BALLIOL COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

ANNUAL RECORD

2025





BALLIOL
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

ANNUAL RECORD

2025

Balliol College
Oxford OX1 3BJ
Telephone: 01865 277777
Website: www.balliol.ox.ac.uk

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, 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.

If you would like to change how Balliol communicates with you or how you receive any of our publications, please contact the Development Office at the postal address above or by emailing development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk; or you can manage your preferences online at www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/balliol.

Contents

The Master's Letter 4

Balliol College 2024/2025 7
Balliol College 2024/2025 8
New Fellows 20
First-year graduates 26
First-year undergraduates 31
Visiting students 37
College staff 38

Review of the Year 40
Review of the year 41

Achievements and Awards 53
Graduate Scholarships 54
Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions 59
College prizes 62
University prizes 65
Graduate research degrees 66
Distinctions in graduate taught degrees 70
Firsts and distinctions in undergraduate degrees 71
Honours, appointments and awards 73

College Life 76
Library and Archives 77
Chapel 84
Middle Common Room 89
Junior Common Room 92
Clubs, societies and sports 95

Features 110
Inclusivity, enjoyment, and camaraderie before excellence: the 1981 Balliol Erratics 111
Dance to the tune of life: reflections of a Balliol person on the Northern Ireland peace process 118
Balliol in Chile 124
A Samba sermon before Lent 128
Speech at Gaudy (1967–1973) 134
The Shortest History of Migration 139
The House of War: The Struggle between Christendom and the Caliphate 144
The Beating Heart: The Art and Science of Our Most Vital Organ 148

In Memoriam 151
Martin Foley (1932–2025) 152
Alan Montefiore (1926–2024) 159
Old Member obituaries 166
Deaths 181

Benefactors 185
Donors 2024–2025 186

The Master's Letter

Dame Helen Ghosh DCB

Sociologists have noted that, as society in theory becomes increasingly secular, more and more rites of passage are being invented, perhaps to fill a basic human desire for ceremony and the expression of collective emotion. Weddings have become increasingly elaborate (and expensive), and I was recently introduced to the 'tradition' of a 'gender reveal party' at which news of the sex of a still-to-arrive baby is revealed to friends and family. Meanwhile, there is no public tragedy that does not elicit a tribute of flowers, candles and sorrowing messages.

Oxford University, of course, has its own version of these rites of passage, many with ancient origins, from Matriculation and Degree Ceremonies to the arcana of Encaenia and the induction of a new Chancellor. The rite which welcomed William Hague to his new role in February was suitably full of Latin and 'doffing' of mortar boards, but the essence of his speech to the Sheldonian was firmly contemporary, emphasising his commitment to freedom of speech and to universities as a driver of economic growth. Meanwhile, the 'traditional' Oxford memorial service, with gowns and hymns in the Chapel, seems to have faded, with the event in the Hall for Alan Montefiore in July being an uplifting example of the new style.

For Heads of House, one such rite of passage is the production of a portrait, to hang in the Dining Hall alongside the ranks of one's predecessors. As I write this letter, I am 'between sittings' for mine. Conveniently, the advent of digital photography has done away with the need for hours of sitting still in an uncomfortable position, since once the setting and pose are agreed, the artist can work from images. But there is a prior, and thought-provoking, discussion to be had about tone. What does the sitter want to convey to future generations through their choice of clothes, background, or expression? I find myself looking at all the images in Hall with a new eye.

Old Members will no doubt be looking out for evidence of continuity and change in this year's reports from the JCR, the MCR, the Chapel, and the many sporting and social student societies. What rites and traditions are being respected or created? As so often seems to be the case in Balliol, this year's batch exude a sense of happiness and fulfilment (even when we failed to win!).

This is not only a tribute to the energy and talents of the student community itself but also to all the staff – academic and non-academic – who support them in so many ways. The list of awards and academic achievements you can find here show that, although the Norrington Table may be defunct, the purpose for which Balliol was founded – to advance education, learning, and research – remains central to all we do.

The high point of the student social year was undoubtedly the wonderful College Ball, held early in Trinity Term. The organisers took *Romeo and Juliet* and its masked ball as their theme, which inspired many lovely outfits from students of all genders. Its success demonstrated the truth of the old adage 'less is more': the Ball Committee didn't try too hard in terms of elaborate scene-setting or innovative activities – just some artistic lighting, imaginative entertainments and a full moon rising over the Sheldonian. What more do you need for a magical evening? Our much-loved gardens undoubtedly played their part, and those of you who have been back to College this year will no doubt have noticed their revivification under the leadership of Douglas Brown, who took over as our Head Gardener in July last year. Douglas is passionate and knowledgeable about plants, and that is already reflected in the floriferous variety and creativity of the plantings around College. He and his small team – Gardener Richard and Apprentice Gardener Hannah – have certainly been 'giving us joy' this year, as the saying goes.

This time next year, this Letter will be an opportunity for me to look back over my time here and reflect on what, if anything, I have been able to do for the College. The Oxford tradition of electing a new Head of House a year before they formally step into the role is a powerful reminder to the incumbent of the transience of worldly position, and is no doubt good for their soul. Though that might be thought painful, it was in fact an absolute delight towards the end of Trinity Term to welcome students, staff, and Fellows to the Chapel to take part in the ceremony of swearing in Balliol's next Master, Professor Seamus Perry, who will be taking over from me in July 2026. I could not be handing over to anyone better qualified personally and academically for the job, or someone more committed to the welfare and success of the College and its community.

After 46 years of a demanding and highly-structured professional life – not to mention the parallel task of playing my part in raising two children to independent adulthood – it is both exciting and unnerving for me to start thinking about a future life in which my choices are greater and the constraints

potentially much less. But as my hero St Augustine of Hippo once said about chastity: not quite yet. *Floreat Domus*!



The Master with artist Alex Wenham and Jim Rogers (1964), at the installation ceremony for the new statue of Dervorguilla of Galloway

Balliol College 2024/2025

Balliol College 2024/2025

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, and Welfare Fellow

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

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

Paoli, Sandra, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Associate Professor in Linguistics (Romance Languages), 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, Professor of Ancient Greek Literature, 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

Zaccolo, Manuela, MD PhD Turin, FRSB, Professor of Cell Biology, Fellow and Tutor in Biomedical Sciences and Pre-Clinical Medicine

Tufano, Peter, AB MBA PhD Harvard, Emeritus Peter Moores Professor of Finance and Special Supernumerary Fellow

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

Tan, Jin-Chong, BEng (Mech) Malaysia, MEng NTU Singapore, PhD Camb, Professor of Engineering Science (Nanoscale Engineering), Lubbock Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

Robinson, Matthew, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Fairfax Fellow and Tutor in Latin Literature

Ghobrial, John-Paul, BA Tufts, MPhil Oxf, MA PhD Princeton, Professor

of Modern and Global History, Lucas Fellow and Tutor in History

Choudhury, Robin, BA MA BM BCh DM Oxf, FRCP, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Senior Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences

Moulton, Derek, BA Denver, MSc PhD Delaware, Professor of Applied Mathematics, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Wark, David Lee, MS PhD Caltech, BSc Indiana, FRS, Professor of Experimental Particle Physics and Senior Research Fellow

Cartis, Coralia, BSc Babeç-Bolyai (Romania), PhD Camb, Professor of Numerical Optimisation, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Butt, Daniel, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Robert Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in Political Theory

Smyth, Adam, BA Oxf, MA PhD Reading, FSA, Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book, Clarendon University Lecturer, A.C. Bradley–J.C. Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in English Literature

Ovenden, Richard, OBE, BA Durh, MA DipLib Lond, FRSA, FSA, FRHistS, FRSE, Bodley's Librarian and Professorial Fellow

Norman, Richard Anthony, BA Oxf, Development Director, and Official Fellow

Ballester, Miguel, BA(Econ) PhD Publica Navarra, Professor of Economics, Lord Thomson of Fleet Fellow and Tutor in Economics

Caulton, Adam Edward Philip, BA Oxf, MPhil PhD Camb, Associate Professor in Philosophy of Physics, Clarendon University Lecturer, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, Tutor for Graduate Admissions

Kaiserman, Alexander, MPhysPhil BPhil DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Fairfax Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy

Howard, Philip, BA Toronto, MSc LSE, PhD Northwestern, Professor of Internet Studies and Professorial Fellow

Gittos, Helen, BA Newcastle, MSt DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Colyer-Fergusson Fellow and Tutor in Early Medieval History

Godfray, Sir Charles, CBE, FRS, Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow

Kiss, Elizabeth, BA North Carolina BPhil DPhil Oxf, Warden of Rhodes House and Professorial Fellow

Lotay, Jason, MMath DPhil Oxf, Professor of Pure Mathematics and Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Bown, Alexander, MA Oxf, PhD Geneva, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Philosophy

Kwan, James, BS Rensselaer NY, MS MPhil PhD Columbia, Associate Professor in Engineering Science, Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

Davis, Katrina, BSc PhD Western Australia, Associate Professor in Conservation Biology, Fellow and Tutor in Zoology (Conservation Biology)

Langton, Matthew, MChem DPhil Oxf, Professor of Chemistry and Royal Society University Research Fellow, Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry

Tasioulas, John, BA LLB Melb, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Ethics and Legal Philosophy, Director of the Institute for Ethics in AI, and Senior Research Fellow

Tilley, Amanda, BSc Sheffield, FCA, Finance Bursar, and Official Fellow

Smith, Frederick, BA Warwick, MPhil PhD Camb, Early Career Fellow in Early Modern History

Dindjer, Hasan, MA BCL DPhil Oxf, LLM Harvard, Associate Professor, Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in Law

Dutta, Soumitra, BTech IIT New Delhi, MS PhD California, Peter Moores Dean and Professor of Management at Saïd Business School and Professorial Fellow

Crawford, Neta, MA PhD MIT, BA Brown, Montague Burton Professor of International Relations and Professorial Fellow

Eggert, Linda, MPhil DPhil Oxf, Early Career Fellow in Philosophy

Crosby, Kate, MA DPhil Oxf, Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professorial Fellow

Srinivas, Raghavendra, BSc Singapore, PhD Colorado Boulder, Early Career Fellow in Physics

Fraser, Christophe, BSc Edinburgh, PhD Swansea, Moh Family Foundation Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Senior Research Fellow

Soutphommasane, Tim, BEc (Hons) Syd, MPhil DPhil Oxf, Chief Diversity Officer, Professor of Practice in Human Rights and Political Theory, and Senior Research Fellow

Savchenko, Viktor, LLM Karazin, DPhil NALS Ukraine, Research Fellow

Cheval, Vincent, Licence, Master and PhD ENS-Cachan, Associate Professor and Fellow and Tutor in Computer Science

Enoch, David, LLB BA Tel Aviv, PhD New York, Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pauline and Max Gordon Fellow and Professorial Fellow

Mallinson, James, BA Oxf, MA SOAS, DPhil Oxf, Boden Professor of Sanskrit and Professorial Fellow

Sliwka, Jennifer, MA Courtauld, PhD Johns Hopkins, Keeper of Western

Art, Garlick Fellow and Professorial Fellow

Ruzziconi, Romain, BSc Liège, MPhys MMath PhD Brussels, Walker Early Career Fellow in Mathematical Physics

Gabarra, Louis, MSt ECAM Lyon, MSt PhD Padua, Henry Skynner Early Career Fellow in Astrophysics

Giles, Mike, BA Camb, SM PhD MIT, Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow

Ondračka, Lubomír, MSc UCT Prague, MA PhD Charles University Prague, Asoke Kumar Sarkar Early Career Fellow in Classical Indology

Kelly, Conor J., BA NUI, MA Maastricht, MRes PhD Lond, Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies

Moretti, Jessica, BSc PhD Western Australia, Dan Norman Early Career Fellow in (Bio)medical Studies

Famprikis, Theodosios, BSc Rose-Hulman, MSc Grenoble and Darmstadt, PhD Amiens, Malcolm Green Early Career Research Fellow in Inorganic Chemistry

Thomas, Sarah, MA MSci Cam, MRes PhD Imp, Associate Professor, Eastern Electricity Fellow and Tutor in Engineering

Smith, Jennifer, MA Warw, Domestic Bursar, and Official Fellow

Balasubramanian, Vijay, BSc MIT, MSc MIT, PhD Princeton, George Eastman Visiting Professor

Johnson, Kimberley, PhD Columbia, John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government

Sharkey, Heather, BA Yale, MPhil Durh, PhD Princeton, Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow

Price, Leah, BA Harvard, PhD Yale, Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow

Drake, John, MA PhD ND, Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow

Emeritus Fellows

Lukes, Steven Michael, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA

Weinstein, William Leon, BA Columbia, BPhil MA Oxf

Turner, David Warren, BSc Univ Coll of the South West, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FRS

Barnes, Jonathan, MA Oxf, FBA

Morton, Keith William, MA Oxf, PhD New York

Stapleton, Barbara Jane, QC, BSc UNSW, PhD, Adelaide, LLB ANU, DPhil DCL Oxf, FBA

Davies, Paul Lyndon, QC, LLM Lond, MA Oxf, LLM Yale, FBA

McFarland, David John, BSc Liv, MA DPhil Oxf

Stoy, Joseph Edward, MA Oxf

Powis, Jonathan Keppel, MA DPhil Oxf

Cashmore, Roger John, CMG, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS

Noble, Denis, CBE, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FRCP, FRS

Murray, Oswyn, MA DPhil Oxf, FSA

Gombrich, Richard, AM Harvard, MA DPhil Oxf

Logan, David Edwin, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf

Morriss-Kay, Gillian Mary, BSc(Hons) Durh, MA PhD Camb, MA DSc Oxf, Hon FAS

Roberts, Sir Edward Adam, KCMG, MA Oxf, FBA

Hodby, Jonathon Wilson, MA DPhil

Zancani, Diego, Laurea Milan, MA Oxf, Dott Bocconi

Jones, John Henry, MA DPhil Oxf, CChem, FRSC, FRHistS

McQuay, Henry John, BM MA DM Oxf, FRCP Edin

Bulloch, Penelope Anne Ward, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, ALA, FSA

Brown, Judith Margaret, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS

Schmidt, Aubrey Vincent Carlyle, MA DLitt Oxf

Hannabuss, Keith Cyril, MA DPhil Oxf

Buckley, Christopher Paul, MA DPhil Oxf, FIMMM, FIMechE, CEng

Swift, Adam Richard George, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf

Dupree, Hugh Douglas, BA Univ of the South, Tennessee, MA DPhil Oxf, MDiv Virginia

Abrams, Lesley Jane, MA Oxf, MA PhD Toronto, FRHist

Vines, David, BA Melbourne, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf

Wilson, Timothy Hugh, MPhil Lond, MA Oxf

Kirwan, Dame Frances Clare, DBE, BA Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS

Field, Robert William, MA MEng PhD Camb, MA Oxf, CEng, FIChemE

Endicott, Timothy A.O., AB Harvard, LLB Toronto, MA DPhil Oxf

Collier, Richard Hale, BSc US Naval Academy, LLM Camb, DrJur Cornell, MA Oxf

Green, Leslie, BA Queen's Canada, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf

Minkowski, Christopher Z., AB PhD Harvard, MA Oxf

Foster, Brian, OBE, MA DPhil Oxf, BSc Lond, FRS

Hurrell, Andrew, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FBA,

Trefethen, Lloyd Nicholas, AB Harvard, MA Oxf, MS PhD Stanford, FRS
Lucas, David M., BA DPhil Oxf, Hooke Professor of Experimental Physics

Honorary Fellows

Norway, HM King Harald V of, DCL(Hon) Oxf
Thomas, Sir Keith Vivian, MA Oxf, FBA
Leggett, Sir Anthony James, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRS
Ricks, Sir Christopher Bruce, BLitt MA Oxf, FBA
Kenny, Sir Anthony John Patrick, MA DPhil DLitt Oxf, FBA
Carey, John, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRSL
Mallet, John Valentine Granville, BA Oxf, FSA, FRSA
Japan, Her Majesty The Empress Masako of
Alberti, Sir George, BM BCh DPhil Oxf, FRCP, FRCPE, FRCPath
Patten, Christopher Francis, Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, KG, CH, PC, MA, DCL(Hon) Oxf, Chancellor of the University
Strang, William Gilbert, SB MIT, MA Oxf, PhD Calif
Lucas, Sir Colin Renshaw, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS
Bowersock, Glen, AB (Harvard), MA DPhil Oxf
Dawkins, Richard, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRS, FRSL
Keene, Rt Hon Sir David, PC, BCL MA Oxf, Hon PhD (Brunel), ACI Arb
Nayyar, Deepak, BA MA Delhi, BPhil DPhil Oxf
Richards, William Graham, CBE FRS, MA DPhil DSc Oxf
Roitt, Ivan Maurice, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRCPath, FRS
Ryan, Alan, MA DLitt Oxf, FBA
Schmoke, Kurt Lidell, LLB Harvard, BA Yale
Berg, Maxine Louise, BA Simon Fraser, MA Sus, DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRHistS
Drayton, Bill, MA Oxf, JD Yale
Kroll, John Simon, BM BCh MA Oxf, FRCP, FRCPCH, FMedSci
Slack, Paul Alexander, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, FBA
Taylor, Charles Margrave, BA McGill, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA
Graham, Andrew Winston Mawdsley, MA Hon DCL Oxf
Bayley, Hagan, MA Oxf, PhD Harvard, FRS
Bhargava, Rajeev, BA Delhi, MPhil DPhil Oxf
Donnelly, Peter, BSc Queensland, DPhil Oxf, FRS, FMedSci
Grey, Dame Clare, DCB, BA DPhil Oxf, FRS
Jones, Charlotte, BA Oxf

Kenyon, Sir Nicholas, CBE, BA Oxf
Nongxa, Loyiso, MSc Fort Hare, DPhil Oxf
Penny, Nicholas Sir, BA Camb, MA PhD Courtauld (London), FSA
Portes, Richard, CBE, BA Yale, DPhil Oxf, FBA
Sheinwald, Sir Nigel, GCMG, MA Oxf
Wells, Sir Stanley, CBE, BA UCL, PhD Birmingham
Williamson, Timothy, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRSE
Bone, Sir Drummond, MA Glas, MA Oxf, FRSE, FRSA
Al-Nashif, Nada, MA Oxf, MPP Harvard
Birney, J.F.W. (Ewan), CBE, BA Oxf, PhD Camb, FRS FMedSci
Chaudhuri, Amit, BA Lond, DPhil Oxf
Davies, Gavyn, OBE, BA Camb, BLitt Oxf
Dick, Dame Cressida, DBE QPM, BA Oxf
Flanders, Stephanie, BA Oxf, MA Harvard
Franklin, Oliver St Clair, CBE, BA Lincoln, BPhil Oxf
Horlick, Nicola, BA Oxf
Lewis, Gwyneth, MBE, BA MA Camb, DPhil Oxf
Misak, Cheryl, BA Lethbridge, MA Columbia, DPhil Oxf
Roper, Lyndal, BA Melbourne, PhD Lond
Snow, Peter, CBE, BA Oxf
Stevens, Simon Laurence, Lord Stevens of Birmingham, Kt, MA Oxf, MBA Strathclyde
Thomas, Sarah, AB Smith, MS Simmons, MA PhD Johns Hopkins, MA Oxf
Winterbottom, Michael, BA Oxf

Foundation Fellows

Moynihan, Jonathan Patrick, OBE, MA Oxf, MSc North London, SM MIT
Shirley, Dame Stephanie, CH, DBE, CEng, FBSC, FREng, CITP
Warburg, Rosemary Alison
Westerman, Matthew, MA Oxf

Academic Visitors

Sypnowich, Christine, DPhil Oxf, FRSC, Oliver Smithies Visiting Lecturer

College Lecturers

Agarwal, Gaurav, BM BCh Oxf, Lecturer in Medical Sciences
Ait El Manssour, Rida, PhD MPI-MiS, Lecturer in Computer Science
Alphey, Tristan, Lecturer in History
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
Baker, Eleanor, BA Lond, MPhil Camb, DPhil Oxf, FHEA, Lecturer in English
Bard, Professor Jonathan, MA Camb, PhD Manchester, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences
Basualdo Bonatto, Luciana, DPhil Oxf, Whitehead Lecturer in Mathematics
Binns, Alexander, MA MSt DPhil Oxf FHEA, Lecturer in Music
Brown, Felicity, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in English
Cahill, Tom, MB BS UCL, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf, MRCP, Lecturer in Clinical Medicine
Deer, Cécile Marie-Anne, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in French
De Gasperin, Vilma, Dott Ling Padua, MLitt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Italian
Doda, Andrea, BA MSt Oxf, Lecturer in Greek and Latin Language
Eggert, Linda, MPhil DPhil Oxf, Early Career Fellow in Philosophy
Elford, Gideon, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Politics
Famprikis, Theodosios, BSc Rose-Hulman, MSc Grenoble and Darmstadt, PhD Amiens, Malcolm Green Early Career Research Fellow in Inorganic Chemistry
Forst, Sophie, BA LMU Munich, MSt Oxf, Lecturer in German
Gabarra, Louis, MSt ECAM Lyon, MSt PhD Padua, Henry Skynner Early Career Fellow in Astrophysics
Galeazzi González, Juan, BA ITESO, MSc UG, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Psychology
Georges, Timothy, MChem Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Gely, Mario, MSc PhD TUDelft, Lecturer in Physics
Ghosh, Abheek, BTech IITG, MS UTAustin, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Computer Science
Goddard, Stephen, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in FrenchGray, Matthew, BA UC Santa Cruz, Lecturer in Computer Science
Greenberg, Alexander, PhD Camb, Lecturer in Law
Hernández, Christina, BS Columbia, PhD MIT, Lecturer in Biology
Hinch, Robert, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Mathematics

Hunt, Timothy, BA MPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Economics
Kelly, Conor J., BA NUI, MA Maastricht, MRes PhD Lond, Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies
Kilian, Valentin, BSc ENS Rennes, BSc Rennes 1, MSc ENS Rennes, MSc Paris-Saclay, Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics
Kristjánsson, Hafsteinn, BA MJur Iceland, MJur Oxon, LLM Harvard, Lecturer in Law
Konieczny, Jakub, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Computer Science
Littleton, Suellen M., BSc California, MBA Lond, Lecturer in Economics and Management Studies
Liney, Nicolas, BA USyd, MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Classics: Latin Language & Literature
McConnell, Thomas, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Classics
McIntosh, Jonny, MA Oxf, MA, MPhil London, Lecturer in Philosophy
Marcus, Max, BSc Bonn, MSc Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Moretti, Jessica, BSc PhD Western Australia, Dan Norman Early Career Fellow in (Bio)medical Studies
Myers, Matthew, BA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in History
Palmer, Christopher William Proctor, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Physics
Paoli, Sandra, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Associate Professor in Linguistics (Romance Languages), Senior Research Fellow in Romance Linguistics
Park, Taejun, Lecturer in Mathematics
Popea, Marina, BA MA Lausanne, MA UChile, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Spanish
Quarrell, Rachel, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Römer, Hannah, BS (Mathematics) MS (Mathematics) MS (Economics) RWTH Aachen, Lecturer in Economics
Rowan-Hill, Autumn, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Medicine
Ruzziconi, Romain, BSc Liège, MPhys MMath PhD Brussels, Walker Early Career Fellow in Mathematical Physics
Ryley, Hannah, BA Durham, MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in English
Smith, Florence, MA Glasgow, MSt Oxf, Lecturer in Modern History
Smith, Frederick, BA Warwick, MPhil PhD Camb, Early Career Fellow in Early Modern History
Srinivas, Raghavendra, BSc Singapore, PhD Colorado Boulder, Early Career Fellow in Physics
Tait, Claudia, BSc MSc Padova, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Tang, Brian, MEngEcM, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Engineering Science

Thomas, Arthur, BA Oxf, PhD Stanford, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences

Von Hausegger, Sebastian, BSc Göttingen, MSc, PhD Copenhagen, Lecturer in Physics

Walker, Benjamin, MMath&Phys UOM, MSc DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Mathematics



Balliol students welcoming prospective students during Open Day 2025

New Fellows

Professor Vijay Balasubramanian
George Eastman Visiting Professor



Vijay Balasubramanian is the Cathy and Marc Lasry Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. He studied Physics and Computer Science at MIT, earned a PhD in Theoretical Physics from Princeton, and was a Junior Fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows.

His research spans many fields of physics. In quantum gravity, he has advanced the understanding of black hole entropy and how space, time, and gravity might emerge from quantum entanglement. He is a leading contributor to theories describing how the observed world at low energies with four spacetime dimensions can emerge from string theory. His work on complex quantum systems applies ideas from computer science and quantum information to explore how microscopic dynamics produce macroscopic behaviours like chaos and thermalisation. In biophysics and neuroscience, he investigates the brain as a statistical computing device, studying sensory systems, decision making, and motor control, and identifying organising principles of neural circuits.

He has also written on statistical inference, exploring the mathematical underpinnings of Occam's Razor – the balance between simplicity and accuracy in models – and its relevance to learning and adaptation in both natural and artificial systems.

Professor John Drake
Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow



John Drake is a biological modeler and data scientist whose work focuses on the dynamics of zoonotic diseases, the macroecology of emerging infections, and the integration of social science, natural science, and mathematical theory. His research combines computational tools with theoretical modelling to investigate the spread and control of infectious diseases.

He has studied the spread of White-nose syndrome in North American bats, the 2013–2015 West African Ebola epidemic, the evolutionary dynamics of influenza, and the early transmission patterns of COVID-19. His current work aims to advance infectious disease intelligence, with a particular emphasis on levering real-time data to support decision-making by individuals, institutions, and policymakers during outbreaks of emerging pathogens. At Balliol, he gave a public Oliver Smithies Lecture on 'The ecology of a pandemic: interpreting the ongoing epizootic of highly pathogenic avian influenza.'

Dr Theodosios Famprikis
Malcolm Green Early Career Fellow in Inorganic Chemistry



Theo Famprikis is a Royal Society Newton International Fellow at the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory, and Malcolm Green Early Career Fellow in Inorganic Chemistry at Balliol College. Originally from Greece, he has studied and worked across Europe and the United States, holding degrees from institutions in the US, France, and Germany. Before coming to Oxford, he held a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands.

His research lies in the field of functional materials, particularly those used in energy applications such as batteries, photovoltaics, and barocaloric systems. He combines advanced experimental methods (e.g. diffraction and spectroscopy) with computational techniques (e.g. molecular dynamics simulations) to investigate how the atomic structure and dynamics of materials influence their properties and performance. A current focus of his work is on understanding how atomic-scale disorder and vibrations facilitate ion conduction and electrochemical activity in energy materials.

Professor Kimberley Johnson
John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government



Kimberley Johnson is Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University. She is the author of three books, *Dark Concrete* (2025), *Reforming Jim Crow* (2010) and *Governing the American*

State (2007), and numerous articles on American political development, racial and ethnic politics. Her current research projects focus on the development of the American state and urban political development.

Dr Conor J. Kelly
Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies



Prior to joining Oxford, Conor J. Kelly worked at the UCL Constitution Unit from 2019 to 2024 as Research Assistant and Project Manager. His first project at the Constitution Unit was with the Working Group on Unification Referendums on the Island of Ireland. This was followed by a second project examining perspectives on the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland, and a third project looking at proposals to reform Northern Ireland's governance structures.

Between 2022 and 2024, he also served as Senior Postgraduate Teaching Assistant on UCL's undergraduate 'British Politics' and 'Politics of the European Union' modules. During the 2023/2024 academic year, he was a Guest Teacher at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), teaching on the 'British Government' module.

He holds a PhD and an MRes from Birkbeck College, University of London. He also earned a BA from the University of Galway (National University of Ireland) and an MA from Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

Dr Jessica Moretti
Dan Norman Early Career Fellow in (Bio) medical Studies



Jessica Moretti is a Royal Society Newton International Fellow in Professor Armin Lak's laboratory at the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics (DPAG), where she studies the neural mechanisms underlying learning and decision-making. Her postdoctoral research focuses on how multiple brain regions interact and coordinate their activity to support these complex cognitive functions. She employs a multidisciplinary approach combining multiphoton imaging, behavioural assays and computational models to investigate how neural circuits encode information and drive the transition from random actions into expert behaviours. She earned a PhD from The University of Western Australia in Perth, Australia.

Professor Leah Price
Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow and Ann Ball Bodley Visiting Fellow



Leah Price is Distinguished Professor at Rutgers University, where she founded and directs *Initiative for the Book,* which invites university students to explore media history through bookmaking. She also serves as the Lyell Reader in Bibliography at the Bodleian Library.

Her publications include *What We Talk About When We Talk About Books* (Basic Books, 2019), which received the Christian Gauss Prize; *How to Do Things with Books in Victorian Britain* (Princeton University Press, 2012), awarded the Patten and Channing Prizes; and *The Anthology and the Rise of the Novel* (Cambridge University Press, 2000). She has also edited several volumes, including *Further Reading* (with Matthew Rubery, Oxford University Press, 2020), *Unpacking My Library* (Yale University Press, 2011), and *Literary Secretaries/Secretarial Culture* (with Pam Thurschwell).

She contributes regularly to publications such as *The New York Times Book Review, London Review of Books*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *Public Books*, and *The New York Review of Books*, where she also serves as a section editor for *Public Books.*

Professor Heather Sharkey
Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow



Heather Sharkey is a Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where she teaches Middle Eastern and North African history and has received the Charles Ludwig Distinguished Teaching Award. She holds degrees from Yale (BA, Anthropology), Durham (MPhil, Middle Eastern Studies), and Princeton (PhD, History). She has held Marshall, Fulbright-Hays, and Carnegie fellowships.

Her books include *Living with Colonialism*

(University of California Press, 2003), *American Evangelicals in Egypt* (Princeton University Press, 2008), and *A History of Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Middle East* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). She has also edited volumes on missionary encounters and the politics of religious freedom.

A proponent of public scholarship, she has worked with students to create content for platforms like Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, Scalar, and Instagram. In 2024, she was invited to join the inaugural advisory committee for the Wiki Education Foundation's initiative on 'Humanities and Social Justice', which promotes equity through collaborative knowledge sharing. In 2024, she was a senior fellow in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. During her stay at Balliol in the 2024/2025 year, she gave two public Oliver Smithies Lectures on 'The Sudanese giraffe who went to France: the life and afterlife of Zarafa, 1824–2024' and 'Taking Wikipedia seriously: scholarship for and about the seventh most-visited website in the world.' She also delivered an Evensong sermon in the Balliol chapel.

Dr Sarah Thomas
Eastern Electricity Fellow and Tutor in Engineering



Sarah Thomas is an Associate Professor in the Department of Engineering Science, and a Tutorial Fellow at Balliol College. Her research focuses on photonic quantum technologies and the development of devices for quantum networks. She earned her PhD from Imperial College London, where she focused on the development of optical quantum memories – key elements for scalability of optical quantum technologies. Following her doctorate, she held a postdoctoral position at the Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology in Paris, where she worked on the optimisation and applications of quantum dot-based single-photon sources. In 2022, she was awarded an Imperial College Research Fellowship, through which she explored the interface between quantum dot single-photon sources and atomic quantum memories, with a view toward applications in future quantum networks.



English students experimenting with book printing at the Bodleian Library Press.
Photo by Adam Smyth

First-year graduates

Aarnes, Fredrik Nikolai, University of Oslo, Norway, Magister Juris
Aktar, Anjum, The University of Oxford, DPhil Clinical Medicine
Antonelli, Leonardo, The University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Awad, Thomas, The University of Cambridge, MPhil Modern South Asian Studies
Bakken, Rasmus, The University of Oxford, DPhil Philosophy
Baumgartner, Markus, The University of Oxford, DPhil Engineering Science
Bentley, Maisy, The University of Oxford, MPhil Law
Bibi, Mariam, The Open University, Postgraduate Certificate in Education
Braun, Titanilla, The University of Manchester, DPhil Physics
Breteau, Amelie, London School of Economics and Political Science, MPhil History
Casher, Tess, The University of Oxford, MSt English
Chen, Xiang, Peking University, China, MPhil International Relations
Chinas Hernandez, Marcos, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Clesi, Aimee, University of Florida, USA, DPhil Criminology
Colton, Alexander, Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, DPhil Oncology
Conner, Alice, The University of Oxford, DPhil Medical Sciences
Connolly, Connor, The University of Oxford, MSt Global and Imperial History
Crewe, Joel, University of Durham, MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry
Dass, Debadrita, The University of Oxford, MPhil Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature
De Cristofaro, Carlo, University College London, MPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Deng, Yaxin, The University of Cambridge, MSc Economics for Development
Doherty, Isabel, The University of Oxford, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Dorsey, Thomas, University of Chicago, USA, Bachelor of Philosophy
Du, Haitong, The University of Oxford, DPhil International Relations
Duncan, Faye, University of London, MPhil Classical Indian Religion
Erle, Jona, Albert Ludwigs Universitat Freiburg, Germany, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics

Faglia, Paolo, The University of Oxford, DPhil Philosophy
Flores, Beltrán, Universidad de Chile, Chile, Magister Juris
Foldvik, Simon, University of Oslo, Norway, MSc Mathematical Sciences
Gaál, Blanka, The University of Exeter, DPhil Engineering Science
Gertenbach, Christoph, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain, Executive Master of Business Administration
Gessaga, Romeo, Universita degli Studi di Pavia, Italy, DPhil Ancient History
Greco, Carla, Universita Commerciale Luigi Bocconi, Italy, MSc Financial Economics
Gruber, Isaac, Yale University, USA, MSt English
Gurusankar, Pranav, Stanford University, USA, Master of Public Policy
Haaland, Olav Hellebust, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway, DPhil Mathematics
Hadad, Justin, The University of Oxford, DPhil Economics
Harshbarger, Sam, Princeton University, USA, MPhil History
Harvey, Callum, University of Wollongong, Australia, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Hawkins, Amy, The University of Oxford, DPhil Chemistry
He, Angel, University of Melbourne, Australia, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Heron, Isaac, University of Otago, New Zealand, MPhil Economics
Hirsch, Jake, The University of Oxford, MPhil Buddhist Studies
Hopkins, Alex, Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Huepfl, Stanislaus, London School of Economics and Political Science, MPhil Politics
Hunter, Leanne, James Cook University, Australia, Bachelor of Civil Law
Hutchings, Jed, University College London, Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing (EPSRC CDT)
Iftikhar, Iman, Yale University, USA, MPhil Politics
Jackson, Charlotte, The University of Warwick, DPhil Physics
Janecka, Maeve, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA, DPhil Women's and Reproductive Health
Jiang, Zeren, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Switzerland, DPhil Engineering Science
Jones, Harrison, The University of Oxford, Master of Public Policy
Kelly, David, London School of Economics and Political Science, DPhil

Information, Communication and Social Science
Khan, Yasmeena, Stanford University, USA, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Kingsbury Lee, Mira-Rose, Harvard University, USA, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Knappe, Linus, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, Magister Juris
Konstantinidou, Katerina, The University of Oxford, DPhil Pathology
Kulkarni, Harshal, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, India, DPhil Mathematics
Landheim, Nikoline, Norwegian School of Management/Handelshoyskolen, Norway, DPhil International Relations
Lemke, Debbie, The University of Oxford, MSt in Modern Languages
Lester, James, The University of Cambridge, MPhil Economics
Liu, Luka, University College London, DPhil Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Lo, Cheryl, The University of Oxford, Executive Master of Business Administration
Lösl, Helene, The University of Oxford, DPhil Physics
MacDonald-Mair, Hamish, The University of Glasgow, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Martinez, Adam, University of Toronto, Canada, DPhil Physics
May, Victor, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, France, MSc Financial Economics
Maziarska, Paulina, The University of Oxford, DPhil History
McConnell, Josh, The University of Oxford, Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing (EPSRC CDT)
Meerscheidt, Kathleen, Bucknell University, USA, MPhil Medical Anthropology
Mennell, Rob, The University of Essex, Executive Master of Business Administration
Mullings, Lucia, The University of Oxford, DPhil Engineering Science
Mutch, Joseph, The University of Cambridge, DPhil Chemistry
Ng'Ang'A, Linet, Kenyatta University of Kenya, Kenya, DPhil Chemistry
Nguyen, Anne Xuan-Lan, University of Toronto, Canada, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Nimmo, Adam, The University of Glasgow, Bachelor of Civil Law
Nunez, Maria Moper Dionaleigh, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Executive Master of Business Administration

Oevergaard, Iver, The University of Oxford, DPhil Physics
Oladipo, Aishat, University of Lagos, Nigeria, MSc Genomic Medicine
Pagel, Will, The University of Oxford, DPhil Economics
Penzel, Marc, Anglia Ruskin University, Executive Master of Business Administration
Pereira Da Costa, Maria, The University of Oxford, DPhil International Relations
Pereira Saraiva Gil Antunes, João, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal, Magister Juris
Pizzamiglio, Jacopo, Universita Commerciale Luigi Bocconi, Italy, MSc Financial Economics
Qian, Jiachen, The University of Oxford, DPhil Computer Science
Rayp, Justine, University of Ghent, Belgium, MSc Genomic Medicine
Reboredo Prado, María, The University of Oxford, DPhil Mathematics
Roupas, Georgios, The University of Oxford, MSt History
Royatvand Ghiasvand, Amin, The University of Cambridge, MSt Syriac Studies
Salvesen, Sigurd, University of Bergen, Norway, MSt History
Sampaio De Couto Melo, Marcelo, The University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Sangaré, Aurelie, The University of Oxford, DPhil Mathematics
Sardari Nia, Peyman, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium, Executive Master of Business Administration
Schenk, Anabel, Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen, Germany, Magister Juris
Schmidt, Constantin, Ruprecht-Karls Universitat Heidelberg, Germany, MPhil Economics
Schreiner, Robin Mae, University of Cambridge, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Sloman, Cameron, New College of the Humanities, Postgraduate Certificate in Education
Soboh, Rola, American University of Beirut, Lebanon, Master of Public Policy
Sun, Shawn, The University of Oxford, DPhil Oncology
Sutcliffe, Oliver, The University of Oxford, DPhil Primary Health Care
Tang, Robin, University of British Columbia, Canada, MSc Financial Economics
Tjandra, Jonathan, The University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Vandrey, Emma, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universitat Hannover, Germany,

DPhil Physics
Venugopal, Sharat, Delhi College of Engineering, India, Executive Master of Business Administration
Wal, Aradhna, University of Delh, India, MSc Medical Anthropology
Wang, Yan, The University of Cambridge, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Science
Wang, Wendy, Columbia University, USA, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Wikstrom, Eleanor, Harvard University, USA, MSt Global and Imperial History
Williams, Abby, The University of Cambridge, DPhil Biology
Withnall Dunn, Amy, Royal Holloway, University of London, Postgraduate Certificate in Education
Wu, Yuling, The University of Oxford, MSt Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Wu, Boxi, The University of Oxford, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Science
Yan, Alex, The University of Cambridge, Statistics and Machine Learning (CDT)
Zhang, Sharon Xiaohan, The University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Zhou, Kat, The University of Cambridge, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Science

