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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 illustration: The new Hall at Leckhampton, at dusk. Photo: Richard Fraser.
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The Society (as on 1 November 2016)

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Dr Ruth Davis
Professor Alison G Smith
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Ethnomusicology
Plant Biochemistry
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Mr Richard Wright, MA, DL
Mrs Laura Young
Mr Liong Seen Kwee
Mrs Wai Phin Kwee
Sir Andrew Cook, CBE
Dr Louis Cheung
Dr Hong Siau
I write this a few days after returning from a College trip to Georgia. Each year, James Buxton, Dean of Chapel, kindly organises a visit to a place of religious interest, and the 2016 tour was supremely successful. A group consisting of Fellows, students both post- and under-graduate, plus one ordained priest and one Westcott ordinand both with Corpus connections, spent a week visiting monasteries and churches in this welcoming and lovely Caucasus country. We saw buildings, frescoes and ikons of great age and beauty, and came back refreshed and stimulated. Of course, eventually we found a Pelican, although this is not a frequent image in Orthodox iconography; it is reproduced opposite.

**Kitchens modernisation**

The year has seen a lot of work on kitchens. First, we have completed the rebuilding of the Hall and kitchens at Leckhampton, in another College project achieved on time and within budget. Congratulations go to the Bursar, the Maintenance Team, the architects and contractors, and others who contributed to this happy outcome. The new Hall – placed almost exactly on the footprint of the old one – can seat 120 (against 80 in the former building), and the kitchens now have highly efficient and environmentally friendly catering equipment. The Chancellor of the University, Lord Sainsbury, who is our Visitor, kindly came to celebrate the official opening in June.

Even while that project was in progress, we turned to the next: the modernisation of the kitchens in the Old House. I mentioned this in Domus last year. As I write, our plans are nearly ready for submission for approval by the Governing Body. It is an exciting project, since we hope to end up with brand new cooking facilities, partial restoration of the medieval Hall, a renovated pantry and butlery area, and redecoration of the ceiling of the existing (1825) dining Hall. More details of both the Leckhampton and the Old House projects are in the Bursar’s report in the College Year section.

**Success in the core business**

But we eat to live, not live to eat! And I’m delighted to report that the core business of our lives, the academic, has recorded encouraging success this year. Our number of Firsts went up by over 50%; and these results included a few really spectacular achievements by our students – several placings at the top of their class lists in the Tripos. I congratulate the students, and also the Senior Tutor, our Directors of Studies, and our supervisors.
But Jack’s not a dull boy...

... as can be seen by some great sporting successes, notably on the river. We were lucky to have a lovely new Eight for our women rowers, named Rackham the Red (after my late predecessor, Oliver Rackham) at a ceremony in May, which inspired the Corpus Women’s Crew to astounding success in the May races – up six places, due in part to an overbump on the first afternoon. But this was not all: the men's boats also performed excellently, and, for the first time anyone can remember, no Corpus boat was bumped in either the Lent or the May races. Other sports clubs flourished, Cambridge repeated success in defeating Oxford in the Corpus Challenge, and once again we record a significant number of Blues in a variety of sports.

While we expect students to give first priority to their books and computers, libraries and labs, we are always delighted when in addition they demonstrate talents in other areas, including music and drama. Corpus students have featured strongly not only in the Corpus Playroom (which continues to be a very popular “smallspace” for University drama), but also in the ADC. In music, our collaboration with Emmanuel has borne fine fruit – witness the report within the Letter, from our Director of Music, Graham Walker. Browsing in the programme of a CU Musical Society concert, your Domus writer (who is also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of CUMS) noted that of the 76 members of the CUMS Symphony Orchestra, six were from Corpus. (An even distribution among the 31 colleges would have given us just over two.) We are sorry to see Graham leave (for another college just over the river!), but look forward to further successes under the direction of his successor Robin Walker. Sibella and I went with the choir on a hugely enjoyable and successful visit to Northern France in June.

Comings and goings

It is in the nature of our Society that we become accustomed to movement in our Fellowship, as people reach retirement or move on to other jobs. This year we said goodbye to (Dr, now Professor) Richard McMahon, who has taken up a post at Warwick, pursuing the task of researching ever more efficient batteries for cars, among other projects. (Professor) Andrew Harvey has transferred to the Life Fellowship, after many years as a Fellow in Economics; and (Professor) Bill McGrew leaves on retirement, having contributed much to our teaching of anthropology. We wish them well in their new lives.

A different kind of movement is that of academic promotion. Warm congratulations go this year to Christopher Kelly and Pietro Cicuta, promoted Professors in Classics and Physics respectively.

Events

At the start of the academic year, the McCrum Theatre was the scene of a fascinating scenario entitled On the Brink, in which a panel of experts (including a former Foreign Secretary and a former Head of the Secret Intelligence Service) played out an imagined international crisis, and afterwards responded to questions about the difficulties of handling relationships with risky leaders such as Putin. The evening was master-minded by our Fellow Commoner,
the distinguished journalist Tim Sebastian, and was Corpus’s contribution to events put on to mark the launch of the University’s and Corpus’s new fund-raising campaigns.

Later in the year we staged our customary “set pieces”. Again we were blessed with fine weather for the Mere Commemoration Sermon, which is preached in St Bene’t’s Church on the first Tuesday of the Easter Term, and followed by a pretty procession into the College, led by the Vice-Chancellor and the preacher, who this year was the Very Revd Professor Iain Torrance, former Moderator of the Church of Scotland. In the Lent Term, for the Boutwood Lecture, we were treated to an excellent lecture on Blake given by Professor Christopher Rowland, followed by a stimulating panel discussion. More recently, I should draw attention to the Symposium in memory of Oliver Rackham, which took place in August. This was organised mainly by Oliver’s colleague Jennifer Moody, though others made significant contributions. It attracted a large number of enthusiastic admirers of Oliver’s life achievements – too many for the McCrum Theatre. We nearly filled the West Road Concert Hall, and were treated to some fascinating and often witty talks on subjects related to Oliver’s work. It is extraordinary how many people, stretching way beyond those actually working in his field, have been intrigued and affected by Oliver Rackham’s writings.

Outlook
During the year the University has been following political affairs with more than usual concern. First, the Government has been proposing measures which will affect our funding and the conduct of our business, notably in the proposed “Teaching Excellence Framework” and other items in the planned Higher Education Bill. More crucially, we expect to be significantly affected by Brexit. You will have seen that a large number of leaders in higher education (including your Domus writer) signed letters to the press, before the referendum, in support of “Remain”. The reasons are simple. British Universities, and especially Cambridge, benefit significantly from EU research grants, and it is not at all clear whether the post-Brexit government will plug this gap. More generally, Cambridge is the great university it is because of its international outreach – its ability to attract students, researchers and academic staff from all over the world. Any immigration system which puts further constraint on this movement of people will be bad for us. We shall need to work hard to ensure that we can maintain our global excellence despite these adverse pressures.

A sadness
I need to end on a sad note. As many readers will be aware, my Personal Assistant, Vanessa Addison, fell ill in March, and was then diagnosed with cancer. She was given treatment, but to no avail, and she died in August. Vanessa was a highly valued member of staff, and had many friends particularly among Corpus Fellows, students and staff. She asked to have her funeral in the College Chapel, which took place on 2 September. She is badly missed by us all, and we offer our sincere condolences to all her friends and family, and especially her partner, Rob.
Two College building projects

Working with the past

How important in the design of college buildings is continuity with the past? It’s a question raised by the recent completion of the new Leckhampton dining hall and the current planning for the Old House kitchen renovation. Seeking an answer, one might start by looking at the approaches apparent in Corpus buildings over the past 25 years.

The Newnham House additions of 1991 extended the garden façade in the same language but, round the corner, on the Malting Lane side, adopted a very different form, in sympathy with the lane’s small scale and better suited to the small rooms clustered round the rear courtyard. A few years later, in 1996, the highly articulated form and façade of the Beldam Building echoed the rear extensions of the surrounding buildings – a simpler, more linear form would, it was felt, be too assertive and institutional. Both Newnham House and the Beldam Building were attempts to respect the past. Whether or not they succeeded must be a matter of personal opinion.

The Taylor Library of 2008 was representative of a different approach. Although the old banking hall was regarded as a fine space, its memory has been lost. The new floor levels do not relate to the windows that served the hall and, seen from the outside, the solid wood balustrades give no hint of the library within while, inside the College, the little bridge building that terminated and unified Hostel Yard has been demolished. On a very different site, at Leckhampton, the Kho building of 2012 asserts its presence on a corner of the playing field rather than, say, forming part of a new court-like space in the back gardens of the Cranmer Road houses. In both cases, these were deliberate decisions, preferred to alternatives that would have acknowledged the past.

The College’s latest building projects present their own distinct challenges. However, common to them and to their precursors is this question of developing an attitude to the past. Should one ignore it or build on it?

1. The new Leckhampton hall
The Kho building was the College’s initial response to the University’s policy of increasing postgraduate numbers. Another accommodation building may follow later. But accommodation is just one part of the challenge – social and, in particular, dining facilities is another. Dining at Leckhampton has become hugely popular in recent years – the old hall was frequently at full capacity and,
in addition, the kitchen was in need of renovation. A larger hall, increasing capacity by 50%, would require larger kitchens. Looking ahead, the availability of an enhanced and enlarged facility for use during the planned Old House kitchen renovation was seen as a positive advantage. So, too, was the opportunity to gain experience in kitchen renovation before addressing the far greater complexities of the Old House kitchens.

Having prepared a brief, the College sought initial responses from a number of architects.

One proposed retaining the existing columnar structure – thus seriously limiting the flexibility of table layout. Another rotated the hall axis through 90°, terminating the garden elevation in a great glazed gable – creating, in effect, a distinct new building in the small area between the old house and the George Thomson Building. Yet another eliminated all columns and, while retaining the form of the original building, substantially increased capacity within – an appealingly modest solution enabling the dining hall to continue to be seen as an extension of the old house, and in no way a rival to its two neighbours. The decision to appoint the architects of this last proposal was unanimous.

**Replicating, expanding and enhancing**

Alone of the three finalists, the appointed architects, Haysom Ward Miller, a Cambridge practice, had considered the wider context. Patrick Ward remembers, ‘We noticed that there was no clear front door to the old house and its dining hall. Indeed, the route from the Kho building was across the car park, past the kitchen yard and bins and in through a service passage. We developed a number of master plans, sorting out the circulation and seeking ways of taking advantage of the Cranmer Road gardens. But, in the end, we focused on the new hall. The College’s brief was detailed and specific – a simple and straightforward scheme, embracing function and economy, was all it sought, not a masterplan.

‘It was clear to us that the existing hall was a pleasant space, liked by both students and Fellows. Designed by Sir Philip Dowson of Arup Associates in 1969, it related well to the Grade II-listed George Thomson Building, designed by the same architect. Inside the hall, we noticed that, unusually, the ceiling line did not follow the roof pitch – there was a void between the two, within which, the engineer, Tyrone Bowen of Cambridge Architectural Research, assured us, we could accommodate two deep trusses spanning from end wall to end wall to support the roof, eliminating the need for free-standing columns and enabling the floor area to be extended to the front of the existing covered porch. Behind the hall, on the north side, the building could be extended to accommodate an enlarged kitchen.’

Both externally and internally, the completed hall strongly resembles its precursor. Ridge and eaves levels are the same and so, too, are the roof tiles, bricks and metal windows and doors. Internally, the same ceiling profile extends over a much enlarged and column-free space. The full length of the garden-side wall can be opened up to a new stone terrace. Inside, the other three walls are still timber-lined but the dark plywood has been replaced by closely spaced vertical oak battens. Tables can be laid out either along the long axis or across it.
– the latter enabling every diner to have a view of the garden (the great copper beech will be floodlit at night) and providing a much shorter travel distance for table service. The hall is available for hire and has already been used for a wedding reception.

**A traditional bar and an open kitchen**

Compared to the old hall, the new one is much better lit – the slightly modified roof section enables good daylighting from both high and low level. Artificial lighting provision was somewhat limited by the budget – but dimming, although not scene-setting, is possible. Ventilation is provided at both low and high roof level and the sliding doors to the terrace can be opened in summer. Acoustics have noticeably improved – both the ceiling and the timber-lined walls incorporate sound absorbent measures proposed by Arup Acoustics. One very
steeply-sloping ceiling section doubles up as a permanent projection screen. If there is a single cause for regret, it is that the new tables and chairs have none of the elegance of the old ones. They are certainly much easier for the staff to handle – but their cut-price origin is all too obvious.

Outside the hall, the bar has been relocated and constructed, at the students’ wish, in a traditional style. Toilet facilities have been vastly improved and the ancillary areas re-ordered and renovated. The kitchen area glistens like a laboratory and the servery has been configured to allow meals to be served for consumption in the bar at those times when the hall is in use by others. Unusually, there is no downstand above the servery counter – such is the nature of the relationship between the students and Uri, Leckhampton’s legendary chef, that, at the students’ request, the servery and kitchen is virtually one space.

The project was completed on time (within 10 months) and to budget (£1.4m). The project manager and quantity surveyor was Piers Wilmot from Kirkby Diamond of Milton Keynes. The constructors were Regent Construction of Cambridge. The building was opened by the Chancellor, Lord Sainsbury, on 16 June.

**Modest and appropriate**

To demolish a 50-year old College building is unusual. But to replace it with another so visually similar (although with a capacity 50% greater) is even more unusual. Architects and clients are rarely so modest – both like to leave their mark for posterity. But the Leckhampton hall is the only truly communal space on the campus – and it is the dinners in this simple room, with its angular ceiling vault stretching from one end to the other, that remain in the memory of its Old Members. It is surely appropriate that the College should have acknowledged the (recent) past in this way.
2. The Old House kitchens

Earlier this year, planning commenced on the renovation of the College kitchens. Since the last renovation, in 1981, the quality and energy efficiency of kitchen equipment have vastly improved and the College has increased in numbers and developed a highly successful conference and catering business. The project is a response to these changes. All food preparation and cooking will be combined on one floor and the upper kitchen will be transformed into a large free-flow servery. Building work is scheduled for 2017–18.

The kitchens are located in the oldest part of the College, originally built in the 1350s as the Master’s Lodge and the Hall. Developing an understanding of their subsequent history is an important part of the project – identifying possibilities for the recovery and reuse of parts of the fabric and building up the evidence that will be required by the planning authorities.

Old Court is shown in three-dimensional outline on two sixteenth-century maps of the town, but David Loggan’s engraving of 1688 is the earliest specific representation of the court. It shows the screens passage where it is today, surmounted by a cupola, the function of which is unclear. However, there is a conjectural image of the court in the 1370s, drawn by its historian, Oliver Rackham. This shows the windows to the Hall as they were before an oriel was first introduced. Also depicted is the roof louvre through which smoke escaped before the construction of the ‘great fireplace and chimney’ about 1500.

The kitchens, buttery and pantry to the west of the screen’s passage were demolished in 1826 for Wilkins’s Hall. At the same time, the medieval Hall was converted into a kitchen. How the kitchen was linked to the new Hall is a mystery. There is mention in the introduction to Pierre Gorman, John Roach and Geoffrey Woodhead’s Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: Some artistic impressions (1992) of ‘a small hand-operated lift’ that took the food up to the Hall level and thence to a large hot-plate just inside the Hall entrance. Whether this was the still extant lift linking the pantry to the Hall or another lift located within the kitchens is unclear. But as Gorman and his co-authors say, ‘It seems extraordinary that such simple arrangements worked, but work they did for a very long time’.

Left, Oliver Rackham’s conjectural sketch of Old Court in the 1370s. The Hall is shown with its original three pointed-arch windows and the roof louvre through which smoke from the central hearth escaped.
The Letter · Addresses and Reflections

1948: Ernst Freud’s mezzanine kitchen

Wilkins’s surviving drawings reveal nothing about the old Hall conversion apart from the fact that he demolished the original west wall and proposed a flight of stairs, within the kitchen, up to the new Hall. The latter were never built. By the 1930s, a century after the ‘new’ kitchen was completed, there was evidently growing concern about the inadequacy of the arrangements. But, with the outbreak of war, all discussions on a possible solution ceased.

Following WW2, the kitchen and its relationship to the Hall were radically altered. The architect, Ernst Freud (son of Sigmund) and the distinguished Hungarian engineer Kalmar Hajnal-Konyi inserted an additional floor into the volume of the kitchen and relocated the preparation and cooking areas to this floor. Stairs were constructed at the east end of the kitchen and two lifts installed. Great care was taken to relate the new floor to the existing medieval window transoms – particularly in the oriel bay. But the impact of the new link between the kitchen, across Wilkins’s stairs and into his Hall, was less happy. What had been a noble double-height entrance from Court to Hall was partly bridged, an unsympathetic half-glazed screen was cut into the plastered vault ceiling, and the upper section of the New Court entrance opening was crudely blocked.

1981: the last renovation

In 1977, 150 years after Wilkins’s transformation of the old Hall into a kitchen, and nearly 30 years after its transformation into a ‘double-decker’ affair, the College started to consider new proposals. The kitchen itself was ‘unsafe and unsanitary’; equipment was outdated and liable to malfunction; the hand-powered hoists were inadequate; and meals were being provided for numbers in excess of the designed capacity. Discussions were complicated by the fact that it was recognised that the admission of women was an imminent possibility, the tradition of daily Hall was being questioned and student expectations on food quality and (self) service were changing.
The initial proposal was dramatic. The College’s central range – extending from Free School Lane to Trumpington Street – was to be reordered at ground and basement levels exclusively for catering use. The kitchens were to be relocated below the Hall, SCR and MacCurdy rooms, C staircase was to be demolished and the area around it reconstructed to provide a first floor servery. The latter was accessed from the Hall through a new opening formed through the timber panelling adjacent to the High Table dais. At the eastern end of the range, the old Hall was to be restored as a second dining hall with a JCR and bar beyond, on the ground floor of the original Master’s Lodge.

Most of the objections to this proposal were related to the servery’s proximity to High Table but Oliver Rackham also mounted a vigorous attack on the removal of original medieval structure in the proposed bar area. The scheme was costed at £809,000 (1978 prices) – by some counts, roughly £4.5 m today but likely, due to the increased standards of construction, to be far more. It was too much. Fundraising was, at that time, an unexplored art and there was no appetite for the disruption.

Top, the initial 1981 scheme involved locating the kitchens below the Wilkins’ Hall and locating the servery in a reconstructed south west corner of Old Court. Note the lantern over the medieval Hall. Bottom, it was proposed to remove the mezzanine in the hall, restore it to dining use and locate a bar and JCR on the ground floor of the old Master’s Lodge. This scheme was abandoned and a more modest kitchen upgrading carried out.
involved by so large a scheme (which would, today, be instantly rejected on conservation grounds). A far more modest proposal was agreed and, following a ten month construction period, completed in 1981. This is what exists today.

The current project
By 2012, the College was aware that the kitchen facilities would, for health and safety reasons, need upgrading within the next few years. Several options were considered, two of which involved restoring the medieval Hall. One of these options explored relocating the kitchens under Wilkins’s Hall while another proposed placing them under Old Court. The costs in each case were excessive.

Late in 2013, a third feasibility study explored the possibility of partially restoring the upper part of the medieval Hall for use as an enlarged free-flow servery, retaining the 1949/81 first floor structure, and reordering the entire ground floor catering area, including that below the Hall. This was approved by the Governing Body as a basis for the current project, for which a full design team was appointed in April this year.

This is an immensely exciting project. Quite apart from the vast improvements for catering staff, it offers the opportunity to eliminate many of the unsightly interventions of the past 70 years. The top priorities are the exposure of the medieval kitchen ceiling with its six surviving fourteenth-century carved stone corbels and the elimination of the deplorable view from Old Court into the kitchens. Wilkins’s Hall staircase – now a drab circulation area – can be turned into what it always was, an enjoyable part of the dining experience, leading up into the entry of his fine Georgian faux-medieval Hall, with its stained glass and open timber roof structure. Alas, it won’t be quite like that because, although the partly water-damaged Hall ceiling is to be redecorated, the appallingly misjudged Pugin wall paper – a product of the Victorian age, applied to the original light stone-coloured walls in 1963, completely destroying the impact of Wilkins’s and Yarrington’s stained glass – will remain.
The programme is likely to involve several phases. Building work will start in summer 2017 with the reordering of the ground floor of D staircase into an infinitely more functional space, making use of the views over Trumpington Street for a new Bachelors’ Parlour and a Tutorial Room. A temporary kitchen will be required for the entire calendar year 2018 (when the bulk of the kitchen reconfiguration will be taking place).

The recovery of memory
This project is potentially fraught with difficulty. We shall be working in the oldest part of the College, built about 660 years ago and since subject to much change. The dream – still dear to a few Fellows – of resurrecting the old medieval Hall is by now well and truly discounted. But our researches have revealed that there is much that we can do to recover the memory of both the old Hall and Wilkins’s processional staircase – as well as to provide a fine new kitchen and servery.

Top left, section through the Hall stairs as drawn by William Wilkins. Top right, the unsightly screen erected in 1948 is to be removed so that the full extent of the vaulted ceiling and the space below will be visible. Bottom left, The unsightly external view though the old Hall windows will be eliminated and replaced by a more considered arrangement. Bottom right, the C14 carved stone corbels will be restored to view in the new servery.
Respect!

THE VERY REV'D PROF IAINE TORRANCE, TD, FRSE

John Mere’s sixteenth-century instructions for this sermon focus on relationships of respect: of pupil for teacher, of servant for employer, of reader for text. In our twenty-first century, incivility rules and anything which smacks of deference is held suspect. And I suspect that we are suspicious of non-symmetrical virtues like those identified in these three relationships. So it is a difficult and interesting argument to make. However, acknowledgement of expertise or of substantial authority is different from fawning or servility and arguably is closer to the enduring but non-symmetrical gratitude a recipient has for a donor. The relation of recipient to donor is worth exploring further because donation can take many forms and there are as many kinds of recipient. This embraces the relation of pupil to teacher and of servant to employer and it is to that underlying dimension of human living that I first want to turn.

And I want to begin by paying attention to Seneca’s treatise de Beneficiis, on ‘favours’, without regard to which he tells us we lead reckless and thoughtless lives.* I am talking about how a particular quality in life is retained, a quality which I think was valued by John Mere and which underpins relationships of respect.

Seneca asks what is a favour and answers that it is an ‘act of benevolence bestowing joy and deriving joy from bestowing it’. What is at stake is a particular attitude of mind of both giver and recipient. Giving and receiving favours is different from careless open-handedness or taking that to which one believes oneself to be entitled. Seneca wrote it is ‘not by the sacrificial victims, however fat and glittering with gold, that the gods are honoured, but by uprightness and holiness of will’. ‘Good men with no more to offer than groats and meal-paste are devout, while the wicked cannot avoid impiety, however much they stain the altars with blood’. In statements of this kind, Seneca is uncannily close to the teaching of the prophets of the Hebrew Bible. In the first book of Samuel, Chapter 15, Samuel is recorded as denouncing King Saul saying, ‘Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams’.

What does a favour confer? A favour, he tells us, properly understood is an intangible. It is not something that may be ‘touched by the hand.’ What is crucial is not gold or silver but good will. And a favour is enduring. Suppose, Seneca says, I have ransomed a friend from pirates and that friend is subsequently imprisoned by another enemy. It is not my favour but the use of my favour that

* I will refer generally to the excellent translation of de Beneficiis in Seneca: Moral and Political Essays, edited by John M. Cooper and J. F. Procopé (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought, Cambridge University Press, 1995) and will mark exact quotation by inverted commas but will often summarise without quotation marks.
has been taken from him. If I have rescued a child from shipwreck or fire, only for the child subsequently to die of illness, the favour done in my action remains.

Competence in doing and accepting favours (taken in their broad sense) is a social skill which ‘more than anything else holds human society together.’ ‘Men must be taught to give gladly, to take gladly, to give gladly back. They must be taught to set themselves the mighty challenge of not merely matching but surpassing in deed and spirit those to whom they are under obligation, since anyone with a favour to return can only make it up by going beyond it.’

In an illustration of this which would have appealed to John Mere, Seneca tells how at a time when the pupils of Socrates were giving expensive gifts to him, Aeschines, who was poor, said, ‘I can find nothing to give you that is worthy of you. In this alone I feel myself to be poor. So I present you with the one thing that I have – myself … Bear in mind that others, while giving you much, have left more for themselves.’ Socrates, then accepting the obligations of a recipient and the challenge of not merely matching the gift but surpassing it in spirit, said, ‘I shall make it my care to return you to yourself a better man than I received you.’

As an illustration of what is the dynamic of gift-giving and response, Seneca offers the conventional depiction of The Three Graces. ‘Why are the Graces three in number and why are they sisters? Why are they holding hands? Why are they smiling and youthful and virgin? Why is their costume loose and transparent?’ He tells us, ‘Their faces are cheerful, as faces usually are when favours are granted or accepted. They are young, because the memory of favours ought not to grow old. They are virgin, because favours are unspoiled and unblemished … [and] there should be no tie or restriction to them. So their garments are loose – and indeed transparent, since favours long to be visible.’

