



BALLIOL  
COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

# NEWS AND NOTES

Updates from Balliol alumni around the world

A supplement to Floreat Domus 2020



# News and Notes

We are delighted to share news from the Balliol community

## 1940s

### David Grove (1941)

On a sunny day in September my grandson Reuben (Exeter College, 2005) drove us to Oxford for one of my rare visits to College. It was good to meet Stewart Tiley (Librarian) and Bethany Hamblen (Archivist and Records Manager) and hand over three boxes of my papers for safekeeping in the Balliol Archives.

### Edward Gelles (1944)

Continuing my study of Jewish families and their pan-European migrations – their history, genealogy, and genetic admixtures being related to the changing political, social, and economic background of the countries they lived in and the ethnic groups they encountered on their millennial journey. Beginning with the wider ancestral background of my own family and its connections with many notable rabbis of the past, my study has expanded to represent in microcosm an outline history of European Jewry. My published books are *An Ancient Lineage: European Roots of a Jewish Family* (Vallentine Mitchell, 2006); four paperbacks: *Family Connections: Gelles-Horowitz-Chajes*, *Gelles-Shapiro-Friedman*, *Ephemeral & Eternal: Josef Gelles, a brief life*; *Meeting My Ancestors: Genealogy, Genes and Heritage* (Shaker Publishing, 2008–2012); and my latest book, *A Jewish Journey: A Passage through European History*



(Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016). My more recent work is currently presented in 'Papers of Edward Gelles' on the Balliol College Archives & Manuscripts website. I have just added an essay entitled 'Some Gelles and Jaffe family migrations in recent centuries' outlining our journey of the past 400 years from Prague to Poland and Lithuania, whence branches moved west to Silesia, Berlin, and further into Germany, and south via Galicia to Vienna, with members of both these branches ultimately coming to England just before the outbreak of the Second World War.

### Derek Abrahams (1946)

Some months ago I fell and broke a big thigh bone, so now I hobble around on crutches. I tripped coming out of the gym. Otherwise, I'm fit and well and getting quite good at hobbling.

### William Haines (1947)

Angela and I have been paying for a young Indian girl to train as a nurse. She has qualified with firsts in BSc and MSc Nursing and wants to pass the English language exam, which she finds a struggle, so that she can work in the UK. Her command of English would be improved if language courses were transmitted on the local radio, like the British Council and BBC courses on the internet. The 35,000 primary schools in India would also welcome lessons delivered by an English voice. Can anyone help, please?

### Alan Montefiore (1948 and Emeritus Fellow)

It is nice, if not a little surprising to me at my by now undeniably distinctly advanced age, to find myself reporting the appearance of a collection of my pieces written over the years, and published (some of them at least) in one odd place or another, under the title *Philosophy and the Human Paradox* (Routledge, 2019). The collection is edited by Danielle Sands, and does at

any rate contain one new piece by me in response to her introduction to the collection. Another surprise for me has been Routledge's proposal to republish during the course of 2020 my little *A Modern Introduction to Moral Philosophy*, first published by them in as long ago as 1958 – and so no longer really justified in bearing the term 'modern' in its title!

### Sir Jack Stewart-Clark Bt (1949)

In 1999 I retired from the European Parliament, having served there faithfully for 20 years. In 1996 I had inherited my family home of Dundas Castle near Edinburgh. My wife and I set about a complete restoration and then turned our home into a wedding and corporate hospitality venue. We now do 60 weddings a year and have a turnover of nearly one million pounds per year. We are immensely proud because for the second year running we have won the prestigious VOWS award for the best wedding venue in Scotland. Life was exciting at 70 and continued to 90 and hasn't ended yet! I have founded a new charity called SOHTIS (Survivors of Human Trafficking in Scotland) to try and mitigate the effects of this evil trade.

## 1950s

### Roger Corman (1950)

On 13 July 2017 Roger was given the *Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres*, the highest honour the French Government bestows in the arts.

### John Mallet (1950)

Since my marriage to Diana Edwards Murnaghan I spend nearly half the year in Baltimore, Maryland. I celebrated my 89th birthday by flying to Turin to deliver a lecture in Italian at a conference on the collecting of Italian Renaissance maiolica for museums.



**Weland Stone (1950)**

At 87 and physically considerably weaker, my main news is of continued existence. Alumni from my year seem mostly to have died before their time. However, I try to maintain my post-retirement hobbies of Latin classes, embroidery and inexpert bridge and to maintain our acre of garden through the labours of others. Enjoying a medical student and a classicist-cum-musician as two eldest granddaughters provides continuing interest and motivation to keep going.

**Richard Wheadon (1951)**

On Tuesday 15 October 2019 our youngest son, Tristan, married Kirsty in the church of St Pierre du Bois, Guernsey, before a congregation of about 100. The following Sunday 20 October at the Chateau de Saint Michel, St Giron, Ariège, in the presence of a similar number, albeit differently constituted, I conducted a service of blessing in which Tristan and Kirsty reiterated their vows, their plighting of troths and their exchange of rings. Unaccompanied, we all sang together 'Brother, Sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you ...' to the tune 'Servant Song'. It was a beautiful occasion. For me this was not only an honour and a delight, but it also happened to complete the full spectrum of my 25 years of service as a reader in the Church of England. That service has embraced not only leading and preaching at morning and evening services, but also the conducting (with dispensation) of services of communion by extension on Christmas nights and services of baptism (one on Christmas morning); also, sitting with the dying and the bereaved, conducting funerals and administering home communion to the housebound. It has been a wonderful experience and I thank God for it.

**Kenneth Cavander (1952)**

I have been commissioned to write and adapt a new translation of Sophocles' *Antigone*, for production later in 2020 at the Westport Playhouse, a nationally recognised theatre in Connecticut, USA, performances to be timed with the run-up to the American general election.

**Noël Ing (1952)**

I (re) married, on 18 August 2019, Sandra Rosemarie Barnes.

**Professor Ian Macdonald (1952)**

'My way of life/Is fall'n into the sere, the yellow leaf,' so said Macbeth and so thought I as I passed my 90th birthday. However, I am pleased to report on two new honours that have come my way in recent months. First, after many years of service, I was named an Honorary Director of the Toronto branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society. I highly prize my relationship with the Commonwealth, having served for ten years as the volunteer chair of the Commonwealth of Learning. Second, on 5 December last, I was inducted into the York University Sport Hall of Fame in the Builder category. This recognised, in particular, my role during ten years as President of York University, Toronto, in creating the National Tennis Centre at York and in persuading Metro Toronto to establish the Metro Toronto Track and Field Centre at the university. On the personal athletic side, I continue to play with our York Professors ice hockey team after 45 years.

**Robert Kernohan (1953)**

Old age is hard going, but it was worthwhile to struggle out to the Balliol reception at the Royal Society of Edinburgh. I am most grateful. My broadcasting and my writing are now very limited but I still managed bits and pieces on BBC Radio Scotland and some contributions to *The Scottish Review*, mainly about the latest Balliol Prime Minister's impact on the party which I have belonged to for 70 years and to which (after a little hesitation) I still belong.

**John Ford (1954)**

His book *Rudolph Ackermann & the Regency World* (Warnham Books, 2018) has been widely praised as being a definitive work, a review by Mark Bills, the director of Gainsborough's House, Sudbury, in *Print Quarterly* calling it 'a valuable and absorbingly interesting book, not just for print scholars, but for all those interested in the Regency period, an important book which will serve as the standard work on the topic for years to come'.

**Alexander Hopkinson-Woolley (1955)**

I am trying to write a booklet, in which it is suggested that the Temptation of Jesus happened before the reported baptism and that Simon Peter did not start the work of spreading the

Gospel until after the chance fishing trip, when the disciples engaged in it could think of nothing better to do. Following Richard Bauckham, I am using the Fourth Gospel as first-hand witness, although it was written by, possibly, John the Elder (as the witness, who had probably been the preserved fish delivery lad to the high priest's household, was almost certainly illiterate).

**Richard Tilney-Bassett (1955)**

After graduating some 50-plus years ago, I'm still going! Still an avid reader of Oxford and Balliol news as well as *New Scientist* weekly. Living quietly now in the south of France near Montauban – any visitors welcome. As some of you will know, my daughter is also a Balliol scholar and now lives in France near Manosque. My son, who graduated from Exeter and the Open University, lives near us close to Toulouse. The next generation after are just getting started, with one in Durham and another in the University of Science and Technology in Hong Kong.

**David Benedictus (1956)**

I have been commissioned to write a new children's book, subsequent to *Return to the Hundred Acre Wood* (Egmont, 2011), but details are not available as I am subject to an NDA. Watch this space, guys!

**John Stabler (1956)**

I am pursuing a second career as a mole-catcher in my Norfolk garden. I endeavour unsuccessfully to keep up with my wife Marjorie on our daily dog walks on the coast at Holkham, and I try to activate my few remaining neurones by doing battle with the Listener Crossword every week.

**Professor Aaron Sloman (1957)**

After two years at Hull University, 27 years at Sussex University (apart from a one-year fellowship in Edinburgh), and 28 years at the University of Birmingham in the school of computer science, where I am now an Honorary Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science, I am still working on a topic close to my DPhil thesis: i.e. trying to understand the biological mechanisms that allowed evolution to produce great ancient mathematicians whose discoveries are still in regular use, but whose thought processes are

not yet modelled in AI or explained in psychology or neuroscience. I gave a talk about this at the conference on models of consciousness at the Oxford Mathematical Institute in September 2019: a video recording of my talk happens to be first (because 'Aaron' starts with two As?) in the collection of videos here: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCWgIDgfzRDp-PmQvMsYiNlg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWgIDgfzRDp-PmQvMsYiNlg)

### HE Kamal Uddin Azfar (1958)

The College treated us recently emancipated students from the end of the Raj – such as the Gandhian Ravi Dayal (1959) and the Rhodes Scholar from India Manmohan Malhotra (1958) – like minor royals. The Fellows thoughtfully placed me in the friendly Dicey corridor to protect the South Asian from homesickness, a corridor where I made lifelong friends. These included Euan Macphail (1958); Sandy Lindsay (1958), grandson of A.D. Lindsay (Master 1924–1949); John Crow (1958) of the IMF; and the historian Clive Jordan (1958), in whose rooms we heard with bated breath de Gaulle declaring Algerian independence. Centrally air-conditioned Holywell Manor housed other expats, including the political historian Alfred Stepan (1958), who won the head and heart of the charismatic Nancy Leys from nearby Somerville, Alfred and Nancy both ending up as professors at Columbia as man and wife until Alfred passed away in 2017. Among other friends in Holywell Manor were the erudite scholar from Canada masquerading night and day as a playboy in dark glasses Graham Nesbitt (1958); Ashok Nehru (1957), belonging to the high Bahman clan of the first and greatest Indian Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru; Charles DiBona (1957), married to the beautiful Evelyn, whose parents and dazzling sister Monica had been forced to emigrate to Stockholm during the Second World War; and Henry Lloyd (1958). The legend that in response to the opening question by Marcus Dick (1939, Fellow 1947–1963, war hero and philosophy tutor, 'Azfar, what'd you think Philosophy is about? I responded, 'The search for the Absolute, I suppose,' whereupon Marcus Dick said, 'Good God,' and offered me a glass of gin is partly apocryphal. It was sherry. For more recollections and rites of passage,

see my memoir *The Waters of Lahore* (2013): a copy is in the College Library.

### Geoffrey Cannon (1958)

Living in Brazil since 2000, my main work now is with the Centre for Epidemiological Studies in Nutrition and Health at the University of São Paulo. We have devised the NOVA food classification system. This identifies ultra-processed food products mostly manufactured by transnational corporations as the driver of what is now pandemic obesity. NOVA is the basis of the 2014 official national Brazilian food guide (English version at [http://bvsms.saude.gov.br/bvs/publicacoes/dietary\\_guidelines\\_brazilian\\_population.pdf](http://bvsms.saude.gov.br/bvs/publicacoes/dietary_guidelines_brazilian_population.pdf)) and it is recognised by UN agencies. My time at Balliol I am now recording. The story includes recollections of Patrick Corbett (1945) (who told me that I was a journalist, which became true until my mid-40s), Tommy Balogh (Fellow 1945–1973) and Paul Streeten (1944, Fellow 1948–1978, Honorary Fellow 1986–2019); Charles Taylor (1952) and Michael Dummett (1947) of All Souls; also Edgar Wind and Raghavan Iyer. My story also includes the success in 1960 of Oxford Opinion, co-owned with Stephan Feuchtwang and initially edited by me and art edited by David Osborne, which had contributions from J.G. Farrell, Ian Hamilton, Richard Gott, Kevin Crossley-Holland and many others, notably Ian Cameron, Mark Shivas, Victor Perkins and their comrades who transformed thinking about cinema and went on to create *Movie* magazine. In late 2018 with my then 14-year-old son Gabriel I visited Balliol. Gabriel, refreshed as we sat with coffee and cake outside the renewed Buttery, was suitably impressed. I will be very glad to hear from '58ers and others from surrounding years. I am on [GeoffreyCannon1@gmail.com](mailto:GeoffreyCannon1@gmail.com).

### Sir Richard Heygate Bt (1958)

Just signed my third contract with the China Railway Group (largest construction company in the world). Working mainly in Africa, where the government of Zimbabwe has awarded me the title of Friend of the Country. I work closely with the diaspora, the new generation of Africans, highly educated, who move to the West, but still love their country and one day will return and make it into a giant.

### Robert Mash (1958)

CBC in Canada are threatening to make a TV series based on my book *How to Keep Dinosaurs* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2003).

### Malyn Newitt (1958)

Malyn Newitt published *The Braganzas: The Rise and Fall of the Ruling Dynasties of Portugal and Brazil, 1640–1910 Reaction* (London, 2019).

### Professor Jarle Simensen (1958)

Since my year at Balliol, on the Anderson Norwegian Scholarship, and with John Bryson (Fellow 1940–1963) and Christopher Ricks (1953 and Honorary Fellow) as tutors in English literature, I have kept in contact with the College and with friends I made. I have, though, neglected reporting for the Balliol records. So, in brief: Back in Norway, and after a Major in Russian, I took history degrees in British colonial and African history (Nigeria and Ghana), and from 1973 built up a programme in African history in Trondheim, at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, while teaching international and global history as an Adjunct Professor in Oslo. We moved to Oslo in 1998. In addition to African and international history, my main research contributions have been in the history of Norwegian missions, Norwegian development aid and technological transfer to Africa. I have spent much time on interdisciplinary cooperation and on establishing a university exchange programme with Ghana. I have also had stints as Pro-Rector in Trondheim and as head of the Norwegian German Historians Program. My wife, Aud Marit, is a professor of applied linguistics (English), and with our two children we have spent one research year in London and three years at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I am now much taken up with global history. Back in my cottage on our family farm in mountainous Norway, I ask myself: How many worlds, how many identities in my life? One bit of that puzzle is Balliol. More can be found at [www.hf.uio.no/iakh/english/people/aca/history/emeriti/jarlesi/simensen-publications.html](http://www.hf.uio.no/iakh/english/people/aca/history/emeriti/jarlesi/simensen-publications.html).