First-year undergraduates

Abutalebi, Alborz, The Sixth Form College Farnborough, Farnborough, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics
Agarwal, Zahara, Menlo Atherton High School, USA, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics
Albayrak, Alyssa, St. Georges The British International School, Germany, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences
Apostolidi, Ellie, The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls, London, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics
Arik, Yasemin, BEB Education Consultancy Ltd, Turkey, Master of Computer Science
Ashik, Samyul, Elliott Hudson College, Leeds, Master of Physics and Philosophy
Barber, Olivia, Abbeygate Sixth Form College, Bury St. Edmunds, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature
Bennett, Jade, Hereford Sixth Form College, Hereford, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Berni-Wright, Ethan, Thomas Tallis School, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics
Bickerstaffe, Jacob, Sutton Grammar School, London, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Blaney, Sarah, Sydney Girls High School, Australia, Bachelor of Arts in History
Bourn, Elizabeth, St Michael's Catholic Grammar School, London, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature
Buyukmorova, Arda, Uskudar American Academy, Turkey, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science
Carbonez, Lars, Westminster School, London, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Cazin, Eli, Haberdashers' Girls' School, Elstree, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores
Chang, Daniel, North London Collegiate School (NLCS) Jeju, Korea, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science
Chowdhury, Nabeed, Loreto College, Manchester, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Collison, Ruby, Camden School for Girls, London, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Cryer, Jacob, All Hallows Catholic School, Farnham, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Dalby-Naylor, Lewis, Woodkirk Academy (formerly Woodkirk High), Leeds, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics

Dauz, Juan Carlos, Tiffin School, London, Bachelor of Arts in History

Dikhanbayev, Dan, Oxford International College, Oxford, Master of Computer Science

Dissanayake, Lana, Beaconsfield High School, Beaconsfield, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Dowthwaite, Reuben, Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College, Leicester, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Eastman, Rob, Australia, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Ellepola, Pradeep, St Paul's School, London, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Erkip, Alp, The Koc School, Turkey, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Evans, Madeleine, Strathearn School, Belfast, Bachelor of Arts in History

Fellows, Arabella, Moreton Hall, Oswestry, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

George, Sandy, Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Gershfield, Oskar, University College School, London, Bachelor of Arts in History and Economics

Godden, James, Abbeygate Sixth Form College, Bury St. Edmunds, Master of Biology in Biology

Gonsai, Maya, St Mary's Catholic High School, Chesterfield, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Goyal, Sam, Henrietta Barnett School, London, Master of Physics and Philosophy

Gu, Fiona, Shanghai Yue Kong Pao Senior Secondary School, China, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Gulliford, Will, Simon Langton School for Boys, Canterbury, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Guy, Nola, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, Master of Physics

Hannan, Darcy-Summer, Tring Park School for the Performing Arts, Tring, Master of Biology in Biology

Harland, Max, Colyton Grammar School, Colyford, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics

Havlucu, Ege, Turkey, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Management

Henderson, Meghan, City of London School for Girls, London, Bachelor of Arts in History

Hewamana, Kavika, Epsom College, Epsom, Master of Biology in Biology

Hill, Isabella, St Albans High School for Girls, St Albans, Bachelor of Arts in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Hofkens, Iduna, American School of Valencia, Spain, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science

Holmes, Edward, The Portsmouth Grammar School, Portsmouth, Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Management

Hood, Tristan, Denstone College, Uttoxeter, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence

Howard, Megan, City of Norwich School, Norwich, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (French and Italian (Course B))

Hoyle, Ellie, St Gregorys R C Comprehensive School, Bath, Master of Chemistry

James, Alexander, St George's School, Harpenden, Master of Biology

Janarththanan, Vikash, Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Altrincham, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics

Joyner, Dom, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science

Kanwar, Raghav, Haberdashers' Boys' School, Elstree, Bachelor of Arts in Sanskrit

Kettle, Daniel, Marling School, Stroud, Bachelor of Arts in History and Economics

Kidd, Genevieve, Bexhill College, Bexhill, Bachelor of Arts in English and Modern Languages (Spanish)

Le, Anton, The National Mathematics and Science College, Coventry, Master of Mathematics and Computer Science

Lees, Zach, Winchester College, Winchester, Master of Chemistry

Legere, Lelana, King's College London Mathematics School, London, Master of Mathematics and Philosophy

Leighton-Scholes, Ruby, The Cherwell School, Oxford, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences

Leishman, Archie, Abingdon School, Abingdon, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores

Lim, Amelia, St. Andrew's Junior College, Singapore, Master of Biomedical Science in Biomedical Sciences
Lucas, Harry, Rushcliffe School, Nottingham, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence
Ma, Jinghong, Hwa Chong Institution, Singapore, Master of Computer Science and Philosophy
Ma, Bella, Queens Park Community School, London, Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics
Ma, Siqi, Vision Academy, China, Master of Computer Science
Makarina, Arina, Bromsgrove School, Bromsgrove, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Mann, Heather, Marriotts School, Stevenage, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence
March-Stevens, Charlie, Richard Hale School, Hertford, Master of Chemistry
Marshall, Barney, Bartholomew School, Witney, Master of Physics
Mccarney, Cara, Painsley Catholic College, Stoke-on-Trent, Master of Biology in Biology
Mcfarlane, Alastair, St Paul's School, London, Bachelor of Arts in Classics and Modern Languages (Italian) Course I Option 2
Mcneish, Iona, Fettes College, Edinburgh, Bachelor of Arts in History and English
Meddins, Beth, Shrewsbury Sixth Form College, Shrewsbury, Master of Chemistry
Meghdoot, Arjjay, Maple Leaf International School, Bangladesh, Master of Chemistry
Mehta, Sienna, Trinity School, London, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature
Miller, Frieda, Ralph Allen School, Bath, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (French and Spanish)
Moore, Alfie, Bishop Wordsworth's Grammar School, Salisbury, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence
Morgan, Philip, Caterham School, Caterham, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science
Mosseri, Aury, The Jewish Community Secondary School, London, Master of Physics and Philosophy
Muhammad, Chaudhry, Issa, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, Birmingham, Bachelor of Arts in History
Naldrett, Toby, Forge Valley School, Sheffield, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Panasiuk, Mikolaj, International European School, Poland, Master of Physics
Partridge, Cora, St Paul's School, USA, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Pernica, Avrah, Canada, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Postance, Tom, Royal Grammar School, Guildford, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences
Raja, Basel, John Lyon School, London, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics
Rameshbabu, Vishal, USA, Bachelor of Arts in Sanskrit
Rhind, Angus, Mackie Academy, Stonehaven, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores
Richardson, Eve, Westcliff High School for Girls, Westcliff-on-Sea, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
Rowlands, Robert, George Watson's College, Edinburgh, Master of Mathematics in Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics
Russell, Lauren, Highgate School, London, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences
Rybin, Maya, The Grey Coat Hospital, London, Master of Physics and Philosophy
Saeed, Zahra, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls, Birmingham, Master of Computer Science and Philosophy
Salama, Evie, Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences
Saleh, Nora, Christ's School, London, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science
Sehgal, Tara, Tonbridge Grammar School, Tonbridge, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence
Shah Bakhsh, Mehrollah, UTC Reading, Reading, Master of Physics
Singh, Ashish, The National Mathematics and Science College, Coventry, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences
Smalley, Bea, Dame Allan's Schools, Newcastle upon Tyne, Bachelor of Arts in History
Strautnieks, Samual, St Dunstan's College, London, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores
Stricklin, Alex, Bath College, Bath, Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence
Svedberg, Lukas, Canford School, Canford Magna, Master of Computer

Science
Swales, Matthew, Arden, Solihull, Master of Chemistry
Tait, Jessica, Hayes School, London, Bachelor of Arts in History and English
Tan, Mark, Anglo-Chinese School (Independent), Singapore, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores
Victoria, Faith, St Margaret's School, Bushey, Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (French)
Walthall, Morgan, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, Bachelor of Arts in History and Economics
Waters, Henry, Breckenbrough School, Thirsk, Bachelor of Arts in History
Webb, Sarah, Guildford High School, Guildford, Master of Physics
Webb, Jonathan, St Albans School, St Albans, Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature
Wheal, Jake, The Piggott School, Wargrave, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science
White, Daisy, Hereford Sixth Form College, Hereford, Bachelor of Arts in History
Williams, Kazuo, Brighton Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College, Brighton, Master of Engineering in Engineering Science
Wolff, Leopol, Sevenoaks School, Sevenoaks, Bachelor of Arts in History
Worthy, Oliver, The Bishop's Stortford High School, Bishop's Stortford, Bachelor of Arts in History
Yates, Felicity, Sevenoaks School, Sevenoaks, Bachelor of Arts in Literae Humaniores
Yu, Will, Vanke Meisha Academy, China, Master of Chemistry
Zolzaya, Tuguldur, Stockport Grammar School, Stockport, Master of Chemistry
Zuha, Tamzid, Beauchamp City Sixth Form, Leicester, Bachelor of Arts in Medical Sciences

Visiting students

Pfeiffer, Rafael, Ludwig Maximilians Universität München, Germany, Maximilianeum Exchange, PPE
Domenech, Max, Université Paul Valéry Montpellier III, France, Mod Langs Exchange Student, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Tejero Marín, Ana, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, Mod Langs Exchange Student, English

College staff

Retirements

John Charles Thorne, Plumbing/Heating Engineer, 30 August 2024
Michael John Bragg, Lodge Porter, 31 December 2024

Appointments

Matthew Fifield, College Office and Examinations Administrator, 1 August 2024
Benjamin Falconer, Alumni and Development Intern, 27 August 2024
Sean Qualter, Lodge Night Porter, 9 September 2024
Elizabeth Thorley, HR Manager, 9 September 2024
Joseph Barber, Assistant Organist, 1 October 2024
Daniel Cox, Maintenance Supervisor, 7 October 2024
Matthew Barton, Project Cataloguer, 14 October 2024
Laura Biron-Scott, Chaplain, 1 December 2024
Ian Watson, Lodge Porter, 1 January 2025
Hannah Hutchinson, Apprentice Gardner, 13 January 2025
Suat Akay, Chef de Partie, 20 January 2025
Man Leung Chung, Chef de Partie, 10 February 2025
Yosep Li, Kitchen Porter, 17 February 2025
Darshini Nadarajan, Junior Dean, 1 March 2025
Lewis Hooper, Skilled Maintenance Operative (Plumbing), 10 March 2025
Dorina Kajtani, Nursery Deputy Manager (maternity cover), 1 July 2025
Zahra Hashemi, Nursery Practitioner (maternity cover), 7 July 2025

Departures

Connor Connolly, Alumni and Development Intern, 15 August 2024
Ryan Allen, Maintenance and Project Supervisor, 13 September 2024
Melanie Marshall, Chaplain, 30 September 2024
Jack Robinson, Outreach Assistant, 18 October 2024
Ahmed Shalaby, Junior Dean, 31 December 2024
Maximilian Hill, Demi Chef de Partie, 31 December 2024
Muhammer Erzurum, Demi Chef de Partie, 31 December 2024
Katie Watson, Undergraduate Administrator, 7 January 2025

Stephen Allman, Plumbing Engineer, 31 January 2025
Antonio Viana, Kitchen Porter, 13 February 2025
Victoria Lambourne, Nursery Acting Manager, 28 February 2025
Robert Ciobanu, IT Support Technician, 28 February 2025
Jordan Moore, Catering Steward, 15 June 2025
Isabelle Rocroi, Junior Dean, 31 July 2025

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 2024/2025 year

Each year the Senior Common Room welcomes a number of visiting scholars. Balliol is fortunate to have fixed associations with the University's Eastman and Winant Visiting Fellowships as well as its own in-house programme founded by and named in memory of Nobel Laureate and alumnus Professor Oliver Smithies (1943, Honorary Fellow 2004–2017). This year's visitors were certainly a highlight thanks to those who joined, and joined in the life of, the College. As well as bringing their subject expertise to Balliol and the wider University – in Physics (the Eastman Professor, Vijay Balasubramanian), American Government (the Winant Professor, Kimberley Johnson), History, Biology, English and Philosophy (Oliver Smithies Fellows and Lecturers, John Drake, Leah Price, Heather Sharkey, and alumna Christine Sypnowich (1983)) – our academic visitors broke new ground in the richness and variety of their engagement, from bell-ringing and gamelan-playing, to giving the Leavers' sermon in Chapel to serving on an Early Career Fellowship appointment committee. The generalist approach of many of the talks given in course of the year meant that they appealed to and attracted a broad audience, from Balliol and beyond.

Student societies as always delivered many benefits to junior members. This year they also, rightly, tested some of the contemporary complexities and polarities around the differing, if linked, values of free speech, freedom of speech, and academic freedom. To uphold these principles and their practice within the parameters of the law while also building and maintaining an inclusive community is a task of our times. In one approach to that task, and led by Dame Helen Ghosh as Master (and chair of the Conference of Colleges), Balliol joined forces with four other colleges to create a 'Debating

the Difficult' series of events, held over the course of 2024/2025; and informally worked with students, academics, and Heads of House to produce a set of 'Tips' aimed at promoting 'the exercise of freedom of speech in conjunction with respectful discourse'. Balliol's contribution to the series of debates, on Reparations, took place in February 2025.

For much of the year, it was the future leadership of the College that was necessarily uppermost for its Governing Body Fellows, given that Dame Helen's term of office ends next summer. The result of a long and rigorous election process, chaired - as the Statutes require - by the Senior Official Fellow, currently Sudhir Hazareesingh (1981, Coolidge Fellow and Tutor in Politics), resulted in the announcement, in May, that Professor Seamus Perry, Massey Fellow and Tutor in English, would be the next Master of Balliol, followed, in June 2025, by a swearing-in ceremony led by the Visitor, The Right Honourable Lord Reed (1978), and presided over by the current Master, whose post runs until the end of June 2026. The Governing Body is grateful to Dame Helen, Lord Reed, and to all those who participated in the election, from staff and students to senior members, alumni and friends, as well as the Odgers Berndtson team which supported the process, and congratulates the Master-elect on his success.



From left: The Right Honourable Lord Reed with Professor Seamus Perry, Master-elect

For all that the Governing Body was pre-occupied, the College's annual rituals were not neglected. May Morning madrigals were delivered from the Salvin Tower. The JCR's June Jamboree went ahead on the Master's Field, to the enjoyment of all. Newer traditions of an Egg-and-Spoon race, of a Team Balliol entry in the Town and Gown Fun Run, and of a Holywell Manor Photography Prize were upheld. Another yearly event, Green Action Week, now provides a focus for environmental initiatives across the collegiate University, and in Balliol manifests as part competition (residents of Jowett Walk Towers vie with each other to use the least energy), part consciousness-raising, and part call to action. In 2025, MCR members added their own academic slant to the proceedings by showcasing their sustainability-related research. The College Library as usual put on two exhibitions in the course of the year, both in very different ways fascinating and permanently recorded through printed and online catalogues, 'Inter-War Balliol' and, first fruit of the findings of those at work cataloguing Balliol's early printed books, 'Found in the Belly of a Cod-fish'. The Omar Azfar Lecture took a sabbatical, but otherwise the academic calendar saw its usual set pieces, the Bingham Lecture, held, in May 2025, in the year-old Gillis Lecture Theatre (we wonder now how we managed without it), given by Professor Nicola McEwen of the University of Glasgow; and, in March, at the Historic Collections Centre and deploying one of College's illuminated manuscripts, the Dervorguilla Lecture, given by Honorary Fellow Gwyneth Lewis, who was once again our Artist in Residence for the Hilary Term.

Among one-off events, 'Finding Endurance: adventures of a public historian', hosted by History Tutor Simon Skinner and presented entirely extempore by alumnus and special guest speaker Dan Snow (1998), filled the Hall to capacity and gave all who attended endurance for the month of February and beyond. Spring and early summer featured a symposium and film screening exploring the huge triennial Indian religious festival of the Kumbh Mela, and a one-day workshop sponsored by the Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute on language-teaching and -learning in the late medieval and early modern Mediterranean. In combination, the talks given in series, each unique in themselves, make for a gloriously omnivorous intellectual diet. This year's offerings, delivered in the context of scheduled Oliver Smithies Lectures or Research Consilia, were on topics covering everything from black holes and qubits to colonial giraffes and architecture, from the ancient origins of modern mindfulness and of democracy and populism to Wikipedia entries and business



Dan Snow delivering his lecture, 'Finding Endurance: adventures of a public historian'

climates, to scientific explanations and servant reading cultures, to quantum models and modelling bird flu, and ranged from events open to the wider University to those restricted to student or senior members. Many of these are delivered in parallel as live online events and it is a great pleasure that Balliol alumni join in remotely and – of course! – ask penetrating questions of the speakers on these occasions. History was to the fore again in June 2025 when the College hosted its first Benefactors' Garden Party, with indoor talks from Tutors to mark the 20th anniversary of the History Fellowships campaign, and drinks and mingling outside, bathed in sunshine, to celebrate with donors the many benefits their generosity has brought to the College, in particular, on this occasion, to graduate scholars and Early Career Fellows as well as the extra-curricular work of student finance and schools outreach.

Much of the real, hard and sometimes overdue work of the College is longitudinal. The 2025 transfer to a new cataloguing system of the Benjamin Jowett papers is just the start of a project to improve the visibility and accessibility of the Balliol Archives that is being overseen by Archivist Faye McLeod. Capital projects are even longer in the planning and execution but a

major refurbishment and transformation of the Hall is now firmly projected as the next big, and iconic, Balliol development.

One highlight of 2024/2025 took place in the regular calendar of Chapel services: the installation, at Evensong on 19 January 2025, in the presence of the Master and the preacher the Revd Dr Stephen Croft, Bishop of Oxford, of the new College Chaplain Laura Biron-Scott. To the term-time sung Evensong, punctuated by services of choral Compline or of Candlemas, and, another highlight, by dint of its rotation among the colleges, the delivery in Balliol Chapel of the University Sermon, the Revd Dr Biron-Scott has been adding her own individual touches, with a series of Chaplain's Lunches dedicated to talks about CS Lewis and, catering to students of all faiths and none, Drop-in Doughnuts. Chapel sermons, meanwhile, are more akin to micro-tutorials than to church homilies: one example among others was the opportunity to hear from Angie Hobbs, Professor of the Public Understanding of Philosophy at Sheffield University.

Provision aimed at the welfare and well-being of Balliol members, students in particular, evolved still further over the year in the direction of a something-for-everybody menu of options. The Welfare Lead's creativity and flexibility in this area resulted in a highly eclectic programme, which had students making festive wreaths for the winter and floral crowns for May Day and for Oxford Pride, relaxing in gong bath sessions and doing HIIT circuits in the Pavilion,



Students with flower crowns made for May Day

trying out self-defence or polyphonic singing, going on weekly walks, or taking part in lunchtime stretch and destress classes, or attending workshops run by the College Counsellor on managing exam stress and building relationships – these, the last in particular, being known points of student need and interest.

The 2024/2025 events archive reflects the College's cultural activity in a wider perspective, prime among which is the student-led programme of Balliol Musical Society Concerts, one of the seemingly sempiternal glories of the annual calendar. This past year's offerings included, in the Peggotty Graham Concert on 1 June 2025, the Mithras Trio playing Rachmaninov, Shostakovich and contemporary composer Joy Lisner, which was preceded by alumnus Professor Philip McDonagh (1970) preaching to a full Chapel and drawing on the rich resources of his classical education at Balliol and his lifetime of practice in the arts of poetry and diplomacy - both needed, as he claimed, now more than ever. Other highlights were the termly Balliol Members' Concerts which showed just how talented our current students are as musicians as well as in their academic subjects.

Balliol students are known for their intrepidity, but their adventurousness is at least partly taught and learned while they are here, in the semi-structured form of a William Westerman Pathfinders award for the lucky few to be selected (the 2025 cohort have now completed their journeys), for the vast majority with the help of their Tutors and Lecturers as well as of each other. To cite just one example, as a closing highlight of 2024/2025: the ten-mile literary 'pilgrimage' made, in homage to Chaucer, by the English single and joint schools students with lecturer Eleanor Baker. Thanks are recorded to all the teachers and the triallers who embark upon these voyages with their students.

Awards and achievements of current members

The College had the gratification of congratulating many of its senior members during the year. Mike Giles, Professor of Numerical Analysis, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society while Bodley's Librarian and Director of University Libraries Richard Ovenden was made an Honorary Fellow of the British Academy. Fellow and Tutor in English Literature Adam Smyth was awarded the Bainton Prize for Best Reference Work for his edited *Handbook of the History of the Book in Early Modern England*. Jin-Chong Tan, Fellow and Tutor in Engineering, won an ERC Proof of Concept Grant and Matthew Langton, Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry, was one of just four



William Westerman Pathfinders 2025

Oxford researchers to land an ERC Consolidator Grant as part of the EU's Horizon Europe programme. College Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, Rachel Quarrell, received a Teaching Award from the University for her significant contributions to student learning and educational innovation. And Balliol physicists, meanwhile, set a new record for qubit operation accuracy. This remarkable achievement marked the conclusion of David Lucas' tenure as a Tutorial Fellow (his having moved in the new year to St Hugh's College to take up the Hooke Chair in Experimental Physics). Like other scientific colleagues, David has brought many of the talented students and post-docs in his lab to Balliol – including another departing Fellow, ECF Raghavendra Srinivas. Among Balliol graduates being recognised, Robert Ewart was one of a handful of outstanding young scientists to receive a PhD Research Award from the Plasma Physics Division of the European Physical Society (EPS), Jeffrey Tse was awarded First Prize by the UCL Department of Statistical Science for his poster, 'Selecting Invalid Instruments', and Sara McQuaid, who works on the European dimensions of the Irish Troubles, was granted a Theodor Heuss Research Fellowship to undertake postdoctoral research at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Early medieval England broadened its 'global' outlook in the work of History Tutor Helen Gittos, who suggested that their grave goods are evidence that 6th century Anglo-Saxons were recruited into the

Byzantine army to fight wars as far away as what is now Syria and Armenia. And Lecturer in Modern European History Matt Myers launched his book *The Halted March of the European Left*, which, for all the stalled progress, covered a lot of new ground as revealed by 'The Working Class in Britain, France, and Italy, 1968–1989'.

The College's Honorary Fellows have had recognition in very diverse settings. Bill Drayton (1965) was in Oxford in April 2025 to accept a Global Treasure Award at the annual Skoll World Forum for social entrepreneurship, a field in which he, as the founder of Ashoka, has been a pioneer. Sir Peter Donnelly (1980), who in 2014 founded the healthcare company Genomics, welcomed its inclusion in The Sunday Times 100 Tech list. And Honorary Fellows Andrew Graham and Lord Patten of Barnes (1962), respectively former Master of Balliol and former Chancellor of the University, each took on new leadership roles at the Europaeum.

Awards and achievements of alumni and former Fellows

It is a great pleasure to celebrate on Balliol webpages and congratulate at Governing Body meetings the alumni and former Fellows of whom we hear good things. In 2025, elections to the Royal Society included former Balliol Junior Research Fellow Iain Couzin, now Director of the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour and Professor at the University of Konstanz; and among new Fellows of the British Academy were two alumni, both Professors at the LSE, Nick Couldry (1977) in Media, Communications and Social Theory Emeritus, and Tomila Lankina (1998) in International Relations. In 2024, John Lazar (1983) – Sir John, as of the 2025 New Year Honours – made history by being the first Oxford alum to be elected President of the Royal Academy of Engineering. Alumnus Mahmood Bhutta (2008) of Brighton and Sussex Medical School and Professor of Sustainable Healthcare was awarded the 2024 President's Medal by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow for his contributions to global health, sustainability and ethical practices in medical supply chains. Sustainable healthcare is not the only novel frontier being explored by intrepid Balliol Old Members: alumnus Robert Montgomery (1990) and alumna and former Research Fellow Beth Shapiro (1999) both made the 2025 TIME100 Health list, Robert as a pioneer of genetically modified animal organ transplantation, and Beth as an innovator of organoid models and a 'de-extinction scientist'. Chief Science Officer at Colossal Biosciences and Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UC Santa Cruz, Beth was also elected to the US National Academy of Sciences. Another former Fellow in a new field – Christine Borgman, Distinguished Research Professor of Information Studies at UCLA, who visited Balliol through the Oliver Smithies programme – was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. And alumnus Professor Philip Maini (1979), for 27 years the director and developer of mathematical biology at Oxford, was honoured by the Royal Society as the recipient of its 2024 Sylvester Medal. Innovations – and patents – in optical physics saw the prestigious Max Born Award for optics research given to alumnus A. Douglas Stone (1976) of Yale University. A start-up led by alumna Melissa Holloway (2001) secured Innovate UK funding for diabetes innovation, and in confirmation of the eye-watering amounts being thrown at the future of quantum computing, Oxford Ionics, a spin-out co-founded by alumnus Thomas Harty (2005), was acquired by a US-based company for $1.1 billion.

The Arts and Social Sciences have their own measures of esteem and 2024/2025 saw a rich variety being accumulated by Balliol alumni, culminating, in June 2025, with the award of an Honorary degree from the University of Oxford to historian Professor Timothy Snyder (1991). Daniel Susskind (2006), whose College career spanned a BA to an Early Career Fellowship, gained the signal accolade of having published in *Growth: A Reckoning* one of 'Barack Obama's favorite books of 2024' and has since been appointed the Mercers' School Memorial Professor of Business at Gresham College. Mick Herron



Ciara Garcha (2023), named one of BBC History Extra's '30 under 30' young historians for 2024



Winning title of the Windham-Campbell Prize by Rana Dasgupta (1990)

(1981) received the Crime Writers' Association lifetime achievement award; TV producer Derek Wax (1980) took Best Limited Series at both the BAFTA and RTS (Royal Television Society) awards for the four-part BBC drama, *The Sixth Commandment*; and writer and editor Christopher Tayler (1994) – well known to readers of the NYRB, LRB and Guardian – earned a 2025 Robert B. Silvers Prize for Literary Criticism. Contemporary composer Carol Jones (2018) saw her piece 'bulawayo railway' released on *Dance of the Night Sky*, an album of new compositions, all by British women, played by the string trio Black Oak Ensemble. Joining a growing line of Balliol-educated Wolfson History Prize nominees, Professor Jonny Steinberg (1995) was shortlisted for his *Winnie & Nelson: Portrait of a Marriage*. Moving from South Africa to the Middle East, but still addressing a general audience, recent graduate Ana-Diamond Aaba Atach (2021) was awarded the Alistair Horne Fellowship to write a history of women in Iran, while Professor Karma Nabulsi (1989) received the 2024 Service Award from the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies. Further east again, to South and Southeast Asia, student of migration Ciara Garcha (2023) was named one of BBC History Extra's '30 under 30' young historians for 2024; novelist Rana Dasgupta (1990), having moved into a new genre with his book *Capital: A Portrait of Twenty-First Century Delhi*, won the Windham-Campbell Prize, administered by Yale University, in the non-fiction category; the government of Singapore appointed alumnus Shashi Jayakumar (1997), who returned to Balliol as an Oliver Smithies Visiting Lecturer in 2023, as the next Non-Resident Ambassador to the Republic of Cuba, and Karma Phuntsho (1997) was a recipient of the 2024 Ramon Magsaysay Award, often referred to as the 'Nobel Prize of Asia', in recognition of the contributions the Civil Society Organisation he founded has made toward bridging Bhutan's cultural heritage with the opportunities of the modern era. In another sort of meeting between ancient and modern, classicist Henry Spelman (2010) gained a Philip Leverhulme Prize for research he will conduct on early Greek literature.

And, nearer to home, in time and place, recent graduate Leah Veronese (2018) resurfaced only the second known manuscript of Shakespeare's sonnet 116 ('Let me not to the marriage of true minds'), in a miscellany belonging to Elias Ashmole deposited in the Bodleian Library.

Honours

The New Years Honours list of 2025 recognised seven Balliol alumni. MBEs were awarded to Lucien Gubbay (1949), for services to interfaith relations, and Abigail Appleton (1984), for services to further education, while the award of BEM was made to Ralph Homer (1954), for services to vulnerable people. Miles Celic (1991) was made OBE for services to finance and professional services, and Professor Richard Susskind (1983) CBE, for services to information technology and to the law. John Lazar was knighted for services to engineering and technology, and Tamara Finkelstein (1986) was made a Dame (DCB), for public service. Balliol congratulates them all.

The College was also delighted to learn from the King's Birthday Honours 2025 that four alumni had been recognised, with the award of OBE being made to John Whiston (1977), for services to broadcasting and to television, and Andrew Copson (1999), for services to the non-religious community (the first national award of its kind); with a CBE to Stuart Shilson (1980), for services to the Order of St John and to change management; and a knighthood to Professor Vernon Gibson (1980), for services to science and to defence. It was a pleasure to hear from those honoured about the influence the College has had in their lives.

In Memoriam

From among the Fellows, three Balliol greats were lost in the course of the year to 31 July 2025: Philosophy Tutor and Emeritus Fellow Alan Montefiore (1926–2024), for whom a large memorial gathering was held, in Hall, on 30 May 2025, to pay tribute to his many and eclectic gifts alongside the launch of The Alan Montefiore Fund which aims to perpetuate his memory by supporting student travel and research in connection with his interests in continental philosophy and other fields; Professor Graham Richards (1939–2025), a Junior Research Fellow of the College in the 1960s and an Honorary Fellow from 2005, who pioneered computational chemistry and helped build Oxford's Chemistry Research Laboratory, opened in 2014; and Martin Foley (1932–2025) for whom with his family a Memorial Gathering was held on

15 April 2025 and who as a Foundation Fellow of the College generously endowed the Foley-Béjar graduate scholarship and funded an award enabling Balliol students to be 'Mexico Explorers', hosting them in his own home in Mexico City.

The loss of the College Doctor Chris Kenyon (1959-2024) was felt throughout the 19 Beaumont Street practice, where he was senior partner, and the colleges it serves. A memorial service, held, in a packed Hall, on 19 September 2024, offered loving testimonies to his colourful shirts, offbeat humour, and unerring musicality as well as to his professionalism.

Two former members of staff were also warmly remembered, Glenys Davies 1928–2024, College Nurse from 1977 to 1990, and Kathy Carpenter 1955–2025, Head Housekeeper 1997 to 2019.

Team Balliol before setting off for the Oxford Town and Gown 2025 Fun Run, photographed by Jo Thomas



Achievements and Awards

Graduate Scholarships

College Scholarships

Alfred Douglas Stone Scholarship
Faglia, Paolo, DPhil Philosophy

Andrew Crompton Scholarship
Gessaga, Romeo, DPhil Ancient History

Balliol Sanctuary Scholarship
Royatvand Ghiasvand, Amin, MSt Syriac Studies
Soboh, Rola, Master in Public Policy

Balliol Scholarship
McConnell, Joshua, Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing, Department of Chemistry

Bruce Net Zero Scholarship
Mullings, Lucia, DPhil Engineering Science

Dervorguilla Scholarship
Hopkins, Alexandra, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics (MRC)
Jackson, Charlotte, DPhil Astrophysics
Wu, Boxi, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences (ESRC Grand Union DTP Studentship)

Eddie Dinshaw Scholarship
Kulkarni, Harshal, DPhil Mathematics

Foley Béjar Scholarship
Chinas Hernandez, Marcos, DPhil Molecular & Cellular Medicine

Grefenstette Scholarship
Braun, Titanilla, DPhil Particle Physics
Conner, Alice, DPhil Medical Sciences
Konstantinidou, Aikaterini, DPhil Molecular Cell Biology in Health & Disease

Jason Hu Scholarship
Sun, Xiang, DPhil Oncology

John Henry Jones Scholarship
Jiang, Zeren, DPhil Engineering Science
Zhou, Katherine, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Sciences

Jowett Scholarship
Khan, Yasmeena, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Mutch, Joseph, DPhil Chemistry (EPSRC)

Jowett Copyright Scholarship and Balliol Scholarship
Doherty, Isabel, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History

Jowett Copyright Scholarship
Sandhu, Olivia, MSt Greek and/or Latin Language and Literature

McDougall Law Prize Fund
Antonelli, Leonardo, DPhil Law

Oxford Economics Scholarship
Pagel, William, DPhil Economics

Peter Storey Scholarship
Maziarska, Paulina, DPhil History (AHRC DTP)

Ramage Scholarship
Aktar, Anjum, DPhil Clinical Medicine (MRC DTP)

Sigmar and Sabine Samwer Scholarship
Oladipo, Aishat, MSc Genomic Medicine

Tang Prize Scholarship
Sampaio De Couto Melo, Marcelo, DPhil Law

UK Research and Innovation Awards

Arts and Humanities Research Council
Maziarska, Paulina, DPhil History

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
Kingsbury Lee, Mira-Rose, Interdisciplinary Bioscience
MacDonald-Mair, Hamish, Interdisciplinary Bioscience

Economic and Social Research Council
Wu, Boxi, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Science

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
Yan, Alexander, Statistics and Machine Learning
Baumgartner, Markus, DPhil Engineering Science
Hutchings, Jed, Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing
Lösl, Helene, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Reboredo Prado, María, DPhil Mathematics
Pereira Da Costa, Maria, DPhil International Relations
Mullings, Lucia, DPhil Engineering Science
Mutch, Joseph, DPhil Chemistry
Gaál, Blanka, DPhil Engineering Science

Medical Research Council
Hopkins, Alexandra, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics
Aktar, Anjum, DPhil Clinical Medicine

International awards

Aker Scholarship
Aarnes, Fredrik Nikolai, Magister Juris
Bakken, Rasmus, DPhil Philosophy
Foldvik, Simon, MSc Mathematical Sciences
Haaland, Olav Hellebust, DPhil Mathematics
Landheim, Nikoline, DPhil International Relations
Oevergaard, Iver, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Salvesen, Sigurd, MSt History

Marshall Scholarship
Janecka, Maeve, DPhil Women's & Reproductive Health

Rhodes Scholarships

Bentley, Maisy, MPhil Law
Casher, Tess, MSt English
Chen, Xiang, MPhil International Relations
Clesi, Aimee, DPhil Criminology
Gurusankar, Gurupranav, Master of Public Policy
Hadad, Justin, DPhil Economics
Harshbarger, Samuel, MPhil History
Heron, Isaac, MPhil Economics
Iftikhar, Iman, MPhil Politics
Jones, Harrison, Master of Public Policy
Kingsbury-Lee, Mira-Rose, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Martinez, Adam, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Ng'Ang'A, Linet, DPhil Chemistry
Nguyen, Anne Xuan-Lan, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Sutcliffe, Oliver, DPhil Primary Health Care
Wikstrom, Eleanor, MSt Global and Imperial History
Zhang, Xiaohan, DPhil Law

University awards

Clarendon Scholarship
Chinas Hernandez, Marcos, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine
Colton, Alexander, DPhil Oncology
Conner, Alice, DPhil Medical Sciences
Faglia, Paolo, DPhil Philosophy
Gessaga, Romeo, DPhil Ancient History
Jiang, Zeren, DPhil Engineering Science
Khan, Yasmeena, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Kulkarni, Harshal, DPhil Mathematics
Roupas, Georgios, MSt History
Sun, Xiang, DPhil Oncology
Zhou, Katherine, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Science

Other University awards

Braun, Titanilla, DPhil Particle Physics, Department of Physics Studentship
Conner, Alice, DPhil Medical Sciences, RDM Scholars Programme
Doherty, Isabel, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History, Faculty of Classics Studentship
Flores Urzua, Beltran, Magister Juris, Faculty of Law Studentship
Royatvand Ghiasvand, Amin, MSt Syriac Studies, Academic Futures Scholarship
Jackson, Charlotte, DPhil Astrophysics, Department of Physics Studentship
Konstantinidou, Aikaterini, DPhil Molecular Cell Biology in Health and Disease, Oxford Medical Sciences Graduate School Studentship
McConnell, Joshua, Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing, Department of Chemistry Studentship
Oladipo, Aishat, MSc Genomic Medicine, AfOx Scholarship
Qian, Jiachen, DPhil Computer Science, Department of Computer Science Studentship
Rayp, Justine, MSc Genomic Medicine, Saven European Scholarship
Sampaio De Couto Melo, Marcelo, Faculty of Law Studentship
Soboh, Rola, Master of Public Policy, OCIS Scholarship
Vandrey, Emma, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics, Department of Physics Studentship
Wang, Wendy, MSc Social Science of the Internet, Shirley Scholarship
Wang, Yanqing, DPhil Information, Communication & Social Science, Shirley Scholarship
Williams, Abigail, DPhil Biology, Oxford Robert and Valerie Appleby Research Scholarship

Other external awards

Harvey, Callum, MSc Social Science of the Internet, Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship
Hawkins, Amy, DPhil Chemistry, Royal Society of Chemistry Studentship
Nguyen, Anne Xuan-Lan, DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine, Kennedy Institute Scholarship
Schreiner, Robin Mae, Kennedy Institute Scholarship
Tjandra, Jonathan, DPhil Law, Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship

Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions

Biology

Suhayl Kapadia, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Sophia Kapsalis, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Ruby Leys, Reynolds Exhibition; Mackenzie Robb, Reynolds Exhibition; Katie Wright, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship

Chemistry

Chloe Braganca, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship; Nicholas Hadjipaschalis, Andrew Pang Scholarship; Gracie Lewis, Second Robin Hollway Scholarship; Eugenie Lumsdon, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship; Conner Maguire, Mouat Jones Exhibition; Alex Mann, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship; Rory Mitchell, Mouat Jones Exhibition; Jack Ovens, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Matheus Ramos Flamenco, Mouat Jones Exhibition; Ben Scott, Mouat Jones Exhibition; Amelie Todd, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Keer Xing, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship

Classics

Cooper Ackerly, Robin Hollway Scholarship; Cameron Bloch, Dr Prosser Exhibition; David Dunn, Dr Prosser Exhibition; Kate Holmes, Jenkyns Exhibition; Oliver New, Oliver Lyne Exhibition; Thomas Rolfe, Robin Hollway Scholarship

Computer Science

Yash Jaiswal, Bishop Warners Exhibition; Henry Masding, Donald Michie Scholarship; Matthew Zahra, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship

Economics and Management

Ansh Agarwal, Reynolds Exhibition; Rose Bamford, Reynolds Exhibition; Ria Gogna, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Scholarship; Amerleen Hundle, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Scholarship; Yicheng Li, Reynolds Exhibition; Aman Sultan, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship

Engineering Science

Elias Arie, Dr Prosser Exhibition; Michael Channing, Second Robin Hollway

Scholarship; Freddie Goodfellow, Lubbock Scholarship; Dylan Jubb, Second Robin Hollway Scholarship; Sophie Lindridge, Dr Prosser Exhibition; Suleiman Mahmood, Lubbock Exhibition; Jonathan Soepadmo, Reynolds Scholarship; Callum Umana Stuart, Lubbock Scholarship; Sam Zhuang, Reynolds Scholarship

