

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE · CAMBRIDGE



# The Record

MICHAELMAS 2020 · No.99



# The Record

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(formerly *The Letter*)

MICHAELMAS 2020

No. 99

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

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**NEWS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

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

The College in lockdown  
Cover: New Court from the gatehall  
p. 5: Old Court from the screens passage

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# The Society (as on 8 October 2020)

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## Fellows

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Professor Paul Hewett MA PhD (Edinburgh) Food and Wine Steward, *Professor of Observational Cosmology and Astrophysics*

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Professor Emma Wilson MA PhD Tutor, College Harassment Officer, *Professor of French Literature and the Visual Arts*

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Dr Paul Kattuman BA MA (Calicut) PhD *Reader in Economics, Judge Business School*

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- Dr Jonathan Morgan MA (Oxford) PhD *Reader in English Law*
- Dr Pontus Rendahl BA MA (Lund) PhD (EUI Florence) *Reader in Economics*
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- Dr Sam Behjati MA BM BCh (Oxford) PhD *Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellow; Group Leader at the Wellcome Sanger Institute*
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The Revd Canon Roger Morgan MA

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## Honorary Fellows

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 Sir Mark Elder MA CH CBE (Hon)DMus  
 Sir Hugh Roberts MA GCVO FSA  
 Dame Jacqueline Wilson DBE FRSL  
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 The Rt Hon Lord (Patrick) Hodge MA LLB (Edinburgh) QC  
 Professor Avinash Dixit BSc (Bombay) MA PhD (MIT)

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 Ms Shawn Donnelley BA (Loyola, New Orleans) MA (Emerson)  
 Dr Laura Young (Hon)PhD (Queen Margaret Univ.) MBE  
 Mr Liong Seen Kwee BSc (UC Berkeley)  
 Mrs Wai Phin Kwee  
 Sir Andrew Cook LLB (London) CBE  
 Dr Louis Cheung MA PhD  
 Dr Hong Siau PhD  
 Ms Sarah Colclough BA (Exeter)



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# The College Year

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## From the Master

This year has been different. The world has been out of joint. Our lives have been framed by uncertainty. We have been forced to learn many new things. From the trivial – who could have predicted that we can all now “Zoom” (that was once the privilege of a comic book hero or a race car); to the necessary – as we all wrestled with the new protocols of distance learning and with meetings, seminars and supervisions interrupted by that new catch phrase yelled at the unexpectedly and frustratingly silent, “You are muted”; to the serious as we thought about what it meant to be part of a household, a group of friends, a community, a college when lockdown and social distancing meant that we could no longer gather together with family, friends and colleagues as we were once accustomed.

A great deal could be said about the final few months of the last academic year. This edition of *The Record* brings together a series of sympathetic accounts of the Easter Term that never quite was – or at least was only virtually (pp. 30–35). They reveal a College community determined to remain connected and to reflect thoughtfully on the experiences of pandemic, lockdown and isolation.

I want to pause for a moment on the graduands of 2020. After all, it is no small thing to have had the final months of your time in Cambridge sliced away. Not to have had that last terrifying run at examinations followed by the exhilarating rush of May Week. Not to have been able to be serious together; not to have been able to enjoy late night conversation (and illicit pizza) together in the Taylor Library; not to have wandered aimlessly together from one garden party to another. These were traditional rewards of a final year of hard work in Cambridge.

What I have found particularly impressive is how 2020 graduands have risen to the challenge of something completely different – and entirely unexpected. Some deserve particular congratulations for their resilience and determination in the face of difficult family or personal circumstances. I am glad that College hardship funds have been deployed to help those who found that they did not have the right environment or the right kit for effective distance learning (no quiet place to work; a laptop without a camera). More widely, I am impressed by the ways in which this year’s finalists found opportunities to support each other through the last few months. In many respects it seems to me they are more closely and tightly knit together as a result of their enforced isolation

*Opposite page: Margaret Andrew’s Will of 1349, giving lands to both the Guild of St Mary and the Guild of Corpus Christi. She has pride of place among the College’s benefactors.*



than previous years of Corpus students' who worked hard, partied hard, group hugged and left. I detect something more lasting here – a quiet sense of justifiable pride in achievements won in unusual times; and an achievement won with a sense of community all the more precious because it has been all the more difficult and challenging to achieve. For me that makes this group of graduands a particularly remarkable and memorable group – and all the more deserving of congratulation. And (as our Praelector, Dr Jo Willmott, outlines a little later in her piece on p. 33) we all gathered together for a Zoom graduation to salute the achievement of those who successfully completed their studies at Cambridge in these strange and remarkable times.

### *Honouring the aims of our founders*

Our College of Corpus Christi and the Blessed Virgin Mary was founded in 1352 by the townspeople of Cambridge who, in the aftermath of a devastating plague, moved to establish a society of scholars dedicated (in the words of our statutes) to 'education, research, learning and religion.' Fortunately, the parallels between medieval plague and Covid are not at all close. For not only was the Black Death a bacterial rather than a viral disease, it was far, far more lethal than Covid. As it swept across the known world between 1345 and 1353, the plague wiped out between 30 and 50 per cent of the total population. And it brought significant social and economic change. Many of the survivors of the Black Death and their successors benefited from easier access to land, cheaper food, higher wages and the loosening of the bonds of serfdom.

The College gives pride of place in its list of benefactors to Margaret Andrew of Chesterton who, by her will (preserved in the Parker Library) of the 7th May 1349, gave lands to both the Gild of St Mary and the Gild of Corpus Christi, which just three years later were to merge into the joint gild which founded this College. About Margaret Andrew we know frustratingly very little: she had a small amount of land – she gave one and a half acres in Chesterton to the Gild of Corpus Christi. This gift is significant because it is the earliest documentary evidence of the existence of the gild. Apart from that, Margaret left a collection of domestic goods that suggest that she had oversight of a relatively large household – they included fourteen bowls and basins of various sizes.

I often like to think about Margaret Andrew. It pleases me greatly that the impetus and imagination to found this College was provided by a woman. Corpus should be glad that – unlike other colleges – it was not founded by a renegade royal, a jilted queen, an over-reaching bishop or a guilt-ridden nun. The foundation of this College was a response by the townspeople of Cambridge to a world turned upside down. After the devastation of the Black Death, it was an extraordinary affirmation of confidence in the future. It was a long-term investment in 'education, research, learning and religion.'

Pandemics are often important inflection points in history. The Justinianic Plague in the sixth century A.D. was a significant element in the decline and fall of the Roman Empire in the East. The Black Death in the fourteenth century was key to the end of feudalism. The "Spanish flu" pandemic combined with the

losses in World War I was fundamental in triggering the social and political revolutions in early twentieth century Europe. The so-called Bombay plague in India in the 1890s hastened the end of British colonial rule.

Of course, we do not yet know what our society's inflection point will be. History is always written in retrospect. But we might ask what the founders of this College – and particularly Margaret Andrew – demand of us seven centuries later as we face (down) our own pandemic problems. I hope they would admire the way in which the College community has come together. I hope they would be proud of the effort and long hours put in by some of the Fellows and staff (the College's key workers). I hope too that they would be pleased with the way in which the larger aims of the College have not been washed away in the deluge of detailed logistics, risk assessments and Covid preparations.

### *The largest and most diverse intake ever*

Writing in *The Record* last year I noted that, 'the current challenge for admissions to Cambridge is to ensure that we are admitting the widest possible range of undergraduates who will thrive in the unapologetically academic environment of collegiate Cambridge'. Corpus' response to this challenge was to expand our undergraduate places and to establish a three-week residential bridging course. Corpus is the first college in Cambridge to run a bridging course. It ran in September 2000; and it was – to be frank – a great success. (A tribute to the careful planning of its Director, Dr Charles Read, who offers a detailed account later in this *Record*, pp. 27–28.) All those involved in the Bridging Course were committed, hard-working and scrupulously careful to follow Covid protocols. My lasting impression is of socially-distanced white plastic tables arranged for lunch and dinner turning the Old Court lawn into a surreal landscape worthy of Magritte.



Socially-distanced white plastic tables arranged for Bridging Course meals 'turning the Old Court lawn into a surreal landscape worthy of Magritte'

The sixteen students on the Bridging Course are part of a wider and more significant change in the College. As a result of this year's undergraduate admissions round, this first year (at 103) is the largest in the College's history. The narrative of how this came about is told in the report from Dr Marina Frasca-Spada (Senior Tutor) and Dr Michael Sutherland (Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions). It's the bottom line that matters: 'this will be both the largest and most diverse intake of undergraduates in the history of Corpus, with 78% of home students coming from state sector schools'. By that measure, over the last three years Corpus has been in the bottom quartile of Cambridge colleges. As a result of the last admissions round we are now almost at the top of the first quartile. The most immediate challenge is to stay there.

Of course, there is still a great deal of work to be done – on this and a number of other strategic projects. When I write in a year's time, it will be from a College moving forward under new and refreshed leadership in a range of key areas: a new Bursar, a new Domus Bursar, a new Head of Communications and a new Director of Development and Alumni Relations. Expect further change. And change which always seeks to further our fundamental aim to promote academic excellence through 'education, research, learning and religion'. Above all, in thinking our way forward from this disagreeable and disturbing present, we should hold fast to Margaret Andrew's confidence in the Gilds' project to found a 'house of scholars' in mid-fourteenth-century Cambridge. We should share our founders' bright optimism (in those dark years after the Black Death) and be certain that when these doubtful and disjointed times have run their course, we shall embrace a College which will, as it has done for nearly seven hundred years, carry on with its ancient mission and continue through shared memories and experiences to bind the Corpus community – Fellows, staff, students and Old Members scattered across the world – even more closely together.

CHRISTOPHER KELLY, *Master*

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## Tutorial Report

The beginning of an academic year is always an exciting time. Accordingly, when we started in Michaelmas 2019 we were full of enthusiasm: the new students' combination of eagerness and apprehension, our keenness to meet them again in person (in most cases for the first time after their admission interviews), the thrill of starting our new lecture courses, the renewed challenges of our impossible schedules – all of this made us look with keen anticipation to the weeks and months to come. We simply had no idea that the last weeks of the following Lent Term would find us living in what felt more and more like a science-fiction novel – the coronavirus immediately seemed to be very much the legitimate cousin to John Wyndham's rampaging triffids and awoken monster-kraken. And so, when the lockdown was announced we started helping our students reach their family homes, whenever possible. (But we also were clear that the College was their home if, for whatever reason, their situation required them to stay on, and indeed a number of them have been with us in College, either in the Old House or, most of them, in Leckhampton, throughout this difficult period.)



Following that, everything was just as intense as we expected, but for different reasons. To begin with, when the Easter Term started, no students came back, and even once the lockdown was eased, King's Parade and the Market Square remained all but deserted even on sunny Saturday afternoons. Everything for the whole term took place remotely, on one or other of the now-familiar platforms of which many of us didn't even know the existence until early April – Zoom, Teams, etc. Of course, remote lectures and supervisions are both a challenge and an opportunity. But, to begin with, we had to try to make sure that all our students had at least the basic resources to work remotely, and we encouraged them to come forward and let us know if they needed a special grant to upgrade their electronic equipment. Many of them also had to negotiate studying arrangements in busy family households. All in all, this certainly was a steep learning curve for all of us, students and academics alike!

Or take Tripos examinations. For many first- and second-year undergraduates, there were no 'real' exams this year, but automatic progression to the following year of studies. They had the option, which most of them did take, of on-line open-book assessments, the results of which, being simply indicative, will not appear in the final transcripts. For all that, they were a bit scary nonetheless, especially for the first-year students for whom this was the taster of what a university exam is like. Of course, finalists did take Tripos examinations – but even those have been different. Students wrote them at the end of the strangest revision time, spent at their parents' homes and entirely remote. The exams themselves were an on-line operation too. And even though they were marked as usual and classed, there were no ranked class-lists. We have very good reason to be proud of their results, with an unprecedented number of firsts.

### ***Undergraduate Admissions***

The 2019 Admissions Round was an extraordinary one at Corpus for many reasons. It marked the first year we made offers for the Bridging Course, which created places for up to 10 students from under-represented backgrounds. We made 122 offers in January to account for the expansion in undergraduate numbers, anticipating around 90–95 students would meet the conditions of their offer and matriculate in 2020.

The disruption to education caused by the Covid pandemic however meant that exams worldwide were delayed or cancelled, leading to much anxiety for students, parents and teachers. In the UK, this anxiety was compounded by a dramatic 11th hour U-turn on how A-level grades were to be awarded. Students saw their calculated grades replaced by centre assessed grades, which in most cases were higher. When the dust settled, we confirmed 103 new students at Corpus, far greater than our historical average of 80–85.

Staff in the Tutorial Office immediately set about the Herculean effort of managing the allocation of accommodation for these students, and with the cooperation of the Warden of Leckhampton every one of these freshers will, as usual, have a room in College this year. Extra supervisions have been arranged, and Fellows are gearing up to deliver the kind of individualised academic and pastoral support that we pride ourselves in offering.

By every metric, this will be both the largest and most diverse intake of undergraduates in the history of Corpus, with 78% of home students coming from state sector schools for instance. The excitement around welcoming such a large cohort is palpable, and we look forward to a memorable year.

### **Transparency at Interview**

Much has been written about the Cambridge admission interview, most of it untrue. From the point of view of applicants and their teachers, the admissions interview can seem to be the final hurdle to a Cambridge place, where students face an intimidating panel of academics sworn to trip them up on some piece of esoterica.

Of course, in reality the interview is nothing like this. It gives Directors of Studies a chance to learn more about an applicant's interests and aptitudes through exploring an unseen poem or a challenging physics problem. Interviews themselves are based on supervisions and help us establish whether a candidate has the right mix of academic skills and potential to thrive in our unique educational environment.

In the October 2019 admissions round Corpus launched a new initiative called 'Transparency at Interview', which invited three teachers from state sector schools to sit in on an afternoon of real, unscripted admissions interviews. Teachers were able to view the interviewers and candidates in action, dispelling myths and allowing them to better prepare their own students for a future application.

Feedback from this scheme has been overwhelmingly positive. One teacher writes, "I found the interviews themselves enlightening and surprisingly enjoyable... In fact, I felt that the whole interview process, though obviously challenging to the students, was conducted in a very sympathetic and supportive manner."

The Transparency at Interview scheme underpins our wider goal of encouraging a more educationally and socially diverse pool of applicants to Corpus, and we hope to continue this in the future.

MARINA FRASCA-SPADA, *Senior Tutor*

MICHAEL SUTHERLAND, *Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions*

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### **Bursary Matters**

For the financial year ended June 2019, the College recorded an unrestricted deficit of £959k versus a surplus of £662k in the prior year. Including restricted and endowment items, the deficit before other gains and losses was £635k against a surplus of £611k in the prior year. The return to an unrestricted deficit, although unwelcome, was expected as the Spine Project reduced the external conference income in the summer of 2018 and there were exceptional expenses – such as the temporary kitchens. The Project was delivered significantly below budget and on time.

We continue to utilise the income and accumulated unspent incomes of our restricted funds, expending £1.5m on education this year versus £1.1m last year. Many of the restricted funds are established and maintained by the crucial contribution made by our donors – their extraordinary generosity is greatly

appreciated. We continue to plan based on a rolling three-year budgeting programme that ensures that we anticipate expected incomes and manage our costs effectively. Over the last few months, scenario building and sensitivity analysis have become even more important. Unfortunately, owing to the pandemic, the financial statements for 2019–20 will reveal a deficit.

### **The Endowment**

The Endowment's capital value at 30th June 2019 was £111.1m – up 1.6% from £109.4m the previous year. This was achieved after withdrawing 3.75% of the preceding 20-quarter average capital value for spending to support our charitable aims. Returns were evenly split between the securities and property sections of the portfolio. The few lease renewals and new leases saw upward rent reviews on good lease terms. At June 2019, the valuations held stable but a very different picture was evident by June 2020 – our property valuations are hugely reduced and a disclaimer has been made as to the certainty of these values. We will report on these difficulties next year. During the year we have continued with the phased investment of the £10m long-term loan – currently 75% is invested following guidance from the Investment Committee.

### **Building and refurbishment**

With the completion of the Spine Project, disruption to areas of the College is over. Encompassing the medieval Hall and Master's Lodge, the Wilkins staircase and the Parker and Marlowe Rooms, the Project has proved a resounding success and has been put forward (by others) for an RIBA Eastern Region award. Also in the Old House, the rooms at the other end of the Hall have been refurbished and refreshed. The SCR Green and Red MacCurdy Rooms have had cracked ceilings repaired and previously carpeted wood floors brought back to life. A new Life Fellows' Room and a Fellows' Reading Room have been created on C stairs and the Old Combination Room furniture refreshed and recovered.

Student accommodation has been a concern for some time as the pioneering Bridging Course and anticipated increase in undergraduate numbers over the next three years will necessitate more rooms. Plans were in progress to redevelop 23 Cranmer Road, but recent events have enabled us to pause and examine other options.

SUE AINGER-BROWN, *Treasurer and Second Bursar*

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## **Leckhampton Life**

It is hard to recollect the year past, or at least the part of it that preceded what I thought would be a weekend absence from Leckhampton but that turned into an absence of several months. Looking back now, everything seems tinged with an air of foreboding. How could we not know that we were about to go through what we are still going through?

The year began as it always does: we welcomed new students at matriculation, with feasts and toasts and accustomed conviviality. The MCR Committee did its usual superb job of making every new student feel welcomed and appreciated. And then we were off...

The Stephen Hales talks in Michaelmas Term were given by our own Professor of Geography, Christine Lane and by Tim Chesters (French/Clare), who narrated a tale of early modern manuscript sleuthing of the highest order. The theme of Renaissance material texts carried over into the Lent Term, with a talk by Jason Scott-Warren (English/Caius) about his discovery of Milton's copy of Shakespeare. Our final Stephen Hales lecture of the term – and, as it turned out, of the year – was delivered by Cara Delay, of the College of Charleston, who was our Visiting Professor of History during the Lent Term. Professor Delay spoke about her research into extra-legal abortion in twentieth-century Ireland.

More talks were planned for Easter Term, of course, but there was to be no Easter Term, not, at least, in the usual, shared sense of communal teaching and learning and living among one another. From mid-March until September, Leckhampton was lived in and cared for primarily by a brave cohort of about fifty postgraduate students who underwent lockdown in Cambridge. Among these were several members of the MCR committee who worked selflessly to make life at Leckhampton a little less strange than it otherwise would have been. My thanks to Daniel Hydecker (President), Isabella Ferreira (Vice-President), and Helan Magown (Secretary), in particular, knows no bounds. But my gratitude extends to the community as a whole, all of whom demonstrated an ability to do one of the things this College was founded to do: survive a plague, and with grace.

### *The Library re-opens*

One glorious moment – if I can be permitted the hyperbole – an evening that seems very far away now, was the re-opening of the Library in the George Thomson Building, first opened in 1964. The Library, one of the most beautiful rooms in Cambridge, is found on the ground floor of what is probably the most significant example of postwar modernism in the city. It had, however, fallen into shabby disrepair, despite being in continual use. Its fully glazed walls open expansively on two sides to views of the garden. We discovered under purple carpet tiles the original teak floors. We installed a new heating system, imported from Germany, and furnished it with restored mid-century furniture (collected from various places around the College) appropriate to the building's period. On 25th February, the eve of the anniversary of Christopher Marlowe's baptism in Canterbury cathedral, we gathered to toast the restoration of this remarkable space. Peter Carolin, Life Fellow in Architecture, gave a short talk on the building's history and historical importance; Christopher Howe, the President, read from the work of Oliver Rackham, to whom Leckhampton was very dear; Drew Milne, Fellow in English, read from his own poetry; Eliza Lockhart, the MCR Library representative, read from Marlowe's *Dr. Faustus*; and I read from the speech (tracked down in Trinity's Wren Library) that George Thomson gave at the building's inauguration. We then toasted the Library and the College and retired to Tuesday sit-down dinner, which also happened to coincide with Mardi Gras. For their work in making this project such a success, I must thank the following: Peter Carolin, Joe Sandham, Tess Milne, Eliza Lockhart, Sue Ainger-Brown, Aldona Maliszewska, Mark Nightingale and his team in the

Maintenance Department, Marina Frasca-Spada, the Senior Tutor, and the Master, Christopher Kelly.

The year ahead is daunting, in part because it will be so much more solitary, so much more abstract and abstracted than it otherwise would be. We will use the usual online platforms (I can't bear to use their actual names to be honest, so much have they come to dominate my current academic life) to host this year's lectures and events, while we wait patiently, vigilantly, for the moment at which it will be safe to be abundantly in one another's company again.

Leckhampton, like Corpus itself, is a place and a people and an idea of how a people ought to live in a place. Those things endure and will see us through the purgatory of the present.

JD RHODES, *Warden*

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## Development and Communications

To say this has been a disrupted year is to state the obvious, but for the Development Office it has been stranger than for most. Covid forced us all into lockdown, and we had to cancel or postpone all the events in our calendar. I had just returned from a trip to New York. Now, looking back, it seems surreal to remember the meetings, gatherings and birthday party of alumnus and Guild Fellow Neil Westreich for which I had gone. I returned to a deserted airport and silent streets and a world about to lockdown. Once we had closed the College to most activity and self-isolated, the Master and I decided to launch the *Pelican in Brief* as a way of communicating with our alumni. The idea was to report on what was happening among the Fellowship in terms of research, adapting to the restrictions, supporting students and running the College. The newsletter quickly grew and included the voices of students, staff and alumni and we realised it was a much needed vehicle for communication in a time when normal life was on hold, and for most of us, isolation had become our norm. We couldn't visit people, or travel, or hold reunions or events, so the well-known rhythm of the Development Office was paused. We have stayed in touch as best we can, and indeed, have enjoyed longer conversations and warm communication with many alumni over the past few months.

Fundraising has taken something of a back seat since Covid because this abnormal situation is not the time to ask people for the normal things. Nonetheless, our fundraising for the year ending in June was £1.6m, and since the pandemic we have received heart-warming offers of support, both financial and practical. I'd like to thank everyone who was able to continue with their gifts during this very difficult time and thank those who stepped forward with new gifts. I am quite sure my successor will be able to start their role with the warm endorsement and generosity I have always found from the alumni body. I am leaving at the end of December after 20 years in the Development Office. This felt like a natural time for others in the office to move on, and so they have; Lucy Sparke has gone to the Arthur Rank Hospice to a senior position in their development office; Yulia Shpak has moved to Jesus College as a prospect researcher, Somer Ann Greene is going to St Catharine's College as their Senior



Lucy Sparke



Jane Martin

Fund Raising Executive and Jane Martin, who many of you will know from the President's office, the Bursary and the Development Office, is stepping down to make time for a portfolio of jobs and family life. Elizabeth Abusleme has been on maternity leave this year. We have all loved working at Corpus and thoroughly enjoyed our contact and relationships with alumni over the many years we've worked there. I am only sorry that we won't be able to see people before we all leave, but that is hardly a unique situation. There will be another time, when the world has recalibrated itself and we can all catch up on the life un-lived and the toasts untoasted. Until then, may I raise a virtual glass to all the alumni friends out there, from all of us in the Corpus Development Office and wish the team that succeeds us the very best of luck.

ELIZABETH WINTER, *Director of Development and Communications*

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## The Chapel

For the chapel, as for the rest of College, the past academic year fell into two distinct halves. We marked the cycle of the year, as we usually do. Michaelmas and Lent Terms saw the chapel packed to capacity for the Freshers' service, and for the Advent and Christmas carol services. In February, Augustus Gaylord Donnelly, the first infant in the Master's Lodge for some considerable time, was baptised in chapel on our Second Name Day of Candlemas, with the solemnity and sense of occasion peculiar to the Book of Common Prayer. During the foreshortened academic year, the choir gave a concert in Thurning parish church in Norfolk and sang at a Confirmation in Lyng parish church, also in Norfolk. Their cathedral visit for the year was to Bury St Edmunds, in October. They rounded off Lent Term with a fine performance of Stainer's *Crucifixion*.

By then, it was clear where the world was heading. Jeremy Davies, the acting chaplain, and I met each day – socially distanced, and before the lockdown came in – to offer the Eucharist as a prayer for those suffering from the Coronavirus, and those responding to it. We also began reciting the Litany each day, as another ancient response to calamity. As a minor quirk for future liturgical historians to note, that practice was picked up on Twitter and, within a couple of weeks, it led to the inclusion of the Litany in the Church of England's webpages and app for daily prayer.

During the extraordinary Easter Term, the chapel was closed, along with the rest of College. As a consequence, both the acting chaplain and I were furloughed. None the less, joined by the two Corpus Tripos students training for ordination – Nell Whiscombe from Westcott House and Josh Richards from Ridley Hall – we were able to hold twice-weekly Compline together with Sunday evening prayers. An online evensong for Corpus Christi Day incorporated pre-recorded elements from students, Fellows and staff. It was watched by over two hundred people around the world, even if it confirmed that I am no audio-visual editor.

Over the summer, our acting chaplain, Canon Jeremy Davies, stepped down. Jeremy has been with us since January 2019, having also covered for a term earlier on. He was no stranger to the college, having read English at Corpus (m. 1965).



He was a choral scholar and has maintained a life-long involvement in music. He later studied theology in preparation for ordination, and the combination of English, Music and Theology served him well over decades as a priest that have seen him as both a university chaplain (Queen Mary College, Cardiff University, and Corpus) and responsible for the liturgical and musical life of Salisbury Cathedral, as precentor.

One of the joys of having Jeremy with us as chaplain has been his great affection and long-standing membership of the college, and his recollection – warm rather than nostalgic – of scenes from Corpus in the second half of the 1960s, and since. We also say farewell to Simon, Jeremy's husband, who is an opera singer and teacher. His hospitality towards the choir and chapel team has been much appreciated, as has his company at dinner. Jeremy returns to 'retirement' in Salisbury: if his energetic combination of spiritual direction, research, lecturing and preaching around the world can be called retirement. We look forward to his return to College as old member and former Fellow in the years to come and offer our thanks for all he has given as acting chaplain.

We are delighted to be welcoming Dr Matthew Bullimore as our new chaplain. He comes to us from Churchill College, where for the last two years he has been the Widening Participation Officer. Prior to that, his background was in theological education and parish ministry. He has spent most of his working life on the border of West and South Yorkshire, in communities suffering from long-term deprivation. Matt, as he is already known, studied theology as an undergraduate at Cambridge, before receiving a scholarship from Emmanuel College to spend a year at Harvard University, working mainly in the Divinity School. After an MPhil at the University of Manchester, he came to Westcott House in Cambridge to prepare for ordination. While there, he completed a doctorate under the supervision of Professor Catherine Pickstock (Emmanuel – also my theology PhD supervisor) and Professor William Horbury (Corpus). He served his curacy in the Diocese of Wakefield, after which he was the Bishop of Wakefield's chaplain.

Matthew's academic interests are principally in political theology and social ethics. He is currently the Assistant Editor for *Crucible: The Journal of Christian Social Ethics*. He also writes on ecclesiology (the theological study of the church), vocation, and philosophical theology. In 2016 he edited *Graced Life: The Writings of John Hughes*, the collected essays of the late Dean of Jesus College, Cambridge, with whom he – and I – had trained at Westcott.

We begin a new year at Corpus unsure exactly of what the future will hold, but confident in the commitment to one another, and to the common good, that the Chapel and its community seek in their own way to promote and embody. We continue to remember old members and their needs, alongside those currently in residence, in the daily cycle of prayer.

Pews are marked out for limited occupancy, the congregation cannot sing, and all of our largest services will have to take place spread across rooms and houses via the internet. Despite all of that, our sense of a common purpose and our desire to bear witness to the love of God seem more vivid than ever.

ANDREW DAVIDSON, *Dean of Chapel*

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## College Music

Until the lockdown, there had been an active musical life in the College. The Chapel Choir undertook its usual round of weekly services in Chapel and, at the end of October, visited St Edmundsbury Cathedral to sing Choral Evensong. There, we were given a very warm welcome and appreciated the generous acoustic and fine organ. The Choir also gave a performance in College of Purcell's Ode to St Cecilia around the time of the patron saint of music and musicians' feast day. A residency at Durham Cathedral in March had to be cancelled as the musical life of the country ground to a halt.

The Staff Choir continued its weekly rehearsals during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms. Membership was opened up to other Colleges and we were delighted to welcome several new singers, taking our total number up to around sixteen. Much merriment, alongside focused rehearsal, was had every week. As usual, there were carols sung at the annual mince pies and mulled wine morning for College staff.

The Bene't Club had an extremely active couple of terms, with a weekly organ recital organised by our Senior Organ Scholar, Benedict Turner-Berry, and the resumption of the much-loved tradition of fortnightly informal Sunday evening concerts: this time held in I7.

July saw the end of Robin Walker's four-year tenure as Director of Music. The College is extremely grateful to Robin for the energy, enthusiasm, dedication and skilled musicianship he brought to the role. He has been a highly sociable, ever cheerful presence in College as a member of staff and colleague and we wish him well with his continuing busy freelance career as a choral director, organ teacher and recitalist.

Writing at the start of term, I am delighted to report that, certainly for the moment, the Chapel Choir is singing for services in Chapel in-person (albeit in small groups of socially-distanced singers) and that the first Choral Evensong of term has taken place. Small steps, but it is wonderful to have the choir back in any shape or form. We hope to post regular recordings and video clips on College social media channels so that all may share in College music-making during this time. Some live recitals in Chapel are also planned.

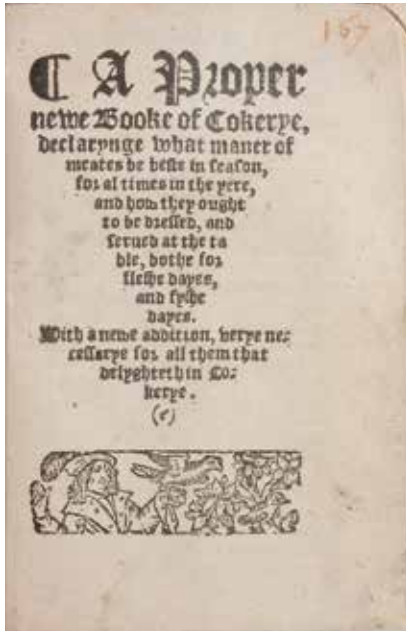
NICHOLAS DANKS, *Acting Director of Music*

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## The Parker Library

This year coronavirus has led to the curtailing of our day-to-day activities, but as we closed the Parker up in March, we were reminded that the vicissitudes and dangers of plague are something that the manuscripts and early printed books of our collection have seen and survived before, some of them several times. They also provide us with a history and opinions concerning plague across over a millennium. These include Henry Duke of Lancaster's description of fourteenth-century plague as a metaphor for spiritual sickness (ms 218) and Matthew Paris' gathering together of information on plagues from the eleventh century to his own time, two hundred years later (mss 16 and 26), as well as





far left: *A Proper Newe Booke of Cokerye* (CCCC SP 447(4)) c.1558, owned by Matthew Parker and his wife Margaret and part of the Fitzwilliam Museum's 'Feast and Fast' exhibition

The twelfth-century Sawley map (CCCC MS 66), a central focus of the 'Galicia: a Story in the World' exhibition at the Museo Centro Gaiás, Santiago de Compostela

Matthew Parker's own letters on the problems of plague in his day (ms 114A) and the 1665 publication by John Gadbury, hopefully titled, *London's Deliverance Predicted*, which promises a discourse 'on the cause of plagues in general'.

The closure of museums and libraries brought a halt to several of our hoped-for loans for Spring and Summer 2020, to the Landesmuseum in Mainz, to St Albans – both the cathedral and the museum – and to a summer exhibition at the Fitzwilliam Museum. The last three of these are postponed rather than cancelled and we hope to be a part of them in the future. We were, though, able to lend the Library's copy of *A Proper Newe Booke of Cokerye*, once probably owned by Margaret Parker to the Fitzwilliam. This was part of Corpus's contribution to the well-reviewed exhibition *Feast and Fast: the art of food in Europe 1500–1800*. The twelfth-century Sawley map of the world at the start of ms 66 was also one of the centrepieces of the exhibition 'Galicia: a Story in the World' at the Museo Centro Gaiás in Santiago de Compostela from November to April. Although travel restrictions mean that we are not able to lend our copy of an early twelfth-century, unique Saxon chronicle (ms 373) to the Landesmuseum at Mainz, we are collaborating with them on producing a digital version of some select pages for visitors to leaf through.

Closure has also brought us new opportunities: in April we were approached by Dr Johanna Dale of UCL, whose project on the cult of St Oswald had been going to include outreach sessions with Peterborough Abbey (once home of Oswald's arm relic). These were now moving online and we have been working with her on an animation for children of the story of St Oswald and the Raven, making use of figures and scenes from the Peterborough Bestiary. This will be launched in November as part of the Arts and Humanities' Research Council's annual 'Being Human' festival.

Exhibitions and displays in the Parker also stopped in March. Our autumn exhibition was on ‘Poetry’ including the College’s portrait often said to be of Christopher Marlowe. As well as our annual Christmas display we also produced ‘Town and Gown’ working with the College archive to explore Corpus’s history as a college and its relationship with the town. This was first open in January for those attending the Queenborough Feast. In October 2020, Patricia Lovett MBE held a masterclass on paleography at the Parker for the second year.

The Wilkins Room continued to welcome College social events and to host our Heritage Volunteers, working through the cleaning and checking of our early printed books. We continued to welcome members of the public, alumni and visiting scholars from all over the world. Whilst many of these came in person – to the reading room, or to see our exhibitions as individuals or through Open Cambridge and the Visit Cambridge regular tours – others joined us virtually. The Parker’s social media, especially Twitter (@ParkerLibCCCC) and Instagram (@parkerlibrary, continues to be an important part of our outreach and Parker on the Web was viewed by an average of 2000 new readers a month in the first half of this academic year (before lockdown prevented us getting statistics). In February 2020 we held our Transcribathon for the second year, this time focusing on the Corpus Apocalypse (ms 20). This year we worked jointly with participants attending at Stamford University, and over a quarter of the manuscript was transcribed by our eager volunteers.

The Parker has continued to welcome classes from across the university, including the return of regular groups – like the Medieval History MA paleography class lead by Professor Tessa Webber – and new classes including Professor Carl Watkin’s undergraduate students studying nature and the supernatural in the Middle Ages. A highlight was the class in Lent Term lead by Matthew Collins, professor of palaeoproteomics, making use of his work on parchment analysis to think about what a medieval scribe’s choices of parchment might mean for book production.

