times also we have known adverse markets, if not deep economic depression, and it is a great comfort to the Fellowship to have confidence in the competence of the Bursar in such situations, and to come through such periods relatively unscathed. In saying this, I am of course paying tribute to our current and immediately preceding Bursars.

Caldwell seems to have pulled a double trick. While managing the College finances with economy and adroitness, he was also popular with the students. They held a mock election for the Mastership after Perowne’s death, and some of them chalked up a slogan on the walls – “Call Caldwell King!” The custom of a mock Mastership election appears to have faded – and to the students present I say that you’ve lost your chance now for ten years!

So, February 1906, in comes Caldwell, often called Colonel Caldwell because of his earlier involvement with the University Rifle Volunteers, now the CU Officers’ Training Corps; and he had then no doctorate. He is also the first Master of Corpus not to be ordained. He is a widower, his wife having died a few years after their marriage, but sociable. One of the first things he does is to change the arrangements for the Master dining in Hall. His predecessor, Perowne, had been given permission to dine with the Fellows on payment of 2 shillings and sixpence a day, but he managed to secure the right to dine when he pleased – rightly detecting that through social contact he could better understand the concerns of the Fellowship. He also entertained undergraduates in the Master’s Lodge, earning plaudits from the College magazine of the time, the Benedict.

Caldwell set about reinvigorating the College. He speedily brought in the teaching of new subjects, for example by recruiting Will Spens – later to be Master – as Director of Natural Sciences, and appointing Directors of Studies in Modern Languages and in History. When there were vacancies in the Fellowship, he was determined to appoint the best person available, from whatever college, not just relying on Corpus alumni. Caldwell also built up the scholarship fund, so that Corpus could attract talented young men as students. At that time, it was quite common to come to Cambridge aiming only for a pass degree, and quite a number left without taking a degree at all. Caldwell’s aim was to increase the proportion of those taking an honours degree; and in this he was successful.

Caldwell also led the way in moving Chapel worship away from the previous low-church practices. The lectern, which had been placed in a central position, was moved to the side, in order to allow an uninterrupted view of the altar, and Caldwell presented two large candlesticks, which we cannot now identify for sure, and two altar candlesticks, which are those now on our altar today. On the back they have a short inscription saying that he gave them, and on the sides enamel pelicans and lilies, and Caldwell’s shield. Reflecting these changes, the proportion of those reading for ordination declined, and the majority went on to secular careers. Incidentally, the statues of Matthew Parker and Nicholas Bacon, for the niches outside the chapel door, were given at about the same time.

Within a few years the College’s fortunes improved. Undergraduate numbers went from 64 in 1906 to 99 in 1909. Whether for this reason or because Caldwell continued to exercise the good stewardship skills which he had deployed as
Bursar, revenues rose, and the Fellows actually set up a Committee to consider how to use the increased income. Days that now we can only dream of! They put more money into the scholarship fund, and asked the College Visitor – the Chancellor of the University, *ex officio* – for permission to raise the number of Fellows from 12 to 13.

The improved financial position allowed the Fellows to authorise improvements in the College buildings – for example the conversion of the Fellows’ stables into space for bicycles, introduction of electric light, and an internal telephone system, into various parts of the College, modernisation of the Master’s Lodge and restoration of the Old Court. I mentioned earlier the Hall, which in Caldwell’s last year was cleaned and redecorated, and the existing oak floor put in to replace old stone paving, at the Master’s expense. Look down at your feet as we go in to dinner, and remember Caldwell!

The historian Bury also records that Caldwell received honorary doctorates from Aberdeen in 1895 and from Cambridge in 1911. On the latter occasion some Corpus undergraduates managed to take up into the Senate House gallery a celluloid swan – not being able to get hold of a pelican – which they lowered down as he was receiving his degree. Caldwell caught it, took it back to the Lodge, and gave it pride of place at the reception he gave afterwards. Our Praelector would be in serious trouble if such pranks occurred today at degree ceremonies!

Robert Townley Caldwell died on 8 September 1914, aged 72, just over a month after the outbreak of the Great War, on the road outside his house, named Inneshewen, on Deeside (the historian Bury describes it as an estate, but enquiries I’ve made suggest that there was not much land with the house), reportedly – as I mentioned – the first person to die in a motor accident in Scotland. His wife was Ellen Farquhar, nicknamed Kinty, daughter of Admiral Sir Arthur Farquhar of Drumnagesk, near Aboyne, Aberdeenshire. They were married in 1886, when Caldwell was 42, but Kinty died three years later giving birth to their son, Keith. Drumnagesk and Inneshewen are only a few hundred yards apart, and I guess that Robert Caldwell may have acquired or built Inneshewen in order to be near his in-laws. Caldwell himself probably came from that region, since his father was an officer in the Gordon Highlanders, an Aberdeenshire regiment. He was buried a few days after his death, in the neighbouring village of Kincardine O’Neil, where his father-in-law, the Admiral, has a memorial.

The Corpus Association, aimed at maintaining links between College alumni, had been formed during Caldwell’s mastership, and the second issue of the Corpus *Letter*, a neat 12 pages long, contains his obituary. “50 years of academic life”, says the anonymous author, “may wither up a man, but the late Master was the last person in the world to allow himself to be withered up.” It goes on to talk of his ability in languages, his love of travel (in Europe and in North America, where in fact he had been born, when his father was Governor of Manitoba), and his activities as a Mason – he was Grand Master of the Province of Cambridgeshire.

As we have seen, Caldwell made gifts to the College in his lifetime, and was also a significant donor in his will. He left some books and paintings, including the handsome portrait of Mrs Keppel which many of you will have seen in the dining room of the Lodge; and also a cash sum of £4000, for a scholarship for
research or for scholarships or grants to deserving students of the College. The capital value of this fund is now about £86,000, and the Caldwell Scholarship is still awarded, and other of the revenue used for support for students.

Thus we remember Robert Caldwell, benefactor of the College through his various donations but also through his career. As Bursar he brought the College through a difficult economic period by prudent and active stewardship; and as Master he turned the College round from what had been somewhat bleak years, educationally and socially, to convert it into an institution fit for purpose for the 20th century. We have much to thank him for.

Before I close, permit me a few general words on benefaction as it is 100 years after Caldwell. During my term as Master I have, as you would expect, had close involvement with philanthropy as it touches the University and the colleges in Cambridge.

This evening is retrospective in spirit – we look back to commemorate benefactors of previous generations. Only those who have died appear on the list that I am about to read out. Yet, as it was in Caldwell’s day – you heard the references I made to the scholarship fund and also to other gifts – so benefaction by the living as well as the dead remains essential to our continued prosperity, even survival. It is possible – just – to provide higher education on a break-even basis, but not on the Cambridge and Oxford model, with our small-group teaching, focused attention on students through tutors, directors of studies and supervisors, plus our spending on research, and so on. Each student, the undergraduates more than the post-graduates, has to be subsidised by their college and the university. This we gladly do out of revenue from our endowments. And this is why our gratitude to our benefactors is so heartfelt. In addition, through the decades – centuries in our case – benefactors have made over to us gifts which are not perhaps essential (such as Caldwell’s candlesticks and pictures) but which certainly enhance our environment. I have the feeling, though it’s a little hard to get firm evidence, that our predecessors were more in the custom of giving the College attractive and useful objects than is the case nowadays. The 21st century donor, aided by efficient banking systems and direct debits, more often gives financially, sometimes for specific purposes, for example a fellowship or a bursary, a contribution to a building, the student hardship fund, or books for the library. Such gifts range from the modest to the very generous. All are valuable to us. During recent years we have been lucky to receive some very significant donations, some from living benefactors whose generosity we have recognised in electing them to Honorary or Guild Fellowships. These have enabled the building of the Taylor Library, if I may include benefaction just before my time; and, during my Mastership, the construction of the Kho Building, the Butler Reading room and adjacent manuscripts vault, and the creation of the William Cook, Sultan Qaboos and Hong Kong Link Fellowships. To these should be added significant legacies from Professors Michael Sullivan, Oliver Rackham and Christopher Colclough, and other donations and legacies which have made a real difference to College life.

On this day, as we remember Robert Caldwell and the other benefactors of previous generations, we remind ourselves that our gratitude extends to the many whose names are forgotten in the past, and also to those who continue the custom of philanthropy into the present.
Forty Years’ Service

When planning the format of this year’s “Letter”, your editors realised that three College staff members have recently each notched up more than 40 years’ service. Here are reflections from Steve Symonds and Michael Sutcliffe, both in the Finance Office, and Neil Taylor, Head Groundsman.

When I walked through the College archway on the morning of 4 June 1973 at the tender age of sixteen, little did I know that I would still be here 45 years later. I was told by the Chief Clerk that it was a job for life if I wanted it to be; he himself had been here for over forty years. I have been lucky enough to work with a number of Masters, Bursars and Chief Clerks who have earned my respect for the help they have given me.

A lot of things have changed over the years but the office has not; I have sat in three different positions. The next move I make is likely to be out the door after taking retirement, something I could never have dreamed of way back in ’73. The equipment we use has changed enormously, the typewriters, journals and ledgers have been replaced by Computer Software Packages to deal with everything finance-related.

As for the College, the walls may remain the same but the community within continues to change with time. The Undergraduates and Staff seem to get younger – or is it just me getting older?

During my time I have seen many members of the College family come and go. Who can remember Albert Jaggard (Head Porter) & Bert Lawrence (Buttery Manager)? They are Corpus staff legends who served the College for many years, and I am proud to be able to add my name to that list.

Steve Symonds

I had not intended to start full-time employment in 1977. I was supposed to do a full-time course from September onwards for two years. However, I was offered a job at Corpus which allowed me to study part-time. I was only expecting to be at Corpus for two years before moving on. However here I am all those years later. Still in the same office although my desk has moved a few feet from its original position.

Back in 1977 only men were admitted to study. It was not until 1983 that women were admitted as undergraduates. In terms of changes within the office, the biggest has been from manual cash books and ledgers to computerised accounts. My very first job was to collect all the information and send each student a Kitchen and Buttery Statement. These were printed out and put in pigeon holes. Students would buy meal tickets books from the Porters’ Lodge and sign up for formal halls on a list that I had to decipher. These days most
meals and bar purchases are charged via University cards to individual college accounts.

Students would also come to the College Office (now Finance Office) to collect grant cheques. The Student Loan Company had yet to be invented. In most cases fees were paid by Local Education Authorities.

Over the years there have been many changes to the buildings. The Taylor Library which is on the site originally occupied by the National Westminster Bank. The Beldam building which houses the McCrum Lecture Theatre. More recently the Kho building at Leckhampton. As I look out on to the Bursar’s Garden all I can see are large grey Porta-cabins. These are there as part of the major refit of the College Kitchens. This is not the first time I have seen Porta-cabins in the Bursar’s Garden. There was work on the kitchens before, but the current project is far more ambitious and I am sure we all look forward to seeing the end result.

Although I have worked at the College for some 40 odd years, it is only a small fraction in terms of its long history. A fact that will be the case for all of us.

Michael Sutcliffe

I never dreamed it would be possible when I first cycled down the Leckhampton drive on that warm June morning in 1976 that I would still be making the same journey over forty years later. I am often asked how I have managed to stay at one place for so long. I think for me one of the main reasons is that, although it is the same place, my actual job has evolved over those years so it has always remained fresh.

This has happened on two significant occasions, first during the late eighties when the College decided that when the then Head Groundsman Mike Hayward retired, the Leckhampton Gardens and sports ground would merge and become one department, with the Head Gardener Fred Jackson also taking on the role of Head Groundsman. Up until then the sports ground and gardens were run separately. As I had only worked in the Leckhampton Gardens, and I have always loved sport, I jumped at the chance of working on the playing field.

The second big change came when I was asked to take over when Fred Jackson retired in 1994 which of course was a whole new challenge and one I have largely enjoyed.

The changes I have seen over the years are many; I guess two of the most significant in the garden would be the gardens at the rear of the Cranmer Road properties. When I arrived here they were all separate entities fenced off from one another and pretty much how Corpus had purchased them. We gradually over the years removed the fences to create the open view you see now as one approaches from the main drive. The final piece in the jigsaw being 21 Cranmer Road, which had remained in isolation as a private residence until the mid-eighties.

The biggest personal challenge for me was the creation of the prairie garden. I do not have the space here to go into details, but the project was not without its concerns, particularly during the first spring after sowing. The size of the seed packet was in no way representative of the price! So there were definitely some
nerves that first spring as we waited for the plants to emerge. Now of course the prairie is well established, and looking back it was a joy to be part of creating a feature that fits so sympathetically into the gardens at Leckhampton.

The sports ground is the part of my job where I get much more interaction with the students which I have always enjoyed, despite frequent very late pitch requests! Over the years I have seen it all on the field, from a student practising the bagpipes in the home changing room, to a onetime JCR football captain (who will remain nameless) having such a tantrum as Corpus were losing a cuppers match 5-0 that he stormed off the pitch taking the ball with him, never to play for Corpus again!

As I type this piece during the summer 2018, the temperature outside is in the high 20s and the grass all around Leckhampton is scorched. This inevitably makes me reminisce to my first summer at Corpus when the conditions were very similar and I ask myself the question, would I do it all again? Yes, I definitely would!

Neil Taylor
Then and Now from the Archives

**Brewing**

*We chose brewing as the subject for this year’s Then and Now because of the discovery, early in the Spine project, of the foundations of the College’s brew-house under the New Court Lawn.*

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### 1648

**Chapter Book 2, entry for 18 January 1648**

Upon complaint that Mr Lukin had for a long time served the college with very ill beer, and that for divers years formerly he hath been entreated to serve the college better and his clerk often certified that in case it was not mended no more should be brought in, nor he any longer serve beer in: it was agreed by the master and all the fellows present that the Bursar should now give notice to the said Mr Lukin that no more of his beer should be received here, and the Bursar is appointed to provide some other.

---

### 1711

**Chapter Book 3, entry for 12 January 1711**

Agreed that Pembroke-Hall have liberty to brew in our Brewhouse, paying yearly fifteen pounds to our College, and that if either College shall afterwards dislike these terms, that half a years notice be given beforehand.

**Mony disbursd (sic) in fitting up the Brewhouse**

*(From CCCC02/S/71)*

<table>
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<th>Item</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
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<td>Water Cart &amp; a pair of Slings</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leather Pipe for the Water Cart</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tapps &amp; Tapp-Caskets for the Backs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stilliards for the Hopps</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mill</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nett for the Hopps</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravelling the Brewhouse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
### Receipted Bill for Carriage of Barrels, 1838

By John Drage's London, Barkway & Cambridge Waggons.

The above waggons start from Barkway on Monday and Friday mornings, and arrive at the One Swan Inn, Bishopsgate Street, London, on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, and return the same days at four o'clock, and arrive at Cambridge on Monday and Thursday, and return the same day.

**Mr Tickler Esq. [Bursar]**

**J. Drage**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>cwt.</th>
<th>qr.</th>
<th>lbs</th>
<th>£</th>
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<td>July 22, 1838</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To coll. 4 barrel of Bear [beer]

To putting the barrels into Coll. Cellar

Paid
1952

Patrick Bury’s *The College of Corpus Christi: A History* (1952), p. 150

Finally, we must note that in 1926 the College concluded an ‘alliance with Corpus Christi College, Oxford, whereby its President and Fellows and our Master and Fellows each became members of the other’s high table, and that in the same year the Steward revived the practice of having its own Audit Ale specially brewed for the College.’ He was soon able to report that the fame of this brew had spread far beyond Cambridge and that among other places it was stocked in cask and bottle at the Carlton Club in London.

1971–72

*Kitchen and Bar Suggestion Book, 1971–72*

Entry for 15 January 1972:

‘When I came down to Cambridge, I was at first wary of the local brews. As far as self-styled “Tolly Cobbold” is concerned, my waryness [sic] was justified but I have since discovered to my delight what a great ale Greene King can be, when properly treated. It is a really enjoyable pint. And it’s cheaper. Consequently I feel (yes, primarily for my own pleasure, but with that of others in mind also) that the SAID great BREW should be installed in the BAR & sold at 11p a pint. Whoever invented Tartan would be ashamed to taste the stuff that bears that name in our bar now. As for D.D. – what can you expect. Greene King, please, will you consider it?’ D. J. Greenwood

Response on facing page: ‘Greene King will be in the bar before the end of term.’
The Fellowship

News of Fellows

Our most exciting item under the News of Fellows heading this year (although I was able to pre-announce it in last year’s Letter) was the award of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Richard Henderson in December 2017, for his pioneer work in electron microscopy. He did his PhD at Corpus, 1966–69, and has been an Honorary Fellow since 2003. We gave him warm congratulations at the time, and a celebratory dinner later, and we repeat our congratulations now.

We were also delighted to congratulate those of our Fellows who were successful in the academic promotions in the summer. Judy Hirst, John Carr and Barak Kushner were all appointed as Professors with effect from October 2018, and Drew Milne, JD Rhodes and Fumiya Iida appointed Readers. Judy Hirst added to her year’s achievements by being elected Fellow of the Royal Society. During the year Aaron Rapport was awarded a Pilkington Prize for teaching. Another award to one of our Fellows was the 2017 David Crichton medal, awarded to David Abrahams by the Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications and the London Mathematical Society for his outstanding service to both mathematics and the mathematical community. We are proud of the distinctions achieved by our Fellows, and offer them our sincere congratulations.

As always, we welcomed new arrivals in the Fellowship, and we had to say goodbye to some who have left us. The list of new arrivals is longer than usual this year. In this category are Giulia Viggiani, new Professorial Fellow in Engineering, and our alumnus John Biggins, who is a newly appointed University Lecturer in Engineering and now also a Fellow in Engineering. We elected Charles Read as Hong Kong Link Research Fellow and College Lecturer in History, Thomas Nelson as Stipendiary Research Fellow in Classics, and Patrick Pietzonka and Claudia Bonfio as non-stipendiary Research Fellows in Applied Mathematics and Biochemistry respectively. Charles Read immediately proceeded to be appointed also to a British Academy Research Fellowship, and further demonstrated his distinction by winning the International Economic History Association prize for the best dissertation in 19th century economic history in 2015, 2016 or 2017 worldwide. In a category of his own is Andrew Sanger, whom we elected as Mawson Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Law, only to find him appointed – just a few weeks later – University Lecturer. So he becomes a Fellow in Class A. To all these we offer a warm welcome.

We were also glad to welcome back into the Fellowship Professor Chris Hann, anthropologist, who left us some years ago to pursue an academic career in Germany, but has recently established a joint programme between Cambridge and the Max Planck Institute where he was working, and so has been able to re-
join our Society. Chris was also named by the Royal Anthropological Institute as Huxley Medallist and Lecturer for 2019.

In last year’s News of Fellows I was able to announce the forthcoming arrival of the Rev’d Dr Andrew Bigg, to take over as Chaplain after the departure of James Buxton. Andrew duly arrived in January 2018, and a few months later was awarded his Doctorate for which he had been studying, part time, from Durham University. We give him warm congratulations, and wish him well for his ministry in our community.

We have had other new arrivals too. Jo Willmott, Fellow in Classics, gave birth to her second child, Elsie, in January, and Sarah Bohndiek, Fellow in Physics, had a baby in July – Isabelle. Congratulations to the happy parents!

Departures
After over 30 years of extraordinary service to the College, this year we said good-bye (at least from the “regular” Fellowship) to Nigel Simmonds, Professorial Fellow in Law and renowned expert in, and teacher of, jurisprudence. His contributions to College life have been remarkable. First, his research and publication record is formidable. Also his reputation in teaching, as Director of Studies and supervisor, has been distinguished. He has served for a number of years as Dean of College, using – in the exercise of his duties of enforcing discipline and good behaviour in the College – a wonderful mix of common sense, sympathy, and of course justice. We wish him well in his retirement in Cumbria, and we already know that his research activities will be, if anything, increased.

We also bid farewell to Rhiannon Harries, who has completed her period as Research Fellow in Modern Languages, and has moved on to a Lectureship at Nottingham University. Ioan Stefanovici leaves us after two years as Microsoft Research Fellow – the last in the line, in fact, since Microsoft have decided to end their Research Fellow programme and devote their resources in other directions, such as bursaries. We wish Rhiannon and Ioan every success in their future careers.

Sadly we record the deaths of two of our Honorary Fellows: Lord Sutherland of Houndwood and Sir Martin Nourse. Stewart Sutherland, philosopher of religion and formerly President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, died in January 2018; and Martin Nourse, former Appeal Court Judge, in November 2017. Obituaries of both are in the In Memoriam section.

Fellow Commoner
Our Fellow Commoner this year has been Jonathan Rugman, Channel 4’s Foreign Affairs Correspondent. He has given inspirational talks, and invited a group of aspiring journalist students to the Channel 4 studios. We have enjoyed having him in our community, and are grateful for his contributions.

Visiting Fellows
We were delighted to welcome to the College several scholars from other universities: Professor Lee Ann Brown, a poet from St John’s University, Queens,
New York; Professor Antonio De Simone (whose field is Biological Motility and Shape Programming), from SISSA, the International School for Advanced Studies in Trieste; Dr Michael Featherstone, a historian based at the CNRS in Paris; Dr Nour Adel, a Visiting Fellow at CRASSH and a Lecturer at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Aleppo, in Syria; Professor Robert Hill, from the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Waterloo, Toronto; and – under the Pacific Islander Visiting Scholar scheme – Professor Yvonne Underhill-Sem, from the Development Studies Unit of Auckland University. An account by Rob Hill of his year here follows, below.

**Guild Fellow**

I reported last year the loss to the College caused by the sad death of Christopher Colclough, and mentioned that before he died he and his wife Sarah had concluded a very generous benefaction to the College. In appreciation of their gift, we have since elected Sarah to a Guild Fellowship, and she has also been admitted to the University’s Guild of Benefactors. We record our sincere gratitude to them.

**Stuart Laing**

**A Visiting Fellow from Canada explores Quantum Mechanics at very low temperatures**

I am an experimental physicist with a research group at the University of Waterloo, Canada. Our research effort focuses on studying the properties of rather exotic materials at extremely low temperatures where their behaviour is the result of dominant quantum mechanical interactions within the material. The properties we study will potentially be used as part of the next generation of technology that is based on quantum mechanics. This includes examples like quantum computers and superconducting technology for electrical energy transmission and storage.

To gather ever more information about these materials, one side of our research concerns developing new techniques to measure their properties. My Visiting Fellowship application was based on an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues at the Cavendish Physics Laboratory and develop the capability to measure the arcane property known as the thermal Hall effect. The details of this are less important than the fact that this was going to be an extremely challenging project as we wanted to perform the measurements as close as possible to the absolute zero of temperature. In the end, we haven’t got as far as we wanted, but we now have a solid foundation and the project will continue in the usual collaborative vein when I return to Canada.

How has the Visiting Fellowship from Corpus Christi College impacted my visit to Cambridge? To put it simply, it has turned an outstanding research opportunity into a much more gratifying academic (and social) experience. Policy documents at my home institution have lofty goals for a sabbatical leave. They suggest that “Sabbaticals provide an opportunity for intellectual growth and enrichment as well as for scholarly renewal and reassessment.” Of course,
this could be interpreted within the narrow confines of a research collaboration, but it can also be considered from a far broader perspective, and this is where the Visiting Fellowship adds so much value. It provides access to what makes Cambridge a unique and thoroughly inspiring intellectual environment. Through conversations over lunch, dinner, coffee I had the opportunity to hear about medieval history, philosophy, economics, the Middle East, not to mention topics closer to home such as nano-chemistry and ideas around physics education. This kind of interaction has been a constant breath of academic fresh air, rekindling my research drive. I also think it has been largely responsible for providing the atmosphere for me to complete three research papers while here in Cambridge.

It hasn’t been all one-way academic traffic and I have taken opportunities to present my work and ideas, both in a research setting and to a broader audience. Regarding the latter, in May I gave the Stephen Hales Talk at Leckhampton entitled “Quantum Materials Research – Underpinning the Quantum Revolution”. This after-dinner talk culminated in a demonstration of superconductivity in action using a levitating train, which I hope enhanced the experience for the audience.

As I leave Cambridge, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the Fellows, staff and students at Corpus Christi College for their warm and generous hospitality and for providing me with this enriching academic opportunity.

Robert W Hill

Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Waterloo
A poetry professor comes to Corpus as Visiting Fellow

Each year one poet is appointed by the Judith E Wilson Committee and the Faculty of English to pursue their own work and to meet with students throughout the University. The Judith E Wilson Poetry Fellow is hosted by a different college each year, and the position is reinvented. I was fortunate that Drew Milne proposed me for membership to Corpus Christi College where I was received with open arms.

At the very beginning of my year I was invited by Sibella Laing to participate in Pelican Poets & Writers, a literary club which meets for informal poetry readings and themed literary discussions in the Master’s Lodge. I led a session on the theme of Refugees in contemporary poetry and brought in guest poets visiting from the United States. I also hosted a “Burns Night Open Mic” at Leckhampton in collaboration with student poets and with the Warden, John David Rhodes. I loved getting my first glimpses of oxlips and bluebells there once Spring came to Cambridge.

I led weekly poetry workshops during term, and curated a series of readings that culminated in the “Polyphonic Poetry Festival”. The festival was co-produced with my partner, the actor and director, Tony Torn, and featured collaborative performances of poets’ song and theater at Kettle’s Yard, and in the Judith E Wilson Drama Studio.

As a poet who readily borrows form and content for my poems from a wide range of disciplines, I greatly enjoyed attending dinners, and other college gatherings. Conversations yielded topics from bumblebees, needlework tapestries, ghost stories and organ building, to the intersection of math and organic form, to crystallography, lichens and the music of the spheres.

I am also grateful for the introduction I received to the Parker Library and that the collection is now fully available on-line, so that I can continue to study it now that I am back in New York City. Heartfelt thanks to everyone at Corpus Christi College for making my Fellowship year such an extraordinary one.

One of my favorite places in college is the Green McCurdy Room. I loved the silence of the room, as well as the sounds drifting up from the street below. Here is a poem I began there:

Green Room

All I can hear is the tick of the clock—
A fly runs around on the clear glass panel
Marble table held up by a gryphon
If you’re under stress, self care is a ribbon

Everything’s backwards like the locks and knobs
— I knew about the spellings so wasn’t
So surprised at those—but all appliances
Must be redone and even children have
Amazingly accented and tailored clothes —
A train’s not a train — it’s a service
Quick bikes dervish around quiet corners —
It’s my intention to remain open
and to balance myself along the tops of the walls
like Darwin’s granddaughter did
I just heard

And here is a collage poem from notes taken during reading Ancient Woodland its history, vegetation and uses in England by former Corpus Christi Master, Oliver Rackham:

**Wildwood/or/the How and Why Wonder Room of Trees**

“What matters is the difference between the survival to maturity of one acorn in 100,000 (in which case oaks will take over the world) and one acorn in 10,000,000 (which is roughly what happens now).”