English

Margaret Maclellan, Anthony Maurice Goldsmith Exhibition; Chloe O'Connor, Anthony Maurice Goldsmith Exhibition; Myles Watson, Anthony Maurice Goldsmith Scholarship; Ralph Whitworth, Anthony Maurice Goldsmith Exhibition

History

Alfie Bates, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Maya Brockie, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Weza De Carvalho, Marks Sadler Exhibition; Barnaby Cox, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Theodore Fischer, Bishop Warners Exhibition; Nicholas Haque, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Jack Jones, Mark Sadler Exhibition; Luca Karkutli, Bishop Warners Exhibition; Jordan Liu, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Connor Mair, Bishop Warners Exhibition; Olivia Polito Pons, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Charlotte Renahan, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Scholarship; Luca Ryan, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Exhibition; Daisy Smith, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Eliska Watling, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Scholarship; Mina Yücelen, Lazarus and Agnes Ward Fletcher Scholarship

Law

Gilon Fox, Bishop Warners Exhibition; Alexis Komninos, Bishop Warners Exhibition

Mathematics

Nathan Adlam, Dr Prosser Exhibition; Tobias Bretschneider, Les Woods Scholarship; Keira Chen, Reynolds Scholarship; Luke Corey, Mark Sadler Exhibition; Aditya Gaurav, Les Woods Scholarship; Cyrus Linden, Dr Prosser Exhibition; Helen Trenner, Reynolds Scholarship

Mathematics and Computer Science

Kiran Bahra, Reynolds Scholarship

Mathematics and Philosophy

Helen Trenner, Reynolds Scholarship

Medical Sciences

Lillie Collins, Reynolds Scholarship; Anna-Sophia Maeckel, Reynolds Scholarship; Sarah Probert, Reynolds Scholarship

Philosophy, Politics and Economics

William Eckford, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Harvey Garnaut, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Anna Hickman, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Gemma Kelk, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Shirica Leong, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Noah Saunders, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship; Mukund Soni, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Andy Wei, David Kevan Lloyd Scholarship

Physics

Ewan Beach, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Luke Chu, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Bartosz Dublak, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Mali Jongman-Rios, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Ryan Lin, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Liam O'Shea, David Kevan Lloyd Exhibition; Isaac Oyarzabal, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Matthew Sullivan, Sir William Markby Scholarship; David Wong, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Yiqian Wu, Sir Henry Theobald Scholarship; Shannon Yu, Sir William Markby Scholarship; Naiqi Zheng, Sir William Markby Scholarship

Organ Scholar

Benjamin Gardner

College prizes

Academic awards

Any subject
Noora Al-Namrat, Prelims Prize
Rachel Andrews, Prelims Prize
Julia Bellardo, Prelims Prize
Amelie Galbraith, Prelims Prize
Vikyrthan Kirushnamoorthy, Prelims Prize
Aamani Kurdikar, Prelims Prize
Flo Murphy, Prelims Prize
Melanie Page, Prelims Prize
Malcolm Parris, Prelims Prize
Finbar Percy, Prelims Prize
Dylan Risso, Prelims Prize
Peggy Zhao, Prelims Prize

Chemistry
Amy Hawkins, Greville Smith Prize (*proxime accessit*)
Keer Xing, Greville Smith Prize
Amy Hawkins, Roger Hall Prize

Classics
Cooper Ackerly, Samuel Dubner Prize
Charlotte Fox, Jenkyns Prize

Engineering
Arese Joe-Oshodi, Prosser Prize
Markus Baumgartner, Lubbock Prize

History
Sasha Harden, Kington Oliphant Prize
Georgie Cutmore, Edwin George Engleby Wright Prize
George Gresley, James Gay Prize
Jordan Liu, Martin Wright Prize
Mina Yücelen, William Mazower Prize

Law
Naveesha Akbar, A.V. Dicey and Archibald McDougall Prizes
Dylan Durnion, Younger Prize
Gilon Fox, Lord Rodger of Earlsferry Prize
Alexis Komninos, Lord Rodger of Earlsferry Prize
Valerie Lee, Archibald McDougall Prize

Mathematics and Joint Schools
Nathan Adlam, Robin Wilson Prize
Cyrus Linden, Prosser Prize

Medical Sciences
Conall Islip, Wurtman Prize
Anna-Sophia Maeckel, Wurtman Prize (*proxime accessit*)

Physics
Ewan Beach, Conroy Prize
Mali Jongman-Rios, Ken Allen Prize
Liam O'Shea, Ken Allen Prize

Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Jade Bennett, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Jacob Bickerstaffe, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Reuben Dowthwaite, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Anna Hickman, James Hall Prize
Gemma Kelk, Ernest Walker Prize
Arina Makarina, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Avrah Pernica, Samuel Dubner Prize (*shared*)
Mukund Soni, GDH Cole Prize

Non-academic awards

Bob and Jeanie Heller Prize
William Fitzgerald

Gertrude Hartley Prize
Angus McNevin (*proxime accessit*)
Angele Baum (*joint first*)

Daniel Beckers (*joint first*)

George Powell Prize
Angharad Thorp

Jasper Ridley Prize
Ben Gardner

Rachel Sarah Knapp Awards
Maria-Otilia Casuneanu
Nikita Handel
Charlotte Renahan

William Westerman Pathfinder Awards to North America
Tobi Bretschneider, Amelia Bryan, Ria Gogna, Kate Holmes, Jake Hughes, Rosie Mahendra, Sam Santhouse, Noah Saunders, Caitlin Scollin, Felicity Thomas, Mina Yücelen

William Westerman Pathfinder Awards to Asia
Fódhla Dunne, Sophia Kapsalis, Helena Marshall, George Roupas, Cam Tweed

University prizes

Jinghong Ma, Department of Computer Science Prize for Philosophy & Computer Science 2025 for Preliminary Examinations
Siqi Ma, BCS Prize in Computer Science 2025 for the best performance in Computer Science Prelims papers
Thomas Postance, excellent performance (top 10% of cohort) in the First BM Part I examination and Medical Sociology assignment
Dylan Risso, Department of Computer Science Group Project Prize for creating a well thought out algorithmic solution and building a functional user interface
Ashish Singh, excellent performance (top 10% of cohort) in the First BM Part I examination and Medical Sociology assignment
Mina Yücelen, Sir Roger Newdigate Prize (*proxime accessit*) for her poem 'The story of Echo came to me in an illustrated book of Homer's tales'

Final Honour Schools (FHS)

Yaxin Deng, Luca D'Agliano Prize for Best Dissertation
Anthony Kattuman, Richard Bird Prize for the dissertation that best presents a piece of software, an algorithm, or a mathematical theory pertaining to program construction
Linus Knappe, Law Faculty Prize for the Best Performance in the MJur (shared) and Law Faculty Prize in International Dispute Settlement
Eleanor March, Gilbert Ryle Prize for outstanding achievement in the BPhil in Philosophy
Helen Trenner, Gibbs Prize for Mathematics Part C for excellent performance in the Philosophy examinations
Cam Tweed, Law Faculty Prize in Taxation Law for best performance in the Taxation Law paper
Theo Wang, Hoare Prize for MSc in Advanced Computer Science 2024 for best overall performance and Hoare Project Prize for MSc in Advance Computer Science 2024 for best project

The lists on pages 65–72 include only results that were available before 31 July 2025: see page 2.

Graduate research degrees

Doctorates of Philosophy

Amati, Ghila, 'Lebensphilosophie in Rabbi Avraham Itzhak HaCohen Kook's Thought: The Case of Henri Bergson'
Baker, Ellen, 'Ecology and Evolution of Sterols in Pollen and Wild Bees'
Barber, Joe, 'Disappearing and Dying Gods in Ancient Near Eastern and Early Greek Myth'
Byfuglien, Andrea, 'Behavioural Aspects of Sustainable Agri-Environmental Change'
Callens, Mia, 'Chemical Probes for Rho GEF/GTPases'
Chambers, Keith, 'Structured Population Models for Macrophage Heterogeneity in Early Atherosclerosis'
Chatterjee, Jacob, 'The Idea of Happiness in Anglican Religious Culture, 1642-1751'
Chen, Chen, 'Neighbours and Asymmetries in Planning Law, Servitudes and Nuisance in England and France'
Comastri, Chiara, 'Yamashiro Tomoe and The Minwa Makers: Folk Narratives and Democratic Imaginations in Postwar Rural Japan'
Coughlan, Owen, 'Migration, Mining, and Experience: Solidarity in the Labour Milieu of the Alès Coalfield in France, 1918-1940'
Cragg, Casey, 'Measurement Biases in Weak Gravitational Lensing Surveys'
Cruewell, Hermann, 'Archaia Phusis - The Original Nature of the Soul in Plato's Middle Dialogues'
Crum, Chris, 'Global Patterns in Data Protection: Insights from Social Science and Comparative Law'
Davis, James, 'British Travel Writing on the Soviet Union and the Development of Left-Wing Literature of the 1930s'
Degiovanni, Cécile, 'When Should We Be Able to Waive our Fundamental Legal Rights?'
Dooley, Claire, 'Nucleophilic Fluorination Under Synergistic Hydrogen Bonding Phase-Transfer Catalysis'
Duddy, Nicholas, 'Suicide and the Modern Stage: Miller, Beckett, Kane'
Ewart, Robert, 'Universal Equilibria, Phase-Space Structure of Collisionless Plasma Systems, and Turbulence in Non-Maxwellian Plasmas'

Gallaher, Dan, 'T'ovma Arcruni and His World: Armenian Historical Traditions in the Ninth and Tenth Centuries'
Gartland, Shaun, 'Supramolecular Approaches to Engineering Cell Signalling Networks in Artificial Cells'
Gonzales Vera, Ricardo, 'Robust Deep Learning Methods for Accountable Contrast-Agent-Free CMR Imaging in Clinical Applications'
Gullino, Sophie, 'The behavioural role of glutamate co-release from 5-HT neurons'
Gunadasa-Rohling, Mala, 'Investigating the Regenerative Potential of the Neonatal Mouse Heart'
Gwacham-Anisiobi, Uchenna, 'Community-Based Prevention of Stillbirth in Nigeria: a Mixed-Methods Study'
Haas, Alexander, 'Essays on Monetary Policy, Financial Intermediation, and Liquidity'
Harvey, Thomas, 'Navigating the String Landscape with Machine Learning Techniques'
Holloway, Philip, 'Strong Gravitational Lenses in the Era of Wide-Field Surveys'
Hu, Nick, 'Coherent Inverses in Higher-Categorical String Diagrams'
Jensen, Caitlin, 'Perceptions of Meteorological Phenomena in Ancient Egypt'
Jiyani, Mary, 'Protectors and the Protected: Regulating Land and Labour in the Nyasaland Colonial Protectorate'
Kershaw, Leo, 'Medea in South Africa: Receptions of the Euripidean Tragedy from the 19th to the 21st Century'
Ksiazek, Konrad, 'Adjudicating Rights: A Theory of Evolutive Interpretation for the European Court of Human Rights'
Kucera, Jiri, 'Studies of a Dipolar Quantum Gas – Towards Er-K Mixture'
Kümmerlin, Mirjam, 'Fluorogenic DNA Probes for Single-Molecule Fluorescence Imaging in Vitro and in Vivo'
Kurjan, Alina, 'Defining the Transcriptional Landscapes of Human Developing and Aged Tendons: Insights into the Signalling Pathways and Cellular Contributions to Regenerative Tendon Formation'
Kurle, Jonas, 'Essays on Outlier and Break Detection'
Leszczyk, Marianna, 'Encountering Antiquity in the Work of Zbigniew Herbert: Materiality, Time, and Theory'
Lovegrove, Catherine, 'The Genetic and Metabolic Basis of Kidney Stone

Disease'
Loya, Hrushikesh, 'Powerful New Methods for Decomposing Genome-wide Ancestry and Performing Trait Association'
Maardalen, Matilde, 'Development of Protein-Based Cavitation Nuclei for Ultrasound-Enhanced Solid Tumour Immunotherapy'
Meier, Maike, 'Randomized Algorithms and Theory for Rank Estimation and Least Squares'
Mishra, Abhishek, 'Black-Box AI in Medicine - A Standard of Care Without Interpretability'
Navarro Montilla, Javier, 'Development of Superconducting Josephson Junction Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifiers'
Nee, Eloise, 'Mechanisms of Liposomal and Squalene Emulsion Adjuvants'
Oreskovic, Tin, 'The Causal Relevance of Body Composition to Disease: Analyses of the UK Biobank and the FinnGen Study'
Parris, Brett, 'Yogic Metaethics: Comparing Patañjali's Yoga, Nondual Śaivism, and Vedānta'
Piletic, Klara, 'Adipocyte Autophagy in the Control of Obese White Adipose Tissue Dysfunction'
Platschorre, Arthur, 'The QCD Axion, Generally'
Prakash, Nayana, 'The Empire Types Back: Colonialism, Resistance and Storytelling Online'
Ratcliffe, Julian, 'Out of the Fly-Bottle: Genealogy, Power, and Normativity in the Space of Reasons'
Reitzug, Fabian, 'The Epidemiology of Schistosoma Mansoni: Analysing the Influence of Current Water Contact, Safe Water Supplies, and Human Mobility in Rural Uganda'
Revell, Tom, 'Verbal Parallels, Intertextuality, and the Composition of Old English Hagiographic Poetry'
Salmon, Minette, 'Investigating the Regulations of TYK2 for Precision Genome Editing with Tandem Autologous Transplantation as a Therapy for Multiple Severe Immune-Mediated Diseases'
Shinozuka, Kenneth, 'Psychedelics Disrupt the Functional Hierarchy of the Human Brain'
Sion, Marie, 'How Manipulating Oxygen and Iron Availability Affects Tregs and the Immune System'
Smith, Charlie, 'A Liberal Political Philosophy of British Digital Identity Systems'

Sotirova, Ana, 'Trapped Ion Quantum Information Processing Using Multiple Qubit Encodings'
Vogl, Thomas, 'The Unintended Consequences of Information System Change on Organizational Memory: Remembering and Forgetting in English and Ontarian Child Protection Services'
Waller, Nisha, 'The "Gang" as a Facilitator of Racialised State Violence: The Case of "Joint Enterprise"'
Ward IV, James, 'Private People in a Free Society: Examining the Legal Commoditisation of the Private Life and its Alternatives'
Weeks, Zoe, 'The 2-Dimensional to 3-Dimensional Growth Transition in Physcomitrium Patens'
Wills, Stephanie, 'Data-Driven Approaches to Fragment Merging'
Xu, Jin, 'Towards Data-Efficient Deep Learning with Meta-Learning and Symmetries'
Zormpa, Markella, 'Actuator Line Modelling of Wind Turbines and their Wakes'

MPhil by Research

Casalía, Joaquín, 'The Disvalue of Rights'
Simoes Da Silva, Nicholas, 'The Political Economy of Legal Complexity: Implications of the Market Building State'
Tjandra, Jonathan, 'Remedial Discretion in Judicial Review and the Rule of Law'
Zhang, Sharon Xiaohan, 'Measuring Expert Administration with the Rule of Law: An Example from the U.S. Endangered Species Act'

Distinctions in graduate taught degrees

Aydin, Fatih, EMBA
Babiker, Tibyan, MSc Pharmacology
Baird, Hudson, MBA
Berrada Lancrey-Javal, Gabrielle, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Bohinen, Mika, MSc Maths and Fndns of Computer Science
Burstein, Ellen, MPhil Medical Anthropology
Chang, Bernard, EMBA
Devine, Mark, EMBA
Draghetti, Thomas, MPhil Classical Archaeology
Erle, Jona, MSc Mathematical & Theoretical Physics
Haining, Tessa, MPhil Mod Langs (FRE)
Halicki, Michal, MSc Pharmacology
Horváth, Réka, MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry
Jung, Charlotte, MPhil International Relations
Kattuman, Anthony, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Knappe, Linus, MJur
March, Eleanor, BPhil Philosophy
Masina, Jacob, Master of Public Policy
Mehra, Smiti, EMBA
Neubauer, Marleen, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Øverland, Sverre Laurits, Master of Public Policy
Prabhu, Trisha, Master of Public Policy
Reboredo Prado, María, MSc Math Mod and Scientific Computing
Rentschler, Tom, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Roupas, Georgios, MSt History - Intellectual History
Royatvand Ghiasvand, Amin, MSt Syriac Studies
Sutcliffe, Oliver, Master of Public Policy
Thorshaug, Eva, MPhil International Relations
Wallace, Emma, MSc Genomic Medicine
Wang, Théo, MSc Advanced Computer Science
Wikstrom, Eleanor, MSt Global and Imperial History
Wu, Yuling, MSt Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Zhang, Till, MSc Financial Economics

Firsts and distinctions in undergraduate degrees

Distinctions in Prelims and Honour Moderations

Biomedical Sciences: Amelia Lim
Chemistry: Zach Lees, Will Yu, Tuguldur Zolzaya
Computer Science: Dan Dikhanbayev, Siqi Ma
Computer Science and Philosophy: Jinghong Ma
Engineering Science: Jake Wheal
English Language and Literature: Olivia Barber, Fiona Gu
History: Juan Carlos Dauz, Bea Smalley, Henry Waters
History and Economics: Oskar Gershfield, Daniel Kettle
History and Politics: Zahara Agarwal, Max Harland
Jurisprudence: Tristan Hood
Maths and Computer Science: Daniel Chang, Anton Le
Mathematics/Mathematics and Statistics: Robert Rowlands
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics: Jade Bennett, Jacob Bickerstaffe, Arina Makarina, Avrah Pernica
Physics: Nola Guy, Barney Marshall, Mikolaj Panasiuk
Sanskrit: Vishal Rameshbabu

Firsts in public examinations year 3

Computer Science: Matthew Zahra
Engineering Science: Michael Channing, Dan Collins, Freddie Goodfellow, Jonathan Soepadmo, Sam Zhuang
Mathematics: Sophie Harrison
Mathematics and Statistics: Keira Chen
Physics: Vivek Abensour, Ewan Beach, Issac Oyarzabal, David Wong
Physics and Philosophy: Luke Chu, Chian Wu

Final Honour Schools

Economics and Management: Ria Gogna, Aman Sultan
English Language and Literature: William Fitzgerald, Myles Watson

Jurisprudence: Dylan Durnion
Medicine (Preclinical): Conall Islip
Modern History: Molly Carey-Topping, Jack Jones
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics: Ian Chakravarti, Noelle Chitty, Abby Granholm, Jake Hughes, Rosie Mahendra, Noah Saunders, Andy Wei

Honours, appointments and awards

New Year Honours 2025

Lucien Gubbay (1949): Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to interfaith relations

Ralph Homer (1954), Volunteer, Eastbourne and District Samaritans: Medal of the Order of the British Empire (BEM), for services to vulnerable people

John Lazar (1983), Co-Founder, Enza Capital: Knight Bachelor for services to engineering and technology

Professor Richard Susskind (1983), Lately Technology Advisor to the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to information technology and to the law

Abigail Appleton (1984), Principal, Hereford College of Arts: Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to further education

Tamara Finkelstein (1986), Permanent Secretary, Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Dame Commander of the Order of the Bath (DCB) for public service

Miles Celic (1991), Chief Executive, TheCityUK: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to finance and professional services

King's Birthday Honours 2025

John Whiston (1977), Managing Director, Continuing Drama and Head of ITV in the North, ITV Studios: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to Broadcasting and to Television

Professor Sir Vernon Gibson (1980), Visiting Professor, Department of Materials, Imperial College London: Knight Bachelor (KB) for services to Science and to Defence

Stuart Shilson (1980), Lately Chair, St John Ambulance: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to the Order of St John and to Change Management

Andrew Copson (1999), Chief Executive, Humanists UK: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to the Non-Religious Community

British Academy Fellows 2025

Professor Nick Couldry (1977), Professor of Media, Communications and Social Theory Emeritus, and Professorial Research Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science [UK Fellow]

Professor Tomila Lankina (1998), Professor, Department of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science [UK Fellow]

Richard Ovenden (Professorial Fellow), Bodley's Librarian and the Helen Hamlyn Director of University Libraries [Honorary Fellow]

Royal Society Fellow 2025

Professor Mike Giles, Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow

Iain Couzin (Junior Research Fellow in the Sciences 2003–2006), Director of Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour and Professor at the University of Konstanz, Germany

Senior Members

Lord Patten of Barnes (1962, Honorary Fellow): has been appointed founder member of the Europaeum International Advisory Council

Bill Drayton (1965, Honorary Fellow): was awarded the Global Treasure Award for his contributions to the field of social entrepreneurship and his role in empowering thousands of changemakers to transform innovative ideas into lasting impact

Professor Sir Peter Donnelly's (1980, Honorary Fellow) co-founded company, Genomics, was recognised in *The Sunday Times 100 Tech 2025* as one of Britain's fastest growing tech companies

Andrew Graham (Master 2001–2011, Honorary Fellow) has been appointed as the new Chair of the Europaeum Board of Trustees

Professor Matthew Langton (Professor of Chemistry and Royal Society University Research Fellow, Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry): was awarded a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant

Professor Adam Smyth (A.C. Bradley–J.C. Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in English Literature): was awarded the 2024 Bainton Prize for Best Reference Work for his edited book, *The Oxford Handbook of the History of the Book in Early Modern England* (Oxford University Press, 2023)

Professor Jin-Chong Tan (Professor of Engineering Science, Lubbock Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science): was awarded a Proof of Concept Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) for his project, 'Resilient Temperature- and Pressure-Sensitive Paints for Hyperspectral Imaging'

Junior Members

Robert Ewart (2020, DPhil Theoretical Physics): was awarded a PhD Research Award from the Plasma Physics Division of the European Physical Society (EPS)

Sara McQuaid (2019, DPhil Modern European History): was awarded the Theodor Heuss Research Fellowship to undertake research at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Jeffrey Tse (2021, DPhil Modern Statistics and Statistical Machine Learning): was awarded First Prize by the University College London Department of Statistical Science for his poster, 'Selecting Invalid Instruments'

College Life

Library and Archives

2024/2025 has been a year dedicated to describing things in the Library. With the redevelopment of the Library estate on hiatus until works on the Hall have been completed, we have had time to take stock of significant collections in several areas and make these accessible to researchers by cataloguing them, often reorganising and rationalising them in the process. We have also taken time to develop our offering to junior members in several ways.

Staff developments

This year has seen the fruits of the generosity of two donors, Professor Nicoletta Momigliano (partner of Professor Roger Lonsdale) and Professor Nick Trefethen, whose gifts to Balliol (Professor Lonsdale's papers and Professor Trefethen's index cards of his daily thoughts) have been accompanied by funding for a Project Cataloguer. Matt Barton, who has previously worked at the Cadbury Research Library, joined us in October 2024 to take on this position. Having an excellent archival cataloguer *in situ* has paid dividends, as, following a subsequent donation to sort and describe the papers of Thomas Balogh (Fellow from 1945), we were able to extend Matt's contract to begin work on these. This has been particularly helpful, as Professor Balogh's papers have been in College for some years without suitable access for researchers.

The post of Assistant Librarian has been renamed and regraded to that of Deputy Librarian, in line with equivalent posts elsewhere. We offered three work experience placements to school-age students. The Librarian and Archivist were also involved in the selection of an Oxford Bibliographical Society scholarship, organised by Professor Adam Smyth (Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book, A.C. Bradley-J.C. Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in English Literature), to work on a research project related to the collections. Amongst the professional development activities undertaken by staff, one that stands out was the Disaster Recovery training organised by the Archivist. This involved members of several key departments across College learning about emergency response in the event of historic collections being subject to flooding or leaks.

Exhibitions and events

Michaelmas saw the opening of our *Interwar Balliol* exhibition. The 1920s and



'Blind Date with a Book' display for Valentine's Day

1930s were a key period for the College as it adapted its teaching to the modern era by introducing the PPE degree and developing Holywell Manor, whilst also allowing the flourishing of social activities like the Balliol Players' theatrical tours of the West Country, engagingly shown in a 1934 film digitised for projection during openings. Our Trinity Term exhibition displayed discoveries by our antiquarian cataloguers over four years of describing our early printed books. Entitled *Found in the belly of a cod-fish*, these included Shakespeare quartos, books about warm beer, and any number of books about the strange contents to be found in 17th-century stomachs.

Our historic collections and spaces allow scope to produce bespoke events for various audiences. Some are for groups from within the University. This year, these included classes on manuscripts for students studying Italian, and on Victorian poetry for those studying English; displays for the Dervorguilla Lecture and for Japanese students visiting with Dr Matsumiya to see material relating to Empress Masako; a session for the Oxford Medieval Manuscripts Group; and visits for teams from Balliol's Gardens and Maintenance Departments. Working with the Development Office, we've tailored displays for individuals and for the Benefactors' Garden Party. From other institutions, we have had repeat sessions on poetry for a summer school hosted by Gwyneth Lewis (1985), and on the First World War for students from the University of Alabama. Engaging with community groups, we delivered a presentation on manuscripts at Iffley Church, welcomed a visit from the U3A, and liaised with Oxford's Peeple Project, which supports parents' and childrens' learning. We've also loaned artwork generated for 2021's *Slavery in the Age of Revolution* exhibition to a school in Hertfordshire for an extension day, and, as part of

the continuing legacy of this exhibition, the Librarian has spoken at two conferences on different facets of the project. Staff have been active in hosting visits from other professionals to discuss good practice: we've had visits by archivists from Magdalen College (to discuss sensitivity reviewing); the Newnham College Librarian; the Project Archivist from Christchurch; the Ashmolean's Head of Schools and University engagement; a group of trainee librarians from France; and several PhD students from Toledo studying public sector governance. Sometimes the collections and buildings are immortalised in film – this year, they featured in Channel 4's documentary *Edward & George*, based on Alex Larman's books about the abdication crisis of 1936. The documentary drew on the papers of Walter Monckton held in the Archives.

Usage and welfare

From July 2024 to the end of May 2025, an average of 143 unique users per day were recorded during term time. We purchased 635 new books for the Library, mostly based on recommendations from Fellows and students. This year, we've also invested in lumbar support cushions, and several large screens that students can plug their devices into when they need more screen space, in response to suggestions from junior members.

We conducted regular events throughout the year for our users – from weekly pop-up libraries to the annual Ghost Stories, Christmas Quiz, Secret Santa and Blind Date with a Book. More formally, we delivered several classes on thesis planning, plagiarism, and referencing.

Collections and description

Over the 2024/2025 year, we dealt with 414 enquiries, 112 of which resulted in visits to the Historic Collections Centre. To enable people to see what is available, we have been developing our cataloguing in several areas. The Archivist has expanded the repertoire of papers now listed on our Epexio system, including some large ones: recent additions have been Benjamin Jowett and Walter Monckton. Upgrading descriptions onto Epexio also requires re-boxing, relabelling, and reviewing the papers' suitability for consultation, whether this be on grounds of sensitivity for living friends and relatives, or on those of national security. The latter came into play while preparing the papers of Bickham Sweet-Escott (1927) for access. Sweet-Escott's work for the Special Operations Executive (SOE) and later the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) means that these are being reviewed by the Foreign Office to see what can be made accessible, the

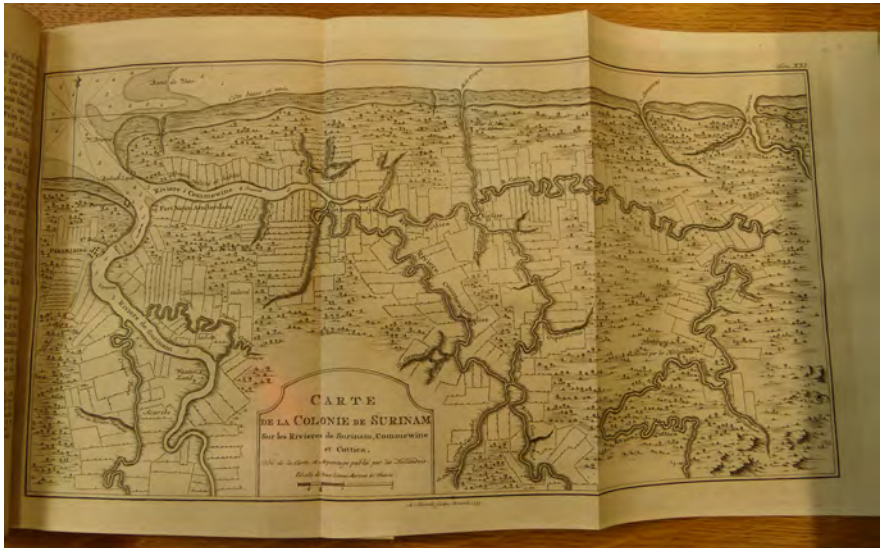
papers being a fascinating source for special operations activities and featuring correspondents such as Hugh Trevor Roper and Kim Philby. The transfer of Mynors' catalogue of medieval manuscripts to Epexio is also under way, and we hope to complete this by the end of 2025.

In the realm of printed books, a project to assess undocumented 19th and early 20th century stock in the basement has made significant progress and numerous items of interest have been made accessible for the first time, including early editions of Darwin, Faraday, Alfred Russell Wallace, Thomas Huxley and Einstein. Space freed by disposals is allowing us to store our Alumni Collection more effectively. Our Antiquarian cataloguer continues her exploration of our early modern (1450–1700) printed books, with recent items of interest including a volume of anatomical pamphlets containing Edward Tyson's *Anatomy of a Porpess*, and an 18th-century discourse on beekeeping.

Rare books purchases this year have included editions and film posters of *On The Beach* by Nevil Shute (1919) to support a forthcoming exhibition; a first edition of Graham Greene's *The Lawless Roads;* and a first English edition of Camus' *The Outsider,* introduced by Cyril Connolly (1922). Fine printings of Matthew Arnold's *The Scholar Gipsy* with drawings by Gladys Grimshaw, John Evelyn's *Memoires* by the Nonesuch Press, and Hilaire Belloc's *Ha'nacker Mill* with a woodcut by Keith Petit were also purchased. We have received donations of letters by Benjamin Jowett from David Wickham (1961), and by Russell Meiggs (Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History, 1939–1970) from Sylvia and Barry Williamson. We have also received generous donations of books on world history from Professor James Belich and from the library of the art critic Tim Hilton (1961), donated by his widow, Lynda Fairbairn.

We have had particular pleasure in receiving a very generous donation from Professor Tim Weiskel (1969, Rhodes Scholar): the 1747–1780 Hague/Amsterdam edition of Abbé Prévost's *Histoire générale des voyages, ou Nouvelle collection de toutes les relations de voyages par mer et par terre*, purchased for the Library from Maggs Brothers Rare Books.

In their original 18th century bindings, with the gilt stamp of the Northern Lighthouse Board at the top of each spine, the 25 volumes form a complete set, the type of which only three other libraries in the UK hold. If the covers are enticing, the contents are equally fascinating: a highly illustrated compilation of the geographical learning of the time, this work was widely consulted by the Francophone intelligentsia – particularly the *Encyclopédistes* – playing a significant role in shaping European knowledge of the wider world and the



Illustrated map from Abbé Prévost's Histoire générale des voyages, ou Nouvelle collection de toutes les relations de voyages par mer et par terre

study of European maritime empires.

The edition represents the culmination of complex evolution, originating in an anonymous English work of four volumes of travels published in the 1740s – in fact written by Braddock Mead, who, despite being a talented cartographer, also supported himself by gambling and kidnapping heiresses.

The early English edition was immediately subsumed into an expanded French translation by the novelist, translator, priest, and soldier, (Abbé) Antoine François Prévost d'Exiles, who added extra maps and plates, many of them drawn by Jacques-Nicolas Bellin, the leading cartographer for the French Navy.

Prévost's French edition seemed to expand before him from 10 to 13 to 15 volumes. By this time another unauthorised edition was being produced in the Netherlands, published initially by Pieter de Hondt in the Hague, that made recourse to Mead's original (and to new material commissioned from Mead), much to Prévost's annoyance, as well as adding in more revised charts and engravings.

The result – this edition, now generously donated – ran to significantly more

volumes, with the Dutch editors often responding to Prévost's attacks on their work. The entire set forms a rich and attractive source for the development of European contacts with the rest of the world, featuring 473 ethnographic, botanical, and zoological plates, alongside 289 maps, complementing the work the Library has done in exploring the legacies of colonisation from this period, and also serving as a celebration of Professor Weiskel's distinguished career in studying those legacies.

Stewart Tiley, Librarian

Gifts of publications by College Members July 2024–July 2025

M. Bartlet (1975): *Mediation and Other Forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution,* 2025.
A. Burnett (1970): *The Roman Provinces, 300 BCE-300 CE,* 2024.
M. Chisholm (1973): *A Second Lustrum of Calendars,* 2024; *Shipshaped,* 2024.
P. Corner (1967): *Mussolini in Myth and Memory,* 2022.
D. Critchley (1974): (translator) *The Mystical Meaning of the Ceremonies of the Mass* by Jean-Jacques Olier, 2024.
D. d'Avray (1973): *The Power of Protocol*, 2025.
T. de Waal (1984): (translator) *Tristia* by Osip Mandelstam, 2023.
S. Evans (1965): *A Steam Odyssey, 1961-1974,* 2023.
J. Helliwell (1974): *The Scientific Truth, the Whole Truth and Nothing but the Truth,* 2024.
P. Hacker (1965): *Solving, Resolving and Dissolving Philosophical Problems*, 2025.
E. Harris (1974): ed. (with Alberto Esu) *Keeping to the Point in Athenian Forensic Oratory,* 2025.
T. Hosking (1974): *Conceptual Descriptions Making Clear Essential Philosophy,* 2024.
D. Hutchinson (1976): ed. *Aristotle: his Life and School* by Carlo Natali, 2013; ed. (with J. Cooper) *Plato: Complete Works*, 1997.
C. Jessel (1964): *The Law of the Manor,* 3rd ed., 2024.
A. Kelly (Tutorial Fellow in Ancient Greek Language and Literature): ed. (with H. Spelman), *Texts and Intertexts in Archaic and Classical Greece*, 2024.

H. H. Koh (George Eastman Professor 2021-2022): *The National Security Constitution in the 21st Century*, 2024.
G. Lewis (1985): *First Rain in Paradise*, 2025; *Nightshade Mother,* 2024.
K. Lüddecke (1991): (translator), *The Roman Republic and Political Culture* edited by Amy Russell and Hans Beck, 2025.
G. Morriss-Kay (Emeritus Fellow): ed. (with Shankar Srinivas) *Kaufman's Atlas of Mouse Development Supplement,* 2nd ed., 2025.
J. Moynihan (1967): *Return to Growth. Volume 2,* 2025; *Return to Growth. Volume 1*, 2024.
S. Perry (Fellow): ed. *Barbara Everett*, 2025; *Matthew Arnold*, 2024.
D. Satter (1968): *Never Speak to Strangers*, Volume 2, 2024.
H. J. Sharkey (Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow 2025): *The Changing Terrain of Religious Freedom*, 2021; *A History of Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Middle East*, 2017; *American Evangelicals in Egypt, 2008*; *Living With Colonialism, 2003*.
P. Shotton (1979): *Doomed to Fail*, 2023.
R. Sutcliffe (1986): *Finding Mac,* 2024.
C. Sypnowich (1983): *G.A. Cohen: Liberty, Justice and Equality*, 2024.
D. Taylor (1980): *Lest We Remember*, 2024.
D. Wickham (1961): *Charles Lamb, 1775-1834, & his Circle: Books and Manuscripts … from the Collection of David E. Wickham*, 2025.
R. Wilson (1962): *Sum Stories: Equations and their Origins*, 2025.
R. Hokama (2009): *Devotional Experience and Erotic Knowledge in the Literary Culture of the English Reformation*, 2023.

Other gifts

Further welcome gifts were made by: Anjuman Taraqqi Urdu (Hind), John Baillie, James Belich (Fellow), Norman Coles (1957), Raji Davenport (1980), Linda Fairbarn, Jean Hilton, Ashley Jackson, David Llewellyn on behalf of Rye Golf Club, Peter Morris, Mrs. T. Sathasivam, Horst Schmieja, Duncan Taylor (1980), Constantine Archimedes Valhouli, Wedgestone Press, Tim Weiskel (1969), Tom Woodhouse, Diego Zancani (Emeritus Fellow).

We are grateful to everyone who has made a gift to Balliol Library and Archives this year.

Chapel

Preachers

Michaelmas Term

Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott, Chaplain
Revd Professor Robert Gilbert, Professor of Biophysics, Nuffield Department of Medicine
Fr Christopher Woods, Vicar of St Barnabas Church, Oxford
Dame Helen Ghosh, Master
Revd Philippa White, Precentor of Christ Church Cathedral
Revd Canon Dr William Lamb (1988), Vicar of the University Church
Revd Nick Austin, Master of Campion Hall

Hilary Term

Revd Dr Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford
Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott, Chaplain
Revd Hannah Cartwright, Associate Vicar, University Church
Revd Canon Dr Rebecca Lloyd, Canon Chancellor, Gloucester Chathedral
Revd Professor William Whyte, Professor of Social and Architectural History, St John's College
Fr Damian Howard SJ, Senior Chaplain, Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy
Revd Dr Alex Popescu (1994)
Revd Hannah Allen, Assistant Curate, Burton-on-the-Water with Clapton

Trinity Term

Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott, Chaplain
Professor Angie Hobbs, Professor of the Public Understanding of Philosophy, Sheffield University
Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott, Chaplain
Revd Professor Jane Shaw, Principal of Harris Manchester College
Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex, Assistant Curate, Holy Trinity Headington Quarry
Professor Philip McDonagh (1970), poet and former Irish diplomat
Revd Julie Mintern, Vicar of the Lambourn Valley Benefice, Oxford Diocese
Professor Heather Sharkey, Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow, Balliol College

Services for College Members

Memorial services

Martin Foley (1951, Foundation Fellow since 2007), 14 April 2025
Alan Montefiore (1948, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy 1961–1994, Emeritus Fellow since 1994), 30 May 2025

Marriages and blessings

Matilda (Molly) Kempton [granddaughter of Paul King (1958)] and Joshua Ogle, 27 July 2024
Chelsea Alice Taylor (2017) and William Jacques Thabo Lacroix, 10 August 2024
Tomas Curran (2010) and Annamika Singh, 17 August 2024
Eloise Sarah Wells (2022, DPhil Genomic Medicine and Statistics) and Dominic Charles Stafford Beer, 24 August 2024
Lukas Hermann Weierts (2022) and Esther Bisplinghoff, 31 August 2024

Christenings

Algernon Laugen-Kelly (2018), 19 May 2024
Ivo Fletcher, son of Susannah Taylor Wilkinson (2006) and Benjamin Granville Fletcher (2005), 3 November 2024
Eva Langton, daughter of Professor Matthew Langton (Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry) and Lucinda Langton (nee Duckworth), 26 April 2025

The Choir

After four years as Organ Scholar, this has been my last year with the choir. It has been a joy to lead the choir during this time and, through it, form lasting memories and friendships. I would like to take this opportunity to share some highlights from the year and reflect on my time with the choir.

