BALLIOL
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

ANNUAL RECORD

2024





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Editor: Yingying Jiang (Publications and Communications Officer)
Printer: Ciconi Ltd
Front cover photograph by Stuart Bebb

The cut-off date for information in the *Annual Record* is 31 July. The lists of examination results (which exclude students who have chosen not to have their results published), graduate degrees, prizes, and scholarships and exhibitions may include awards and results made since that date in the previous academic year, as indicated. We are happy to record in future editions any such awards and results received after that date, if requested.

Obituaries of Old Members for the *Annual Record* are welcome, but there is a limit of 400 words. Please contact the Editor if you would like to write one.

The Editor may be contacted at the address above or by email: yingying.jiang@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

To report a death, please send details to the Development Office at the address above or by email to development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

'News and Notes' from Old Members, formerly in the *Annual Record*, is now published as a supplement to *Floreat Domus*. We welcome submissions for the next edition, including photographs, which may be sent by email to newsandnotes@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

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Contents

The Master's Letter 4

Balliol College 2023/2024 7
Balliol College 2023/2024 8
New Fellows 20
First-year graduates 28
First-year undergraduates 34
Visiting students 40
College staff 41

Review of the Year 43
Review of the year 44

Achievements and Awards 56
Graduate Scholarships 57
Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions 63
College prizes 66
University prizes 69
Graduate research degrees 71
Distinctions in graduate taught degrees 75
Firsts and distinctions in undergraduate degrees 76
Honours, appointments and awards 78

College Life 82
Library and Archives 83
Chapel 88
Middle Common Room 93
Junior Common Room 96
Clubs, societies and sports 99

Features 121
Dreaming Spires and Scrumming Down 122
The Case of a Case Lost in Balliol 127
Doomed to Fail: Why Government is Incapable of Living up to Our Hopes 130
Slavery, Capitalism, and the Industrial Revolution 135
Age of the City: Why Our Future will be Won or Lost Together 138
Marking Time: My Family and I 142

In Memoriam 146
Professor Robert Solow (1924–2023) 147
Professor Brian Warner (1939–2023) 149
Professor Natalie Zemon Davis (1984–2023) 151
Old Member obituaries 153
Deaths 164

Benefactors 167
Donors 2023–2024 168

The Master's Letter

Dame Helen Ghosh DCB

An Old Member recently donated to me a series of the Annual Record, starting with the 1960 edition. Its format is more-or-less unrecognisable – tiny print, no photos, only 40 pages – but I found that 1960 had some eery parallels to the year we have just had. You can tell though, that it was a far-off time: my copy contains a loose 'flyer' for the 1961 Balliol Commemoration Ball, offering double tickets for six guineas! Cheques only, of course.

Sir David Lindsay Keir, who had been the Master since 1949, wrote, 'This is the evening after the Gaudy...As the evening sunshine falls on the now deserted Garden Quad, I sit down to tell you of the events of the year which has just closed'. And what a year it had been. A general election had taken place and the Record listed a Balliol crop of 26 MPs including Harold Macmillan (1912), Jo Grimond (1932), Ted Heath (1935), Denis Healey (1936), and Roy Jenkins (1938). Our list of MPs in the UK's new 2024 Parliament may not be so long, but it remains distinguished, with seven MPs, Yvette Cooper (1987) as Home Secretary, and Kirsty McNeill (1997) and Matt Pennycook (2005) among the junior ministers.

In 1960 there was another election: for a new University Chancellor. Both applications and voter registrations for the 2024 Election have now closed (as I write in late September), but candidates are yet to be announced. Back in 1960, Lindsay Keir rejoiced in the election of Harold Macmillan, as the third Balliol Chancellor of the 20th century (following Lords Curzon and Grey), with Roy Jenkins and Lord Patten (1962) of course yet to come.

But the great charm of the 1960 Record comes – as it always does for me – from reading the reports of student societies and sports clubs. Sadly, some of the 1960 College societies no longer exist: where are you now, the Leonardo Society, the Tawney Society and the XVI Club? But the Arnold and Brackenbury, of which the Officers in 1960 included Jasper Griffin (1956) and Peter Snow (1958), the Choir, the Cerberus, Younger and Musical Societies and others from that era are still happily going strong.

The 1960 sports reports are strikingly low-key: 'Without the Nawab of Pataudi, the batting was weak' writes the cricket captain. The 2nd VIII 'seldom managed to work as a team and finally lost heart'. How different from the cheerful reports in this year's Record. Who can fail to be gripped by the blow-

by-blow (literally) account of the Men's 1st XI Football team's triumph over St Catz in Cuppers, or moved by the tale of how Balliol achieved their aim of 'total domination' in both the Basketball League and Cuppers. And you can re-live the spirit and achievements of our rowers in Eights, including the Women's 1st VIII who got their blades for the second year running. In short, student social and sporting life continues to flourish across the decades and with the élan, wit and energy you would expect from our Balliol students.

But we are not just here to enjoy ourselves! The College exists to educate the next generation and to support world-leading research. It has been a very good year for both, in terms of awards and achievements. The Norrington Table is no more, on the grounds that it could not measure the 'value-added' by different colleges. But we do know that 41% of our Finalists this summer got either Firsts or (in the case of students on four-year courses) Distinctions. We seem to have done our job in enabling them to fulfil their potential, and we send them our warm congratulations.

Sir David also gives a lot of space in his Master's Letter to an issue which is a constant challenge: keeping the fabric of the College in good shape – and fit for the future. He reports on the progress of major changes to the Library, including the insertion of a new Reading Room (the Mezzanine) into the Old Hall. He says proudly that this '...will provide for our intake of books for the next eighty years'.

Well, not quite. This year's Library Report refers to 'the exciting possibility of refurbishment and reconfiguration' as we enter a period where the fabric of our historic Broad Street site will be receiving greater attention. In doing so we will be exploring ways to expand both study and book storage space – now full to bursting – to meet 21st (and, we would hope, 22nd) century needs. The Dining Hall is also in need of some TLC, which it will be receiving over the next 18 months or so. More news when plans are further advanced.

In 1960, as now, there was much to celebrate. For us, the visit of Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako (1988) of Japan in June was a highlight of the year. The College had never looked so tidy! The Empress was delighted to be greeted by Professors Adam Roberts and Denis Noble (respectively her College Advisor and the Praefectus of Holywell Manor when she was here studying for a Master's). Later in the day she dropped in at the Manor and visited her old student room.

We also had an afternoon of celebration in Trinity to mark the opening of the new facilities in what most readers will think of as Lecture Room 23. Thanks

to the extraordinary generosity of Richard Gillis (1977) and Carolyn Gillis, we now have a state-of-the-art Lecture Theatre, and a legacy and donation from the late Michael Warburg (1949) and his wife Rosie have enabled us to transform the down-at-heel Music Room into a welcoming space for practice and recitals, with additional sound-proofing and new individual practice rooms. This spirit of giving has been evident also in the stream of donations from alumni to the new Sanctuary Fund and the regular donations for College activities on which we rely in what are challenging times for higher education, and for which we are profoundly grateful.

'This has been a happy year' wrote the Master on that long ago June evening. And it has been for us too. Floreat Domus!



Japan's Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako greeted by Dame Helen Ghosh and the Chancellor Lord Chris Patten

Balliol College 2023/2024

Balliol College 2023/2024

Visitor

Reed, Right Honourable Lord, PC, LLB Edin, DPhil Oxf, Hon LLD Glas, Hon LLD Edin, FRSE

Master

Ghosh, Dame Helen, DCB, MA MLitt Oxf, Hon LLD Nott

Fellows

Hazareesingh, Sudhir Kumar, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FBA, CUF Lecturer in Politics, Coolidge Fellow and Tutorial Fellow in Politics, and Senior Fellow

O'Hare, Dermot Michael, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Chemistry, Senior Research Fellow in Chemistry and SCG Fellow

Conway, Martin Herbert, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, Professor of Contemporary European History, MacLellan-Warburg Fellow and Tutor in History

O'Brien, Dominic C., MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Engineering Science and Senior Research Fellow in Engineering

Skinner, Simon Andrew, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, Associate Professor, Keen Fellow and Tutor in History

Forder, James, MA DPhil Oxf, Andrew Graham Fellow and Tutor in Political Economy, and Dean

Lamond, Grant Ian, MA BCL DPhil Oxf, BA LLB Sydney, Associate Professor, Frankfurter Fellow and Tutor in Law

Reichold, Armin J.H., MA Oxf, Diplom PAS Dr rer nat Dip Dortmund, Professor of Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Physics

Melham, Thomas Frederick, BSc Calgary, MA Oxf, PhD Camb, FRSE, FBCS, Professor of Computer Science, Fellow and Tutor in Computation

Perry, Seamus Peter, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of English Literature, Massey Fellow, Tutor in English, Vice-Master (Executive), Fellow Librarian and Fellow for Charity Matters

Shimeld, Sebastian Mordecai, BSc Southampton, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Professor of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Julian Huxley Fellow and Tutor in Zoology, and Vice-Master (Academic)

Thomas, Rosalind, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FBA, Professor of Greek History, Dyson-Macgregor Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Ancient History

Lukas, André, BSc Wuppertal, MA Oxf, Dr phil TU Munich, Professor of Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Theoretical Physics

Marnette, Sophie, Lic Brussels, PhD California, MA Oxf, Professor of Medieval French Studies, Dervorguilla Fellow and Tutor in French

Lucas, David M., BA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Physics

Barford, William, BSc Sheff, MA Oxf, PhD Camb, Professor of Theoretical Chemistry, Fellow and Tutor in Physical Chemistry

Paoli, Sandra, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Senior Research Fellow in Romance Linguistics

Goldin, Ian A., BSc BA Cape Town, MSc LSE, MA DPhil Oxf, AMP INSEAD, Professor of Globalisation and Development and Senior Research Fellow

Noe, Thomas H., BA Whittier, MBA PhD Texas at Austin, MA Oxf, Ernest Butten Professor of Management Studies and Professorial Fellow

Kelly, Adrian David, BA MA Melb, DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Clarendon University Lecturer, Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Greek Language and Literature

Hamdy, Freddie Charles, MBChB Alexandria, MD Sheffield, LRCP-LRCS FRCSUrol Edinburgh, LRCPS Glasgow, Nuffield Professor of Surgery and Professorial Fellow

Schiff, Sir András, Special Supernumerary Fellow

Trott, Nicola Zoë, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Senior Tutor, Academic Registrar and Tutor for Graduates, and Official Fellow

Walker, Lisa Jane, BM BCh DPhil Oxf, BSc Manc, MRCPCH, PGCME Dund, Fellow in Medical Sciences and Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions

Belich, James Christopher, ONZM, BA MA Victoria University of Wellington, DPhil Oxf, Beit Professor of Global and Imperial History, and Professorial Fellow

Zaccolo, Manuela, MD Turin, Professor of Cell Biology, Fellow and Tutor in Biomedical Sciences

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Lombardi, Elena, Laurea Pavia, MA PhD New York, Professor of Italian Literature, Paget Toynbee Lecturer in Italian Medieval Studies, Fellow and Tutor in Italian, and Praefectus of Holywell Manor

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Mallet, John Valentine Granville, BA Oxf, FSA, FRSA
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Warburg, Rosemary Alison
Westerman, Matthew, MA Oxf

Academic Visitors

Professor Diana Henderson, MIT Visitor
Dr Astuko Sato, Oliver Smithies Visiting Lecturer

College Lecturers

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Badiu, Mihai, Dipl-Ing MS PhD Cluj-Napoca, Lecturer in Electrical Engineering
Bagley, Peter, MA Camb, FCA, Lecturer in Medical Sciences (Biochemistry)
Bajo Lorenzana, Victoria, MD PhD Salamanca, Lecturer in Neuroscience
Bard, Professor Jonathan, MA Camb, PhD Manchester, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences
Binns, Alexander, MA MSt DPhil Oxf FHEA, Lecturer in Music
Bunce, Megan, BA MSt Oxf, Lecturer in History
Burgeno, Lauren, BS California, PhD Washington, Dan Norman Early Career Fellow in (Bio)medical Sciences (Addiction Research)
Cahill, Tom, MB BS UCL, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf, MRCP, Lecturer in Clinical Medicine
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Colley, John, BA MSt Oxf, Lecturer in English Literature
Cosker, Tom, MBBch MA Wales, Lecturer in Anatomy
Czepiel, Maria, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Spanish
Deer, Cécile Marie-Anne, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in French
Duffy, Sarah, BA MPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Economics
Dyson, Anthony, BSC DPhil Lond, Lecturer in Physics
Eggert, Linda, MPhil DPhil Oxf, Early Career Fellow in Philosophy
Feng, Zachary, BSc MSc McGill, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Pure Mathematics
Flame, Ruth, BA BCL Oxf, Lecturer in Law
Gabarra, Louis, MSt ECAM Lyon, MSt PhD Padua, Henry Skynner Early Career Fellow in Astrophysics

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Hardwick, Alexandra, MA Camb, MSt, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Greek and Latin Language and Literature
Hernández, Christina, BS Columbia, PhD MIT, Lecturer in Biology
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Hunt, Timothy, BA MPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Economics
Kristjánsson, Hafsteinn, BA MJur Iceland, MJur Oxon, LLM Harvard, Lecturer in Law
Lee, Min Chul, BSc Seoul, MSc New York, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics
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Somers-Joce, Cassandra, BA Oxf, Lecturer in Law
Sperrin, Daniel, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in English
Srinivas, Raghavendra, BSc Singapore, PhD Colorado Boulder, Early Career Fellow in Physics
Tang, Brian, MEngEcM, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Engineering Science
Thomas, Arthur, BA Oxf, PhD Stanford, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences
Turner, Joseph, BA Oxf, MPhil Camb, Lecturer in English
Von Hausegger, Sebastian, BSc Göttingen, MSc, PhD Copenhagen, Lecturer in Physics
Wiaterek, Jakub, MMathPhys, Lecturer in Mathematics
Wyer, Sean, MA Oxf, Lecturer in Italian
Yin, Yuan, MSc Melbourne, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics



Balliol students participating in a flower crown workshop hosted by the Welfare team

New Fellows



Dr Vincent Cheval
Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Computer Science

Vincent Cheval is Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Science, University of Oxford, and Tutorial Fellow in Computer Science at Balliol College. His research area is in the formal analysis and design of cryptographic protocols, with an emphasis on automated verification in the so-called symbolic model and the development of state-of-the-art verification tools. The theories behind his research and tools have root in automated reasoning, rewriting, (probabilistic) model-checking, first-order logic and concurrency theory.

Originally, he mainly focused on privacy-type security properties such as anonymity, privacy, unlinkability, and strong secrecy that can be expressed by the means of behavioural equivalences. Since 2018, through his work on ProVerif, he has tackled a broader set of security properties, including accountability, injective-correspondence, end-to-end verifiability, and liveness. His research aims at verifying relevant security protocols, e.g. TLS, cryptocurrency blockchain-based protocols, electronic voting protocols, RFID protocols, certificate management protocols, telecommunication protocols, and cloud computing among others.

Before coming to Oxford, he was a 'Chargé de Recherche' (permanent researcher) at Inria, the National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology in France.

Professor David Enoch
Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pauline and Max Gordon Fellow and Professorial Fellow

David Enoch's main areas of interest are moral, political, and legal philosophy. Much of his work has been in metaethics, where he defends robust moral realism – the view according to which there are perfectly objective, universal, non-natural moral facts. In political philosophy, he is interested in the value of autonomy, and he hopes to offer a comprehensive defence of a (non-Rawlsian)

liberalism. In legal philosophy, he mostly works on normative (rather than conceptual) questions, having to do with evidence law and its relation to epistemology, with moral and legal luck, and more.

David studied law and philosophy at Tel Aviv University, then clerked for Justice Beinisch at the Israeli Supreme Court. He obtained a PhD in philosophy at New York University in 2003 and has been a faculty member at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem ever since, on a joint appointment in philosophy and law.



Photograph by Douglas Guthrie



Dr Louis Gabarra
Henry Skynner Early Career Fellow in Astrophysics

Louis Gabarra's general research interests are in the field of astrophysics and instrumentation. In particular, he works on galaxy evolution study over cosmic time based on spectro-photometric catalogues of galaxies. He is also involved in the development of the fiber positioners of the MOSAIC spectrograph that is planned to be installed on the Extremely Large Telescope. In 2023, he was awarded a position as a Postdoctoral Research Assistant in Astronomical Instrumentation in association with a Henry Skynner Early Career Research Fellowship at Balliol College.

Before coming to Oxford, Louis was based at the Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), the Italian national institute of nuclear physics, where he had been completing his PhD research, working on a space mission of the European Space Agency, the Euclid mission.

Professor Mike Giles
Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow

Mike Giles is Professor of Numerical Analysis in the Mathematical Institute, and Professorial Fellow at Balliol College. After 20 years of research on computational fluid dynamics, collaborating with Rolls-Royce on aeroengine analysis and design, his current research focus is on the development and



analysis of highly efficient Monte Carlo methods, in particular his multilevel Monte Carlo methods which have been widely adopted elsewhere. He is also interested in various aspects of scientific computing, including high performance parallel computing, and has worked extensively on the exploitation of GPUs for a variety of applications.

He studied mathematics as an undergraduate at the University of Cambridge, and then moved to MIT as a Kennedy Scholar, where he obtained his SM in 1983 and his PhD in Aeronautics in 1985. In 1992, he joined Oxford's Computing Laboratory (which is now the Department of Computer Science) before moving in 2008 to the Mathematical Institute, where he was Head of Department from 2018 to 2022.

Professor Jim Mallinson
Boden Professor of Sanskrit and Professorial Fellow

Jim Mallinson is an Indologist who researches the religious and cultural history of India primarily through the study and editing of Sanskrit texts, with a focus on yoga, yogis and asceticism, in the period from the 11th to 15th centuries.



Between 2015 and 2021, he led the Hatha Yoga Project, a six-person research project on the history of physical yoga funded by the European Research Council. The project's core outputs are ten critical editions of Sanskrit texts on physical yoga and four monographs on its history and current practice.

Among his publications are *The Khecarīvidyā of Ādinātha*, a Critical Edition and *Annotated Translation of an Early Text on Hathayoga* (Routledge, 2007), a revision of his doctoral research at the University of Oxford, *Roots of Yoga* (Penguin Classics, 2017, co-authored with Mark Singleton) and *The Amrtasiddhi and Amrtasiddhimūla: The Earliest Texts of the Hathayoga Tradition* (École française d'Extreme-orient, Pondicherry, 2021). His latest book is *The Dattātreyayogaśāstra* (École française d'Extreme-orient, Pondicherry, 2024).

He obtained his PhD from Balliol College in Oriental Studies. He has spent more than ten years living in India with traditional ascetics and practitioners

of yoga, and at the 2013 Kumbh Mela was awarded the title of Mahant by the Rāmānandī Sampradāya. Between 2018 and 2023, he held the position of Reader in Sanskrit and Yoga Studies at SOAS University of London.

Dr Lubomír Ondračka
Asoke Kumar Sarkar Early Career Fellowship in Classical Indology



Lubomír Ondračka is Asoke Kumar Sarkar Early Career Fellow in Classical Indology. His primary research interest is in the religions and culture of Bengali-speaking areas (particularly Tantric, Śaiva, and Śākta traditions), and in the history of yoga (particularly Hatha Yoga).

His recent publications include a comprehensive annotated bibliography of Hatha Yoga for the Oxford Bibliographies project, and a forthcoming overview of medieval yoga literature written for the *Oxford Handbook of Hindu Literature*.

Before coming to Oxford, he was a lecturer and research fellow at the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Charles University in Prague, where he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses, including lectures on Indian religions and religious studies, seminars on texts of nondual Śaivism and Indian philosophy, and reading seminars in Sanskrit and Bengali.

Dr Romain Ruzziconi
Walker Early Career Fellow in Mathematical Physics



Romain Ruzziconi is Titchmarsh Research Fellow at the Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford, and Walker Early Career Fellow in Mathematical Physics at Balliol College. His research focuses on theoretical aspects of classical and quantum gravity, employing the methods of holography, asymptotic symmetries, twistor theory and scattering amplitudes. Currently, his work is concentrated on flat space holography and exploring the interplay between celestial amplitudes and Carrollian physics.

Recent publications include 'Carrollian Amplitudes and Celestial Symmetries'

in *Journal of High Energy Physics* (2024), 'Carrollian Perspective on Celestial Holography' in *Physical Review Letters* (2022), 'Generalised Dilation Gravity in 2D' in *SciPost* (2022), and 'Coadjoint Representation of BMS Group on Celestial Reimann Surfaces' in *Journal of High Energy Physics* (2021).



Dr Jennifer Sliwka
Keeper of Western Art, Garlick Fellow and Professorial Fellow

Jennifer Sliwka's research is largely focused on Italian art of the Renaissance and Baroque periods, but she is also interested in transhistorical and interdisciplinary projects. Her research draws on both art-historical and anthropological models to consider the ways space, architecture, memory, and tradition might condition our experience and understanding of works of art, especially in sacred contexts. She is particularly interested in the ways in which historic artworks have been relocated and repurposed over time, accruing new meanings and possibilities for interpretation. This approach has led to exhibitions exploring themes and techniques across many centuries and joint projects with several contemporary artists.

Exhibitions she has curated range from thematic, monographic and transhistorical approaches and include *Devotion by Design: Italian Altarpieces before 1500* (The National Gallery, 2011), *Visions of Paradise: Botticini's Palmieri Altarpiece* (The National Gallery, 2015–16), *Monochrome: Painting in Black and White* (The National Gallery; Kunstpalast Düsseldorf, 2017–18) and *Reframed: The Woman at the Window* (Dulwich Picture Gallery, 2022).

In addition to exhibition catalogues, she has also published in a variety of academic journals and books. Her forthcoming book, co-written with the theologian Professor Ben Quash, explores the visual and theological legacy of John the Baptist from Early Christianity to the present day (Brepols, 2025).

Professor Jason Casellas
John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government

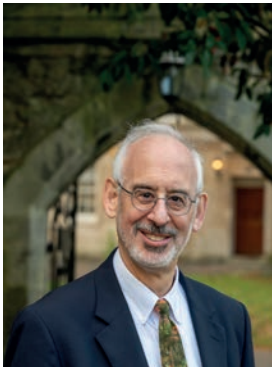
Jason Casellas is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Houston. He specialises in American politics, with specific research and teaching interests in Latino politics, legislative politics, and state and local politics.



He is the author of *Latino Representation in State Houses and Congress* (Cambridge University Press) and *Shifting Allegiances: The Election of Latino Republicans to Congress and State Legislatures* (Cambridge University Press Elements Series). He is the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards, including a Princeton Fellowship, an American Political Science Association Fellowship, the Samuel DuBois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship at Duke University, a United States Studies Centre Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Sydney (Australia), and a National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship.

He has served as a member of the Texas Advisory Committee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights. He is also on the decision desk for ABC News during national elections. His work has appeared in the *Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, Urban Affairs Review,* and other peer-reviewed journals.

Dr Steven Freilich
Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow



Steven Freilich has recently served as Executive-in-Residence at the Princeton University Andlinger Center for Energy and Environment, and currently holds a similar position in the Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, having retired from DuPont after a 33-year career in research, research management, and business leadership.

In his final 12 years at DuPont, he served as the Director of Materials Science; in that role, he was responsible for developing and implementing the technology growth strategies in rapidly moving areas such as materials for energy, displays, printing, engineering polymers, and biomedical applications. He used his experience to impact corporate innovation through leadership at the interface of technology and markets, and drove extensive interactions between academic research and corporate strategy. His published research focused on polymer physics and photoprocesses in organic

materials, but his expertise contributed to a range of materials developments across multiple global value chains.



Professor Mark Walters
Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow

Mark Walters is recognised as one of Canada's leading scholars in public and constitutional law, legal history and legal theory. He has researched and published extensively in these areas, with a special emphasis on the rights of Indigenous peoples, institutional structures and the history of legal ideas. His work on the rights of Indigenous peoples, focused on treaty relations between the Crown and Canada's Indigenous nations, has been cited by the Supreme Court of Canada, as well as by courts in Australia and New Zealand. He also writes on the rule of law and is the author of *A.V. Dicey and the Common Law Constitutional Tradition: A Legal Turn of Mind* (Cambridge University Press, 2020).

He served as the Dean of Queen's Faculty of Law 2019–2023. Prior to that, he held the distinguished F.R. Scott Chair in Public and Constitutional Law at the McGill University Faculty of Law 2016–2019. For the 17 years before that, he was a faculty member at Queen's Law, where he was appointed the school's inaugural Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, led the 2008 launch of its doctoral programme and co-chaired the committee that developed its 2014–2019 strategic plan.

He has held a number of fellowships, including the H.L.A. Hart Fellowship (Oxford University, 2013), the Herbert Smith Fellowship (Cambridge University, 2013 and 2005), the Sir Neil MacCormick Fellowship (University of Edinburgh, 2010), and the Jules and Gabrielle Léger Fellowship (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, 2002–2003). He received the Canadian Association of Law Teachers' Award for Academic Excellence in 2006.

Professor Mark Jordan
George Eastman Visiting Professor

Mark Jordan is Richard Reinhold Niebuhr Research Professor of Divinity at Harvard University. He is a scholar of Christian theology, European philosophy, and gender studies. At Harvard, he has offered courses on the



Western traditions of Christian soul-shaping, the relations of religion to art or literature, and the prospects for sexual ethics. Jordan has written extensively on sexual ethics, producing books that are widely regarded as opening important new conversations. But he has also continued to explore longstanding topics at the boundaries of philosophy and Christian theology.

