ANNUAL RECORD

2020
The cut-off date for information in the *Annual Record* is 31 July. The lists of examination results (which exclude students who have chosen not to have their results published), graduate degrees, prizes, and scholarships and exhibitions may include awards and results made since that date in the previous academic year, as indicated. We are happy to record in future editions any such awards and results received after that date, if requested.

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The Master’s Letter

Dame Helen Ghosh

I’ve never been much of a believer in the idea of a Golden Age, that in any aspect of life, things were perfect in the past in comparison with today. I might make an exception for what we’ve done to our environment. But on the whole, I’m an optimistic, ‘Every day, in every way, things are getting better and better’ kind of person.

It’s been a challenge for me, then, to read through this Annual Record. Report after report from students about the wonderful things they were doing and the fun they were having in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, and then along comes lockdown. Perhaps there was a pre-COVID Golden Age after all?

It could be easy to fall prey to the same Golden Age-ishness when reading the tributes to the many Emeritus and Honorary Fellows we have lost in the last year – Jasper Griffin, Wilfred Beckerman, Oladipo Akinkugbe, George Steiner, Eric Anderson, Brian Hutton, Malcolm Green – and wonder if we’ll see their like again. Of course we won’t, in the sense that all of them were extraordinary and unique individuals, some of them living in a time or context very different from today.

When Oladipo Akinkugbe became Professor of Medicine at Ibadan University at the age of 35, after his DPhil at Balliol, he was the first Professor of Medicine ever to be appointed at an African University. Wilfred Beckerman, later Fellow in Economics at Balliol and a Professor at UCL, was forced to leave grammar school at the age of 15 during the Depression and go out to work to help support the family. He worked as a rat-catcher and as a railway porter before joining the Navy in 1943, becoming the captain of a destroyer by the time he was 19. It was only under the post-war University scheme for ex-officers that he managed to hustle a place at Trinity College, Cambridge, the first step on the ladder of his outstanding academic career.

This year we have also mourned our much-loved colleague Stefano Zacchetti, Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies, who died very suddenly in April at the age of 52. As Christopher Minkowski recounts in his tribute, Stefano’s life and work exemplified the highest standards of painstaking scholarship combined with broad vision in which the College and University still rejoice.

This Record also reminds us of the calibre and talents we see amongst the Fellows and students of today. Among their many achievements, listed in these pages, Timothy Endicott’s transition from Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in
Law with us to the Vinerian Professorship of English Law was a source of particular celebration (albeit it tinged with much regret that it means he has left us for All Souls); as was Rosalind Thomas’s election as a Fellow of the British Academy.

Our Finalists this year had the novel challenge of taking their exams online. Not for them sub fusc, carnations, the nervous walk down to the Examination Schools, or indeed the sense of occasion and solidarity that makes the experience (as I recall) semi-bearable. Despite the challenges of isolation and technology, they nonetheless pressed on to get their degrees, 48 per cent of them achieving Firsts. We are immensely proud of them, and of those graduates taking exams who showed the same resilience, with 28 achieving Distinctions. I am reminded of Ginger Rogers’ comment about her legendary Hollywood dancing partnership with Fred Astaire, ‘I did everything Fred did, just backwards and in high heels.’

A thoughtful reading of the reports from the student Common Rooms, sports and societies makes the notion of a lost Golden Age even more ridiculous. Our students’ energy, zest and intelligence shines through, even when they were deprived of the delights and challenges of a Trinity Term in Oxford. Many of you will be entertained and inspired by the enterprise of the Younger Society and their virtual Garden Party, the rowers and their remote running time trials, the MCR having welfare teas on Zoom, or the choir sharing choral music to listen to at home.

I hope, too, that all Balliol alumni will recognise the ‘strong internal community and external awareness’ among undergraduates of which Cerian Richmond Jones, JCR President, writes in her report. It was the combination of those traditional Balliol virtues in both the JCR and the MCR that produced the proposals for progressive disinvestment in fossil fuel companies that was agreed by the Governing Body in January. We had a similar evidence- and values-based discussion with students in the wake of the Black Lives Matter and Rhodes Must Fall protests and I look forward to working with them to put our joint plans into action when Michaelmas Term comes round.

The ability of any great institution to flourish rests on its people. That is true of our University and of our College. When we welcome the next generation of Balliol students (and some new Fellows) to the College in October, it will be a very different introduction to life in College from ever before, with social distancing, face-covering and testing regimes to minimise health risks, and Freshers’ Week reinvented. But the essence of their lives here will be the same, with excellence in teaching and research, the constant stimulus of those
around them, and the opportunity to help shape the world of the future. I have no doubt they will think their time here was a Golden Age.

Floreat Domus!
Balliol College 2019/2020

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

Master
Ghosh, Dame Helen, DCB, MA MLitt Oxf

Fellows
Hazareesingh, Sudhir Kumar, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FBA, CUF Lecturer in Politics and Tutorial Fellow in Politics, and Senior Fellow
O’Hare, Dermot Michael, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Chemistry, Professor of Chemistry, Senior Research Fellow in Chemistry and SCG Fellow
Conway, Martin Herbert, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, Professor of Contemporary European History, MacLellan-Warburg Fellow and Tutor in History
O’Brien, Dominic C., MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Engineering Science and Senior Research Fellow in Engineering
Skinner, Simon Andrew, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, Associate Professor, Keen Fellow and Tutor in History
Forder, James, MA DPhil Oxf, Andrew Graham Fellow and Tutor in Political Economy
Trefethen, Lloyd Nicholas, AB Harvard, MA Oxf, MS PhD Stanford, FRS, Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow
Endicott, Timothy A.O., AB Harvard, LLB Toronto, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Legal Philosophy, Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in Law, and Vice-Master (Executive)
Lamond, Grant Ian, MA BCL DPhil Oxf, BA LLB Sydney, Associate Professor, Frankfurter Fellow and Tutor in Law
Reichold, Armin J.H., MA Oxf, Diplom PAS Dr rer nat Dip Dortmund, Reader in Particle Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Physics
Melham, Thomas Frederick, BSc Calgary, MA Oxf, PhD Camb, FRSE, FBCS, Professor of Computer Science, Fellow and Tutor in Computation, and Praefectus of Holywell Manor
Perry, Seamus Peter, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of English Literature, Massey Fellow, Tutor in English, Fellow Librarian and Fellow for Charity Matters
Foster, Brian, OBE, MA DPhil Oxf, BSc Lond, FRS, Donald H. Perkins Professor of Experimental Physics and Professorial Fellow
Shimeld, Sebastian Mordecai, BSc Southampton, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Associate Professor, Julian Huxley Fellow and Tutor in Zoology, and Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions
Thomas, Rosalind, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FBA, Professor of Greek History, Dyson-Macgregor Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Ancient History
Lukas, André, BSc Wuppertal, MA Oxf, Dr phil TU Munich, Professor of Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Theoretical Physics
Marnette, Sophie, Lic Brussels, PhD California, MA Oxf, Professor of Medieval French Studies, Dervorguilla Fellow and Tutor in French, Junior Proctor 2019–2020
Lucas, David M., BA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Physics, Fellow and Tutor in Physics
Minkowski, Christopher Z., AB PhD Harvard, MA Oxf, Boden Professor of Sanskrit and Professorial Fellow
Barford, William, BSc Sheff, MA Oxf, PhD Camb, Professor of Theoretical Chemistry, Fellow and Tutor in Physical Chemistry
Paoli, Sandra, MA Oxf, PhD Manc, Research Fellow in Romance Linguistics
Goldin, Ian A., BSc BA Cape Town, MSc LSE, MA DPhil Oxf, AMP INSEAD, Professor of Globalisation and Development and Special Supernumerary Fellow
Green, Leslie, BA Queen's Canada, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Professor of the Philosophy of Law, Pauline and Max Gordon Fellow and Professorial Fellow
Collier, Richard Hale, BSc US Naval Academy, LLM Camb, DrJur Cornell, MA Oxf, Finance Bursar
Noe, Thomas H., BA Whittier, MBA PhD Texas at Austin, MA Oxf, Ernest Butten Professor of Management Studies and Professorial Fellow
Hurrell, Andrew, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, FBA, Montague Burton Professor of International Relations and Professorial Fellow
Kelly, Adrian David, BA MA Melb, DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Clarendon University Lecturer, Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Greek Language and Literature
Hamdy, Freddie Charles, MBChB Alexandria, MD Sheffild, LRCP-LRCS FRCSUrol Edinburgh, LRCPS Glasgow, Nuffield Professor of Surgery and Professorial Fellow
Schiff, Sir András, Special Supernumerary Fellow
Trott, Nicola Zoë, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Senior Tutor and Academic Registrar, and Tutor for Graduates
Walker, Lisa Jane, BM BCh DPhil Oxf, BSc Manc, MRCPCH, PGCME Dund, Fellow in Medical Sciences
Belich, James Christopher, ONZM, BA MA Victoria University of Wellington, DPhil Oxf, Beit Professor of Commonwealth and Imperial History, and Professorial Fellow
Zaccolo, Manuela, MD Turin, Professor of Cell Biology, Fellow and Tutor in Biomedical Sciences
Tufano, Peter, AB MBA PhD Harvard, Peter Moores Dean and Professor of Finance at Saïd Business School, and Professorial Fellow
Lombardi, Elena, Laurea Pavia, MA PhD New York, Professor of Italian Literature, Paget Toynbee Lecturer in Italian Medieval Studies, Fellow and Tutor in Italian
Tan, Jin-Chong, BEng (Mech) Malaysia, MEng NTU Singapore, PhD Camb, Professor of Engineering Science (Nanoscale Engineering), Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science
Robinson, Matthew, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Latin Literature
Ghobrial, John-Paul, BA Tufts, MPhil Oxf, MA PhD Princeton, Associate Professor, Lucas Fellow and Tutor in History
Zacchetti, Stefano, BA, PhD Venice, Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professorial Fellow †
Burton, Martin, MA DM Oxf, FRCS (Oto), FRCS-ORL, Professor of Otolaryngology, Director of the UK Cochrane Centre and Research Fellow in Clinical Medicine, Co-Chair, UK Cochrane Board
Choudhury, Robin, BA MA BM BCh DM Oxf, FRCP, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow and Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences
Moulton, Derek, BA Denver, MSc PhD Delaware, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics
Wark, David Lee, MS PhD Caltech, BSc Indiana, FRS, Professor of Experimental Particle Physics and Special Supernumerary Fellow
Cartis, Coralia, BSc Babeș-Bolyai (Romania), PhD Camb, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics
Elkind, Edith, MA Moscow, MSc PhD Princeton, Research Fellow in Computational Game Theory, Research Fellow in Computational Game Theory
Butt, Daniel, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Associate Professor, Robert Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in Political Theory, and Vice-Master (Academic)
Smyth, Adam, BA Oxf, MA PhD Reading, Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book, Clarendon University Lecturer, A.C. Bradley–J.C. Maxwell Fellow and Tutor in English Literature, and Tutor for Graduate Admissions