During my time at Balliol, we have been fortunate to witness significant growth in music at the College, particularly within the choir. The growth has been both in numbers and ambition. The choir has expanded in size and, driven by the enthusiasm of our singers, we have introduced a Chamber Choir over the past two years and broadened the musical repertoire.

These developments came together powerfully for our Advent Carol Service. This year, around 60 singers filled the choir stalls to sing carols and hymns. Trumpeters, string quartet, organ, and voices combined memorably in



The choir singing from the Salvin Tower on May Day

performances of the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's *Messiah* and the Gloria from Saint-Saëns' *Oratorio de Noël*.

But of course, for all our musical ambitions, the choir is unique because of its friendly, non-auditioned ethos, open to any member of Balliol. It is a collegiate community, and one memory that stands out is the warm welcome I received when I first joined as a Fresher. I felt truly welcomed from the moment I arrived. I am confident that when the incoming Organ Scholar, Jinzi Feng-Huang, joins next year, the choir will offer her just as friendly a welcome. We are fortunate that Jinzi will be joining after a year as Organ Scholar at Gloucester Cathedral. She will join Angela Ede, who returns from a year abroad in Toulouse, to become Senior Organ Scholar.

Much has changed in the choir since I began. I have been fortunate to be well-supported by the Chaplains I have worked alongside, but I would like to particularly thank Laura Biron-Scott for her contribution this year. It has been a pleasure to work alongside her, and Balliol is blessed to have a Chaplain who always goes the extra mile to support us and ensure the choir runs smoothly.

One of Laura's initiatives this year was to introduce a termly Compline service – a short, contemplative midweek service sung mostly in traditional plainchant. Joseph Barber (Assistant Organist) expertly taught the choir how to read plainchant, which uses different notation from modern sheet music, and guided us through our first service in Hilary Term. No doubt these services will continue to be enjoyed by singers and Balliol members alike.

Another idea Laura had was to join the University Joint Service for Ash Wednesday. Held in the University Church, the choir brought together singers from Balliol, University College, St Edmund Hall, and Brasenose. Singing with so many others proved a wonderfully social opportunity to meet musicians across the University. Rehearsing in the University Church was an incredible experience and a definite highlight of the year.

Laura also organised a choir/chapel trip to Gloucester Cathedral at the end of Trinity Term with Alex Binns (Lecturer in Music). It was a great chance to hear evensong in a cathedral setting and to learn more about the history of Gloucester – everyone who came learnt a lot and had a great day. I would like to thank Alex for supporting the choir and Organ Scholars during my time; his advice and musical guidance have been invaluable.

We have also sung several services and concerts for the Saïd Business School this year, including one in the University Church, in preparation for our upcoming tour to Florence in Michaelmas 2025. These concerts allow our most confident singers the chance to explore a broader repertoire and experience small-group singing. They are always a great success and warmly appreciated by the guests of the Business School.

In all, this has been a busy and productive year for the choir, which would not have been possible without the help of Tess Johnson (Choir Secretary) and the Tour Committee. Tess created the role of Secretary and has served it twice, tirelessly organising singing lessons, choir dinners, picnics, weekly emails and much more behind the scenes. We owe her our deep thanks for her tremendous contribution. Having a motivated Tour Committee has also made organising Florence far easier: Charlotte Oertel and Charlotte Garrett-Langdon have both been a great help, and Jonathan Tjandra's local contacts and willingness to step in when others had exams have been a true gift to Joe and me.

It has been a pleasure to work with Joe this year. Joe, who was Balliol's Organ Scholar as an undergraduate, has brought a wealth of musical experience to the choir, and I have learnt a lot from his style and approach. I'm especially

grateful to him for stepping in to run the choir and organise the Florence tour when I was studying for exams. I would also like to thank Ilaria Gualino (Secretary to the Chaplain) for her administrative support of the Chapel. Dame Helen Ghosh's (Master) support of Evensong and everything the choir does has been deeply appreciated and has made it a joy to be Organ Scholar at Balliol.

To finish, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all members of the choir, particularly those departing alongside Joe and me, for their dedication and camaraderie. It has been a true privilege to get to know them, and I have every confidence that the choir will continue to prosper in the years ahead.

Benjamin Gardner, Senior Organ Scholar

Middle Common Room

As I reflect on the past year, I return again and again to one conviction: Balliol remains, without question, the best place to be a graduate student at the University of Oxford. Not only because we have the Holywell Manor Graduate Centre and enviable facilities on main site, but because of the strength, solidarity, and spirit of our MCR community. This year, the MCR didn't just uphold its legacy of camaraderie, it deepened it. We've nurtured community not only within our Manor walls but well beyond them. At a time when academic communities worldwide are being challenged, undermined, or even dismantled, our MCR has responded not by retreating inward but by reaching outward. In conversations around justice, in acts of care, and in moments of joy and difficulty alike, we have insisted on the importance of showing up for one another and for the world around us.

From the earliest days of Michaelmas Term, this commitment to connection and care was evident. Our Freshers' Week team – Ellen Burstein, Kirtana Sivasubramanian, and Akari Kobayashi – set the tone for the year with imagination and warmth,, serving up a welcome feast for Freshers that had them buzzing with excitement for the year ahead. Sophia Miller, meanwhile, ensured the disabilities-welfare brunch set a high bar for hospitality, feeding both bellies and spirits. That same spirit continued at the bar, where Charlotte Jung, Harrison Jones, and Antoni Lee – the Megaron Bar's finest committee – worked at lightning speed to keep the bar stocked and flowing. Their creative pub quiz and bar crawl were highlights of the week, and their regular 'Balliol Friday' bar nights were the highlight of many a member's term. The Megaron became more than a social space throughout the year; it was also a platform for purpose. Kirtana's fundraiser for Palestine and Debbie Lemke's LGBTQIA+ bar night turned pints into action and reminded us that celebration and solidarity go hand in hand.

Vice-President Aaron Leu was a pillar of the MCR community, transforming Master's Field outdoor spaces with new furniture that turned every patch of sun into a social gathering. Treasurer Jonathan Tjandra worked similar magic in the realm of numbers, turning a careful budget into a final-year surplus – a financial feat that would make even seasoned Chancellors take note. Our Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs) were never dull, thanks in no small part to our iconic returning officer Isaac Wills' cheerful 'Howdy y'all!' call to order.

The commitment of our long-distance Secretary Conor Muller, who, despite splitting time between Paris and Oxford, ensured that agendas, minutes, and weekly notices arrived without fail.

Harry Waugh, our Sports officer, kept the gym accessible and well-maintained and ensured that our weekly yoga classes continued without interruption. It is also worth recognising the formidable effort of Henrik Austead who, despite holding no official office in the MCR Committee, organised the 'Megaron Olympics' for the second year in a row. This saw many eager MCR members compete to see whether Holywell Manor or Master's Field housed the sportiest bunch (as a Master's Field resident, I can proudly say we were victorious for the second year running!).

Our social calendar thrived thanks to Maria Pereira Da Costa, Eva Thorshaug, and Mark Eid. Between bops, wine-and-cheese nights, and formal exchanges, they ensured that even the most library-bound among us found time to dance, eat, and connect. Kat Antoniou and Justine Rayp hauled feast-worthy spreads to every OGM come rain or shine. Kat also secured a long-needed new coffee machine for the MCR, earning the eternal thanks of every caffeine-dependent graduate student for generations to come.

Our Welfare Officers Killian de Ridder and Melchor De La Cruz Rothenfußer offered restorative brunches, teas, and a wildly popular salsa night. As Arts and Research Officer, Akari similarly provided moments of distraction from the intensity of Oxford terms. From engaging movie nights to painting and pottery classes, the creativity of the MCR well and truly flourished under Akari's leadership. Meanwhile, Women's Officer Maisy Bentley brought brilliance and determination to every project she undertook. Her welfare walks to women-owned coffee shops in Oxford, and her feminist book nights provided deeply thoughtful moments to connect, and the Dervorguilla seminar she hosted was a credit to her ability to foster the recognition for the integral work women are undertaking at Balliol.

The festive spirit was alive and well thanks to Oxmas Officers Markus Baumgartner, Charlotte Jackson, and Alex Hopkins. Their mince pie ranking competition – equal parts competitive and comedic – was a seasonal highlight. Misha Schmalian ensured that those living out felt equally included, hosting regular bar nights and building bridges across postcode lines.

A special thank you must go to Valentino Gargano, our extraordinary LGBTQ+ Officer. In a year marked by challenges to LGBTQ+ rights across the world and even here at Balliol, Valentino met each moment with strength, integrity, and openness. His vulnerability and courage not only inspired those around him but reminded us all that community is measured not in comfort, but in solidarity – especially when it is most needed.



'Sunday tea' by Alex Hopkins (2024, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics), submitted for the Holywell Manor Photography Prize competition to the theme 'Lives of the Manor'

And finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Professor Elena Lombardi, our Praefectus of Holywell Manor, who has led the Graduate Centre with grace, wisdom, and kindness – and who always knows when what's needed most is simply a thoughtful conversation and a cup of tea. I am equally grateful to Catherine Shortis, her ever-helpful PA, whose care and generosity have greatly helped the MCR this year.

Serving as MCR President this year has been a profound privilege. To every member of our MCR Committee and of the broader MCR – thank you. You have made this place not just a graduate centre, but a home. I can't think of two more capable people to hand the reigns over to than Alina Nicheperovich and Markus Baumgartner, who now lead as President and Vice-President for 2025/2026. As I hand over, I do so with pride, gratitude, and no small amount of optimism for what comes next.

Britanny Gittus, MCR President

Junior Common Room

This year has been an immensely fruitful one for the JCR, with events held throughout the year and all members working together to further the beliefs of the student body. Nine General Meetings have been held this year, sparking debate on a wide range of issues, from student accommodation to the purchasing of a Wii console for the JCR. Most importantly, these meetings provided a space for members to continue to express solidarity with various communities within the JCR, in light of external events that have taken place this year.

In Michaelmas, the JCR welcomed a new group of Freshers from many different backgrounds, with the committee working tirelessly to ensure that they all settled in and felt welcomed. From hosting teas for different communities to organising 'Parents Dinners' – allowing second years to spend time with, and often mentor, the Freshers – these efforts were incredibly successful. This was reflected in the election of the new committee at the end of Michaelmas, which was dominated by those who had only recently joined the Balliol community. This demonstrates Balliol's unmatched ability to bring together students of all backgrounds, working collectively to enhance student life at Balliol, supporting each other personally and academically.

Towards the end of Michaelmas, members of the JCR enjoyed some festive cheer, including a Christmas Formal Dinner as well as 'Nepotists', an annual event where students gather in the Hall to sing Christmas carols. This brought the first term of the academic year to a joyful close, giving new and returning members a taste of what Balliol life is all about.

In Hilary, the new committee got to work continuing the success of their predecessors. This included the new Lord Lindsay, who oversaw the only student-run bar in Oxford, hosting University-wide society events and bar game tournaments such as table football. Pantry was back in full swing, with students running a pantry café four times a week, serving toasties, brownies and other treats to their peers, creating another space for students to socialise. The Entz Reps continued to host fantastic Bops, with themes such as Brit-pop, festivals, and a rave-night – each attracting up to 300 guests. Alongside this, other committee members, including the Ethnic Minority Officers, Disabilities Officers, Women's Officers and LGBTQ+ Officers hosted regular teas for their respective communities, ensuring that any issues were discussed and all members had an opportunity to talk and be heard.



The JCR Foodie Reps: Arina Makarina and Juan Carlos Dauz

In Trinity, the biennial Balliol Ball was hosted, this year to the theme of 'Star-Crossed Lovers', inspired by *Romeo and Juliet*. Around 1,000 guests attended and enjoyed an evening filled with entertainment, ranging from mini-golf and a casino to a headline performance by Toploader. Student talent also took centre stage, with performances from the Oxford Blues and musicians from Balliol's own music scene. The JCR-led ball committee worked tirelessly to deliver a spectacular event that brought together current students and alumni, even drawing national media attention.

Summer Eights went ahead in glorious sunshine, with Balliol's many teams working hard to fly the Balliol flag with pride, working through adversity to perform successfully, cheered on by many supporters at Balliol's boat house. This was just one of the many sporting endeavours that took place this year, including the annual Sports Day with our sister college St John's Cambridge, held this year in Cambridge. Teams from football, netball, hockey and rugby all competed against their counterparts to prove who is the better college, in a sporting sense.

This is just a snapshot of what has been going on in Balliol this year, with the JCR constantly looking to hold events and support each other to be the best they can. The committee has also worked successfully alongside College staff to make events safer while ensuring that student voices are heard. Attention now turns to ensuring that the new Freshers for the 2025/2026 academic year get to enjoy the very best of what Balliol has to offer.

Callum Turnbull, JCR President

Clubs, societies and sports

BAME Society

Balliol BAME Society had a vibrant and successful year, continuing to celebrate and strengthen our wonderful community. We began with our largest-ever BAME formal in Michaelmas Term, where students came together to enjoy delicious cultural food and proudly wear traditional dress. This year, we hosted a JCR-wide Diwali celebration, open to all students. It was a huge success, featuring sparklers, festive music, and a professional henna artist. It was fantastic to see the wider Balliol community come together to celebrate.



BAME Presidents and JCR Ethnic Minority Officers

Throughout the year, we ran a number of popular socials and welfare events. Our welfare teas were made extra special this year with the use of the College pantry, allowing us to serve hot samosas and chai. We also held our pizza night in Hilary Term, which remains a key event in the BAME Society calendar. This year also marked our first collaborations with other colleges. We co-hosted a BAME bar crawl and a University-wide formal at Keble, which featured a

stunning performance from a Gospel choir. These events were a fantastic way to connect with the wider BAME community across Oxford and build new friendships beyond Balliol.

In Trinity Term, we wrapped up the year with a cultural food picnic in the Front Quad, featuring a spread of dishes delivered from local restaurants representing a variety of cultures. It was a lovely end to the year, highlighting how close our community has become. This year marked one of the most active and successful years for Balliol BAME Society, and we're excited to see how the society continues to grow in the years ahead.

Nikita Handel and Harkaran Kundi, Co-Presidents

Basketball

Looking to repeat our championship victory from last year, the 2024/2025 Balliol Basketball team delivered a stellar performance during the preliminary games preceding the Cuppers playoffs tournament. With a 6–1 record heading into the single-elimination bracket, spirits were high – but as a team, we knew that the job wasn't done until the final buzzer sounded.



Balliol College Basketball Club members

The first round of competition started with a dominant win over St. Cross, followed by a rout of Linacre. After a rough first half in the semi-finals against Wolfson, Balliol showcased its grit and determination by overcoming a double-digit halftime deficit with intense defensive effort and slippery off-ball movement. As the game ended, we knew we had reached the end of the line: a match against the Oxford African and Caribbean Society (ACS) for the title.

Unfortunately, even with our biggest turnout of the year, Balliol's resilience and chemistry simply could not keep up with the athleticism and three-pointer accuracy of ACS. While we didn't manage to win the game, we fought hard and fully showcased why we were a championship-calibre team. As the captain of the squad, I am beyond proud of the effort we put in during the year. I can say without doubt that each and every one of our players have the determination and grit to make it far – both in future tournaments and in whatever field they decide to pursue. It has been a blessing to play with this group, and I await the successes that are sure to come.

Kyle Tsang, Captain

BUMS

The Balliol Undergraduate Mathematics Society (BUMS) has continued to flourish during this academic year. If you hear a hubbub of students in the JCR, chances are they're mathematicians – BUMs, formally – wearing a lowercase omega (ω) with pride. We host fortnightly 'Sip and Solve' sessions, where we rummage the local Tesco for snacks to munch on, whilst working on our problem sheets together. This year has seen a seismic shift in the snacks meta: Lotus biscuits and tea have emerged as highly beloved for the Sip and Solves; a one-off hot chocolate smorgasbord also proved to be a very popular treat!

BUMS is a unique college society in that very few other colleges have such a vibrant community of mathematicians that gather *en masse* for these socials. Staple to BUMS is 'BUMS on Ice' – skating in the local ice rink. This season of BUMS also saw the return of board game nights, our second JCR/MCR speaker event, and the new 'BUMS on Walls' at the new local climbing centre. Perhaps the most exciting of them all was the 'BUMS Bake-Off', which was judged by none other than our tutors – and even one tutor's daughter to balance the refined palettes of the tutors with a demand for more sugar!



BUMS Hilary Term formal

To top the year off, in Hilary we had the annual BUMS Dinner. This year we were honoured to have Emeritus Professor at the Open University, though more importantly former BUM, Robin Wilson (1962), to be our guest speaker: he captured our attention with his entertaining exposition of the Four Colour Problem. A wonderful formal followed, at which we sang the BUMS anthems (which Robin wrote as a student!) and presented the BUMS Awards. I look forward to the next year of BUMS, and how the next committee will breathe their own life into it.

Luke Corey, President

BEERS

This year began as they always do, with a start-of-Michaelmas dinner to welcome in the new batch of Balliol engineers. We returned to the ever popular Chutneys, enjoying a wonderful night of introductions, reunions, and excellent curry.

In February of this year, we held the annual BEERS dinner in the SCR. As always, this was a brilliant event, bringing together undergraduates, postgraduates, tutors, and alumni alike. Aside from getting all the engineers in one room, it was also a chance to select the incoming BEERS president. Following some intense cup stacking, spaghetti tower building, and Balliol engineering trivia, Dan Collins came out victorious. Not only did he inherit the metaphorical BEERS crown, but he collected the actual BEERS hard hat, which was miraculously returned at the previous dinner.

This year has seen the continuation of BEERS' excellent traditions, and I am proud to see it remain one of the most active subject societies within Balliol. Long may it continue!

Dylan Jubb, President

Men's football

This year has been another great one for the Balliol JCR Men's 1st XI. Having reached the Cuppers Plate semi-final and finished just one point short of back-to-back promotions, the boys can be proud of our efforts, especially given the influx of new players after a mass exodus of seniors last season. While silverware narrowly eluded us, the season should certainly be considered a successful one nonetheless.

Michaelmas saw us leap into a strong position, entering our league campaign with a fresh group of players filled with gusto and ambition. We lost just one league game this season, and quickly established ourselves as a force to be reckoned with. Our midfield trio – Samuel Glossop (our esteemed club president), Charlie Cox, and Oliver Sutcliffe – were particularly outstanding. Everything seemed to be going perfectly, but disappointment came with a round of 16 Cuppers exit, cutting short our aspirations of glory.

Regardless, we pushed on into Hilary, continuing our strong league form and beginning a Cuppers Plate drive that saw us defeat University College and The Queen's College to reach another semi-final. In addition to our midfielders, noteworthy performances came from Alfie Moore, Dan Collins, and Karlton Charles, all helping to keep us within touching distance of silverware in two competitions. Despite emphatic victories over Pembroke, St. Hugh's/ Wadham, and New College – and entertaining league draws with St. Hilda's (who had knocked us out of Cuppers) – frustrating stalemates with some

of the weaker sides in the division ultimately cost us promotion. Our Plate semi-final, delayed by bad weather until Trinity, ended in a loss to a strong Brasenose side who went on to win the competition, but we can still look back with pride at a great series of results up to this point.

The Easter vacation brought with it the highlight of the BCFC season – our tour to Madrid. 25 members of the club travelled to Spain on a trip that truly offered everything: a narrow 1-0 loss to semi-pro side FC Britanicos, a memorable five-a-side tournament in the grounds of the Royal Palace, and plenty of time bonding and enjoying local culture. Other season highlights included the annual Old Boys game, in which a thrilling 4-4 draw saw the alumni win on penalties, and a game between the first/second years and the rest of the College, which again saw the older side take the win in an entertaining game that finished 6-4.



Balliol College Men's football team with FC Britanicos in Madrid on tour

It has been a true pleasure to captain BCFC this year, and while we narrowly missed out on silverware, I know everyone had a fantastic time. I want to thank every single one of the boys who turned up to play for us, whether it was every week or only when called upon to help fill out the numbers. Thanks also to Todd Lepelley, who did a great job keeping Jowett in good condition – he must take a fair deal of credit for our remaining unbeaten at home in the league! Next year we retain almost our entire team, and there is no reason why we should not push for Cuppers glory and promotion to the top division of college football. I, for one, am excited.

Luca Ryan, Captain

Hockey

As the last players of the successful 2019/2020 campaign departed the team this year, the 2024/2025 season at the Balliol College Hockey Club marked both the end of an era and the start of an exciting new chapter. The fresh team was immediately put to the test in Michaelmas Term in the always exciting match against our sister college, St John's Cambridge, managing to achieve an impressive, unprecedented, and well-earned draw.



Balliol Hockey team members with Old Members in alumni match

Back in Oxford, initial success in the league was limited, with Balliol finishing on the lower half of the bracket in Michaelmas Term. This did not deter the rejuvenated squad however, and by the end of Trinity Term, in an excellent display of sheer fortitude and resilience, the Balliol team had climbed all the way to the consolation final to reach fourth overall in the Cuppers tournament.

Of course, the highlight of any hockey year has undoubtedly always been the traditional alumni match. Instead of offering our own summary, I would like to share this excerpt from one of our alumni, capturing the spirit of the day:

'If afternoons can be sultry, this fitted the bill. And if we can describe an afternoon where running around a full hockey pitch, having not (in most cases) done so in twelve months or more, would make you long for a cool glass or two of something refreshing after, this would be it. A fine tradition.

'There was plenty of running. There was some mixing and matching of teams when it got a bit lopsided. There was a lot of dribbling. There was a fair share of achy reaches for the ball. There were plenty of open goals left gaping, fine saves and goals by the bucketload.

'I haven't got a clear idea of the score – it was a huge number against a fairly similar number, which is also another familiar tradition. But hockey, and the tradition of Balliol/Univ old versus young hockey, with all its intricacies and history and nuances and tales, was undoubtedly the winner.' - Mark Annear (1999)

Arthur Platschorre, Captain

Medical Society

Balliol has seen another successful academic year, with many Old Members returning for the annual dinner in October. This year, we were immensely lucky to host Professor Piers Daubeney (1982) and Dr Bristi Basu (1990) for our annual seminars. They spoke about the involvement of Balliol alumni in cutting-edge cardiology and oncology. In addition to these fantastic seminars, it was a pleasure to speak to so many of you at the dinner. We are especially grateful for your support in ensuring that this excellent event remains financially accessible to current students.

The Society also hosted some outstanding FHS presentations for the Wurtman Seminars this year, covering a wide range of topics including neuropathology, molecular virology, and clinical service audits. I was honoured to receive the Wurtman Prize – by a very small margin. Furthermore, the Al-Shami meal has returned to the late Professor Nye's favourite restaurant in Jericho. Current medical students were astounded by the esteem in which Professor Nye is still held by the restaurant staff.

I'd like to congratulate Danish Malik and Helen Hall, the two newest alumni of the Balliol Medical Society, who will shortly be beginning their first foundation placements after completing clinical school this year.

I anticipate that the society will be in contact towards the beginning of the next academic year to invite you to our annual dinner. If you are an Old Member who would be excited to present your recent work in medical science to inspire the next generation, please contact the Society over the summer at: towa.matsuda@balliol.ox.ac.uk/oliver.milroy-goulding@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

It has been a pleasure leading the society this year alongside Samuel Santhouse, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our events next year. I leave you in the capable hands of our newly determined co-presidents, Towa Matsuda and Oliver Milroy-Goulding.

Conall Islip, President

Netball

Netball has certainly thrived this year at Balliol, helped by the influx of Freshers we welcomed at the beginning of the academic year. This enthusiasm was sustained by our weekly socials, which helped the Freshers become acquainted with College life and form bonds with students both in their year and above. We also saw strong interest in the weekly games held at Worcester courts, and we secured third place in the University-wide league during Michaelmas Term and fifth place in Hilary.

One of our best games was played against St John's at our annual Sports Day in Cambridge, the closest match this year. Despite leading in the first three quarters, we narrowly lost in the final minutes, but we're looking forward



Balliol College Netball Club members

to the 2026 rematch at home.

We organised even more training sessions over the course of the year, culminating in a busy Trinity Term as we prepared for the mixed and women's Cuppers tournaments. These clearly paid off and we placed joint third in the women's tournament – a testament to our strength and teamwork. Despite only forming our mixed team this term, we also went on to win two out of our three games, all of which were closely contested.

As a committee, we are all extremely proud of the Netball Society this year and can't wait for Balliol to keep building on our current momentum.

Elizabeth Pass, Captain

Men's rowing

In many ways, Oxford rowing suffered from a second year in a row of excessive flooding and rainfall. While our 1st boats were mostly sheltered away, safely training in Abingdon, our novices were met with a slower start to their year with the annual Tamesis Regatta, formerly the Michaelmas Novice Regatta, and all but the top three divisions of Torpids being called off. Despite that, recruitment efforts were strong, and Michaelmas Term saw 40 novices sign up on the men's side.

Our 1st VIII continued to train throughout Michaelmas and Hilary Terms as much as the weather allowed, and after last year's complete cancellation, many of us were excited to take part in Torpids for the first time! We rowed over in 7th on day one, then falling prey to a bump and a double bump in the middle of the week, before rowing over by less than a canvas on the final day to deny Jesus blades.

Over Easter, we embarked on a weeklong training camp to the Lake District, where we were hosted by the wonderful Lakeland Rowing Club on Derwentwater. The views were breathtaking, and with a fleet of eights, fours, and small boats, we more than made up for the lost water time over the winter. Our enthusiastic novices on camp picked things up quickly and the club was slowly starting to look ready to impress at Summer Eights.

Come Trinity, bolstered by this year's novices, the men's side had enough rowers to field four boats qualifying for Summer Eights – for the first time since 2017 – and a newly formed 5th VIII even began training! Our 1st VIII





TOP M1 at Summer Eights

BOTTOM M2 in the Lake District

was excited to welcome back this year's stroke seat of the Lightweight Blue Boat, Will Reilly, and, following in his example, we quickly developed as a crew. Come Summer Eights, with strong row-overs on the first and third day, and two unfortunate bumps, our 1st VIII finished 10th on the river. Our 2nd VIII had a similar fate, moving down from 2nd to 4th in Division 4, after being bumped by two strong 1st VIIIs from other colleges. Our 3rd VIII was overbumped on the first day after becoming tangled in the side of the river but was happy to get a bump on New College later in the week. Our 4th VIII, which welcomed back several recent Balliol alumni, alongside current students, won blades in Division 7!

The enthusiasm from everyone in the club has carried us through another tough year for training and has left us in good stead for the years to come. Special thanks go out to our Vice-Captain, Lucas; to all our wonderful coxes; and to coaches Quin and Toby, without whom this amazing year would not have been possible.

Eli Arie, Captain

Women's rowing

This year proved to be another significant chapter for the Balliol College Boat Club (BCBC) women's crews. Starting the year with many returning seniors and keen novices, training began immediately, and we had a strong showing in Autumn Fours, losing to St Edmund Hall in the final by just one foot.

Moving into Hilary, we got more water time, preparing two VIIIs ready for Torpids. However, due to rain, the lower Torpids divisions were cancelled, so W2's only race was their strong showing in Rowing On, which qualified them for Torpids proper. W1 had remarkable success in Torpids, pushing up from 5th to 2nd in Division 2, setting us up to push into Division 1 in 2026!

Trinity Term saw our four Oxford University Boat Club (OUBC) athletes return, another four members join the OUBC Development Squad, and motivation for training skyrocket. Coming into Summer Eights, W2 qualified in Rowing On and had a strong campaign – unfortunately getting bumped the first three days but spectacularly holding off St Peter's on the final day. W1 had another record-breaking campaign, moving from 7th to 5th on the river, leaving us in our highest position since 2013. With the expertise of our Blues, we posted the fastest race time ever for a women's crew rowing upstream on the Isis, and with eight of the nine athletes returning next year, we eagerly





TOP Moment W1 bumped SEH W1 at Summer Eights
BOTTOM W2 on the last day of Summer Eights

anticipate being in range for Headship in 2026.

BCBC women's team is standing very strong going into next year, with many returners and rowers training with OUBC, and we look forward to continuing our momentum.

Julia Bellardo, Captain

Rugby

Now in the second year of our merger, the Hertford College and Balliol College Rugby Football Club, (HCBCRFC) has once again gone from strength to strength.

The season began with an action-packed and unforgettable tour of Malta. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the trip was our match against Overseas RFC. Acclimatising to the conditions – and to the strength, speed, and breadth of our opposition – certainly posed a challenge. However, the commitment, skill and grit of the team were on full display. The nail-biting game went right down to the wire, ending 22-20 to the boys in red and blue. A special thanks goes to John Collis, Ben McDermot, Stephen Delia and Mark White for all of their work organising the tour and getting the team prepared for this historic win – one that will certainly go down in the history books.

Moving into the regular season, the club has had outstanding success in the league. Retaining our position in Division 1, HCBCRFC went undefeated, with strong victories over St Peter's RFC and Keble RFC. In addition, the consistency with which Hertford and Balliol have been able to run out with a full squad has been excellent. Sadly, across the University, participation in rugby has been dropping. However, the club has been spared amalgamation with another college. An enormous achievement in and of itself.

Alongside our regular season fixtures, Hertford and Balliol were honoured to be invited back to play in the Oku Trophy, hosted at Richmond Park. A memorial event for Japanese Ambassador Katsuhiko Oku (Hertford 1982), HCBCRFC once again faced London Japanese RFC and Kew Occasionals.

Connor Mair, Captain

Squash

The Balliol College Squash Club enjoyed another successful year, marked by a strong showing in Cuppers. In an effort to defend Balliol's title as Cuppers champions, the team secured convincing wins over St John's and St Anne's in the first rounds. Unfortunately, the run came to an end with a narrow loss to Brasenose. Well done to Mark Eid, Alex Gunasekera, Quentin Gueroult, John Ek, Joel Crewe, Mukund Soni, Jai Goyal, Vasil Zelenkovski and Will Eckford for putting on an impressive level of squash throughout the tournament.

Cyrus Linden, Co-Captain

Younger Society

The Younger Society has once again had an excellent year, featuring a range of events enjoyed by Balliol's law community. The annual Michaelmas dinner and reunion was a highlight for Balliolites, both past and present, and we were particularly delighted to welcome Professor Helen Scott (1999), Regius Professor of Civil Law at the University of Cambridge, as our honorary speaker. Professor Scott gave an interesting and thought-provoking speech on the developments and struggles of women in law. We also enjoyed the opportunity to be hosted by Sullivan & Cromwell at Browns Brasserie for a fabulous dinner, at which Balliol lawyers were given an insight into life at the firm and the field of corporate law. Another highlight of Michaelmas was the Ellesmere Mooting Competition, in which this year's Balliol team, comprised of Tristan Hood and Harry Lucas, advanced to the finals.



Younger Society Garden Party

Although the usual Hilary formal did not go ahead due to unforeseen difficulties, the Trinity Garden Party was a particularly wonderful end to the year and a sunny send-off to our finalists at the conclusion of their degrees. We are especially 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. We sincerely look forward to the coming year.

Tristan Hood, Secretary

Features

Inclusivity, enjoyment, and camaraderie before excellence: the 1981 Balliol Erratics

Symon Riley (1979, Balliol Erratics Secretary 1981)

The 1981 Balliol Erratics approach

The Balliol Erratics are an interesting concept, though challenging to pin down. A cricket team, yes – but from my experience also a collective, a social club, a bonding experience, and an opportunity open to all at a time when such openness was not commonplace. They are certainly worth investigating and I am not the first to try.[1] I celebrate the 1981 vintage; it is what I know.



Balliol members being erratic[2]

1981 is probably filed under 'interesting times'. The Soviet Union had invaded and was trying to subdue and hold Afghanistan; there was no hint of the end to the Cold War. There was turmoil in the UK: Bobby Sands died on hunger strike in HMP Maze, and there were riots in London (Brixton), Liverpool (Toxteth), Birmingham (Handsworth), Leeds (Chapeltown), and Manchester

(Moss Side). It was the year Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer, and *Vienna* by Ultravox was kept off the number one chart slot by *Shaddup You Face* by Joe Dolce. There was no World Cup or Olympics, but *Botham's Ashes* meant it was the year cricket became mainstream news. With that in mind, let's consider some cricket enjoyed by Balliol members – maybe providing pleasant memories, a wry smile, or perhaps even a kernel of meaning.

First, though, I want to mention the Balliol College Archives at St Cross Church (at the corner of Manor Road and St Cross Road, Oxford). They have a mountain of Balliol-related information, dating back to the College's formation. The staff are helpful and it is simple enough to book a visit. Although, if you visit in winter, do take warm clothes! While searching for corroborative details, I discovered the Archives don't have a complete set of 1981 scoresheets.[3] So, a plea: if you know where any scoresheets are, please could you let me know, or, if you can, send them to the Archives. Anyway, it is because of the College Archives that most of what is written is true, and if not true, at least referenceable. I also want to thank those who took the time to provide information and input[4] – but any errors are my own and nobody else's!

In the early 1920s, the Erratics reformed after the War. A tutor[5] told his student[6] that he had invented the Balliol Erratics in the late 19th Century (either 1898 or 1899). The original rationale from the 19th century isn't recorded, though that has constantly changed, with a variety of approaches adopted: selecting only non-cricketing sportsmen, targeting a multiplicity of nationalities, playing to lose, and even a traditional second eleven. Against this backdrop, the 1981 Balliol Erratics adopted a philosophy, derived from the conviction that cricket is a 'good thing' and the world would be a better place if it was shared. From this emerged the fundamentals of our approach:

1. As many people as possible should play.
2. 'Playing' should involve more than standing in a field interrupted by tea; everyone should have a chance to bowl or bat, ideally both.
3. As much cricket to be played as possible, certainly enough fixtures to enable points 1 and 2.
4. The opposition is respected, so every team should be capable of all four results (win, draw, lose, and ideally, tie) against their opponents of the day.

Naturally, we needed players. In 1981, this was achieved by pinning paper on notice boards, asking for names, and, in this instance, specialisms. Within a week, there were 63 names. Some responses were straightforwardly cricketing (Greenwood: '*wicketkeeper*'); others directly useful (Loh: '*car driver*'); and more were an illustration of our selection challenge (Telford: '*left-hander (that's it I'm afraid)*', Miller: '*all-round incompetence*', Yates: '*pending failure to get into the England XI*', and Humphrey: '*immune from boycotts having not played in SA*').

That suggested we needed fixtures to accommodate up to 80 players. We needed 'cricketers' for each fixture, including a wicketkeeper, and, to be competitive, people who would reliably contribute runs and wickets. We also needed non-playing roles such as umpiring and scoring. This meant including around five new or occasional cricketers per match, requiring around eighteen matches. Factoring in wash-outs, cancellations, and the unpredictable availability of occasional cricketers, I needed to arrange at least twenty fixtures in the eight weeks of Trinty Term.

I want to acknowledge two people in particular: Peter Andrews (1976) and Rob Waller (1974). As captain, Andrews played 17 matches; that in itself is no hardship. However, if you have ever been responsible for a team (considering the approach above), you may understand the challenges he faced. Just because eleven people have agreed to play and said they know what, who, when and where, that is not to be taken for granted (there were no mobile phones in 1981). Constant organising was needed before, during, and after a match, including coordinating tea and after-match drinks, and deconflicting with the 1st XI, who (of course) had first call on the Masters Field. Maybe Junior Research Fellows had more free time than undergraduates? Waller played 14 matches, captaining on several occasions, and also served regularly as a scorer both in the matches he played and in some he did not. More interestingly, he was, at the time, part of the Magdalen Senior Common Room. Indeed, he went on to serve as Captain and then twice as Secretary for the Balliol Erratics whilst at Magdalen, Trinity and Wadham (1984, 1985 and 1986 respectively). Again, perhaps, the relative workloads of the SCR and JCR were a factor? I should add that Waller had also served as Erratics Secretary in 1977 during his Finals term at Balliol – so perhaps not.

How the Season unfolded

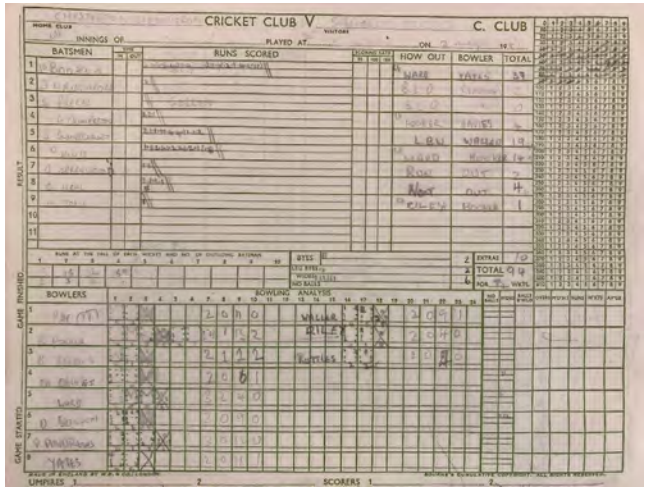
In terms of results, the 1981 Balliol Erratics had a balanced season; winning or drawing just over half their matches. This indicates that at least one element

of the approach was successful, the selected teams were reasonably, but not unreasonably, competitive. Over the season (some fixtures home and away), our opponents were:

> Charlton-on-Otmoor, Chesterton & Wendlebury, Christ Church Warrigals, Corpus Christi I, Exeter Busters, Hertford II, Lincoln Imps, Magdalen III, Mansfield I, New College Incogniti, Queens Quondams, Worcester II, St Johns College (Cambridge), Balliol Erratics, Balliol Senior Common Room, Open University, Oxford Polytechnic, Oxford University Cricket Society, Oxford University Women, London Erratics.

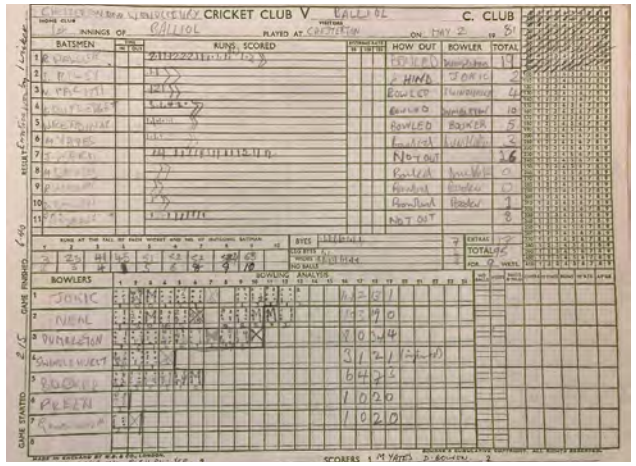
A tie, the 'perfect' result, was never achieved, although it came close a number of times. Scoresheet photographs (see (a) and (b)) of 2 May 1981, Chesterton Playing Fields, near Bicester, illustrate this: all four results were possible throughout the match.