As after past closures from the fourteenth century on, the Parker’s collection will be reopened – although under careful social distancing rules – as we return for the Michaelmas Term.

PHILIPPA HOSKIN, *Donnelley Fellow Librarian*

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## The Taylor Library

Until the end of Lent 2020, the activities of the Taylor Library reliably conformed to the familiar cycles and practices that have been rehearsed and adapted over the years. Thus, the librarians were largely preoccupied with book acquisition, cataloguing and managing loans. 1,341 books were acquired in a range of Tripos subjects, making use of the greater part of the allocated book budget for the year and bringing the total holdings to over 42,000 items. Purchasing also included a healthy number of student recommendations for new titles in the first two terms, which the librarians were happy to see. February saw the long-awaited re-opening of the Leckhampton reading room, brought about partly through the cataloguing work of the librarians in the previous year. Continued effort was

made to further the Taylor Library reclassification project in the time available between other activities. Book borrowing conformed to the pattern of previous years, except for a significant increase in the days leading up to the Taylor Library closure on 18th March 2020, where loans peaked at 1,029 books (the highest number recorded at that point in any year). From 18th March the doors were locked to readers and the librarians vacated the building shortly thereafter. The Taylor Librarian returned on a number of isolated occasions over the summer to arrange book returns, and then on a more regular basis in September 2020. With an extensive range of precautions in place, the Taylor Library re-opened to readers on 5th October 2020.

JOE SANDHAM, *Taylor Librarian*

## College staff

The year has again seen a number of retirements of long serving members of staff. We bade 'farewell' to two of our College Porters – Paul Lister with nearly eighteen years of service and Ray Butler, with twenty-three. And, after sixteen years of service in Undergraduate Admissions, Janet Rogers retired but shall be returning to the Staff Choir along with some other staff alumni so long-lasting friendships will be maintained.

In the Development Office, after fourteen years of service, Lucy Sparke left her role as Annual Fund and Legacy Manager to develop her career within the charity sector, and Jane Martin left her role as Office Administrator. Jane had been with the College for eighteen years, first as the President's and Chapel PA and latterly in the Development office.

Following the departure of our Head Gardener at the end of 2019, we welcomed Andy Pullin as the new Head of Gardens and Grounds. Andy comes with a wealth of experience from Christ's College where he was Deputy Head Gardener. And finally, we welcomed Christoph Hartwig, the EA to the Master who started with us in March 2020 when Linda Muncaster left in order to return to the USA after two years of providing PA assistance in the Bursary and for the Master.

We have been unable to provide the usual farewell events for staff who left us during this past year. This was entirely due to the Covid pandemic which has prevented us from showing our thanks and appreciation in the way that Corpus is so well renowned. 2020 has been a difficult year. We would like to thank all staff for their support, resilience and patience. I hope that when writing this in 2021, we shall all be in a much better place.

HELEN VINCENT, *HR Manager*



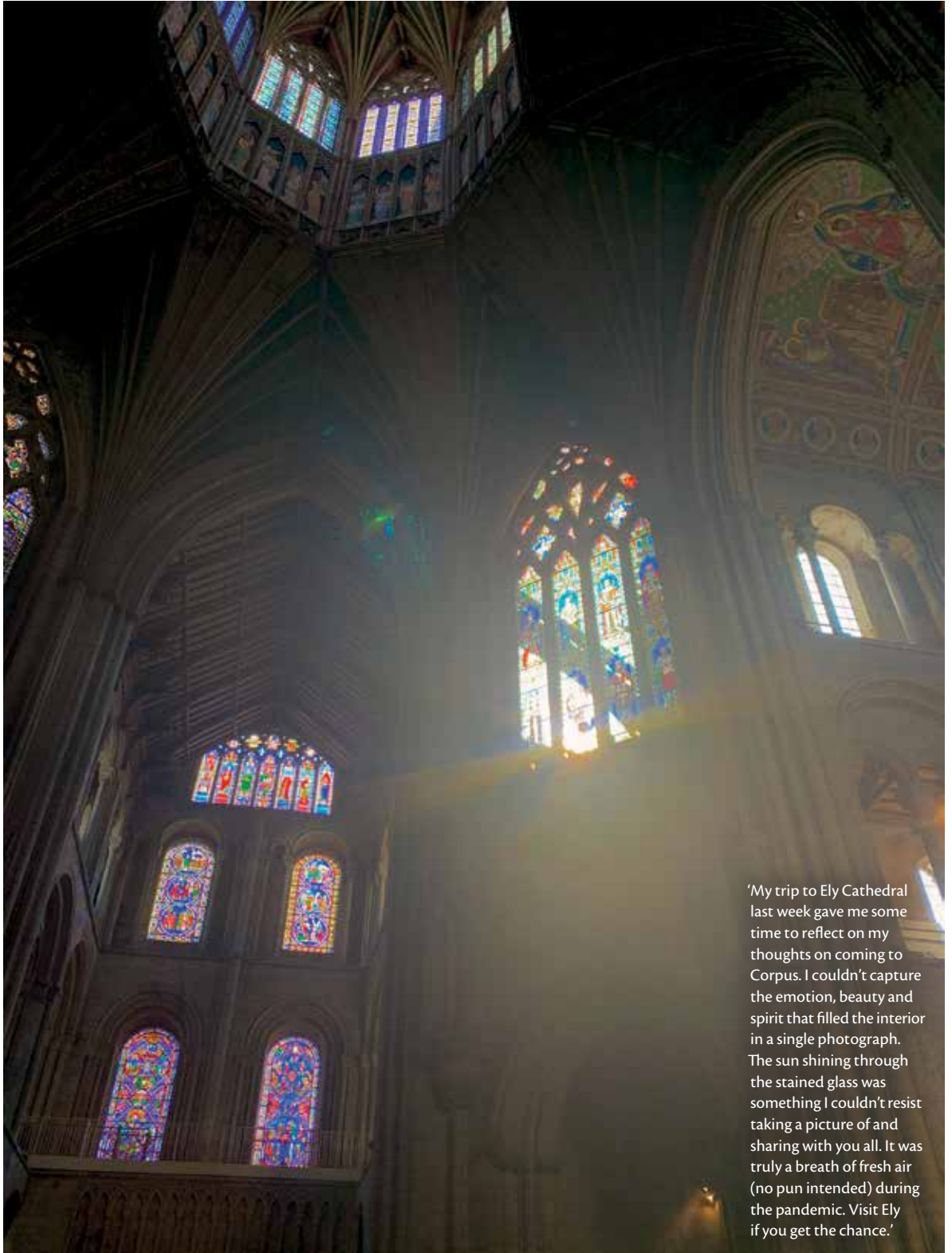
Paul Lister



Ray Butler



Janet Rogers



'My trip to Ely Cathedral last week gave me some time to reflect on my thoughts on coming to Corpus. I couldn't capture the emotion, beauty and spirit that filled the interior in a single photograph. The sun shining through the stained glass was something I couldn't resist taking a picture of and sharing with you all. It was truly a breath of fresh air (no pun intended) during the pandemic. Visit Ely if you get the chance.'



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# 2020: a year to remember

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## The Corpus Bridging Course 2020

### The first course of its kind in the University

*On the first weekend of September, the College was filled with the joyful noise of students, for the first time since the Covid lockdown began in March. But unlike previous years, the first undergraduates back were not finalists trying to get ahead with their dissertations. Instead, they were 16 incoming first years attending the Bridging Course, the College's flagship programme for widening the range of social and educational backgrounds from which it draws its undergraduates.*

**CHARLES READ**, Director of the Bridging Course, explains the background:

This September, Corpus Christi became the first Cambridge College to launch a full residential Bridging Course, welcoming 16 new undergraduates to spend three weeks in College as part of their preparation before the start of the academic year. The students, who had all met their offer requirements, were invited to take part based on having at least one contextual “flag” on their application, such as coming from the care system, attending a lower-performing school, or living in an area of relative socio-economic deprivation. The idea was that although those invited onto the Bridging Course had the same level of academic potential as all our other undergraduates, to ensure that this potential was fully realised we recognised that they needed more time to adjust between school and university work. All costs of the course were met by the College and the students received a generous bursary to replace any lost earnings over September.

The Course enabled the students to familiarise themselves with the supervision system, the layout of the College and University and to settle in before Michaelmas Term began. During the first week the students attended classes in two groups, “arts” subjects and “science” subjects. The arts students had the opportunity to work with manuscripts such as King Alfred’s copy of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in the Parker Library, while the scientists performed a biochemistry experiment in I4, which had temporarily been transformed into the first college laboratory in Cambridge since perhaps the first world war! During the second and third weeks of the course, the students were taught through daily one-to-one supervisions, focused on skills such as how to tackle an essay question and reading list (in arts subjects) and how to tackle mathematics-based problems (in science subjects).



**CHARLES READ** is Hong Kong Link Early-Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Modern British History

*Opposite page:* Ely Cathedral interior with the photographer's comment. This picture was awarded first prize in the Bridging Course photo competition

In spite of Covid-related restrictions, the students also played hard as well as worked hard on the Course. Fascinating talks were given to the students by Peter Martland about Corpus 100 years ago, Martin Allen on Corpus's links to the Fitzwilliam Museum and Professor Christopher Andrew on spies in Cambridge – including the astonishing anecdote that James Bond is a Cambridge alumnus! A range of social activities was also provided for Bridging Course attendees by two student helpers, Dom Bielby and Tilly Wring, including a guided punt tour of Cambridge, a visit to Ely Cathedral (see the illustration and caption) and a trip to see “Tenet” at a local cinema. It helped that the Course was also blessed by good weather throughout the programme. So much so that one student asked the Parker Librarian during the programme “Is it always this wonderful here?”

Thanks to the extra undergraduate places at Corpus created for the Bridging Course, the College in 2020 has already met its targets set for 2025 by the Office for Fair Access for diversity and widening participation. As part of this, the intake of home undergraduates this year is made up of 78% from the state sector, the highest percentage the College has ever had. But without the generous financial support from the College's alumni and benefactors, none of this could have happened. We receive no financial support for this scheme from the University or the government and charge the students nothing to attend.

**TILLY WRING** and **DOMINIC BIELBY**, *student organisers, provide an undergraduate view:*

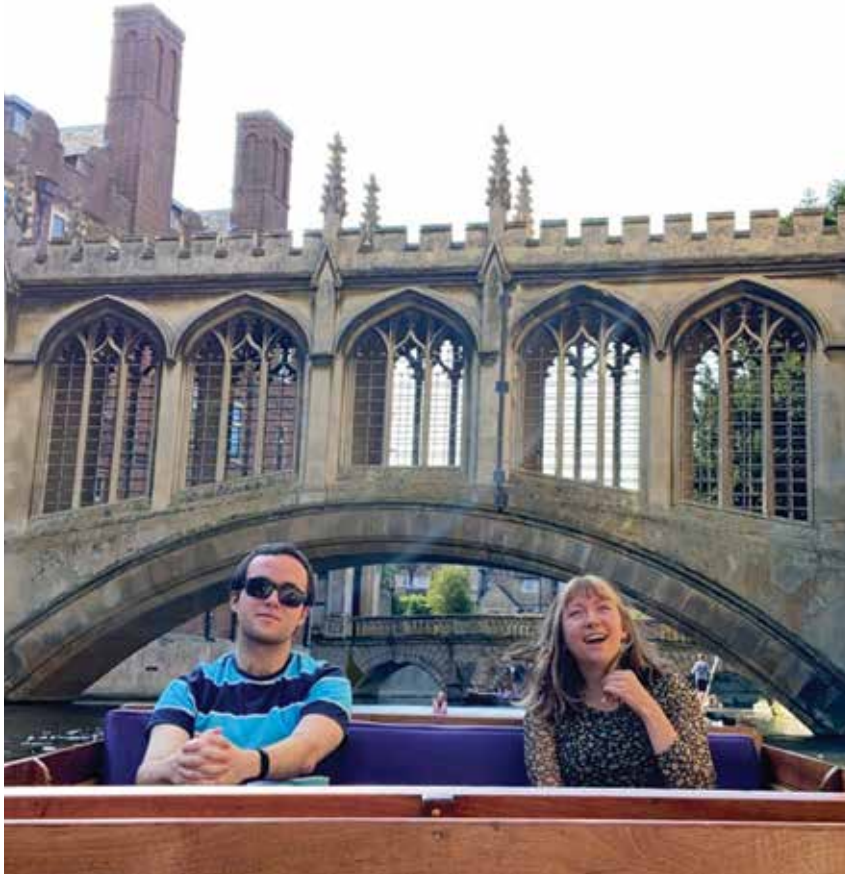
**TILLY WRING** is a second year undergraduate studying Geography

**DOM BIELBY** is a third year lawyer and former JCR president currently studying as an Erasmus student at the University of Regensburg in Bavaria, Germany

As many of the articles in this edition of *The Record* note, the last few months have been unusual for current Corpus students, with the lockdown casting Corpuscles far and wide, and life only now returning to something resembling normality. Whilst Corpus' existing student body were seriously impacted by the pandemic, the College's Freshers, due to the twisting and turning of national policy, have been acutely impacted, suffering stresses and pressures far beyond those the admissions process usually generates. Against this extraordinary background, however, Corpus has begun a new kind of post-admissions access programme – the first of its kind at the University of Cambridge – the Bridging Course.

The Bridging Course is not a means through which undeserving candidates can access Cambridge via the backdoor, rather its aim is clear: to ensure capable students from underrepresented or disadvantaged backgrounds, having passed the standard admissions procedure, receive additional support to help them adjust to Cambridge life. The Course has a two-pronged approach to achieve this goal, both providing academic support to students in the form of workshops and mini-supervisions and also affording opportunities for social contact prior to the start of term. This approach aims to counteract the soft advantages students from prestigious private and high-ranking grammar schools have had with their smaller class sizes, extra-curricular support and pre-existing Oxbridge networks.

Our primary role as student organisers for this course was to provide a range of social activities designed to allow students to get to know one another, the College and the City, as well as affording them the chance to unwind after their intensive academic sessions. The weather throughout the course was glorious, allowing us to enjoy many activities outdoors in the grounds of Leckhampton,



Dominic Bielby and Tilly Wring on the river. This picture won second prize in the Bridging Course photo competition.

including Games Nights and a miniature Sports Day which saw students partake in several socially distanced events, the highlight of which was the immensely competitive egg and spoon race. The weekends allowed us to venture further afield, walking to Grantchester for tea on one sunny afternoon and taking the train to visit Ely on another. Throughout the course, the students were encouraged to take photographs for a competition run by the Course Director, Dr Charles Read. The winning entry was captured by a first-year student and Bridging Course attendee, showcasing Ely Cathedral's stunning stain glass and archways.

These activities were only made possible due to the generosity of College and its Alumni, for which we, the student organisers, are grateful. The smooth day-to-day running of this course is also a result of enormous amounts of hard work from all of the staff in College, particularly Dr Read for his organisation of the Course; Wendy Klein and Emma Charlesworth for their tireless work in the Tutorial Office; the College Nurse, Sarah Windley-Wordsworth, for her assistance in caring for the pastoral needs of the students; all of our wonderful catering staff and our excellent Porters. We also wish to take this moment to thank and celebrate all sixteen of those Corpuscles who graduated from the Bridging Course 2020 for their unfaltering kindness, hard work and sense of humour throughout. We are sure they will make phenomenal contributions to the College and their respective departments and we are both honoured to have borne witness to the beginning of their time at Corpus.

## The Term that never was

### Tripes and graduation in lockdown

*What was it like for a Part II Tripos student to leave Cambridge before the start of the Easter Term to continue studies and sit examinations at home? How did the Praelector organise a graduation celebration and how did the graduands experience it? Here, two recent graduates, an undergraduate and the Praelector recall a very strange Easter Term.*



**HARRY TAYLOR** graduated with a degree in History and is a former JCR president

**HARRY TAYLOR**, recalls a truly surreal time:

As a finalist, Easter 2020 was my final term as an undergraduate. At the time it was surreal, but it feels even more so now that it's over. To start, with lockdown there wasn't much to miss and therefore the end of the Easter vacation was uneventful, just a continuation of revision, though almost completely without contact hours. Besides, there was plenty going on to distract from the reality of being away from Cambridge. Indeed, it hit hardest at the end of the academic year. On the night of 24th June, I struggled to sleep, not because I was celebrating after a Graduation Dinner, but because of the oppressive summer heat! The next day as I sat under the 31-degree sun I was almost grateful not to be parading around in full academic garb. Almost...

Instead, I found myself unsure as to when and how I would graduate. In the circumstances of 2020 and in common with much of the world, I felt in a state of suspended animation. For those of us without immediate post-graduation plans it seemed even worse. This year, I'd decided to concentrate on my degree, but as lockdown bit and what could be controlled became concentrated, this emphasis became more acute. This meant focusing entirely on my dissertation, coursework, and other revision. So, post-Corpus I am left floating as a sort of graduate decompression from a term that never was and facing the uncertainty of what the world may or may not become.

### *Lost rituals*

Personally, I was lucky with the alternative exam arrangements as my strongest papers survived and those weaker ones were culled, though many students were not as fortunate. Either way, it was an exam period like no other. Most striking was the loss of the usual rituals embedded since our first public exams. Other subjects retained the classic three-hour Tripos exam, but for History our only timed piece came in the form of a 24-hour assessment. Instead of assembling, Cam Card ID and clear pencil case in hand, outside a university hall with hundreds of our peers, we prepared a home-working environment and logged in at midday. A simple click replaced the visceral sound of hundreds of pieces of paper being turned over simultaneously.

Rather than handing our papers into a gowned invigilator after three hours and waiting to file out to celebrate en-masse, or go back and prepare for our next exam, we just kept going. Having dinner and going to bed part-way through an exam proved very strange, as was getting up early in the morning to finish off the essay and hand it in. A day for an exam sounds brilliant until one considers



the necessary endurance. Similarly, getting an extra week to complete my dissertation was helpful, but did not cancel out the closure of all the libraries – a particular problem as I was reliant on quite obscure publications only available in the UL – and was unable to meet with my supervisor.

Exam rituals are hardly relaxing, but at least they are familiar. At Cambridge we grow used to exam structures with their own vocabulary and idiosyncrasies (I still remember the first time I saw an invigilator in a square and full academic dress). Going into a large hall of similarly stressed people does nothing for exam anxieties but at least there is a sense of solidarity. Sat at home there was none of this. Hand cramps are unpleasant but so is being at the mercy of fickle technology. I have heard several horror stories of computers crashing as the deadline loomed. The new normal is therefore the same but different as we are stranded in new forms of assessment with their own challenges.

### *A sense of anti-climax*

Beyond exams, however, it was nothing like the same. The summer term may be awful for the two or three weeks of actual exams, but it usually begins and ends with some of the best times of the year. April is a time for birthday parties on the fens before revision becomes all-encompassing, and late June is for May Week and all the joys of post-exam release. As a Finalist who'd been looking forward to these, this was a particularly cruel loss. Unable to say a proper goodbye to the place and its people only adds to the sense of limbo, compounded by social media showing us all memories of that time last year.

Summer is also a time of sport, squeezed around revision and everything else. For myself this was supposed to be a term of cricket. The college club (C<sup>6</sup>) had its highest membership ever, including a sizeable development squad drawn from those inspired by last summer, and was primed not only for cuppers but also for the staff vs. students match and an inaugural varsity against Corpus Oxford. After all our hard work over Lent Term, it was difficult to accept that there was to be no season. Similarly, the rowers and their casual companions for the summer were robbed of the glory of Bumps, and the rest of us lost the chance to laze around in Fen Ditton as they rushed past.

It was the profound sense of anti-climax. I don't know what I thought it would feel like to graduate, but I did not imagine that the moment would pass sat at home, separated from the place, and more importantly the people, who had made all the ups and downs of the last three years. This proved far weirder than sleeping in 24-hour exams or submitting my dissertation online only. We live in hope of an alternative graduation-type ceremony at some point in the future but in the meantime, even once our certificates came through, we are "pseudo-graduates". As uncertainty still surrounds the coming academic year this is far from the end of the disruption, but hopefully it is the end of the worst.

### **DOM BIELBY**, *remembers order emerging from chaos:*

Tripes examinations are an integral part of the Cambridge experience; in those early days after we matriculated they seemed distant creatures, but as Michaelmas cooled into the Christmas vacation, which in turn melted into Lent, they swiftly

approached, holding us in their thrall throughout Easter until that underwhelming moment when that final test ended and the summer stretched out before us; all this after some much needed sleep. This pattern should have repeated itself this year, but with the arrival of the first wave of Covid in the United Kingdom a chaotic period ensued instead, expectations of normalcy cast to the wind.

The resulting disruption affected each Department differently. In my own, the Law Faculty, the students collectively oscillated between panic at changes to the system of examinations; concern that any remote arrangements may disadvantage students; and anger at the obstinacy displayed in correspondence from the Faculty (with hindsight their opaque communications were indicative of their own predicaments, rather than anything nefarious).

Eventually, each Department came to its own solution as to how examinations might best be managed. For some, the answer was that assessments could not go ahead, with the exams cancelled or otherwise replaced with formative tests. Other schools, such as Medicine, its finalists already having been drafted into the NHS to fight at the frontline, had all exams pushed back to the Michaelmas Term. For Law, the hand of the Faculty was forced, due to the status of the BA as a professional qualification, to proceed with exams. There were, of course, caveats; the assessments would be open-book, held across a 24-hour period and would have fewer questions, albeit with a strict word-limit for each paper. Once the parameters had been set, students gained some much-needed certainty, in contrast to the increasingly uncertain world outside of the Cambridge bubble which we had transplanted to our homes.

### ***Revision and examination adjustments***

Many of us had started to revise in earnest even before the exam framework had been finalised. However, at the start of our home lockdown, a considerably longer revision period stretched before us, the start of the examination period having been moved back to account for the disruption. In sharp contrast with early June 2019, when exams were over and my plans to take day trips were well advanced, by early June 2020 I had not sat a single Tripos paper. As for the actual revision period, there is little to describe, other than blurring of days and the crawl of time throughout May. Compared with the airy Squire Law Library and the varied surroundings of central Cambridge, hours were whiled away at the same desk, followed by the same walk, repeated day after day.

When the first paper arrived, the change of pace was palpable. The questions were released to students at midday and submissions would close 24 hours later; within that day we were expected to work no longer than the usual three hours. Such guidance was, no doubt, given in good faith, but without any realistic prospect of compliance. That first assessment was an intense experience, as that first exam always is, but drawn out across the day; food was consumed rapidly and mindlessly; the daily walk raced past with the mind whirring; and anxious awakenings punctuated the night, the episode only bookended with a couple of clicks before the deadline bit. The next paper was entirely different however, the adrenaline having already given way to resignation and boredom; the battle

being to maintain concentration rather than detach the mind from work for a moment of respite, unaided by the noisy conditions in which many, including myself, found themselves.

The examination cycle repeated until mid-June, when, following the final paper, this protracted process ended. With that final submission, however, freedom did not await, but instead there was the prospect of dealing with life in lockdown and the implications that lay ahead, not only for our life as Corpuscles, but for our families, our friends and ourselves. In some ways the Tripos, even in its remote form, had been a relief, of sorts, from the real world, something on which we had to focus rather than the pandemic. Without it, we were finally thrown into life as it had become – and, for many of us, we are still trying to figure out what it all means.

**JO WILLMOTT**, *Praelector, organized the Zoom graduation:*

On 25th July 2020, I presented 62 graduands for their undergraduate and post-graduate degrees in front of 130 or so onlookers. As Praelector for seven years now this was quite a standard occurrence. But this one was not quite like any other – it was, of course, over Zoom. It was not an official graduation ceremony – most of the students had graduated in the weeks before, in absentia at the Senate House. But we had been sad to think that their graduation would pass unmarked by college, and so we devised an alternative event that could work remotely. We did this in the knowledge that while many of the undergraduates may have watched other students graduate in previous years, for many of them this would have been their first experience of the event. We were also aware that the University is resolved to hold a replacement ceremony in the Senate House as soon as possible, and hopefully next year. Of course, this may be difficult for all of our recent graduates to attend, and in any case, we couldn't let the moment pass without any official recognition.

So, with the Master doing double duty as Master (giving an address as he usually does at graduation dinner) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (his usual role at General Admission), the Senior Tutor acting as 'Master of Ceremonies' (and standing in as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor when the Master's internet connection proved a little delicate!), and myself as Praelector (with Professor James Warren kindly standing by in case my connection went the same way), we tried to give a flavour of some of the key elements of the day. This included a presentation of each student in turn to celebrate their degrees – the students were able to wave in acknowledgement!

As alumni may remember, the speech given by the Praelector during the rehearsal for the ceremony in the Senate House is the only public speech in English on the day of graduation. One of the things I enjoy about giving the speech is that it gives me a chance to thank, on the students' behalf, all of those in College who have helped them get to graduation day – their Directors of Studies, Tutors, and tutorial staff – and also all those in College who have given them the experience that they have had in College – the bedders, gardeners, caterers, porters and other College staff. I was particularly pleased to be able to do this again this year, when all of these people have been working hard to continue to



**JO WILLMOTT** is a Tutor, Praelector Rhetorica and Keeper of the College Plate

A Zoom Graduation screen shot with the Tutorial Secretary, Senior Tutor and Praelector Rhetorica presiding in the top row



give them the best experience possible in the circumstances. But of course, the main aim of the occasion was to celebrate the achievements of the students this year – which, as the Master said in his address, were all the more worthy of celebration having been made in such challenging circumstances.

As I said in my speech, it is difficult to over-state how important all congregations are as dates in the College Calendar, and this holds particularly true of General Admission, when a whole cohort of our undergraduates graduate together. As I had looked through photos of the event from previous years, in preparation for my attempt to transport the graduands back to Corpus through pictures, I had seen the expressions of joy on all those attending – graduands, guests, staff and Fellows. I am very pleased that this was replicated on 25th July; when we raised our glasses in toasts led by the Senior Tutor and Master, I was able to scan the many Zoom screens and see those same smiles. Although not in College, it felt right that we had come together as a community to celebrate.



**TOM NUNAN** graduated with a degree in Human, Social and Political Sciences. He was a stalwart of the ADC Theatre, radio breakfast shows and laughing with friends on Old Court lawn

**TOM NUNAN**, recalls a 'very Corpus' farewell ceremony:

Our generation were dubbed 'Zoomers' long before this year, thanks to our perceived fast-paced, technology-fuelled, one-click-of-a-button lifestyles. The name seems more apt than ever, as hundreds of Corpus' graduands, friends, family and Fellows gathered online for a graduation like no other. It wasn't all plain sailing. Technology got the better of us on our first attempt, postponing proceedings by a week. However, it only added to the palpable excitement of logging on and seeing the rows of living-rooms, offices and virtual backgrounds filled with familiar faces (thankfully with all microphones muted; imagine the carnage otherwise?). The game of finding your friends in the masses passed the time, along with working out exactly which family members their lookalikes were. Along with muted friends, the wait before the ceremony began was filled with a slideshow of photos from previous graduations. Put together by Christoph Hartwig, it gave a taste of what the usual proceedings would have entailed. It was an apt scene-setter before our unique ceremony.

With everyone online, we were underway. The Praelector, Dr Jo Willmott, talked us through the hour to come. There would be toasts, spoken Latin (albeit



altered to suit our socially distanced ceremony) and the Master's address. It was planned to mirror the traditional ceremony as far as possible. Just to add to this, Dr Willmott made the most of Zoom's virtual backgrounds throughout the ceremony, switching between the College's hall, to the Senate House, and back to Corpus again. It proved a handy guide when we needed to get our digital bearings.

The Master's address was due before the graduands were admitted, but "fragile internet" forced a change in proceedings while the Master moved to find a more stable connection; technology bows to none! The roll call of names began, a heavy dose of Latin punctuated with familiar names. The Oscar must go to Dr Frasca Spada for her seminal performance as Professor Stephen J. Toope, Vice Chancellor. Watching the muted excitement and laughter of friends and their families throughout was half the fun; imagine a Corpus special of *Gogglebox*, and you're in the right ballpark. The Master, reconnected with the ceremony, delivered his address as the event's denouement. Covering everything including Corpus student life, the college's history with pandemics and the events of the last few months, it is available to view on the College's social media accounts.

Toasts followed, with everything from champagne to cups of tea on show. If you looked carefully, there was even a piece of toast in the mix (it didn't look buttered but was eaten on screen anyway). The absurdities didn't stop there; when one unwitting graduand left for a brief break, a flatmate replaced her seat with an Elmo toy. It's fair to say there were a few breaks with tradition.

And with that, we bid farewell to our undergraduate life at Corpus. It wasn't conventional, it wasn't grand, but it was very Corpus: intimate, thoughtful, quirky and with heavy doses of care and good humour. It won't be the last goodbye; that will come in more normal times. However, it was one of those uniquely Covid-era events where, to beat the disappointment of missing out, we muddled through and made it work. How very Class of 2020.

## The College copes with lockdown

### The Interim Bursar's reflections

*How has the College operated over the past months? What happened to the staff? How did staff and students prepare for the return and how are they adjusting to new ways of doing things? Twenty days after taking over as Interim Bursar, David Secher had to secure the College for lockdown. It was the start of one of the most extraordinary periods in the College's history.*

**DAVID SECHER** remembers:

On 2nd March of 2020 I gave a lecture at the King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dahrán, Saudi Arabia. On 3rd March I started at Corpus as Interim Bursar, replacing Tim Harvey-Samuel who was moving to Trinity Hall as Bursar. The contrast between those two days, from an Arabic culture in a new city (and indeed country) to a Christian foundation that is nearly 670 years old was enormous, but what was to follow over the next six months was even more



**DAVID SECHER** was Interim Bursar March–September 2020. A specialist in technology transfer and intellectual property, he was formerly Senior Bursar of Caius College

unimaginable! When I agreed in December 2019 to fill in between Tim's departure and the arrival of a new Bursar, life was "normal" – there were the first reports of a new virus in China, but it did not seem very relevant to life in the West. By 2nd March, the threat of Covid was real and there was talk of "lockdown". While I was in Saudi, the first case appeared in that country and I was relieved to get back to UK without any problem. From 3rd to the 20th March I enjoyed meeting Fellows and staff at Corpus and was impressed with the friendliness with which I was welcomed and the calibre of staff. I had lunches on High Table and enjoyed attending the Queenborough Feast – a splendid occasion with superb food and wine! (I wondered how many of the other guests that night had actually visited Queenborough, one of the most deprived towns in the UK<sup>1</sup>, but a popular stopping-off port for small boats heading for London).

Once lockdown was announced by the Prime Minister on 23rd March, there was a rush of students returning home. Almost all our undergraduates left the College, but for many of our large post-graduate population, Corpus *is* their home, even if only for three or four years. So, we had to make arrangements to feed them, either from our own kitchens, or later in Pembroke, when we realised that it made more sense than keeping our kitchens open. Closing our kitchens was a hard choice, but it was part of a financial survival strategy that aimed to protect all our staff from redundancy for as long as possible. We acted swiftly to take advantage of the Government's furlough scheme and by the end of April around 80% of Corpus staff were on furlough, possibly more than any other college. Other measures that we implemented as the pandemic evolved were: a 0% cost of living salary increase; a reduction of salary to 80% for furloughed staff from 1st August; a ban on overtime and casual labour; and a headcount freeze. All these potentially unpopular measures were fully explained and discussed with the staff, who were understanding and appreciative of our honest and regular explanations.

### *Staff and students adjust to a very different life*

As I write this, seven months have passed since the beginning of lockdown and most of our staff have returned to work, either working from home where this is effective, or in College. A few staff have been on furlough throughout. It has been a difficult time for everyone. Those working have shouldered a bigger burden than usual; some of those on furlough have found it a lonely experience, once the initial pleasure of a "free holiday" had worn off. We required staff on furlough to keep in touch with their colleagues and managers and encouraged them to use this opportunity to learn something new, whether for personal or professional advancement. I was able to forward to our energetic boatman, Tim Rhodes, a request for volunteers to collect "scrubs" and masks for the NHS from amateur seamstresses. The resulting regular 70-mile round trip on his bicycle kept Tim busy and fit during furlough, while his wife Nina, Catering Manager at Pembroke, was keeping those of us working or studying in Corpus, sustained with delicious lunches next door. This example of Corpus staff doing something completely different in 2020, was repeated dozens of times

1. Index of Multiple Deprivation (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>)



The boatman, Tim Rhodes, NHS scrubs and masks courier

throughout the College. I was repeatedly impressed at the willingness of staff to adapt to the constantly changing challenges, by working in teams (“taskforces”) that crossed the traditional departmental boundaries.

The students too have shown remarkable initiative and resilience. While Corpus has put their welfare ahead of everything else, no-one can pretend that their experience in 2020 has not suffered as a result of the pandemic. They have been patient and persistent in writing endless risk assessments, and in designing Covid-compliant freshers’ week and events. They have been deprived of “formals” and of society dinners, and, like the rest of us, have had to get used to eating meals out of (compostable) disposable boxes. Preparing those meals is a challenge for the catering staff too. There are practical difficulties of procuring thousands of sets of food boxes and bamboo cutlery. Our chefs were attracted to Corpus by its gastronomic reputation, and to learn and to practise sophisticated culinary skills. Whilst making boxed meals tasty and attractive is in itself a challenge, I feel their frustration that the last “special” meal was over seven months ago. A challenge of sorts was the free lunch offered to all recently, by way of compensation for a pricing error that led to a few students being overcharged slightly. 240 students queued round New Court, despite pouring rain, for free pizzas. I went to the kitchen afterwards to thank the exhausted staff for their delicious, freshly cooked pizzas.

### *Memories of Corpus*

It has been a huge privilege being at Corpus for most of 2020. Of course, seeing some of the treasures of the Parker Library was a highlight. But no less memorable are the beautiful new kitchens, or the magnificent Conservation Studio. I regret, of course, that I have missed out on the fine dining and the joys of fellowship, but I have enjoyed working with expert and dedicated staff and Fellows who have kept Corpus going through an unprecedented time.

When I return to Caius in January, what vignettes will I take with me and treasure? Of course, the Queenborough Feast, but also the erecting of gazebos on New Court lawn, a team effort by volunteers from various departments at short notice. The indescribable beauty of New Court in the spring, in the middle of term time, in bright sunshine and in the knowledge that the only other person around was a lone porter in the Lodge, will stay with me for the rest of my life! Thank you, Corpus!