Jordan has received a number of grants and fellowships, including a John S. Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, a Fulbright-Hays grant (Spain), and a Henry Luce III Fellowship in Theology. With support from the Ford Foundation, he led a seminar on public debates about religion and sexuality for rising scholars from the United States and abroad. In 2019, he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Professor Anna Deavere Smith
George Eastman Visiting Professor



Anna Deavere Smith is a Tony and Pulitzer Prize-nominated playwright and actor, and teaches at the Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. She has been credited with creating a new form of theatre which combines documentary techniques of collecting hundreds of interviews to reveal multiple ways of looking at events of social and political significance. Her plays include *Fires in the Mirror, Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992, House Arrest,* and *Let Me Down Easy*. Her acting roles include playing Dr Nancy McNally in *The West Wing*, Gloria Akalitus in *Nurse Jackie* and Tina Krissman on the Shonda Rhimes-produced series *For the People*. Her numerous achievements include: the MacArthur 'Genius' grant in 1996 for individuals who have shown 'extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction'. President Obama presented her with the National Humanities Medal in 2012. In 2023, she was appointed by President Biden to the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

First-year graduates

Aggarwal, Aneesh, University of Cambridge, DPhil Women's and Reproductive Health
Babiker, Tibyan, University of Khartoum, Sudan, MSc Pharmacology
Baird, Hudson, Vanderbilt University, USA, MBA
Barry, Rebecca, University of Durham, MSc Medical Anthropology
Bentley, Maisy, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, MSt Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies
Berrada Lancrey-Javal, Gabrielle, Mines de Paris, France, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Bilsborrow, Daniel, University College London, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics
Blomquist, Kayla, University of Oxford, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences
Bohinen, Mika, University of Oslo, Norwayy, MSc Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science
Boussaroque, Alice, Universite Lyons I (Universite Claude-Bernard), France, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Bovill, Marcelo, The University of Manchester, DPhil Particle Physics
Buchanan, Lucy, University of Oxford, DPhil Engineering Science
Bucher, Pauline, University of Cambridge, MPhil Economics
Bull, Sarah, University of Cambridge, Environmental Research (NERC DTP)
Burstein, Ellen, Harvard University, USA, MPhil Medical Anthropology
Casalía, Joaquín, London School of Economics and Political Science, MPhil Law
Casher, Tess, Mount Allison University, Canada, MSt English (1900-present)
Chadwick, Chloe, University of Cambridge, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences
Chapman, Tilly, University of Oxford, MSt Theology
Hermán Chávez, King's College London, MSt Modern Languages (SPA)
Chen, Lucia, King's College London, Cancer Science
Cordelle, Maïra, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL), France, DPhil Musculoskeletal Sciences
De La Cruz Rothenfußer, Melchor, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, MPhil Economics
De Ridder, Kilian, Martin Luther Universitat halle-Wittenberg, Germany, MPhil Economics

Decoppet, Sophie, Stanford University, USA, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Denhoed, Mark, University of Tulsa, USA, DPhil Computer Science
Dinnen, Erin, University of Cambridge, MSt Medieval Studies
Dissanayake, Harsha, University of Colombo (prev. U Ceylon), Sri Lanka, DPhil Medical Sciences
Draghetti, Thomas, Universita degli Studi di Roma 'La Sapienza', Italy, MPhil Classical Archaeology
D'Silva, Erica, University of Wollongong, Northfields, Australia, EMBA (Sep)
Eide, Oda, University of Oxford, DPhil International Development
Eisenbruch, Mimi, University of Oxford, DPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Ek, John, University of Oslo, Norway, DPhil Law
Ennis, Fionnuala, BPP University, London, DPhil History
Forsyth, Emily, University of Pittsburgh, USA, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics
Gamboa Pani Argiropulos, Isabella, Yale University, USA, MSc Medical Anthropology
Gan, Jasmine, University of Oxford, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
Gannon, Ben, University of Dublin Trinity College, Republic of Ireland, BCL
Garcha, Ciara, University of Oxford, MSt Global and Imperial History
Garg, Rahul, National Law University, Jodhpur, India, BCL
Gaxiola Lappe, Armando, University of York, MSt English (1550-1700)
Gibson, Michael, University of Cambridge, DPhil Public Policy
Gittus, Brittany, University of Oxford, DPhil History
Grayson, Edward, University of Oxford, MSt History - Intellectual History
Gutman Argemí, Clara, Brown University, USA, BPhil Philosophy
Haining, Tessa, Harvard University, USA, MPhil Modern Languages (FRE)
Hale, James, University College London, MSc Social Science of the Internet (PT)
Halicki, Michal, University of Durham, MSc Pharmacology
Harraj, Moosa, London School of Economics and Political Science, MPhil Economics
Hayes, Victoria, University College London, EMBA (Sep)
Hayward, Neil, University of Cambridge, PGCE - Chemistry (Oxford)
Hendy, Nicholas, University of Oxford, MSt Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics (AS)
Hong, Dou, University of Cambridge, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)

Horváth, Réka, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary, MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry
Howard, Lowri, University of Oxford, PGCE - History (Oxford)
Irigoyen-Lopez, Teresa, The School of Oriental and African Studies London, DPhil Area Studies (China)
Islam, Ramisa, University of Oxford, PGCE - English (Oxford)
Jenkins, Astrid, University of Oxford, DPhil International Relations
Jennings, Luke, Tufts University, USA, MSt Ancient Philosophy
Jones, Harrison, Monash University, Australia, BCL
Jung, Charlotte, University of Queensland, Australia, MPhil International Relations
Kambath, Amisha, Harvard University, USA, MPhil Politics: Political Theory
Kattuman, Anthony, University of Cambridge, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Khan, Maryam, University of California, Berkeley, USA, MSt World Literatures in English
King, Catherine, University of Cambridge, DPhil Cardiovascular Science (BHF)
Knook, Kars, Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, London, DPhil Mathematics
Knutsen, Carl Fredrik, University of Oslo, Norway, MSc Mathematical Sciences
Kobayashi, Akari, University of Oxford, DPhil Medieval and Modern Languages (FRE) (Full-time)
Kuric, Ivana, University of Bristol, MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature
Lachance, Clovis, University du Quebec a Montreal, Canada, MPhil Development Studies
Lamb, Thomas, University of Edinburgh, DPhil Engineering Science
Lambert, Zoe, University of Oxford, MPhil International Relations
Lee, Antoni, Columbia University, USA, MPhil Japanese Studies
Lemon, Hannah, University of St Andrews, Environmental Research (NERC DTP)
Lewien, Elijiah, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Li, Michael, Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), China, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
Lin, Fangru, University of Oxford, DPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Liu, Dimin, University of Oxford, DPhil Economics
Lo, John, University of Oxford, EMBA (Jan)

Lopez, Daniel, University of Melbourne, Australia, BCL
Lösl, Helene, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, MSt Philosophy of Physics
Lu, Christopher, University of Oxford, MSt Modern Languages (FRE and ITA)
Malitsky, Alexander, University of Liverpool, EMBA (Jan)
March, Eleanor, University of Oxford, BPhil Philosophy
Masina, Jacob, University of Sydney, Australia, Master of Public Policy
Mawere, Akudziwe, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
McDonald, Louisa, University of St Andrews, MSt Modern Languages (GER)
McGregor, Madeleine, University of Oxford, BCL
Medina mora perez, Tomas, University of Oxford, DPhil History
Melkonyan, Arsen, Yerevan State Institute of Economy, Armenia, EMBA (Jan)
Miller, Sophia, Cornell University, USA, MPhil Late Antique and Byzantine Studies
Mills, Oliver, University of Exeter, PGCE - Mathematics (Oxford)
Möllers, Katharina, Lund University, Sweden, MSc Economic and Social History
Mugford, Freya, University of Exeter, MSc Digital Scholarship
Muller, Conor, University of Cambridge, DPhil History
Nerheim, Viljar, University of Bergen, Norway, MJur
Neubauer, Marleen, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Nicheperovich, Alina, University of Oxford, DPhil Clinical Medicine
Nneji, Ogonna, University of Bristol, EMBA (Jan)
Noor, Bakht, Lahore University of Management Sciences, MPhil Modern South Asian Studies
Nyerges, Iuliana, University of Glasgow, MPhil Politics: European Pol and Soc
Ochoa Flores, Carlos, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, DPhil Mathematics
O'Connor, Mary, University of Oxford, DPhil English
Oda, Manabu, Shiga University, Japan, EMBA (Sep)
Øverland, Sverre Laurits, Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration/Norges Handelshoyskole (NHH), Master of Public Policy
Padival, Samir, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA, MBA
Pandey, Devesh, University of Delhi, India, MSc Financial Economics

Piikkilä, Mimmi, University of Helsinki, Finland, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences
Prabhu, Trisha, University of Oxford, Master of Public Policy
Pustova, Galyna, Kyiv National Economic University, Ukraine, EMBA (Sep)
Reboredo Prado, María, King's College London, MSc Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
Rentschler, Tom, Zeppelin University, Germany, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Rëu, Teodora, University of Cambridge, DPhil Computer Science
Sandfelder, Dylan, University of Oxford, DPhil Engineering Science
Sangaré, Aurélie, Ecole Polytechnique, France, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics
Sangha, Veer, Yale University, USA, DPhil Engineering Science
Schumann, Amalie, University of Oslo, Norway, DPhil Psychiatry
Sieper, Tabea, University of Oxford, DPhil Mathematics
Simoes Da Silva, Nicholas, Australian National University, MPhil Law
Singh, Ranvijay, King's College London, MSt Global and Imperial History
Singh, Shreeya, University of Oxford, Master of Public Policy
Sivasubramanian, Kirtana, Government Medical College, Omandurar, India, DPhil Molecular Cell Biology in Health and Disease
Striker, Balazs, Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine London, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry
Sun, Han, China Communication University, DPhil Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Sun, Nellie, Duke University, USA, MSt History - Intellectual History
Sutcliffe, Oliver, University of Otago, New Zealand, Master of Public Policy
Tandberg, Kate, University of Toronto, Canada, DPhil Ancient History (Full-time)
Taylor, Sophie, University of Oxford, DPhil Engineering Science
Taylor, Charlie, University of Oxford, MSt History - Modern European History 1850-present
Thorshaug, Eva, Instituts d'Études Politiques de Paris, France, MPhil International Relations
Tjandra, Jonathan, University of Oxford, MPhil Law
Vanden Borre, Felix, University of Dublin Trinity College, Republic of Ireland, MSt History - Early Modern History 1500-1700
Vavourakis, Odysseas, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich,

Switzerland, Sus App to Biomed Sc: Resp and Repro Res (CDT)
Vrljicak, Federico, Universidad Argentina de la Empresa, EMBA (Jan)
Wallace, Emma, University of Edinburgh, MSc Genomic Medicine
Wang, Hui, Tongji University, China, DPhil Engineering Science
Wang, Zian, University of Cambridge, DPhil Organic Chemistry
Wang, Théo, University of Cambridge, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Wang, Zishan, University of California, USA, MSc Financial Economics
Waugh, Harrison, University of Sydney, Australia, MPhil History - British and European History 1700-1850
White, Daniel, University of Warwick, DPhil Politics
Wills, Isaac, Princeton University, USA, MPhil Islamic Studies and History
Wong, Kenneth, University of Oxford, DPhil History
Woolfe, Broghan, University of St Andrews, MSt Ancient Philosophy
Woolliscroft, Sam, Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, London, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Wu, Jasmine, McMaster University, Canada, MSc Medical Anthropology
Xie, Yilin, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China, MSc Japanese Studies
Yip, Tristan, Australian National University, BCL
Yuan, Shangyao, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China, MSc Modern South Asian Studies
Zhang, Jiaxuan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Zhang, Xiaohan, Peking University, China, MPhil Law
Zhang, Till, HEC Business School Paris, France, MSc Financial Economics
Zhu, Yuanzhen, Chinese University of Hong Kong, DPhil Biology
Zisou, Harry, University of Oxford, DPhil Population Health

First-year undergraduates

Adlam, Nathan, Graveney School, Tooting, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics

Agarwal, Ansh, Hartmann College, Bareilly, India, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Management

Al-Nemrat, Noora, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls, Birmingham, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Ali-Hassan, Lucas, Winchester College, Winchester, Bachelor of Arts in Sanskrit

Andrews, Antwone, Greenford High School, Greenford, London, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Andrews, Rachel, Woodhouse College, Finchely, London, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences

Antoniou, Maria, American Academy Larnaca, Cyprus, Master of Chemistry

Arie, Eli, Alleyn's School, Dulwich, London, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Askew, Evie, Clayesmore School, Iwerne Minster, Dorset, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Bamford, Rose, Derby High School, Derbyshire, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Management

Barron, Miranda, Putney High School, London, Master of Biology in Biology

Bellardo, Julia, USA, Master of Computer Science

Binns, Idabell, City of Norwich School, Norwich, Bachelor of Arts in History

Bloch, Amy, King William's College, Castletown, Isle of Man, Bachelor of Arts in History

Bolton, Thomas, Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Manchester, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Brockie, Maya, Haberdashers' Girls' School, Elstree, London, Bachelor of Arts in History

Bromley-Davenport, Emily, Sir John Deanes College, Northwich, Cheshire, Master of Chemistry

Bull, Jacob, The London Oratory School, Chelsea, London, Bachelor of Arts in Classics and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Byrom, Harrison, Weston College, Weston-Super-Mare, Bachelor of Arts in History

Calderbank, Alice, James Allens Girls School, Dulwich, London, Master of Chemistry

Christophers, Honey, James Allens Girls School, Dulwich, London, Bachelor of Arts in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Corey, Luke, Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Amersham, Master of Mathematics and Philosophy

Cox, Barnaby, Rivers Multi-Academy Trust (Leventhorpe) formerly Leventhorpe Trust, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in History

Cox, Charlie, Toot Hill School, Bingham, Nottingham, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Darley, Raphael, The Beaconsfield School , Beaconsfield, Master of Computer Science and Philosophy

Davies, Phoebe, Stanwell School, Penarth, Cardiff, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Davies, Sophie, Camden School for Girls, London, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (Italian Course B) and Linguistics

Eckford, Will, Aylesbury Grammar School, Buckinghamshire, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Fischer, Theo, Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, Bachelor of Arts in History

Fisher, Kitty, Colyton Grammar School, Devon, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Forrest, Imogen, Abbey Grange Church of England Academy, Leeds, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (Italian and Spanish)

Fox, Charlotte, Magdalen College School, Oxford, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Fox, Gilon, Magdalen College School, Oxford, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence (English Law with Law Studies in Europe)

Galbraith, Amelie, St John Rigby RC Sixth Form College, Wigan, Bachelor of Arts in History and Modern Languages (Spanish)

Garnaut, Harvey Amir, Haileybury College, Australia, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Goyal, Jai, Reading School, Berkshire, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences

Haar, David, Abingdon School, Abingdon-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Haddad, Rachel, Grand Lycee Franco Libanais, Beirut, Lebanon, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics

Hamilton, Vita, St James Senior Girls School, Brook Green, London, Bachelor of Arts in Sanskrit

Hawkes, Sophie, Oundle School, Northamptonshire, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Hickman, Anna, Cheltenham Ladies' College, Cheltenham, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Hooker, Will, Exeter Mathematics School, Devon, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science

Jaiswal, Yash Vatsalya, Modern Vidya Niketan, Faridabad, India, Master of Computer Science

Jayakody, Leo, The Bicester School, Oxfordshire, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Jeffs, Callum, The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial RC School, Kensington, London, Master of Computer Science and Philosophy

Jongman-Rios, Mali, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridgeshire, Master of Physics

Karkutli, Luca, International School Monaco, Monaco, Bachelor of Arts in History

Kelk, Gemma, Tiffin School, Kingston Upon Thames, London, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Kirushnamoorthy, Vikyrthan, King's College London Mathematics School, London, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Komninos, Alexis, International School of Brussels, Belgium, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Kurdikar, Aamani, St Paul's Girls' School, Hammersmith, London, Bachelor of Arts in English and Modern Languages (French)

Lam, Adrian, Tonbridge School, Kent, Master of Physics

Laven, Caspar, Rushcliffe School, West Bridgford, Kent, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Leong, Shirica, Dunman High School, Singapore, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Leys, Ruby, Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Rossendale, Lancashire, Master of Biology in Biology

Li, Yicheng, Hwa Chong Institution, Singapore, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Management

Lin, Ryan, Reading School, Berkshire, Master of Physics and Philosophy

Linden, Cyrus Sotta Jacques, University College School, Swiss Cottage, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics

Lindridge, Sophie, Tonbridge Grammar School, Kent, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Linklater, Hugh, Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith, London, Master of Computer Science

Liu, Jordan, St. George's School, Vancouver, Canada, Bachelor of Arts in History and Economics

Maczan, Kamil, Ridgeway Academy, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics

Maguire, Conner, Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Rossendale, Lancashire, Master of Chemistry

Mahmood, Suleiman, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, Birmingham, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Maiklem, Cameron, High Storrs School, Sheffield, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Mair, Connor, Stewart's Melville College, Edinburgh, Scotland, Bachelor of Arts in History

Marcjasz, Nina, 2 Spoleczne Liceum STO im. Pawla Jasienicy, Warszawa, Poland, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Matsuda, Towa, Westminster School, London, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences

Mcfarlane, Alastair, St Paul's School, Barnes, London, Bachelor of Arts in Classics and Modern Languages (Italian) Course I Option 2

Messett, Jamie, King Edward VI School, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire, Master of Chemistry

Milroy-Goulding, Oli, St Paul's School, Barnes, London, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences

Morgan, Tanya, Penglais School, Faenor, Wales, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Murphy, Flo, King's College School, Hounslow, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences

Nalla, Dawood, Newham Collegiate Sixth Form, Barking, London, Master of Physics and Philosophy

New, Oliver, Norwich School, Norfolk, Bachelor of Arts in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

O'Shea, Liam, Woodhouse College, Finchley, London, Master of Physics

Osman, Lina, George Watson's College, Edinburgh, Scotland, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Page, Melanie, King Edward VI High School for Girls, Birmingham, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Parris, Malcolm, Haberdashers' Boys' School, Elstree, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics

Pass, Elizabeth, Tiffin School, Kingston Upon Thames, London, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Percy, Finbar, Dulwich College, London, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Preston, Chloe, St Paul's Girls' School, Hammersmith, London, Master of Biology in Biology

Rajan, Vineeth, Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet, London, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences

Rajavel, Aishu, Raffles Junior College, Singapore, Master of Physics

Ramakrishnan, Yashas, NPS International School, Singapore, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics

Raworth, Florence, Beaconsfield High School, Buckinghamshire, Bachelor of Arts in English and Modern Languages (Italian)

Reid, Elizabeth, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Penrith, Cumbria, Master of Physics and Philosophy

Risso, Dylan, Bayside Comprehensive School, Gibraltar, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science

Robb, Mackenzie William, Richard Hale School, Hertfordshire, Master of Biology in Biology

Ryan, Luca, Winchester College, Hampshire, Bachelor of Arts in Ancient and Modern History

Salter, Thomas, St Paul's School, Barnes, London, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Scott, Ben, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, Birmingham, Master of Chemistry

Sewell, Hilla, Emanuel School, Wandsworth, London, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Sexton, Robert, Runshaw College, Leyland, Lancashire, Master of Biology in Biology

Sherwood, Adam, Manchester Grammar School, Greater Manchester, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Smith, Daisy, Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in History

Soni, Mukund Mahendra, Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet, London, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Thavaratnam, Abarna, AIM Academy North London, Edmonton, London, Master of Physics

Thiyagesh, Sasmita Srivatsav, Greenhead College, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences

Thornett, Theo, Hurstpierpoint College, West Sussex, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Thorp, Angharad, King Edward VI Handsworth School, Birmingham, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Truong, Cassie, King's College London Mathematics School, Lambeth, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics

Turnbull, Callum, Samuel Ward Academy (formerly Samuel Ward Upper School), Haverhill, Suffolk, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Ulkeroglu, Lara Ela, Canford School, Wimborne Minster, Dorset, Bachelor of Arts in History

Voce, Eran, Westminster Academy, Paddington, London, Master of Mathematics and Philosophy

Way, Tom, Radley College, Oxfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (French and Italian (Course B))

Wester, Elsa, Ryde School, Isle Of Wight, Master of Biology in Biology

Whitworth, Ralph, Sandringham School, St Albans, Hertfordshire, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Williams, Samuel, Bennett Memorial Diocesan School, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Wolfreys, Robert, The Woodroffe School, Lyme Regis, Dorset, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Yang, Haoran, Shanghai World Foreign Language Academy, China, Master of Computer Science

Zelenkovski, Vasil, International School of Geneva, LGB, Switzerland, Master of Mathematics and Philosophy

Zhao, Beiyi, Concord College, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science

Visiting students

Martín Fortuny, Marta, Universiteit Leiden, Netherlands, Europaeum visiting student, MA European History and Civilisation

Witt, Miriam, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Muncdhen, Germany, Visiting Non-Matriculated, Physics

Soule, Maddie, Yale University, Visiting Non-Matriculated, English

Strauß, Julius, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, Diploma in Legal Studies

Duran Baches, Maria, ES Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain, Diploma in Legal Studies

College staff

Retirements

Stan Forbes, Lodge Supervisor, 31 December 2023 (joined 18 April 2011)
Christopher Munday, Head Gardener, 4 March 2024 (joined 21 February 2011)
Richard Beacham, Gift Registry and Finance Officer, 31 March 2024 (joined 30 November 2007)
Anne Askwith, Publications and Web Officer, 24 April 2024 (joined 17 March 2014)

Appointments

Hannah Jones, Welfare Lead, 7 August 2023
Liam Smith, Assistant Dean, 1 September 2023
Connor Connolly, Alumni and Development Intern, 23 September 2023
David Barker, Events Coordinator, 1 November 2023
Amelia Woodhouse, College Office Administrator, 3 November 2023
Jennifer Smith, Domestic Bursar, 6 November 2023
Joanna White, PA to the Development Director, 6 November 2023
Carolina Colle, Gift Administration and Data Officer, 6 November 2023
Faye McLeod, Archivist and Records Manager, 6 November 2023
Vicki Clarke, Early Career Librarian, 13 November 2023
Neil Kitchen, Lodge Porter, 18 December 2023
Ciaran Charles, Maintenance Handyman, 2 January 2024
Catherine Shortis, PA to the Praefectus, 4 January 2024
Sarah Snee, Office Administrator for Domestic Bursar's Office, 8 January 2024
Alison Wright, Finance Bursar PA, 15 January 2024
Kevin Gardiner, Skilled Maintenance Operative, 16 January 2024
Marizito Da Costa, Kitchen Porter, 12 February 2024
Mala Gunadasa-Rohling, Junior Dean, 12 February 2024
Luciane Correa Andrade, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist (HM), 19 February 2024
Denise Henderson, College Office Assistant, 11 March 2024
Muhammer Erzurum, Demi Chef de Partie, 8 April 2024
Yingying Jiang, Publications and Communications Officer, 15 April 2024
Robert Ciobanu, Support Technician, 1 May 2024
Hannah Smith, Early Printed Books Cataloguer, 16 May 2024

Mohammad Hassan Chisti, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist, 27 May 2024
Katie Robinson, Domestic Bursar PA & Office Administrator, 28 May 2024
Peter Tsakov, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist, 3 June 2024
Douglas Brown, Head Gardener, 10 June 2024
Jodi Thomas, Buildings Manager, 15 July 2024
Stephen Allman, Plumbing Engineer, 22 July 2024

Departures

Sarah Poulter, Domestic Bursar PA & Office Administrator, 4 August 2023
Bethany Hamblen, Archivist and Records Manager, 31 August 2023
Zhen Shao, Assistant Dean, 31 August 2023
Aishah Olubaji, Early Career Librarian, 13 September 2023
Anthony Dandridge, Senior Maintenance, 13 September 2023
Kate Pullen, Temporary Welfare and Wellbeing Officer, 13 September 2023
Janet Quartly, Finance Bursar PA, 12 October 2023
Damian Backer-Holst, Maintenance Handyman, 31 October 2023
Ioanna Giannouli, IT Support Assistant, 3 November 2023
Abilio Viana, Kitchen Porter, 15 December 2023
Jennifer Stewart, College Office Administrator, 26 January 2024
Lewis Harvey, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist, 29 January 2024
Joanne Staniford, Chef de Partie, 23 February 2024
Sarah Snee, Office Administrator for Domestic Bursar's Office, 27 March 2024
Rachel Cusack, Nursery Practitioner (Mat cover), 7 May 2024
Sophie Floate, Early Printed Books Cataloguer, 9 May 2024
Georgina Rudolph, Buildings Manager, 16 May 2024
Nichole Tuckwell, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist, 24 May 2024
Amelia Woodhouse, College Office Administrator, 24 May 2024
Mohammed Owais Chisti, Weekend Lodge Porter/College Receptionist, 23 July 2024

Review of the Year

Review of the year

Nicola Trott (Senior Tutor)

(We hope readers will take an interest in this content, which is produced for the College's annual accounts under Charities SORP – the Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice. Equivalent reports for previous years, going back to 2010–11, are published with the accounts, the archives to which may be found at https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/finance-and-funding/archive-of-financial-statements?wssl=1.)

Selected highlights of the 2023/2024 year

It is not often that Balliol receives royalty. The journey to Oxford of the Emperor and Empress of Japan at the end of the imperial couple's State Visit to the UK, and in particular the return on 28 June 2024 of Empress Masako to her alma mater, of which she is an Honorary Fellow, was an occasion of great pride and pleasure. Their Majesties were welcomed to Balliol by the Master and the Chancellor and, in the tour which followed, the Empress was able to meet again her former supervisor, Sir Adam Roberts, and the then Praefectus of the Graduate Centre at Holywell Manor, Professor Denis Noble (both now Emeritus Fellows), with Sir Adam's office in the Brackenbury Quad and the Manor itself on Their Majesties' itinerary. The University's conferral on Empress Masako of an honorary degree at a ceremony presided over by Lord Patten was a highlight of a term that was otherwise pre-occupied with the many events taking place across the collegiate University to mark his retirement, after twenty-one years, as Chancellor. Published online, Lord Patten's letter to the Vice-Chancellor demonstrates to the full that, in him, the University found a uniquely eloquent champion. The College adds its tribute of thanks for his tireless service, and looks forward to continuing to welcome him back as an alumnus and Honorary Fellow.

Not long before the imperial visit, the College celebrated the completion of a major refurbishment. On 17 June, the Gillis Lecture Theatre and Warburg Music Suite were formally opened in the presence of three of the benefactors who enabled the project and in memory of a fourth. The design also incorporates a new teaching space and music practice rooms with additional sound-proofing – though on this occasion guests were audibly entertained by a student at the baby-grand in the Music Suite and treated to a display of

archival material put together by Library staff. The modern and flexible areas created by these transformational gifts are now in constant and varied use. Indeed, the Gillis Lecture Theatre is shortly to be the venue for the Fellowship to hold initial discussions around potential future building projects for the College.

Another highlight of the College's year has been the establishment of the Balliol Sanctuary Fund. Launched in November 2023, the Fund recognises a long tradition of the College, with the active support or initiation of a new generation of Fellows, staff, students and alumni. The College is grateful to the many Old Members who have contributed to enable those who for reasons of conflict or persecution would otherwise have had little or no access to higher education to find refuge and a place of study at Balliol.

More light-hearted initiatives included a collective – one hesitates to say corporate – identity for the hearteningly large number of runners among Balliol staff, students, and Fellows, who for the first time joined forces to enter as an official team in the annual Town and Gown 10k, this year held on an oppressively hot Sunday 12 May. An unlikely favourite of this newly cross-college sporting life proved to be the highly competitive egg-and-spoon race held in the Brackenbury Quad on 20 March. In the race of fingers on buzzers, meanwhile, a very fine University Challenge team was mustered but had the misfortune of meeting in the first round the eventual champions of 2024. Traditional student team sports and Cuppers contests produced some excellent performances across the year: Balliol basketball and squash players overcame runners-up positions in previous competitions to earn Cuppers trophies, and in reaching the semi-finals the rugby squad came the closest to winning Cuppers since the Balliol victory of 1933. Their last match of the season gained the men's football team promotion to Division 1, the netball team maintained its First Division position, and the Women's 1st VIII won blades for the second consecutive year and the W1 crew's highest river position in over a decade.

Creatives also found ways to shine. A Holywell Manor Photography Prize was inaugurated, to the theme of 'Landscapes of Learning'. A paperless student publication, Erasmus, was launched. The annual ritual of ghost stories in the library – with specially selected readings and exhibits – took place in November 2023. In Hilary Term 2024, the College once again hosted as Artist in Residence Honorary Fellow and former National Poet of Wales, Gwyneth Lewis, who added to her own programme for Balliol students a collaboration with the current Professor of Poetry, A.E. Stallings. In August 2023, a five-day

workshop on teaching about the transatlantic slave-trade brought US and UK educators to Balliol as part of a three-year teachers' programme organised by Balliol Library in collaboration with the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, and spinning out of its own imaginative Slavery in the Age of Revolution exhibition.

The Library's main exhibitions of this year, offered as usual in the Historic Collections Centre at St Cross Church, and aided by its beautiful new display cases, were '"Messing About with Manuscripts": R.A.B. Mynors and Balliol's Medieval Library' and 'Going Up to Balliol: Mountaineering at the College'. Mynors' 'messing' would now be called 'material culture' or 'history of the book', and it lives on in the research interests of several current Fellows and Tutors. There is a connection between the two exhibitions, as well, because it was to Mynors that Balliol Dean and History Tutor F.F. Urquhart bequeathed the Chalet des Anglais in the French Alps where student reading and walking parties still take place each summer. Accompanied by a series of talks, the latter exhibition ('Going Up…') gave a fascinating account of the close and significant ties Balliol people have to the whole history of alpinism. The ties

'Education in Celebration' by Triin Ojakaar

The winning entry of the Jury Prize of the Holywell Manor Photography Prize competition





'Two Worlds' by Jonathan Tjandra

Winning entry of the Popular Prize of the Holywell manor Photography Prize competition

continue to this day: the Librarian who curated the exhibition is a keen mountaineer and I was pleased to catch sight of one of the sixteen students lucky enough to be travelling to North America or Asia as William Westerman Pathfinders this year taking his climbing shoes with him to Colorado.

If aiming high is the common pursuit, then Balliol mountaineering is not so far removed from Balliol outreach. Activity in this area takes a long time to feed through to results, but we now have enough years of data to produce useful analysis of the impact our work in schools – and by extension the generous donations that support it – is having. A report in February 2024 showed that in the 2023 undergraduate admissions round, 90 students who attended Balliol access events or programmes received offers from Oxford University, 15 of them from Balliol and 75 from other colleges; and that more than two-thirds of state school applicants to Balliol in that admissions round came from schools that received Balliol outreach support during the 2022/2023 academic year. The range and scale of output from one small department (in HR terms, the David Freeman Outreach Officer, a post named for another benefaction, and her Assistant) is remarkable – and an example of 'whole college' co-operation and engagement, involving not just Tutors and

Lecturers but a large number of students, including graduate teachers, as well as staff from across the College.

Outreach can and does take many forms, all the way from formally Building Bridges with primary school children in partnership with the Ashmolean, to receiving informally a visit from university-age students with a connection to the College via an alumnus and a shared faith and social practice. For anyone in search of a genuine slice of current student life, however, the JCR takeover of the College's Instagram account to showcase Balliol to prospective applicants gives a whiff of the real.