Ovenden, Richard, BA Durh, MA DipLib Lond, FRSA, FSA, Bodley’s Librarian and Professorial Fellow

Quarrell, Rachel, MA DPhil Oxf, Fellow Dean and Lecturer in Chemistry

Kinsey, Bruce, BD MTh King’s London, MA Camb, MA Oxf, Chaplain/Wellbeing and Welfare Officer

Norman, Richard Anthony, BA Oxf, Development Director

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

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

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

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

Appleton, Helen, BA MA Durham, PhD Sydney, Career Development Fellow in Old and Early Medieval English

Susskind, Daniel, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Career Development Fellow in Economics

Neale, Vicky, BA MMath MA PhD Camb, Whitehead Lecturer in Mathematics and Supernumerary Fellow

Cicirello, Alice, BEng MSc Messina, PhD Camb, Career Development Fellow in Engineering Science [MT ONLY]

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

Dendrou, Calliope, BSc ARCS Imperial, PhD Camb Sir Henry Dale Fellow and Research Fellow in the Sciences

Nahum, Adam, MPhysPhil DPhil Oxf, MS Chicago, Research Fellow in the Sciences

Baker, Mark, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf, Career Development Fellow in Modern Global History

Berruezo-Sánchez, Diana, BA PhD Barcelona, MSt Madrid Career Development Fellow in Modern Languages

Godfray, Sir Charles, CBE, FRS, Professorial Fellow and Director of the Oxford Martin School
Deen, Rehan, MPhys Oxf, PhD Pennsylvania, Henry Skynner Research Fellow in Astrophysics
Faria, Nuno, MSc Lisbon, MSc Amst, PhD Leuven, Research Fellow in the Sciences
Restifo, Aleksandra, BA St Petersburg, MA Hyderabad, MA SOAS, MA MPhil PhD Yale, Asoke Kumar Sarkar Fellow in Classical Indology
Kiss, Elizabeth, BA North Carolina BPhil DPhil Oxf, Professorial Fellow and Warden of Rhodes House
Lotay Jason, MMath DPhil Oxf, Professor of Pure Mathematics and Tutorial Fellow in Mathematics
Bown, Alexander, MA Oxf, PhD Geneva, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Philosophy
Albanie, Samuel, MMath Oxf, MSc Trinity College Dublin, PhD Oxf, Research Fellow in the Sciences
VanderWeele, Tyler J., MA Oxf, MA Pennsylvania, AM PhD Harvard, George Eastman Visiting Professor
Marmalejo Cossio, Francisco, AB Harvard MSc DPhil Oxf, Career Development Fellow in Computer Science
Fuentes, Marisa, BA University of California, Santa Cruz, MA UC Berkeley, PhD UC Berkeley Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow (History)
Weir, Margaret, BA Antioch, MA Brandeis, PhD Chicago, Winant Visiting Professor
Blake, Liza, BA George Washington, MPhil Camb, MA PhD New York, Oliver Smithies Lecturer and Visiting Fellow
Kwan, James, BS Rensselaer NY, MS MPhil PhD Columbia, Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Engineering Science (Chemical Engineering)
Davis, Katrina, BSc PhD Western Australia, Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Zoology (Conservation Biology)
Dickinson, Nicholas, BA MSt Oxf, MRes PhD Exeter, Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies
Wright, Frances, BA Queen’s Belfast, MSc Open University, Domestic Bursar

Emeritus Fellows

Green, Malcolm Leslie Hodder, MA Camb, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FRS, CChem, FRSC †
Lukes, Steven Michael, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA
Weinstein, William Leon, BA Columbia, BPhil MA Oxf
Beckerman, Wilfred, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf †
Harris, Donald Renshaw, QC (Hon), BA LLM New Zealand, BCL MA Oxf, LLD Keele †
Brink, David Maurice, BSc Tasmania, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS
Montefiore, Alan Claud Robin Goldsmid, MA Oxf
Turner, David Warren, BSc Univ Coll of the South West, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FRS
Barnes, Jonathan, MA Oxf, FBA
Howatson, Alastair Macrae, BSc PhD Edin, MA Oxf
Rea, John Rowland, BA Belf, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FBA
Fowler, Godfrey Heath, OBE, BM MA Oxf, FRCP, FRCGP, FFPH, DCM
Morton, Keith William, MA Oxf, PhD New York
Stapleton, Barbara Jane, QC, BSc UNSW, PhD Adelaide, LLB ANU, DPhil DCL Oxf, FBA
Davies, Paul Lyndon, QC, LLM Lond, MA Oxf, LLM Yale, FBA
Lonsdale, Roger Harrison, MA DPhil Oxf, FRSL, FBA
McFarland, David John, BSc Liv, MA DPhil Oxf
Stoy, Joseph Edward, MA Oxf
Powis, Jonathan Keppel, MA DPhil Oxf
Morris, Sir Peter John, AC, KB, MB BSc PhD Melbourne, MA Oxf, FRCS, FRS FMedSci
Cashmore, Roger John, CMG, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS
Griffin, Jasper, MA Oxf, FBA †
Noble, Denis, CBE, MA Oxf, PhD Lond, FRCP, FRS
Murray, Oswyn, MA DPhil Oxf, FSA
Gombrich, Richard, AM Harvard, MA DPhil Oxf
Newton-Smith, William Herbert, BA Queen’s, Ontario, MA Cornell, MA DPhil Oxf
Logan, David Edwin, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf
Raz, Joseph, Mjr Jerusalem, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA
Morriess-Kay, Gillian Mary, BSc(Hons) Durh, MA PhD Camb, MA DSc Oxf, Hon FAS
Roberts, Sir Edward Adam, KCMG, MA Oxf, FBA
Hodby, Jonathon Wilson, MA DPhil
Zancani, Diego, Laurea Milan, MA Oxf, Dott Bocconi
Jones, John Henry, MA DPhil Oxf, CChem, FRSC, FRHistS
McQuay, Henry John, BM MA DM Oxf, FRCP Edin
Bulloch, Penelope Anne Ward, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, ALA, FSA
Brown, Judith Margaret, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS
Nye, Piers Charles Gillespie, MA Oxf, PhD California
Schmidt, Aubrey Vincent Carlyle, MA DLitt Oxf
Hannabuss, Keith Cyril, MA DPhil Oxf
Buckley, Christopher Paul, MA DPhil Oxf, FIMMM, FIMechE, CEng
Swift, Adam Richard George, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf
Dupree, Hugh Douglas, BA Univ of the South, Tennessee, MA DPhil Oxf, MDiv Virginia
Abrams, Lesley Jane, MA Oxf, MA PhD Toronto, FRHist
Vines, David, BA Melbourne, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf
Wilson, Timothy Hugh, MPhil Lond, MA Oxf
Kirwan, Dame Frances Clare, DBE, BA Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS
Field, Robert William, MA MEng PhD Camb, MA Oxf, CEng, FIChemE