Oliver Rackham, Ancient Woodland its history, vegetation and uses in England

If I took on a pseudonym it would be, could be, ‘Hayley Wood’
As in “Hey Lee Ann, would you like to write this poem?”

The woman across from me at Addenbrooks tells me tales of Bluebell Woods unfolding at this precise April moment that makes us ache in our beds to walk

*Ancient woods are more complex than anything else that scientists study*

“It’s a wet science,” says the Tree Council.
The Tree Council is very wise.
New Shoots organize themselves within it
as arising suckers form shallow roots.

*Oxlip*  
flowers sparsely

Dog’s mercury

Oxlip again

The Woodland and Human Affairs office reports that “Paintings are disappointing sources” for seeing what trees might have looked like long ago.

But never fear, there are exceptions, here in this very book.

And England might have been warmer then, more vine-covered.

Lime and elm is to linden as

Cherries to Hinton
(wild)

Sallow / willow / withy

What is coppicing?

The depredation of visitors

In and out the Hornbeam maze
there is often
a disentangling effect of shade
(Sally jumped into the maze)

and sang on the Oxlip again:
This plant appeals to the imagination by its beauty

The buried forests of the Domesday Book contain

‘The Wilds’ as in Weald as in the Wood

Legal and physical forests

Browse-wood

Trees on commons

The author (supine) re-finding one of the sites of hemispherical photographs in
Madingley Wood 1976

They are the Sphere from here

his Eye a
Microscope to
Tree
Shapes in kettle’s yard and yonder

In Hundreds of Years of Oxlip & Primrose

Oxlip bitten by fallow deer
Oxlip Experiment in

Saffron Walden

The Last Forest: the story of

cutting down a tree depends on the tree
The pollen analysis and place name problem of the Anglo Saxon

Leah as in Bletchley or Leigh-on-the-Sea means a glade or clearing and when applied to a settlement implies that it began in the midst of substantial woodland.

The word paradoxically can also refer to a wood itself, but since it is clearings, rather than woods that normally develop into villages or hamlets we can avoid this ambiguity by ignoring wood-names ending in leah.

Lee Ann Brown
2017–2018 Judith E. Wilson Poetry Fellow
Visiting Fellow, Corpus Christi College

Poet, Lee Ann Brown, Professor of English at St John’s University in New York City, is also the founding editor of Tender Buttons Press, a poetry press dedicated to publishing experimental poetry by women.

Fellows’ publications

Christopher Andrew

John Carr
Wamonje FO, Michuki GN, Braidwood LA, Njuguna J, Mutuku JM, Djikeng A, Harvey JJW and Carr JP 2017 ‘Viral metagenomics of aphids present in bean and maize plots on mixed-use farms in Kenya reveals the presence of three dicistroviruses including a novel Big Sioux River virus-like dicistrovirus’ Virology Journal 14:188
Carr JP 2017 ‘Commentary: Exploring how viruses enhance plants’ resilience to drought and the limits to this form of viral payback’ Plant, Cell and Environment 40: 2906–2908

Felix Grey

Christopher Hann
Christopher J Howe


Dorrell RG, Klinger CM, Newby RJ, Butterfield ER, Richardson E, Dacks JB, Howe CJ, Nisbet RER and Bowler C 2017 ‘Progressive and biased divergent evolution underpins the origin and diversification of peridinin dinoflagellate plastids’ Molecular Biology and Evolution 34:361–379


David Abrahams


Fumiya Iida


Saar KA, Giardina F and Iida F 2018 ‘Model-free design optimisation of a hopping robot and its comparison with a human designer’ Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L) 3 (2): 1245–1251

Ben Pilgrim


Roberts DA, Pilgrim BS and Nitschke JR 2018 ‘Covalent post-assembly modification in metallosupramolecular chemistry’ Chemical Society Reviews 47:626–644
JD Rhodes
Rhodes JD 2017 Spectacle of Property: The House in American Film Minneaplolis: University of Minnesota Press

Hugh Robinson
Mendonça PRF, Kyle V, Yeo S-H, Colledge WH and Robinson HPC 2018 ‘Kv4.2 channel activity controls intrinsic firing dynamics of arcuate kisspeptin neurons: Kv4.2 potassium channels and firing irregularity in kisspeptin neurons’ Journal of Physiology 596:885–899
Robinson HPC and Li L 2017 ‘Autocrine, paracrine and necrotic NMDA receptor signalling in mouse pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour cells’ Open Biology 7:170221
Scheppach C and Robinson HPC 2017 ‘Fluctuation analysis in nonstationary conditions: single Ca2+ channel current in pyramidal neurons’ Biophysical Journal 113:2383–2395

Kai Ruggeri
Ruggeri K 2018 Behavioral insights for public policy: Cases and concepts London and New York: Routledge

Nigel Simmonds

Ewan St John Smith
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Michaël Sutherland

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Nigel Wilkins
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Emma Wilson
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Patrick Zutshi

Dr Andrew Clarke  
McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research

Dr Claudia Tardilli-Terry  
Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages

Dr Maria Rostovskaya  
Human Stem Cell Biology, The Wellcome Trust Stem Cell Institute

Dr Rie Goto  
Affiliated Lecturer, Department of Archaeology & Anthropology

Dr Leslie-Anne Duvic-Pooli  
International Energy law, Centre for Environment, Energy and Natural Resource Governance

Dr Gregor Babelotzky  
Schnitzler Digital Edition Project, Faculty of Modern & Medieval Languages

Dr Betty Chung  
Epidemiology and Genomics, Department of Plant Sciences

Dr Payam Mehrshahi  
Agricultural Plant science, Department of Plant Sciences

Dr Frederico Comoglio  
Epigenetics, Cambridge Institute for Medical Research

Dr Otti Croze  
Physics of Sustainability, Department of Physics, Cavendish Laboratories

Dr Julius Fredens  
Biotechnology & Systems Biology, Medical Research Council, London

Dr Cheryl Chui Ying Li  
Biochemistry, Epigenetics ISPG, Casaneuva Laboratory, Babraham Institute

Dr Thomas Simmons  
Biochemical characterisation, Department of Biochemistry

Dr Nikolai Kornienko  
Biological energy conversion, Department of Chemistry

Dr Timothy Hearn  
Signal transduction & Biology of Cells, Department of Plant Sciences

Dr Fei Xiang  
Statistical Epidemiology and Genomics, Department of Veterinary Medicine

Dr Irene Marco-Rius  
Biochemistry & Bioengineering, Cancer Research UK

Dr Joe Bathelt  
Cognitive Neuroscience, MRC Cognition & Brain Sciences Unit

Dr Marco Schiacovelli  
Cellular Biology, Hutchison MRC Research Centre

Mr Martin Kleppman  
Software Engineer & Computer Sciences, Computer Laboratory

Dr Moyra Lawrence  
Human Stem Cell Biology, MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute

Dr Casper Wits  
Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Dr Robert Crellin  
Faculty of Classics
Embryonic stem cells make cell fate choice

Maria Rostovskaya

The human body consists of more than 200 specialized types of cells. During development, these originate from a single cell, named “zygote”. Zygote is the result of a fusion of maternal oocyte and paternal sperm. During first days (in humans it takes about 6 days), the zygote divides few times and produces a small embryo, referred to as “blastocyst”. The outer cells go on to make supportive organs like the placenta, and the inner cells make an embryo itself. The latter group of cells is called “epiblast” and consists of about 10–20 equivalent cells (see illustration). Then they take different pathways in order to become the different cell types of our body: neurons of brain, heart muscle cells, insulin-producing cells of pancreas as well as many others. All specialized cells (with very few specific exceptions) have the same genes, but only a specific subset of genes is active in each cell type – this is what makes the cells unique.

One of the most fascinating questions of developmental biology is, how the cells of an embryo take their first decisions what to become. In the past experiments using mice have provided an enormous amount of new knowledge about this process. However, mice have a disadvantage of a very rapid development. As a consequence, it is possible to catch major changes between developmental stages in mice, but many details can be overlooked and, as a consequence, researchers may not be able to understand the mechanisms at work. As human cells develop at a much slower rate than in mice, using such cells allows us to understand the processes in much greater detail.

Important ethical considerations mean there are major limitations to studying the development of human embryos. The solution could be to use so called “embryonic stem cells”, which are derived from embryos. Using special growth factors and chemicals allows for trapping embryonic stem cells so that they remain very similar to epiblast. They do not continue development as they would normally do in the embryo. In these culture conditions embryonic stem cells can be grown in a dish practically indefinitely and remain unspecialized. If embryonic stem cells are exposed to other factors that stimulate development, they can go on to produce mature cells.
Human embryonic stem cells resembling early epiblast were first derived independently by scientists from MIT in Boston and Cambridge Stem Cell Institute in 2014. Within my project, I have developed conditions in which human embryonic stem cells reproduce the development of an early epiblast until they make their first cell decisions. It takes about 7–10 days, which is very similar to the length of this process in the embryo. I have identified specific stages in this process and an intermediate cell type with very particular properties. This has not been possible to recognize earlier using mouse models. I am currently using next generation sequencing technologies to understand in detail which genes are turned on and off during this process. The ultimate goal is to reveal the mechanism that selects them to change their activity. This will help us to learn how a small group of 10-20 epiblast cells make their first decisions in order to generate complex organisms like ourselves.
Human beings have hundreds of genes and billions of cells dedicated to defence against infection. Consequently, our immune system is highly adept at identifying an infection, controlling its spread through our body, and clearing it from our system.

However, some infectious agents are never cleared and remain with us for the duration of our lives. This includes all members of a family of viruses called the herpesviruses. Well-known members of this family include the herpes simplex viruses, which cause cold sores and genital herpes, and Varicella-Zoster virus, which causes chicken pox. Perhaps less well-known is human cytomegalovirus, the virus that is the subject of my PhD research. Human cytomegalovirus (henceforth abbreviated as HCMV), causes a very mild fever in healthy individuals. While the virus infection is controlled efficiently by our immune system, it is never cleared. In the UK, about 50% of us carry HCMV, and we do so unknowingly and without symptoms for our entire lives.

How, then, does HCMV achieve this remarkable lifelong infection? Research in our laboratory is focussed on understanding the process which underlies the persistence of HCMV, called latency.

Latency involves the infection of specific cell types which enable the virus to remain ‘quiet’ and evade detection from the immune system; the viral genome persists, but no infectious particles are produced. In the last thirty years we have learnt that for HCMV, latency is established in cells of the early myeloid lineage, a specific set of white blood cells within the bone marrow.

Periodically, the virus may reactivate from latency and start to replicate in our body. We each might have noticed this reactivation as the recurrence of cold sores in bad weather, or the sharp itch of shingles after a period of stress. Reactivation events in the case of HCMV are generally thought to be well controlled by the immune systems of healthy individuals, but reactivation of HCMV can cause life-threatening illness in the immune-compromised, including organ transplant recipients taking immune-suppressant medicines.
Latency underpins lifelong carriage of HCMV, and we aim to understand this process at the molecular level. The establishment of latency requires the virus to silence a large number of its own genes such that only a very few viral proteins are produced. Recently, we have discovered one viral gene that must be expressed during latency, a gene called US28. In part, US28 is required to set up the silencing of the other viral genes, and removing US28 from the virus means that the virus can no longer establish latency. I have recently found that US28 targets and downregulates one of our own genes, called IFI16, very early during infection, an event I propose to be important in silencing the expression of other viral genes and thus establishing latency.

Understanding how latency is established could allow us to target this process therapeutically. It may then be possible to reduce HCMV-related complications in patients receiving otherwise life-saving organ transplants.

Liz Elder

Liz Elder is a 2nd year PhD student in the lab of Professor John Sinclair at the Department of Medicine

Slavery and Nature in the Antebellum American South

Lindsey Walters

In winter of 1826, when William Anderson was taken from Virginia to Mississippi as part of the domestic American slave trade, the weather was extreme. At night, Anderson scraped snow from the ground to clear a place to sleep and attempted to fashion a makeshift pillow out of leaves and chunks of wood. In his narrative of the experience, Anderson describes snow and rain coming down “in torrents.” Upon arriving in Mississippi, his sense of dislocation was profound, and he longed desperately for the people he had left behind in Virginia. He missed the familiar landscape of his birthplace – thinking of “the cabin, the grove, the spring” and his mother’s house in “old Virginia” made Anderson remark that he felt like “the children of Israel when they were taken down into Babylonian captivity.” “They desired of me an old Virginia song,” he wrote, “but how could I sing a song in a strange land?”

Historians have largely examined enslaved people’s relationships with nature tangentially, and though the effects and constraints of the natural world appear in most studies of slavery, rarely are enslaved people’s interactions with nature given sustained attention. Yet slave narratives reveal countless ways that nature was central to people’s lives: Lewis Charlton recalls two accounts of disfiguring frostbite in his youth, Charles Ball fondly remembers smelling the fragrance of a Southern Magnolia tree for the first time, and Harriet Jacobs measures the passage of time while in hiding by the change of seasons. My PhD research draws together these disparate experiences, asking what moments of encounter with nature tell us about both the experience of slavery as well as the intellectual worlds of the enslaved.
My project defines nature broadly, considering everything from flora and fauna to weather and seasons, and I make use of a wide range of historical sources. My commitment to telling stories from the perspective of the enslaved means that I rely heavily on the narratives of formerly enslaved people. Over 100 survivors of slavery published their autobiographies during the 19th century, and a further 2,300 interviews were conducted with the formerly enslaved between 1936 and 1938.

In addition to these two types of slave narratives, I make use of a wide variety of additional sources from the antebellum period. There are numerous extant newspapers and periodicals from the antebellum period, and slave-owners and their families often kept detailed records, including diaries, correspondence, and account books. Many travellers to the South wrote accounts of their journeys, a large portion of which were intended for publication in Britain. These include works by journalists like Frederick Law Olmsted and James S. Buckingham, British geologists like Charles Lyell and George Featherstonhaugh, actors like Tyrone Power, and surveyors like William Darby. Though these sources are inflected by the authors’ own personal opinions of slavery, they are also invaluable descriptions of the 19th-century South.

My PhD research contributes to a growing multidisciplinary literature on African American environmental thought and argues that nature was central to the experience of slavery. Exploring enslaved people’s varied and complex interactions with the natural environment demonstrates that the history of the antebellum South cannot be fully understood without concerted attention to enslaved people’s relationships with the landscape.

LINDSEY WALTERS

* Lindsey's PhD research is supported by grants from the Cambridge Trust, Corpus Christi College, and the Faculty of History. Lindsey is supervised by Dr Nicholas Guyatt.*
Approved for PhD

S Alsindi Temporal coding of the periodicity of monaural and binaural complex tones in guinea pig auditory brainstem
E Andreoni Ronald Reagan’s strategic defense initiative and transatlantic relations, 1983–86
S Bartlett Synthesis and antibacterial evaluation of diverse small molecules
AL Boyington Maids, wives and widows: Female architectural patronage in eighteenth-century Britain
J Burelbach Thermophoresis in colloidal suspensions
X Chen Transport and thermodynamic studies of the superconductors $A_3T_4Sn_{13}$ and $YFe_2Ge_2$
E Ciabatti Life-long genetic and functional access to neural circuits
C Costopoulos Investigation into the Role of Biomechanical Forces in determining the behaviour of Coronary Atherosclerotic Plaques
HJ Dadswell The Political thought of B R Ambedkar
CJ Daniels Mathematical approaches for the clinical translation of hyperpolarised $^{13}$C imaging in oncology
X Deng Posthecobacter BtubAB form bacterial mini microtubules
CT Doyle Anglo-Saxon medicine and disease: A semantic approach
RA Frake Vinexin regulates autophagy through YAP/TAZ: implications for health and disease
N Friedrich Automorphism groups of quadratic modules and manifolds
SM Geddis The Total Synthesis of Pseudonocardia sp. Quinolone Natural Products and Studies Towards the Total Synthesis of 1β- Hydroxyalantolactone
PI Georgiev Heterogeneous resource mobile sensing: computational offloading, scheduling and algorithm optimisation
BC Gillott The indeterminacy of longform poetics in John Cage and Charles Olson
IC Gog Flexible and efficient computation in large data centres
JP Harrington Vengeance and saintly cursing in the saints’ lives of England and Ireland c.1060–1215
SE Harrison Utilising embryonic and extra-embryonic stem cells to model early mammalian embryogenesis in vitro
MG Hart Network approaches to understanding brain injury and repair
JL Hauge African industrial policy in an era of expanding global value chains: the case of Ethiopia’s textile and leather industries
M Johnson Examiner feedback and learning: what are the characteristics of effective remote feedback in a hierarchic, professional context?
P Kullar Defining the cellular and molecular mechanisms of maternally inherited hearing loss
RP Lach Genetic determinants of drug response
M Leventhal The literary past and the hellenistic symposium
Y-C Lin Static and microfluidic live imaging studies of Plasmodium Falciparum invasion phenotypes
AR McClure Violence, sovereignty, and the making of colonial law in India, 1858–1914
CPM McGrath The development of medical liability in Germany 1800–1945
LJ Oldham The evolution of dark and luminous structure in massive early-type galaxies
V-O Phuaphansawat Neoliberalism, governmentality, education reforms and teachers in Thailand
AS Riseley Exploring the potential of algae-bacteria communities for biotechnology
A Rizzo Visualisation of NLRP3, ASC and caspase-1 during inflammasome activation
EO Rolland Sound produced by entropic and compositional inhomogeneities
RKM Saleuddin The United States Federal Government and the making of modern futures markets, 1920–1936
BM Smith Investigating the non-globular proteins of the canonical wnt signalling pathway
JEJ Smith Essays on bank risk-taking
MC Smith Modelling star formation and stellar feedback in numerical simulations of galaxy formation
MM Szumilo Optoelectronic properties of hybrid metal halide perovskites
GI Torrealba Arancibia Scattered Chips in the Milky Way Halo
JR Watson Structural and biochemical insight into the interactions of Cdc42 with TOCA1 and N-WASP
Prizes and awards 2017–18

University Tripos Prizes

Second Year Integrated Design Project Prize (Engineering) Hiu-Kwan Law
Gillian and John Beer Prize (English) Joel Lucyszyn
Quiller-Couch Prize (English) Catherine Chang
The CMS Prize for the highest dissertation mark (English) Alice Millington
William Vaughan Lewis Prizes (Geography) Annabel Mahgerefteh
John Dunn prize for best dissertation (HSPS) Harrison Fookes
C. J. Hamson Prize for Aspects of Obligations (Law) Jacob Bradley
Donald Wort Prize (Mathematics) Olivia Chesser
Frank Smart Prize (Top of IB Plant Sciences) Maria-Andreea Filip
(Biological Sciences) Olivia Chesser
Buckingham Prize for distinction in Theoretical Chemistry Maria-Andreea Filip
and for the most outstanding performance in Part III
Chemistry (Natural Sciences) Anamaria Leonescu
BP prize for an outstanding performance in Chemistry 1A
(Natural Sciences) Anamaria Leonescu

College Awards, Elections and Prizes

Foundation Scholarships
For Classics Benedick McDougall
For English Joel Lucyszyn
For Geography Alice Millington
For Mathematics Joseph Krol
For Music Jacob Davies
For Natural Sciences (Biological Sciences) Olivia Chesser
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry) Hero Bain
For Natural Sciences (Physics) Akshat Pandey

Bishop Green Cups
For English Joel Lucyszyn
For Classics George Pliotis
Fourth Year Undergraduates

Scholarships and Bailey Prizes
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry) Maria-Andreea Filip
For Natural Sciences (Earth Sciences) Kevin Wong
For Natural Sciences (Physics) Timothy Ekeh
Vandan Parmar
Benjamin Seddon
For Natural Sciences (Systems Biology) Anindya Sharma

Scholarships and Cowell Prizes
For Computer Science Angus Hammond
For Linguistics Kaya Wong
For Mathematics Yiyue Zhu

Scholarship and Perowne Prize
For Modern and Medieval Languages Esther Graham

Third Year Undergraduates

Scholarships and Bailey Prizes
For Natural Sciences (Biochemistry) Esme Bulock
For Natural Sciences (Biology) Isobella Allard
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry) Benjamin Thoma
For Natural Sciences (Physics) Thomas Else

Scholarships and Boorman Prizes
For Music Rowan Bayliss Hawitt
David Nunn

Scholarships and Cowell Prizes
For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Eve McCormick
For Classics George Pliotis
Sarah Richards
Yu Xin Ang
Herman Lam
Annabel Mahgerefteh
Amelia Peck
For Economics
For Human, Social and Political Sciences
For Psychological and Behavioural Studies

Scholarship and Dewhurst Prize
For Engineering Daisy Tyrer

Scholarships and Donaldson Prizes
For English Molly Stacey
For Geography Catherine Chang

Scholarship and Garth Moore Prize
For Law Harrison Fookes
Scholarships and Perowne Prizes
For History
Samuel Collings-Wells
Martha Homfray-Cooper
Sally Scrivener
Elizabeth Spicer

For History of Art

Second Year Undergraduates
Scholarships and Bailey Prizes
For Natural Sciences (Biological Sciences)  
Michelle Hendriks
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)  
Florence Brown

Scholarship and Busse Prize
For Law  
Dragos Iordache

Scholarship and Carter Prize
For Geography  
Jessica Beech

Scholarships and Cowell Prizes
For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic  
Kate Barber
For Computer Science  
Adam Kucz
For Economics  
William Edmonds
Filip Lurka

Scholarship and Dewhurst Prize
For Engineering  
David Hardman

Scholarships and Donaldson Prizes
For English  
Samuel Brown
Emily Yelverton

Scholarship and Perowne Prize
For Modern and Medieval Languages  
Connor Rowlett

Scholarships and Sowton Prizes
For Medical and Veterinary Science  
Jiangan Lim
Adelaide Yue

First Year Undergraduates
Scholarships and Bailey Prizes
For Natural Sciences (Biological Sciences)  
Olivia Healey
Ryan Ward
Andrew Wright
Astrid Berge
Jonah Walker
Daniel Birkeland
Oscar Simpson

For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)

For Natural Sciences (Physics)
Scholarships and Busse Prizes
For History and Politics  Grace Stafford
For History of Art  William Stewart
For Law  Kai Chong
Natasha Godsiff

Scholarships and Cowell Prizes
For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic  Leah Thomas
For Classics  Edward Pyman
For Mathematics  Oliver Shenton
For Psychological and Behavioural Studies  Kieran Lewis

Scholarships and Dewhurst Prizes
For Engineering  Ji Chang
Santiago Dubov
Joseph Hunt
Daniel Ley

Scholarships and Perowne Prizes
For Modern and Medieval Languages  Robin Denham
Conor Flynn
Robbie Spiers

Other Undergraduate Prizes
Corpus Prizes
Awarded to undergraduates who have come top in Tripos
For History of Art  William Stewart
For Music  Jacob Davies
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)  Maria-Andreea Filip

Spencer Exhibitions
On the nomination of the Master
For services as JCR President  Jack Hodkinson
For services as JCR Welfare Officer, Computing Officer and Vice-President  Jacob Bradley

Intermediate Exhibitions
Awarded to undergraduates remaining in residence for at least one further year who narrowly miss a first class in their examinations and would not otherwise hold any award
For Computer Science  Thomas Davidson
For Engineering  Valentin (Sinead) Foley
Elizabeth Hawkins
For English  Zoe Black
Ian Wang
Corpus Christi College

The Letter - Prizes and awards

Michaelmas 2018

For History Maya Achan
For Human, Social and Political Sciences Nina Jefts
For Mathematics Katie Jardine
For Modern and Medieval Languages Harry Armitage
For Psychological and Behavioural Studies Kemlo Rose

Corpus Project Prizes
For those in their final year who achieved first-class marks for a dissertation or project, but failed to obtain first-class results overall
For Classics Michael Morrison
For Economics Jonathan French
For Engineering Lizzie Hawkins
For English Elspeth Hennessey
For Mathematics Harry Armitage
For Modern and Medieval Languages Kemlo Rose
(Year Abroad dissertation) Monica Dey

Hewitt Exhibitions
On the nomination of the Tutors; academic merit and contribution to College life by those graduating in their third or fourth year who are not otherwise scholars
For a huge achievement after serious physical health issues Elizabeth Merson
For service to the College Admissions team Sam Deutsch
For contributions to the College Jessica Stewart

Bridges Prize for History
For the finalist achieving the best result in the Historical Tripos Sam Collings-Wells

Donaldson Prize for English
For the undergraduate achieving the best result in the English Tripos Joel Lucyszn

The David Maull Prize for Engineering
Undergraduate achieving the best result in the third year of the Engineering Tripos Daisy Tyrer

Robert and Mary Willis Prize
For a finalist in Architecture-related disciplines of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering or the History of Art
For History of Art Lily Spicer
Margaret Parker Prize
For the most distinguished dissertation or piece of coursework submitted by an undergraduate reading either Human, Social and Political Sciences or Psychology & Behavioural Sciences at Part IIB
Amelia Peck

Stewart Perowne Prize for Classics
For solid academic performance, alongside a strong contribution to College life and the wider University community
Michael Morrison

Griffiths Roman Prize
For the best performance by a graduate or undergraduate in the field of Roman studies (awarded in the Michaelmas Term): Not awarded in Michaelmas 2017.

The Moule Prize
Unseen translation from the classical languages
Benedick McDougall

The Fanshawe Prize
Prose composition in the classical languages
Benedick McDougall

Postgraduate Prizes

University Prizes
B.R.D. Clarke Prize for the Best Overall Performance in the LLM
Orestis Sherman
Also winner of the Chancellor’s Medal for English Law, the 3 Verulam Buildings Prize for International Commercial Litigation, and the CMS Prize for Advanced Private Law

Palantir Prize for a Highly Commended MPhil Project in Advanced Computer Science
Thomas Sherborne

College Prizes

Cunning Prize
For Medicine
Jonathan Bartlett

Ahmed Prize
On the nomination of the Warden of Leckhampton and the Tutor for Advanced Students for outstanding contribution to College life at Leckhampton
Timothy Watson
JCR President’s report

2017/18 has been an exciting year for the Corpus JCR. Under the leadership of Jacob Bradley, Freshers’ Week successfully welcomed 80-odd excited freshers, with activities such as the Ghost Tour, Sports Day and Café Crawl proving popular. An important aspect of the JCR’s role is providing welfare support to students, particularly ensuring that students from a range of minority groups and backgrounds feel comfortable at college. Cici Carey-Stuart, Gender Equalities Officer, achieved the allocation of gender neutral toilets around College, and established an ambitious pilot project of providing all undergraduates free sanitary supplies. This pilot proved successful and should be extended for a second year. Seb Dickson, Accommodation and Facilities Officer, negotiated with College to achieve more sustainable packaging options in both Hall and the Pelican Bar – and further eco-friendly improvements have continued in his second year in this role so far. Aside from this, the JCR has put on fun events for people to let off steam throughout the year, with particular mention to the infamous Shrek-themed slack, run by Harry Jones! I would particularly like to thank Jack Hodkinson, for his calm nature and leadership by example. His and Jacob’s composure in holding the creaking room ballot software together while people chose their rooms was superhuman.