Echoes of 1665 –  
covid compliant entry  
to Old Court



A general meeting of the C.C.C.B.C. was held in the library at 8 o'clock P.M. on Monday February 24<sup>th</sup>. Capt. Holt was in the Chair & the crack, G. C. St. Culley, was present. The following officers were elected:

1 <sup>st</sup> Boat Capt.	Capt. J. H. Holt
2 <sup>nd</sup> " "	Major. R. G. Christie.
Secretary	G. H. Holmes.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

J. H. Holt  
1<sup>st</sup> Boat Capt.



Corpus in the 1920s

# Brave New World

PETER MARTLAND

“I take the War List and I run my finger down it.  
Here is name after name which I cannot read and which  
my elder hearers cannot hear without emotion.”<sup>1</sup>

HUGH FRASER STEWART  
Dean of Trinity College, Cambridge  
Summer 1919

The decade or so between the end of the First World War and the start of the Great Depression is often characterised by that overworked cliché “the jazz age”. In truth, it was quite different. To be sure, if you were one of that small number of rich, hedonistic, bright young things, it was a good time to party and dance to great tunes. However, for the majority of the British population, and certainly most people in Cambridge, the 1920s were spent counting the cost and coming to terms with the Great War – specifically the loss of nearly three quarters of a million young men – and the building of that brave new world of which we are the inheritors. These were turbulent years and to better understand the dramatic changes that took place in Britain, in Cambridge and particularly in our College, the anguished comments of the Dean of Trinity provide a more accurate backdrop.

## ‘A system not suited to women’

Almost immediately after the war ended Cambridge University and its constituent colleges reassembled, got back to work and, by 1920, despite everything that had happened, there was something approaching a return to normalcy. The *Cambridge University Handbook* assured its readers that all the standard activities of the University had been resumed. That was true, but what would never be the restored was the tone and tempo of the pre-war period.<sup>2</sup> There was one noticeable and substantial post-war change, the greatly increased number of students in residence; in the academic year 1913–14 the figure was 1,178, but by the middle of the war it had fallen to 235. In January 1919 numbers were 2,635 and in May 1919 matriculated undergraduates in residence had increased to 3,844.<sup>3</sup>

In the immediate post-war years, the University faced several challenges, one of which was the position of its women members. Sadly, it signally failed to resolve this issue. In 1919, women could be members of the University, sit Tripos examinations, but not take degrees. Pressure for change resulted in the appointment of an all-male investigative committee. It consisted of “six conservatives and six liberals”, two were senior Corpus figures; the master Edmund Pearce and tutor Will (later Sir Will) Spens. A century on, Pearce’s comments (although not unusual for the time) make uncomfortable reading. In his view: “women could

**PETER MARTLAND** (m. 1982), Editor of *The Record* is a retired historian and writer

1. Cited in *TEB Howarth Cambridge between the wars*, p.17 (London, 1978).

2. *Howarth Cambridge between the wars*, p.21.

3. *Howarth Cambridge between the wars*, p.25. This figure included 190 US service personnel on a short course and 400 naval officers. These were 1914 vintage Dartmouth College midshipmen, whose education had been curtailed by the exigencies of war.

*Opposite page (top):* Anthony Burney (m.1928) later chairman of department store chain Debenhams and an honorary fellow of the College. He is pictured as a member of the Chess Club in Lent Term 1930, middle row, second right

*Opposite page (bottom):* Restarting the College: Minutes of the Boat Club 24th February 1919

4. Howarth Cambridge between the wars, pp.37–38.

5. *The Corpus MAs polled 48 to 8 against full membership for women.*

6. In 1940, the then Vice-Chancellor reviewed the inter-war decades, observing: “Never before had there been in the same time so rapid an increase in the number of teachers and students, in facilities for research in the arts and sciences, or such multiplication of buildings by University and Colleges.” *A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: the City and University of Cambridge, Vol. 3, p.266 (London, 1959), Vol. 3, p.266.*

7. Between 1912 and his election to the Mastership in 1927 Spens was also College Tutor.

8. In 1937 Thomson became a Nobel Laureate for his work on the nature of the electron.

9. Between 1928 and 1935 Pickthorn was College Tutor. In addition to their college and university duties, Butler and Pickthorn held, at different times, the Cambridge University seat in the House of Commons.

10. On his election to the fellowship in 1919, A E Clark-Kennedy became the only member of the fellowship who had previously been a Corpus undergraduate (m. 1911).

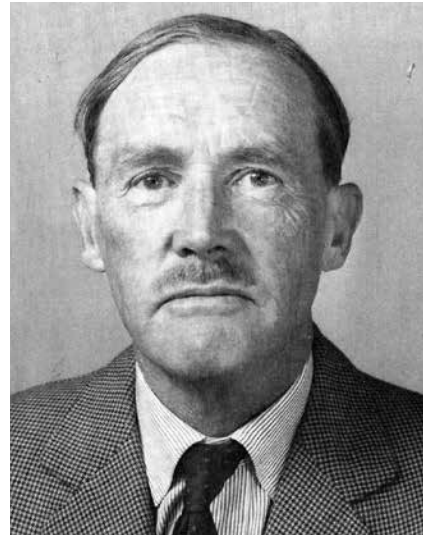
Future Corpus Master and Nobel Laureate George Paget Thompson was elected a fellow in October 1914, returning to the College after war service in 1919

Right: Olympic oarsman and Cambridge rowing blue TRB Sanders was elected to the fellowship as lecturer in the Mechanical Sciences. He also held several College offices

not be admitted on equal terms simply because they were not content with equality. They mean to rule and usually do in the end.” Spens’s comments are equally offensive and embarrassing, arguing that: “Tripos results showed that the Cambridge examination system was not suited to women.”<sup>4</sup> The committee produced a split report, with liberals recommending the admission of women to full membership but excluded from men’s colleges, while conservatives proposed the establishment of a new women’s university. The Senate House voted on the matter and came out against full membership for women. As a result, the matter was shamefully kicked down the road for a further generation.<sup>5</sup> Another issue the University faced was funding. After four years of war it was broke and reliant on government handouts to balance the books. The price of this assistance was a Royal Commission, which recommended long-term public funding. This was conditional on changes to admissions and the reorganisation of university and college teaching. These far-reaching reforms created the modern faculty system which transformed the previously college-based teaching of undergraduates. Faculty teaching staff were appointed and paid by the University and fees previously charged to students were paid for from faculty funds. College statutes were altered to ensure college fellowships were made conditional upon holders engaging in teaching, research, or college administration. At least half were reserved for those holding university posts. Taken together, these changes swept away the old Victorian university and created the modern system.<sup>6</sup>

## Challenges, fresh ideas and politics

When Corpus reassembled in January 1919 there were nine fellows. These comprised several outstanding scholars and two future masters, Will Spens<sup>7</sup> and George Paget Thomson.<sup>8</sup> Others included the distinguished theologian Sir Edwin Hoskyns, the historian and diplomat Sir Geoffrey Butler and historian Kenneth Pickthorn.<sup>9</sup> These were joined by an equally strong post-war intake, including the American jurist Arthur Goodhart, Dr A E (Archie) Clark-Kennedy, the first director of studies in medicine,<sup>10</sup> the Canadian-born psychologist Dr John



MacCurdy and, between 1921 and 1924, fellow psychologist Robert Thouless.<sup>11</sup> All of them had experienced war service in one form or another. Also, in this intake was the young engineering fellow TRB Sanders.<sup>12</sup> To these individuals fell the difficult task of navigating the college into the uncertain streams of the post-war world.

In the immediate aftermath of the war Corpus faced a series of issues; for example, the period to 1922 was one of unprecedented inflation and shortages, immediately followed by a serious economic depression. All this resulted in decreased income and increased fees, which put pressure on students and scholarship funds.<sup>13</sup> During the inter-war years, the number of students in the College almost doubled to an average of fifty-three per cohort, compared to around twenty-eight just before the war and often less than twenty at the turn of the twentieth century. The consequences were immediate, the College pressed all its student accommodation into service and there was a scramble to acquire premises outside its immediate domain. This pressure also resulted in the construction of fourteen dormitory rooms in New Court. Such was the demand for rooms that a July 1919 request “to admit discharged soldiers from the Canadian forces” had to be refused because of the lack of accommodation.

There were other issues, for instance the Chapter Book (governing body minutes) note a 1920 decision to erect a war memorial “to members of the College who died during the war.” Also, in 1920, after years of wartime neglect, it was decided to repair, modernise, and upgrade the college and its facilities, especially the kitchens. This was essential if the needs of the vastly increased number of students in residence were to be met.

The new fellows brought fresh ideas and interesting events to the college. For example, in November 1920, Arthur Goodhart began hosting an annual Thanksgiving dinner in Hall for the numerous American members of the college and the wider University. As a member of the Lehman banking family he retained strong links with the world of New York finance. In November 1921 this brought banking luminary J P Morgan to the college as his guest.<sup>14</sup>

During the 1920s, as Britain transitioned into a representative democracy, the College became more overtly political. Sir Geoffrey Butler, standing as a Conservative, won the University parliamentary seat in the general election of 1923. Butler was described as a Conservative of the new school, accepting democracy and the changes it was bringing. At the same time, Butler founded the Cambridge University Conservative Association (CUCA), to instruct and train the next generation of conservative leaders. Soon after his election, Butler became parliamentary private secretary to Sir Samuel Hoare MP, then Secretary of State for Air. Later in the decade Butler got Hoare (an Oxford man) an honorary Cambridge degree and he was given membership of the College. Thereafter, Corpus became his intellectual home.<sup>15</sup> During this same period, Hoare invited psychologist John MacCurdy to devise the psychological testing of would-be RAF pilots. Unfortunately for the college, Sir Geoffrey Butler died unexpectedly in 1929 at the early age of forty-two.

11. Like A E Clark-Kennedy, Robert Thouless had been a Corpus undergraduate (m.1912) and, after war service, an early Cambridge PhD student. His supervisor was W H R Rivers of St John's College, an anthropologist, neurologist, ethnologist and psychiatrist.

12. Sanders was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1922 he was part of the coxless four at Henley, winning first the Stewards' Challenge Cup as Eton Vikings and subsequently the Visitors' Challenge Cup as Third Trinity Boat Club. In 1923 Sanders stroked the Cambridge boat in the Boat Race, which was won by Oxford. In 1923 and 1924 he was part of the Trinity coxless four that won the Stewards' Challenge Cup at Henley. In 1924, Sanders was a rowing gold medallist in the Paris Olympics. In the 1980s, the college boat club named an eight after him. In addition to his engineering fellowship and college lecture-ship, Sanders was variously Dean of College (1926–31), Praelector (1927–29) and Estates Bursar (1935–46).

13. In June 1919, the Chapter Book records college room rents increased from £7 to £8 per term. Similar increases are recorded the following June.

14. The Letter of the Corpus Association, p. 10, No 5 (March 1922) noted: “On Thanksgiving Day, 25th November [1921], Mr Goodhart gave a luncheon to the American undergraduates in Cambridge. Among the guests asked to meet them, besides he Master and Fellows, were Mr J Pierpoint Morgan and Sir George Parking.”

15. Hoare had a home near Cromer in North Norfolk, the college being part-way between London and Norfolk.

## College life restarts

The first post-war students appeared in January 1919. They were drawn from: those matriculated undergraduates who, in 1914–15, were just commencing or part way through their courses but left to join the armed forces; those offered places during the war but were already serving (or about to serve) in the armed forces; those who would have applied for admission but instead joined the armed forces and applied after the Armistice; members of British and foreign armed forces attending courses in Cambridge;<sup>16</sup> and those coming up straight from school.

It was a curious mix with both a wide age and maturity spread, perhaps as much as six years. However, between them, they restarted college life. It was thanks to the men who were returnees that many of the sporting and cultural societies got going so quickly. The Boat Club minute book provides a good example of this. It reads: “A general meeting of the CCCBC was held on the Library at 8.00 on Monday February 24th [1919]. Captain Holt was in the chair and the coach, GCH Culley, was present. The following officers were elected: 1st Boat Captain FN Holt, 2nd Boat Captain Major RG Christie, Secretary GH Holmes.” A general meeting to reconstitute the Chess Club took place around the same time. Curiously, it took until 1922 for the Gravediggers (the play-reading society) to restart.

A welcome harbinger of pre-war years appeared in February 1920. The Chapter Book notes the fellowship gave permission for the students to hold a Ball in June; the first since 1912. However, despite the restoration of pre-war activities, doubling the number of students fundamentally changed the character of the place. At the same time, the fellowship was determined to drive up academic standards. One indicator of this new policy was the introduction of entrance examinations, another was the decision only to admit candidates for honours.

Before the war, the College had been largely, but by no means entirely, occupied by students seeking to become Anglican clergy. However, despite the presence of eminent theologian Sir Edwyn Hoskyns, the increase in numbers together with other social and cultural changes resulted in a significant decline in the proportion of students reading Divinity and other subjects before proceeding to ordination.

The doubling of student numbers inevitably shifted the social as well as the academic base of the college. Just four examples illustrate the point. In 1919, the eighteen-year old William Henry Whitbread came up; in later life he became managing director of the family brewing firm, Whitbread and Co Ltd. That same year Bernhard (Boris) Ord matriculated. He went on to become organist, composer, and director of music at King’s College, Cambridge. In 1929, Dudley Senanayake came up to read natural sciences. He went on to be three times prime minister of Ceylon. That same year saw the matriculation of Anthony Burney, the son of a businessman. He became an accountant and later chairman of department store chain Debenhams. In the pre-war era, accountancy, trade, music and politics were not professions to the fore among Corpus graduates.

16. *The presence of so many members of the armed forces and veterans changed the whole ambience of student life. These naval officers within the student body had little regard for the traditions and way of life in Cambridge. They remained in residence until 1923. The memory of their presence gave rise to one veteran college porter describing a particularly unruly bacchanalian evening in the later 1930s as “nearly up to the standard of the naval gentleman.” Cited in Howarth Cambridge between the wars pp.37–38.*





Far left: WH Whitbread (m.1919) later became head of the family brewing firm

Centre: Bernhard (Boris) Ord (m.1919) later became fellow and organist at King's College, Cambridge

Left: Dudley Parakrama Senanayake (m.1929) a future three times Prime Minister of Ceylon

## Half in and half out of the Victorian era

College life for students in Corpus during the 1920s was utterly different to today. We know something of this because of one detailed and intriguing account of those times from the pen of Christopher Isherwood, who was an undergraduate between 1923 and 1925. In his autobiographical novel *Lions and Shadows*<sup>17</sup> Isherwood described his undergraduate life and exploits, together with his friend the writer Edward Upward (referred to as Allen Chalmers in the book).<sup>18</sup> In his 2009 obituary of Upward (who had died aged 105) Oliver Rackham noted “They both came to Corpus as Scholars, and spent their time mocking the dons: one graduated the other did not.”<sup>19</sup> Their first visit to Cambridge, in December 1921, was to take the entrance examinations. Of this Isherwood, employing some literary hyperbole, wrote: “Cambridge exceeded our most macabre expectations. It seemed a city of perpetual darkness, for we spent the few hours of winter daylight almost entirely in the examination hall. When we emerged, the shop lamps were already blurred in the icy fog that stole out of the marshes into the town, bicycles veered shrilly hither and thither in the gloom, and the outlines of college buildings, half seen, half suggested, were massive and shadowy as the architecture of the night itself.”

His description of Corpus sums up an institution half in and half out of the Victorian era: “Within doors, all was luxury: the arm-chairs, the crumpets, the beautifully-bound eighteenth-century volumes, the fires roaring in the stoked grates. Each of us had the loan of an absent undergraduate’s room – bedroom, sitting room and pantry; all fitted up in a style which, after the spartan simplicity of a public school study, seemed positively sinful. Each of us was called every morning, by a college servant with a cup of tea. Both Chalmers [Edward Upward] and myself were overpowered, by the leisure, by the politeness, by the extravagance, by the abundance of alcohol and rich food.”

In the 1920s the College retained many pre-war features including the tradition of the gyp, a College servant. He (it was always a he) occupied that small space at the bottom of many staircases still known as the gyp room. His role was to attend to the needs of the students on his staircase. He made them breakfast, took lunch prepared by the buttery to those who ordered it<sup>20</sup> and

17. *Lions and Shadows* (London, 1938). Cited edition London 2013.

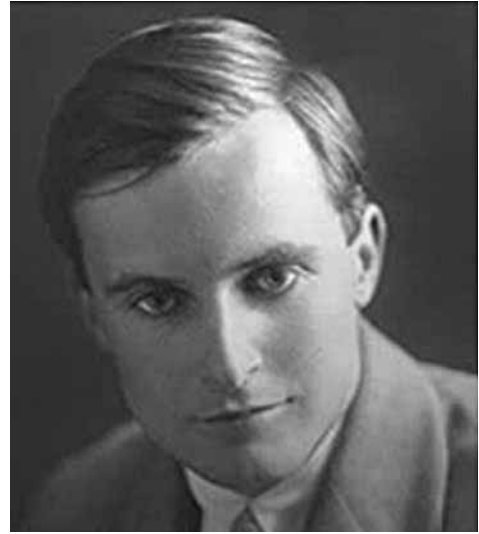
18. For an obituary of the anarchist, revolutionary, novelist, and short-story writer Edward Falaise Upward (1903–2009) see Letter of the Corpus Association, pp.69–70 No.88, *Michaelmas* 2009. In 1924, Upward was awarded the prestigious Chancellor’s Gold Medal for English verse.

19. *Ibid.*

20. The College buttery was located on the ground floor under hall. The buttery boy was always known as “Billy”; legendary head porter Albert Jaggard began his Corpus career as buttery boy during the inter-war years.

Later a man of letters Christopher Isherwood (m.1923) contrived to get himself kicked out of the College in 1925. He wrote about life in Corpus in his novel *Lions and Shadows*

Right: Edward Upward (m.1922) later became a writer. He was a key influence on Isherwood during their time together at Corpus



generally sorted things like hot water for washing and shaving at the start of each day, attending to laundry and packing and unpacking at the start and end of each term. There was another student service that remained into modern times, the bedmakers. Their duties in the inter-war years (and as they had done before the war) was to keep student rooms clean – as well as making beds (a more arduous task in the days before duvets).

When Isherwood came up in 1923, he made typical undergraduate complaints about his rooms (probably in New Court): “The college authorities, considerate as always in such matters, had arranged to give me rooms in the same staircase as Chalmers; his were on the ground floor, mine on the second. I disliked my sitting-room from the first moment I saw it. It was chilly, bare and high; and the walls had been newly papered and painted, a bright unfriendly brown. My few books huddled together, quite lost in the tall built-in bookcase; and I had no photographs or menu-cards to break the long bleak black line of the mantelpiece. The grate didn’t draw properly: the fire was difficult to keep alight and the chimney smoked... Altogether, the place was like an old-fashioned dentist’s waiting room.” Isherwood does not mention his participation in a Gravediggers event on 27th November 1923. It was a reading of Oliver Goldsmith’s *Good-natured Man* during which he had the role of Olivia.

From the start the couple engaged in a secret war against authority. As Isherwood put it: “The dons were, for me, utterly remote and unreal figures, like the bogies in a child’s book; indeed we were careful to avoid contact with them (excepting Gorse [a thinly disguised Kenneth Pickthorn]) altogether, in order to maintain our vision of the ‘two sides’, ‘the combine’ directly expressly against ourselves.” Yet Isherwood, a Scholar, buckled down and was soon: “gowned, seated uneasily on the edge of the chair, reading my first essay aloud to my history tutor.”

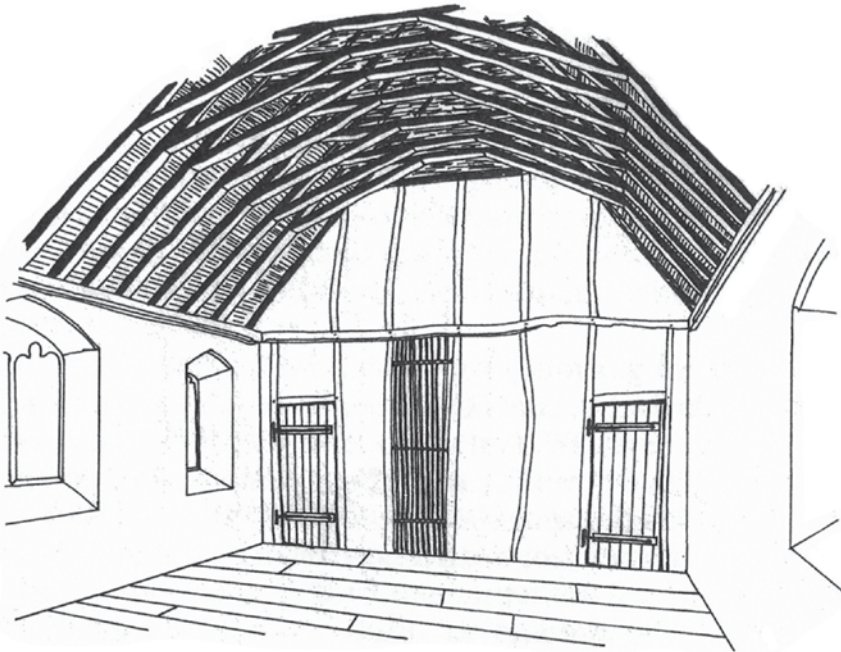
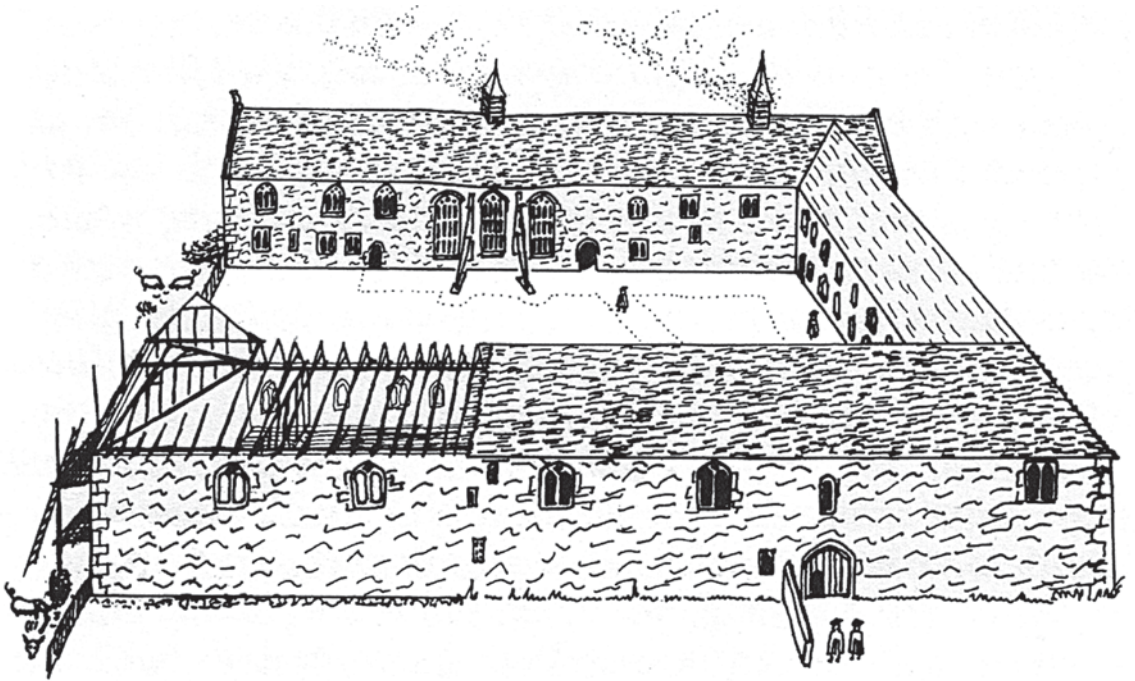
A review of this work reveals Isherwood as an utter snob from a landed, moneyed, and public school background. He enjoyed associating with what Upward disparagingly referred to as the college “Poshocracy”, admiring what



he said were: “titles, Blues, money, good looks, or academic successes”; there is more than a hint of Isherwood’s future in that statement. That said, Isherwood came of age at Corpus. His first two University terms had been, he wrote, amongst the most enjoyable of his life. He also conceded, his formal education was not moving forward, though his friend Upward was educating him and, as a result, he experienced a melting of what he described as his puritan adolescent priggishness. During his second year (Upward’s third and final year) Isherwood realised he wanted to leave Corpus. However, he wanted to go out with a scandalous bang. To this end he contrived to annoy his Part I examiners by writing nonsense. At the start of the long vacation he was summoned to the College and invited to withdraw. For Isherwood it proved a liberation and the start of his long career as a writer, observer, and gay icon; and he did give us some remarkable insights into College life during the 1920s.

### **Fertile ground for the future**

During the decade or so under review, life in Corpus underwent a period of profound change. This was primarily because of the war and its legacy, but there was also the reorganisation of the university and college system of education, the doubling of student numbers, the appearance of many more research students and the arrival of overseas students. Much of what the old College had been, the good bits and the bad, perished in the war, but the basics of what emerged during these early post-war years clearly endured and proved fertile ground for the continued growth and development of the institution to the present.



All the drawings shown here are by Oliver Rackham.

*Top:* The drawing of Old Court under construction is presented from the same viewpoint as Loggan's view of 1688. Note the shoring which was erected after the Hall walls started to lean outwards

*Bottom:* Reconstruction of an upper room before the garret was inserted. One of the bays in the stud wall is shown unplastered, revealing the oak laths that would be covered with daub

Oliver Rackham's paper on Old Court republished

# The Courts of Corpus Christi

PETER CAROLIN

If you wanted to learn about the construction and development of Old Court, where would you look? You would probably search for the College entry in either Willis and Clark's monumental architectural history of the University<sup>1</sup> or the Royal Commission's splendid survey of the City.<sup>2</sup> Both are hefty double-volume publications – excellent of their kind but not easy to get hold of and absorb. 'Pevsner's' *Cambridgeshire*<sup>3</sup> is more concise but tells little of the Court's materials, making and inhabitation. There's a good summary in Nicholas Ray's *Cambridge Architecture*.<sup>4</sup> But someone *did* write at length about Old Court and his history has just been republished as part of a 40-page booklet, *The Courts of Corpus Christi*.<sup>5</sup>

Hidden away in the College Libraries are copies of the 1987 and 1988 issues of the *Letters of the Corpus Association*. There, in two parts, 'abridged from a lecture first given in the Dean of Chapel's rooms on 27 November 1980' is Oliver Rackham's paper, 'The making of Old Court'.<sup>6</sup> I was captivated when I first read these two articles, thirty years ago. In recent years, as the College worked on the Old House Kitchen Project, I turned to them again and again – introducing them to archaeologists, architects and conservation officers. None of them had known of it, all became enthusiastic readers.

Four years ago, in 2016, one of the organisers of the Symposium in honour of Oliver, Professor Peter Grubb, Oliver's undergraduate supervisor, asked if I would conduct some tours of Old Court, drawing attention to Oliver's discoveries. Deciding there was no way that this could be done with a large party, I suggested a talk followed by self-directed walks around the College. My proposal was accepted and, in the event, owing to time-tabling problems and demand, I had to give the talk twice on the same morning.

Once again, I found myself referring to Oliver's paper – using it not only as the basis of much of my talk but of my slides as well. Oliver was a remarkable draughtsman and his paper was illustrated with his inimitable pen and ink drawings. Some of these – the most interesting, to my mind – are not easy to understand, so I coloured parts in order to clarify the construction sequences. There were many Old Members in the two audiences and, afterwards, one of them told me that the colour had, for the first time, enabled him to understand Oliver's descriptions. He suggested that Oliver's paper should be republished in a single volume.

**PETER CAROLIN** (m. 1957) is a Life Fellow and Emeritus Professor of Architecture.

1. Willis R and Clark JW 1988 edn. 'The architectural history of the University of Cambridge' Cambridge: University Press vol 1 pp. 241–312

2. Royal Commission on Historical Monuments England 1959 'An inventory of the historical monuments in the City of Cambridge' Pt I pp. 48–58

3. Bradley S and Pevsner N 2014 'Cambridgeshire' New Haven and London: Yale University Press pp. 78–82

4. Ray N 1994 'Cambridge Architecture' Cambridge: University Press pp. 25–26

5. Rackham O and Carolin P 2020 'The Courts of Corpus Christi' Cambridge: Corpus Christi College

6. Rackham O 1987 'The making of Old Court: Part I The original building' in *The Letter of the Corpus Association* pp. 33–48 and 1988 'Part II Alterations' pp. 45–55

## An essay on each court

It has taken four years to complete the task. I was initially distracted by my fascination with the progress of the Old House Kitchen project. This involved over two years of archaeological investigations – first, in New Court and the Master’s Lodge garden, then in the former Hall and Master’s Lodge. I was on the site almost every day – endlessly astonished and excited by the discoveries and wishing that Oliver was alive to join me. He would have been equally excited but far better informed about what was being revealed. In particular, I hugely regret that he was not there to witness the exposure of the Hall’s original open hearth – the physical focus of the Society, about which he had written but never seen. It was a deeply moving moment – even more so than the astonishing breaking-out of the first of the concealed medieval corbels above, in the new Servedy.

As the Kitchen project developed, so, too, did my fascination with William Wilkins’ 1828 stairhall. From the outset, the Bursar, Tim Harvey-Samuel, understanding the significance of this space in relation to the new Servedy in the upper part of the old Hall, had included it in the project. We needed to make good the depredations of the 1940s and 80s and acknowledge the stairhall’s function as the most heavily used circulation space in College. The adjacent screens passage is, of course, the link between the two courts. The more we considered these spaces, the more was I convinced that there was far more to Wilkins’s design than was, at that moment, apparent.

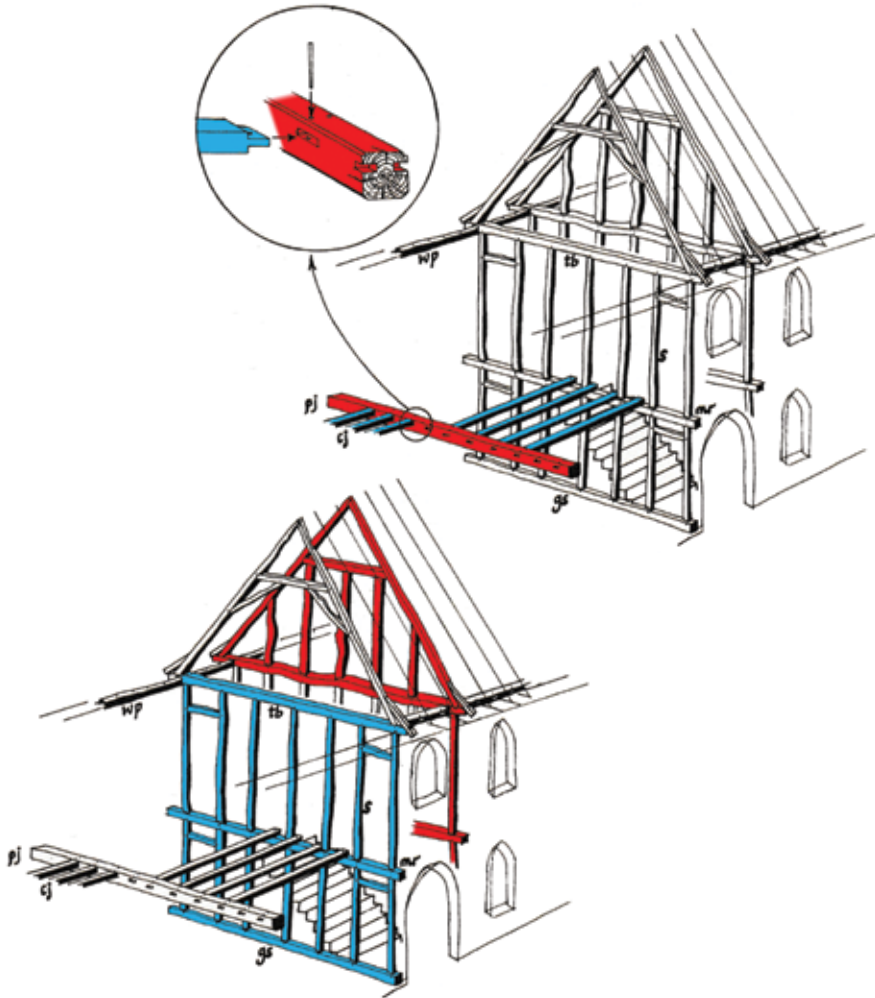
There was. Much more – all revealed in ‘The theatre of New Court’ published two years ago in this journal.<sup>7</sup> The discovery of the parallel axes linking the College to King’s Chapel and to St Bene’t’s had been totally unexpected and has contributed significantly to our understanding of the ideas behind New Court’s design. So, in planning the new publication, rather than limiting it to an interpretation of Old Court, I grasped the chance to (re)publish an essay on *each* court.

7. Carolin P 2018  
‘The theatre of New Court’  
in *The Letter* 97 pp. 28–38

## One of the College’s treasures

Having completed my study of Wilkins, it was time to return to Oliver’s original paper. Oliver believed that: ‘The history of an institution such as ours resides no less in its buildings and objects than in its records. ... Among Cambridge colleges ... the buildings are endlessly photographed, but no book fully describes their structure or explains what they were built for.’ His essay does just that. It is an enjoyable, stimulating read – exploring the foundation of the College, the precedents for the court plan, the site, the order of building, the materials, structures, interiors, alterations and inhabitation. How, through an examination of the staircase structure, Oliver establishes the sequence of construction, is fascinating. So, too are his asides on medieval carpentry, the climate of the 1340s, the cost of glazing in the 1360s and much else. There are wonderful passages such as his reference to inebriated undergraduates tripping ‘if the hour be late’ over the medieval groundsills outside their rooms. Commenting on the structure, he observes that ‘Every time a big party is held in an upstairs room, a single floor (with its ‘primitive’ construction) supports more people than the entire population of the College 650 years ago’.





Colour has been added to some of the original drawings.