### The Revd Dafydd Miles Board (1959)

Hopefully, our family is just about to join the ranks of the many families which have three generations of Balliol



members. All our three will have entered from different places and schools. Here's an image from the wonderful, and effortlessly impressive Balliol Open Day, autumn 2019. At 80 plus, I'm sitting with my grandson in my first study room on Staircase IV: both of us, Dafydd and Efan Meilir Owen, physically spanning three Balliol generations. Efan was later offered a place, provisionally on A-levels of course, for Michaelmas 2020. Plus: behold the sort of coincident dates journalists love. On that memorable Balliol Open Day 2019, it was almost to the day 60 years before that I had first entered that room, IV.3, when coming up as a Fresher. Our family joy in January following the third-generation offer letter from the College was well expressed by Efan's mother, Lowri, my daughter, who said truly that we were 'hapus dros ben' which translates as 'summit happy' or 'happy right over the top'. The entire family rejoiced, including Balliol man number two, Dr Steffan Miles Board (1986), my second son, who at present is in Nairobi, as Minister Counsellor at Canada's High Commission in Kenya.

#### Malcolm Brahmams (1959)

After nearly 40 years I have retired from the Council of the Medico-Legal Society, although I continue to take an active interest in its activities. The rest of my time is taken up with my grandchildren (eight so far and one on the way) and my U3A activities. These include leading a current affairs discussion group which was founded just before the 2017 election and, thanks to recent political turmoil, has been hyperactive ever since.

#### Malcolm Forrest (1959)

In the article in the November e-News about Russell Meiggs (Fellow 1939–1970, Honorary Fellow 1970–1989), I

was astounded to see that one of his favourite photographs was a 'Schools Eight' I put together, composed of men in their last term or who did not want to row full time. The idea was to take some competent rowers and race against less experienced crews in a low division, making bumps so that we did not have to row too far and ideally pick up some blades. The plan was one or two outings to get some cohesion, on race days down to the river around lunchtime, practise on the way to the start, make a quick bump, back to College for tea and hit the books. Unfortunately we failed on the third day, but the pain made us try harder and succeed on the Saturday. By the time the crew photographs were taken Fred Ziegler (1960) had left. It does not look good to be one short. This was the era of the Satire Revival and General Irreverence, with the Oxford magazine *Mesopotamia* morphing into *Private Eye*. So it was ideal to fill the empty seat with Russell Meiggs, who had an appropriate somewhat eccentric image. At first glance, it is a standard crew picture, but in fact was an attempt at a send-up. Meiggs was concerned about my hedonistic lifestyle. So, after Finals results were published, I was greatly pleased to receive his note congratulating me on my second 'as it seemed there was a real possibility of a fourth'. In fact I was really not that wild. This was a time when the worst sin at Oxford was to be a 'Grey Man'. Image was all. I am now nearing the end of my 44th year in Paris, working on obtaining French nationality, to be able to retain my status as a Citizen of Nowhere. I continue to cultivate my irreverential credo.



#### Dermot Glynn (1959)

My oldest grandchild, Matilda, came up to Balliol this year to read physics.

#### John Hole (1959)

I passed my eightieth birthday and had my fourth novel published in August this year! The novel is *Will Shakespeare's Secret*, published by Austin Macauley. It tells of the rumbustious life of theatre in Elizabethan London and it comes up with some interesting and mysterious facts about how it was that William Shakespeare's success depended very much on his relationship with Christopher Marlowe; and also how it is thanks to the dedicated work of his fellow actors John Heminges and Henry Condell that his many plays have survived and seen such success.

#### The Rt Hon Sir David Keene (1959)

I published a short memoir entitled *Leaving the Arena* (Bloomsbury, 2019), dealing mainly with my time as a barrister and then as a judge.

#### Colin Wyman (1959)

I have been reading a law with politics degree at Buckingham University for the past three years and have been awarded and upper 2.1 LLB.

## 1960s

#### David Gordon (1960)

President of the Sierra Madre Playhouse, a 99-seat live theatre in the town in Los Angeles, where we live; French on Tuesdays; pilates on Wednesdays; hiking on Thursdays; massage on Fridays; grandpa in San Diego every other weekend, summers in London. Typical routine of the new young old.

#### Ian Watson (1960)

As regards academia, being a science fiction writer I gave the keynote address for the University of Porto (Portugal) in April 2019 at More Meals to Come: An International Conference, a three-day event with the rubric of 'Utopia: Alimentação e Futuro'. My address, appearing in 2020 along with the other proceedings, was entitled 'Better than Being Fossilised!'

#### Professor Richard Hyman (1961)

After 25 years running the *European Journal of Industrial Relations* I have just handed over to a new editor, though I will retain a role as founding editor. Rebecca and I plan to spend more time on our canal boat in France, unless we



become collateral damage in the Brexit madness.

### **Knobby Clarke (1962)**

Last Easter, while attending the annual Viol School in Canberra, I met a woman whose PhD thesis concerned the extensions to music Braille needed to support the accurate representation of early music. Since then, I have written the specification of a computing system to implement the automation of those ideas on cheap commodity computing hardware and software. The Faculty of Engineering at Melbourne University has accepted this specification as the subject for a year-long capstone development project to be undertaken by a team of students for the degree of Master of Software Engineering. I am presently supervising that team.

### **John Cookson (1962)**

I am maintaining a role in the NHS as a psychiatrist in a male intensive care unit in east London, and teaching psychopharmacology.

### **Professor Sir Andrew Likierman (1962)**

Since stepping down as Dean of the London Business School, I've been back on the faculty and researching human judgement. What is it? How do you know you've got it? How do you know other people have got it (such as before you hire them)? How can you improve it? My focus is on management, but I have also extended it to professions, the relationship to artificial intelligence and its use in the difficult personal decisions we make during our lives. This is a fascinating topic, if alarmingly broad in academic terms, since it spans many different disciplines and literatures, as well as raising questions of how it crosses geographic and cultural boundaries. I have produced a framework (published in the January/February 2020 *Harvard Business Review*) and would be interested to hear from anyone in the Balliol community about ideas and applications.

### **Professor Richard Portes (1962)**

Appointed Chair of Advisory Scientific Committee of European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB). Re-appointed co-chair of ESRB Joint Expert Group on Non-bank Financial Intermediation. Supervised publication of ESRB *Non-bank Financial Intermediation Risk Monitor* 4, July 2019.

Publications: 'Interconnectedness: mapping the shadow banking system', in *Banque de France Financial Stability Review*, April 2018; revised version forthcoming as 'Interconnectedness: shadow banking and Capital Markets Union', in F. Allen et al., eds, *Capital Markets Union*, MIT Press, 2019; *Global Dimensions of Macprudential Policy* (with Tuomas Peltonen and Antonio Sanchez Serrano), European Systemic Risk Board Report, forthcoming; 'Shadow Banking', *London Business School Review*, October 2018; 'Can We Escape Boom and Bust?', *London Business School Review*, October 2019; 'Carry Trade with Chinese Characteristics' (with Yi Huang and Ugo Panizza), *Vox China*, 13 June 2018 <http://voxcchina.org/show-3-85.html>; 'Putting the Greek Debt Problem to Rest', with B. Eichengreen, E. Avgouleas, M. Maduro, U. Panizza, B. Weder di Mauro, C. Wyplosz, *VoxEU*, 20 March 2018, at <https://voxeu.org/article/putting-greek-debt-problem-rest>; 'Restoring Trust in Iceland: Iceland's IMF programme' (with Fridrik Mar Baldursson), in Sigurjonsson, T.O., Bryant, M., & Schwarzkopf, D. (2018). *The Return of Trust? Institutions and the Public after the Icelandic Financial Crisis*, Emerald Publishing Limited, Bingley, UK; 'Corporate Foreign Bond Issuance and Interfirm Loans in China' (with Yi Huang and Ugo Panizza), NBER Working Paper 24513, CEPR Discussion Paper 12865, April 2018.

### **Brian Westcott (1962)**

I have been invited to Bologna in May 2020 to participate in a licensed advanced hypnotic practitioner seminar run by Dr Richard Bandler.

### **Philip Bishop (1963)**

After 46 years of life in Nottinghamshire we moved to Liverpool in 2017 to be near family. We are enjoying life in this battered but big-hearted city. A lively six-year-old granddaughter keeps us active, along with gym for me and Nordic walking for Pam, my wife. The Royal Liverpool Phil is on a roll at present – seven of Mahler's symphonies to come in the next seven months as well as much Schubert and some outstanding chamber concerts. We are increasingly involved in a food bank for asylum seekers run by the two cathedrals as well as in support for new residents. The presence of former asylum seekers in our support

team ensures we are a multinational and multifaith outfit. Next term sees us enrolled in a Liverpool University extramural course on the Architecture of Liverpool – more listed buildings here than in Bath and outstanding Victorian commercial buildings still in use. It's still a rewarding life!

### **Professor Russell Bryant (1963)**

As an active 79-year-old I visit the gym, jog and swim daily at a nearby state park. (I am always amazed at how much faster I can swim when being chased by an alligator.) This year I hope to finish the first draft of my biography of the British financier-turned-diplomat Lord D'Abernon. I have just gotten him through the French occupation of the Ruhr in 1923. As someone who taught British history for 30 years at an American university, I remain mystified that Balliol, which educated the two prime ministers who put the UK into the European Union, also produced the one taking her out. Was there something earlier in the water that was subsequently removed?

### **David Willington (1964)**

My third novel, *A Palestine Affair*, should be published commercially in the summer. It is set in the British Mandate in Palestine, which ended in 1948. Unputdownable, I would say!

### **Sir Michael Burton (1965)**

The year 2019 for me was crowned with the announcement in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of my appointment 'for services to the Rule of Law' as Knight Grand Cross of the British Empire (GBE), a great honour marked by going to the Palace with my four daughters in November, and the grant of a solid gold chain or collar, which I can only wear on Collar Days (I am working on an occasion!) and has to be given back by the girls on my death! That apart, I have been still judging in the Commercial Court and elsewhere, disciplining Chartered Surveyors, and doing a smidgen of arbitrating and mediating; some acting and singing too. Also I was blessed with my 10th grandchild.

### **Martin Cree (1965)**

I have sold my business and have fully retired. My wife Anne was diagnosed with Alzheimer's three years ago and I now have more time to care for her.

**Peter Hacker (1965)**

I was appointed to an Honorary UCL Professorship at the Department of Neurology at University College London. I published *Intellectual Entertainments: Eight Dialogues on Mind, Consciousness and Thought* (Anthem Press, 2020) (it was in fact published in October 2019). I also published a second edition of *Wittgenstein: Meaning and Mind*, Volume 3 of an *Analytic Commentary on the Philosophical Investigations*, Part I – Essays, Part II – Exegesis, sections 243–427 (Wiley-Blackwell, 2019).

**Hubert Murray (1965)**

My wife, Nancy Uhlar (LMH, 1967), and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary this year. We were introduced to each other by Ron Berenbeim (1966) in the Balliol JCR in the heady days of 1968. Our children, based in Tunis and Barcelona respectively, and under instructions not to wantonly increase carbon emissions, orchestrated from afar an anniversary treasure hunt involving a book reading, a spectacular meal and a memorable play – in that order. PPE taught me to interpret the world. My architectural degree has allowed me to change it, if only incrementally. Having spent a career planning, designing and building schools and universities as well as highways and train stations, I am now in my retirement working with a team of Palestinian teachers designing and developing a kindergarten in Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem. This little school for 100 children will be bound to make a huge and positive difference for families living in very difficult conditions. To be working together on this project is a wonderful antidote to the vortex of despair one can so often feel on listening to the morning news. If anyone is curious as to what we are doing architecturally and pedagogically, I can be contacted at [hmurray2012@gmail.com](mailto:hmurray2012@gmail.com).

**Michael Paling (1965)**

Packing real cheese, as I write this, to take to Guatemala, to see me through what will be my twelfth overseas trip as a medical volunteer. Queso does not work for me!!!

**Professor James Prattis (1965)**

*Shattered Earth: Approaching Extinction* (Manor House Publishing, 2019) is my

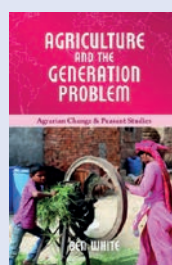
18th book – the most difficult yet. It is about our broken world – particularly with respect to the impending extinction brought about by climate emergency. The difficulty for me has been the darkness of extinction despite the pacifying alternative of impermanence. My books are not candidates for intellectual sophistry or for theological nicety. As a set of signposts they may be valuable if the signposts are not held on to after their usefulness is exhausted. It is the reader's inner experience, as a result of the words, that is truly worthwhile. This kind of knowledge lies beyond the formulas found in books and the intellectual constructions of clever talk. If you cling to a formula in the mistaken belief that it holds the truth, then be prepared for disappointment. Formulas for truth expand into rigidly held beliefs, which deny reality as it is. This leads to an escape that is particular and strategic. The escape is from knowing and experiencing the energy of inner consciousness. When these dependencies are abandoned through trust in your inner journey, your own experience of inner truth, of your true nature, then celebrate what has always resided within. That is what I hope readers will reconcile with as a viable strategy for our times, so that they, citizens and leaders are equipped with the tools that can generate understanding, compassion and non-violent reconciliation.

**Lord Angus Stewart (1965)**

On 16 November 2019 I retired as Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland for the Presidency of the Stair Society, Scotland's premier legal history society, with effect from 31 March 2020. I am to be succeeded in the office by Hon. Lady Wolffe (1984), Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland. I will deliver the Stair Society Annual Lecture 2020 with the title 'Sir Walter Scott: Law and Imagination'.

**Benjamin White (1965)**

I published *Agriculture and the Generation Problem: Agrarian Change & Peasant Studies* (Fernwood Publishing, 2020).

**Stuart Baldock (1966)**

After over 50 years living and working in the property industry in France, during which time I acquired French citizenship, I have now realised a long-term ambition and moved with my wife and youngest child to Athens. I commute to France whenever business requires.

**Christopher Currie (1966)**

My Senior Research Fellowship of the Institute of Historical Research (University of London) was renewed in November 2019. I continued to be research active, with an article in *Vernacular Architecture* appearing in November and a chapter in *Fifty Years of Medieval Technology and Social Change*, ed. Steven A. Walton, in September. I am currently listing all known examples in England, Wales, and Ireland of tenants' copies of court roll before 1400, and would be interested to hear from any Old Member who has come across one. More important, my granddaughter Niamh Adiesua Tallon was born on 1 March 2019.

**Professor Benjamin Fine (1966)**

I published: *Material Cultures of Financialisation*, co-edited with K. Bayliss and M. Robertson (Routledge, 2018); and *Race, Class and the Post-Apartheid Democratic State*, co-edited with John Reynolds and Robert van Niekerk (University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2019).