He turns to the kinds of thing that may appropriately be granted as favours. Granting a favour is different from the kinds of allocation we make all the time. Favours need not be costly, but should not be mundane. They have to be thoughtful. So apples out of season could be a favour. He quotes Crispus Passienus, formerly married to Agrippina, Nero’s dreadful mother, that there are some people from whom one would prefer a judgement (iudicium) to a favour (beneficium). It raises an important distinction: ‘You cannot have a favour if the best part is missing, namely the [intention] that went into doing it.’ No favour should be accepted from someone who has a low opinion of you, so from the Emperor Claudius you should accept favour a gift as if from fortune, ‘knowing that she [fortune] can turn nasty in a flash.’ An enormous gift given without reflection or an appropriate intention is not a favour but merely a windfall and may be received without the kinds of indebtedness which acceptance of a favour brings.

Seneca argued that we should never give anything that will come back to shame us, nor should we ever grant a favour for which it would be disgraceful to ask. He tells us that once Alexander the Great presented someone with a city. The recipient shrank from such a gift, saying it was unsuitable for such as he. ‘What concerns me’, replied Alexander, ‘is not what you can fittingly get but what I can fittingly give.’ Seneca mocked Alexander for his grandiosity and a narcissism which failed to understand the necessary reciprocities in human relationships. What the recipient cannot fittingly receive, neither can you
fittingly give. To overwhelm or smother another person is not to grant a favour. In giving and receiving, you must pay attention to role and standing. Seneca illustrates this with Chrysippus’ analogy of a game of ball. A good player will toss a ball differently to a tall partner than to a short one. It is the same with favours. Only if properly accommodated to both will it leave the one and reach the other as intended. Unskilled gift-givers often make people ungrateful ‘as though our favours could only be great if we cannot be thanked’. Unskilled gift-giving is destructive not only of favours but also of the relation between servants and employers, and teachers and pupils, insofar as those relationships involve anything dynamic at all. In an analogous way, lack of reciprocity will distort the way we read a text. But I will come to that later.

In a well-balanced society, the rights of a benefactor are among the most hallowed. But reason might tell us that we ought not to accept favours from just anyone. Are we always able to say No? Suppose one were offered a ransom by an infamous prostitute. A ransom is a ransom and Seneca suggests that one should probably take it, but taking the money as a loan, not as a favour, and thereby not conferring the status of benefactor. Suppose you were offered a favour or a grant of money by a youth still under parental supervision? Seneca asks if there is anything praiseworthy in not receiving stolen goods. May a slave or a servant do his master a favour? Here Seneca directly enters territory close to John Mere’s heart. Seneca distinguishes between ‘favours’, ‘duties’ and ‘menial tasks’. Duties and menial tasks with their attendant obligations are relatively easy to understand. It may be argued that nothing done by a slave will place his master under an obligation. But that is to misunderstand the voluntary and elusive nature of a favour and its place even in a hierarchical relationship. Seneca replies that if a slave cannot do his master a favour, then neither can a favour be done by anyone to a king or by a soldier to a commander. To deny a slave’s ability to do his master a favour is to ignore his standing as a person and to deny his ability to act creatively within constraints. ‘What matters is the state of mind, not the status of the giver.’ A favour is not prevented from being one because it comes from a slave. It is all the greater because even his slavery has not sufficed to deter him from it.

This leads us to the Stoic paradox: to accept a favour gladly is to have repaid it. Most of all, this shows that what is really being discussed is the nature of a non-symmetric virtue. When Phideas makes a sculpture, his reward lies primarily in accomplishing his intention. Any profit made through a sale is secondary if what you are talking about is the exercise of an artistic gift. So it is with a favour which operates within its own rules and should not be reduced to a transaction undertaken for a reward.

It is easy for twenty-first century Christians to hear Seneca on beneficia and to sentimentalise him by invoking a Cappadocian account of the Trinity. The Three Persons of the Trinity, even more nimbly than The Three Graces, transparent and ageless, endlessly toss a ball to each other, throwing and catching with unmatched skill. And thereby they are an example to us all. This is mistaken because what is at stake is not perichoresis but clarifying a non-symmetrical or ragged virtue, one more like mercy or forgiveness than matched behaviour between symmetrical equals. A set of virtues like those prescribed by John Mere, respect of pupil for
teacher, of servant for employer, genuine respect not subservience, might be located in the academic community of a Cambridge college and that may have been John Mere’s intent. These virtues cohere in a particular ecology.

I would like, finally, to turn to the handling of text, another of John Mere’s virtues, and be a little more speculative. I am trying to include ways of reading scripture along with the respectful but not subservient human relationships I have just tried to describe.

John Mere died in 1558, the year Queen Elizabeth came to the throne. It was a time of transition and one among many disputes was that about the wearing of vestments. That dispute had a history. After the accession of Edward VI there had been prolonged disagreement between John Hooper and Nicholas Ridley. Hooper considered vestments (the cope and surplice) to be vestiges of Judaism and Roman Catholicism and without Biblical warrant. Ridley argued that vestments were a matter of indifference but could be required by the sovereign. Biblical texts were cited and the ways they were handled came to define the differing conservative and puritan perspectives. It was ultimately a debate about legitimate authority and Ridley had a way of reading Scripture that did not require it to warrant every practice.

That debate continued and John Mere cannot have been unaware of the steps in its argument. On Elizabeth’s accession in November 1558 Latin services and Catholic ceremonial were still in place. The return of the Protestant scholars exiled during the reign of Mary reopened the Edwardian debates. The House of Lords opposed the Act of Uniformity of 1559 and the Government looked for a compromise. The Bishops’ Conference of February 1560 produced one. The crucifix was rejected but the cope was retained. Subsequently John Mere’s friend, Matthew Parker, produced the Book of Advertisements which enforced the surplice in the parish church and the cope for communion services in cathedrals.

All of this is context. My suspicion is that John Mere was looking for a mode of reading scripture which steered between the Puritans who saw it as endlessly prescriptive and the coming generation of Philip Sidney, Edmund Spenser and Christopher Marlowe who permitted something less anchored and far more speculative. Most of the arguments given above would apply.

Such a mode of reading scripture responsibly and yet generously would cohere with what has been said about non-subservient but generous relations between pupils and teachers and servants and employers and we may thank God for John Mere’s legacy, humanity and enduring vision.
Commemoration of Benefactors Address, 4 December 2015

John Thomson MacCurdy, Fellow, 1926–1947

Richard McMahon

My subject this evening is John Thomson MacCurdy, Fellow of the College from 1926 to 1947. MacCurdy’s name is a familiar one to members of Corpus. There are the two MacCurdy rooms, the red and the green, used by Fellows on a daily basis. Old members of the College are invited back on a rotation to the MacCurdy Dinner, held every September, now of course augmented by the Beldam Dinner held in the spring. There is the MacCurdy Fund, the capital for which was given to the College by MacCurdy, which supports the eponymous Dinner and is widely thought to pay for Fellows’ wine in combination.

However, despite the apparent familiarity with MacCurdy, I suspect that I was not the only Fellow or member of the College with only a vague idea of who the man was. When, in the Master’s absence, I was asked to host the MacCurdy Dinner in 2014 I decided to find out something more about MacCurdy’s life and works, my starting point being a recollection of his being involved in the study of shell shock. I undertook a little research and managed to give a one and a half minute character sketch to the diners at the MacCurdy Dinner. I subsequently made enquiries and it seems that as far as can be established MacCurdy has never been the subject of a Commemoration address – hence this evening’s offering.

MacCurdy was born in 1886 in Toronto. His father, Professor J F MacCurdy, was a Presbyterian divine; about his mother we have no knowledge. The young MacCurdy studied biology at the University of Toronto, probably graduating in 1906. He then went on to pursue his medical studies at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, gaining his MD in 1911. MacCurdy’s first publication, ‘On the influence of thyroidectomy on alimentary glycosuria’ came out in 1909 and he was elected in 1911, the year of his graduation, to a Fellowship in Pathology at Johns Hopkins.

Probably attracted by the emerging subject of psychology, particularly Freudian psychoanalysis, MacCurdy travelled to Europe for the first time in 1913, spending time at Alzheimer’s laboratory in Munich and also working in Breslau, now Wroclaw on the Stansted departure board. We do not know whether he met Freud – certainly he did not go to Vienna but they could have met elsewhere. He met Carl Jung who, according to MacCurdy, engaged in a discussion lasting thirteen hours without intermission. There is no doubt that these visits to Germany had a great influence on MacCurdy.
Returning to the United States, MacCurdy secured a faculty post at Cornell – Lecturer in Medical Psychology – and also as assistant to August Hoch at the Psychiatric Institute of New York. Hoch was one of the founder members of the American PsychoPathological Association. MacCurdy was an enthusiast for Freud's ideas, recognizing the value of psychoanalysis but not uncritically so. We should remember that Freud's theories were still relatively new, and Freud himself was still practising, so we can see that MacCurdy was a pioneer of the emerging discipline of psychology.

1914 brought war in Europe and indeed in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The conditions of trench warfare on the Western Front in particular led to many new psychological conditions in the troops, not seen in previous wars fought by British forces. The new factor was the availability of high explosives following Nobel's discovery of dynamite in 1867 (nitroglycerin and diatomaceous earth) and developments thereof such as trinitrotoluene (TNT) and picric acid. High explosives were a boon to the mining and the civil engineer but inflicted terrible injuries on combatants.

Shell shock, or as we would now call it post-traumatic stress disorder, resulted from extreme experiences on the battlefield, injury, concussion, being buried alive or simply the scale of the slaughter. As MacCurdy went on to note in 1917, there had been no cases of shell shock in the Boer War, the last major engagement of the British Army before the Great War. However, shell shock had been observed in the Russo-Japanese war of 1904, this conflict being a precursor of modern industrial warfare, though the British focused on lessons from the naval rather than the land battles in which casualties for the first time were counted in hundreds of thousands.

I now need to introduce William Halse Rivers Rivers. Rivers had wide interests and could be described variously as an anthropologist, ethnographer or psychologist though Rivers is perhaps most famous for the Torres Straits
expedition of 1898 which played a major part in disproving the idea of the ‘savage mind’. Rivers was briefly at Cambridge but it fell to Charles Myers, one of his pupils, to set up a laboratory for experimental psychology in 1912, a development seeming not universally welcomed in Cambridge. Rivers left for Polynesia in 1908; returning to England in 1915 he went to the Craiglockhart War Hospital near Edinburgh, which, along with Maghull Hospital, dealt with cases of shell shock. Rivers applied techniques of Freudian psychoanalysis to the cases he encountered. Shell shock was not well understood and was widely considered to be simply cowardice or lack of moral fibre.

MacCurdy, with the rank of Captain, was sent on a special mission to Britain in 1917 to acquaint himself with the phenomenon of shell shock in anticipation of the deployment of American Forces on the Western Front. He reported his findings in the ‘Psychiatric Bulletin’ of the New York State Hospitals in July 1917 and expanded the material to form the book ‘War neuroses’ (his preferred term for shell shock), published in 1918 with a preface by Rivers. The book presents many case studies which are stated to be typical rather than exceptional and the methods of treatment are of the more humane kind rather than over-reliance on drugs and ‘Faradization’, viz. electric shock treatment.

Whilst ‘War neuroses’ was aimed at practitioners, MacCurdy looked at a bigger picture in his 1917 work ‘The psychology of war’ in which he attempts to analyse the traits that lead to wars. This book now reads as reflecting the somewhat naïve enthusiasm of the practitioner of a new subject in that MacCurdy suggests that as the urge to start wars is a psychological condition it could be treated, thereby eliminating wars.

On demobilization in 1919 MacCurdy returned to the US to pick up the work that he had been doing before the war with Hoch on manic-depressive psychoses. Hoch died in autumn 1919 but MacCurdy published the work in 1920 as ‘The prognosis of involutional melancholia’. He also continued to practise as a
1922 was an eventful year for MacCurdy. He was honoured by being made President of the American PsychoPathological Association but his marriage dating from 1914 ended. Also MacCurdy came to Cambridge in the Long Vacation to lecture. No doubt this was through connections made in wartime with Rivers and Myers though Rivers had died in June just before MacCurdy arrived.

MacCurdy made his first appearance in Corpus at dinner during that period, there being a cryptic note that ‘Dr MacCurdy had been to dine on the usual terms’. We can only speculate as to the circumstances of his being invited – possibly it was through the political connections of Sir Will Spens and Sir Geoffrey Butler. In any case he was made a Dining Member and given rooms in Corpus, seemingly on generous terms as the Chapter book records them as being rent-free.

Through the efforts of Rivers and Myners the University had established a Lectureship in Psychopathology and MacCurdy was appointed to this post in 1923. MacCurdy continued to have rooms in Corpus but was not made a Fellow until 1926 and thereafter made the College his home until the end of his life. We have to recall that the Fellowship was small, in the mid-teens, and formed an intimate group. The College was inclined to elect those who would fit in – the ethos being Conservative, conservative and Anglican, though Archie Clark-Kennedy, the medical Fellow, was apparently exempted from this latter constraint.

Following his arrival in Cambridge MacCurdy continued to be a significant figure in the Cambridge Psychological Laboratory and indeed in his field. He was regarded as a great teacher, drawing on real-life experience. He was largely responsible for devising the University’s policy for dealing with student breakdowns before examinations; the early steps towards today’s Counselling Service. Perhaps surprisingly, he did not practise and indeed he did not carry out experimental work at all.

Nevertheless, he was approached in 1926 by Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary of State for Air, and duly appointed to the position of Psychological Consultant to the Royal Air Force. The connection was probably through the Conservative circles and indeed Sir Samuel became a dining member of Corpus in 1927. In particular MacCurdy toured the Middle East to study flying conditions there and to recommend scientifically based methods of selecting aircrew. Though by the outbreak of the Second World War he had relinquished his connection with the RAF, he is variously described as having connections with British Intelligence or a special branch of the Foreign Office. Another MacCurdy mystery.

MacCurdy continued to write books during his time in Cambridge, both of a technical nature and on broader topics. Four of these are considered major works. The first of these is ‘Problems in dynamic psychology’, published in 1923. This work is a critique of psychoanalysis – a technique which at the time was growing in application but was in its early stages, with methods and interpretations very dependent on the individual practitioner. Whilst MacCurdy describes himself as a Freudian, he is not uncritical of inconsistencies in Freud’s publications, not helped by the fact that the translations of his wartime lectures in
Vienna were poor and the texts were not available until some time after the war. In his introduction, MacCurdy says ‘considerable labour is therefore necessary if one is to discover just what his views are’. This book is considered one of the best critical insights into the significance of Freud’s work, written of course whilst Freud himself was active.

As a side note, MacCurdy had tended to drift away from Freudian thinking as the 1920s progressed. Whether it is just pure coincidence or not cannot be known, but Sir Samuel Hoare arranged the papers for Freud to be able to leave Austria for England in 1938 after the Anchluss with Germany; but there is no evidence to suggest that MacCurdy joined the flock of visitors to Freud before Freud’s death in autumn 1938.

‘The psychology of emotion’ came out two years later in 1925, drawing on criticisms of Freud’s work in that it does not adequately distinguish between the instinct congenital, that is instinctive, and acquired influences. More ambitious was ‘Common principles in psychology and physiology’, published in 1928, in which he attempted to bring together a reconciliation between neurology and psychology. Although this was a topic that clearly fascinated MacCurdy, it remains an unsolved problem. His final major technical work was ‘The structure of morale’, published in 1943. A part work, originally to be entitled ‘the psychopathology of politics’ was published posthumously through the efforts of O L Zangwill. Zangwill is said to have been intrigued by MacCurdy and hypnosis, presumably when Zangwill was an undergraduate.

I now turn to the works of general interest. MacCurdy’s 1932 book ‘Mind and money’ is a reflection on the Great Depression, sub-titled ‘A psychologist looks at the crisis’. As always in contemporary writings of this kind there are fascinating observations and MacCurdy does not shy away from predicting the future. His primary argument is that to understand events such as the Great Depression we have to look beyond strictly economic analyses and to include human behaviour, although of course economists seek to incorporate this these days. In the publisher’s note there is a comment that ‘events predicted in these chapters have actually happened’, citing as one example ‘politicians who fear unpopularity in reducing the dole exhibit a lack of knowledge of mass psychology. When a national emergency exists the surest way to impress that emergency on their minds is to demand a sacrifice from them’. This thinking may be relevant to current events. He characterizes Germans as learned, the French as intelligent and the British as wise, and predicts that Nazism will lead to Germany’s suicide, but not by the mechanism that actually happened. He also notes that the then USSR would be unable to progress unless it effectively abandoned communism – perhaps China is the better example today.

MacCurdy’s next venture into the world of opinion pieces was ‘Germany, Russia and the future’, billed on its cover as ‘a psychologist’s essay on the ideologies of Germany and Russia’ and published in 1944 as one volume of a series on current problems published by CUP. Other titles included ‘the Indian states and Indian Federation’ and ‘the future in education’. MacCurdy notes that both Germany and Russia have national ideologies of a religious nature and that no deviation from orthodoxy is permitted. There are supernatural powers as
exemplified by the *Führerprinzip*. Truth comes from instruction, i.e. via propaganda. Crimes against the state are naturally more serious than those against the individual. In fact MacCurdy devoted little space to Germany although his predictions about the final disintegration of Nazi Germany were prescient. He was clearly fascinated by Russia, and the chapter on ‘the future of communist Russia’ is interesting. He thought it quite likely that the communist leadership would adapt in the way the Chinese have done and that given Russia’s enormous wealth of resources it would rapidly develop, perhaps overtaking the USA. A reflection of this thinking is described in Francis Spufford’s ‘Red plenty’, the brief period of hope in the Khrushchev era, but even well before 1944 there was more to being an advanced economy than making more steel than the capitalists, despite the views of the admirers of the Soviet Union.

MacCurdy attended his last Governing Body on 16 June 1947. Two weeks later he was dead. He had been unwell for some time but the seriousness of his illness had not been appreciated so his death was unexpected. Rather surprisingly there is no mention of it in the minutes of the Governing Body.

MacCurdy had initially intended that his estate should go to Sir Will Spens in the form of a Trust in which Spens would have a life interest, following which the funds, or at least the majority of them, would go to the College. Although he left his estate to Sir Will, a trust was not set up. However, Spens paid over £2,000 to the College in 1948 and a further £5,000 in 1949 along with shares (Debenhams and Hector Whaling) valued at £2,030, forming the initial capital of the MacCurdy Fund. Sir Will had done this in accordance with MacCurdy’s wishes, namely that the monies be used to provide amenities and hospitality as the College might think fit.

The inauguration of the MacCurdy Dinner, to be supported by the fund, for alumni of the College to be invited in rotation was agreed at the Governing Body meeting of July 15th 1950. However, the MacCurdy Fund was also being raided to support the Queenborough Feast, established in honour of Almeric Paget, 1st Baron Queenborough who was the subject of an address by Dr de Hamel a few years ago. Unfortunately Queenborough died within one year of his making a gift to the College and his daughter would not pay the estate duty so the value of the gift was much reduced and could not support the Feast. The College was considering making the feast biennial but hearing of this Sir Will and Lady Spens donated a further £2,000 to the College in 1959. Spens had also suggested that the MacCurdy Fund should give a float of £1,000 to the Wine Fund.

Two things might strike us as odd about MacCurdy’s wishes. Clearly there was no intention to provide for his former wife or indeed either of the two children. Secondly it is surprising that he should have wished to leave his Estate in the first instance to Sir Will. We can only speculate as to the reasons.

It is fashionable today to consider the impact of research. In MacCurdy’s case there is no doubt that he contributed immensely to the well-being of American Forces in the First World War and his critique of Freudian methods in ‘Dynamic Psychology’ was widely praised. Once established in Cambridge he abandoned clinical practice and focused on trying to establish overarching principles, especially in ‘Common principles in psychology and physiology’.
However, this was regarded as a synthèse manquée. The opinion pieces were just that, interesting and thought-provoking though they were. On the other hand he was instrumental in developing the ways the University dealt with psychiatric problems amongst the student body.

It is always hard to judge an individual from a distance. MacCurdy’s life is tantalizingly close but the personal links have now gone. He is described as having a strong personality. His adopted home was Corpus and he became more English than the English, enjoying the life of High Table. He enjoyed good food and was a good judge of wine, especially the now unaffordable Burgundy. His conversation was lively with interests in politics, finance, whaling, music and wine, not to mention sport. Although some of these characteristics place him in the Harley-Mason mould, he was a sympathetic man. Would we be pleased to be seated next to him later this evening? I think the answer is yes.

In today’s money the initial value of the MacCurdy Fund was approximately £300,000; the Fund is valued today at over £700,000. The Fund partially supports the MacCurdy and Beldam Dinners for alumni, and the inadequately endowed Queenborough Feast, though it has not recently supported the Fellows’ Wine Fund. I think we are meeting MacCurdy’s wish ‘that the monies be used to provide amenities and hospitality as the college might think fit’. We are grateful to MacCurdy for his generous benefaction to the College; such benefactions are so important in supporting the work of our College. We are grateful to all our benefactors, great and small.
William Blake, The Bible, and Politics: “Are not Religion and Politics the same thing? Brotherhood is Religion”

The College has for some decades sponsored a series of lectures in memory of Arthur Boutwood, who had a connexion with the College through the then Master, Sir Will Spens. The lectures are held every two years, and alternate in their subject matter between a religious theme and political theory. The religious theme is required to be “on religious assent or the philosophy of religion”.

The 2016 Boutwood lecture was delivered by Professor Christopher Rowland. The respondent panel consisted of Professor Emma Mason from the Department of English & Comparative Literary Studies, University of Warwick; Professor Jonathan Roberts, Senior Lecturer, School of English, University of Liverpool; and Dr Andrew Chester, Reader in New Testament Studies, Fellow and Director of Studies, Selwyn College. The Panel was chaired by the Revd Professor William Horbury.

This summary of the lecture and the subsequent discussion was kindly prepared by Dr Ruth Jackson, Research Associate at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) and External Director of Studies in Theology at Corpus Christi.

William Blake understood the Bible to play a vital role in politics. It inspired his own political ideas, and his critique of competing political narratives. An important feature of Blake’s view of the Bible, however – and one that Christopher Rowland’s lecture established so brilliantly – is that he did not treat this sacred text merely as a political tool, nor as a powerful and authoritative instrument for furthering his own agenda. Indeed from Blake’s perspective, politicians woefully mistreat the Bible when they harness it to justify particular policies, or use it to legitimise political hierarchies and systems. When Blake asks whether religion and politics might be “the same thing”, then – to take the quote from Rowland’s title – he is not making a simple appeal to state-administered Christianity, nor to the concept of a National Church, led by the few, and supported by appeals to scripture, tradition, and history. Instead, what Rowland’s lecture made clear, is that Blake understood there to be a radical intimacy between God and humanity, such that to love and respond well to my neighbour, is at the same time to love and to respond well to God. It was this basic point that signalled the unity between politics and religion for Blake. And as he emphasised the role of inspiration and the imagination in reading and interpreting the Bible, Blake actually understood himself to be mounting a challenge against contemporary religion for its complicity to a disordered politics.
If Rowland’s rich and thoughtful lecture demonstrated the significance of Blake’s ideas for his own day, then the ensuing panel discussion suggested Blake’s persisting relevance for modern debates about religion and politics. In her response to Rowland’s points about Blake and Biblical interpretation, for instance, Emma Mason playfully juxtaposed Blake’s emphasis on inspiration and imagination with Donald Trump’s almost talismanic appropriation of the Bible in his presidential campaign. Mason contended that whereas Trump carries a Bible around as if it were a completed and portable authoritative text, in Blake’s view the Bible is no such abstract object. It is no such finite repository of power and information. Rather, for Blake the Bible can legitimately be called a work of art, and as art it has a transcendent meaning which can never be fully grasped and appropriated, but only approached through meditation and imaginative reflection.

Andrew Chester’s response to Rowland exposed one of the key problems facing present-day interpreters of Blake, namely that he does not sit easily within modern academic disciplinary or methodological categories. Blake’s interpretative and critical work is manifestly not that of theology, nor political theory, nor science – indeed, it does not resemble any discipline that deals with discrete entities and abstract relationships between bodies and concepts. And yet, rather than rendering him obscure and obsolete for the work of contemporary theologians and Biblical critics, Chester ventured that Blake’s artistic approach to the Bible – one which engages the senses, and draws the body as well as the mind – is capable of challenging widespread assumptions about the nature of fruitful textual interpretation.

Building on this discussion about Blake being difficult to read or to categorise, Jonathan Roberts then spoke about Blake’s own category of prophecy and the prophetic – a motif that Rowland had already drawn on in his lecture. Roberts explained that in Blake’s view, the heart of prophecy is not to make predictions about the future, but to lay bare what concerns the present age. If we were thus to describe Blake (using his own terminology) as a ‘prophet’, then we would be recognising him as someone who confronted his peers and called them to action. For Blake, prophetic work is required if a society is to escape an infinite identical repetition of ethical ideas and political practices. In other words, he understood the vocation of the poet as the task of ‘transcending the closed circle’ in which humanity has closed itself up.

The point to which both Rowland’s lecture and the panel discussion kept returning, however, was that Blake resisted hierarchy and stressed brotherhood – St Paul’s vision of the Body of Christ, working together – in his approach to religion and politics. God for Blake is ‘not a God afar off’, but a God instead who resides within men and women, while women and men reside within Him. By regarding religion and politics as the same, then, Blake does not collapse love of the divine into love of worldly power. Rather, his insight was to count the ‘religious’ work of mediation, spiritual reflection, and Biblical interpretation also as political practices, because in these tasks one loves humanity precisely by loving God.