All eleven Erratics bowled at least two overs, dismissing Chesterton and Wendlebury for 94 (a). This was a reasonable total; the long grass in the outfield meant it was difficult to score anything more than a single. Batting second, everyone batted and the Erratics won by a single wicket (95 for 9) (b).



(a) Chesterton and Wendlebury Innings 2 May 1981, Chesterton Playing Fields

There were many great games, and importantly 'moments', from the 1981 Balliol Erratics season, some worthy of an article in their own right. Here are a few short examples: a player hitting the ball through the infield, dropping their bat and heading towards cover; a hat-trick; Elena Ceva's and Fernando Dos



(b) Balliol Erratics Innings 2 May 1981, Chesterton Playing Fields

Aidos's last wicket stand for a draw; a classic straight drive (see (c)); 'dead batting' a 15-ball final over to achieve an unlikely draw; individual scores of 50 plus; the celebrations when a professor, after many innings over multiple seasons, finally scored a run; a trip to St John's College Cambridge; Magdalen and Christ Church teas.



(c) Classic straight drive (well, in monochrome anyway)[7]

There was a wide range of capabilities, and most people played once or twice, so averages aren't very informative. For example, Donnelly batted once,

66 not out, giving an average of infinity. That said, Airlie, Nel and Sykes also batted once for not-out scores of 4, 3 and 5 respectively, giving the same average. Bishop batted once, 0 not out, an average of…? Even so, cricket is a game of statistics, so below are averages for bowlers (with at least 12 overs and 4 wickets) and batters (at least 5 innings).

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Ward	16	3	35	7	5.00
Cranmer-Brown	37.1	12	105	13	8.08
Kay	16	3	42	5	8.40
Skillicorn	18.2	4	47	5	9.40
Yates	14	0	58	6	9.67
Swanson	35	8	99	10	9.90
Gambles	15	0	72	6	12.00
Telford	24	2	60	5	12.00
Riley	27	1	83	6	13.83
Waller	34.4	5	145	8	18.13
Hooker	33.2	8	112	6	18.67
Hanks	24	2	81	4	20.75
Dos Aidos	25.2	3	87	4	21.75
Andrews	62.3	9	221	9	24.56

Bowling Averages - 1981 Balliol Erratics (bowled at least 12 overs and took 4 wickets

	Innings	50s	Top Score[8]	Runs	Average
Riley	9	2	91	256	36.57
Cranmer-Brown	9		36*	213	30.43
Andrews	17		45	185	16.82
Harnett	5	1	55	80	16.00
Telford	5		27	47	15.67
Waller	14		35*	170	13.08
Hanks	7		29	79	11.29
Hooker	6		38	53	10.60
Swanson	6		12*	43	8.60
Yates	9		15	60	8.57
Pacitti	5		11	25	8.33
Greenwood	8		14*	50	8.25
Delahunty	8		31	62	7.75
Readings	5		20	33	6.60
Davies	6		20	39	6.50
Gambles	5		5*	16	5.33
Bowen	5		10	20	4.00
Loh	5		5	8	1.60
Dos Aidos	6		3	3	0.75

Bowling Averages - 1981 Balliol Erratics (batted in at least 5 Innings)

Outcome of the 1981 Balliol Erratics approach

The most important statistics are those that measure how well the 1981 Balliol Erratics enacted their 'as many people as possible should play' philosophy. To that end:

- 89 people played
- 89 bowled
- 86 batted
- 81 either scored a run or took a wicket
- 78 scored at least one run
- 54 took at least one wicket
- 23 cricket matches were played, three games a week

The 1981 Balliol Erratics tried to evangelise for cricket, to be inclusive, and to value everyone who wanted to 'have a go', with an element of enjoyment. I judge they achieved this, though probably not perfectly, nor efficiently. However, it seemed (and still seems) to be worth trying and to embody a broadly positive way to approach life. (Maybe there is a kernel of meaning after all). Another measure of the Erratics' success that season is the unintended consequence that, in 1981, more people represented Balliol at cricket than they did in rowing, football, rugby, bridge, chess, or were even reading PPE.

The 1981 Balliol Erratics, take a bow. You were:

Andrews, Airlie, Alade-Loba, Banner, Bannerjee, Bish, Bishop, Bond, Bowen, Brann, Brown, Bunten, Cairns, Ceva, Chipman, Cranmer-Brown, Creer, Davies, Delahunty, Delofski, Dewhirst, Dick, Dodds, Donnelly, Dos Aidos, Edwards, Eyre, Farndon, Fisher, Fox, Fraenkel, Gambles, Goldhill, Gordon, Green, Greenwood, Hanks, Harnett, Harrison, Helfer, Hooker, Hopwood, Humphrey, James, Jeavons, Kay, Kelvin, Kennedy, Kent, Lewis, Loh, Mainwaring, McCabe, Miles, Miller, Mirzoeff, Nel, Pacitti, Parker, Prichard, Pringle, Readings, Reid, Rham, Riley, Roth, Rutledge, Shotton, Skillicorn, Staak, Stallman, Strivens, Swanson, Swift, Sykes, Telford, Thomas, Thompson, Ventress, Walker, Waller, Ward, Warren, Whitehouse, Wilding, Williams, Wilson, Wood, Yates.

1. *A Long Innings* by R.J. Waller (1974) and B.P.A. Andrews (1976), 1983 Balliol College *Annual Record*
2. Photograph by Neil Riddiford (1979)
3. The Erratics scoresheets from 1980 and 1982 appear complete, if the Captains or Secretaries are interested, respectively, Andy Hanks or Richard Fisher, and Graham Woods or Peter Telford.
4. Neil Riddiford (1979), Peter Andrews (1976), Robert Waller (1974), Yingying Jiang (Balliol College Publications and Communications Officer), Carol Riley (wife) who is really not keen on cricket, and Jan Dekker (Writer for brands and business) who is.
5. Sir Arthur Wallace Pickard-Cambridge. Classics Fellow at Balliol College (1897-1929), and an authority on the theatre of ancient Greece. British Academy fellowship record, archived at the Wayback Machine.
6. R.B. MacEwan (1918). An Erratic himself, was confident in his tutor's assertion of inventing the Balliol Erratics.
7. Photograph by Neil Riddiford (1979)
8. * Indicates not out

Dance to the tune of life: reflections of a Balliol person on the Northern Ireland peace process

HE Philip McDonagh (1970)

Introduction

Seamus Mallon told me once that a peace process is working when many citizens believe they have something useful to contribute: 'It's like more and more people coming onto the dance floor.' The title of this article, 'Dance to the Tune of Life,' is taken from a book by Balliol's Denis Noble (Emeritus Fellow). Professor Noble and Tony Kenny (Master 1978–1989) have been working together for many years. Denis demonstrates that in systems biology, there is no privileged level of causation within a multi-level set of interactions. Tony's focus is on human communication; there is no private language. Both in the physical realm and in our apprehension of meaning, things come together in ways that are not random and yet do not reveal a measurable chain of causes. This 'dance to the tune of life' resonates with Mallon's image of people coming onto a dance floor as they gain in confidence and trust.

Speaking in Belfast in April 2023, US Senator George Mitchell stated that 'peace is a true idea'. The Good Friday Agreement is not just a 'political fix' or a collection of ideas strung together skilfully to please various constituencies. The Agreement is coherent and makes sense; it is a dance to the tune of life; it implies that the principles of benign political change are accessible to reason.

Balliol's pluralism, our receptivity and patience in dialogue, our belief in the possibility of action, and our light touch have enabled us to make key contributions to the emergence of the welfare state and to peace in these islands. In today's global 'polycrisis' it is more important than ever that our love of knowledge is also a door to friendship, a window on reality, and a political compass.

Reminiscences

In 1889, Balliol student Henry Harrison (1887) travelled to Ireland to visit the scene of the evictions in Gweedore. Harrison took care of Katharine O'Shea following the death of Parnell. Roger Casement was a guest in the Balliol chalet. Those to be 'numbered in the verse' include Ted Heath (1935); two Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland, Peter Brooke (1953) and Patrick Mayhew (1949); Chris Patten (1962); John Holmes (1969) in Downing Street; and Tony and Nancy Kenny and Maurice (1954) and Mary Keen of the British-Irish Association. Before turning to a conceptual argument, I offer a few reminiscences of my time at Balliol and of my diplomatic posting in London in support of the peace process.

During my four years in Balliol, conversations with fellow students covered the full spectrum of opinion in Britain and Northern Ireland. At the Oxford Union's 150th anniversary, there were friends who had witnessed W.B. Yeats's 1920 speech calling for compromise and peace. I had tea with Harold Macmillan (1912), who advocated for Home Rule in the Oxford that disappeared between the Trinity and Michaelmas terms of 1914. In the Oxford Union archives, I traced debates on the Irish Question from the days of Daniel O'Connell onwards.

The year in which I was President of Balliol JCR and of the Oxford Union, 1972, was the year that a Balliol Prime Minister, Ted Heath, laid the foundations of the peace process. Chris Smith, then President of the Cambridge Union, invited me to speak in support of John Hume at a debate on the prospects for Irish unity. Heath's seminal Green Paper had been published the previous day. At one point in my speech, I received a loud and prolonged ovation; I stared suddenly into the depths of good will, the benign *Charybdis*, out of which the peace process was born.

Soon afterwards, Oxford hosted a debate with the Taoiseach Jack Lynch and John Hume. The following day, Lynch met Heath, an ex-President of the Union, in Downing Street. The previous January, on the evening of Bloody Sunday, Lynch and Heath had had a phone conversation entirely free of the rising anger that Thucydides calls orgē. Lynch asked Heath to listen to Hume. The Lynch-Heath dialogue of 1972 yielded a political diagnosis still valid today, even if our healing process is not yet complete.

In the 1990s, I was posted to London by the Department of Foreign Affairs to work on the peace process. In February 1995, I had lunch with Peter Brooke, who had spoken well of Gerry Adams in an interview. I asked Peter about this. In 1641, travelling on horseback in Ireland, a Brooke ancestor had been surrounded by rebels and expected to be killed on the spot. She mentioned to the leader of the rebels that she was expecting a child. At once he undertook

to escort her in safety to wherever she needed to go. A baby girl was born. To recall the conduct of this man, the Brooke family gave to the baby the name 'Honor'. Peter Brooke said, 'My own sister is Honor Brooke. In speaking well of Gerry Adams, I was repaying a family debt.'

During one standoff in the marching season, I was in the Northern Ireland Office for a reception. Suddenly, I was invited to meet Sir Patrick Mayhew. Sitting on the edge of his desk, he said simply, 'I never knew it was this bad.' As I struggled to find a reply, what came into my mind was the storm at sea in Virgil in which Aeneas keeps his composure and tells his crew that one day they will look back from a place of tranquillity: *forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit*. Then I recalled that the political project of Aeneas was to enable Trojans and Latins to live at peace in the one land. A few days later, I received a letter from the Secretary of State to say that he had been to Hatchards to buy a copy of the *Aeneid*.

The principles of benign political change

In the early 2000s, the British and Irish governments agreed to bring lessons from the Good Friday Agreement to the conflict centred on the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir. As the Irish ambassador to India, I was given the role of leading this British/Irish initiative. In 2003, as part of a further British/Irish initiative, John Hume asked me to accompany him on a mission to Sri Lanka to meet the LTTE – the Tamil Tigers. Since then, I have been involved in similar dialogues in the Korean peninsula, Israel and Palestine, Colombia, and in relation to conflicts in the wider Europe. Human nature being what it is, as Thucydides would say, the truth of one situation can illuminate the truth of another.

The longer a conflict continues, the more bitter the legacy passed on to future generations. Conflict is a shape-shifting phenomenon. The infection spreads. We must think creatively here and now about a starting point for change.

Progress in Northern Ireland reflected the development of the European Union in the 1990s. The micro and the macro mirrored one another. In Colombia, the peace agreement is based on rural reform in the perspective of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Peacebuilding opens a window onto a wider truth.

Northern Ireland's peace process involved the re-framing of a problem. In the face of a binary question, whether Northern Ireland should be Irish or British, we developed a new conceptual approach focussed on cross-community cooperation in Northern Ireland, the all-Ireland dimension, and a re-imagining of relationships between Ireland and Britain. The Good Friday Agreement is primarily about relationships, not territory. For many-sided negotiations to bear fruit, personal interactions are a prerequisite.

Poetry opens a door to reconciliation by enabling us to see what Seamus Heaney terms 'the poetic truth of the situation'. In conflict, we are tempted to embrace a narrative in which our own side are the principal or sole victims. We interpret 'justice' as a pushing back, a holding of the other to account. Heaney offers us a different perspective when he brings into one phrase and one picture two iconic sets of victims: the 'innocent in gaols' and the 'police widow in veils.' This change in our perception of reality, which is also a change of temperament, can be compared to moving from a two-dimensional to a three-dimensional grasp of reality. Isaac Rosenberg writes in the trenches:

> Droll rat, they would shoot you if they knew
> Your cosmopolitan sympathies.

In this perspective, one of our main responsibilities is to imagine and enable a path to co-existence. 'Justice' can now refer to the creation of new circumstances to ensure a better future for our children. To quote Seamus Heaney again:

> *What looks the strongest has outlived its term:*
> *the future lies with what's affirmed from under.*

Peace in Northern Ireland was on the way to being realised when Heaney wrote the famous lines:

> History says, *Don't hope*
> *On this side of the grave.*
> But then, once in a lifetime
> The longed-for tidal wave
> Of justice can rise up
> And hope and history rhyme.

In the end, peace and goodness, like the beauty of a work of art, are *given*. The confidence that somehow, somewhere the seed sown by upright action will come to a ripening is central to the poetic perspective on human experience.

I hope I have said enough to lend credence to the thesis that there is useful work to be done on an *anthropological* approach to peacebuilding. We refine the principles of benign political change, which means a fuller statement of the

circumstances, better criteria of evaluation, and better modes of operation.

In the Septuagint and the New Testament, a person's capacity for looking into the truth of situations is described by the Greek words *krima* and *krisis*. In the following passage in Isaiah, the word *krisis* appears three times in the Septuagint:

> I have given him [my servant] my spirit so that he can deliver *krisis* to the peoples. He does not cry or shout or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed or quench the wavering flame. He enables *krisis* to bring about the birth of truth. He will neither waver nor be crushed until he brings *krisis* to the earth, and the peoples will place their hope in his name (Isaiah 42:1–5).

Looking to the future

Following the war in Iraq, I wrote a paper, impossible to publish at the time, on the origins of 'just war' thinking. I consulted two people: Jasper Griffin (1956, Tutorial Fellow in Classics 1963–2004, Emeritus Fellow 2004–2019) and John Hume. My argument was that Cicero's goal in tracing some lineaments of 'just war' was merely to 'soften the misery of history' (Jasper's translation of *rei tristitiam mitigare*). I recall Miriam Griffin decisively quoting Cicero's two-word commentary on the destruction of Corinth: *nollem Corinthum*.

In the speech referred to above, Senator Mitchell insists that the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement 'talks to the world' in these 'fractured times'. How might the Good Friday Agreement speak to today's war-torn world? I have two suggestions.

In the 1990s, the United States and its allies sought to blur the distinction between NATO, a military alliance, and regional arrangements under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. The vogue term was 'interlocking institutions'. But a 'common peace' is not the same as a security order based on deterrence. The values of the Good Friday Agreement can help us to find a new balance between differing paradigms of security. This would not cancel older narratives or replace existing structures. On the contrary, an *additional investment* in multilateralism will enable NATO and the European Union to better advance their original purposes.

My second suggestion follows from this. One of the obstacles to rapprochement between the nationalist and unionist traditions in Ireland and between England and Ireland is the UK's projection of military power and investment in weapons of mass destruction. Elsewhere, I have presented for consideration a scenario in which the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), with its broad agenda, flexibility, regional scope, and values-led approach to international relations, is reimagined as an innovative 'space of shared projection' in which to deliberate about the future of Europe. What if the UK and Ireland were to undertake the OSCE chairmanship in successive years, with a shared commitment to balancing differing paradigms of security, sharing the values of the Good Friday Agreement across Europe, and bringing the British and Irish worldviews into closer alignment in the service of reconciliation? So that the whole of Europe can dance to the tune of life?

Sir Patrick Mayhew's son Barney Mayhew (1983), another Balliol person, is both a former British Army Officer and a writer. Barney would know as well as anyone how to draw on British military traditions and expertise in the service of a political vision. Is it perhaps time for Balliol to convene a cross-disciplinary seminar on the future of Europe? The rhetoric that equates 'Europe' and 'European Union' should give way to a practical proposition: *the continuing success of the European Union, to the benefit of the UK and other neighbours, is an essential condition for a Europe at peace and for the progress of global diplomacy.*

Balliol in Chile

Professor Miguel Orellana Benado (JCR Scholar 1981–1985)
Professor Denis Noble CBE FRS (Tutorial Fellow in Physiology 1963–1984, Professorial Fellow 1984–2004, Emeritus Fellow since 2004)

In January 2025, Professor Denis Noble was invited to Santiago, Chile, to present 'Genes are not the Blueprint for Life'.[1] The venue was the Congreso del Futuro, the oldest and largest public gathering of its kind in South America, followed by many people in Spanish-speaking countries.

Pedro Mardones, a Chilean medical doctor, suggested to the organisers to invite Denis, whom he later hosted at a dinner party at which Denis performed songs from the repertoire of The Oxford Trobadors, including *La Sestina* of Arnaut Daniel (c 1180). Occitan is fairly comprehensible to Spanish speakers, and it was naturally fascinating to the Chileans present at the party. Denis was introduced to some of the still surviving leaders of the opposition to Pinochet's military dictatorship, who were also involved in founding the Congreso del Futuro.

Professor Noble's talk to the Congress was broadcast and is now available on YouTube.[2] Interviews followed with public media journalists and with enthusiastic young audiences (school and university students). A recurring question from these young people was: 'How do I get to study at Oxford University?'

That same week, while having his shoes cleaned, Professor Miguel Orellana Benado was shocked to see Professor Noble's picture in the newspaper. Denis had been Præfectus of Holywell Manor during the four years Miguel lived there as Junior Common Room Scholar – known as 'The Ref', short for the Refugee Scholarship. The scheme, financed by students, covered all fees and living costs for young people displaced from their countries for political reasons and applying to do graduate studies.

Miguel had originally been interviewed by Colin Lucas (then Tutor for Admission and later Master of Balliol); the late Alastair Howaston (then Senior Tutor); and Louise Collins (1979), serving as student representative. He and Denis had not seen each other since 1985. Miguel wrote to the Balliol Development Office, and thanks to their help, the two were back in touch the very next day. Thus, they were reunited – this time in Chile.

Together, they took a walking tour of downtown Santiago, passing by churches and public libraries that had been burnt during the October 2019 turmoil in Chile. On the way to Miguel's home – just a few steps away – they passed by a flat where Salvador Allende, then a member of the Chamber of Deputies, lived in 1939. That night, Miguel hosted an intimate *kabalat shabat* dinner in honour of Denis, attended by close friends and an undergraduate student.



Miguel Orellana Benado (left) with Denis Noble (right)

Under Denis's supervision as Praefectus, Miguel organised several sessions of the Praefectus' Seminars. Guest speakers featured Denis Healey (1936); Edward Heath (1935), former Prime Minister and Organ Scholar; Professor Elie Kedourie, who spoke on nationalism and Islam in the Arab countries; and Peter Shore. Miguel also suggested, and Denis approved, the placing of flower boxes in the Manor's small entrance quad.

Miguel served as President of the Oxford Students Chile Society, founded after the 1973 Pinochet coup, with Alan Angell of St Antony's College as senior member. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 was still far in the future. At the time, Balliol only had a Junior Common Room alongside the Senior Common Room – the Middle Common Room had been abolished. Such was the Cold War revolutionary mood that then flourished in Western universities.

Though a motion to install a bust of Lenin in the Balliol JCR was defeated, the revealing fact is that such a proposal was even considered. The Soviet Union seemed then to many an imposing and attractive power. The 1973 coup in Chile that sent Miguel into exile was, in his retrospective view, the turning point of the Cold War, a propaganda war between the White House and the Kremlin. Until then, after defeating Hitler, the Kremlin had won all world chess championships, took many medals in the Olympics, and led what later became known as 'the Space Race'.

In 1983, Miguel organised a picture of Holywell Manor residents to be taken. As Denis was not in Oxford at the time, a Junior Fellow in philosophy sat at the center, holding the portrait of Kenneth Bell – that Fellow of Balliol who, starting in 1929, had been the driving force behind Holywell Manor becoming the first co-ed residence at Oxford. A truly revolutionary initiative during the era of gender apartheid. Balliol male graduate students lived together with their female counterparts of St Anne's College in the Manor for decades. In the 1984 picture, Denis appears as Praefectus and Miguel as resident.



Holywell Manor residents 1984: Miguel Orellana Benado in 4th row, far left; Denis Noble in front row, far left

In the mid-1980s, no word-processing programme with floating text for footnotes was available on the market. Denis wrote one himself, called PRINFX, which could format footnotes and print many special characters, including Greek, Japanese and Cyrillic. Miguel's DPhil thesis was formatted, complete with footnotes, by running PRINFX. For that reason, Denis's name appears with thanks in the acknowledgements. For several years, many Balliol students and Fellows used this program, until eventually it was overtaken by Microsoft Word and Apple's Pages.

Miguel's DPhil thesis was on the philosophy of humour. Unsurprisingly, he was incorporated to the Arnold and Brackenbury Society and granted the title 'Papal Legate'. Chuffed by the idea of a humourous debating society, David Quintana – a student who had heard Miguel lecture on the subject – decided to establish a similar institution at the Law Faculty of the Universidad de Chile. He got in touch with Antonia Siu (2015), then the JCR Website & Computing Officer, who connected him with Eliza McHugh (2015), then Co-President of the A&B.

The Sociedad Canónigo Meneses has now been in operation for five years. The name honours a forgotten lawyer, politician, and Catholic priest, who served as the last rector of the Universidad San Felipe de la República de Chile until 1839 and became the first rector of the newly established Universidad de Chile from 1839 to 1843. In each debate, a student and an academic argue in favour of an absurd motion, while another student and academic argue against it – debates that end invariably in the victory of 'non-negative abstentions', just as in Miguel's day at the A&B.

In February 1983, during the Long Vac, the day after Antony Quinton – then Master of Trinity – was knighted, Miguel and his friend Geoffrey Carr (1980), in the early hours of the morning, hung a banner on the gates of our neighbour that read: 'Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Baron Quinton: The New Trinity?'

Floreat Domus de Balliolo.

1. Noble, D., 'It's time to admit that genes are not the blueprint for life', *Nature*, 626 (2024)
2. www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGztTzMqAVA

A Samba sermon before Lent

Delivered by Revd Dr Alexandru Popescu (1994, Pastoral Associate)
Balliol Chapel, 2 March 2025

Today is the Sunday next before Lent – the solemn period of prayer, fasting, repentance, almsgiving, and self-offering in preparation for Easter – commemorating the forty days Jesus fasted in the desert while resisting Satan's temptations. In many countries, this Sunday marks the traditional start of the carnival season, which may begin on or after Epiphany and ends the day before Ash Wednesday, called Shrove Tuesday from the requirement of being shriven in confession. This transition period is also known as *the pre-Lenten season* or *Shrovetide*. In calculating the 'days before Easter' we need to remember that, because every Sunday recalls the resurrection of Christ, all Sundays in Lent are considered 'little Easters', days of feasting rather than fasting, and are not treated as days of penance.

Reiterating a camouflaged myth

On certain days of Lent, Christians traditionally abstained from meat and poultry, hence the term 'carnival' – from the Latin *carne levare*, 'to remove (literally, to raise) meat'. Carnival celebrations are believed to have roots in pagan festivals celebrating the coming of spring. Adapted to and camouflaged within Christianity, such festivals have become a farewell to bad things, in a season of religious discipline to practise repentance and prepare for Christ's death and resurrection. Contemporary carnivals typically involve parades and street parties full of people with elaborate costumes and masks. Participants indulge in food and drink in anticipation – by contrast – of the fasting to come, as illustrated in Pieter Bruegel the Elder's *The Fight Between Carnival and Lent*. This year, Rio de Janeiro's world-famous carnival festivities are underway as we speak: today is the first day of the iconic Special Group (*Grupo Especial*) parades on Carnival Sunday and Monday.

Why do we talk in a comparative way about Lenten traditions and what do they signify for us, here and now? Historically, they seem to have developed as a continuation of pre-Christian rituals linked to the Spring Equinox. In his celebrated study *The Myth of Eternal Return* (Princeton, 1971), Mircea Eliade, a Romanian historian of comparative religions, describes the 'eternal return' as a religious belief in our ability and need to return periodically to a mythical age: we become contemporary with the mythical events and experience 'a rite of passage, from the illusory to the eternal, from the profane to the sacred, and from chaos to cosmos'. Thus, carnival is a symbol of initiation and transcendence, a celebratory participation in cosmic rhythms, movements, and orbits; a corporate joy that reflects our own inner personal renewal and wonder at the beginning of spring.

Eliade speaks of 'Survivals and Camouflages of Myth'. He describes the continuation of mythic thought within Christianity to outline specific mythic elements in 'secular' contemporary thought. In his view, the obsession with 'the return to the origins' in modern society is related to a de-sacralisation of myth. The eschatological and millenarian structures of Marxism in Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe and the way these paradigms have influenced Liberation Theology in Latin America illustrate this.

Eliade regards contemporary art and mass media, the obsession with success, the 'automobile cult' and now the 'computer cult', the 'myth of the élite' and 'Superman', as surviving myths of the modern world. In these 'camouflaged myths', secular humanity seems to explore and literally discover the meaningful, powerful, true reality of its cosmic aspirations as markers of its celestial origin.

My experience of the Rio Carnival

I had the privilege of participating in the Rio Carnival in 2005. My hosts were the friends and parents of a former psychiatric patient. A few years before, I had been at my wits' end as we did not know how to help her. I came to realise that what she needed most was to dance. So, I set up some dance sessions for her, which soon drew in other patients. When she recovered, her parents invited me to experience dancing on the Sambadrome, one of the world's largest outdoor venues, during the Brazilian Carnival.

There are fourteen major samba schools that compete during the Rio Carnival through two consecutive nights. Each school has some three to five thousand students who are given a one-hour parade schedule. A samba school is more than an educational institution; it is an association of working citizens based mostly in Rio's favelas, who work, meet, and rehearse together on a regular weekly basis prior to the carnival. Each year, many earn their livelihood through this community work – as seamstresses, painters, electricians, and carpenters who prepare the *carros alegóricos* (decorated floats), and as fashion designers, models, dancers, choreographers, and musicians who all benefit

from their festival.



Cooper Ackerly, Chapel Warden, and Alexandru Popescu at Choral Evensong on 2 March 2025

Before the event, my hosts dressed me in a picturesque costume designed and made at one of the samba schools. They crowned me in *splendór*, a feathered helmet and regalia with gold-striped wings. I cannot go into the details of that unique experience of losing oneself in the joy and the beauty of celebrating with tens of thousands of people, in the greatest show on Earth. I want to highlight the transformation which takes place when one is lifted up into another sphere, by means of what Brazilian dissident poet, singer, and songwriter Chico Buarque calls in his emblematic song *Vai Passar* (It Will Pass):

> A fleeting joy/A breathless epidemic/That was called **carnaval**.

Then, at the end of the dance marathon in the early morning, my ad hoc samba partner took my hand and led me through the tropical forest nearby to meet her large family, living in one of the hundreds of *favelas* on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro.

Reflections on the Carnaval

I want to offer a few reflections on the Rio Carnaval as a myth of eternal renewal, camouflaged within Christian Lenten traditions. As Rio is south of the equator, thus tropical, their Lent is perhaps even early autumnal – so *carnaval* is a celebration of spring only through its adoption of a northern-hemisphere Christian symbolism. The whole archetype of *carnaval* is the reversal of the ruling order, the freedom to transcend any dialectic of opposites. It's a very healthy human tradition, that sometimes everything has to be turned upside down, for the truth to be revealed. For a short span of time, for reasons of health and equilibrium, we should remember that everything has two poles or extremes. If a society is too ruling, too clean, too adapted, too moralistic, it needs a safety valve for the shadow, for the side that is crazy, to have its outlet.

Carnaval offers a space to release creatively and to sublimate the shadow within: the pagan, the promiscuous, the polygamous, the crazy, the poet, the visionary, the whatever. Instead of wasting that dark energy, it provides a structured, collective outlet. This can be dangerous, but the spirit of *carnaval* has an intrinsic wisdom: *carnaval* should never become a civil war, a loss of limits, or a loss of references. The spirit of *carnaval* is paradoxically defined by moderation, by equal distance from two extreme opposites, by equinox. An equinox occurs when the Earth's axial tilt is neither away from nor towards the Sun, placing the Sun's centre in the same plane as the Earth's equator. The name 'equinox' is derived from the Latin aequus (equal) and nox (night), because around the equinox, the night and day are approximately equally long. As an ancient ritual, carnaval celebrates self-limiting liberation, as described by one of my Brazilian hosts, a Jungian analyst and anthropologist:

> *Carnaval* starts on a Saturday and ends on a jubilant note, at Tuesday midnight. Then comes Ash Wednesday which is the opposite. When I was a boy, I remember that everybody who went to the parties would go to the church and put ashes on their heads. It's like saying: I bow down now to the duties of life. The wisdom of carnaval is that you know it is short, it will soon be over, you have to live it to the full, and to respect certain codes. It's not a moment of evil or destruction. It's about the god Dionysius who rules the theatre: it is the moment when you become an actor. You can behave as somebody who you are not. You can dress as a woman. You can dress as a Martian.

Carnaval also reflects the historical legacy of black slaves who made the syncretism between Roman Catholicism, African religions, and the Indigenous element in Brazil (before the 'Golden Law' of 1888 which abolished slavery in all its forms). *Carnaval* was the only moment when Brazil's most marginalised individuals could freely drink and dance, reversing the social order, as slaves would dress up like kings and queens:

> The *Porta-Bandeira*, the iconic woman who carries the flag of the Samba school, and her elegant partner, the *Mestre-Sala* or Samba-Host, who leads the procession on the ballet-kind of choreography at the parade: that's a royal pair and they sometimes wear a white wig, like Marie Antoinette; but it's the royal pair and they are black, like those who live in the underground of society – and even there, in the favelas, they continue to appear as the King and the Queen, as archetypal figures.

Children often begin training at ages 8–10, gradually moving up the samba-school hierarchy. Carnaval thus both reflects socio-political realities of racialised inequality and expresses archetypal myths of aspiration and reversal of the status quo, in an explosion of creative energy and affirmation of life.

The joy of the resurrection

St Luke's Gospel, with its 'reversal of fortunes', promises vindication for the underprivileged at the expense of the opulent. While hailed as 'the King who comes in the name of the Lord' (Luke 19:38), Jesus is portrayed paradoxically as a table servant who is transgressing all social norms, overturning well-established hierarchies, to fulfil the role set out for him in the Magnificat: 'He hath put down the mighty from their thrones, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away' (Luke 1.52-53).

Luke's emphasis on the lowly continues through the Last Supper with the teaching about greatness (Luke 22.24-28), and the promise of future vindication for the disciples (Luke 22.29-30). The Lucan Last Super narrative thus reconfigures eschatologically Jesus' messianic status, pointing to the new age when the Messiah would come to bring deliverance not only to the devastated nation of Israel, as prophesised by Amos, but to 'all nations that bear [God's] name' (Amos 9:12).

In *Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics* (Minneapolis, 1929), the Russian scholar Mikhail Bakhtin coined the term *carnivalesque* to describe literature shaped by the dialogic spirit of carnival – with its origins in 'folk laughter', 'folk humour' and banter, based on irreverent attitudes to the establishment of daily, non-carnival life. Bakhtin's description of carnival's propensity for suspending cultural norms is vital for understanding Lukan politics. Carnival both precedes and contains the sorrow of Lent, transfiguring it, reversing some of our false notions about Christianity, and revealing the resurrected glory of Christ.

There are two misconceptions worth addressing. First, that our Lord's life, as a Man of sorrows, was a life in which there was no cheerfulness and holy joy. Do not think that joy, God-centred joy, was absent from the Saviour, that there was no radiance of a holy smile. The Gospels indeed make no mention of Jesus smiling or laughing. Yet they are imbued with a spirit of joy that is at once deeply humane and transcendent. The whole purpose of His coming 'to take away the sins of the world' (John 1:29) and to remove the curse which was upon humankind is in order to bring us to joy, the joy of salvation. It was 'for the joy that was set before Him', that He endured the Cross (Hebrews 12:2).

Second, we must distinguish the joy of the Lord from the superficial and artificial joy commonly promoted in the church-world today: a joy based on things going our way, on getting from God what we want, a groundless and merely fickle joy. In John 16:22, Christ says: 'No one shall take My joy from you'. His joy is the deep, spiritual joy of knowing the living God and being right with this God. It is the joy of the forgiveness of sins. It is the joy of belonging to Christ by the pure grace of God. It is the understanding that even our trials are a blessing, and that death is our servant. It is the joy of the Resurrection that Christ promised to us. The Lord did not promise a life without tears. Rather, He promised us a joy of knowing God as our God: an all-embracing joy based in the knowledge of the love and grace of God shown to us in Jesus Christ. Chico Buarque's bossa nova-influenced sound and political theology fit aptly here:

> On this avenue a popular samba/Will pass each brick of this city/Will get a shiver tonight
>
> When they remember/That here immortal sambas have already passed,
>
> That here they bled from our feet/That here is the place where our ancestors did samba.

Speech given on behalf of students at the Gaudy for the years 1967 to 1973 on 27 June 2025

HE Bobby McDonagh (1972)

We, who arrived through the Porter's Lodge for the first time between 1967 and 1973, are a tad older today. We may have lost a yard or two of pace. We may be a few pounds over our best fighting weight. But it's a great joy to be able to discern, behind the gentle camouflage of the passing years, so many familiar faces.

I had a colleague in the Irish diplomatic service who, many years ago, returned to Dublin from a particularly unpleasant foreign posting. He told me that he had come home to Ireland with mixed emotions: joy and elation. I expect that most of us who have returned to Balliol today have done so with a mixture of more contrasting emotions.

On the one hand, today brings the joy of happy recollections rekindled and friendships renewed. On the other, it touches me, and perhaps many of you, with a bittersweet awareness that our vivid experiences of half century ago have grown hazy over the years and our memories more jumbled.

We probably appreciate what Dylan Thomas meant when he wrote: 'I can never remember whether it snowed for six days and six nights when I was 12, or whether it snowed for 12 days and 12 nights when I was 6.'

The names now inscribed at the bottom of each staircase are no longer *our* names. Other students these days attend *our* tutorials. We no longer appear on the team sheets in the Lodge. For the Balliol students of today, it is *we* who are the ageing ghosts whom, back in the day, we *ourselves* may have noticed in our peripheral vision, if at all, as they glided anonymously through the quads in which, as far we were concerned, they had no business.

Perhaps Shakespeare's observation was right: 'When I consider everything that grows/Holds in perfection but a little moment'.

Of course, the College has in some respects made welcome progress since our days, notably with the admission of women. Yet somehow, on a day like today, we may permit ourselves to believe that our years at Balliol were the truly golden ones.

I will focus on one thing today in these brief remarks: namely the striking fact that, even though we were a very diverse bunch five decades ago, and although we have pursued quite different paths during the intervening years, we still have abiding things in common.

Very different indeed we were in those days. We came from different backgrounds and countries. We had different interests and priorities. Inevitably, we didn't even get to know all of our contemporaries individually. Indeed, it is conceivable that some of those from the earlier years represented at this Gaudy have never, before today, been in the presence of some of those us from the later years.

The politics of Balliol students in those days covered the full spectrum, from Leninist to Trotskyist. Many of us, of course, were more centrist. There was even a rumour at the time that a few Conservative supporters were squirreled away somewhere.

We read different subjects. Some burned the midnight oil. Others tended to be well-oiled in a different sense. We went our separate ways for breakfast, between the Dining Hall and the JCR. Some played sport, including football for Balliol Dynamo, its name a nod to Moscow. Others favoured bar football or Monty Python in the TV room. We belonged to different College societies and sports clubs.

When we moved on from College, we scattered to many different winds.

Yet, for all that, there seem to me to be several profound things that unite us all, gathered here today for this Gaudy. Perhaps seven things that make us a real community rather than a random gathering of old codgers.

You have probably come across those digital photo frames that display, on a loop, a constantly changing series of pictures. The first thing I believe we have in common is that each of us has evolved, over the years since we graduated, our own mental digital photo frame in which images of the Balliol of fifty years ago flit across our mind's eye.

The images we each see are, of course, personal to our own experiences here. Yet there are surely many overlaps. Perhaps a drink in the Lindsay Bar or in the Buttery. The Library at night, whether poring over books or merely glancing in as we meandered back to our rooms through the Front Quad. Attending the Arnold and Brackenbury or some other society. Perusing the notice boards in the Lodge. Sitting outside the Master's Office waiting for handshaking. Lazing on the grass or on a bench just down the steps from where we sit today.

Our images may relate to places: to our particular rooms and staircases, to the Chalet, the Massey and Bajpai Rooms, Holywell Manor, the College Chapel, the Playing Fields, the Porter's Lodge, the Boat House. The locations

on our mental map of the College remain with us throughout our lives, as colourful and distinct as the rooms on a Cluedo board.

Many of us will particularly cherish, in our imaginary photo frames, the pictures of *people* – the many individuals who gave the College its aura and its flavour, people like Lionel and Cyril and George and Jacko and the inimitable Maurice Keen (1954, Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1961–2000).

The second and most important thing that unites us is that we had the privilege of exceptional teachers. When I received an email from the College inviting me to speak today, it was intimated that I should speak both about tutors and about notable characters. I'm delighted to be able to kill those two birds with a single stone, since Oswyn Murray (Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Ancient History 1968–2006, Emeritus Fellow), who is with us today, was, like others, both a superb tutor and a notable character. Those who read other subjects would, I know, similarly salute their tutors.

It would be misleading to say that many of our tutors are, as the saying goes, 'no longer with us'. They are still very much with us: in how we think and speak, in who we are and in our hearts. I am still particularly grateful to Jasper Griffin (1956, Tutorial Fellow in Classics 1963–2004, Emeritus Fellow 2004–2019) for comparing my essays to Rupert Brooke – 'magnificently unprepared'. And to Oliver Lyne (Fairfax Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Classics 1971–2005), for warning me against persiflage – I hope he will forgive me today.

But the third thing that makes us a community, on an occasion like this, is that we *do* remember in a special way all our Balliol friends who have moved on to the great quadrangle in the sky, where it is always summer term, where the pinball machine isn't hogged by the engineers, and where you are always given a day's grace to finish your essay. I think in particular today of Sebastian Roberts (1973), who made the address on behalf of the students at the last Gaudy attended by my year and who died shortly afterwards.