Reaching out also means bringing people in. This year for various reasons the College hosted not, as is customary, one, but no fewer than three George Eastman Visiting Professors, in successive terms. In a further break with tradition, the first Eastman was Anna Deveare Smith, of *West Wing* fame, who came as a practitioner-writer-producer for stage and screen and ran theatre workshops with student playwrights. Another unconventional visit was that of Steven Freilich, whose career in research and business leadership at DuPont led, as a result of SCG Fellow Dermot O'Hare's industrial partnerships, to an Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellowship. In combination with academic appointments, these riffs on the College's visiting programme made for an especially vibrant set of talks and interactions.

One such interaction saw visitors – among them this year's Winant Visting Professor of American Government, Jason Casellas, who spoke about US Latino Republican elections – giving online talks as part of the monthly on-going series organised by the Development Office. Available to all alumni as well as current members, this has become a mainstay of the academic calendar and one that we are glad to know is enjoyed by the Balliol community-at-large.

Annual headline events, the Dawkins Prize Lecture and Omar Azfar Lecture, were delivered to live audiences in Trinity Term 2024. In addition, a one-off speaking event took place in response to the widespread concern arising from the attack on Israel by Hamas and the subsequent war in Gaza that lead in turn to protests and polarisation of views on campuses in various parts of the world, Oxford included. The College's internal discussions enabled contrasting student representations to be heard at its Executive Committee; and on 28 May two Balliol Professorial Fellows, David Enoch (Professor of Philosophy of Law) and Neta Crawford (Professor of International Relations) made presentations from differing perspectives and led a considered debate on some of the core issues as they were understood at that time. Making space for



Balliol Outreach Assistant showing primary school students the Great Bookcase at the Ashmolean Museum as part of the Building Bridges outreach initiatve

dialogue that is at once meaningful and respectful, inclusive and informed, can be a vital if demanding function of a university.

The 2023/2024 academic year events archive shows a rich variety of cultural activity, from the Balliol Literary Society's reading of Stoppard's Arcadia, to the soirée with Honorary Fellow Amit Chaudhuri in conversation about his New and Selected Poems with Fellow and Tutor in English Seamus Perry, to the lunches hosted by the Chaplain for students to practice 'close reading' with the Artist in Residence or explore 'Ways of Seeing' some of the masterpieces of European painting, to the free and public Balliol Musical Society Concerts held – in time-honoured fashion – fortnightly in term. More explicitly directed at the wellbeing of current members, in particular of students, is an evolving cycle of activity created by the Welfare Lead with the Student Support Officer, and involving many other members of staff, which ranges from regular welfare newsletters, to 'wellbeing walks', 'feel good singing' sessions, drop-ins for students living off-site, floral and bouquet-making workshops, pop-ups showcasing the Library's wellbeing collections, and opt-in exercise classes for both mind and body. This 'something for everyone' approach sits alongside the formal support structures of welfare, counselling and health services.

Awards and achievements of current members

Neta Crawford, Andrew Hurrell's successor as Montague Burton Professor of



Dr Linda Eggert

International Relations, won accolades for her book on the Pentagon's carbon footprint and contribution to climate change, notably an Anti-Censorship Award and the Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order. Recognition, in the modern academy, is highly diversified and, in the humanities, may signal support for diversity itself: in October 2023 Adrian Kelly's co-edited Cambridge Companion to Sappho was placed by Choice magazine among its Outstanding Academic Titles 2022: LGBTQ+ Pride. Two further instances of the plurality of, and of awards for, humanities research were the Ann Moss Early Career Essay Prize given to College Lecturer Maria Czepiel by The Society for Neo-Latin Studies for her work on Jewish scholarship in an early modern Spanish writer; and the Colin Franklin Prize for Book Collecting awarded to graduate student Hermán Luis Chávez for their submission on how discovering a piano score led to researching, performing, and collecting little known 20th-century Bolivian Art Music. Still in the performance space, graduate composer (and Junior Dean) Carol Jones saw premiere two of her own pieces of music, one of them commissioned to sit alongside Mahler, no less. Acclaim for classical academic scholarship persists, of course: Linda Eggert, Early Career Fellow in Philosophy, won the 2023 Frank Chapman Sharp Memorial Prize recognising the best submission of unpublished work on the philosophy of war and peace, awarded by the American Philosophical Association for her 'Duties to Rescue and Permissions to Harm'. Linda was also named as AI2050 Early Career Fellow by Schmidt Sciences. This appointment reflects the connection she has to Oxford's Institute for Ethics in AI, the Director of which, John Tasioulas (1989), an alumnus and now Senior Research Fellow at Balliol, is a Senior Fellow in the AI2050 programme. Professor Tasioulas was also appointed to an Advisory Committee on AI recently established by the Greek government and, together with Stanford's Josiah Ober, George Eastman Visiting Professor in Trinity Term 2024, led the Lyceum Project held in Athens in June 2024, the White Paper for which presents Aristotle's ethics as the best framework for addressing the challenges and opportunities posed by AI.

In science, markers of esteem are often straightforwardly measured by research income. Engineering Tutor Jin-Chong Tan gained a highly competitive



Professor Dominic O'Brien

ERC Advanced Grant for development of nanoenergy conversion technology. Oxford has also been at the forefront of the UK government's high-stakes investment in quantum science, and in July 2024 it was announced that the University would lead the Quantum Computing Hub (QC13), with Dominic O'Brien (formerly Tutor and now Senior Research Fellow in Engineering) as its Director. Also in quantum, on the experimental atomic Physics side, Raghavendra Srinivas, Early Career Fellow and collaborator with Fellow and Tutor David Lucas in the field of ion-trapping, won the Optica Foundation's Hänsch Prize in Quantum Optics. Alongside the science of the super-small, another crucial endeavour is in the advancement of green energy, the circular economy, and sustainable materials, for which Dermot O'Hare, Director of the SCG Chemicals Co-Oxford Centre of Excellence for Chemistry was awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry's John B. Goodenough Prize, named for the Nobel Laureate and the Statutory Professor of Inorganic Chemistry when Dermot was just starting out as an undergraduate at Oxford – an apt illustration of a virtuous circle, if not a circular economy. The interest the UK government takes in science may have been sharpened by Brexit, but 'STEM for Britain', a poster competition for early-stage researchers which is held in the Houses of Parliament, has been organised by the Parliamentary & Scientific Committee annually since 1977. The 2024 competition saw Balliol graduate Katherine Benjamin take silver in the Mathematical Sciences category.

Awards and achievements of alumni and former Fellows

Starting with the academies, it was a pleasure to learn in May 2024 that alumnus and former Junior Research Fellow Patrick Unwin (1985) had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and, in July, that four alumni, David Gellner (1976), Daniel Harbour (1993), James Montgomery (1984) and Adrian Moore (1978), had been elected Fellows of the British Academy. In September 2023, the Royal Society announced that Hagan Bayley FRS (1970), alumnus and Honorary Fellow, had been awarded its Buchanan Medal, celebrating 'distinguished contributions to the biomedical sciences', for 'founding Oxford Nanopore Technology, the highly successful biotech company'. The abstruse

outer reaches of mathematics were explored by alumnus Jared Lichtman (2019), who set a new world record for prime numbers, in the process going beyond the long-standing Riemann Hypothesis relating to their distribution. In another computational universe entirely, alumnus Andrei Constantinescu (2017) co-authored the entry winning the Best Paper Award at the Web and Internet Economics 19th International Conference, WINE 2023, in Shanghai, which pinpointed how the problem of making 'stable dinner party seating arrangements' while incorporating guest preferences as to table plans may be solved.

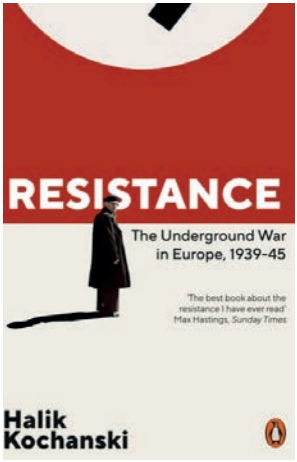
One of the biggest, and best funded, prizes in scholarship, the Wolfson History Prize, this year went to an alumna, Halik Kochanski (1985), for her book *Resistance: The Underground War in Europe, 1939–1945*. The Balliol connections to the 2023 Wolfson Prize do not end there: as an undergraduate historian, Halik was taught by Maurice Keen (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1961–2000, Emeritus Fellow 2000–2012), an erstwhile winner of the Prize; last year's winner, Sudhir Hazareesingh (Fellow and Tutor in Politics), was on the panel of judges which made the most recent award; and also on the shortlist was a landmark book by James Belich (Beit Professor of Global and Imperial History, and Professorial Fellow), *The World the Plague Made: The Black Death and the Rise of Europe*.

Several honours to Old Members were in medical fields – two in the United States, where Robert Montgomery (1990) was awarded the Excellence in Transplantation Award by the National Kidney Foundation, and Norman Daniels (1964) received the Hastings Center's 2023 Bioethics Founders' Award



Yusuf Ben-Tarifite (right) with Prince William, who presented him with the Legacy Award

for his 'pioneering work that has addressed justice in health care'. Back in the UK, recent graduate Yusuf Ben-Tarifite (2018), who founded 'The Aspiring Medics', a platform to help students from diverse backgrounds pursue careers in medicine, won both a 2023 Diana Award and, in 2024, its 25th anniversary Legacy Award, these having been set up in memory of the late Princess of Wales to recognise young people who create positive social change.



Winning title of the Wolfson History Prize 2023 by Halik Kochanski (1985)

Public good and public service are never far from the Balliol mindset. In November 2023, the appointment was announced of Alison Young, former Fellow and Tutor in Law, as the next Law Commissioner for Public Law and the Law in Wales. In Europe, Matthew Nimetz (1960) received the first Prespa Peace Prize, named for the 2018 Agreement he largely facilitated to end a long-standing naming dispute between two neighbouring countries. In the US, alumna Devaki Raj (2007) brought her expertise in AI and start-ups to the Senate Homeland Security hearing on Governing AI Through Acquisition and Procurement. And in London, but leaning to the Far East, alumna Lindy Cameron (1991) was appointed British High Commissioner to the Republic of India.

Attitudes will differ as to the result, but Balliol is proud to acknowledge all those alumni who won seats (four by re-election, three as newly elected MPs) and, in three cases, ministerial office, in the recent UK general election.

Achievements of other kinds are almost certainly under-represented, so it was especially pleasing to hear from Derek Wax (1980), its Executive Producer, that *The Sixth Commandment*, a distinctive offering in the true crime genre that has gained popularity lately, had garnered Best Limited Series at both the BAFTA and RTS awards this year.

Honours

The King's Honours for 2024, the second of his reign, were conferred on a number of alumni and current or former Fellows of Balliol. In the New Years Honours, Colin Liddell (1973) was awarded an MBE for services to theatre and the arts in Scotland, Calypso Nash (2012) an MBE for services to

British foreign policy, Professor Richard Templer (1981) an OBE for services to climate innovation, and former Fellow and Domestic Bursar, Carl Woodall, an OBE for services to Parliament. In the Birthday Honours 2024, Ruth Sloan (1998) received an OBE for services to Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland, Matthew Westerman (1983) a CBE for services to Museums and to Cultural Heritage, and Professorial Fellow Freddie Hamdy a CBE for services to Surgical and Cancer Sciences. In accepting the honour, Professor Hamdy paid tribute to 'wonderful colleagues' and expressed the hope that it would inspire the next generation 'to not just reach what they perceive they can, but what they think they cannot'.

Two further honours were accorded to alumni, a life peerage, in the Resignation Honours of December 2023, received by Jon Moynihan (Foundation Fellow), and one of the 2023 Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education (which were inaugurated in 1994 to commemorate the 40th year in the reign of her late Majesty, Elizabeth II, and uniquely for such awards are part of the British honours system), received by Professor Paul Newman CBE, in February 2024, on behalf of the Oxford Robotics Institute.

In Memoriam

The College was saddened to learn of several deaths among its former Fellows. The Governing Body stood in memory of two George Eastman Visiting Professors, historian Natalie Zemon Davis, the first woman to hold the role, and economist and Nobel Laureate Robert Solow. The College also had notice that distinguished astronomer Brian Warner, former Henry Skynner Junior Research Fellow, had died. In conjunction with the Mathematical Institute, it again mourned the early loss, and celebrated the extraordinary life and influence, of former Fellow and Lecturer Vicky Neale, at a memorial held on 11 November 2023 in the presence of family, friends and colleagues from far and wide. And on 16 March 2024, a celebration took place in Balliol Hall of the life of Bill Newton-Smith, who among his many other illustrious roles was alumnus, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, Praefectus of Holywell Manor, and Emeritus Fellow of the College.

Governance

As a registered charity, the College is regulated by the Charity Commission. The Chair of the Commission some time ago wrote to all Oxford colleges, initially via the Conference of Colleges, seeking insight into their governance

practices. In light of these communications, a small working group of Trustees has reviewed Balliol's own practices and, with reference to the Charity Governance Code, made some recommendations for change while affirming our fundamental structures of academic self-government. It has been a useful exercise and the College will carry on implementing decisions as agreed by the Governing Body in the course of the next academic year.

Balliol Musical Society concert



Achievements and Awards

Graduate Scholarships

College Scholarships

Alfred Douglas Stone Scholarship
Sun, Han, DPhil Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Anderson Scholarship
Boussaroque, Alice, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)

Andrew Crompton Scholarship
Tandberg, Kate, DPhil Ancient History

Balliol Sanctuary Scholarship
Babiker, Tibyan, MSc Pharmacology

Brian Dickinson Scholarship and Dervorguilla Scholarship
March, Eleanor, BPhil Philosophy

Bruce Net Zero Scholarship
Wang, Hui, DPhil Engineering Science

Dan Norman Scholarship
Hong, Dou, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)

Dervorguilla Scholarship
Gan, Jasmine, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
Lemon, Hannah, Environmental Research (NERC DTP)

Foley Béjar Scholarship
O'Connor, Mary, DPhil English

Jason Hu Scholarship
Li, Ke, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
Lin, Fangru, DPhil Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics
Wang, Zian, DPhil Organic Chemistry

John Henry Jones Scholarship
Vavourakis, Odysseas, Sustainable Approaches to Biomedical Science (EPSRC CDT)

Jowett Scholarship
Bovill, Marcelo, DPhil Particle Physics
Decoppet, Sophie, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics

Jowett Copywright Scholarship and Balliol Scholarship
Woolfe, Broghan, MSt Ancient Philosophy

Marvin Bower Scholarship
Jenkins, Astrid, DPhil International Relations

Oxford Economics Scholarship
Liu, Dimin, DPhil Economics

Peter Storey Scholarship
Ennis, Fionnuala, DPhil History

Phizackerley Scholarship
Luisa Gullino, DPhil Pharmacology
Ahmed Shalaby, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences

Ramage Scholarship
Cordelle, Maira, DPhil Musculoskeletal Sciences
Bull, Sarah, Environmental Research (NERC DTP)

Sir Colin R. Lucas Graduate Scholarship
Muller, Conor, DPhil History

Snell Scholarship
Nyerges, Iuliana, MPhil Politics

Snell Exhibition
Bucher, Pauline, MPhil Economics

UK Research and Innovation Awards

Arts and Humanities Research Council
Ennis, Fionnuala, Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnership

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
Boussaroque, Alice, Interdisciplinary Bioscience Doctoral Training Partnership
Hong, Duo, Interdisciplinary Bioscience Doctoral Training Partnership

Economic and Social Research Council
Bucher, Pauline, MPhil Economics, Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership
Jenkins, Astrid, DPhil International Relations, Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership
Nyerges, Iuliana, MPhil Politics, Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
Vavourakis, Odysseas, Sustainable Approaches to Biomedical Science Centre for Doctoral Training
Decoppet, Sophie, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics, Centre for Doctoral Training in Quantum Computing and Simulation
Taylor, Sophie, DPhil Engineering Science, Doctoral Training Partnership Collaborative Award in Science and Engineering

Natural Environment Research Council
Bull, Sarah, Environmental Research Doctoral Training Partnership
Lemon, Hannah, Environmental Research Doctoral Training Partnership

Medical Research Council
Cordelle, Maira, DPhil Musculoskeletal Sciences, Industrial Collaborative Award in Science and Engineering

International awards

Aker Scholarship
Bohinen, Mika, MSc Maths and Foundations of Computer Science
Eide, Oda, DPhil International Development
Ek, John, DPhil Law

Knutsen, Carl, MSc Mathematical Sciences
Nerheim, Viljar, Magister Juris
Overland, Sverre, Master of Public Policy
Schumann, Amalie, DPhil Psychiatry
Thorshaug, Eva, MPhil International Relations

Rhodes Scholarships

Bentley, Maisy, MSt Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Casher, Tess, MSt English (1900-present)
Haining, Tessa, MPhil Modern Languages
Jones, Harrison, BCL
Kambath, Amisha, MPhil Politics
Lachance, Clovis, MPhil Development Studies
Lu, Guanyu (Christopher), MSt Modern Languages
McGregor, Madeleine, BCL
Mawere, Akudziwe, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences
Prabhu, Trisha, Master of Public Policy
Sangha, Veer, DPhil Engineering Science
Singh, Shreeya, Master of Public Policy
Sivasubramanian, Kirtana, DPhil Molecular Cell Biology in Health and Disease
Sutcliffe, Oliver, Master of Public Policy
Zhang, Xiaohan, MPhil Law

University awards

Aggarwal, Aneesh, DPhil Women's and Reproductive Health, Nuffield Department of Women's and Reproductive Health award
Babiker, Tibyan, MSc Pharmacology, AfOx Scholarship
Boussaroque, Alice, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP), Clarendon Scholarship
Bovill, Marcelo, DPhil Particle Physics, Clarendon Scholarship
Buchanan, Lucy, DPhil Engineering Science, Podium Institute for Sports Medicine and Technology Scholarship
Chadwick, Chloe, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences, Clarendon Scholarship
Chavez, Herman, MSt Modern Languages, Ertegun Graduate Scholarship

Chen, Lucia, Cancer Science, Cancer Research UK Doctoral Training Centre Studentship

Cordelle Maira, DPhil Musculoskeletal Sciences, Oxford Medical Sciences Graduate School Studentship

Dissanayake, Harsha, DPhil Medical Sciences, Clarendon Scholarship

Eisenbruch, Miriam, DPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, Oxford Basant Kumar and Sarala Birla Graduate Studentship

Gan, Jasmine, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences, Oxford Medical Sciences Graduate School Studentship

Garcha, Ciara, MPhil Modern British History, Faculty of History studentship

Gibson, Michael, DPhil Public Policy, Government Outcomes Lab Scholarship, Blavatnik School of Government

Harraj, Mohammad Moosa, MPhil Economics, Oxford Graduate Scholarship

King, Catherine, DPhil Cardiovascular Science, British Heart Foundation Studentship

Knook, Kars, DPhil Mathematics, Mathematical Institute Scholarship

Lamb, Thomas, DPhil Engineering Science, Department of Engineering Research Studentship

Li, Ke, DPhil Clinical Neurosciences, Clarendon Scholarship

Lin, Fangru, DPhil Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, Clarendon Scholarship

Liu, Dimin, DPhil Economics, Department of Economics Scholarship

March, Eleanor, BPhil Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy Scholarship

Muller, Conor, DPhil History, Oxford-Sir Colin R. Lucas Graduate Scholarship

Neubauer, Marleen, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History, Faculty of Classics Scholarship

Nicheperovich, Alina, DPhil Clinical Medicine, Clarendon Scholarship

Reu, Teodora, DPhil Computer Science, Department of Computer Science Scholarship

Sandfelder, Dylan, DPhil Engineering Science, Department of Engineering Research Studentship

Striker, Balazs, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry Scholarship

Sun, Han, DPhil Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Clarendon Scholarship

O'Connor, Mary, DPhil English, Clarendon Scholarship

Tandberg, Kate, DPhil Ancient History, Clarendon Scholarship

Vavourakis, Odysseas, Sustainable Approaches to Biomedical Science (EPSRC CDT), Scatcherd European Scholarship, Clarendon Scholarship

Wang, Hui, DPhil Engineering Science, Clarendon Scholarship
Wang, Zian, DPhil Organic Chemistry, Clarendon Scholarship
White, Daniel, DPhil Politics, Department of Politics and International Relations Studentship
Woolfe, Broghan, MSt Ancient Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy Scholarship
Woolliscroft, Samuel, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine, Kennedy Institute Scholarship
Zisou, Charilaos, DPhil Population Health, Clarendon Scholarship

Other external awards

De la Cruz Rothenfusser, Melchor, MPhil Economics, DAAD Scholarship
Gittus, Brittany, DPhil History, Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship
Horvath, Reka, MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry, Tubex Packaging GmBH Scholarship
Kobayashi, Akari, DPhil Medieval and Modern Languages, Jasso Student Exchange Programme Scholarship
Reboredo Prado, Maria, MSc Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing, Fundacion Barrie
Striker, Balazs, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry, Dutch Polymer Institute Scholarship
Tjandra, Jonathan, MPhil Law, Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship
Waugh, Harrison, MPhil History, Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship

Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions

Ancient and Modern History
Laurence Young, Sir William Markby Scholarship

Biology
Suhayl Kapadia, David Kevan Exhibition; Sophia Kapsalis, David Kevan Exhibition; George Lawrence, Reynolds Exhibition; Ellie Smith, David Kevan Scholarship; Katie Wright, Reynolds Exhibition

Biomedical Sciences
Lily Collins, Levitan Exhibition; Anna-Sophia Maeckel, Levitan Exhibition; Sarah Probert, Levitan Exhibition

Chemistry
Chloe Braganca, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Sacha Chowdhury, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Nicholas Hadjipaschalis, Andrew Pang Scholarship; Amy Hawkins, Andrew Pang Scholarship; Gracie Lewis, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Eugenie Lumsdon, Mouat Jones Scholarship; Alex Mann, Mouat Jones Scholarship; Jack Ovens, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Amelie Todd, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Keer Xing, Andrew Pang Scholarship

Classics
Cooper Ackerly, Robin Hollway Exhibition; Oliver Ellingham, Jenkyns Exhibition; Lucy Jones, Robin Hollway Exhibition

Computer Science
Henry Masding, Donald Michie Scholarship; Matthew Zahra, Elliott Meriweather Bell Exhibition

Economics and Management
Ria Gogna, Reynolds Exhibition; Amerleen Hundle, Reynolds Exhibition; Aman Sultan, Reynolds Exhibition

Engineering Science

Markus Baumgartner, Lubbock Scholarship; Michael Channing, Prosser Exhibition; Freddie Goodfellow, Lubbock Exhibition; Dylan Jubb, JT Hamilton Scholarship; Jonathan Soepadmo, Prosser Exhibition; Callum Umana Stuart, Lubbock Scholarship; Sam Zhuang, Reynolds Exhibition

English

Jess Cullen, Elliott Meriweather Exhibition; Myles Watson, Elliott Meriweather Exhibition; William Wilson, Elton Scholarship

History

Alfie Bates, Theobald Exhibition; Caitlin Cheshire, James Gay Exhibition; George Gresley, Fletcher Scholarship; Megan Hassanali, Fletcher Scholarship; Michael Hughes, Elliott Meriweather Bell Scholarship; Felix Ingemarsson, Elliott Meriweather Bell Scholarship; Olivia Polito Pons, Theobald Exhibition; Charlotte Renahan, Theobald Exhibition; Ben Swan, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Eliska Watling, Theobald Exhibition; Panagiota Yiallouri, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Mina Yucelen, Theobald Exhibition

Mathematics

Tobias Bretschneider, Les Woods Scholarship; Keira Chen, Prosser Exhibition; Aditya Gaurav, Les Woods Scholarship; Auri Guarino, JT Hamilton Scholarship; Oliver Perree, JT Hamilton Scholarship

Mathematics and Computer Science

Kiran Bahra, JT Hamilton Scholarship; Joe Qian, JT Hamilton Scholarship

Mathematics and Philosophy

Dylan Holmes Cowan, JT Hamilton Scholarship; Helen Trenner, JT Hamilton Scholarship

Modern Languages

Georgie Cutmore, Cecil Spring Rice Scholarship; Deborah Lemke, Fletcher Scholarship

Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Abby Granholm, Levitan Exhibition; Jake Hughes, Elliott Meriweather Bell Exhibition; Lea Moutault, Fletcher Scholarship; Noah Saunders, Elliott Meriweather Bell Exhibition; Zack Simpson, Fletcher Scholarship; Andy Wei, Elliott Meriweather Exhibition

Physics

Ewan Beach, Levitan Exhibition; Aditi Chandra, Prosser Scholarship; Luke Chu, Prosser Exhibition; Bartosz Dlubak, Levitan Exhibition; Zack Glindon, Levitan Exhibition; James Hodgson, Reynolds Exhibition; Sidhaarth Kumar, Reynolds Scholarship; Qian Lin, Reynolds Scholarship; Isaac Oyarzabal, Prosser Exhibition; Matthew Sullivan, Reynolds Scholarship; Orla Supple, Reynolds Scholarship; David Wong, Levitan Exhibition; Chian Wu, Levitan Exhibition; Shannon Yu, Reynolds Scholarship; Naiqi Zheng, Levitan Exhibition

Organ Scholar

Benjamin Gardner

College prizes

Academic awards

Any subject
Henri Abensour, Prelims Prize
Joshua Chang, Prelims Prize
Yiming Chen, Prelims Prize
Sian Farnell, Prelims Prize
Arda Goreci, Prelims Prize
Jamie Honeywill, Prelims Prize
Maggie MacLellan, Prelims Prize
Olivia Polito Pons, Prelims Prize
Milton Tai, Prelims Prize
Isaac Todman, Prelims Prize
Matthew Zahra, Prelims Prize

Chemistry
Lidao Li, Greville Smith Prize

Classics
Cooper Ackerly, Samuel Dubner Prize

Engineering
Calin Profir, Prosser Prize
Alec Berry, Lubbock Prize

History
Eva Link, James Gay Prize
Oliver Khurshid, Martin Wright Prize
Caitlin Cheshire, William Mazower Prize
Zoe Gross, Roger Hall Prize (*shared*)
Georgios Roupas, Roger Hall Prize (*shared*)

Law
Dylan Durnion, Lord Rodger of Earlsferry Prize
Sulaymaan Khalil, Archibald McDougall Law Prize; A.V. Dicey Prize
Fionn McFadden, Younger Prize

Helena Cox, Archibald McDougall Law Prize (*proxime accessit, shared*)
Blaine Thomas, Archibald McDougall Law Prize (*proxime accessit, shared*)

Mathematics and Joint Schools
Keira Chen, Robin Wilson Prize
Tobias Bretschneider, Prosser Prize
Aditya Gaurav, Prosser Prize
Oliver Perree, Prosser Prize

Medical Sciences
Sahani De Silva, Wurtman Prize
Kyle Tsang, Wurtman Prize (*proxime accessit*)

Physics
Henri Abensour, Ken Allen Prize
Ewan Beach, Ken Allen Prize
Orla Supple, Ken Allen Prize
Naiqi Zheng, Ken Allen Prize

Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Rosie Mahendra, James Hall Prize
Abby Granholm, GDH Cole Prize
Anna Hickman, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Mukund Soni, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)

Academic-related awards

Bob and Jeanie Heller Prize: David Haar
Gertrude Hartley Prize: Anika Gupta (*proxime accessit*), David Haar (*proxime accessit*), Charlie Taylor (*joint first*), Isaac Wills (*joint first*)
George Powell Prize: Angharad Thorp, Antwone Andrews (*proxime accessit*)
Maharaja Singh Essay Prize: Henry Ferrabee

Non-academic awards

Rachel Sarah Knapp Award
Yuvraj Bhagotra, Mina Yucelen

Mexican Explorer awards
Amelia Cutler, Henry Ferrabee, Helny Hobbs, Marina Ristuccia

William Westerman Pathfinder Awards to North America

Molly Bleach, Oliver Cort, Jessica Cullen, Sian Dennett, Bethan Draycott, Vignesh Iyer, Lilia Kanu, Konrad Ksiazek, Grace Ogle, Matthew Shipway, Callum Webb, Isaac Wong, Edwin Zaimovic

William Westerman Pathfinder Awards to Asia

Isaac Ettinghausen, Megan Hassanali, Tallulah Lefowitz

University prizes

Cooper Ackerly, 1st De Paravicini Prize for performance in the Latin papers in Honour Moderations in Classics, and Harold Lister Sunderland Prize 2024 for performance in the Greek papers in Honour Moderations in Classics

Angele Baum, Charles Oldham Scholarship in Classical Studies for travel abroad

Biba Cope-Brown, Charles Oldham Scholarship in Classical Studies for travel abroad

Hermán Luis Chávez, Colin Franklin Prize for Book Collecting 2024 for his essay 'Atiliano Auza León and 20th C. Bolivian Art Music'

Luke Corey, Philosophy Faculty Board Prize for excellent performance in examination

Yash Jaiswal, BCS Prize in Computer Science 2024 for the best performance in Computer Science papers

Harrison Lee Jones, Ralph Chiles Prize in Comparative Human Rights for best performance in the Comparative Human Rights paper

Lucy Jones, C.E. Stevens and Charles Oldham Scholarship in Classical Studies for travel abroad

Alexandra Knighton, Sir Roger Bannister Prize 2024 for undergraduate medical students who excel in the study of neuroscience

Tristan Yip, Law Faculty Prize in Advanced and Comparative Criminal Law for best performance in Advanced and Comparative Criminal Law paper

Final Honour Schools (FHS)

Molly Bleach, Casselton Prize 2024 for best research project dissertation in the field of Evolution and Development in the final (4th) year of the MBiol

Zelda Cahill-Patten, Gibbs Prize in English Language and Literature, for best overall performance in Course II of the Honour School in 2023

Georgie Cutmore, Arteaga Prize for the best performance in FHS Spanish

Aditya Gaurav, Gibbs Statistics Prize of FHS Mathematics and Statistics Part B

Amy Hawkins, best performance in FHS Part II Examinations in Chemistry

Deborah Lemke, Paul McClean Prize for the best performance in French sole, and Diversity Prize II for the best performance in a dissertation essay, portfolio of essays or linguistics project that engages with diversity and intersectional approaches

The lists on pages 69–77 include only results that were available before 31 July 2024: see page 2.