Ruth Jackson
Oliver Rackham: Symposium and a Recollection

The Oliverium: the Oliver Rackham Commemorative Symposium

Oliver would have wondered what all the fuss was about on 13 and 14 August 2016 when over 200 enthusiastic colleagues, friends and fans descended on Cambridge to an event in his honor. But he also would have been pleased as Punch!

It was a glorious sunny, summer day as guests and speakers gathered at the West Road Concert Hall to hear and share stories about Oliver Rackham’s remarkable life and legacy. The two days were filled with talks, exhibits and excursions.

Day One opened with Stuart Laing, Master, talking about Oliver at Corpus: student, Fellow, Senior Fellow and Master. With affection and humor Stuart reminded us that when Oliver ceased to be Master, his reversion to Junior Fellow required him to open the door for the new Master, which Oliver did with a flourish! Lucy Hughes, College Archivist, then stunned the audience with her revelations of Oliver’s meticulously kept archive of red and blue field notebooks and photos – a collection of over 1100 notebooks which he began to keep at the precocious age of ten, and over 14,000 photos, mostly slides. These materials are now held in the College’s archive and are being scanned, annotated, and published online as part of the Cambridge Digital Library.

Even more unexpected was Christine Bartram’s account of Oliver’s personal herbarium, with samples mainly from Britain and Greece, especially Crete, but also Japan, Australia and the USA. His carefully curated collection of 17,000+ specimens was stored in handmade boxes on specially built shelves round his bedroom; and it is now stored in the Cambridge University Herbarium.

We were then inspired and entertained by Richard Mabey, the well-known naturalist and writer, as he emphasized the importance of woodland as a community archive, a concept in concert with Oliver’s celebration of cultural landscape.

Ian Rotherham chaired the session on Oliver’s hands-on involvement in British woodland. Adrian Newton reminded us of Oliverian gems such as: “history underpins ecology”; “making makes meaning”; “species really matter”; “ecology is particular”; “continuity is valuable”; “stasis is interesting”, while discussing Oliver’s contribution to our knowledge of how wildwood works.

Reflecting Oliver’s love of wielding an axe, especially for what he considered a good cause such as coppicing, Louise Bacon gave a stimulating talk on conservation coppicing.
Lucy Hughes telling us about Oliver's field notebooks.
(Photo: Sarah Wordsworth)

Left, 1100+ red and blue notebooks crammed on the shelves in Oliver’s house, Feb 2015.
(Photo: Misty Moody)

Right, Herbarium samples filling the shelves in Oliver’s bedroom, Feb 2015.
(Photo: Misty Moody)
The Mediterranean may have been Oliver’s second favourite landscape. He first visited the region as a young Cambridge botany student. But his passion for Crete was ignited by his good friend and fellow Corpuscle Peter Warren, who invited him to be the expeditionary botanist on his excavation at Myrtos in 1968. Peter told of how Oliver first developed his methods of examining the Cretan landscape and continued to hone them the rest of his life. Diego Moreno and Roberta Cevasco talked of Oliver’s work and inspiration of colleagues and students in Italy.

An international panel chaired by William Sutherland emphasized the breadth of Oliver’s scholarship and his global impact on environmental policy. Then the day’s discussions were summed up and participants and organizers thanked by Peter J. Grubb, one of Oliver’s early botanical mentors.

Oliver’s fascination with the medieval world (landscapes and woods, but also manuscripts, artifacts and architecture) was covered by a superb exhibit of select pieces from Corpus’s silver collection, with the addition of the Ely Coucher book, written in AD 1249–50 and kindly lent by Gonville and Caius College for this occasion. The Ely Coucher Book was the medieval manuscript that really inspired Oliver’s career in Historical Ecology.

A music recital in the Chapel led into a reception on the lawn of the Old Court, and then a fine dinner in Hall, which featured a salad named ‘A Walk through Hayley Wood’ and a main dish of “Rackham of lamb”.

The Sunday excursions to Hayley Wood were attended by over 100 people. Hayley Wood is one of the most important surviving medieval woods described in the Ely Coucher Book and inspired Oliver to write an entire book about it.
The tours were masterfully orchestrated by Peter Grubb with helpful input from several others. Expert guides simultaneously walked small groups of people through the wood pointing out features such as bank-and-ditch boundaries, ridge and furrow, and veteran trees.

Meanwhile, Peter Carolin, a Corpus Life Fellow and emeritus professor of architecture, spoke on Oliver’s interest in architecture, in the McCrum Theatre. He discussed Oliver’s investigation of the Old Court, including the phases of construction, the origins of the wood and stone, the trees that yielded the oak timbers, and the designs of the timber frames. He read Oliver’s “dream” of being reproached by the founders and builders for the College’s having covered the beautiful materials they had struggled to purchase. Peter also spoke of Oliver’s burial in the almost forgotten and lost crypt under William Wilkins’s New Court Chapel. And finally, he sprung a surprise on the listeners: Oliver’s design and hand-construction in 1967 or 1968 of the gazebo that overlooks the Leckhampton swimming pool.

Jennifer Moody and Wick Dossett
The man who pitched Oliver Rackham headlong into historical ecology was a bishop, Hugo de Northwold, whose accurate survey of Hayley Wood in 1251 Oliver discovered. ‘To [him],’ Oliver wrote, ‘I owe my life’s work, and after him to the late Colin Ranson’ – his ‘trusty friend’ – ‘who encouraged my studies in Suffolk and Essex.’ These words, from 2000 and 1986, will have puzzled many. Who was this ‘late friend’? A geologist and botanist, Colin Edward Ranson was Deputy Regional Officer, Nature Conservancy (East Anglia), 1967–83; he died aged 52 in 1989, after a long illness. Walking the woods with Oliver, he became an early disseminator of his insights, methods and discoveries, both professionally and in weekend and evening courses. He had wide contacts, and during the years he spent on this task he enabled others, such as planners and landowners, to follow him into it. He was a ‘people man’, open, liked, and positive in outlook.

Often staying with us for fieldwork, Oliver was then writing *Trees and Woodland*, 1976, and *Ancient Woodland*, 1980, for which he employed me as researcher and eventually as manual typist and proofreader at the kitchen table. Some glimpses of his domestic self: he seriously feared eggs and tomatoes, was deeply courteous about my middling cooking, fashioned a picket fence for us, helped us dig out and cover our long-buried well, gave me one of his slender red-and-ochre shirts. We marvelled at the energy that burned in his every movement, sentence, idea, decision, at his active appetite and small need for sleep. Two o’clock in the morning was when his brisk, anything but sleepy tread would be heard on our bare cottage stairs after half a night’s writing.

Those were the last of Oliver’s famous ‘locust years’, when management of the land did much to damage it. At that precise point, young, energetic, and with profound skills no-one else had, he leapt to its defence, *deus ex machina*.

### The persona of the photograph

In spite of Oliver’s practical brilliance it was always clear that unlike Colin he was not quite of this world; I first tended to see him as half-saint, half-changeling, which brought me later to trains of thought on Steve Burton’s photograph of 1986, a work of art knee-deep in questions, allusion and even illusion. The eyes of this male Mona Lisa follow us from his summer noon into our indoor spaces, and track our steps if we move aside. Oliver used his eyes like a scientific instrument;
here, half the iris is obscured, even part of the pupil. (I ‘tried this at home’, but a cloudiness came down.) Emphasizing this with precise grip on the thin wire frame of his glasses, he reminds us of an intellectual rigour we can only glimpse.

The picture has insistent triangles and diagonals, reminding me of the Greek rho/chi with which he created a personal ‘mark’ (R – ckh). Some are only shadows: but which? And the far background has giant shadows of a figure who seems part of a landscape he owns: apt symbiosis. Bright clouds seem to merge into wisps that are his, not theirs; a bank of cloud lies in the plane of the eyes; a stand of trees in the same plane echoes the lines of shoulder and neck. Now the Greek deities of the landscape come to mind, for Oliver lived in sandals he bought in Crete. Is this paradoxical figure some son of Pan?

However, I must interrupt myself. Oliver laced his rigour with a strong splash of professorial romanticism, yes, but my words might equally have prompted his kind, amused irony.

Susan Ranson
Chapel

Then …

Lucy Hughes, archivist

Because our last and next development projects are focussed on kitchens, we have chosen this as our theme for this year’s “Then... and now”, stretching to “Then, then... and now”, to include items from the 1940s and 1950s.

Then – 17th and 18th centuries

1623

Chapter Book 1:
5 Dec 1623: The old baster (deguttorium) is to be allowed to the cook, Robert White, provided that he buy a new one which is to be added to the college stock.

The cook is to be permitted to provide garnishes for the scholars’ dishes, provided that the cost of such garnishes, whether at lunch or dinner, does not exceed 18d and is never entered in the commons book.

1665

Chapter Book 2:
12 August 1665: In this time of plague only two women to be allowed in the college, to make beds and wash, and these are not to leave the college. The women, if they accept, to be Moore and Todd. No barber to come in except John Withe. John Omlber and Tom Graves’ boy to serve in the butteries, Richard Harding in the kitchen; the scullion boy to scrape trenchers* and sweep the hall; John Cockram to be porter. All of these, except the barber, to keep in the college.

1761

Chapter Book 3:
12 Nov 1761 The bursar to dispose of an unused copper in the bakehouse [?] and use the money raised for utensils wanted in the kitchen. Table-cloths and napkins for the fellows’ and pensioners’ tables and four candlesticks to be purchased.

*‘Trenchers’ were dishes or plates, often wooden.
... then

... then – 20th century

Kitchen Committee:

After a preliminary meeting at which lots were drawn for the position of Steward during the three terms, the Kitchen Committee met the Domestic Bursar in Mr Spens’s room.

The following answers were given to questions that had previously been raised.

Service
That the waiters had been told not to rush the service at hall but that the fixing of a time for them to leave the college was impracticable.

There were not sufficient waiters to supply vegetables to individuals at lunch, but a reasonable number of dishes would be kept full on each table thus minimising the search by undergraduates.

In future both spoon and fork would be provided for sweet.

The number of coffee spoons could not be reasonably increased until the number lost annually decreased – over 6 dozen had already been lost since the beginning of term! Spoons would be marked to help in identification.

Food
In spite of Bread being derationed, there was no more flour available to the Bakers who would be unable to deliver the extra 56 lbs required if bread was to be supplied at all meals. However there was a considerable wastage of bread delivered to undergraduate rooms and if this could be saved there would be a surplus for use in Hall. Various ideas were suggested. The Domestic Bursar agreed to consult the matron to see if the Bedmakers would limit the supply when undergraduates had still got bread in their rooms.

Good vegetable cooks were hard to obtain, but a greater variety of vegetables would be introduced where possible. The produce of the college garden would have to be used however. There was general complaint about the potatoes turning black on cooking. The reason for this was not certain but might be due to storage – it would be investigated. It was agreed that the issue of soap to undergraduates was adequate. Of the six units allowed per person per term 2 were used by domestic staff, 2 were issued for personal use, 1 was used in liquid soap, 1 tablet of soap could be bought for bathroom at the Buttery.
Suggestions Book

I broke a tooth on the Jugged Hare served in Hall on Thursday Oct 20th. This was due to a bullet remaining in the Hare when it was served. Several others around me were also lining the edges of their plates with bullets! May I suggest that bullets and other forms of shot be removed before it is served, as one has now to wait some time for a dentist’s appointment.

C. H. A. Tattersall 27 Oct

The Jugged Hare has again sprouted on to the menu in full strength (I use the word ‘strength’ advisedly). Now the problem this sets is not fundamentally a difficult one. It may be expressed thus: is the majority in college in favour of popping the hare into the jug at about the time rigor mortis sets in, or does it prefer to have the Kitchen Manager wait until the animal is decomposing, festering, loathsome to a degree? ...

The question then bluntly is: how many people want Jugged Hare cooked as at present? If more people want it cooked before it has started to go native (as I strongly suspect is the case) then the Kitchen Manager should be informed of this and asked to abandon the present policy.

G. T. Hughes 2 November 1949

Response:

I think it is quite possible that the majority of the college do not like hare, but there are one or two points to be noted:

What we have is stewed hare, and should be called that; jugged hare is a potent dish indeed made with the complete hare (including blood and fur!)

Hare is game – as opposed to rabbit which is not – and there is a good reason for hanging it for a time. Fresh hare is tasteless and incredibly tough unless boiled until it falls to pieces

Anyway – there should be Redcurrant jelly with all Jugged Hare.

Could it be that it is jugged Pelican after all?

Response: This is a most serious accusation and I think worthy of an all-party committee of inquiry. A check should be kept on all local pelicans.

Kitchen Committee Suggestions Book

Breakfast

The Domestic Bursar’s view about remodelling breakfast is that when butter, the last of the breakfast “essentials”, comes off the ration (early spring?) then the entire meal can be re-organised and improved (with a necessary rise in price) and the whole sugar-tin and butter-dish nonsense swept away completely. At the moment the butter rationing precludes any drastic reform. Your views? (opposite page please)

Response: Could the kitchen consider now what extra equipment would be required to provide toast at the remodelled breakfast? The excuse before for the absence of toast was the lack of suitable toasters.
Leckhampton Kitchens and Dining Hall

*Governing Body, November 2014:*

The Bursar reported that attendance at dinner at Leckhampton had increased markedly and that the dining facilities were now at capacity. Moreover, graduate numbers were expected to rise by 2% p.a. over the coming few years. The Working Group’s paper addressed these issues by envisaging a new dining hall with an increase in dining capacity of 40 people. If approved, the building work would take 6–9 months and there would be no dining at Leckhampton during this period. The work would be financed from the proceeds of the College’s £5m loan and/or targeted fund-raising. The Warden introduced the plans, which involved refurbished kitchens, a redesigned service corridor and extended dining hall.

Professor Carolin reported that the firm of architects that had been selected, HaysomWardMiller, proposed a widened dining room with the columns removed. The exterior elevation would not be bulkier than the present one. The interior of Leckhampton House would be re-ordered and the bar re-positioned. The GB unanimously approved the plans with a view to obtaining planning permission and going out to tender.

Extract from the Buildings Committee Minutes of 2 February 2016

**Old House Kitchens**

The Bursar reported that interviews for the combined role of QS/Project Manager would take place on Thursday 4 February. The three candidates were Aecom, Ridge & Partners and Gardiner & Theobald. Their submissions were very varied in terms of content and price, but it was hoped that an appointment could be made. Following this, further appointments of architects and structural engineers etc would be made. The Bursar commented that he was unable to set a budget at this stage as there had been no agreement on the final design. Once the team had been appointed, work to finalise the design, assess structural issues, alternative catering and other major issues would be performed and then a plan and budget could be presented.

The Bursar reminded the Committee that the disruption this project would cause should not be underestimated but that the work needed to be done. Environmental Health inspections were raising increasing concerns about our current arrangements and it had been 35 years since the kitchens were last refurbished.
News of Fellows

New to the Fellowship since November 2015 are: Nicholas Danks (Music), who was formerly Director of Music and now returns as a Fellow and Director of Studies; Felicity Hill and Dr Rhiannon Davies, Research Fellows in History and Modern Languages respectively; Dr Sebastian Pike, Chemistry; Dr Sam Behjati, non-stipendiary Research Fellow in medical sciences; Dr Ioan Stefanovici, Microsoft Research Fellow in Computer Sciences; and Professor David Abrahams, Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, and NM Rothschild and Sons Professor of Mathematics.

We elected two new stipendiary Research Fellows (instead of the normal one) because of the departure, after just one year, of Dr Catrin Campbell-Moore, who leaves us on being appointed to a post in Bristol University. Others leaving the Fellowship are Professor Bill McGrew, Fellow in biological anthropology, who leaves on retirement; Dr Christopher Cawthorn, post-doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, left for a post in the private sector; Dr Ewa Luger left at the end of her two-year term as Microsoft Research Fellow, and has been appointed to a Chancellor’s Fellowship at Edinburgh; and Dr Karen Collis has completed her term as Research Fellow in English, but stays in Cambridge in a teaching post in the Faculty.

Two of our Fellows have been promoted to Professorships: Christopher Kelly, Classics, and Pietro Cicuta, Physics. We congratulate them both warmly.

We seem not to have recorded last year the promotion of Dr Emma Spary to Reader in Modern European History—we offer her apologies and congratulations at the same time!

Our Fellows achieved a number of successes in their academic endeavours. Dr Keith Seffen was awarded a Pilkington prize for outstanding quality of teaching. Dr Ben Pilgrim was appointed to an Exhibition of 1851 Research Fellowship, for a three-year period. In July 2016, Dr Sarah Bohndiek was one of the scientists participating in “Soapbox Science”, an event in which leading female scientists took to their soapboxes to showcase their science to the general public. This was one of several “Soapbox Science” events running across the country in the summer, aiming to help eliminate gender inequality in science by raising the profile, and challenging the public’s view, of women and science. And
Finally, Dr J D Rhodes has been appointed the Balsdon Fellow at the British School in Rome, January–March 2017, the Balsdon Fellow being the British School’s Senior Scholar in Residence.

In Fellows’ personal lives, we are happy to report the birth on 11 May 2016 of a son Oscar Ludovic, to Dr Jonathan Morgan and his wife Sophie; and the birth of a son, Laurence Henry Summers, to Dr Vickie Braithwaite and her husband Dominic, on 29 September 2015. Vickie has been awarded a Royal Society Project Grant for work on the impact of iron deficiency on maternal and infant bone health in Kenya. We congratulate Dr Ewan St John Smith on his marriage (the ceremony conducted in the NCR), on 20 September 2015, to Mr Kaveh Ossia. And we are delighted to congratulate Professor Paul Davies and his wife Elizabeth on their celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 20 August 2016.

Within the Fellowship, we record the election of Dr (now Professor) Christopher Kelly as President, succeeding Richard McMahon. To assist him, and to substitute during periods of leave, the Governing Body elected Dr Jonathan Morgan as Vice-President. Both of these appointments took effect in January 2016.

**Life Fellows**

Our President, Dr Richard McMahon, left us to take up a Professor’s chair at Warwick University, and has become a Life Fellow after his 32 years in the Fellowship. We have greatly appreciated his watchful eye over College feasts and hospitality during his Presidential term of office.

Professor Andrew Harvey, who has been Fellow in Economics for twenty years, has retired, and transferred to the Life Fellowship.

Professor Sir Hew Strachan, former Senior Tutor and now a Life Fellow, became the recipient of the 2016 Pritzker Military Museum & Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing.

**Fellow Commoners**

As reported in last year’s Letter, the journalist and broadcaster Tim Sebastian was our Fellow Commoner for 2015–16. In addition to the event On the Brink (reported in Domus above), he has interacted with students considering journalism as a career, and made a number of helpful contributions to College life.

At the time of writing we have not appointed a Fellow Commoner for 2016–17, but may do so at the October Governing Body meeting.

**Teacher Fellowships**

We decided to give the Teacher Fellowship programme a rest this year. It has become increasingly difficult to attract teachers to come to spend even half a term with us, because of the pressures on their time from their schools. We continue to attach central importance to the Access and Outreach Programme, looking for new ways (and expanding existing programmes) for attracting students from more diverse backgrounds to apply to the College. We were not sure that the Teacher Fellowship programme was meeting this objective, although we may revive it in the future if circumstances look right.
**Visiting Fellowships**

The College continues to offer Visiting Fellowships to scholars from across the world. These Fellowships are non-stipendiary, and ideally suited to faculty members on sabbatical leave from their permanent positions and with a need to benefit from the Cambridge environment in order to further their research. Visiting Fellows become temporary members of the College and the University during their stay, and enjoy many of the benefits of working in an international centre for research and cultural activities. They pay for their accommodation in the College (if available) and their meals at normal rates.

**Our Visiting Fellows in 2015–16 have been:**

Professor Neil Reeve, Swansea University – English Literature;

Professor Manuka Henare, University of Auckland Business School, New Zealand – Maori economic and cultural history;

Professor Deidre Brown, University of Auckland, New Zealand – Maori art and architectural history.

An account of her stay by Professor Deidre Brown is below.

**Our Visiting Fellows in 2016–17 will be:**

Professor Peter Godman, University of Rome – Carmina Burana;

Professor Norio Suzuki, Aichi University – Islam and Marxism.

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**A Visiting Fellow re-discovers Maori objects**

**Deidre Brown**

If you Google ‘University of Cambridge Fellowship Pacific,’ Corpus Christi College’s Visiting Fellowship programme appears at the top of the resultant page. That is exactly what I did last year following the University’s Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (MAA) decision to host part of my University of Auckland research leave. To my delight, the College approved my application to be a Visiting Fellow for September and October 2015. Corpus, the MAA, and the University of Cambridge have a long tradition of hosting Pacific researchers, and joining institutions like these, even for a short time, is considered a significant step on the *ara poutama*, or ascending stairway to knowledge, for Maori academics like me.

My Corpus Visiting Fellowship research programme had three inter-related projects that comprise parts of a new Maori art history I plan to publish in 2018. The first was to document, by interviewing staff and examining museum publications, the very important role that the MAA has played in revitalising Maori ethnographic collections. The second was to rediscover objects that my tribe had traded for iron and muskets with early Europeans sailors, traders and settlers in the first decades of the nineteenth century. I found one in the Saffron Walden Museum, a beautiful *patu onewa* (chief’s stone club) that may have belonged to my ancestor, Te Pahi. Harder to locate are the many objects we exchanged with Church Mission Society missionaries (some of whom were...
Cambridge matriculants) and were then sent on to the mission’s museum in London. It appears that they were gradually divested from the collection through not being returned from mission fundraising tours, gifting to patrons, and sale to collectors. The hunt for these treasures continues. I also progressed a third project on Maori trade iron by presenting a paper at the ‘Craft and Production in the European Iron Age’ archaeology conference at Magdalene College. I was the ‘wild card’ on the programme, not having worked on Europe, the Iron Age or archaeology. Despite (or perhaps because of) all this, the presentation was well received. Preparation included analysis of the metal-related dialogue my tribespeople, Hongi Hika and Waikato, provided to the linguist Samuel Lee at Queens’ College in 1820 when they worked on an early Maori grammar.

Outside of my research, it was an honour to meet Canon Brian Macdonald-Milne, who sponsors Corpus’s Macdonald-Milne Bursary for Pacific scholars, and also the Reverend James Buxton, who my family and I hosted for part of his visit to New Zealand the following March. We are looking forward to Father James’s return with the College Choir and Master in December.

During my Visiting Fellowship, I produced five draft chapters for my book, something I could never have achieved in Auckland with all of its distractions. I developed new friendships and have been invited back to Cambridge as an MAA Visiting Fellow for 2016 and 2017. In all, I had an exciting and productive time, facilitated by the College. Kia ora rawa atu (thank you very much).
Fellows’ publications

**Philip Bearcroft**


**Sarah Bohndiek**


**Jake Bradley**


**Vickie Braithwaite**


**John Carr**


DOI: 10.1186/s12870-016-0705-8

Christopher Colclough (Life Fellow)

Rune Busk Damgaard

Christopher de Hamel
de Hamel C 2016 Meetings with Remarkable Manuscripts London: Allen Lane

Jean-Pierre Hansen (Life Fellow)

Judy Hirst

William Horbury (Life Fellow)
Christopher J Howe
Lea-Smith DJ, Biller SJ, Davey MP, Cotton CAR, Sepulveda BMP, Turchyn AV, Scanlan DJ, Smith AG, Chisholm SW and Howe CJ 2015 ‘Contribution of cyanobacterial alkane production to the ocean hydrocarbon cycle’ Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 112: 13591–13596
Dorrell RG and Howe CJ 2015 ‘Integration of plastids with their hosts: Lessons learned from dinoflagellates’ Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 112: 10247–10254

Fumiya Iida

Anastasia Kisil

William McGrew

Pontus Rendahl

Hugh Robinson
Keith Seffen

Alison Smith
Lea-Smith DJ, Biller SJ, Davey MP, Cotton CAR, Perez Supulveda BM, Turchyn AV, Scanlan DJ, Smith AG, Chisholm SW and Howe CJ 2015 ‘Contribution of cyanobacterial alkane production to the ocean hydrocarbon cycle’ Proceedings National Academy Sciences USA 112: 13591–13596

Ewan St John Smith
Serra I, Husson Z, Bartlett DJ and Smith ES 2016 ‘Characterization of cutaneous and articular sensory neurons’ Molecular Pain 12: 1–14

James Warren

Sophie Zadeh
Zadeh S, Freeman T and Golombok S 2016 ‘“What does donor mean to a four-year-old?”: initial insights into young children’s perspectives in solo mother families’ Children & Society DOI: 10.1111/chso.12181
The College Year

Senior Tutor’s report

... and finally, a(nother) very good academic year for our younger Corpuscles! A well-balanced combination of extra-curricular and academic fun is, of course, the best way for them to have a wonderful time at Cambridge and, traditionally, in Corpus – and it appears that in the year just concluded our students got it absolutely spot-on. What I have in mind is that they both kept up their musical, theatrical, poetic, and sporting activities, and, more to the point, succeeded in focusing on their academic work hard enough to reap a very large number of first-class results. These impressive achievements were well distributed among subjects; but those deserving special mention for their amazing overall achievements are Anglo-Saxon Norse and Celtic (ASNC), classics, music, philosophy, and among the larger subjects, chemistry, medicine, and modern languages. Some individual students were just extraordinary – in particular Alex Jarvis (ASNC), Sam Sharma (classics) and Tom Bevan (sociology), who all came top of their Tripos list.