Honorary Fellows

Norway, HM King Harald V of, DCL(Hon) Oxf
Thomas, Sir Keith Vivian, MA Oxf, FBA
Anderson, Sir William Eric, MA St And, BLitt Oxf, FRSE †
Hutton, James Brian Edward, Rt Hon Lord Hutton of Bresagh, PC †
Leggett, Sir Anthony James, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRS
Ricks, Sir Christopher Bruce, BLitt MA Oxf, FBA
Kenny, Sir Anthony John Patrick, MA DPhil DLitt Oxf, FBA
Carey, John, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRSL
Mallet, John Valentine Granville, BA Oxf, FSA, FRSA
Sarbanes, Paul Spyros, BA Oxf
Japan, Her Majesty The Empress Masako of
Steiner, George, BA Chicago, MA Harvard, DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRSL †
Alberti, Sir George, BM BCh DPhil Oxf, FRCP, FRCPE, FRCPath
Patten, Christopher Francis, Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, CH, PC, MA, DCL(Hon) Oxf, Chancellor of the University
Strang, William Gilbert, SB MIT, MA Oxf, PhD Calif
Mehta, Ved Parkash, BA Pomona, MA Oxf, MA Harvard, FRSL
Lucas, Sir Colin Renshaw, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS
Bowersock, Glen, AB (Harvard), MA DPhil Oxf
Dawkins, Richard, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRS, FRSL
Keene, Rt Hon Sir David, PC, BCL MA Oxf, Hon PhD (Brunel), ACI Arb
Mortimer, Edward James, CMG, BA, MA Oxf
Nayyar, Deepak, BA MA Delhi, BPhil DPhil Oxf
Richards, William Graham, CBE FRS, MA DPhil DSc Oxf
Roitt, Ivan Maurice, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRCPath, FRS
Ryan, Alan, MA DLitt Oxf, FBA
Schmoke, Kurt Lidell, LLB Harvard, BA Yale
Akinkugbe, Oladipo Olujimi, MD London, DPhil Oxf, FRCP (Edinburgh) †
Berg, Maxine Louise, BA Simon Fraser, MA Sus, DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRHistS
Drayton, Bill, MA Oxf, JD Yale
Kroll, John Simon, BM BCh MA Oxf, FRCP, FRCPCH, FMedSci
Slack, Paul Alexander, MA DPhil Oxf, FRHistS, FBA
Taylor, Charles Margrave, BA McGill, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA
Graham, Andrew Winston Mawdsley, MA Hon DCL Oxf
Bayley, Hagan, MA Oxf, PhD Harvard, FRS
Bhargava, Rajeev, BA Delhi, MPhil DPhil Oxf
Donnelly, Peter, BSc Queensland, DPhil Oxf, FRS, FMedSci
Grey, Clare, BA DPhil Oxf, FRS
Jones, Charlotte, BA Oxf
Kenyon, Sir Nicholas, CBE, BA Oxf
Nongxa, Loyiso, MSc Fort Hare, DPhil Oxf
Penny, Nicholas Sir, BA Camb, MA PhD Courtauld (London), FSA
Portes, Richard, CBE, BA Yale, DPhil Oxf, FBA
Sheinwald, Sir Nigel, GCMG, MA Oxf
Wells, Sir Stanley, CBE, BA UCL, PhD Birmingham
Williamson, Timothy, MA DPhil Oxf, FBA, FRSE
Bone, Sir Drummond, MA Glas, MA Oxf, FRSE, FRSA
Al-Nashif, Nada, MA Oxf, MPP Harvard
Birney, J.F.W. (Ewan), CBE, BA Oxf, PhD Camb, FRS FMedSci,
Chaudhuri, Amit, BA Lond, DPhil Oxf
Davies, Gavyn, OBE, BA Camb, Blitt Oxf
Dick, Dame Cressida, DBE QPM, BA Oxf
Flanders, Stephanie, BA Oxf, MA Harvard
Franklin, Oliver St Clair, OBE, BA Lincoln, BPhil Oxf
Horlick, Nicola, BA Oxf
Lewis, Gwyneth, BA MA Camb, DPhil Oxf
Misak, Cheryl, BA Lethbridge, MA Columbia, DPhil Oxf
Roper, Lyndal, BA Melbourne, PhD Lond
Snow, Peter, CBE, BA Oxf
Stevens, Sir Simon, BA Oxf
Thomas, Sarah, AB Smith, MS Simmons, MA PhD Johns Hopkins, MA Oxf
Winterbottom, Michael, BA Oxf
Foundation Fellows
Foley, Martin Anthony Oliver, MA Oxf
Moynihan, Jonathan Patrick, OBE, MA Oxf, MSc North London, SM MIT
Shirley, Dame Stephanie, CH, DBE, CEng, FBSC, FREng, CITP
Warburg, Michael, MA Oxf, FCIS, FBCS
Warburg, Rosemary Alison
Westerman, Matthew, MA Oxf

College Lecturers
Badiu, Mihai, Dipl-Ing MS PhD Cluj-Napoca, Lecturer in Electrical Engineering
Bajo Lorenzana, Victoria, MD PhD Salamanca, Lecturer in Neuroscience
Bard, Jonathan, MA Camb, PhD Manchester, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences
Barutchu, Ayla, BSc PhD La Trobe, Melbourne, Lecturer in Psychology
Bogaert, Hannah, LLB LLM Gent, MJur Oxf, Lecturer in Law
Clarkson, Oliver, MA PhD Durham, Departmental Lecturer in English
Cosker, Tom, MBBch MA Wales, Lecturer in Anatomy
Coughlan, Eileen, MPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Linguistics
Deer, Cécile Marie-Anne, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in French
Dyson, Anthony, BSc DPhil Lond, Lecturer in Physics
Ellis, Caitlin, PhD Camb, Lecturer in History
Grange, Huw, PhD Camb, Lecturer in Medieval French
Hanley, Ryan, Lecturer in Physics, MPhys PhD Dunelm
Hewson, Matthew, BA MA Birmingham, BPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Philosophy
Jaffré, Marc W.S., MA MPhil Oxf, PhD St Andrews, Lecturer in History
Kristjánsson, Hafsteinn, BA MJur Iceland, MJur Oxon, LLM Harvard, Lecturer in Law
Laidlaw, Michael, BA MA Camb, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Lazar, Orlando, MA MPhil Camb, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Politics
Leal Cervantes, Rodrigo, BSc Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), MSc Oxf, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics
Leek, Peter, PhD Camb, Lecturer in Physics
Lemke, Jenny, First State Examination Siegen, Second State Examination Muenster, German Lektorin
Littleton, Suellen M., BSc California, MBA Lond, Lecturer in Economics and Management Studies
Marcus, Max, BSc Bonn, MSc Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Marmolejo Cossio, Francisco, AB Harvard, MSc Oxf, Lecturer in Computer Science
McCarthy, John, BSc Limerick, MSc Oxf, Lecturer in Engineering (Mathematics)
McConnell, Thomas, BA MSt DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Classics
McIntosh, Jonny, MA Oxf, MA, MPhil London, Lecturer in Philosophy
Marino, Luca, BA MSC Naples Federico II, Lecturer in Engineering (Structures and Dynamics)
Meyer, Robin, MA, MPhil, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Classics
Minko, Romy, BSc Melbourne, MSc RHUL, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics
Nait Saada, Juba, MEng Télécom Paris Tech, MSc Res Oxf, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics
Neale, Vicky, BA MMath MA PhD Camb, Lecturer in Mathematics
Newbury, Guy Talbot, MA Oxf, MPhil Sussex, PhD Durham, Lecturer in Music
Nye, Piers Charles Gillespie, MA Oxf, PhD California, Lecturer in Systems Physiology
Ockenden, Ray Curtis, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in German
Palmer, Christopher William Proctor, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Physics
Peterson, Scot, BA Colorado, MA Chicago, JD California, DPhil Oxf
Paton, Robert, BSc Msc Glas, Lecturer in Biological Sciences
Quarrell, Rachel, MA DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Rowan-Hill, Autumn, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Medicine
Smith, Charles, BA MSt Oxf, PGDip City, Lecturer in Ancient History
Smith, Olivia, BA UEA, MA PhD London, Lecturer in English
Tang, Brian, MEngEcM, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Engineering Science
Thomas, Arthur, BA Oxf, PhD Stanford, College Adviser to Graduates in Medical Sciences
Thompson, Max, BA, MPhil, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Politics
Thornton, James, MMath Warwick, Graduate Teaching Assistant in Mathematics
Turner, Zoe, MChem DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Chemistry
Vines, David, BA Melbourne, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, Professor of Economics and Fellow
Wilkins, Catherine, BSc Open, MA, MSc, DPhil Oxf, Lecturer in Mathematics
Wilson, Daniel, MMath Oxf, Lecturer in Mathematics
New Fellows

Dr Samuel Albanie, Research Fellow in the Sciences

Samuel’s research focuses on machine perception, a field which seeks to develop algorithms to understand the content of images, sounds and videos. His work to date explores several themes: the design of deep neural networks to learn representations of concepts from raw pixel and audio signals; the use of natural language in systems for video understanding; and the development of algorithms that can learn with minimal levels of supervision. In addition to these areas, he has a particular interest in producing tools to enable automatic sign language interpretation.

Dr Liza Blake, Oliver Smithies Lecturer (English) and Visiting Fellow

Liza is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Toronto, working on literature and science, women’s writing, book history, critical editing, and Margaret Cavendish. She has published (with Jacques Lezra) the edited collection *Lucretius and Modernity*, as well as two scholarly editions: *Margaret Cavendish’s Poems and Fancies: A Digital Critical Edition* and (with Kathryn Vomero Santos) *Arthur Golding’s Moral Fabletalk and Other Renaissance Fable Translations*. She has articles published and forthcoming in the journals *postmedieval, SEL, New College Notes*, and *ELR*, and is currently finishing a monograph project entitled *Early Modern Literary Physics*. While at Balliol she has been working on a multimedia project entitled *Choose Your Own Poems and Fancies: A Digital Rearrangeable Edition and Study of Margaret Cavendish’s Atom Poems*.
Dr Alexander Bown, Associate Professor, Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Philosophy

Alex works mainly on ancient logic; in today’s terms, this covers issues not just in the philosophy of logic, but also in the philosophy of language and epistemology. He is primarily interested in the treatments of these topics provided by Hellenistic philosophers (especially the Epicureans) and Aristotle. He is currently working on a book-length study of inference in Epicurean philosophy, with particular focus on the De Signis of Philodemus of Gadara, a text preserved only on one damaged papyrus roll recovered from the ruins of Herculaneum. He has published two articles: ‘Epicurus on Bivalence and the Excluded Middle’ (Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie, 2016) and ‘Epicurus on Truth and Falsehood’ (Phronesis, 2016). Before coming to Balliol, Alex spent two years as a Career Development Fellow at the Queen’s College, Oxford. He received his PhD from the University of Geneva in 2018, and studied for his undergraduate degree at New College, Oxford.