Jack Ovens, best performance in FHS Part I Practical Chemistry

Correction to 2023 edition

Dong Hyun Kang, George Wolf Prize, for best performance in the Master of Studies in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics for 2022/2023

Graduate research degrees

Doctorates of Philosophy

Abdulghani, Majd, 'Radiation-induced splicing and the DNA damage response'

Al Youha, Ali, 'Inventing the Khalījī State: Formation of Political Sovereignty in the Gulf'

Alexis, Emmanouil, 'Design and Analysis of Genetic Feedback Architectures for Synthetic Biology'

Alsahafi, Zaki, 'Regulation of the carotid body type-1 cell by lipid signalling pathways'

Altman, Daniel, 'Topics in and around higher-order Fourier analysis'

Ball, Philip, 'Effective offline training and efficient online adaptation'

Bandiera, Sara, 'Characterisation of the earliest thalamocortical interaction in vivo and in vitro'

Braham, Calum, 'Kinetic models of many-particle systems with short-ranged inelastic interactions and clustering'

Bulled, Johnathan, 'Disorder-Property Relationships in Magnetic and Pseudospin Framework Materials'

Chen, Jingzhi, 'Grounding Associative Obligations: A New Voluntarist Account and Its Political Implications'

Cooper, George, 'Universal Moduli of Sheaves over Curves and Moduli of Flags of Varieties via Geometric Invariant Theory'

Cudic, Mihael, 'Fluorescence Microscopy Image Analysis of Retinal Neurons Using Deep Learning'

Dootson, Dominic, 'Bars, Scars & Spirals: The Response of Razor-thin Axisymmetric Stellar Discs to Perturbations'

Dumbill, Richard, 'Clinical Translation and Preclinical Optimisation of Prolonged Duration Normothermic Perfusion of the Kidney'

Evans, Thomas, 'Anti-Agreement Irish Republicans Beyond the Armalite: Strategic Change and Survival of a Post-Conflict Spoiler Movement'

Evatt, Alice, 'Emergency Ethics: Understanding Climate Change in the Lead Up to 2050'

Fletcher, Theo, 'Fast Quasi-Centroid Molecular Dynamics'

Gleed, Alexander, 'Medical Image Analysis for Simplified Ultrasound Protocols'

Gosden, Matthew, 'An exploration of non-coding sequence variation across

human erythroid differentiation'
Goto, An, 'Novel Reaction-Based De Novo Molecular Design in 2D & 3D using Deep Q-Learning'
Gould, Dewi, 'Generalized Symmetries in String Theory Realizations of Quantum Field Theories'
Gurel, Gunseli, 'Picturing Marvels, Magic and Monsters at the Late Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Court: Ms. British Library, Harleian 5500'
He, Yixuan, 'Graph Neural Networks for Network Analysis'
Herdman, Matthew, 'Principles of Surface Layer Biogenesis in Caulobacter crescentus'
Herrera Poyatos, Andrés, 'Approximate counting via complex zero-free regions and spectral independence'
Hidalgo Valadez, Andrea, 'Development of the HARMONI spectrograph for ESO's Extremely Large Telescope'
Hulse, Simon, 'Estimation of NMR Signals in the Time Domain: Methodology, Applications and Software'
Hvinden, Ingvild, 'Exploring metabolic vulnerability and therapeutic potential in cancers with isocitrate dehydrogenase mutations'
Jones, Rebecca, 'Alkaline-earth catalysts for biorenewable polymer synthesis'
Jones, Edward, 'Accounts and Accountability in Classical Athens'
Jones, Carol, 'Beyond Mimesis: Nature in Contemporary Classical Music'
Kerckhoffs, Aidan, 'Redshifting Azobenzenes for Photoswitchable Ion Transport and Catalysis'
Lester, Harriet, 'Changes in alternative polyadenylation throughout the yeast metabolic cycle and during glucose starvation in Saccharomyces cerevisiae'
Levene, Ilana, 'Investigating the dynamic process of expressing breastmilk for very preterm infants and the influence of a relaxation intervention, with the aim of improving clinical recommendations'
Lichtman, Jared, 'Topics in Multiplicative Number Theory'
Longden, Joseph, 'Development of Superconducting Thin Film Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifiers'
Lu, Cong, 'Towards Efficient and Robust Reinforcement Learning via Synthetic Environments and Offline Data'
MacKay, Micah, 'Hearing the Page: Re-Assessing the History and Performance of the Late Medieval Carol'
Majewski, Kacper, 'Legal Practice and Its Continuity'
Meekel, Emily, 'Structure and properties of zinc 1,3-bdc metal-organic

frameworks'

Montazid, Shamir, 'Characterisation of the intestinal epithelium and adult stem cell dynamics in the naked mole rats'

Nahata, Shree, 'Dharmakīrti versus Akalaṅka on the Nature, Object, and Structure of Perception'

Nizza, Virginia, 'US Technology Policy in the Age of the US-China Tech War'

O'Brien, Conan, 'Intra and extra-adrenal immune mechanisms regulating adrenal hormonal output'

Ogden, Hannah, 'The influence of the social environment on strategic investment in competition'

Patel, Ashna, 'A Quantitative Analysis of the Contribution of Costimulation to T cell Activation by the T cell Receptor and Chimeric Antigen Receptors'

Pereyra Elias, Renee, 'Assessing the role of confounding in the association between breastfeeding duration and cognitive development and school performance'

Petrossian-Byrne, Rudin, 'Aspects of the Standard Model Landscape and Post Vacuum Transition Dynamics'

Phan, Linda, 'The Influence of Polarisation on the Behaviour of Anions Within Ion Channels and Nanopores'

Polkinghorne, Murray, 'Endocrine Effects of Adipose Tissue on Cardiovascular Redox State: Antioxidant Benefits From Targeting Insulin Signalling'

Sbaï, Marion, 'Cloud/Edge Inference for Deep Neural Networks'

Schafer, Moa, 'Preventing intimate partner violence (IPV) through a digital parenting intervention: Intervention development, programme delivery, and preliminary results'

Schaffner, Florian, 'Essays on Empathy and Political Behaviour'

Schinaia, Giulio, 'Essays on rural economic development'

Seitz, Samuel, 'Purchasing Prestige or Seeking Security? How Status Concerns and External Threats Shape Military Force Design'

Simon, Felix, 'AI, News, and the Transformation of the Public Arena'

Tibau Vidal, Anicet, 'On the locality of indistinguishable quantum systems'

Triay Bagur, Alexandre, 'Augmented Mapping and Analysis of Pancreatic Fat by Quantitative MRI'

Tricarico, Michele, 'Nanomechanical Behaviour of the Monolithic Framework Solids: An Experimental and Modelling Study'

Van wees, Nathan, 'Legal Institutions and our Moral Reasons'

Wang, Zijing, 'A Framework for Characterising the Value of Information in Communication Systems'

Wilcox, Sian, 'Fasting-induced torpor in mice: effects on sleep and behaviour'
Willner, Benjamin, 'Synthesis and Characterisation of Organic Semiconductors for Solar Energy Application'
Yasin, Tariq, 'Combining kinematic and photometric constraints on the galaxy-halo connection'
Ye, John, 'The Role of Lipid Metabolising Enzymes in CD1a-associated Cutaneous inflammation'

MPhil by Research

Dhonchak, Anupriya, 'A Feminist Approach to Publicity Rights in India'
Naidoo, Nerissa, 'Collecting Dots, Drawing Lines: Analysing the application of a human rights framework to the legal regulation of bulk surveillance in South Africa, Canada, and the United Kingdom'
Tirapu Sanuy, Josep, 'Plurinational Arbiters: Constitutional Courts and the Accommodation of Minority Nations'

Correction to 2023 edition

Singh, Preman, 'The physiological and pathological aggregation of Transforming Growth Factor-β-Induced and Amyloid Precursor Protein in Drosophila secondary cells'

Distinctions in graduate taught degrees

Angell, Kate, MPhil Modern Chinese Studies
Annamaneni, Keerthana, MPhil Politics: Political Theory
Boduljak, Gabrijel, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Broadbent, Ben, MPhil Greek and/or Latin Lang and Lit
Clesi, Aimee, MPhil Criminology and Criminal Justice
Conway, Finn, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Dewan, Diksha, MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry
Faglia, Paolo, BPhil Philosophy
Grayson, Edward, MSt History - Intellectual History
Jones, Harrison, BCL
Laugen-kelly, Algernon, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Laundal, Tobias, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Lu, Christopher, MSt Mod Langs (FRE and ITA)
McGrath, Brendan, MPhil Economics
Nicheperovich, Alina, MSc Genomic Medicine
Pai, Jerry, EMBA
Pillay, Kialan, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Prabhu, Trisha, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Rustad, Linn, MPhil Politics: European Pol and Soc
Sangaré, Aurélie, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics
Schoenfeld, Molly, MSt History - British and Euro Hist 1700-1850
Singh, Nihal, MPhil Modern South Asian Studies
Stich, Felicia, MPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Vanden Borre, Felix, MSt History - Early Modern History 1500-1700
Visser, Marie-Pauline, MSc Financial Economics
Weierts, Lukas, EMBA
Yip, Tristan, BCL

Firsts and distinctions in undergraduate degrees

Distinctions in Prelims and Honour Moderations

Ancient and Modern History: Luca Ryan
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies: Lucas Ali-Hassan
Biology: Ruby Leys, Mackenzie Robb
Chemistry: Conner Maguire, Ben Scott
Classics: Cooper Ackerly
Classical Archaeology and Ancient History: Oliver New
Computer Science: Yash Jaiswal
Economics and Management: Ansh Agarwal, Rose Bamford, Yicheng Li
Engineering Science: Eli Arie, Sophie Lindridge, Suleiman Mahmood
English Language and Literature: Ralph Whitworth
History: Maya Brockie, Barnaby Cox, Theodore Fischer, Luca Karkutli, Connor Mair, Daisy Smith
History and Economics: Jordan Liu
Jurisprudence: Alexis Komninos
Jurisprudence (with Law in Europe): Gilon Fox
Mathematics: Nathan Adlam, Cyrus Linden
Mathematics and Philosophy: Luke Corey
Medicine: Conall Islip
Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Will Murphy, Harvey Garnaut, Anna Hickman, Gemma Kelk, Shirica Leong, Mukund Soni
Physics and Philosophy: Ryan Lin
Diploma in Legal Studies: Maria Duran Baches, Julius Strauß

Firsts in public examinations year 3

Biomedical Science: Arda Goreci
Engineering Science: Dylan Jubb, Callum Umana Stuart
Mathematics: Tobias Bretschneider, Adam Cutts, Ady Gaurav
Mathematics and Philosophy: Helen Trenner
Medicine: Edwin Zaimovic, Sahani de Silva
Physics: Bartosz Dlubak, Shannon Yu

Physics and Philosophy: Irin Mann, Helena Newman-Sanders

Final Honour Schools

Biology: George Lawrence, Ellie Smith
Chemistry: Sacha Chowdhury, Amy Hawkins
Classics and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies: Debadrita Dass
Economics and Management: Josh Royan
Engineering Science: Markus Baumgartner
English Language and Literature: Jessica Cullen, Isaac Ettinghausen, Dylan Maggs, William Wilson
History and English: Sasha Harden, Lilia Kanu
History and Modern Languages (Spanish): Georgie Cutmore
History: Fintan Brennan, George Gresley, Megan Hassanali, Michael Hughes, Ben Swan, Panagiota Yiallouri
Mathematical and Theoretical Physics: Aditi Chandra, Sidhaarth Kumar, Orla Supple
Mathematics: Oliver Cort, Ollie Perree
Mathematics and Computer Science: Moses Hung, Joe Qian
Mathematics and Philosophy: Dylan Holmes-Cowan
Mathematics and Statistics: Millie Cutler, Auriel Guarino
Modern Languages (French): Deborah Lemke
Modern Languages (Italian and Spanish): Bethan Draycott
Physics and Philosophy: Zack Glindon, James Hodgson
Philosophy, Politics and Economics: James Keeling, Tallulah Lefkowitz, Léa Moutault, Marina Ristuccia, Zack Simpson, Felix Von Baumgarten, Callum Webb

Honours, appointments and awards

New Year Honours 2024

Colin Liddell (1973), lately Charity Lawyer, Pitlochry: Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to theatre and the arts in Scotland.

Calypso Nash (2012): Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to British foreign policy.

Professor Richard Templer (1981), lately Director of Innovation, Grantham Institute, Imperial College London: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE), for services to climate innovation.

Carl Woodall (Fellow and Domestic Bursar 2000–2009), lately Director of Facilities, House of Lords: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to Parliament.

Resignation Honours December 2023

Jon Moynihan (1967 and Foundation Fellow), formerly CEO and Executive Chairman of PA Consulting Group and formerly Chairman of Vote Leave: Peerage of the United Kingdom for Life.

King's Birthday Honours 2024

Professor Freddie Hamdy (Professorial Fellow), Nuffield Professor of Surgery and Head, Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to Surgical and Cancer Sciences.

Ruth Sloan (1998), Deputy Director, Legacy, Ireland Office: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

Matthew Westerman (1983, Foundation Fellow), Lately Chair, Imperial War Museums: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to Museums and to Cultural Heritage.

British Academy Fellows 2024

Professor David Gellner (1976), Professor of Anthropology, University of Oxford.

Professor Daniel Harbour (1993), Professor of the Cognitive Science of Language, Queen Mary University of London.

James Montgomery (1984), Sir Thomas Adams's Professor of Arabic, University of Cambridge.

Professor Adrian Moore (1978), Professor of Philosophy, University of Oxford.

Royal Society Fellow 2024

Professor Patrick Unwin (1985, DPhil in Chemistry, Junior Research Fellow in Physical Sciences 1988–1991), Head of Chemistry at the University of Warwick

Senior Members

Professor Hagan Bayley FRS (1970 and Honorary Fellow): was awarded the Royal Society Buchanan Medal for distinguished contributions to the biomedical sciences.

James Belich (Beit Professor of Global and Imperial History, and Professorial Fellow): his book The World the Plague Made: The Black Death and the Rise of Europe (Princeton University Press, 2022) was shortlisted for the Wolfson History Prize

Maria Czepiel (Lecturer in Spanish): won the 2023 SNLS Ann Moss Early Career Essay Prize for her essay 'Jewish Scholarship in the Lyric Poetry of Benito Arias Montaño (ca.1525-1598)'.

Professor Neta Crawford (Montague Burton Professor of International Relations and Professorial Fellow): was awarded the Anti-Censorship Award in the 44th American Book Awards for her book The Pentagon, Climate Change, and War: Charting the Rise and Fall of U.S. Military Emissions (MIT Press, 2022); won the 2024 University of Louisville Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order.

Dr Linda Eggert (Early Career Fellow in Philosophy): awarded the 2023 Frank Chapman Sharp Memorial Prize by the American Philosophical Association (APA); named by Schmidt Sciences as one of 19 2023 AI2050 Early Career Fellows selected to solve challenges in artificial intelligence through multidisciplinary research.

Adrian Kelly (Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Greek Language and Literature): his book The Cambridge Companion to Sappho was listed in Choice magazine's Outstanding Academic Titles 2022: LGBTQ+ Pride.

Professor Chris Minkowski (Emeritus Fellow): appointed Visiting Professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Yale University.

Professor Dominic O'Brien (Professor of Engineering Science and Senior Research Fellow in Engineering): appointed Director of a new Oxford-led Hub to develop quantum technologies.

Professor Dermot O'Hare (Professor of Chemistry, Senior Research Fellow in Chemistry and SCG Fellow): received the John B Goodenough Prize for outstanding contributions to the chemical sciences.

Lord Reed, Balliol's Visitor: awarded honorary degree of LLD by Edinburgh University.

Dr Raghavendra Srinivas (Early Career Fellow in Physics): awarded the Optica Foundation's Hänsch Prize in Quantum Optics.

Professor Jin-Chong Tan (Professor of Engineering Science, Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science): awarded a European Research Council Advanced Grant.

Professor John Tasioulas (Professor of Ethics and Legal Philosophy, Senior Research Fellow, and Director of the Institute for Ethics in AI): was appointed to the High Level Advisory Committee for Artificial Intelligence (AI) established by the Greek government.

Professor Nick Trefethen (Emeritus Fellow): was appointed Professor of Applied Mathematics in Residence at the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS).

Junior Members

Katherine Benjamin (2017, DPhil Mathematics): won a silver award in the STEM for BRITAIN scientific poster competition organised by the Parliamentary & Scientific Committee.

Hermán Luis Chávez (2023, MSt Modern Languages – Spanish): awarded the 2024 Colin Franklin Prize for Book Collecting.

Aimee Clesi (2022, DPhil Criminology): selected as a John Robert Lewis Fellow by the Faith and Politics Institute (FPI).

Yusuf Ben-Tarifite (2018): received a 2023 Diana Award for founding 'The

Aspiring Medics' to help students from diverse backgrounds pursue careers in medicine; received the Legacy Award, the highest accolade a young person can achieve for social action or humanitarian efforts.

Jeffrey Tse (2021, DPhil Statistics): won a prize in the UCL Statistical Science poster competition.

Correction to 2023 edition

We apologise to Richard Ovenden (Bodley's Librarian and Professorial Fellow) who was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (not a Fellowship of the British Academy, as was incorrectly stated).

College Life

Library and Archives

After a few years of changing circumstances, most recently with the introduction of a new University Library system, the academic year 2023/2024 has seen a return to business as usual. Staff have been able to focus on regular service provision, providing breaks and activities for student welfare, delivering and supporting classes, and promoting collections through exhibitions, events and cataloguing. There were some changes, however, most notably with the departure of three valued members of staff and the welcoming of their immensely capable successors. The exciting possibility of a refurbishment and reconfiguration of the Library's spaces means more activity might be in the pipeline but for the moment the Library is taking stock and moving forward within its current footprint.

New staff members

The end of 2022/2023 saw the departure of Dr Bethany Hamblen as Archivist, returning to her native Connecticut to look after her family home, and Aishah Olubaji as Early Career Librarian, who has moved on to become Assistant Librarian at Magdalene College, Cambridge. Both will be sorely missed but have been very ably replaced by Faye McLeod and Vicki Clarke respectively. Faye comes to us from the post of University Archivist here in Oxford. Vicki was Reader Services Team Leader at the Bodleian before coming to Balliol. More recently our Antiquarian Cataloguer, Sophie Floate has moved to Trinity College. Hannah Smith, previously Assistant Librarian at Eton College, has recently been appointed to fill her shoes.

Exhibitions and events

This year our Michaelmas exhibition was *Messing About with Manuscripts,* an examination of the work of R.A.B. Mynors (1922), alumnus, Librarian and Fellow of Balliol, who produced a celebrated catalogue describing its medieval books. This exhibition had already been presented online during the pandemic but mounting it physically allowed us to mark the 60th anniversary of this seminal publication. Displayed alongside illuminated books from the 11th to the 15th centuries were artefacts from Mynors' life and work, including his attaché case, photographs and letters. For Trinity Term we explored the great outdoors with a very popular exhibition on Balliol's mountaineering heritage,



Delegates on the Teachers' Institute on 'Teaching the Atlantic Slave Trade' engage with documents on a visit to the Pitt Rivers Museum

Going up to Balliol, put together by our Assistant Librarian, Nigel Buckley, who is a keen climber and Keeper of Artefacts for the Alpine Club. Visitors were treated to a display which included ice-axes, protective clothing, including a down suit worn on the first ascent of Everest, and bespoke climbing blocks developed by Sir Adam Roberts (Emeritus Fellow) to ascend the exterior of the LSE building. Complementing this were four free lectures on the theme.

Our collections furnish us with material for bespoke events for both internal and external audiences and demand remains high. Within College tutors arranged classes on early modern French texts, medieval manuscripts, and the material history of books. The Praefectus arranged two group visits for graduate students to see the historic collections and selected St Cross as the venue for the annual Dervorguilla Lecture, displaying a 15th century *Heroides* manuscript with depictions of classical heroines. We offered our annual sessions to help prepare English and History undergraduates for their theses, using an activity that we've come to know as 'speed-dating with manuscripts', and welfare walks around Port Meadow following a route suggested by Gerard Manley Hopkins' (1863) sketchbooks. We also hosted a coffee morning for staff from all College departments during the Christmas vacation. Other classes from within Oxford University looked at 19th century poetry, medieval manuscripts and Pugin. External groups came from Stanford University to see early archival documents and from the University of Alabama to see photographs of alumni involved in the First World War. We hosted a class led by Honorary Fellow, Gwyneth Lewis, the previous National Poet of Wales, with a theme of 'Poetry Detectives' and the Magdalen School Archives club to see medieval manuscripts. The impact of 2022's *Slavery in the Age of Revolution*

continues. Two groups of students came to see items from the exhibit, another from the University of Alabama, and one from Bowie State University. In August 2023 this culminated in a Teachers' Institute on *Teaching about Transatlantic Slavery,* which brought together 40 educators from both sides of the Atlantic for a week of discussion and activities. Typical of the overwhelmingly positive feedback was the comment 'Putting into words the impact [of the event] is impossible.'

Usage and purchasing

From July 2023 to the end of May 2024 an average of 154 unique users per day during term time were recorded. We purchased 546 books in all subject areas, mainly from suggestions by Fellows and students.

Historic collections

We received 372 enquiries regarding our historic collections, an increasing number (107) of which translated into visits to see original material. Online description of our collections is gathering momentum as our newly appointed Archivist has stepped up the progress of transferring catalogues onto the Epexio system. She has already moved descriptions for several key sets of personal papers onto this system, which provides a much more convenient, structured and searchable interface for researchers. She has also supported other members of staff, providing records for papers and manuscripts. Our Antiquarian Cataloguer continued her surveying of the early printed books finding, amongst other things, a 16th century edition of Apollinaris owned by Mildred Cecil, Lady Burghley, and a unique publication called *Satan's Jimcrack*, a scurrilous sermon apparently preached by the Duke of Buckingham for Charles II.

Recent purchases for the special collections have included books by C.G. Crump (1880), Joseph Macleod (1922), Somerset de Chair (1929), and Eric Walter White (1924), as well as the student notebooks of the poet and critic F.T. Prince (1931), and a selection of historic postcards. Donations from alumni and others continue to enrich our collections. Amongst many others these have included photographs of A.L. Smith (Master of Balliol 1916–1924) from his great-great granddaughter, Hanna Conan, and *Court Cookery* published in 1725 with numerous hand-written recipes added in, given by alumnus Kenneth Wheeler (1957). Continuing generosity from Professor Nicoletta Momigliano has seen more material join the Roger Lonsdale (Vice-Master 1978–1980, Emeritus Fellow 2000–2022) archive, together with provision

for its cataloguing. This gift and a kind contribution from Professor Nick Trefethen (Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow) to digitise and catalogue his donation of index cards recording thoughts throughout his career, will provide the basis for a new post of a project cataloguer.

Stewart Tiley (Librarian)

Gifts of publications by College Members July 2023–July 2024

M. Banner (1979): *Britain's Slavery Debt*, 2024.

N. Bryant (1972 translator): *The Book of the Deeds of the Good Knight Jacques de Lalaing*, 2024*; The New Reynard: Three Satires*, 2023.

D. Butt (Robert Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in Political Theory): ed. (with Sarah Fine and Zofia Stemplowska) *Political Philosophy, Here and Now*, 2022.

A. Chaudhuri (1987): *Freedom Song*, 2023; *The Immortals*, 2023; *A New World*, 2023; *Real Time*, 2023; *Sweet Shop: New and Selected Poems, 1985-2023*, 2023; *Afternoon Rag*, 2022; *Finding the Raga*, 2022; *Odysseus Abroad*, 2022; *A Strange and Sublime Address*, 2022; *Sojourn*, 2022.

M. Chisholm (1973): *The Avon Gorge,* 2023; *The Garden,* 2023; *A Tourist from Mars,* 2023; *Dream Theatre,* 2022; *Framework,* 2021; *A Selection of the Proverbs of Hell,* 2021; *Sidelights*, 2019.

M. Conway (Professor of Contemporary European History, MacLellan-Warburg Fellow and Tutor in History): *L'età della Democrazia,* 2023.

D. Gowan (1967): ed. *Quiet between Trains: Lampeter, the Teifi Valley and the Aberayron Branch in the Final Years of Steam – 1963 to 1965, Photographs by Vernon Parry* [Balliol, 1945], 2023.

A. Grant (1993): *Sex, Spies and Scandal: the John Vassall Affair,* 2024.

R. Harrison (1968): *My Way,* 2022.

P. Hacker (1965): *A Beginner's Guide to the Later Philosophy of Wittgenstein*, 2024.

A. Hopkinson-Woolley (1955): *What is the Gospel Truth?*, 2023.

T. Hosking (1974): *The Shakespearean Interplay with Marlowe*, 2024.

E. Kesling (2011): *Medical Texts in Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture*, 2020.

G. Lewis (1985): *Diwrnod Arall yn Dost yn y Gwely*, 2022; *Too Far*, 2018; *Advantages of the Older Man,* 2014; *Clytemenestra*, 2012; (translator) *Y Storm*, 2012; *Arthur's Talk with the Eagle*, 2010.

J. Lichtman (2019): "Topics in Multiplicative Number Theory" [Thesis], 2023.
N. Mansergh (1969): *The Irish Construction Cycle, 1970-2023,* 2024.
I. McCalman (1964): "Marchmont Nedham, Journalist and Medical Writer (1629-78)" [Thesis], 1978.
O. Murray (Emeritus Fellow): *The Muse of History*, 2024.
J. Ogilvie (1976): *Latitude attitude,* 2023.
C. Patten (1962): *The Hong Kong Diaries,* 2022.
P. Sarris (1990): *Justinian*, 2023.
M. Selzer (1960): (translator) *"When Elokim began to create the sky and the earth …" : Genesis 1:1 – 9:19*, 2023.
A. Smyth (Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book): *The Book Makers*, 2023; ed. *The Oxford Handbook of the History of the Book in Early Modern England*, 2023.
M. Walters (Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow): *A.V. Dicey and the Common Law Constitutional Tradition*, 2020.

Other gifts

Further welcome gifts were made by: Penny Bulloch, Norman Coles (1957), the Editors of *Essays in Criticism*, Bethany Hamblen (Archivist & Records Manager), Robert Harding (on behalf of the Savile Club), Henrike Laehnemann (on behalf of the Taylorian Institute Library), Faye McLeod (Archivist & Records Manager), Chris Minkowski (Emeritus Fellow), Peter Morris, Tom Newton Dunn, Seamus Perry (Fellow Librarian), Mihika Poddar (2019), Mark Pyper (1968), Penny Tyack, John Witheridge, Diego Zancani (Emeritus Fellow).