In April we farewelled the 2016/2017 committee and the fresh-faced new committee took over. The new committee has already made an impact in a range of areas. The Corpus JCR and May Ball Committees came to a negotiated agreement on the environmental sustainability of future May Balls, including a requirement to seek at least a silver level of environmental accreditation for the event. The welfare team provided great support for students during the exam period and Ents Officer Eliza King-Smith worked extremely hard during exam period to organise what has been called the “best-ever” Corpus Garden Party. In one of many interesting Open Meetings this term, Corpus voted to support the Cambridge Refugee Scholarship Campaign, which aims to “work with the University of Cambridge to provide at least 10 scholarships every year for refugees and individuals whose pursuit of education is hindered because of political and/or humanitarian crisis”. This campaign recently succeeded in establishing 10 annual scholarships on a University-wide level, reflecting the ability of students to organise and make real changes to our University. With potential for a BME (Black Minority Ethnic) Open Day and further environmental initiatives in the pipeline, I am excited to see what else the JCR can achieve in the coming year. Thank you to the two fantastic committees, to Vice-President Olivia O’Connor for all her support so far, and to everyone who has attended Open Meetings and fostered some healthy debate this term.

Nina Jeffs
JCR Welfare report

JCR Welfare organise activities and events that help provide stress relief and mental health support to Corpus students. These include weekly “Parteas”, where hot drinks and food are provided in the JCR as a relaxed break from work, as well as comedy workshops, mindfulness classes and yoga sessions. We also provide a valuable, confidential ear for students for advice and help with their mental health. Finally, we are responsible for the distribution of sexual health supplies to college students.

As part of our welfare activities, the JCR Welfare Team arranged for Corpus to be visited by three puppies and two working dogs from the Guide Dogs Charity in late May. Students and some members of staff were able to cuddle the dogs, and also meet their handlers and learn about the amazing work the guide dogs do, and their rigorous training. The lovely (and sunny!) Master’s Garden was the ideal setting, giving students a much-needed break from the library and allowing the dogs to run and play. Coming at the end of Week 4, just before exams, it was an ideal opportunity to relax and destress before the long slog of the exam period. We were exceptionally lucky with the weather, and students and volunteers alike thoroughly enjoyed the event. Even Flapjack seemed to be enjoying himself (though jealous of the attention being given to the other dogs!).

The event raised £500 for the charity, with donations coming from students, staff, the JCR, College and even a few kind parents. Thanks go to the Master, Sibella, and Marie for letting us host the event in the beautiful setting of the Master’s Lodge Garden, and to Revd Andrew Bigg, who generously provided snacks for the volunteers. The Guide Dogs charity run these events in many colleges, and several volunteers commented that they were particularly impressed with the friendly and helpful atmosphere at Corpus.

Andy Wright

The 2018 MCR Committee

The MCR had another year of successful activities that make a stay in Corpus a most memorable experience. Following Tim Watson (MCR President) and Jannes Gladrow (MCR Vice President), the 2018 MCR committee saw two women taking over those roles: Karla Cervantes Barrón (President) and Laura Wey (Vice-President). Together with their fantastic committee members, they organised various events and made decisions to have a positive impact on the community.

This year, the MCR created and held the very first edition of a Graduate Conference, where Corpus postgraduates and Fellows shared their research in a day-long event. The Conference was named “Conversations at Corpus” and it featured 21 talks, 4 by Fellows and Research Fellows and the rest by MPhil and PhD students. The conference was inaugurated by the Master, and it was made possible with the support of the graduate tutor Dr Brookes and the Leckhampton warden Dr Rhodes. At the end of the day and after some deliberation, the “best presentation” prize was shared by Ben Farrar (first year PhD, presentation title: “Most psychological research is wrong”) and Sam Wimpenny (second year PhD, presentation title: “Searching for Earthquakes in the Peruvian Altiplano”).
The MCR held other events as well, which included a panel discussion under the theme “Biotechnology: Emerging technologies and societal implications, including privacy”, where a multidisciplinary panel was created, to include both technical and non-technical presentations. The technical ones were by Dr Julius Fredens, Dr Nicole Weckman and Dr Christopher Proctor, all members of the Postdoc Society, while the non-technical ones were by Corpus MPhil students Jennifer Lee and Nick Allen, working on public policy for health, technology and innovation and philosophy respectively. They delivered interesting presentations on their topics and created an engaging discussion that led to many audience members’ questions.

Other activities of the MCR this year included the traditional Leckhampton Society talks, where Corpus postgraduates get a chance to share their research with the community, the new “LGBTeas” (for LGBTQ community members to chat over a cup of tea), a series of Minority Movies (following the creation of a Minorities Officer role from the previous year) a bicycle maintenance workshop, several Welfare-focused activities, such as a Stress-less Week and various themed weekend events, and an event to thank the Corpus Staff for their hard work, which involved sharing food and drinks in Leckhampton, while enjoying a sunny day.

This year’s Leavers’ dinner was held on Saturday 23 June and, as the weather happened to be magnificent, dinner was served in Leckhampton garden. The event is a black-tie dinner followed by leaving speeches delivered by the MCR President, the Leckhampton Warden and the Master. This year, the Master was amongst the leavers and received a small gift from the MCR and a farewell during the speeches. As tradition calls, some prizes were given to members of the committee and community. Two committee members shared this year’s award for their outstanding work organising the Graduate Conference: Rosie Bell and Alvin Djadjadikerta, while Maximilian Bloomfield was given the community award for overseeing the maintenance and rental of the MCR bikes – a scheme created by the MCR committee the previous year which allows students to rent bikes for their visitors. The traditional croquet tournament was also held earlier in the day and the winning team of Edward Linscott and Jesse Harrington was awarded the prize mallet.
Societies

Lewis Society of Medicine (LSM)

Like many societies in Cambridge the Lewis Society is steeped in tradition, and our 2017/2018 events calendar was packed full of academic talks and social traditions which have become firm favourites of Corpus medics past and present.

The year began with our annual Stukeley Talks, showcasing the esteemed elective placements and summer projects Corpus medics had undertaken during the long vacation. At our first Stukeley talk, second year student Lara Hebdon spoke of her placement in paediatric surgery with Mr Aminul Ahmed at Southampton General Hospital as part of the LSM Alumni Networking Scheme. Final year medical student Jon Bartlett told us all about his joint elective in research and orthopaedic surgery at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and confirmed that Melbourne really is the ‘Most Liveable City in the World’. Fellow finalist Maddie Leadon travelled to Boston for elective to work as a Visiting Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School with the neurosurgery department.

At our second Stukeley Talks, Becca Frake discussed her PhD project on autophagy conducted in Professor David Rubinsztein’s group at the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research. Fawz Kazzazi spoke of his elective at the Plastic Surgery Department at Stanford University in Palo Alto. Third year student Isobella Allard shared with us her reflections after spending time in the paediatric respiratory department of the Royal Brompton, London, as part of the LSM networking scheme.

In addition to the LSM’s academic talks the Society hosted many social events starting with the annual “Freshers’ Tea” in October 2017. This was an opportunity for the older and (arguably) wiser Corpus medics who have navigated the treacherous waters of MVST1A to welcome our six fresher medics and offer their pearls of wisdom! Fears were allayed over tea and cake and ‘baby medics’ were initiated into the Lewis Society.

“Meet the DoS” meal this year was held in Bill’s. The new medics enjoyed meeting their supervisors in an informal setting without the worry of essay feedback! With sparkling wine and sparkling company this event is a freshers’ favourite in the LSM calendar.

The annual Archibald Clark-Kennedy Lecture and dinner continues to be the highlight of the Lewis Society Calendar. Professor Dame Carol Black’s talk “From Medicine to policy and welfare reform” focused on the importance of the social determinants of health, and the crucial relationship between health, work and wellbeing. Conversation sparked by the lecture was continued during a drinks reception hosted in the Master’s Lodge and a beautiful meal in Hall.
Finally, just one LSM event to conclude Lent Term. In the small hours of Saturday 17 March the Society members headed to London St Pancras to traverse the Channel Tunnel to the Paris Descartes University for a tour of the Musée de l'Histoire de la Médicine. Corpus medics, fuelled by caffeine and excitement, remained *ebouillant* in snowy Paris, despite the exhaustion of a long term culminating with ISBM, SCHI and Head and Neck exams. Our tour guide showed us anatomical models dating from medieval times focusing purely on surface anatomy, some rather primitive and brutal devices to remove kidney stones and the autopsy kit used for Napoleon! With much knowledge acquired we made a whistle stop tour of Paris’s key sights. Everyone from Freshers to MB-PhD students bonded in the French capital sharing wine and wisdom. The LSM trips to Europe have become a much loved and anticipated LSM institution, with eager suggestions for 2019 destinations being discussed on the Eurostar home.

Our final set of academic talks came in April with a careers-focused Coombs Seminar. Corpus alumni Mr Amresh Singh, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and Dr Matthew Luney, CT2 (ACCS anaesthetics) at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust shared with us their journey from matriculation to the present day, while reminiscing about times spent as Corpus students. Former Corpus PhD student Dr Yin Zhou, GP & Wellcome Trust Primary Care Doctoral Fellow, spoke about the competitive specialty of public health and academic medicine. The seminar provided undergraduates with a better understanding of the multiple different training routes on offer post graduation, with helpful hints to help strengthen portfolios.

Finally, after the bustle of another year our members were given a rare chance to relax at the Lewis Society Garden Party in June. Despite dubious forecasts, the weather remained glorious giving us a well-earned chance to catch up over croquet. As per tradition a Mediterranean Barbeque lunch was provided alongside copious amounts of Pimms and lemonade.

As both a student and chairperson of the Lewis Society I am immensely grateful for the faithful support of alumni whose attendance and contributions enrich the experience of medical students at Corpus. The ties which bind our close-knit medical society grow ever stronger.

**Maria Tennison**

**Fletcher Players**

Corpus and The Fletcher Players have enjoyed another year of success in the performing arts in Cambridge, with a range of exciting new projects being added to our annual events.

With another year comes another crop of undergraduates, and another fresh batch of thespians to take Cambridge by storm. This talent was most prominently on display in *After Juliet*, the College’s Freshers’ play staged in the Corpus Playroom. Corpus’s new actors, directors and technicians have since put on a number of plays across the city. Theatre returned to the Master’s Lodge Garden, with the Master and Sibella kindly allowing us to stage Goldoni’s farce *The Servant of Two Masters*, complete with a 70s twist of disco flares and the Saturday Night Fever soundtrack! Another College venue was utilised for theatre for the
first time this year, with the McCrum Lecture Theatre playing host to the ‘McCrum Comedy Club’. Hosting BME Open Mic nights as well as sketch shows, the McCrum is one of the latest additions to the vibrant Cambridge comedy scene.

Supporting new writing by Cambridge students has become a major focus of the Fletcher Players in recent years, and that tradition has continued in 2017/18. ‘Smorgasbord’, the Society’s new writing night held once a term in the Corpus Playroom in Michaelmas and Lent, remains one of the leading events of its kind having enjoyed two successful evenings of short scripts. Full-length plays were also on offer thanks to the Fletcher Players, with *The Arm in the Cat Flap*, a new farce written by Footlight Noah Geelan, receiving rave reviews at the start of Easter Term. Another Footlight has also enjoyed great success this year: Corpus’s very own Alex Franklin. On top of the Fletcher Players presenting his original play *Conviction* and his one-man stand up show *Creation Number Nine*, Alex made it through to the final Chortle Student Comedy Award 2018, held at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August. Despite his success this year, he shows no signs of letting up, and we can’t wait to see the success of his projects next year!

Other highlights from the Fletcher Players this year include presenting *Boom*, the first play from Singapore and Southeast Asia to be staged in the Corpus Playroom, which succeeded in introducing Cambridge theatre to a range of new actors and audiences. Additionally, the Fletcher Players’ involvement in Cam Shorts proved a successful venture into film in Cambridge. The Society funded the Cam Shorts New Writing Prize, with two short films, *The Tortoise* and *Lionguard* being produced with the prize money. These films, along with three others ranging from an absurd satire of student films to a documentary about Cambridge’s wild birds, were presented in the Master’s Lodge Garden in May Week. Again, we thank the Master, Sibella and Marie for their generosity and hospitality.

To condense the highlights from one year into a few hundred words is a difficult task, especially after the society’s varied and exciting 2017/18 programme. For this dynamism and diversity, we must thank last year’s president, Zoe Black. Her commitment and creativity has been the driving force behind new endeavours such as the McCrum Comedy Club and Cam Shorts, and her contribution has been vital in continuing the Fletcher Players’ success within Cambridge Theatre. Corpus Christi’s long theatrical tradition remains in good shape, and I hope will encourage those across the College community to get involved in theatre as we race into a compelling and invigorating 2018/19!

**Tom Nunan**

**Nicholas Bacon Law Society**

2017–2018 was an exciting year for the Nicholas Bacon Law Society.

Michaelmas began, as is tradition, with welcome drinks organised by outgoing Chair Harrison Fookes. I take this opportunity to thank him for his hard work over the past year with regard to all things ‘NBLS’, and to wish him the best of luck for the future.

Later first-term highlights included the annual NBLS Curry Night, where we were able to congratulate Corpus alumnus and former Fellow of Trinity Hall
Dr Colm McGrath on his new position in the Dickson Poon School of Law at King’s College London. Then there was our Christmas Dinner, held as is customary at Côte Brasserie. We were also lucky to be invited to dinner by both Slaughter & May and Freshfields, to whom we extend our thanks for two lovely evenings.

Lent Term, dominated by our annual NBLS Dinner, once more earned its place as the highlight of the society’s calendar. The Society saw success in mooting, besting The Other Place in the annual Corpus Challenge Moot (sponsored by 7KBW and this year kindly judged by Dr Jacob Eisler of Jesus College, Cambridge), where I had the privilege of leading my Learned Junior Terri Ha into battle against Corpus Christi, Oxford. The term’s mooting was rounded off by the annual Freshers’ Moot, a closely fought contest at the conclusion of which Ellen McWhirter was ultimately proclaimed champion. Many congratulations to her along with the other competitors, who all showed great mooting prowess beyond their mere four months of legal education, and of course many thanks must go to Sir Nicholas Lavender for agreeing to judge the moot.

Despite the logistical difficulties caused by the Spine Project building works, the NBLS Dinner was a great success. Many thanks to the Master for allowing the use of the Lodge for welcome drinks, as well as to the Fellows who kindly agreed to host us in the McCurdy Rooms for whisky after the dinner. The following day, we were treated to a talk given by Corpus alumnus Donald Baker, former Professor of Law at Cornell Law School. The talk was entitled ‘Today’s Threats to the Rule of Law, the Judicialisation of Political Questions, and the Unique History of the US Federal Judiciary’. It enabled the students to engage with contemporary legal and political issues and to consider how the latter are very much treated as part of the former category in the US, in contrast to the approach in our own jurisdiction. We thank Donald, a very senior American lawyer working in Washington DC who has been legal advisor to both the US and UK governments during his career, for the intellectually enriching lecture. Finally, after the usual exam-related hiatus that takes up much of Easter Term, the NBLS returned triumphant with this year’s summer Garden Party at Leckhampton.

A few congratulations are in order for members of the society. On the judicial front, the NBLS would like to extend congratulations to former Girdlers’ Scholar Mark West, who was appointed Judge of the Upper Tribunal in May. More locally, congratulations go to Dr Stelios Tofaris (who completed both his undergraduate degree in law and PhD at Corpus), who won the prestigious Pilkington Prize for excellence in teaching at the University of Cambridge.

This year saw changes not only to the student make-up of the NBLS, but also to its Fellowship. We welcome Dr Andrew Sanger, former Fellow of Newnham College, originally appointed as the College’s Mawson Research and Teaching Fellow in Law, and now appointed a University Lecturer. He has taught Corpus students in the past in International Law, and we look forward to fully welcoming him in the coming year. At the same time, we say goodbye to Dr Andreas Televantos, Praelector in Law at Corpus as well as Fellow of Fitzwilliam College.
He is leaving Cambridge after six years to take up an Associate Professorship at Lincoln College, Oxford, for which we wish him the best of luck.

Last but definitely not least, we also say goodbye to Nigel Simmonds, Professor of Jurisprudence, after 33 years of Fellowship at this College. As many of you will know, Nigel has supervised, lectured and been Director of Studies to generations of Corpus Law students, both in contract (spawning such talents as Dr Janet O’Sullivan, Dr Stelios Tofaris and Dr Colm McGrath) and his beloved jurisprudence. It is with the utmost gratitude that we thank him for his years of service to both the College as well as to the idea of law itself, and with the fondest of farewells that we bid adieu to such an eminent legal scholar whose stalwart defence of Fullerian jurisprudence has made him such a credit to the College for more than three decades. Farewell Professor Simmonds!

David Horvath-Franco

Bene’t Club

The Bene’t Club, the music society at Corpus, has continued to flourish this year with the involvement of many enthusiastic musicians. Events this year have included casual Open Mic Nights in the bar and Master’s Lodge Concerts, in which everyone is invited to perform and watch, but there have also been larger scale events such as the May Week Concert in the Corpus Chapel. We have been incredibly lucky to have had the valuable support of the Master and Sibella, not just this year but throughout their time here at Corpus.

Michaelmas Term included an exciting weekend of sessions with the “Automatronic Collective” that seeks to explore, commission, promote and perform new music for the unique combination of organ and electronics. This year has also featured informal “Scratch Orchestra” sessions in the Chapel, giving Corpuscles the opportunity to play through some music in a relaxed environment. Our May Week Gala Concert represented the culmination of the musical year, including performances from the staff choir, chapel choir (performing compositions by David Nunn) and the newly formed secular choir, the “Acapelicans”. The centrepiece of the concert was an ensemble performance of Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf, brought to life with narration by the Master and Sibella.

Next year, we hope that the Bene’t club will continue to foster an enthusiastic and inclusive environment for all varieties of music making within Corpus. Thank you to everyone who has been involved this year, and especially to the Master and Sibella for their dedication and support. We will miss them immensely next year and wish them all the best for the future.

Adelaide Yue

Pelican Poets and Writers Society

The Pelican Poets and Writers Society has had a very fruitful year, holding eight sessions dedicated to different topics, all of which proved to be a great way to spend an evening during the busy term time, in the cozy atmosphere of the Master’s Lodge. Both Michaelmas and Lent Terms had meetings specially designed to give Corpuscles a chance to present what they had been working on
during the term. Those New Writings evenings were particularly enjoyable; however, other sessions also deserve to be mentioned here.

Michaelmas Term started with a Halloween-themed session full of spooky and mysterious poetry, to be followed by the Refugee Literature evening. With the issue being a burning one for today’s Europe and Britain in particular, the session was all the more informative, full of thoughts and lively discussion. Some members even managed to compose their own poems during the evening.

Lent Term introduced the very contemporary and amusing topic of computer poetry, directly connected to widening use of the internet and social media. The other Lent session was dedicated to foreign poetry in translation, where the Corpus postgraduates and exchange students took charge of the evening and introduced poems in five different languages, often followed by their own translations.

The Easter Term, busy with exams, progress reports and thesis submissions saw a gentler programme. The new society presidents – Antonia, Anya, and Sam – let other members dream about the upcoming summer vacation and set the topic of the term’s first meeting as Travelling. The last session of the year, one of the best attended, combined a New Writings evening and a pre-show of the Polyphonic Poetry festival, which took place in Cambridge on 15–16 June. Our own society president, Antonia Cundy, presented her works at the festival, while Anya Melkina (current president) and Joel Lucyszyn (former president) took part in a play Sappho’s Cactus by Annya Neumann.

It is wonderful that our society gathered a great variety of talented and poetry-loving people, such as the Corpus Christi visiting scholar Professor Lee Ann Brown, Rev’d Brian MacDonald-Milne, and Mrs Birgit Carolin. The Society has also helped many Corpuscles share their passion for poetry, make some interesting findings, or develop interest in some particular styles or authors, as well as create new bonds and make great friends.

We owe much to the Master and Sibella for their great contribution in organizing the sessions. With them leaving this summer, Pelican Poets and Writers is expected to undergo some changes, but we are looking for more enjoyable discussions about the magnificent world of poetry next year.

Anya Melkina

In addition to these College societies, Corpus Christi played host to two University society events this year, whose (Corpus) organisers have given us these write-ups:

Cambridge Footlights

The afternoon of 19 June saw the Master’s Lodge host the annual Footlights Garden Party, in a celebration of all the comedy created in Cambridge over the past year. About 50 attended the event, including both the old and new Footlights committees, as well as many others, most of whom had been involved in sketch shows, stand-up, or comic plays, or had contributed to comedy in other forms in Cambridge, on or off stage, with a number of those in attendance being Corpus students. As part of the Footlights’ increased effort to promote accessibility,
event was open to anyone who wished to come, whether they wished to know more about the Footlights, were interested in getting involved in comedy, or simply wanted to enjoy a nice afternoon relaxing with cold drinks and a bouncy castle. The event allowed those involved in the comedy scene to de-stress after an intense academic year coupled with the pressures of having to put together amazing comedy shows in incredibly short amounts of time. As ever, the talent on display within Cambridge has been astounding, with innovative shows like *Speechless* (a sketch show with no talking), and *Second Generation* (about living with influences from multiple different cultures), as well as the freshers’ sketch show *Queue*, and official Footlights shows such as *Footlight Presents: Pen Pals* and the Footlights Tour Show *Pillowtalk*. This year the Footlights have given increased attention to addressing the issues within Cambridge comedy, and have introduced BME open discussion groups in order to address the previous lack of representation. The current Footlights Committee aims to create a welcoming and inviting atmosphere for comedy that all can get involved in (especially any Corpus students!).

We’d like to thank the Master and his wife, Stuart and Sibella, for allowing us to hold our Garden Party in their lovely home, as well as Marie, the Master’s Secretary, without whom none of this would have been possible. In addition, we’d like to thank Will, who runs the Corpus Bar, for providing us with all the drinks for the event. Thanks very much, an absolutely wonderful and lovely time was had by all!

**Alex Franklin**

**Cambridge Shorts (an ADC activity)**

Cambridge Shorts, the only evening of student short films to occur each term, was fortunate enough to have its seventh iteration take place in the gorgeous Master’s Lodge Garden. Over 70 guests were treated to a selection of five films which included a French medical drama, a wildlife documentary and a mock-chivalric adventure. Compered by Footlights regular Jasmin Rees, the evening was a unique chance to experience student filmmaking on the big screen and in a beautiful outdoor setting. On behalf of Russell Fancourt, the founder and director of Cambridge Shorts, Gaia Fay Lambert, the producer, and the rest of the team, I would like to sincerely thank the Master, Sibella and Marie for their support and encouragement in putting on this special event.

**Zoe Black**

**The Staff Choir**

A regular group of about 10 – 12 staff members have continued to rehearse weekly during term times. The pattern of performances has been much the same as last year: a set at each of the termly whole-staff gatherings (carols and mince pies at Christmas; hot cross buns in Holy Week and Pimms in Old Court at Graduation), plus appearances at the May Week Concert and a lunchtime service in the College Chapel. Repertoire has been, as always, varied: ranging from *Bridge over Troubled Water* to Mozart’s *Ave Verum Corpus*, via carols and folk-songs. It is particularly rewarding for the staff to be able to contribute to whole-College
events such as the May Week Concert and Chapel services as a chance to perform to the wider College community.

My thanks go to all the staff members who support this endeavour: both the singers themselves, and to their colleagues who so enthusiastically listen! Particular thanks to Helen Vincent, Corpus’s Human Resources Manager, whose initiative this originally was and to Robin Walker, the College Director of Music, who helps out with bolstering tenor/bass numbers and piano accompaniment on occasion. Warm thanks also to Stuart Laing, who, as Master (and therefore not technically a Fellow) qualified for membership of the group and gave sterling support to the tenor/bass section: we will miss your contribution!

Nicholas Danks
Fellow in Music and Musical Director of the Staff Choir
Sports clubs

Corpus Blues

Corpus has been well represented in University sport this year.

Matt Watson (2nd year, Medicine) was awarded a Blue in Rugby Union this year and is currently players’ secretary. CURUFC had a good season which started well with draws against Cambridge City RFC and Durham, but then suffered a number of injuries playing Northampton Saints. They then put in better performances leading up to the Varsity matches, beating the British Police and the Steele-Bodger XV, an invitational side, which helped them secure a win over Oxford at Twickenham, 20-10.

This year Jack Congdon (4th year, History and Philosophy of Science) has been Captain of CU Association Football Club. The season promised much, the team having reached the semi-finals of the World Elite University Football Tournament in Beijing during the summer, and it wasn’t to disappoint. For only the second time in CU AFC’s history, the team were champions of BUCS Midlands 1A, unbeaten in all competitive football until late February, and securing the title in memorable circumstances as they put traditional rivals Oxford to the sword to finish top. Unfortunately, they failed to translate their league form into the Varsity match, but with victories this season over long-standing university football heavyweights like Loughborough and Nottingham, it was an outstanding year for the University Football Club.

It was a tough season for the women’s Hockey Blues, but they overcame early season hard knocks to grow into a strong tactical team, retaining their position in BUCS premier hockey league. Despite a battling Varsity performance they succumbed to a 2-1 defeat, but with only a small turnover of players they are hoping for victory next year. Freddie Briscoe (3rd year, Engineering) has been heavily involved with CUHC this year as Club Captain and Vice-Captain of the Blues. The positive effect of sport on Cambridge life cannot be underestimated, and she is excited for the new season and widening participation at all levels in the role of access officer for CUHC.

The Men’s Blues Golf team had their best season in a decade, winning the Varsity Match for the first time in 9 years, and beating Sunningdale and the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society for the first time in recent memory. Seb Hickman (2nd year, Natural Sciences) had a strong season, holing the vital putt needed to win the Varsity Match being the highlight. He is very much looking forward to captaining the team next year.