The fourth thing that we still share is this place of haunting beauty to which we return occasionally in person and more frequently in our imaginations. It is said that tigers return to locations of remembered beauty and that often that is how hunters catch them. Of the many places I have lived – and I loved them all – this is the only one that truly knows how to play on the heartstrings; and where, like tigers, we can perhaps sense in an acute way our vulnerability to Time, the most relentless hunter.

Fifth, we had the opportunity at Balliol of assimilating certain values. We were offered the encouragement and opportunity, by the intellectual integrity of our tutors and by the privilege of being a member of the College, to make later contributions in our various fields of endeavour: in which integrity was not trumped by impulse, in which success did not seek to be measured by tabloids or treasuries, and in which ambition did not subordinate moral purpose to the game of winning. I can't for the life of me think of any Balliol graduate, especially no classicist, whose contribution to political life was driven purely by a flippant impulse for self-advancement.

Sixth, by our presence here today, we are demonstrating our deep affection for this College. I know I speak for many when I say that, over the decades, I was always proud to say – and it could never avoid sounding like a boast – that I had been to Balliol.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank the Master and the College for hosting this Gaudy lunch.

I would like to pay particular tribute to you, Helen, for your years of leadership in the best job in the world. There could be no greater proof of your successful ongoing term of office than that outstanding teaching and exceptional education remain the hallmarks of Balliol.

Finally, the last point we have in common: Balliol has transmitted to all of us, whatever our academic discipline, a love of words.

In a world increasingly dominated by fake news, alternative facts, the superficiality of social media and rampant populism, that is no mean thing. Our tutors taught us – or, more accurately, they helped us to *learn for ourselves* – that words have meaning.

Many years ago, I visited the original burial place of the Jesuit missionary St Francis Xavier. The church in Malacca was roofless, deserted, and desolate. I seemed to be alone, but then I noticed in the corner a solitary, exceptionally optimistic, busker.

He was singing the old Bee Gees song:

> It's only words and words are all I have/To take your heart away.

Those simple lyrics seemed, perfectly if inadvertently, to capture the mission not just of Francis Xavier but of all those who seek to communicate their values and their truth.

The only tools that our Balliol tutors had, to take our hearts and imaginations away, were words.

In a world in which words are increasingly treated as the mere playthings of

autocrats and populists and algorithms, they could have given us no greater gift.

Nigel Sheinwald (1972) and I gently teased Oliver Lyne about his meticulous analysis of words. We parodied his efforts in that regard by suggesting that a typical question he might set for us would be 'to innote, annote, denote, connote, footnote, précis and illumine' a particular line of poetry.

But today, we renew our thanks to you, Oliver, and to all our tutors, for being remarkable advocates for the integrity and complexity of language.

In conclusion, this Gaudy has brought together our community of yesteryear, to break Balliol bread together once again. Today, 'Present mirth hath present laughter.' But we will also take away from College this afternoon one small enduring thing. We will retain, I believe, a snapshot of this Gaudy and of Balliol in 2025, to add to the digital photo frames of our imagination another image that, in the various seasons of our life, will remind us – to borrow again from Dylan Thomas – of those 'radiant, rainless, lazily-rowdy and sky-blue summers departed'.

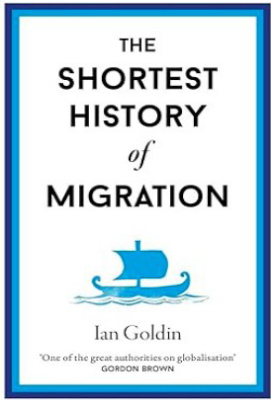
I would ask you to stand as I propose a toast to College:

Floreat Domus

The Shortest History of Migration

Professor Ian Goldin (Professor of Globalisation and Development, and Senior Research Fellow), Old Street Publishing, 2024

Professor Heather Sharkey (Oliver Smithies Fellow 2024–2025)



Individuals, groups, and the human species at large have depended on migration for survival from pre-historic times to the present, despite the many hardships that such movement entails. In *The Shortest History of Migration*, Ian Goldin advances this thesis in a compelling narrative that presents migrants as courageous and resourceful people and as bearers of 'enormous benefits' (page three) to the societies in which they have settled.

Goldin draws on his expertise as an economist in the fields of international relations and global public policy as well as on what he describes as a 'deeply personal' understanding of migrants and their plights. He dedicates the book to his grandparents, including his maternal grandparents, 'who gave up everything to flee' Austria, a country that they loved. They settled in South Africa, where he was born and where he later served as an advisor to Nelson Mandela (pages nine and ten). His family's experience informs his sympathetic approach to migration. So does his own status as a migrant who crossed international borders to work in the United States and now the United Kingdom.

The Shortest History of Migration is brief but packs a lot into its pages. Clear prose makes it highly readable. Charts, maps, and a timeline ('infographics'), along with photographs and illustrations, complement the text. The book provides recommended readings and some footnotes. The UK edition (reviewed here) lacks an index, although the North American edition includes one, which is useful since the book contains many vivid details that readers may want to go back to find. The North American edition is somewhat longer and includes more material about the United States and Canada.

The book belongs to Old Street Publishing's 'Shortest History of…' series. Works in its list range from James Hawes's *The Shortest History of Germany*

(2019) and Sheila Fitzpatrick's *The Shortest History of the Soviet Union* (2023), to Andrew Ford's *The Shortest History of Music* (2024) and Andrew Leigh's *The Shortest History of Economics* (2025). The series has won high praise for its erudition and accessibility. On the back cover, the publisher proclaims an aim to offer something to 'Read in a Day; Remember for a Lifetime'. Goldin looks set to reach this goal with his book.

Goldin is refreshingly direct in explaining his terms and arguments. He addresses 'Who is a migrant?' at both the beginning and end of his narrative and shows why an ostensibly simple term like 'migrant' covers diverse phenomena and requires nuanced analysis. He focuses mostly on physical, long-distance, and border-crossing migration, most of which has led, or will lead, to settlement. But he notes the significance of internal and temporary migrations, while in a section on the future of migration, he cites recent trends towards 'digital nomadism' enabled by telecommuting and remote work. Amid falling fertility rates and public anxieties about immigration, he cites growing reliance on robots, in lieu of humans, in countries like Japan, South Korea, and Singapore. Climate-change-induced migration is another cause for concern – for example, prompted by flooding in Bangladesh.

The Shortest History of Migration starts with a panoramic sweep of migration across human history from the rise of *homo sapiens*. Goldin summarises the latest research in archaeology, physical anthropology, and genetic analysis that tracks the movement of the species. He then surveys migratory trends in the Common Era such as those that occurred with Silk Road trade and after the rise of the first Islamic empire in the seventh century. A substantial chapter covers migrations that occurred through enslavement especially in the Islamic world and the Americas. He covers indentured servitude, as from India to British colonies in the Caribbean and Malaya; the export of convicts, as from Britain to Australia; the recruitment of contract laborers, such as from Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Malawi to mines in South Africa; and forced resettlement for state- and empire-building, as in the Soviet Union, in places such as Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Siberia. He considers migrations occasioned by recruitment for national and imperial militaries. Here he acknowledges the hundreds of thousands of African, South and Southeast Asian, and Arab soldiers who served in European armies during the two 20th-century world wars, or, later, soldiers sent from Cuba to Angola in the Cold War.

The book's middle section focuses on the mid-19th century through the early 20th century, which Goldin calls the 'age of mass migration'. Migration

accelerated in response to 'unprecedented unrest, pogroms and famines as well as new opportunities created in colonies' (page 114). In retrospect, this acceleration was possible because states posed relatively few barriers to entry while technologies for communication and transport, such as telegraphs and steamships, quickened the circulation of people and information. So many people left Ireland alone, from the 1840s famine until 1900, that the country's population saw 'a loss not reversed to this day' (page 123). However, as rates of migration increased, barriers rose. Countries began to require passports, especially after the First World War. Visas became common later.

Regarding this age of mass migration, Goldin surveys return migration of the kind that prompted half of all migrants to Argentina to go back to their countries of origin; short-distance migration, such as the movement of Belgians to France and the Netherlands; and chain migration. To cite one very specific example of the last phenomenon, some 90% of Dutch migrants who went to the United States from the province of Zuid-Holland settled in just three places: Paterson, New Jersey; Noordeloos, Michigan; and South Holland, Illinois. As an example of internal migration, he cites the two-wave 'Great Migration' which saw African Americans in the United States move to northern cities to find jobs and escape from segregationist policies and racial harassment.

Goldin considers how anti-immigrant sentiment and xenophobia progressively shaped laws and policies, often with negative effects not only for prospective migrants but for economies that lost access to labor. He cites laws that targeted Chinese people who crossed the Pacific Ocean to the western United States to build the railways, and who formed a quarter of the California workforce by 1870. In Australia, in 1905, a new law subjected aspiring immigrants to a 50-word dictation test that allowed authorities to choose, at their whim, any European language, including Gaelic. Officials deported those whom they deemed failures at the test. Readers who want to know more about the history of passports, visas, and border controls should read Goldin's longer book, *Exceptional People: How Migration Shaped Our World and Will Define Our Future* (Princeton University Press, 2011), which he wrote with Geoffrey Cameron and Meera Balarajan.

The last quarter of the book covers migration today and is the part that many will study most closely. Goldin briefly discusses who migrates and who remains; the impact of migration on sending and receiving countries; the economic benefits that migrants bring; and effective public policies. 'Over

time,' he contends, 'migration more than repays any initial expense but to reap these long-term rewards governments must first tackle its short-term costs' (page 200). More housing and public services are essential and will benefit everybody.

Setting his sights on Britain, which is now his home base, Goldin maintains that developed countries need migrants. 'Migrant domestic workers make child and other home care [including elder care] services more affordable, freeing locals to work' (page 201) in better-paying jobs. Far from draining host societies, migrant workers – including undocumented ones – collectively contribute more than their share, partly because more of them are of working age. 'They also work longer hours on average than natives and are less reliant on services such as schooling, pensions, health, and care for the elderly' (page 203). Migrants include a disproportionate number of entrepreneurs and 'catalysts for innovation' (page 242), because they 'are by definition exceptional…bold enough to take the plunge and move countries despite the many risks involved' (page 207). To benefit from their presence materially while maintaining public morale, governments must devise cogent, reasoned policies that can improve the lives of established locals and newcomers alike while not demonising immigrants in ways that may fire up voters, but that stoke popular resentment and leave countries burnt and bitter.

Despite its brevity, this book is heavy – both substantive and sad. Many have migrated in response to war, repression, and desperation, but the ruptures, often entailing mass refugee movements, have left so many diminished or dead. Examples of harrowing events and displacements abound: the Armenian genocide and the Holocaust; partitions that separated India from Pakistan in 1947; the displacement of Palestinians in 1948; and much more. Wars in Sudan and Ukraine are now adding to this record of displacement and death.

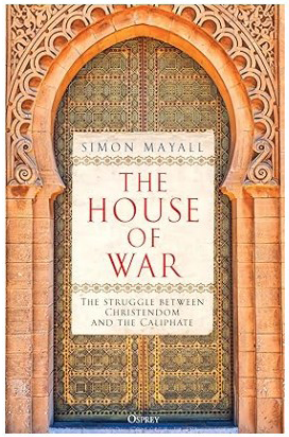
The book contains few cheerful examples. An exception involves Tatsugoro Matsumoto (1861–1955), a former royal gardener and landscape architect who in the 1880s left Japan and went first to Lima and then San Francisco. After returning to Japan for some years, Matsumoto left again and settled in Mexico, where in the 1930s, inspired by the blossoming cherry trees that he had seen on a trip to Washington, D.C., he transformed the area around the presidential palace. He did so by planting a flower that he had seen in Peru and which he believed would flourish in Mexico City: this was the jacaranda. 'Today, their purple flowers seem an indelible part of springtime in the capital... (page 129).' This vignette illustrates the phenomenon of multiple and return migrations while suggesting how migration can 'seed' exchange in ways that may yield visibly, tangibly, and symbolically beautiful results.

Goldin ends simply. 'Migration is not a problem to be solved;' he writes, 'it is the driving force for human progress and the thread that links our common history' (page 242). Today's migrants bring talent and energy that can help host societies to flourish and to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The House of War: The Struggle between Christendom and the Caliphate

Sir Simon Mayall KBE CB (1975), Osprey, 2024

Professor John-Paul Ghobrial (Professor of Modern and Global History, Lucas Fellow and Tutor in History)



This book is not the first time that Simon Mayall has drawn on his deep, personal experience of the Middle East to reflect on the fascinating interaction of past and present that continues to shape the region. In 2020, Mayall published *Soldier in the Sand: A Personal History of the Modern Middle East*, a mix of history, political analysis, and autobiography built from the raw materials of four decades spent in a series of military and diplomatic appointments in the region. In his latest book, *The House of War*, Mayall eschews the autobiographical mode on display in *Soldier in the Sand* in order to focus instead on a historical mode of analysis that he refined, as he describes in the preface, under the tutelage of historians, teachers and mentors including Maurice Keen (1954, Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1961–2000), Colin Lucas (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1973–1990, Master 1994–2001), and Christopher Hill (1931, Tutorial Fellow in History 1938–1965, Master 1965–1978).

Under the shorthand of 'Christendom and the Caliphate', Mayall frames the book as a chronological, narrative study of over a millennium's worth of 'violent confrontations' between Christians and Muslims. However, within this overarching framework, he knows better than to accept facile notions of a timeless, primordial 'clash of civilizations' that stretched across 1,300 years of human history. Instead, his point of departure is to acknowledge that 'while the clash between Christendom and caliphate was not always about religion, and often about personalities, power and territory, the wars [under study in the book] were always fought between people for whom religion was a key element of their identity'. Indeed, this acceptance of the importance of confessional identity – the idea that matters of belief were central to how individuals and communities imagined themselves – has become something of an orthodoxy in the work of scholars writing about interactions between Christianity and Islam. Against a backdrop of recent scholarship that has tended to emphasise coexistence, conversion, and intercommunal solidarities in the long history of Christians and Muslims, Mayall's book places its focus squarely on the perseverance of 'military friction' as one of the main modes of encounter between Christianity and Islam. This emphasis on conflict is reflected in the book's title which draws on the juridical concept of the 'house of peace' (*dar al-Islam*), or lands under Muslim rule – in contrast to the 'house of war' (*dar al-harb*) – or lands not under the dominion of Muslims. In practice, this binary language of jurists was probably intended to categorise and classify the world in a prescriptive way, rather than simply reflect its realities. For this reason, Mayall also acknowledges throughout the book the internal distinctions within both camps, for example Catholics and Protestants within Christianity or Sunni and Shi'a within Islam. At any rate, this language of war and peace was given new life in the past two decades through the propaganda of contemporary groups like al-Qaeda and ISIS, which is an important point that opens up the entire study.

Mayall structures the book into five parts organised around a series of military encounters: 'all epic stories, each of them historically significant, while some of them are historically decisive'. The first chapter sets the stage for the first clashes between the armies of the new religion of Islam and the great empires of Christian Byzantium and Zoroastrian Persia. The second part of the book focuses on medieval competition for power over the Holy Land, with particular moments of warfare described in three chapters on Jerusalem in 1099, Hattin in 1187, and Acre in 1291. Part three of the book explores one of the most resounding victories of the early modern period when the Ottoman Turks shocked Byzantine princes and Renaissance humanists alike by their victorious conquest of Constantinople in 1453. In the fourth part of the book, Mayall's approach reflects something of the turn of recent studies of empire away from land and towards the sea. Some scholars, for example, have recently started to recast the 'Mediterranean world' imagined by the great historian Fernand Braudel into a sort of 'Muslim Mediterranean' populated by North African corsairs, renegade converts, and captives, both Christian and Muslim. Mayall brings this Mediterranean world to life through engaging chapters on the battles of Rhodes in 1522, Malta in 1565, and Lepanto in 1571.

Of course, contemporaries of this period rarely imagined that encounters with Islam would only take place at the distant frontiers of Christendom; instead, European news-sheets and church bells in local villages were kept busy publicising news of the terror of the Ottoman Turks. This proximity between Christianity and Islam comes out clearest perhaps in Chapter Nine on the infamous Ottoman siege of Vienna in 1683, but it is also there in the final chapter on the British-led capture of Jersualem in 1917. Mayall credits this encounter in the First World War with the fall of the Ottoman Empire, the remaking of the region, and the dissolution of the Muslim caliphate that underpinned Ottoman rule from the 16th century onwards with the advent of the secular nation-state of Turkey.

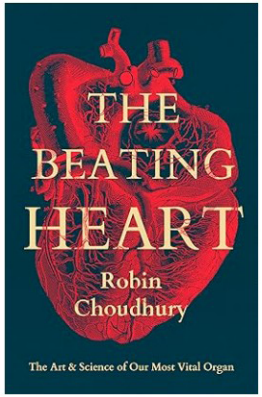
Quite apart from the ambition of the broad chronology of *The House of War*, what stands out through every moment of the text is the distinct perspective that Mayall brings to the work from his own career as a soldier and diplomat. However, the autobiographical anecdotes of Soldier in the Sand give way in the House of War to an explicit, purposeful method that seeks to place in the foreground the messy, unpredictable, and contingent experiences of individuals in the midst of warfare. Each chapter begins on the battlefield, and the narrative is focused on the key personalities of the period. Scholars often speak today of the 'lived experience' of the past. Although Mayall stops short of using the concept, his goal is clearly to get beyond the events and to show 'what conflict feels like in any age'. As a result, the military encounters become a vehicle through which to engage with human stories of the past and he seeks to find a voice for the widest range of human stories that he can across an entire millennium. The result is a moving story as much about military conflict as it is about the variety of ways ordinary people tried to flourish within a constellation of contexts over which they often had very little control of the world around them.

For all of its focus on religious conflict, one of the book's main accomplishments is the way in which a story of eleven military moments becomes the basis for a wider narrative about the unravelling of religious identities among both Christians and Muslims in the 20th century. One walks away with an impression of the strangeness of those voices that today cling desperately to old ideas of a clash of civilisations between Christianity and Islam. Conflicts between Christians and Muslims were always specific, particular episodes best understood within their own particular context, whatever use contemporaries made of a universal rhetoric of civilisational warfare. Indeed, amid all the complexity brought to life in Mayall's narrative, there is a clear sense by the end of the book that the ideas of a 'house of war' and a 'house of peace' are themselves akin to the sort of artefacts one might find on the dusty shelves of the Pitt Rivers Museum. At the same time, the book makes clear the potential for such old ideas to be put to new uses. In this way, Mayall reminds us of the overwhelming uncertainty of the present and therefore the future when it comes to the afterlives of ideas of crusading, Christian and Muslim alike.

The Beating Heart: The Art and Science of Our Most Vital Organ

Professor Robin Choudhury (Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and Senior Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences), Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024

Professor Elena Lombardi (Professor of Italian Literature, Paget Toynbee Fellow and Tutor in Italian, Praefectus of Holywell Manor)



'You can't hear your heartbeat right now, can you?'

'Yes, of course I can', was the piqued reply.

'All right, but you cannot feel your heartbeat all day, every day, can you?' went the patient answer.

Of course I could! I was, after all, an expert of medieval love poetry, and my dining companion a mere cardiologist. Such was the beginning of a years-long conversation with Balliol Fellow, Professor of Cardiology, and friend, Robin Choudhury. A particle of that dinner and that conversation still sparkles in front of my eyes when reading *The Beating Heart: The Art and Science of Our Most Vital Organ*. With it, there shimmers also the spirit of Balliol, and the way our research (and, through it, our lives) are changed, informed, intrigued, and enriched by the encounter with our Fellows, students, staff, and alumni.

Although *The Beating Heart* is a brilliant book of scientific divulgation and a proper humanistic reflection on cardiology, mostly this is a storybook, with a clever, crystal-clear and yet deeply nuanced and vibrant narrative voice. Like all stories, the story of the heart has one central plot twist that seems to bring it to its fateful denouement: here, the discovery, in the early 17th century, that the heart is not the seat of the soul, the centre of the individual, the place of sensation, rationality, and sentiment (love, above all), but, more prosaically, a pump that sends and receives blood to and from a not-so-complex circulatory system. However, unlike other aspects of ancient and medieval anthropology that were disbanded by scientific discovery, the heart has continued to play a crucial role in human imagination as the repository of 'being'. If anything, the story of the heart has become more intricate, more excited, and more imaginatively daring as a consequence of scientific discoveries, as this beautiful book shows, through nine stylish chapters and a series of stunning illustrations.

The book's structure is shaped by the intersection of a chronological arch and a thematic canvas. *The Beating Heart* takes us from antiquity to the present day, interlacing scientific reflection and artistic and social representation. Its vast and profound scholarship in both the sciences and the humanities threads a very delicate question: that of the relation between measurable knowledge and the flight of imagination. As expected, such an encounter is not linear, and yet it is not as disjoined as we might think. At the end of the book, the reader is left with the pleasant awareness of how imaginative science can be, and of how lucid art is in pursuit of the unknown. Take, for instance, the *granum nigrum*, the black seed or grain that ancient and medieval medical and religious texts depicted in the heart, in complete disregard of 'real' anatomy, so as to emphasise the generative nature of the organ and give evidence to the seat of the human spirit (Chapters 1 and 2). Not only is a version of the *granum nigrum* still present in the work of the great anatomist Leonardo da Vinci (Chapter 3), but Robin found it in action in the work of a street artist in London in 2020 (Chapter 9). Asked why they placed the black spot in the heart, the artist answered, 'I do not know'. It is a fitting reply: ultimately, the black seed is the unknown, it is the place (I would love to call it a 'physical place') for more: for the inexplicable, the insoluble, the exhilarating, the inspiring, the creative that this book – written by the steel of a scientist and by the generosity of a humanist – leaves intelligently open.

Or take Leonardo's vortexes (Chapter 3). Combining his anatomical dissections with his studies of hydrology and his observations of the locks and gates in the channels surrounding the city of Milan, Leonardo came to imagine eddies and vortexes in the aortic valve. In the early years of the 16th century, Leonardo's aortic fluxes were mere fictions, of course, deriving from the early-modern trust in the integration and correspondence between the world and the human body, and yet, five hundred years later, with the help of the sophisticated technology of magnetic resonance imaging, Robin's lab was able to 'see' Leonardo's vortexes in the aortic root.

A further wonder of this book is, in my view, juxtaposition or, one may say, 'co-incidence'. By bringing two views of the heart close together, on the same page, under the same sky, this book allows them to illuminate each other and to evoke further associations in the mind of the reader. This reading

strategy is clear, for instance, in Chapter 6, 'The Immaculate Heart', where we learn, to our surprise, of the proximity in the 17th and 18th centuries between the finely hatched lines of the anatomists, who were trying to capture every single detail of the anatomical heart, and the proliferation of the same organ in religious iconography, in particular that of Mary's immaculate heart: an entirely disembodied, fictional, and passionate heart … and yet with vessels and ventricles and some extraordinary anatomical precision, albeit lost (or one may say enhanced) within turquoise imaginations of heaven, fiery pinnacles, bleeding swords, crying thorns, and a cross or a bunch of lilies for the aorta. Sometimes, however, encounters are unconceivable outside of this book. When readers reach the end of Chapter 7 ('The Modern Heart', a section containing also a passionate reading of Frida Kahlo's outlandish use of the heart in her painting) and are about to turn to the most 'scientific' of all nine chapters (Chapter 8, 'The Beating Heart', covering the detailed chemical explanation of the most poetic postulate, that 'the heart beats by itself'), leafing across the small space of a page (224 to 226), they are stupefied by the encounter between Dali's violently iconoclastic *Sacred Heart* (1929) and the crisp list of numbers from Denis Noble's dissertation *Ion Conductance of Cardiac Muscle* (1961). This particular reader is unsure which one she would now like to frame and put on the wall. Similarly, readers might wonder how much time (or indeed whether no time) has passed between the last image of the book, Matisse's *Icarus* (1947) and the first, the illustration of the Egyptian *Book of the Dead* (1200 BCE). If anything, time seems to have passed in reverse, with Icarus looking more ancient than the ancient hieratic text. If anything, the time of the heart is measured by the pleasure of reading this book.

Like the premodern heart, this book is open, porous, sentient, and in love. Like the modern heart, it has muscle. At its centre there are vivid images of bleeding, beating, and disembodied hearts that explain and celebrate the organ that still today – thanks to (and perhaps despite) poets, artists, philosophers, and doctors – signifies 'I exist'. 'We simply know it to be so': this is the final sentence of *The Beating Heart*, a book that, like no other, brings to the fore the complexity of simplicity, the pleasures of writing and reading, and the importance of doing 'university' together.

In Memoriam

Martin Foley (1932–2025)

Balliol 1951, Foundation Fellow since 2007

Andrew Graham (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1969–2001, Master 2001–2011, Honorary Fellow)



Martin Foley first entered my life via an unusual route. I was in Balliol, working late, when the phone rang. It was the Development Director asking if one of the undergraduates involved in the College's telephone fundraising campaign could see me. The student arrived and breathlessly reported that they had just telephoned an alumnus in Mexico, that the call had rapidly become somewhat tetchy and came to an abrupt end. However, just before the phone was put down, the alumnus said 'I have to go but I'll give you £100,000'!

That was the start of Martin's long association with Balliol as one of our most generous and involved donors. Following further donations, he endowed in perpetuity the Foley-Béjar Scholarships. These are open to students with a place at Balliol to read any subject, whether at undergraduate or graduate level, provided they have lived for some substantial time in Mexico, Spain or Ireland, and have at least one parent born there. He later founded the Mexico Explorer Awards – akin in purpose to the William Westerman Pathfinders scheme, initiated in 1955 by Bill Coolidge (1924) – supporting a pair of Balliol students to spend 4-8 weeks in Mexico at the end of their degrees. Martin's long-time interest in the arts and culture resulted in the donation of Feliciano Béjar's Molusco II sculpture ceremonially installed at Holywell Manor. Martin also donated to the Ashmolean Museum, especially in support of their ceramics' collections. In recognition of his generosity, Martin was made a member of the Chancellor's Court of Benefactors, and a Foundation Fellow of Balliol. He was a regular and warmly welcomed attender at many Balliol events, until ill health finally precluded him travelling from Mexico.

But all that was yet to come. At the time of the seminal phone call, I had not met Martin, and it was several years before I heard his version of the story of that first donation. It turned out supporting Balliol had been a quiescent thought. On the day of the call, he and his partner, the exceptional Mexican artist Feliciano Béjar, are about to go out to lunch. They plus their gang of adopted children are jammed into the car when someone rushes from the house saying there's a call for Martin from a UK university. An irritated Martin runs in to take the phone. Outside, the car is hot; the children are arguing, Feliciano is shouting at the top of his voice – 'Come on! Come on!' And, out of desperation, Martin makes his extraordinary first gift to Balliol. For years afterwards, it remained a source of amusement.

As anyone who has met Martin will attest, he was a man full of acute perception, with well-tuned aesthetic sensibilities and an endless supply of surprising stories – stories which often meandered down byways of substantial complexity before, finally and often suddenly, returning to the main point. One result is that it took me some time to make sense of the jigsaw of Martin's life. There was nothing linear about it in any way whatsoever.

Martin Anthony Oliver Foley was born (27 April 1932) in Derbyshire to a family of mixed cultural roots – Irish, English and Welsh. Schooled at Chesterfield in England, his identity was also shaped by strong emotional ties to Ireland through his father's Sligo background. Thus, Martin's early years were split between England and frequent trips to Sligo to see his Irish grandparents of whom he was very fond. As recounted by Martin's adopted son, it was a childhood filled with local adventures, vivid characters, cultural contrasts and a growing awareness of religion, art and identity that, as those of us who knew Martin in later life can attest, remained a part of him throughout. Following national service in the RAF at Innsworth in Gloucestershire, he came to Balliol to read History.

That religion played a central role in Martin's upbringing, shaping his education, community life and creating a fascination with churches seems indisputable. His Sligo father, Bartly (short for Bartholomew) Foley, was Catholic, and his mother, Winifred Greenan, a Protestant Yorkshire lass, had converted to Catholicism in her youth, much against the wishes of her family. At Balliol, the tutor with whom he most identified was the distinguished medievalist Richard 'Dick' Southern (1929), and it seems very probable that this further encouraged his already existing interest in Catholic ecclesiastical history.

Post Balliol, Martin's first job was with De La Rue – printer of money and playing cards. Martin was never a money chaser, finding games and cards far more to his taste. Whilst at De La Rue he not only produced two full catalogues of existing games but also devised a few himself - *Cards for Two*, *Travel Agent,* and, for children, *Cards on the Table.* More significantly, at least for the card industry, he played a role in reducing the taxes they paid. Back then, every pack of cards had a wrapper and a seal and with this went a tax. Someone working for Waddingtons, the main competitor to De La Rue, recorded, 'a lively lad called Martin Foley had the bright idea of persuading the authorities to abandon the duty and the wrapper. He succeeded in 1960'. Martin also used this time to organise a gathering of most of the great contract bridge players in the world. Whether it was the success of this event or his work on tax, history does not reveal, but on 1 October 1959 at the Apothecaries Hall, Martin Foley, Manager of the Playing Card Division of Thos De La Rue & Co. Ltd, was admitted to the Livery of the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards.

During this same period, Martin spent many summer holidays in Spain, especially in Barcelona and in the small village of Alella, learning Spanish, following his interests in Catholic churches and indulging his interest in dance. Indeed, in his second year at Balliol whilst living on the Broad Street site, his Irish dance classes made so much noise that the Physics tutor, Dr Kuhn, complained that the 'whole house is shaking'. Despite this, once he moved to Holywell Manor for his final year, the Irish dancing classes reappeared. And in Spain, he was especially drawn to the traditional Catalan dance – the Sardana.

It is unclear whether De La Rue was more impressed by Martin's general initiative or by his knowledge of Spanish – whichever it may or may not have been, around 1960, they sent him to New York charged with obtaining a contract from the Mexican government to print the country's money. According to Martin, all went well until the Mexicans realised their money was to be printed outside Mexico! This was, of course, entirely correct from a security viewpoint but a huge affront to Mexican pride. The contract duly 'went south', and so too did Martin, finding Mexico City much more in line with his interests and inclinations than De La Rue and New York ever were.

It was in Mexico that Martin's friendship began with Feliciano Béjar, who was already recognised as a significant Mexican artist. It was a partnership which lasted 40 years. Both were hugely committed to the education and care of young people, and soon found themselves with an enormous 'adopted' family – at one point totalling nineteen. Feliciano was from a tiny, very poor Mexican village. He was completely self-taught, learning elementary carpentry and building, often using scrap materials which he turned into art. Many of his early pieces examined how light was reflected in unusual ways, in a style of sculpture that became called 'magiscopios'. He and Martin found a good-sized plot of land about ten miles south of Mexico City and this was where Feliciano built the 'fascinating artistic-colony-community' (as his friend, Timothy Wilson, called it) that became the base for him and Martin, their expanding family, and Feliciano's studio and art. At first it was a single house, but as children were added so more houses appeared, and, at one point, an open-air theatre. This construction (more accurately a series of constructions) was mostly made with reclaimed old doors, pillars, architraves, chimney pots, stonework, carvings all being cast out as 'rubbish' from traditional Mexico City city centre buildings as the city redeveloped. Feliciano found a use for it all and initially brought much of it to the site via donkey and cart. At the time they acquired the land it was undeveloped, quiet and almost rural. By 2004, when Peggotty and I visited, a dual height, six lane motorway was being constructed running right along the boundary, with high-rise buildings all round. Such is the price of progress.

At some point not so very long after Martin's arrival in Mexico came a second curious twist in his life. As indicated already, he was always fascinated by dancing and folk art and local customs – everything that gave a sense of the real Mexico and its cultural identity. Returning from a festival at a remote village, his driver overtook the car in front only to realise that Martin had collapsed in the backseat. The car screeched to a halt. Martin was found to be suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, and helping to rescue him was the passenger in the car that they had just overtaken – the Mexican Minister of Culture. The next day she visited Martin in hospital, and I am told that after only a few preliminary remarks she said to Martin that he obviously knew about business, and he was interested in dance and so would he become Director of the Mexican Folk Ballet? Thus, for four years, Martin became the General Administrator and Technical Director of the Ballet Folklorico de Mexico – and, on at least one occasion, Feliciano designed the sets.

I know little else of Martin's life during this period but, from his conversations, I sensed that he felt fully at home – a Spanish speaking, Catholic country with a rich history and an immense depth of local art and culture. His friendship with Feliciano blossomed and he was able to indulge his eye for ceramics, folk

dance and folk art. He devoted much time, not always successfully, to seeking greater international recognition for Feliciano. Despite help from his Balliol friend, John Mallet (1950) and his wife Felicity, he had little success with the Cork Street Galleries in London, but made more progress in New York, where Feliciano had had his first exhibition as early as 1948. Following Feliciano's death in 2007, Martin dedicated himself even more energetically to preserving and honouring his artistic legacy, creating a museum in Jiquilpan in the house where Feliciano had grown up and establishing the Feliciano Béjar Foundation in 2014. This now encompasses three museums, one of which – Casa Atlamaya – is at the home Martin and Feliciano shared for over 40 years. And where, surrounding them, were the many children they helped on their way to adulthood. One of them – Martín Feliciano Béjar – was formally adopted as Martin's son.



Martin Foley with his son, Martín Feliciano Béjar

The passion that Martin and Feliciano had for improving young people's future shone through not only in the children they rescued from the slums of Mexico City but also in Martin's subsequent generosity to Balliol. His interest in endowing the Foley-Béjar Scholarships was particularly deep. He liked to meet and mentor students and frequently became good friends for life. The very first of these Scholars, Miriam Bazan-Peregrino (2003), writes:

> Growing up in a poor village in Mexico, attending Oxford would have been an impossible dream without the generous support of the Foley-Béjar, CONACYT, and Clarendon Funds. These scholarships covered everything – from tuition fees to living expenses – and made my education possible. But what stood out about Martin was his personal engagement. Shortly after I arrived in Oxford in 2003, I received a handwritten letter in Spanish – and this marked the beginning of many more handwritten letters and, later, long emails that continued over the years. Later, he came to my wedding and told the story of the evening when Andrew and Peggotty were at his house and, in my enthusiasm to show my Balliol commitment I peeled off a coat and a jumper to display, with pride, the sports top I was wearing – an item I had designed as the captain of the newly-formed Balliol Women's Basketball team. As Martin teasingly recounted this, he said he had wondered quite how many layers might come off! He was a warm, generous, acutely observant man and I miss him greatly.

Peggotty and I only met Martin in his mature years, but we rapidly became close friends. While we were living in the Kings Mound, Martin stayed with us whenever he came to Oxford, sharing long discussions over the breakfast table. During this time and for many years following until not long before Martin's death, Peggotty and he corresponded regularly, sometimes about arrangements for a visit, more often exchanging news of what each was doing coupled with what some might term 'quizzical' views about the ways of the world. Martin was as acute in his observations in correspondence as he was in 'real' life – and they shared a sense of the ridiculous and life's many stupidities just as they valued the beauty of life all around too. They got along pretty well! One very special thing about which we were and remain immensely touched is the email Martin sent to us on hearing that I was about to step down as Master:

> For me, Balliol without you really will be a different place as you have both helped make it a home for me which it never was before. I now feel an integral part of it physically and spiritually, whereas earlier it was an important part of my life, but a separate room as it were – certainly a large important room, say a dining room as it's Oxford – in a big house. Now it's a whole self-contained unit, a grandpa flat, to continue the idea. Apart from your personal friendship which I treasure, you have made my connection with the College very special…

What more could one want? Well, nothing. But there is just one other event

that I especially recall. It was a Friday evening in February 2008. Peggotty and I were about to hold a party that weekend. We liked giving parties and the excuse for this one was to celebrate ten years of my Mastership. Martin was on the phone and said, 'I am on my way'. Yes, he loved Balliol and could afford to come, but it still took much time and effort, and it was a very sad time for him as Feliciano had only recently died. He arrived and Peggotty gave him a big hug. It was a very special friendship – one that we continue to feel blessed to have had.

Martin died on 16 January 2025 at the age of 92 in his home in Mexico City under the loving care of his adopted son, Martín. A few months later, his ashes were brought by Martín via Balliol en route to County Sligo. The ashes rested in Balliol Chapel overnight. At a small ceremony in the quad at Holywell Manor, we stood by the sculpture of Feliciano's Mollusco II that Martin had donated to Balliol in 2010 and toasted the life of a man with a great affection for Balliol – a man full of generosity and good will. The Foundation Fellowship to which he was elected in 2007 was exceptionally well deserved, and we remember him with great affection.

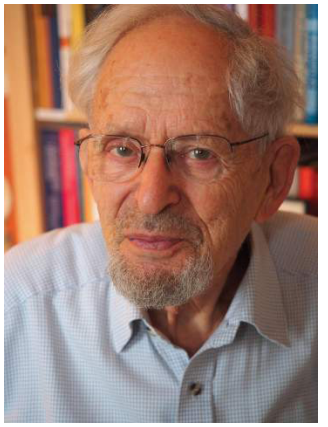


Martin Foley Memorial Gathering at Holywell Manor on 15 April 2025

Alan Montefiore (1926–2024)

Balliol 1948, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy 1961–1994, Tutor for Admissions 1962–1967, Emeritus Fellow since 1994

Andrew Graham (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1969–2001, Master 2001–2011, Honorary Fellow)



I sometimes remark that being at Balliol is rather like having a stone in your shoe – tiny relative to your body mass but altering the whole way you walk. Alan Montefiore had much the same impact. Initially, I was too much in awe of him to think clearly about what was going on, but I gradually came to understand the shape of his conversations. At the start, he often appeared sympathetic to whatever position one had taken, but a few steps down the road, he would be inviting you to realise that you must have been mistaken as you were now so clearly contradicting yourself.

Over the years, the 'Alan stone' led me to see three things, obvious to philosophers, but often overlooked in general discussion. First, if a line of reasoning leads to a contradiction or clashes with reality, either the logic is mistaken, or the starting assumptions are adrift – the latter a particular affliction in economics.

Second, if you are going to have a discussion – rather than a shouting match – there must be something on which you agree. Alan illustrated this vividly in one of my very first encounters. He had been in Singapore on sabbatical in 1968 and had listened to the broadcasts by the Americans and by the Chinese (I later learned that part of his National Service had been spent in Singapore and that he could speak Hokkien). Their accounts were diametrically opposed, yet on one issue they were agreed – there was a war.

Third, most of our claims about the world are context dependent. Alan was impressive across the board, but to my mind where he excelled and where he made his greatest contribution was in teasing out how the context

mattered – whether that context is internal (who am I and to whom do I owe commitments?) or external (in what ways has this idea been seen differently in varying cultures and languages?).