Chapel

Preachers

Michaelmas Term

Revd Dr Melanie Marshall, Chaplain
Dr Stan Rosenberg, Executive Director, Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford (SCIO)
Prof Peter McCullough, Sohmer Fellow in English Renaissance Literature, Lincoln College
Revd and Worshipful Justin Gau, Barrister at Law; Chancellor, Diocese of Bristol
Revd Canon Dr Peter Groves, Vicar of St Mary Magdalen's Church, Oxford
Revd Helen Sims Williams, Assistant Curate, Emmanuel Church West Hampstead

Hilary Term

Revd Dr Melanie Marshall, Chaplain
Revd Dr Jonathan Jong, Vicar of Cocking, Lavington, Bepton and Heyshott
Dr Tristan Franklinos, Lecturer in Classics, Oriel College
Deacon Tito Pereira, Benemerenti Papal Medalist
Revd Alan Trigle, Associate Priest, St Nicholas' Church Chiswick
Dr Kathryn Murphy (2004), Senior Proctor
Dr Gwyneth Lewis (1985), Honorary Fellow and Artist in Residence
Dr James Williams, Lecturer in 19th Century Literature and Culture, University of York

Trinity Term

Revd Tom Clammer, The Anglican Order of Cistercians
Archie Warsap, Ordinand on Placement
Dr Rebecca Dean, Tutor in New Testament, Ripon College Cuddesdon (Joint Service with Pembroke College)
Revd Dr Alex Popescu (1994)
Bishop Humphrey Southern, Principal, Ripon College Cuddesdon
Revd Dr Jeremy Morris (1978), National Adviser on Ecumenical Relations
Philippa White, Precentor, Christ Church Cathedral

Revd Esther Lay, Acting Chaplain TT24

Services for College Members

Interment of ashes
Leon Kitchen, 28 February 2024

Memorial services
Bill Newton-Smith, 16 March 2024

Marriages and blessings
Callum Brooks (2017) and Emma Jones (2017), 12 August 2023
Angus Barry (2011) and Angelica De Vido (2017), 26 August 2023
Matilda Kepton and Joshua Ogle, 27 July 2024
Tomas Curran (2010) and Annamika Singh, 17 August 2024
Eloise Wells (2022, DPhil in Genomic Medicine and Statistics) and Dominic Beer, 24 August 2024
Esther Bisplinghoff and Lukas Weierts, 31 August 2024

The Choir

This year marks the conclusion of my third year with the choir and what a wonderful year it has been. My first three years as Organ Scholar have flown by, and it feels like only yesterday when I was writing the first of these annual reports.

This year, we were fortunate to go on tour to Vienna. It was an incredible week, filled with too many highlights to record here. For me, the chance to conduct the choir and play the organ in Stephansdom (St. Stephen's Cathedral), the main cathedral in Vienna, is an experience I will never forget. We performed a wide range of repertoire, and despite not rehearsing together over the summer, the choir came together and mastered pieces from Schütz to Mozart faster than I could have imagined. We sang in Stephansdom, Peterskirche, Christ Church (the English-speaking Anglican Church), and Lutherskirche. None of this would have been possible without the advice and support of many members of the College. I would like to thank Dame Helen Ghosh (Master), Dr Revd Melanie Marshall (Chaplain), and Amanda Tilley (Finance Bursar) in particular for their great help in making it happen.



The choir after getting up early on May Day to sing from the Salvin Tower

The end of our Vienna tour marked the start of Michaelmas Term, where we welcomed a whole range of new voices, many from the JCR, but also new joiners from the MCR and beyond. I hope everyone felt very welcomed – it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm for singing throughout the year. Angela Ede (Junior Organ Scholar) and I decided to build on the momentum of the choir tour by exploring a wide range of repertoire, highlighted by the weekly setting of an Introit and increasingly ambitious Anthems and Canticles. We were delighted by the enthusiasm for learning new pieces, aided by a regular Chamber Choir group that went from strength to strength this year.

Michaelmas highlights included a wonderful rendition of Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* and the old choir favourite – Wood's *O Thou the Central Orb*. The Remembrance Service was a moving tribute to the occasion, with Guest's *For the Fallen* being an especially poignant moment. The Advent Service is probably my favourite service of the year, and it was brilliant to see a week of intense rehearsals pay off in a wonderful Service. Highlights included the Chamber Choir's performance of *Sans Day Carol*, arranged by our very own

Eleanor March, *In Dulci Jubilo*, and a reflective moment during Howells' *A Spotless Rose*, which provided a wonderful balance to the event.

Hilary Term gave the choir the chance to sing a broader repertoire, with highlights including the Introits: Grieg's *Ave Maris Stella*, Farrant's *Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake*, Coleridge-Taylor's *O ye that love the Lord*, settings of the Canticle by Weelkes and Murrill, and Cornelius' Anthem *The Three Kings*. The choir also had the chance to sing Eucharist in 4th week, which, based on the success of Trinity, will now be established as a special termly service. The setting of Haydn's *Little Organ Mass* was performed beautifully.

Finally, in Trinity, we began the term with Britten's *Jubilate Deo* and *Wood in D*. After this, I took a step back from the choir to focus on preparing for my finals, but I am reliably informed the rest of the term was a success. The choir enjoyed our joint service with Pembroke in 3rd week and the Leavers' Service in 8th week, where *Stanford in Bb*, Gjeilo's *Ubi Caritas*, and Gardiner's *Evening Hymn* were a fitting send-off for our leavers this year. Esther Lay (Acting Chaplain) had the chance to preach, and I would like to thank her for covering Melanie Marshall's maternity leave.

As I reach the conclusion of my third year with the choir, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful Chaplain, Melanie Marshall, whose encouragement and energy have been a delight to work with. We would especially like to extend our congratulations to her on the arrival of Ursula last term. Melanie is leaving us next year and she will be greatly missed, but she is always welcome to return and sing with the choir whenever she wishes.

Dame Helen Ghosh has been unwavering in her support of the choir, and I am deeply thankful for her assistance in making our tour possible this summer, as well as for her ongoing and much-appreciated support of the Chapel and choir. Dr Alex Binns (Lecturer in Music) has provided generous support and invaluable advice, which has been immensely helpful to both Angela and me throughout the year. We are both grateful for all his help and the numerous times he has gone above and beyond.

Of course, the smooth running of the Chapel would not be possible without the dedication of our Chaplain's Secretary, Dr Ilaria Gualino. My thanks also go to the social secretaries, Eleanor March and Matt Shipway, for their enthusiasm throughout the year, their assistance in welcoming the Freshers in Michaelmas, and for organising many wonderful events. My thanks too to our secretary, Tess Johnson, who has, so generously, helped manage the administrative side of choir, without which the choir would not have functioned so seamlessly.

I am deeply grateful to Angela for her exceptional work and friendship over the past year. Her impact on the choir over her first two years has been profound, and while she will be missed next year as she goes to France for her year abroad, I know the choir will eagerly anticipate her return for her fourth year.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the choir, especially those who are leaving, for their friendship and hard work this year. It has been a pleasure getting to know each of them, and I am confident that the choir will continue to thrive in the coming year.

Benjamin Gardner, Senior Organ Scholar

Middle Common Room

A year ago, as I meditated on the trajectory of the Balliol MCR, one objective stood out above all others: to maintain Balliol's unparalleled camaraderie, zeal, and communal spirit. I am proud to say that we have achieved this goal with flying colours. Thanks to the dedication of a once-in-a-generation MCR committee, and the enthusiasm of Balliol graduates old and new, the year's progression exemplified the strength and consequence of community.

It goes without saying that the MCR owes a debt of gratitude to the Praefectus of Holywell Manor, Elena Lombardi, who has been a resource, mentor, and anchor for Balliol graduates throughout this year. I, alongside countless MCR members, have greatly appreciated her conscientious counsel and resourceful approach to various challenges that arose throughout the year.

Additionally, I would not have survived this year without the wisdom and friendship of Vice-President Emma Wallace, who fearlessly accepted my encouragement to run for the position just a week after she arrived at Oxford, and who could not have been a better support to me and the entire MCR community.

The year kicked off with a Freshers' Week that set the tone for the strength and spirit of the year. From the always-iconic Tuesday bar crawl to the support offered by so many College parents, the term commenced in a manner that exemplified Balliol's welcoming spirit.

I know I speak for all returning MCR members when I express particular gratitude to the Freshers who took a leap of faith to join the committee mere moments after arriving at Oxford. Felix Vanden Borre brought his ardour for sustainability to the role of Environmental Officer, effectively leading the MCR to lessen our community's carbon footprint over the course of the year. Carlos Ochoa Flores' selfless assistance at the initial MCR BBQ translated to a corresponding commitment to culinary excellence at our OGM meetings through his role as Food Officer.

Kilian de Ridder joined the inimitable social team of Maria Pereira da Costa and Mark Eid, forming a dynamic trio the likes of which haven't been seen since the Jonas Brothers. The social team spearheaded a termly schedule of exchanges, formal dinners, Bops and, of course, the iconic Balliol Fridays. Thanks to our Social Secretaries, Balliol students were never at a loss for opportunities to socialise and relax after long days in the library.

Michaelmas Term started with a host of innovative events from our returning Arts Officer, Chris Lu, who brought back the ever-popular painting and pottery classes and even organised private tours of the Ashmolean. Sports Officer Aaron Leu was steadfast in maintaining and expanding the MCR's athletic opportunities, including yoga, kayaking, and the state-of-the-art Balliol gym. As Welfare Officers, Melchor de la Cruz and Brendan McGrath formed an unparalleled team. Welfare teas and brunches consistently provided much-needed nourishment, and free Headspace subscriptions were an invaluable resource for MCR members facing looming thesis deadlines and exams. As Michaelmas concluded, our community was blessed with the efforts of our Oxmas Officers, Kat Möllers and Gabrielle Berrada, who organised a festive schedule of events concluding with the always-iconic Pantomime.

As the year progressed, members of committee continued to eagerly contribute to the welfare and spirit of the MCR. Sidra Yousaf brought compassionate dedication to her role as BAME Officer, organising creative events and serving as a core resource for the BAME community. Victoria White shone in the role of Disabilities Officer, organising outstanding inspiring speaker events. And Lilja Saeboe embraced the new role of Charities Officer, leading the MCR to raise substantial support for Medical Aid for Palestinians. Valentino Gargano and Dylan Sandfelder thrived as LGBTQ Officers, organising an outstanding LGBTQ formal at Balliol that showcased the spirit of Balliol's queer community.



A private tour of the Ashmolean before the normal opening hour, organised by Arts Officer, Chris Lu

The Megaron Bar is, of course, a hub of the Balliol community, and could not function without the tireless dedication of our bar team of Alina Nicheperovich, Henrik Auestad, and Martin Munoz. This year's bar managers pioneered the installation of an iPad. By enabling guests to purchase drinks directly for the first time in Balliol history, this is truly legacy-defining work.

Marissa Mueller and Kate Benjamin were crucial to keeping the MCR community informed and involved through their work as Secretary and IT Officer. Molly Smith was additionally an exceptional Treasurer, keeping a meticulous and thoughtful eye over the MCR budget and generally serving as a dedicated resource for myself and members of committee.

On a more serious note, I want to express immense gratitude to the MCR members who have led our community in thoughtful discussion and action in response to the heartbreaking devastation in Gaza. As the MCR discussed how we as a community could best respond to the crisis, MCR members exemplified how to handle such an important, and at times impassioned, debate with the consideration necessary for a diverse, international community of scholars. I am so inspired and encouraged by the community members who have led these discussions – as someone instinctively cynical, the Balliol community has provided a constant reminder of the power and importance of individual action to build a better world. Whether fundraising for Sanctuary scholarships or broader efforts toward College and University divestment, Balliol students have consistently pushed for urgent, necessary progress.

One essential, if often forgotten, hallmark of leadership is opening the door for the next generation, and I could not be more optimistic for the future of the Balliol MCR. Britt Gittus has been a cornerstone of the MCR committee as Women's Officer this year, and I know she will be an exceptional President, alongside Vice-President Aaron Leu, for the upcoming year. MCR leadership is both immensely challenging and deeply rewarding, and I look forward to seeing the community's continued vibrancy for years to come.

Mara Kelly, MCR President

Junior Common Room

This year saw members of the JCR banding together and collaborating in favour of joint beliefs. General Meetings have been places of stimulating discussion and debate as students proposed open letters to administrators and government members as well as motions for the JCR to reach net zero. JCR and MCR students have been working with the Development Office to raise funds through the Balliol Sanctuary Fund to provide scholarships for students seeking sanctuary from global conflicts.

Furthermore, students have continued supporting each other in the true fashion of the Balliol community, particularly with the implementation of a new committee role to look out for the wellbeing of suspended students.

In Michaelmas, the new Freshers quickly settled in and soon it was common to see groups of them in the bar and JCR. They integrated into the community with ease, forming a number of societies including Balliol Rounders Club and a Table Tennis society, the latter holding a ferocious championship witnessed by many, with drinks and pizza served and an engraved pint glass up for grabs.

In Hilary Term, we were blown away by fantastic acting and singing in the Balliol Charity Musical, held in our very own Pilch Theatre. The performance of 'Balliol Horror Picture Show' saw sensational outfits, make up, and the face of the Master edited onto the poster.

The new Lord Lindsay took hold of the bar's reins and steered it to imminent success, making more money in one night this term than they had on any other night for a number of years. New drinks were brought in, and the Balliol Red has seen growth in popularity, although obviously not to the extent of the Balliol Blue. Numerous charity events were held in the Lindsay, and the Jukebox wasn't missed after being replaced by new speakers.

The Garden Party Committee held an amazing event in early May, themed around 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Entertainment was plentiful, with student performers including many of Balliol's own. Sweet treats were around every corner including candy floss and a chocolate fountain alongside the Baileys-ol gelato. However, the highlight, of course, was the walking, talking trees on stilts who interacted with attendees and told tree-related puns.

Following the tradition of the Hilary Term Halfway Hall for second years, the JCR subsidised a newly implemented Full Way Hall for finalists to celebrate their last days of their degree before exams.



Students interacting with a walking, talking tree at the Balliol garden party, themed around 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

Summer Eights fortunately fell on one of the few good weather days this term, allowing members of the JCR to cheer on the teams from the boathouse, particularly the Women's 1st boat who achieved blades a second year in a row!

The JCR representatives have been working extraordinarily hard this past year. Our Foodies cleaned up the Pantry, earning us a five – the highest possible score – in the health and safety check by the UK Food Standards Agency. They're ready to bring engagement and excitement back through the new September students. John de Balliol (the JCR news representative) was revived as students looked forward to creative posters revealing amusing developments amongst students. The Ethnic Minorities Officers held a discussion on micro-aggressions within College, educating students on forms of racism and how to avoid perpetuating them. In Trinity, they held a karaoke night in the bar with proceeds going towards Medical Aid for Palestinians.

A particular mention must be given to the Entz officers for holding eclectic Bops that attracted students from Balliol as well as other Colleges, becoming

renowned across the University. Themes included Berghain, Euro Summer and Alice in Wonderland.

This is just a small account of a few happenings in the JCR this year. The committee members have worked extraordinarily hard to hold events and take care of the students. The JCR is a vibrant community, always taking the next step to build College life and will continue to do so going forward.

Amerleen Hundle, JCR President

Clubs, societies and sports

Arnold and Brackenbury Society

A new year came with a new Arnold and Brackenbury committee headed by Amerleen Hundle and Benjamin Weisz, succeeding Kaly De Oliveria Cerqueira and Sarah McCallum.

Starting well, A&B held its first debate in the middle of the term on 'This House Believes Ignorance is Bliss', which was enthusiastically attended. Thankfully, this enthusiasm manifested itself not merely as laughs but as abundant floor speeches, importantly, from new matriculates.

With this momentum A&B then took advantage of the calendar. The Christmas-themed 'This House would Abolish the Naughty/Nice List' was flammable fuel for students' imaginations and the atmosphere was particularly merry owing to the plentiful port provision. But this did not end A&B's exploitation of the season, hosting Nepotists in the Hall in 8th week. Tickets sold out at such a speed that one of the presidents despaired about their chance to attend before remembering the privilege of their presidency. On the evening, the carols (with the late addition of Good King Wenceslas) were not sung particularly harmoniously but with undeniable passion, especially when the audience turned to sing against the Trinity-facing wall, as is custom.

Hilary and Trinity maintained festive themes with a Valentine's Day debate and a debate on Regret to end the year. Particular commendation should be given to Callum Turnbull, William Fitzgerald, Isaac Ettinghausen, and Yuvraj Bhagotra for their particularly idiosyncratic wit and talent. We also commend Amerleen on both economising to solve the A&B-ticket-cost controversy and simultaneously managing the JCR presidency (whoever said pluralism was a bad thing?).

Benjamin Weisz and Amerleen Hundle, Co-Presidents

Badminton

This year was another fantastic one for the Balliol Badminton Club. In our third year as a joint team with Worcester, the club has continued to grow and thrive. Freshers' Week was a great opportunity to welcome new members from a diverse range of years and degrees. While turnout has varied based on students' workloads, our social sessions have been a highlight this year

with a mix of new faces and returning players, all eager to play and have fun. These social sessions have been attended by players of all levels, from complete beginners to university level players, making for an exciting and inclusive atmosphere.

We have had an outstanding run in both leagues and Cuppers, run by the University Badminton Club. Our women's team fantastically took the top spot in Division 1. Our mixed team also finished first in Division 1, while our men's team won Division 2. Meanwhile, in the Cuppers competitions, our men's team are in the final and our women's team are in the semi-finals, with both competitions to be completed at the start of the next academic year. Overall, it was a historically great performance across all competitions.

While I will be leaving at the end of this year, I am excited about the club's prospects in the remaining Cupper's fixtures and I'm sure that the talent, enthusiasm and dedication of our players will lead to another great year for the Balliol Badminton Club on all fronts.

Sacha Chowdhury, Captain

BAME Society

Balliol BAME Society enjoyed another amazing year, building on the strong foundation set last year. We kicked things off with a lively BAME formal in Michaelmas Term, where members enjoyed a variety of cuisines from different cultures. It was fantastic to see people wearing traditional attire like saris, kurtas, and other beautiful garments, making the evening colourful and culturally rich. We also ran other welfare teas and socials, featuring snacks and treats from a range of different cultures. These brought people from different years and degrees together, something we found was extremely rewarding. One of these events were our Diwali celebration, which included traditional foods, decorations, and sparklers.

In Hilary Term, our ever-popular pizza nights allowed the Balliol BAME community to come together and enjoy free Domino's pizzas. In Trinity Term, we enjoyed a BAME picnic, with members enjoying the sunshine, sharing a variety of authentic and cultural foods, and spending quality time together in a relaxed setting. This year has seen the Balliol BAME Society grow even stronger, and we can't wait to see what the next future holds for the society in the coming years.

Sacha Chowdhury, President



BAME Society formal in Michaelmas Term

Basketball

The academic year of 2023/2024 will forever be known in Balliol lore as the year of Balliol Basketball supremacy. Bearing a chip on our shoulders from a tough Cuppers semi-final loss the previous year, we began with a simple goal: total domination in all domains of the esteemed Oxford University collegiate basketball sphere. Let it be known: Balliol delivered.

Michaelmas and Hilary featured a highly skilled Balliol team, now with a deep



The victorious Balliol College Basketball Club members

Cuppers run under our belt, steamrolling all opposition in the College League and entering Trinity Term unbeaten (for the second year running). We did not celebrate such success for long – our eyes were set on the ever-prestigious Cuppers trophy. The campaign for silverware started strong. Trinity and LMH had no answer for Balliol's defensive wizardry as we held both teams to fewer than 25 points, all while simultaneously setting scoring records. We were now in the semi-final – where our campaign was cut short last year.

An athletic Pembroke team proved to be a worthy opponent. Down by seven after the first quarter, a lesser team may have panicked but the seasoned Balliol team persevered. Resilience and determination led to a gritty 2-point win. The final was set: Balliol versus Christ Church.

Balliolites descended in droves to Iffley Road Sports Centre for the final. With bottoms on benches and chants rehearsed, the dozen spectators were witnesses to a 48-minute Balliol masterclass. Bucket after bucket poured in as any dream of silverware for Christ Church was quashed. Balliol wins. The trophy is ours. History is made.

Oliver Cort, Captain

BUMS

This year has been incredibly fun for BUMS (Balliol Undergraduate Mathematical Society). After welcoming the new cohort of mathematicians in Michaelmas, we promptly began our fortnightly 'Sip and Solve' sessions. I'm proud to say that Balliol mathematicians are one of the most tight-knit communities in College (contrary to the belief that we don't socialise!). Sip and Solves are a huge part of this – we provide snacks and get to work on discussing mathematics, with plenty of non-maths chatter too. An exciting update this year has been our new whiteboards – the JCR has become a collaborative hub for mathematicians, and it is now rarely empty. Other social events included BUMS on Ice (ice skating), karaoke, and ice creams on the lawn!

This year we had our first JCR/MCR speaker event, featuring a series of Balliol DPhil research talks and a panel discussion with our tutors. We also hosted our annual BUMS dinner – this year, we extended our invitation to alumni from the past ten years. It was a fabulous evening, complete with mathematical sconces, singing the traditional BUMS anthems, and the presentation of annual society awards. The evening featured a talk from our

own Professor Derek Moulton (Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics) on his research on shell formations.

2023/2024 has been a year where BUMS has flourished. Aside from boasting an



Balliol Undergraduate Mathematical Society

impressive stash collection and an envious list of social activities, the community in BUMS is stronger than ever, and I for one can't wait for this to continue into the new academic year.

Nikita Handel, President

BEERS

This year started off with a rather quaint engagement in which the newest intake of engineers was taken to the curry joint of choice: Chutneys. We discussed world issues, such as the structural integrity of a poppadom, and prepared the new intake for their first dive into the beautiful landscape that is engineering at Oxford.

The 2023/2024 academic year saw many large engineering events taking place. Most notably, the annual BEERS and Lubbock dinners. The BEERS dinner, for the first time in many years, brought together undergraduate and graduate students, staff, and alumni alike. The dinner featured gripping

challenges inspired by the second year 'A-paper' examinations, which played out on the stage that was Balliol Hall. Dylan Jubb was crowned the successor to the BEERS presidential throne after building the best paper airplane and marshmallow spaghetti tower. At the dinner, a very kind alumnus, Gareth Jones (1995, BEERS President in 1998) gifted the society a yellow hardhat to revive the age-old tradition of the president's hardhat that had been lost.

This year the Lubbock dinner was a much larger event. It was planned in conjunction with the Lubbock Lecture (keynote speaker Jim Collins) and was open to the entire Balliol student community as well as all alumni of the Engineering department. The lecture and dinner generated a lot of buzz and excitement, and hopefully inspired the younger generation of Balliol engineers to stay proactive and engaged with the BEERS community.

Markus Baumgartner, outgoing President

Cricket

This year Balliol College Cricket Club (BCCC) built upon recent success to have another outstanding season, culminating in winning the Fortress T20 League.

After a useful set of pre-season nets, and the arrival of some glorious T20 kit, the season kicked off. New signing Harry Waugh impressed on debut against Pembroke, scoring 71 not out and putting himself alongside Balliol's great Aussie batsmen. Olly Hughes and Fresher Jai Goyal's three wicket hauls, along with Ed Grayson bowling full speed at someone who'd never held a cricket bat before, ensured a comprehensive win.

A highlight of the season was playing against Worcester, where Jai Goyal scored 96 not out, the highest score in living memory for BCCC. Despite an unfortunate exit from Cuppers, we kept impressing in the Fortress T20 League, making it to the knockouts. The team gathered momentum, beating Magdalen in the quarter finals. An impressive away win against Jesus College set up a final vs Lincoln the following week.

Away from the league matches, the club enjoyed their annual fixture against the London Erratics, a team formed largely of Balliol alumni from years gone by. On a sunny day, we had a chance to play a longer game, where everyone on the side had a chance to bowl (including a 20+ ball over that can remain anonymous). We're grateful to the Erratics for making the journey up for a

great game.

The time came for the final, and winning the toss we chose to bat first. An unlucky run-out sent in pinch hitter Henry Ferrabee early on, but his golden duck put BCCC in a difficult position. Solid 38s from Waugh and veteran Grayson put us back in the driving seat, and contributions all the way down the order got Balliol to an impressive 143-9.

Tight opening bowling from Balliol's very own Blue player Josh Royan set the tone for the innings, and wickets from Goyal and Waugh put us ahead. A



Balliol College Cricket Club with the Fortress T20 League Trophy

fast spell from Tom Salter was needed to get the Lincoln opener out, and see Balliol win the competition by 40 runs.

The trophy was a culmination of a brilliant season, where 30 different people got to play for the club, including many who hadn't picked up a bat or ball in over five years. It was a real highlight of my year being able to captain such a fun team to play with, so a huge thank you to everyone involved.

Freddie Goodfellow, Captain

Drama Society and Michael Pilch Studio

The Michael Pilch Studio has remained one of the most popular and sought-after student venues in Oxford with twenty shows put on this academic year.

The variety of experimental staging, including a revolving turntable used in *Daddy Long Legs* (Matchbox Productions) and a standing audience in *This Is How We Walk On The Moon* (Nocturne Productions), reflects the flexibility of

the space and the ambition of production companies when putting on a show in the Pilch. These new writing shows were accompanied by adaptations of *Blindness* (Tired Horse Productions) with sound fed to the audience members, who themselves were blindfolded, through headphones. The Pilch even welcomed an external art exhibition in Hilary of this year accompanied by original arrangements by the artist George Rigby.

Next year is set to be an exciting one for Balliol drama and the Michael Pilch Studio, and under the direction of Vita Hamilton, the Pilch looks forward to welcoming more shows.

Rosabel Mahendra, President

Men's football

For the third year in a row, the Balliol JCR Men's 1st XI team punched above its weight, reaching the semi-finals of Cuppers and gaining promotion to Division 1 in our final match. After big holes formed in the team in the wake of our 2021/2022 Cuppers final run, the team was in desperate need of a committed Fresher intake. Once again, we were blessed with a big new generation adding much-needed depth to a small squad.

The new team marched unscathed through some early tests in the season, rotating through three goalkeepers in as many games, and putting up spirited performances against St John's on Sports Day to reclaim our pride after our loss in Cambridge the year before.

As a successful Michaelmas was coming to a close, we watched in anticipation as two names were left to be drawn from the Cuppers hat; Balliol and St Catherine's would face off at Jowett Walk. We knew it was undoubtedly the hardest team we could have drawn as Catz had managed to get seven Blues players into their starting line-up. The precedent was set in the early stages as a firm tackle by Vice-Captain Sam Glossop forced their Blues winger off within seven minutes. An early messy goal, and a couple of penalty decisions going our way in the first half meant we went into half-time in the lead, and (more significantly) calmer than our opponents. The second half had harsher consequences: first-year Luca Ryan took a blow to the face, playing on in true Terry Butcher fashion before the referee insisted he clean himself up. Despite Luca's heroics we conceded a wonder goal from outside the box and the game was tied going into the last 20 minutes. Cue the President of Balliol Football Club, Xander Angellini-Hurll, to score a scissor kick into the bottom corner in

front of an elated crowd at Jowett Walk. The Cuppers dream would continue into Hilary term, as we faced St Hilda's (our league promotion rivals) for our 6th meeting in the last three years. A convincing display from the team saw stand-out performances from Karlton Charles, Jordan Moore and Caleb Mbanaso and we were through to our second semi-final in three years. New favourites Keble were next, and we faced a mountain too high to climb, unfortunately falling just before the final. In the final match of the season, we managed to rally a team together to take on Magdalen in a title decider, a goal in the closing minutes secured the win and we were able to round off a fantastic season.



Balliol Men's football team with alumni in Old Boys match

A massive thank you must go out to Todd Lepelly and Georgina Rudolph who have worked tirelessly on the pitch at Master's Field to make it playable for four different teams throughout the year. We would be nowhere if it was not for our reliable fortress Jowett! To the boys that put lots of hours on the line, it was another great season – long may Balliol's overperformance continue.

Henry Ferrabee, Captain

Women's football

The 2023/2024 season saw the continuation of the Balliol and Brasenose joint football team, with our (thankful) rebrand from Ballnose to the Bees. Ironically, we began our tenure as 'bees' by replacing our yellow and black striped ensemble with new blue and black kits.

Our College League season started poorly with a 7–2 loss at the hands of Merton/Mansfield/Wadham but we came back to secure fourth in a highly competitive restructured league. Weather problems in Hilary Term unfortunately meant a significant number of matches were cancelled but the team nonetheless enjoyed a great season. We placed second in our Cuppers group in Trinity's futsal tournament, finishing third overall after being knocked out in a close semi-final. Perhaps the highlight of our seasons was our 2-1 win over St John's College Cambridge at Sports Day, followed just a few hours later by a 2-0 victory over St Aldates in the league.

Throughout the year, our defence was led by Ellie Kirkland, Zahraa Katlan and Anna Dorling, who were not only the stalwarts of our back line but provided a dangerous counter-attacking threat. Our front line was led by the returning Hannah Raja and Adrienne Larmond on the wings with Jess Cullen pulling the strings for us in midfield. The services of Ulfat Islam and Alina Nicheperovich were vital across the pitch, providing strength in depth.

It has been another really great year for the Bees and in the secure hands of Ellie Kirkland we hope to build on this success going forward.