A particularly pleasing aspect of these examination results is the exceptionally good performance of our finalists: from their arrival as freshers we’ve already known that they were an outstandingly gifted cohort; and now they and the world at large know this too. And of course, it is always wonderful when, in our statistics, we discover that we’ve done exceptionally well at ‘adding value’ from the first to the final year of their studies. (Admittedly some of them, say Alex Jarvis and Bret Cameron in ASNC, or Lewis Jones and Daniel Eatough in Engineering, or Roma Wells in Sociology and Songyuan Zhao in Physics, emerged with a record entirely composed of firsts from the very start, and that’s very wonderful too!) Under the circumstances it is perhaps unsurprising, but still no less gratifying, that a number of them have chosen to continue their studies in post-graduate courses, at Cambridge and elsewhere.

In the meantime, our expanded programme of outreach activities continues to engage the entire Corpus community. Our undergraduates regularly volunteer to share their experiences of Cambridge and passion for their subject with visiting school students, and even out of the teaching terms the College is constantly teeming with younger faces. In the past year our Fellows and graduate students offered over a dozen one-day subject ‘masterclasses’ for bright year-12 students, designed to offer a taste of university life by giving them challenging
material beyond the A-level curriculum. Given the considerable success of last year’s summer school for women in science, we have repeated that too, with equally happy results.

The next academic year is due to start any minute, and we are now very much looking forward to welcoming a slightly smaller, but diverse and wonderfully talented group of freshers.

Marina Frasca-Spada, Senior Tutor

Leckhampton Life

During the past year, the facilities at Leckhampton have been transformed. The old hall has been replaced with a much larger, lighter and quieter one (capacity was 80, it is now 120), and we have a wonderful new kitchen, and a servery allowing for much more flexibility in terms of dining arrangements. The MCR/Bar area, service corridor and downstairs lavatories have also been completely revamped. Whilst increasing capacity and modernizing the facilities, we were very keen to keep the overall aesthetic and the homely atmosphere. On both counts I think we have been very successful. The facilities were pronounced open by our Visitor, and Chancellor of the University, Lord Sainsbury of Turville, at a reception and lunch in the new Hall on 16 June. We are very grateful to all who contributed to the success of the project – our architect Patrick Ward, our contractors (who kept an immaculate building site), our Clerk of Works Mark Nightingale, our Bursar Tim Harvey-Samuel, who oversaw all the arrangements, and the students who made many valuable contributions in the planning process. I especially appreciated the input of Professor Peter Carolin who made a fantastic contribution at every stage. Peter’s account of the project appears elsewhere in The Letter.

As a result of all the work on the site, we had a very different kind of Leckhampton year, with fewer social and intellectual activities taking place on site, no dining and a much reduced bar service. We made up for this by moving the Tuesday sit-down dinner to the Old House, whilst preserving the informal atmosphere of Leckhampton (no gowns or graces, though we did of course keep the ‘Leckhampton Silence’ before diving into our food!). We also added extra social and academic opportunities on Tuesday evenings, to entice students into participating. Although we missed our own Leckhampton facilities it turned out to be a memorable year in the life of the community, with a high level of participation. And of course, as ever, Corpus grads are involved in all aspects of College, and their involvement remained just as strong this year, whether on the sports field or the river, in drama, music and chapel, and not forgetting the pleasures of dining and the College bar.

We had some outstanding Stephen Hales talks, including a deeply thought-provoking and candid one by Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent (Honorary Fellow). Dr Sarah Bohndiek (Fellow) introduced us to the role of light in innovative cancer treatments, and this year’s Fellow Commoner, Tim Sebastian, allowed himself to be grilled by me on a career in journalism and broadcasting.
There were fascinating talks by graduate students in the Leckhampton Society talks, and a ‘thesis competition’ where a number of students gave five-minute summaries of their work.

For all the extra work and creativity involved in keeping things sociable for graduate students in the past year, I would like to thank Erwan Rolland, our MCR President, and the whole MCR committee. Their friendliness, welcome and organization will be essential in rebuilding community at Leckhampton, as new students arrive in September. Thanks also go to our gardeners for keeping our grounds looking so amazing, our domestic team for keeping us clean and tidy, and two members of staff who have contributed so much in their first year at Corpus – Aldona Maliszewska-Tomlin, Leckhampton Site Manager, and Tessa Milne, Graduate Secretary. The maintenance team have also done us proud, working closely with the contractors over the past year, and doing a lot of work to get things up and running once the project was complete. We are fortunate indeed in having such a strong team.

The Revd. James Buxton, Warden of Leckhampton

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Bursary matters

Finances in surplus

It is a great pleasure to report that for the year ended 30 June 2015 the College reported a surplus of £928k. This is our fourth consecutive year of surplus and represents the continuing fruit of income growth (+2.6%) combined with strong expense control (+1.1%). Donations and benefactions reached £3.2m, and we continue to be profoundly grateful for the remarkable generosity of our benefactors; their contribution is instrumental to our capability to continue our mission. We continued to set new records for external conference and catering income (£1.2m) and have now formed a wholly-owned subsidiary to manage our growing corporate conference and catering business. The successful growth of this business in an intensely competitive local market is testimony to the skills of our talented teams led by Sarah Wordsworth and Chris Le Vien. Academic fee income grew by 3.3% as a result of a modest increase in student numbers, as envisaged in the College’s strategic plan. We expect to report an operating surplus in the year just finished; however with the adoption of new accounting standards (FRS 102) significant changes in the financial presentation methodology for Charities, to which Colleges are subject, will reduce comparability with prior years. The changes mainly concern income presentation, notably all unrealised gains and losses in the Endowment are to be presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (I&E) and all donations (including those for capital projects which have hitherto been reflected as deferred capital grants in the balance sheet) will also pass through the I&E. While these are largely technical changes they will add unhelpful volatility to the I&E account which has served as a good measure of our operational discipline as we have sought to improve the College’s financial resilience in recent years.
...the endowment showing gains
At 30 June 2015 the endowment stood at £94.8m, a growth in the capital value of 8.5% over the year. The total return was 9.1% which beat our composite benchmark return of 5.8%, the FTSE-100, which returned 0.7% and the ARC Balanced Charities Index which returned 5%. Strong performers were our property holdings and the Cambridge University Endowment Fund (in which we increased our investment over the year). The year just ended has been notably more volatile but we still expect to post positive returns well above our Spending Rule target when we report in November. The diversity of our portfolio by asset class and currency has helped to protect value, and our non-sterling assets (and holdings in UK exporters) have shown particularly strong post-Brexit performance. We remain fairly conservatively positioned given the many risks and distortions in investment markets arising from the extraordinary central bank policies of recent years. Lars Kalbreier completed his five-year term on the Investment Committee and I would like to thank him for much wise advice over that time. He will be replaced by Sophia Whitbread.

...and projects completed and being planned
The year just ended has been notable for our completion of the new Dining Hall and Kitchens at Leckhampton. There is more detail on this project in Professor Carolin's illuminating article elsewhere in The Letter. Suffice to say that the project was on time and on budget, and the project team worked extremely well together to deliver this outcome. Early reaction to the new hall from Students and Fellows has been most encouraging. Mark Nightingale, Clerk of Works, led the day to day co-ordination with the external team magnificently; Patrick Ward of Haysom Ward Miller was a visionary and responsive architect; and Regent Construction worked with the College as real partners. The project marks the third and final successful collaboration with our quantity surveyor and project manager, Piers Willmott of Kirkby Diamond, who enters a well-earned retirement. Having invested c£10m in upgrading facilities at Leckhampton in recent years, we are now in detailed planning for the redesign and refurbishment of the medieval hall, kitchens and dining hall ceiling in Old House. This is an exceptionally necessary, challenging, delicate and expensive project on which I will report in more depth next year. Further detail is also in Peter Carolin’s article.

The College also created four new student rooms in Botolph Court through the conversion of two units of low-yielding retail commercial property. E Staircase in New Court was comprehensively refurbished and recabled, the first manifestation of a rolling improvement programme in Old House which will occupy several years. Our stock of Fellows’ accommodation has been much enhanced by the conversion of Oliver Rackham’s house in Newnham into two Fellows’ flats which will be completed in 2016. This is a crucial addition to our housing stock and hopefully will inspire future occupants to levels of distinction comparable to those achieved by the benefactor!

This has been an exceptionally busy year and we have many challenges ahead to position the College as robustly as possible to cope with the inevitable changes in the Higher Education and investment environment which will arise
from Brexit. We also have to complete some very demanding refurbishment projects in Old House in order to maintain and upgrade the College’s fabric. Our staff have demonstrated consistent and profound professionalism, thoughtfulness and commitment throughout the year. I am exceptionally grateful for their excellence and partnership.

Tim Harvey-Samuel, Bursar

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The Chapel

The culmination of this year’s worship in Chapel was a wonderful celebration of Corpus Christi Day, made extra special this year because it coincided with the Feast of Saint Augustine (26 May). Bishop Geoffrey Rowell (m. 1961) presided and preached at Holy Communion, which began with a joyous procession from St Catharine’s College. The choirs of both colleges sang beautifully together. During the service, Christopher de Hamel (Donnelley Fellow Librarian) read from the Gospels of Saint Augustine, the College’s most precious possession. As far as we know this particular manuscript had not been read from in the liturgy for well over a thousand years. We have had many other memorable events in chapel, including a glorious performance of Handel’s Messiah at the end of the Lent Term, and some notable preachers – including the Archbishop of Wales, the Bishop of St Albans, Canon Alan Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner), The Revd Alice Goodman (eminent librettist and Rector of Fulbourn and the Wilbrahams (a College living)), and Professor John Riches (m. 1958). On 14 February (St Valentine’s Day) it was a great delight to welcome back to the chapel 20 of the couples who married there over the past nine years.
In Lent Term, Dr Ayla Lepine (ordinand and art historian) and I led a seven part exploration of Christianity through art and architecture, making full use of the marvellous visual resources offered by Cambridge churches and chapels, and the Fitzwilliam Museum. As usual in term time, we have had Monday evening meetings in my rooms: we have watched films, held Bible studies and discussions and had some fascinating talks, such as from Jonathan Rugman, Channel 4 journalist, who spoke movingly to us on the day after Remembrance Sunday, about his experiences reporting on conflict in Iraq.

It has also been a year of trips, retreats and expeditions. Last September (2015) I led a group of 18 students to the Holy Land for a wonderful and fascinating nine day trip, in which we stayed in Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Nazareth. This September a similar sized group will be travelling to Georgia in the Caucasus. Closer to home, for our January retreat we had a spiritually very rewarding three day pilgrimage to Walsingham in Norfolk. Then during the Easter vac, Bishop Mike Bourke (m. 1960) and I arranged a week’s ‘reading party’ for 12 students on the Llyn Peninsula. This was a terrific combination of study, meals together, discussion, general hilarity, and Bishop Mike’s talks on the work of the poet-prophet-priest R S Thomas, who was a parish priest close by.

I also did quite a lot of College-related travelling on my own. In January I visited Roslyn in Scotland, where my predecessor as Dean of Chapel, Roland Walls, was the parish priest, and then superior of the Community of the Transfiguration, which he founded in 1965. Roland died in 2011, and I was sorry never to have met him. However, I was able to visit his great friend and fellow monk Fr John Halsey, the last member of the Community who continues to live in the area. It was fascinating to hear about the Community, Roland himself and the small number of devoted monastics who joined him in this unique experiment in monastic living. In March I travelled to Singapore, New Zealand and Hong Kong. It was a pleasure to meet up with a great many Old Members of the College, and to get to know these fascinating places. In December this year, I shall be visiting them again, as we undertake an adventurous tour with the Master and the College Choir.

I would like to conclude with thanks to all those who have made chapel life so rich and varied over the past year. Among them, Dom Cawdell, who was chapel Clerk for two years, and has been a marvellous occupant of this important role. He has now begun training for the Priesthood at St Padarn’s, Llandaff. I am also grateful to our other ‘retiring’ Clerk, Sarah Wilson, and to Mark Erridge who has been our sacristan in the past year. We are sorry to see Graham Walker leave, and we thank him for all he has done for our choir as Director of Music over the past two years. We are delighted to welcome his successor Robin Walker. Friend of the Chapel and noted ecclesiastical tailor Dianne Kelley (who also makes costumes for West End shows) sewed us a beautiful purple chasuble. I am grateful to her for the gift of her time and talent. The Master and Sibella, as ever have offered so much support and hospitality this year – many thanks to them too. Thanks be to God for all this enthusiasm, energy, prayer and good will.

Old Members are warmly invited to all our services – it is always good to see you. Please keep the important ministry of the College Chapel in your prayers.
Baptism and Confirmation
Evelyn Jane Hallam, staff member’s granddaughter; Baptism 15 November 2015
Freddie Jay Pearson, staff member’s son; Baptism 14 February 2016
Ben Fleming, Master’s grandson; Baptism 5 March 2016
Lucas Greenslade, Chapel Clerk; Confirmation 11 May 2016
Tabitha Hearn, Graduate Student’s daughter; Baptism 15 May 2016

Weddings in Chapel 2015–2016
Jonathan Hughes (m. 2006) and Rebecca Mullen (m. 2006); 12 December 2015
Roger Hodkinson (m. 1962) and Nicole Beaudoin; 15 December 2015
Lucy Sherratt (m. 2013) and Matthew Durrant; 31 March 2016
Christoph Pretzer (current graduate student) and Bernadette Stolz; 8 August 2016
Sam Galson (m. 2005) and Madeleine Jones; 27 August 2016
Norah Fogarty (m. 2009) and Michael Deacon (m. 2009); 3 September 2016

Parker Preachers
2015–2016 The Revd Dr Andrew Lenox-Conyngham (m. 1967)
2016–2017 The Revd Paul Butler, Associate Vicar, Waterbeach and Landbeach
(College living)

Chapel Choir and College Music
Music at Corpus has continued to flourish this year, thanks to the energy and
talent of our amazing students.

The College Choir began its year with the Matriculation service. According
to tradition, many of those students who had graduated in the summer returned
to sing. This meant that the chapel was truly filled with music as well as with
congregants, providing a glorious start to the year. Both musically and interpersonally, the new singers who joined us in Michaelmas blended beautifully with
the existing members, resulting in a harmonious year in more than one sense!

Beyond the regular chapel services and traditional highlights (such as the
ever-popular Carol Service), the year was blessed with various special events.
The end of November saw the Choir singing a concert programme in the College
living of Great Braxted in Essex. In Lent, another concert was rewarded with
wonderful hospitality from the congregation of All Saints, Landbeach (another
College living). At the end of term we repeated the enormously successful Alumni
Concert: as in 2015, many Old Members swelled the ranks of the Choir, this time
for a stirring performance of Handel’s Messiah, accompanied by the Cambridge
Baroque Camerata. We continue to be most grateful to the ACE Foundation,
who, as well as providing regular financial help for the post of Director of Music
in College, also gave much-needed support for this ambitious venture.

The College Choir obviously enjoys a high profile in the musical life of the
College, but there are also many events promoted by the Bene’t Club which
contribute and bring diversity to that life. Prominent amongst these are the
concerts generously hosted by the Master and Sibella in the Lodge, after Hall on
various Sunday evenings throughout the year, and the flourishing Acoustic Nights at the Pelican Bar. Another real highlight of the year came early in the Michaelmas Term when Param Vir, an eminent Anglo-Indian composer, gave a lecture organised by the Bene’t Club which was attended by numerous student composers and others from around the University.

The year’s music in College found its grand finale in another sterling May Week concert, organised by the Bene’t Club. A remarkable selection of new compositions by Corpuscle were premiered to great acclaim. One of these, Kamermusik by Paul Newton-Jackson, was performed by ECCO, the new joint orchestra made up of students from Corpus and Emmanuel. This impressive ensemble, initiated from within the student body, also performed two movements from Mozart’s Symphony No. 40, and the slow movement of his Clarinet Concerto (with the solo beautifully rendered by third-year Helen McKeown) as well as Beethoven’s Romance in F for Violin and Orchestra with our first year Instrumental Award Holder, Alexander Gunasekera.

And there was more to come: the College Choir left for Northern France shortly after Graduation. They were hosted first by the family of one of our choristers, Aurélien Guéroult, and then by the monks and nuns of the Abbey of Le Bec Hellouin, near Rouen. It was a true privilege to be able to spend time with these closed religious bodies, singing with and for them in their daily offices. After a short stay in Rouen and an informal concert in the cathedral there, the Choir travelled to Paris. Various performances in the city and surrounding area culminated in a memorable recital in Notre Dame.

As I prepare to leave Corpus, I take with me the memories of this trip and of all the wonderful music I have been fortunate to be part of. I am grateful to all who have supported each aspect of the musical life of the College, Fellows, staff and students alike, and wish my successor Robin Walker (no relation!) every happiness and success.

Graham Walker, Director of Music

The College Chapel Choir in Notre Dame, Paris (photo: Heppy Longworth)
The Libraries

Matthew Parker entrusted his library to Corpus in August 1574 and, as far as we know, every volume included is still accounted for. The formal audit of the collection for 2016 was conducted by the Fellow Librarian of Gonville and Caius College, the would-be recipients of Parker’s bequest if we should ever fail in our custody. It is a relief to report that we were declared safe for another year. Moreover, there are books which Parker never gave us. The most striking omission was any copy of the so-called Bishops’ Bible. This was the new edition of the Scriptures in the English language, edited and largely translated by Parker himself, published in 1568. We have many original letters relating to the enterprise, but no copy of the book itself. In November 2015 a volume of the first quarto edition (1569) came up for sale at Sotheby’s in New York – not any copy but the actual volume elaborately bound and decorated for Matthew Parker himself, presumably retained by his family after his death. After quick consultation, it was bought for the Parker Library, with funds generously provided by Gifford Combs and Harlan Crow. It was displayed at the symposium in the Library, ‘Matthew Parker, Archbishop, Scholar, Collector’, held on 17–19 March 2016.

The Parker Library also acquired a major illuminated manuscript this year, perhaps the most important English monastic manuscript added since Parker’s death. This is a spectacular fifteenth-century Psalter made for Syon Abbey, given to the Library by Mr and Mrs James E. Ferrell in honour of Christopher de Hamel. Syon was the only Bridgettine monastery in England, unique in including both monks and nuns. Its last prior, Richard Reynolds, a canonised saint and martyr, was a Fellow of Corpus. Further additions to the Library’s resources also include a notable collection of original editions of Reformation texts, entrusted on long-term loan from the Longuet-Higgins family, including copies of Tyndale (1530), Erasmus (1540), Melanchthon (1541), Coverdale (1545), Luther and Cranmer (both 1548). The timing is wonderful, for the Parker Library has been involved with exhibitions and events to coincide with the imminent 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, commemorating Luther’s publication of his 95 Theses on the church door of Wittenberg in 1517.

The sixth-century Gospel Book of Saint Augustine had a rare trip to Canterbury Cathedral in mid-January. It had been requested by the Archbishop of Canterbury to be present at the meeting of all the primates of the Anglican Communion worldwide, convened to discuss the future of the Church. It was exhibited beside the original ivory crozier of Saint Gregory, lent by the Holy See in Rome, representing the primeval foundation of the Church in England in 597, based on pastoral care and on the Gospels.

Not everything is an addition. The Parker Library suffers a loss from September 2016 when Steven Archer, curator in the Library, leaves to take up the prestigious post of College Librarian at Christ Church, Oxford. Beth Dumas, assistant librarian, will remain in daily charge. The author of the present report, Christopher de Hamel, will retire as Fellow Librarian at the end of 2016, after sixteen exhilarating years among Parker’s manuscripts.
The Taylor Library too is losing its much-admired librarian. Rebecca Gower has been appointed as the first Collection Development and Academic Liaison Librarian in the University Library. Joe Sandham succeeds her as Taylor Librarian. Between them, Rebecca and Joe have massively recatalogued and updated the Library’s on-line records, adding many thousands of new volumes, frequently bought as a result of specific requests from students. The total number of volumes in the Taylor Library now stands at about 37,000. The busiest single day of the Library in 2016 was 10 April, when 1,083 books were out on loan. A survey this year revealed that 24% of undergraduates use the Library every day, and a further 20% most days. The tea served in the Taylor Library during exam term is still regarded by many as a memorable part of the College experience.

Christopher De Hamel, Donnelly Fellow Librarian

Development and Communications Office

The past academic year has seen a number of important staff changes in the Development Office. Sarah Gordon left us to become deputy development director at the Perse School, Lucy Sparke returned from maternity leave and takes up a new position of Alumni Fund and Legacy Manager, and Elizabeth Abusleme is now full time and is Communications and Alumni Relations Officer. She is now responsible for our publications including The Pelican. We also appointed Imogen Franklin, a recent Corpus graduate, as Major Gifts Officer. Many Old Members will remember talking to Imogen during our telephone campaigns when she was a student caller, and hopefully will enjoy meeting her even more. Her perspective as a recent student brings an extra dimension into the office and we look forward to having her as part of our team.

The Master and I had an enjoyable trip to New York in April during which we met a number of Old Members and hosted a dinner. The Master also gave a very well received talk for Cambridge in America at the Harvard Club on his current research entitled Slavery; have the chains been buried? He wove historical research on slavery and current day experience in Gulf countries together in a highly interesting lecture which drew numerous questions and comments from the audience.
During the year we enjoyed an interesting collaboration with POLIS, the University’s Department of Politics and International Studies. We co-hosted a number of debates and lectures with the Forum for Geopolitics, and in April Tim Sebastian, our Fellow Commoner, interviewed South African Judge Navi Pillay to a packed audience. Navi Pillay was the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and a judge on the International Criminal Court. She stayed in Corpus for three days, met and talked with students and gave a fascinating interview with Tim Sebastian.

This September we will be hosting another collaborative event with the Forum; Philippe Sands QC (m. 1979) will be giving a talk in the McCrum theatre entitled Thinking about Genocide as part of the Alumni Festival. Philippe’s recent book East West Street has been greeted with great acclaim and extremely positive reviews.

Last October we held the first ever Over-90s lunch in the Master’s Lodge. We suspected our alumni were a hardy lot but even we were surprised at the numbers who turned up, all of whom matriculated in the 1940s or earlier. Well over 30 people came to the lunch – including guests – and enjoyed seeing old friends, reminding one another of what College had been like post-war, of past pranks and remembering those who have died. We had a very good lunch in the Lodge and we will be holding the lunch again this coming October.
In July we held our first Summer Party at Leckhampton, our first event open to Old Members and their families. We decided on a picnic format, with everyone bringing their own picnic, and we provided teas and coffees and strawberries and cream. We invited a number of artists and craft specialists to take stalls and we arranged entertainments, including balloon magic, face painting and games. Graduate students and research associates gave short talks on their research, and one, a specialist in botany, gave tours of the wonderful gardens. Over 300 people came, filling the gardens with clusters of picnickers, children and even dogs. We were lucky with the weather which helped, but the main comment was how lovely it was to be able to bring the whole family to something at Corpus, and how much people hoped it would be an annual event. Look out for the ‘save the date’ announcement for next year’s party.
We continue to be extremely grateful and appreciative for the financial support we get from our Old Members and friends. The total for the financial year was £2.5m raised, in cash and new pledges. The loyalty of our alumni helps us get ever closer to our goals of funding academic posts, student bursaries, maintenance and restoration of buildings, and access and outreach. These are all essential core needs of the college, and yet as public funding diminishes and pressure grows on students to take out student loans and other debts, the need to fund-raise grows by the day. The University’s campaign is in full swing, and every college is actively trying to bridge the shortfalls in critical funding as well as creating new teaching and research posts, enabling more students to come to Cambridge by supporting them financially, and taking care of our beautiful buildings. Corpus has a proud tradition of raising funds from its alumni to meet its needs and aspirations, and we are confident that with the generosity and support of our Old Members and friends, we will raise the remaining £13m of our £30m target.

I will be visiting Singapore and Hong Kong at the beginning of December to meet alumni and encourage more people to get involved in the campaign. The Master, Dean of Chapel and Choir start a three week tour of Singapore, New Zealand and Hong Kong at the same time, and we will overlap briefly in Singapore. I hope to meet as many Old Members as possible while I’m out there, and please look out for details of the choir tour – our first of South East Asia and New Zealand.

Elizabeth Winter, Director of Development and Communications

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Staff matters

The Master has written in Domus of our great sadness at Vanessa Addison’s passing and I echo his comments. Vanessa’s loss has been an immense shock to our community and we are endeavouring to support her family to the utmost.

Jan Leaver has retired as Senior Tutorial Administrator after an extremely successful 15 years during which she has won awards for the quality of her care of our students (as voted by the students themselves). She is succeeded by Wendy Klein who comes to Corpus having occupied similar roles at Murray Edwards and Peterhouse. Aldona Maliszewska-Tomlin has made an excellent start as Leckhampton Site Manager, replacing Michael Martin whose departure was reported last year. Within the kitchens Antonio Nunes has departed after 17 years as a kitchen porter. There have been several other departmental moves over summer 2016; Joe Sandham has been appointed as Taylor Librarian, succeeding Rebecca Gower who joins the University Library as Librarian for Collection Development and Academic Liaison. Robin Walker has been appointed Director of Music in succession to Graham Walker. Ian Yates joins Corpus as Information Services & Technology Manager from the British Trust for Ornithology in succession to Andrew Baughan; and Steven Archer has left Corpus to become College Librarian at Christ Church, Oxford; we are indeed fortunate to have Beth Dumas stepping up to provide expertise in the Parker Library.