Dr Francisco Marmolejo Cossio, Career Development Fellow in Computer Science

Francisco’s primary area of research lies in the field of algorithmic game theory and its connections with computational learning theory, decentralised consensus protocols, and mechanism design for social good. His work mainly focuses on understanding the behaviour of strategic agents in both, algorithmically defined and limited-information environments. On the theoretical side, he studies query protocols for computing game-theoretic equilibria and agent incentives, as well as how robust these query protocols are against strategic manipulation. On the practical side, he focuses on cryptographic decentralised consensus protocols, such as those used in cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, and how strategic agents behave within them. Prior to joining Balliol, Francisco received his DPhil and MSc from the University of Oxford in Computer Science and a BA from Harvard University in Mathematics.
Dr Katrina Davis, Fellow and Tutor in Conservation Biology

A marine biologist and environmental economist, in her research Katrina identifies optimal use of natural resources to maximise the productivity of ecological and social systems. Her work combines bio-economic and demographic modelling, non-market valuation and optimisation approaches. Her current research (1) assesses the drivers and dynamics of marine human-wildlife conflict; (2) quantifies trade-offs in ecosystem services generated by different marine activities; (3) identifies optimal marine spatial planning among marine protected areas and managed fishery systems, and (4) investigates methodological advances in discrete choice experiments.

Before coming to Balliol, Katrina completed her PhD and BSc at the University of Western Australia. She conducted postdoctoral work at the University of Queensland and the University of Exeter. Katrina holds Adjunct Research Fellow positions at the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions at the University of Queensland, and at the UWA School of Agriculture and the Oceans Institute at the University of Western Australia.

Dr Nicholas Dickinson, Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies

Nick is a specialist in British and Commonwealth comparative politics, working primarily in the areas of parliamentary studies and public policy. His doctoral research focused on remuneration for political work, with an emphasis on the regulation of salaries and expenses of MPs in ‘Westminster’-style democracies. The project spanned themes of the economics of politics, the theory of independent regulation, as well as democratic accountability and the constitutional question of control of parliaments over their internal arrangements. His current research programme aims to produce an interdisciplinary approach to constitutional studies. This will respond to the need for a more polyarchic understanding of the constitution, in particular analysing the constitution from a parliamentary studies and policy and governance perspective.
Prior to starting at Balliol, Nick completed a Master’s (MRes) in Politics and his doctorate at the University of Exeter. He also holds a BA in History and Politics as well as a Master’s (Mst) in Modern British & European History Politics from the University of Oxford.

Dr Marisa Fuentes, Oliver Smithies Visiting Fellow (History)

Marisa is the Presidential Term Chair in African American History and Associate Professor of History and Women’s and Gender Studies at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She is the author of *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016) and ‘Power and Historical Figuring: Rachel Pringle Polgreen’s Troubled Archive’, *Gender & History* Volume 22(3) November 2010. She is also the co-editor of *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers History, Volume I* (Rutgers University Press, 2016), and the ‘Slavery and the Archive’ special issue in *History of the Present* (November 2016). Her next project will explore the connections between capitalism, the transatlantic slave trade and the disposability of black lives in the 17th and 18th centuries.

She serves a number of professional organisations including as a council member for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Secretary for the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians and as a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians.

Dr James Kwan, Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Engineering Science (Chemical Engineering)

James’s work primarily focuses on the use of mechanical, thermal, and chemical effects of ultrasound and cavitation to address challenges in personal and environmental health. Specifically, his current research concentrates on developing ultrasound-responsive micro- or nanoparticles that facilitate localised heating, mass transport, and/or free radical formation. He also has an
interest in understanding the biological effects of ultrasound and cavitation on bacterial biofilms.

Prior to joining Balliol James completed his BS from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and MS, MPhil, and PhD from Columbia University. He conducted his postdoctoral work at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and at the University of Oxford. During his time at Oxford, he was also a Junior Research Fellow at New College and worked at OxSonics, an Oxford spinout company. In 2016, James joined Nanyang Technological University, Singapore as an Assistant Professor in Chemical and Biomedical Engineering.

Professor Tyler J. VanderWeele, George Eastman Visiting Professor

Tyler J. VanderWeele is the John L. Loeb and Frances Lehman Loeb Professor of Epidemiology in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Director of the Human Flourishing Program, and Co-Director of the Initiative on Health, Religion and Spirituality at Harvard University. He holds degrees from the Universities of Oxford, Pennsylvania, and Harvard in mathematics, philosophy, theology, finance and applied economics, and biostatistics. His research concerns methodology for distinguishing between association and causation in observational studies, and the use of statistical and counterfactual ideas to formalise and advance epidemiologic theory and methods. His empirical research spans psychiatric, perinatal, and social epidemiology; the science of happiness and flourishing; and the study of religion and health, including both religion and population health and the role of religion and spirituality in end-of-life care. He is the recipient of the 2017 COPSS Presidents’ Award from the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies. He has published over 300 papers in peer-reviewed journals, and is author of Explanation in Causal Inference (Oxford University Press, 2015).
Professor Margaret Weir, John G. Winant Visiting Professor of American Government

Margaret is Wilson Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs at Brown University. Before going to Brown in 2016, she was the Avice M Saint Chair in Public Policy and Professor of Political Science and Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research centres on social policy, poverty, and urban politics in the United States and Europe. She is the author and editor of several books, including *Who Gets What? The New Politics of Insecurity* (co-edited with Frances Rosenbluth, forthcoming Cambridge University Press); *Schooling for All: Race, Class and the Decline of the Democratic Ideal* (co-authored with Ira Katznelson, Basic Books); and *Politics and Jobs: The Boundaries of Employment Policy in the United States* (Princeton University Press), *The Politics of Social Policy in the United States* (with Ann Shola Orloff and Theda Skocpol, Princeton University Press); and *The Social Divide* (Brookings and Russell Sage). She is currently working on a book about the politics of spatial inequality in American metropolitan areas.

Weir has received fellowships from the Institute for Advanced Study, the Russell Sage Foundation, and the Radcliffe Institute and served as director of the MacArthur Foundation’s Research Network Building Resilient Regions. Weir is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Social Insurance.

Frances Wright, Domestic Bursar

Fran joined Balliol as Domestic Bursar in 2018, having been head of Human Resources at Oxford’s Sir William Dunn School of Pathology for the previous ten years. She has a BA in English Literature from Queen’s University Belfast and an MSc in Human Resource Management from the Open University.
First-year undergraduates