Rebecca Jackson and Betty Hughes, Co-Captains

Hockey

The past year at Balliol College Hockey Club was one of continuation, fortitude and revenge at an old rival. In Michaelmas Term, we managed to maintain our hard-won spot in Division 1 of the College League and build on the successes of the previous year.

It also saw us beat the St John's hockey team by a sizeable margin on our annual Sports Day with our Cambridge sister college, which was a refreshing change after consecutive defeats in the previous years. The relatively mild winter also allowed for enjoyable matches during Hilary Term, with Balliol finishing middle of the pack in this year's league.

With spring tide came Trinity Term and the Cuppers knockout tournament. Unfortunately, this year saw us get knocked out in one of the earlier stages of

the tournament. Our first match saw us heavily outnumbered, but not outmatched. Through sheer fortitude, determination, and backbone, we managed to hold the line well into stoppage time, only to lose the match in shoot-outs. The real highlight of the year, though, was our annual alumni match, which saw us facing off against a squad of former (but no less fit) club members who returned for a day of camaraderie and sportsmanship. Victory was hotly contested, but eventually taken by the alumni. As always, the match was succeeded by a delightful picnic on the fields near Iffley with snacks, drinks, banter and stories of yesteryear.

Arthur Platschorre, Captain



The annual alumni match between current (in blue) and former (in white) Balliol Hockey Club members

Medical Society

It has been a wonderful year for the Balliol Medical Society (BMS)! With the continuation of a student committee, we had a successful year with support from first-year representatives, second-year Secretary, and third-year Treasurer, President, and Vice-President.

The annual BMS alumni dinner took place in Michaelmas Term. This is the flagship event of the BMS, a wonderful opportunity to connect a diverse range of students, alumni, and tutors. We were lucky enough to have two seminar speakers: Dr Tom Cahill (Lecturer in Clinical Medicine) and Yusuf Ben-Tarifite (2018). Dr Cahill, a great recent addition to Balliol's Clinical

Medicine lecturers, shared some of his work on 'Balloons and Tubes - the Evolution of Transcatheter Treatments for Heart Valve Disease', and Yusuf Ben-Tarifite, who recently received the 2023 Diana Award, shared his work surrounding 'The Aspiring Medics: Using AI for Medical Education'. We also had the privilege of hearing from Gillian Morriss-Kay (Lecturer in Anatomy and Senior Research Fellow 1976-1990, Emeritus Fellow) and meeting many fantastic members of the Balliol medical community. From this, a LinkedIn group was created in the hopes of keeping Balliol students, current and past, connected in the biomedical and medical fields. In Hilary Term, the Wurtman Seminar was well attended by students and tutors and provided a helpful opportunity for third-year students to present their FHS research projects in order to receive feedback and comments in preparation for their *viva* exams. Sahani de Silva finished in first place for her presentation on translocation determination in infant leukaemia.

Many thanks to the BMS Senior Member, Professor Robin Choudhury (Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Senior Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences), and all other tutors for their continued support of the BMS and allowing these brilliant events to occur.

Daisy Barrick, President



Balliol 3rd-year medical students at the BMS dinner

Netball



Balliol College Netball team after their successful match against St John's

Balliol College Netball Club has had an exciting and successful year to date, both on and off the court. Our busiest terms were Michaelmas and Hilary, where we played weekly matches as part of the Women's Division 1, winning notable successive games against St John's, and maintaining our spot in the division. Closer to home, we also organised our annual charity match against BCRFC to raise funds and awareness for Movember, proudly defending our title for another year running. We also welcomed St John's (Cambridge) to the Jowett Courts as part of the annual Balliol x John's Sports Day, only narrowly losing by two goals to the wonderful ladies from our sister college (bring it on next year!). Furthermore, in early January, we were lucky to host the BCNC Old Girls for a reunion match, which was met with a great sense of community and typical Balliol spirit, as part of a tradition we hope shall continue long into the College's sporting future.

It has been a pleasure to captain the Netball Club this year, and I hope to see the team's success continue to grow and flourish in the coming year.

Izzy Horrocks-Taylor, Captain

Men's rowing

For the men's side of Balliol College Boat Club, the year was fairly successful. Michaelmas Term saw a strong recruitment effort with a squad of 40 by the end of the term despite the troubles faced due to the weather. Racing consisted only of the Isis Winter League, which the senior men's squad utilised for rate-capped practice. Due to bad weather for the remainder of both Michaelmas and Hilary, there was both little rowing training and on-water racing.

As usual, however, we did receive a visit from our sister college's boat club from Cambridge – Lady Margaret Boat Club. They combined with our rowers for the New College Indoor Regatta, which was a resounding success, with the four mixed teams achieving a clean sweep of first, second, third, and fourth in the event.

Torpids was cancelled this year, and despite a small excursion to Gloucester to train on the canal in hopes of competing, the most notable event of the term was at the end of Hilary. We embarked upon a training camp in Chester alongside the women's squad and St John's Boat Club. Despite suffering two injuries to the squad before even the first training session, the week was a fantastic success. With as many sessions as the rest of term combined, and our promising novices picking up quickly, we were able to finally produce some solid rowing.

As Trinity Term began, we had some returners from previous years – although sadly no OUBC trialists, Blues or otherwise, participated from Balliol men's squad this year. Nonetheless, former Blue Sam Baker was able to join us, as well as Balliol heavyweights Dewi Gould and Oscar Lyons.

We entered three crews in Summer Eights, with M3 beginning their week with a rowover behind a very strong St Hugh's M2 crew. The next day saw Oriel M4 caught by Balliol under Donnington Bridge. Friday, unfortunately, ended in an overbump from Green Templeton M2, although this gave the Balliol crew a rare opportunity on Saturday. They took up their challenge with no hesitation, and graciously completed Oriel M4's spoons campaign by bumping them for a second time that week.

M2 began their week with a chase against St Anne's – but both crews ahead bumped out and they were forced to row over at third in Division 4. They rectified this with a bump against St Antony's the next day and were prepared to chase Keble M2 the next, but this was not to be as Wolfson M2 overbumped and caught St Anne's in Division 3, placing them ahead again on the Friday. The next two days M2 valiantly chased St Anne's, coming within a canvas on Saturday – but sadly were unable to catch them. Nonetheless they have continued the upwards trajectory of the crew over the last couple of years and have achieved their highest finishing position since 1997.

M1 began their week being chased by St Edmund Hall. They were bumped out by Magdalen, and University's overbump attempt was thwarted by excellent steering by our cox, Felicity Thomas. On Thursday we were caught by Magdalen despite a fantastic start, and the next we were caught by University. Saturday, however, was one for the ages. St Edmund Hall wanted revenge for





ABOVE M1 at Summer Eights

LEFT M1, left to right: Dewi Gould, John Hughes, Oscar Hayden, Sam Baker, Toby Lassen (coach), Felicity Thomas, Oscar Lyons, Will Reilly, Harry Prior, Tobias Bretschneider

their failure earlier in the week, but M1 refused to allow them. It was a chase that gave Boathouse Island possibly some of the greatest entertainment of the week on the Saturday with barely a canvas between the crews through the whole course. We remain 8th on the river, but I look forward to seeing our promising rowers trial at the university level, and strengthen our M1 crew to climb back up from 8th.

Next year, the men's side eagerly anticipates the arrival of keen-eyed Freshers and new members from both JCR and MCR, ready to join our ranks, and looks forward to, hopefully, a more fulfilling year of training.

Oscar Hayden, Captain



ABOVE O3 crew (mixed gender) at Summer Eights



RIGHT M2, left to right: Cam Leggett, Mackenzie Robb, Kilian De Ridder, Lucas Ali-Hassan, Rory Mitchell, Eli Arie, Luke Chu, Alex Evans, Dylan Risso

Women's rowing

Flooding during Michaelmas and Hilary Terms made rowing very difficult. Nevertheless, we recruited many very enthusiastic novices. Despite the cancellation of the Michaelmas Novice Regatta, they persevered with training and showed high levels of commitment to the boat club.

During Hilary, a weekend trip to Gloucester allowed us to get in some much-needed water time amidst the flooding. Unfortunately, bad weather prevailed, and Torpids was cancelled to our great disappointment.

Over the vacation between Hilary and Trinity the boat club held a training

camp in Chester in collaboration with St John's Boat Club. After the very rainy year, it was wonderful to be able to put in some serious time on the water again. The trip was immensely productive for our training, with two water sessions each day, and some healthy competition against St John's. Most importantly, the trip was great fun and ripe with crew bonding. From sunny afternoon paddles to picnics in the park and evening pub visits, the trip was great for building friendships and community within the boat club.

Also over the vacation were the Boat Races, featuring Balliol rowers. We are very proud to have had three Balliol women trial with the newly merged Oxford University Boat Club this year. Tessa Haining raced in the Blue Boat, Catherine King raced in Osiris, and Jennie Astley completed the Balliol complement.

Summer Eights was, as always, the highlight of the rowing year. It was exciting to be joined by the OUBC trialists in the 1st VIII, who passed on rowing wisdom to the rest of the squad. The Women's 2nd VIII had a commendable performance; they successfully rowed over twice, covering a significant distance, despite being bumped twice. More than half of the boat consisted of novices who had only begun rowing this academic year. Due to the flooding conditions, this was the first experience of racing for many of them! Their dedication and perseverance in the face of challenges over the year have been inspiring.

The Women's 1st VIII achieved remarkable success, winning blades in Division 1 for the second consecutive year. We secured bumps on Jesus, Magdalen, Keble, and Oriel, competing in the newly named Hudson boat, 'Momentum'. Building on last year's successful blades campaign, this has propelled our W1 crew to the highest position on the river in over a decade!

The dedication and enthusiasm displayed by our rowers have been unparalleled and I am confident that the boat club's *momentum* will continue to grow in the coming years. Thank you to everyone in the boat club for making this year so enjoyable, and in particular, thank you to our coaches Quinn, Rebekka, and Toby!

Sophie Winter, Captain



ABOVE AND RIGHT
W1 at Summer Eights. Photo on right by Stuart Bebb.



Rugby

This year has been a pivotal year for Balliol College Rugby Football Club (BCRFC). In line with the University-wide trend of diminishing numbers of undergraduate rugby players, the club decided over last summer to merge with Hertford Rugby, BCRFC becoming the newly formed HCBCRFC. This decision has proven to be a huge success across all aspects of the club.



The Hertford-Balliol team after a match against Kyoto University

Operating with a current squad of around 30 members in a rough 50:50 split from the two colleges, numbers at training seldom dip below 25 and players are once again having to compete to make the match day 23-man squad. This is a situation that Balliol rugby has not been in since before the pandemic, with the team previously struggling to get more than even 13 out for a weekend fixture.

This crucial breath of new life into the club's membership has been reflected in the team's successes this year. In the Rugby Men's League, HCBCRFC competed in the top division of college rugby, finishing in the top three sides and narrowly missing out on a league win. In Cuppers, the team reached the semi-finals of the main competition for the first time in living memory. According to the Iffley pavilion awards boards, Balliol last won Cuppers in 1933, and so getting this deep into the competition as a newly merged club should be recognised as a massive achievement by everyone involved. Of the four sides left at the semi-final stage, HCBCRFC were the only one without a Rugby Union Blue. St Hilda's and Magdalen, the combined team who knocked us out, had six such players. This speaks further to HCBCRFC epitomising what college sport is all about: team spirit, inclusiveness, and cohesion.

The club's success within the Oxford rugby setup has been accompanied

this year by a number of exciting exhibition fixtures that no other college sides have had the opportunity to play. In memory of Japanese ambassador Katsuhiko Oku (Old Hertfordian), the club played games against Kew Occasionals and London Japanese RFC at Richmond Park as part of the Oku Trophy. A small delegation from the club (including Balliolites Olly Hughes, Jack Ovens and Scott Watson) were invited to attend a special reception at the Japanese Embassy in London the evening before, where they met the Japanese Ambassador to the UK, Mr Hajime Hayashi, and watched him bestow the Order of the Rising Sun Gold and Silver Rays on Reg Clarke, CEO of Rhino Sport and organiser of the Oku Trophy. Building on the club's good performance at these events, HCBCRFC were subsequently invited to play a fixture against a touring side from Kyoto University at Iffley Road in March, where Kyoto came out as winners in a closely fought match.

Looking ahead to next year, the club has its sights set on another successful league campaign and Cuppers run, hopefully bolstered by a strong Fresher intake across the two colleges. At time of writing, the team are looking forward with great excitement to their week-long tour to Malta in September, which will see them play two matches against domestic Maltese sides, as well as take part in some outreach programs within the local community.

Olly Hughes, Captain

Skoliasts

In Michaelmas, Balliol's undergraduate Literae Humaniores society Skoliasts said farewell to the Debadrita Dass and Oliver Ellingham presidency. However, this was no glum affair as their last dinner was attended by LMH's Dr Guy Westwood (2004), a charming Balliol alumnus and ex-president of the Arnold and Brackenbury Society (A&B), who enlightened us about image-making and similes in Attic oratory.

Hilary Term witnessed a talk by Christopher Colby, a Greek music postgraduate from Jesus, on *to metron*, making an eloquent and well evidenced but ambitious case for a unity in thought between disparate Greek texts. It was particularly satisfying to watch the expression of Dr Adrian Kelly (Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Greek Language and Literature) shift from scepticism to tepid approval.

Finally, in Trinity Term we welcomed Brasenose's Dr Edward Bispham who raised the perplexing problem of these seemingly sparsely populated Roman

municipia which nonetheless were endowed with significant infrastructure. This mystery generated many and varied potential solutions from the engaged audience.

By maintaining the tradition of the mint game, introducing the new tradition of a termly photograph, and fostering a new generation of Classicists, we can safely say that Skoliasts has been a success this year.

Yet this would not have been possible without the enthusiastic attendance of Lit Hum, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History, and Ancient and Modern History students and the generous sponsorship of Balliol Fellows. We would also like to thank Jacqui Gills (Conference and Events Manager), Greg Butler (Front of House Manager), Bertrand Faucheux (Executive Head Chef), and the fantastic Hall staff for their invaluable help and Debi and Olly for their superb example.

Benjamin Weisz and Cameron Bloch, Co-Presidents

Skoliasts members in Hilary Term



Squash

This year was a great year for Balliol College Squash Club. After coming close in 2022 and 2023, Balliol have finally been crowned Cuppers champions! After a tough victory against Wolfson in the semi-final, Balliol breezed to a 5-0 victory against Jesus in the final. Well done to Cyrus Linden, Alex Gunasekera, Quentin Geuroult, Aaron Leu, and Co-Captains Mark Eid and Dylan Holmes Cowan.

Dylan Holmes Cowan, Co-Captain

Younger Society

The Younger Society has had yet another fantastic year with a range of events which have enabled us all to enjoy the law community within Balliol. A highlight was the annual Michaelmas dinner which brought together law students from Balliol's past and present. We were delighted to welcome as our honorary speaker Professor Jeff King (Fellow and Tutor in Law 2008-2011), Faculty of Law UCL.

We were also lucky to be hosted by Slaughter and May at Victors for a fabulous dinner at which Balliol lawyers with an interest in pursuing a corporate career could gain an insight into life at the firm. We are grateful to Tom Vickers (1999), who organised the evening, for also putting on an application workshop which was incredibly insightful, as well as to the alumni trainees who shared their experiences with us.

The Hilary formal was another wonderful opportunity for current Balliol law students and tutors to get together.

Our final event was our Trinity Garden Party: a chance to celebrate the year and particularly to celebrate the finalists, with sunshine, scones and Pimm's providing a great backdrop.

We are very grateful to Dr Grant Lamond (Frankfurter Fellow and Tutor in Law) and Dr Hasan Dindjer (Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in Law) and all those who continue to support the Younger Society for allowing us to put on these events, and we sincerely look forward to the coming year.

Dylan Durnion (President) and Cameron Maiklem (Secretary)

Features

Dreaming Spires and Scrumming Down

Robert Kernohan (1953)

The following is a chapter from a private memoir written by Robert Kernohan, recounting his time at Balliol, where he read Modern History in two years on a scholarship from Glasgow University. The memoir was discovered posthumously in 2023, and his obituary is available in the 'Old Member obituaries' section of this Record.



Robert Kernohan on Matriculation day

I first saw the dreaming spires and towers of Oxford as the train drew into the old Oxford station when I came in the late summer to look for lodgings. I loved that view and have never been able to find it again, for most of it is now obscured by foliage around the new station.

Balliol had accommodated me to read History, but at short notice. Unlike the other first-year men, I couldn't get rooms in the College and I arrived with a list of lodgings supplied by the University and without the necessary knowledge of the geography of the city. I chose Woodstock Road because it was obvious where it would be, lunched in a pub on St Giles', and began to walk. I discovered how long Oxford roads could be and that it took far longer to get up to 309 than it did on Tollcross Road in Glasgow, where I had come from. Major and Mrs Penny were a long way out but they were kind to me, introduced me to Cooper's Oxford Marmalade, and were forbearing when I quit them abruptly after two terms when a room became available on Balliol's main quad.

My first Oxford friends tended to be the Scots like myself, some of them, like Ian Penman (1953), Snell Exhibitioners and classicists, a few people in History, and a batch from outside the College in the Union and the Conservative Club.

One of my few regrets about Balliol is that I was lazy in a system where lectures were optional and any pressure to work came through the tutorials. I did go to hear two of Oxford's greatest egos and most polished performers, Hugh Trevor-Roper and A.J.P. Taylor, but I should have sought out others.

And I wish I had played rugby in my first year, for in my second year it brought me much happiness both on the field and after.

But such regrets were far outweighed by the stimulation of Oxford life, though there were times when I found I was a bit stale after the Glasgow honours studies. The dons and the Union were more stimulating than the syllabus for the History Schools, at least until my second year when I went to Max Beloff's seminar in Rhodes House on American slavery and secession. But in Balliol, Dick Southern (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1937–1961) did stir more interest in medieval history than E.L.G. Stones had done in Glasgow and it was useful to have to attempt some formal study of political science with an Australian called Hugh Stretton (Tutorial Fellow in Modern History 1948–1954). It was as near as I ever got in my life to abstract thinking.

The Master, Sir David Lindsay Keir (Master 1949–1965), was a much-travelled son of the manse, although I never saw him at St Columba's in Alfred Street, where I was a fairly regular attender. Lindsay Keir was a benign and rather distant figure. Though he was kind and helpful to me, I missed his most direct contact with undergraduates, which was to take rather philosophical group tutorials with first-year students, since I counted as second-year for course purposes. I had much more contact with the man who was to succeed him, for Christopher Hill (Master 1965–1978) was my 'moral tutor'. He was also a great historian of 17th-century England, a Marxist, and at that time a rather restive Communist Party member.

Chris Hill did not finally break with the party until the secession which followed the suppression of the Hungarian Revolution. Even three or four years before that he might have been had up for bourgeois individualist deviationism, even though there were suggestions that in the war years he had been closer to Soviet contacts than was appropriate in a temporary official position. Of Methodist parentage, he had a soft spot for Puritans (though I don't think his own lifestyle was at all puritanical) and even for Presbyterian traditions in so far as he had encountered them in the sometime Master of Balliol, Sandy Lindsay (Master 1924–1949). Chris could also write nonsensical Communist mythology. See, for example, his bland nonsense about purges and show trials in his *Teach Yourself History* book on Lenin and his even nastier heir. Neither, perhaps, did Chris have a sense of humour. After he became Master, I sent him a message about the red smoke coming out of the Balliol conclave and when he was succeeded by Anthony Kenny (Master 1978–1989) I confessed to uncertainty over whether I should worry more about an ex-

priest than an ex-Communist. He gave me a curt blast about liberal values which I thought ill-suited to his own past.

But he was a fine tutor, able to put his students to the test. He set me the task of justifying Cromwell's policy in Ireland, which I thought I did reasonably well. 'Excellent,' he said. 'That is just how I would set about justifying the murder of my grandmother.'

Two tutors who were maybe less stimulating but more likeable were A.B. Rodger (Fellow 1924–1961) and then John Prest (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1954–1996). 'Rodge' was a Scot and vicegerent, a rugby man as well as a historian but first and foremost a teaching Fellow. He might seem austere and even forbidding at times but he cared for us and about us. When I go back to Balliol it never seems the same after the demolition of the curious turreted little building against the Trinity wall where he held court. John Prest must have come to succeed Rodge in Modern History and certainly succeeded him as a pillar of Balliol.

That second year at Balliol now seems a kind of *annus mirabilis*. I had a wider circle of friends, including not only the Balliol rugby set but a little group at New College. The closest of them was Chris Hall (1952), a right-wing Labour man who was later a London journalist but became best known as the driving force (if the incongruous metaphor is permissible) of the Ramblers' Association. We had co-operated in a counter-campaign against something that later merged into CND. Through Chris, I also got to know various New College men, among them George MacBeth (1951), who would go on to join the BBC, make a considerable impact as a poet, and die young.

I was also splashing happily about in politics and in the Union. It took me a little while to get the hang of the Oxford Union style, very different from the Glasgow debating dominated by the political clubs, but I did well enough to get the foothold in its committees, which was a necessary prelude to getting a prominent place as a speaker 'on the paper' and aiming at the presidency. That was a long shot to attempt in two years and it failed when Tony Howard (Christ Church 1952), later well known as a journalist and broadcaster, beat me for the treasurership, the best jumping-off ground for the president's chair.

Nevertheless, I enjoyed the Union and had my moments there. I think the best ones were when Jeremy Isaacs (Merton 1951), later of Channel Four and Covent Garden, was in the chair and had me leading off on some motion, whose exact terms I have long forgotten, uncomplimentary to the claims and influence of the Roman Catholic Church. The speaker on my side was Dr

Marie Stopes, the birth control campaigner. She still had her old vigour but her eloquence was nothing compared to the guest speaker on the other side, the Scots-born Jesuit Father Joseph Christie.

Father Christie did not spill much milk of human kindness and his approach to ecumenical matters looked back to early days of his Order rather than ahead to Vatican Two. He cheerfully pronounced, for example, that Protestantism would be extinct in England by 2000. But in the Union he was marvellous, a smoothly flowing torrent of honeyed words and fiery emotions, a master of the arts of oratory who would have carried away the audience if he had not let himself be carried away. As his peroration approached, he denounced 'the disgraceful traffic' in which Marie Stopes was involved. I got in the obvious point of order about whether it was right to make such a charge against a distinguished guest. Jeremy Isaacs upheld it, and the spell was broken.

I was also involved in a different kind of politics. I allowed myself to be flattered into going on the Scottish Conservative candidates list and getting adopted as prospective candidate in Paisley, a safe Labour seat but then a vigorous town both in its industry and its distinctive character. I did some desultory vacation 'nursing' of the constituency but got a much broader view of the Conservative Party, though perhaps a narrower one of the wider world, as chairman of the federation of Conservative student associations, which at that time was well behaved, temperate in its range of Tory views, and much cultivated by the London Central Office. Those who held office as chairman or vice-chairman just before me included two who were to be moderate members of Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet: John Biffen and Mark Carlisle. By then, however, the federation was breaking the patience of even so right-wing a party chairman as Norman Tebbitt. In 1956–1957 it provided me with a chance to get up to London from time to time and to see a few more English universities, among them Cambridge. I remember staying there in King's as the guest of the leading Cambridge Tory, an agreeable if eccentric young Scots heir to a great historic name: Tam Dalyell of the Binns, later to be a Labour MP, thorn in various fleshes, prophet of devolutionary doom for Scotland, and Father of the House of Commons.

I was also briefly secretary of the Oxford University Conservative Association, a job which for some reason involved almost no duties.

OUCA was at that time convalescing and reuniting after a dramatic split when Michael Heseltine (Pembroke 1951) had seceded to form a rival Blue Ribbon Club, but he had moved on to dominate the Union, first as an innovative

and revenue-raising treasurer and then as president. He had both power and presence and I was sorry, 35 years later, that he didn't get the presidency of the Cabinet. But the Oxford Tories, as I remember them, were a harmonious and placid lot.

How I coped with all that, and two rugby games a week as a prop in the Balliol 1st XV, I'm not sure. I thought I was doing a reasonable amount of work but I realise now I could have done far, far more to some profit. But one thing I was beginning to realise then, as a middle-sized fish in a historical pond far bigger than Glasgow's, was that I wasn't in the same class of intellect, scholarship, and dedication as the best of my year in Oxford. We were to have five Balliol Firsts in History in 1955, among them two later notable knights-historian: Keith Thomas (1952 and Honorary Fellow), later to be president of Corpus and Oxford's Professor of Modern History, and John Keegan (1953 and Honorary Fellow 2000–2012), the military historian. I was lucky to scrape my way into the five, after a viva in which I remember flowing into an exposition of why Gladstone's Irish policy wouldn't have worked.

But in the last term before the Examination Schools, I had to cope with a greater distraction than rugby and student politics. Winston Churchill had at last handed over to Anthony Eden and the new Prime Minister decided to use the initial goodwill to secure a mandate of his own. He rather inconsiderately fixed polling day towards the end of term, only a couple of weeks before the Schools. It never occurred to me at the time (such are young candidates' sense of their own importance) that I could have dumped the Paisley Tories and left them to fix up some late volunteer for a forlorn hope. I had a talk with the Master, who proved very helpful and understanding, and disappeared from the College for the three weeks or so of the campaign. It was a good year for the Tories in Scotland – they got just over half the total Scottish vote – and in the absence of a Liberal I polled rather well in Paisley, enjoying not only the election but some of the trimmings. And when I got back to Balliol after the results were declared, the College was in convivial mood. Balliol must have been Head of the River that year, for there was a Bump Supper, and I found myself called on for an impromptu speech, delivered from halfway down one of the long tables in the Hall.

From R.D. Kernohan (1931–2023), 'Into Injury Time', an unpublished memoir.

The Case of a Case Lost in Balliol

Professor Denis Noble CBE FRS (Tutorial Fellow in Physiology 1963–1984, Professorial Fellow 1984–2004 and Emeritus Fellow since 2004)

The year 1985 was a tumultuous one for me at Balliol. I was both Vice-Master of the College and Praefectus of Holywell Manor in the days when there was only one Vice-Master and no Deputy Praefectus. To cap that, I think the Master was on sabbatical leave. At the same time, I also chaired a national grants committee of the Medical Research Council (MRC), and was the Senior Officer of my professional society, The Physiological Society. In my department I led an MRC programme research team, which published a highly controversial article in a Royal Society journal on the rhythms of the heart.[1] But what was relevant to the case referred to in this article is that I led the successful Congregation revolt in January 1985 against the proposal to award an honorary degree to the then Prime Minister.[2]

By a long way, I had over-reached my capacity to simultaneously teach, research and administer. The burden of all that was assisted by just a part-time secretary at Holywell Manor funded by The Physiological Society. Hilda Carter was a solid rock of support. But my family was understandably anxious, not just because I was overloaded – they had gotten used to that over many years – the anxiety was fuelled more by attacks in the national press portraying me as a dangerous Marxist revolutionary, since they could think of no other explanation for having led the Congregation revolt.

The anxiety reached a crisis point when a brief-case was, apparently, stolen from the lodgings at Holywell Manor. It was a small, but historically important, case since it had been used for many years by successive Officers of The Physiological Society to carry documents and other items to scientific meetings of the Society; the equivalent of the Budget Case carried by Chancellors of the Exchequer.

Had Special Branch spies, or a mole within Holywell Manor, managed to get hold of it? If so, what on earth could they find that might be incriminating? I was not even a member of any political party, and certainly not of extreme revolutionary groups. All of this was further fuelled by an unexpected refusal later that year to renew the MRC Programme Grant supporting most of my research team. The result was turmoil while I paid prime attention to protecting

the future careers of my research team. It all added up to a convincing case for conspiracy theories.[3]

Fortunately, I had modest means to sort out salaries and support costs through the fact that the British Heart Foundation had, the previous year, funded a long-term chair, held by me in the department. I had become the Burdon Sanderson Professor of Cardiovascular Physiology. I was therefore fortunate to have the funds to sort some of that out. With the BHF support, the research steamed ahead, eventually the heart rhythm paper was fully vindicated[4], and in due course became the basis of my opposition to gene-centric interpretations of evolutionary biology.

But the case of the 'stolen' case was left unresolved. We could only imagine that whoever had taken it was disappointed by what was found inside and had discarded it.

Imagine therefore my surprise when, almost 40 years later (November 2023), I received an email from the Buildings Manager of the College informing me that a case had been found in one of the College basements! It was immediately traced to me since inside was my name and the Holywell Manor address.