**Martin Kaufman (1966)**

Having set up the Institute of Fundraising (IoF) Cultural Sector Network in 2014, which has organised the largest cultural sector fundraising conferences in Europe, I handed over to my successor in November 2019. However, in July 2019 I became Chair of the IoF RAISE Steering Committee, funded by Arts Council England to enhance and support cultural sector fundraisers throughout England (outside London). I have a great nationwide committee, but would be keen to speak to Balliol alumni involved in arts and heritage fundraising who would like to know more.

**Philip Kendall (1966)**

Appointed a trustee of the Oxford School of Drama (OSD). Established in 1986, based in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, the OSD is one of the UK's leading drama schools, with distinguished

alumni in film, television, and theatre. Following the appointment of a new principal from RADA, the school has ambitious plans for expansion.

### Michael Venning (1966)

After a career in medicine – teacher, researcher and university hospital specialist clinician – I am switching career to spend the next decade or so using my maths PhD, teaching secondary school maths. So far so good: my UCAS application to train to teach is in. It will keep me in funds to watch Manchester United at home and overseas, and I should get a grant for the training!

### Martin Walker (1966)

The year 2019 saw the publication of *The Body in the Castle Well*, the 12th novel in the Bruno series of Perigord mysteries, which have now sold more than 4 million copies in 18 languages. It also saw the launch of *Bruno's Garden Cookbook*, written with my wife Julia, at the Frankfurt Book Fair. I was honoured to be elected a member of the Jurade of the wines of Montravel and a magistrat of the wines of Duras, and we produced 7,000 bottles of my own Cuvée Bruno wine.

### Dennis Childs (1967)

Caro and I have lived in France for 14 years now, but only after the Brexit referendum did we apply for French nationality. In December 2019 we were officially naturalised. It makes surprisingly little difference to our status here, but as we were in line to lose our right to vote in UK elections from 2020, at least we will be able to vote in the French ones.

### Tony Keefer (1967)

Tony Keefer (Rhodes Scholar from Ontario) and Deborah were married in Balliol College Chapel on 12 July 1969. In 2019 they celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary there with family



and friends. Their two daughters, Lucy and Rosie, with their husbands and six grandchildren were all present to celebrate the joyful occasion at Rhodes House. Best man Htun Aye (1966) and his wife were also present, as were members of the Canadian family. After receiving his DPhil in 1970 and working as a management consultant, in 1973 Tony joined the Canadian government in Ottawa, where he worked on streamlining various government programmes and procedures. In 1981 he was seconded to the World Intellectual Property Organisation, a United Nations Specialized Agency in Geneva, where he worked until 2004. Later Tony lectured at the University of Geneva for the International Organisations MBA programme. After retirement the family continues to reside in Switzerland. To have been married for 50 years seems to be almost unimaginable in the modern, technological age and Tony and Deborah are very happy to have beaten the statistics!

### Anthony Sheppard (1967)

Now starting my seventh year as Hon. Treasurer of the British Institute at Ankara and seeking a successor, as I am approaching my 'use by date'! Anybody interested is welcome to get in touch via [hon.treasurer@biaa.ac.uk](mailto:hon.treasurer@biaa.ac.uk).

### Professor Jonathan Slack (1967)

I am still writing scientific books. In 2018 *The Science of Stem Cells* came out, published by Wiley. This is intended to provide 'all the basic science you need to know' to be a stem cell biologist, including developmental biology, tissue culture technology, transplantation biology and so on. I have just finished the fourth edition of *Essential Developmental Biology*, also published by Wiley. This is my basic textbook. This edition is a joint project with my old colleague Les Dale, from UCL. It should be out by the end of 2020.

### Professor Terrell Carver (1968)

I published this 'accessible' book in 2018: [www.wiley.com/en-us/Marx-p-9781509518173](http://www.wiley.com/en-us/Marx-p-9781509518173). And I am continuing full-time at the University of Bristol.

### Eric Hanslip (1968)

Following the report in last year's News and Notes that Sir Ian Davis (1969) had been knighted, I observe that with Sir



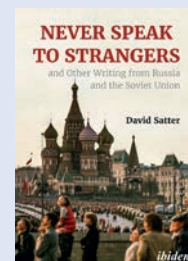
Alan Wilkie (1967), former High Court judge, and Sir John Holmes (1969), chairman of the Electoral Commission, that makes three members of the 1971 Balliol College football team (see photo) with Ks. This is one more than the England 1966 World Cup winners who have been knighted. I hadn't realised we were so good. I regard myself as the Balliol Gordon Banks, i.e. the goalkeeper who didn't get knighted.

### The Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove (1968)

Three score years and ten this year. Enjoying retirement near Hadrian's Wall. Pleasures include grandchildren, writing and blogging, European travels, the landscapes and history of North East England (Balliol's homeland), photography, music and volunteering. Beyond baffled by Brexit, which goes against everything I learned at the diverse, internationalist, outward-looking Balliol of 50 years ago. <http://northernwoolgatherer.blogspot.com>.

### David Satter (1968)

*Never Speak to Strangers and Other Writing from Russia and the Soviet Union* was published in April 2020 by Ilibidem Press/Columbia University Press. It is a collection of my writing and reporting on Russia over more than four decades.



### Sir John Holmes (1969)

Currently Chair of the UK Electoral Commission. Interesting and at times challenging. Dividing my time between London and Oxfordshire.

### Robin Poulton (1969)

*I Dance Therefore I Am: A Memoir of Scotland, America and Dancing* (independently published, 2019) is available from Amazon in print or as e-book. This



amusing memoir about Scotland and dancing promotes Scottish Enlightenment ideas (Hume) against the French (Descartes). Poulton includes limericks, great stories of drinking and dancing, travels along the Silvery River Tay honouring haggis and bagpipes, the revered Robert Burns and the unforgettable William McGonagall, and J.S. Mill's 'the greatest happiness of the greatest number'. This poem will make you laugh:

Catriona, a wonderful lass,  
Had a truly remarkable ass:  
Not rounded and pink  
As you probably think:  
It was grey, had long ears,  
and ate grass.

Dr Poulton danced his first Highland Fling at the age of five. Passionate about Scotland's dancing heritage, Robin tells his grandchildren how important dance and music are for their culture, at a time when entertainment is consumed through screens. He is passionate about intelligent women and promoting equal opportunities. Each chapter celebrates at least one brilliant woman and her gifts to dancing. The book visits many types of dance (contra, English, African, Irish, German, French, Scandinavian, flamenco, salsa, ballet, waltzing) but focuses especially on the Celts and the benefits of Scottish dance for mental, physical and spiritual health. Jokes, dance and ghost stories enliven the memoir ... and a whodunit: who really was Robin's Scottish grandfather? Read the book to find out. The perfect Christmas or birthday present.

#### **Lincoln Seligman (1969)**

Some five years ago the Metropolitan Police embarked on Operation Midland, an investigation into paedophile offences allegedly committed by various senior politicians including Sir Edward Heath (1935, Honorary Fellow 1969–2005). Operation Midland was followed by Wiltshire police's Operation Conifer, which concentrated on Edward Heath. The trustees of his charitable foundation, and I as his godson, had to work non-stop for four years to defend his reputation. That he was eventually exonerated is due in large part to the diligence of Northumbria Police, who investigated the source of the allegations, a fantasist called Carl Beech. They brought him

to trial, where he was convicted of 13 counts of perverting the course of justice and fraud. He was sentenced to 18 years. The others falsely accused by Beech (Lord Bramall, Lord Brittan and Harvey Proctor) all received substantial compensation from the Metropolitan Police, reflecting the serious errors of the police in this wholly misguided and reckless investigation costing millions of pounds. Many of the senior police officers involved left the force in disgrace. A parliamentary committee has been convened to look into the conduct of the police at all levels. Edward Heath is of course not alive to see his reputation restored. But for posterity, and for Balliol, I would like to take the opportunity to record in these notes the damage done to a distinguished Balliol man and former prime minister. We never doubted his innocence and the record should show that we and all those who knew him were right.

#### **Peter Taylor (1969)**

Nine PPE and History men gathered in College for a private dinner in September 2019 to celebrate the alarming fact that it was 50 years since their matriculation. Pictured left to right: Tony Cothey, Michael Stewart, Michael Donithorn, Richard House, Peter Gavan, Peter Taylor, Nicholas Mansergh, Kenneth Grimshaw, Nicholas Kenyon (all 1969).



#### **Professor Timothy Weiskel (1969)**

Following on the DPhil work started at Balliol in social anthropology and African history more than 50 years ago, I am currently learning more about newly available digital technology in order to expand an international community of scholars in Europe, Africa and the Americas and to focus upon Atlantic slave trade documents. We are starting by 'digitising' some of the 16th-, 17th- and 18th-century maps

of the coastal trade to create an online 'virtual archive' and research platform for an in-depth analysis of the origins and operation of the trade in plants and people as well as gold, ivory and firearms. The ethno-botany and culinary history of the Atlantic slave trade have, to date, been understudied. Yet the trade and subsistence patterns emerging from this period continue to shape and constrain current food systems throughout Africa. Current public policy concerning African food systems could benefit from the pursuit of these studies (see <https://bit.ly/2TTTs7q>). We need help in interpreting these early maps, and we hope that the digital platforms for sharing this primary material online will stimulate extended discussions among anthropologists and historians concerning the early-modern European maritime empires and their impact upon Africa and around the world. Balliol has a strong tradition of historical studies, and it has created its own impressive archive to preserve valuable papers and manuscripts for scholarly consultation. It is hoped that this virtual archive of slave trade documents can be made accessible to Balliol Fellows, MCR and JCR members alike in the future.

## **1970s**

#### **Professor Dennis Goldford (1970)**

Still teaching undergraduates, doing some writing, and serving as a political analyst for print and broadcast media organisations covering American elections generally and the Iowa precinct caucuses in particular, yet beginning to contemplate retirement.

#### **Philip Mansel (1970)**

My book *King of the World: The Life of Louis XIV* was published by Allen Lane in July 2019.

#### **Professor Anand Pillay (1970)**

I was the Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw Visiting Professor in the School of Mathematics, University of Manchester, in June and July 2019.

#### **Professor Ian Williamson (1970)**

Currently editing Bruckner's Symphony No. 6 for a new Complete Edition published by Musikwissenschaftlicher Verlag of Vienna.

**Professor Jon Berrick (1971)**

Jon Berrick has retired from National University of Singapore and Yale-NUS College, though remaining as Emeritus Professor there ([www.yale-nus.edu.sg/about/faculty/a-j-jon-berrick/](http://www.yale-nus.edu.sg/about/faculty/a-j-jon-berrick/)). He's returned to his hometown, Sydney, where two small grandsons keep him busy. He is also Honorary Professor at the University of Sydney, Adjunct Professor at Western Sydney University, and Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the Australian Mathematical Society*.

**Professor Richard Bronaugh (1971)**

After 34 years as founding and lead editor of *The Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* (CJLJ) I am leaving that editorial responsibility. The journal flew on its own wings until we partnered with Cambridge University Press (CUP) six years ago. This formation has resulted in much wider distribution; indeed, CUP counted worldwide 145,606 single-article downloads from CJLJ during the year 2018. I will soon count myself as fully retired from the University of Western Ontario, which I joined in 1962, teaching in both the Department of Philosophy and finally in the Faculty of Law.

**Sir David Gilmour (1971)**

In 2019 Penguin published new revised editions of three of my books, *Curzon: Imperial Statesman*, *The British in India: Three Centuries of Ambition and Experience* and *The Long Recessional: The Imperial Life of Rudyard Kipling*.

**Thomas Sancton (1971)**

After a long career at *Time* magazine, I am now living in France with my wife Sylvaine. Sylvaine is an artist; I write books. My current project deals with the notorious 1978 kidnapping of Baron Empain, a leading French industrialist. Title: *The Last Baron*. Publication is expected in 2022. Before that, however, an American university press is publishing a revised and updated version of my Oxford DPhil thesis: *Sweet Land of Liberty: The French Left Looks at America, 1848–1871*. I submitted the thesis in 1979, and never thought much about it until last year, when I took it out of the drawer and

thoroughly revised it. (Needless to say, the references needed a bit of updating after four decades!) Plunging into that material brought back memories of my original struggles with it as a Balliol graduate student, lo these many years.

**Ravi Sekhar (1971)**

Taking retirement at 45 from a comfortable corporate job with an international bank for nearly 25 years was the best decision, opening myriad vistas for self-awareness and enrichment. The next 25 years have passed in delivering leadership coaching to C-suite executives in India and abroad under the aegis of a global training organisation; travel to near and far off lands; writing over 800 travel reviews for a leading travel advisory company; attending personal and professional events across the country; and catching up with contemporaries from Oxford and old friends, putting social media avenues to good effect. I have held the position of President of the Camford Society – so named because the former outnumbered the latter – and now offer advice as a committee member. I continue to offer mentoring and other coaching services on a *pro bono* basis. Now I am working alongside my wife Jyotsna in her social enterprise, Totum, which aims to empower underprivileged women from the slums in Pune by teaching them bag weaving, thus providing them an opportunity to make a steady income. We celebrated our 68th birthday recently (we were born on the same day) and the large turnout of family, friends, and well-wishers was wonderful and made our day. Our girls, Devika and Namita, are doing well, the elder pursuing a career in business development with a hotel chain in Mumbai and the younger a product strategist in New York. I would welcome hearing from others who have made such mid-career or life changes and been richer for it.

**Simon Walker (1971)**

I have been appointed Chairman of the UK Trade Remedies Authority, a statutory body which will in future deal with anti-dumping and trade disputes.

**John Armstrong-Gregson (1972)**

After retiring in 2018, I enrolled on an MLitt course in Viking Studies at Orkney College, University of the

Highlands and Islands – my sixth degree since leaving Oxford. I can now claim to have been a student at the oldest and one of the newest universities in the country.

**Simon Bishop (1972)**

Still working on cultural history and vintage photography. You can find me on LinkedIn. Will soon be looking at unusual photographs taken while at Balliol in the 1970s. And a painting of Maurice Keen (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1961–2000 and Emeritus Fellow 2000–2012) in Balliol Hall, as I was lucky enough to sit next to my inspiring old medieval tutor on Gaudy night. He was a great and conscientious tutor.

**Martin Fisher (1972)**

One year in I got a bit bored with retirement and trying to be the house 'domestic goddess' while my wife continues to earn money, so I have started work as a Citizens Advice volunteer adviser in Liskeard two days a week. Very challenging, and opening up vast areas of law and social need that had previously passed me by. Still helping run Truro 3 Arts, a chamber music winter series of six concerts, and now writing all their programme notes. Another challenge but a more purely enjoyable one!