Lottie Paterson (2nd year, Maths) was awarded a Blue this year in women’s Lacrosse. They had a great season winning the Southern Premiership unbeaten.
They also did extremely well to make the final of the Championship, where sadly they lost to Durham (who have coaches and scholarships). Unfortunately the very young and inexperienced team let the pressure of Varsity get to them, going down 8-4; but with only two Blues leaving next year, the squad only looks to improve.

George Hopes (4th year, Engineering) sailed on the Varsity team and won 4-0 against Oxford, in his second year in the University BUCS first team, picking up a Full Blue. He also sailed on the National BUCS Team at the Wilson Trophy and in international match racing.

Andrew Ejemai (1st year, Maths) was awarded a Half Blue in athletics. He competed in long jump, triple jump and 4x100 relay for the Blues team at Varsity. His main event is triple jump and at 13.31m, he is just half a metre off the blues standard.

Ed Pyman (1st year, Classics) was awarded a Half Blue for rugby fives and was part of the Crusaders squad (Cricket Club 2nd team) that beat Oxford in their three-day Varsity at Fenner’s.

Ed Pyman

Corpus Challenge

This year’s Corpus Challenge was held in Cambridge on a cold but sunny day on 11 February. The day was jam-packed with twenty sports being competed and well over 100 Corpuscles taking part. The first event of the day was Ergs, won by Cambridge; and this set the tone for most of the day. However, towards the end of the morning we had some close losses, including a last-minute Oxford goal in Women’s Football, giving them a 3-2 win. The Tennis team lost 4-2, including some very close matches.

After that it was time for the Corpus BBQ. Tanmay Sukthankar, JCR Catering Officer, came into his own and despite a BBQ break-down, managed to give everyone some much needed hot food.

As the day went on, more matches started to go our way. Some notable results included a 9-0 win for Badminton, 5-0 win for Lacrosse and a 5-1 win for Squash. Then came a complete white-wash for both University Challenge teams who hardly let Oxford get an answer in edgeways. In the first Rounders match competed at Corpus Challenge the Cambridge team won by one rounder. The Mixed Netball team managed to come back in the final quarter to win 13-10 in what became a hotly contested match. Credit should also be given to the Football 1st XI who, despite playing in a hail storm, managed to comfortably beat Oxford 3-1. Probably one of the unluckiest results of the day was also the last event – Pool. The score was tied at 3-3 and Seb Dickson, playing the decider, potted all seven only to foul on potting the black, before his opponent had potted anything.

In the end though, that didn’t matter and Cambridge won convincingly by 135 points to Oxford’s 65, a great end to an enjoyable day.

Lottie Paterson
Mixed Lacrosse
It has been a year of ever-increasing success for the Corpus Mixed Lacrosse team. With an initial struggle to field sufficient numbers to play all our matches in the Michaelmas Term, the decision was made to merge teams with Newnham College for the Lent season. As a result of this, our team went undefeated in the second division, securing promotion to the top division. Spurred on by this success, the combined team went on to win College Cuppers, defeating several very skilful teams and securing Corpus’s return to success after a very rocky season last year.

Bertie Brown

Mixed Lacrosse team

The Boat Club
It has been another positive year for The Boat Club, with successful Lent and May Bumps campaigns for both the men’s and women’s 1st VIIIIs, and the first ever (to our knowledge) training camp held overseas, in Sicily.

In January, a group of 20 rowers, coxes, and coaches escaped the cold and rain of the UK and travelled to Lago Poma, Sicily, for a five-day training camp. We were very kindly hosted by TeLiMar Rowing Club in conjunction with La Baietta Wakeboarding Facility, who provided not just our equipment and orientation on the water, but brilliantly arranged our food and accommodation. The success of the training camp can be measured in terms of the progress of the novice oarsmen and women on this trip, each of whom earned a seat in the 1st VIII for Lent Bumps. We are very grateful to our hosts and hope to have a similar experience next year.

Lent Bumps fell during the week when the ‘Beast from the East’ met storm Emma, causing the first cancellation of a day’s racing due to weather since 1963. The women’s 1st VIII put out a very strong showing, racing during a blizzard, and ending the week +1 at the head of Division 3. The men’s 1st VIII gained two places during the week to end at 5th in Division 2, their highest position since 1994.
Members of the Men’s 1st VIIIs from the Lent and May campaigns had a number of successes at non-University events, on and off the Cam. At the Head of the River Race in March, they gained 106 places to finish 174th, beating many other Cambridge colleges. A Men’s IV+ won at the Radegund Mile in April, and the VIII won their category at the Head of the Cam. A particular highlight must be winning the Quindodecicential Cup at Bedford Amateur Regatta in May, narrowly beating University College, Oxford in the final.

The May Bumps saw four crews take to the water. The Men’s 3rd VIII, also known as MBeer, faced carnage and large speed differentials in the bottom division, bumping the second day, but sadly being bumped on the final day to end the week level. The Men’s 2nd VIII, a crew in which many were novices that term, showed great spirit during the week, but sadly could not escape their chasers, earning their spoons with good humour. The Men’s 1st VIII had a very long week, rowing over four times chasing crews they could not close on during windy conditions on the reach, but never in danger from behind. The Women’s 1st VIII provided Corpus’s only positive return from the week. They bumped Downing II as the faster crew over the course, but unfortunately were bumped back the next day. On the final day, the Women’s VIII bumped Robinson, to finish 15th in Division 2. Both sides now look to build on their solid performances, with good proportions of rowers returning next year.

Liz Elder
Squash
This year in Squash has seen the restoration of our forces back to two teams, with both comfortably maintaining their positions in the league, despite difficulties in organising matches. Highlights include the 1st team fighting hard to a win over St Edmund’s, and the 2nds crushing the Fitzwilliam 2nds, but the disruption to the season left the squad lacking in cohesion, and when it came round to Cuppers, we were only able to field a depleted team, which was knocked out in the first round by Clare, in a close 3-2 fixture. Notwithstanding our mixed form in the intercollegiate season, there was much more success in the Corpus Challenge, with a strong 5-1 win contributing to a very successful day overall for Cambridge. With some very strong players in College next year, we hope next year will bring more of the same.

Alex Gunasekara

Men’s Football
Corpus Christi Men’s Football Club began the 2017/18 season with optimism; a batch of keen and able freshers and the promotion of Jack Congdon to Blues Captain inspired hopes of an unbeaten season, and of a long overdue promotion to the Second Division. The season started as expected, with a comfortable win over the MCR team and a 9-0 drumming of the unfortunate Pembroke IIs. Despite hard fought battles against the division’s biggest teams, a loss to Fitz IIs and a draw against Trinity Hall Is ultimately put us out of contention for promotion behind these two giants. However, we finished in a strong 3rd place with a respectable 5-2-2 (W-D-L) record.

Highlights were the resilient performance against a strong Clare I side (winning a game from a losing position for the first time in the side’s history), and a resounding 3-1 victory over Oxford in the Corpus Challenge. Congratulations and a big thank you to the boys for a successful season, in particular to Tom Mills for finally getting on the score sheet.

Will Edmonds

MCR Football
The MCR Football team again started another year in the second flight of graduate football, ready to push for promotion back to the big leagues. As has become customary, the annual litmus test for the MCR’s pre-season hopes came in the form of a friendly match against the JCR. A hard fought match, with the JCR eventually coming out victors 1-0, suggested the MCR now had the players to challenge the best teams in our league.

The season got off to a flying start in October with a 4-1 victory over Cambridge University Press and a tough 1-1 draw with St Edmund’s on the wonderfully-groomed Leckhampton pitches. Zoology, the eventual champions of the division, were next up but provided too stern a task for Corpus MCR with their combination of age and ability. Further highlights were 10-4 and 9-1 victories against Engineering and Cambridge University Korean Society, and a barn-storming 4-4 draw against Darwin when the score was 4-2 to Corpus with just minutes to play.
Corpus MCR ended up with a delayed (thanks to the Beast from the East) third vs fourth place play-off against Cambridge University Press, to see who would be promoted back to the MCR Premier League. Unfortunately CUP’s end-of-season form was too good, and the MCR remain in the second division for another year.

Overall it has been another fantastic year of football, with some great talent on show and a diverse team to boot. Thank you to all the graduate and undergraduate students for turning out on cold, rainy Sunday mornings at Leckhampton.

Sam Wimpenny

Hockey

Corpus Hockey has undergone a renaissance in recent years with a steady improvement in results in both Cuppers and the League. This year saw an update in kit with new goalkeeping equipment and even better, a brand new uniform, funded by the JCR and sponsored by GAMMA. This comes after several years of playing in personal kit and has served to bring us closer as a team and make us look impressive on the pitch!

We also received a strong intake of freshers with Johnny Boyd having an impressive debut in goal and Emily Laycock turning in good performances on the wing. We came together strongly with newcomers and old-hats alike turning out in good numbers throughout the season.

We achieved a stunning victory against Clare and hard-fought draws against King’s and Gonville and Caius, putting us in a strong position to push for promotion. Unfortunately, the Lent Term season was wiped out by heavy snow and results went against us, meaning we narrowly missed out. Sadly, we were also outclassed by a very strong Oxford team in the Corpus Challenge in a competitive game at St John’s pitches.

However, having put in our strongest performance in years, Corpus have a real chance to push forward and achieve great things next year under the captaincy of Olivia Chesser after a handover ceremony at Corpus Hockey’s inaugural pizza social. In summary, Corpus Hockey is only getting better and better, and shows no sign of stopping!

Tanmay Sukthankar

Rugby

Corpus Rugby, playing as the combination team of Corpus-Clare-Kings (CCK), had a mixed season which culminated in an emphatic victory over St Catharine’s in the Cuppers Shield final.

Following poor results at the end of the 2016–17 season, CCK were placed in a low division at the beginning of the year. This offered some competitive games, with great running rugby and lots of skill on show from experienced players such as Brad Forder, and those who had only just taken up the sport such as Mark Allingham. However, despite the relatively high standard of rugby for College games, CCK were hampered by a lack of substitutes resulting in matches lost frustratingly in the latter half of the game.

The Corpus Challenge in Lent Term went a similar way, with Corpus Oxford
arriving well prepared and in huge numbers. Corpus Cambridge lost, although the ever-reliable boot of Tom Davidson, the watchful eye of Will Edmonds at full-back, and tries from the likes of Sam Deutsch kept the game competitive, ending at 27-13.

In Easter Term, due to the administrative skills of Matthew Pettit, CCK found themselves placed in the final of the Cuppers Shield whilst having barely played in Cuppers to get there. Pitted against St Catharine’s, who had a couple of Blues rugby players and dubiously allowed Hills-Road sixth-formers playing for them, CCK were certainly the underdogs.

Despite this, the team finally produced an incredibly cohesive performance at Grange Road in front of Corpus supporters to beat St Catharine’s 25-7.

Following the victory which was deemed to be so good a performance as to overshadow the rest of the relatively mediocre season, huge numbers of Corpus students attended weekly university-wide touch rugby tournaments during the exam period. The attendance for this was so great that often two teams were fielded. These games provided a perfect opportunity to get out of the library and also an excellent way to end the season.

Benji Thoma

Ladies Netball
2017–18 has been a tough year for Corpus Ladies Netball, with numbers consistently struggling to make a full team. However, even with only 5 or 6 players per week, Corpus still managed to pull off some impressive wins in the League, including over Trinity Hall and the Vets. The highlight of the year was the incredibly close match against Oxford in the Corpus Challenge, where a goal-for-goal game ended in a narrow 9-8 victory for Corpus Oxford. A huge shout-out must go to Lizzie and Eliza for their excellent shooting/attacking over the year, as well as Nina and Lily for their fabulous defending skills! With a full team, (here’s looking at you freshers!) Corpus Ladies netball will undoubtedly have a score card that reflects the quality of the team.

Josie Taylor

Cricket
Having put the tense defeat by John’s in the previous year’s quarter final behind us, hopes and expectations were high for the Cuppers journey that lay ahead. From indoor sessions throughout Lent Term, all the signs were there that we could go deep into the competition. Having been seeded due to a reasonable performance last year, we were confident of a lenient draw. This proved to be the case as we were given Churchill, Darwin and Trinity in the group.

However, before the excitement of Cuppers could begin, we were to have a friendly vs Caius which unfortunately got rained off, so with an extra net session instead we were ready to get our Cuppers campaign underway against Churchill. Unfortunately, although not unexpectedly, they had to forfeit the game as they were unable to put out a side. It may have been that we were down on match practice as our second game came about vs Darwin, but Sam Collings-Wells showed no signs of this as he moved from 5 off 10 deliveries to finish on 104* with
good supporting knocks from Ed Pyman, Kripa Panchagnula and Tom Davidson to set Darwin a mammoth 216 to win. They didn’t close in the end, finishing on 110-7. Our final group game was a winner-take-all match to proceed into the quarters (although we knew we might still get through on net run rate) against Trinity. Bowling first, we bowled Trinity out for 111 with Tom Davidson (3-7) and Jon French (3-24) picking up 3 wickets a piece. The total never really looked big enough and we strolled home with a couple of overs to spare, winning by 7 wickets. A spot in the quarter final was ours.

Even having been seeded first in the quarter final draw due to net run rate, we were given a tough fixture against Queens’ who had finished second in a difficult group. Having lost the toss and bowling first we managed to keep Queens’ to a par score of 140-4. We knew if our top 4 scored runs as theirs did, we should be winning this match. However, we were restricted to 28-3 after 6 overs and it was an uphill task from there, especially since the middle/lower order had not spent a lot of time in the middle. In the end we did well to limp to 120-9; but once again we bowed out of the tournament at the quarter final stage. Despite this performance and the fact that we will be losing a few of our key players next year, the team can be very proud of the performances this year and we look forward to a hopefully longer run in the competition next year.

Kripa Panchagnula

Lawn Tennis

The 2017–18 season started very well for the Corpus Christi College Lawn Tennis Club, with news of promotion to division 3, despite having come 2nd in division 4 last year. Added to this was an unusually large pool of talented freshers, namely Ellen, Hughie, Leiv and Nathan, who regularly played for CCCLTC throughout the year.

In the first round of the Michaelmas college league, Corpus lost 2-4 to Newnham – a strong side with several University players. This was followed by a long series of draws in weeks 3, 4 and 5, with St Edmund’s I, Selwyn and Sidney Sussex respectively. Some matches were very close: doubles played by Ellen & David in week 4 and Ellen & Alex in week 5 both ended with scores 6-7. Week 6 finalised the league and finally brought a win, a huge 6-0 win against Magdalene. With 10 points, CCCLTC came 3rd in division 3, behind Sidney Sussex and Newnham.

In Lent Term, Corpus competed in Cuppers, where after a very close match, we lost 4-5 to Sidney Sussex in the first round, as well as the Corpus Challenge, won by the Oxford side a second year in a row.

Having come third and lost only one match in the League, it is safe to say that CCCLTC deserved last season’s promotion and the large number of draws gives hope for further progress to division 2 next year. It must also be noted that significant improvement has been made in turnout as no points were lost due to players’ absence; and despite our small size, Corpus managed to enter a full team of 6 players into Cuppers for a second year in a row.
I would like to thank everyone who represented CCCLTC on court: Oliver Canessa, Olivia Chesser, Nathan Clark, Hughie Curtis, Alexander Guneseekera, David Hardman, Tudor Ilca, Ellen McWhirter, Aniket Patel and Leiv Storesletten. Thanks for all your input and a great year!

Filip Lurka

Swimming

It has been a very training-intensive year for the Corpus Swim Team. From a previous casual two or so sessions a week we now usually do three to four, including one in a hired lane on Mondays, thanks to generous support from the College’s JCR and MCR. Thanks a lot! This allows us to focus on specific technical aspects such as breathing and the underwater phase. On a regular basis we also use the Monday for filming with a GoPro camera. The session is followed by an evening of analyzing our strokes together and comparing it to Michael Phelps & Co on YouTube (and perhaps eating a little bit of junk food…)

I believe it is fair to say that over the past year, all Corpus swimmers have dramatically improved their strokes – aesthetically as well as in terms of speed. And the speed showed at the yearly Cuppers event (at which all colleges compete against each other) held at Abbey Pool in June. This year, Corpus actually won the competition! What a great improvement to last year’s fifth place. Massive congratulations to Lottie Paterson, Anya Melkina, Laure Talarmain, Max Bloomfield, Tim Watson, Karsten Bach and Marcus Widdess. As always, we were by far the loudest and most supportive team. Keep it up!

Other news: in April we took part in the annual Swimathon, which supports Marie Curie and CRUK. Raising just over £50 with a bake sale at Leckhampton we chose to swim 5K as a race between two teams of two with swimmers taking turns covering 100 m. It was a close situation until near the 5 K mark when Team “Marsten” (Marcus Widdess and Karsten Bach) managed to speed up and finish around 50m before “Tora” (Tim Watson and myself). At the same time, Isobella Allard completed an impressive 2.5 K challenge on the lane next to us. Well done! Apart from the swimming we also enjoyed two formals at Corpus and various hangouts at Leckhampton or with Karsten’s chickens. The Corpus team really is unique among all colleges in that we are above all a group of friends and in fact, we even have alumni who come back to Cambridge for special occasions. I feel honoured to be calling myself the captain and very much look forward to another exciting year with the people who make this team so exceptional.

Cora Olpe
Alumni

Letters

Some of you may know that the Master sends birthday cards to alumni aged 80 and older. These greetings often generate touching and interesting responses, reviving memories of years past. We are glad to print three of these below. Other letters to the Editor are of course always welcome.

I read engineering between 1954 and 1957 and subsequently became a patent attorney.

We have a house at Polruan in Cornwall and this summer were walking through St Winnow churchyard which is nearby, and my wife spotted a notable and relatively recent gravestone inscription to Amos Henry Lord Chilver FRS. When I looked I realised that it was the Henry Chilver who had been my tutor at Corpus some sixty years ago. He had had a very distinguished career after the time I knew him which I had followed with great interest, and of course I knew that he had become an Honorary Fellow of Corpus.

We then walked from the graveyard to a kiosk near the church where the local farmer’s wife Angie sells delicious bacon butties. We were talking with Angie and asked her if she knew the Chilvers and she said no, but she knew Lady Chilver by sight as she often visited her husband’s grave. And, as she was speaking, a car went past and she said that that was her. So after the lady had parked we went and introduced ourselves and since then we and Claudia and her family have become good friends and have visited each other several times.

Wonderful to have made such good friends but sad that we never knew they lived nearby until I saw Henry’s name on the grave. When he was vice chancellor at Cranfield a particular forte of his was in taking innovations through to production, and it would have been so interesting for me, as a patent attorney, if I had had the chance of talking with him about that.

Tom Tribe (m.1954)

I knew Dr Hughes as Glyn Tegai Hughes. I first met him when I was one of a party of postgrad students who visited Gregynog from Aberystwyth. Subsequently, after Glyn Tegai had succeeded in getting the Gregynog Arts Fellowship established, I published an article about B S (Bryan) Johnson, the innovative novelist B S (Bryan) who was the first Fellow in residence. Bryan and his wife invited myself and my wife to stay with them for a few days during his residency, an invitation we were privileged to accept, and during our stay I naturally got to know both Bryan and Glyn Tegai a good deal better. This took place in 1970.
Encouraged by Glyn Tegai, Bryan and I attempted to make some small use of the equipment of The Gregynog Press, sadly lying idle (except for the bindery, which was used by the University). Our comical efforts, and Glyn’s more serious project to revive The Gregynog Press, were described by Bryan in a short piece published first in *The Private Library* (Spring 1973) and subsequently as an article in the anthology *Well Done God! selected prose and drama of B. S. Johnson* (Picador, 2013). Following Bryan’s tragic death, Glyn Tegai and I became Trustees of a fund set up to help his family.

Philip Pacey (m. 1964)

*Extract from Peter Ryde’s letter, November 2017*

What a pleasant surprise it was to receive your birthday card, and how very kind of you to keep us octogenarians in mind. It provides a most welcome confirmation of the two-way links with the college which so many of us cherish and are delighted to maintain.

Still on the subject of *autres temps, autres moeurs*, through my work as a film archivist I recently restored an amateur film about a day in the life of a Cambridge undergraduate which had been produced by a student at Gonville and Caius in 1939. What immediately struck me was that apart from the odd detail here and there, nothing looked any different from the way it did in my own day, almost twenty years later. But my nephew, who had been at St John’s in the 90s, was astounded to watch the film and could hardly believe what he was seeing. It all tends to confirm what I have long suspected, that my own year was amongst the last to have experienced the ‘old’ Cambridge – though even then, the occasional incident seemed to foreshadow the coming of a new era. I remember a friend of mine causing a sensation by turning up to Hall one evening wearing a tartan bomber jacket under his gown. However, within about sixty seconds of the Grace finishing, he received a solemn reprimand from On High delivered by the butler, and must have narrowly escaped being burnt at the stake.

I don’t know if it’s the same for other people, but my Cambridge recollections tend to take the form of numerous unrelated cameos which spring unbidden to the mind and survive with their technicolour brilliance virtually undimmed. What wouldn’t I give for one of those loaves we used to get from the Buttery, fresh baked and a rich crusty top of quality unequalled before or since. I doubt if I could produce a collective narrative, but a wealth of isolated incidents live on, each in its own bubble, apparently resistant to erasure. For instance, the Scottish Corpus man who one day in the Porcelaneum broke six raw eggs into the windpipe of his bagpipes to restore its suppleness and then proceeded to play *fortissimo*, the sound being redoubled and echo-chambered by the tiled surroundings until all present were obliged to flee in disarray with their hands clapped over their ears; or the young Oliver Rackham, who on fine mornings would don a storekeeper’s brown overall and sit outside in New Court polishing his shoes, with an array of brushes, cloths, and tins of Cherry Blossom spread out on the ground around him. No less memorable was the fire one evening at the Cavendish when I was lodging just around the corner in Botolph Lane. Vast quantities of water from hoses collected outside in the street and quickly flowed down through the
gratings and into the house’s cellar. Unfortunately this was being used to store supplies being assembled for the forthcoming expedition to Africa, including, somewhat improbably, a hundred large packets of Daz, donated by a sponsor. The result would have knocked spots off any horror movie, as a huge mass of glistening white foam began to rise unstoppably through the gratings until it reached across the narrow street, completely engulfing a couple of cars that happened to be parked there.

Enough, I think. Start us reminiscing and there’s no stopping us. But I do want you to know how very much I appreciate your kindness in remembering what the family are now calling my ‘umpteenth’.

I do hope all’s well with yourself and the College, and I send my very best wishes to you all.

Peter Ryde (m.1957)

As a postscript to the letters from Alumni, we print Tony Rhodes’s account of a special commemorative dinner.

50th anniversary of a Corpus seven-a-side rugby victory

On 14 April 2018, a 50th anniversary commemorative dinner was held in College to celebrate the Corpus victory in 1968 of the inter-college seven-a-side rugby tournament. Drinks were served in the Old Court before the participants moved to the NCR for dinner and the Master’s Lodge for a nightcap.

This was the eighth commemorative dinner, the first two having been arranged at 10 year intervals and subsequent ones every five years.

The sevens victory was totally unexpected. The Cambridge News of 9 March 1968 started its report with the sentence “An unknown Corpus Christi College side sprang a surprise to win the CU College Rugby sevens competition crushing Christ’s by three goals and three tries (24pts) to three goals (15pts) in an entertaining final at Grange Road”. (NB a try was worth 3 points at that time.)

The Cambridge News went on to analyse the play on the field and recognised the superior technique displayed by Corpus saying that “Corpus proved convincingly the case for efficient teamwork over reliance on talented individuals in sevens”.

The victorious Rugby Sevens team of 1968

2018 reunion of 1968 team members and supporters
On the final whistle, Corpus Fellow Professor Dickens, aged about 80 at the time, a strong supporter of Corpus rugby home and away, ran wildly across the pitch to congratulate the team. In Hall that evening, the Master, Sir Frank Lee, took the unusual step of announcing the win and rewarding the team with drinks!

The victorious team was Andrew Baird (sadly deceased in 1992), Tony Rhodes (captain), Richard Coleridge, Alan Salter, George Andronov, Tim Parkinson and Austin Galvin.

Participating at the 2018 dinner were team members and supporters Jeremy Allgrove, George Andronov, Rory Baird (Andrew’s son), Austin Galvin, Richard Gaunt, Alastair Glover, Barry Gold, Peter Ingram, Richard Jones, Stuart Laing, Mike Palmer, Tim Parkinson, John Price, Tony Rhodes, Alan Salter and Peter Scott. Messages were received from Peter Flinn, Bernie Regan, Jo Rice and Mike Spencer.

A good time was had by all.

**Tony Rhodes** (m. 1966)

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**News of Alumni**

*Thank you to those who have written in with their news. We continue to welcome contributions. Please write to us at lettereditors@corpus.cam.ac.uk*

*An editorial comment: Notice that in this issue of The Letter we have continued to dispense with the term “Old Members”, instead using “Alumni”, confident that this is increasingly used, and widely accepted (as confirmed by classical scholars) as gender-neutral, and inclusive of both female and male alumni.*

**1951 David Stevenson** is still doing some honorary teaching at the University of Edinburgh whilst also playing the bagpipes to accompany the dancing at ceilidhs. He has provided further information on the latter: Burns Ceilidhs in Lauristant Hall (ken@edinburghceilidhs.co.uk) or probably from David himself (david.stevenson@ed.ac.uk).

**1962 Peter Roberts** has provided the following update: ‘Peter continues to be based in Canterbury, with frequent visits to Cambridge, and remains active in researching the life and activities of Christopher Marlowe (m. 1581). In December 2017 he was awarded the Calvin and Rose Hoffman Prize, “for a distinguished essay on the life and works of Marlowe”, making this the fourth occasion he has been so honoured. (Peter won this prize previously in 2002, 2012, and 2016.) The competition for this prize is open to specialists in the literature and history of the period, and as a theatre historian Peter competes with literary critics and biographers in reinterpreting the significance of Marlowe’s career in its historical context.

**1962 Ian Smith** left Cambridge in 1965 for post-doctoral positions at Stanford University, California, and Bell Telephone Laboratories, New Jersey, followed by the position of Research Officer at the National Research Council of Canada,
Ottawa, 1967–1992, leading to Director General of the Institute for Biological Sciences. In 1992 he moved to Winnipeg to build a new institute, the Institute for Biodiagnostics, specializing in medical imaging instruments. He retired from this position in 2013. He is passionate about the translation of research discoveries to commercial application and is responsible for the formation of four successful medical instrument companies. In his retirement he involves himself with the growth of such start-up companies. Ian married Eva Landvik in the Swedish Church, London, in 1965 and they have four children and nine grandchildren.