When Alan started teaching at Balliol, Oxford analytical philosophy, concentrating heavily on logic and the philosophy of language, was at its height. An 'is' was never to be confused with an 'ought'. The positive and the normative were not only in different boxes but needed to be kept so. However, from early on, Alan, bilingual in French, had an interest in continental philosophy where context was allowed full sway, especially the position of the speaker. Or, as Alan might have put it, given the fact (an 'is') that he was born Jewish, this entails an obligation (an 'ought') to that faith, or to that community.

Once the study of Kant was brought formally into PPE in the 1960s, Alan began a seminar devoted to Kantian philosophy. The seminar soon became legendary. In the collection of essays marking Alan's 85th birthday, no fewer than six contributions were devoted to it, with Michael Sandel (1975) writing that it was 'a centre piece of academic life at Balliol'.

Alan was a wonderful example of the engaged intellectual, willing not only to think but to act. When the Wiener Holocaust Memorial Library faced a funding crisis in 1980, it was Alan who stepped in and persuaded the former Prime Minister, James Callaghan, to become the first President of the Endowment Appeal. Alan was the Governor of the Froebel Educational Institute (which later became part of the University of Roehampton) and, alongside his Balliol work, he was actively engaged with Kathy Wilkes (St Hildas) and his Balliol colleagues, Tony Kenny (Fellow 1964–1978, Master 1978–1989) and Bill Newton-Smith (Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy 1970–2005), in organising underground seminars with dissidents in what was then Czechoslovakia. He was a founding member of the Jan Hus Educational Foundation which backed this work and in 2019 he was awarded the Czech Honorary Jan Masaryk Silver Medal.

After retirement, he and his second wife, French philosopher Catherine Audard, founded the Forum for European Philosophy, which ran weekly seminars at LSE for 25 years, broadening access to diverse philosophical traditions. Catherine was the Chair, and they worked closely with three former pupils, Simon Glendinning, Hilary Lawson (1972) and Paul Flather (1973). He continued to write, producing, amongst others, *A Philosophical Retrospective* (2011) and *Philosophy and the Human Paradox* (2019). In his 97th year, he was as sharp as ever, and was in Paris with Catherine, doing *The Times* cryptic cross word when his fatal heart-attack struck.

Alan was born in London in 1926, the son of Leonard Montefiore (the first President of the Wiener Library), and grandson of Claude Joseph Goldsmid Montefiore, a theologian and the founder of the London Society for the Study of Religion. He was educated at Clifton College, Bristol, earning high praise from them for his multiple talents, including ball games, especially squash. His housemaster wrote in his final report, 'No other boy within my experience has won so much affection and respect from both masters and boys throughout the school'.

Many years later, I learnt to my cost how skilfully he played squash when I spent a Sunday morning scrabbling desperately to rescue the ball from corner after corner as Alan stood at the centre nonchalantly dispatching my returns. In squash, good players focus not on where the ball was hit, but where it will land. Later, I saw an analogy with arguments. Especially when discussing with someone as clever as Alan, it paid to think as much about his desired end point as about the current move.

After three years of National Service, much of it in Singapore, Alan came to Balliol to read PPE in 1948 – he had been admitted in 1945 but demobbed only in 1948. He had first considered Classics, then English, before settling on Modern Studies, as PPE was known. In 1951, he took up a teaching post at Keele University. Keele had only been founded the year before (the moving force being 'Sandy' Lindsay, Master of Balliol 1924-1949), and the story is that Alan was in the quad when his personal tutor called down to him that Keele was seeking young lecturers, so why not apply? Around the same time, in March 1952, Alan married Hélène (née Pivant) in Paris. Since she was a gentile, neither of his parents came to the wedding, and his mother avoided speaking to Hélène or even seeing her first granddaughter for several years. Alan and Hélène had three children: Anne, a counsellor, Claire, a psychotherapist, and Paul, a photographer and interior designer.

In 1961, armed with impressive references from, amongst others, 'Sammy' Finer (Lecturer in Politics 1946–1949, JRF in Politics 1949–1950), who had also moved from Balliol to Keele, and Stuart Hampshire (1933), he was elected to a Fellowship at Balliol, where he remained until his retirement. In 1984, he married Catherine Audard, bringing her children, Sylvain, Laure-Hélène, and Florence, into his life, and he and Catherine worked intensively together for the remainder of his long life.

In addition to, and entirely in tune with, his interest in continental philosophy, Alan believed strongly in multi-disciplinary exchange. Bill Weinstein (Politics Fellow) and I (Economics Fellow) contributed to his 1975 volume on *Neutrality and Impartiality: the University and Political Commitment* – an issue right back in the news as I write. In 1997, he edited *Integrity in the Public and Private Domains* with economist David Vines (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1992–2017, Emeritus Fellow), and in 2021, *Goals, No Goals and Own Goals* with physiologist Denis Noble (Professorial Fellow 1984–2004, Emeritus Fellow).

Steven Lukes (1958) has memorably described Alan as the 'Le Grand Anti-simplificateur'. This brilliantly evokes Alan's multidimensional manner of thinking, as well as what I regard as his highly 'leveraged' way of arguing. By 'leveraged', I mean the way in which Alan could focus on what, to most of us, might seem a quite narrow issue where a decision was required, and show that, viewed with more thought, it had geopolitical implications. In the nicest possible way, this tended to happen most when he hoped one might change one's mind or could be persuaded to do something – if only one had the breadth of intelligence to see the light. On one occasion, we were about to turn down an applicant for admission, when Alan brought into play that the applicant's first language was German and that, philosophically, what he had been trying to argue would be much richer in German. We duly re-interviewed him in German – and admitted him.

Steven's description should not, however, be taken as implying that Alan was unclear. Complex – yes; unresolved – sometimes; lengthy sentences with multiple qualifications – frequently; but lack of rigour – rare. Indeed, his contributions remain of value precisely because he bridged and combined the sharpness of analytical philosophy with the breadth and imagination of continental philosophy.

Nor does Steven's moniker well describe Alan's interactions with his students which were often forthright, perceptive, and straightforward. After just a single tutorial, he asked a student from India whether they were feeling homesick. They were and were very touched that Alan had noticed. A second was told in no uncertain terms that the difficulties with his family could not be side-stepped. He had to confront his father. A third was told to rewrite his essay leaving only the first sentence of each paragraph. If a clear argument remained, carry on. If not, start again. The last is always good advice, but it was especially suited to its recipient, a clever student, but easily distracted.

He was also always on the side of his students. On numerous occasions, the poor performance of X or Y was reported to Tutorial Board with suitable disciplinary action seemingly inevitable, until Alan spoke. His remarks were often complex, but, in essence, suggested that we (the other Tutorial Fellows) had failed to see the full picture. It often took time, but Alan frequently prevailed. As one former colleague said when I suggested the 'stone in the shoe' analogy, 'I like it. It captures not only his influence but also his persistence'.



Photo collage displayed at Alan Montefiore's memorial service at Balliol on 30 May 2025

In many ways Alan was a simply wonderful colleague – supportive and challenging in equal part, keeping one's wits alive, and endlessly opening new avenues of thought – and everyone, young and old, speaks of how they were always treated as his intellectual equal. But I wish to emphasise a deeper contribution that I personally think Alan made. PPE is often regarded merely as an interesting joint degree that allows students to study three social science disciplines alongside one another with little real connection between them. That has never been the Balliol view and, most assuredly, was never Alan's view.

The key question is this: are economic theorists better for having done philosophy, and philosophers better for having done politics, or are these three subjects necessarily inter-related? Alan, I am sure, was convinced that the connections between the disciplines were essential. He would have expressed it in a more nuanced way, but I believe that he regarded theories based on the assumption that the person exists 'as if' they are independent of society as fundamentally flawed. He felt it essential to inquire what it means to be a person. Alan especially liked Hume's confession that he, Hume, could not answer this question; and he believed that once this question is addressed and once the person is contextualised, there are deep implications for all three sides of PPE.

Moreover, this philosophical underpinning, I suggest, has provided both an element of continuity and an element of difference to PPE within Balliol and I see Alan as having been an exceptionally significant contributor to this distinctiveness.

Certainly, the prevailing Balliol view of PPE stands in sharp contrast to the study of the social sciences in many other universities (and even most other colleges in Oxford), where 'economic science', 'political science' and 'formal logic' are seen as entirely separate disciplines. For me, Alan's insistence on context and on the fuzziness and complexity of the connections between facts and values are not just quirks of his but derive from a deep philosophical underpinning and is a core part of what made – and makes – Balliol PPE distinctive.

This same Balliol continuity can be extended to include many of the people with whom Alan interacted or whom he taught. I think, for example, of Bernard Williams (1947), Akeel Bilgrami (1971), and Stephen Mulhall (1980) in philosophy; Charles Taylor (1952), Michael Sandel, Steven Lukes and Rajeev Bhargava (1975) in political theory; and, in economics, Tommy Balogh (Fellow 1945–1973, Emeritus Fellow 1973–1985), Paul Streeten (1944), Wilfred Beckerman (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1964–1969 and 1975–1992, Emeritus Fellow 1992–2020), Hugh Stretton (1946), and Keith Griffin (1960).

Of course, at Balliol we also believe passionately in diversity and, if Balliol had a motto, it might well be 'The promotion of heresy'. The delineation that I have sketched therefore has had many distinguished exceptions. Nevertheless, when I observe the extent to which in much of the non-Balliol world, the curricula of politics and international relations have tended to be formalised and de-contextualised (especially in the obsession with game theory), and how much philosophy has become focused on logic, and how economics has become a branch of mathematics, it underlines the distinctiveness of PPE as studied at Balliol. If this claim about the difference in approach at Balliol is even remotely true, it is an extraordinary achievement. It is very rare for even a university to have sufficient strength of tradition for it to count as a 'school' (Chicago economics is an exception that illustrates the point), but, apart from Balliol, it is unheard of for a single Oxford or Cambridge college to represent a 'school'.

Perhaps I push the point too far, but I would not be tempted to do so were it not for the influence of Alan. He did not start the tradition, but he revived it, amplified it, filled it with rich furniture, caused many of us to expand our intellectual boundaries, and passed it on, greatly enhanced, to the next generation of students and teachers. Thank you, Alan.

Editor's Note

The College was deeply saddened by the death of Dame Stephanie 'Steve' Shirley (Foundation Fellow), who passed away on 6 August 2025. An In Memoriam piece for her will be included in next year's *Annual Record*.

Old Member obituaries

J. Trevor Wilson (1945)

Emma Fox

Born in Huddersfield in 1927, Trevor attended Giggleswick School in North Yorkshire during the Second World War, leaving in 1945 for Balliol to read Chemistry.

Whilst at Oxford, Trevor's interests included rugby – he captained the team in his final year – and Gilbert & Sullivan operettas, which led to him becoming Vice-President of the Huddersfield G&S Society for about 50 years. Trevor joined the Oxford University Liberal Club in 1945 and remained a member of the party, and subsequently the Liberal Democrats, until his death. In 1949, he left Oxford with a degree in Chemistry and a BSc research degree.

Trevor returned to Elland, West Yorkshire in 1949 and joined the family firm of Samuel Wilkinson and Sons, which manufactured clay products including bricks. He remained there all his working life. His scientific background enabled him to concentrate on manufacture and production, which changed significantly over the following 30 years. He was active in the industry as a whole, becoming President of the Northern Brick Federation.

In 1965 Trevor was appointed a Justice of the Peace, serving as a magistrate for 32 years.

A prominent Yorkshire Liberal politician from the 1960s to the mid-1980s, Trevor began his political career in 1963 by winning a West Riding County Council byelection for Elland. Although unsuccessful in contesting the Pudsey parliamentary seat in 1964, he became a County Alderman in 1967 and led the Liberal group. In 1973, he continued as leader of the Liberals on the newly formed West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council until its abolition in 1986 – the same year he was awarded a CBE for his services to political and public life.

Other interests in which Trevor was closely involved were Scouting and Rotary, and in 1996, he was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of his public service. He enjoyed shooting, playing cricket, rugby, and golf, supported local charities, and had a passion for travel. He travelled extensively and reached some fairly remote locations such as Antarctica and Everest Base Camp. He had a great love of mountains and enjoyed walking and trekking, which provided the background for his love of skiing holidays.

This is a shortened version of a eulogy given at J. Trevor Wilson's funeral.

Malcolm Rand (1948)

Jeremy Rand



'I was well aware of Malcolm's towering reputation as an expert in the thermodynamics of solids and much enjoyed his splendid sense of humour. He was modest,' wrote a colleague on Malcolm's passing. Another admired his 'scientific clarity, commitment, resilience, he was kind, a true gentleman.' A friend recalled 'his intellect and sense of curiosity, his achievements but also his stability and calm.'

Malcolm was born in Waltham Abbey in 1931, the third child of Harold, a labourer, who died in 1936, and Rose. Evacuated to Poole, he went to Parkstone Grammar School and got a Brackenbury scholarship to Balliol in 1948. There, he was tutored by Ronald Bell (1924, Fellow 1933–1967), got a first in Chemistry and a DPhil, before joining AERE Harwell in 1955.

After a six-month secondment to the National Physics Laboratory in 1959 to collaborate on thermodynamics with O. Kubachewski, a world expert in their field, he met Tonia, whom he married in 1962 and had two sons, Jeremy and Duncan, in 1964 and 1965.

Malcolm was a pioneer in international scientific cooperation, particularly in computational thermochemistry, joining the CALPHAD (CALculation of PHAse Diagrams) network of scientists in the 1970s, and representing AERE Harwell at the foundation of the Scientific Group Thermodata Europe in 1979. He had secondments to Grenoble in 1974 and Berkeley in 1989.

Retiring in 1990, he worked until 2023 as a consultant, especially for the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency, contributing to six volumes of *Chemical*

Thermodynamics. Volume 15, his last, is of particular interest for 'performance assessments of deep geological disposal sites for radioactive waste' and provided a mental escape from caring for his wife, Tonia, for six years until her death in 2022.

Malcolm knew how to enjoy life and his family. Dinner parties would burst into life with his flashes of wit and laughter. He would take great delight in planning visits to Oxfordshire pubs with friends, and in family summer holidays in France. He was an avid wine buff and enjoyed his glass of wine. Friends were important to him, especially his Balliol ones, with visits to York and Reading to see them.

In hospital, after falling, breaking his hip and catching pneumonia, to which he succumbed in September 2024, Malcolm said to his sons, who survive him, how lucky he had been to have been evacuated. Otherwise, he said, he wouldn't have gone to a good enough grammar school to have gained admission to Balliol. Why? Because, in his words, 'Balliol made me.'

Peter Higgins (1949)

Charlotte Higgins (1990)



My father, Peter McRorie Higgins, who has died aged 93, was a urologist in Stoke-on-Trent. A humane and considerate surgeon, he was committed to improving the experience of patients in the NHS, partly through pioneering work in clinical audit. He also made advances in treating conditions including acute urinary retention. He read widely, cultivated a lifelong interest in history, and amassed an important collection of ceramics.

The son of a manager of a small branch of Boots in Sheffield, as a child Higgins shared his small bedroom with his grandfather, an Irish labourer who became a steelworker. The first in his family to attend university, he studied medicine at Balliol under Sandy Ogston (1929, Fellow and Tutor in Physiology 1937–1960), working a variety of jobs – ice-cream salesman, Butlins entertainment officer, canning factory worker – in the vacations. He later said that he spent too much time at Oxford chasing girls and playing sport (he was a keen lacrosse player in particular) but was academically gifted and enjoyed his time there. His contemporaries included George Steiner (1950), George Carman (1949), Bernard Williams (1947) and William Rees-Mogg (1945), of whom he once wrote, 'Such was his superiority that it was rumoured that when he walked his feet did not actually touch the ground.' Presumably the superiority was effortless.

In Oxford, he met Pamela Deane, a student nurse. After six heady weeks they were engaged, and married in 1955, while he was working at the London Hospital. In 1958, he started military service as an RAF medical officer. His most significant posting was to Christmas Island in the Pacific, in the wake of the nuclear tests. At a lobster party, one of the officers passed a Geiger counter over the bellies of those present. After that, no more lobster.

He was appointed a consultant in 1967 in Stoke-on-Trent. His modest private practice included performing vasectomies; when the time came, he self-administered the procedure, without mishap.

After retirement to the Cotswolds and then Oxford, he developed his interest in history, completing an Open University PhD on medical care in prisons in the 19th century, published as his book *Punish or Treat*? In their later years, he and our mother travelled widely until her death in 2018, after a marriage of 63 years.

He is survived by his sister, Shelagh; his children Robert, a nephrologist, Rupert, an ecologist, me, a Guardian journalist; and by four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Peter McRorie Higgins, 21 September 1930 to 20 August 2024

John Bastin (1951)

Jennifer Milligan (1989)

John Sturgus Bastin (1927-2024) was a renowned scholar, historian and bibliophile who specialised in the history of Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia. He was best known as the world's leading authority on Sir Stamford Raffles.

John was born on 30 January 1927 in Melbourne, Australia. After obtaining

a First Class Honours degree in History and then a Master of Arts degree from the University of Melbourne, John was awarded a postgraduate scholarship in 1951 to study at Balliol. In 1955, he successfully submitted his doctoral dissertation on Raffles' policies in Java and Sumatra. This thesis was subsequently published by Oxford University Press in 1957. In 1954, he was also awarded a Doctor of Literature and Philosophy from the University of Leiden.



John Bastin and family 2014

Part of a pioneering group of young expatriate academics, he was elected Foundation Professor of History at the newly established University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur in 1959, where he helped to both train local academic staff and create curricula appropriate for independent nation-states.

This was followed in 1963 with a return to the United Kingdom to take up a lectureship in Modern History of Southeast Asia at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. He remained there for the rest of his academic career, retiring as an Emeritus Reader.

Over a span of 67 years, John continued to publish over 20 books and dozens of essays, largely relating to Raffles and the East India Company.

As a bibliophile, John systematically collected over 5000 books, monographs, reports, research papers, scholarly records, letters, and artefacts related to Raffles. This unmatched collection of rare and heritage materials, together with John's primary source materials such as archives containing his own research papers and personal correspondences, now forms part of the John Bastin Collection at the National Library of Singapore.

He will be remembered for his extensive and meticulous research, his careful transcription, close reading and editing of archival records, and for investigating the minds of Raffles and his superiors, circle of friends, family members and colleagues in the East India Company in the early 19th century.

John, aged 97, passed peacefully in his home in Eastbourne on 7 August 1924 with his beloved wife and constant support, Rita, at his side. He is survived by four children: Christopher and Jenny from a previous marriage in Australia; Professor Mark Bastin (1989) and Marianne; together with five grandchildren.

Brian Knox (1951)

Lesley Knox

Brian was born in 1932 in Farnborough, the son of a British army officer from Northern Ireland. His grandfather D.B. Knox was a Presbyterian minister, well known for his sermons and had three volumes published in the 1920s. The family were descended from one of John Knox's daughters, who moved to Northern Ireland when she married.

He was educated at Winchester and Balliol, Oxford, where he studied 'Modern' History, defined in his day as up to 1273AD

In 1954, he joined the stockbroking firm of Grieveson Grant and Co., becoming a partner in 1961. Over time, he served successively as head of UK Research, the partner responsible for developing business in Japan, and finally as one of the creators of the European department.

In 1986, Grieveson was acquired by the British merchant bank Kleinwort Benson, of which Lesley was a director – though she and Brian had never met until they both tried to buy the same picture at the Angela Flowers gallery. They married in April 1991 and had Fenella, their daughter, in June 1994.

Brian also pursued a parallel career as a historian of architecture. In 1961, he published *Bohemia and Moravia – an Architectural Companion*, which was later revised as *Architecture of Prague and Bohemia*. His next publication was *The Architecture of Poland*.

His final book, finished during COVID-19, tells the story of the five houses he built (four with Lesley): one in London, one in France, two in Edinburgh,

and one in Harris, in conjunction with different, extremely talented but also patient architects.

Barry Day (1953)

Lynne Day

Barry Day was born in Lincoln. He read English at Balliol, where he notably edited *ISIS* during his time there. After graduation, he began his career as a trainee for Unilever, eventually rising to Creative Director at Lintas. In 1971, he joined McCann Erickson as Creative Director in London, later expanding his role to Europe. During this period, he created iconic campaigns including the Martini 'Balloons' advertisement and the memorable 'I can't tell stork from butter'. In 1981, he moved to New York as McCann Erickson's Worldwide Creative Director, travelling extensively to direct creative output across the globe.

He was part of the campaign team, alongside James Garrett, that Edward Heath chose to direct his successful bid for Prime Minister. Recognised as an advertising guru, he frequently gave talks on the sector, working with major brands including Nestle, Unilever, Coca Cola, and Martini.

In the 1990s, he joined the board of the Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and wrote an account of his first meeting with Sam Wanamaker. His book *This Wooden 'O'* chronicles the difficult path to the triumphant building on Bankside, London, which was eventually opened by Queen Elizabeth.

At sixty, Barry retired from advertising to become a full-time author. He wrote ten books on the life and work of Sir Noël Coward. With the full support of Coward's heir, Graham Payn, he was granted total access to the Coward archives in Switzerland. His books include *Coward Letters* (featured on the cover of the New York Times Book Section!), *Coward On Film*, *The Complete Lyrics*, *Noël Coward on (and in) Theatre*, and *My Life with Noël Coward*. He also wrote books about Raymond Chandler, Oscar Wilde, and PG Wodehouse, establishing himself as a prolific author.

He was awarded an OBE by Queen Elizabeth for services to British Culture in the USA and served as Chairman of The Noël Coward Archive. He combined an unusual set of skills: a creative writer with the eye of an archivist. He was always so proud of his time at Balliol, becoming an illustrious figure through his many accomplishments. He was also known for his brilliant wit and sense of humour.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Lynne Carey, his daughter Elinor, and his son Charles.

Richard Tilney-Bassett (1955)

George Vayakis (1984)

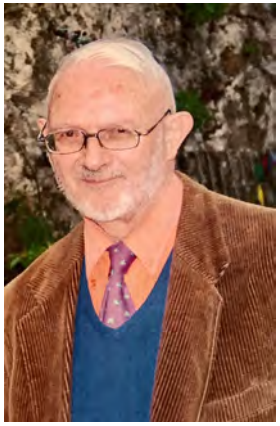
It is with great sadness that I reflect on the loss of Richard, who passed away this January, aged 89 exactly. Care in thought, speech, planning and action, combined with an underlying calm kindness, characterised his life. He came to Balliol in 1955 for botany and left with a DPhil in plant genetics. This became his life's work. He was part of the first team to demonstrate extra-cellular inheritance, going on to train many doctoral students to appreciate mathematically rigorous analysis of inheritance in plants, mainly in pelargoniums. Richard's way was reserved and quiet. He thought hard and deep. He always tried to support those around him and saw the same potential in all, irrespective of appearance and background.

In Oxford, he met my mother-in-law, Beth, marrying her in 1963. Like many who tread the scientific mill, they moved a growing family around post-doctoral and sabbatical stints, in the Germanies and France. Their daughter Amanda followed him to Balliol for Biochemistry and their son Jeremy became an aircraft design and quality engineer. They raised them in Gower, where Richard was a reader at the University of Swansea and Beth taught art. Naturally, they transmitted to their children a love of beauty in nature and art, the sea and the outdoors. But it was life in France, tested early, that seems to have suited them best. On retirement, they made a home for all in Finhan, in the French southwest. Beside the company of family and friends, Richard enjoyed keeping abreast of his field and science developments in general, managing a large garden, and travelling. He looked after Beth through her years of declining health until 2019, and supported his four grandchildren, dispersed at times worldwide. He loved a good joke and a good dinner, and he took a keen interest in the life of people he met. He diligently tried to improve his French until the end, remaining British and European in his outlook. He had fond memories of the College and was sad when, at the last minute, he

was prevented from attending the 2022 Gaudy. So, I pass on his message, absorbed through his life and behaviour: be demanding – mainly of yourself – thoughtful, and kind.

Norman Coles (1957)

Revd Paul King (1958)



Old Members of the College demonstrate their attachment to Balliol in various ways. Some make generous benefactions, and their names are written in stone. Others are commemorated in more subtle ways – 'Junior fui…' each generation which enters Hall is mysteriously informed. Norman Coles, who died on 3 May 2025, expressed his affection and gratitude for the College, which was very great, by a constant stream of correspondence, writing on one side of the paper only, and more or less on the diagonal. (Despite being placed, in 1962, in the First Class in PPE, the computer and e-mail were beyond him.). The sad news took some time to reach the College; the Master's instant, fond response was: 'I wondered why I hadn't heard from him for some time'. He was a devoted participant in the Balliol Society Weekend, and his affection for the College was reciprocated in recent years not only by the Master, but in the Development Office also, and, not least, by the Porters' Lodge.

His first academic post was as a Lecturer in Philosophy at Trinity College, Dublin, where he remained until 1970, when he married Janet, who came from Cork. He was subsequently for fifteen years a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the North London Polytechnic, including a year spent at Cornell University as a Fellow of the Sage School of Philosophy. He retired from the North London Polytechnic in 1990 due to ill-health. In 1995, he and his wife moved to Hastings. The death of his wife in 2012 was a terrible blow. She had suggested to him that he should move back to Oxford, which he did briefly, but subsequently returned to Hastings where there was a supportive community. In retirement, he published books on a typically idiosyncratic range of subjects – James II's right of succession, Isaiah Berlin's understanding of human nature, and aspects of American politics. Those who knew him will miss this constantly curious, gentle, warm-hearted eccentric.

Editor's Note: The following obituary was written by Norman Coles before his death.

Anthony Arblaster (1958)

Norman Coles (1957)

Anthony Arblaster was a historian and a socialist. He was educated at Christ's Hospital School before completing his National Service, after which he went up to Balliol.

As well as history and political theory – and politics – he loved music and opera and friendship and discussion.

After Balliol, he worked for some years at Tribune. His commitment to socialism was evident both in political theory and his activism. He stood as a Labour candidate in the then very Tory constituency of Hastings and Rye. Later, he lived and worked in Sheffield and Manchester, where he made distinguished contributions to teaching and research in political theory and philosophy, notably in his book *Democracy*.

Indeed, like R.H Tawney many years before him, Anthony was not just a thinker within the socialist tradition – he also lived his beliefs.

Chris Allsopp (1960)

Andrew Graham (Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1969–2001, Master 2001–2011, Honorary Fellow)

Chris Allsopp was born on 6 April 1941 and came via the Bootham School in Yorkshire to Balliol in 1960 where he studied Physics and then an MPhil in Economics. Following a short period in the Treasury (as Nicky Kaldor's assistant), he was appointed in 1967 to a Fellowship at New College.

Subsequently, he taught numerous Balliol students for the special paper in Economic Theory.

I first met Chris in his Kaldor period. I liked him but found him puzzling. He had a wonderful smile, but spoke in a manner that was at once elusive, suggestive, and provocative, often ending with a slight raising of an eyebrow or a 'Hmm?' Clearly clever, but what did it mean?

Working alongside Chris for several years on the Oxford University Business Summer School, I saw how stimulating a tutor he could be and how rare he was as an economist. He used theory – all the time – but was never controlled by it, still less by mathematical models. He was not a neoclassical economist, but I recall his advice: chase the market failure to its lair. Twenty years after I met him, life went full circle. A somewhat secret 'Kaldor Group', supposedly advising Kinnock, was formed. Initially it was Kaldor, Wilfred Beckerman, Tony Atkinson and me. I immediately suggested that Chris joined the group – an invaluable addition.

Chris's ability to comprehend and analyse real world problems led to him advising not only the UK, but also the OECD, Poland and China. Among many insights, his most significant contribution was his understanding of the 1973 oil shock. With OPEC restricting oil supplies, initially everyone saw it as a supply shock. At a long meeting in Oxford, the sole dissenting voice was Chris. He argued that it was a demand shock. Eventually, others saw his point – the quadrupling of oil prices being equivalent to a large increase in indirect taxation.

A second touch of genius was his work on fiscal policy. Everyone knew that, faced with unemployment, the government should increase the budget deficit. What Chis pinpointed was the credibility problem, because financial markets viewed this as going in the 'wrong' direction. Chris demonstrated this brilliantly: having students balance a pencil on a finger and asking which way they had to move their finger to move the top of the pencil in the desired direction!

Having studied physics, Chris had mathematical ability to spare. However, like Marshall, this was kept firmly in the background. The Keynesian multiplier, he commented, is just the maths of game theory, but, seen thus, it is much less interesting. From his physics, Chris also brought an intuitive understanding of stock and flows, (and of assets and liabilities) unmatched by any other economist I've known. In conversation, the insights were multiple: his understandings of expectations in financial markets and in macroeconomics; his predictions about when the OPEC cartel would collapse; plus a suggestion that China might be underestimating its growth rate because of a mistake about index numbers.

Common to all was Chris's willingness combined with his ability to think things out for himself, unconstrained and un-befuddled by what any mathematical model might claim to show.

As a friend I miss him enormously. As an economist, I feel I've lost my lodestar. He was, in my view, the most original and insightful UK applied economist of his generation.

Professor Alistair Ulph (1968)

Professor David Ulph (1968)



Alistair M. Ulph was a distinguished academic and economist who died on 5 October 2024. He had been suffering from Motor Neurone Disease.

Alistair and his identical twin, David, were born within five minutes of each other in October 1946. In 1958, they entered Hutchesons' Boys' Grammar School in Glasgow. They later went up to Glasgow University, where Alistair graduated in 1968 with a First-Class Honours degree in Statistics and Political Economy. Both went on to pursue postgraduate studies at Balliol, where Alistair graduated with a BPhil in Management in 1970.

Alistair was appointed to the Oxford Business School, where he worked on timetabling algorithms with then Balliol Fellow, Michael Dempster. In 1972 he joined his brother in the Economics Department at the University of Stirling, where they started a fifty-year research collaboration on a wide range of topics. In 1974, he was appointed to a Fellowship at the Centre for Research in Environmental Studies at the Australian National University, which sparked a life-long interest in environmental economics, particularly the economics of climate change.

In 1979, he took up a lectureship in Economics at the University of

Southampton, where he rose to become Professor of Economics (from 1985), Dean of Social Sciences (1989–1992), and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (1995–2001).

He moved to the University of Manchester as Deputy Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities from 2004 to 2010. Since the university had just been created through a merger, it was a time of considerable uncertainty. However, Alistair was highly regarded by colleagues for the compassion and vision with which he steered the Faculty. He was an institution builder, launching a major initiative on social change between Manchester and Harvard, and founding the Sustainable Consumption Institute.

In addition, Alistair was an illustrious researcher, producing over 120 papers and two books, and editing six others. He conducted ground-breaking work on the economics of climate change, particularly on the link between trade and environmental policy. His careful research challenged many widely held views.

He served as President of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists from 2000 to 2002 and was appointed Fellow of the Association in 2019.

He leaves a much loved and loving family: his wife, Nanette; two daughters, Karen and Fiona; and granddaughter, Sophie.

He had a wry sense of humour, and, despite his great distinction, was a humble man. He will be sorely missed.

Professor Martin McLaughlin (1973)

Diego Zancani (Emeritus Fellow)
Sophie Marnette (Professor of Medieval French Studies, Dervorguilla Fellow and Tutor in French)



In 2017, an impressive collection of *Essays in honour of Martin McLaughlin* was published by Legenda, an imprint that Martin had helped establish with other colleagues in the 1990s.[1]

The volume marked Martin's retirement from the Agnelli-Serena Chair of Italian at Oxford, and its introduction began: 'Martin McLaughlin was born on 4 December 1950 in Glasgow, where he grew up in a large, happy family of eight brothers and sisters.'

He studied Classics at Glasgow University from 1968, graduating with First Class Honours in 1973. He was soon made aware of a scholarship to Balliol College for Glasgow University graduates, endowed by John Snell in the 17th century. Around this time, Martin went to Italy, realised that he could not speak a word of Italian, but managed to communicate, with selected interlocutors, using his fluent Latin.

When he moved to Balliol, he studied Classics and Italian and obtained a First Class Honours degree in 1975. He began a DPhil in 1976 under Professor Cecil Grayson, focusing on literary imitation in theory and practice in Italy between 1400 and 1500. A year later, he was appointed Lecturer in Italian at Edinburgh University, where he remained until 1990 before returning to Oxford as University Lecturer in Italian and student of Christ Church. In 2001, he was elected to the Agnelli-Serena Chair of Italian Studies and became a Fellow of Magdalen College.

In 1995, Martin published with Oxford University Press a fundamental study for the Humanities, entitled *Literary Imitation in the Italian Renaissance*, partly based on his doctoral thesis.

Martin's interests spanned the whole Renaissance period. He became an established authority on the works by Leon Battista Alberti (1404–1472), dealing with painting, perspective, mathematics, as well as husbandry – topics partly covered in his British Academy Italian Lecture in 2009. He also translated Alberti's *Autobiographical Writings* for I Tatti Renaissance Library, published by Harvard University Press in 2023. But, as a true 'Renaissance man' himself, he also dedicated far-reaching studies to numerous modern and contemporary authors such as Umberto Eco and Antonio Tabucchi, as well as translating many works by Italo Calvino, including his *Why Read the Classics?* which won the John Florio Translation Prize in 1999–2000. In 2008, his achievements were recognised by the President of the Italian Republic with the title of *Commendatore*.

The *Bibliography of Publications by Martin Mc Laughlin* is included in the volume mentioned at the beginning of this obituary (pages 28-32), and lists five substantial books, 11 edited volumes, 11 translated books, and 72 chapters in books and articles in journals, as a testimony of his constant activity.

Martin was known by students and colleagues, both in this country and

abroad, as an extremely helpful and generous teacher, a lover of football who enjoyed life to the full and always appreciated the whimsical aspects of literary and academic work. All his photographs, taken at lectures and conferences, show him smiling, and that is how we shall remember him.

Martin died peacefully in Oxford on 24 January 2025, after a prolonged illness.

He is survived by his wife Cathy, his daughter Mairi, and granddaughter Iona.

1. The *Festschrift* was edited by Guido Bonsaver, Brian Richardson and Giuseppe Stellardi, and comprises 28 essays for a total of 443 pages.

Deaths

During the last year (1 August 2024–31 July 2025), Balliol was saddened to learn of the deaths of the following Fellows, Old Members, and friends.