**Neil Record (1972)**

Neil Record is still chairman of the firm (Record plc) he founded in 1983. He spends more of his time now at the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), of which he is chairman, and several other free-market or right-of-centre think tanks. He has had a long association with Nuffield College, Oxford, and is now chairman of the Remuneration Committee there. He has just retired after 12 years as a governor of Magdalen College School, Oxford – presiding, *inter alia*, over the arrival of sixth-form girls at the formerly all-boys school. He sees quite a few Balliol alumni in the course of his activities, including Mark Littlewood (1990) and Shanker Singham (1986) at the IEA and Charlotte Leslie (1997) of the Conservative Middle East Council. His eldest son, Chris (2006), is now a Registrar in Neurology at St George's Hospital, Tooting (see page 23). His daughter Helen kicked the family Balliol habit by going next door to Trinity College, Oxford. Neil's

firm Record Currency Management (the main subsidiary of Record plc) is a beneficiary of an unusual Record–Balliol intern arrangement, in which Record encourages applications from Balliol undergraduates for (well paid!) internships, leading for the right applicants to permanent full-time posts. Record currently has five permanent staff arising from this intern scheme, ranging in Balliol dates from 2009 to 2015. In return, Record sponsors bursaries for Balliol undergraduates who are planning to go into public or charitable service. This very happy relationship is now in its 11th year, and shows every sign of continuing.

### **Sam Schulman (1972)**

I am relieved to announce that the Two Thousand-Teens just past is the first decade, including the one in which I matriculated, in which I have not conceived even one child. The daughters of the '70s, '80s, and '90s are on their own, or well launched; the son of the Aughts, now aged 10, demands the usual attentions of an energetic young father in his spare moments – fortunately I have many of those. We live on a small ex-tobacco farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, and when not fetching/delivering or playing basketball with a young man, I am engaged on a couple of book projects and polemical articles in defending the Jews in spite of our many faults, and carping about and criticising the well-meant suggestions of other Jews. I also help my wife in her university admissions marketing consultancy with more carping and criticism, for which she is unable to find words to express her gratitude. We have lived here for 15 years now, and our Pathfinder traffic has understandably fallen off to an every-few-years visit from the flood of Balliol men and women we loved to host when we lived in Manhattan. But it is a fascinating place, full of the kindest and most diverse supporters of the current president, and near a college town full of the kindest and most diverse despisers of the same chap. Do call.

### **Graham Beamson (1973)**

After nine years of studying courses in earth sciences, astronomy, evolution and statistics with the Open University I have been awarded a BSc (Open, 1st class Honours).

### **Christopher Catherwood (1973)**

I am getting used to being a widower – thank you to Balliol members such as Stuart Jamieson (1975) who reached out in sympathy, and ongoing profound gratitude to Andrew Whittaker (1974) and his wife Clare and daughters Charlotte and Rosie, who have all been kindness personified. I am enjoying life in the junior university (Churchill College is a wonderful academic home) and teaching clever American study-abroad students for the Wake Forest INSTEP programme in Cambridge (I am now Academic Director). I am still writing history books, enjoying attendance at All Saints, Little Shelford, and slowly catching up on the rest of life.

### **The Hon Dr Paul Flather (1973)**

Here is an image of Dr Paul Flather (right), currently a Fellow of Mansfield College, receiving the Honorary Jan Masaryk Silver Medal (named after the first democratic Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia) from His Excellency, the Czech Ambassador Libor Sečka, at a special ceremony in London marking the 30-year anniversary of the 1989 Velvet Revolution. He received the award for 'special contributions' supporting the development of the Czech and Slovak nations.



### **Iain Gray (1973)**

I retired in 2017 after 40 plus years in the nuclear industry. As with most Balliol Old Members, life is just as busy. This includes serving as a regional director for a national Christian charity

that annually distributes about three quarters of a million Bibles and New Testaments in the UK, facing the challenges of being the safety director for a heritage steam railway at a time when the regulator is taking greater interest in the sector, and enjoying six wonderful grandchildren.

### **Lawrence Hutter (1973)**

Having started Alvarez & Marsal's now thriving Corporate Transformation Practice in Europe seven years ago, I have stepped down from being a full-time partner to a pleasantly flexible Senior Advisor role doing the work I enjoy most. This was partly prompted by being diagnosed with relatively aggressive prostate cancer, which is under control, though I had left it a bit late before having a thorough medical. If you are in your late 50s or early 60s, get checked regularly! I do not plan to retire because I love what I do. I have just accepted the role of chairman of an innovative and disruptive marketing research and analytics business called the Brand Experience Group. We are working on an Investment Memorandum for those who want to join us on what is likely to be an exciting and rewarding journey over the next few years as we expand globally. The family is thriving. Fae works for Google doing clever stuff I don't completely understand; Ben is leading his first clinical research programme; Joe is pursuing a career in the business of sport and works for Arsenal FC; Clara has graduated in law and is applying for a training contract (hard); Luc is doing his A levels, is very talented, and I am trying to persuade him to apply to Balliol. Philippa holds it all together, as she has done for the last 30+ years.

### **Matilda Simon (1973)**

I am now retired from lecturing in design but I use my engineering skills and research background in sustainable design to make furniture and useful items from local hardwood. I also founded and help run a 3-hectare community woodland, work as a simulated patient in the medical school, volunteer in secondary schools for Diversity Role Models and am part of an art collective who run a gallery in New Mills. I am oddly proud of having been one of the first women at Balliol, even though nobody was aware of it.



**Professor Sir David Skegg (1973)**

My book, *The Health of the People*, was published in 2019. A description, with some of the responses to the book, can be found via the publisher's web page: [www.bwb.co.nz/books/health-people](http://www.bwb.co.nz/books/health-people).

**Neil Stuart (1973)**

I am still able to keep active on the crags and visited several new international venues this year, with Monaco being the most accessible and exciting. The night life there is pretty good too. Had good meetings with Steve Soden, who looks more like Elton John than ever, and Dennis 'Paddy' Payne (both 1971), who visits from NZ every year – this time to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats.

**Paul Bailey (1975)**

I retired in August 2018 and continue to live in Alsace. I have been granted French citizenship and I want to go on living in a European Community country.

**Howard Cook (1974)**

Gradually extracting myself from the occasional consulting jobs for Oil & Gas and spending more time on leisure activities of scuba diving, mountain walks, skiing and concert-going with family and friends. Met various Balliol engineers over the past 12 months, including very nice rendezvous with our tutors from the 1970s, Professor John Bridgwater (Lubbock Fellow and Tutor in Engineering 1973–1980) and Alastair Howatson (Emeritus Fellow) – both of whom were on fine form.

**Professor John Helliwell (1974)**

My new book is published; details are here: [www.crcpress.com/The-Whats-of-a-Scientific-Life/Helliwell/p/book/9780367233020](http://www.crcpress.com/The-Whats-of-a-Scientific-Life/Helliwell/p/book/9780367233020). This completes my trilogy of Scientific Life books, as described on that webpage. I was also admitted as an Honorary Member of the British Crystallographic Association.

**Professor David Kennedy (1974)**

My two-year contract to run a programme of aerial archaeology in Saudi Arabia is coming to an end, but the programme will continue in the capable hands of the seven members of my team. After four field seasons in two years and almost 200 hours of flying over some stunning landscapes (including two 'white' volcanoes) and remarkable archaeological sites, I am

ready to resume retirement. Plenty of unfinished research projects are 'oven ready' – as another Balliol alumnus would say ... i.e. most of the hard work is ahead. Six months in Perth (Australia) and six in Oxford allowed us to walk (again) long stretches of the Thames Path (westwards this time) and have a supported walk in the Langhe Hills south of Turin. Lots of Roman archaeology there and in Rome and Naples later in the summer. A first grandchild was born in April 2018 and another is due in April 2019.

**Stephen Saint-Leger (1974)**

I have contributed a lot of the research for a new book being published by Profile Books: *The Failure of the Free Market and Democracy and What To Do About It*, by Daniel Ritter.

**Professor Sinclair Stockman (1974)**

I'm privileged to be the New Zealand Consul in Northern Ireland. With colleagues, we have launched the Commonwealth Centre for Digital Health, with the goal of accelerating access to digital health for all of the nations of the Commonwealth. I am making time to spend time with my daughters and grandchildren, who are in three continents, and still involved with colleagues in mapping pathways for Northern Ireland to grow and transform beyond the politics of division. I still treasure the global vision that Balliol gave us as students, and the obligation to fulfil our potential.

**Giles Vardey (1974)**

I am still rowing regularly and managing to get in and out of a sculling boat unaided. I am developing my senior executive coaching practice with a good selection of interesting clients and trying to finish my Masters degree at Henley Business School. My father said it was better to wear out than rust out so I am trying to follow his advice ...

**Paddy Walsh (1974)**

Still living in Eastbourne, where I write a strictly non-commercial review blog called 'Man about Eastbourne (and around)', which features reviews of events attended by the eponymous Man, including a wide range of sporting events, operas, concerts, wine tastings, and holidays both in Sussex and much further afield. It can be found at [www.manabouteastbourne.com](http://www.manabouteastbourne.com). In



December 2019 I organised a very enjoyable Christmas lunch in Covent Garden attended by Mark Short (1975), Kevin Alban (1976), John O'Reilly (1974), Ewan Ferlie (1974), Philip Brace (1974), Simon McGuire (1975), and Mike Williams (1975). We were very pleased to receive a fleeting visit from Alicia Collinson (St Hugh's, 1974), who took this photo.

**Carl Worker (1974)**

To the delight of my Argentine-born wife, I have been appointed as New Zealand Ambassador in Buenos Aires, on cross-posting from Consul-General, Hong Kong – my second time in both roles. March 2020 marked 40 years with the NZ foreign service, with a strong focus on China including as Ambassador from 2009 to 2015. Post-foreign service base in due course will be Waiheke Island, Auckland. I was also delighted to have met up with my former tutor at Balliol, and, of course, later Master of Balliol (1994–2001) and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, Sir Colin Lucas (right in photo), on 4 October 2019 in Hong Kong.

**Stephen Moss (1975)**

I am still at the Guardian, having clocked up 30 years there in September 2019. Probably I should retire, and no doubt the Guardian feels the same way, but what would I do? I am completely institutionalised. I blame Balliol. Once you have enjoyed the warm embrace of that institution, you spend the rest of your life craving similar comfort and certainty elsewhere.

**Charles Randall (1975)**

For the last ten years my company, Randall Concepts Ltd, has been building small radio studios built into suitcases; these are part of a highly portable radio stations which can be set up and broadcasting in a disaster area within an hour of arrival. They are used by relief agencies to communicate with disaster-affected communities and it has been shown that good communications in the early phase of relief saves lives. We normally work with an NGO, First Response Radio, to train and equip teams in disaster-prone areas prior to a disaster; however in March last year we given three days' notice to provide a system for use in Mozambique following the cyclone and floods. This system, with two trainers, was helicoptered into Buzia by the UN, in the worst of the flooded areas, and was used there for four months. Prior to that I spent 25 years with a Christian radio organisation which worked in Africa and Asia, where I originated the portable studio concept. I remain active in my local church.

**Richard Taylor (1975)**

I am currently helping to look after two young grandsons. I left the BBC in October after nearly 30 years, aiming to freelance. My last film as a producer/director there was for BBC4: *Hidden History: The Lost Portraits of Bradford*.

**The Very Revd Dr Kevin Alban (1976)**

I published 'The Idea of Mary as "Sister" in Carmelite Mariology' in C. Maunder (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Mary* (Oxford University Press, 2019).

**Ian Fletcher (1976)**

I seem to have become a Conradian character, having lived on the Far Eastern island of Taiwan for the past 23 years. I am currently head teacher in the language department of a private school in Taichung. I also write English textbooks for senior high schools here. I started writing poetry a few years ago and have had over 200 poems published in various obscure parts of the web.

**Adam Lloyd (1976)**

I am living largely off-grid in Golden Bay/Nelson, New Zealand, growing avocados. Happily married for 30 years, we have learned a lot about the parallel universe of autism from our son. Our three beautiful daughters are grown up,

widely travelled, successful and with 'suitable boys'. I continue to be bemused at how many contemporaries still seem to think it was a good idea for Britain to be in the EU. The follies of wokedom!

**Professor Tom Schwartz (1976)**

My book *Henry Kissinger and American Power* will be published in August 2020 by Hill and Wang, a subsidiary of Farrar Strauss & Giroux. In the last few years I have reconnected with Balliol alumni, including Koro Bessho (1976), recently retired Ambassador of Japan to the United Nations, and Vasant Kaiwar, Professor of History at Duke University (1975). My three daughters have all graduated, with one in medical school, one working for an environmental group, and a third studying public policy at the LBJ School in Austin, Texas. No marriages or grandchildren yet. I was recently promoted to Distinguished Professor, which sounds funny but is an actual title. Nashville has become something of an 'It city,' which in American parlance means there is lots to do for visitors. I encourage everyone to visit and see what the fuss is about.

**Jim Berkman (1977)**

I retired five years ago from Head of School (headmaster) at Boston University Academy, after 31 years in secondary education. Boston University Academy is the high school embedded in Boston University, where students graduate with a year and a half of university credits. I reported to the university Provost, and loved my nine years there. Since retiring, I've published one novel – a sequel to *The Ambassadors* by Henry James, called *The Product of Woollett* (CreateSpace, 2015) – and currently I have an historical fiction manuscript about Samuel Taylor Coleridge and his son Hartley under consideration at Simon & Schuster. I also tutor adults preparing for their high-school equivalency tests. All that, plus visiting our four adult children (three married, fourth engaged – to a Brit!) and two grandchildren, as well as sculling from May through October in Vermont, keep me active, fit and gratefully blessed.

**David Christie (1977)**

A year ago, I wrote about Brexit and Trump. Brexit is now happening, but one suspects that the wonderful future

in Free Trade Agreement land will take a touch more than 11 months to get fixed with the EU. Trump did not get removed from office (although he should have!) which in itself is a tragedy for US democracy. However, with some luck he will not stand again for election in 2020. Meanwhile, the Swiss are still chewing over their relationship with the EU, but the recent elections brought more women and greens into parliament, so perhaps we will finally get started on taking global warming seriously. On the family front, my son Áedán is completing his Bachelor at the ETH in Zurich (electrical engineering and IT) and apart from running his own start-up he has landed a plum job in an engineering firm, responsible for consulting and IT. Not bad for a 23-year old! His older brother Seán started studying environmental sciences at the ZHAW in Wädenswil, near Zurich, last September. My wife is still happily Chief of Staff for the Design Department of the Zurich University of the Arts. I am still studying. I have three Certificates of Advanced Studies in Design Thinking, Design Technologies and Design Cultures under my belt. This year, I will complete my Master of Advanced Studies in Strategic Design. Having escaped early retirement, I have found a new full-time job at Bank Julius Baer. Not bad for a 62-year old! I'm also still active musically, mostly singing and conducting singers.

**Professor Francis Fincham (1977)**

Francis D. Fincham married Frances J. Homme on 11 November 2019 at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church.