Adeduntan, Abdulkhaleed, Ruthin School, Denbighshire, Law
Bacon, Katie, Hayes School, Bromley, Law
Bajer, Amelia, St Swithun’s School, Winchester, Biomedical Sciences
Barker, Dylan, Longley Park Sixth Form College, Sheffield, History
Berry, Alec, Royal Grammar School, Worcestershire, Engineering Science
Blake, Seth, Alleyn’s School, London, Biology
Britten, Noah, Dame Alice Owen’s School, Potters Bar, Economics and Management
Buchanan, Lucy, Sheffield High School for Girls, Sheffield, Engineering Science
Buck, Louis, Colchester Royal Grammar School, Colchester, Chemistry
Castledine, Susannah, King’s College School, London, Classics
Catanea, Vlad, Iulia Hasdeu National College, Romania, Physics
Chen, Jinting, Zhengzhou Foreign Language School, China, Chemistry
Chen, Xiaoran, Hangzhou Foreign Languages School, China, Physics
Claeys, Kajuli, James Allen’s Girls’ School, London, English Language and Literature
Danaher, Magnus, St Paul’s Catholic School, Leicester, Engineering Science
Danin, David, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany, Physics and Philosophy
Daw, Amos, Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, History
Dirnhuber, Miriam, Clifton College, Bristol, Classics
Fahy, Leah, American School in Japan, Japan, PPE
Feltham, Megan, St Mary’s School, Shaftesbury, English Language and Literature
Feltham, Samuel, City of London School, London, Modern Languages
Fonseca, Anita, Harris Academy Battersea, London, Chemistry
Fox, Abigail, St Peter’s Catholic School, Solihull, English Language and Literature
Gidlow, Geheris, East Sussex College Hastings, Hastings, History
Gill, Savannah, Stockport Grammar School, Stockport, History
Glynn-Henley, Matilda, Camden School for Girls, London, Physics
Green, Molly, Rodillian Academy, Wakefield, Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics
Greenberg, Kate, North London Collegiate School, London, English Language and Literature
Griniute, Evelina, St Mary’s Catholic High School, Chesterfield, PPE
Hadley, Maximilian, The Bishop’s Stortford High School, Bishop’s Stortford, Physics and Philosophy
Hall, Helen, Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Medicine
Hammond, Katherine, Urmston Grammar, Urmston, Biomedical Sciences
Harden, Sasha, St Paul’s Girls’ School, London, History and English
Heron, Rowan, The Community School of Auchterarder, Perth and Kinross, Classics
Hopkins, Meghan, Hereford Sixth Form College, Hereford, PPE
Howard, Gemma, The Mac Robertson Girls’ High School, Australia, English Language and Literature
Huang, Yuan, Ulink College of Shanghai, China, Engineering Science
Huesch, Rocco, home-schooled, PPE
Jeronimus, Mia, Latymer Upper School, London, History
Kane, Andie, The University of Birmingham School, Birmingham, English Language and Literature
Kassanda, Keren, St Paul’s Catholic School, Milton Keynes, Philosophy and Modern Languages
Kaufman, Zak, Yavneh College, Borehamwood, Law
Kellagher, Rachel, Portsmouth High School, GDST, Southsea, History
Kelsey, Linus, Mossbourne Community Academy, London, Mathematics
Khalil, Sulaymaan, King Edward’s School, Edgbaston, Law
Kim, Joo-Hyun, International School of Paris, France, Mathematics
Kirpalani, Shreya, Henrietta Barnett School, London, History
Kunst, Jelle, The French American International High School, USA, Physics
Lauchlan, Harry, Reading School, Reading, English and Modern Languages
Le Dain, Gabriel, Hautlieu School, Jersey, Mathematics
Leithead, Caitlin, Alleyn’s School, London, History
Lennon, Emily, The Folkestone School for Girls, Folkestone, Law
Li, Lidao, Hwa Chong Institution, Singapore, Chemistry
Link, Eva, High School of American Studies at Lehman College, USA, History and Modern Languages
Luk, Megan, Rushecliffe School, Nottingham, Modern Languages
Mahmood, Hamzah, Manchester Grammar School, Manchester, Physics and Philosophy
Malik, Danish, Wilson’s School, Surrey, Medicine
March, Eleanor, All Saints Roman Catholic School, York, Physics and Philosophy
McMillan, Emily, Wimbledon High School, London, History and Politics
Miodownik, Zachary, Bard High School Early College, USA, Mathematics
Mitsopoulou, Tryfonia, St Catherine’s British School, Greece, History and Politics
Mosey, Alice, The Tiffin Girls’ School, Kingston upon Thames, Biology
Murphy, Elizabeth, The Godolphin and Latymer School, London, English Language and Literature
Musial, Szymon, II Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Romualda Traugutta w Częstochowie, Poland, Modern Languages
Nicholas, Zoe, Ysgol Dinas Bran, Denbighshire, Chemistry
O’Leary, Tristan, The Woodroffe School, Lyme Regis, History
O’Sullivan, Kate, Westminster School, London, Classics
Ollard, Katherine, The Charter School North Dulwich, London, English Language and Literature
Onona, James, JFS School, London, PPE
Osahon, Daniel-Paul, Trinity School, Croydon, Medicine
Palmer-Jones, Polly, Gosforth Academy, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Mathematics
Passmore, Emily, King Edward VI College, Stourbridge, PPE
Pavlenko, Mariia, Cardiff Sixth Form College, Cardiff, Physics
Pearson, Henry, Eton College, Windsor, Computer Science
Petersen, Amelia, Kingston Grammar School, Kingston upon Thames, History
Popat, Natalina, Putney High School, London, Modern Languages
Profir, Calin, Sherborne School, Dorset, Engineering Science
Raja, Hannah, The Heathland School, London, Chemistry
Rawlings, Jai, King’s College London Mathematics School, London, Mathematics and Computer Science
Rebholz, Kiran, Conestoga High School, USA, Mathematics
Robinson, Jaya, The Mary Erskine School, Edinburgh, Biology
Rodwell, Harry, Bay House School and Sixth Form, Gosport, Engineering Science
Rogers, Leo, Varndean College, Brighton, PPE
Ross, Madeleine, Clyst Vale Community College, Exeter, PPE
Rumsey, Max, Lionheart School, London, Oriental Studies
Salahuddin, Alina, Karachi Grammar School, Pakistan, History and Economics
Scarr, Paul, Whitley Bay High School, Tyne and Wear, Mathematics
Scholefield, Solenne, King Edward’s School Bath, Somerset, Classics
Sengupta, Dhruv, The Tiffin School, Kingston upon Thames, Economics and Management
Shaikh, Yasin, Newham Collegiate Sixth Form, London, PPE
Shewry, Adam, Eton College, Windsor, PPE
Simpson, Chantoi, Harris Academy Bermondsey, London, Ancient and Modern History
Sowden, Oliver, Urmston Grammar, Urmston, Computer Science
Spiller, Nathalie, United World College of South East Asia, Dover Campus, Singapore, Law
Spokes, Max, Lord Williams's School, Thame, History and Politics
Starbuck, Emma, Reigate Grammar School, Reigate, Classics
Stewart, Oonagh, Monkseaton High School, Whitley Bay, Medicine
Suh, Jeno, Newington College, Australia, Computer Science and Philosophy
Supple, Orla, St Paul's Girls’ School, London, Chemistry
Trewella, Connor, Truro and Penwith College, Truro, Engineering Science
Voogdt, Daniyar, Haileybury Almaty, Kazakhstan, PPE
Weeks, Henry, Durham Johnston Comprehensive School, Durham, History and Politics
Westhead, Francis, St Mary’s Menston Catholic Voluntary Academy, Ilkley, Mathematics and Philosophy
Williams, Gwen, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr, Cardiff, Economics and Management
Williams, Mark, Bishop Wordsworth’s Grammar School, Salisbury, Mathematics and Computer Science
Wood, Amelia, Bolton School Girls’ Division, Bolton, PPE
Worthington, Molly, Shrewsbury School, Shrewsbury, Classics
Xiong, Fangjing, Shanghai World Foreign Language Academy, China, Computer Science and Philosophy
Young Min, Emily, Peter Symonds College, Winchester, Medicine

Visiting students

Eitinger, Lisa, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany, PPE
Hourinon, Tim, Université de Paris II (Université Panthéon-Assas), France, Diploma in Legal Studies
Lee, Kyung Mi, Yale University, USA, English Language and Literature
Tirapu Sanuy, Josep, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain, Diploma in Legal Studies
First-year graduates