So, what had any imagined thief found inside? After nearly four decades I could not even begin to recall what it may have contained. The answer is so pedestrian as to immediately make one wonder whoever could have thought it might be incriminating. There was:

1. An old, boxed hearing aid. Yes, I was already deaf even in those days.
2. A treasured but now badly damp-damaged History of Emanuel School, given to me and signed by my parents in 1949 for my 13th birthday. That deeply sentimental item is surely a case for the Repair Shop?
3. Many letters, all handwritten in French. I was regularly corresponding in the language to improve my fluency.
4. Only the last item could, even remotely, have anything to do with Marxism. It was a copy of Christopher Hill's Puritanism and Revolution. Well, I can now look forward to finish reading it. I might even learn at last how to be a revolutionary.

As for the case itself, I think I will ask The Physiological Society whether it wishes to have it back for its archives.

Long may the College encourage its idiosyncratic rebels, and its dedicated staff. We love the place!

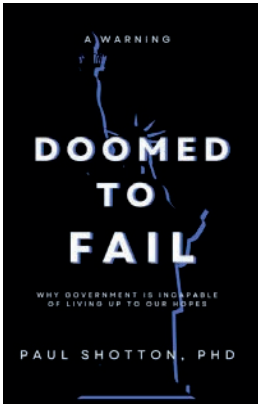
1. D. DiFrancesco and D. Noble, 1985. A Model of Cardiac Electrical Activity Incorporating Ionic Pumps and Concentration Changes. *Philosophical Transactions of The Royal Society*. 307, 353-398.
2. The first speech in the Congregation debate was a very elegant one by Peter Pulzer, Professor of Government. But my own speech is what subsequently set Congregation on fire and is credited as having swayed the vote. See https://www.denisnoble.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/No-Laughing-Matter.pdf
3. As chair of a MRC committee myself, I did not suspect there was anything sinister in that refusal. There simply wasn't much funding available to any of the MRC Committees. But that did not stop others from publicising the more paranoid explanation for what was an otherwise surprising decision to stop funding a highly successful project. It became a *cause celebre* in *The New Scientist*.
4. Noble, D. 2021. The Surprising Heart revisited: an early history of the funny current with modern lessons. *Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology*. 166, 3-11.

Doomed to Fail: Why Government is Incapable of Living up to Our Hopes

Paul Shotton (1979), Pierucci Publishing, Carbondale Colorado, 2023

Peter Andrews (1976)

Paul Shotton has been a nuclear physicist, a successful proprietary trader, an internationally respected expert in risk management, and an exhibiting gardener. So he brings an unusual range of perspectives to a stimulating book.



His context is the loss of confidence in democracy and the capitalist economic system following the global financial crisis of 2008, and more recently the surge in global inflation following the recovery from the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, and then the banking crisis originating with Silicon Valley Bank in the US in spring 2023.

Paul argues from the scientific concept of a complex adaptive system that political and economic systems reliant on government intervention cannot deliver the expectations held of them. As myriad actors each make their own judgements and respond to their own incentives, forecasting, on which government policy is based, is 'doomed to fail'. He argues for democracy and a small-state capitalist ('market' might be a preferable description) economic system, because these systems remove failed governments and businesses efficiently. The western democracies should protect themselves against autocracies by not trading freely with them.

He admits exceptions in which a centralised approach may be preferable: defence; maintenance of law and order; infrastructure; setting standards. Such exceptions could be motivated by making the state's advantages more explicit: economies of scale; the accumulation and dissemination of information, facilitating private sector decisions; it is not bound by a human lifespan, and has the power to tax, so it can invest for the long term; it can aggregate risk

and so provide insurance even when the market may be unable to do so; its authority enables it to co-ordinate collective action, and so on. Many readers' preferred lists of exceptions to reliance on market mechanisms will be longer than Paul's. A consensus may favour support for the disadvantaged and those not fully self-sufficient, which can only be made effective if citizens are assured that others also contribute a fair share. The authorities can lean against overmighty players who may suppress or subvert the market, and should ensure that contracts are fulfilled and less informed customers protected.

He expertly describes errors in financial regulation and monetary policy which contributed both to the 2008 financial crisis and to the ripples in 2023. The 'Greenspan put', by which for several decades the US Federal Reserve cut interest rates when the stock market weakened, encouraged excessive risk taking because downside risks were mitigated. Overly prescriptive financial regulation pushed banks towards having similar business models, which, for example, made them all vulnerable when interest rates rose rapidly in 2022–2023, reducing the value of the government debt they had been encouraged to hold. Underpaid regulators were inevitably outwitted by better-rewarded private sector bankers.

He argues that central banks made serious errors both in contributing to the financial crisis and in its wake, and that their role should be drastically reduced. Excessively loose monetary policy (quantitative easing) contributed to asset price bubbles which exacerbated inequality and to the surge in inflation in 2021–2022. So he challenges several elements of modern inflation targeting. Monetary policy should be less active; instead, interest rates should be set by the balance of demand for investment and savings. Tax rates, rather than interest rates, could be varied to fine-tune demand. Financial regulation of banks as large corporations should be replaced by a form of the older model in which partners were individually responsible for losses made by their banks; where banks require a government bailout, the partners and senior managers should be liable to the extent of their entire personal wealth for the cost.

Some of these criticisms are widely accepted. In the run-up to the financial crisis, regulators allowed an excessive build-up of risk within and beyond the banking system, without full visibility as to what those risks comprised or where they were held. While very easy monetary policy, including quantitative easing, was a necessary tool after the crisis, and considerably mitigated its impact, it was overused later in response to different economic shocks. For example, the COVID-19 pandemic was negative for both demand and supply,

but since demand was supported by massive government intervention (such as furlough in the UK), additional monetary stimulus and the belated shift by central banks to tightening led to an excess of demand over supply, and so contributed to inflation which has been costly to squeeze out.

The popular view of the banking crisis contains some misperceptions. Paul cites the widespread complaint that the profits of banking were privatised and the losses socialised. But neither part of that is wholly true. Before the 2008 crisis, financial and professional services had contributed directly and indirectly to growth in tax revenues which ran ahead of national income, as became visible after the crisis when those revenues fell back. And the system-wide support for the financial sector in the UK was profitable for the taxpayer in the end – the collateralised loans at penal interest rates were repaid, the various guarantees were charged for but not called upon – although they did entail an alarming risk to taxpayers in worst case scenarios. The individual nationalisations were always likely to be lossmaking – but the shareholders lost most of their equity. Those rescues protected depositors and the economy at large, which requires a functioning banking system, rather than the previous owners of the banks.

Paul's critique of the macroeconomic policy framework, based primarily on US experience, seems disproportionate in the UK, given the stability of inflation since the 1990s relative to most of the period since the First World War. Experience suggests that governments may abuse the power to inflate demand. His suggestion that tax rates could replace interest rates as the tool to fine-tune demand sits uneasily with his concern that the high government deficits across the western world after 2008 have led to destabilising debt levels.

By contrast, central banks may make forecasting and policy errors, but if they have a mandate to deliver stability they will learn and correct those errors, and wage and price setters will expect them to do so, unless the errors become large and persistent. Those expectations form the 'nominal anchor' for the system, ensuring that the price level, or the rate of inflation, is stable in the long term, while avoiding the inflexibility of the gold standard, which played the same role in the 19th century but exacerbated the depression of the 1930s. Paul does not elaborate on how his preferred system would be anchored back to stability if some large shock disrupted inflation and hence also his market rate of interest. There is an inference that the money supply might be fixed, but in a modern economy that is difficult for the authorities to deliver operationally; Paul notes that money deposits are created by the commercial

banking system, not government. And the relationship between the monetary aggregates and the ultimate objectives of policy, such as inflation and activity, is indirect and variable. Since the 1990s, officials have preferred to target inflation directly, using information about money supply and bank lending – sometimes with less focus than one might have wished.

As to regulation, the fact that football referees make errors, and may be bad footballers, does not mean that football should be played without one. Financial stability has multiple benefits, of which the protection of the taxpayer from losses incurred in bailing out banks (if they are bailed out), is only one. One former central bank Governor used to teach that the objective of banking supervision was not to protect banks, but to protect the economy from banks. The most serious damage from the 2008 crisis came not from the cost of the bailouts but from the global recession, as banks retrenched lending, and as confidence in the creditworthiness of counterparties and an orderly economy was lost.

With those benefits in mind, approaches to financial stability have evolved substantially since the crisis. 'Macroprudential policy', with its own institutional machinery such as the Bank of England's Financial Policy Committee, has developed to identify and pre-empt or counter risks to the financial system as a whole, alongside prudential supervision of individual banks. The Countercyclical Capital Buffer, by which regulators can adjust the capital requirements of the banking system to the changing risk of loss over the cycle, i.e. increasing capital in good times so that banks can continue to support economic activity in downturns, is an important new tool. In the UK, the senior managers' regime imposes individual accountability for specified responsibilities on executives and senior managers of banks, addressing one of Paul's suggestions.

Some encouragement may be taken from the UK experience. After all the turbulence of the past decade – business disruption after Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021–2022 surge in international energy and food prices, a five percentage point rise in Bank Rate in less than two years, market volatility around the 'fiscal event' of September 2022 – the UK banking system came robustly out of the Silicon Valley episode which attracted Paul's concern in 2023.

This does not rebut Paul's contention that governments will fall short of popular demands. Successful policy inevitably drives higher public expectations. A long period of stability, as before 2007, can encourage greater

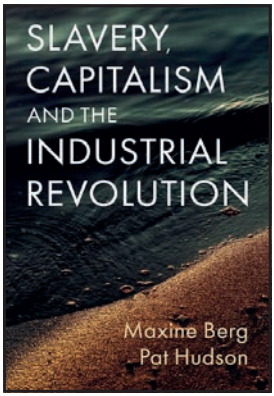
private risk taking, supporting growth, but thereby also sowing the seeds of future problems. So governments are indeed Doomed to Fail. But like the other actors in Paul's complex world, they are also Able to Learn and Adapt.

Peter Andrews (1976) retired from the Bank of England in 2018. His views are personal.

Slavery, Capitalism, and the Industrial Revolution

Maxine Berg (Honorary Fellow) and Pat Hudson, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2023

Dr Sebastian Raj Pender (Research Associate on the Balliol and Empire Project 2019–2023)



In 2019, the College launched the Balliol and Empire project with the objective of researching and telling the multifaceted story of Balliol and Empire more fully than had been previously possible. As the Research Associate on this project, I wrote papers and presented talks on many relevant areas, including Mohandas Gandhi's stay at the College in 1931, Balliol's connections with the Indian Civil Service, and Benjamin Jowett's (Master 1870–1893) conception of race. Among the most pressing and significant pieces of work that I undertook as part of this project was, however, a study to quantify the extent to which the College benefitted financially from the proceeds of slavery. This study, alongside similar projects conducted over the last few years by other educational institutions, museums, and financial organisations, has shed light on the extent to which the proceeds of slavery continue to flow through the veins of many British institutions.

In *Slavery, Capitalism, and the Industrial Revolution*, Maxine Berg and Pat Hudson go beyond assessing the impact of slavery on individual institutions to evaluate broader, deeper, and more fundamental concerns through an investigation of the role played by slavery in the process of industrialisation and the origins of British economic transformation in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The result is a forensic and comprehensive analysis that reveals deep connections between slavery and these processes – a fact long obscured, effaced, and omitted from historical assessments in favour of an entirely more self-aggrandising narrative that emphasises Britain's role in abolishing slavery rather than benefitting from it.

In developing this argument, Berg and Hudson acknowledge their debt to the pioneering work of Eric Williams (St Catz 1932) who, before becoming

the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, was a graduate student at Oxford in the 1930s, where he wrote an innovative thesis which argued that slavery made a significant contribution to the accumulation of capital in Britain and the expansion of international trade networks. Further, in contrast to how eminent figures in Oxford such as Sir Reginald Coupland, Beit Professor of Colonial History, imagined the process of abolition in books such as *Wilberforce: A Narrative* (1923) and *The British Anti-Slavery Movement* (1933), Williams shifted the emphasis in his own assessment of abolition away from moral and humanitarian concerns to argue that slavery primarily ended because it became economically unsustainable and incompatible with the changing economic realities of the time.

Writing some eight decades after Williams and therefore benefitting from access to newly available sources, subsequently derived data sets, and modern approaches to understanding the past, Berg and Hudson turn their attention to analysing a great range of different areas and succeed in establishing what are often overlooked or else marginalised connections with the trade in enslaved people. Accordingly, Berg and Hudson include detailed chapters treating subjects as varied as plantation groceries; agricultural, technological, and organisational innovation; Britain's Atlantic ports; British mining and smelting industries; Britain's textile industries; and the emergence of financial capitalism in Britain. In each of these cases, Berg and Hudson are able to persuasively establish strong connections to slavery and demonstrate how these links played a significant role in Britain's Industrial Revolution and the transformation of its economy in this period.

Though the arguments made by Berg and Hudson in each of the areas noted above are most persuasive, and the data that they are able to bring to bear in each case is exhaustive, it is their section on the connections between slavery and the evolution of financial institutions and practices that is perhaps the single most important chapter to their overall thesis. As their detailed analysis shows, the evolution of insurance and mortgage markets were linked, to a great degree, to the slave trade, and propelled the growth of financial institutions leading to increased business activities and profits within the financial services sector. This financial infrastructure, stemming from slavery, contributed to the rise of financial capitalism in Britain, particularly in London, and set the stage for increased financialisation in subsequent centuries. By directly linking slavery with the emergence of financial capitalism in Britain, Berg and Hudson conclusively reorient our understanding of this complex and crucial process

which played a central role in the emergence of Britain as a global superpower in the 19th century.

Though *Slavery, Capitalism, and the Industrial Revolution* therefore presents a timely and provocative reassessment of a crucial area of Britain's modern history, it is important to note that Berg and Hudson are not attempting to entirely reject mainstream assessments of the Industrial Revolution and the development of industrial capitalism – they are certainly not attempting to replace our existing multifaceted understanding of these phenomena with a monocausal explanation that claims complete primacy for the role of slavery. On the contrary, they explicitly state that:

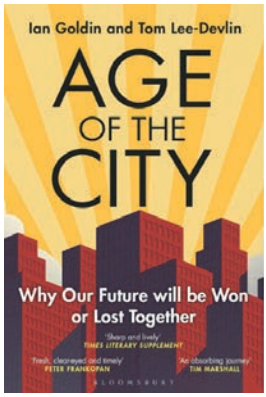
> We do not argue that slavery caused the industrial revolution. Neither do we suggest that slavery was necessary for the development of industrial capitalism in Britain.… What we do say is that the role of slavery in the process of industrialisation and economic transformation in the 18th and early 19th centuries has been generally underestimated by historians, and that it is time for a rounded examination in the light of accumulated research.

Making a no less balanced assessment some eighty years earlier did not protect Eric Williams from regular polemical attacks and ongoing controversy over the decades which followed the publication of his thesis. It is to be hoped, however, that Berg and Hudson's masterful treatment of the subject will finally result in the role of slavery in Britain's Industrial Revolution and the development of industrial capitalism gaining widespread acceptance.

Age of the City: Why Our Future will be Won or Lost Together

Ian Goldin (Senior Research Fellow) and Tom Lee-Devlin, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023

David Vines (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1992–2017 and Emeritus Fellow)



Why do cities exist and what do they do? How do they work? What is wrong with them? And how might they be fixed? Answers to these questions are essential if we are to understand how to ensure that human progress remains possible in the rest of the 21st century.

Age of the City is a short book which provides thought-provoking answers to these questions. The first author, Ian Goldin, is well equipped for this task. He was at one time Vice President of the World Bank and before that served as an advisor to Nelson Mandela. Many years ago he was a graduate student at Oxford and for the last fifteen years has been back here again as a Fellow of Balliol, as Professor of Globalisation and Development, and – for the first ten years – as the inspirational first Director of the Oxford Martin School. Ian's co-author, Tom Lee-Devlin, is a writer at the *Economist* and co-host of the Money Talks Podcast. He previously worked as a management consultant at Bain & Company. Both Ian and Tom clearly know a lot about cities. And they are very good at explaining things.

The answers which Ian and Tom give to my questions come in three stages.

The first stage is grounded in history. Ten thousand years ago, when humans first moved from hunter-gathering to settled agriculture, they spread out across the countryside because growing food requires low population density and because it was difficult to defend towns and cities from attack. But, as the authors explain in their first three chapters, things changed when such defence became possible. People can specialise and trade better when they are close together, and they can cooperate more effectively too. And – interestingly – most inventions happen in cities, since close interaction with others leads to

good ideas. By the 19th and 20th centuries, it was large cities like Glasgow and Manchester which drove industrialisation forward 'acting as matchmakers for workers desperate for employment and capitalists eager for profit'. Think, too, of the cotton mills in Bradford and Henry Ford's car assembly plant in Detroit. Furthermore, large numbers of people congregate around transport terminals – think of the port at Rotterdam and the amazingly large railway terminus in Calcutta. Economists call these the advantages of agglomeration.

Astonishingly, as the authors say, by the early years of the 21st century cities had become home to more than half of humanity. At the beginning of the 18th century only five percent of the world's population lived in cities. But now the number is 55 percent.

The second stage in the authors' presentation is an analysis of how cities have created problems. As they document, inequality is as great in cities as it is anywhere. In each city, separate locations emerge which have little to do with each other. Anyone who has by accident walked in the wrong direction in Washington DC when looking for the White House will quickly find themselves in some very different neighbourhoods, in which the lives of the poor are entirely separate from their near neighbours who are running the US (and indeed the world). The authors go on to describe the way in which this separation happens in many cities. As they say, 'making today's cities work for all their inhabitants, not just a lucky few, will require three pillars: fairer schooling, fairer housing and fairer public transport'. And – I would add – fairer health care.

Furthermore, successful cities create not just internal inequality, but inequality between them and their surrounding regions, as they draw talent and money away from those places. The City of London – one of the world's greatest cities – sucks talent away from the rest of Britain. The result of this is that some urban areas of Britain are poorer than almost anywhere in France, Germany or Italy. As a result, 'levelling up' has become the UK's greatest political challenge. But levelling up is needed not just because people in the north of England are unproductive – which, as a statistical fact, on average, they are. It is also the case that those people who are most productive in the north of England have, by and large, headed off to London.

And many cities are now impossibly large. The authors document the way in which, since 1950, the population of greater New York has risen from 13 million to 20 million. Much has been made of the recent regeneration of central New York, and particularly Manhattan. But the population of Manhattan now – eight million – is the same as it was 70 years ago. The growth in New York

numbers has happened entirely through an unmanaged suburban sprawl. The authors go on to argue that, in so many cases, the city has 'burst its seams':

> Today there are more than 500 urban areas with over 1 million residents and 40 with over 10 million. In extreme cases the process of sprawl has led to adjacent cities merging into single urban agglomerations. …[T]he melding together of Tokyo, Yokohama, Chiba and a number of other nearby cities [has created] Greater Tokyo, the largest city in the world, with a population of 37 million.

The authors then describe the rapidly growing Pearl River Delta area in China, encompassing nine increasingly interconnected cities, which has a population of 65 million people, equivalent to the population of the whole of the UK or France. Somehow or other this process of agglomeration will need to be halted.

The problem of chaotically growing cities is central to the policy problems facing many emerging-market economies, particularly in Africa. Rapid population growth combined with only slowly growing agricultural productivity creates a labour surplus which migrates to cities in search of work. If, at the same time, there is inadequate development of industry, which so often happens, the result is cities which become submerged in a mass of urban unemployment.

Disease is also a problem. Once upon a time, the small scale and relative isolation of agricultural settlements kept a limit on the potential for large and sustained outbreaks of pathogens. This changed, however, during the early stages of the Industrial Revolution when infectious diseases, like cholera and typhoid, ran rife. The conquest of these diseases in the 19th and early 20th centuries seemed little short of miraculous at the time, but it was – of course – underpinned by huge advances in medical science. Nevertheless, risks remain. In fact, as the authors argue, since the middle of the 20th century we have seen a rise in the number of infectious disease outbreaks and an increase in the number of distinct pathogens affecting humans. Some of these like SARS have been prevented from spreading. But others like AIDS and COVID-19 have not. The authors describe very clearly the way in which COVID-19 spread globally through infection at Heathrow and JFK airports – entry places to two of the world's largest and most globally connected cities.

The final stage of the authors' presentation outlines the opportunities which are now available for the world's cities. I will describe just three of these.

The first opportunity for change is remote working, which took off during the COVID-19 pandemic. The authors' discussion of this subject is cautious.

There are many tasks, as they say, that cannot be performed remotely. And, even when remote working is possible, it is becoming increasingly clear that significant and regular personal contact between workers and their managers, and amongst workers themselves, is essential for firms to operate in an efficient manner. Nevertheless, the reduction in transport costs and delays which occur as working lives are reconfigured – and the opportunities to change the way space is used as this reconfiguration happens – offers significant opportunities for many cities, both large and small.

A second opportunity for change within cities concerns the way in which climate change policies are introduced. Here, there are large opportunities for cities to make themselves less emissions-intensive. Firstly, through the change in working practices described above. Secondly, through the electrification of transport, and thirdly through changes to the ways in which buildings are heated and air-conditioning is provided. There are a number of very big opportunities here.

A third major area of potential change lies in policies towards the arts, and towards culture more generally. As space has become more expensive in central city areas, it has become increasingly difficult for artists and cultural institutions to afford to live and work in the centre of cities, places where cultural activity is at its most vibrant. Policies which ensure that such space goes on being available at affordable rates will be important for the cultural lives of very many cities. This was made clear by the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic when so many cultural institutions were forced to close because of a collapse in revenue which happened when lockdowns made visiting such institutions impossible. This has forced policymakers in many cities to focus on the need to ensure that such institutions are rebuilt and made sustainable.

Despite the problems and challenges for cities which the authors document, the overwhelming impression that I have been left with after reading this book is one of gratitude. I have been reminded of how *wonderful* (literally) the world's most successful cities are. Many of us have a wish list of places to visit before we die – Angkor Wat, the Galapagos Islands, and Machu Picchu. But this book will – I think – persuade many readers that London, Paris, New York, Berlin, Sydney, Florence, San Francisco – and a number of others – are also destinations to add to our list. Cities at their best are both physically majestic and architecturally exciting; places where art, culture and ideas thrive; and places where great leaps of imagination and progress can be made. This book may well encourage its readers to go and seek out more of them.

Marking Time: My Family and I

Sir Mathew Thorpe (1957), Henmarsh Farm Editions, 2023

Professor Rebecca Bailey-Harris (Barrister at 1 Hare Court, Professor of Law at University of Bristol 1994–2005)

Sir Mathew Thorpe's latest book is divided into two parts, at first glance seemingly distinct. The first is a record of his ancestors, the families of his four grandparents. The second part is Mathew's autobiography – a long and colourful life, of considerable distinction. A close reading of this book reveals the subtle connections between its component parts. The legacy of his ancestors has coloured aspects of Mathew's own interests and achievements.

The first part is the history of four families. Mathew presents the reader with an extensive dramatis personae which paints a vivid picture of life and society in England and far beyond from the early 18th century. The following highlights can only give a flavour of what is to be enjoyed by the reader. Of the Thorpe family, Mathew's grandfather Captain John Somerdale Thorpe fought in the Boer and First World Wars and was killed in 1916. Mathew was particularly fond of his great uncle Gervase, a colourful character who spent many years in India and whose book recording the shooting of game there is as vivid as it is shocking to the modern reader. The Meade family hailed originally from Ireland and then Ulster. John Meade the First Earl married one of the greatest Irish heiresses, but the fortune was squandered. Richard the Second Earl died at the age of 39, but his short life was significant for the time spent in Vienna, where he married Countess Maria Carolina Thun. She died in childbirth in 1800. Her mother was a patroness of Mozart, who often performed music in her house. The Third Earl, another Richard, was described by Chateaubriand as 'at the head of the London dandies'. In the diplomatic service he attended the Congress of Vienna and was described by a contemporary as being 'as handsome at seventy as when Lawrence painted him forty years before'. Members of the Lambert family sought fortunes in India and were successful in business enterprises there and in London. William (1836–1907) was engaged in the suppression of the Indian mutiny and in the Kaffir and Zulu wars in South Africa. Mathew's grandfather Colonel Arthur Meade served in the Dardanelles, writing letters in which he described one of the most dramatic theatres of the Great War. He was killed by a Turkish bullet

and lies in the Gaza war cemetery, a particular poignancy in current times. Of the Donaldson family, Mathew characterises Sir George as 'a prodigy'. 'Good looking, vain, self-important', he nevertheless had 'great flair' as a cultured man fluent in French and Italian. Sir George made his mark as a renowned collector and dealer, his special fields of interest being musical instruments, paintings and furniture and decoration. His public spirit led to honours in Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, France and England. Sir George's collection of musical instruments was unequalled in Europe. The collection was gifted to the Royal College of Music, and the State Opening of the Museum took place on 2 May 1894. Sir George gifted to the college the manuscript of Mozart's Piano Concerto No 24 K491 – 'arguably the most important music manuscript in the UK'. As to art, he gifted to the National Gallery Goya's outstanding portrait of Dr Peral and sold to the Gallery at cost price Titian's portrait of the poet Ariosto.

What themes can be traced from this rich ancestry into Mathew's own life? I discern the following: love of shooting, attachment to Vienna and Austria, interest in India and more generally a marked internationalism. The reader may find others on perusing the second part of the book.

Mathew was born in 1938, when the 'state of the nation was febrile as the threat of war with Hitler overhung': the bombing of Petworth in September 1942 was a well-publicised disaster. Mathew gives a vivid account of stays in his childhood with Granny Thorpe at the beautiful Coombelands Estate. Mathew went as a boarder to Stowe in 1952: the house was dilapidated and the magnificent grounds were in varying states of decay. Mathew was drawn to the study of history but 'Classics was the only proper study for clever boys'. He sat the entrance examination for Balliol and was offered a place. The admissions tutor was as impressed by Mathew's history paper as by his Latin. However, 'for practical reasons' he chose to read Law, 'a subject in which Balliol excelled'.

Mathew's account of his legal education at Oxford from 1957 is sparse, because he was not attracted to the study of law as an academic discipline. The chapter on Oxford focuses instead on outings to Ascot and Goodwood, dinners at the Bell at Aston Clinton, parties given by 'all the faster young ones', shooting and poaching 'under the wide Otmoor skies', and the decadence of the Annandale dining club. Mathew's 'Waterloo' was the Honours School of Jurisprudence in 1960, receiving a Third Class degree. Following Oxford, Mathew and his friend Robert Douglas-Miller spent an interlude in India, using

their connections with the 'princely class' (including maharajas) to embark on game hunting and hopefully to bring back antique European weapons. They found 'a sporting tradition on the point of extinction', but Mathew was left with an affection for India and Indians. A less fortunate legacy was tuberculosis which slowly incubated for four years and required Mathew's hospitalisation for nine months.

Mathew's self-awareness is telling: 'Only when I moved from the study of law to the practice of advocacy did I become engaged and inspired'. After pupillage at 1 Mitre Court he was taken on in 1962, initially earning paltry fees. This chambers 'married' Joseph Jackson's set from Paper Buildings in 1969, a development of significance. In 1967 Mathew married Vina and in due course Gervase, Al and Marcus were born (to whom this book is dedicated). Life at Seend Green House was rich and varied: a major achievement was the restoration of the walled garden. Mathew continued his passion for horse racing and betting in partnership with David Oldrey and they owned racehorses from 1963. Breeding followed: the Seend Stud operated for 16 golden years until a long and painful process of liquidation set in.

Family law practice changed greatly with the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973. Mathew recounts that 'A rejuvenated Family Division burgeoned on what was labelled ancillary relief litigation and I was perfectly placed to feature in the front rank'. He took silk in 1980 and thereafter was 'at the zenith as an advocate'. The following eight years were 'the exciting years of my prime, one high profile case following another'. These included Jagger, Guiness, Lady Radnor and the Contesse de Dampierre. Particularly engaging is Mathew's account of a case in Hong Kong in which his client dispensed with his services and acted in person, it having been discovered that she had a Chinese cohabitant whom she subsequently murdered, dismembered and buried in the garden. Mathew's greatest public responsibility in silk was as counsel to the Cleveland Enquiry into Child Sexual Abuse from 1987.

Mattew's appointment to the Family Division in 1988 marked a great change, not only in profession but in personal life. His marriage with Vina ended, Beech House was purchased, and he married Carola. 'Suddenly, I took on responsibility to the State'. Perceptively Mathew observes that as a judge 'I needed profounder understanding of human behaviour and psychology'. But he did not confine himself to the judicial function. Judicial activism in striving to improve the quality of justice was a radical departure from tradition. Mathew's significant contributions of longstanding significance were to the

Dartington conferences, the Ancillary Relief Working Party and above all to international family justice. The Court of Appeal followed from 1995 to 2013. In due course as presider 'my court became the principal vehicle for the carriage of family business'. But wider horizons beckoned. Mathew became the first Head of International Family Justice in 2005. He rightly regards his rich and varied experience 'in creating a new field of judicial practice and in advancing British interests and standards across the world'.