**The Hon. Jonathan Hamberger (1977)**

In August 2019 I retired after 15 years as a Senior Deputy President of the Fair Work Commission (Australia's national industrial tribunal). I have subsequently been appointed as an Honorary Professor at the Sydney Business School (University of Wollongong) as well as an Honorary Associate at the University of Sydney Business School. I'll be doing some teaching as well pursuing further research in the area of workplace conflict management. I have also just been elected as President of the Industrial Relations Society of New South Wales. So I am going to be quite busy in my retirement!

**George Levy (1977)**

I was elected as a South Oxfordshire District Councillor in May 2019, and both my daughters achieved first-class honours degrees in engineering.

**Christopher Lord (1977)**

Still doing my best to move in mysterious ways: pleased to have expounded my thesis that the Chinese word for democracy is a mistranslation in Chinese at the Beijing University School of Government, a publication to this effect being in press thanks to the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Anyone who is curious can find an English version at the Hong Kong Free Press website. My daughter faces a dilemma: military service in the Finnish Defence Forces or losing her Brexit-proof Finnish passport and falling victim to Brexit's ill-effects. *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.*

**Bijoy Mathur (1977)**

The year 2019 was a good one. My students from the Kiit International School, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, worked on innovative devices that could dispense water for differentially abled persons. A foot-operated green device, a first of its kind in India, was picked up by the government of India and patented by the National Innovation Foundation. Three eighth-graders and their teacher won the Innovation Challenge at the IIT Kharagpur. Meeting the Master, Dame Helen Ghosh, and distinguished alumni at the Imperial in Delhi for drinks was a good way to bid 2019 farewell and look forward to the New Year. We exchanged news about the Pathfinders.

**Chris Torrible (1977)**

Still annoying.

**Professor Peter Barker (1978)**

My first grandson, Robbie, born July 2019. I continue as Professor of Radiology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 31 years after I started here.

**Murray Hancock (1978)**

I'm coming out of retirement to start a citizen project to stimulate 'across the aisle' discussion and debate between the ideological tribes in my home city of Brisbane, Australia, which has not polarised to the extent many other societies have, retaining a base of common sense and tolerance to build on. A deep concern about polarisation and the toxification of public discourse is shared by everyone here, on all sides. The first planned event in March was a mini debate between a visiting American libertarian philosopher and a local left-wing economist. The initial operating model is to recycle a modest amount of donor capital to underwrite events staged by think tanks, universities, speaker event companies and community organisations, on the condition that they are civilised discussions or debates between people of opposing or strongly contrasting perspectives – not just lectures or one-sided discussions. The organisation itself will remain as minimal, virtual and voluntary as it can possibly be. I'd love to make contact with others interested in or doing anything similar. It is easy to envisage a global network of likeminded local projects making quite a difference (and projecting the Balliol spirit far and wide!). See [www.brisbanedialogues.org](http://www.brisbanedialogues.org). Familiarly, my son Sam finished law at Queen's College, Oxford, in 2017 and is now at Freshfields, and daughter Georgie started PPE at Exeter College, Oxford, this year. Given a time machine, she and I could literally wave to each other from our respective rooms.

**Charles Hindson (1978)**

After 12 years with two FTSE-quoted engineering companies, I'm now a non-executive director with AIM-listed Diaceutics, which is improving testing for cancer treatment, and Soter Analytics, which is reducing manual lifting injuries. I'm also pursuing my

interest in education as a trustee of Trinity College London, which provides performing arts and English language testing, and chair of governors at Ark Charter, a secondary academy in Portsmouth.

**Mark Joseph (1978)**

At the time of writing I am in Houston, in the Jewish Community Centre, language-editing a client's PhD about employment legislation in the US. I live in Jerusalem, Israel, and translate from Hebrew as well as editing in English. I am learning piano, and using Garageband and Logic ProX to record short compositions, and longer soundscapes, based on voices, instruments, ambient sound, collages really, sometimes on a theme where I asked others to read a text and talk about it, or embedding interviews in a sound environment. I recently completed an MA in religious studies at CU Boulder, where I also did a music technology course and encountered Cuban Santeria. I spent time on Freud and the psychoanalytic tradition, in relation to trauma and the communicability of traditions.

**Penny Phillips (1979)**

At Balliol, when I was young,  
I saw how the pendulum swung  
From wisdom to youth  
In quest of some truth  
That always elusively hung

Perplexingly just out of reach –  
A ripe but unpickable peach,  
A dreamlike ideal,  
Parading as real,  
Blue ice on a tropical beach

What truth, though? What manner? What sort?  
The quest might be lengthy or short;  
The bright river beckoned  
And some people reckoned  
The answer, for them, lay in sport.

But though we have no way of knowing  
Which way fortune's winds might be blowing,  
In '79  
I think I knew mine  
Would probably not lead to rowing ...

My grasp of the subject was mouldy:  
I scarcely knew Isis from Goldie,  
Nor yet stern from bow –  
No matter! I'm now  
The sub on the wonderful Oldie.

Our features are varied and many,  
By writers more splendid than any;  
I urge you to try it –  
Just go out and buy it!  
Good luck and best wishes from Penny



**The Revd Michael Wilcockson (1978)**

I was ordained priest in Eton College Chapel on 22 June 2019 and then after 23 years at Eton College moved permanently to our house in Linton, Cambridge, where shortly afterwards I was licensed as curate. I have a part-time teaching position at The Perse School, Cambridge, and I still continue my work as an A-Level religious examiner and writer of school textbooks. Having served the Eton College CCF as Commanding Officer for ten years, I transferred my commission to Army Chaplains' Department and now serve as a chaplain to the Essex Army Cadet Force.

**Paul Shotton (1979)**

In 2019 I set up a new company, White Diamond Risk Advisory LLC, to provide bespoke financial risk advisory services to boards of directors and executive management in the financial services sector. I am now planning a series of lectures on risk management, bank regulation and systemic risk, to be presented to graduates at the Yale University School of Management during the spring semester.

## 1980s

**Christopher Gallop (1980)**

2019 wasn't the best year. Although there were certainly good times spent in the company of Balliol friends such as Martin Yates (1979) and Ian Gambles (1980), at the end of June, I managed to fall off a stepladder whilst pruning a climbing rose in the garden at home. I sustained a burst fracture of my L1 vertebra, resulting in reconstructive surgery at St George's Hospital in Tooting, three months off work, the need to relearn how to walk and a long further programme of rehabilitation and recovery which is progressing well but still has some months to go. The sudden, untimely and saddening death of my sister Felicity in Dorset towards the end of November has tested the whole family's resilience even further. These things notwithstanding, I have returned to full-time work in Essex as a board director of Cloudfm, the facilities management innovator, with a new set of responsibilities and as clear an idea as ever of the benefits of

continuing to plan that Chloe and I should both be retired from full-time work by the end of 2021. Our intention is to do all the travelling we didn't have time or funds for when we were younger. Meantime, I am permanently banned from using ladders of any description.

**Ian Gambles (1980)**

Proud to be CEO of the Forestry Commission in our centenary year, and to celebrate by editing *British Forests: The Forestry Commission 1919–2019* (Profile Books, 2019).

**Martin Humphrey (1980)**

My partner Saje Shah and I had a daughter, Isobel Sophia, born at home in Norbury on 24 July 2018.

**Kym Bills (1981)**

Since officially retiring from full-time work in Perth, Australia, in September 2018, I have moved back to Adelaide where all my family resides. Main *pro bono* roles are chair of the College of Fellows of the Australian Institute of Health & Safety and chair of the AIHS SA Branch. I recently commenced a part-time PhD through Edith Cowan University, exploring the theory/practice gap in major accident safety investigation. The NSW government has contracted me to independently review its mine and petroleum safety laws during 2020. It was great to attend the Gaudy in 2019.

**John Colenutt (1981)**

I recently left Genomics plc, the genetic analysis company led by Professor Sir Peter Donnelly (1980 and Honorary Fellow), after five exciting years. Currently enjoying a break – including some skiing – before deciding on the next challenge.

**Professor Daniel Esty (1981)**

I continue to teach at Yale on a range of environment, energy, and sustainability topics – and I have a new (edited) book that has just been published:

*A Better Planet: 40 Big Ideas for a Sustainable Future* (Yale, 2019).

**Wayne Henderson (1981)**

I am moving back to the UK after spending three lovely years in Sydney, Australia. The move is for work, which is with an Oxford-based start-up that has developed a secure communications protocol for the internet of things: [www.iothic.io](http://www.iothic.io). Our young'uns remain at university in Australia for the next 18 months, so we will be a 'virtual family' for a while – very 21st century! Having been ill last year, I have taken up drawing and tried to push forward my writing, which has led to a growing list of rejection letters but no published material so far.

**Mark Hume (1981)**

After nearly 29 years at Ketchum, an Omnicom-owned, global communications consultancy, I was promoted to the role of President, Europe, while retaining the role of COO, International.

**Laura Irvine (1981)**

With the help and support of Wayne Henderson (1981) and advice in a conversation at last summer's Gaudy with Robert Twigger (1982), I published *The Biodynamic Field: Four Papers and a Manifesto* on Amazon (2019). This aims to put the biodynamic therapeutic work I do in the widest possible scientific context, as well as articulating the underlying biological refinement of healing.

**Professor Jane Stapleton (1981)**

Pleasant news: I've been appointed an Honorary Queen's Counsel.

**Jonathan Vernon (1981)**

Elected as a Green Party councillor in May 2019, I was quickly brought in to support social media at a district and then a constituency level – to no avail. Town council work is a pleasure to be involved with. My fellow councillors are Green, Lib Dem or Independent: we discuss everything, never argue and find we come to quick agreement. After decades of pointing cameras at people, as some Balliol alumni will recall, the difference today is that what I do is in 360°: I've taken well over 1,200 360° images and created some 24 or more VR interactive tours, using them on the ThingLink platform. Currently I am working with Special Educational Needs & Disability Students (SEND) to support Independent Travel Training. I have been the digital editor at the Western Front Association (WFA) for the last five years. I even gained an MA in British History and the First World War. The association's latest 'win' is to see some 6 million Pension Record Cards from the period first saved, digitised and made available to WFA members on Ancestry. A swimmer who became a teacher and coach over the last 20 years, I continue to teach swimmers from the age six and coach them to the age of 82, with national performance and Masters world record holders in the mix. Once a month I can be found life drawing at Charleston and when I can sailing with Newhaven & Seaford Sailing Club.

**Meurig Williams (1981)**

I am now working in London for a Japan-based pension consulting firm and enjoying a wide brief across private and public market investing. Coming across Balliol alumni from time to time is always a pleasure, even including those not sharing my family name!

**Amanda Ariss (1982)**

I left conventional full-time work in 2016 and since then have been having a much more interesting life. After travelling around Indonesia I've been studying history at Birkbeck, researching attitudes to gender amongst pro- and anti-suffrage campaigners in the UK. Professionally, I do some diversity and inclusion

consultancy, and also some cooking, which is less well paid, harder work but usually more fun. I'm on the board of the wonderful OperaUpClose, I volunteer at Southwark Playhouse theatre and I am a trustee of Guide Dogs. I'm trying to live more sustainably and now avoid flying, so my journey to spend last summer in Greece was by train, boat and bus: an adventure in itself and highly recommended. Oh, and I've just started writing what I hope will become my first book.

**Martyn Bowen (1982)**

I have just retired after 25 very happy years at the sportswear company PUMA, based in Salzburg, Austria. I have been lucky enough to have regional responsibility in the last 25 years for places as exciting as Eastern Europe, India and Africa, as these emerging nations take their place in the world, and more recently the submerging nations of Europe. My passion for athletics has continued, and the existence of the Masters competition has meant that I can match myself against equally old and slow athletes at European level – a few years ago managing to take fifth place in the 400 metres M50 in the European championships. The next 25 years are full of challenges, particularly environmental ones. I am now working with several organisations in Africa preserving indigenous landscapes, conserving the biodiversity while all the time generating an income from those for the local community: [www.wildlifeworks.org](http://www.wildlifeworks.org) for any who may be interested in how the carbon economy can be a force for good. My former employers PUMA and their parent company the luxury group Kering offset all their CO<sub>2</sub> footprint with them, thus generating a steady income stream for the project. The irony is that when I met Lucy King (2005) (featured on the cover of *News and Notes* 2019) on my latest trip to Rukinga in Kenya neither of us realised that we had a link through Balliol – it is indeed a very small world.

**Robert Fraser (1982)**

Since finishing full-time roles in 2014, I've been indulging myself working as an advisor to some UK technology start-ups and as a non-executive director with a few companies. All of which



leaves me more time to spend with Chris and our daughters Anna and Jess. I've managed to keep up my enthusiasm for the higher education sector and am on the board of governors for the University of the West of England in Bristol; and I finally completed my Open University degree in 2019.

**Professor Ian Nabney (1982)**

In October 2017, I left Aston University and moved to the University of Bristol to become head of the School of Computer Science, Electrical & Electronic Engineering, and Engineering Mathematics within the Faculty of Engineering. It is a very different sort of university, but I am enjoying the new challenges (such as the development of a new campus at Temple Quarter) and successes (winning more Centres of Doctoral Training than any other university in the country). Claire has also moved down and has a new job teaching classics in Bath. We are both enjoying new places for our walking.

**Mary-Anne Newman (1982)**

Another year of doing my best to backseat-drive the country from a position of obscurity. I've published nothing, led nothing, and received no awards. Instead I've continued work on an investigation of deficiencies in the design and delivery of NHS care; helped a charity manage a PR crisis; and mended a patio door. The last was the most major challenge, and I definitely need another holiday. On a positive note, I went with Matthew Taylor (1982) to a recital of Gilgamesh in Sumerian, and fell asleep.

**Bankim Thanki (1982)**

Belatedly I am letting you know that I became Head of Chambers at Fountain Court Chambers, Middle Temple, in October 2018.

**Paul Fox (1983)**

In April 2017 I completed Major Projects Leadership Academy (MPLA) at Saïd Business School. I was senior responsible owner of RRS Sir David Attenborough (UK's new polar research ship) project 2014–2019 and attended the royal naming ceremony September 2019. I have been Pro-Vice Chancellor (Finance & Infrastructure) at Bath Spa University from September 2017. My wedding to Amanda Callow is planned for 7 April 2020.

**Andrew Gilmour (1983)**

I have left the UN after 30 years, since 2016 as Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights based in New York. I am thrilled to be returning to Oxford in 2020, as a Visiting Fellow of All Souls, which will give me a wonderful opportunity to reflect on and write about the past and future of human rights and the UN in general.

**Barney Mayhew (1983)**

Based in the Weald of Kent I am continuing to work on war and conflict: how to prevent it, how to calm it down once it's begun, and how to recover from it. I would be happy to hear from anyone interested in that field, and indeed Balliol connections old and new.