Abdulghani, Majd, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia, DPhil Oncology
Almond, Jon, University of Queensland, EMBA
Alsahafi, Zaki, University of Alberta, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Amati, Ghila, Bar-ilan University, Israel, DPhil Theology and Religion
Apland, Kara, London School of Economics and Political Science, DPhil Socio-Legal Studies
Armstrong, Juliet, University of Cambridge, Master of Philosophy in History – Early Modern History 1500–1700
Arora, Rahul, University of Calgary, DPhil Engineering Science
Baker, Ellen, University of Bristol, Environmental Research (NERC DTP) – Zoology
Ball, Philip, University of Cambridge, DPhil Engineering Science
Bandiera, Sara, University of Padua, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Barrie, Gabriel, St Anne’s College, University of Oxford, MPhil Greek and/or Roman History
Battisti, Chiara, Sapienza University of Rome, MSt Greek and/or Roman History
Berge, Jan, University College London, MSc Economic and Social History
Berryman, Anna, University of Bristol, Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling (EPSRC CDT)
Bol, Geertje, University of St Andrews, DPhil Politics
Botskina, Tatiana, Lomonosov Moscow State University, DPhil Computer Science
Braham, Calum, University of Western Australia, DPhil Mathematics
Brubeck Martinez, Pablo, Instituto Tecnoló ogico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, DPhil Mathematics
Bulled, Johnathan, Balliol College, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry
Callens, Mia, University of Leeds, Synthesis for Biology and Medicine (EPSRC CDT)
Campbell, Grace, University of St Andrews, MSt English (1900–present)
Carmichael, Neil, University of Glasgow, MSt English (1830–1914)
Chen, Chen, Merton College, University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Chen, Jingzhi, St Cross College, University of Oxford, DPhil Law
Clark, Jonathan, University of Kent, MPhil International Relations
Clarke, Isabella, St Hugh’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil English
Cochrane, Tim, University of Otago, MPhil Law
Cockhill, Hilary, Jesus College, University of Oxford, MSt World Literatures in English
Cohen, Eshed, University of Cape Town, BCL
Collington, Sasha, Cardiff University, EMBA
Cortez, Maria Katrina, Columbia University, MSt History – Modern European History 1850–present
Cregan, Luke, Columbia University, MPhil History – Modern British History 1850–present
Crowther, Lily, University of Essex, DPhil History (Part-time)
Crum, Chris, Bates College, Maine, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Degiovanni, Cécile, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, DPhil Law
Dootson, Dominic, Keble College, University of Oxford, DPhil Astrophysics
Dwesar, Isha, University of Nottingham, MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature
Eijking, Jan, St Hilda’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil International Relations
Eisenbruch, Mimi, Monash University, MSt Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics (AS)
Evans, Thomas, University of Exeter, DPhil Sociology
Fabo, Tania, Balliol College, MSc(Res) Oncology
Fletcher, Theo, Balliol College, Theory and Modelling in Chemical Sciences (EPSRC CDT)
Foster, Elizabeth, Boston University, MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature
Freeman, Jaimie, University of Sydney, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Sciences
Freymann, Eyck, University of Cambridge, DPhil Area Studies (China)
Fritz, Benedikt, Zeppelin University, Germany, MPhil Economics
Gallaher, Dan, University of St Andrews, DPhil History
Gamaleldin, Moustafa, University College London, MSc Mathematical and Theoretical Physics
Gattey, Emma, University of Otago, New Zealand, MSt Global and Imperial History
Gleed, Alexander, University of Surrey, DPhil Engineering Science
Gonzalez, Xavier, Balliol College, MSc Statistical Science
Gooch, Michael, Monash University, Melbourne, EMBA
Gosden, Matt, University of Kent, DPhil Medical Sciences
Gray, Benjamin, Balliol College, MSt Late Antique and Byzantine Studies
Grenier-Benoit, Raphaël, McGill University, Canada, MPhil Law
Grenzow, Peter, Université Jean Moulin (Lyon III), MPhil International Relations
Griffin, Míde, Albert Ludwigs Universität Freiburg, Germany, MSc Economics for Development
Gunasekera, Alex, University of Cambridge, MSc Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (EPSRC CDT)
Gurumurthy, Jyothsna, National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University, India, BCL
Haas, Alexander, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Germany, DPhil Economics
Habjan, Christine, Syracuse University, MSc Radiation Biology
Hafeez, Hira, National University of Sciences and Technology, Rawalpindi, EMBA
Hakim, Gabriella, University College London, MSc(Res) Surgical Sciences
Harrison, Conrad, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, DPhil Musculoskeletal Sciences
Herrera Poyatos, Andrés, Universidad de Granada, Spain, DPhil Computer Science
Hlongwa, Thami, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, EMBA
Hobhouse, Caspar, London School of Economics and Political Science, MPhil Islamic Studies and History
Hu, Nick, St Catherine’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil Computer Science
Hulse, Simon, Jesus College, University of Oxford, DPhil Organic Chemistry
Hunt, Holly, Balliol College, MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature
Jensen, Caitlin, St Catherine’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil Oriental Studies
Jochens, Vivian, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Germany, MSt Modern Languages (German)
Jones, Edward, Balliol College, DPhil Ancient History
Jones, Rebecca, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry
Kardos, Vincent, London School of Economics and Political Science, MSc Financial Economics
Kerfoot, Eleanor, Balliol College, DPhil History
Kiliç, Bora, Galatasaray University, Istanbul, MJur
Kochan, Julius, University of Cambridge, MPhil Modern Chinese Studies
Koerner, Hermann, Ludwig Maximilians Universität Munchen, Germany, DPhil Philosophy
Komatsu, Momo, University of Amsterdam, MPhil Economics
Koutentaki, Theodora, Balliol College, DPhil Law
Kurle, Jonas, St Cross College, University of Oxford, DPhil Economics
Lanyon, Hannah-Lily, Wadham College, University of Oxford, MSt Women’s Studies
Lichtman, Jared, University of Cambridge, DPhil Mathematics
Liyanage, Mia, Balliol College, MSt History – US History
Longden, Joe, University of Bristol, DPhil Astrophysics
Lu, Cong, Balliol College, Autonomous Intelligent Machines and Systems (EPSRC CDT)
Ma, Linda, Australian National University, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Majewski, Kacper, London School of Economics and Political Science, DPhil Law
Mak, Betty, University of St Andrews, MSc Mathematical Sciences
McRobbie, Gerald, Harvard University, EMBA
Meekel, Emily, University of Glasgow, DPhil Inorganic Chemistry
Mikos, Michelle, University of Notre Dame, EMBA
Miles, Felicity, St Hilda’s College, University of Oxford, MSt English (650–1550)
Murphy, Rob, University of Durham, MSt English (1830–1914)
Muzhingi, Itai, Amherst College, Sustainable Approaches to Biomedical Science: Responsible and Reproducible Research (CDT)
Neal, Derek, Air University, DPhil Engineering Science
Nee, Eloise, University College London, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Nervik, Rune, Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration, MSc Financial Economics
Nim, Asger, Uppsala Universitet, Sweden, MSc Social Science of the Internet
Nizza, Virginia, King’s College London, MPhil International Relations
Noonan, James, University of Edinburgh, MSc Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
Nunn, Max, University of Kent, MSt History – History of War
O’Brien, Conan, University of Glasgow, DPhil Cardiovascular Science
Ogden, Hannah, Stockholms Universitet, Sweden, Interdisciplinary Biosciences (BBSRC DTP) – Zoology
Onyeoziri, Chidera, Hamilton College, MSt Global and Imperial History
Parris, Brett, Australian College of Theology (Ridley College), DPhil Theology and Religion
Patel, Maya, University of Illinois at Chicago, MSc Medical Anthropology
Pay, Samantha, St Catherine’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil Information, Communication, and the Social Sciences
Pearce, Lucy, University of Cambridge, DPhil Criminology
Pereyra Elías, Renée, University College London, DPhil Population Health
Permison, Alec, Harvard University, EMBA
Phan, Linda Xi, University of York, DPhil Condensed Matter Physics
Pinta, Titus, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca/Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai din Cluj-Napoca, MSc Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
Platschorre, Arthur, Balliol College, MSc Mathematical and Theoretical Physics
Polkinghorne, Murray, University of Cape Town, DPhil Medical Sciences
Porter, Daisy, Balliol College, BPhil Philosophy
Prakash, Nayana, King’s College London, DPhil Information, Communication and the Social Sciences
Prenner, Andreas, Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, MPhil Economics
Reed, Kate, Princeton University, MPhil Economic and Social History
Revell, Tom, St Hugh’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil English
Roche, Amandine, McGill University, MBA
Sajid, Zahidul, King’s College London, DPhil International Development
Salim Ali Farrar, Iman, University of Sydney, MPhil Modern Middle Eastern Studies
Salmon, Minnie, University of New South Wales, DPhil Genomic Medicine and Statistics
Sarrazin, Verena, Freie Universität Berlin, DPhil Psychiatry
Schinaia, Giulio, University of York, DPhil Economics
Schram, Jakob, University of Oslo, MPhil International Relations
Serrano, Claudia, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, MSc Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing
Shah, Kasim, University of Manchester, MSc Modern South Asian Studies
Sharma, Ashish, University of Delhi, EMBA
Sidhu, Aran, University of Warwick, MSt Global and Imperial History
Silva Gomez, Valeria, Ludwig Maximilians Universität München, MPhil Economics
Simon, Felix, Balliol College, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Sciences
Singh, Preman, University of Madras, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Sion, Marie, University College London, DPhil Surgical Sciences
Smith, Charlie, London School of Economics and Political Science, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Sciences
Smith, Sinead, University of Exeter, MSc Medical Anthropology
Stark, Rhea, Brown University, Rhode Island, MPhil Islamic Art and Archaeology
Stykket, Andrea, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, MPhil Development Studies
Su, Sanchol, University of California, Irvine, MSc Financial Economics
Suhail, Zeeshan, Queens College, City University of New York, EMBA
Sutter, Noah, Universität Zurich, MPhil Economics
Tai, Amelia, Oriel College, University of Oxford, BCL
Then, Chee Kin, Balliol College, DPhil Biomedical and Clinical Sciences
Thur, Rebekka, University of Cambridge, MPhil Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Tibau Vidal, Nicetu, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, DPhil Atomic and Laser Physics
Tomasi, Benjamin, University of Western Australia, BCL
Triay Bagur, Alex, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain, DPhil Engineering Science
Tricarico, Michele, École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, DPhil Engineering Science
Tyner, Katie, Wesleyan University, Connecticut, MSc Politics Research
Vettikkal, Angela, Balliol College, MSt Ancient Philosophy
Wagerman, Mattias, Goteborgs Universitet, Sweden, MBA
Wang, Zijing, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, DPhil Engineering Science
Ward Iv, James, Northwestern University, Illinois, DPhil Information, Communication and Social Sciences
Weeks, Zoe, Balliol College, Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)
Whitworth, Rozen, Wadham College, University of Oxford, MSt Women’s Studies
Wilcox, Sian, University of Manchester, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Yasin, Tariq, St Peter’s College, University of Oxford, DPhil Astrophysics
Zormpa, Markella, National Technical University of Athens, DPhil Wind and Marine Energy Systems and Structures (EPSRC CDT)
College staff

Retirements
Derek Pringle, Lodge Night Porter, March 2020 (started in January 2004)

New appointments
Sarah Castle, Payroll and Bursary Officer, June 2020
Robert Ciobanu, IT Support Technician (paternity cover), January 2020
Sophie Floate, Early Printed Books Cataloguer, January 2020
Kevin Gorton, Maintenance and Project Supervisor, February 2020
Patrick Holmes, Graduate Administrator and Student Finance Officer, January 2020
Jennifer Howes, Nursery Practitioner, January 2020
Annie Lockhart, College Office Administrator, August 2019
Sebastian Pender, Events Organiser and Research Assistant, September 2019
Paul Qualter, Lodge Night Porter, August 2019
Jack Robinson, Outreach Assistant, March 2020
Christopher Sharpe, IT Officer, April 2020
Christine Smith, Nurse, November 2019
Rosie Thomas, Data and Research Officer, August 2019

Departures
Amy Boylan, Early Career Librarian, April 2020
Robert Ciobanu, IT Support Technician (paternity cover), January 2020
Emmy Craft, Nursery Practitioner, August 2019
Heather Dehnel-Wild, College Office Administrator, August 2019
Ellie Eldridge, Apprentice Nursery Practitioner, January 2020
Conor Jordan, Development Officer, February 2020
Stacey McGowen, Graduate Administrator and Student Finance Officer, January 2020
Marie Szewczyk, Nurse, December 2019
Stewart Tolhurst, Technical Manager, May 2020
Review of the Year
Review of the Year

Nicola Trott (Senior Tutor)

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

Selected highlights of the 2019/20 year

What a year it has been! Months before the onset of a global pandemic, it began just as news had broken of the election to the office of Prime Minister of a fourth Balliol Old Member and the appointment of the College’s Visitor as the fourth President of the UK Supreme Court. Since when we have witnessed an attempted proroguing of Parliament by the one that was appealed against to the judgement of the other, the passing of Brexit legislation through the House of Commons … and the Novel Coronavirus. The year has ended with the global and local impact of the Black Lives Matter movement, and the challenge brought to Governing Body by students of colour to recognise issues of race and racism as applicable to the College’s own institutional structures and practices.