1966 Richard Henderson, an Honorary Fellow of the College, who works in the Cambridge Laboratory of Molecular Biology (LMB) Structural Studies Division was awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize for Chemistry. Richard shared the honour jointly with Jacques Dubochet and Joachim Frank “for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution”.

1969 John Gowlett writes about his exciting new project in Kenya as follows: “I feel very lucky to be able to give the wheel one more turn in a new project in Kenya. For years and years we’ve worked on million-year old sites on the outer flanks of Kilombe, an extinct volcano on the equator. Then just recently exploring up in the mountain caldera we had the luck to find fantastic new sequences stretching back through the Pleistocene, probably all the way to the formation of the volcano 2.5 million years ago. There was a crater lake and large animals, but we still have to pin down the humans or hominins, but we think they are there. So with three years funding, I just have to try to keep up with the geologists and our excellent Kenyan colleagues – a lot of fun is working with the farmers up in the caldera who are our enthusiastic supporters”.

1970 Stephen Lamport was appointed GCVO in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list of June 2018. He was formerly Private Secretary to HRH the Prince of Wales and is now Receiver General of Westminster Abbey, the most senior lay position at the Abbey, with responsibility for nearly 200 staff and an organisation with a turnover of more than £10 million a year.

1971 Kenneth Falconer has sent us his recent news. “Last year I was appointed Regius Professor of Mathematics at the University of St Andrews after having been a professor at St Andrews for 24 years. (Founded in 1668 by Charles II, the first holder of this Regius Chair was James Gregory, who some argue established the fundamentals of the calculus several years before Newton and Leibniz.) Last autumn I organized a three-month research programme on ‘Fractals and Dynamics’ at the Mittag-Leffler Institute, a research institute of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. I recently published the book Fractals – A Very Short Introduction in the popular Oxford University Press series, as well as the third, much revised, edition of Fractal Geometry – Mathematical Foundations and Applications, the earlier edition having sold over 25,000 copies, to say nothing of the translation into five languages”. He has added an important
postscript which is reproduced verbatim: “Looking back, I have very much enjoyed (and continue to enjoy) a successful career in mathematics. Foundational to this was my nine years at Corpus, as undergraduate, research student and research Fellow, for which I am enormously grateful.”

1975 Nick Taylor has just left Zimbabwe after a three-year stint managing part of the European Union aid programme, EU Governance and Social Sector, in the country, and has moved to Kabul to continue in a similar EU post there.

1976 John Jowett continues to lead the heavy-ion collision programme of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, breaking new energy and performance records in 2015 and 2016 and colliding a new species (Xenon) in 2017. He also enjoys lecturing, supervising PhD students and studies for future colliders. In the past year he also served on a National Academics assessment of the scientific case for an Electron-Ion Collider in the USA. Activities for the remainder of 2018 include a number of conference talks and the preparation of the final month of lead-lead collisions to close Run 2 of the LHC on 3 December.

1976 David Crellin has been running his own business for the last 20 years. In 2015 he was invited to work with the BBC to help develop the BBC micro:bit and became one of eight core partners to deliver one million micro:bits, one for every 11 year old pupil in the UK. Subsequently he won a contract from the IMDA in Singapore to deliver 100,000 micro:bits to all schools in Singapore in 2017–2019. He has recently developed a range of state of the art mobile and fixed site air quality monitoring devices, as a part of the Buggy Air consortium. At home he and his wife Hilary completed building a new house in their garden in Bath at the beginning of 2017. He has one son, three daughters and two granddaughters.

1977 Mike Thexton joined the Council of the Chartered Institute of Taxation in October 2016. In addition to his 2006 account of his experience of being hijacked in Karachi in 1986 (What happened to the hippy man?), he has published the first two volumes of a series of novels aimed at teenagers of all ages, The Magistrate’s Son and The Warning.

1977 John Neilson became College Secretary of Imperial College London in May 2012. He is a member of the College’s Council and President’s Board and Provost’s Board. After reading mathematics he joined the Department of Energy where he worked on several privatisations, including gas and electricity. He subsequently held several senior posts in the Civil Service. From 2005 until 2011 he was Director, Research Base in the Department for Business Innovation and Skills and its predecessors, where he advised on the £6 billion spent annually on public research in universities and institutes. His final Civil Service post before joining Imperial College was as Director of Financial Management in the Ministry of Defence, which included being a non-executive director of the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory and the Met Office.
1978 John Morton who is a Professor in the Faculty of Engineering and Science at the University of Greenwich has provided the following news. “For almost the last 25 years I have worked for the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) of the University of Greenwich, which carries out applied research in support of agricultural development, so I have travelled regularly and widely, particularly in Africa. Besides being head of department for NRI’s social scientists, I research and consult on social aspects of livestock development, and on the impacts of climate change on the rural poor. An important part of my work over the past 14 years has been on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for which I have served twice as Lead Author and once as a Coordinating Lead Author. I live in Kent with my wife Diana, and sometimes with my children, and have been known to take part in amateur drama (most recently as the Earl of Kent).”

1979 Bernard Jenkin, who has been the Conservative MP for Harwich and North Essex since 2010, was knighted in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list.

1979 Philippe Sands who is Professor of Law and Director of the Centre on International Courts and Tribunals at University College London has won the 2018 Prix Montaigne for his book East West Street: On the origins of Genocide and Crimes against Humanity in French translation.

1979 Jonathan Mant is one of eight Cambridge medics to have been elected to a Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences. Only 48 of these prestigious fellowships are awarded globally. Jonathan is Professor of Primary Care and Head of the Primary Care unit in the Department of Public Health and Community Care at Cambridge University Hospitals. His particular specialisation is in stroke prevention and treatment in primary care settings.

1980 Andrew Puttock is now Global Director of Education for Nord Anglia Education, a world leader in providing premium international schools with over 55 schools with more than 50,000 pupils. Before promotion to the Directorship he was the Principal of the British School of Beijing, Shunyi. Although he is based in Hong Kong with his wife Elisabeth and daughter Lucy, he spends much time visiting schools around the world. His two sons Christopher and Matthew are both resident in the UK; Chris is a lawyer in London and Matt teaches in Plymouth.

1982 Mark West has just been appointed by the Queen as a salaried judge of the Upper Tribunal on the advice of the Lord Chancellor and the Senior President of Tribunals. He has been assigned to the Administrative Appeals Chamber and took up his appointment in June.

1982 Angus Knowles-Cutler was recently appointed Visiting Professor at the Centre for the Digital Economy, University of Surrey, where he will continue his interests in automation and the future of work. Angus continues to be London Office Managing Partner for Deloitte. London is Deloitte’s oldest
and largest office with ten thousand partners and staff. He has two other London interests. As business leader of the London Enterprise Partnership, providing formal economic advice to the mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, and as a Councilman for the Castle Baynard ward in the City of London. Outside work he continues his goal of visiting as many countries and territories in the world as possible. This is a decades-old competition with some Cambridge contemporaries. Angus’s total currently stands at 142.

1983 ANDREW HARTER has been appointed High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire. On taking up his appointment Andrew commented “We are looking forward to participating in and organising a number of charitable events and activities across the county throughout the year. Two charities that we would especially like to support are East Anglia’s Children’s Hospices and Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.”

1985 JONATHAN HOLL-ALLEN has recently been appointed Queen's Counsel. He was called to the Bar in 1990 and has been a Medical Law lawyer throughout his career at the Bar. He acts for claimants and for defendants in clinical negligence cases on behalf of all the major medical defence organisations. For the last 15 years a substantial part of his practice has been acting on behalf of the practitioner in professional discipline cases, particularly in the medical and dental fields.

1986 KATHERINE WILLIS has been elected Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford from October 2018. Concurrently she is Professor of Biodiversity in the University of Oxford. Her research involves examining the long term biodiversity responses to environmental change, specifically the dynamic processes of species and their interactions with the environment over time. From 2013 to 2018 she was on secondment to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew as their first Director of Science. At Kew she was responsible for a science staff of 260 and for the extensive plant collections housed there.

1988 IAN WILSON has been appointed Queen’s Counsel. He was called to the bar in 1995 and is a leading practitioner in the fields of Banking and Finance, Financial Services, and Insolvency and Restructuring. He is Vice-Chair of the London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association. Ian is a co-author of Paget’s Law of Banking.

1996 NATHANIEL SEGAREN graduated as a medic in 2002 and was subsequently awarded a Fulbright postgraduate scholarship to Johns Hopkins University in 2006. He is now a country director of the Caris Foundation International, a non-profit private foundation founded by the David Halbert family to aid and empower impoverished people to alleviate human suffering. It has recently entered into a co-operative agreement with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to improve health care in Haiti through a $100 million investment.
1997 David Sayers has sent good personal news from Vienna (see last year’s News of Alumni). His position as Visiting Professor for Turkish Studies at the University of Vienna was extended to the Spring Term 2018. In addition he was appointed Co-Editor for Turkish Studies of the Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes (WZKM). This is the Department’s flagship journal founded in 1887. Lastly he mentioned a brief popular item on fratricide he published in the online journal K24 entitled Osmanlı ya da Kardeşsiz Düzen or The Ottomans or a Non-Fratal System.

1998 Joost Schymkowitz has established a new biotech company Aelin Therapeutics in Belgium with a former Cambridge colleague Frederic Rousseau (also 1998, Darwin College). Joost has recently sent us an update about the company: “Aelin Therapeutics, a privately held Belgian biotherapeutics company, announces today (December 11 2017) that it has secured a €27m investment to pioneer a novel modality in drug development in order to create a completely new class of antibiotics and first-in-class therapeutics against high-value undruggable human targets. The technology, branded Pept-ins,” harnesses the power of protein aggregation to specifically induce functional knockdown of a target protein. The company will use the proceeds of the €27m Series A financing, to bring a first Pept-in product to the clinic.”

2009 Bee Yin Yeo was sworn in as Minister of Energy, Green Technology, Science, Climate Change and Environment in the government of Malaysia in July 2018. At 35, she is a member of the Democratic Action Party (DAP), a component of the Pakatan Harapan ruling coalition and the youngest female minister in the Cabinet. In addition to being a minister and Member of Parliament for Bakri in Joho, she is also Pakatan Harapan Youth Vice-Chair and DAP’s National Assistant Publicity Secretary.

2012 Benedikt Löwe, a Visiting Fellow in 2012 and 2015, was elected a member of the Académie Internationale de Philosophie des Sciences (AIPS) in September 2018.
Alumni publications

1950 **Harry Mitchell**
Mitchell H 2016 *Confessions of a Briefless Barrister* Kibworth Beauchamp: Matador

1955 **David Buisseret**
Buisseret D 2017 *The Going Was Good: Memoir of a Transatlantic Life* Pittsburgh: Dorrance Publishing

1957 **Roger Clarke**

1974 **David Hurst**

1984 **Marty Natalegawa**
Natalegawa M, 2018 *Does ASEAN Matter? A view from Within* ISEAS

1989 **Luke Norbury**

1990 **Arthur Williamson**

1997 **Yazid Sa’id**
Alumni events and the Corpus Association

Since the decisions taken at last year’s AGM, the Corpus Association has taken a rather different form from that in the past. Members of the Alumni Committee, as it is now called, and other alumni, have organised a number of events, with strong support from the Development Office. Below are reports from some of these organisers, whose enthusiasm we warmly appreciate, plus some brief reports on other events from your Editor, who attended them.

We hope that readers will see how enjoyable these regional functions are, and will feel inspired to set one up in their own areas. Please contact the Development Office if you need assistance.

**London Dinner (report by Stephen Coniam, m. 1968)**
The annual London dinner was held at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in Pall Mall on 24 November 2017. This venue has been popular for several years, despite the increasing costs of such an event. It was attended by 45 alumni and spouses/partners, who enjoyed a convivial evening with an excellent dinner in elegant surroundings. The Master and Sibella attended, and the Master presented an account of developments at the College over the past year, with a particularly interesting description of the building work currently being undertaken.

Alumni present expressed their appreciation to Stuart and Sibella for their support of this annual event and their best wishes for a forthcoming (no doubt very active!) retirement.

**Concert and dinner at Leiston Abbey (report by Andrew Quartermain m. 1993)**
Around 15 alumni with spouses/partners attended a weekend event at the end of April at the 14th century Leiston Abbey in Suffolk. We made use of the facilities of the Pro Corda Music School, a national education charity of which I am CEO and Artistic Director and whose permanent home is the Abbey and its surrounding buildings. Set close to Aldeburgh on the Suffolk coast, Leiston Abbey proved to be a good location for Eastern region alumni, and some came from further afield.

After drinks in the Guesten Hall, guests went across to the heart of the Abbey itself and the Lady Chapel – the only part of the medieval buildings still standing in its entirety – where I gave a short piano recital of works including Liszt and Debussy. Dinner was back in the Guesten Hall followed by some impromptu music-making in the Tudor Room of the Farmhouse built into the Abbey ruins, and where those who had booked for the weekend stayed on the Saturday night. We are thinking of staging a second Alumni Association weekend at the Abbey by Spring 2020; and there is an open invitation to any College member who would like to visit Leiston Abbey, and maybe attend one of the concerts or events there, to do so. I can be contacted by email at andrew@procorda.com.
Regensburg weekend  *(report by Franz-Josef Ebel, m. 1983)*

A special weekend full of classical music, Bavarian drinks, traditional food and a boat trip on the river Danube were among the highlights alumni in Germany experienced in Regensburg at the end of May. Attended by the Master and Sibella, the Saturday started with visits to the Cathedral and the house where Johannes Kepler spent the last months of his life in 1630. A short trip on the Danube was the highlight of the sunny and hot afternoon, followed by an exclusive concert in the university rehearsal rooms. Graham Buckland (m. 1970), recently retired from the position of Music Director at Regensburg University, was able to collect some of his old friends for this event. The London pianist Ashley Fripp flew over for a concert with the Besamim String Quartet, former members of Buckland’s University Orchestra. Dinner followed in the garden of the Bischofshof Hotel, in the shadow of the Gothic Cathedral.

On Sunday morning we were guests at High Mass in the historic Alte Kapelle, the oldest religious site in Regensburg. It was a Temple to Juno in Roman times but is now a beautiful Baroque-Rococo Stiftskirche with a fine choir, who sang Mozart’s B-flat Mass K275. Franz-Josef was honoured with a tiny but heartfelt birthday cake at lunch and then the party separated. The Master and Sibella had to leave for Munich Airport, but for those who could stay there was a trip to “Walhalla”, a 19th century copy of the Athenian Parthenon, which houses busts of the greatest figures of German history, especially Artists and Philosophers. The evening programme was a concert with the University Barock Orchestra, which Graham had founded in 2012. For 2019 there are plans to attend the Oktoberfest in Munich which starts on 21 September 2019 and ends at the first weekend in October. Put it in your diaries!

Parker Sermon and lunch  *(report by Wulf Forsythe-Yorke, m. 1951)*

We thought it would be interesting to arrange an event on the occasion of the preaching of the Parker Sermon in Norwich Cathedral. The College is responsible for organising these sermons, the result of a bequest of Archbishop (and Master) Matthew Parker, and the 2018 preacher was the Revd Berkeley Zych, who was on attachment to Corpus from Westcott House a few years ago. In the event only a few could attend, but several of us – including the Master and Sibella, Revd Andrew Bigg (Chaplain), and Very Revd Canon Jane Hedges (Dean of the Cathedral) and her husband, gathered after the service – and an excellent sermon – in the Adam and Eve pub, one of the oldest in England. We were also joined by Jonathan Ellis, Churchwarden of Thurning Church, a Corpus living which houses the furniture from the ‘Old Chapel’ prior to the rebuild in the New Court.

Bristol, Marlborough, Huddersfield and Edinburgh  *(report by Stuart Laing, m. 1967)*

Your editor, for the first two then Master, and for the latter two Master Emeritus, attended lunches and one dinner with alumni. Many thanks to Christopher Carwardine (m. 1958), who with Stephen Coniam (m. 1968) arranged and hosted a truly delicious lunch in his home in Bristol in June, much of the deliciousness supplied by his and Caroline’s expert cooking. About a dozen alumni attended, and all greatly enjoyed the occasion.
The lunch in Marlborough was prompted by the realisation that a number of alumni lived in or near the home to which we would be retiring after the Mastership. It took place in The Bell at West Overton, on Easter Eve, and fifteen of us – of a range of ages – gathered for a pint (or two) and a good lunch.

Thanks go to Ben Crosland (m.1970) in Huddersfield for taking the initiative to bring together alumni from Yorkshire and other parts of the north of England for a dinner there on 10 August. Sibella and I were on our way to a holiday in Scotland, and were delighted to join alumni for a dinner in a restaurant housed in the crypt of St Peter’s Church in the centre of the city. Our thanks also go to Peter Jones (m.1964) and his wife Judith, who kindly put us up for the night before we continued our journey north.

On the way south we joined a group of about 22 alumni for lunch in the Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh on 27 August, kindly organised by Jane Martin in the Development Office. We were particularly glad to see several whom we knew already – Laura Young (Guild Fellow), Bill McGrew (former Fellow), Patrick Hodge (m.1972 and Hon Fellow), and three young alumni who were undergraduates during my Mastership (Isla Cowan, Rowan Bayliss-Hewett and Paul Newton-Jackson). Among others present was Liz Smith, a former Teacher Fellow and now a member of the Scottish Parliament.

Our thanks to all those alumni and Development Office staff who facilitated these events. We hope that the pattern will continue, and that others will be inspired to initiate new (or repeat) gatherings. The Development Office give them publicity through the monthly emailed newsletters.

Beldam and MacCurdy Dinners

The 2019 Beldam Dinner will take place in College on Saturday 6 April. All those who matriculated up to 1962 will be invited back to dine in Hall and stay overnight in College.

The MacCurdy Dinner will be for all those who matriculated between 1963 and 1969 and will take place in College on Saturday 28 September 2019.

Invitations for each of these dinners will be sent out in due course. If you know of any alumni who are not in contact with the College, please ask them to get in touch with the Development Office, so that we can ensure they do not miss the opportunity to join in with their reunion dinner.
Alumni Dining and Guest Room Privileges

Dining
Alumni who hold an MA, or another Masters/MPhil degree or a higher degree from the University, may dine at High Table as guests of the College and take wine on any one ordinary evening in each quarter of any year, free of charge. ‘Ordinary’ in this context means evenings other than Mondays following Governing Body meetings, Wednesdays in Full Term, feasts or other special occasions as designated by the President from time to time. There is no High Table dining in the Old House on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays. A waiter-served dinner is available at Leckhampton on Tuesdays and cafeteria dinner is available at Leckhampton on Thursdays. In the summer vacation (from mid-July to the end of September), High Table dining in the Old House takes place on Wednesdays and Fridays only.

Regrettably, alumni may not introduce guests to the High Table in the Old House. (But they may request to do so at Leckhampton). Alumni are most welcome to bring guests to the Fellows’ Guest Night dinners organised termly by the Development and Alumni Relations Office. During 2018–19, the dinners will be on Saturday 27 October 2018, Saturday 16 February 2019 and Saturday 25 May 2019. Small parties of alumni (and their guests) may also be permitted to dine, at a modest charge, in the body of the Hall on evenings when undergraduate formal hall is served (normally Fridays and Sundays in Full Term).

Alumni availing themselves of the privilege of dining at High Table as a guest of the College wear an MA gown, or the gown of the higher Cambridge degree to which they are entitled. If by any chance they have not the appropriate gown to hand, they should ask the Head Porter, who can usually arrange for a loan.

These privileges are subject to the approval of the President, who may from time to time, in order to ensure a convivial balance on High Table in the Old House or at Leckhampton, limit the number of alumni dining on any evening.

Rooms in College
Alumni of the College may also occupy student guest rooms in College, if available, at a rate of £57.50 per night (room only).

Method of application
Application for permission to dine or stay in College on any particular occasion should be addressed, with at least a fortnight’s notice to:

For Dinner:  
The College Secretary  
Corpus Christi College  
Cambridge CB2 1RH  
hightable@corpus.cam.ac.uk  
Telephone 01223 339793

For Accommodation only:  
Development Office  
Corpus Christi College  
Cambridge CB2 1RH  
development@corpus.cam.ac.uk  
Telephone 01223 339718
Private Functions and Events

Alumni of the College are entitled to a discount on the hire of College rooms and the use of the College’s catering facilities for private functions and events. The College’s dining facilities can cater for a range of events, from feasts for 140 people to small buffet lunches or drinks receptions. A number of rooms of varying capacity are also available for hire with a range of audio visual equipment for use in business meetings and presentations. For further details, please contact:

The Conference Office
Corpus Christi College
Cambridge CB2 1RH
conferences@corpus.cam.ac.uk
Telephone 01223 338014
1952 The Rt Hon Sir Martin Nourse, Honorary Fellow, died aged 85, was a Lord Justice of Appeal of England and Wales and one of the most distinguished Chancery lawyers of his time; in 2000–2001 he served as vice-president of the civil division of the Court of Appeal, and for four months in 2000 was acting Master of the Rolls, while the designated incumbent of that office, Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers, was completing his inquiry into the spread of BSE.

He was born in Cambridge, the younger son of Dr “Harry” Nourse, a GP, and Millicent, née Sargant. She was the daughter of Sir Charles Henry Sargant, who had been a Bencher of Lincoln’s Inn, a High Court judge in Chancery, and a Lord Justice of Appeal – in each of which his grandson, who was exceptionally proud of the connection, would follow him.

He was sent in 1940 to St Ronan’s preparatory school, which for the duration of the war was evacuated from Worthing to Bicton House, Devon.

He won an exhibition to Winchester College, where he distinguished himself academically. He retained a lifelong devotion to the school: from 1993 until 2006 he sat as a Fellow on its governing body.

On leaving in 1950 he undertook two years’ National Service in the Rifle Brigade. He was commissioned second lieutenant and enjoyed the challenge of commanding an armoured scout car. In 1952, he went up to Corpus, where he joined a distinguished generation of lawyers that included Sir Desmond Fennell and Sir John Waite, with both of whom he forged lifelong friendships.

For those who knew Nourse in later life, and who saw a conventional man of immaculate manners, careful dress and understated personality, it came as a surprise to learn that one of his main recreations at Cambridge had been as drummer in the university jazz band.

Equally, he was entirely unashamed that he only just passed his degree – not because of intellectual shortcomings, but because he spent his time at Cambridge enjoying his social life. A lifelong aficionado of the turf, he would escape to Newmarket whenever he could.

Having entered the law, however, he applied himself to his profession with remarkable assiduity; he always believed a degree in law was not the best preparation for a career at the Bar, and would advise aspirants to read another subject at university instead.

He joined Lincoln’s Inn, and was called to the Bar in 1956. He became a pupil of John Brightman in New Square, and rapidly distinguished himself in the Chancery Division, specialising in the lucrative field of variation of trusts work.
He was soon marked out as a future leader of the profession. He became a member of the General Council of the Bar in 1964, serving until 1968, and was appointed junior counsel to the Board of Trade in 1967. In 1970 he became one of the first of his contemporaries to take silk, and from 1976 to 1980 served as Attorney General to the Duchy of Lancaster.

He had his first judicial experience in 1977, when he began a three-year stint as a Judge of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey. In 1980 he was appointed a High Court Judge of the Chancery Division, and was knighted.

He was sworn of the Privy Council in 1985, when he was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal, a position he held for 16 years. Corpus elected him an honorary fellow in 1988, a position he treasured.

He did not see it as his job to amend the law, or to draw attention to his judgments – of which he delivered around 2,000, an astonishing record – by using showy language. When presiding over a case he believed that, if there were no precedent for an intended course of action, it should be scrutinised jealously for any flaw in the argument. He abhorred the “Denning School”, which appeared to him to reject generations of learning and experience.

He had a mastery of detail and a knowledge of precedent that were formidable, but an even greater key to his success at the Bar and on the Bench was his clarity of language. Another reason for Nourse’s popularity at the Bar was his unfailing courtesy and kindness in court. Where some judges would humiliate or rebuke a barrister for not knowing or understanding a point of law, Nourse would take the opportunity to explain, in the manner of a kindly don, the matter at issue. That courtroom manner reflected Nourse’s ease with people from all walks of life and his gift for friendship.

He and his wife Lavinia, whom he married in 1972, were gregarious and their Cambridgeshire country house was often filled with friends. Nourse never sought to dominate, and gave the impression that he was much happier to listen than to talk. His wide range of interests and highly developed sense of humour made him an engaging companion.

The turf was always important, and living just outside Newmarket in later life was ideal for him. To give him a further interest in his last years his wife bought him a share in a horse called Peace Prize, which won two of its seven races, including at Newmarket in June 2015, a moment Nourse regarded as a high point in his life. He also had a keen interest in cricket, and a love of 17th-century Dutch paintings, which he collected. When younger he had had a passion for Ibsen, seldom missing a production in the West End. He also wrote, but did not publish, verse that revealed a very different aspect to his character to the one that presided in court.

In 2000-1 he served as a highly successful Treasurer of Lincoln’s Inn; he had sat on the Inn’s wine committee and had been partly responsible for laying down some of the superb vintages enjoyed during his year in office.

The following winter, after slipping on ice, Nourse developed a blood clot that would not, despite extensive treatment, disperse. Just when all hope appeared lost he became one of the first people in Britain to undergo a pioneering procedure at Papworth Hospital in which the patient’s blood is taken out,
washed and restored. Showing the enormous courage that marked his approach to illnesses towards the end of his life, Nourse made a superb recovery, and continued on the bench until 2006.

For 14 years, he was chairman of the Lincoln’s Inn Denning Society. He ran it with charm and efficiency, although his gentle manner disguised an unshakeable judgment on important issues, such as the choice of appropriate speakers for annual lectures, on which he held firm views. He gave one of the lectures himself, on Literature and the Law; there was standing room only in the Hall.

After his retirement he served until 2015 as deputy chairman of the Takeover Panel Appeal Board. A series of falls impaired his health in his last two years; but, with the devoted support of his wife Lavinia, he refused to submit to the predations of old age.

She survives him with their son and daughter.

*With acknowledgement to The Daily Telegraph.*

**1963 Lord Sutherland of Houndwood (Stewart) Honorary Fellow**

was born and raised in Aberdeenshire. His father, George, was a drapery salesman and his mother, Ethel, worked in a department store. After Woodside primary and Robert Gordon’s College, he studied philosophy at the University of Aberdeen, and then took an MA in philosophy of religion at Corpus. He lectured at Bangor and Stirling universities before becoming a professor in the history and philosophy of religion at King’s College London in 1977 where he took over as Principal in 1985. There he established an Institute of Gerontology.