**Professor Murray Pittock (1983)**

Murray Pittock was elected to the National Trust for Scotland Board and is President of the Edinburgh Sir Walter Scott Club in 2019–2020 in succession to Sir Maxwell MacLeod. In May 2019, he organised a Glasgow and Dublin Creative Cities summit at the Scottish Government hub in Dublin, hosted by the British Ambassador, and as the founder of the International Association he is looking forward to the Third World Congress of Scottish Literatures in Prague in June 2020. He continues to serve as Pro Vice-Principal of the University of Glasgow, running the Early Career Development Programme for over 500 staff, and as a member of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) Institutional Environment pilot panel. In January, his 'Robert Burns and the

Scottish Economy' report found that Burns brings over £200m of direct economic impact to Scotland. The recommendations were debated at the Scottish Parliament on 21 January 2020: [www.scottishparliament.tv/meeting/members-business-robert-burns-in-the-scottish-economy-january-21-2020](http://www.scottishparliament.tv/meeting/members-business-robert-burns-in-the-scottish-economy-january-21-2020).

**Professor Christine Sypnowich (1983)**

Christine Sypnowich is looking forward to her gig as a Visiting Fellow at All Souls in Trinity 2020 – coming to Oxford with spouse David Bakhurst (1983), who will be a Visiting Fellow at Exeter – and the chance to reconnect with many Balliol friends and colleagues. Whilst in the UK Christine will be giving talks at other universities, including an invited lecture at the Ralph Miliband Programme at the London School of Economics – directed by Robin Archer (1985) – as part of their 2019/2020 series entitled 'Politics in Crisis', where she will address the themes of her recent book, *Equality Renewed: Justice, Flourishing and the Egalitarian Ideal* (Routledge, 2018).

**David Witty (1983)**

Fiona and I are still running our own consultancy, WITNET Ltd; however, in January I was appointed head of Chemistry Research, Development and Manufacturing at Eliem Therapeutics. I was also awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry BMCS Lectureship for the academic year 2019/2020, so I am now enjoying a lecture tour, speaking about the delights of medicinal chemistry!

**Donald Bobiash (1984)**

After completing an assignment as Assistant Deputy Minister for Asia Pacific at Global Affairs Canada, in September 2019 I became Canada's Executive Director at the Inter-

American Development Bank, located in Washington, DC. Given that my Oxford doctorate was on the subject of development assistance, my new job provides a great opportunity to renew contact with this important topic.

**Claire Foster-Gilbert (1984)**

In the midst of treatment for myeloma, I am proud to have published two more books for Westminster Abbey Institute, of which I am founding director: *Integrity in Public Life and The Responsibilities of Democracy* (both Haus Publishing, 2019). I'm also quite proud that the Institute, which is six years old, is surviving my absence, and hope not to die any time soon myself.

**Kenneth Lapatin (1984)**

Kenneth Shapiro Lapatin curated the award-winning exhibition *Buried by Vesuvius: Treasures from the Villa dei Papi* at the Getty Villa in Malibu, California, and edited the accompanying catalogue. The exhibition included the unprecedented loan of ancient Greek and Roman artefacts buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79 from the Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli, Biblioteca Nazionale di Napoli, and Parco Archeologico di Ercolano, as well as autograph manuscripts from the Bodleian Libraries.

**Professor Cheryl Misak (1984)**

My biography of Frank Ramsey was published by OUP in February 2020: *Frank Ramsey: A Sheer Excess of Powers*.





**Helen O'Malley (1984)**

To prove that a degree in modern history can lead to paths far from the musings of historians, Helen O'Malley's Thai restaurant, Bo Tree Kitchen in Belfast was included in the *Financial Times* list of the 11 best restaurants of 2019 across the world – only the opinion of the reviewer, of course!

**Professor Riccardo Viale (1984)**

In 2019 I was appointed as Commissioner for Assessment of Performance of Public Managers by the Minister of Civil Service (Ministro della Funzione Pubblica) of the Italian government.

**Professor Daniel Terkla (1985)**

Nick Millea, Bodleian Library Maps Librarian, and I have published *A Critical Companion to English Mappae Mundi of the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries* with Boydell Press (2019).

**Ned Mersey (1985)**

Released four dance tracks under the artist name Raflö. Position in the UK club charts in brackets: 'Be Free' (13), 'Keep Me Up' (10), 'Never Before' (12), 'Give It Up' (12).

**Tracey Wolffe (1985)**

I'm delighted to announce the publication of my second book, *That's My Boy!*: a positive account of raising our disabled son. Alain Wolffe (1985) and I met at Balliol in 1985 when we were respectively studying history and French, and jurisprudence. Sadly our first son was born with brain damage in 2006. *That's My Boy!* is an important record of all that we've achieved and overcome to enable Nathan to live



life to the full, enjoy good health, and exceed all medical expectations. Our story would be of interest to those involved in the 'caring' professions, parents of children whether able bodied or disabled, and indeed anyone prepared to be inspired and to revisit notions of disability. Copies are available at £15 plus p&p (distance no object) by emailing traceywolffe@aol.com.

**Charlotte Jones (1986)**

I had a lovely time seeing the old (and young) girls at the '40 Years On' event last September. It has been a lovely year for reconnecting with old Balliol chums. My son has just got a place to read physics (where did that come from?!), so I predict I will be spending more time in Oxford over the next four years. I have just written a new play for the National Theatre, which should be on in 2021, and I have various film scripts on the go. All is well.

**Theresa Heskins (1986)**

In a career that continues to be decades behind anyone else's, I finally found myself with a West End show. To prove that all buses come along at the same time, I had another in New York. This year I'll be realising a long-held ambition to direct Angela Carter's *The Company of Wolves*, and talking a lot about being working class.

**Karen Harrison (1986)**

I am now in Lagos, Nigeria, as Group CFO for a solar/solar-hybrid energy business operating in West Africa (Daystar Power Solutions). My gap year was a real treat and included a walking pilgrimage to Santiago (1,000km and five amazing weeks), exploring Andalusia's World Heritage Sites and driving the ring road around Iceland, all with a few detours – and all long-held bucket list items. I was baptised shortly before taking up my new role here in July 2019.

**Richard Sutcliffe (1986)**

I am still working at the Financial Conduct Authority, heading up Retail Lending and Redress Policy. I have also started blogging about our experiences of bringing up an adopted eight-year-old. Please read, share and subscribe if you enjoy it. You can find it at [www.findingmac.co.uk](http://www.findingmac.co.uk).

**John Hancock (1987)**

John Hancock led a discussion at the NZ government's Just Transitions summit in New Plymouth in May 2019. The discussion covered how NZ electricity generators' partnership with Māori may show a path for other industries to decarbonise in a way that benefits communities. John was delighted to meet Kate 'Doughnut Economics' Raworth (1990) who was invited as keynote speaker. Her observations that New Zealand is particularly lucky to be guided by Māori values in its transition to a low-carbon economy, with emphasis on fairness across generations, struck a particular chord only weeks before the NZ government published its Wellbeing Budget.

**Andrew Lavender (1987)**

I'm excited to be picking up a technical role in my career again after a few years managing vendors. Still in Switzerland with UBS, but now risking the robot overlords by leading our work in IT security automation.

**John Mackenzie (1987)**

In December 2019 I was appointed as Professor and head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Strathclyde University.

**Zia Haider Rahman (1987)**

A 2019 Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study at Harvard, while writing, I've also been developing a tech project. I was recently awarded a Franke Fellowship at Yale, and a lifelong Montgomery Fellowship at Dartmouth College, NH, and am a Fellow of New America, Washington, DC, and the Kreisky Forum, Vienna. I still spend most of my time in the UK, never far from my darling three-year-old godson, Benjamin. A chapter of a book I'm working on, *Among the Liberals* (a critique of elites by a working class progressive), takes up Dr Fiona Hill's remarks in congressional testimony and explores the stark asymmetry between my

employment success in the US and the UK, after my novel, *In the Light of What We Know*, was published to international critical acclaim, winning the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. Occasionally, I write in papers and journals (invitations welcome), and contribute to UK Radio 4's *A Point of View*.

#### **Anna Rimington (1987)**

We lost our lovely son Joseph William Rimington McCallum on 2 December 2019. His funeral was held at St Marylebone Crematorium on 16 December, which would have been Joe's 17th birthday. Joe had a hugely difficult life since birth and will be missed beyond compare by both his parents and his younger brothers Nate and Fran. Donations in his name to Haven House Children's Hospice in Woodford Green.

#### **Harriet Goodwin (1988)**

In April I published (under my married name, Powell) a collection of women's real-life experiences of the menopause, *The Menopause Monologues*, available at <https://amzn.to/347emEB>. The book is aimed at getting people to open up about something half of us will go through and many of the other half will experience second-hand. It has attracted a lot of support from famous names, and Dame Emma Thompson and Lorraine Kelly have both been kind enough to endorse the second volume, which I am working on now.

#### **James Harris (1988)**

I was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2019.

#### **Chandrika Kaul (1988)**

I have been awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship for my forthcoming monograph on the BBC



and India, to be published by OUP. If any alumni have relevant connections/information regarding sources or people, I would be delighted to hear from them on [ck24@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:ck24@st-andrews.ac.uk).

#### **Professor Diane Watt (1988)**

My most recent book, *Women, Writing and Religion in England and Beyond, 650–1100*, was published by Bloomsbury in 2019.

#### **Lai Yahaya (1988)**

I relocated from Abuja to Nairobi and now I am working with Rt Hon. Raila Odinga, in his capacity as African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development. I am soon to be re-married, with my third child, Mohammed Kazeem Amayi Oluwatayo Yahaya, now taking pretty much all of my serious attention.

#### **Alistair Fernie (1989)**

I stood in last year's general election as the Liberal Democrat candidate for Oxford East (the constituency which includes Balliol and most other colleges), on a platform to stop Brexit, tackle climate change and restore public faith in politics. Oxford East has been a Labour seat since 1987 and remains so, but my team managed to increase the Lib Dem vote share by 53 per cent compared to our 2017 share. I particularly enjoyed talking to a group of Balliol undergrads about how I came to be standing for Parliament aged 49 after a career in the Civil Service and international development. I think I am the first Balliol alum to run for Parliament in Oxford – does anyone know otherwise? Apparently there were other Balliol people running elsewhere. It was a privilege getting to know the city better, including how people in, for example, Blackbird Leys and Northfield Brook view the two universities. In 2020 I am back to freelance consultancy (mostly on economic development in Africa), while working on the design of a charity to campaign on social mobility and equality of opportunity for young people in the UK – and being a hands-on dad to Ella and Jack (aged 11), while my wife Lucy works hard for Cressida Dick (1979 and Honorary Fellow) transforming HR at the Met Police.

#### **Jane-Frances Kelly (1989)**

I'm back living in Melbourne after four very interesting years in Scotland.



#### **Professor Mark Israel (1989)**

I was appointed Professor and Dean of Learning and Teaching at Murdoch University in Australia in 2019. I continue my work as a consultant on social research ethics and research integrity.

## 1990s

#### **Alan Taylor (1990)**

The decade ended with the publication in November 2019 of *The 21st Century Film, TV & Media School: Directing the Future* (CILECT), ed. Professor Dr Stanislav Semerdjiev, Professor Maria Dora Mourão, Dr Cecilia Mello and Dr Alan Taylor – volume two of a project that began in 2012. The initial task of encouraging and gathering written reflections on teaching practice from CILECT (Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinéma et de Télévision) practitioners for a book was envisioned as a single project – the first such book publication from the CILECT since its inception in 1955. The core aim of that publication was 'to encourage and share best practice in film and media education'. The resulting book – *The 21st Century, Film, TV & Media School: Challenges, Clashes, Changes*, overseen by the same team of co-editors as Volume Two – was published in 2016. Volume Two has a more specific focus: the teaching and learning of the art and technique of film directing itself. In keeping with established practice, it also comprises chapters from serving lecturers from CILECT member schools across the six continents.

#### **Kitty Ussher (1990)**

I have returned from a two-year stint of frontline duty teaching maths in inner-city secondary schools through the excellent Now Teach programme to take up a post as associate chief economist at the think tank Demos.



**Lindy Cameron (1991)**

As you probably already know, Balliol women in the Civil Service did well in the New Year Honours List: Tamara Finkelstein (Isaacs)(1985), Clara Swinson (1993) and I all got CBs.

**Professor Ruth Chang (1991)**

I have become the Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford.

**Mark Harrison (1991)**

After 23 years, mostly spent working in Hong Kong, I've decided to leave school teaching and try something new. I'm not quite sure where I'll end up but I'm ready for a new adventure. I recently completed my doctorate, so I'm hoping to put this to good use.

**Kathrin Luddecke (1991)**

Until 24 February 2020 I had a (screen) print showcased in the 'Diversity of Life' display case in the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, as part of the Oxford Printmakers' Co-operative's collaboration with the museum on their 'First Animals' exhibition. More on <https://kathrinluddecke.wordpress.com/2019/11/04/dont-you-just-love-diversity/>.

**Lucy Moulard (1991)**

I have been living in Wellington, New Zealand, for five and a half years with Andrew Williams (Wadham, 1987) and our daughter, Meredith. I am currently a senior historian at Te Arawhiti – The Office for Crown Māori Relations, where I work in Te Kāhui Takutai Moana (The Marine and Coastal Area Team). I am delighted that, after more than 25 years of working, I finally have the word 'historian' in my job title. Andrew is a medical physicist at Capital and Coast District Health Board and Meredith is about to start year six at

school. Two years ago we bought the house we were renting; it looks as though we will be staying for a while.

**Eleanor Naughten (1991)**

Busy working full time, travelling too much and trying to juggle all this with family life with two small boys.

**David Steadman (1991)**

Appointed Chief Executive of the Harpur Trust, a charity focused on promoting education and tackling social issues within the Bedford area. Anyone with a Bedford connection is invited to get in touch.

**Nikki Alderson (1992)**

On 21 October 2019, *Raising the Bar: Empowering Female Lawyers through Coaching* (independently published) went straight in at Number 1 on the Amazon bestseller charts in the Business Consulting and Practical Guides to Law categories, sitting alongside *The Secret Barrister: Stories of the Law and How it is Broken*. It has been described as 'A great guide for female lawyers (and women more generally in any career), trying to balance the pressures of work and personal lives in a society where "having it all" isn't straightforward. A wonderful mix of personal experience and insights with practical coaching skills.' The book highlights some of the challenges around retaining female talent in the legal profession and more importantly offers workable solutions for women in law to have long and happy legal careers.

**Barnaby Maunder Taylor (1992)**

I was thrilled to be invited back to appear again at this year's Oxford Maths Fest in February (<https://mathsfest.web.ox.ac.uk/>), lecturing in the Andrew Wiles Building (new Oxford Mathematical Institute) to an audience of mathematicians



aged eight and under (the organisers have found my maturity level!). In 2019 I was part of a team accosting bemused shoppers in Templars Square Shopping Centre (Cowley) and cajoling them into trying some maths tricks. I also collaborated in 2019 on Pearson Education's new primary maths homework app School Jam.