The Master’s message of 7 April to Balliol members worldwide living through Covid-19 and its impact is just as valid four months later, and looks to remain so for quite some time. That the pandemic has affected every member and aspect of our community there is no doubt. The societal, financial, organisational, and emotional challenges it poses seem at times overwhelming. Here in Oxford, the collective response of the colleges and the University has involved working together – all the while working from home – as never before, from delivering Trinity Term ‘remotely’ to the intricate planning involved in preparing to welcome students back to the ‘new normal’ in Michaelmas Term 2020. In Balliol, the dominant story of the pandemic has been one of resilient fortitude – shown by students, Fellows, Lecturers and staff alike – and unleashed creativity, in the devising of exam-free curricula and the use of online platforms and social media. There have also been many positive contributions to corona-research to report, as members have kindly kept us in touch with their latest developments, and we have had four round-ups to date, on 7 and 20 May, 12 June, and 2 July. These and other College
news stories suggest how diversely our common enemy is exercising the enterprise and ingenuity of the Balliol mind: among current members alone there has been a study on COVID-19 misinformation; a start-up Zimbabwe COVID-19 Support Hub; a philosophical reflection on the ethics of the pandemic, and a paper modelling a COVID-19 testing strategy. Governing Body held its meetings remotely, for the first recorded time since Balliol Fellows decamped, to Woodstock, during the plague of 1604. We discovered it was perfectly possible to conduct our business in this format. Vivid snapshots of life in lockdown were received, from the College’s graduates, via the MCR President, from the Library, from the David Freeman Outreach Officer, and from an undergraduate taking stock of his truncated Year Abroad.

Even under lockdown, and in some cases aided by it, capital projects have progressed or been completed. The Broad Street Lodge having seen much-needed refurbishment, new gates have been installed in handsome wrought
Iron to a design by James Price based on a Waterhouse clover sketch. The third and final part of the project, to provide a disabled access ramp into the Front Quad, is now en route. Another long-running proposition favoured by lockdown has been the restoration of paths in the Fellows’ Garden, completed in April. And, for all the difficulties, progress on the Master’s Field Project has continued, at near capacity levels since restrictions on construction sites lifted, as timelapse video taken in September 2019, and then in February and June 2020, demonstrates. Over the Long Vacation, while College remained closed, restoration of the Chapel organ by Harrison & Harrison began – meaning there is a chance that the new organ scholar the College is recruiting will arrive in post at just the right time.

In the days when real meetings and large gatherings took place, around 180 alumnae returned to College to mark the 40th anniversary of the admission of women undergraduates to Balliol. A video of the 40 Years On event was released in January 2020. Joined by current female students and Senior Members past and present, our alumnae spent 27–29 September 2019 in one another’s company and in a varied programme of talks and activity, celebrating – and scrutinising – all that women have achieved and striven for since 1979.
An art intervention in the Library, group photographs hung in the Hall, and an exhibition of *Dervorguilla and Daughters* in the Historic Collections Centre at St Cross Church gave visual representation to the presence of women in the College and in the world beyond its walls. For those so inclined, proceedings concluded with a memorable outing on the river. An echo of that weekend was heard when, on 3 March 2020, Balliol women again gathered together to celebrate International Women’s Day 2019 with a formal dinner in Hall.

The questioning of the College’s history in light of modern movements towards equality has been at the heart of a study of *Balliol and Empire*, which commenced in September 2019. Research was commissioned into historic donations to the College that derived from the proceeds of slavery, and there are plans for discussing with students early next term how we should respond to the data we have uncovered. October 2019 saw Balliol join the Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development at Somerville College in order to commemorate, on the 150th anniversary of his birth, the life and legacy of civil rights and resistance icon Mahatma Gandhi. What we did not know, and could not have foreseen, is how forcibly close-up and present-day these historical studies and tributes would be made by the killing of George Floyd.
on 25 May 2020 and the worldwide protests in its wake. But the experience of discrimination felt by our own current students is an uncomfortable reality we are determined to acknowledge and address. Progress of another kind, meanwhile, but also vital to all of us, was made, at students’ initiative, when in January 2020 the College decided to take steps towards fossil fuel divestment.

There have been several significant staff retirements this year. More recently graduated alumni will wish in particular to know, if they do not already, that Jane Irons, Hall Supervisor, retired at the end of 2019, after nearly 16 years at Balliol. We wish her, and all other staff who have left, very well and thank them for their service.

**In memoriam**

We have had several losses to endure. On 22 November 2019 came news of the death of Professor Jasper Griffin FBA (1956, Dyson Junior Research Fellow 1961–1963, Tutorial Fellow in Classics 1963–2004, Emeritus Fellow from 2004). On 10 December, we were privileged to hold the family funeral in Balliol Chapel, an occasion of great beauty and dignity, where there were eulogies from Richard Jenkyns (Balliol 1967), Anthony Kenny (Master 1978–1989), and Douglas Dupree (Fellow and Chaplain 1987–2014, Dean 2007–2014, Emeritus Fellow), and a recitation from Sophocles by Jasper’s successor Tutor, Adrian Kelly (Fellow and Tutor in Ancient Greek Language and Literature). Also sadly lost to us from among our Emeritus Fellows were Professor Wilfred Beckerman (P.D. Leake Senior Research Fellow of Balliol 1964, Fellow and Tutor in Economics 1964–1969 and 1975–1992, Emeritus Fellow from 1992) on 18 April 2020 and Professor Malcolm Green FRSC, FRCS (Septcentenary Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry 1963–1989, and Emeritus Fellow from 1991) on 24 July 2020. We received notice as well of the passing of four of our Honorary Fellows and alumni: The Rt Hon Lord Hutton PC on 14 July 2020; Professor Oladipo Akinkugbe on 15 June 2020, Sir Eric Anderson on 22 April 2020, and Professor George Steiner on 3 February 2020.

The sudden death of a current Fellow on 29 April 2020 was a grievous and shocking blow to the community. Professor Stefano Zacchetti (Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professorial Fellow of Balliol) was loved by all, and is much missed. The Revd Kinsey, Chaplain, officiated at the funeral, broadcast by Zoom to witnesses from around the world, and with his Faculty and friends the College has formally and informally been supporting his wife and teenage children. Led by the Boden Professor of
Sanskrit, we have held our own online meeting to pay homage to Stefano but his and others’ memorial services must wait until we can gather in person.

**Senior appointments**

Despite all the uncertainties and, latterly, a University recruitment freeze, Balliol has had the good fortune, and tenacity, to succeed in appointing three new Fellows this academic year, all of whom joined us, virtually, in Trinity Term: James Kwan, Tutorial Fellow in Chemical Engineering, Katrina Davis, Tutorial Fellow in Zoology (Conservation Biology, a wholly new post for the College), and Nicholas Dickinson, Bingham Early Career Fellow in Constitutional Studies. In addition, the Domestic Bursar, Fran Wright, was elected to an Official Fellowship. We got off to a good start, with the arrival in Michaelmas Term 2019 of Alexander Bown in the ‘college-supported’ Tutorial Fellowship in Ancient Philosophy, a post made possible only by virtue of the Balliol Classics campaign. And we have ended well, by securing the Tutorial Fellowship in Inorganic Chemistry vacated by Professor O’Hare (who remains a Senior Research Fellow): our new Tutor arrives next term. In the course of the year, we also admitted Early Career Fellows in Engineering (Samuel Albanie) and Computer Science (Francisco Marmolejo-Cossio) and as Visiting Fellows the Eastman Professor Tyler J. VanderWeele (Nuffield Department of Population Health), the Winant Professor of American Government Margaret Weir, and two Oliver Smithies Professors, Marisa Fuentes (History) and Liza Blake (English).

**Select honours and distinctions to Balliol Old Members**

Starting on home ground, with the honours conferred on its alumni and former members by the College itself, it was a great pleasure in December 2019 to announce the election of 15 new Honorary Fellows of Balliol, from diverse backgrounds and walks of life, but all of them united in distinction. By the time of the announcement, one honorand had already been appointed DBE in the UK’s Resignation honours 2019 and another was about to be made UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights. Eight more alumni, among them another of the new Honorary Fellows, were recognised in the New Year Honours 2020.

The 2020 Australia Day Honours List saw Robyn Williams (Visiting Fellow 1995–96) made an Officer of the Order of Australia. On the other side of the Pacific Ocean, the Hon Bob Rae PC QC (1969) was awarded one of Canada’s most prestigious honours, the Confederation Centre of the Arts’ Symons Medal, and appointed her ambassador to the United Nations. And, back in
Europe, Paul Flather (1973) joined Emeritus Fellow Alan Montefiore (Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy 1961–1994) in receiving the Czech Ambassador’s Honorary Jan Masaryk Silver Medal for ‘special contributions’ supporting academic freedom and the development of the Czech and Slovak nations during the Communist era.

Recognitions of academic distinction were numerous. And, fittingly, in the 40th year since the College began admitting women students, many went to alumnae or to female former Fellows. Alumna Professor Sarah Hart (1993) was appointed Gresham Professor of Geometry, the first woman to hold what is thought to be the oldest chair of mathematics in the UK. Professor Alexandra Gillespie (JRF in English 2000–2003) became vice-president and principal of the University of Toronto Mississauga. Closer to home, Hayley Hooper (2008) was elected Official Fellow, Tutor in Law and Associate Professor in Law at Harris Manchester College, Oxford. Several alumnae won competitive funding – Valentina Gosetti (2007) a Discovery Early Career
Researcher Award from the Australian Research Council; Emily Wilson (1990) a 2019 MacArthur Fellowship; and Chandrika Kaul (1988) a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship for her research on India and the BBC. Karma Nabulsi (1989) was presented with the Middle East Studies Association of North America’s Undergraduate Education Award. Professor Ngaire Woods (1987), founding Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government and Professor of Global Economic Governance at Oxford, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as an International Honorary Member.