*Top:* First floor construction  
pj principal joist (red)  
cj common joist (blue)

Detail in circle is of a middle-third tenon joint between the principal and common joists

*Bottom:* Timber framed partitions on either side of staircase.

gs ground sill  
mr middle rail  
s studs  
tb tie beam  
wp wall-plate

The temporary end wall partition (red) is similar to the standard partition (blue) but extends up to the roof truss collar and would have been faced with a weatherproof cladding

Oliver wrote all this in his very distinct style – as a member of the College for other College members. In the interest of clarity, I’ve done a certain amount of editing – shortening, reordering and inserting cross-heads. All Oliver’s inimitable ‘visions’, except for one at the end, have been omitted but the text is still, unmistakably, his. Besides adding colour to some of his drawings, I’ve included both some photographs (his paper had none) and an illustrated postscript related to the recent archaeological investigations. There are two other parts to *The Courts of Corpus*. A foreword by Nicholas Ray, the author of CUP’s *Cambridge Architecture* and architect for the Old House Project, and an illustrated summary of the recent work at the intersection of the two courts. The complete booklet may be viewed on the College website.

The College has three great treasures. Mildred Bundy’s magnificent *Insular, Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-Norman Manuscript Art at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*<sup>8</sup> and Oliver Rackham’s *Treasures of Silver at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*<sup>9</sup> tell us of two of the treasures – but there has been nothing devoted to the third, Old Court. Now – although it’s distinctly modest when compared to Bundy and Oliver’s earlier book – there is.

8. Bundy M 1997 ‘Insular, Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-Norman Manuscript Art at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge’ *Kalamazoo: Western Michigan University and Cambridge: Corpus Christi College*

9. Rackham O 2002 ‘Treasures of Silver at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge’ *Cambridge: Corpus Christi College*



*Plague*


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# Then and Now

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LUCY HUGHES and PETER CAROLIN

**1530s****Fear of pestilence***From Robert Master's 'History of the College of Corpus Christi' (1753), p.66*

Whilst the Master was Rector of Land-beach, there happened such a general Rot amongst the stock of sheep, that scarce any remained. And the like Mortality seems to have prevailed amongst Mankind about the same time, for within the space of twenty years, we meet with many Graces in the University Books, for postponing the Terms and putting off disputations, for fear of the Pestilence.

**1665****Measures taken during the Great Plague***Chapter Book 2*

**12 August.** 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 Omblor 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. It being found afterwards that there was too much work for two women, a third, Browne, was added with the Master's leave.

**1666**

**5 January.** Thomas Tenison having continued in the college throughout the plague to have the same allowance as he had the previous year for the quarters between midsummer and Michaelmas and Michaelmas and Christmas. Note that those present constitute a majority of the fellows, John Roberts having died [in November]. John Lawson and John Blomfield 'there being only chosen two left' to have equitable abatement of their detriments.

**17 February.** Note of unusual numbers of students given leave in March 1665/6 to seek their BA degrees after the time of plague.

**6 April.** The laundress to have 10s a quarter, which was anciently given her as alms, for the time of plague and the barber half wages for that time.

**11 June.** Illingworth's sink into the Hostel to be stopped up and as many windows towards the college as can be also to be closed up. The college butcher and baker to be changed for the time being. The cook and his scullion to be brought into the college.

2020

### Measures taken during the Covid pandemic

*Message to all staff from the Bursar*

**2 April.** The College has a strange feeling about it. Most of the students are gone – and will not return next term. The University and the College will teach and examine them online. But we must not abandon those students who cannot return to a family home. They need access to catering, to security, to cleaning of the communal areas and waste removal, and they may need pastoral or mental health support. I am hugely grateful to those members of staff who are still required to come into College to work. But I am equally grateful to the large number of staff who are working from home. For those of us not used to working from home, it can be a difficult transition. Dealing with children, who may be missing their friends and who need schooling at home, or just adjusting to using social media to communicate with colleagues and “customers”. As of today, around half the staff are “furloughed”. This is a new concept for most of us. Furloughed staff too are making an important contribution to Corpus. The College can reclaim 80% up to a maximum of £2,500 per month of their pay from 1 March to 31 May from the Government. If you are furloughed, you should still keep in touch with your colleagues and your manager.

*Message from the Master's Executive Assistant to resident Fellows*

**8 July.** Please find below the email from the Praelector to all graduands sent today to prepare for the Zoom graduation celebration on Saturday 18 July at 12 noon to 1pm BST, to which all resident Fellows are cordially invited.

In order to attend, it is necessary to register for the event at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZckdeChqjMuH9N2-miZnKoC0Ua-oUFW1Cam>

*Message from the Praelector to Graduands*

**8 July.** I am very pleased to share further details of the graduation celebration on Saturday 18th July. With a short presentation by myself and a “graduation dinner” address from the Master, we aim to transport you over Zoom back to Cambridge, and to give you a taste of some of the key elements surrounding the ceremony as it is normally conducted at College and in the Senate House. As Praelector, I will then present each of you individually to the Master (acting as Deputy Vice Chancellor) to celebrate your degree. You will not need to do anything when you're presented, but might like to wave as the Latin rolls by! You will be able to register yourselves and up to 2 further devices so that family and friends can watch the celebration too.

*Message to resident Fellows from the Master*

**18 August.** Fellows are no doubt aware of the recent shifts in government policy on the determination of A level results.

The likely practical consequence for the College (at least as things stand today), is a first year of about a 100 (and perhaps a handful more). Marina and Michael are working carefully through the implications – most immediately for accommodation.

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# The Fellowship

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## News of Fellows

### *Promotions and Distinctions*

Dr Keith Seffen, Fellow and Director of Studies in Engineering, has been promoted to a personal professorship in Engineering Mechanics in his Department. Keith's research broadly contributes to Engineering Mechanics, with notable emphasis on his development of the science behind "shape-changing" structures. The latter radically transform their geometries whilst retaining structural integrity, and enable the design of new mechanisms, packaging and foldable structures for civil, mechanical and aerospace applications. He has also shown that similar principles guide the evolution of certain shape-changing behaviour in natural structures. He is equally passionate about teaching, having won Best Departmental Lecturer many times for his entertaining and informative classes on Structural Mechanics. Keith first joined Corpus as an undergraduate and as the first person in his family to attend university.

Dr Sarah Bohndiek, Fellow and Director of Studies in Physics, has been promoted to a personal professorship in Biomedical Physics in her Department. Sarah's research is focused on developing new technologies that help (literally) to see the earliest signs of cancer. Her team combine expertise in physics, engineering, biology and medicine. The broad mission of Sarah's VISIONLab, is to develop and apply new imaging biomarkers that shed light on tumour evolution. They are also active in translating their findings into clinical trials.

Revd Dr Andrew Davison, Fellow and Director of Studies in Theology and Religious Studies, has been promoted to a University Senior Lectureship in the Faculty of Divinity, where he holds the Starbridge Lecturership in Theology and Natural Sciences. Andrew studied at Corpus for his undergraduate degree and PhD in theology, after a degree in chemistry and a DPhil in biochemistry at Oxford. (He is also the first member of his family to attend university.) His recent work has been on cooperation in biology, life elsewhere in the universe and recent developments in evolutionary theory. He has been a fellow at Corpus for six years, and last year was appointed as Dean of Chapel.

Professor Christopher Hann has been elected a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales (his native country) and a Foreign Fellow of the Polish Academy. Chris is a distinguished social anthropologist of eastern Europe. As noted in a previous *Record*, he received the Huxley Medal from the Royal Anthropological Society in 2019.

## New Fellows

The Fellowship welcomed nine new arrivals in 2020. Dr Rory Naismith (University Lecturer in the History of England before the Norman Conquest) is Fellow and Director of Studies in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic. Rory is returning to Cambridge after four years at KCL. Before that, he was an undergraduate and graduate student in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at Trinity College (2002–2009), and subsequently pursued postdoctoral research in ASNC, History and at the Fitzwilliam Museum while based at Clare (2009–2015). His research focuses on economic and social developments in Anglo-Saxon England. He is interested in the cross-fertilisation of material and written sources, and has worked particularly closely with coinage. At present, he is preparing a major study of the social impact of monetisation in early medieval England and its neighbours, to be published by Princeton University Press. Rory will be on leave this year following the award of an AHRC Leadership Fellowship.

Tamsin Starr, former Head of News in the University was elected to a three-year Fellowship.

Dr Qingyuan Zhao (University Lecturer in Statistics) is Fellow in Mathematics. Qingyuan was born and raised in Wuhan in central China. After his first degree at the University of Science and Technology of China he went to Stanford for his PhD in Statistics (in 2016). He spent three years in the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania as a postdoctoral fellow before joining the Statistical Laboratory in Cambridge. Qingyuan's research interests lie primarily in drawing scientific conclusions about causal relationships using experimental and observational data, a fast-growing area known as "causal inference". He is also broadly interested in applying statistical methods in biomedical and social sciences.

Dr Sam Jindani is the new William Cook Early-Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Economics. He read PPE at Oxford, followed by an MPhil and DPhil in Economics. His research is in microeconomic theory, with particular interest in the application of economics to social phenomena, such as norms, networks and group identity. Prior to joining Corpus, he spent three years working in the private sector as an economist and data scientist.

Dr Amar Sohal was elected to a four-year Stipendiary Early-Career Research Fellowship in History. Amar read History at UCL before going to Balliol College, Oxford for a MSt in South Asian History and Hindi Literature. In 2019, he completed his DPhil in History at Merton College under the supervision of Professor Faisal Devji. An intellectual historian of modern India and Pakistan, Amar is interested in those ideas that continue to shape contemporary politics in both countries. Amar's doctoral dissertation, which he is currently revising for a monograph, examined the political thought of three eminent Indian Muslim nationalists of the twentieth century: Abul Kalam Azad, Sheikh Abdullah and Abdul Ghaffar Khan. It argued for the presence of a distinct Muslim secularity within the grander intellectual family of secular Indian nationalism. His next project explores how a set of modern Hindu nationalists engaged in fraught experiments with conservatism, secularism and ideas of Pakistan.

Revd Dr Matthew Bullimore was appointed Chaplain for five years and elected to a Fellowship. Matt studied theology at the Universities of Cambridge, Harvard and Manchester. Whilst preparing for ordination at Westcott House he completed his doctoral studies under the supervision of Professor Catherine Pickstock (Emmanuel) and our own Professor William Horbury. He has spent most of his working life on the border of West and South Yorkshire. After his curacy in the Diocese of Wakefield, he became the Bishop's Chaplain. He was then vicar of two parishes serving four villages on the Barnsley coalfield. His commitment to widening participation through education began in parish ministry working with several primary schools and the Children's Centre. Most recently, he has been the Widening Participation Officer at Churchill College.

Dr Daria Frank is the new Sultan Qaboos Early-Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Mathematics. Daria completed her undergraduate studies in Mathematics at the Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg. After finishing her diploma studies in Germany in December 2011, she started her PhD in fluid dynamics at the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics and St Edmund's College. After completing her PhD in 2015, Daria took up a postdoctoral position in Environmental Fluid Dynamics at DAMTP. A year later, in October 2016, she became a Junior Research Fellow at Fitzwilliam College. Daria's work focuses on buoyancy-driven and multiphase turbulent fluid flows and combines small-scale laboratory experiments with theoretical and numerical modelling. Her research interests address pressing issues such as the reduction of urban energy consumption and creating a healthy indoor environment by optimising the ventilation of buildings, mitigation of consequences of large-scale oil spills such as the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and, more recently, the risks associated with musical performances with regard to the Covid-19 virus.

Professor Caroline Bassett, was elected to a Fellowship in class C (professorial). Caroline is Professor of Digital Humanities in the Faculty of English and Director of Cambridge Digital Humanities (CDH), an inter-disciplinary research programme. She explores computational technologies and cultural forms, critical theories of technology and media arts. Her current interests include science fiction and technological futures, media archaeology and digital methods, automation and AI. Her publications include the *Arc and the Machine*, on narrative and new media, and *Furious*, a co-authored book on feminism, gender and digital worlds. She has recently completed *Anti-Computing*, a book exploring histories of resistance to computerised culture, to be published in 2021.

Ms Jenny Raine was appointed Bursar and elected to a Fellowship. She graduated in biochemistry from the University of York and then trained as a Chartered Accountant with PwC. After qualifying, Jenny worked in the NHS as Finance Director and CEO in a number of Trusts local to Cambridge covering mental health and community services as well as acute hospitals. More recently, she has been working with charities supporting mental health challenges in children and adults. She is a trustee of Red Balloon of the Air – a charity that provides education and support to children who have self-excluded from school due to bullying.



### Former Fellows

This splendid and dynamic group of new Fellows was matched by some (inevitably sad) departures. Dr Kai Ruggeri came to the end of his term as a Fellow in February 2020. He continues as Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. Mr Tim Harvey-Samuel moved college in March to take up an appointment as Bursar and Steward at Trinity Hall. Dr Felix Grey (sometime William Cook Early-Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Economics) joined the civil service as an economic advisor to DEFRA in the Farming Economics team and as part of the Future Farming and Countryside Programme. Dr Jacob Page (sometime Sultan Qaboos Early-Career Research Fellow and College Lecturer in Mathematics) is now Lecturer in Applied and Computational Mathematics at the University of Edinburgh. Revd Canon Jeremy Davis completed his second successful term as acting Chaplain. Dr Anastasia Berg (sometime Donnelley Early-Career Research Fellow) is now Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr Martin Kleppmann continues as a Senior Research Associate and Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science and Technology in Cambridge where he holds a Leverhulme Early-Career Fellowship. We wish all these every success; and hope that they will fondly remember their time in Corpus.

### Deaths

Richard Wright (aged 92) on 5 October 2020. Richard was a former High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire (in 1992), a Deputy Lord Lieutenant and an undergraduate at Trinity Hall. He was elected a Guild Fellow of this College in 2010 principally to recognise his key role in the administration of the estate of Robert Beldam (generous benefactor of the College and Honorary Fellow who died in 2004). As a consequence of Richard's careful stewardship as executor, the College benefited greatly from an increase in the value of the Beldam estate.

CHRISTOPHER KELLY, *Master*

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### A Bursar's valedictory

As the pneumatic drill bit into the concrete a distinct nervousness took hold of the shivering group whose breath steamed into the medieval vault. Buried within was a medieval sculpture, part of a corbel for the timber beams supporting the ceiling of the Old Hall, now becoming a servery. This seemed a dangerous rebirth after seventy years' interment. When the corbel's angelic visage was revealed undamaged, I was as elated as I had been in 2013 when Stuart Laing offered me the opportunity to be Corpus' next Bursar.

The opportunity to revive those corbels (and the kitchens, servery, Hall and Parker Room) provides a good analogy for the task and thrill of intergenerational stewardship that lies at the essence of the Bursar's role; ensuring that what is precious from our past is made relevant to our present and future, and securing resources so we can shape that future with confidence and resolve.



Tim Harvey-Samuel

In that mission I have been stimulated, challenged and supported at Corpus by so many friends and colleagues. Our wonderful staff were a consistent pleasure to work with and their good humour, commitment and resilience regularly astonished me. Fuelled by saffron cake, the Bursary team of Sue Ainger-Brown, Kate Williams and Helen Vincent were a formidable financial, HR and operational engine. I was extremely lucky that Corpus' intimate size and the relative breadth of Bursarial responsibilities enabled me to have more interaction with the students than my counterparts in many other Colleges. It was never less than engaging and hopefully we balanced everyone's needs appropriately.

The Fellowship provided support, scrutiny and friendship, all in generous measure. The refreshment of continual learning is the most abiding memory of my time at Corpus. There are far too many instances to do them all justice here but Marina Frasca-Spada's rolling and unforgettable six-year induction into Collegiate Cambridge life and practice and Peter Carolin's architectural education at Old House and Leckhampton both saved me innumerable times. Alas, lockdown has still not enabled me to make deep inroads into Michael Tanner's reading list (although I have made diligent progress on Paul Hewett's wine recommendations). The friendship of alumni/ae, some old friends and some new, was also a delight, especially through the work of the Investment Committee whose advice and partnership was extraordinarily valuable.

Lastly, my deep thanks to David Secher for agreeing to join as Acting Bursar in January, Covid made his incumbency far more demanding than he could have expected, and my congratulations and very best wishes to Jenny Raine on joining this remarkable community as Bursar. Corpus will always have a very special place in my heart, I felt blessed to come to work there every day and look forward to witnessing its thriving future from my new perch, five minutes down King's Parade.

TIM HARVEY-SAMUEL



Andrew Cooper

## A Visiting Fellow's reflections

It was with excitement that I arrived at Corpus for the Lent Term, eager to catch a glimpse of Fellowship life and experience the broader academic community in Cambridge. And what a term it was! While my time at Corpus was far from conventional, it was certainly eventful and undoubtedly memorable. I enjoyed daily conversations over lunch at high table, where I learned a great deal about mole rats, the Great Famine, Bacon's politics and the cinematic depiction of furniture. I was awed by the Queenborough Feast, and moved by the cadence of worship in the Chapel. Most of all, I was struck by the warm hospitality and endlessly fascinating academic community of the College. It felt like entering a family.

One of the highlights of my stay was living in the community at Leckhampton. JD Rhodes was a wonderful host, and I enjoyed many stimulating conversations with postgraduate students and Fellows over dinner, and several talks at the Stephen Hales Lecture Series.

During my visit I worked on a book project that examines the development of biology in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. I'm particularly interested in the metaphysics of organic structure, and how the analogies we use to make plants and animals intelligible (mechanisms, design, function, etc.) both enable and constrain the theories and experiments we use to understand them. This took me the vaults of the UL, the archives of the Wren Library and even to the Stephen Hales manuscripts in the Parker Library. Particular highlights were reading through letters and papers exchanged at the Cambridge Philosophical Society in the mid-nineteenth century, and attempting to decipher the handwritten notebooks of William Whewell, a former master of Trinity who not only had a decisive influence on the development of biology but also advocated for university reform in the 1840s and 1850s. My research complemented the collegial life I enjoyed at Corpus: in both history and living community I experienced the vital role of conversation across disciplines in the progress of scientific knowledge.

The term was punctuated by industrial action and the growing awareness of the implications of Covid for the College. While activities were cut short, I was able to host two workshops in the Philosophy Department and to make significant progress on the book project. I would like to thank the Master and Fellows for inviting me to join Corpus for an immensely stimulating, lively and remarkable term. I made several academic connections and, more importantly, friendships, that I hope to maintain in years to come.

ANDREW COOPER

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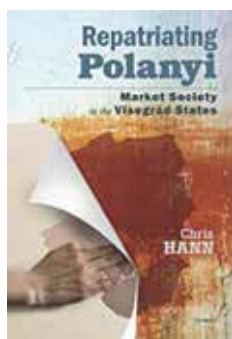
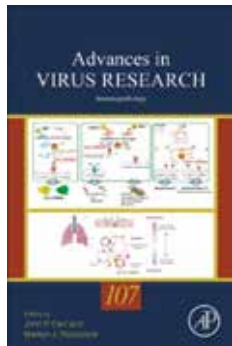
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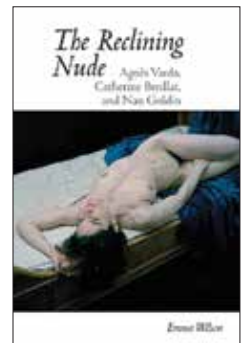
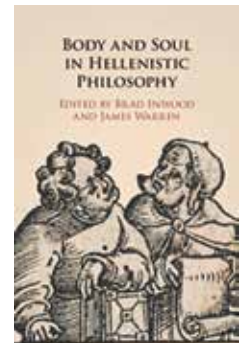
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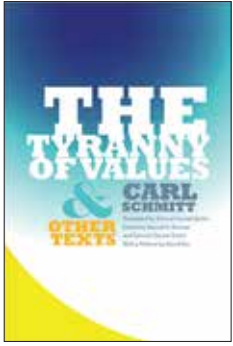
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# Postgraduates

## Leckhampton during lockdown

**ISABELLA FERREIRA**

The 2019–20 academic year began at Leckhampton with all the pomp and ceremony fitting for the occasions of matriculation, our first formals in Old House, fresher's week and our overall introduction to College life and all that Cambridge has to offer. The leaves changed colour and we began to settle into our new lives, connecting with the wonderful graduate community at Leckhampton and forming new friendships. Michaelmas Term whirled by in a flurry of events, early morning rowing outings with the College Boat Club, and new academic pursuits. Christmas break came and went and Lent Term began in all its force. Little mutterings here and there of a Novel Coronavirus appearing in China entered conversations but our immediate lives continued unhampered by this news.

As February drew to a close, this Novel Coronavirus was taking the world by storm and early into March, many countries began locking down and keeping their residents indoors. The UK followed shortly after, throwing the last week of Lent Term into disarray. A general sense of panic set in as students rushed to get the last few remaining flights home to all different corners of the world so that they could ride this difficult period out with family. For some of us, Leckhampton is our only home and so we remained as the last few students who could leave trickled away.

About fifty graduate students remained in residence during lockdown at Leckhampton. Without any libraries or laboratories, bar the very few who began researching this Novel Coronavirus, including my own, students were confined to studying from their rooms. This took a level of adjustment and resilience that was borne admirably. Throughout this time, new friendships were formed, and old friendships strengthened as we all banded together to support one another through this difficult time.

Leckhampton's generous and beautiful gardens were a boon during this time, especially as we were blessed with warm, sunny days from as early as Easter. The students made full use of the gardens and the surrounding fields. And as lockdown slowly began to ease, more and more people ventured out and others began to return, increasing the sense of community amongst the graduates. As the year draws to a close and we begin Michaelmas Term again, so much has changed and so many hallmarks of the academic year have been lost to the global pandemic. However, the sense of community amongst the students has grown and the care and support has been incredible. My hope is that we carry this forward as we continue into uncharted territory whilst trying our absolute best to maintain some sense of normal daily life. I am truly grateful that I chose to join the wonderful community that is Leckhampton.



**ISABELLA FERREIRA** was MCR vice-president 2020. She is completing a PhD in Medicine on HIV functional cure and drug resistance.



**GUIDO G. BEDUSCHI** is completing his doctoral dissertation on the relationship between the dissemination of news and the writing of modern history in early eighteenth-century Europe, focusing in particular on the Italian peninsula.

## Doctoral struggles in a pandemic

**GUIDO G. BEDUSCHI**

The Covid pandemic found me at the final stage of my PhD in History. On the eve of Britain's first lockdown, I was just about to leave for France in order to conduct research at the Centre of Diplomatic Archives in Nantes. I had planned to stop in Paris for a couple of nights, before heading to Western France by train. And all of this while Italy, and more precisely my native region, Lombardy, was the world's epicentre of the ongoing pandemic.

Of course, I had indirect experience of what was happening via family and friends. However, England in early March was not too affected by the news from Italy: life in Cambridge was carrying on as usual, although many of us shared a sense of impending doom. Three days before my planned departure, the situation became critical in France too, and it was certain that Britain would be no exception. At that critical point, when I realised that I could not travel to France nor to Italy, some friends offered me to move to their place in London. They say: "friends are the family we chose for ourselves". Well, in this case, I can say I am friend with a whole family (parents and four children), whom I have been very lucky to meet when I moved to Cambridge some four years ago, as the eldest son was with me at Corpus. After some hesitation, I finally accepted the generous offer to spend the upcoming lockdown with them – convinced, as I was, that the temporary situation would last a mere month...

18 weeks later, I was completely integrated into the family. And although I cannot possibly complain about my lockdown, PhD-ing during this time was very arduous. The books I had borrowed from the University Library before moving to London were enough for the first few weeks, but soon, as I started a new chapter of my work, I was forced to rely exclusively on online resources. This is often not an issue when publications are either very recent or very old (much of what has been published from the early days of printing to the nineteenth century is available on Google Books). The problem was finding anything else that was published in between, as very little has been digitalised, or is anyway available without copyright infringements. PhD research and writing got considerably slower.

When the end of the lockdown finally approached, I realised that I urgently needed a well-stocked library and an academic environment where I could catch up with work. Unfortunately, returning to Cambridge was not an option: at the time, the university was closed, and it would take several weeks for the libraries to reopen. Thanks to the generosity of the University of Vienna, the University of Cambridge, and especially of Dr Thomas Wallnig, I obtained a position as Visiting PhD Student at the University of Vienna. I moved to the Austrian capital in early July, and I am planning to stay here until the end of December.



Frank pandemically attired

## Approved for PhD

- HUT Bjorkmo *Multifield inflation in random potentials and the rapid-turn limit*
- JE Brind *The effect of blade row interaction on rotor film cooling*
- S Chakrabarti *Mechanisms of peripheral sensitization in inflammatory knee pain*
- R Christofaki *Projected self: the de se across dimensions and beyond pronouns*
- MC Cutforth *Sharp interface schemes for multi-material computational fluid dynamics*
- KSJN Damani *Academic, social and entrepreneurial self-efficacy as they relate to Caribbean adolescent students' technological, parental and school background*
- JJ De Vries *Identifying Muon Neutrino charged-current interactions in the MicroBooNE detector*
- EG Elder *Understanding and exploiting viral protein US28 during human cytomegalovirus latency*
- DJ Gill *An economic and political history of the United Kingdom's unpaid First World War debts to the United States of America, 1917–2018*
- J Gladrow *Kinetics of Brownian transport experiment and simulation*
- P Hill *Predicting the risk of progression in patients with thoracic aortic aneurysm*
- FT Ilca *Molecular basis of TAPBPR-mediated peptide editing on MHC class I molecules*
- MJ Jeffreys *Community classification of the protein universe*
- A Jeffs *Picture-books, politics & pedagogy: illustrating histories for a young reader, 1338–40 (British Library, Egerton MS 3028)*
- CM Jones *Stay-at-home father families: family functioning and experiences of non-traditional gender roles*
- M Konstantatou *Geometry-based structural analysis and design via discrete stress functions*
- C Lemon *Discovery and characterisation of gravitationally lensed quasars in wide-field surveys*
- EB Linscott *Accounting for strong electronic correlation in metalloproteins*
- D Lopresto *Development and validation of an in vitro human model of drug-induced vascular injury*
- P McGhee *'Heathenism' in the Protestant Atlantic World, c.1558–c.1700*
- KJ Murphy *Quantum oscillation studies in the unconventional superconductor  $YFe_2Ge_2$  and in the Dirac semimetal candidates  $NbXSb$  ( $X=Ge, Si$ )*
- FJB Oliveira Filho *Impact of environmental law enforcement on deforestation, land use and natural regeneration in the Brazilian Amazon*
- CB Olpe *Accumulation of somatic mutations in normal human colonic epithelium*
- N Pellicciotta *The role of hydrodynamic forces in synchronisation and alignment of mammalian motile cilia*
- C Scott *Stochastic approaches to coupled cluster theory: a new route to reduced scaling*
- AG Smith *Computer modelling of metabolic adaptations during mitochondrial dysfunction and machine learning to predict novel mitochondrial disease genes*
- O Suchanek *Investigating the phenotype and function of tissue-resident B cells in mouse and human non-lymphoid organs*
- O Tobek *Machine learning predictions of international stock returns*
- JE Trendell *Effects of oncostatin-M receptor overexpression on cervical squamous cell carcinoma cells and their extracellular vesicles*
- BN Ubald *Multi-fidelity study of complex multi-scale flows concerning stagnation probes*
- IK Wedd *Gavelkind and the land market in Somerden, Kent 1550–1700*
- SE Wimpenny *The mechanics of active faulting and mountain building*
- E Zambon *The use of catalytically dead Cas9 to identify key transcription regulators in Triple Negative Breast Cancer*
- MW Ziarko *Polymer waveguide amplifiers*
- LR van Thiel *NMR studies of emulsions in porous media and applications to Fischer-Tropsch synthesis*

Owing to the disruption of Tripos exams due to the Covid pandemic, full results are not available. The 2021 edition of The Record will publish any additional 2020 prizes and awards

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## Prizes and awards 2019–20

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### College Awards and Prizes

#### *Third- and fourth-year Undergraduates*

##### **Scholarships and Book Prizes**

For Mathematics	Henry Dakin
For Mathematics	Oliver Shenton
For Mathematics	Piran Venton
For Mathematics	Daining Xiao
For Natural Sciences (Biochemistry)	Ryan Ward
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)	Margarita Formenko
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)	Anamaria Leonescu
For Natural Sciences (Earth Sciences)	Hero Bain

##### **Title of Scholar and Prizes**

For Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic	Leah Thomas
For Classics	Pablo Lopez-West
For Computer Science	Adam Kucz
For Economics	Nathan Clark
For Economics	Leiv Storesletten
For English	Lara Erritt
For English	Phoebe Segal
For English	Nicole Seto
For English	Josephine Skorupski
For Geography	Jessica Beech
For History and Politics	Grace Stafford
For History	Jordan Scammell
For History	Harry Taylor
For History of Art	William Stewart
For Human, Social and Political Sciences (Politics)	Thomas Nunan
For Human, Social and Political Sciences (Politics)	Lara Spirit
For Law	Kyra Chong
For Linguistics	Rosemary Little
For Management Studies	Anna Bondarenko
For Management Studies	Leith Farhan

For Modern and Medieval Languages	Jack Brady
For Modern and Medieval Languages	Kemlo Rose
For Modern and Medieval Languages	Connor Rowlett
For Natural Sciences (Pharmacology)	Aiko Fukuda
For Natural Sciences (Physics)	Daniel Birkeland
For Natural Sciences (Physics)	Hamish Thomas
For Natural Sciences (Psychology, Neuroscience and Behaviour)	Andrew Wright
For Natural Sciences (Zoology)	Jonah Walker
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)	Florene Brown
For Natural Sciences (Physics)	Akshat Pandey
For Natural Sciences (Systems Biology)	Charlotte Patterson
For Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	Kieran Lewis
For Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion	William Phelps

### ***Title of Scholar, Prizes and Studentship***

For English	Maddy Trépanier
For English	Emily Yelverton
For Natural Sciences (Pathology)	Christine Agbenu
For Natural Sciences (Pharmacology)	Arun Thirunavukarasu
For Natural Sciences (Zoology)	Olivia Healey
For Natural Sciences (Chemistry)	Kripa Panchagnula

### ***Other Undergraduate Prizes***

#### ***Spencer Exhibitions***

On the nomination of the Master	Dom Bielby Tilly Wring
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#### ***Corpus-Taylor Prizes***

For those in their final year who achieved first-class marks for a dissertation or project but failed to get first-class results overall	
For English	Vashti Kashian-Smith
For Music	Emily Cairns
For Management Studies	Andrew Chan

#### ***The Moule Prize***

For unseen translation from the classical languages	Emily Lomas
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#### ***The Fanshawe Prize***

For prose composition in the classical languages	Emily Lomas
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#### ***The David Maull Prize for Engineering***

For achieving the best result in the third year of the Engineering Tripos	Joe Hunt
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#### ***Simmons and Simmons Prize***

On the nomination of the Director of Studies in Law	Kyra Chong
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#### ***Richard Metheringham Mathematics Prize***

On the nomination of the Director of Studies in Mathematics to the Worshipful Company of Cutlers	Henry Dakin
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***Bridges Prize for History***

For the finalist achieving the best result in the Historical Tripos

Harry Taylor

***Donaldson Prize for English***

For the undergraduate achieving the best result in the English Tripos

Maddy Trépanier

***Margaret Parker Prize***

For the most distinguished dissertation or piece of coursework submitted by a second-year undergraduate reading Psychological and Behavioural Sciences

Kieran Lewis

***Stewart Perowne Prize for Classics***

For solid academic performance, alongside a strong contribution to College life and the wider University community

Edward Pyman

**Postgraduate Prizes*****Law LLM***

In recognition of outstanding results in the examinations for the Master of Law degree

Daniel Hodgkinson  
Dragos Iordache  
Eliza Lockhart

***Law MCL***

In recognition of outstanding results in the examinations for the Master of Corporate Law degree

Jacqueline de Jong  
Justine Yansenne

***Ahmed Prize***

On the recommendation of the Warden of Leckhampton and the Senior Tutor, for all-round contribution to the Leckhampton community

Daniel Heydecker  
Isabella Ferreira

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# JCR

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## President's report

This past year has been a bizarre one to say the least. Our first two terms of this academic year were, for lack of a better word, normal: the JCR committee organised “Slacks” with some questionable themes; volunteers helped with Access tours and open days; we ran the accommodation room ballot; and we hosted, and won, Corpus Challenge in the midst of Storm Ciara. There has been a wide variety of welfare events such as film nights, “Parteas” and group walks. After the introduction of a new Disabled Students’ Officer in Michaelmas of 2019, the great work of our liberation officers has continued with a variety of events and talks.

The JCR found itself in a bit of a constitutional crisis prior to the end of Lent Term. As a result, we are currently in the process of rewriting the Constitution, with the hope of passing our new and improved version come Michaelmas. Summer vacation is normally a time of rest for students, and for the JCR committee, however this summer has been unique. Building on last year’s events – such as the Consent Workshop, Starlight Soiree and film nights – we are planning for what will surely be the most unusual Freshers’ Week in the history of the college, in which we still hope to hold some in-person events. In addition to Fresher’s week planning, we are also in the process of updating the JCR website, improving its design and making it easier for current and prospective students to use.

Dealing with Covid has been difficult for everyone, with students missing out on Easter Term and May Week. As a JCR we ran many online events to try and make sure people were still in contact with each other and those needing help and support got it from both their JCR and College. Over the summer we have also been working closely with College to ensure that Corpus will be as safe as possible whilst still allowing term to proceed as close to usual. Our close-knit community is one of the things that makes Corpus unique among the colleges; we want to foster this as we return to College welcoming new as well as existing students.

Finally, as JCR President I would like to thank Wendy and Emma in the Tutorial Office, as well as Marina, the Senior Tutor, and all of the JCR Committee, for their tireless efforts and dedication to supporting students during these difficult days, particularly as we look forward to returning to College.

ALEX MANN

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# Societies

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## The Fletcher Players

Along with theatre companies across the country, the Fletcher Players have had to face the challenges and anxieties of the pandemic in this most unusual of years. While we were disappointed to let go of our exciting Easter programme, it has not stopped the society enjoying another successful year of drama, with many standout events from October through to March.

We opened Michaelmas with a Fletcher Players' Tea and Ghost Tour for the incoming Freshers, an introduction to the society which managed not to scare the new Corpuscles away – with Lent came a brilliant Freshers' Play. This was the darkly comedic *Perfect Mendacity*, by Jason Wells. Directed by Izzy Harding-Perrot, it boasted a cast and crew of entirely Corpus students, as well as high praise from student reviewers. Though I would like to say that the performance itself was the most amusing part, that wouldn't be quite true; the somewhat perilous task of wheeling the set through the town centre had the cast in stitches.

Hal Barrow (l) and Zachary Aw (r) in rehearsal for *Perfect Mendacity*



(No tourists were harmed. We promise.) Corpus' actors, directors, and producers have since participated in a range of productions across the city, including Footlights Smokers, a Shakespearean tragedy and a short film!