It was at Stirling that he began the series of philosophical investigations that would establish his reputation as a theological thinker of versatility, reach and imagination. In works such as *Atheism and the Rejection of God*, *Faith and Ambiguity* and *God, Jesus and Belief* he explored the problems of maintaining moral responsibility in a world of competing faiths and values. His Wilde lectures at Oxford in 1984 explored a range of intellectual, moral and existential issues in contemporary philosophical theology, developing his argument that Christian ethical and faith traditions continue to have enduring value.

During a glittering academic career, in which he became vice-chancellor of two universities, London and then Edinburgh, Stewart Sutherland acquired two further distinctions. He was the first head of Ofsted, the schools regulator established in 1992, and the last person to chair a UK royal commission. Both were politically sensitive roles.

In appointing Ofsted’s head, ministers were keen to look beyond established HMInspectors, who were considered part of an education establishment that had allegedly allowed standards to slide. Kenneth Clarke, then the education secretary, persuaded Sutherland, a fellow jazz enthusiast, to take the job, initially part-time while he saw out his London University commitments.

Quiet, modest and wryly humorous, he was a reassuring figure to teachers nervous about the new system. He did much to raise the academic profile of teacher education and, as a philosopher of religion (he sharply corrected anybody who called him a theologian), he was careful to ensure, as legislation required, that children received “moral and spiritual” education.
In 1994, Sutherland, a native Scot, found the chance to be Edinburgh’s Vice-Chancellor irresistible and, to colleagues’ regret, left London and Ofsted. In Edinburgh he set in train the restructuring of the university into three US-style colleges, backed by a £40 million bond from the Prudential group, and thus transformed its finances. His reforms were so radical, and Edinburgh at the time so conservative, that colleagues were amazed at what he achieved.

Three years later, his typically Scottish sense of public service persuaded him to head a royal commission on the funding of long-term elderly care, set up by the incoming Labour government. It recommended that both personal and nursing care (though not “hotel” costs) should, like the NHS, be free at the point of use. “The Blair government wanted us to come up with an insurance system, but the sums didn’t add up,” recalled Alan Davey, the commission’s secretary. “The only answer was for the state to take on the risk.” The dissenters made it easier for ministers to shelve the report. The issue of funding care remains unresolved, though devolved Scotland largely implemented the commission’s proposals. Sutherland was asked by the Scottish government in 2007 to review how free care was working and concluded it was performing splendidly and just needed more money.

He proposed that health and social care budgets should be merged. By including social security benefits in the equation, he argued, it should be possible to rethink and reshape priorities in line with the ageing population.

He welcomed the post-Ofsted opportunity to live and work in Scotland; when stressed, he would hack down thistles in the garden of his Borders house. In 2002, after retirement from Edinburgh, he became Provost of the 400-year-old Gresham College, London, which enrols no students but holds free public lectures.

Knighted in 1995, he was made a life peer in 2001. He was appointed a Knight of the Order of the Thistle, the highest honour in Scotland, in 2002. Despite a cancer diagnosis two years ago, his dedication to public affairs remained strong. One of his last commitments was to chair a House of Lords committee on affordable childcare, which recommended targeting more resources at disadvantaged children.

He is survived by his wife, Sheena (nee Robertson), a clinical virologist, and their son and two daughters.

*With acknowledgement to The Guardian and The Times.*

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**1961 Rodney Thompson** *Former Fellow* was admitted to read medicine, the first medical student to be admitted by Peter Lewis who had been elected to the Fellowship in 1960. He gained a First in Part II Biochemistry, and then completed his clinical studies at University College Hospital, returning to Cambridge to study for a PhD in the Biochemistry Department. After a stay at Cardiff as a Lecturer in the Department of Medical Biochemistry he came back to Cambridge to the Department of Clinical Biochemistry and was admitted to a Fellowship in January 1978. For many years he remained a keen oarsman and had a distinction perhaps unique in Corpus rowing: he gained his oars on three separate occasions twice as a research student and once as a Fellow. He first rowed in the 1963 Fairbairns and last rowed for Corpus in the 1987 May Bumps.
He also rowed at the 1994 Reunion. He succeeded Peter Lewis as Director of Studies in Medicine in 1984, but left Corpus in 1987 to become Professor of Clinical Biochemistry at the University of Southampton, and played a major role in modernising the then Department of Chemical Pathology and Human Metabolism. He was elected FRCPPath in 1990. During the research for his PhD he developed a method for separating cell nuclei from neurones and glia, which led to the discovery that the packaging of DNA in large neurones in the cerebral cortex is different from that in any other cell in the body. He then worked on diagnostic applications of human brain-specific proteins and their diagnostic applications. This led to the discovery of a neurone-specific protein [PGP9.5], antibodies to which are widely used in Histopathology Departments today. PGP9.5 is now recognised as being very important in the ubiquitin pathway of protein breakdown. More recently he had been working on the basis of genetic susceptibility to multiple sclerosis. In 1998 he took early retirement to concentrate on his research into multiple sclerosis. He lived on the Isle of Wight, where he had spent some of his earlier years, while his father worked in the prison service. He also ran a ten-acre vineyard there, Rossiter’s Vineyard, and was delighted to be able to supply wines to the College. He did much to foster the sense of camaraderie that exists among Corpus preclinical students, and was a keen supporter of the award of the Jaggard Tankard, named in honour of the legendary Head Porter and given to a Corpus preclinical student who had made an important contribution to College life. He was also a wise and valued mentor to his younger colleagues.

With acknowledgement to Christopher Howe.

1991 Jeffrey Hughes, Former Fellow, was a postgraduate student at Corpus, to which he came in 1988 from Jesus College, Oxford. He was born in 1965 in Glanamman, Carmarthen [now Dyfed], the son of a miner. He attended Maesydderwen Comprehensive School at Ystradgynlais from 1977 to 1984.

After his graduation he was awarded a T J Jones Memorial Scholarship, and subsequently received a Major State Studentship of the British Academy. His research interests lay in the History and Philosophy of Science. He was awarded the MPhil degree in 1991, the year of his election as a Fellow, and continued with work towards his doctorate. In 1993 he resigned his Fellowship to take up a Lectureship at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine (CHSTM) at the University of Manchester. He completed his PhD thesis, Radioactivists; community, controversy and the rise of nuclear physics, at Cambridge in 1993. He was known and respected worldwide as a leading figure in the history of science community and worked on the history of 20th century science in general and especially the history of nuclear physics. He held various positions in national and international societies. He was first Secretary and then President of the British Society for the History of Science, and he chaired the International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine in 2013. From 2015 he was a member of the International Academy of the History of Science.

In over 20 years at the Centre Jeff made huge contributions as an inspirational teacher and researcher. He was responsible for some of CHSTM’s most
successful teaching units; for developing its Master programme; and for contributing substantially to the growth of its postgraduate community – not least by successfully supervising the dissertations of numerous PhD candidates. He was an extremely influential scholar who published widely in international academic journals, especially on the political implications of nuclear research and the role of scientists in general (and nuclear physicists more specifically) in government departments. Acute and witty in his portrayal of the interplay of science- and decision-making, he produced outstanding work which today is used in original research and teaching. His book *The Manhattan Project: Big Science and the Atom Bomb* was awarded the 2004 Watson Davis and Helen Miles Davis Prize by the History of Science Society. It stands as an important reference for students and practitioners seeking to locate the scientific enterprise that led to the production of the first atom bomb within the rise of large-scale scientific organisations and laboratories.

He will be missed, for his contribution to scholarly work, his initiatives to propel the growth of his discipline nationally and internationally, and the grace, integrity and humour with which he pursued his many achievements. A serious illness forced him into retirement last year. He is survived by his wife Natalie, and by a close extended family.

Richard Noakes writes: “I first met Jeff in 1992 when I embarked on Part II History and Philosophy of Science (Natural Sciences Tripos). It wasn’t long after this that I understood why he was known among undergraduates as ‘uncle Jeff’: he devoted an extraordinary amount of time to his students and I still remember his generous and incisive feedback. He was a terrifically gifted lecturer and his performances spoke volumes for his command of history of science and his confidence in addressing large groups. But it is as friend, doctoral student and fellow professional colleague in the field of history of science that I remember him best. He lit up most social gatherings with his cynicism, dry wit and often quirky turn of phrase. He once asked me jokingly whether discretion was the better part of valour or value! Although Jeff and I worked on slightly different historical periods and subjects, his historiographical advice and research tips usually stung me into rethinking something I was writing. It’s now a huge regret of mine that I was never able to collaborate with him on a project where our temporal and subject foci were converging – amateur radio enthusiasts in interwar Britain. Many Corpuscles will remember Jeff’s impressive book collection in his Fellow’s rooms in Selwyn Gardens – a collection that mushroomed in size during his time at Manchester. One consequence of Jeff’s bibliographical ‘mania’ was that it was pointless going to second hand bookshops that he’d recommended (including Cambridge’s market stalls) because the chances were he’d already taken the best tomes! Finally, no recollection of him is complete without mentioning his extraordinary musical interests and skills as a violinist. Although I never saw Jeff perform I was acutely aware of his fine musical taste. Indeed, if it hadn’t been for Jeff I doubt whether I would have appreciated the virtues of historically-informed musical performances. With Jeff’s passing I have lost a shining intellectual light in my life.”

*With acknowledgement to Richard Noakes, James Sumner and Simone Turchetti*
1939 **John Hewett Bolton-Maggs** won a Parker Exhibition to Corpus. He signed up for the Fleet Air Arm in December, but was not called up until the end of his first year in Cambridge.

His early schooling was interrupted when he developed tuberculosis. He did not attend primary school, but was taught to read and write by his mother and older half-sister.

He attended King Edward VI (Norwich) school from the age of 8, where he was Head Boy, captain of the hockey team, and vice-captain of the rugby and cricket teams.

He was an observer/navigator in the Fleet Air Arm. His war was eventful, happening to be on HMS Rodney when they were involved in the sinking of the Bismark. Later, his ship was torpedoed and sunk off the West African Coast. He flew a variety of aircraft, and holds the record with his pilot for the longest single-engined flight in a Mosquito, a flight of some 430 miles, after one engine was damaged by ground fire.

At the end of the war he returned to Cambridge, where he completed his degree, and then trained as a teacher. He was joined for this year by his wife and first child. He had married Constance in December 1942.

He joined the Colonial Service, and was posted to Sokoto, in the North West of Nigeria as an Education Officer. In 1954, he was appointed Principal of the Teacher Training College in Katsina. In 1957 he was appointed Senior Inspector of Teacher Training in the Ministry of Education for the Northern Region of Nigeria. In 1960, he joined the Nigerian Government when Independence was granted. He became Chief Inspector of Education for the Northern Region, until he left Nigeria in 1967. He was awarded the OBE in 1964 for Services to Education.

On leaving Nigeria he was appointed Senior Tutor at Doncaster College of Education. This establishment had just gone co-educational, and he was the first warden of the male Hall of Residence. In 1972, he was appointed as an advisor on a UNESCO project to improve rural education in Liberia, West Africa. This project was terminated in 1976 when UNESCO ran out of funds. He returned to the UK and became a tutor for the Open University.

In 1977 UNESCO re-employed him as part of a three-man team advising on the re-organisation of their education system. This post ended in 1980, but he continued to act as a consultant to the Asian Development Bank in relation to this project for another two years.

In 1980, aged 60, he retired to the family home in Overstrand. He joined the Norfolk Society, and for eight years was the Team Leader and a Judge on the Best Kept Village competition. He played bowls regularly until his 90th birthday. He and Constance celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary in 2012. They had 4 children. Two of them followed him to Corpus.

*With acknowledgement to Ben Bolton-Maggs (m. 1968).*

1941 **Anthony Craven** was a highly respected solicitor, being a partner in the family firm for over 50 years. He served in Bomber Command and was involved in over 30 missions over Europe in the nose of a Halifax bomber. He retired from the RAF in 1946.
He was described as wonderfully energetic and enthusiastic with a lovely sense of humour. He and his wife were regular worshippers at Longridge, Lancashire. He was a Hulme Trustee and therefore involved in the interview and appointment process of Longridge incumbents. Always taking a great interest in parish life, they hosted summer barbecues with access to their outdoor swimming pool.

He leaves a wife Ann, married for 64 years, and three daughters and was a dearly loved grandfather and great-grandfather.

_With acknowledgement to John Crocker and Mark West._

1942 **Charles David Eric Jones** (known as Eric) won a scholarship to Christ College, Brecon. He won a scholarship to Corpus, where he studied chemistry and played for the College rugby team. Whilst at Cambridge, he served in the Home Guard. He graduated at the end of the war, after only two years. He was tasked with recovering industrial assets seized by the Germans, and gathering any available intelligence.

On his return, he joined Courtaulds and began a 42-year career, initially as a research chemist at the company headquarters in Coventry. On his first day, he met his future wife, Jean. They were married in 1948 and had three sons. He studied for his MEng in Chemical Engineering. A few years later, he was transferred to the company’s Rayon division. In 1965 he was asked to solve a number of problems at a rayon factory in Balakova, near Volgograd, in Russia. Courtaulds had built the factory, but after it had been commissioned, the Russians had failed to maintain it correctly.

He left the Rayon Division when the demand for it waned, and he was tasked with saving the failing Standfast Textile and Printing Factory in Lancaster. It survives to this day and is known for its high quality, the biggest factory of its kind in the country. He was also made the Managing Director of a similar factory in Treforest in South Wales.

He became Director of Energy Conservation for the Courtaulds Group. His last project was at Courtaulds/British Celanese in Spondon, which at the time was the largest electricity plant in the UK. The power plant was designed to supply steam to the factory and to the National Grid. It cost so much to build, that he had to put together a partnership between Courtaulds, the National Grid and gas suppliers. At this time, he sat on the World Energy Conservation Forum. He retired aged 62.

Despite all his achievements in his profession, he would say that his greatest was climbing the Matterhorn.

Outside his industrial career, he was a founder member of Rhyll Rugby club, and played for North Wales. He later became a referee. He was president of the Three Peaks Hill Walking Club for a number of years.

_With acknowledgement to Gareth Jones._

1942 **Ralph Lambton Robb Nicholson** was born at Anick, Northumberland, and later moved to Suffolk where his father was an instructor/officer at the boys training establishment at Shotley, before being transferred to Malta.
He gained a Mathematical Exhibition to Sherborne. In 1942 he applied to join the Royal Engineers University Short Course and came to Corpus. He was sent to Clitheroe for corps training in 1943. When commissioned he was seconded to the Indian Army.

In 1946 he was repatriated and was posted to No 1 Bomb Disposal Squadron. He studied Chemical Engineering at Imperial College, 1947–1950. He then worked for Distillers company at their R and D centre near Epson. He left Distillers in 1951, joined Burroughs Wellcome as a chemical engineer, and later a branch of Fison’s, and then worked with the UKAEA Group where he was secretary of the committee overseeing the development of a new type of power reactor (which provides now the bulk of Britain's nuclear power). In 1967 he was appointed Director of the newly formed Ministry of Technology/UKAEA Technology unit based at Harwell. In 1971 he was promoted to the post of Principal Economics and Programmes Officer. For the next 16 years he was concerned with the development programme of the “Fast reactor”. In retirement he was asked to take on the job of Atomic reviewer-checking whether old files could be released to the general public.

With acknowledgement to Alison Bourne.

1942 Robert Mark Romer came to Corpus from Sherborne. While he was there, German bombers who had intended to bomb Bristol unloaded all 200 of their bombs with 100 hitting the town of Sherborne – three landing in the School courtyard. In 1942, he won the Christopher Morcom Prize for the best science pupil for the year. An earlier recipient of the same prize had been Alan Turing. Mark also played cricket and hockey at university. He was a lifelong member of Sherborne Pilgrims and returned to the school to play at various points in his life. At Corpus he studied Chemistry and Physics as main subjects and Maths and Electronics as subsidiary subjects.

The next 20 years he was at sea, seeing action in the Korean War, and was promoted Commander. In 1965, he worked for the Admiralty in Bath, where the family lived from 1963 to 2002 before moving to Castle Cary, Somerset. He retired from the Navy in 1974 but carried on in the same office, working for the Civil Service as an Electrical Engineer. He became Head of the Standards Section, dealing mainly with the technical documentation of the Ship Department and representing the Navy on various standardisation committees.

He married Fay Gardner in March 1947 and they had four daughters. He commented that it was interesting that Naval Officers seemed to tend to have girls, as in each ship he served, daughters of officers outnumbered sons by 2 to 1. He is survived by his widow and three of his daughters, and 10 grandchildren.

With acknowledgement to Sally, Caroline and Melanie – Mark’s daughters.

1943 Peter Brown. We have learned of his death.

1943 John Boulton Myles came from Wellington College to Corpus to read Natural Sciences. He completed his clinical training in medicine at St Thomas’s Hospital. He joined the Officer Training Corps and in due course the Home Guard, transferring to the Air Training Corps when it was formed. He
was called up in 1943, but on discovery that he passed his 1st MB, he was sent back to college to finish his medical training.

He had been born in India where his father was a radiologist with the RAMC, but the family came back to England in 1930 due to the lack of suitable education.

Junior doctors were given a short period of grace after qualifying, but then had to do their National Service. This took him to Chester Military Hospital as an orthopaedic clinical officer. There a chance meeting with a Major General led to him being posted to Port Said in Egypt.

On completion of his National Service, he returned to England and continued with his medical career. In 1956 at St Peter’s Hospital Chertsey he met Barbara Holmes who was working there as an anaesthetist. They married in February 1958 and moved to Jersey in 1961. Myles made an enormous contribution to Jersey medicine. Over time he became more and more involved with the running of the hospital. He became chairman of the Consultants Committee which instigated the rebuilding of the Jersey General Hospital in the 1970s. He introduced modern orthopaedics and fracture treatment; redesigned the hospital notes; obtained recognition for the hospital as a training unit; completely rewrote and organised the Major Incident Plans, including designing the pages for a computer system which accepted input from multiple locations – something we take for granted these days but was unheard of at the time. He also resisted, as far as he could, the take-over of clinical matters by administrators! Over his last year, he had many stays in hospital and one of the questions in the endless paperwork is “are you allergic to anything?” to which his reply would be “yes, administrators”.

Not long after moving to Jersey the family joined St Catherine’s Sailing Club, beginning a long and happy involvement with the Club, including time as Commodore. He was a serial pyromaniac and loved fireworks. He loved to swim and travel but boating was always top of the list and over the years he owned several yachts, before changing to motor boats in his later years.

He was a proud, gentle, quiet, knowledgeable man, a loving and much-loved father, grand-father and great-grandfather, who is greatly missed by his four children, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Allison Le Blancq.*

1943 Edward Newsome. We have learned of his death.

1943 Robert (Bob) Stoughton-Harris was a generous supporter of many organisations and charities, reflecting his eclectic range of interests. Music and education were close to his heart, as were heritage, the environment and medical research.

In his retirement, he was a volunteer with Age UK in Somerset and South Wales.

He visited hundreds of elderly people to assist them in claiming benefits, something he was extremely good at and loved doing.

As a schoolmaster, father, grandfather and great-grandfather he always ensured that children were given the best chances in life.

*With acknowledgement to Clare Stoughton-Harris.*
1944 Alexander Loten was born in Argentina in 1925, the eldest son of six children. His father was building one of the first golf courses in Argentina. On return to the UK he went to Churcher’s College, Petersfield. He served in the Fleet Air Arm as an Air Engineer officer. He was sent to Cambridge University on an engineering course, as part of his naval training, and after the war went back to Corpus to continue his studies and gain an engineering degree. He loved Cambridge all his life, and shared his love with his family. His university days were always very special to him. In the early 1950s he went to work for Rolls Royce in Derby.

He met his future wife Diana on a tennis court. They then moved to London to work as an engineer for a National Heating and Air conditioning company. He worked for the Air Ministry Directorate in the late 1950s and stayed with the Civil Service for over 30 years. By the 1970s he had become Director of Works for Civil Accommodation at the now Ministry of Public Building and Works. He was involved with the construction of many landmark buildings. In 1976 he was President of the Chartered Institute of Building Service Engineers, hosting his Presidential Conference in Nürnberg. His career culminated with his becoming Under Secretary at the Department of the Environment and Director of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Services at the Property Services Agency. For his Public Service he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

He and his wife loved their retirement years together, with holidays at home and abroad and sharing times with their two children and four granddaughters.

With acknowledgement to Carolyn Medcraft.

1944 John Paton. We have learned of his death.

1944 Norman Taylor was educated at Bolton School. He won a scholarship to Corpus to read History. After a Naval short course, he served in the RNVR from 1945–6, as Sub-lieutenant serving on the minesweeper HMS Serene. Throughout his life he remained an enthusiastic participant in annual reunions of the crew.

He trained at Cuddesdon theological college and was rector of Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom, a Corpus living, 1955–1970. During this time he was a dining member of Corpus High Table. He became chaplain of St Faith’s School Cambridge, teaching Classics and Religious Education, and was honorary priest at Chesterton parish church.

He retired to Lyme Regis in 1991, from where he moved to his final home in Ampleforth in 2009. In both locations he continued to serve as an honorary assistant priest, conducting Sunday services at the parish church of Morcambelake in Dorset and St Hilda’s in Ampleforth.

He was a member of the Prayer Book Society and a Founding Member of the Sydney Smith Society. He wrote For Services Rendered, an anthology in celebration of the Book of Common Prayer, and Twelve Miles from a Lemon, co-authored with Alan Hankinson, an anthology of Sydney Smith’s writings.

With acknowledgement to Nicholas Taylor.

1944 Michael Tooth. We have learned of his death.
1946 **Peter Frederick Clayton** died in 2011. He read electrical engineering at Corpus after a distinguished career as a bomber pilot in the Pathfinder Force for some of its heaviest assaults of the war.

Clayton was educated at Haileybury, from which he joined the RAF in 1940. He was posted to 97 Squadron in autumn 1942. After a series of anti-submarine sweeps, the squadron switched to strategic bombing and from February 1943 Clayton was involved in attacking some of the most heavily defended industrial targets in Germany. From April 1943 he was involved in an intensive campaign of night raids, many of them over the Ruhr industrial heartland, but also ranging as far afield as Munich and Leipzig, with attacks on Italian cities, Turin, Milan and La Spezia. On the night of 17–18 August 1943 Clayton and his squadron flew on the raid on the V2 manufacturing facility at Peenemunde on the Baltic, as part of a force of 596 bombers. The damage from the 1,800 tons of bombs dropped by this force is estimated to have set back the German rocket programme by at least two months.

After a spell as an instructor, by August 1944 he was back on operations. The squadron’s efforts were first directed at German and French ports, but in October the focus changed to the German hinterland with numerous attacks on the industrial Ruhr. On the night of 16–17 January 1945 Clayton was detailed to be Master Bomber for one of Bomber Command’s heaviest assaults of the war, on the synthetic oil-producing plant at Magdeburg. Clayton was praised for his accurate marking of the aiming point and his subsequent control over the vast Main Force of bombers, which resulted in huge damage to one of Germany’s shrinking sources of fuel. The citation for the DSO awarded on that occasion recorded: “This raid is typical of the dogged determination, skill and tenacity with which this officer has acted in eleven Master and Deputy Master Bomber operations.”

Clayton flew his last sortie on 24 March 1945, arriving back at base with severe flak damage. Between October 1942 and January 1945 he had flown a total of 84 operational sorties, mainly involved in the strategic air offensive against Germany at night, though during the period of the Normandy landings he also flew day attacks on targets over the Normandy battlefield and elsewhere in the tactical operational area. He was decorated with the DFC in 1943 and the DSO in 1945.

After the war he read a degree in electrical engineering at Corpus, working thereafter for the engineering group Costains and BAT before founding his own business, Thames Flooring. He retired to Dorset, where he enjoyed his garden, DIY and sea fishing. He married his first wife Sally in 1960 and they had a daughter and three sons, one of whom died in infancy. The marriage was dissolved, and in 1981 he married his second wife, Jane. He is survived by her, by three children of his first marriage and by three stepchildren.

*With acknowledgement to The Times.*

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**1946 Robert Joyce** was born in Tynemouth, Northumberland in 1927, and educated at Tynemouth High School and the Royal College of Music where he was a pupil of Harold Darke and William Harris. In 1946 he came to Corpus as
organ scholar and in 1950 was appointed organist of St Matthew’s Church, Northampton, a position held concurrently with those of conductor of the Northampton Bach Choir and the Northampton Symphony Orchestra. In 1958 he was appointed Organist and Master of the Choristers of Llandaff Cathedral. He retired from Cathedral life in 1973 in order to concentrate on lecturing and teaching at the Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff where he became Senior Lecturer. He made two solo organ recordings, one of which consisted of a notable early performance of Guilmant’s First Organ Sonata.

With acknowledgement to Jeremy Davies.

1946 Nigel Viney was born in 1922 in Aylesbury where his family ran their long-established printing business. He became one of the most popular and well-loved figures in London publishing during the sixties and seventies and rose to become Managing Director of Heinemann, serving on the board for many years.

After war service in the army and Corpus he decided to make his way in publishing via bookselling, firstly with Blackwell’s in Oxford and then Denny’s in London. In the early 1950s he cut his teeth in production for Methuen, and subsequently ran Shell’s publishing arm in the early sixties. He joined William Heinemann as production manager in 1963, where he flourished, soon expanding his role into editorial where he took on the task of editing the official life of Churchill over its many volumes.

Witty and charismatic, his good temper and sense of humour made him a popular figure.


He was a devoted husband to Val for 58 years, father of four, grandfather of sixteen and great-grandfather of five.

With acknowledgement to Laura Morris and Lucy Apperly.

1946 William Wills was born in Adelaide and went as a boarder to Geelong Grammar School, Victoria, from age 11. He was introduced to rowing, which became a lifelong passion and was influenced by his service in the school military cadet programme. After graduation he joined up, and after three years was posted to a tank training unit.

His regiment was posted to New Guinea to resist the Japanese advance on Port Moresby. In Borneo, not long before the Japanese surrender, he was seriously injured by friendly fire. He was travelling towards enemy lines in a jeep with a driver and radio operator to act as spotters for his artillery unit. Pilots mistook it for an enemy vehicle, and strafed the jeep with machine gun and cannon fire. He was the only survivor but suffered a serious injury to his right shoulder, with a shattered scapular and loss of some bone. This injury and to a lesser extent malaria contracted in the jungle caused him periodic and at times severe pain and discomfort for the rest of his life.