**Michael Miller (1992)**

Following the premature death of devoted mother Jacqueline Anne, I am proud to have been a key part of an executive board that made a family business over 100 years old the fastest-growing company in the North East during turbulent economic times, while simultaneously ensuring best care for father Mick in the advanced stages of 'popcorn lung'. The latter has only been possible in partnership with the outstanding dedicated care team at St Oswald's Hospice in Gosforth, Newcastle, who have helped enable Mick to become one of the longest survivors of the condition in the UK. Popcorn lung is a crippling disease first identified as arising from exposure to agents involved in the production of popcorn in Jasper, Missouri – hence its adopted name. It is debilitating: sufferers can live for years with zero ability to move a matter of feet or even at all, rendering home living virtually impossible. It can strike any age group. In 2020 I will be turning a negative into a positive by using my first-hand experience to raise awareness of popcorn lung. I will be looking for ways in which warnings could appear on identified risk products, such as e-cigarettes and the condition might be recognised as an industrial disease in the UK (as it is in the US), as well as how to secure the provision of properly equipped facilities in which sufferers can be cared for outside a hospice environment, before a foreseeable floodgate of cases materialises. Any alumni support for this not-for-profit initiative would be warmly embraced.



**Paul Stevenson (1992)**

I am pleased to announce the birth of a boy, Kit, on 21 November 2019.

**David Walker (1992)**

I'm now chief executive of Team Up, an education charity that works to address the attainment gap, working with underperforming and disadvantaged pupils to improve their maths and English using volunteer tutors.

**Charles Wiles (1992)**

Charles Wiles founded his education technology company Zzish in 2014 with a mission to create software that radically improves student learning in schools across the world. Today they help primary and secondary school teachers personalise their teaching through their classroom quiz game Quizalize. So far they have helped more than 200,000 teachers and 2 million students in 170 countries. In 2019 they reached the landmark of having 100 million questions answered by students and they are working with the Philippines government in Bataan to help raise the level of attainment for 150,000 students there. Charles is raising a new angel investment round and would be delighted to hear from alumni who would like to invest and support the mission.

**Rebecca Armstrong (1993)**

Published Vergil's *Green Thoughts. Plants, Humans, and the Divine* (OUP, 2019).

**Martin O'Neill (1993)**

Joe Guinan and Martin O'Neill (both 1993) published a co-authored book *The Case for Community Wealth Building* with Polity Press in December 2019. Ed Miliband MP said this of the book: 'Joe Guinan and Martin O'Neill present a compelling vision of a more just, democratic economy in which wealth and power are more fairly shared. This book should be read by anyone who believes that a different economic order is possible and wants to know how we start to make it happen.'

**Ben Rowland (1993)**

After eight years setting up and growing Arch Apprentices, now a top 20 apprenticeship provider in the UK, I have entered my midlife (crisis) with gusto, my activities including writing a book and undertaking various bits of advisory work, some of which,

fortunately, is paid. The book is a guidebook for young people confused about what to do and who can't understand why everyone tells them that university is the 'must do' option, when it clearly isn't. One of my children is now a teenager – I'm not sure how that has happened. *Hic opus, hic labor est*, as Jasper Griffin (1956, Dyson Junior Research Fellow 1961–1963, Tutorial Fellow in Classics 1963–2004, Emeritus Fellow 2004–2019) would have said.

**Michael d'Arcy (1994)**

My wife, Laura, and I were blessed with a baby girl, Mary Elizabeth, on 1 August 2019. She was born in University College Hospital, London, weighing 7lbs 1oz, and we are filled with love and gratitude.

**Professor Gregory Challis (1994)**

I was to deliver the Andy Derome Lectures in Oxford's Department of Chemistry in April, sadly postponed.

**Professor Lauren Stewart (1994)**

I have been leading an interdisciplinary project in West Africa, exploring whether existing embedded musical practices can be leveraged to support mental health during pregnancy (short summary of the work here: <https://vimeo.com/357832228/d65c0c06a0>) We hope to extend this to a full-scale clinical trial, funding permitting.

**Sarah Keogh (1995)**

I was awarded Pro Bono Junior Barrister of the Year 2018.

**Carol McQueen (1995)**

I am currently Canada's Ambassador to Burkina Faso and Benin (since September 2019), following a



posting as Ambassador to Tunisia (2015–2019). I have two daughters aged 12 and 7. I remain so thankful for my time at Oxford University and at Balliol College, which helped me develop the diplomatic skills I put to the test every day!

**Michael Follett (1996)**

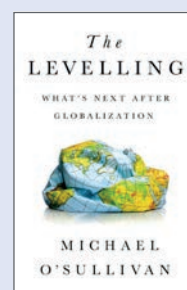
A good night for Balliol historians at the 2019 Market Research Society awards ([www.mrs.org.uk/awards/mrs-awards](http://www.mrs.org.uk/awards/mrs-awards)). Professor Gabrielle 'Tigger' Lynch (1997) won the President's Medal for her research into election rigging in newly formed democracies; and Lumen Research, founded by Mike Follett (1996), won two awards: the Jeremy Bullmore Award for Creative Development Research and the Award for Best Innovation.

**Charles Goldsmith (1996)**

In October 2019 the international development consultancy friends and I established in 2011, Charlie Goldsmith Associates Ltd, was acquired by Lutheran World Relief-IMA World Health, an American NGO. I and the team carry on, working in and for South Sudan, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Malawi, but now with this extra good support behind us.

**Michael O'Sullivan (1996)**

My book *The Levelling* (partly inspired by the work of Christopher Hill, Master 1965–1978) was published by PublicAffairs in the US, UK and Europe in 2019. The book sets out a road map for the post-globalisation world and examines the challenges ahead in economics, finance, politics and international relations.

**Sam Sandiford (1997)**

I married Lynn Huang at a wine farm in Stellenbosch on 26 February 2019 – Richard Bretton, Iain Leverett and David Rose (all 1997) acted as ushers. Lynn and I have moved to Hong Kong, where I now work in fintech.

**Dominik Zaum (1997)**

I have been appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation at the University of Reading.

**Giovanna Arenare (1998)**

After over 15 years of school teaching (and a daughter who is now a teenager), I have decided to resume academic research. My family and I have recently moved to Barcelona, where I am in my first year of a PhD at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, working on plurilingualism in education, and more specifically on romance intercomprehension and its possible impact on the teaching of English as a foreign language.

**Justin Brierley (1998)**

I've recently been hosting a new video dialogue show called *The Big Conversation*, bringing high-profile thinkers together to debate science, faith, philosophy and what it means to be human, in partnership with the Templeton Foundation. Recent guests have included cosmologist Sir Roger Penrose and philosopher William Lane Craig discussing 'God and the Universe', and historian Tom Holland and philosopher A.C. Grayling debating Christianity and humanism.

**Paul Durban (1998)**

I married Rachel Serene at the Victoria Warehouse in Manchester on a very hot and sunny bank holiday weekend in August 2019. It was terrific that a number of Balliol alumni and their other halves were there to make it such a memorable day – Richard Collins, Justin Reid, Tim Williams, Andrew Harvie, George Wigley, Mayte Barton (all 1998), Lucas Green (1996) –



notwithstanding some early distractions related to Ben Stokes' heroics at Headingley ...

**Katrina Manson (1999)**

I am based in Washington, DC as US foreign policy and defence correspondent for the *Financial Times*.

**Lina Nerlander (1999)**

I moved back to Sweden in late 2017 and started a new job, after living in the US for six years.

**Veronica Rodriguez-Blanco (1999)**

From October 2020, I will be Von Humboldt Fellow, in collaboration with the Von Siemens Foundation, at the University of Munich, Centre for Ethics, Philosophy Department. I will work on a monograph whose provisional title is 'The Grammar of Responsibility: Rethinking Negligence in Law and Morality'.

**Jonah Wilberg (1999)**

My second computer game, *Xenomarine*, was released in various online stores in early 2019: <https://store.steampowered.com/app/676830/Xenomarine/>.

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## 2000s

**Justin Alexander (2000)**

After almost a decade in the Middle East, I settled in my wife Jenny's home town of St Louis, Missouri, in 2017 with Carolyn (seven) and Theo (five). I will be American in time for the 2020 election and am following the campaign of a certain Pembroke PPE alum with particular interest. Professionally, I write about Middle Eastern politics and economics. In 2019 I launched a service on the region for Emerging Market investors, provided through GlobalSource Partners. That brings me back through London periodically and I visit family in Oxford

each summer. I'm always pleased to catch up with old friends, particularly those I've lost contact with over the years, and if any Balliolite happens to be passing through St Louis, do look me up (on LinkedIn or via the College) and I'd love to show you around.

**Marzena Brzezniak (2000)**

On 27 July 2018, I had a son, James Daniel Sellamuttu (little brother to Juliette).

**Katy Islip (2000)**

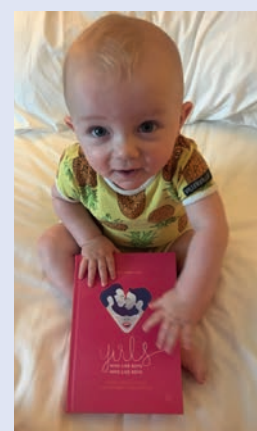
Katy Islip and husband Thomas Wiltshire have become proud parents to a beautiful daughter, Dorothea Elizabeth, born 19 January 2020.

**Lauren McAughtry (2000)**

In May this year we welcomed our son, Maximilian Alexander Tiberius McAughtry-Hilliard. His older sister Annabella (b. Jan 2017) is utterly besotted, as are we all.

**Lucy Neville (2000)**

I welcomed two babies last year: my 'meat' baby Baxter Victor Nelson Weaver, born in October and weighing 6lbs 8ozs, and my 'mind' baby published by Palgrave in March and weighing approx. 11lb 5ozs. One labour was longer and harder than the other. Here they are hanging out together.





**Gemma Dunbar (2001)**

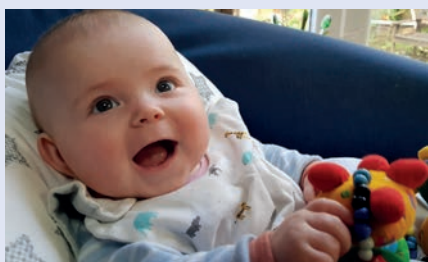
Tom Dunbar and Gemma Dunbar (née Turner) were delighted to welcome Amelia Elizabeth to the family, born on 1 May 2019, sister to proud big brothers Jamie and Ollie. Life as a 'fivesome' is proving entertaining!

**Melissa Holloway (2001)**

Caroline Florence Rosa Holloway was born on 26 September 2019. James (age four and a half) is very proud to be her big brother. My husband Richard and I bought a flat in Pimlico in June 2019 and we are adjusting to life as a family of four.

**Alastair Wilson (2001)**

Firstly, and most importantly: a daughter, Sylvia Lilian Pi-font Quilter Rose, was born to me and my partner Miranda on 6 September 2019 (please note her surname is Rose, not Wilson). Secondly, the publication of my book on the metaphysics of quantum physics entitled *The Nature of Contingency: Quantum Physics as Modal Realism* (OUP, 2020) (<https://tinyurl.com/natureofcontingency>) marks the completion of a project begun as an undergraduate at Balliol in 2002.

**Tom Lane (2002)**

On 19 July 2019 Maeve Casserly and I got married at a beautiful ceremony in Dublin, surrounded by our friends and family. As well as wedding plans I also



managed to fit in the composition and première of a new opera at Cork Opera House, and music and sound design for numerous theatre productions in Ireland and Germany. My work in 2019 was recently nominated for Best Opera and Best Soundscape by the Irish Times Irish Theatre Awards.

**Oliver Nash (2002)**

A mere 14 years after finishing at Balliol, and I finally have news worthy of that august publication *Floreat Domus*. In February 2018 I married the love of my life, Ewa Zając. We met at work in 2015 while having a ball of a time in an internet start-up. She is a wonderful partner and even now, she finds me far less annoying than you might expect. We really are very happy and have plans to visit Balliol this summer. Very best wishes to all and get in touch if you're ever passing through Dublin, Ireland.

**Toby Ord (2003)**

My book *The Precipice: Existential Risk and the Future of Humanity* was published in March 2020. It covers a main theme of my academic research in a way that is accessible to the non-specialist: how humanity has entered an age where we pose risks to our continued existence, what this means for us, and how we must respond.

**Nabeel Bhanji (2004)**

Nabeel and Sahar welcomed their first child, a daughter, Shehrazade, born 13 August 2019.

**Markus Bihler (2004)**

I moved back to London in 2017 to start a global consumer-focused hedge fund called Builders Union. We are based in Soho and we are always happy to host those interested in consumer research, fundamental investing or business building for a coffee on Golden Square.

**Anupriya Dwivedi (2004)**

Anupriya Dwivedi has been awarded the prestigious Sloan Fellowship at Stanford University to pursue a full-time, one-year Master's programme in business for accomplished leaders at Stanford's Graduate School of Business. Here, she hopes to enhance her training in the behavioural sciences and experience in business/management with the training and opportunities offered by the rapidly evolving tech scene in Silicon Valley.

**Dermot Green (2004)**

In December 2018 I was appointed as Reader in Theoretical Physics at Queen's University Belfast. I was awarded the Institute of Physics David Bates Prize. Most importantly, Aislinn and I welcomed our second child, Oisín, to the world on 24 September 2019.

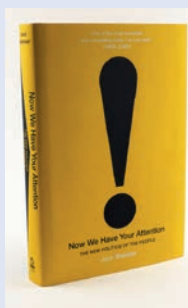
**Rebecca Hodes (2004)**

I continue to lead the AIDS and Society Research Unit at the University of Cape Town, and to co-host (with Oxford University) the 'Mzantsi Wakho' study on the medicines-taking and sexual health practices of young South Africans. Working together with a number of United Nations agencies, and the South African government, I am currently part of an academic collaboration to assess the new comprehensive sexualities education curriculum, which hopes, longer term, to reduce high HIV incidence and sexual violence. I recently began a new project on pharmaceutical waste and I have acquired a copious archive. I spend my free time at the beach.

**Jack Shenker (2004)**

Hello. My latest book, *Now We Have Your Attention: The New Politics of the People*, was published by the Bodley Head and Vintage in September 2019.

An exploration of the UK's fast-changing political landscape from the ground up, it has so far failed to ignite a revolution. Still, we live in hope. More details at [www.jackshenker.net](http://www.jackshenker.net).







### Michael Blyth (2005)

Michael Blyth and his wife Alison celebrated the birth of their first child, Astrid Rose Blyth, on 20 August 2019.

### Adam Creighton (2005)

After six years at *The Australian* I became the newspaper's economics editor in mid-2018. I was fortunate to spend three months at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business in 2019 as Journalist in Residence.