Looking outwards to theatre across Cambridge, our programme 'Smorgasbord', which has been running on and off since 1997, delivered two more delightful nights of brand-new student writing. Supporting original, daring and exciting works of student theatre is still a major focus of the society and this unique event offers writers the rare opportunity to present their work to an audience, and *then* receive its feedback via a Q&A. In the process, budding actors and directors are given the chance to get stuck into these scripts and showcase their talents also.

Several full-length shows were also staged with the Society's backing. These ranged from the harrowing yet tender *Bottleneck*, by Luke Barnes, rated 5 stars by *Varsity* and lauded "the best piece of student theatre I have ever been fortunate enough to see", to the sweetly sincere *Spring Robin*, by Alice Tyrell. The Corpus Playroom continues to be a home for stories both unapologetic and full-hearted, and for voices that are bravely resonant and quietly powerful. Although the pandemic has sadly closed our doors until the end of 2020, we hope it will soon be able to foster these again.

With the garden party off the cards and lockdown in full swing, you would be forgiven for expecting the theatre scene to lie low. On the contrary, an entire virtual season was pioneered (a Cambridge first) – a testament to the passion and adaptability of our student body. We are very happy to have contributed towards ADC Online, and hope that CUADC's Michaelmas version will only build on its success.

Much gratitude is owed to last year's president, Amy Heffernan, for making the condensing of the highlights from one year into a few hundred words such a difficult task. Her commitment and creativity ensured 2019–20 was a great success. At the same time, I would like to say a warm welcome to our new committee for 2020–21, the first in recent years to be represented by a refreshing mix of Corpus and non-Corpus students. As we begin to embrace a world of post-pandemic theatre, it is vital to remember that Cambridge is still brimming with the artistry, imagination, enthusiasm and dedication that drew us there in the first place.

EMMA-ROSE BOUFFLER

## Bene't Club

After a year in abeyance, the Bene't Club is once again thriving. Although often referred to as a club, in reality it represents the musical life of College, in whatever form that may take. Like many other societies, this past academic year has of course changed its natural running – however, it has been an excellent year, in which a sharing and sense of appreciation for communal music making has always been fostered.

After a short hiatus, we have relaunched Master's Lodge concerts. These now occur in I7 once every two weeks throughout term. The relaxed atmosphere has encouraged an eclectic repertoire – from John Cage's 4'33 and Poulenc's

Piano sonata for four hands to some impromptu performances of the lesser known Oliphant Chuckerbutty – and many a joyful evening has been spent. The College Clarinet Consort – formed by Junior Organ Scholar Colin Millington has been a welcome addition to these events and we look forward to seeing it flourish. This year has also seen the introduction of regular Thursday lunchtime recitals, drawing performers from within and outside the College. Performances by Corpus, Queens', Trinity and Selwyn organ scholars have attracted a growing and dedicated audience. These have been supplemented by superb instrumental and vocal recitals – including Professor Simon Godsill's exciting debut.

Among some slightly different musical events this year was the addition of tuning meditations to the JCR Welfare term-card. As part of a way for students to relax, the Bene't Club has held meditation sessions where we experimented with Pauline Oliveros', *'Tuning Meditation'*, as a form of reflection. These have been very popular, and I look forward to seeing them develop next year. Finally, the Open Mic nights in the Bar have continued to be popular.

Two individuals helped enormously in the running of the Club this year. One, Colin Millington, also took part in two wonderful organ recitals and, in creating the new clarinet group, left his mark in College history with the longest alliterative title – Corpus Christi College Cambridge Clarinet Consort, or simply CCCCCC. The other, Nicholas Danks, became our Senior Treasurer – cementing his commitment to College musical life.

It is likely that the Bene't Club will be operating in a different way over the next academic year. I look forward to seeing the innovative ways in which the community will come together in music making.

BENEDICT TURNER-BERRY

## Lewis Society of Medicine

Considering the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2019–20 academic year has been full of unexpected disruptions and challenges for us all. We would like to wish all practising alumni good health and a hearty "Thank you NHS" for their work at this time, and especially congratulate those students graduating early and becoming doctors at the strangest of times.

We began in Michaelmas planning a busy social calendar, hardly imagining what would come later in the year. We held our usual welcome tea to get to know the incoming freshers, and hosted Professor Stefan Marciniak and Dr Jenny Dickens who gave a useful insight into the MB/PhD programme and academic medicine.

At the annual Stukeley Talks in October and November, we heard from students about their electives, summer placements and research projects. With the amazing diversity of experiences, the two evenings were full of fascinating insights into different medical fields, and hopefully inspired students to take up opportunities such as the shadowing scheme, where alumni kindly offer hospital placements to pre-clinical students.

We rounded off Michaelmas Term with a delicious meal at Bill's restaurant, which gave students and Fellows the chance to get to know each other better and relax outside of the supervision environment.





Six newly graduated Foundation Year doctors after a 'spectacular dinner' in Hall

The highlight of the LSM calendar is always the Archibald Clark-Kennedy Lecture and Annual Dinner, and this year was no exception, with 53 students and alumni attending. Our speaker this year was Professor Tim Orchard, a Corpus alumnus and Professor of Gastroenterology at Imperial College London. He spoke to us about his fascinating research into inflammatory bowel diseases, and the development of a “personalised medicine” approach to help ensure the right patients receive the most appropriate interventions. Professor Orchard gave an insightful view of a complex set of conditions and gave us much to think about as the landscape of medicine and approach to treatment changes. This was followed by a drinks reception and a spectacular dinner in Hall, where once again Catering outdid themselves.

Our final event of Lent Term was the Coombs seminar, this year given by Mr Michael Kelly, Corpus alumnus and emeritus colorectal surgeon. Following his time as medico-legal expert witness, Mr Kelly gave a talk on “Law at the Bedside: a basic guide for junior doctors”, where he took us through the key concepts and cases of medical law, and shared practical tips to navigate this important part of practice as a junior doctor.

Sadly, as Lent Term ended, the world was waking up to news of pandemic status, daily case counts and travel bans. This meant the cancellation of our trip to Venice in March, as well as the upcoming exam tea, garden party and shadowing scheme. Students returned home early, where we quickly became experts in online lectures and supervisions via video call. We hope that as students return and we discover what the new term will look like, we will be able to plan creatively a new calendar of events and maintain the wonderful sense of community in medicine at Corpus.

ISABELLA ALLARD

## Nicholas Bacon Law Society

The 2019–20 academic year was a turbulent one for the Nicholas Bacon Law Society, but despite the irregular circumstances, Corpus' lawyers have had another excellent year, socially, academically and in their extra-curricular activities. In Michaelmas the Society gained five new members – including one student on an Erasmus placement from the University of Utrecht – who were welcomed into the Corpus legal community at the traditional Freshers' Drinks in the President's room. Soon after followed the customary NBLS curry night at The Raja and drinks at The Cambridge Brew House, which afforded our new membership the opportunity to get to know their supervisors in a more relaxed atmosphere, the second and third year students also benefitting from a chance to catch up with one another. Prior to the traditional Christmas Dinner, Slaughter and May provided the NBLS' membership another opportunity to escape the rigours of academic life with a meal at the Varsity restaurant. This year the NBLS Christmas Dinner was at Cafe Rouge and was a delightful occasion for all who attended.

On several occasions during Lent Term Corpus' strong mooting tradition bore fruit, the College's budding advocates notching up achievements in College and University events. Three fresh-faced Corpuscles took part in the University Law Society's Fledglings Moot with Curtis Allen reaching the semi-finals. Dominic Bielby reached the finals of the Pump Court Tax Chambers Speed Moot and De Smith Moot and also secured victory in the Brick Court Moot with a teammate from Magdalene College. In addition, Dragos Iordache and Dan Hodgkinson reached the final of the Wolfson Law Society's Sir David Williams

Nicholas Bacon  
Law Society dinner



– Slaughter and May Moot. Within Corpus, NBLS members Dominic Bielby and Eliza Lockhart represented Cambridge in the annual Corpus Challenge Moot with our Oxford sister college, tackling a tricky question on the penalty rule and accounts of profits in contract law, judged by Professor David Ibbetson. Despite the convincing submissions of our Oxford counterparts, Cambridge were declared the victors in what was certainly a close contest. The high point of the year was, undoubtedly, the NBLS Dinner, preceded by the Freshers' Moot in which the new cohort were put through their paces with a complex judicial review problem adjudicated by Dr Jonathan Morgan. The standard of advocacy displayed was outstanding, each first-year giving submissions worthy of considerable commendation, with Curtis Allen emerging as the winner. Thereafter followed the Dinner itself, ever the enjoyable affair, in which the Society had the pleasure to welcome back many of its alumni, most notably Lord Hodge, recently appointed as Deputy President of the Supreme Court.

On the same day as the NBLS Dinner, the Society conducted its elections. The new Committee comprising Patricia Trofin as President; Natasha Godsiff as Vice President, Benjamin Milner as Treasurer and Dominic Bielby as Mooting Officer. The new Committee will have to do its utmost, not merely to match the successes of their predecessors, but also ensure the community spirit that binds the NBLS' undergraduate members together is not undermined by Covid; the virus having already robbed the Society of its annual garden party in Easter. However, due to the resilience of its members and the ever-present support of its Fellows and alumni, I am confident that the NBLS will emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever and, whatever the circumstances, will have a fruitful academic year 2020–21.

DOMINIC BIELBY

## Pelican Poets and Writers

Lockdowns notwithstanding, during Easter Term the Pelican Poets and Writers society took off, Zooming through the clouds and down ethernet cables with poems and prose in its beak. Alumni flocked to join us, and it was remarkable to hear the familiar voices of Pelicans from across the society's history mixing in discussion even when their wingspans at Corpus didn't overlap.

Naturally, we missed D4's comfortable sofas, where the wonderful Jeremy Davies (Acting College Chaplain 2019–20) hosted our Michaelmas and Lent meetings. There, we stared at our reflections in literary *Bodies of Water*, poured for us by Lizzie Merson (m.2015); we listened to trees in Michelle Anjirbag's favourite *Seasonal Verses* (m.2017, Clare Hall); we rejected apocalyptic rhetoric in *Fire and Ice*, led by Birgit Carolin (m.1959, Hughes Hall) and Elizabeth Stephan (Teacher Fellow, 1996); we dissected the wacky irreverence of *Comic Verse*. For an evening on *Magic*, my portable speakers played neopagan protest chants, mischievously enchanting an audience that included two men of the cloth. Another evening, we hearkened to *Spoken Words* which included Taylor Mali reminding us 'What Teachers Make' and Gil Scott-Heron declaring that 'The Revolution Will Not Be Televised' – anticipating discussions we had again after Easter, when Kate Bulteel (m.2011) and Christina Farley (m.2011, St John's) put together an important session on *Generational Crisis*.

Pelicans zooming in from far and wide



Elizabeth led our thoughts on *Time*, which moved oddly during lockdown. After puzzling over “Decades of Arrogance” in Emily Dickinson’s ‘A Clock Stopped’, we heard about T. S. Eliot’s recently opened love letters. Defying time zones, Elena Kazamia (m.2004) chose to discuss *Beauty in Absence* from California. Given the circumstances, we were struck by the bleak but determined vitality in e.e. cummings’ ‘what if a much of a which of a wind’, which ends “the most who die, the more we live.” Alice Gregson (m.2017) turned the on-screen format to advantage, comparing poems like Paisley Rekdal’s ‘When It Is Over It Will Be Over’ to the *Visual Art* that inspired them. We ended our year sharing the prose, poems and songs which many of us wrote during lockdown.

### ***New attendees are warmly welcomed***

Our online format continues in the academic year 2020–21: 8.00 pm till around 9.00 pm on two Tuesdays each term. You do not need to feel well-read, nor to read anything in advance – simply be ready to absorb some beautiful words. If you’d like to join the mailing list, email me at [c0322@cam.ac.uk](mailto:c0322@cam.ac.uk).

CATHERINE OLVER (m.2011)

## **Engineering Society**

The Corpus Engineering Society was founded in September 2019 by second-year undergraduates Greg Chu and Georges Khoury, with the support of Corpus Fellows. The Society’s mission is to enable Corpus Engineers to have the best possible learning and social experiences in Cambridge. Our first event was to welcome the Engineering Freshers, when we took them on a tour of the Engineering Department.

Lent Term was our most eventful term. Beginning the year with a Corpus and Kings Exchange Formal Hall on Chinese New Year, we celebrated the second





The Engineering Society inaugural dinner in the Parker Room

year's successful Integrated Design Projects. This was followed by a networking social event with Queens' and Pembroke Engineers in January at the Sesame Restaurant. Shortly after, we held our annual Corpus Engineer's Dinner in the Parker Room, organised by third-year William Layzell-Smith. This was a wonderful event for beginners from different year groups to come together and to catch up; we were also treated to many anecdotes from Directors of Studies Drs John Biggins and Fumiya Iida. At the start of this event, we had our opening ceremony for the Society, where its mission was formally announced. Near the end of term, we took incoming freshers on a tour of College in an opportunity to get to know them in person – just before lockdown was imposed.

To cap off the academic year, we held an "alternative" garden party. Because of lockdown, this took place over Zoom and was hosted by second-year Ben Petty. Undergraduates were joined by supervisors, including Professor Richard McMahon, Professor Keith Seffen and PhD student Sam Massey, to take part in a series of mini quizzes. It was a fantastic, fun-filled event, expertly organised and smoothly deployed online. We look forward to the upcoming academic year. Despite the pandemic, many events have already been planned.

GREG CHU



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# Sports Clubs

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## Corpus Blues

Although the sporting year was cut short by the pandemic, many Corpus students still managed to represent the University at the highest level, with some of those being lucky enough to pick up their colours before lockdown!

Having captained the Cambridge University Dance Competition Team and securing their fifth consecutive Varsity victory, Atlanta Hatch was awarded an Extraordinary Full Blue and established Half-Blues status for the team.

Peter Hampshire is the men's captain of the University Judo Club and fought in the Varsity Match. They won the A team match by 6 fights to 1 which was the first victory for Cambridge in this event in 10 years. Peter won his individual fight in 6 seconds on the A team, made even sweeter by the fact his twin brother was fighting on the Oxford A team too! He was awarded a discretionary Full Blue. Alongside him was Harry Jones, a Corpus post-grad. Harry competed in his fifth Judo Varsity match, winning his fight and earning a Half-Blue.

The varsity matches at Twickenham last year saw three Blues awarded to Corpus students Lauren Gregory, Coreen Grant and Joey Gatus. Lauren is possibly the College's fastest-ever recipient of a Blue – she was already wearing the Cambridge colours in her first term. Coreen had an outstanding day, scoring the winning try for the women's team and being awarded CURUFC Try of the Year and Woman of the Match. Joey represented the University at full-back in the Men's XV.

Lottie Patterson picked up her third Blue in lacrosse this year. She also played for the rugby team, being on the bench at Twickenham in December and on the wing for the 2nd's varsity match in February. In addition to the four rugby players, the College had Kat Hutton playing in the Tigers varsity and Chloe Mackley, Justine Yansenne and Katie Barker all playing in the Jaguar's rugby 3's varsity

Molly Woods competed as 2nd seed in the squash varsity this year to get her Blue. Molly is looking forward to captaining the team at the next varsity match.

Will Yun-Farmbrough competed with the Men's Blues fencing team as a member of the foil squad. Exceptional performances across the team led to an incredibly exciting and well contested match with Cambridge the underdogs. Two hours of fierce fencing culminated in a historic comeback for Cambridge, clinching the win in the final seconds – a feat that claimed the University's Sporting Moment of the Year.

**Corpus Blues**

(left to right):  
 Atlanta Hatch  
 Peter Hampshire  
 Lauren Gregory  
 Coreen Grant

(left to right):  
 Joey Gatus  
 Lottie Paterson  
 Molly Woods  
 Will Yun-Farmbrough

(left to right):  
 Nathan Clark  
 James Balgarnie  
 Jonas Tjomsland  
 Dan Ley

The University golf match was held at Muirfield with two Corpus players in the team, Nathan Clark and James Balgarnie. Cambridge took the lead after the first day of foursomes with Nathan and his partner winning on the 36th hole, however Oxford fought back strongly in the second day of singles to win the match overall.

William Boxall competed at BUCS and Varsity for the CU clay pigeon shooting club and fulfilled the criteria for a Half-Blue. William is now the CUCPSC president for this year.

Jonas Tjomsland got his Half-Blue this spring after an 8–0 Varsity win in Ice Hockey.

Ed Pyman was captain of the Crusaders (University 2nd XI cricket) this year. He trained with the Blues and his own team all winter. He picked up a third Half-Blue in rugby fives in the Lent Term.

Dan Ley spent Michaelmas Term making his footballing debut for the Blues during their league campaign, before pulling with a knee injury.

A great year for Corpus in the Varsity Bridge competition saw William Clennell, captain of undergraduate bridge, and Kripa Panchagnula, captain of open bridge, both winning.

MARCUS HICKS

## The Corpus Challenge

This year's Corpus Challenge was something to remember, for the weather as much as for the sport. After some debate over whether the event would go ahead or not, it was decided that Oxford would brave Storm Ciara and outdoor events would go on unofficially. Under the circumstances, turnout at Leckhampton was surprisingly strong, particularly from the new first year. Energy was building as the men's first team football kicked off in strong gusts and drizzle. After a hard-fought match with the prevailing wind against us in the second half it all came down to the dreaded penalties. Sadly, Oxford were too clinical and snatched the win, but this did not dampen our spirits any more than the rain.

The women's football team cruised to a big victory, spearheaded by the attacking menace of Molly Woods. Tragically, many of our best events were called off due to the weather. Lacrosse is usually a guaranteed victory but could not be played. Likewise, despite organising two mixed matches for the first time ever, the blue-ribbon netball fixtures failed to go ahead. This placed us at a disadvantage as all rugby matches went ahead. This was a problem because Oxford have an experienced and well-drilled rugby team. All teams put up a fight though, with special mentions to the physical commitment of Nikita Salt and Arun Thiru, but the opposition were just too strong. In tandem, however, Cambridge retained competitiveness with several crucial victories. The women's tug of war team was so dominant that Oxford pleaded for a best of three, not that it did them any good. Similarly, men's seconds (and thirds) football made crafty use of rolling subs to steamroller a surprisingly unprofessional Oxford team. Before the rain came down in biblical proportions there was time for one more event: men's tug of war. With the scores level on the unofficial events this suddenly became unexpectedly important. In a fateful turn of events Corpus Challenge tug of war isn't sorted into weight classes. Cambridge were thus dragged through the mud to a somewhat ignominious defeat.

On to the official (usually referred to as indoor) events. Badminton was a strong win for Cambridge, as was rowing ergs, and squash levelled out to a well-fought draw. Bar sports proved a mixed bag as table tennis and table football were easy wins for the Original Corpus, but we were narrowly edged out in the pool due to a lack of ability to take chances when given. Legal moot and pharmacology (the latter making its Challenge debut), the two more dubious sports on offer, were a win for us and a draw respectively as Cambridge slowly but surely opened up a lead. Quizzing was a draw with the first team losing out to effectively a one-man team and the seconds rolling over their opposition with a strong team performance. The day's events were rounded off by a victory in FIFA that secured what was in the end a dominant victory of 140-90.

With everyone still in suspense as to the result, the evening's festivities began. Formal was typically lively, occasionally too lively, but went off in exceptionally good spirits. After the Fellows' departure the result was announced by JCR President Bielby who handed the trophy to Marcus, the sports and socs officer, and those assembled adjourned to the bar and then on to Life. Oxford were seen safely onto the busses at midnight whilst Cambridge continued to enjoy their night – some perhaps enjoying it too much. All in all, an enjoyable

day was had by everyone who turned up. Thanks must go to the Sports and Socs officers in Cambridge, Marcus Hicks and Chloe Mackley (and also their ever-present predecessors Ed Pyman and Lottie Paterson), as well as their opposite number Matt Carlton, for organising the day and working through the hiccups. Something should also be said of the exemplary conduct of the tourists, whose good nature only added to the quality of the day. So, roll on next year where hopefully there will be as much fun, less wind and we will bring the trophy home in triumph.

HARRY TAYLOR

## Rowing

The 2019–20 season, despite the Covid pandemic disruptions, was extraordinarily successful for CCCBC with the squad proving their ability both on and off the water. Our first success was showcased in the Fairbairn's where the women's side fielded a novice VII, senior VII, *and* senior IV, the latter came joint second in their category. Over the Christmas break, we returned to Figueira da Foz, Portugal for our third training camp. This set us up strongly for our Lents campaign where for the first time since 1997 two women's boats successfully qualified. W1 had a particularly successful week, taking bumps on Clare W2, Wolfson W1, Hughes Hall W1, and Magdalene W1 to win blades.

Having said goodbye to five key members in M1 last year and of course our senior coach, Dr Ben Pilgrim, Michaelmas Term was always going to be a challenge for the Men's Squad. Fortunately, we had more than 12 novices join our NM1 programme training alongside the senior squad. In Fairbairns, M1 had a successful race and were placed as 11th fastest college with a time comparable to the fastest crews on the river. Unfortunately, NM1 didn't fare as well having decided to stop for a rest mid-race and were placed as the lowest NM1 boat. The Men's Squad had a change of leadership over the Christmas break, with Harriet stepping up as Men's Captain and Mike joining as our second VIII coach; he successfully passed his love for the sport onto our rowers. Although we couldn't set a M2 crew for Lent Bumps, the M1 had an excellent campaign going up two places and bumping arch-nemesis Caius M2 on day 3.



CCCBC celebrating a successful Lent Bumps



M1-1: M1 after bumping  
Wolfson on race 2 of Lent  
Bumps



M1-2: M1 racing in the  
Fairbairn Cup



W1-1: W1 celebrating  
blades in Lent Bumps





Covid ended our river-based attempts to build on the Lent Term successes, training continued via Zoom circuits during Easter Term and members got stuck into the replacement – Virtual May Bumps – swapping unisuits for running gear. In this novel environment, W1 secured ‘bumps’ on Selwyn W1, Lucy Cavendish W1, Jesus W2 and Newnham W2 across the week to add ‘virtual blades’ to their collection of accomplishments this season. On the Men’s side, our ‘Corpus Crusties’ alumni entry secured –2 to end 4th place in their category, and M1 had a strong campaign going +3 for the week.

To provide additional motivation during Covid for a good cause, CCCBC organised a charity distance challenge, raising funds for Winter Comfort (a local homeless shelter). There were some amazing efforts by CCCBC members past, where we collectively covered 2,780 km and raised over £1,000 for charity. It was great to see over 40 members, alumni and coaches involved!

The year was rounded out with a celebratory Mays Boat Club Dinner hosted over Zoom. We look forward to getting back on the river as soon as it is safe to do so, welcoming, in particular, our new women’s VIII to our fleet following a successful fundraising campaign – a massive thank you for the generosity of those alumni who donated.

TAKASHI LAWSON

## Cricket

The mighty Corpus Christi College Cambridge Cricket Club started the year with spirits high, determined to seize the Cuppers trophy and defeat Corpus Oxford come summer.

Our ambition was immediately buoyed by an influx of new talent. Amongst the freshers, Jacob Page and Jake May stood out, with the latter’s fierce pace well complimented by the former’s lilting swing. They were joined by a cabal of third years, who formed a “development squad” net in order to translate their abundant enthusiasm into cricketing greatness. Develop they did, with the likes of Joe Rooke, Sam Brown, and Laurie Purnell Prynne renouncing the beamer in favour of increasingly lengthy flirtations with the corridor of uncertainty. Special mention must also go to Lottie Patterson, who brought her considerable sporting prowess to C<sup>6</sup> and would have undoubtedly been the first women to play for the side.

This flourishing of talent within the side was, in large part, thanks to the leadership of this year’s captain, Ed Pyman. Combining the skill and charm of Kane Williamson with giraffe-like proportions, Pyman proved a resourceful captain, producing viral content, described by some followers of the Cricket Shouts Twitter Account as the product of people who look “very boring”, in order to further the CCCCCC brand. Although he has now turned his attention to teaching, we can only hope that the call of an M.Phil proves irresistible, bringing Ed back to Corpus and, more importantly, Leckhampton.

Alas, all this promise went unfulfilled, with the season cancelled due to Covid. Sadly, many players graduated this summer, including former captain Kripa Panchagnula, with next year our first in over half a decade without a Blues player in the side. Nevertheless, the pluck and general *joie de vivre* of CCCCCC, combined with an unprecedentedly large pool of freshers from which to pick, means the 2021 Cuppers Trophy will inevitably be ours.

BEN HOPKINSON

## Rugby

Corpus may only be a small college, but we still contribute a fair amount to the Cambridge rugby scene, both at university and college level. Several Corpus students represented the university in the last year, in both Men's and Women's Blues, and at various levels below. However, we also played our part at college level, with several Corpuscles turning out for CCK (alongside students from King's and Clare) during a successful season that steadily gathered momentum as the team gelled. Victory against St Catharine's in Michaelmas gave the team confidence going into Lent Term Cuppers, where we lost to traditional rugby powerhouse Downing before cruising to a solid win against the graduate-only All Greys team in the Bowl semi-finals. This set up a tasty final against Queens', the result of which we will never know as the season was cut short by the Covid pandemic. All in all, a good year for the College, and as College captain I hope to continue this success in the next year and beyond.

SEB BAYNES

CCK beating the All Greys  
in Cuppers



## Football

I was privileged to take on the captaincy of the College football team for the 2019–20 season, in which we were expecting stiffer opposition in Division 2 after comfortably winning the league last year. My first major challenge concerned kit, which we were distinctly lacking. Although we were forced to play our first few fixtures in bibs, JCR funding enabled me to design and purchase a new kit in Corpus' traditional colours; making us perhaps the most ostentatious team in Cambridge.

Despite a significant improvement in the quality of opposition, we got off to a strong start, beating Girton 3–1, Emmanuel 1–0 and Christ's 2–5. We then faced the League favourites (and eventual winners) Pembroke, managing to come back from a goal down to win 1–2; quite the turnaround from their dispatching of us in Cuppers two years prior. A shock loss to Trinity Hall (4–3) sullied our perfect record before Christmas, but we redeemed ourselves with a 3–0 win against St Catherine's in the New Year.



Corpus football squad  
2019–20

Despite securing 0–1 wins against Jesus and Fitzwilliam II, an unfortunate 0–3 loss to Long Road meant we narrowly missed out on the Division 2 title. Nevertheless, promotion to Division 1 was secured, for the first time in history as far as we can see – quite an achievement for one of Cambridge’s smallest colleges, to be counted amongst the ten strongest sides at the University.

In Cuppers, we faced Churchill, who went on to share the top division title (due to Covid-19 cancellations). After conceding early, the team showed brilliant spirit to fight back, eventually losing out very narrowly (2–3), with Churchill never allowed to feel comfortable. There is real optimism that our performance may signal our ability to put in a good show in Division 1 next year, with the team looking forward to another step up in quality. The Corpus Challenge saw us lose out on penalties to Oxford after a 1–1 draw – something we will be looking to avenge in 2021.

Throughout the year, we have been blessed with support from the College, perhaps inspired by our exceptional recent success – three promotions secured in the last four years, making us arguably the most prolific sports team currently representing Corpus. We were incredibly grateful to those that supported us at matches and hope to repay them with more success next year!

ARUN THIRUNAVUKARASU

## Mixed Netball

Compared to recent seasons, Corpus Mixed Netball had an excellent year with turnout improving. Michaelmas began slowly with two defeats in our first two games, however our spirit never wavered. With freshers adapting to their new workload by week 3 of term, our third game saw an energetic and enthusiastic squad and a 7–0 victory against Queens’ to set the tone for the rest of the term. The rest of the season came with many cancellations by our opponents but the final game against King’s was a heated one. The rules were questioned by our

opponents but, mixed netball veterans, Harry and Joe were there to diffuse the tension with laughter (the King's team taking the game somewhat too seriously). Despite a loss against this King's side we still managed to be promoted ahead of them in 2nd place, taking our rightful place in division 2.

Ahead of the Corpus challenge, pink CCCCNC bobble hats were produced to instil fear in the Oxford team's hearts. However, it wasn't meant to be. The high winds of Storm Ciara meant cancellation of what is normally the most closely contested sport at the Challenge. Whilst we will be losing some of our greatest netball talent to graduation, there is hope for next year, building on our success from this year we hope to take the league, Cuppers and the challenge by storm.

HARRY TAYLOR



# Old Members

## Toad of Toad Hall

DAVID MICKLETHWAIT (m.1962)

Chris Clarke's (m.1964) letter "Mole remembers Badger" in the Michaelmas 2019 *Record*, on the death of James Carr (m.1964), concerned the Fletcher Players production of *Toad of Toad Hall*, in which Chris Clarke was Mole, James Carr was Badger, and Richard Bainbridge played Ratty. It prompted, in me, many warm memories. The star of the show was Richard Mills (m.1962), who played Toad. The year before, Richard had been Marlowe's *Tamburlaine the Great*, and in between he did a good deal of Footlightery. Later, he would play the part of a testicle in an educational film that he devised and made for the instruction of medical students in Cardiff: "Mr Richard Mills, teacher of anatomy at Cardiff University, enacts the perilous journey each human testicle must endure to reach his natural home: the scrotum". I myself had two small parts in *Toad* – I was the Chief Weasel, and the back legs of Alfred the horse, on which Toad makes his



In later life John Taylor QC and David Mole QC took part in the Great Common Farm planning enquiry. In an idle moment David Mole drew this cartoon of John Taylor which reminded David Micklethwait QC of his undergraduate reprising of the role



escape dressed as a washerwoman. Corpus at that time was still an all-male college, so the pretty girls who played rabbits came to us from New Hall.

The director was Simon Richardson (m.1963), and he also appeared in the play one night, when a member of the cast had to be absent to take an exam. The sets were the work of Malcolm Burgess, who not very long before had been responsible for the colourful, magnificent (and somewhat controversial) redesign of the interior of the Hall. I particularly remember a large spider's web, made of rope and decorated with silver sequins. They glittered when spotlighted, like drops of dew.

The chap in charge of the music in *Toad* (we had to sing several songs) was Richard Armstrong (m.1961) (now Sir Richard Armstrong CBE, an Honorary Fellow), who was then the College's organ scholar, and who was later for many years musical director of the Welsh National Opera.

Overlapping the performances of the play in the Old Court, the May Races were going on, and I was then the Secretary of the Boat Club, rowing at seven in the Corpus boat, (behind David Sankey (m.1962) at stroke, and in front of Michael Gwinnell (m.1964, our cox). We won our oars that year, and it was therefore a bit of a sadness for me that I had to miss the Bump Supper to appear in a performance of the play. However, the Chief Weasel celebrates his birthday at Toad Hall, so I wore my Boat Club blazer to the on-stage party that night, and somewhat added to the Chief Weasel's "Friends and Fellow Animals" speech to tell the audience how well my chums had done, "messaging about on the river"

Chris Clarke refers to the play being performed in the Old Court, and then at the Minack Theatre in Porthcurno – but there were two performances in between, which he does not mention. These were in the courtyard of Clifton Grange in Bedfordshire, the home of John Taylor. John was a very good fellow – a practising barrister who gave supervisions in law at Corpus. The Fletcher Players agreed to put on the play for him, I think as some sort of fundraiser for a village cause in which he was interested, and David Sankey, who was supervised by John, joined the cast as a temporary extra. The first performance was one for which the villagers had been encouraged to buy tickets, and the second was more of a party for John and his friends. It was actually rather sporting of him to sponsor this particular play, because tootling along the country lanes, rather rotund, in his little Rolls Royce "Auntie", he was often likened to Mr. Toad.

What made the second performance memorable was that half the personnel were poisoned. The problem manifested itself in the interval, when one or two of the rabbits, the smallest and most delicate of the animals, disappeared into secluded corners of the garden to be sick. In the second half of the play, cast members dropped out one by one, exiting stage right, and not reappearing. The survivors did their best to rewrite the play, sharing out the lines of those who had gone. The musicians had no available exit, and those affected had to run out through the audience. To begin with, Richard Armstrong gamely sang the parts of the musicians he had lost, but then he too succumbed. He found a nearby drain and I have in my mind the image of him down there on one knee, puking, while bravely conducting his depleted band with his left hand.

The cause of the upset tummies was a kedgerree on which we had been fed at lunchtime. Perhaps there was just one dodgy piece of fish in it, which did not affect the whole thing, but we noticed that the survivors all seemed to be public school boys, who had been brought up on poisonous boarding school food from the age of seven, and had become able to withstand its effects.

I have only scattered memories of playing at the Minack. The open-air theatre is in a wonderful location, right on the shore, at the top of a cliff; looking down one could see huge basking sharks swimming gently to and fro in the clear waters far below. We were put up in a nearby school, and fed great quantities of Cornish pasties, filled mostly with potato. For me, personally, the location of the theatre was something of a hazard, because when Toad made his escape on Alfred, I had to run along a rocky cliff-edge path, with the whole weight of Richard Mills on my back, and quite unable to see where I was going because I was in the back end of the costume of a pantomime horse.

Strolling along a country lane with dear Richard Bainbridge after one evening performance, I remember him explaining to us the chemistry of bioluminescence, which enabled the fireflies to flash in the hedgerows that we were passing. It involved luciferin and luciferase, words very pleasing to one who had been fed on prep-school Latin from the age of seven – which is no doubt why I have remembered them. [*lux, lucis*, f. light; joined to the weirdest verb in the vocab – *fero, ferre, tuli, latum*, to bear or carry. Hence Lucifer, the bringer of light, and “while you’ve a lucifer to light your fag” in *Pack up your troubles*.]

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## News of Old Members

**1955 BRIAN MACDONALD-MILNE** writes: I ceased to be advisor of the Melanesian Brotherhood and a Melanesian Mission (UK) Trustee in 2013 and since then have been Honorary Archivist of the Melanesian Mission. I am still a member of the Council of the Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius, which has its office in Oxford. The Fellowship exists to draw together Christians of Eastern and Western traditions. Next year I will cease to be Chairman of the Cambridge Branch of the Retired Clergy Association, which is an honorary and voluntary post. As a retired priest I have permission to officiate in the Dioceses of Ely and Chelmsford. I usually minister in the parishes of Waterbeach and Landbeach near Cambridge.