Having regained his health, he left Australia for the UK and came to Corpus
to study modern languages. He thoroughly enjoyed his time as a late entrant undergraduate. He stroked several College eights and rowed in the Goldie boat.

After he completed his Cambridge degree his father arranged for him to be trained in the shipping business with P&O lines. He returned in the late 1940s to work at the George Wills office in Sydney. He remained in senior management to retirement in 1987. He met his wife Ann and they married in 1950.

In addition to family and work, Bill had diverse interests – commercial, social, sporting and philanthropic. He was a committed member of Legacy, supporting and advising war widows and their children. He was moved by the poor conditions in which these families were living. He worked with his father to facilitate the establishment of Kathleen Lumley College, a post-graduate residential college jointly funded by his father’s sister together with university and government funds. He spent many years on the board of the College. He was on the board of St John’s Ambulance during the difficult period when, as a result of political pressure, volunteer ambulance officers were replaced by full-time paid paramedics.

The love of his life was his wife Ann and they were married for 65 years.

*With acknowledgement to Richard, Sally, Ann and John Wills.*

**1947 Graham Dingle.** We have learned of his death in 2016.

**1948 Roger Ainsworth** came to Corpus with a scholarship to read medicine. When their house in Sussex was commandeered by the army at the outbreak of war, Ainsworth’s family moved to Cumberland, where he learnt to climb, raise a peregrine falcon and exercise his sheep dog. At Corpus, he gained a double first, while continuing to climb in the Alps and Norway. After clinical training at St Bartholomew’s he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, and spent two years in Kenya dealing with childhood diseases as well as the consequences of political violence.

He then taught at Cambridge, and became one of the founder members of the Royal College of Pathologists. His first consultant appointment was at Farnham Hospital, leading to development of the service at Frimley Park Hospital. Further qualifications in medical jurisprudence and appointment as a forensic pathologist followed. In this role, he worked with several police forces, and he was once asked for some technical advice for the TV production of Inspector Morse. On retirement, he continued working as a medical referee.

At home he was a great teacher and had a great ability with anything mechanical.

Away from work the garden was his treasured place, never happier than with chainsaw in hand. A father of three and grandfather of four. A kind, quiet person of immense knowledge and practical skill. A long life started before the foundation of the National Health Service but entirely dedicated to its work. Owed thanks by many but really known by very few.

*With acknowledgement to Kim Ainsworth.*
1948 Darrell Spurgeon won a scholarship to Chigwell School, and was called up at 18. He joined the RAF, was given nine months at London University to learn Japanese, and went to the Far East including Burma, India, Malaya and Hong Kong. This time in the Far East fired his imagination, and helped make him a keen traveller. Whilst in the RAF he ended up as an officer.

After the war, he came to Corpus to read economics. There he made a number of lifelong friends. On leaving he tried various jobs, but found his vocation to be a travel agent. In 1952 he married Arlette, his wife of 65 years. Whilst a travel agent he spent three years (1955–1958) in newly independent India working for American Express. On return from India he joined the Royal Arsenal Cooperative Society Travel Agency as their Manager, a position he held for over 25 years. This was a good match as he very much identified with the cooperative movement, and its philosophy and ideals. He was well respected in the travel industry, and ended up chairing a number of ABTA committees. In parallel with this he involved himself in local politics and amenity societies. He was active in the local Labour Party, and was elected Labour Councillor for Blackheath.

On retirement his life took a new direction. He was able to indulge a life-long passion in the way certain areas in South East London had developed over the years, participating in a number of local history groups. He wrote nine local guide books/gazetteers with titles such as Discover Greenwich, Discover Woolwich, etc. These books were very well regarded in the local area. Sadly in later years he suffered failing eyesight and hearing.

With acknowledgement to Mark Spurgeon.

1949 Anthony Allen’s career was in British Railways, mainly on the finance side. He left before privatisation. He worked on the closure of railway lines under Beeching, and was an assistant to the Transport Minister.

After attending St Paul’s School, Allen decided to do his National Service before university and was assigned to the Royal Signals and trained as a teleprinter mechanic. He was posted to Malaya, travelling there and back by ship, but spent almost as much time on the voyage as in Malaya itself. After National Service, he came to Corpus, having won a scholarship, and read classics. He coxed three successful eights. His interest in boating continued throughout his life. He sailed on the Welsh Harp, and on retirement on the coast, and later on the Thames at Hampton Court.

He spent his career working for British Railways, in the administrative grade. He worked mainly at the British Railways Headquarters at Marylebone.

At 50, he left British Railways and worked for a time on an archaeological excavation and found traces of a Roman villa between sewage trenches. He also wrote a novel with an archaeological background and a guide to the prehistoric sites of Brittany but failed to get either published.

On retirement, he did voluntary work for a number of charities and led rambles for the Forest Ramblers Club, one of the oldest rambling clubs in the country. In July 2015, he was diagnosed with lung cancer due to exposure to asbestos and died in February 2018.

He was always considerate of others and was a wonderfully supportive husband.

With acknowledgement to Brenda Allen.
1949 Harley Maxwell Patrick was educated at Lockers Park and Glenalmond. After leaving school in 1946 he spent some months in Switzerland at the École Lemarsia in Lausanne, before being conscripted into the army. He was commissioned into the King’s Own Scottish Borderers, served in Palestine during the Arab-Israeli War, and was subsequently posted to Cyprus and became ADC to the Governor of Cyprus.

In 1949 he came to Corpus to read Law and Economics. Following graduation he joined Mercantile and General Reinsurance Company and travelled extensively throughout his career, particularly to French-speaking territories. In 1975, he assumed responsibility for the whole of the Company’s Non-life business and subsequently became Deputy General Manager of the Group. For eight years, he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Reinsurance Offices Association serving as Chairman from 1978 to 1980. He later became General Manager and Chief Executive of Tokyo Reinsurance Company Ltd until his retirement in 1991.

He was a highly respected figure in the world of international reinsurance. He was a Founder Member of the Worshipful Company of Insurers. He was excellent company, a genial host with a love of good food and wine. He settled in the Wiltshire countryside. He is survived by his first wife Caroline and their three daughters. 

With acknowledgement to Piers Lawson and Dieter Losse.

1949 Graham Scott-Brown was born to Walter Scott-Brown, ENT surgeon and alumnus of Corpus, and Margaret née Bannerman, one of the early women medical graduates of the Royal Free London.

He was educated at the Dragon School and Rugby from where he went up to Corpus to read Medicine, which he continued at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital. He graduated in 1954 with the Kirkes Gold Medal in Medicine (Barts), the Cunning Prize (Cambridge) and the Brackenbury Scholarship (Barts). He was a keen rugby player.

After two years working as a House Surgeon he did two years National Service in Singapore, Malaya, Northern India and Nepal, starting off in sole charge of 60 beds and ending up administering four hospitals!

He returned to Barts in 1959 but following his deep commitment to a call of God on his life he returned to Nepal in 1960 and spent 23 years working there with the International Nepal Fellowship (INF). The first 10 years were spent as part of a team of three doctors and a small team of nurses running the first hospital in the Pokhara valley. For the next 12 years Scott-Brown was Director of INF, doing Leprosy and Tuberculosis Control programmes for the Western half of the country, liaising with the government and managing a staff of 250. In his final year he taught in a Bible School in Kathmandu. During his time in Nepal the Church grew from five people to hundreds of thousands.

In 1964 he married Margaret Hawkes, one of the nurses in Nepal, and had three children, two of whom read medicine at Cambridge.

Following his return to the UK in 1983 he retrained as a GP and worked in Faringdon, Oxfordshire, until he retired from medicine at the age of 70. He then became a teacher of Nepali language and grammar at the School of Oriental and African Studies before finally retiring at 75.
He was an active member of the Faringdon tennis club until well after his 88th birthday, a competitive Bridge player, and a Licensed Lay Minister, regularly preaching in Church and running Alpha courses. He was a passionate gardener and did amazing tapestries. A true polymath he was interested in everything and lived his life to the full.

He is survived by Margaret, his wife of 54 years, three children and ten grandchildren, leaving a legacy of engagement, kindness and a love of life.

With acknowledgement to Sarah Scott-Brown and Mike Puttick.

1950 Michael Alexander Reykers Freeman took a first in Natural Sciences at Corpus. He came on a scholarship from Stowe, where his talent for design and construction were nurtured. During this time he met his first wife, Elizabeth, with whom he had a daughter and son.

After moving to London to complete his surgical training at The Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, he began his orthopaedic training at the London, Westminster and Middlesex hospitals. He also remarried, and had another daughter and son with his second wife, Joan. In 1964 he completed his thesis, and his studies of ankle joints in cats continue to inform non-operative rehabilitation of ligamentous injuries at the ankle even today. During the 1970s he became widely recognised as one of the key figures in the field of joint replacement, particularly of the hip and knees. In 1972, he carried out a resurfacing replacement of the hip, and for the next few years he documented the various outcomes – both successful and unsuccessful – for patients who had undergone the procedure. In 1982, he left Imperial and transferred his research to the Bone and Joint Research Unit, in the Arthritis and Research Council building at the London Hospital Medical College.

Freeman contributed to numerous books and journals and was also President of the International Hip Society, President of the British Orthopaedic Association, and the founding president of the British Hip Society. He was instrumental in establishing the European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedic and Traumatology, being its second President in 1994 and 1995. He was an inspiration to students and colleagues and one of the outstanding orthopaedic surgeons of his generation.

Warm and generous – both personally and professionally – Freeman was respected not only for his intellect but for his gentle bedside manner. He was also one of the best communicators at the London and his patients were fortunate to have their condition, outlook and prospective surgery explained to them with great clarity. His obsession with his work, particularly the kinematics of the knee, continued even after his retirement, although in typically self-deprecating fashion he once admitted that he had “never really understood how the knee actually worked”.

His third marriage, to Patricia, in 1968, endured for almost 50 years. She already had two sons and they went on to have a son (who died in infancy) and a daughter. All his children mixed as one large, happy family. She survives him with his six children. A stepson predeceased him.

With acknowledgement to the Daily Telegraph.
1951 Father Francis Bingham studied History at Corpus, after National Service. He was born in Nakura, Kenya. His father served as an engineer in the Royal Navy, but after the war, having become redundant, the family settled in Kenya where they took up farming. He went to Ampleforth from 1944 to 1949.

Following Corpus, he worked with a shipping line in Singapore. His main task was to liaise between ship and shore. It was there that he made his first contacts with people from Malaya who were among the personnel. Through his contacts with the Church in Singapore his Catholic faith had been strengthened and the first stirrings of a vocation to the priesthood made themselves felt. He applied for admittance to the formation programme of the Mill Hill Missionaries. After a bridge-year in Osterley he entered the Mill Hill formation programme in Roosendaal for studies in Philosophy. In 1961 he entered St Joseph’ College, Mill Hill, for the study of Theology. In 1964, he took the Perpetual Oath and the following year, he was ordained priest in Westminster Cathedral.

He was appointed to Malaysia, where he taught for two years in Sarakei followed by two years of mission work in Kanowit. He was transferred to Simangang in 1971 and served there for some five years. Subsequently he worked in other missions and altogether spent 46 years working in the mission of Sarawak. In 2005 he was appointed to the British Region where he took up APF work. In 2014 he took up residence in the Society’s retirement home.

In 2001, he was awarded an OBE for more than forty-five years of mission work in Malaysia.

Jesting and joking, often about himself, was typically part of a conversation with him. He wrote that all Mill Hill Missionaries were either bad or mad and some were both. He added: “I leave it up to you to decide into which category I fall.”

With acknowledgement to Mill Hill Missionaries

1951 Michael David Cobham read Natural Sciences at Corpus after National Service. He had been Head Boy at Stowe and ran the school’s natural history society. His life was spent as a film maker and conservationist of considerable renown. Springwatch host Chris Packham, who was influenced by Cobham, described him as “Kind, calm and committed, a great enthusiast with an insatiable passion for birds of prey, he leaves a legacy of great books and films and inspiration.” He made Vanishing Hedgerows, said to be the BBC’s first conservation film. Produced in 1972, it tackled the destruction of the countryside from modern farming techniques. He devoted two and a half years to a film version of Tarka the Otter, the 1927 novel by the farmer and author Henry Williamson. “Finding an otter that would do everything that’s necessary was very, very difficult. And we got this little otter called Spade and he was absolutely wonderful. He would just follow us like a dog, but he would only work for a couple of hours and then he had to come and sit in your lap and dry off in your sweater, which made you feel very good and very wet, and then he would work again.”

Cobham was a fine cricketer, briefly playing for Yorkshire, opening the bowling with Fred Trueman, and becoming a player member of the MCC. He also had artistic ambitions, but having been turned down as a cartoonist for Disney, he and a fellow naturalist, John Buxton, decided to make a film about...
foxes in Norfolk. When a storm blew down the enclosure and the animals escaped, that project came to an abrupt end. For the next decade, he made public information films before being commissioned, at a meeting with David Attenborough at the BBC, to make The Goshawk (1968), one of the first wildlife films shown in colour.

For the remainder of his career Cobham mainly directed children’s television series, many of which featured wildlife.

For the past two decades he devoted his efforts to the plight of Britain’s birds of prey, which are still being illegally persecuted. He was co-founder in 1969 and a vice-president of the Hawk and Owl Trust, and was rightly proud of the trust reserve he set up at Sculthorpe Moor near his Norfolk home.

Cobham was a regular presence at Norwich Cathedral, having been instrumental in getting permission to build a nesting platform for peregrines on the 800-year-old spire. He delighted in watching these birds going about their lives, in the knowledge that he had done so much to protect them.

His wife, her children, Thom and Sophie, and his brother, survive him.

With acknowledgement to The Guardian and The Times.

1951 Stanley Kiaer came to Corpus after National Service. He read Classics and was a keen rower. He was born to Danish parents in 1931 in the days of the Great Depression. His father, a wealthy banker, became bankrupt and died of a heart attack two days after his birth. His mother sent him to Haileybury College. He said his Army career taught him “to get along with people unlike me!” His two elder brothers were killed within three months of each other, one on D-Day and one at Arnhem.

He went to Caux, Moral Re-Armament’s Conference Centre in Switzerland, which began a transformation of motivations that sustained him throughout his life. He began his business career in shipping and later with Roche pharmaceuticals. In 1964 he resigned to become full-time Secretary of the trusts which owned and ran the Westminster Theatre. For decades in this capacity he was both a leader and a very able administrator of an artistic programme that deeply affected the lives of many, and through them he made many positive contributions to industrial and race relations.

He became the Director of the Institute of Business Ethics (IBE) from the year of its inception in 1986 till 1999, taking over the role at short notice following the sudden death of its founding director. He proved to be an ideal choice. His gentlemanly style, politeness and integrity appealed to colleagues. The IBE grew out of the Christian Association of Business Executives, which had been founded in 1938 to promote Christian moral principles in the conduct of business. The IBE enabled this aim to be extended to traditions of other faiths as well as secular society. He was a director of both organisations.

In his seventies, he himself made an unexpected inner journey from expert administrator to someone engaged in the personal work of Christian mentoring. His son, Ian played a notable part in this, challenging his father to join him in one-to-one bible study, initially with a 29-year-old lawyer, a confirmed atheist. Impressed by the change in the lawyer, he agreed. Living in the top floor flat of
Greencoat Place he became a father figure to all who worked there, holding bible studies once a week for any wishing to take part. He also had oversight of all the staff both at the Westminster and Greencoat. For all his achievements, which were many, his legacy in the lives of individuals from these latter years may indeed be even greater.

In 1966 he married Ann Laidlaw, who died in 1989. They had a son and a daughter.

With acknowledgement to Hugh Nowell and Jenny Kiaer.

1952 Dennis Day won an open mathematical scholarship to Corpus, where he achieved a double first. He was born in Norwich in 1932 in something of a Victorian household, straight-laced, private, religious and protective. He went to Norwich School, and retained a vestigial Norfolk accent all his life.

After Corpus, he did National Service in the Army and then joined the Maths department at Lancing College in 1956 at the age of 24. He was Head of Maths from 1962 to 1973. A quiet Christian concern for others suffused all he did. He was an active athletics coach and a qualified middle distance expert. In 1973, he became Housemaster and under his benign and punctilious watch his house continued to be a happy well-organised house with a strong identity to which the boys were intensely loyal.

In 1997, he moved to a flat in Worthing and became Senior Master, and in effect a member of senior management. He organised many school events, dealing tactfully with fellow staff, old members and parents, and established many of the current patterns of school life. He had an impish and innocent sense of humour and a quirky turn of phrase.

In 1995, he retired from Lancing after 40 years, but served the Chapel for a further 15 years. It was on retirement that this established bachelor blossomed. Although they agreed to keep separate flats he and Sheila Townsend, whom he had met at Lancing, became an item. They embarked on a life of adventure and indulgence. They were perhaps an unlikely couple, but a symbiotic relationship developed between them.

He was an astonishing mathematician and his memory was prodigious. It was said that he knew the birthdays of every boy in his house. He helped many pupils gain Oxbridge places, and brought pure mathematics alive. He also had the capacity to empathise with those for whom numbers were more of a problem. One property tycoon, whom he had helped get into Cambridge, gave him £100k to spend how he wished. With characteristic generosity, he endowed a Sixth Form Maths Scholarship, in addition to the Maths Prize which he gave on retirement, and paid for the new floor in the Chapel.

With acknowledgement to Jeremy Tomlinson.

1952 Noël Estcourt, who has died aged 89, was an inspirational educationist, an international rugby union full-back and a first-class cricketer.

In the 1950s he left his native Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) to study for a master’s in English at Corpus. He often spoke fondly of his days at Corpus – he followed the life of the College with interest and kept up with many close friends whom he met during his time here. He was awarded a blue in cricket but
not rugby immediately. Unwilling to wait on the sidelines he joined Blackheath rugby club. Via Kent, London Counties and the Barbarians, he established himself as a leading full-back, trialling for England in 1954. In March 1955, he gained his first cap, only the second Rhodesian to do so, playing in the Calcutta Cup against Scotland – which England won 9-6. Reporting later on his cricketing prowess, Michael McCrum noted, “Although in Cambridge he did not do so well in rugger, he played for England on one occasion, so he is pretty good!”

Raised in Bulawayo, Estcourt took a BA at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa, in English and geography, played rugby for Eastern Province and became captain of cricket. A gifted actor, he chaired the university’s dramatic society and supplemented his term-time allowance by crooning in local clubs.

After his master’s at Cambridge, Noël left England to concentrate on his three life passions; his family, education and Africa. He became head of English at Goromonzi High School and ultimately acting principal. Goromonzi produced many students who went on to serve as government ministers after independence.

He became Principal of Domboshawa Training Centre, an adult education establishment emphasising the improvement of rural life, training 3,000 men and women a year and sponsored by the ministries of education, health, agriculture, local government and internal affairs. He initiated the “chiefs’ course” for tribal leaders, focusing on local governance and the importance of education.

Estcourt was next appointed to the ministry of education’s head office as deputy regional director of African secondary education for Mashonaland. During this time, he was called up to serve with the police anti-terrorist unit until the ceasefire in December 1979. He believed that black rule was long overdue, and that the war could have been avoided, with a more measured handover focused on governance and administration. With post-independence reorganisation and his Devon-born wife’s desire to return home, he retired early and settled in the UK in 1981, becoming an assiduous archivist of family history.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer, whom he married in 1954, and his daughters Frances, Catherine and Hilary. Another daughter, Bryony, predeceased him.

With acknowledgement to Steve Jermy

1952 Roger Feneley, after Clifton College, received his medical training at Corpus, where he graduated with a first, and at Guy’s Hospital. After obtaining the FRCS in 1962, he received a broad general surgical training before moving into specialist urological training in Bristol. He obtained the M. Chir degree at Cambridge in 1967, and was appointed a consultant urologist in 1968.

His career in urology earned a full description in a Times obituary. At Bristol he was pioneer in measuring the pressures within the bladder in patients who could not pass urine, and was President of the Section on Urology at the Royal Society of medicine in 1956-96. He made it his mission not only to tackle incontinence with improved catheters, also to remove the taboos about such conditions. In 1998 he established the Biomedical Research Centre at Bristol to
seek ways of improving the palliative care of patients with bladder dysfunction. His commitment led to the award of grants worth more than £40m, and the publication of more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, including four after his 80th birthday.

His interests in urology were not confined to urinary catheters; he also did early work on immunotherapy in bladder cancer and in 1988 in the southwest he introduced lithotripsy, typically using ultrasound shock waves to break down kidney stones.

Since retiring from active clinical practice in 1998 he focussed on his research interests. He was a visiting Professor in the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of the West of England. and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree by the University of the West of England in 2005.

Feneley was a man with boundless energy, which he focused systematically on his patients. He showed generosity not only in providing extensive support to the families of overseas doctors who came to train with him, but also as a mentor prepared to listen to and encourage the new ideas of young researchers and clinicians.

In addition to serving on committees in the UK and internationally, Feneley was president of the Dolphin Society, which helps the elderly, in Bristol. He was church warden at St Mary Redcliffe, overseeing a conservation plan; and, after seeing the plight of a disabled couple who wanted to be more active, became the president of the Avon Swifts Sports Club. He was always immaculately dressed, even when walking on Dartmoor, where on one occasion he returned to the car on realising that he had lost his tie clip.

Feneley died while on a train heading to London to meet his son, where they were planning to take in a performance of Rachmaninov’s Second Piano Concerto, his favourite work. Two days earlier he had emailed a colleague with new ideas on urinary catheter design, and a couple of weeks before that he was encouraging crowd-funding for a video to publicise how a family was struggling with a husband’s catheter problems.

With acknowledgement to The Times.

1952 Glenie Joel, “Glen”, was as British as it is possible to be. He studied at Corpus as an engineer. In his gently self-deprecating way, he was quick to say that this door of academic excellence would not have been opened to him in the modern, hyper-competitive world, and considered himself very lucky to have made the grade.

This academic stint overlapped with his commission in the Royal Tank Regiment. He always spoke with great pride of his time in the military and, with hindsight he would probably have made more of a career of soldiering. Instead, he left the Army as a Captain and retained close ties to his Regiment for the rest of his life.

From thereon, Glen worked hard to make progress in the world of commerce. Those qualities that marked him out as a man of great integrity, with strong convictions and principles, did not make for an easy ride in business where “flexibility” in such issues seems to be a prerequisite for success.
Despite choosing to navigate this rough commercial road in the pursuit of financial gain, a journey which no doubt produced more than its fair share of pressures and strains, he remained throughout a loyal and doting husband to Joanna. His three stepsons came into his life when they were all in early stage adolescence. In the face of considerable teenage opposition he insisted on passing on his key values to all three boys.

In his latter years, he filled his time with reading military history and working out family genealogical roots into the very distant past. In defiance of the mental and physical indignities of old age, he remained to his very last days as he always was – courteous, polite, selfless, grateful and loved by all who knew him.

With acknowledgement to Piers Hill.

1952 David Neish came with a scholarship to Corpus from St. Paul’s School. He did well in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos with part 2 in Electrical Engineering. He did his National Service with the Royal Signals. He also enjoyed the maintenance and repair of his BSA motorbike.

After graduating, he joined Decca Radar as a design engineer and stayed with the company until his retirement. His Cambridge course included work with the then new semiconductor devices, so he was well placed to introduce the use of transistors to replace valves in marine radar and airborne navigation equipment. He was particularly involved with the design of the Doppler 70 which was installed in many fixed and rotary wing civil and military aircraft, including the Buccaneer, TSR-2, Lynx, Sea Harrier and Tornado. Later in his career he was appointed Quality Manager for what had become Racal Avionics, responsible for the quality assurance of all projects both in development and in production – a position well suited to his meticulous attention to detail.

In his retirement he gave a lot of time to his hobby of model engineering, building passenger-hauling locomotives which he ran at Guildford Model Engineering Society, of which he was a long-standing and active member.

He married Shirley Smith Girton; they had three children and four grandchildren. They greatly enjoyed holidays in Switzerland, she studying the flowers and he appreciating the efficiency of the Swiss transport system and the amazing feats of railway engineering.

With acknowledgement to Shirley Neish.

1953 Ian Mitchell. We have learned of his death.

1953 Graham Tooth. We have learned of his death.

1953 Nigel Turner came to Corpus from Tonbridge School. He was debonair, a boulevardier, fond of fancy waistcoats and a linguist to the core. He loved the International Bazaar where his wife worked on the English stand. After a few years of teaching which included Latymer Upper School, he worked for several NGOs in the Netherlands and attended the College of Europe in Bruges. Later he worked briefly at the European Commission in Luxembourg as a translator. He was an outstanding linguist and spoke French, German, Dutch, Spanish, and
Luxembourgish, and loved learning new languages, seeing them as “opening a window and looking about another world” He began studying Russian and wanted to learn Japanese. Even when sick a few years ago he said he would have liked to have learnt Tolkien’s Elvish.

He moved out of translation to become an administrator at the European Parliament where he worked in the division of Affaires Sociales. Illness took its toll after he took early retirement to look after his wife. He suffered from depression and spent some time in hospitals in Brussels. After the death of his wife Rosita in 2002 his depression worsened and he moved into sheltered housing. The move was a shock and he took an overdose and gradually moved into a private world.

He celebrated his 80th Birthday lunch in a restaurant nearby and friends attended from Barcelona, Italy, England and Luxembourg.

He was not interested in sport – politics and current affairs were more to his taste. He loved music and the theatre and collected modern Luxembourgish art.

He and Rosita had no children but enjoyed the company of their friends’ children. He had a weakness for toy bears and, when ill, found comfort in a small polar bear given to him by a friend.

With acknowledgement to John and Ann Overstall.

1954 Graeme Buckingham was educated at St Albans School, Corpus and the London School of Economics. His early experience in Personnel Management was gained with ICI and Mars Confectionery, following a three-year Short Service Commission in the Royal Air Force.

He spent four years with Ted Fletcher’s Industrial and Human Relations Division of Inbucon, working as a Managing Consultant with Plessey, Tube Investments and Imperial Tobacco. In 1969 he joined Gallaher Ltd, becoming Personnel Director and Chairman of the Tobacco Industry Employers Association. After a year as a Teaching Fellow at London Business School, he joined Allied Breweries in 1982 as Personnel Director. During this period with Allied Breweries he introduced Selection Research to undertake their finest work in the UK. He joined Selection Research’s British subsidiary in 1985 as Director, Client Development. He was Managing Director of Gallup Selection Research, 1990–1998, and their Senior Vice President Europe until his retirement in 2011.

He was Chairman of Devonshire House Trustees and a former Vice President of the Institute of Personnel Management. He was co-ordinating Editor of the Institute’s five-volume series on Practical Participation and Involvement.