The final chapter of Mathew's autobiography is tinged with sadness: disappointment at not been given, after retirement from the bench, the work in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) which his talent merited. But the final page of his autobiography is joyful. Mathew announces his engagement to Aleksandra, whom readers of *A Divided Heart* will know. We readers wish them every happiness for the future.

In Memoriam

Professor Robert Solow (1924–2023)

George Eastman Visiting Professor and Fellow 1968–1969

James Forder (Dean, Andrew Graham Fellow and Tutor in Political Economy)

> 'I once said to Solow, "Bob, you are perfect except for one thing. You don't play tennis". Instead of reminding me that I don't ski, sail, play chess, and after the age of 40 row for Balliol, Solow merely smiled'.
> Paul Samuelson, 1989 (Nobel Prize in Economics, 1970)



Professor Robert Solow
Olaf Storbeck, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

Robert Solow died aged 99 in December 2023. Having interrupted his undergraduate studies at Harvard to volunteer for the US Army, he completed a doctorate and went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was Professor and Emeritus Professor of Economics from 1949 until his death. He was one of the outstanding economists of the post-war period and after, winning the John Bates Clark Medal (1961), the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for 1987, the National Medal of Science (1999), and being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2014. He was George Eastman Visiting Professor and Fellow of Balliol during the 1968/1969 academic year.

Amongst economists, he is best known for two papers from the mid-1950s. One presented what is now known as the 'Solow growth model'. It is still the starting point for all serious consideration of economic growth, and continues to be closely studied in reasonably authentic form by undergraduates. It points to and highlights the idea that sustained growth in output per head comes only from technological innovation rather than merely the accumulation of capital. So 'more investment', in the absence of technological progress, will not bring ongoing increases in output. In the second paper he showed that thinking along the lines of the model, a very large proportion of American growth had

in fact come from such innovation.

Although evidently fascinated by mathematical economics, nearly all his work had some close connection to economic policy. He was a principal actor in shaping the *Economic Report of the President* (1962), which paved the way for the tax cut of 1964 – the great 'Keynesian' measure of American policy. He also wrote widely on resource or environmental economics, particularly around the time of the report of the Club of Rome (1972), inflation and its control, and labour market economics.

These last two came together, along with his interest in developing quantitative techniques in his book *Price Expectations and the Behaviour of the Price Level*, published in 1969. The content was the publication of lectures given at Manchester but must be one of the main fruits of his time at Balliol. It was one of the very first and at that date by far the most sophisticated econometric treatment of the effect of expected inflation on wage and price behaviour. That was to be one of the defining themes of the macroeconomics of the next decade. Although Solow's way of thinking about expectations formation did not win lasting favour amongst economists, the work was early, incisive and clear enough to be highly regarded in its time.

He was married to Barbara Lewis, also an economist, whom he met as an undergraduate and is survived by three children and eight grandchildren.

Professor Brian Warner (1939–2023)

Henry Skynner Fellow 1965–1967

John Jones (1961, Fellow 1966–2009, Emeritus Fellow since 2009)



Brian Warner was born near East Grinstead in Sussex on 25 May 1939. His parents were Leslie Warner, a gardener, and Edith Mary Bashford, who were married at East Grinstead in 1927: he was their only child. Somehow, he got into East Grinstead County Grammar School despite failing the Eleven Plus. While there he became seriously interested in astronomy and was encouraged by the eccentric amateur astronomer Patrick Moore. In Moore's *Guardian* obituary (2012), he wrote:

> Having, as a schoolboy, lived within bicycling distance of Patrick's house in East Grinstead, I benefited from his encouragement and generosity of time and, indeed, from his introduction to those who were later to become my teachers and mentors. And I still value the inscribed books he gave me during those years.

After graduating with a BSc in Astronomy and a PhD in Astrophysics at UCL, Brian was awarded a Studentship to work at the Radcliffe Observatory in Pretoria, and while there he was elected to the Henry Skynner Fellowship at Balliol, designated as a Radcliffe-Henry Skynner Fellow because the Radcliffe Trust contributed to the cost.

Henry Skynner (1816–1884) was a wealthy London solicitor who said he was 'devoted to the science of astronomy' in his will, which endowed Scholarships or Fellowships at Balliol to encourage 'the study of the Science of Astronomy and of original research and discovery therein'. Skynner's reason for choosing Balliol is obscure. He had no discernable connection and it is tempting to speculate that he knew of Balliol's earlier associations with astronomers such as James Bradley FRS (1710), Astronomer Royal 1742. It was more likely a reflection of Benjamin Jowett's reputation. He drafted the detailed regulations for the Trust set out in the will and was left ten guineas for a ring 'as a small recognition of his valuable assistance to me in framing the preceding rules'. It

was Balliol's first endowment for any kind of research. 'Mr Henry Skynner's Trust (1879)' continues as a separate Trust Fund, and the Henry Skynner Fellowship remains part of the College's Early Career Fellowships programme.

Brian was a gregarious, popular member of the Balliol SCR. I got to know him well then and we kept in touch until recently.

After Balliol he spent five years at the University of Texas, and he might well have stayed there. But when Jack de Wet (1935, Fellow 1946–1970, Vice-Master 1970–1971, Emeritus Fellow 1971–1995) was appointed Dean of Science at the University of Capetown (UCT), he immediately recruited Brian to be the first Professor and Head of the new Department of Astronomy. UCT was Brian's academic base for the rest of his life. He was prolific and original and built up his department from scratch to be world-class. I cannot add much to what can easily be found online about his contributions to astronomy and the many awards and honours showered upon him. But it is appropriate to mention here that he was awarded an Oxford DSc when he was only 47 for his early work on rapidly variable (i.e. flickering) stars; the judge's report described his classic paper of 1974 as 'a uniquely beautiful and seminal piece of work', and him as 'the leader in this field, pioneered by him'.

He wrote hundreds of journal papers (some thirty before finishing his PhD) and several books between 1960 and 2022. His most important book was probably *Cataclysmic Variable Stars* (CUP 1995) but he also published scholarly volumes on the history of astronomy and botany in South Africa. His talents were diverse and surprising: a woodworking virtuoso, he once made a harpsichord, and he wrote humorous and irreverent verse. A major figure in South African scientific and cultural affairs, he was a Trustee of the South African Library and also of the South African Museum (Chairman 1991–1999).

He died on 5 May 2023, survived by two former wives, two children, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

There are a number of informative accounts of Brian Warner and his work online, including:
Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_Warner_(astronomer)
Patrick Woudt: https://www.news.uct.ac.za/article/-2023-05-08-brian-warner-25-may-19395-may-2023
George Ellis: https://doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2023/16307

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
I am grateful to Jo White of the Development Office for assistance; to Faye McLeod, College Archivist, for copying material from the College Archives, especially the will of Henry Skynner; and to Alice Millea of the University Archives for the DSc Report. The photograph is from the SCR Album.

Professor Natalie Zemon Davis (1928–2023)

George Eastman Visiting Professor 1994–1995



Professor Natalie Zemon Davis
Holbergprisen, CC BY 2.0
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Natalie was Eastman Professor at Balliol in 1994/1995, the first woman to hold the Chair. She received an Honorary Doctorate from our University and was in so many ways part of Oxford's intellectual community. She gave numerous lectures and seminars at Oxford and no-one who heard her lecture would forget her inspirational energy or her ability to evoke the people of the past.

The essays which made up the modestly-titled *Society and Culture in Early Modern France* (1975) – 'Women on Top', 'The Rites of Violence' and many more are still read today and remain central to our curriculum. She contributed hugely to women's and gender history, championing it before it was accepted by the academy, and together with Jill Ker Conway she taught one of the first university courses in women's history (University of Toronto). Her *The Return of Martin Guerre* and the film (starring Gerard Depardieu) to which she was consultant brought early modern history to a wide public. She pioneered what later became known as microhistory, and showed what could be done with criminal records, or how one might think about space and religious geography in early modern towns. Later she took up the challenges of global history, writing *Women on the Margins* and *Trickster Travels*, a study of Leo Africanus. A historian of religion, she studied Jews and Muslims as well as Christians of many kinds. Her most recent book, *Listening to the Languages of the People*, was published by Central European University Press; and at her death she was working on Braided Histories, a book that would bring together the stories of slaves and free people living on plantations owned by Christians and Jews, in eighteenth-century Suriname.

Natalie Zemon Davis changed history-writing by putting people at its centre. She brought to her writing a luminous ability to widen the scope of human sympathy. She cared deeply about peace as a moral value and tried constantly to understand both sides, and to explore why conflicts, especially religious conflicts, happen. The poem her husband, the mathematician Chandler Davis, wrote about her in 1975 captures best her vocation as a historian:

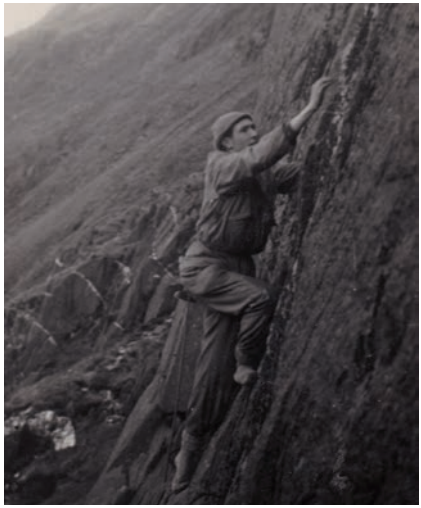
Born abroad, she longs for you, compagnons.
She longs to shake your hand, to share your wine.
She longs for home, four hundred years away.
Through the pane she hears you but is not heard.
She deserves your pity but will not have it.
The songs you think are vanished once they're sung,
The pleas you think are wasted if turned down,
Jokes you dismiss if no one laughs or winces,
She listens for. You speak sometimes too soft.
And since there is no God
she notes your prayers.
And since there is no God
she marks your fall.

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Old Member obituaries

Alan Drummond (1948)

Jeremy Drummond



Alan Drummond, who died aged 93 in January this year, was at Balliol from 1948 to 1954, where he took a first class honours degree in Chemistry followed by a PhD on manganese oxidation states under Alec Waters (War Memorial Fellow, Tutor in Natural Science).

His father, Alec, died suddenly four months before he was born. His mother, Gladys, brought him up on her own, supported by her mother. She bought a haberdashery shop in King's Heath, Birmingham and ran it until the early 1960s.

Alan gained a scholarship to King Edward VI Grammar School. As a young teenager he mixed up nitrate explosive to remove a tree root from his mother's garden. He connected it to the house light circuit. When he switched on the lounge light, it blew the tree stump over the house.

A chemistry master persuaded him to apply to Oxford. It was there he met June, who was two years below him. He discovered mountain climbing and travelled to Scotland, Wales and the Pyrenees.

Oxford had widened his world view and convinced him he wanted to escape his home roots. Newly married in 1954 he did postdoctoral studies at the National Research Council in Ottawa. With June pregnant, they moved to California to join Chevron in 1956.

Initially, his main focus was supporting June in bringing up their three boys under two years old. When they moved back to the UK in 1961, he joined Esso's oil additives research group in Milton, Oxfordshire. He was promoted quickly and then was transferred to the European office in London. He was

one of the first commuters from Didcot to Paddington.

Alan was transferred to Brussels in the early seventies and, after two years, to New York City, where he moved into global marketing. This was followed by four exciting years in Miami. He learned to mono-ski, scuba dive and sail yachts. He was a regular visitor to South and Central America throughout this time, often working in Spanish.

Alan and June moved back to the UK in 1983 and he retired soon after. They spent the next 25 years living between their villa in Javea, Spain and England.

He spent much time creating an array of elegant boxes and trays with marquetry pictures. These boxes and trays remain his legacy for which he will be remembered for many years.

He is survived by his wife, June, and his three sons, Adrian, Julian, and Jeremy.

John Claricoat (1952)

Ruth McDougall



John spent his early life in Croydon. At age four or five he contracted meningitis and this affected his eyesight. His sight deteriorated, until he realised one day that he could no longer distinguish darkness from light.

With the encouragement of his mother, he went to a school for children with poor sight at Chorleywood. From there he went to Worcester College (now known as New College, Worcester), a boarding school for boys who were blind or partially sighted. He must have thrived there as he went on to Balliol, to read law. He never ceased to be thankful to those places for the support they gave him.

After graduating, John worked for the RNIB, but he continued with his

studies and became a solicitor and worked as such before joining the Charity Commission in 1966. I worked there and agreed to be his amanuensis, which basically meant I read to him. We worked well together and became friends. John and a colleague wrote a book titled *Charity Law A-Z*, published in 1995 and followed by a second edition in 1998. In addition to his paid work he gave his time freely to organisations that helped disabled individuals who were often overlooked when applying for work. His example showed me that with training and self-confidence, blind people can live full lives in safety.

John and his wife, Helen, enjoyed their life in Islington as they were able to travel easily to theatres and restaurants in the West End. They also enjoyed many holidays abroad. In order to be able to take his guide dog for more interesting walks, and to make a change from their city life, John and Helen bought a flat in Brighton as a weekend retreat. After Helen's death, John moved round the corner to a smaller flat.

John was a clever man, an intellectual who had the ability to remember details. He never took notes but would sit considering a problem sometimes for ten minutes before reaching a decision and dictating his reply. He enjoyed discussing just about any subject and had a view on most things, especially politics. An accomplished pianist and organist, he had a good ear for accents and could copy voices he knew.

Given his blindness at such a young age a lesser person might have given up. However, he determined to be the best he could be. And he was.

Robert Kernohan (1953)

Hugh Kernohan (1977)

Robert Kernohan was born in 1931 in Glasgow's East End. His mother died when he was seven, so he grew up, in his own words, a fat, clever and lonely boy, squeezed between his father's roles as a skilled foundry pattern maker and a Home Guard company sergeant major.

In a community with a strong work ethic and great respect for education, he found a wide world in his largely self-educated father's books and thrived at school, earning the first coin from his pen by writing exercises for less able fellows.

He took a First in History at Glasgow University and won a scholarship

which brought him to Balliol.

Apart from three attempts to win a seat in Parliament and four years as Director General of the Scottish Conservative Party, he worked as a journalist and broadcaster, both employed and freelance. He began with the *Glasgow Herald*, leaving in 1968 as London editor, and from 1972 until 1990, he was editor of the Church of Scotland's magazine *Life and Work*. He carried on writing and broadcasting until the pandemic lockdowns. From 1976 to 2019 he wrote and delivered more than 540 'Thoughts for the Day' for *BBC Radio.*

He was a well-kent public voice in Scotland, both on Church issues and more widely. A conservative, but no Thatcherite, he was often out of step with prevailing opinions in the Church hierarchy but was devoted to its membership, and to professional standards of journalism and editorial freedom.

His final flicker of political ambition came in 1982 when he rather fancied being Roy Jenkins' (1938) Tory opponent at the Hillhead by-election but lost out in the final party selection.

In retirement he served on the Broadcasting Standards Commission, the Monopolies and Merger Commission and the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland; and was the first lay member of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary.

His nine books included *The Road to Zion*, an account of travellers to the Holy Land from the Crusades to the late 20th century, and *An Alliance Across the Alps,* on the historic ties between Britain and the various Italian Protestant minorities, especially the Alpine Waldensians.

He learnt to play rugby at Whitehill Academy and although asthma prevented him playing after Balliol and National Service in the RAF, he remained a lifelong follower, even if endlessly frustrated in Scotland's darker years. His last problem in hospital before his sudden death was how to watch the World Cup final, thankfully solved by a fellow patient's smartphone.

Personally a very private man to the last, he left an almost complete, largely professional, memoir of 42,000 words. He told neither his wife nor his four sons that he had written it.

Bill Acraman (1956)

Roger Doherty (1957)

Bill Acraman worked for several years in the UK nuclear industry before

moving to the USA to work as a management consultant. He and his family (his wife, Marion, and three children, Paul, Jill, and David) returned to England in 1969 where he continued his career, first as a management constant and then in technical management for UK companies. He was elected and served for an extended period as a Conservative councillor for the West Sussex County Council. Bill spent many years as a scout master, first in South London and then in Copthorne in Sussex.

Bill and I were very close friends and enjoyed numerous outdoor activities together, including hiking, camping, and dinghy sailing, until I left for the USA in 1982. We continued our relationship with regular meetings in both the UK and the USA, and spent many hours discussing, mostly via email, numerous topics, especially on politics.

Freddie Craig (1962)

Professor Sir Drummond Bone (1968 and Master 2011–2018)

I first met Freddie 42 years ago, when at a dinner party he pointed out that I was pretentiously wearing a Balliol College tie. A number of things stemmed from that observation – 1) that he also went to Balliol 2) that as well as a big smile he also carried a big key to insert in your back and wind quietly until you finally spotted the smile and the wink and 3) that he enjoyed both golf and the pleasures of the 19th hole. All combined to mean that we became firm friends, playing golf most weekends in the summer for the best part of 20 years – in the winter we played the 19th hole, latterly at the Royal and Ancient with a bottle of St Veran.

He had at Oxford a distinguished sporting history – a three-time rugby Blue and captain in 1965. His schoolfriend Mike Gibson captained Cambridge in the same year and was also an Irish and Lions International, so Campbell College, Belfast, must have been doing something rugby-right. Freddie used to tell a story about how St Edmund Hall, a college known for its emphasis on sport, had turned him down, but then Balliol, well known for its nerdy types, had accepted him. But at Balliol he obtained a travelling scholarship which had as much to do with academic ability as sport, and a lot to do with being a good networker. And his career at Shell and Christian Salvesen, and his being much-in-demand as a company doctor, a turnaround man – at a rough count,

leaving out the family business, 12 companies sought his service in later years – tell of his skills as a successful businessman. Even business discussions were full of humour and he had a properly correct view of work – if it ain't fun, don't do it.

I've mentioned his networking skills, but he never name-dropped (unless with a wink to his friends), he just had that happy knack of making friends. I coat-tailed him, frequently, to the R and A, and everywhere you moved someone said, 'Good to see you, Freddie'. Quite right too, he would say, with that smile and that wink.

This is an edited version of speech given at Freddie Craig's funeral.

Nicholas Carne Wilson (1970)

Hugh Jaques (1970)

Nick died suddenly on holiday in South Africa aged 71. He was the youngest son of Robert Nicholl and Barbara Wilson of Broughshane, Ballymena. His father was a Stormont MP and director of a cloth mill, Raceview. After prep school in Dublin, he went to Shrewsbury School, where he made life-long friends before coming up to Oxford to read Modern History.

We met on our first day outside John Prest's room. Possibly we may have spent as much time in pubs as in libraries. While putting the world to rights, doing some work and learning to play bar billiards, we had a thoroughly enjoyable time. Nick relished his stimulating tutorials with Richard Cobb in the Buttery, though he was unsure of their actual relevance. An outstanding feature of Nick's college days was the 'Coffin', a matte black, elderly car. Despite appearances (and occasional hiccups) it carried Nick and friends around Oxfordshire and him to Northern Ireland (via Galloway, my home) and back.

Nick was fast-tracked into the Civil Service. Initially working in a small team on employment legislation, he moved around regularly including periods in the Private Office, which he loathed, and the Nuclear Inspectorate, which he enjoyed. Later he adjusted course, first serving as a director at the South-East Regional Office before becoming Director of the Surrey Learning and Skills Council. Afterwards, he worked as a consultant, alone and in partnership,

before retiring. He supported Treloar's, National Learning and Work Institute, and Southampton Hospital as voluntary director/governor. Latterly he became deeply involved as a councillor in Liss.

Travel always engaged Nick. In youth it may have been hitch-hiking in France, ending with no francs, or a Highland tour with two friends, his mother's car and a bright blue Crusader-style tent. As time went by he became increasingly ambitious, 'lavish' as he might say; always planning the next trip.

After transfer to the Regional Office, Nick and his wife, Fiona, moved from London to settle in Liss Forest, Hampshire, where they created a welcoming haven for their families and friends. Nick was punctilious about maintaining contact with friends and family, ensuring that we all should have 'fun'. Many of us regularly enjoyed their hospitality, good company, long weekends and parties. He was a warm and generous host, both enjoying and generating good 'chat' on matters serious and trivial.

He is a much-missed husband, brother, uncle and friend.

Peter-John Wilkinson (1980)

Andrew Morgan, Nicholas Mirzoeff, and Matthew Hamlyn (all 1980)



Our friend Peter-John Wilkinson, universally known as P-J, who died in January 2024 aged 63, read English at Balliol after attending Hampton Grammar School. He quickly formed the nucleus of a group, mostly resident on Staircase 15, who have remained friends ever since, thanks to his genius for friendship. The ideas that he shared and developed as a student provided a foundation for his lifelong commitment to public sector educational administration and broad socialist aspirations.

P-J joined the Inner London Education Authority on graduating in 1983. ILEA was abolished in 1988, and as London councils got to grips with their responsibilities, he took on the role of school organisation. At a time of huge changes in the structure of education, he helped ensure that children and young people received the best education possible – first in Camden, then in Lewisham, Hackney and Surrey. He played a defining role in starting the work to improve school education in Hackney, changing the poor reputation of its schools in the early 2000s to one where schools were oversubscribed by the end of that decade. He was great at dealing with people, be they unhappy members of the public or disgruntled staff, treating them fairly and with dignity. He is remembered as a great boss who saw skills in people that others overlooked, and whose guidance and support helped put many people on to a successful career path.

Immensely knowledgeable and widely read, P-J had a phenomenal memory – if he had read, seen or heard it then he remembered it. His friends would turn to him to settle disagreements on anything from Marvel Comics to the development of post-Marxist thought or events in our personal lives. He was intensely intellectually curious – the last book he started, a few weeks before his death, was Heisenberg's Physics and Philosophy.

He lived for many years in Brixton with his wife Jo and a series of cats, becoming celebrated for his generous hospitality and superb cooking. He underwent a liver transplant in 2006 and he and Jo were grateful for the 17 further years that this gave him. When his last illness was diagnosed, he bore it with singular grace and stoicism. His extensive circle of friends came together to be with him in his last months, to share food, time and memories. This, more than anything, is the mark of the man. He will be sorely missed by many.

Professor Arthur Burns (1981)

Dr Simon Skinner (Keen Fellow and Tutor in History)

Arthur Burns, who has died aged 60, was both a leading historian of modern Britain and one of the national profession's great public servants. He came to Balliol in 1981, was made a Greaves Exhibitioner, and secured a First in 1984, when Firsts were rather rarer. During and after his DPhil (1991) at Balliol, from 1988, Arthur combined a lectureship at Mansfield College, Oxford with

sub-editorship of *Past & Present*, before his appointment to a lectureship at King's College London (KCL) in 1992.

His doctoral work, supervised by Peter Hinchliff (then Chaplain and Fellow of Balliol), contributed centrally to revisionist interpretations of the late-Hanoverian and early Victorian Church of England, which now themselves constitute orthodoxy, and was published as *The Diocesan Revival in the Church of England c.1800–1870* (1999). His interest in this field continued in later works, such as his co-edited volume and essay in *Rethinking the Age of Reform: Britain 1780–1850 (2003)* and award-winning *St Paul's: The Cathedral Church of London 604–2004* (co-ed., 2004).

In 2016, Arthur was appointed President of the Church of England Record Society; he was an advisor to the Church Commissioners' Project Spire, investigating the links between the Church of England and the slave trade, thereafter serving on the Contested Heritage Committee of the Church Buildings Council, and in 2022 was duly presented with the Lanfranc Award for Education and Scholarship by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Arthur's contribution to British history transcended his immediate research interests due to his authentically pioneering work in digital humanities. From 1999, he was a director, along with Kenneth Fincham (Lecturer in History 1982–1984) and Stephen Taylor, of the Clergy of the Church of England Database, a digital inventory of all Anglican clergy in England and Wales from the Reformation to the mid-19th century, and from 2017 Academic Director of the transatlantic Georgian Papers Programme, a ten-year interdisciplinary project to digitise c.65,000 items in the Royal Archives and Royal Library.

Arthur was a major figure at KCL, where he was made Professor of Modern British History, served as Head of Department from 2004 to 2008, and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (Education) from 2014 to 2017. In London, he was an equally genial and rigorous co-convenor of the Long Eighteenth-Century Seminar at the Institute of Historical Research. But his contribution to the UK's historical community was felt much more widely. He co-founded the Boydell & Brewer monograph series 'Studies in Modern British Religious History', which has since published nearly forty volumes. After being elected to the Royal Historical Society in 2000, he served as Literary Director (2008–2012) and then Vice-President Education (2012–2016), in which capacity he negotiated with Michael Gove and his officials in the education department over controversial revisions to the national curriculum; he was also Chair of the Historical Association's Higher Education Committee.

Although Arthur was more interested in professional outreach than media-donnery, his public engagement inevitably crossed over into broadcast appearances, including Tony Palmer's film *Holst – In the Bleak Midwinter* (2011), and *Who Do You Think You Are?* (revealing to Patsy Kensit that she was descended from James Mayne, a 19th century curate legendary for his social work in Bethnal Green).

In 1998, he married Sarah Stockwell, a historian of British imperialism and decolonisation, who survives him with their three sons, James, Alasdair, and Douglas.

Rob Stabler (2010)

Max Denning (2010) and Richard Dumbill (2010)

It is with deep sorrow that we must share the following news with members and former members of the College.

On 21 July 2024, Rob Stabler (2010) passed away following a cycling accident near his home in Devon. Rob had married Rachel Stabler (née Patel, Univ 2010) only three weeks beforehand in the presence of a large group of family and friends, many of whom they met whilst at Oxford. Rob was a great friend, a talented doctor, an impressive sportsman, and a loving husband.

Rob was born on 11 July 1991 and grew up in Sussex. He excelled both inside the classroom and out. Rob was a gifted chess player but always preferred the excitement of the outdoors: he was enthusiastic about football at school, which gave way to rowing at Balliol, and subsequently cycling.

Rob matriculated in 2010 to read medicine under the tutelage of Piers Nye (Fellow and Tutor in Physiological Sciences 1991–2011 and Emeritus Fellow 2011–2021), Lisa Walker (Fellow in Medical Sciences), and Martin Burton (Professor of Otolaryngology and Vice-Master (Executive)). Rob immediately threw himself into college life, becoming involved in novice rowing and later rowing for the College 1st VIII. He developed close friends through this experience and many of those in that novice boat were at his wedding 14 years later in South Milton, Devon. When Rob was not in lectures or on the river, he could often be found playing Ultimate Frisbee or exploring Oxfordshire on his bike. While at Oxford, Rob also met his future wife, Rachel. He travelled widely, completing elective placements in South Africa, Kenya, and Australia.

His love of cycling also took him on trips around Europe, including Spain, Scotland, and Ireland – and on one occasion, from Oxford to Cambridge and back in a single day.

After graduating, Rob began his clinical training in Bournemouth, before spending two years in New Zealand. In 2021, he returned to the UK to continue training as an anaesthetist. Rob was a dedicated clinician and was awarded the Gold Medal in 2023 by the Royal College of Anaesthetists for his performance in post-graduate Fellowship exams. At the time of his accident, alongside his clinical work, Rob was undertaking a prestigious Academic Clinical Fellowship at Plymouth, developing a trial of remote ischaemic preconditioning ahead of transplant surgery.

Rob's love of life, charitable nature, sense of humour, and brilliance, made the world a brighter place for all of those around him. He is desperately missed by all whose lives he had touched.



Rob, pictured with his wife Rachel, was known for his distinctive full-body laugh, his love of life, his laid-back demeanour, and his spirit of adventure.

Deaths

Professor Charles Kahn (Supernumerary Visiting Fellow 1979–1980), 5 March 2023
Professor Brian Warner (Radcliffe-Henry Skynner Senior Research Fellow in Astronomy 1965–1967), 5 May 2023
Professor Evelyn Keller (MIT Visitor (History and Philosophy of Science) in Hilary Term 2009), 22 September 2023
Professor Natalie Davis (George Eastman Visiting Professor and Fellow of Balliol 1994–1995), 21 October 2023
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Professor Henry McKean (George Eastman Visiting Professor and Fellow of Balliol 1979–1980), 20 April 2024

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Lucy Blackadder (1982), 7 October 2023
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Philip Rogosky (1985), 2024

Anne Gilbert (2004), 29 May 2023

Rob Stabler (2010), 21 July 2024

Correction to 2023 edition

The date of death of Ray Thorp (1961) was incorrectly published as 5 August 2022 when it should have been 5 October 2022.

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