Over the past few years, I have been involved in preparing a book which is due for publication later this year by Christians Aware (Leicester) and The Melanesian Mission. It is entitled: *Seeking Peace in the Pacific: The Story of Conflict and Christianity in the Central Solomon Islands*. During the pandemic lockdown I have written more poetry than usual. I am a member of Pelican Poets and Writers at Corpus, which includes alumni and alumnae. Ten of my poems have been contributed to the Covid Project at Cambridge University Library. I have contributed the article on Christianity in the Solomon Islands to the coming *Oceania* volume of the Edinburgh University Press’s “World Christianity” series, probably due for publication next year.



## Old Members' publications

### 1995 GARY DONNELLY

Gary Donnelly 2018 *Killing in your name* London: Allison & Busby Ltd  
Set in post-Troubles Belfast, this is the second thriller in the DI Owen Sheen series. Gary Donnelly's first novel was entitled *Blood will be born* (2018, republished 2020).

## Corpus Christi College (Cambridge) Association

### 2020 report

Committee meetings were held in the Oxford and Cambridge Club on 22nd November 2019 immediately prior to the London Alumni Dinner arranged by Dr Stephen Coniam, and in College on 15th February 2020 immediately prior to the Fellows' Guest Night Dinner in Hall. At the latter meeting, Caroline Loncq (m.1983) and Erica Wagner (m.1986) were co-opted to membership of the Committee, their appointments to take effect from the next Committee meeting. It follows from this that there remain three vacancies on the Committee, and any old Member who is interested in serving is encouraged to communicate with the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible ([michael.fletcher@lbmw.com](mailto:michael.fletcher@lbmw.com)). We aim to cover as wide a range of matriculation years as possible, and to have a reasonable gender balance on the Committee as we approach the 40th anniversary of the admission of women to the College. Membership entails attendance at the Committee meetings, of which in a normal year there are three – in Cambridge in February and June to coincide with the Fellows' Guest Night and Corpus Summer Party respectively, and in London to coincide with the London Alumni Dinner, which is now being arranged for us by Professor David Allison; members are encouraged to remain for the social events as well as to attend the meetings.

Sadly, and for reasons that scarcely need to be explained, it has not been possible to arrange any Alumni Association events this year, and even the London Alumni Dinner in November 2020 is looking very doubtful. We must hope for better fortune in 2021!

MICHAEL FLETCHER, *Hon Secretary*

### Members of the Committee

The Committee of the Corpus Alumni Association for the year to June 2020 was made up as follows:

- President Dr Russell Foster (m.2003)
- Brigadier Wulfram Forsythe-York (m.1951)
- Dr Peter Furneaux (m.1958)\*
- Peter Ingram Esq (m.1966)\*
- Anthony Rhodes, Esq (m.1966)\*

Dr David Crellin (m.1976)  
 Cosmo Corfield, Esq (m.1983)  
 Dr Zoe Harcombe (m.1984)  
 Jonathan Holl-Allen, Esq, QC (m.1985)  
 Patrick Buckingham, Esq (m.1986)\*  
 Ms Denise Pinto (m.1987)  
 Nicholas Telford-Reed, Esq (m.1992)  
 Andrew Quartermain, Esq (m.1993)\*  
 Hon. Secretary Michael Fletcher, Esq (m.1976)

Members serve for an initial term of three years and can be co-opted for a second three-year term. Members asterisked were due to retire at the end of June 2020 but, as it was not possible to hold a further meeting of the Committee as had been planned for the end of June, to coincide with the (cancelled) Corpus Summer Party at Leckhampton, their terms of office have been extended until it is possible to have a meeting in person again.

### ***The report that never was of the event that never happened***

By an administrative oversight, the Corpus Association's Stratford-upon-Avon event (November 2018) made it into neither the last edition of *The Letter* nor the first edition of *The Record*. The justification for referring readers further back into the recent history of archived reports of regional events is the subsequently ill-fated attempt to reprise an aspect of our earlier success, hence the title of this article.

As an Old Boy of Shakespeare's school and an Old Member of Marlowe's college, I was immediately attracted by the opportunity which presented for alumni to see Royal Shakespeare Company productions of both *Troilus and Cressida* and both parts of *Tamburlaine*. Indeed, the administrators of Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall – a newly-launched Stratford-upon-Avon venture – were rather hopeful (at one stage) that College members would dine, prior to one of two evening performances, in the Master's Chamber. They told me "We've only had two meals there – in the last six hundred years!" However, hosted by a second-year Catz NatSci – doing part-time pub work – nine Old Members and their guests eventually settled on dining, after tours of both the Birthplace and School, in the Actors' Bar at The Dirty Duck. (Between performances, on the following evening, we adjourned to the RST's Rooftop Restaurant to raise a toast – in between courses – to the College).

After Shakespeare in bittersweet mode and Marlowe at his gorefest best, alumni turned to another Old Member for a little light comic relief. BAFTA and Emmy-Award winning writers Anil Gupta and Old Member Richard Pinto (m.1987) relocated the *mise en scène* of their contemporary adaptation of Molière's *Tartuffe*, staged at The Swan, to the Birmingham end of the thirty-mile long Stratford Road; that is, in the inner suburbs of Sparkbrook and Sparkhill. The RSC's head-to-head with the NT *Tartuffe* (2019) probably affected the capacity of this production run to travel further afield; but the intuitive transfer up the Stratford Road – to play to the home crowd, as it were, at the Birmingham

Rep – seemed assured. (Assured, that is, until the plague – on 16th March – that central government wished on all theatrical houses!) In the finish, as they say in Brum – and (perhaps) elsewhere – I managed to persuade a couple of couples, both from Moseley, to join me at an early Spring theatrical event at The Rep; indeed, pre-lockdown, we were even going to style ourselves (in a Pythonesque act of microbial defiance) as the Moseley Anti-Viral Front. And with reference both to the Tooting Popular Front and to Richard's wife – who also sits on the Alumni Association Committee – our rallying cry, proposed by a co-opted Old Member of Exeter College, Oxford, was going to be: "Power to the Pintos!" Long may both the successful Gupta/Pinto comedy writing partnership and the association of two Corpuscles continue; but alas – on 1st April 2020 – our reprised Corpus Association Tartuffe event was not to be.

By way of postscript, when I was a scholar of Shakespeare's old school, the sitting (post-Profumo) Stratford-upon-Avon MP was Angus Maude. By far the funniest story about the staging of *Tamburlaine*, that I know, was told by an actor who once played the part of Bajazeth (in a student production staged in the Hall); so, next time you see him, be sure to ask Francis Maude (m.1972) for all the gory details. (You have been warned...) On trying to interest the RSC in this anecdote, for possible inclusion in their production programme, I was contacted by a rather confused producer who enquired whether it was really my intention to address the Company (then in rehearsal) on Christopher Marlowe's links to Corpus.

By way of tribute to her long-standing Development Office service, none of the above Corpus Association activity would have been possible without the unflappable and indefatigable support of the recently retired Jane Martin.

COSMO CORFIELD (m.1983)

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## Beldam and MacCurdy Dinners

We do not yet know when we will be able to return to the cycle of Beldam and MacCurdy dinners; information on dates and matriculation years will be issued in due course.

## Old Member Privileges

The College very much regrets that, due to Covid measures, it is unable to offer High Table (or Leckhampton) dining or Guest Room accommodation to alumni at this time. The arrangements that would hold under normal circumstances are given below for information.

We very much look forward to welcoming our alumni back to College as soon as we are able to. For further updates, please refer to the Alumni pages of the College website: <https://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-privileges>

CHRISTOPHER HOWE, *President*



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

### *Dining*

Alumni who hold an MA, or another Masters/MPhil degree or a higher degree from the University, and who are not current students at the College, 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.

Alumni may bring one guest, such as a partner, relative or personal friend, to High Table in the Old House, or to Leckhampton. They should ask for permission to bring a guest (named) when first contacting the College Secretary [college-secretary@corpus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:college-secretary@corpus.cam.ac.uk) (Please note that current undergraduates and those under eighteen are not allowed to dine at High Table.). The charge for bringing a guest to High Table or Leckhampton is £42.00 or £9.40 respectively.

Alumni are most welcome to bring guests to the Fellows’ Guest Night dinners organised termly by the Development and Alumni Relations Office. During 2020–21, there will be one dinner, on Saturday 22 May 2021, *and this may be subject to cancellation*. Small parties of alumni (and their guests) may also be permitted to dine, at a modest charge, in the body of the Hall on evenings when undergraduate formal hall is served (normally Fridays and Sundays in Full Term). To book please email [catering@corpus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:catering@corpus.cam.ac.uk)

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

These privileges are subject to the approval of the President, who may from time to time, in order to ensure a convivial balance on High Table in the Old House or at Leckhampton limit the number of alumni and guests 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 £57.50 per night (room only).

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# In Memoriam

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## 1956 John Randolph Lucas (*Former Fellow 1956–1959*)

John Randolph Lucas who died, aged 90, was one of the leading philosophers of his day. The election to a Fellowship in 1956, and his appointment as Assistant Tutor, brought to Corpus for a brief three-year interval a scholar whose career, both previously and afterwards, had Oxford as its focus. He was a lifelong Anglican, cheerfully orthodox in his beliefs, who served the Church of England in various capacities, notably on the Doctrine Commission in the 1970s and then on the Commission on Marriage and Divorce. His father was Archdeacon of Durham with six ordained generations behind him; a brother who predeceased him was also ordained. He married Helen Morar Portal in 1961, they had a family of two sons and two daughters.

John saw himself as a typical Englishman. He relished the old hymns and liturgies, and the seasons of the Church's year. Ferociously intelligent, alarmingly polymathic, unfailingly friendly and good-humoured, he was loved, admired, and respected by pupils and colleagues, even when his views did not fit the creeping liberalism of the time. He relished his characteristic combination of celebrating the past, he owned only one car, a 1929 model left him by his father. Rooted in tradition, he was free to be an iconoclast whenever he thought it necessary, which was quite often. His professional interests were remarkably wide-ranging. He wrote books and articles on epistemology, quantum physics, economics, political theory, theology, the philosophy of time, mathematics, the philosophy of science, and much else besides, as well as the subject for which he is best known, his defence of the freedom of the will against all suggestions of determinism.

He was sent at a young age to the Dragon School in Oxford, followed by Winchester. His Balliol scholarship was in fact to read chemistry; he switched to mathematics, in which he retained a lifelong fascination, before changing again to Greats, to read the Classics, particularly the philosophers. Armed with a first, and in the days before a doctorate was thought necessary, he progressed through a senior scholarship and a junior research fellowship, both at Merton College, Oxford. His Corpus Fellowship was interrupted by a visiting fellowship at Princeton. After a further year at Corpus he became a Leverhulme Research Fellow at the University of Leeds.

He returned to Merton in 1960 as Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, a post that he held until his retirement in 1996. It was widely, and credibly, rumoured that he had turned down many offers of professorial chairs in Britain and abroad. He preferred his calling as an "ordinary" don, teaching the young to think clearly and reason wisely in whatever sphere of work they chose. In the various philosophical debates, the issues with which he was most concerned were closely entwined with his lifelong interest in the paradoxes of Christian theology, focused on the twin notions of freedom and grace.

*With acknowledgement to The Church Times*

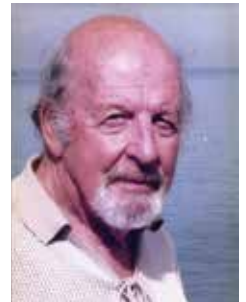
**1935 FELIX BOYSE LVO** was born in Croydon, Surrey in 1917. He and his sister were educated by their grandmother before he went to Whitgift School in Croydon at the age of nine. From there he was awarded a scholarship to Corpus, where he achieved a double first-class honours degree in Classics and Theology. In 1939, he started training for ordination at Cuddesdon Theological College, near Oxford. His first curacy was the three-church parish of New Mills in Derbyshire. While serving there, he was ordained as deacon and then priest in 1941. Unusually for a curate, Felix then found himself in sole charge of the parish while the vicar went to wartime service as a chaplain. After the war, he returned to Cuddesdon College, this time as Vice Principal. Five years later he moved to Surrey as vicar of Kingswood in the Southwark Diocese. In 1958, he became vicar of St Mary Abchurch, a beautiful City of London church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. From 1961 to 1964 he worked in Jerusalem, where as Principal he was responsible for founding and building the new St George's College. He forged links with a variety of countries, most notably with Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia. He was also Canon of the Anglican Cathedral in Jerusalem.



On his return to England, he became Her Majesty's Chaplain at Hampton Court Palace, serving for 17 years. In recognition of Felix's distinguished personal service, Queen Elizabeth II bestowed on him the honour of Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO). After Hampton Court Palace, he took the post of Chaplain and Preacher to the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn. This society of lawyers has a long history and is situated in a large and tranquil setting in central London. In 1993, he retired but did not stop serving as a priest and to the end of his life he retained the Bishop's Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Chichester. In his retirement, Felix continued to preach intermittently in his beloved France, at the Anglican Church in Marseille, preached at a service to celebrate his 100th birthday and read lessons at both his 101st and 102nd birthday evensong services.

*With acknowledgement to Dominic Boyes*

**1942 ANTHONY APPLEBY** was 95 years old at the time of his death. He arrived in Cambridge under the wartime Short Courses system. Despite the short time he was at the college he was enormously proud of having been a Corpus student, not to mention grateful, as he had not completed the sixth form at his grammar school in Newquay, Cornwall. Despite his mild-mannered, courteous nature, he had uncharacteristically responded to the biting sarcasm of a teacher and been asked to leave. However, through his membership of the Air Training Corps, he applied for and won a place at Corpus. At the age of 80 he wrote a short memoir of his early life, which includes a description of his time at Corpus and some of his escapades. I know he felt immensely privileged to have been a Cambridge student, and he continued to feel part of the Corpus community, attending some of the alumni events, and enjoying the magazine until recently.



After Corpus, he saw wartime and post-war service in the RAF. He later completed a degree in Fine Art at Durham University, plus a Diploma in Education. He taught for many years at King Edwards Camp Hill School, Birmingham, before returning to live in Cornwall and a long retirement.

*With acknowledgement to Jill Robertson (daughter)*

**1942 CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR.** We have learned of his death.

**1942 GEOFFREY MORGAN** was born in Swansea, the youngest of three children. He was educated at Christ College, Brecon, South Wales, where he was Head Boy and captain of rugby. He came to wartime Corpus, where he read Natural Sciences, represented the college at rugby and cricket and sang in the choir; the war regulations meant Geoffrey completed his degree in two years. All wartime science graduates had to enter industry; he worked for Bakelite Ltd at its factories in Blackburn, Newton Aycliffe, Birmingham and the head office in London. He married Irene Fulcher in 1951, the couple had a son and two daughters. He enjoyed golf and tennis and his continued love of music led him to joining an operatic society. During his retirement, Geoffrey travelled widely and was an active member of the University of the Third Age. His greatest pleasure was in the company of his family, which had grown to ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He died after a long illness.

*With acknowledgement to Irene Morgan*



**1942 PAUL HUNT** was born in Cheltenham, where his father was a Baptist Church Minister; Paul grew up in an atmosphere permeated by Christian values and social engagement. The family moved to Little Leigh in Cheshire, where his father was Minister for three Baptist Churches, and then to Bromsgrove where, during his final year at school, he was Head Boy and joined the Air Training Corps; with the intention of joining the RAF. In his final year, focused long-term on a career in teaching, he secured a place to read History at Corpus. He joined the University Air Squadron and undertook basic air-crew training whilst completing Part 1 of his Tripos. In July 1943, Paul joined the RAF and although he wanted to be a pilot was rejected due to poor eyesight, instead he trained as a Navigator/Bomb Aimer/Wireless Operator. In 1944 he was posted to Ancienne Lorette, Canada where he attended navigation school, starting a lifelong love of Canada and Canadians. Training complete, he was posted to 110 squadron in the Far East, flying combat missions from Java and Sumatra in the war against Japan.

After the war, he returned to Cambridge to complete his History degree and met Wynnell, who was reading History at Girton College, and they married on graduation. Their first home was in Manchester where he obtained a post teaching History and Religious Instruction. He later moved to Bournemouth and then transferred to education administration in Lewes, Sussex. He later moved to Surrey County Council where he became Deputy Chief Education Officer. Paul took early retirement at 60 and moved to Cradley. His interest in History and Archaeology led to summer digs, especially of Roman sites. He also took up sketching and painting, which continued until his eyesight failed. Having loved his days in the RAF he enjoyed summer air shows, attending with his son and family. He joined the Mosquito Association and attended Mosquito Aircrew and Squadron re-unions.

His Christian faith was central to his life. He and his wife were both active in local church communities, which formed the basis of their social life and many longstanding friendships. In Norwich, he ran the Junior Church and served as a lay Minister, making regular Sundays visits to outlying Norfolk villages with his family to run services in local churches. Family were of overriding importance to him and he was supportive and interested in the activities of his three children and grandchildren. He was dedicated to his wife and selfless in his care of her. He had an infectious sense of humour and a simple sense of the ridiculous, which made him such good company and a favourite with children. He was a gentle, kind and selfless man, quite traditional in many ways,

loyal and with a strong sense of responsibility and ‘moral compass’. He was tolerant, open-minded, and rarely angry; highly intelligent, talented, modest and patient. He was also a very private man who combined a natural caution towards life’s daily responsibilities with a strong spirit that could not be repressed when it came to the things in life that really mattered to him. Whilst he never sought the limelight, he always had time for people. He led by example in his dedication to the service of others both in his working and family life. *With acknowledgement to Anne Overzee, his daughter*

**1942 PETER EDWICK.** We have learned of his death.

**1942 ROLAND SAUNDERS** was born in 1924 in Hackney, London – almost within the sound of Bow Bells – later moving to Manor Park. His father worked for the Port of London Authority and his mother was a bookkeeper. He went to East Ham Grammar School and attended All Saints Church, Forest Gate where he sang treble in the choir. Roland was awarded a state bursary to study engineering at Corpus, where he learned to row and to punt – a skill he showed off to his friends and family on later visits to Cambridge. On graduation he undertook war service and then began a long career in local government. He worked in North-East London in various Borough Engineers’ Departments. One of his early projects was to help in Harold Macmillan’s plan to build 300,000 homes a year – he helped design infrastructures for estates in the area – and later worked under Dr Richard Beeching in Kent. During this time, he continued to sing tenor in All Saint’s Church choir where he met and married Janet, one of the sopranos and a doctor, they had three children. In the early 1960s he moved to Lewisham in South-East London, again joining the Borough Engineer’s department, eventually becoming Borough Engineer. His continued love of music and church led to him worshipping at St Mary’s, Lewisham, joining both the church and another local choir. During this time, he expanded his range to include barbershop, together with small and large choral works, church and secular. He was a lifelong member of the Royal School of Church Music, supporting their work and enjoying many workshops.

Roland’s first wife, Janet, died young and he subsequently married a family friend, Joyce, also a widow with two children. On retiring they moved to Ryhall, near Stamford, Lincs to be equidistant from their children then spread all over the UK; they went on to have thirteen grandchildren. He again joined the church choir and another local group, singing for many years in both. He joined in village life, serving many years as chair of the parochial church council and a footpath warden, enabling him to continue with his interests - walking and birdwatching. He had time to enjoy gardening and said once how he didn’t know how he had found time to work. Over the years, he returned regularly to Corpus for dinners and other events. Towards the end of his life, Roland developed dementia and spent his final years in a local care home, still cheerfully singing when visitors came, following both the cricket and the fortunes of West Ham Football Club. *With acknowledgement to Richard Saunders*

**1943 JOHN ARTHUR GOLDSMITH** was born in London, where the family lived until he was five. They then moved to Dorchester in Dorset, where his father practiced as a solicitor. John was educated at Sherborne School and in 1943 came to Corpus to study for the Mechanical Sciences Tripos, gaining an exhibition for his second year. In 1945, he undertook National Service with the Royal Navy and spent the next three years at sea followed by nine months as an engineering apprentice with Vickers





Armstrong. His seaborne service involved the repatriation of former Japanese prisoners of war and experienced many moving scenes when his ship sighted the English coast.

Following Naval service, John joined the Bristol Aviation Company and his first job was to work out cabin door related stresses. This involved trying to resolve an impossible calculation only to learn later this was indeed the case! He decided to become a chartered accountant and served Articles with W. B. Keen & Co in the City of London, later joining Robson Morrow & Co, becoming a Partner in 1957. During this stage of his career he became a founder member of the British Computer Society and started a new data processing and computer consultancy department, giving lectures and writing articles about this revolutionary new technology. The consultancy work culminated in a three-month trip to the US as part of a team from the Organisation for European Economic Cooperation to study the application of computers for accounting. In 1961, he moved to Sheffield to work as finance director for Steel, Peech and Tozer, but when this was amalgamated into British Steel and renationalised, he decided to return to the London area. After a short spell with Minerals Separation which was also taken over by another company, John joined the engineering firm W. S. Atkins Ltd. He became Finance Director and played a large part in restructuring the firm helping it evolve into the world-leading company it now is.

John retired in 1985 and went on to enjoy a wide-list of activities, such as walking with friends, cooking, fine wines, visiting his beloved hideaway in the South of France and most of all enjoying his growing family. He leaves behind his wife Angela, a daughter, two sons and eight grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Angela Goldsmith*

**1943 JOHN BROWNING REEVE** read Mechanical Sciences at Corpus. He met his wife Betty while at Cambridge, and after graduation took up a post through the Foreign Office to work on water projects in Malaya (they travelled there by boat!). When he returned to the UK, the couple settled in West Cornwall where, initially, he worked for Helston Town Council on water supply and sewage treatment issues. Eventually, this work was subsumed within South West Water, with whom he spent the rest of his career, which included the construction of water supply reservoirs and water towers in West Cornwall. He was a Member of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.

*With acknowledgement to Michael Thorn*



**1943 THOMAS ADAMS** was a US-born Anglo-Scots painter and illustrator, known for his work in book cover, portrait painting, poster, advertising and album art. After a year at Corpus sponsored by the Royal Navy, he served two years in minesweepers, then trained at Chelsea School of Art and Goldsmiths' College. Between 1953 and 1960 Adams provided illustrations for the youth-oriented UK publications *Eagle*, *Girl* and *Swift*, however, it was the jacket cover he produced for John Fowles's novel *The Collector* (1963) that made his reputation. He had a remarkable ability to create cover images that reflected the themes and atmosphere of the story within, but in oblique and offbeat ways. The result was some of the most idiosyncratic work ever produced in the field of commercial art. His arresting covers for Agatha Christie's books in the 1970s proved to be the happiest pairing of a crime writer and an artist since Conan Doyle and Sidney Paget.

Tall, affable and modest, he lived latterly in Cornwall where he continued to paint into his nineties. Two monographs have been published on his work: *Tom Adams' Agatha Christie Cover Story* (1981) and *Tom Adams Uncovered* (2015). He is survived by his wife, the children's author Georgie Adams, and their two daughters, as well as his daughter and two sons from an earlier marriage.

*With acknowledgement to The Telegraph*

**1945 PETER GEARY** won a scholarship to Corpus to study Modern Languages and History. After eighteen months in the Army, he began working for the Royal Sun Alliance in the Overseas Department; he worked for the firm for 40 years and became a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute. He was always in the Overseas Department and ended his career as the Controller of the Overseas Accident Claims Department. Health problems prompted early retirement aged 62 in 1988. He married Aileen in 1954 and they had four children and five grandchildren. Peter's strong Christian faith coloured his whole life and he was a member of Gideons International. He was an ardent reader and owned many books on history, art, poetry and religion. Unfortunately, Peter suffered from dementia during the last eight years of his life.

*With acknowledgement to Aileen Geary*



**1945 ROGER LAUGHLIN** died aged 92 in Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide, South Australia. He came to Corpus from Bedales School. After graduation in 1948, he worked for the Agricultural Research Council in Newcastle upon Tyne until 1965 when the family emigrated to Australia. He was Senior Lecturer in entomology at the Waite Institute (the Agriculture Faculty of the University of Adelaide, South Australia), until he retired in 1992.

Roger was an amateur cellist and played for many years with the Unley Chamber (later Symphony) Orchestra, the South Australian Chamber Music Association and finally a small group of mostly wind players called "The Woodcrofters", who played in retirement villages; Roger often said he was older than many of the residents. He received two birthday cards from Corpus, when he was 91 and 92, which delighted him, though he did refer to them as 'Are you dead yet?' cards; his sense of humour didn't desert him. He is survived by his wife, Catherine, three children Bridget, Ian and Kirsty and their partners, seven grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. A second son, Michael, died in 2018.

*With acknowledgement to his wife Catherine Laughlin*

**1946 JOHN WHITLEY** was born in Bombay, India in 1922 where his father was an Engineer for the Indian Railways. It is easy to imagine that the man he became was forged in the amazing cauldron of the first 25 years of his life. He was sent back to England from Bombay aged three and a half with his adored sister Stella to live with his aunts and then nearly died of pneumonia age eight whilst at prep school near Matlock. As a child he witnessed the Great Depression, watching as the unemployed walked from Bournemouth to Southampton to look for work. Then, in the middle of the Blitz his mother moved the family to London, and all this by the time that he was 17.

Educated at Harrow it was here, with the school Air Corps, he fell in love with flying. After leaving school he joined the RAF and was sent to Canada and America for training. He returned to England and was posted to 61 squadron flying Lancaster heavy bombers. On 9th August 1943, he took off on a mission to bomb Mannheim.



At 11.55, his Lancaster was hit and at least one engine caught fire. They decided to drop their bombs and abandon the aircraft. He woke up under a hedge on the Franco-Belgium border, realising he was in enemy territory and on the run. Hidden by local farmers and helped by a clergyman he was put in touch with a businessman and resistance leader who agreed to drive him part of the way to the heavily guarded border. Following a crash on an icy road, he hid in a nearby wood as his driver was questioned by a lorry of passing German soldiers, he eventually crossed the border. On one occasion, he found himself hiding in the attic of a hotel with German soldiers playing billiards downstairs; a few days later he thought he was in trouble when the road was blocked by a German officer's car; it had broken down, so they offered him a lift! His journey continued, crossing mountains on foot into Switzerland, before journeying to the south of France, then to Naples, Casablanca and finally a flight to Newquay in Cornwall. He had been posted missing presumed dead from the 9th August until Christmas 1943. After a further period flying in Burma, supporting military operations in that country, John returned to England where he studied Law at Corpus. A few years later, after initially training to be a barrister, he began working in the City where he developed an extremely successful career in the insurance world at Lloyd's of London, whilst at the same time building a family in East Sussex.

John was a special man, a kind man, a man who following on from his upbringing in the New Forest loved the traditional country life, making many best friends on the beagling field. He supported many aspects of village life, had a quiet faith and was for many years a churchwarden at his local Hamsey church. He is survived by Shirley, they were married for 70 years, and three sons, a daughter and eight dearly loved grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to William Whitley*

**1946 RODNEY CAMPBELL CURRY.** Rodney Campbell Curry FRCS, practiced in Lisburn, Northern Ireland. He died aged ninety-one in March 2020 at his home Ballycarnannon Farm, Boardmills, County Down, Northern Ireland. His wife Gillian had predeceased him. He is survived by four of his five children Patrick, Alex, Tessa, Ben; his daughter Ginny predeceased him.



**1947 HEINZ DUEWELL** was a student at The University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia and immediately made his mark. At the end of his first year, he achieved outstanding results in all four subjects: Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, and Geology. He chose to concentrate on Chemistry, though later in life he combined it with Botany in his researches. After graduation, he undertook research for a master's degree in an area we nowadays call Medicinal Chemistry. During this time, Heinz and his fellow research students took up bushwalking, and it was probably in the Blue Mountains he first noticed the grasstrees (*Xanthorrhoea*) that later played an important part in his life. At this time, just at the end of World War Two, Australian universities did not offer doctoral degrees. Heinz deservedly won a scholarship to Corpus and joined its doctoral programme in 1947. At Cambridge, he mixed with the elite in the fields of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry: his research supervisor, Sir Alexander (later Lord Todd of Trumington) Todd, won a Nobel Prize shortly afterwards. Heinz returned to Australia on completion of his doctorate and for several years in the early 1950s worked at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in Melbourne, Australia. Then he took up a lectureship at the University of Newcastle. He now put most of his research efforts into understanding the chemistry

of plants, and his first paper on the grasstrees appeared in 1954. He stayed with the University of Newcastle for an academic career spanning more than 30 years, in due course becoming an associate professor.

Heinz studied the chemical composition of the red resins exuded by grasstrees and found in them a complex mixture of compounds. Some resins yielded up to 30 compounds, whose identification required years of work. It emerged that these compositions are specific to each species of grasstree. Most of us notice only two sorts of grasstrees: those that have a trunk like a tree, and those that push their flower stalk up from under the ground. Heinz's resin analysis indicated that there are at least 18 species of grasstree growing in one part or another of Australia. His work provides the basis for botanists to make a proper classification of this interesting group of plants. Heinz was enthusiastic about his research and if he heard of friends going bushwalking in a remote area, he would ask them to bring back samples of the resins and the flowers of the grasstrees; some samples turned out to be new species, which made him very excited. Heinz's lectures to the undergraduates were notable. He put considerable preparation into them, and they were delivered with great energy and enthusiasm; no student ever went to sleep in one of his lectures. Students have said they stood in awe of his encyclopaedic knowledge. 'We all did'.

One of his major enthusiasms was Scottish Country Dancing. He also made an impact in organisation and teaching. Nobody is perfect. In the case of Heinz, he was utterly uncooperative towards administrators who gave him deadlines to meet. He was never rude to these people, nor did he refuse to cooperate; he just failed to register their request in his scheme of things. Nobody could really get upset with Heinz: he was always charming, and he had a great sense of humour. We all missed him when he retired and count ourselves fortunate to have known him.

*With acknowledgement to Moira Duewell and Len Dyll*

**1948 FRANCIS DAVID LINDLEY LOY** was a great ambassador for the law in Leeds. He went to school at Repton, followed by National Service in 1946; he was posted to HMS *Pembroke* stationed in Glasgow, but the ship never went to sea in his time. He read law at Corpus. He met his wife Brenda Walker whilst doing a holiday job in Harrods, she was at Oxford reading mathematics. He was called to the bar in 1952 and joined chambers in Bradford.

Francis was a man blessed with equanimity and good humour. He was also highly principled and during his life undertook many duties that showed concern for others: he was churchwarden at Leeds Parish Church between 1965 and 1997; involved with the Market District Boys Club from 1992 to 2001; a director of The Market Place in Leeds, a mental health charity and he was a governor of Agnes Stewart High School, Leeds. In addition, he was a great supporter of school and college football and cricket teams. Francis also fitted in other interests; he was a season ticket holder at Leeds United Football Club and regular attender at both Opera North and the Leeds Playhouse.

He was a very able advocate, though calm and understated. His sound judgment was recognised and led to his appointment, in the early 1970s, as Stipendiary Magistrate of Leeds, a post he retained until 1997. He was also Recorder of the Leeds Crown Court between 1983 and 1996. (He never wanted to become a crown court judge despite many invitations by the Lord Chancellor). His career in the judiciary was marked by the same high standards, backed always by kindness, and understanding.



He loved family and when first retired particularly enjoyed travelling round various prep schools (many of which he had played at as a boy) to watch his grandchildren play sport, followed by a very hearty tea; he told me he spent a lot of time on “wet touchlines”. His wife died in 2010 and despite missing her dreadfully carried on, maintaining his independence, never wanting to be a burden but joining in all family activities. Eventually, he decided to move with the family to Kirkby Overblow, North Yorkshire, thoroughly enjoying village life and being central to all the family activities and adventures. He was a much-loved father to three daughters and four grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Alexandra Stead [daughter] and Robert Denton*

**1948 GERALD WILLIAM PAUL ORLANDO BRIDGEMAN:** we have learned of his death in 2018, aged 88. He was a scion of the Earls of Bradford and married to the actress Rosemarie Dunham. There were no children, but he had a stepson Paul Ingrams.

**1948 JOHN KENNEDY WHITE** After two years of National Service and three at Corpus, John joined Patons and Baldwins who later merged with thread makers J & P Coats Ltd. He worked with them in the UK, South Africa, Belgium and finally Canada, where he retired in 1988.

*With acknowledgement to Nigel White*



**1948 MICHAEL TWEEDY** rose from humble beginnings to achieve remarkable academic success and a distinguished career as schoolmaster at Winchester College before retiring to Chetnole, Dorset in 1989. He was born at his father’s East End tobacconist’s in Leyton. Recognising early academic promise, his mother Edith set up a lending library in the shop so that Michael could attend Bancroft’s School from where he won an Open Exhibition in Modern Languages at Corpus. In 1948, following National Service, he came to Cambridge, where he took a first then undertook doctoral research, spending a year at the Sorbonne in Paris studying medieval manuscripts. In 1955, he joined the teaching staff at Winchester College, following interviews with the headmaster, Desmond Lee (a fellow of Corpus) and Leslie Russon, head of modern languages. Michael successfully passed Leslie’s acid test for anyone applying to come and teach French: “What is the French for peony?” A natural teacher, he stayed at Winchester for thirty-four years, where he’s remembered fondly for his humanity, enthusiasm and an intellectually curious mind: if ever anyone wore learning lightly, it was him. He had studied both French and German at school, though his Cambridge studies had been mainly in French. In a very enterprising move for the era, Lee gave him a grant to go to Spain and learn Spanish in one long vacation, laying the ground for many years’ single-handed teaching the language at Winchester. The relaxed atmosphere of his classes, in Spanish and French, had a strong appeal for those who found German rather too taxing. His likes and dislikes, particularly for Balzac, were both strong and idiosyncratic; but his enthusiasm for Stendhal inspired many of his pupils.

He met his first wife Enid in 1954 whilst she was working for the Red Cross; having spent the war at Bletchley Park. They married in 1957 and, as the Tweedy family started to grow (Laura 1958, Jane 1959, Torquil 1961, Roderick 1963), set up home at Culver Lodge. It seemed a haven of domestic bliss, away from the high-octane monasticism of Winchester. His parents retired to live in The Old Cottage in Chetnole in Dorset in 1963. His mother died in 1980 and when Michael retired in 1989, he too moved to Chetnole to help look after his father. After an initial period of adjustment, he took to village life, being elected Chair of the Parish Meeting in 1991.



During a period of serious illness after the death of his first wife in 1993, he was contacted by an old family friend Gudrun Ebenhoch-Grossman who was then living in Germany. Their friendship blossomed and, in 2000, they were married with the blessing of all their children. He and Gudrun then spent many happy years at the Old Cottage, gardening, reading and travelling widely in the UK, South America and across Europe before further ill-health restricted his movements.