With acknowledgement to Neil Buckingham.

1955 Antony Carr. We have learned of his death.

1956 David John Hutchings was born in 1937 in Stapleford near Nottingham and attended Loughborough Grammar School. After National Service with the RAF he read Natural Sciences at Corpus. His interests in operational research and computing led him to take up a post at the Reed Paper Group in Kent, where he met Helen, who was to become his wife. Posts at the Building Research Establishment, Strathclyde University and Ashridge
Management College followed. It was at Strathclyde where, in 1970, he and colleagues in the Department of Operational Research formed Edit 515 Limited, a company that designs and runs business simulations.

David never fully retired and continued to combine work with family life and his love of music and gardening after moving to Aldwick on the Sussex coast. He maintained his interest in designing realistic management simulations and was still running Edit 515 and working on the computer models for the Global Management Challenge, an annual strategic management competition for university students and company managers, in the weeks before his death. He died peacefully but unexpectedly in June 2017 and is survived by Helen, their two children and two grandchildren.

_With acknowledgement to Andrew Hutchings._

1956 **Edward Robin Blythe Little** came to Corpus from Dulwich to read Natural Sciences. After graduating he taught biology and became Head of Biology Department at the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe. In 1968 he lectured in Biological Education at Hull College of Education and was Warden of Fisher Hall. Whilst in Hull, he met Angela, and they married in 1970. In 1973 he became Head of the Biology Department and later Head of Sixth Form at Sir Leo Schultz High School in Kingston upon Hull.

In 1978 he joined HM Inspectorate of Schools, first in North Yorkshire and subsequently in Winchester, Hampshire. He performed a wide range of inspection work as a science and secondary specialist. He became District Inspector for Hampshire and in 1990 was promoted to Staff Inspector. When HMI was replaced by Ofsted, he set up and ran his own school inspection unit for over 10 years.

In 1997, Edward joined British Executive Service Overseas, spending 4 months in Sarawak, Borneo, advising the Malaysian government on developing their science curriculum. He returned to Borneo for the following four consecutive years. During these travels, Edward achieved one of his lifelong ambitions, visiting the rainforest to see a Rafflesia flower in bloom.

In retirement he continued to work, becoming a chief examiner for Edexcel and co-authoring the A Level General Studies guide. He maintained a lifelong interest in all things botanical and was passionate about education for all. Edward is survived by his widow Angela and their two sons, Alex and Matthew.

_With acknowledgement to Alex Little._

1956 **Francis Mullineaux** did National Service after Bolton School before coming to Cambridge, and graduated in French and German. In 1960, he was appointed assistant lecturer at UMIST and taught translation from French and German. When the Department of European Studies was formed, he became lecturer on French History and Geography. He received his doctorate in 1975. In the late 1980s he took early retirement.

He enjoyed rock climbing in North Wales and had a great interest and love for natural history, especially birds. He married Marian in 1961. They had a son and daughter.

_With acknowledgement to Marian Mullineaux._
1956 Anthony John Phillip Percival did National Service, after Repton School, before coming to Corpus to read Economics and History. He played Ice Hockey for Cambridge University. He had a lifelong passion for trams, trains and all things related to transport, and spent all his working life in the transport sector. He began working as an apprentice for North Western Road Car Company in Stockport in 1959. It was there that he met his wife Marian. They married in 1963, a marriage that would last over 54 years.

He worked for Coventry Transport from 1965 to 1973, and after a short spell in Yorkshire returned to the Midlands in 1975, where he spent the rest of his working career in various commercial roles with West Midlands Travel, later part of the National Express group.

An avid boating enthusiast, he spent many holidays navigating the English canals, which culminated in owning two narrowboats at different times in his life. After retiring Anthony and Marian spent many long holidays cruising the canal network. He had a keen interest in sport, although skating and Ice Hockey were the sports where he truly excelled.

Transport was his overriding passion, and as well as being lucky enough to work in this area all of his life, he also spent much of his spare time riding, photographing and documenting trams from all over Europe. He always retained a fondness for his time at Cambridge, and Corpus Christi, and was a keen reader of alumni updates. He last visited Corpus Christi on the occasion of his 79th birthday, spending a very happy day reminiscing with his two sons, and visiting a few familiar haunts. He leaves two sons and four grandchildren

With acknowledgement to David Percival.

1959 Simon Charsley read Philosophy for Part 1, before switching to Anthropology.

Across his career, he responded to changing circumstances by shifting course. The result is a series of fine-grained studies that traverse multiple settings and themes. He began life as an Africanist: his Master’s thesis on the Nyakusa of Tanzania impressed the examiner so favourably that he recommended that it be written up for publication. Accordingly, his first book, in 1969, The Princes of Nyakusa, critically re-evaluated existing anthropological accounts. After research in Uganda, he was awarded his PhD in 1969 by the University of Manchester. He was on the brink of taking up a UNESCO role in Uganda when Idi Ami came to power, causing him to change focus. The first of his research visits to India started a lengthy interest in the sub-continent. His early work focused on silk production; his book, Culture and Seri-Culture (1982) was taken up by policy makers and used to develop sericulture in India.

To be with his young family Charsley became an anthropologist ‘at home’, bringing detailed analysis to bear on matrimony in Scotland with the publication of Rites of Marrying: The Wedding Industry in Scotland (1991) and Wedding Cakes and Cultural History (1992). Returning to India he studied the changing nature of caste, publishing Challenging Untouchability (with Gopal Karanth, 1998), and Performers and Their Arts (with Laxmi Narayan Kadekar, 2006).
Charsley was an outstanding teacher, a prolific author, an enthusiastic traveller and popular collaborator (working closely with colleagues and students in India). He was a mainstay of the Sociology department in Glasgow until his retirement in 2005, and is remembered as an insightful, rich and dedicated promoter of cultural anthropology. His twinkling smile, constant enthusiasm and never failing optimism will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife Jean, son and daughter.

*With acknowledgement to the Royal Anthropological Institute.*

1959 **Peter Eames** read medicine at Corpus and did his clinical training at the London Hospital. In 1977, he joined the staff of St Andrew’s Hospital in Northampton as Consultant Neuropsychiatrist. He had served in the RAF as a Neuropsychiatrist and had a special interest in the interface between psychiatry and neurology. One of his first tasks at St Andrew’s was the establishment of a department of physiological measurement. The major task of this department was to carry out electroencephalography but it was also equipped to do electromyography. The finding that a substantial number of the young people in the behavioural wards had abnormal scans led to it becoming an almost routine examination in newly admitted patients.

He also became responsible for the development of a unit which at the time was unique in the UK. He had long been interested in the rehabilitation of young brain-damaged people, a group for whom provision in the health service was far from satisfactory. He was aware that among young people sustaining severe head injuries there was a subgroup who in addition to their physical and intellectual handicaps, developed severe behaviour disorders. Their unacceptable behaviour often led them to be excluded from ordinary rehabilitation units. A unit was established to treat these patients along behavioural lines. It rapidly became a focus for all involved in the rehabilitation of the brain injured. His wife Lesley was an Educational Psychologist.

1959 **Brian Moynahan** came to Corpus as a Foundation Scholar, from Sherborne School, taking a double-first in history. He developed an interest in Russia and religion. He had rooms opposite Sonny Mehta the future publishing tsar who later commissioned two books from him.

He became an intrepid foreign correspondent with The Sunday Times and was among the first reporters to trace the rise of Islam and to identify its potential for terrorism.

Despite reporting carnage not only from Vietnam and Laos, but also Beirut, Israel and Northern Ireland, he always said that the most shocking episode of his career was the day in 1977 that he spent with Jean-Claude Duvalier, “Baby Doc”, the president for life of Haiti. That day Duvalier, aged 26 and always fearful of assassination, led a motorcade of vehicles at speeds of up to 100mph along the island’s dusty roads, “little more than riverbeds”, scattering orange-coloured banknotes to the poverty-stricken population. The president’s yellow truck, driven by Duvalier, struck and killed a young boy. Not a single car from the motorcade stopped.
Moynahan was an integral part of the legendary team that formed the backbone of The Sunday Times in the 1970s. And although he enjoyed a drink, and mixed with bourbon-boozing foreign correspondents, his own style was more wry than rye. His work was characterized by astringent prose, fastidious research and ironic observation. He reported from more than 50 countries, (He never tired of pointing out that he had flown on 74 airlines.) In between wars, he eloquently exposed the traffic in fake antiquities from Thailand (and the peculiar inability of collectors to detect them). He completed his newspaper career as European editor of The Sunday Times, based in Paris where visiting correspondents could be sure of a warm welcome at his flat on the Avenue Victor Hugo.

Apart from his family, his chief passions were sailing, the travel industry and history. His interest in the travel business began when he married Priscilla Stiles, a beautician with Elizabeth Arden, and they flew to Malaysia to discover their honeymoon hotel was a concrete mixer and a hole in the ground. This was when Mehta commissioned Airport International and Fool’s Paradise, the first the earliest account of the workings of “Thiefrow” and the second a guide to the rip-offs standard in casinos and cruise liners, and the “zones of sexual tolerance” in Mexico.

Yet it is for his history books that he will be best remembered. Two were about Christianity and published in 2002: The Faith: A history of Christianity, and a life of Tyndale, If God Spare My Life. He ardently admired Tyndale for his courage, his conviction, and his prose. His widow describes him as only a sporadic churchgoer, but a passionate advocate of Christianity. As a journalist, he wrote much about the plight of religious minorities, such as the Copts. There were also three books on Russia: The Claws of the Bear, a History of the Soviet Armed Forces; The Russian Century: A History of the Last 100 Years; and, most recently, Leningrad: Siege and Symphony, a moving account of Shostakovich’s seventh symphony set against the 900-day siege in the Second World War.

He is survived by his wife, a son, and a daughter.

*With acknowledgement to The Times and the Church Times.*

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1960 **David Usher** was born in England in 1936 and moved with his family to New Zealand when he was 11. He gained a BSc and an MSc from Victoria University in Wellington and a PhD from Cambridge when he was at Corpus. He did post-doctoral research at Harvard University. He went to Cornell in 1965 and taught generations of students the basics of Organic Chemistry as Associate Professor until he retired in 2016.

His research interests in phosphate chemistry led to work on the mechanism of the enzyme ribonuclease, work which defined the geometry of the phosphate group at the cleavage site. These experiments were also an early demonstration of catalysis by RNA when bound to a complementary strand of RNA. His research interests also included antisense technology, models of prebiotic formation of peptide bonds using oligonucleotide carriers and templates, and possible chemical evolution on Saturn’s moon Titan.

He served on advisory committees for NASA and for the Space Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences, including co-chairing a task force to determine important goals for future research in space science.
Spanning the years from 1972 until 2004, he appeared at intervals as the tenor lead in thirteen Cornell Savoyards’ productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara, his four children and four grandchildren.

**1961 Richard Bassett.** We have learned of his death.

**1961 Christopher Beardsley** was a gifted linguist. He spent his whole life teaching, initially French and German in schools in England and, after his marriage in 1970, in Belgium and France as a teacher of English as a Foreign Language. His most creative period was with ADIF in Lyon where his ability to write original teaching and learning materials was outstanding. He also obtained two more BA degrees from the University of London in English and History.

He settled in France for the rest of his life and brought up two daughters. He was immensely proud of their European and linguistic credentials. He never lost his links with Yorkshire spending time every year in Filey on the coast.

He remained a strongly committed European and socialist and consistently derived pleasure from Wagner, Debussy, Klee and Proust. A great conversationalist, his comments were often illustrated by the most humorous observations of life around him.

*With acknowledgement to David Beardsley.*

**1961 Richard Michael John Purser** came to Corpus from Lancing College. He then took an MSc in agricultural engineering at Newcastle. He worked for his father, jointly farming at Langley, Bucks, and Wokingham, Berks. Following his father’s death, he continued to farm until the changing economic situation made it no longer viable. He then emigrated to Australia with his mother but they returned after a short while. He never married and always lived with his parents. He was principal carer for his mother for many years until her death, less than two years before his own.

*With acknowledgement to Dr J Bayley.*

**1962 Michael John Sharpston** was born in Cambridge, in August 1944. His mother was rather too close to a V2 rocket that landed at the BBC, where she was working, and Michael was born a month early – perhaps he reckoned it was safer outside. When he was six, the family moved to Zanzibar in Tanganyika, where his father set up the national statistical service. Michael spent four happy years in Africa: the start of his fascination with, and devotion to, developing countries.

He won a scholarship to Winchester College and thence to Corpus (where his father had studied), to read economics. On graduating, he worked as an economist at the Ministry of Overseas Development. He was then recruited by the Harvard Development Advisory Service and went back to Africa – to Ghana, which he loved. He lived there for three years seeing Africa anew as an adult, learning some Twi (the language of the majority Asante tribe) and displaying a willingness to talk to people and find out from *them* what they thought might be important. After a period of research at Oxford (at the other Corpus Christi College), he returned to Cambridge as a lecturer in the Faculty of Economics.
Soon, however, an ideal opportunity arose to continue his practical work in development economics, this time in Washington DC to join the staff of the World Bank. In this post he travelled widely, researched, thought, and came up with new and provoking solutions. His seminal paper on health economics was typical of his output: multi-disciplinary, comprehensive, academically rigorous, joining up the dots in a way that hadn’t been thought of (let alone done) before – it changed the course of World Bank policy in the area.

Health problems and corporate restructuring within the World Bank brought his career there to a close. He took early retirement and (typically) returned to study and to research. He explored the economics of information systems at MIT. He went back to Cambridge and eagerly followed developments in subjects as diverse as cognitive science and the history of espionage. Along the way, he acquired professional qualifications as a photographer and produced some stunning photographs. And he re-met Inés, whom he had known years before in the World Bank. They married in November 2008 and shared a life split contentedly between Cambridge, Washington DC and Peru.

Michael came back to DC on what was meant to be a relatively short visit towards the end of April 2018, but was diagnosed with an aggressive form of liver and bile duct cancer. He was a member of The Master’s Circle, having made generous donations to the College.

With acknowledgement to Inés Sharpston.

1964 James Ronald Carr, educated at Repton School and Corpus, qualified as an accountant and was chairman of a successful computer leasing company, Dataserv, commuting between London and New York as he built the business and took it public in 1976. He married Jocelyn Holland, sold Dataserv, moved to Moorhouse Hall in Cumbria and dedicated the rest of his life to farming, fishing, shooting, the countryside, wildlife conservation and the Cumbrian community.

He became Chairman of the Cumberland Building Society and Chairman of the Cumbria Community Foundation. He also served on the Council of Lancaster University, and was appointed High Sheriff of Cumbria.

On the conservation side, he was founder of the Eden Rivers Trust, which has radically improved the environment in and around the Eden and its catchment. He believed that he and his fellow riparian owners were custodians of the river, and it was his responsibility to hand on to the next generation a resource that was in better shape than he found it. He established a wildlife education centre on his farm beside the Eden so that people could learn about the life on the farm and in the water, and the vital importance of protecting it.

He took on the chairmanship of the Salmon and Trout Association in 2006. He combined his commercial knowledge and experience with an unusually wide-ranging appreciation of the major fisheries issues. He retired from the Chair in 2012 but continued as a Trustee.

He was awarded an OBE in 2017 for services to conservation, education and the community.

He was a great country sportsman and loved his grouse shooting and salmon fishing. His final day’s fishing was at the end of the 2016 season on Tweed where
on his last cast, he hooked and landed an estimated 26lb hen fish, which he duly returned unharmed to the river. Indeed it had been several years since he had killed a salmon. 

With acknowledgement to the Salmon and Trout Association.

1964 Alexander Grant Seymour Lawrie was born in June 1946. After Wellington College, he came to Corpus to read History on a Scholarship. As was not unusual in that era, he did little work, played a lot of poker and still graduated with a 2:1. In those days when college gates were locked at night, he recalled lifting the gate between St Bene’t’s and Corpus off its hinges, to let in friends, and then replacing it. The porters became wise to this stratagem and soldered a bar to the gate so that, on a subsequent occasion, he could not put it back on the hinges, and was obliged to leave the gate leaning against a wall.

On graduating he qualified as a chartered accountant. Following a short time as a finance director, he returned to the profession, initially as a partner of Lawrie Robson when he had a number of pop music and rock star clients. He was subsequently a partner of Geo. Little Sebire. Among several _pro bono_ activities, he was Hon Treasurer of the Victorian Society for a number of years. Having retired, he went to live in South Africa in 2003, initially at Franschhoek, Western Cape and subsequently at Hilton, Kwazulu Natal. Alex had a longstanding and eventful love and experience of cars, remembering each with clarity, amusement and sometimes exasperation. He was a skilled DIY enthusiast and was particularly proud of his workshops in South Africa, in which amongst other things he made the main workshop bench, fruit cages to deter monkeys and a splendid pergola. He was at one time much involved in teaching Maths to disadvantaged children at Franschhoek and he remained a keen gardener and marmalade-maker; his bi-polarity sometimes being expressed in a devil-may-care attitude.

These bare facts do little to communicate his endearing, but infuriating character. He was married three times, to Alexandra Swyer, Sara Levine, and, latterly, to Kirsty Reid, who survives him in South Africa. He had an earlier, long-term relationship with Sally Bulloch, which took him to South Africa on retirement and who pre-deceased him. He had five children, Victoria, Henrietta, Robert, William and Florence, of whom he was very proud, but from whom he had latterly become somewhat estranged, and eight grandchildren. Intellectual, articulate and possessing a strong sense of humour, he was excellent company for both men and women, retaining his youthful good looks to the end. He died at Pietermaritzburg of lung cancer on 9 April 2018 aged 71.

With acknowledgement to James Lawrie.

1967 Martin Richard Brown came to Corpus in 1967 to read mathematics. Graduating in 1970, he moved to Imperial College, London, where his PhD thesis on quantum gravity was supervised by the Nobel Prize winning Abdus Salam and by Tom Kibble, one of the discoverers of the Higgs Boson. After Imperial came Oxford, where Martin joined a group of talented physicists working in the new theoretical astrophysics hut, run by Dennis Sciama (supervisor of both Stephen Hawking and Roger Penrose), doing research into quantum gravity.
He left academia in 1985, to join GEC, where his talents for mathematical modelling were employed on such diverse problems as self-braking cars and landing helicopters out at sea in the midst of hurricanes.

Leaving GEC, Martin worked as a consultant for the UK Health Forum (UKHF), then chaired by Professor Klim McPherson. Here Martin was instrumental in developing a micro simulation of populations to estimate the effects of risk exposure on subsequent disease. The modelling gave coherent estimates in the cost of healthcare for over indulgence in salt, tobacco, sugar, and fat by populations. He did this first for the 2007 Foresight Report on Obesity, every recommendation of which was accepted by government. The work led to a growing collaboration with the EU, the World Bank, OECD, WHO, PHE and others. By all their accounts it represented the best of public health modelling and was commended especially by the OECD. He worked tirelessly on this project for many years in collaboration with the UKHF, training a group of analysts there to pursue the work. This collaboration developed into an increasingly sophisticated model under his leadership, enabling multiple risk factors and many diseases to be examined simultaneously. His work continues and he is sorely missed.

He is survived by his second wife, three children and five grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Rupert and Emily Brown.*

1968 Jeremy Gay died in April 2018 at St Christopher’s Hospice, Sydenham, after a short illness. He was 68.

1970 Brendan Ignatius Bradshaw was a graduate student at Corpus. After his PhD he became a Fellow at St John’s in 1973 and a Fellow at Queens’ in 1977. He had previously been a Lecturer in History at Girton.

As a mark of the esteem in which Brendan was held by Irish Jesuits, a special edition of *Studies*, the Jesuit quarterly, was dedicated to him this winter. This issue contains the papers delivered at the ‘Reformation 500’ conference held in Christ Church Cathedral and St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra, Dublin, in October 2017. Brendan himself was the author of seminal work and important publications on the history of the Reformation, with reference to Ireland.

Brendan was born in Limerick City in 1937, in what local people call ‘the parish’, St. Mary’s, the old medieval part of the city. His father had a small family business and he went to the local Christian Brothers school. He joined the Civil Service in 1955 but left five years later and joined the Marist Fathers. Brendan studied history for his primary degree in University College Dublin in the early 1960s. He then went on scholarship to Cambridge and quickly established himself as a notable historian. He spent most of his working life in Cambridge and recently retired as a Life Fellow of Queens’ College.

As well as his ground-breaking work on Tudor history and the Reformation in Ireland, Brendan produced also produced a stalwart defence of a nationalist view of Irish history. The Troubles in the North, and the IRA campaign gave rise to an interrogation and deconstruction of the Irish Nationalist tradition, by a small group of historians, mostly from the Republic of Ireland. Brendan Bradshaw
met them head on, and offered a wide-ranging critique of this ‘revisionist trend’ in recent Irish historiography, most notably in a renowned article in the professional journal *Irish Historical Studies*, in 1989.

His latest book, *And so began the Irish Nation*: Nationality, National Consciousness and Nationalism in Pre-modern Ireland, was published in August 2015.

*With acknowledgement to Fiona Colbert.*

**1972 Richard Baker** read Chemical Engineering at Corpus. He enjoyed his profession and was proud of its contribution to society as he ran a variety of chemical plants for ICI making products of use in our everyday lives. He became a section manager looking after plants in Teesside and Dumfries. Later he moved to Bristol as works engineer across the Severnside site.

When an American firm bought the site and closed it down, Baker retrained as a purchasing manager and worked for Bristol University where he was responsible for large science project acquisitions. In 2004 he suffered a mini stroke and had to retire. After recovery, he enjoyed retirement and spent time shooting, wine collecting, gardening and also became a member of the local Lions club.

Richard married Jane in 1976 and together they had four daughters and a happy time together. The family was always central to their lives along with their dogs.

Despite having never smoked he developed lung cancer in September 2017 and died three months later, a few days short of his 65th birthday.

*With acknowledgement to Michael Baker.*

**1976 Jeremy Canty.** We have learned of his death in 2017.

**1976 David John Pearson (Brother Christian)** was a member of Society of St Francis/St Bene’t’s. He was received as novice in February 1972, and made his First profession in 1975 and Life profession in 1978. The Society of St Francis is a religious order of about 140 Franciscan friars [or brothers] in parts of the worldwide Anglican Communion. They were founded in the early 20th century and are inspired by the life of Francis of Assisi and his simple gospel life. Their Cambridge house acted, collectively, as incumbents of St Bene’t’s for a number of years, and lived in a Corpus house in Botolph Lane.

*With acknowledgement to James Buxton.*

**1991 Oliver King** was educated at Malvern College and was quick to learn, be it Maths, Sciences, French, Greek or Latin. Particularly gifted at languages, he went up to Corpus to read Modern and Medieval Languages, proud to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather, Sir Gordon Wolstenholme.

Having spent his gap year backpacking in South America, he decided to go to Colombia for his third year abroad, a country that he came to love despite its many problems. After graduating, he returned to Colombia, where he taught English as well as working with his great friend Gerard, on an import-export business.
This was a very happy time of his life, and he immersed himself in every aspect of the culture: music, food and people. It was at this time, in 1997 that he met his wife Alba, and he continued to return to Columbia until the end of his life. After coming back to the UK, he began working as a translator for Marsh Insurance in 2006. In addition to his work for Marsh, he was able to put his skills to many varied uses, including proof reading the Peace Agreement between the Colombian government and the FARC from Spanish to English.

He had a huge appetite for life, sucking up every ounce of culture around him, constantly learning and reading about a wide range of topics and becoming an expert in them. He was inspirational to family and friends, and was always kind, gentle, thoughtful and modest. He was a great talker, listener and good fun to be around.

He was diagnosed with cancer in 2010 and died at the age of 45. He continued to be an inspiration throughout his illness, finding time to be a dedicated husband to Alba, father to Isabel, son, brother and uncle, as well as friend to many others.

With acknowledgement to Giles King and Jenny Davey.

1993 Fred Marshall, Former Visiting Fellow, spent his final sabbatical at Corpus. At the time he was Professor of French at the University of Waikato New Zealand.

He was born in 1930 in Auckland. His father was a lecturer in Architecture, and his mother was one of the first women to graduate from University College of Auckland. His Methodist upbringing and the academic culture of his family gave him a strong ethical and moral code.

It was through a drama group with Mt Eden Methodist youth that he met and subsequently married Jocelyn Crabtree, a speech language therapist and broadcaster. Soon after the wedding, he was appointed assistant at a Lycée in Versailles, and then gained a doctorate at the Sorbonne.

They returned to NZ in 1958, initially for a temporary lecturer position at the University of Canterbury. Marshall worked as a secondary school teacher until obtaining a senior lecturer position in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia in 1960. He was appointed Reader in French at Victoria University in the mid-1960s, and was appointed foundation Professor of French at the University of Waikato in 1970. He took an active role in administration at Faculty and higher levels, and was a strong supporter of the establishment of the School of Māori Development. He strove to maintain the highest possible standards in his own department while adapting, at some personal cost to the changing entry standards of school-leavers, and changing perceptions of the value and place of languages in academic life.

As a scholar, he could hardly have chosen a more difficult field than the works of François Rabelais. Study of Rabelais demands an encyclopaedic knowledge of Renaissance politics, classical and biblical sources, folkloric traditions and contemporary humanist thought. Drawing on a remarkable ability to hold in his mind a multi-dimensional pattern of associations and clues from throughout the texts, he built up a richly detailed account of the allegorical
structure underlying Rabelais’ work. His capacity for joy, possibly derived from Rabelais, made him an inspiration to many generations of students. Soon after his retirement he was made emeritus Professor, and he also received the Palme Academique from the French Government for services to French Culture.

He is survived by his wife Jocelyn and his five sons, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Andrew Marshall.*
We thought readers might be interested in some pictures taken of the College during the Spine Project. Top is the New Court in July: in the foreground can be seen the marquee housing the temporary “Hall”, while against the Hall can be seen the exo-skeleton scaffolding used to support the platform for painting the Hall ceiling. The Portakabins house the temporary kitchens. (The crane in the background, right, is working on the New Museums site for the University.) In the second picture is the new doorway built in Botolph Lane, the entrance to the new electricity sub-station placed in the SW corner of the Master’s Garden – beautifully built to match William Wilkins’s 19th century doorways in Free School Lane. The third picture shows the crane manoeuvring the Portakabins into place, in November 2017.
An angel holding the Corpus Christi shield, one of several carved figures in the North Aisle of St Bene’t’s Church, dating from the enlargement and restoration of the Church, 1853. *Photo: SL.*

The motif on the back cover is taken from the Pelican banner made by Sebastian Robins and Susannah Gibson.