### Lucy King (2005)

This year our work at the Elephants and Bees Project, in collaboration with Save the Elephants, has focused on supporting women farmers who live daily with the challenge of elephant crop-raiders to generate alternative income-generating activities, in order to reduce conflict with elephants by diversifying away from 100 per cent farm-based activities. We were grateful to receive both a grant from Jodi Allen's Wild Lives Foundation to build a new Women's Enterprise Center, and a Helen-Gurley Brown Genius Grant, which will allow us to expand our capacity and outreach of the beehive fence concept significantly in Kenya. I was also invited to give a TED talk at the TEDWomen conference in Palm Springs in December 2019 on how the beehive fence idea evolved ([www.elephantsandbees.com](http://www.elephantsandbees.com)).

### Evgeniya Rubinina (2005)

I have recently become a partner at Enyo LLP, a London law firm, focusing on international arbitration.

### Keith Tse (2005)

After joining the Ronin Institute in 2018, I also gained membership of and access to the Institute of Globally

Distributed Open Research and Education. I am now based at the University of York, where I completed my most recent degree (research in linguistics: [sites.google.com/alumni.york.ac.uk/kkt503](https://sites.google.com/alumni.york.ac.uk/kkt503)) and where I shall undertake a major research project on nominalisation and event structure. In the past year, I also earned several certificates in statistics and data science, and am in the process of launching a parallel career in data science industry alongside my academic one.

### Daniel Carden (2006)

Daniel Carden has moved from London to Madrid, following the birth of his daughter Sara Carden Llorente in October. He is getting married in Marbella in July. He is currently working for his friend Jorge Ribeiro, reviewing a follow-up book to *Business Survival Analysis Using SAS®: An Introduction to Lifetime Probabilities* ([www.sas.com/store/books/categories/usage-and-reference/business-survival-analysis-using-sas-an-introduction-to-lifetime-probabilities/prodBK\\_69298\\_en.html](http://www.sas.com/store/books/categories/usage-and-reference/business-survival-analysis-using-sas-an-introduction-to-lifetime-probabilities/prodBK_69298_en.html)). This book explains, step by step, how to apply survival analysis to various business cases. Survival analysis is a modelling method traditionally used in pharmaceutical clinical trials. The book demonstrates how it can be applied in other commercial contexts, offering a number of advantages over existing analysis.



### Jennifer Charles (2006)

Jennifer Etherington married Alexander Charles on 8 June 2019 in the Lake District. Aside from a little characteristic rain it was a fantastic day, attended by no fewer than 20 Balliol Old Members!

### Joshua Glancy (2006)

I was recently appointed as Washington Bureau Chief for *The Sunday Times*. I was previously the paper's New York correspondent. I'm now living in Washington, DC if anyone is ever passing through.

### Christopher Record (2006)

Martha Elizabeth Sophie Record was born on 7 January 2020, to Chris and Michaela Record – a sister to George.

### Timothy Trudgian (2006)

Another chockers year for the Trudgians! Archie (eight) and Monty (five) are well into the swing of activities, with hockey in the winter, cricket in the summer, and tennis and swimming all year round. Both are passionate fellows, wearing hearts on sleeves so much so that during our weekend opera sessions (we've worked our way through around 20 over the past three years) they are laughing or crying as the music and drama dictates. My wife, Di, is eternally patient with the eccentric ways of us three boys. Cards, classical music, chess, and cricket banter all day long – somehow she survives! Di is volunteering one day a week at Lifeline (an Australian version of the Samaritans), two days a week at the local toy library, and also helping out at the school and the local allotment. We get a cup of tea together each evening and a couple o' pots' worth on the weekends in the mornings: I love her more and more as each year passes. I keep solving problems and such, or whatever it is that mathematicians do. I am very happy here at UNSW Canberra at the Australian Defence Force Academy. I was promoted to associate professor earlier in the year, largely because of the output and energy of the students and post-docs who are working so diligently.

### Barr Even (2007)

Barr Even and Steven Kryger (Yale, 2006, but winner of the Oxford IV, 2009) were married on 21 September 2019 in Lakeville, Connecticut, USA, in the presence of family and friends including Balliolites Siobhan McGinle, Michael Marks, James Balfour, Ettie Lewis (all 2007) and Tiffany Woods-Shepherd (2006). The outdoor ceremony under a traditional Jewish chuppah was blessed with beautifully warm autumn weather.



The happy couple honeymooned in Newfoundland, Canada. And later Vietnam. And then India. They have now returned to domestic life in less exotic Norwalk, Connecticut.

#### **Valentina Gosetti (2007)**

I'd like to announce the publication of a volume of essays, which I co-edited with Alistair Rolls: *Still Loitering. Australian Essays in Honour of Ross Chambers* (Peter Lang, 2020). This book is a tribute to Chambers' life and work and to his legacy among scholars in the global French studies, comparative literature and cultural studies communities. I was also fortunate to be recently awarded an Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA 2020) for a project entitled 'Provincial Poets and the Making of a Nation'. This award will be administered via the University of New England, Australia, where I am Senior Lecturer in French.

#### **Beverley Pannell (2007)**

Dan Paget (2006) and I got married in July 2019.

#### **Aleksandar Petrovic (2007)**

On 11 October 2019 I was awarded a golden medal for civil merit for my contribution to the local community of Leskovac, Serbia.

#### **Steven Rayan (2007)**

At Balliol I read for the DPhil in Mathematics. I am currently a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics & Statistics at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada. In June 2018 I was named an Ethel Raybould Fellow in the School of Mathematics & Physics at the University of Queensland in Australia. In March 2019 I was awarded a New Frontiers in

Research Grant from the Canadian Tri-Agency for a proposal entitled 'Topology and the Next Generation of Quantum Materials'. The national success rate for the grant, which is valued at a quarter of a million dollars (CAD) over two years, was less than 10 per cent. Following on from this, I am now the Founding Director of the Centre for Quantum Topology and Its Applications (quanTA) at the University of Saskatchewan, an interdisciplinary institute devoted to the mathematics and physics of novel quantum materials with the aim of enabling innovations such as quantum computing. quanTA brings together 15 faculties (including five external ones) as well as ten students and junior fellows. In December, quanTA was awarded a further 200,000 CAD from the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences to form a Collaborative Research Group (with myself as principal investigator). This will pave the way for exciting new science coming out of the Canadian Prairies. In 2018 and 2019, respectively, I was recognised with the New Teacher Award (Science) and the New Researcher (Science) awards from the College of Arts & Science at the university.



#### **Katy Theobald (2007)**

In December I published my research into the Leadership of Future-focused Schools ([www.wcmt.org.uk/fellows/reports/developing-leaders-21st-century-schools-and-evaluating-their-impact](http://www.wcmt.org.uk/fellows/reports/developing-leaders-21st-century-schools-and-evaluating-their-impact)). This was the product of a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship I was awarded to visit schools and system leaders in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. Inspired by my travels, I moved back to Australia and I am now a Principal Policy Advisor with the Victorian Department of Education and Training.

#### **Kelsey Jackson Williams (2008)**

Dawn Hollis (2009) and Kelsey Jackson Williams (2008) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter,



Vera Frances Leontine Jackson-Hollis, on 17 June 2019. She definitely has the tranquil consciousness of an effortless superiority. All three continue to live in rural Scotland surrounded by books, cats, boats, and printing presses.

#### **Ronan Lyons (2009)**

Together with two co-authors, I received over \$600,000 in funding from the National Science Foundation in the US, to examine the performance of the housing market there since the 19th century. At Trinity College Dublin, where I am an Assistant Professor of Economics, I have been appointed Director of Trinity Research in Social Sciences, a hub for over 300 research-active faculty, postdocs and PhD students across a dozen disciplines.

#### **Paolo Gandini (2009)**

I am happy to share with the Balliol community that I received a prize from the Italian Physical Society this September, the Ettore Pancini Prize. This prize is awarded to a young researcher (below 35) who has obtained significant results in the field of experimental particle or nuclear physics: 'Award to Dott Paolo Gandini, PhD University of Oxford, currently researcher at INFN Milan, for his determinant contribution to the activities of the LHCb experiment at CERN, in particular for his measurements on spectroscopy and CP violation' ([www.sif.it/attivita/congresso/105/premiati](http://www.sif.it/attivita/congresso/105/premiati)).



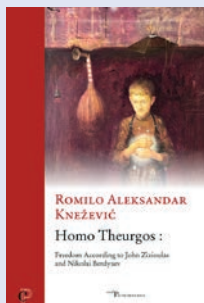


**Frederick Wilmot-Smith (2009)**

I published *Equal Justice: Fair Legal Systems in an Unfair World* (Harvard University Press, 2019).

**2010s****Romilo Knezevic (2010)**

The revised version of his doctoral thesis 'Homo Theurgos: Freedom According to John Zizioulas and Nikolai Berdyaev' will be published this year by the French publishing house L'Edition du Cerf.

**Jacqueline Pinta (2010)**

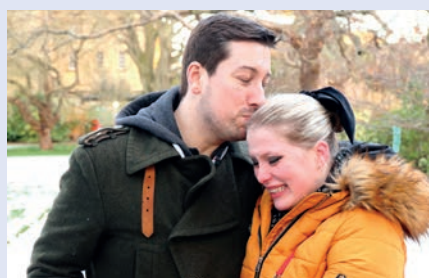
My husband Nicholas and I welcomed a daughter, Ember Elizabeth Reese Casaletto, on 5 January 2020 in San Diego, California.

**Claire Parry (2010)**

I'm going to be directing the Three Inch Fools' summer Shakespeare UK tour of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Old Members should check it out if it's touring anywhere near them and they fancy a lovely Shakespeare summer show and picnic experience! See [www.threeinchfools.com](http://www.threeinchfools.com) for more details as they're released later in the year. I'm also taking my one-woman show *Intolerable Side Effects* about contraception, the side effects and the responsibility for taking it to Prague Fringe – trying to get a contraception revolution going ... If there are any Old Members who have anything to do with contraception, let me know!

**Britt Smith (2010)**

My partner, Chris Skinner, proposed to me in February 2019 in the most magical place: Balliol covered by snow!



By chance, a student from another college was nearby, practising his photography skills, and he captured the moment for us. Our wedding will take place in Scotland in September 2020.

**Mireia Crispin Ortuzar (2011)**

On 6 April 2019, Dr Bartomeu Monserrat and I got married in a small ceremony with friends and family in the mountains of Mallorca, Spain.

**Anna Jenkin (2011)**

Anna Jenkin and Matthew Wright are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Alastair Kevern Wright, younger brother to Michael (born 2017).

**Phoebe Grant-Smith (2012)**

Phoebe Lowry (née Grant-Smith) is delighted to announce her marriage to Dr Andrew Lowry on 14 September 2019, at Holy Cross Church, Morton, Derbyshire.

**Rebecca Venis (2012)**

I got married on 3 August 2019 at the Little Dower House, Old Windsor to Mr James Allen.

**Emily Carrington Freeman (2013)**

In November 2019 a book of poems I illustrated was published: *Tabac Blond* by Christopher Moncrieff (Caparison Books). The link for it on the publisher's website is here: [www.therecasant.org.uk/caparison-books/4538998565](http://www.therecasant.org.uk/caparison-books/4538998565). I also designed and printed a relief print for the Bodleian Library, which is now in their collection(!) as part of their celebration for the 200th anniversary of Herman



Melville's birth. I also did a special 'Balliol' edition of seven of the same print, two of which I have given to the College Library; the other five are available to buy directly from me.

**Laia Josa-Culleré (2013)**

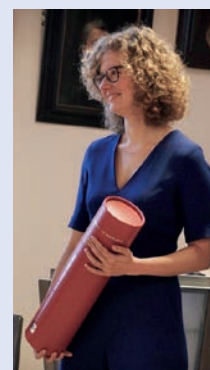
This year I obtained a Marie Curie Individual Fellowship, with which I returned to Barcelona, my city of origin, to work at the Institute of Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia (IQAC-CSIC). I am working on a project that involves applying photopharmacology to target cancer cells.

**Nina Pflugfelder (2013)**

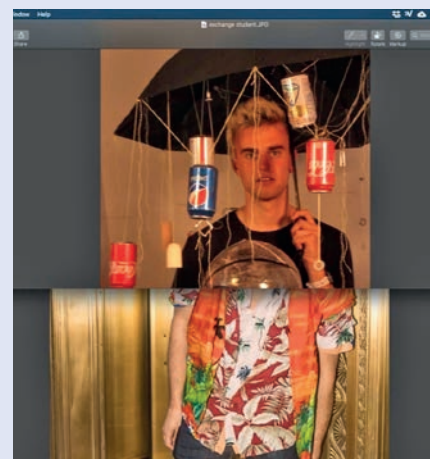
Nina started a PhD on knowledge management in the healthcare sector in 2019.

**Aniek van den Eersten (2013)**

In November 2019 I received my doctorate in classics from the University of Amsterdam. My PhD thesis, entitled 'Metaphor in Herodotus' Histories', was written under the supervision of Professor Irene de Jong and Dr Mathieu de Bakker.

**Laurence Warner (2013)**

I'm back in the UK after my time as a Fulbright 'exchange student', running First Week Flip Phone, for which we're now seeking a UK mental health charity partner. Hope to see some of y'all in Oxford at summer schools, where I'm bringing back the





agileEducation approach to helping young people become tech makers. Otherwise, mainly working on music as Cerulean, including debuting this year an exciting new musical called 'Snowflakes in SoCal' set in Los Angeles, where I'm looking to move in the next couple of years!

#### **Caryn Davies (2014)**

I have some exciting news to share: I've come out of rowing retirement to train for the Tokyo Olympics! Things are going well so far. I competed for Team USA in the coxless four at the 2019 World Rowing Championships last summer in Austria, where we qualified the boat for the Games by earning sixth place (see photo – I'm in stroke seat). I continue to train with the US team, and I will find out in June whether I've been selected to compete in Tokyo. Two other newsworthy events from 2019 are that I got engaged



to be married and I started my own law practice, [www.caryndavieslaw.com](http://www.caryndavieslaw.com). Floreat domus de Balliol!

#### **Bethany Kirkbride (2015)**

I have just received news that I have passed my NCTJ Journalism diploma with News Associates in Twickenham, London, which I undertook part time whilst working in marketing. This meant commuting from Oxford to London twice a week for 40 weeks from February 2019. It was an intensive

but rewarding course that I believe will further my professional ambitions to become a journalist.

#### **Tania Shew (2016)**

I am spending this academic year as a visiting fellow at Harvard on a Fulbright Award, as part of the second year of my PhD in history at Manchester University. My project is on consideration of sex-strikes as tactics within the transatlantic women's suffrage movement.



Stuart Bebb

## Keeping in touch

Thank you very much to everyone who sent in News and Notes. We have been delighted by the response this year.

We are always pleased to hear what Old Members of Balliol are doing. You can send us any news, at any time during the year, by email ([development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk)) or by post (Development Office, Balliol College, Oxford OX1 3BJ).

If you have news you would like to share in the next issue of News and Notes please email it to [newsandnotes@balliol.ox.ac.uk](mailto:newsandnotes@balliol.ox.ac.uk) or send it by post to the Development Office as above.

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