*With acknowledgement to Torquil Tweedy and John Freeman*

**1948 PROFESSOR DONALD LAWRENCE KEENE** played a leading role in the establishment of Japanese literary studies in the United States and beyond. Through his scholarship, translations and edited anthologies, and through the work of the students he trained and inspired, he did more than any other individual to further the study and appreciation of Japanese literature and culture around the world in the post-war era.



He was born in Brooklyn, New York and attended public schools there. He entered Columbia College in 1938 at the age of sixteen, where he studied French and Greek literature; he also, informally, began learning Chinese and Japanese. Although a committed pacifist, Keene enlisted in the United States Navy shortly after Pearl Harbour, graduating from the College and travelling to California to enter the Navy Japanese Language School in early spring 1942. Commissioned as an officer a year later, he served as a translator and interpreter, first visiting Japan at the end of 1945.

After the war, Keene returned to Columbia to continue his studies. He received an MA in 1947 and spent a year as a visiting student at Harvard University and from 1948–1954 was at Corpus where he gained a second masters; in 1950 he became a University Lecturer in Japanese and Korean. In 1953, at the age of 31, Keene received a Ford Foundation fellowship to study at Kyoto University. While in Kyoto, he edited two anthologies filled with new translations by himself and many other pioneering scholars of Japanese, *Anthology of Japanese Literature* (1955) and *Modern Japanese Literature*. In 1955, Keene returned to New York to take a professorial position at Columbia, where he played a key role in the development of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures making it into a national standard-bearer. For decades, he taught classes on Japanese literature and cultural history and trained generations of students, many of whom went on to become professors themselves at universities in North America and Europe. He retired in 1992 but continued teaching a graduate seminar every spring semester for the following two decades.

Throughout his years at Columbia and afterward, Keene produced a prolific stream of translations and scholarly studies of Japanese literature and culture, publishing hundreds of books in English, Japanese, and several European languages. However, the greatest monument to his scholarship is his enormous multivolume history of Japanese literature, written over nearly two decades: *World Within Walls: Japanese Literature of the Pre-Modern Era, 1600–1867* (1976); *Dawn to the West: Japanese Literature of the Modern Era* (1984), and *Seeds in the Heart: Japanese Literature from Earliest Times to the Late Sixteenth Century* (1993). That such detailed and comprehensive works were written by a single person is still hard to believe. When the last of these books was published, he was 94 years old.

Donald Keene was, from the 1970s onward, a major media figure in Japan. His friendships with many prominent Japanese authors, journalists and publishers contributed to this fame, but for many decades, he wrote and lectured widely in Japanese.

For many years Keene divided his time between Manhattan and Tokyo. After the Tōhoku earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster in March 2011 he moved to Tokyo full-time, becoming a Japanese citizen in March of the following year. At a time of national crisis and mourning, with frequent accounts of foreign residents leaving the country for fear of radiation, these acts were widely reported in the Japanese media and met with an outpouring of affection and gratitude. In 2012 Keene also adopted Uehara Seiki (b. 1950), a traditional shamisen performer and bunraku puppet theatre narrator, as his son and heir. His final years in Tokyo were happy ones; he was surrounded by friends and well-wishers, and his son Seiki cared for him devotedly.

*With acknowledgement to The Donald Keene Centre*

**1949 FATHER EDWARD (Geoffrey Thornton) BOOTH** was born in Evesham, Worcestershire of a Nonconformist family and educated locally, before coming up to Corpus to read History. He was received into the Catholic Church by the legendary Monsignor Alfred Gilbey while an undergraduate and after graduating joined the Dominican Order at Woodchester Priory, Gloucestershire, receiving the name Edward in religion. His early priesthood was spent between pastoral work and school mastering, the latter both at the Dominican-run Cardinal Howard School, Laxton and at the Loreto College for Girls in Manchester.

The period of his Cambridge doctoral studies, which was spent partly at Tübingen, Germany, involved a close study of both the Augustinian and German Idealist traditions, which equipped him analytically for his seminal work *Aristotelian Aporetic Ontology*, traced in a variety of Christian and Islamic thinkers, including Aquinas and published by Cambridge University Press. Father Edward Booth went to Rome to teach the history of metaphysics at the Beda College and the Pontifical University of St Thomas and worked as a member of the Commissio Leonina on the manuscript tradition of Thomas's Commentary on the Book of Sentences of Peter Lombard. He subsequently took up a variety of chaplaincies to Sisters in Germany and Iceland while working on a magnum opus on the inter-relations of Kant, Fichte, Schelling and Hegel. He died in Reykjavik after a short illness and is buried in the grounds of the Catholic cathedral.

*With acknowledgement to Fr Aidan Nichols OP and Fr Matthew Jarvis OP [m. 2005]*



**1949 JAMES DOMINIC GEORGE HAMMER CB** played an important role in the development of the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act, which as a superintending inspector at the Factory Inspectorate he helped draft. Previous health and safety legislation had been prescriptive, dealing largely with hardware and equipment, and did not address the need for underpinning management systems. After the Act, even allowing for the decline of heavy industry, there has been a massive improvement in UK health and safety performance. The Act clearly played a big part in that, as did the creation of two new regulatory bodies, the Health and Safety Commission and the Health and Safety Executive, which Jim did much to help establish.

After Dulwich College he undertook National Service in the Intelligence Corps, mostly in Austria, then studied at Corpus, before joining the Factory Inspectorate in the early 1950s as a factory inspector in Birmingham. There he met fellow inspector Meg Halse; they married in 1955 and raised three children in a vibrant, happy household, moving to Manchester, Norfolk and then Stoke-on-Trent before finally settling in London in 1970. He spent his whole career working for the Factory

Inspectorate and then the Health and Safety Executive, rising to be deputy chief inspector at the inspectorate (1974), chief inspector of factories (1975–1984) and then deputy director general at the Health and Safety Executive (1985–1989). He was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1979.

In retirement, he became president of the International Association of Labour Inspection, leading reviews of inspection systems across the world and sometimes chairing meetings in three languages. He was also one of the first directors on the board of UK Skills (now Worldskills UK), set up in 1990 to promote the value of vocational skills to young people. In addition, he was vice-chairman of Camberwell Health Authority (1982–1991), volunteered for Lambeth & Southwark Mencap, and with Meg sold fairtrade goods for Traidcraft at his local church.

He was a superb conversationalist who had charm, boundless energy and an unforgettable laugh. All of this made him an effervescent host: glass of wine in hand, he could recount his favourite phrase, “I appear to have an evaporation problem!”, in many languages. An avid walker and prolific painter, he absorbed culture by visiting theatres, exhibitions, and classical music concerts. After his retirement he and Meg travelled to more than 30 countries. Jim showed great resilience and dignity in the face of the death of his two sons, Paul and David, in 1990 and 2013 respectively, and then Meg in 2018. He is survived by his daughter Sara and his five grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Sara Kelby and The Guardian*

**1949 HENRY RICHARD MCKENZIE HYDER** attended King’s College School, then Felsted School, Essex, before National Service in the Royal Signals Corps. Following an early discharge from the Army he came to Corpus, where he read the Natural Science Tripos and started his career as a Research Assistant in the Cavendish and Warden of Fanshawe House. In 1954, after working on the Van de Graaff accelerator, he left the Cavendish and joined the Reactor Division at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell. He resigned from UKAEA in 1962 and transferred to the National Institute for Research in Nuclear Science to work on the Oxford Electrostatic Generator Project and the Construction of Oxford Nuclear Physics Laboratory. From 1964 to 1987 he worked at the Oxford Nuclear Physics Laboratory and was Project Engineer of the Electrostatic Tandem Accelerator. The tandem was decommissioned in 1985 and donated to Peking University. In 1970, he had a sabbatical at Brookhaven National Laboratory in the USA. From 1987 to 1998 he was Assistant Director of the Wright Nuclear Structure Laboratory at Yale University, retiring back to the UK in 1998.

His wife Helen predeceased him and one daughter died in a road accident. He leaves two sons and a daughter.

*With acknowledgement to Tom Hyder*

**1950 HARRY MITCHELL QC** was educated at Bolton and after National Service came to Corpus on an Open Scholarship; he read French, German and Law. This was followed by five years with the Colonial Service in Sierra Leone. After three years in India working as Company Secretary for Asbestos Cement Limited, he then spent ten years as Executive Legal Director for Hawker Siddeley Aviation Limited. He was called to the Bar in 1968; but did not undertake a pupillage or practice at the Bar.

From 1976 until 1992 he was employed by the Wellcome Foundation as Company Secretary, he was also chairman of the Bar Association for Commerce and Industry and took Silk in 1987. He had 27 years’ retirement from full-time employment and



during this time he was for 10 years a part-time immigration judge. He also worked in the charity sector, which included Chairman of Sarson Housing Association. He remained honorary legal advisor to Migration Watch until he died. His main interests were languages, music and law.

Harry was the author of two books: *Remote corners, A Sierra Leone Memoir* (2002) and *Confessions of a Briefless Barrister* (2016). The publishers review of the latter contains additional details: “*Confessions of a Briefless Barrister* is a set of chapters on different interesting aspects of his life such as National Service, Cambridge and the law, as well as other chapters that look at particular subjects such as music and sport in the way that they were significant at different periods of his life. Harry’s memoirs include accounts of his contacts with judges, prominent lawyers, chairmen and senior executives of companies, along with other national figures, and of his involvement with such major events as the nationalisation of the aircraft industry in the 1970s. The rationale of the book’s title is that although Harry was called to the Bar in 1968 and achieved the distinction of being appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1987, he always worked as a lawyer in positions of increasing seniority in different industries. A ‘briefless barrister’ is normally one who is suffering hardship because he is not being briefed to represent clients in court and is not earning – whereas Harry was briefless in the sense that he was never working as a barrister in private practice and therefore never in a position to accept briefs. He therefore happily avoided the penury that would be the concomitant of brieflessness in the normal sense. The range of Harry’s experiences goes from a briefspell as a swimming pool attendant in his student days to 16 years as Company Secretary at a major pharmaceutical multinational followed by ten years as a part-time immigration judge after retirement. He still has some involvement with the law as Honorary Legal Adviser to Migration Watch and is still active in local amateur music making.” *With acknowledgement to Megan Mitchell.*

**1950 JOSEPH MERVYN CORBETT.** We have learned of his death. He was a scion of the Rowallan baronage.



**1951 CAMPBELL BURGESS READ** died in 2018 at the age of 87. Born in Edinburgh, Read was educated at Edinburgh Academy and Corpus. He was a respected mathematician and statistician and was a statistics professor at Southern Methodist University, Dallas for 40 years. In 1983 Read helped form the school’s first Gay and Lesbian Student Support Organization. He said it was the first time the administration had to look at the LGBT community, but as attendance at GLSSO meetings was low and by 1985 the group had folded. When the Reagan administration wanted to do a community survey on the prevalence of HIV in the general population by taking blood samples from people in randomly selected households, Dallas was to be the test city for the national project. Dallas County Commissioners Court, then Republican controlled, had qualms and appointed a 29-member advisory panel. Seven of those members were gay, including Read, who opposed the survey. The Dallas survey failed and by 1989, the newly-elected Bush administration pulled its support from the project.

Read was a keen birdwatcher and environmentalist as well as a member of the local church community helping organize and teach others about birdlife. He was never happier than when walking the mountain trails around Santa Fe. Read is survived by his sister, Diana, together with a niece and nephew.

*With acknowledgement to Southern Methodist University*

**1951 Professor DAVID GEORGE DRUCE YENCKEN OA** David Yencken was variously a builder, businessman, academic and heritage practitioner in Australia. He was born in Berlin where his father (Arthur Ferdinand Yencken CMG [m.1913]) was an Australian-born British Army officer and diplomat: he was British Minister in Madrid, 1940–1944. David attended school in England and Australia and read History at Corpus: his brother Arthur John Russell Yencken (m.1943) was in residence when, in May 1944, his father was killed in an air crash in Spain. At the time David was at school in England.



In his early twenties he decided on a short visit to Australia, arriving in Sydney in 1954, and then drove to Melbourne in a borrowed car. He decided to stay and established his first business venture, a Gallery focusing on contemporary modernist Australian art. For more than 50 years he was a champion for the Australian environment, the nation's heritage and excellence in design. Working in industry, politics and academia, especially through his association with the University of Melbourne, he became a staunch advocate and activist, promoting better outcomes for strategic policy, innovation in implementation, design and practice across cities and landscapes. He was a tireless promoter of good design, maintaining a focus on the power of design to shape our lives.

In 1988 he was appointed as Elizabeth Murdoch Chair of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at the University of Melbourne and served in this role until 1997. Following his retirement from the University, he brought together seven of Australia's leading national community organisations to create the Australian Collaboration to act as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas and to publish on matters of significance to Australian society.

David wrote or edited seven books and many articles for journals and conference proceedings. In addition to his many prizes and awards he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for services to conservation and history. An obituary in *The Sydney Morning Herald* concluded in the following terms: "A patrician by birth, David was a democrat at heart. 'I do not see the pursuit of creativity and excellence as in any way at odds with Australia's democratic temper,' he wrote. Among many honours and distinctions, he was an honorary fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia and the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, and an Officer in the Order of Australia. He is remembered with admiration and affection for his vision, integrity, courtesy, creativity and commitment to a more democratic Australia and a safer world."

He is survived by his wife Helen and children Andrew, Daniel, Anja, Lars, Jessica and Luke.

*With acknowledgement to University of Melbourne School of Design*

**1951 ROBERT ANDREW CADMAN** after Oundle School, Andrew read Natural Sciences at Corpus. He was an enthusiastic member of the Boat Club; after graduation he proudly hung the oar he had won on his wall. He arrived at Rossall School in 1956, after a short spell of teaching at the City of London School. He spent thirty-four years of his working life at Rossall and was the very essence of an all-round schoolmaster; he taught Chemistry and Physics at various levels, but it was in Biology that his interests lay and where he endeavoured to pass on his enthusiasms to every age group from 11 to 19. It formed the main source of a genuine passion for ornithology and perhaps he found it easier to pass on his phenomenal knowledge of birds and the methods of recording their activities in informal groups outside the classroom. For thirty years,





in a spirit of supreme scientific endeavour, he monitored the bird population of the North Fylde. He threw himself into coaching Rugby and swimming in the summer and for some years coached Hockey. For fifteen years, he soldiered on in the Combined Cadet Force and brought to it some of the expertise gained during his own National Service. He was Housemaster for 15 years and created a strong family atmosphere.

Andrew had a wide circle of friends and was constantly travelling abroad, whether to study the birds of Tripoli or to visit close relatives in California and Canada. He was an excellent travelling companion, good company and enterprising. He was a thoughtful, quietly clever person, a great guest, up for walks and tours and a good meal. On retirement, he spent virtually all his time birdwatching, he was involved in lots of projects including surveys and ringing. He spent many happy hours at Leighton Moss bird reserve near his home in Over Kellet, Lancashire. He was always willing to lend a hand to anyone needing help and was committed to his local church where he was churchwarden for eleven years. In his last few years, Andrew was troubled by the onset of Alzheimer's which caused him to spend the last months of his life in a care home. He retained his kindness and sense of humour till the end.

*With acknowledgement to Lesley Cundell and Angela Strachan*



**1952 EARL CEDRIC RAVENAL** (*Former Visiting Fellow*)

Earl Ravenal was an American foreign policy analyst, academic, and writer. He served as a distinguished senior fellow in foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute and professor emeritus of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He graduated from Harvard in 1952 and received a Henry Fellowship to Cambridge. He earned his MA and PhD from The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, where he taught before his appointment to Georgetown. He served as a division director in the Office of United States Secretary of Defense from 1967 to 1969, under Secretaries of Defense Robert McNamara and Clark Clifford. In addition to writing several books on the topic of U.S. foreign policy, he wrote over 200 articles and papers for various publications including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Foreign Affairs*.

He was an inventive chef, had a great love of poetry, and was passionate about sailing and skiing. He is survived by his wife of 63 years and a son and daughter.

*With acknowledgement to The Washington Post*

**1952 THIRUVENKATA KRISHNAN.** We have learned of his death.

**1953 ANDREW MURRAY VINEN.** After leaving Stowe School in 1951, Andrew came up to Corpus to study Mathematics. He left with a First and became a Math's teacher. During his career, Andrew taught at Christ's Hospital School, Stowe, from 1966 to 1980, and Maidwell Hall School, Northamptonshire as Deputy Head, retiring in 1991. He is remembered fondly by former pupils, parents and governors at Maidwell Hall, a prep school in extensive gardens. "He was a keen gardener and taught the pupils how to take rose cuttings etc. He was not one for punishments and seemed to get that the relationship between master and pupil was a game of cat and mouse to ensure that there was never a need to defer to the rules. He made everyone welcome and cared for." "He got teaching in a way that very few current teachers and bureaucrats are able. He provided a great foundation in life to many. An inspiring teacher with bounds of enthusiasm, a very kind and genuine man. He left a great legacy in all those taught by

him". In retirement he moved to a croft in Lairg, Scotland, with his three dogs, and a large hill behind his house. In winter, he said, he climbed the hill with his dogs after lunch every day. He was universally respected and held in great affection

*With acknowledgement to Thomas Perrott and Rob and Louise Faurewalker*

**1953 DAVID GUARD** read Natural Sciences at Corpus, after undertaking National Service in the Intelligence Corps. He then moved to Montreal, Canada and worked for the Aluminium Company of Canada as an engineer in the Beauharnois smelting plant. There he met Carmen, also an English immigrant, and they married in 1957. They also met a group of Ethiopians who suggested they move to their country as a teacher, which they did. They moved to Harar in Eastern Ethiopia, where he taught physics, chemistry and biology. After a year, they moved to Addis Ababa, where they remained for two years. Having been near an attempted coup, the couple decided to return to the UK, which they did by car with their worldly possessions strapped to the roof, and he became a physics teacher at Bloxham School, Oxfordshire; he spent thirteen interesting and fulfilling years at Bloxham School as teacher and housemaster. In 1974, feeling the need for new challenges, he became an educational advisor in Malaysia and spent 25 happy years in that country. After four years with the Ministry of Education in Kuala Lumpur he became Director of the Centre for British Teachers; he organised and oversaw up to 200 teachers of English across all the states of Peninsular Malaysia. In 1985, he established his own educational advisory service in Malaysia, working with British universities helping Malaysian students make their choices for degree study places in the UK. The project was a great success and the Malaysian British Educational Cooperation Services was formed. The company continues providing help and advice, and has had considerable family input, as his wife played an active part in administration, and three nieces and one of his grandsons have been to Malaysia to work for the company.

Retirement in North Oxfordshire in 1997 did not mean severing links with Malaysia and his company as he and Carmen returned for three or four months a year until they felt the business could be left under its new manager. Sociable and sporty, he enjoyed life to the full, and although failing health dogged his later years, he never lost his sense of humour and delighted to be living in beautiful countryside, near family and Bloxham School.

*With acknowledgement to Carmen Guard*

**1953 JOHN FREDERICK ROBSON OBE** came to Corpus from Bolton School, having undertaken National Service with the Lancashire Fusiliers in Cyprus, Egypt and Kenya. At Corpus, he read Mechanical Sciences and on graduation in 1956 he joined Sir Murdoch MacDonald and Partners, civil engineering consulting engineers. His first posting was to Scotland to work on the construction of the Loch Shin hydro-electric scheme in Sutherland. He married Margaret, née Winnington, in October 1956 and was married for 45 years until her death in 2003. They had four children and ten grandchildren. He stayed with the company becoming a Partner in 1980 and, in 1989, as Managing Director, he facilitated the merger with Mott, Hay and Anderson to form Mott MacDonald Group, which today employs 16,000 staff worldwide and is one of the largest employee-owned companies in the world. He specialised in water resources and worked in Pakistan, Iraq, North Yemen, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Lesotho, Nigeria and Algeria. He was awarded the OBE in the 1977 New Year's Honours for services to the British community in Iraq. He retired in 1992 after



36 years with the company and continued to travel extensively after his retirement. His main interests were garden design, singing and painting. In 2005, he married Penelope Moffett and they enjoyed 14 very happy years together until his death in December 2019. He is survived by Penny and his children.

*With acknowledgement to Cathy Miles née Robson*

**1954 HAROLD KEITH GODDARD QC.** In an obituary, Deans Court Chambers, Manchester said: “We are very sad to announce that Keith Goddard QC passed away on 15th August. Keith joined Chambers from Cambridge in 1959 and had a most distinguished career, particularly in the fields of personal injury and criminal law. He became Head of Chambers and presided over our expansion and development over a period of 17 years. Keith held appointments as a Recorder and Deputy High Court Judge and served as Attorney-General of the Northern Circuit. After 47 years in practice he retired in 2007. He will be deeply missed by his many colleagues in the Law as well as by his golfing companions. Our sympathies go to his widow Anna and his sons Richard and Nick, both of whom followed him into the profession.”

*With acknowledgement to Deans Court Chambers*



**1955 CHRISTOPHER JOHN BOURNE** came to Corpus from Rugby and read economics and law. He also rowed for the college. In September 1958, he started as a sales assistant trainee at the family owned Bourne and Hollingsworth (B&H), a 320,000 square foot department store on London’s Oxford Street. This followed up on an interest in the retail world that started as a young boy; his favourite student job was standing on the street outside Galeries Lafayette in Paris selling shirts. B&H’s co-founder Howard Hollingsworth once said of his partner, Christopher’s grandfather, Walter William Bourne, that, “he could sense the trend in public demand and with a gambling disposition, Walter William gambled on certainty.” Christopher inherited his grandfather’s talent. Fashion was B&H’s core and as Director of Fashion he reversed the decline of that most important department. By 1972 he had become Chairman and CEO. Without sufficient buying power, however, independent department stores found it hard to compete during the 1970s. Although it was a tough decision, he realised that after eighty-four years in business the store had to be sold. Since then, high street retailing has proved even more difficult. Following B&H’s sale in 1979, Christopher managed the family estate in the Cotswolds and dedicated himself to public service and charity volunteering. He served as Chairman of the Cottage Homes Charity (now the Retail Trust), the Centre for Policy on Ageing and the Board of Special Trustees for St. George’s Hospital. He also served on the Wandsworth and Paddington Heath Authorities, as a Governor of the Nuffield Hospitals, as Treasurer of St. George’s Hospital and as a Board Member of the Royal Hospital of Neuro-Disability.

In the 1980s, he was Chairman of the London Electricity Consultative Council, a role designed to protect the consumer during the privatisation of the electricity industry that included a seat on the London Electricity Board. He stayed active with the Rugbeian Society, as President from 1994 to 1996, and Chairman of the Rugby School Trust in 1997. He married Juliet Woodall in 1965, who survives him along with their son, daughter and three granddaughters

*With acknowledgement to Julian Bourne, son and Stuart Laing*

**1955 DENNIS NAPIER** spent his early years in London. He narrowly escaped death during the war when a flying bomb landed on a nearby house. He and his younger brother John were evacuated twice, in 1940 and 1944 (following the flying bomb escape), which for both boys was, happily, a good experience. He attended St Paul's School where he developed a love for Classics and acting. After National Service in the Royal Artillery based in Yorkshire and Germany, he continued his love for Classics at Corpus, where his Director of Studies was Michael McCrum. Leaving Cambridge, after a brief spell teaching at Charterhouse School, he moved to Eastbourne and taught Classics at Eastbourne College. He met his future wife, Henrietta, through a relative, and they married in 1961. They had three children, Alice, Andrew (Corpus 1984–1987) and James. Dennis moved from teaching into a career in publishing, initially specialising in educational publishing (Cassell's, Longmans, Oliver & Boyd) and later in religious publishing (The Bible Society and Bible Reading Fellowship). This meant several moves for the family, to Edinburgh, Harlow, Cambridge and back to London.



On retirement to Chichester, Dennis enjoyed having time to read and travel, including family holidays on the Norfolk Broads (where he revisited the places where he had first learned to sail in the late 1940s), in France (where the family owned a house in Normandy), Crete and the Isle of Wight. At home in Chichester he and Henrietta shared a love of gardening, reading, walking their beloved Norfolk Terriers, seeing friends and family and enjoying the theatre. Dennis had a profound Christian faith which gave him great comfort throughout his life and particularly when his health declined after a diagnosis of Parkinson's. He and Henrietta were regulars at their church. He was a very kind and compassionate man, always putting the needs of others first. He is greatly missed by his wife, friends and family.

*With acknowledgement to Andrew Napier*

**1955 DONALD ROWLAND JOHN KNOWLES** was the son of the Right Reverend Donald Rowland Knowles, the first indigenous Bishop of the Anglican church in the Bahamas. After Corpus he went on to become Professor in modern languages at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. He returned to Nassau as first Principal of the College of the Bahamas. He later established the school for International Language Studies. Donald later opened a restaurant. He died in 2016 at the age of 80 of a heart-attack. He is survived by his second wife, three sons and two daughters.



*With acknowledgement to The Tribune*

**1956 IAN BARLOW** was educated at Rugby School and spent his time of National Service as an officer in the Black Watch. Posted to Berlin, he found himself among those responsible for the most famous prisoner of Spandau Prison, Rudolf Hess, whom he was required to supervise but forbidden to address. He had always seen himself as following his father's footsteps into teaching. His time at Corpus seemed to perfect his qualifications for doing so. During his undergraduate years he was Captain of the Rugby XV (those who knew him at Rugby will be surprised to know that he was considered too small to qualify for the University team), century-scorer for the cricket XI, talented classicist (first-class honours in part I), he was described by his Tutor as "very popular with his contemporaries, who respect his word and his judgement a great deal". After Corpus, he returned to Rugby School where he was not only a successful coach for House XV's and XI's, but an ambitious and successful dramatic

director. At the School level, he joined in coaching the XV and later took full charge of Football.

In July 1968, he and his friend of very long-standing Susan Horan were married in Tewkesbury Abbey; it was not long before there was a young family to care for. Ian, for all his own accomplishments, had always held that education was about the person and not the accomplishments. In 1970, he went with Sue and the family for a year to Devon: where, at Exeter University, he studied the pastoral side of children's upbringing. He was hugely supported by Sue with her own imagination and experience, parents of the time were witnesses to the affection and respect in which the two were held.

His last years at Rugby were spent as Registrar, a post which required total knowledge of the School. This he was uniquely able to provide, having run two Houses, an academic department, several teams and, as Chairman of the Games Committee, the sporting life of the School as a whole. In 1997, he moved with Sue to Trebetherick in Cornwall, a place of Barlow rest and recreation for one hundred years. In the years 1999 to 2000 he answered a call to stand in as Headmaster of Arnold Lodge School in Leamington. Back in Cornwall he became well-known in the musical world of Wadebridge and St Endellion; he took a major part in the church life of St Endellion. No mean golfer, at one of his last rounds at St Enodoc he scored a hole in one. He and Sue were the kindest of hosts at their carefully designed and welcoming home. Their garden, a deep coombe filled with lawns, borders, shrubberies and rockeries, was Ian's own much-loved and tended creation. He and Sue had three children, Michael, Emma and Kate and seven grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to Keith MacLennan and Stuart Laing*



**1956 Sir JOHN ALLAN BIRCH KCVO, CMG** made a highly successful diplomatic career the foundation for a second career, of equal distinction, as an expert on all matters concerning Eastern Europe. After learning the art of negotiation as a member of the UK team working in Geneva for the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, he became involved in the secret negotiations towards the restoration of diplomatic relations with Albania. The six years as Ambassador to Hungary which crowned his diplomatic career well qualified him to play important roles in the British Association for Central and Eastern Europe (BACEE), the School for Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) at University College London (UCL), and at Chatham House.

He was educated at Leighton Park School, which imparted the Quaker principles that remained important to him throughout his life; and at Corpus where he read economics. He did his National Service in the Middlesex Regiment, serving as a platoon commander in Austria, and in Cyprus during the Emergency.

Birch entered the Foreign Service in 1960. After postings in Paris and Singapore, he returned to London to learn Romanian and then, in 1965, was appointed First Secretary in the British Embassy in Bucharest. His time in Romania coincided with Nikolai Ceausescu's honeymoon period. Birch and his colleagues in the Embassy were not deceived; direct experience of the Securitate and other unpleasant features of the regime told them that the change was no more than skin deep. After three busy years in the South Asia Department of the FCO, covering the Indo-Pakistani war and the creation of Bangladesh, Birch was sent to Afghanistan in 1973 as Head of Chancery and deputy to the Ambassador at the Embassy in Kabul.



A year at the Royal College of Defence Studies was the prelude to a posting to Geneva as Political Adviser to the UK Delegation for the negotiation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. An active supporter of the CND at Cambridge, Birch brought to his work in Geneva a genuine belief in the desirability of a comprehensive test ban on the testing of nuclear weapons.

In 1980, after a course in Hungarian, Birch resumed his connection with Eastern Europe as Counsellor and Head of Chancery at the Embassy in Budapest. Birch's three years in Hungary were the perfect qualification for his next post, head of the newly created Eastern European Department of the FCO. His responsibility to encourage nascent movements towards democracy and to develop a closer dialogue with those regimes, notably the Poles and the Hungarians, that seemed disposed to follow a less slavishly Soviet line.

The death in 1985 of Enver Hoxha, the Communist dictator of Albania, was an opportunity to explore the possibility of restoring the diplomatic relations, which had been broken off in 1947, and Birch was tasked to open negotiations with the Albanians in strict secrecy in Paris.

Birch's appointment in New York was that of UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations with ambassadorial rank. He put his experience of disarmament issues to good use in the UN's First Committee and dealt with problems arising from the Iran-Iraq war, the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Cyprus issue and residual difficulties with Argentina in the aftermath of the Falklands war. In 1989, he was appointed Ambassador to Hungary.

Birch returned to Budapest at a pivotal moment. 1989 saw the opening of Hungary's border with Austria, the passage through Hungary of 23,000 East Germans en route to the West, the death of Janos Kadar, the disintegration of the Communist Party and agreement between government and opposition on a new constitution and free election.

After his retirement in 1995 Birch was director for ten years of BACEE, which offered courses for politicians and public servants from formerly Communist states in democratic practice and parliamentary government. He served as chairman of the advisory board of SSEES and on the council of UCL, latterly as Vice-Chairman, helping to negotiate the merger of the two institutions in 1999. He was a member of the council of Chatham House for six years until 2003.

Birch was an accomplished tennis player and a skilled and enthusiastic skier, swimmer and shot. In 1960, he married Primula Haselden, who survives him with three sons and a daughter. His sons James (m.1981) and Alex (m.1982) were both undergraduates at the College.

*With acknowledgement to Alex Birch and The Daily Telegraph*

**1957 ALASTAIR NEIL MACDONALD.** We have learned of his death. He died suddenly whilst on a cruise off the coast of India.



**1958 ERIC QUALTROUGH BASHFORTH.** We have learned of his death in Harrogate. Other than he was the husband of Salvina and father to Lucy, Fiona and Zoe and grandfather of Kitty we have no further information.

**1959 JOHN LE GALLIENNE GILCHRIST.** We have learned of his death. He came to Corpus from Sedburgh School.



**1959 PROFESSOR ARCHIBALD MACROBERT (Archie) CAMPBELL** was educated at Edinburgh Academy and Glenalmond College, near Perth, Scotland, where he resisted pressure to take up classics as he knew he wanted to be a scientist. In 1959, he was awarded a scholarship to Corpus to study natural sciences. Following his BA degree and a PhD in materials science, he continued his career in the Cambridge University Engineering Department, where he was appointed a lecturer in 1974 and retired as emeritus professor of electromagnetism in 2007. He also served as Pro-Proctor and Proctor from 1986 to 1987. In 1973, together with Jan Evetts, he published *Critical Currents in Superconductors*, which became the standard text on the subject. Later he developed a pioneering method for measuring the penetration of magnetic flux into superconducting materials, which is known as the ‘Campbell technique’. He was elected to a fellowship at Christ’s College in 1966. He worked tirelessly in many roles for the College, including serving as Vice-Master from 2003 to 2007. In 2018 was awarded a lifetime achievement award by the International Cryogenic Materials conference. He submitted his final paper for publication just days before his death.

He met his wife Anne in a mathematics class at Cambridge, they married in 1963 and had three children followed by nine grandchildren, one of whom died shortly after birth. In a *Guardian* obituary of her husband Anne Campbell, a former Labour MP for Cambridge, wrote: “We made our home in Cambridge – and Archie was often to be seen riding around the city on his bike, frequently with our dog in the basket. Always oblivious of his appearance, he had holes or hastily applied safety-pins in even some of his smartest clothes. But he was known for his sharp, analytical mind and his generous nature, giving help and advice to his students and younger scientists.

However, electromagnetism was not his only area of expertise: he was an expert on fungi, edible and non-edible, and a competent clarinettist and player of the bagpipes. He was also resourceful and inventive: on one occasion, with the family stranded at the side of the road, Archie disappeared underneath our camper van armed with an empty can of baked beans and a piece of garden twine – and patched it up so that we could limp home.

On his retirement his colleagues and collaborators from around the world honoured his work with the Campbell Conference, hosted jointly by his undergraduate and postgraduate colleagues in Cambridge.”

*With acknowledgement to The Guardian*



**1959 THE REV PROFESSOR DAVID PROTHEROE DAVIES** came to Corpus from Christ College, Brecon as an Exhibitioner, graduating in Classics and Theology. A keen sportsman, he captained the College rugby team. Research on the text and language of Luke’s gospel at Corpus, Oxford led to an award of BD in 1969. At Oxford he won both the Junior and the Senior Greek Testament University Prizes. He trained for Anglican ministry at Ripon Hall, Oxford, was ordained in 1964 and served as Assistant Curate for three years at St Mary’s, Swansea. He was appointed to a lectureship in theology at St David’s College, Lampeter in 1967 and remained there for the rest of his academic career. He was subsequently promoted Professor and appointed to the John James Chair of Theology. He also served as Deputy Principal/Pro Vice-Chancellor for thirteen years, prior to taking early retirement in 2001. He re-engaged as a part-time Professor at Lampeter and was simultaneously appointed part-time consultant on overseas validation by the University of Wales. He finally retired in 2011.

David was a gifted communicator and an inspiring teacher of students at all levels. He supervised some eighty successful PhD and MPhil research students. He was an author of books on New Testament subjects, Liberation Theology, and religion and society in Wales, as well as numerous articles and book reviews, both in Welsh and English. He had a passion for extending higher education opportunities to disadvantaged groups, especially in the developing world (Africa and India in particular). He was also heavily involved in theological education by extension in the UK and Ireland, Europe (East and West), and around the world.