Tim Harvey-Samuel, Bursar
The Corpus trip (pilgrimage) to Georgia, 9–18 September 2016

Of Georgia we had little knowledge and confused expectations. It is on the Silk Road and an entrance to Central Asia. Jason and the Argonauts travelled to the Eastern end of the Black Sea and then inland to its ancient capital Aia to take the Golden Fleece. To its northern neighbour, Russia, it lost two significant territories in wars since 1991. It has an Eastern Orthodox Christian church. Is Georgia of the East or West?

The eyes of the 18 fellows, Master, spouses, students and alumni were opened in a deeply rewarding trip led by our intrepid Dean of Chapel, James Buxton. In fact, we were thrice fortunate: we had an excellent local guide, expert in ecclesiastical matters, in art and in political history. A third guide was James’s father, David. As a student in 1933, he had walked through the High Caucasus Mountains from Russia to near Tbilisi to study the Georgian Orthodox churches of the Trans-Caucasus. We had his recently republished book of 1933, and his travel journal of the frontier life of the High Caucasus and the historic times of newly post-revolutionary Russia. Retracing his footsteps, and visiting churches and monasteries, some up to 1400 years old, was indeed moving.

Tbilisi (or Tiflis), 1400 km east of Istanbul, presents itself much as a sophisticated eastern European capital, but it also has churches of distinctive eastern architecture, especially those with cruciform domes that we would come to so admire. Indeed, our very first visit was to take us to a different world, that of the Georgian Orthodox liturgy.

From the 5000m high Caucasus in the north at the Russian border, the land of the Golden Fleece in the West, the wine harvest of the Eastern valley, and the high desert escarpments on the SE border with Azerbaijan, it was an astonishing journey into 5000 years of history, 1700 years of Georgian Orthodoxy, the tides of Persian, Turk, Mongol and Russian invasions, and into the present geopolitical turmoil. Two of many highlights: in the 6th century a Syrian father founded the David-Gareji Monastery high on today’s border with Azerbaijan. With stupendous views into the desert, we walked along a rock face with elements of the monastery carved out of stone and decorated in the 9th and 10th centuries. See the group in front of the Last Supper. In the land of the Golden Fleece, we visited the remote and beautiful 12th century Gelati Monastery with its wonderful cathedral and early academy building, to which scholars had flocked.

Mark Warner

Far left, Fresco of the Last Supper at David-Gareji cave monastery, south-east Georgia (photo: Ayla Lepine)
Left, Fresco of Madonna and Child at Gelati Monastery, western Georgia (photo: Ayla Lepine)
Postgraduates

An Earthquake and an Engineer

Kristen MacAskill

Kristen MacAskill describes how an earthquake in her hometown served to influence her career as an engineer.

At 2.30am I sit with my laptop in 23 Cranmer feeling helpless as I watch video footage of a dust cloud rising around the crumbling cathedral in the city square. An earthquake has hit my hometown of Christchurch, New Zealand, and all I can do is scan the internet for snippets of information. Mild panic rises in my stomach; I have had no news of my family.

I had been woken by a text from a friend but there were no other messages, emails or missed calls. Finally I reach my mum on her mobile phone as she emerges from a central city building. She had spent three hours stuck on the tenth floor with no power, an incessant fire alarm and no safe way out. Firemen arrived to help her and stranded colleagues negotiate the dark internal stairwells that had pulled away from the walls, with water pouring from broken water pipes above.

We speak only briefly to keep the airways free for others, but I at least learn that my immediate family are okay. After the boost of adrenaline, I can’t sleep. A few hours later, feeling a little lost, I set off for rowing training as life around me in Cambridge surreally continues as normal.

That was 2011 and at the time I was completing an MPhil degree in the Engineering Department. Following my degree, I returned to New Zealand to work on the reconstruction of Christchurch, feeling motivated that as an engineer I could contribute towards rebuilding the city.

I experienced the aftershocks (which numbered in the thousands) and became adept at estimating the epicentre through the sound and feel of the shaking. Life was fairly normal living on the western side of the city where there was minimal damage. However, I worked in badly damaged areas in the east, where houses had tilted on their foundations and the roads were rough and potholed from liquefaction damage.

Part way through the year I was offered funding for a PhD back in Cambridge. I saw an opportunity to research the reconstruction as it progressed and to

Kristen MacAskill has recently completed her PhD in engineering, supervised by Professor Peter Guthrie.
capture insights as to why and how decisions were made. I believed I could continue to make a meaningful contribution, albeit shifting to the role of observer rather than as a direct participant in the recovery process.

I returned to Corpus to take up my PhD studies. My research involved visiting Christchurch for fieldwork each year, interviewing engineers, executives, political leaders and other professionals involved in planning and implementing the reconstruction.

The initial shift from practitioner to researcher was a personal challenge. I felt I had to prove my relevance to the rebuild effort to those dealing with the stresses and challenges of the process every day. However, my fears gradually dissipated – I was welcomed back and people were happy to spend time with me to reflect on their experiences. Sometimes it was also a chance to vent their frustrations.

I had initially considered conducting multiple case studies around the world, but soon realised the value of a longer-term study in Christchurch to capture changes over time. Also, as a PhD student with limited time and budget, it made sense to work in a region where I had a good understanding of the politics and the culture and a connection to people through shared experience.

Securing interviews with critical decision-makers involved planning (sometimes years in the process) and a little luck. During field visits I had an allocated desk at one of the major recovery organisations and attended community and industry events. This meant I could immerse myself in recovery discussions and I had opportunities to join meetings simply because I was in the office at the right time.

On my final visit I met with the central government minister in charge of the recovery. We discussed major decisions made by the government in response to the earthquakes. This included the establishment of new legislation, the creation of new organisations to lead the recovery and the red zoning of residential land,
where approximately 8,000 residential properties now sit empty as their future is debated.

One of the many challenges of the recovery was the need to create new organisations to lead the process and to interpret ambiguous policy statements regarding funding commitments. Although there were long processes of negotiation (establishing clear funding arrangements, for example, took years), a pre-defined, prescriptive approach could have been equally unsatisfactory.

Five years into the recovery, there is a lingering question over how to be better prepared in the future. There is a need to create policies that provide both appropriate clear guidance and flexibility to respond to specific circumstances. This remains the subject of much debate in New Zealand. Despite the country’s relatively advanced system for emergency management, it was caught off-guard by a large earthquake in Christchurch.

My research has shown that while post-disaster reconstruction may be considered an opportunity to rebuild more resilient infrastructure, many potential opportunities may be excluded. Contributing factors include financial constraints, limits in scope of organisations involved and the inherent challenge of introducing change to communities, particularly in the time-constrained context of recovery.

With a better understanding of such factors, we can gain better insight into the effectiveness of different decisions and subsequent pathways for recovery.

Kristen was primarily funded through a Cambridge International Scholarship from the Cambridge Trusts. She also received small grants from the Earthquake Commission in New Zealand, the Department of Engineering, Corpus Christi College and the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Her PhD was supervised by Professor Peter Guthrie.
Approved for PhD

BO Anonye Rational selection of bacteriotherapy candidates for the treatment of recurrent Clostridium difficile infection
SJ Barton A history of policy signals and market responses in Zambia's relationship with foreign capital
EF Baxter The amorphization of zeolitic imidazolate frameworks
EK Bielczyk-Maczynska Functional characterization of novel regulators of haematopoiesis in Danio rerio
JR Faasse Essays on accounting disclosure and corporate governance
MA Ferreira Devesas Campos Mendler induction and classical logic
S Fexova Investigating roles of Notch and Notch target genes in the regulation of apoptosis and regeneration in Drosophila melanogaster
PJ Garsed High power wide bandgap cascode switching circuits
R Grant An aurora kinase A interactome screen reveals non-mitotic roles in mitochondrial regulation
D Grogono Mycobacterium abscessus infection in patients with Cystic Fibrosis
RR Harries The future of documentary: time, ethics and politics in recent European documentary film
TJ Hearn Genetic dissection of the effect of nicotinamide on the Arabidopsis thaliana circadian clock
RE Jackson Freedom, formation, and human particularity: the roots of Friedrich Schleiermacher's theology of finitude
CR John Gene expression associated with the evolution of C4 photosynthesis
PV Kleppmann Free groups and the axiom of choice
LT Lentati Searching for weak signals from the distant universe
AD Ming Dynamical and radiative processes in the upper troposphere/lower stratosphere
CJ Moore Gravitational waves: understanding black holes
SM Muminov Eleven winters of discontent: the Siberian internment and the making of the New Japan, 1945–1956
D O'Connor Performance of soil mix technology low permeability reactive in-ground barrier walls for contaminated land applications
M Pasternak RNAi screen for meiotic genes in mammals reveals BTG4 as a novel regulator of meiosis
SPJ Robins The political thought of John Gillies
SS Savov An experimental investigation of gas turbine rotor-stator cavity purge flow
AM Szewczak Structural studies of the bacterial MreBCD complex
M Xu Disorder and rebellion in Cambridgeshire in 1381
## Prizes and awards 2015–16

### University Tripos Prizes

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<td>HM Chadwick Prize (Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic)</td>
<td>Alex Jarvis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Arthur Thomas Prize (Classics)</td>
<td>Flis O’Toole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members’ Classical Essay Prize for Part II dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wace Medal (Classics)</td>
<td>Sam Sharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polity Prize for best performance in Part IIA Sociology</td>
<td>Tom Bevan</td>
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<tr>
<td>(History and Philosophy of Science)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyson Medal (Mathematics)</td>
<td>Theodor Bjorkmo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanist Prize (Modern and Medieval Languages)</td>
<td>Dillon Mapletoft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whalley Prize (Modern and Medieval Languages)</td>
<td>Tom Nchleba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two BP Prizes for the most outstanding performance in Part IB in both Chemistry A and B (Natural Sciences)</td>
<td>Andreea Filip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theological Studies Prize (Theology)</td>
<td>Dom Cawdell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheikh Zayed Prize (Theology)</td>
<td>Hina Khalid</td>
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### College Awards, Elections and Prizes

#### Foundation Scholarships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>Sam Sharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Lewis Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Jack Wang</td>
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<tr>
<td>History and Philosophy of Science</td>
<td>Tom Bevan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (Chemistry)</td>
<td>Andreea Filip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (Physics)</td>
<td>Tom Else</td>
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#### Bishop Green Cups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>Sam Sharma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic</td>
<td>Alex Jarvis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Fourth Year Undergraduates

**Boorman Prizes**
For Modern and Medieval Languages
Dillon Mapleton
Tom Nechleba

**Caldwell Prize**
For Engineering
Daniel Eatough

**Carter Prizes**
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Sky Kang
For Natural Sciences (Physics)
Ryan Potter

Third Year Undergraduates

**Scholarship and Avory/Halse Prize**
For Law
Laura Monaghan

**Scholarships and Boorman Prizes**
For History and Philosophy of Science
Kerry Mackereth
Nina Moron
Roma Wells
For Linguistics
Jasmine Hackett
For Mathematics
Joe Lidbetter
Emma Russell

**Scholarships and Caldwell Prizes**
For English
Abi Bleach
Lucy Doddrell
Daniel Huf
Jamie Rycroft

**Scholarships and Carter Prizes**
For Natural Sciences (Biology)
Sophie Mathias
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Tom Andrews
Oli Manners
For Natural Sciences (Physics)
Matthew Ball
Songyuan Zhao

**Scholarships and Corpus Prizes**
For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic
Bret Cameron
Alex Jarvis
For Psychological and Behavioural Sciences
Cheryl Foo
For Computer Sciences
Oscar Key

**Scholarships and Cowell Prizes**
For Classics
Sam Sharma
Hattie Wilson
Scholarships and Lawton Prizes
For Theology
Dom Cawdell
Ed Tozer

Scholarships and Maull Prizes
For Engineering
Lewis Jones
James McBride

Scholarships and Perowne Prizes
For History
Jamie Parker
For History of Art
Joanna Vymeris

Scholarship and Styler prize
For Music
Helen McKeown

Second Year Undergraduates

Scholarship and Almeric Paget Prize
For Economics
Matin Khadem

Scholarship and Avory/Halse Prize
For Law
Emily Bodger

Scholarship and Bailey Prize
For Engineering
Rhiannon Evans
Jack Wang
Ed Wheatcroft

Scholarships and Boorman Prizes
For History and Philosophy of Science
Tom Bevan
Isabella Hadjisavvas
For Mathematics
Amy Zhu

Scholarships and Carter Prizes
For Natural Sciences (Biology)
Abi Rees
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Andreea Filip
Kev Wong
Tim Ekeh
For Natural Sciences (Physics)
Vandan Parmar
Ben Seddon

Scholarships and Corpus Prizes
For Computer Science
Angus Hammond
For Philosophy
Reuben Oreffo

Scholarship and Cowell Prize
For Classics
Flis O’Toole
Scholarships and Purvis Prizes
For Theology
Harrison Jones
Hina Khalid

Scholarship and Sowton Prize
For Medicine
Hong Kai Lim

Scholarship and Styler Prize
For Music
Paul Newton-Jackson

First-year Undergraduates

Scholarship and Almeric Paget Prize
For Economics
Yu Xin Ang

Scholarship and Avory/Halse Prize
For Law
Giuseppe Jafari

Scholarships and Boorman Prizes
For History and Philosophy of Science
Caiban Butcher
For Mathematics
Jacob Bradley
For Modern and Medieval Languages
Claire Cosgrove
Rhys Locke
Esme O’Keeffe
David Nunn

Scholarships and Carter Prizes
For Geography
Alice Millington
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Alex Gunasekera
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
David Thompson
For Natural Sciences (Physics)
Matthew Watling-Read
Thomas Else

Scholarships and Corpus Prizes
For Philosophy
Kathryn Burns
Freddie Raymond
Robin Allez
Eve McCormick

Scholarship and Cowell Prize
For Classics
George Pliotis

Scholarship and Dewhurst Prize
For Engineering
Daisy Tyrer
Scholarships and Sowton Prizes
For Medicine
Tony Lopez
Tanmay Sukthanka
Heng Chun Wong

Other Undergraduate Prizes

Corpus Prizes
Awarded to undergraduates who have come top in Tripos

For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic
Alex Jarvis
For Classics
Sam Sharma
For History and Philosophy of Science
Tom Bevan

Spencer Exhibitions
On the nomination of the Master

For outstanding services to the life of the Chapel
Dom Cawdell
For Access Committee work
Chris Matthews

Intermediate Exhibitions
Awarded to undergraduates remaining in residence for at least one further year who show first-class potential but who narrowly miss a first class in their examinations and would not otherwise hold any award

For Engineering
Mark Allingham
George Hopes
For English
Lana Crowe
Catherine Chang
For Geography
Noah Harley
Herman Lam
For History
Sarah Wilson
For Law
Harrison Fookes
For Medieval and Modern Languages
Harry Sellen
For Natural Sciences (Biology)
Lara Busby
Ella McKelvey
For Natural Sciences (Biochemistry)
Stuart Harrison

Corpus Prizes
For those in their final year who achieved first-class marks for a dissertation or project, but did not obtain first-class results overall

For Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Seb Fagan
For Engineering
Luke Bounds
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Ryan Ackroyd
For Natural Sciences (Physical Sciences)
Caroline Purvis
Hewitt Exhibitions
On the nomination of the Tutors, for academic merit and contribution to College life by those graduating in their third or fourth year who are not otherwise scholars

JCR President
Kenza Bryan
For services to the JCR, Welfare and Access
Jonathon Cushenan

The Moule Prize
For unseen translation from the classical languages

First Prize
Flis O’Toole
Second Prize
Ben Waters

The Fanshawe Prize
For prose composition in the classical languages

First Prize
Flis O’Toole
Second Prize
George Pliotis

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

Lewis Jones
James McBride

Richard Metheringham Mathematics Prize
On the nomination of the Director of Studies in Mathematics to the Worshipful Company of Cutlers

Joe Lidbetter

Bridges Prize for History
For the finalist achieving the best result in the Historical Tripos

Jamie Parker

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

Jamie Rycroft

Robert and Mary Willis Prize
For a finalist in Architecture or its related disciplines of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering or the History of Art

For papers in Civil Engineering
Daniel Eatough

Margaret Parker Prize
For the most distinguished dissertation or piece of coursework submitted by an undergraduate reading Politics, Psychology or Sociology at Part IIB

Cheryl Foo
**Stewart Perowne Prize for Classics**
For solid academic performance, alongside a strong contribution to College life and the wider University community  
Hattie Wilson

**Griffiths Roman Prize**
For a Distinction in M.Phil in Classics: dissertation on *Dangerous Dancing: Pantomime and the Politics of the Performative*  
Sam Agbamu

For a Distinction in M.Phil in Classics: dissertation on *Livy’s Metahistory*  
Alastair Cotterell

For a Distinction in M.Phil in Medieval and Renaissance Literature: dissertation on *Language Hybridity and Mirabilia in the Middle English Letter of Alexander to Aristotle*  
Verity Walsh

**University Postgraduate Prizes**

Prize in Hebrew (Theology)  
Olga Fabrikantova

Gregg Bury Prize (Theology)  
John Milbank

Theological Studies Prize (Theology)  
Jon Sander

**College Postgraduate Prizes**

For Law  
Marco De Sousa
Rayhaan Vankalwala

For Mathematics  
Theodor Bjorkmo
Yun-Cherng Lin

For Physics  
Charlotte Loh

For Clinical Medicine  
Ryan Robinson

**Ahmed Prize**
On the nomination of the Graduate Tutor for contribution to College life  
Todd Davidson
Societies

Nicolas Bacon Law Society
The beginning of Michaelmas Term brought with it a number of events to welcome the new lawyers to the Society. The Welcome Drinks and annual curry night were both enjoyable ways to get to know the first years and catch up with the current undergraduate members after the summer vacation. The Society offered two Christmas dinners this year, with the annual Christmas Dinner for the undergraduates, postgraduates and Fellows, and a further event hosted by Slaughter and May proving fun ways to celebrate the end of term.

Lent Term is frequently the busiest for the Society and this year was no exception. We were kindly visited by Robert Wilson, a Corpus alumnus at Holman Fenwick Willan, who gave an interesting talk for the benefit of all those interested in pursuing a career as a solicitor – a particularly useful event for the first years who were starting to think about career options. The highlights of the Society’s calendar were the Annual Freshers’ Moot and Law Dinner in March. As always, it was a pleasure to welcome back alumni of the Society alongside current students and Fellows. The Freshers’ Moot was judged by the Society’s President, Sir Jeremy Stuart-Smith, and saw impressive performances from four of the first years, with Conor Johnson being named this year’s winner.

The Society celebrated the end of Easter Term with a garden party to make the most of the sunny weather. We were joined by the current undergraduate and postgraduate students, along with the Fellows and supervisors, for an enjoyable afternoon in the grounds of Leckhampton House.

Special congratulations to our Honorary Fellow Sir Terence Etherton who was appointed as the Master of the Rolls this year. An old member of the Society, Clare Sibson, of Cloth Fair Chambers, was also appointed as Queen’s Counsel in January. Further congratulations go to Professor Nigel Simmonds, who has been promoted to Professor of Jurisprudence at the Faculty of Law; to Dr Jonathan Morgan, promoted to Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law; and to Dr Thomas Adams, elected as the first Hong Kong Link Fellow in Law at the College.

Emily Bodger

Lewis Society of Medicine
Once again the Lewis Society of Medicine has had an action-packed year. We began with part one of our student-presented Stukeley Talks in October, focusing
on undergraduate summer projects. Presentations were given by Hong-Kai Lim who discussed his internship with the anatomy department; by Jon Bartlett on his Part II Pharmacology research project; and by Daniel Fernando and Markos Prindezis who discussed their networking scheme placement with Dr Jayne. This is an excellent opportunity to hear more about the Alumni Networking Scheme, which was set up in 2010 and remains highly successful. It connects pre-clinical medical students with alumni, allowing them to gain invaluable clinical or research experience. Students are incredibly grateful for this opportunity, and we thank the alumni who kindly make it possible.

The Stukeley Talks are always very popular and part two was held in late November. Speakers included Max Roberts, Cormac Doyle and Ryan Robinson who discussed their electives in Fiji, Zambia and Canada/Papworth respectively, as well as myself, presenting my experience volunteering in a clinic in Peru.

This year’s Coombs seminar focused on careers, with an engaging talk given by local Cambridge GP Dr Tony Males. He spoke about life in General Practice as well as his extra-curricular medical charity work in countries around the world. The Society also hosts a number of social events. New ‘baby medics’ are welcomed in Michaelmas Term at the Freshers’ Tea and given words of wisdom (and plenty of chocolate) at the Exam Term Tea. Furthermore, the much loved ‘Meet-the-DoS’ meal is always very well attended and the perfect chance for new medics to interact with their Director of Studies in a slightly less scary and inquisitorial setting than supervisions! A new addition this year was a Lewis Society of Medicine trip to Berlin. 12 students and alumni visited the Berlin Medical Museum, as well as doing some city sightseeing, and it was a huge success.

Arguably the highlight of the Society’s social and academic calendar remains the Archibald Clark-Kennedy Lecture and accompanying Annual Dinner. A fascinating talk entitled ‘Vasculitis – a history’ was given by Dr David Jayne, a world-leading expert and past alumnus of Corpus. This was followed by a champagne reception and, as always, an excellent dinner. The year concluded with our Annual Garden Party in Leckhampton gardens; we were very lucky with beautiful weather, making it an enjoyable afternoon for all.

The Society would like to thank all those who give their support, which is invaluable. This upcoming year is the 10th anniversary of the Lewis Society of Medicine, so we extend a warm welcome to all medical alumni and would love to see them at our next big event!

Maddie Leadon

Bene’t Club
This year, the Bene’t Club, Corpus’s very own music society, has thrived thanks to the input of many enthusiastic musicians and the support of the Master and Sibella. Under the leadership of Maddie Parkin and Paul Newton-Jackson, the music scene in Corpus has proved to be vibrant and diverse, with performances ranging from Mozart symphonies to acoustic nights in the bar. In the beautiful setting of our chapel, we hold regular lunchtime concerts in which everyone is welcome to perform. Indeed, the year kicked off with a showcase for our freshers and continued with the first of many Master’s Lodge concerts, which all proved
to be lovely opportunities to relax with a glass of wine and even included performances by the Master himself.

One of the highlights of the year was a seminar from Param Vir, an eminent London-based composer whose work has previously been featured in the BBC Proms. The Bene’t Club has enjoyed the premieres of many new works by our student members over the year, including pieces for choir, orchestra and chamber ensembles. Our resident orchestra, combining players from Corpus and Emmanuel, has flourished this year, performing six concerts of varied repertoire. A particular highlight was the May Week concert, which included solos from our two instrumental award holders Helen McKeown and Alex Gunasekera. Next year, we also look forward to collaborating with Sidney Sussex College in order to further expand our orchestra.

It is really important to us that every member of College can engage with music in their own way, whether that be through joining the choir, getting involved with acoustic nights or simply sitting back and relaxing at one of our concerts. Next year, Rowan Hawitt and David Nunn are delighted to lead the Bene’t Club in its many endeavours and we would like to thank everyone who has been involved over the past three terms. Many thanks must go to the Master and Sibella for their kind hospitality and continuing support of musical life in College, and we very much look forward to another year of exciting music-making.

Rowan Hawitt and David Nunn

Pelican Poets and Writers

As P.G. Wodehouse writes, “there is no surer foundation for a beautiful friendship than a mutual taste in literature”. Pelican Poets and Writers, Corpus’s poetry society, continues to be a credit to this sentiment. In our thrice-termly sessions, we eat together, drink together, read together and write together, maintaining the rich literary history of the College. The intriguing discussion in our themed evenings and the fantastic new writing from our undergraduate population (and beyond) never fail to impress.
The year kicked off with a celebration of our reconciliation after the long break: an examination of literary examples of ‘Goodbye, Separation and Reunion’. We saw the Bright Young Things of first year lead a Pelican Poets Freshers’ Session, and ASNC Bret Cameron introduced us to the problems of ‘Acculturation, Assimilation and Appropriation’. The year was wrapped up memorably in May Week by English finalist Jamie Rycroft, who encouraged us to question whether head-scratching literature is ‘Difficult or Gimmicky?’. Although we discovered no ground-breaking controversies surrounding canonical works such as Shakespeare’s sonnets, opinions were split on everything from Gertrude Stein’s word play to the terrible beauty of Mark Z. Danielewski’s Only Revolutions.

We were also delighted to host two special guests in the course of the year. In Michaelmas, we were treated to an evening in which James Runcie, author of the Grantchester Mysteries (some scenes of which have been filmed in Corpus), explored the process of developing an authorial voice. He took us on a journey through his own literary career, from his early work to the screenplays of the hit television adaptation Grantchester, as well as drawing upon some of his favourite examples of fictional narratives. Lent Term saw the first ever Pelican Poets evening co-hosted by The Fletcher Players. Corpus alumnus Julius Green, now a successful theatre producer and author of How to Produce a West End Show, gave practical advice on pursuing a career in production, as well as leading a discussion of literary representations of the theatre.