Professor Aron Bernstein (MIT Visitor 2009–2010), 14 January 2020
Professor Philip Anderson (Supernumerary Fellow and George Eastman Visiting Professor 1993), 29 March 2020
Professor George Frederickson (Supernumerary Fellow and John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government 2003–2004), 24 July 2020
Professor Ulf Bernitz (Visiting Fellow in Law 2001–2002, Senior Research Fellow 2002–2004), 23 July 2022
Professor Richard Wurtman (MIT Visitor 1997–1998), 13 December 2022
Professor Evelyn Keller (MIT Visitor 2009), 22 September 2023
John Rea (Senior Research Fellow in Papyrology 1969–1996, Emeritus Fellow since 1998), 20 December 2023
Professor B.J. Bjorken (Supernumerary Fellow and George Eastman Visiting Professor (Physics) 1995–1996), 6 August 2024
Professor Frederick Schauer (Supernumerary Fellow and George Eastman Visiting Professor (Law) 2007–2008), 1 September 2024
Alan Montefiore (Balliol 1948, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy 1961–1994, Emeritus Fellow from 1994), 29 October 2024
Professor Martin Karplus, (Supernumerary Fellow and George Eastman Visiting Professor (Chemistry) 1999–2000), 28 December 2024
Martin Foley (Balliol 1951, Foundation Fellow), 16 January 2025
Professor Graham Richards, (Junior Research Fellow in Chemistry 1964–1966, Honorary Fellow 2004–2025), 11 February 2025
Professor Joe Nye (Visiting Fellow and Oliver Smithies Lecturer 2004–2005, John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government 2005), 6 May 2025

Professor Toby Lewis (1936), 20 November 2020

Brian Clarke (1946), 12 April 2022
Theodor Gang (1947), 30 May 2022
Bill Haines (1947), 21 November 2024
Professor John Fraser (1948), 11 September 2023

Professor Helmut Haschka (1948), 4 April 2025
Alan Montefiore (1948), 29 October 2024
Malcolm Rand (1948), 25 September 2024
Hugh Ellis-Rees (1949), 9 April 2024
Peter Higgins (1949), 20 August 2024
Leslie Russell (1949), 16 September 2024

John Bastin (1951), 7 August 2024
Martin Foley (Balliol 1951), 16 January 2025
Professor Frederick Frey (1951), 26 March 2020
Professor Michael Gear (1951), 29 January 2024
John Graham (1951), 2025
Brian Knox (1951), 21 November 2024
Professor Michael Bennett (1952), 16 November 2023
Professor Nick Dewey (1952), 26 February 2025
Sir Richard Lloyd Jones (1952), 22 June 2025
Michael Taylor (1952), 11 September 2021
Julian Tilney-Bassett (1952), 17 November 2023
Vernon Cole (1953), 25 December 2024
Barry Day (1953), 23 June 2025
George Fayen (1953), 9 June 2023
David Watson (1953), 27 March 2025
Ray Dicker (1954), 21 September 2021
Derek Hooper (1954), 12 February 2025
Robert McCammon (1954), 19 April 2020
Professor Paul Sheats (1954), 23 August 2024
Robert Smith (1954), March 2025
James Brennan (1955), 9 January 2024
Reid Robinson (1955), 18 January 2025
Richard Tilney-Bassett (1955), 20 January 2025
John Werner (1955), 17 August 2020
HE Richard Benedick (1956), 16 March 2024
John Cochrane (1956), 4 November 2023
Ian Fraser (1956), 31 May 2025
Professor Hsing Huan Huang (1956), 1 July 2021
Adam Kendon (1956), 14 September 2022
John Rickard (1956), 26 July 2024

Professor Graeme Clarke (1957), 16 May 2023
Norman Coles (1957), 3 May 2025
Anthony Cousins (1957), 11 October 2024
Abul Muhith (1957), 30 April 2022
Governor Kamal Azfar (1958), 26 May 2025
Thomas Fawcett (1958), 16 October 2024
Professor Julian Gwyn (1958), 18 March 2023
Donald Marshall (1958), 4 January 2023
Bob Seaton (1958), 29 May 2024
Thomas Stone (1958), 27 August 2021
Professor Grenville Turner (1958), 22 August 2024
John Beastall (1959), 19 June 2022
Professor Shyam Cawasjee (1959), 28 December 2024
Malcolm Cochrane (1959), 24 July 2024
Malcolm Forrest (1959), 20 March 2025
Edwin Lewis (1959), 3 May 2024
Stuart Swift (1959), 31 October 2023

Chris Allsopp (1960), 5 March 2025
The Revd Richard Hay (1960), 12 June 2025
George Herrick (1960), 25 December 2024
Peter Johnson (1960), 25 December 2024
Munir Ata-Ullah (1961), November 2024
Lord Roger Freeman (1961), 2 June 2025
Stephen Jessel (1961), 7 March 2025
John Peters (1961), 17 September 2024
Geoffrey Caseley (1962), 10 December 2024
Donald McKay (1962), 7 October 2024
Humphrey Morison (1962), 23 July 2024
Jeremy Oliver (1962), 3 February 2025
James Redmond (1962), 26 March 2025
Professor Dennis Thompson (1962), 30 March 2025
Brian Westcott (1962), 6 February 2023
The Hon David Boren (1963), 20 February 2025
Michael Lessnoff (1963), 2024
Richard Tatlow (1963), 27 November 2024
Roger Cooper (1964), 12 May 2025

Stephen Crew (1964), 19 July 2025
The Revd Hamish Fullerton (1964), 9 May 2025
Christopher Gore (1964), 7 August 2024
Professor Gerald Robertson (1964), 24 April 2024
Professor Richard Bushby (1965), 8 May 2024
Professor Monsur Kenku (1965), 24 June 2021
Ian Mertling-Blake (1965), 9 June 2025
Dan O'Flaherty (1965), 14 June 2025
Trevor Oliver (1965), 21 December 2024
Anupam Puri (1965), 26 July 2025
Professor Andrew Saint (1965), 16 July 2025
Richard Yates (1965), 16 July 2025
John D'Audney (1968), 23 November 2024
Aldo Maria Mazio (1968), obituary published 6 January 2023
Pradeep Mitra (1968), 9 November 2024
Professor Alistair Ulph (1968), 5 October 2024
Richard Humble (1969), 2 January 2024

Charles Kolb (1973), 13 July 2023
Professor Martin McLaughlin (1973), 24 January 2025
Titus Gibson (1974), 20 November 2024
Peter Holdsworth (1974), 29 January 2025
Peter Macklin (1974), 25 February 2025
Chris Turner (1975), 8 November 2024
Professor Stephen White (1977), 15 November 2023

Fionnuala O'Brien (1983), 21 February 2023
Peter Moll (1984), 29 June 2024
Ursula Sampath (1985), 23 March 2022
Professor Stephen Smith (1987), 29 November 2022

Anna Chilczuk (1990), 19 January 2024
Professor Gocha Tsetskhladze (1991), 11 September 2022
Lisa Busch (1995), November 2024
Steven Doody (1996), 5 August 2024

Ali Travis (2008), 25 January 2025

Benefactors

Donors 2024–2025

Thank you for supporting Balliol. We would like to thank alumni and friends who have made donations and given generously of their time throughout the year. Below are listed all donors who have made gifts of all sizes during the period 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025.
† indicates deceased

1944
Edward Gelles

1945
Professor Ivan Roitt

1946
Norman Franklin †

1947
The Rt Hon the Lord Taverne

1948
Malcolm Rand †
John Sands
Lionel Scott †

1949
David Dell
Peter Higgins †
Sir Jack Stewart-Clark
Michael Wheatley Price

1950
Weland Stone

1951
Michael Hell
The Hon Mr Justice James Hugessen †
Brian Knox †
James Taylor
Raymond Wirth

1952
Hugh Barber
Kenneth Cavander
Professor Nick Dewey †
Professor Ian Macdonald
Sir Geoffrey Owen
Alan Spencer
Sir Keith Thomas

1953
Hugh Bliss
Andrew Dakyns
Neville McFarlane
James Miller
Donald Rickerd
Professor Sir Christopher Ricks
Vivian Rivlin
Stephen Stamas
David Watson †
And 2 anonymous donors

1954
Robin Benson
David Brooks
Eric Crook
Colin Finn
Denis Langton
John Littler
The Revd John Morris
John Wilson
And 1 anonymous donor

1955
Denis Cross
The Revd Dr Peter Davison
Alexander Hopkinson-Woolley
Professor Sir Anthony Leggett
Robin Sternberg
Professor Gilbert Strang

1956
Professor Sir George Alberti
Malcolm Fluendy
Nicholas Hughes
Michael Thornhill
Tom Ulrich
Professor Michael Warren

1957
Peter Bayley
John Bazalgette
Ninian Eadie
Tony Hillier
Roger Jefferies
Patrick Montague
Professor John-Christopher Spender
Sir Mathew Thorpe
David Usborne
Martin Vasey
Jack Wofford
Paul Zador
And 1 anonymous donor

1958
David Allen
Jonathan Allison
Martin Biggs
Richard Cann
Philip Danby
Tony Dignum
Rodney Donaldson
Emeritus Professor Ian Douglas
Martin Francis
Jeremy Gould
Ray Jennings
The Revd Paul King
Andrew Knight
Nicholas Kuhn
Tony Lane
Sir Bruce MacPhail
Professor Euan Macphail
Moni Malhoutra
Peter Pugsley
Geoffrey Redman-Brown
David Robson
Professor Jarle Simensen
Mark Smith
Peter Snow
David Taylor
Charles Tyzack
Barry Winkleman

1959
Peter Buckman
Terry Cooper
Roy Dennett
Mike Doyle
Frederick Herlihy
Powell Hutton
The Rt Hon Sir David Keene
Professor Charles Leedham-Green
Jeremy Minns
Professor Richard Rubenstein
Donald Shaw
Simon Wratten
Colin Wyman
And 1 anonymous donor

1960
Timothy Ades
Peter Brice
John Colligan
Robert Dyson
Professor David Evans
Les Fixter
David Gordon
Chris Gutch
Trevor Hanslip
Stephen Hodge
Vijay Joshi
Professor John Lewis
Bill Miller
Matthew Nimetz
Michael Parsons
Nick Vanston
Lawrence Warwick-Evans
Ian Watson
Robert Wilson

1961
Graham Avery
Reginald Banks
The Rt Hon Lord Beith
Robin Briggs
Thomas Cookson
Professor Mark Franklin
Andrew Hallan
Christopher Joseph
Professor David Kirk
Frederic Kreisler
Lachie Mackintosh
Dick Morris
Sir Adam Ridley
Doug Rosenthal
Peter Smith
Noel Younger
And 1 anonymous donor

1962
John Adams
Hugh Beevor
Richard Bevan
Eric Bodger
Reid Chambers
John Cookson
Alan Fender
Robert Guy
Professor Alan Henrikson
Alan James
Chris Jelley
Gordon Jenkins
Professor Sir Andrew Likierman
Edward Lindsell
Matthew Melliar-Smith
Anthony Metcalfe
Ed Miller
Peter Miller
Derek Minor
John Moisson
Mike Morris
Jeremy Oliver †
Richard Parker
Professor Richard Portes
Professor David Pugsley
Richard Rowland
Carl Schmidt
Philip Spender
David Stanton
Euan Sutherland
Jim Townend
Roger Whitehouse
Professor the Hon Robin Wilson
Professor Gerald Wright

1963
Roger Betts
Philip Bishop
David Chalmers
Jon Cleave
Richard Fletcher
Robin Gilbert
John Hamwee
Professor Charles Hope
Sir Richard Lambert
Richard Mills

John Nicoll
Ian Nimmo-Smith
Professor Michael Player
The Revd Brian Roberts
Professor Malcolm Sawyer
Keith Stearne
J. L. H. Thomas
Major General Charles Vyvyan
Peter Ward Jones
Professor Gareth Williams
And 4 anonymous donors

1964

Jeffrey Branch
Professor Alexander Broadie
Philip Burns
Professor Charles Burroughs
Colonel Michael Craster
Bowman Cutter
Jonathan Davies
The Revd Hamish Fullerton †
Sandy Gray
Morton Kahan
Tony Kahane
David Long
Professor David Lutzer
Professor John Macgregor
Sean Neill
Kenneth Picton
The Hon Jed Rakoff
Jim Rogers
Professor Malcolm Schofield
Charles Thacker
And 1 anonymous donors

1965

Sir Michael Burton
Professor Roger Cashmore
David Cleland
Martin Cree
Emeritus Professor Paul Crittenden
Demosthenes Dirmikis
Bill Drayton
Ron Fairweather
Alan Gayer
Phillip Gordon
John Grimond
Richard Harrison
Robin Hartley
Ben Heineman
Alan Kaye
Geoff King
Michael Levene
Gordon Littlewood
Hubert Murray
Malcolm Naylor
Dan O'Flaherty †
Michael Orr
Michael Paling
Bill Rawlinson
Berel Rodal
Peter Smith
Bob Wallace
And 2 anonymous donors

1966

Professor Charles Baden-Fuller
James Bayliss
Ronald Berenbeim
Stephen Bergman
Charles Brookes
Christopher Currie
Aidan Foster-Carter
Captain Bill Griffin
David Griffith
Simon Humphries
Professor Alexander Jamieson
Martin Kaufman
Philip Kendall
Michael Ling
Philip Minor
Professor Andrew Scull
And 2 anonymous donor

1967

William Allen
Philip Budgell
Dennis Childs
Jonathan Cohen
Professor Paul Corner
Nigel de Rivaz
Professor Alan Forrest
Professor John Gledhill
David Gowan
Christopher Grayson
David Hooper
Brendan Horton
Ian Ibbotson
Ron Katz
Bob Kennedy
David Kershaw
Professor Mark Killingsworth
Patrick Lavin
Julian Le Fanu
Roy Pinkerton
Professor Daniel Shapiro
Anthony Sheppard
Martin Smith
Nicholas Thacher
Charles White
And 2 anonymous donors

1968

Robin Ashton
Professor Jonathan Bayly
Professor Sir Drummond Bone
George Bremner
Nicholas Burnett
Professor Terrell Carver
Peter Cooper
Michael Crane
James Crawford
Roger Digby
Chris Dunabin
Professor James Fawcett
David Gartside
Professor David Gowland
Hugh Griffiths
Raymond Highman
Peter Hutchinson

Thomas Imber
Philip Kay
Alan MacDermot
Professor John Ramsey
Karel Riha
David Satter
David Sheraton
Philip Simison
The Hon Richard Stearns
Julian Stubbs
Professor Patrick Thomas
Professor David Ulph
Antony Wynn
And 3 anonymous donors

1969

Sir Michael Arthur
Tom Brown
Patrick Casement
Ian Clark
Professor John Cooper
Sir Ian Davis
John Dewhurst
Robert Eales
Geoffrey Ellis
Professor Joseph Femia
Paul Futcher
Ian Gass
Peter Gavan
Kevin Honner
Professor John Humphrey
Daniel Jessel
His Honour Judge Peter Jones
Robert Lucas
Keith McGeoch
Mark Platts-Mills
The Hon Bob Rae
Peter Taylor
Professor Timothy Weiskel
Fred West
And 3 anonymous donors

1970

Professor Hagan Bayley
Richard Boohan
Gordon Cockburn
Peter Cooper
Professor Russell Davies
Neil Ellwood
Roger Fellows
Judge Francis Goddard
Peter Grebenik
Eric Hanson
Sir Launcelot Henderson
Michael Hodges
Malcolm John
David Jones
George Keys
Professor Ronald King
Gordon Lessells
Sir Julian Lewis
John Lund
Philip Mansel
Richard Parry
Chris Rattew
Professor Richard Salter
David Vernon-Jones
Paul Viita
Professor Michael Watson
Mark Whitlock Blundell

1971

Andrew Craig
Simon Davies
Andrew Foster
Pravin Goutam
Chris Hardy
Simon Hill
Robin Illingworth
Martin Joughin
Oliver Moore
Professor Philip Nord
The Hon Timothy Palmer
Paddy Payne
Professor Walter Pratt
David Rawlings
Patrick Salisbury
The Hon Kurt Schmoke
John Scott

1972

Andrew Bell
John Bowler
Stuart Brant
Nigel Bryant
Douglas Carter
Anthony Chapman
John Clark
Nigel Clark
Anthony Coombs
Julian Daley
Peter Dauncey
Martin Fisher
Richard Grant
Sanjeev Gupta
Eddie Jenkyns
John Kahn
Clifton Leonhardt
Benjamin Lopata
Robert Mellors
Andrew Moran
His Honour Judge David Morgan
Patrick Nealon
Dejan Rataj
Neil Record
Professor Gerald Sauer
Edward Sawbridge
Sam Schulman
Sir Nigel Sheinwald
Michael Shreeve
David Simms
Andrew Thompson
Andrew Watson
Professor David Wessel
And 3 anonymous donors

1973

Arthur Aufses III
Mark Bautz
Ian Bell
Michael Berrisford
Brian Blood
Anthony Brown
Andrew Burnham
Leo Cahalan
Christopher Catherwood

Brian Doctor
Paul Flather
Colonel Keith Galbraith
Alan Goodwin
Peter Grant
Iain Gray
Brian Groom
Peter Ireland
Alan Jones
Stephen Jones
Tim Middleton
Stephen Norman
James Ramage
Matilda Simon
Peter Sowden
Neil Stuart
Ian Tranter
Laurence Weeks
Stephen West
Neil Williamson
Philip Wood
James Yorke
Douglas Young

1974

John Brook
Howard Cook
Justin Dowley
John Foley
Damian Green
Tim Hardy
Martin Harris
Professor John Helliwell
Peter Holdsworth †
Neville Jennings
Robin Jones
Rudi Kalveks
Anthony Markham
Richard Pardy
Tony Pullinger
Matthew Reisz
Andrew Sharp
James Talcott
Carel van der Spek
Simon Ward
And 1 anonymous donor

1975

Michael Bartlet
Tim Boardman
Paul Edwards
John Firth
Roger Gray
Stephen Grosz
Stuart Jamieson
Peter Johnson
Professor Michael Landesmann
Peter Martin
Roddy Matthews
Raymond Petit
Julian Powe
David Railton
John Ralfe
Alvise Sartori
Richard Taylor
Simon Tesh
Mike Williams
And 2 anonymous donor

1976

Peter Andrews
Gordon Barthos
Gary Calder
Russell Campbell
Gerard Evans
Professor William Ewald
Professor Jeremy Frey
Charles Gurrey
Professor Dimitri Kullmann
Mark Lee
Guy Marley
Dev Moodley
Alan Murdoch
James Ogilviez
Stephen Shuttleworth
And 2 anonymous donors

1977

James Barker
Johathan Bayliss
Professor Andrew Black
David Carter
Charles Cory-Wright
Professor Huw Dixon
Nic Fletcher
Richard Gillis
Peter Guest
The Hon Jonathan Hamberger
Jim Hawkins
Mark Hopwood
Neil Johnston
Richard Jones
Hugh Kernohan
Jeremy Kimber
Neil Macdonald
Jeremy Mayhew
Professor Anthony Mbewu
Stephen Minter
Simon Orme
Ian Pearson
Scott Rafferty
Chris Start
Simon Taylor
Chris Torrible
Stuart Urban
Ernst von Weyhausen
Richard Walker
John Whiston
Ian Williams
Rhodri Williams
And 2 anonymous donors

1978

Marty Burn
Andrew Curry
His Excellency Christopher Dell
Colin Ferris
Richard Fisher
Tom Fox
Gerard Gregory
Kenneth Greig
Harald Hamley
Phil Hare
Professor Stephen Harrison
Robert Lewton
Richard Lock

Professor John Maddocks
Mark Mainwaring
Nicholas Prettejohn
Eric Price
Vaughn Reade
Tom Reid
Barney Wainwright
Robert Wardle
Christopher Whitehouse
The Revd Michael Wilcockson
And 3 anonymous donors

1979

Simon Auerbach
The Revd Professor Michael Banner
Rod Batchelor
Clive Baxter
Robin Baynham
Nigel Brady
Steve Curzons
The Hon Nancy-Ann DeParle
Cathering Driver
Elsa Ducker
Andrew Evans
Warwick Fairfax
Nigel Hall
Nicola Horlick
Professor Philip Maini
Tim Masterton
Drummond Miles
Tom Minney
Elizabeth Goldhill
Siân Rees
Anthony Skillicorn
The Revd Dr Stephen Spencer
And 5 anonymous donors

1980

Rupert Aspey
Alison Bertlin
Ian Bond
Michael Cranmer-Brown
Raji Davenport
Professor Sir Peter Donnelly
Morel Fourman
Christopher Gallop
Susan Goodkin
Matthew Hamlyn
Mark Hudson
Felicity Hunt
Philip Kolvin
Ronald Lee
Paul Mason
Andrew Morgan
Catherine Roe
Jonathan Scherer
Robert Suttie
Professor Duncan Tate
Peter Telford
And 1 anonymous donor

1981

Professor Henry Barber
Richard Barnett
Matthew Barrett
Alice Bateman
Hilary Contreras Brown
Caroline Cronson
Anthony Esposito
Professor Daniel Esty
David Foster
Lucy Fox
Mark Gray
Wayne Henderson
Mark Hume
Angela Jackman
Professor Dame Frances Kirwan
Anna-Rose Jackson
Matthew Lynn
Aldo Manzini
Professor Philip Martin
Glenn Moramarco
Alexander Morris
Andrew Mosely
Shaun O'Sullivan
Mark Storey
Peter Tron
And 3 anonymous donors

1982

Professor Kristine Bruland
Anne Chapman
Jeremy Cohn
Susan Cooksley
Professor Piers Daubeney
Richard Davey
Hugo Dixon
David Drysdale
Matthew Edwards
Professor Lucy Goodhart
Lawrence Gray
Keith Harrison
Hilary Haworth
Donald Hawthorne
Rupert Holderness
Yolanda Holderness
Andrew Howse
Christopher Kellett
His Honour Judge Andrew Keyser
Andrew Marshall
Paddy McGuinness
Nick Moakes
Dame Clare Moriarty
Mary-Anne Newman
Flash Sheridan
Dunstan Vavasour
And 2 anonymous donors

1983

Anna Armitage
Professor David Bakhurst
Justin Carter
Julia Daly
Daniel Cohen
Douglas Craig
Timothy Davenport
Michele Deitch
Professor Michèle Flournoy
Paul Fox
Liz Gaere
Charles Garland
Sophie Jackson

Boris Johnson
Sir John Lazar
Professor Brian Lewis
Barney Mayhew
Sarah Miller
Toby Miller
Paul Ozin
Mark Peters
Stephen Rabinowitz
Louise Gitter
Professor Richard Susskind
Professor Christine Sypnowich
Professor Stuart Weeks
David Witty
Fiona Witty

1984

Nada Al-Nashif
Abigail Appleton
Jane Crossley
Nora Cutcliffe
Professor Owen Darbishire
Tom de Waal
Richard Dewdney
John Friedman
Anthony Frieze
Gary Gibbon
Michele Giddens
Claire Gilbert
Daniel Gordon
William Guttman
Professor Peter Kronheimer
Hunter Monroe
Laurence Mutkin
Nicola Peters
Bernard Robinson
David Shaw
Christopher Shell
Richard Stamper
Lord Stevens of Birmingham
Martin Thoma
David Vaughan
George Vayakis
And 1 anonymouse donor

1985

Boris Adlam
Angela Allis
Jonathan Allis
Ned Bigham
Barry Deren
Professor Kenneth Hamilton
Professor Ahuvia Kahane
Professor Anne Kiltie
Halik Kochanski
Richard Locke
Lisa Lodwick
Professor Samjid Mannan
Sir Marcus Smith
Solomon Soquar
The Hon Ronald Tenpas

1986

Eleanor Baker
Professor Alastair Bellany
Charles Benett
Professor Sebastian Boyd
Clare Brown
The Hon Adam Bruce
Kyren Burns
Professor Robin Choudhury
Alasdair Cross
Andrew Davis
Adam Deacock
Jasmine Dellal
David France
Caroline Hampstead
Dame Tamara Isaacs
Alex King
Gillian Marshall
Ian Metcalf
Alison Moore
Mark Neale
Mark Perlow
Professor David Shaw
Giles Slinger
Andy Smith
Chris Ward
Jeremy Watson
And 1 anonymous donor

1987

Patrick Blakesley
Nick Brooke
Adam Brown
Simon Chapman
Stephen Cotter
Trevor Dickie
Jane Fremantle
Paul Fremantle
Professor Michele Gamburd
John Hancock
Giles Howson
Gregory Jones
Mark Kotecha
Bill Lipscomb
Arthur Moore
Julian Mylchreest
Louise Partridge
Zia Haider Rahman
Stuart Reynolds
Paul Williams
And 2 anonymous donors

1988

Glen Atchison
Camilla Bingham
Kit Bingham
Georgia Cerillo
Simon Fuge
Henry King
The Revd Dr William Lamb
Lucinda Leo
Duncan Liddell
Jane MacKay
Fiona Mylchreest
Paul Nix
Sam Pearson
The Revd James Rattue
Christine Rice
Matthew Saal
Paul Shutler
Ralph Walmsley
Susan Ward
Julian Wellesley
And 6 anonymous donors

1989

Siân Alexander
Charles Baillie
Suzanne Baillie
Nigel Butterworth
Detlef Gartner
Justine Hatter
David Lewis
Jacob Nell
Mark Notley
Kate Pickard
Rory Pope
Justin Scott
Despo Speel
Sol Tatlow
John Taylor
Ed Welsh
And 5 anonymous donors

1990

Andrew Aldwinckle
Bristi Basu
Joanne Benbrook
Gemma Benson
Penny Falk
Robin Francis
Chris Hardy
Sean Houlihane
Professor Laura Hoyano
Tim Johnston
Umesh Kumar
Barry MacEvoy
Anne Mackenzie
Dan Margolin
Shaminder Nahal
Nick Riley
Nicole Sandells
Professor Kitty Stewart
Bob Watt
And 3 anonymous donors

1991

Mojo Billington
Chris Cleave
Alexander Cooper
Iain Corby
Michael Etherton
Mark Falcon
Christopher Fermor
Chris Harris
Tina Hene
Alex Johnson
Kathrin Luddecke
Nuria Martinez-Alier
William McDonnell
Andy Morris
Roland Nash
Eleanor Naughten
Ewan Nettleton
Professor Paul Newman
Henry Ormond
Gerard Russell
John Sandhu
Vanessa Welsh
Rashid Zuberi
And 3 anonymous donors

1992

David Bayliffe
Mark Bearn
Talya Boston
Thomas Clyde
Benjamin Dalby
Mike Doherty
Tom Dyson
Christian Gantz
Binnie Goh
Alisdair Hope
Julian Howarth
Paulo Karat
Robert Keane
Dan Leedham-Green
Raymond Leung
Jonathan Lewin
Barnaby Maunder Taylor
Michael Miller
Professor Oliver Pooley
Jonathan Savidge
Nick Seccombe
Kurt Strovink
Huma Syed
Professor Dave Wark
And 1 anonymous donors

1993

Sam Arie
Judith Butler
Professor Kate Collier
Jim Crawfurd
Emma Cunningham
Michael Dal Bello
John Dyke
Jarrod Farley
Iain Fratter
John Gillespie
Alasdair Hamblin
Professor Daniel Harbour
Luke Hatter
Jayne Herrick
Chris Hooley
Suresh Kanwar
Vikki Keilthy
Annemarie Lellouch
Alistair Ligertwood
Adriana Lukas
Dinusha Panditaratne
Robert Sackin
John Sargent
Ruju Srivastava
Jon Tinker
Victoria Whitford
Robert Wilkinson
And 2 anonymous donor

1994

Peter Barnes
Jonathan Bays
Daniel Bor
Mark Chamberlain
Reuben Comiskey
Jay Dacey
Michael d'Arcy
Adam Dixon
Abigail Farr
Josh Harlan
James Henderson
Neil Kennedy
Alexander Pykett

Alastair Qualtrough
Mark Richmond
Laetitia Rutherford
Mathan Satchithananthan
Paul Smith
Alexander Stiles
Torfi Thorhallsson
Lucy Toop
Josep Turro-Bassols
Barnaby Wilson
Andrea Woodhouse
And 4 anonymous donors

1995

Becky Ashton
Richard Ashton
Lia Bruner
Carolyn Campbell
Paul Denning
Guy Edsall
Leonie Foong
Dominic Glover
Bethan Gostick
Adam Heppinstall
Professor Neil Herring
Barbara Jeffery
Emily Jones
Luke Mansfield
Vassilis Paschopoulos
Fionn Pilbrow
Saritha Pilbrow
Eleanor Richardson
Douglas Rogers
Alan Thein
Cath Tinker
Jack Walsh
Professor Philip Wood

1996

Chris Becher
Oli Bird
Michael Campbell
Gerald Clancy
Philip Clayton
Carolyn Conner Seepersad
Daniel Corder
Charles Goldsmith
Iain Gray
Lucas Green
Eleanor Greenwood
Ben Lynch
Adrian McGowan
Ify Okoye
Akhil Patel
David Riseley
Saskia Roberts
Matt Robinson
Simon Robinson
Professor Matthew Santer
Clyde Seepersad
Charles Watford
And 2 anonymous donors

1997

Judith Allen
The Hon Rosemary Bailey
David Buttery
The Revd Stella Campbell
Andrew Chrisomalis
Geoff Cowling
Tara Cowling
James Fletcher
Alistair Fray
Jo Garvey
Robert Guthrie
Thomas Havelock
Sarah Johnson
Aamir Khan
Alia Knight
Charlotte Leslie
Andrew Lindsay Strugo
Barnaby Martin
David McCabe
Professor Halvor Nordby
James Paterson
Llew Thomas
Professor Dominik Zaum
And 1 anonymous donor

1998

Mary-Therese Barton
Mark Bell
Rosemary Black
Deborah Buttery
Paul Durban
Tom Ford
James Gilbert
Stuart Hanbury
Piers Horne
Bojana Ignjatovic
Dorota Lyszkowska-Becher
Susan Monk
Leonie Parkin
Elizabeth Prescott
Justin Reid
Professor Micah Schwartzman
Luke Shepherd
Nicola Smith
Dan Snow
Ronald Sofer
Richard Sterry
Jen Taylor
Peter Trotter
Ben Tuppen
Rama Veeraragoo
George Wigley
And 1 anonymous donor

1999

Thomas Baranga
Andrew Copson
Chris Davenport
Laura Durrant
Geoffrey Evatt
Rachel Farlie
Thomas Maloney
Johan Martens
Ramanan Navaratnam
Gavin Orde
Teo Ozsan
Shira Schnitzer
Siddhartha Sivaramakrishnan
Edward Swann
Thomas Vickers
Charles Wells
Victoria Wells
Harry Westall

Neeshe Williams
Professor Paul Williams
And 2 anonymous donor

2000

Charlie Caroe
Shelley Cook
Jess Dale
Nicholas Dekker
Gillian Dow
Emma Eckered
Tomos Evans
Rachel Evatt
Matt Galloway
Katy Islip
William Morgan
Lucy Neville
Vincenzo Rampulla
Meera Sabaratnam
Isobel Sleeman
Andrew Sutton
Katie Rowbottom
Helen Turnbull
Mark Wardrop
Andy Wongsaroj
And 3 anonymous donors

2001

Dominic Bird
Sarah Bond
Philip Carr
Alan Choi
Peter Cleland
Melissa Ford Holloway
Chip Horne
Ella Kaye
Mathias Kramer
Jeff Kulkarni
Kristopher Martindale
Guy Negretti
Rahul Rao
James Rollinson
Alexa Shipman
Rosemary Stanley
Amy Trotter
Jo Valentine
Jason Vickers-Smith
Christopher Wilson
Oliver Wright
And 1 anonymous donors

2002

Elizabeth Auer
Ross Beaton
Vladimir Bermant
Alice Cave
Daniel-Konrad Cooper
Richard Eschwege
Christian Hansen
Laura Harbidge
James Holloway
Harry Jones
Ramona Erriah-Jones
James Kitchen
Edward Knapp
Tom Lane
Professor Jamie Lee
Ilana Levene
Joseph Macfarlane
John Mallonee
Ian Marsh
Catherine Sebastian
Henry Tufton
Matthew Williams

2003

Craig Abrahams
Robert Apsimon
Miriam Bazan-Peregrino
James Doree
Tracy Doree
George Grumbar
Alexander Harris
James Hume
Lettie Kennedy
Phil Killingley
Justin Lewis-Oakes
Jonathan Lok-Chuen Lo
Simon Lord
Sarah Majumdar
Stephen Matthews
David McConkey
George Mitton
Robert Newton
Emma O'Hanlon
Emma Padmore
Christopher Skillicorn
Jeremy Ting
And 2 anonymous donors

2004

Imran Ahmed
Michael Armitage
Nick Bennett
Rebecca Brown
Andrew Carter
Hannah Crowther
Jesse Crozier
Tom Dinham
Kimberly Douglas
Alister French
Stephen Kitching
Megha Kumar
Leo Li
Rick Malins
Daniela Malone
Andrew McGrath
Neda Minakaran
Lee Moore
Graham Morris
Mark O'Brien
Richard Ollerhead
Nic Ramsden
Fiona Ryan
Glenn Sheasby
Zhan Su
Jon Turner
The Revd Harri Williams
Samuel Wilson
Denis Zuev
And 2 anonymous donors

2005

Jonathan Adams
Benjamin Bleasdale
Chris Chilton
Richard Dear
Benjo Fraser

Jack Hickish
Charlotte King
Ted Maxwell
Henry Moore
Mona Mozaffari
Ashley Pitcher
Vincent Romanelli
Jonathan Selby
Wolfgang Silbermann
Sarah Slater
Maja Starcevic
Dominic Weinberg
Sarah Williams
Joanna Williamson
Jamie Wolstenhulme
Silas Xu
Ray Ye
And 1 anonymous donor

2006

Andreas Auer
Daniel Carden
Jennifer Charles
Ying Chen
Emily Clark
Laura Dowley
Thomas Gibson
Ryan Halloran
Nathan Hinton
Jack Hobbs
Mihkel Jaatma
Lucy Kellett
Barbara Lauriat
Cecily Motley
Jasmine Parkinson
Lizzie Paton Wise
Jen Robinson
Adam Smith
Daniel Temko
Professor Keon West
And 2 anonymouse donors

2007

Robert Bellin
Oliver Burton
Thomas Dean
Barr Even
Matthew Fraser
Euan Fuller
George Harnett
Rachel Jones
James Kirby
Iain Large
Ettie Lewis
Christine Madsen
Thomas Mason
Mary Platt
Michael Schumacker
Michael Skelly
Katy Theobald
David Thomson
Simon Thwaite
Simon Wan
Aelwen Wetherby
And 1 anonymous donors

2008

Miroslawa Alunowska Figueroa
Edward Brunet
Rajesh Chopra
Sam Clarke
Marine Debray
Molly Dickinson
Dilyana Dimova
Jane Dougherty
Felix Faber
Professor Edward Grefenstette
Jekaterina Ivanova
James Kohn
Anna Kullmann
Robert Latusek
Ronan McDonald
Kanishka Narayan
Hannah O'Rourke
Hector Page
Hannah Snell
Simon Stewart
Ali Travis †
Beth Wan

2009

Lubo Atanassov
Clarissa Belloni
Kate Burns
Stephen Dempsey
Liam Jones
George Karekwaivanane
Juliette Kelly
Daniel Kessler
Emily King-Oakley
Peter Lee
Hai Leung
Brianna MacLean
Brian McMahon
Alistair Mitchell
Nick Parkinson
Sam Rabinowitz
Hannah Robertson
Jon Scott
Vit Sipal
Robbie Smith
Charles Stevens
Ash Thomas
Ed Wise
Benjamin Woolgar

2010

Olivia Baddeley
Jack Banner
Mathew Barber
Matt Baum
Hugo Bax
Ben Brooks
Alice Buchan
George Colenutt
Edward Crane
Susannah Deedigan
Max Denning
Richard Dumbill
Sarah Edwards
David Ellis
Patrick Garvey
Hannah Gliksten
Jai Juneja
Emily Mak
Helen McCartney

Alice Mollon
Vincent Nimal
David Olbrich
Sophie Panzer
Ian Park
Aron Polos
Ella Robertson Mckay
Ramin Sabi
Thomas Simpkins
James Thom
And 3 anonymous donors

2011

Viraj Aggarwal
Rami Amin
Alex Bartram
Luke Bevan
Anthony Chu
George Corfield
Cody Duncan
Henry Edwards
Kateryna Frolova-Fox
Sam Harrison
Aaron Leiblich
Emma Livingston
Jay Merchant
Dom Miketa
Marc Pacitti
Jamie Papasavvas
Hannah Shearer
Libby Stephens
Illias Thoms
Will Tummon
Steven Turner
Ragulan Vigneswaran
Tomislav Vladisavljevic
Thomas Wainford
And 3 anonymous donors

2012

Philip Derry
James Dow
Christian Elliott
Samantha Ford
Lukas Freund
Duncan Frost
Zhaoxu Hou
Christopher Jones
Greg Lehman
Jamie Mawhinney
Richard May
Darcey Murphy
Natasha Ng
Aoife O'Gorman
Senthil Sabapathy
Rebecca Hannon
Alex Vai
And 1 anonymous donor

2013

Glen Aston
Chris Bridge
Jenny Bright
Aidan Daly
Ryan Diamond
Natalya Din-Kariuki
Toby Dirnhuber
Gareth Fittes
Xavier Greenwood
Daniel Karandikar
James Kavanagh
Atit Kudal
Eniola Oyesanya
Kathryn Pritchard
Jacob Rabinowitz
Beattie Sturrock
Peter Swift
Ben van Leeuwen
Josh Warwick
And 1 anonymous donors

2014

Connel Allison
George Badger
Dylan Behr
Charles Bertlin
Huw Braithwaite
Michael Burns
James Collingwood Letten
Sian Collins
Sarah Collison
Matt Coulter
Giuseppe Dal Pra
Hope Davidson
Olivia Drayson
Thomas Foster
Charlie Garner
Siddartha Ghoshal
Hamish Hall
Saad Hamid
Rachael Ince-Kitson
Aihem Johar
Kathryn Jones
Conor Jordan
Jacob Lloyd
Muhammad Md Ibrahim
Chris Nicholls
Jessi Parrott
Peter Sayer
Jemima Sneddon
Kardin Somme
Arthur Stern
Emily Webb
Indigo Wilde
Mike Wrathall
And 2 anonymous donors

2015

Aidan Balfe
Adam Beecroft
Sara Bicknell
Diasmer Bloe
Lisa Buck
Alice Coombes Huntley
Rob Cornish
William Cowie
Nicola Dwornik
Alex Fuller
Lily Goldblatt
Stephen Hawes
Calum Holt
Anna Irwin
Elliot Jones
Leon Kidd
Bethany Kirkbride
Harriet Moore
George Muscat
Alastair Nicklin

Freddy Potts
James Rooney
Laura Savage
Milo Saville
Perdita Shirley
Ted Tan
Haydee Thomas
William Wathey
George Wright
And 1 anonymous donor

2016

Greg Brinkworth
Luke Chester
George Cooper
Mollie Cross
Tiffany Duneau
Benjamin Gray
Yijun Hao
Philippa Hook
Emma Howlett
Isabel Ion
Rishem Khattar
Phermsak Lilakul
Shuyu Lin
Joel Lowther
Stephanie McAnally
David Metcalfe
Alyssa Nathanson-Tanner
Lauren Tavriger
Rhys Underdown
Zoe Weeks
Youssef Zitoun
And 2 anonymous donor

2017

Becky Collins
Alice Evatt
Kamran Gaba
Thomas Laver
Richard Matheson
Hugo Middle
Louis Minion
Owen Orrick
Aya Sakaguchi
Shaohong Zhong

2018

Manos Alexis
Huw Evans
Michael Fallona
Harry Fox
Alex Knighton
Ivan Lobaskin
Toye Oladinni
Konrad Sitkowski
Titus Teo Guo Zheng

2019

Philip Ball
Chris Crum
David Danin
Thomas Evans
Andrés Herrera Poyatos
Simon Hulse
Rebecca Jones
Virginia Nizza
Jakob Schram
Rebekka Thur
Alex Triay Bagur
Sian Wilcox

2020

Eduardo Alves
Zelda Cahill-Patten
Zack Glindon
Justine Ryan
Nathan Van Wees

2021

Isabella Alexandrou
Elyse Cox
Tor Dahl
Ben Falconer
Alexander Frangulov
Steren Mottart
Sachi Patel
Can Uz

2022

Kate Angell
Peder Burgaard
Tobias Laundal
Martin Munoz
Alannah Neff
Lukas Weierts

2023

Daniel Bilsborrow
Ben Gannon
Ciara Garcha
Armando Gaxiola Lappe
Daniel Lopez
Louisa McDonald
Samir Padival
Ranvijay Singh
Felix Vanden Borre
Tristan Yip

Fellows, staff and friends

Myles Axton
Professor William Barford
Richard Beacham
Geraldine Billingham
Daphne Briggs
Christopher Bruner
Nicholas Bunnin
Professor Daniel Butt
Linn Cary Mehta
Darren Cavanagh
Rainbow Chang
Raquel Chmielewski
Victor Christou
Robert Crow
Paul Dießelberg
Margaret Dubner
Professor Edward Fisher
Barbara France
Dame Helen Ghosh
Andrew Graham
Peggotty Graham
Sherry Granum
Professor Les Green
Inge Heckel
Mary Keen
Professor Leslie Kendrick
Dan Keyworth
Professor Josef Kittler
Mohit Kohli
Judy Lane
John Latsis
Anne Mackintosh
Professor Nobuyo Maeda
Claire Mankowitz
Robyn Manzini
Professor Sophie Marnette
Nicola Martin
Melissa Marx
Jean Matthews
Rahul Mehta
Oznur Mete
Professor Dr Nicoletta Momigliano
Paul Montefiore
Professor Gillian Morriss-Kay
Oswyn Murray
Ruby Nithyanand
Richard Norman
Professor Seamus Perry
Jane Ramage
Friends and Family of Malcolm Rand
Paul Roberts
Professor Daniel Rubenstein
Professor Philip Scowcroft
Rosalind Slinger
Nickola Smith
Cilia Stearne
Jane Tayler
Maggie Thurer
Nicola Trott
Mary Jeanne Tufano
Professor Peter Tufano
Lisa Walker
Catherine Weiskel
Carl Woodall
And 5 anonymous donors

Organisations

Aker Scholarship
Balliol Society
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Cyril Taylor Charitable Foundation
Fairfax Trust
Gask Trust
Google
Harbour Foundation
J P Morgan (UK)
Jill and Norman Franklin Trust
Keasbey Memorial Foundation
Koninklijke Brill NV
Lazard Asset Management
Mersey Charitable Trust
Norton Blasdel Family Charitable Fund
Peter Cundill Foundation
Routledge (Taylor & Francis)
Visa

Student giving

We are grateful to the members of the JCR and MCR for their continued donations to support students seeking sanctuary from conflict and repression around the world.

Legacies received

Nevil Norway (1919)
J. Trevor Wilson (1945)
Stephen Younger (1951)
John Claricoat (1952)
Lord Selkirk of Douglas (1961)
Charles Rickett (1967)
Alastair Howatson
Ruth Longworth

UK donors giving via Gift Aid are reminded that you must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax for each year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that you donate to will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. Balliol College will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that you give on or after 6 April 2008. If your circumstances change and you no longer pay income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax that Balliol reclaims, you should cancel your Gift Aid declaration.



Jim (1973) and Jane Ramage by the Benefactors' Board, where their names have been added this year in honour of their generous contributions to the College