He was a passionate Welshman, with a consuming interest in the Welsh language and literature, the history of Wales and contemporary politics and society in Wales. He was adviser on religious broadcasting to both the BBC and ITV and contributed many scripts on religious topics to both radio and TV in Welsh and other languages. A keen sportsman in his youth. He also played cricket and golf regularly for many years.

He is survived by his wife, Heather, his daughter, Siwan, from his first marriage to Brenda, which ended in divorce and his sister.

*With acknowledgement to Heather Davies*

**1960 PROFESSOR ASHOK PARTHASARATHI** was the son of a prominent Indian journalist, educationalist and diplomat. During his professional life he served for nearly ten years as Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi's science and technology adviser. In this role he was pivotal in making India self-reliant in the fields of science and technology at a time when the country couldn't afford to import the latest technologies. His efforts helped India establish public sector companies to manufacture products ranging from microchips to satellite-based communication systems.



Ashok came to Corpus in 1959 after an outstanding undergraduate career at Madras University, India; he completed Part II at the end of his second year and got a First. He studied under Tom Faber and was an excellent sportsman, gaining a Blue in Cricket and a Half Blue in Table Tennis. He subsequently joined the Radio Astronomy Observatory working with Martin Ryle. During this time, he met his future wife who was studying Geography at Newnham. Back in India, he became a member of the Planning Commission's Research Advisory Committee and a member of a high-level national task force on the development of India as a knowledge society. He also held senior positions in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Department of Electronics and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Parthasarathi's contribution to the development of defence electronics sector was widely acknowledged – as was his contribution to solar power systems. Former director general of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Dr Raghunath Anant Mashelkar described Ashok Parthasarathi as a great leader, who played a crucial role in creating public sector enterprises in the 1970s. Between 2000 and 2005 he held a chair at the Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

*With acknowledgement to The Print*

**1962 MAURICE HENRY BANBURY** read Classics at Corpus and remained a Classicist to the end of his life, invariably absorbed by a tome on Roman Britain or some other aspect of Classical History or Literature. He had almost total recall of Classical texts, timelines and characters, and would regale family members with wonderful stories drawn from his encyclopaedic knowledge.



After leaving Corpus, Maurice trained as a teacher, before moving on to work for the National Health Service. He was a man of huge intelligence and voracious curiosity about a wide range of topics, from theology to film and classical music. Maurice regularly attended academic lectures and exhibitions at the British Museum and was a frequent visitor to other major museums, including the Ashmolean, which was easily accessible from his Buckinghamshire home. He was cultured in his tastes and loved attending classical music concerts, ballet and theatre. He was fond of eating out and was well-known and well-loved at the various eateries in Marlow, where he enjoyed a range of cuisine, with Lebanese dishes being a favourite.

Above all, Maurice was humble and deeply kind. He maintained and treasured friendships throughout his life, from his City of London School days, his peers at Corpus, and people he met through work and through church life over the course of many years. Family was especially important to Maurice and he always took a great interest in his cousins, their children and grandchildren. He was a committed Christian who lived out the values of his faith, serving in his local churches and committed to the cause of persecuted Christians worldwide through his involvement with the organisation Open Doors. He inspired enormous affection not just within his family but from all who knew him. He never had an unkind word to say about anyone, and his gentle good nature will be sadly missed by both family and friends.

*With acknowledgement to Carolyn Gent*



**1964 PETER GEORGE ADRIAN WATSON** came up to Corpus to read Modern Languages from King William College, Isle of Man (via a gap year in Freiburg) secure in the knowledge his career would be as a stage director. In Cambridge, his best productions were probably *The Relapse* (Fletcher Players), *Uncle Vanya* (ADC), *The White Devil* and *Love's Labour's Lost* (both for the Marlowe Society). The last of these he returned to direct when already on an ABC Television Theatre Traineeship, working under Richard Digby Day at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford. In the straight theatre, he developed close working relationships with many distinguished actors (including Miriam Karlin, for whom he directed her one-woman shows). But the most important work of his later career was for the operatic stage, especially Welsh and Scottish Opera, and various continental companies including some in Strasbourg, Bordeaux, Geneva and Malaga and, further afield, in Boston and Adelaide. All the Scottish Opera productions involved working 'happily and creatively with an old Corpus friend Richard Armstrong'.

In 2014 he underwent major surgery, spending seven months in St Thomas's Hospital. But he recovered sufficiently to resume the teaching of visiting American drama students, which had been part of his life for some years, and the four of us were able to meet up on several occasions. Among his cultural and research interests outside the theatre was the life and work of his great-grandfather, the landscape artist John Brett (1831–1902), some of whose best paintings remain in family ownership. His funeral in November 2019 allowed his qualities and achievements to be finally recognised.

*With acknowledgement to David Lindley, John Hayward and Peter Larkin*

**1965 BRIAN JAMES FINDLEY** was born and spent his early life in the London area as an only child. Between the ages of eleven and twenty-two he lived in New Zealand, where he took his first two degrees in English Language and Literature and Music. He was finishing his MusB when he was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship from

Wellington and was a Donaldson Scholar at Corpus. There followed four years of postgraduate research in the Cambridge English Faculty, where he studied the interface between Christianity and Old Norse culture, before being accepted for ordination. Whilst in Cambridge, he found and restored an 18th century printing press which he kept in the crypt at Little St Mary's. He had been taught by Don Mackenzie in the techniques of scholarship and bibliography, a discipline he kept up, most recently contributing to the *Oxford Companion to the Book* and as a member of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society. Brian had a personal library of more than 20,000 antiquarian and academic books.

His interests were wide-ranging. He was a harpsichordist and organist; he was interested in the history of art, especially of the baroque and twentieth century; in architecture and visiting churches; and in plants and gardens, being a member of his local Horticultural Society when he retired to Cumbria.

Following ordination, Fr Brian served at St Paul's, Deptford, before moving to Oxford to be Dean of Divinity at Magdalen College, where a number of priestly vocations were stimulated and encouraged, and from where he did some postgraduate supervision in history, architecture and musicology. After ten years, he moved to the parish of St Augustine's, Tonge Moor, Bolton where he spent 18 years. It is said that his desire to move back into parochial ministry was motivated by a sense that too much time in academia might make a priest too narrow in outlook. He managed to bridge these two quite different worlds perhaps because of a profound sense of his primary vocation as a priest of the Catholic Church. He was Rector of Monks Eleigh, Suffolk for a further ten years where he was very happy. Although he had both ankles and knees replaced, he was able to continue playing the organ.

He and his wife Kirsty moved to the village of Thwaites near the Diddon Valley to enjoy their retirement and during this time he continued helping the parishes of the Millom Benefices. His estate is entirely left to be divided between his colleges, Corpus, Magdalen and Walsingham. He was married to Kirsty for 30 years and was stepfather to Cassey and Jessica and step grandfather to three.

*With acknowledgement to Kirsty Findley*

**1965 REV. PATRICK THOMAS BRENNAN.** We have learned of his death.

**1966 RODERICK MACKENZIE SLATER** A former Head of Modern Languages at George Watson's College, Edinburgh, Rod was often described as a force of nature because of his energy, intellect, kindness and wit. He was at Watson's for 25 years, serving the school through generations of transition, always driven by the desire to help pupils thrive – in the classroom, on stage, in foreign countries or atop Munros. He died following a heart attack, near his wife of 50 years and elder son, after a final swim on the Île de Ré, France – an island he loved, in a country he had adopted.

Born in Nairn, his father was a Major in the Gordon Highlanders, and he and his twin sister were brought up following the Regiment's deployments to Germany, Nigeria, Edinburgh and Scone. To minimise disruption to his education, he was sent to Strathallan School near Perth. Following Strathallan, he spent time at a school in La Rochelle thanks to an award from Lord Balerno. His time in France changed the course of his life, because it was there, he fell in love both with the country and with his future wife Sylvie. He went on to read French and German at Corpus, where a temporary position as a language assistant in Germany made him realise teaching was





his true vocation. In his first post at St. Peter's School, Huntingdon, he felt the teachers were making a great difference in the lives of their pupils, some of whom were from a deprived background. However, a year in the mountains of the Auvergne reminded him how much he missed Scotland and he moved back to work at West Calder High School. An innovator, he pulled together a group of young language teachers from across the Edinburgh area under the unofficial banner of "Languages for Communication" and made some bold strides for teaching in the region.

In 1983, he was offered the post of Head of Modern Languages at George Watson's bringing an instinctive, but also sometimes unconventional, style of teaching and fostering an intellectual and cultural curiosity among pupils, not just the robotic passing of exams. His sharp intellect made him a perfect teacher for top sets, but he preferred teaching those who needed more support, and had a gift for helping weaker pupils thrive. His infectious love of languages prompted him to lead 23 foreign exchanges, taking pupils all over Europe.

For several years, he was invited by the Scottish Rugby Union to be the translator for French national rugby teams when they played Scotland. He also brought a passion for drama to Watson's, directing *Oh! What a Lovely War*, poignantly noting that the cast was only a few years younger than many of the Watsonians who had died in World War One. He retired from Watson's in 2008 but could not stay away from teaching. Six months later he was back in the classroom at St George's School for Girls.

He was to reflect on his career (and his life) and say that his greatest privilege had been to work with so many responsive pupils. He mused: "To think that maybe I have had a small role in shaping them." Here his characteristic modesty was surely misplaced, as is evident from the outpouring of sympathy and reminiscences from all the pupils, colleagues and friends whose lives he touched. He is survived by his wife Sylvie, his sons Andrew and Sandy and his grandson Leo.

*With acknowledgement to Sandy Slater and The Scotsman*



**1968 FRANCIS EDWARD THOMAS** came to Corpus from Price's Grammar School, Fareham, Hampshire. He was a Choral exhibitor and music scholar. Subsequently, he gained a PGCE from the University of Surrey and, in 1991, an MA from University of London. Whilst at Cambridge he toured West Africa with Kings College Choir.

He performed a wide range of music from lieder to opera and sang in various professional choirs in London and joined the BBC Singers in 1973. He left in 1979 to pursue his career as a baritone soloist. In 1980, he was semi-finalist in the International Gold Award for Concert Singers and held a recital in 1980 at the Wigmore Hall. He subsequently broadcast as a soloist throughout the country and made several commercial recordings.

From 1983 he became involved in music education, working in schools and training teachers. He composed a wide range of music throughout his life, much of which has been performed. In 1995, he set up his own publishing company, Wathen Music, which promoted his own compositions for young people; particularly successful were his musicals.

He married Christine Bayne, a teacher in 1978. Together they enjoyed travel, walking, concert and opera going, he particularly enjoyed cricket, good food, good wine and good company.

*With acknowledgement to Christine Thomas*

1970 **JOHN DAVID MEADS.** We have learned of his death.

1973 **PROFESSOR ISAAC LEVI** *Former Visiting Fellow*

Isaac Levi was an American philosopher who taught from 1970 at the Philosophy Department at Columbia University until he retired as the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy. Prior to Columbia he worked at The City College of New York and Case-Western Reserve University. He was considered one of the most creative and fiercely independent minded philosophers of the last half-century. His contributions to the fields of formal epistemology and decision theory and pragmatism were widely influential and greatly admired. He made a name for himself with his first book, *Gambling with the Truth* (1967). He was known for his work in belief revision and imprecise probability. He was the author of seven books and countless articles on decision theory. He was an indispensable editorial presence of the *Journal of Philosophy* for many years.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years and two sons and three grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to The New York Times*

1973 **PETER JAMES GODMAN** (*Former Visiting Fellow*)

The last issue of *The Record* contained a notice of the death of Peter Godman. We reprint here an abridged appreciation of his contribution to scholarship by a fellow-New Zealander, Professor Constant Mews of the University of Monash, which appeared in the *Journal of Medieval Latin*, vol. 29 (2019). We are very grateful to Professor Mews and to Brepols, the publishers of the Journal, for permission to reprint it here.

Peter Godman was one of the most brilliant medieval latinists of his generation, remarkable for the intellectual range and depth of his literary output. Born in Auckland, New Zealand, he went directly, in 1973, from Auckland Grammar School to Corpus, where he pursued undergraduate and then (1977–1980) doctoral studies, which he completed at Oxford. By any measure, his academic career was stellar. After lecturing in medieval Latin at Oxford (1979–1989) and numerous visiting fellowships, he became Professor at the Deutsches Seminar and (1996–2002) co-chair of the Graduate College at the University of Tübingen (1990–2002). In 1999, he accepted a position as Professor at La Sapienza in Rome, before moving back to Cambridge in 2016. He was always fascinated both by the polemical and political context of Latin literature, whether in the age of Charlemagne, the twelfth century, or the renaissance. His early publications were devoted to exploring the continuing vitality of classical poetry in the eighth and ninth centuries.

Godman was never content, however, to remain in any specialist corner. The breadth of his erudition expanded exponentially after 1990 when he started to focus on the great Latin humanists of both the twelfth and sixteenth centuries. These years climaxed with an extraordinary production of major monographs over very different fields. He was awarded the Roland H. Bainton Prize for History 1998 for his book *From Poliziano to Machiavelli. Florentine Humanism in the High Renaissance* (Princeton, 1998). It offered a fresh reading of Florentine humanism in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century, remarkable for its sensitivity to the philological project of Poliziano and his contemporaries, including Savonarola, whom he presents as a far more sophisticated than the simplistic stereotype so often offered in histories of the period. Godman's empathy with embattled scholars in an age of political extremism gave him



a gift in deciphering their rhetorical displays, often passed over by historians without the requisite Latinity that their primary sources demand.

The year 2000 saw the completion of *The Silent Masters. Latin Literature and Its Censors in the High Middle Ages* (Princeton, 2000), his *magnum opus* on the literary culture of the twelfth century, prefigured in a wide range of journal articles. His title was characteristically provocative, as the masters by whom he was fascinated were never silent. Rather, Godman's focus was on the heated polemic of a host of articulate and ambitious scholars, all vying to catch the attention of powerful princes and churchmen of the day.

At the same time as writing *The Silent Masters*, Godman collaborated with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger in opening up the archives of the Roman Inquisition, established in 1542. Between 1996 and 2014, Godman was the founding chair of the International Commission for the Archives of the Roman Inquisition. He had always been interested in polemical calls for censorship in the medieval period, but he benefited from the opening up of the archive to unravel the formative and chaotic process that led to the establishment of the Index of prohibited books, in *The Saint as Censor: Robert Bellarmine between Inquisition and Index* (Leiden, 2000), in which he included 170 pages of hitherto unpublished *censores* of Bellarmine to illustrate his argument. Rather than engage in heavy-handed polemic against the Inquisition, he observes how Bellarmine sought to bring order on an institution shaped by petty ambition more than coherent policy. His *Hitler and the Vatican* (New York, 2004), widely translated into various languages, was well-received by specialists in the field for its uncovering of much hitherto unknown material.

Godman never abandoned what became his favourite terrain, the humanist Latin poetry of the twelfth century. His interest in the moral problem of feigned penance led him to produce *Paradoxes of Conscience in the High Middle Ages. Abelard, Heloise, and the Archpoet* (Cambridge, 2009), in which he considered Abelard as a witty critic of mock penance and Heloise as a moralist of the first order, concerned with authenticity. He contrasted their responses to the very different figure of the Archpoet, whose literary brilliance had long attracted his attention. This book resulted in his being awarded a Leverhulme Visiting Professorship at Cambridge in 2009–2010. Only in his last major monograph, however, *The Archpoet and Medieval Culture* (Oxford, 2014), was Godman able to provide a satisfyingly rounded study of a literary genius, who celebrated worldliness in a way that pleased his patron, Rainald of Dassel, archbishop of Cologne and archchancellor of Italy from 1159 to his death in 1167. In many ways, Godman presents the Archpoet as a kindred spirit, at odds with the hypocrisy of the world, yet always delighting in its moral ambiguities.

Another major focus of his scholarly attention over the last decade was that of the *Carmina burana*, heralded in a three-part study, published in different places. Godman also had other projects in progress relating to his other fields of inquiry, including a monograph, *Italian Humanism and German Culture in the Renaissance* (about Aeneas Silvio Piccolomini, later Pope Pius II) and Volume I (of which he was co-editor) of the forthcoming *Cambridge History of Intelligence* (general editors Christopher Andrew and Calder Walton) – a project which led him to become a convenor (2016–2018) of the Intelligence Seminar in the Faculty of History at the University of Cambridge. The range of his literary and historical interests from the eighth century to the modern day was truly remarkable.

*With acknowledgement to Dr Patrick Zutshi and Professor Constant Mews*

**1974 MATTHEW THOMAS ARTHUR SELIGMAN** was a successful professional musician who developed a separate parallel career as a lawyer. He gained a double first in history whilst at Corpus. He played bass in the Soft Boys, fronted by Robyn Hitchcock, having met his band mates at Cambridge. They were one of the great British cult bands of the 80s. The new-wave bassist went on to become a successful session musician playing with David Bowie on the “Absolute Beginners” single in 1986 and at the Live Aid concert the previous year; as well as with solo artists such as Sinéad O’Connor and Morrissey.



In the 1990s he retrained as a lawyer, initially working on personal injury and litigation cases, including the *Marchioness* disaster, before switching to human rights. His legal work remained the major focus of his life. Despite performing to stadium crowds in his younger days, he was low-key about his musical past when a lawyer. “Although he had stories about David and Mick and others, Matthew was very far from anyone’s idea of a rock star lawyer; boyishly enthusiastic, humble, capable of showing vulnerability as he was incapable of telling a lie and utterly intolerant of any form of bullying or cruelty,” a colleague recalled. He developed his practice with skill, industry and real dedication to his clients. He wore his very great intelligence lightly and deployed it in his legal work alongside his equally obvious skilled imagination. He felt all his cases deeply; he worried assiduously about them.

He and his family moved to Sendai in Japan around 2003 and thereafter he moved between Sendai and the UK. He went on to develop an expertise and skill in the demanding fields of mental health and Court of Protection work, for which his sense of compassion so suited him; working for a few years for Steel and Shamash solicitors in Waterloo, London. When he returned to the UK full-time a few years ago, he resumed his legal career, taking up a position with Campbell-Taylor solicitors; a niche firm with expertise in capacity, health and social care law. He acted brilliantly, tirelessly, and with enormous generosity of spirit, for many of the most vulnerable.

While he was in Sendai, he continued his musical career, often keeping in contact online. When he returned to England, he resumed playing live. The music came to him easily and freely, without effort or anguish, his natural imagination had free rein, and he was utterly relaxed – something that, for all his legal abilities, the law did not allow him fully to do. The range and the variety of his abilities were rare enough, but his uniqueness really consisted in his disposition. He was, quite simply, one of the most kind, positive, life-affirming and genuinely lovely men one could ever hope to meet. He leaves a son and daughter and his partner Mami.

*With acknowledgement to C Cory-Wright QC*

**1974 NEIL HOYLE** was born in Halifax in 1950 and was poetically named Neil Torquil Elliot Hoyle. He was an exceptionally gifted pupil, particularly in Arts subjects, and thrived at Andover and Surbiton Grammar Schools. He left the latter in 1969 with three As at A Level (which was rarely achieved in those days) and distinction in Grade 8 Music. From 1969 to 1973, he studied for a BMus at Edinburgh University and came to Corpus in 1974 to study for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education. At Cambridge, he achieved distinction in the Educational Theory paper, but teaching practice taught him that a career in music education was not his vocation. However, he loved his year at Cambridge.

In 1975, he passed the Civil Service exams and joined the Department of Environment and Transport as a fast-streamed administrative trainee. He worked

largely on transport issues, and periods in the Highways and Railways Directorates were mixed with secondments to Lambeth Borough Council and the Treasury. However, he enjoyed most being in 'private office' and was Private Secretary to firstly Kenneth Clarke, then Paul Channon and finally Cecil Parkinson. In 1990, Neil decided to change direction and successfully applied to become Chief Executive of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, the professional body for classical musicians in the UK. This role allowed him to combine his administrative flair with his passion for classical music. His tenure at the ISM from 1990 to 2008 was marked with considerable success. He transformed the financial position of the Society by attracting new members and formed a considerable rapport with the membership, helped considerably by the fact that he knew and understood the instruments and music which they played. He retired from the ISM in 2008. He had always held a life-long dream of living in rural Scotland and was successful in buying a large, isolated, house and garden in Dumfries and Galloway which needed considerable renovation. This project required boundless energy and it was something of a shock to discover that he had idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a terminal disease of the lungs, in 2012. Throughout his long illness, his intelligence and charm remained undiminished. Many friends have mentioned his patient and engaging manner. He was a highly cultured man, with a great depth of knowledge of literature and music. His passion for food, travelling in Europe and cycling made a great impression on all who knew him.

He leaves his wife Jill and their two daughters, Catherine and Emily.

*With acknowledgement to Jill Hoyle*

**1974 PAUL DAVID KING** (*Former Visiting Fellow*). We have learned of his death.



**1985 FR CADOC DOUGLAS AULD LEIGHTON** came to Corpus to undertake doctoral research and graduated with a PhD in 1990. He began his academic career at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Dublin in 1977, graduating in Modern History and Greek and Roman civilisation. He then studied divinity, graduating in 1983. Thereafter, for two years he taught at a seminary before coming to Corpus.

After leaving school in Glasgow he worked as the librarian for the Scottish National Opera Company. He entered the abbey of Kilnacroft as a novice in 1976, professed in 1977 and ordained a priest in 1983. After Corpus, he taught for two years at St Norbert's College, Wisconsin. During this time, he was appointed visiting Professor of History at the University of Chicago. In 1992, he spent two years helping at Maryvale College in Birmingham and supervised the first graduate students in the college in the field of Newman studies. In 1994 he became Professor of History at the University of Bilkent in Ankara, Turkey, a teaching post he enjoyed until he retired and returned to the UK in 2016. He then became Parish Priest of Cambourne and Redruth. Amongst his many distinctions and honours he was a member of the Cornish Gorsedh (he was proud to be a Cornish Bard). He delighted in blessing the children in Cornish.

Amongst his many academic works is his book *Catholicism in a Protestant Kingdom*, a study in the Irish ancient regime. He also wrote extensively on Gallicanism and the veto controversy, the Irish manufacture movement 1840 to 1843, and Non-Juror Anglican clergy. This led to studies he enjoyed the most, the English Enlightenment and the Counter Enlightenment. In 1997, he made a transitus to the Canonry of Storrington. In 2004 he became one of the founding members of the new Canonry in



Manchester, which moved to Chelmsford in 2008. He was a member of the Prelate's Council and sometimes Master of Studies. His unfailing cheerfulness and delight in the absurd was always a source of comfort and strength. He was a man completely without guile.

*With acknowledgement to Abbot Hugh and the Confreres of Chelmsford Canonry*

**1985 DUNCAN NORMAN GEORGE NICHOLSON BARKER** attended Nottingham High School, before coming up to Corpus, where he took a double first in Classics. On leaving Cambridge, having gained a PhD in 1993 for his research "The Golden Age is proclaimed? The Carmen Saeculare and Renaissance of the Golden Race", he took short-term lecturer posts first at Nottingham University and then Bristol University. In 1997 he was offered the post of Assistant Classics Master at Sherborne School, which gave him the chance to share his great enthusiasm for the subject. It was at Sherborne that he met his wife Anita who was a fellow teacher and they were married in 2000.

In 2005, Duncan was offered the post of Head of Classics and Head of Academic Scholars at Lancing College. He remained in that position until 2013, when a period of ill-health led to his taking a break from teaching. He wanted to spend more time painting, art having been an abiding, lifelong interest (both his parents had been keen artists). Furthermore, during his time at Corpus he had, thanks to a Donnelly Scholarship, studied for an MA in History of Art at Chicago University. In these circumstances, in 2013, he took the opportunity to move to Southern France, settling in a small village north of Uzes in the Gard Department, in a renowned region of Roman Gaul. All this, together with his extensive knowledge of Ancient Greek and Roman art and a love of the vibrant developments in twentieth century art, provided inspiration for his painting, which by the time of his death was gaining international recognition by collectors in Europe, America, and Australasia.

Duncan was highly regarded by colleagues and scholars alike, not just for his remarkable erudition and dry wit, but also for his great courtesy; indeed, as a teacher of the humanities, there could have been no greater exponent of civilised demeanour. He was both a natural teacher and a fluent French-speaker, and during the years remaining to him shared this love of language and art here in France when, periodically, the lure of the classroom drew him back. He was as highly valued by those adults he taught as by his French friends and colleagues. All have been profoundly saddened to hear of his death, aged 52.

To me, he was the most devoted husband and my greatest friend.

*With acknowledgement to Anita Barker*

**1991 JOHN CHAPPLE** (*Former Visiting Fellow*)

John Chapple was a biographer of Elizabeth Gaskell, he also taught Andrew Motion. In 1971, John became professor of English at the University of Hull. On demobilisation in 1949 he studied English at University College, London, where he met Kathleen Bolton, a fellow student. They married in 1955 and she survives him with their five children. On graduating they moved to New Haven, Connecticut, where he researched 16<sup>th</sup>-century English literature at Yale University. After a brief spell in Aberdeen he was appointed lecturer at the University of Hull. Having served as dean of arts and pro-vice-chancellor at Hull, he retired from teaching in 1992.



Whilst at Manchester, his colleague Arthur Pollard invited him to help collect and edit the letters of Elizabeth Gaskell, the 19th-century novelist, biographer and short-story writer who at that time was known for little more than the novel *Cranford* and her biography of Charlotte Bronte. After their publication, the letters introduced readers to one of the most attractive personalities of the Victorian age, as well as providing insights into the social history of her times. He subsequently published a series of Gaskell-related books. On retirement, he continued to write on Gaskell. The couple moved to Lichfield in 2001 to be closer to their family. They sang in the Lichfield Cathedral Chorus and he became involved in the Johnson Society, serving as its president in 2012.

*With acknowledgement to The Times*

**1994 DAWN MOORE.** We have learned of her death.



**1996 DR DONALD FITTS** (*Former Visiting Fellow*)

was born in Concord, New Hampshire, graduated from Keene High School in 1950 and received a scholarship to attend Harvard University. In 1934 he graduated from Harvard, *magna cum laude* with highest honours in chemistry and in 1957 earned a PhD degree in chemistry from Yale University. After a one-year appointment as a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Amsterdam, he joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania in 1959, rising to the rank of Professor of Chemistry in 1969. His sabbatical leaves were spent in Britain as a NATO Senior Science Fellow at Imperial College, University of London; as an Academic Visitor in Physical Chemistry, University of Oxford; and as a Visiting Fellow at Corpus. He authored three books, *Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics* (McGraw-Hill, 1962), *Vector Analysis in Chemistry* (McGraw-Hill, 1974), and *Principles of Quantum Mechanics* (Cambridge University Press, 1999), as well as over 50 academic journal articles in the field of Physical Chemistry.

From 1978 to 1994, he served as the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Arts and Sciences. His sixteen years in the position was the longest term of any graduate dean at Penn since 1928. During his term, he steadily guided the university's largest school as he increased multi-year funding for doctoral students, created fellowships for minority students, and strengthened the school's international programs.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-five years, Beverly Hoffman, two sons and two grandchildren.

*With acknowledgement to University of Pennsylvania*



**2007 HEIDI DVINGE** completed a PhD in computational biology at Corpus. She came from Aarhus in Denmark and studied biochemical engineering at the Technical University of Denmark. Heidi initially thought she would study molecular biology, but discovered a passion for maths, statistics and programming and studied in Cambridge at the European Bioinformatics Institute. She then moved to Seattle to complete a postdoc at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre. There she gained laboratory experience so she could learn how to generate her own data for computational analysis. She then moved to University of Wisconsin-Madison. She was attracted there because of the institution's reputation for studying ribonucleic acid (RNA), and because of its

reputation as a place that fostered collaboration. Her work was dedicated to understanding how aberrant RNA processing contributes to diseases such as cancer, and how these changes might be exploited to allow new therapies.

Her head of Department stated after her sudden death that her “exuberance never came off as self-involved, but rather as an experience she was inviting you to share. She was a wonderful and inspiring young scientist.”

*With acknowledgement to University of Wisconsin*

**2011 CHRISTOPHER JOHN** was an academic by training, with qualifications in biochemistry and plant sciences, together with several years post-doctoral research experience in statistical analysis of patient medical data. At Corpus, for his PhD project, he worked with Professor Hibberd on C4 photosynthesis. The major findings of his thesis were published in *Plant Physiology* in 2014.

After becoming chronically ill, he became interested in herbalism and practiced it on himself for several years. Christopher was a long-term practitioner of Buddhist meditation and acknowledged the benefits of a wide range of spiritual practices. His work led to multiple papers and software packages, which described and analysed novel data signatures that might be used to choose treatments for rheumatoid arthritis. He believed that we are far more than a series of complex machines. That within us there is a spirit, and a deeper meaning of life. Christopher will be remembered for his gentle humour, his love, kindness, inquisitiveness, focus, passion on what he was addressing, and at least until chronic pain set in, his energy and sense of adventure. When he left school, and until the onset of his illness, he travelled widely, both with friends, and independently. Amongst his many travels he rode the Trans-Siberian express, experienced life with Mongolian nomads, and got as close as he could go to Tibet. He visited Vietnam, which he explored on a motor bike, though he had previously never ridden one. He explored parts of North Thailand not frequented by westerners; recounting an episode where the friend he was with woke up to find a gecko egg had been laid next to him in the night. He warmly recalled the hospitality of local villagers who although knowing no English, and having very little themselves, put them up and fed them. He said that the people he met in Cambodia were amongst the poorest he'd ever met, but also the kindest and happiest. He also travelled widely across Eastern Europe.

After his taking his first degree at Sheffield University Chris discovered peace and comfort in the teachings of the Buddha, and spent two lengthy spells at Buddhist monasteries, including at Amravati Monastery near Berkhamsted, where he learnt meditation. He often referred to this period as being seminal in his life and as a great aid in developing his spirituality, which remained with him to the end of his days. He also met his wife to be, Simran, at one of his many visits to a Buddhist monastery, and they spent many happy years living quietly, but happily, together before Chris's death.

*With acknowledgement to Richard John*



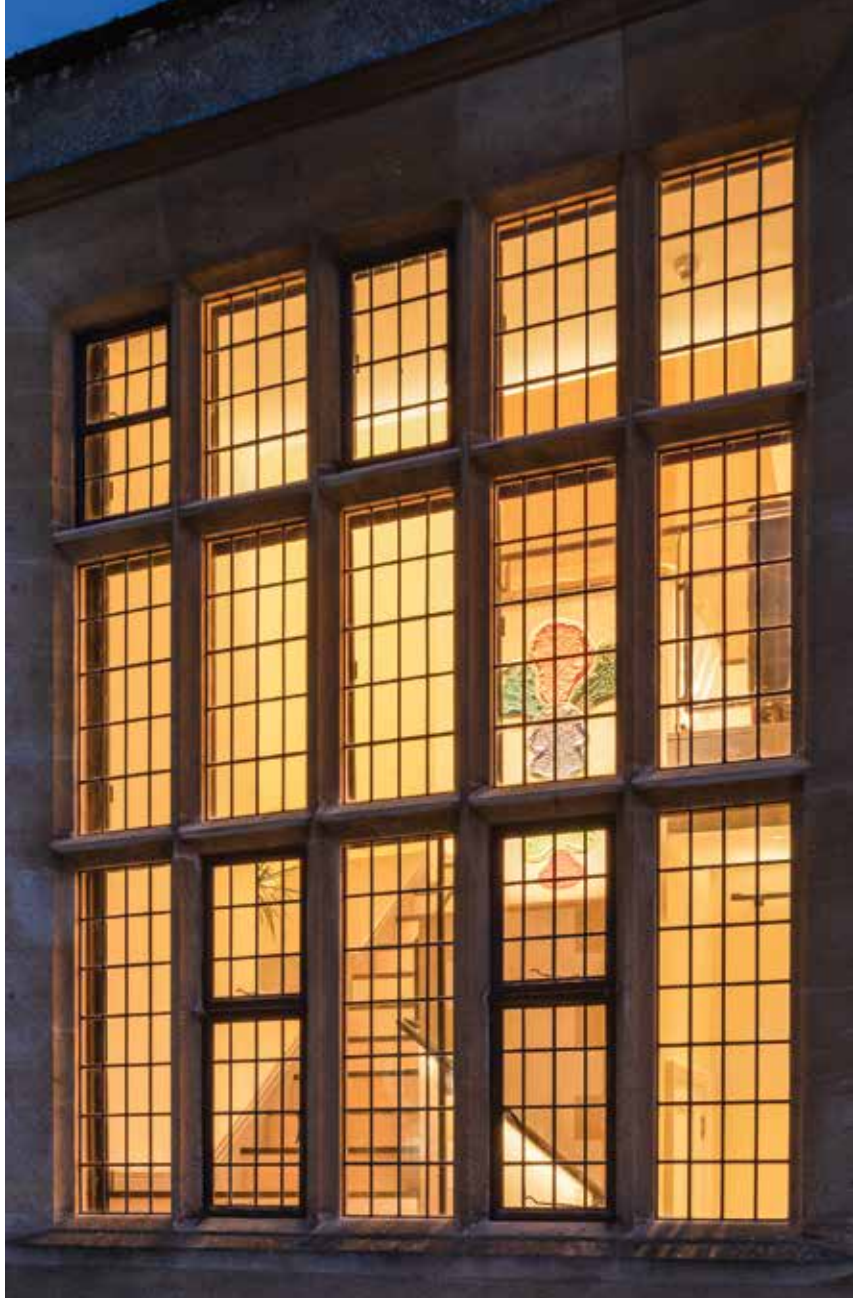
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# End piece

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## New lily relief

Liliae, a ceramic relief by William Cobbing, has been placed at the rear of the oriel window to the former Hall. The relief compliments the Pelican carving above the door of the adjacent former Master's Lodge. The outlines of three types of lily were based on botanical drawings of lilies from the Parker Library's copy of Leonhart Fuchs' *De historia stirpium commentarii insignes* printed in Basel in 1542. The three flower types have been 'grafted' onto a stem and root which is itself 'grafted' in sections. The outline of each section has been incised into a coloured glazed ceramic platelet set into a Purbeck stone backing. The relief is illuminated after sunset – providing a very different spectacle from the stacked plates and insect-killer UV blue lamps that graced the night-time view of the oriel window for 70 years. Photos: David Valinsky



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