Some exciting sessions are already on the cards for Michaelmas, including an exploration of the troubles and rewards of ‘Literature in Translation’ with Pelican Poets founding member Birgit Carolin. As always, we have an abundance of gratitude to the Master and Sibella for hosting us in their beautiful Lodge. We look forward to providing more light literary relief in the year to come.

Lana Crowe and Isla Cowan

Fletcher Players

This year the Fletcher Players, led by Jamie Rycroft, continued to cement its place as one of the University’s foremost drama societies.

Funding shows that excelled critically, financially and creatively meant that five-star productions routinely took Cambridge by storm. Fletcher Players productions such as Swallow (with Corpus’s own Isla Cowan) managed to create a stir in the middle of exam term. Continuing on the all-female theme, the comedy 5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche (starring another Corpuscle Molly Stacey) showed the diversity of the productions we put on. The Fastest Clock in the Universe, where ‘the ability to carry out a play of such high emotion with such ease is a credit’ (The Tab), and Free Fall ‘a beautiful, subtle and sometimes moving production of an excellent play that never loses the audience’s attention’ (Varsity) were both also extremely well received.

This year’s Grade Expectations, written and directed by the infamous ‘Pablo Price’, gained polarised reviews, stirring up the usual format and reception of the Freshers’ Play. It also showcased some fantastic new talent in the shape of Joel James, Rhys Lock, Lily Spicer and Tash Law.

Smorgasbord continued, providing a casual opportunity for writers to have
their work performed on-stage, with the chance for the pieces to be discussed and critiqued afterwards by the audience. The Fletcher Players’ commitment to student writing was also evidenced by its funding of Flora De Falbe’s *The Beck*. Even shows not funded by us have sometimes had involvement with the society: *Mary and Claire: A Defence of Poetry* was a Playroom show, an extract from which was originally workshopped at *Smorgasbord*.

A talk by Julius Green, theatre producer and author of *How to Produce a West End Show*, was another example of the length and breadth of the Fletcher Players’ commitment to all aspects of theatre. The first ever Fletcher Players Garden Party in the Master’s Lodge Garden was also a resounding success.

Along with Tom Bevan (Treasurer) and Isla Cowan (Social Sec), I look forward to continuing Jamie’s fantastic work to consolidate the status of the Fletcher Players as a University-wide body that is also College-focused, in providing support and inspiration to developing the theatrical aspirations of students.

**Elinor Lipman**

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**Amnesty Letter-Writing Group**

For several years, the Dean of Chapel has hosted a human rights letter-writing group in D4; a place where a small group of undergraduates have gathered to send letters in support of those whose human rights have been abused. As part of the Amnesty ‘Urgent Action’ network, we receive a weekly email detailing a number of specific cases of human rights abuse and we respond by writing letters to the officials perpetrating the abuse and to those countries’ ambassadors in the UK. Amnesty statistics show that these letters make a real impact, with one in three cases being resolved as a result. It is a fascinating group to be part of; gathering week by week to send letters across the world to unjust ayatollahs, brutal prison governors and even POTUS himself.

With a small dedicated band of letter writers, this group has been a practical way to make a difference in the lives of individuals across the world and we are always grateful to the College who finance and arrange the sending of our letters.

**Dominic Cawdell**

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**Wine Society**

The 2015–2016 Academic Year saw three successful and well attended events organised by the Corpus Christi College Wine Society.

Michaelsmas Term began with the yearly tradition of a tour of the College’s cellars by Philip Shephard (the College Butler) and an unpretentious introduction to wine tasting in College. A big thanks to him. The wine for this event, themed *New World vs. Old World*, was supplied by our neighbours, the Cambridge Wine Merchants.

Lent Term brought with it two more events. The Cheese Stall in the local Cambridge Market advised the Society on how to fashion creative pairings of *unconventional wines with unconventional cheeses*. Here are some of the comments he provided to describe the cheeses for said event:
Cheese 1: “A cheese damaged by mass production...deep, slightly sweet and smooth”
Cheese 2: “It’s 18 months old. It’s our best cheese. My son keeps stealing it from the fridge. Bastard”
Cheese 3: “This cheese is...phwoar.”
Cheese 4: “If lucid dreams had a taste...”
Cheese 5: “Absolute wildcard...I do not know what it goes with. Figure it out.”

In our last event, Corpus’s very own Frenchman, hailing from Bordeaux, argued that the most crucial element when choosing wine is the ‘terroir’. Grape types on wine labels tell you nothing about wine. “So stop asking for a bottle of Malbec” (Fourmaux, 2016). This event, titled cépages, blends and terroirs took place in the 14th Century setting of the Parker Room and was attended by students and Fellows alike.

In the upcoming Academic Year we hope to attract more speakers such as Beltran Domecq, president of the Consejo Regulador of Jerez, the governing body for Sherry. If there’s anyone better suited to the task of busting the English trope that sherry is “your nan’s drink”, it is him.

“A good sherris sack hath a two-fold operation in it. It ascends me into the brain; dries me there all the foolish and dull and crudy vapours which environ it; makes it apprehensive, quick, forgetive, full of nimble fiery and delectable shapes, which, delivered o’er to the voice, the tongue, which is the birth, becomes excellent wit.”

Henry IV Part II: Act IV, Scene iii

One of the goals this year was to open these wine tasting events to members of the University outside the walls of Corpus. I can say that this aim has been accomplished. Members of Trinity Hall, St. John's College and Robinson College were present at the Society’s events, reporting that they would rather “live with cheese and garlic in a windmill” (Henry IV Part I: Act III, Scene i) than finish their undergraduate, postgraduate or other Cambridge degree.

Oliver Canessa

Charity events

Corpus students took part in a number of charitable RAG events this year, starting with the popular Come Dine With Me. Five teams, all consisting of three or more Corpuscles, were paired with a group from a different college and, over the course of a few weeks, hosted and cooked meals for one another. A RAG-packed Lent term followed, with Tom Bevan’s Just A Minute raising just under £300 for charity. Using the format of the popular television show, a panel consisting of Cambridge’s top comedians each attempted to speak for one minute on a topic given by their host, Corpus’s own Bret Cameron. Shortly following this was the biggest RAG event of the year, Blind Date. Over 30 members of Corpus took part, opting for either friendly or romantic dates with students from other colleges.
Students at Corpus have also been active this year in CHOP – the Cambridge Homeless Outreach Programme – which is a university-wide initiative working through a network of reps at most colleges. Over the past academic year, they have been working both to raise funds, in order to support the homeless community in practical ways, and to raise awareness for issues surrounding homelessness. Led by David Nunn and Lizzie Merson, several campaigns and fundraisers were held throughout the course of the year, and the Christmas campaign, which included a Christmas jumper competition and a campaign for socks and sanitary products, raised over £150. In Lent Term, they worked in conjunction with numerous other organisations to run ‘Hope and Home’, a social awareness campaign which involved workshops, discussions and exposés; and in the following term helped to paint a homeless shelter run by the Cyrenians. Corpus looks to continue its activity for both RAG and CHOP next year, with high fundraising goals set by both.

Lara Spirit and David Nunn

The Gravediggers

The Gravediggers play-reading society has gone underground in 2015–16, but your editor is told that there are high hopes of exhuming the Society in the coming academic year.
Sports clubs

Corpus Blues

The 2015–2016 year has been another stormer for Blues Sport in Corpus, with people from all year groups and in sports from Golf to Ice Hockey.

Kate Curran (2nd year, History) had a strong year in both Triathlon and Athletics. She won the Mile race at Varsity athletics, meaning she is provisionally selected to go on tour to the USA as part of an Oxbridge vs Cornell/Penn/Harvard/Yale tour. On top of this, she won Varsity Duathlon, and was 2nd Varsity Tri.

In Football, Corpus was represented by Jack Congdon (2nd Year, History) The Football Blues had a successful season, finishing third in the second tier of university football, and, notably, finishing above their rivals Oxford. Unfortunately, this superiority was not reflected in the Varsity match, this year played at Craven Cottage (home of Fulham Football Club), where the Blues went down to the old enemy 2-0. They are keen to put this right in the coming year; Jack will be taking up the role of vice-captain.

Sam Sharma (3rd year, Classics) was another person who did well this year. He was the outgoing captain of CURA (rifle association) and is the incoming captain of CUSBC (small bore). They won Rifle Varsity 2015, small bore Varsity 2016, and three-position Varsity 2016. He also shoots for Wales in Target Rifle and Match Rifle.

Second year Isobel Richardson (Geography) plays golf for the university. As a team they were strong in all their matches, winning or halving most throughout the year. The Varsity match at Brancaster was very exciting, played in one round of foursomes and one of singles. Isobel lost her foursomes match, but won on the 18th hole in the singles against an ex-Harvard player off scratch. The overall score was 7-2 to Cambridge.

Perhaps one of Corpus’ most successful sports is Lacrosse, and perhaps the best exponent is Hattie Wilson (3rd year, Classics) who picked up her final Blue in women’s Lacrosse this year. She writes, “This year we had a great season. I was President of the club which was a lot of work but a lot of fun. We had a great crop of Freshers and the whole team got on extremely well. We managed to win the league with a 100% record, and were also victorious over Oxford for the second consecutive year in Varsity.”
In Mixed Lacrosse, Corpus was represented by Dan Eatough and Luke Bounds (both 4th year, both engineering). They both played in defence, and did such a solid job that results were often quite one sided. After winning every single match, they finished at the top of the league. Both were selected for Varsity. This came down to extra time, with Luke making a break down the pitch to score the winning goal, for a final score of 11-10. After this, they took part in the Imperial Cup, a national mixed lacrosse competition, which they also won.

George Hopes (2nd year, Engineering): This year saw another strong performance from Cambridge Sailors – overall winning British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) for the third year in a row. George was selected for the Varsity team, earning his Half Blue in a crushing 4-0 victory over Oxford. George is also captaining a team that is aiming to qualify and represent GBR at the U21 Team Racing Worlds in Garda, Italy. He has been elected Commodore for the coming year.

In Hockey, Freddie Briscoe (1st year, Engineering) has had a strong season as Goalkeeper. Despite coming as a fresher, she was already on the team by the time of the pre-season matches as goalkeeper. The storming Cambridge side were League champions and won promotion. On top of this they reached the final of the BUCS Cup. An agonising last minute goal at Varsity saw the match go to Oxford, but it looks good for the future!

Corpus was also represented in the Nomads (2nd team) by Sophie Glanfield in a similarly successful season – winning the BUCS Conference cup.

Seb Dickson, (1st year, Engineering) represented the Uni for the second year as part of the Cycling team, this time as Captain. Seb was first in the Varsity match (in the form of a 25-mile Time Trial) at the head of a dominant Cambridge team that swept the podium and set the record fastest time in that competition. On top of this, in BUCS, Seb won a gold and 2 silver medals. He has been elected President for the next year.

From Leckhampton, Kumaran Nathan (Engineering PhD) competed for Cambridge as part of the Ice Hockey team, as right wing on the pitch and Social Secretary off the pitch. They faced Oxford 5 times, winning every time. On top of this, they won their official Varsity, the Patton Cup, won Division South 1 and then beat the winners of North Division 1, Nottingham, to be crowned national Champions. This capped the best season in Cambridge’s 130 year Ice Hockey history.

Corpus Challenge 2016

2016 saw Cambridge’s third consecutive victory in the Corpus Challenge. On the morning of Sunday 8 February, the coaches from Oxford arrived bright and early and the sporting battles soon began.

Charles Fourmaux, CCK Rugby Captain, writes: “The Corpus-Clare-King’s rugby alliance had the privilege to draw first blood in this year’s Corpus Challenge. The men in maroon, purple and yellow had only one thing in mind: to remain unbeaten in their bright (and brand new) kit – a powerful motivation which resulted in a 12-7 victory for CCK. After a short yet sterile domination from the visitors, Cambridge took the lead with a try from Kingsman Joel Flynn,
who crossed the line after a few minutes of picking and going. Shortly after the start of the second half, Corpus winger Ashe Meno-Kanyi managed to break through the Oxonian defence on a powerful offload by second row David Rowlands. In the absence of any remotely-experienced kicker, your very obliged captain attempted the conversion and managed to score, giving a 12-0 advantage to the Cambridge side. Corpus Oxford’s try came too late and the CCK men managed to retain their lead until the final whistle.”

Alongside the rugby we also saw the Ergs team bring us another victory after an intense half an hour of rowing. We also proved successful in the racquet sports, getting us off to a strong start.

Just before we set up shop for lunch, we had another incredible performance from the Cambridge mixed netball team. Issy Turney, Mixed Netball captain, writes: “Beautiful interceptions from Tom Chalkland, Pat Killoran, Tom Davison, Molly Stacey and Emily Bodger stopped Oxford from getting anywhere near the post. Our attack was also on fire with amazing passes into the circle from Sarah Richards and fantastic shooting from Lizzie Merson and Emma Russell. An all-round outstanding game.”

Next it was time for the most anticipated event of the day – the famous Corpus Challenge lunchtime barbecue. The JCR committee battled the gale-force winds to keep the barbecues going and keep everyone fed. Despite the brute force of the wind, we managed to keep morale up and continue into the even more successful second half of the day.

We also took on Oxford in some less conventional sporting events in the form of board games and bar sports. Jonathan Cushean, board games & bar sports captain, writes: “We had some tough competition with more Oxford students to compete against and they put up a strong fight beating us narrowly in Trivial Pursuit, Articulate and Settlers of Catan while we won Jungle Speed."
Coinciding with the sudden disappearance of the Oxford table football table from their bar, we thrashed them, beating their best player 10–0 and conceding only 1 game out of 8.”

Our final victory, in quizzing, saw us bring our smashing victory home and dry, with a final score of 80–38 points to Cambridge. The Corpus Challenge is one of our best and most long-standing traditions between Oxford and Cambridge and I’d like to thank everyone in college, especially the JCR committee and the porters, that have helped to make it such a successful event.

Subi Subramonian

Rugby

The 2015–2016 season has been a somewhat contrasted year for the Clare-Corpus-King’s rugby alliance. After failing to win a single league game, CCK went on to a stellar Cuppers campaign, falling only 5 points short from winning the prestigious title. CCK therefore managed to reach the Cup final while being relegated into Division 3 – an unprecedented achievement.

Things kicked off well in October with freshly arrived Corpuscles making a remarkable entrance onto the Cambridge rugby scene. Thanks to them and to several experienced players, Corpus has filled a strong contingent amid the CCK troops this year. But, alas, this fresh blood did not protect CCK against bad fortune. In early February we still awaited our first win when our Oxonian rivals visited for the Corpus Challenge. CCK took that occasion to secure a healthy 12–7 victory. With Cuppers competition on its way, CCK took the best of Queens’ and Fitzwilliam, but only to face St John’s in the quarter finals. The Red Boys were firm favourites; but as masses of C, C and K students arrived to the sound of bagpipes, it soon turned out that the outsiders were on top of the opposition. CCK took the visitors by surprise with a couple of tries, and went on to secure a 23–12 win through heroic defending. A muddy victory against Girton college then led CCK to face Emmanuel in the final, held on a beautiful April evening at Grange Road. With a huge crowd of cheering supporters, CCK took the lead and headed back to the changing rooms with a 14–7 advantage. However, in the second half, Emmanuel’s powerful back row started to make some damage, which resulted in CCK losing several key players on injuries while Emma took a fatal advantage on the score board.
But a 29-24 defeat in Cuppers final, against one of Cambridge's finest colleges at rugby, is nothing to be ashamed of. We are immensely proud to have reached this stage, and we are really grateful to the College for such an exceptional support throughout the competition. While I have no knowledge of Corpus ever going this far into Cuppers – and I certainly hope to be proven wrong by old members – I am sure this will remain in memories as a truly exceptional year for Corpus rugby.

**Charles Fourmaux**

**Badminton**

It has been a mixed year for Corpus Badminton. Having lost several key players from last year, the first team struggled in League Division 2 and unfortunately we were relegated, despite a crushing 8-1 victory over St John's I. Our second term in Division 3 was far more successful, with every team member improving on a weekly basis. After a victory over Fitzwilliam I at the end of the season, we maintained our place in the league. Rob Bowman and Sky Kang both gained permanent positions on the team, having only played a few first team games last year. Fresher Sam McKenzie was also a strong addition to the team, and we will hopefully see great things from him in the years to come.

The Corpus Seconds have had a fantastic year, with strong results given the high league they were competing in. The team has been a great opportunity for lots of players to compete and they have had some great matches. The weekly clubnights were very popular, with many new faces giving the sport a go. Badminton continues to provide a sport option for those of any ability, from those who want to compete in matches, to those who just want to have some fun with friends. It was also encouraging to see many freshers deciding to play, which bodes well for the future of badminton at Corpus.

**Bertie Brown**

**Football**

With big boots to fill, I took over the captaincy with one job in mind; do not get relegated. The team was promoted last year into Division 3 as we felled tough opponents one by one – a spectacular feat. However we lost many of the big names, confirmed heroes, of Corpus FC. If the college failed to get its fair share of footballing first-years, we were done for. Luckily we had a kind influx of talented youth, which complemented the experience of our more leathery players. As a blend of roles and characters we set out to win games and enjoy the sport.

At first our tactics were in disarray and it took a few games for us to settle into the swing of the season and to begin to play as a unit.

Since there was competition for every position on the pitch, it was hard to find the best place for everyone. I would have had a lot of grief on my hands if my team-mates were not so patient and selfless with my decisions. With the support of club legends Jon Mackenzie, Tom Worsfold (previous captain), Robin Sarfas, Gyuseong Cho, Sky Kang and Luke Baily, I was able to make tough decisions about the team which were beyond my knowledge of football. Weekly training got a big turnout and we improved where we felt we were lacking. So we soon gained momentum and the points we needed to maintain last year’s success.

Defeating second teams like nobody’s business, such as a 4-1 victory over
Downing, Corpus rose through the table. Admittedly we struggled against first teams and often dropped our heads, leading to several-goal defeats. Every game we picked ourselves back up, however, and refused to get complacent after a victory. Our proudest moment was against Clare 1st XI in a 3-3 draw, clawing back every goal through the marvellous headed and volleyed goals of Tom Worsfold. Ultimately we found it hard to maintain consistency in a league which was half first teams and half second teams, where the ability varied significantly. We felt this was where we belong, however, and finished 4th with 3 wins, 3 draws and 2 losses.

Again we did not have much luck in our cup draws and matches. We suffered a poorly-manned defeat against John's and struggled to maintain our subsequent place in the plate against King's, playing well for a 2-1 loss. In the Corpus Challenge we fielded our best side and were perhaps over-confident in ourselves. Unfortunately we were unable to recover the title from such a close match which ended 2-2 and was settled on penalties.

We celebrated our performance and cohesion as a team at the football dinner, where I passed down the captaincy to Sam Collings-Wells, to whom I wish the best of luck and a proud report next year. Aidan Mainzer

MCR Football
Corpus MCR began the 2015–16 season after being stripped of many of their heroic 2014-15 season side that earned promotion to the Premier League of MCR football. As a result, life in the fast lane was always going to be difficult.

The team began the season well with a 4-3 victory against a youthful JCR side, although this would turn out to be their biggest victory of the season. Tough games followed against a number of larger college sides, but Corpus kept most of the score lines respectable up until the Christmas break.
In the New Year the team had a good run of games, putting somewhere between 12-14 goals past Corpus Christi Oxford to seal their most impressive outing of the year. Probably the most promising game was an excellent 2-2 draw in the cup against St. Johns, the team that was promoted to the Premier League that year, suggesting the MCR’s future in the second tier of post-graduate football may not be for long.

We look forward to starting the new season with some fresh faces and a newly renovated 4-2-3-1 formation that should see the previous season’s defensive woes set aside. The aim this season is to push for promotion back to the top flight or consolidate as one of the dominant teams in the division.

Sam Wimpenny

Netball
Ladies Netball: Despite being in a lower league for ladies netball, the Corpus team won the majority of their matches – even when they played with a player missing. Since we are a small college, it was sometimes a challenge to find enough players every week, but the team played with great determination and so often won their games. I have really enjoyed getting to know the girls from across all the years at Corpus, and I look forward to another successful season next year.

Mixed Netball: This year the Corpus mixed netball team has been extremely successful. Keeping our place in the first league, our team has managed to win against many of the bigger colleges, and we only just missed out on getting through to the Cuppers finals. Having never played mixed netball before coming to university, I was sceptical about how much I would enjoy it. However, I must admit that the matches became a highlight to my week, and being a member of this team has been a great way to meet people both from college and across the university. Although inter-collegiate matches only took place in Michaelmas and Lent terms, due to popular demand we kept meeting each week during exam term – this game proved a perfect revision break and ensured that students got some much-needed vitamin D!

Molly Stacey, Lizzi Merson

Hockey
Corpus Hockey has had an up and down season. We were unfortunately relegated from division 2 at the end of Michaelmas but seemed to find new life in division 3, with some nice results against Caius and Magdalene in particular. This season has seen many new faces join our ranks and put in great performances, especially our new keeper Tanmay Suthankar and centre back Justin Lidiard-Philips. The old guard made sure to contribute too and Bertie Brown (our next captain) and Rupert Thompson were both exceptional this season. Although we couldn’t follow up our victory last season in the Corpus Challenge this time around, I am confident that with this new talent emerging we’ll be able to get revenge next time!

Harsh Prasad

Mixed Lacrosse
In the past year, the Corpus Christi College Mixed Lacrosse Club (C.C.C.M.L.C.) has soared on the wings of the Valkyrie, achieving first place in Division 1 at the
end of Lent Term and victory against our sister college in the Corpus Challenge. In addition, C.C.C.M.L.C. achieved an admirable runner-up finish in the annual Cuppers campaign, preserving a run of clean sheets until the final. Throughout the season every match was critical and there was never a dull moment. None of this would have been possible without the enthusiasm and perseverance of our beloved veteran players and our new additions. This year also saw the arrival of new goal posts at our Leckhampton home ground that will hopefully capture Corpus goals for many seasons to come. Several of our players have showcased their lacrosse skills at the University level this year with Daniel Eatough and Luke Bounds being instrumental for the victory of the mixed squad at the Varsity Match as well as Mia Lewis and Hattie Wilson winning their University colours with the women's team. As the academic year comes to a close, we bid farewell to some of our long-serving stars as they graduate and move on to even greater heights, while looking to the future for new blood to replenish our ranks. C.C.C.M.L.C. will be looking to build on this season's successes and I am certain we will be in good hands as Esme O’Keeffe and Sarah Richards take over captaincy duties next year.

Hong Kai Lim

Squash
While squash isn’t necessarily the most popular sport, or indeed always Corpus’s strongest competitively, nonetheless the squash court at Leckhampton is very much appreciated. As a fresher, I’d never really played squash beyond once a week at school; however the Squash Club’s “Squash Sunday” was very welcoming to players of all skills, and even if getting up so early on a Sunday morning was a little painful, it was definitely worth it. Hopefully this weekly opportunity to play will continue, and more people may be enticed out of their beds on a Sunday morning to try a sport many haven’t had the chance to play before university.
Having been a member of the Corpus Second Team for squash, I have to report that our experience has been more about the taking part than the winning! Playing in the 5th League, and then the 6th League, we haven't often been victorious. However, having a team that rotates means that lots of people have had an opportunity to play squash competitively, and hopefully the improvements that have been made throughout the year will come to fruition next year, and there'll be some more positive results to report on!

The First Team, composed predominantly of postgraduate students, has seen more success than the Second Team, and hopefully this too is a trend that will continue next year.

Thanks should be given to Matthew Ball and Stuart Harrison, who have done a wonderful job this year co-leading the Corpus Squash Club, and hopefully next year Squash will continue to flourish on both a competitive and a casual level at Corpus.

Alex Russell

Swimming
This year, the brave Corpus swimmers Alastair Cotterell, Thomas Aquilina, James Kilbane, Nicola Pelliciotta, Luigi Feriani, Katjana Lange, Viola Introini, Elizabeth Merson, Helen O’Horan and Cora Olpe prepared themselves well for the crazy event that is Cuppers. They had two practice sessions at Parkside pools to get their technique and speed to an all-time high. And they had stash in the form of magnificent red swimming hats.

On 7 May, teams of a record number of 17 colleges gathered at Abbey Leisure Complex to compete in the 25m pool. They were greeted by officials wearing shiny party hats and warm-up was soon on the way. It was great to see swimmers of all abilities come together during this friendly competition. Since Half and Full Blues swimmers are not allowed to compete in individual races, these were an ideal place for some to experience their first-ever swimming race! The relays featured a significant number of Blues swimmers – a very inspiring sight for some of the less experienced competitors.

Overall, the atmosphere at the pool was fantastic with Corpus being by far the loudest team at cheering! When the rankings were announced, St John’s (with a large number of members of the University team) took 1st prize. Corpus landed a solid 10th place out of the 17 colleges participating – a great result considering the large number of Blues swimmers in the other teams.

Swimming Cuppers was a positive, friendly and cheerful event that saw lots of great performances from both professional and amateur swimmers. I am extremely proud of Corpus’s performance. We hope that next year will see even more of us participate.

Cora Olpe

Lawn Tennis
Michaelmas Term saw the Corpus Christi College Lawn Tennis Club defending its mighty position in Division 4, within the College League 2015 organised by the Cambridge University Lawn Tennis Club.

The results of our matches were as follows. In Week 1 we drew 1-1 with Fitzwilliam I, and in Week 2 we won against Jesus II, by 3-0. It must be said that
Tudor Ilca and Stephen Daly absolutely annihilated the opposition in these matches. In Week 3, sudden reverse! – a 1-5 loss against Homerton II. A special shout out must be made here to undercover player Edu Cruz (from Robinson College) for securing that 1 point in his singles match for Corpus. Edu made sure we did not lose in straight matches.

Our overall score leaves us with 6 points, which if we enter into the poorly designed and managed website of the Cambridge University Lawn Tennis Club (that by no means has the League results properly calculated) means that the Club is, at present, in joint second place in Division 4. For now.

In the New Year, the Corpus Christi College Lawn Tennis Club was unable to enter a team into the Men’s & Women’s Cuppers tournament due to not enough members being available to form a team. However, to remedy this disappointment, the Club was extremely present for the Corpus Challenge on home turf.

This year’s Challenge began with predictable and underhand tactics one would expect of the ‘Other Place’, at the Leckhampton tennis courts. Though the Oxford side had promised a squad of 11 opponents, only two tennis players disembarked the Oxford coach.

The game plan was thus easy, our No. 1 (Stephen Daly) and No. 2 (Tudor Ilca) seeds were dispatched to face the 2/11 Oxford team. The scores were as follows:

6-3, 6-4 (Stephen vs. Corpus Christi College Oxford Player 1)
4-6, 7-4, 6-1 (Tudor vs. Corpus Christi College Oxford Player 2)

Easy!

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge thank-you to all the players who represented and inspired the Club this year: Stephen Daly, Tudor Ilca, Jocelyn Perry, Aniket Patel, Lara Spirit, Albert Camus and Edu Cruz.

Oliver Canessa

Cricket
The college cricket season is often as short as it is exciting, and just one loss is enough to put any team out of cuppers. After losing our first game last year to a good Robinson side, our focus this year was on making sure we started strongly, to bring momentum into the must-win matches.

Well attended winter nets ensured we were ready for the season, and with a strong influx of cricketing freshers to boost an already healthy squad, it was set to be a great year for Corpus. Vice captain Adam Isherwood laboured hard throughout the winter, finding the time to relentlessly oil the new club bat, and to organise the kit order with a pristine spreadsheet.

Our first game saw us return to Robinson, this time for a pre-Cuppers friendly. The change of pace from indoor nets to a lively April wicket proved a challenge for the top order against a solid bowling attack. Good lower order batting from George Wilders got us to 105, but it wasn’t quite enough to beat one of the best college sides.
A great team performance in our first cuppers game against Wolfson saw us restrict them to just 98, with early wickets from spinner Vandan Parmar. We chased it down in 18 overs, with Jonathan French making 44 not out.

Our attention then turned to the big game against Jesus, the winner of which would progress to the quarter finals. A beautiful but tiny ground set in the heart of Jesus College led to a much higher scoring game. Good bowling from Tom Davidson made up for his 14 wides, and a couple of stumpings off the bowling of Jonathan French restricted Jesus to a very chase-able 150. Sam Collings-Wells scored a brilliant 87, and we were left needing just 11 off the last over to win the match. Unfortunately we couldn’t make it, and finished three runs short of quarter final qualification.

We rounded off an enjoyable and mostly successful season with a great win against Selwyn, with Harshvardhan Prasad scoring 45, and Aidan Mainzer taking three wickets. The opening bowling combination of Adam Isherwood and Patrick Killoran proved too much for the Selwyn batsmen, so they had to be taken off after their first overs to prevent potential injuries. Cuppers may never see such a deadly pace attack again.

Throughout the season, Rupert Thompson showed his experience (4 years of Corpus cricket) with great catching and commitment in the field. In a bizarre sequence of events, Dan Eatough managed to score runs against Corpus in Cuppers, as Wolfson were short of players. Thanks to the JCR for giving us a workable budget, and to Adam for his hard work throughout the season. Finally, I must thank the groundsman Neil Taylor, who prepared an excellent wicket at Leckhampton, allowing the College side to remain undefeated at home for the second consecutive year.

**Rowing**

Corpus Christi College Boat Club have had one of the most successful years since the club’s founding in 1828, with impressive results throughout the year culminating in the club’s unstoppable advance in May Bumps. Not a single Corpus crew was bumped in either Lent or May Bumps this year, and this is something we want to continue coming into next year.

The year started off in October 2015 with depleted crews for both the men and women, meaning that it was difficult to get an VIII out until the Lent term. However we made the most of this, with both crews performing very well at the Fairbairn Cup racing in IVs, outperforming many crews from Division i for Lent Bumps. The women’s club experienced a significant step up in terms of training focus, volume and intensity from the start of the year, and this really started to show at the Fairbairns. By the time Lent Bumps came around, Corpus were ready to take to the water and show what we were capable of. Unfortunately, our women were obstructed by 2 technical row-overs, which meant that they only went up 2. The men had a similarly frustrating result, going up 3, but on the last day having gained an overlap on Jesus II, fell back and ended with a row-over. The men then went on to race at the Head of the River Race on the Tideway in London, where they managed to move up 88 places from last year, beating many Oxford and Cambridge colleges in the process.
The women also received their new boat; a state of the art crimson-hulled Hudson Super Predator VIII, thanks to the extreme generosity of our donors. This boat is the first new women’s VIII at Corpus for 17 years, and by far the best boat the club has ever owned. It was officially named at a poignant ceremony, attended by the Master and his wife as well as numerous alumni, on the final day of May Bumps as Rackham the Red, in memory of the former Master, the late Oliver Rackham, OBE. The striking deep red hull is also in his memory, as red was his favourite colour.

May term began very well, with both M1 and W1 racing at Bedford Regatta. The women won the novice VIIIs plate, defeating former heads of the river Wadham College, Oxford to take home medals. After intermittent training through exams, May Bumps finally arrived. Corpus entered 3 men’s crews and 2 women’s crews, with W2 and M3 failing to get-on, despite strong performances. Both men’s crews rowed over on the first day; however, the women managed to achieve an over-bump on Clare II, going up a total of 3 places on the first day alone. From then on, each Corpus crew bumped up a place every day, meaning that our W1 won their blades for the first time in 10 years, on +6, and became the most successful Corpus women’s crew in history. Moreover, because of our club’s performance across the board at May Bumps, Corpus won the Pegasus Cup for being the most successful college competing in May Bumps – a first for the club.

All in all, this has been an overwhelmingly successful year for the College’s Boat Club. With Rackham the Red being christened in the most spectacular way possible, and all Corpus crews making positive moves up the bumping tables, we are excited to continue the success next year.

Sam Deutsch
Dear Master

This is to thank you and the College for your great kindness in writing to me on the occasion of my 90th birthday; where else would it happen?

Corpus seems a long time ago. I came up in the last months of the war, one of a small group of medical students who were under the care of Dr Archibald Clark-Kennedy, generally known as C.K. C.K. was also Dean of the London Hospital Medical College, where most of us medical students later went for our clinical studies. C.K. was very fond of beagling and in the winter months I remember we had to meet in his rooms at about 8.30am for Supervision so that C.K., already dressed in his plus fours, could get in a full day of beagling.

My other memory of Corpus is that the rooms were very cold in the winter. We had coal fires which we had to light, and I clearly remember carrying my rationed 1 cwt bag of coal on my back from the coal yard, situated in Free School Lane behind the Master’s Lodge, up the stairs to my coal bunker! Because of food rationing, all meals had to be taken in Hall, and the college really did its best with the little it had available.

Thank you again for your good wishes.

Yours sincerely

(signed) Ian Guiver
Colchester, Essex
News of Old Members

1939 **John Ross** retired from his post as a consultant physician at Hereford in 1985. Previously he was a Senior Registrar at the London Hospital. Between 1955 and 1958 he was a non-resident Fellow at Corpus supervising medical students. He only completed one year as an undergraduate before war service intervened. He saw action in the Middle East and Italy as a member of the SOE and was awarded the Military Cross.

1944 **Michael Hamilton** retired as a solicitor in 1988 after nearly forty years in practice. He joined Parker Garrett on graduation and this firm eventually changed through mergers and amalgamations into Taylor Garrett where he became joint senior partner.

1944 **John Lennard-Jones** spent his career in the London hospitals system beginning as a house physician and surgeon at University College Hospital before promotion to consultant physician. He later became Professor of Gastroenterology at the Royal London Hospital Medical College and consultant physician at St Mark’s Hospital, London. He retired to Woodbridge in 1992.

1945 **Richard Orange-Bromehead** went to Sandhurst in 1947 and was commissioned into the Royal Engineers. From 1950 to 1953 he followed a degree course at the Military College of Science, subsequently serving in Germany and Cyprus until 1958. After gaining his Chartered Engineer qualification (CEng) from Battersea College of Technology (1963) he joined the structural engineering company Rendel, Palmer and Tritton (now High-Point Rendel), remaining with them until 1993. His final post was as an engineer representative for the CEGB.

1946 **Roger Mangnall**, after teaching clinical courses at Manchester and Glasgow Universities up to 1962, held orthopaedic registrar positions at North Staffordshire, Glasgow Victoria, Addenbrookes and Swansea Hospitals. From 1967 to 1983 he was a consultant orthopaedic surgeon at the West Suffolk Hospital and limb fitting medical officer to the DHSS.

1948 **Julian Ayres** began his career at Burt, Boulton and Haywood, pioneers in the wood preservation industry in the UK. From 1956 to 1972 he worked in the oil division of Charrington, Gardner and Locket where he became a director, following which he became manager of Economac Ltd, the Tarmac fuel oil distribution subsidiary. For eleven years from 1994 he helped children to read at an infant school in a deprived area of Burton on Trent. In his own words ‘probably the most worthwhile thing I have done.’
1953 **Raymond Hart**, now retired as a forensic metallurgist from his company Raymond K Hart Ltd, lives in Sandy Springs, Georgia, USA. He developed electron microscopy and X-ray methodologies to study surface films on metals and the metallurgy of bulk metals, facilitating failure analysis of stressed materials.

1953 **Peter Vincent** after teaching for ten years went on to write for radio and television including for the ‘Two Ronnies’ and Dave Allen. Although doing less now, he still works with writers in various capacities. He would like to know of any Corpus writers living near him in Radlett, Herts.

1954 **David Ramsbotham** writes that when he was knighted he needed to decide his coat of arms. Although he was able to use the pre-existing family crest and motto he needed a new shield. This now comprises two halves, the upper one being the Corpus pelican to represent his father, his younger son and himself. His banner is now installed over his stall in the Henry VII Chapel in Westminster Abbey. Old Members visiting the Chapel and spotting the pelican will now know its origin!

1954 **Keith Goddard** retired in 2008 after being a Recorder of the Crown Court and Deputy High Court Judge and head of his chambers (Deans Court, Manchester).

1954 **Martin Christie** first spent five years in HMOCS as a District Officer in Sarawak on graduation, before returning to the UK and changing career path by working in the retail industry. Between 1968 and 1989 he held positions successively in Harveys of Bristol, Fine Fare and Gateway Foodmarket, where he was Service Director for Distribution. He retired as regional distribution manager for Wiggins Teape Paper in 1994.

1955 **Christopher Bourne** is Chairman of Bourne and Hollingsworth plc and of the Retail Trust. He is also Vice President of the Oxford Street Association. He has a close affiliation with St George's Hospital, London and is on the St George's Medical School Council, chairing their Finance and Investment Committee. He is Upper Bailiff of the Weavers’ Company. Currently he occupies himself with farming and estate management in Gloucestershire.

1955 **Hanno von Kielmansegg** writes: ‘After finishing my studies at Bonn University I started an army career which I finished as Chief of Staff Northern Army Group (NATO). I took part in courses at Camberley Staff College of the British Army and RCDS London.’ He also served as head of the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia.

1955 **Roy Rubinstein** writes that he has (finally!) retired from his post as Assistant Director of Fermilab, the major particle physics laboratory belonging to the United States Department of Energy.
1955 Richard Studholme started his teaching career with a year in La Rochelle, France, followed by a year in what was then West Berlin before returning to teach at Strathallan School, Perthshire. In 1966 he began teaching languages at Christ’s College, Christchurch, New Zealand, ending a long spell there in 2000.

1956 John Taylor, the designer and donor of the Corpus Chronophage, was awarded the Harrison Medal by the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers in January 2016, for his contribution to horology. He is only the seventh recipient of this honour since the Company was founded in 1631.

1956 Miguel Brun has now retired from the Spanish diplomatic corps, ending his career as Spain’s ambassador to Austria. Post retirement he has been busy using his PhD training as an historian to write a multi-volume History of Spanish Diplomacy, begun in the 1980s, with the first volume published by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1990. In 2001 he was elected to the Spanish Royal Academy of History where he actively contributes to its academic activities.

1956 Charles Allen read for an MSc in Geophysics at Imperial College after Corpus and became a professional geophysicist working for Shell International in many countries between 1961 and 1982. He became chairman of N.W. Shelf LNG, a joint venture with Shell, from 1980 to 1996. He is a Director of several international companies: the National Australian Bank, CSIRO, Amcor, Air Liquide (Australia), Florey Neuroscience Institute. He lives in South Yarra, Victoria.

1958 David Harkness took up a graduate apprenticeship with Dowty Group, Cheltenham, after graduating. After gaining his PhD from Trinity College Dublin he became a lecturer and then senior lecturer at the University of Kent at Canterbury. Subsequently he was appointed to the chair of Irish history at Queen’s University Belfast (1975–1996). He also held visiting professorships in Clermont-Ferrand and Milwaukee.

1962 Colin Warbrick is an Emeritus Professor of Law at the University of Birmingham and has recently been awarded a CMG for services to international law.

1962 Eddie Pal has recently had a Senior Lectureship at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, named after him in recognition of his contributions to Asian Art and Museology. During his career he served as a curator of South Asian art at several important museums in the USA, including Boston Museum of Fine Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago. The Indian government awarded him Padma Shri in 2009 in recognition of his international contribution to the study of Indian art. As well as producing many publications and exhibitions he has served as editor of the Indian art magazine Marg.
1964 **Michael Bancroft** spent a short period as a Fellow of Christ’s College and University Demonstrator in Inorganic Chemistry after graduation before returning to Canada. He was Professor (1974–2005) and Chairman (1986–1995) of the Chemistry Department of the University of Western Ontario in London where he is currently Professor Emeritus. He initiated the $140m Canadian Light Source in Saskatoon and was its first Director and remains a CLS Board member. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada (OC) and holds many other awards and honorary degrees.

1965 **Jeremy Davies**, who delivered the 2014 Mere’s Commemoration Sermon (*The readiness is all*), retired as Canon Precentor of Salisbury Cathedral in 2012 after earlier serving as a chaplain at Queen Mary College London and senior chaplain at Cardiff University. He has served as a liturgy consultant and as a member of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England (2005–2015).

1965 **Gordon Foster** retired as President of Quest Worldwide North America in 2007. He now keeps himself usefully employed with voluntary work for Simply Walk, Workaid, Rotary and Gerrards Cross Community Association. This, together with travelling, golf, baby sitting for grandchildren, and the inevitable house and garden projects stops any chance of boredom. He also plays bridge with his wife and, yes, he is still married to Jennifer whom he wed in Corpus chapel.

1966 **Barry Gold** was founder and senior partner of Gold Mann & Co, solicitors in Fleet Street, London (1975–1998). As well as being a non-executive director of a number of private and public companies in 1998 he founded and became managing director of Premier Management Group PLC, the first football agency to go public.

1967 **Graham Herd** has retired from his position at the Hokkai School of Commerce in Sapporo City, Hokkaido, Japan and returned to live in Whangaparaoa, New Zealand.

1967 **Guy Morrison** has now retired after working for 38 years as a research scientist for Environment Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service, Science and Technology Branch) with particular interest in migratory birds. He continues his connection with Environment Canada as an emeritus scientist and was recently appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada, the citation mentioning his ‘profound impact on the conservation of Arctic shorebirds’. In 2012 he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

1968 **Jonathan Bird**, following spells in several government departments between 1975 and 1993 (Energy, Treasury, DTI), moved to British Nuclear Fuels as head of government relations. He is now concerned with matters of energy sustainability and is an adviser on low carbon energy policy.
1968 **Robert Bowles** has been an independent conservation consulting structural engineer since 2013 dealing with structural issues in and around historic buildings. After initial training at Ove Arup and Partners he worked as a structural engineer at Alan Baxter becoming a partner with the firm in 1984. For 20 years he was responsible for the practice’s work on St Paul’s Cathedral and the Palace of Westminster. He was also responsible for structural works at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the British Museum and the Tower of London. In 2006 he won the Institute of Structural Engineers’ Heritage Award for Buildings. His input into the restoration of the Iron Market in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake featured in a BBC documentary and earned him the Institute of Structural Engineers’ Award for Sustainability in 2012.

1969 **Terry Etherton**, who is an Honorary Fellow of Corpus and until recently Chancellor of the High Court, has been appointed Master of the Rolls, the second most senior judicial post after Lord Chief Justice, to succeed Lord Dyson. He is the first Corpus lawyer to have achieved such high office.

1969 **Alistair Maule** qualified as a teacher of French and German at Moray House, Edinburgh University, in 1974 before retraining as a solicitor and obtaining his LLB from Edinburgh University in 1977. Ten years later he emigrated to Australia with his Australian wife and three children and requalified to practise law in Victoria in 1989. He has now retired from practice and studying French and German and taken up Scottish Gaelic which in his own words is “all much more interesting than the law!”

1969 **John Freeman** writes ‘I’m still sitting as (following two changes of title in what has in many ways been the same job for the last fifteen years) a judge of the Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), and a recorder of the crown court.’

1969 **Sebastian Tombs** is currently building a low energy house himself based on “passivhaus” principles, with technical support from Grigor Mitchell Architect, Edinburgh. He has spent his architectural career in Scotland, at first working for a housing association, the Housing Corporation, and Edinburgh District Council. Subsequently he worked for the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) eventually becoming its chief executive from 1995 to 2004. Finally, before retirement, he became CEO of Architecture and Design Scotland (A&DS) (2004–09), which he describes as a Scottish Government quango.

1969 **Bob Warren** has now retired from the University of Miami medical school (May 2014) but has been hired back as an Associate Emeritus Professor to continue lecturing in the medical school basic science curriculum.

1970 **Stephen Wiffen** is now Chairman and CEO of his own trading group which he started in 1991 and which has become a major equipment supplier
across South East Asia. This followed earlier positions as a Trading Director in South Africa and Managing Director in Singapore. He now lives with his wife and their six dogs on the South China Sea coast in Malaysia.

1971 **John Barker**, although formally retired, is currently serving as a Senior Member, Board on Professional Responsibility, District of Columbia Court of Appeals, USA.

1972 **Michael Overbury** has held many musical appointments since his time as a Corpus organ scholar. These include assistant organist at New College Oxford, deputy organist at St Alban's Cathedral and director of music of Nottingham Boys Choir. He is a founder member of *Musica Donum Dei*, a small chamber group performing late 17th and 18th century music on original instruments, and of *Continuum*, who play baroque music for flute, cello and harpsichord. As well as being a harpsichordist he composes liturgical music.

1973 **Michael Mcwalter** will mark 40 years (August 2016) since he first went to Papua New Guinea to promote, manage and regulate the nation’s emerging oil and gas industry. His contribution was recognised by being appointed an Officer of the Order of Loguhu by the Governor of Papua New Guinea. He now adds this to his award of Commander of the Royal Order of Sahametrei by the Kingdom of Cambodia for services to the Cambodian National Petroleum Authority. He is currently establishing his own oil business (the Port Moresby Petroleum Company). Meantime he continues to undertake regular missions to Africa for the World Bank as a petroleum operations advisor and over the past two years has visited South Sudan fourteen times.

1974 **David Clary**, President of Magdalen College Oxford and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has been knighted for services to international science.

1975 **Clyde Ervine** is a Presbyterian minister in St Catharines, Ontario, Canada. He serves a congregation in Niagara’s wine country and mentions that old friends from Corpus are most welcome to visit.

1976 **Simon Fraser**, who was Permanent Under-Secretary of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office between 2010 and 2015, was awarded GCMG in the New Year Honours List for services to the FCO and the pursuit of British foreign policy interests.

1980 **John Davies** is moving from being Dean of Derby, where he was head of the chapter of canons and senior diocesan priest, to become Dean of Wells in November 2016.

1982 **Chris Ramsey**, after nine years as Head of King’s School, Chester, will be moving in 2017 to be head of Whitgift School, part of the ancient Whitgift
Foundation and one of the biggest independent schools in London. He is keen to hear from any old members with Whitgift connections.

1983 Andrew Harter has been awarded the Faraday Medal of the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET). The medal is the most prestigious award of the IET and dates back to 1922. It is awarded for notable scientific or industrial achievement in engineering. His work has proven to have a wide impact over many years leading to the development of successful technology such as Virtual Network Computing (VNC) which has brought significant economic and environmental benefits. He is CEO of RealVNC which he co-founded with Lily Bacon in 2002.

1984 Jo Bailey Wells, currently Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, has been approved as the new Bishop of Dorking in the Diocese of Guildford. She is the first woman bishop from Corpus in the Church of England. She trained for the ministry at St John’s College Durham. She has been Chaplain and Dean of Clare College and served as a lecturer at Ridley Hall from 2001 to 2005.

1987 Eric Schallen, after a brief stint in industry and medical research, earning an MD along the way, is now a senior partner and consultant radiologist in a large practice in Florida.

1987 Waziri Olagboyega is now English programmes director at the newly established International College of the Liberal Arts in Yamaashi Gakuin University, Japan.

1993 Clare Sibson has been appointed a QC and was sworn in by the Lord Chief Justice at a ceremony on 22 February (2016). As well as practising she is a contributing author to Montgomery and Ormerod on Fraud and to Mortimore’s Company Directors: Duties, Liabilities and Remedies. She was a founding consulting editor of the Lloyd’s Law Reports – Financial Crime and is a member of the Consulting Editorial Board of Lexis Nexis.

1994 Simon Davies, after fourteen years as an RAF test pilot until 2013, became a civil aviation test pilot and specialist in remote sensing. He is now a programme manager and aerial survey specialist at 2 Excel Aviation in Northampton.

2012 Frances Butcher who graduated in Geography in 2015 is now in the first year of her PhD in the Department of Planetary Sciences of the Open University where she is researching glaciers on Mars. This follows a publication in the journal Icarus on her undergraduate work for which she was awarded College and University prizes.
Old members’ publications

1955 John Morris
Morris J 2016 Suffering: if God exists, why doesn’t he stop it? John Hunt Publishing
Morris J 2016 ‘Remain or leave? Keep faith or give it up’ The Baptist Times 20 June
(Accessed on 14 September 2016 at http://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/470545/Remain_or_Leave.aspx)

1990 Arthur Williamson
Williamson A 2016 ‘A Fort in the Forest’, ‘Blue on Blue’ and ‘A Forest Rescue’, in
J Newton (ed.) A Living History of the Kenya Police Written by those who Served
vol. 2. Leighton Buzzard: Kenya Police Association, 121-128, 239-242, 311-314

2008 Sebastian Herbstreuth
Herbstreuth S 2016 Oil and the American Identity: A Culture of Dependency and
US Foreign Policy London: I. B. Tauris

2012 Frances Butcher
Butcher F 2016 ‘Are the Dorsa Argentea on Mars eskers?’

Corpus Christi College (Cambridge) Association

Annual General Meeting
In 2016 the Annual General Meeting has been postponed until November,
when it will be held immediately before the annual Alumni Dinner at the
Oxford and Cambridge Club in London – too late to meet the printing
deadline for The Letter. Membership of the Committee remains unchanged.

Members of the Committee
Mr Stuart Laing (1967) President
Mr Michael Fletcher (1976) Honorary Secretary
Brigadier Wulfram Forsythe-York (1951)
Mr Christopher Carwardine (1958)
Dr Michael Spencer (1966)
Dr Christopher Caldwell-Nichols (1967)
Dr Stephen Coniam (1968)
Mr Franz-Josef Ebel (1983)
Ms Afzana Anwer (1986)
Mr Ian Wilson (1998)
Mr Stuart Dunlop (1992)
Mr Andrew Quartermain (1993)
Mr Michael Coles (2003)
Dr Alison Knight (2007)
Professor Peter Carolin (1957) Co-opted Fellow
Dr Keith Seffen (1990) Co-opted Fellow
Beldam and MacCurdy Dinners

The 2017 Beldam Dinner will take place in College on Saturday 8 April. All those who matriculated between 1990 and 1993 will be invited back to dine in Hall and stay overnight in College.

The MacCurdy Dinner will be for all those who matriculated between 1982 and 1986 and will take place in College on Saturday 23 September 2017.

Invitations for each of these dinners will be sent out in due course. If you know of any Old Member who is not in contact with the College, please ask them to get in touch so that we can ensure they do not miss the opportunity to join in with their reunion dinner.

Privileges of members of the College who are Masters or Doctors of the University of Cambridge

Dining

An Old Member who holds an MA, or another Masters/MPhil degree or a higher degree from the University, may dine at High Table as a guest 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, Old Members may not introduce guests to the High Table in the Old House. (But they may request to do so at Leckhampton). Old Members are most welcome to bring guests to the Fellows’ Guest Night dinners organised termly by the Development and Alumni Relations Office. During 2016–17, the dinners will be on Saturday 29 October 2016, Saturday 18 February 2017 and Saturday 27 May 2017. Small parties of Old Members (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).

Old Members 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 Old Members dining on any evening.
**Rooms in College**
An Old Member of the College may also occupy a student guest room in College, if available, for a reduced rate of £45 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
  Email: president@corpus.cam.ac.uk
  Telephone: 01223 339793

- **For Accommodation only:**
  The Development Office
  Corpus Christi College
  Cambridge CB2 1RH
  Email: development@corpus.cam.ac.uk
  Telephone: 01223 339718

**Private Functions and Events**
Old Members of the College are entitled to a discount on the hire of College rooms and the use of 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
  Email: conferences@corpus.cam.ac.uk
  Telephone: 01223 338014
In memoriam

*(edited by William Horbury)*

**1954** **John Norman Murrell,** *Former Fellow,* came to Corpus from King’s College, London and in the same year married his wife Shirley, who became an Oncologist. In Cambridge he completed research work begun in London under the supervision of Professor Christopher Longuet-Higgins, who himself also in 1954 moved from King’s, London to Cambridge and became a Fellow of Corpus. In 1956 John Murrell took the Cambridge PhD degree, and in 1957 he was elected to a Research Fellowship at Corpus, which he held together with a University Assistantship in Research in Theoretical Chemistry.

In 1960 he became Lecturer in Chemistry at Sheffield, publishing in 1963 his *Theory of Electronic Spectra of Organic Molecules.* From 1965–99 he was Professor of Chemistry at the University of Sussex, serving also as Dean of the School of Molecular Sciences (1979–84) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science) (1985–8). Under his leadership Sussex became known as a centre of excellence in theoretical chemistry. In 1974 his former supervisor, now working on cognitive science, became a Sussex colleague, holding a Royal Society Research chair. In 2009, for the golden jubilee of the university, John Murrell published *Molsbook: a history of the School of Molecular Science.*

His election in 1991 as a Fellow of the Royal Society marked his major contributions to chemistry in the fields of electronic spectroscopy, intermolecular forces, potential energy functions and valence theory. In 1993 he became Hon DSc of the University of Coimbra, Portugal. His love of gardening and horticultural expertise lies behind his *Grow and Eat Something Different: some less common vegetables and fruit* (2007). He is survived by his widow, four children and eleven grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to the University of Sussex Bulletin*

**1931** **Robert William Maurice Maling,** Manners Scholar 1933, joined I.C.I. Billingham. There he was also a valued player and referee in the Synthonia [Synthetic Ammonia] Rugby Club. He served as President of the Durham County RFU (1971–2). At his home in Northumberland he comparably supported local cricket. He made a self-effacing and vivid contribution to *Corpus within Living Memory* (2003). He celebrated his 100th birthday in 2013.
1936 **George Ranald Campbell Lumsden**, younger brother of the late J A Lumsden (1933; see *The Letter* 92 (2013) 119), was a member of the Sudan Political Service (1939–54) and became District Commissioner, Northern Kordofan. He was appointed MBE in 1956. Returning to Scotland, he farmed at Menmuir in Angus, serving as a JP, and retired in 1986. Husband of Myfanwy and the late Nancy, he was a father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

1937 **Peter Stirling Willett** remembered from his History supervisions an essay in which he wrote of barbarian tribes as ‘spreading’ in the later Roman Empire. His supervisor, Kenneth Pickthorn (Fellow 1914–75), asked ‘Do you mean spreading like butter on toast?’ Armed with this education in clear thought and expression Willett went on to be commissioned (1941) into The Queen’s Bays (2nd Dragoon Guards) and to fight at El Alamein, becoming a tank troop commander (second-in-command of ‘A’ Squadron). From 1944 he was with his regiment in Italy. After the end of hostilities in Europe he was stationed at Palmanova in eastern Friuli, between Udine and Trieste, and there played a prominent part in establishing a regimental racing stable, organising races in Italy and Austria in which he often rode himself. This activity matched his boyhood passion for hunting. It also presaged his future high repute as an expert on breeding and bloodstock and a writer on racing.

After demobilization he became a racing journalist with the *Sporting Chronicle* (1946–83), and also contributed to the *Sunday Times* and *Horse and Hound*. In 1968 he was co-opted to the Duke of Norfolk’s committee on the future of flat racing. The committee’s most important decision was to institute a properly regulated series of races for the best horses over all distances, which became known as ‘the Pattern’ and, in one form or another, was adopted by all the major racing countries. In 1966 he issued his *Introduction to the Thoroughbred*, with a Foreword by the 16th Duke of Norfolk, whom he advised on pedigrees and breeding at Angmering Park Stud. In the same year he had been appointed breeding consultant to the Cliveden Stud. Breeding at these studs carried out on his advice produced winners of races including the Derby, the Oaks, the St Leger and the Ascot Gold Cup.

He was elected to the council of the Thoroughbred Breeders’ Association in 1973, and later served as President (1980–85). He was elected a member of the Jockey Club in 1981. His published books on racing include the authorized biography of the Queen’s trainer, Dick Hern (2000). His autobiographical *Armoured Horseman* (2015) gives a vivid and sometimes trenchant account of his war service and subsequent career. His first wife, Anne, died in 1965, and in 1971 he married secondly Chloe Beamish, who died in 2007. He is survived by two sons of his first marriage and two stepchildren.

*With acknowledgement to the Daily Telegraph*

1938 **Charles Kenneth Moreland Percival** read Engineering for two years, and then served in the Royal Engineers (Chemical Warfare Company). His duties included the clearing of minefields at El Alamein, bridge-building in Sicily, participation in the Normandy landings in 1944, and subsequent service in connection with roads, bridges and mine-clearing in France and Holland.
After the war he worked with the family steel firm, Moreland and Haine, in London, until it was bought out. He then for a time taught technical drawing at Rickmansworth Grammar School, before working in dock and boatyard management in Devon (also finding openings for his love of sailing). He finally settled in Somerset. Here he became steadfastly attached to Wells Cathedral, worshipping there for over forty years. Before retirement he worked for the Wells Stockbroker Office. His memories of Corpus included a canoe which he kept at the college boathouse. ‘We always went upstream’ (he wrote) ‘so as not to interfere with any rowing’.

In 1942 he married Josephine Wilks; he became a father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a liveryman in the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers, becoming Father of the Company in 2013.

With acknowledgement to Louise Beauchamp

1939 Michael Richard Oliver Earls-Davis served in the Irish Guards during the war, and then returned to Cambridge to complete his History degree. Thereafter he taught at Downside for seven years. These were followed by many years as an assistant master at Sherborne, where he had been at school himself, and nine years as a Housemaster there. He was a keen sportsman, involved in coaching school games, particularly cricket and squash, at all levels. He commanded the school's Combined Cadet Force with spectacular success. For many years he was also Honorary Secretary of the Sherborne Pilgrims, the club which promotes all aspects of Old Shirburnian sport, and served as President in the 1980s. He married in 1958 and is survived by a daughter and two sons.

With acknowledgement to Ann Earls-Davis and Robert Hands

1941 Michael Edwin Gooch came to Corpus from Norwich School with a view to studying architecture. After war service in India with the Royal Engineers he graduated and worked in the architects’ department of the LCC, and married a fellow-architect, Sheila Ward. He then practised in Norwich, from 1958 jointly with his wife, and came to specialise in conservation. He played a key rôle in setting up the Friends of Norwich Churches, and for the National Trust was architect in charge at Blickling Hall. He was also involved in work at Felbrigg, Peckover House in Wisbech, Houghton Hall, and the mediaeval Priory Lane and Norman House in King’s Lynn. His wife died in 2006. Their children Simon and Joanna survive them, with two grandchildren.

With acknowledgement to the Eastern Daily Press

1943 David Noble Jenkins came from Rugby to read Agriculture Part I, and after Part II went on to gain the Certificate in Theology; he also served in the RNVR (East Indies Station and Singapore). He trained for the priesthood at Cuddesdon Theological College, where Kenneth Riches (m. 1927) was Principal. After four years’ curacy at St. Matthew’s, Northampton, he became Chaplain of Hurstpierpoint (1954–9), worked as Secretary with responsibility for schools with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, an historic Anglican missionary society, and then returned to school life as Chaplain of Eastbourne
College (1966–74). He was Vicar of Jarvis Brook, Crowborough, 1975-90. After two years in the USA he returned to the diocese of Chichester and gave help in parishes in Crowborough and Mayfield. The sermon at his Requiem in St Nicholas’, Brighton, on 17 December 2015 was preached by John Caperon (Fellow Commoner 1978).

With acknowledgement to Dr John Caperon

1944 Dr John Derek Vernon Griffiths. We have learned of his death.

1944 Ian David Hill was the elder son of Sir Austin Bradford Hill, FRS, author of Principles of Medical Statistics, which became a classic for workers in the field of medical research. David himself was a statistician at the Medical Research Council for much of his life, and issued many publications on statistics and on programming languages, both solely and with others. He assisted his father in successive editions of the Principles, and brought to fruition the 1991 revision in the last year of his father’s life.

He had left school at Merchant Taylors to join the RAF, but was invalided out with rheumatic fever, and came to Corpus when not quite eighteen for one of the special courses arranged for service personnel. He always valued his link with the College. He went on to University College, London, for the BSc degree, and then worked at the National Physical Laboratory, where he met his wife Esmé (died 2012). After working for the Ministry of Supply he joined a computer unit of the MRC in the 1960s, and served in various computing and statistical divisions of the Council until his retirement.

He was awarded the Doctorate of Science of the University of London in 1975. He served as Honorary Secretary of the Royal Statistical Society (1973–80), and in 1983 was awarded the Chambers Medal for outstanding services to the Society. He was also a member of the Electoral Reform Society and an advocate of the single transferable vote, the rules for which had been devised by his ancestor Sir Thomas Wright Hill in the early nineteenth century. He is survived by his children Elizabeth and Stephen.

With acknowledgement to Dr Elizabeth Davenport and the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A

1945 Adrian Michael Bishop gained a double First in Classics after completing his National Service in the RAF. He taught (briefly) at Bradford Grammar School before he was invited in 1950 to join the staff of his old school, Kingswood (Bath), where he spent the rest of his teaching career until his retirement in 1987, when he took on the role of school archivist until his second retirement in 2000.

He was, and remains, an iconic figure in the history of Kingswood. He was an able and much-loved teacher of Greek and Latin, and many of his pupils went on to achieve distinction both within and outside the world of classics. He eventually became Head of Classics, a Senior Housemaster, and Director of Studies at Kingswood. He was especially active in dramatic productions at the school, designing the sets, with meticulously crafted models, of 48 plays, 24 of
which he also directed. Outside the school he played a leading part in the Bath Opera Group over its 25 year history, with singing roles in 11 productions, including Antonio in The Marriage of Figaro, as well as designing the sets for 15 productions and directing The Italian Girl in Algiers. He also sang in the Bath Bach Choir.

He took great delight in returning to Corpus, with his wife Philippa, in 2006 to celebrate his 80th birthday at a dinner hosted by one of his former Kingswood pupils from the 1950s, who was a Fellow and Director of Studies in Classics.

Barrie Fleet

1947 Clifford Jack Lane, having won a county major scholarship to read Modern Languages from Westcliff High School in 1942, joined the RAF and was selected to learn Japanese. He became one of a small unit which worked behind enemy lines in the Philippines, to monitor Japanese radio messages. He reached Corpus after demobilization. In 1951 he went on to teach, first at the Lycée Carnot in Paris, then at Launceston College, and from 1957 at a Ministry of Defence school in Kuala Lumpur. In 1964 he joined the Crypt School, Gloucester to teach Spanish, French and German. Known there for his love of travel, he acted as interpreter and joint leader for many tours in Europe by parties from the school. He retired in 1984. He is survived by his widow Coula and three children, and became a grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather.

With acknowledgement to the Gloucester Citizen and to C. Lepper,

1949 Arthur James Spencer read Engineering after National Service, having served in Berlin during the blockade. During residence as an undergraduate and BA he rowed, sang, and met his future wife, Marie Teresa Elgar (died 2009). After marriage (1953) he worked successively at the British Tabulating Company in Letchworth, Tube Investments in Aston, and Brush in Loughborough. He then moved to a lectureship at Loughborough College of Technology (soon to be Loughborough University), where he remained until retirement in 1989. During earlier years as a lecturer he grew a beard, after burns when a wrongly-charged electrolytic capacitor exploded in his face. He continued with part-time university teaching for about ten years after retirement. He was a member of Charnwood Borough Council for twelve years, and also served on Leicestershire County Council and the Leicestershire Health Authority & Public Protection Committee. He is survived by his sons Peter, James (m. 1977) and George. The accompanying photograph shows what James describes as his father’s trademark electrical screwdriver in the top pocket.

With acknowledgement to James Spencer

1949 John Denza came to us from Winchester and read Classics with a consistent record of Firsts. His contemporary Edward Booth (m. 1949) recalled the high standard of his piano playing in college; John’s grandfather Luigi Denza composed the famous Neapolitan song Funiculi, funiculà, and later became a director of the London Academy of Music, and his son Mark is well known as an
organist, singer, and choir director. John Denza himself went into accountancy. He was articled with Spicer & Pegler, qualifying in 1955. (A book by the senior partner of Spicer & Pegler had encouraged him to think that the idea of accountancy ‘was not necessarily dreary.’) After two more years he moved to Cooper Brothers, working mainly on management consultancy. In 1962 he joined Finnie, Ross, Welsh, becoming a partner and ultimately specializing on tax matters. He retired in 1994. He is survived by his widow Eileen, his daughter Antonia and his sons Mark and Paul.

*With acknowledgement to Mark West (m. 1982) and to D. Matthews and J. Pirie (edd.), The Auditors Talk: An Oral History of a Profession from the 1920s to the Present Day (2000)*

**1950 Jeremy John Elliott.** We have learned of his death.

**1951 Dr Harold Graham Holland** after war service in the R.A.A.F. married his wife Dorothy (1946), completed the BSc and MSc degrees at Sydney, and came to Corpus for a PhD in Physical Chemistry. After three years with the research department of ICI (Fibres Division), and a brief spell of teaching at Bradford Grammar School, he returned to the University of Sydney as Lecturer in Chemistry (1959–84). He maintained thereafter an active connection with the University. He sang tenor for many years with the Sydney Philharmonia Choir, and was a keen opera-goer. He co-edited and contributed to the Sydney Science Faculty’s centenary volume, *Ever Reaping Something New* (1985), and contributed to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. He is survived by his widow, daughter, and two sons.

*With acknowledgement to Julian Holland*

**1951 Colin Richard Winser** read History and became a solicitor and Parliamentary Agent, also serving in the Territorial Army. He is survived by his widow Caroline, two children and three grandchildren.

**1952 Patrick Bacon** came to Corpus from Gravesend Grammar School and read Natural Sciences. He then took a three-year Short Service Commission with the Fleet Air Arm, becoming an Instructor Lieutenant specializing in meteorology. While stationed at Lossiemouth he met his wife Anne, and they married in 1959. They moved to London, where he joined Decca Radar (later taken over by Plessey) as an operational and technical consultant in the Meteorological Radar sales department – work which involved much international travel. During these years storm warning or weather radar was being developed. In this country Patrick had a close relationship with the UK Meteorological Office as it formed a network of weather radars, results from which support the daily weather forecasts. After retirement he continued, with his wife, to travel and to find openings for the love of walking in mountain scenery which he had developed as an undergraduate. He is survived by his widow, two children and five grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Anne Bacon*
1952 **Alan Vening**'s undergraduate duties as Organ Scholar (he modestly called himself ‘enthusiastic and wayward’, but was always remembered with affection by Geoffrey Styler) combined with much wider musical and dramatic activity. At once devoted and light-hearted, its range is evoked in the contributions by Harry Porter, John Bertalot, Michael Harverson, Brian Macdonald-Milne and Alan Vening himself to *Corpus within Living Memory*. Alan Vening was at the heart of a notable period of overlap between the college choir, the Footlights and the Fletcher Players. From May Week Concert programmes, 1954–6, Harry Porter quotes the rubric: ‘At the Pianos, Alan Vening and Peter Stroud’. Alan was President of the University Musical Comedy Club and a music director for the Footlights, composing for example their May Week revue of 1955, which transferred to London, and the musical comedy *The Girl Next Door*, presented at the Arts Theatre in 1956. In college he composed the music for the third of the May Week operettas for which Harry Porter wrote the libretto, *The Dutch Uncle: A Swan Song* (1956), performed in Hall and set in a bishop’s crumbling palace. The compliments paid by *The Times* to the sophistication, wit and melody of Alan’s music are quoted by Harry Porter in *Corpus within Living Memory*, p 144.

After this, in the words of his son Nigel, ‘he hated National Service with a passion’, but he went on to become Director of Music at Wrekin College. After just over ten years he moved to teach at the University of Cardiff, and then became Director of Music at Aldenham School and, as would be expected, an enthusiastic promoter of concerts and the organ. After retirement (1994) he remained active as organist and choirmaster of St Lawrence, Abbots Langley, an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, and a participant in the Abbots Langley Gilbert and Sullivan Society. His wife Jill died in 2003. Illness reduced his contribution from 2004 onwards, and in 2010 he moved to Brighton. He is survived by his children Paula and Nigel, and has bequeathed to the College his Steinway grand piano.

*With acknowledgement to Nigel Vening*

1953 **Jock Hoe**, born in New Zealand (1929) to immigrant Cantonese parents, came to Corpus after studying mathematics at the University of Otago and the Victoria University of Wellington. He read for the Mathematical Tripos and the Diploma in Mathematical Statistics. After teaching statistics to engineers in Paris he became Lecturer in Statistics in the then University of Malaya at Kuala Lumpur, adding Malay to the languages which he commanded already (English, French, Latin, German, Cantonese, Mandarin, and some Russian and Greek). In 1963 he returned to the Victoria University of Wellington as Lecturer in Mathematics, later becoming Reader. At the end of the 1960s he was spending sabbatical leaves and the summer vacations at the Sorbonne, working for a doctorate in the history of Chinese mathematics. For his thesis he translated into French a mathematical textbook of 1303 by Zhu Shijie, ‘The Jade Mirror of the Four Unknowns’, and wrote a commentary on it. From the late 1970s he reduced his mathematical teaching so that he could also teach Mandarin in his university’s Chinese department, and became a leading member of the New Zealand China Society. In the 1980s he moved to Shanghai and taught English
there at a language institute, but he returned to New Zealand and eventually taught Chinese at Christchurch Polytechnic, a position which he held until his death. He was unmarried.

*With acknowledgement to Shirley Pledger and Ruth Barton*

1953 **Robert (Robin) Jagoe** read Natural Sciences as an undergraduate, and also met his future wife Hilary June Rodber, who started work as a secretary in the college in 1954. After graduation he joined the Colonial Service and worked as a District Officer in northern Nigeria. He returned to England in 1963 and, after teacher training in Bristol, taught at Epsom College. From 1969 to his retirement in 1994 he was Head of the Department of Biology at Ellesmere College. He is survived by his wife and four children.

*With acknowledgement to Thomas Jagoe*

1954 **Hanns-Joerg Kleeberg.** We have learned of his death.

1954 **William (Bill) Taylor,** born in Canada, came to Corpus after National Service in the Royal Navy. He read Theology, going on to Westcott House to complete his ordination training. After four years’ curacy at Eastney in Portsmouth he re-enlisted, now as a Royal Navy chaplain, and was seconded to the Royal Marines. In this period he was stationed in Sarawak during the Borneo conflict and married his wife Freda. Returning to England with two sons they settled in Dorset. Here he was Rector of Childe Okeford (where his father Richard also had been Rector) and Manston with Hammoon (1967–70). He then served again as a naval chaplain (1970–87) in a range of ships and shore postings. In Norway in the 1970s, on a NATO joint exercise with West German sailors who had a hostile reception from Norwegian civilians, he helped to calm the situation by organizing with a German chaplain an informal march of uniformed British and German sailors, to lay wreaths jointly at a war memorial. In 1984 he was appointed Honorary Chaplain to HM The Queen.

After two years as Team Rector of Tisbury (1987–9) he became Chaplain to Hatfield Polytechnic, later the University of Hertfordshire. Here there was no chapel, and he proposed and enabled the building of the Interfaith Key Centre. He led groups of students on pilgrimage, notably at New Year 1990, soon after the fall of the Berlin Wall, to Wroclaw, formerly Breslau. The University admitted him to an honorary MA. After retirement in 1998 he settled in St Neots with his second wife, Lottie, and helped in parishes in and around the town, lecturing too for the University of the Third Age in Cambridge, and active as an attached grandfather and step-grandfather.

*With acknowledgement to Richard Taylor (son) and John Taylor (brother)*

1955 **John Adney Emerton,** a graduate of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, was incorporated as a Cambridge MA affiliated to Corpus after being appointed University Lecturer in Divinity at Cambridge. He had earlier served as curate of Birmingham Cathedral and Assistant Lecturer in Theology at Birmingham University, and then as Lecturer in Hebrew and Aramaic at Durham. He moved
from Cambridge to become Reader in Semitic Philology at Oxford in 1962. After he returned to Cambridge as Regius Professor of Hebrew in 1968 he was elected a Fellow of St John’s, but he valued his Corpus connection and enjoyed coming into college for his quarterly MA dinner. A regular visitor to Jerusalem, he would elicit from John Harley-Mason reminiscences of service in Palestine in the 1940s, from events of international note to the meets of the Ramleh Vale Hunt.

1956 **Peter Willis** was an architectural historian who specialised in the development of the English landscape garden. His early career included periods working as an architect in Middlesborough and Edinburgh before further research in Washington, DC. Returning to the UK in 1965, he was appointed to a lectureship in Architecture at Newcastle University where, after becoming personal Reader in the history of architecture in 1979, he remained until 1996. A frequent visitor to the US, he was a visiting professor and fellow at the Universities of Minnesota, Yale, Manitoba and Louisville. Following his retirement from Newcastle, Willis gained a Diploma in Music at the Open University and a PhD from the University of Durham for his thesis on Chopin’s visit to Britain. Previously, in 1992, on the basis of his publications, he had been awarded the degree of DLitt by the University of Durham. In 2006 he endowed, in memory of his parents, the Robert and Mary Willis Prize for a finalist in Architecture and its related disciplines of Engineering and History of Art.

*Peter Carolin (m. 1957)*

1957 **George Atherton** was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis shortly after a First in Natural Sciences. He gave up his hopes of medical practice, and remained in academic life. He joined the Department of Human Biology and Anatomy at Sheffield University, researching and publishing in the field and teaching anatomy to medical students.

*With acknowledgement to Nicki Hooke*

1958 **Roger Kershaw Wilson**. We have learned of his death.

1960 **Christopher Hill** was personal finance editor of the Financial Times, then Assistant Editor of Financial Weekly, and later wrote a regular column for the Sunday Telegraph. In the early 1980s he and Michael Braham formed Broadcast Communications plc, which became one of the UK’s biggest independent producers of television programmes. Their output included *The Business Programme* and *Business Daily* for Channel Four, and they won the original contract to televise the House of Commons. Christopher ‘played a crucial rôle in developing the business’, in Michael Braham’s words. They eventually sold the company to the Guardian Media Group. Thereafter Christopher spent much time abroad, at his homes in Switzerland, Austria, and finally Malta. In England he would meet his friends at the East India Club. He was a donor to the College over many years. He is survived by his wife Marianne, a son and daughter, and four grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Michael Braham*
1960 **Michael Cannon.** We have learned of his death.

1963 **Ian Wybrew-Bond** worked for Shell for thirty-five years, and continued thereafter with involvement in other companies. He became a gas adviser to the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, and was a joint author of the books *Gas to Europe* (1999) and *Natural Gas in Asia* (2002).

1977 **Joseph Edward Eschbach** came to Corpus from Washington State University for the Diploma in Economics, and went on to Stanford University for a PhD. He worked for many years as a marketing executive in Silicon Valley, at companies such as Apple, Adobe, and Microsoft, and recently as a consultant. He is survived by his widow Margaret and three sons.

1983 **Sheila Hamilton** died in 2013 following complications after pancreatitis. After Corpus she worked in communications roles with various employers, including the Northern Ireland political and cultural magazine *Fortnight*, and in a number of charities and public sector organizations. She was involved as a contributor in the Mass Observation project, as part of her wider interest in anthropology and folk history. She maintained a keen interest in culture and the arts, and towards the end of her life was chair of Cooltan Arts, an arts mental health organization in London. She is survived by her civil partner Ursula, their two children, co-parents David (Lea, m. 1983) and Karl, and her mother Audrey.

*With acknowledgement to Ursula Brown and Audrey Hamilton*

2000 **Gregg Matthew Capon** went on to complete his study of Engineering at Durham and Newcastle, making friends both in Cambridge and the north-east. His sporting activity ranged from cricket and football to trampolining, climbing, and adventurous swimming. He was working as a project engineer when he died, aged 33. He is survived by his parents, Alex and Alexandra, and his partner Helen.

*With acknowledgement to Kate Bellamy (m. 2000)*

2009 **David Wadsworth** began studying aged 64 for the MSt degree in Local and Regional History, but withdrew before completion. He died in December 2012.
On the College trip to Georgia, led by the Dean of Chapel, we visited the Gelati Monastery, a twelfth-century foundation. Above one of the archways was the Georgian symbol of learning: the outline of a book, enclosing a sun to represent how learning should spread its warmth and light through the world.
The motif on the back cover is taken from the Pelican banner made by Sebastian Robins and Susannah Gibson.