We learned with equal pleasure of the academic achievements of several Balliol men: Honorary Fellow Professor Deepak Nayyar (1967) was appointed Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Development Studies; Visiting Fellow Professor Deepto Chakrabarty was elected inaugural Fellow of the American Astronomical Society; Professor Iain Couzin, once a Junior Research Fellow of the College, won the 2019 Lagrange-CRT Foundation Prize; closer to home Charles Baden-Fuller (1966) was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. There has also been a sense of an ending to mark, following on from the Brexit moment, in the stepping down of former Master Andrew Graham from his role as Executive Chair of the Europaeum; but the Scholars Programme he set up, and the union of European universities that was founded in Oxford in 1992, goes on.

Beyond the academy, Martin Edwards (1974) continued the great tradition of Balliol crime fiction, being presented with the Diamond Dagger award, the
Crime Writers’ Association’s highest honour. There was plenty to celebrate for alumni in the legal profession, meanwhile: Andrew Little (1991) was appointed Judge of the Federal Court of Canada; Professor Jane Stapleton (1981 and Honorary Fellow) an Honorary QC; Professor Sarah Green (1995) to the Law Commission; and Tamsin Allen (1982) won Solicitor of the Year in the Law Society’s 2019 Excellence Awards. Those in UK political life also found success: the general election of 12 December 2019 saw seven alumni returned, and a new MP elected, to Parliament; and in the new year Robin Walker MP (1997) was appointed Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office.

Select honours and distinctions to current Balliol Fellows and tutors

The reflected glory of the achievements of current Fellows is indicative of the slow burn of true scholarship. Professor Rosalind Thomas (Dyson-Macgregor Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Ancient History) was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. Professor Nick Trefethen (Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow) won the 2020 John von Neumann Prize from the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM). Tutor in Mathematics Derek Moulton’s long-lasting fascination with bivalve shells netted him the 2019 Cozzarelli Prize. Martin Conway (Professor of Contemporary European History, MacLellan-Warburg Fellow and Tutor in History) published a major new work, *Western Europe’s Democratic Age 1945–1968* (Princeton University Press, 2020), a foretaste of which is available in the article ‘Does Democracy Have a History?’ Timothy Endicott (Professor of Legal Philosophy, Blanesburgh Fellow) was appointed to the Vinerian Professorship of English Law in Oxford’s Law Faculty. Sadly for us, this has meant that, in the 20th year of his election as Fellow and Tutor at Balliol, he has had to move to All Souls.
Of all the awards made to current Fellows this past year, the most elaborate has to be that conferred on our Senior Fellow Sudhir Hazareesingh (1981, Fellow and Tutor in Politics) who, on the occasion of the National Day Celebrations 2020 in Mauritius, was appointed Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GCSK). As delightful to the College was announcement that the Vice-Chancellor’s new Education Awards scheme had immediately produced a Balliol winner in Dr Vicky Neale (Whitehead Lecturer in Mathematics and Supernumerary Fellow), for work she produced while undertaking Oxford’s Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

Fortune, in the form of academic funding, favoured Helen Gittos (Associate Professor, Colyer-Fergusson Fellow and Tutor in Early Medieval History), who garnered a one-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship; Robin Choudhury (Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow and Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences), who combined forces with one of our early career researchers, Calliope Dendrou (Sir Henry Dale Fellow and Research Fellow in the Sciences), to win awards for inflammation research; another Early Career Fellow (in Modern Languages), Diana Berruezo-Sánchez, who gained a grant for an international workshop on Black Africans in Early Modern Spain; and Jin-Chong Tan (Professor of Engineering Science (Nanoscale Engineering), Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science), who captured European Research Council ‘proof of concept’ funding to develop a revolutionary portable luminescent sensor.

Select achievements of Balliol students
These days, students too are in the running for research income. It was especially gratifying to learn recently that a start-up founded by Balliol graduates and funded initially by the Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute had won an Illumina Accelerator 2020 award. A Balliol Chemistry student was selected a Reaxys PhD Prize finalist; a Clinical Neuroscientist won the 2019 Céline Newman Basic Science in Epilepsy Award; and, last but not least, a first degree student of Engineering was awarded a SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship) at Caltech. The money did not all go in the direction of the Sciences: a Lidl Year Abroad Prize took an undergraduate Modern Linguist to Munich to help a Senegalese refugee learn German.

There were many sporting prowess, of course, notably the selection of two Balliol undergraduates for the 2020 women’s Lightweight Blue Boat. Every year there are sporting firsts, and this year’s novelty prize goes to a
DPhil Engineer, on being shortlisted for Student Coach of the Year for the coaching of ... gliding.

For the 110 Balliol undergraduates who graduated this summer, no fewer than 53 of them with a First, we have nothing but admiration. They, with their Tutors, came through known and unknown difficulties to gain degrees which we hope to be able to celebrate in person at a future date. We also salute the many Balliol graduates who have been awarded degrees or, against the odds, made progress with their courses and their research.

**Donor relations**

The Churchillian adage never to let a good crisis go to waste certainly applies to alumni relations and development. Unable to run events or issue invitations to gaudies, the Development Office has facilitated a series of online lectures which have been attended (and enjoyed – we hope) by hundreds of alumni. It has been a privilege to witness live audience participation and our brilliant Fellows and Tutors speaking about subjects dear to their hearts. The series got off to an excellent start with Vicky Neale (accompanied by samples of her mathematical knitware) talking about prime numbers, and has not looked back since.

As ever, gifts large and small are gratefully received; and a measure of their benefit is recorded in the College’s annual Impact Report. Old Members may also care to note that they have recently been invited by the chair of the Balliol Society Educational Trust to recommend anyone whom the Trust may be able to help.
Achievements and Awards
Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions

**Biological Sciences**
Freddie King, Brackenbury Exhibition; Rosanna Larter, Brackenbury Exhibition; Reuben Steenkamp, Brackenbury Exhibition

**Chemistry**
Allison Arber, Mouat-Jones Exhibition; Nicole Fan, Andrew Pang Exhibition; Naa Ntodi, Mouat-Jones Exhibition; Joshua Sin, Brackenbury Exhibition

**Classics**
Emily Glancey, Eric Raymond Noble Scholarship

**Computer Science**
Andrei Constantinescu, Donald Michie Scholarship; Filip Mihov, Theobald Exhibition

**Computer Science and Philosophy**
Ben Hack, Markby Exhibition

**Economics and Management**
Moris Taric Afya, Markby Exhibition

**Engineering Science**
Arman Karshenas Najafabadi, Lubbock Scholarship; Felix Peterken, Jervis-Smith Scholarship; Shaohong Zhong, Newman Scholarship; Zijun Li, Newman Exhibition

**English**
Ruby Nicholson, Higgs Scholarship; Georgia Watts, Goldsmith Scholarship; Bruno Atkinson, Elton Exhibition; Cecilia McAlloon, Higgs Exhibition; Toye Oladinni, Goldsmith Exhibition

**English and Modern Languages**
Tom Pigram, Cecil Spring Rice Scholarship

**History**
Jessica Graydon, Fletcher Scholarship; Frederick Lynam, Fletcher Scholarship; William Neubauer, James Gay Scholarship; Robert Chamberlain, James Gay Exhibition; Yasar Cohen-Shah, James Gay Exhibition; Elijah Ferrante, Fletcher Exhibition; Ella Higgs-Sharrock, Fletcher Exhibition; Finlay Moore, Fletcher Exhibition; Jesse Tristram, Reynolds Exhibition; Josh Willetts, Reynolds Exhibition; Samuel Woof Mccoll, Reynolds Exhibition
History and Economics
Thomas Laver, James Gay Scholarship; Bee Boileau, Reynolds Exhibition (History)

History and Politics
James Matthews, Fletcher Exhibition; Meera Trivedi, Reynolds Exhibition (History)

Law
Tanja Gunther, Brackenbury Scholarship; Tiho Svilanovic, Brackenbury Scholarship; Mick Yang, Brackenbury Scholarship; Leyla Manthorpe Rizatepe, Brackenbury Exhibition

Mathematics
Thomas Falezan, Arthur Levitan Scholarship; Kirsty Land, Markby Scholarship; Aleksandra-Sasa Bozovic, Arthur Levitan Exhibition; André Heycock, Arthur Levitan Exhibition; Sulaiman Wihba, Les Woods Exhibition

Mathematics and Statistics
Yankang Zhu, Les Woods Scholarship; Jamie Barnes, Markby Exhibition

Mathematics and Computer Science
Daniel Rastelli, Markby Scholarship; Stefan Constantin-Buliga, Markby Exhibition; Arend Mellendijk, Konstantinos Katsikas Exhibition

Mathematics and Philosophy
Ben Elliott, Arthur Levitan Scholarship; Nicholas Wiseman, Les Woods Exhibition

Medical Sciences
Leah Mitchell, Brackenbury Exhibition; Raghav Ramachandran, Brackenbury Exhibition

Modern Languages
Joseph Al-Khalili, Cecil Spring Rice Scholarship; Sam Myers, Cecil Spring Rice Exhibition

Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Rebecca Clark, James Hall Scholarship; Sarah Duffy, James Hall Scholarship; Daniel Gonzalez Pavesio, N.T. Huxley Scholarship; Timothy Hunt, N.T. Huxley Scholarship; Michael O’Connor, Markby Scholarship; Alex Rowland, Fletcher Scholarship; Ilya Shemmer, Fletcher Scholarship; Chun Hung, Markby Exhibition; Jonathan Kabel, Markby Exhibition;
Walter Li, James Hall Exhibition; Millie Prince-Hodges, James Hall Exhibition; Cerian Richmond Jones, Fletcher Exhibition; Eva Yu, Fletcher Exhibition

Physics
Alex Hopkins, Newman Scholarship; Aakash Lakshmanan, Theobald Scholarship

Physics and Philosophy
Paolo Faglia, Theobald Scholarship; Imogen Rivers, Newman Scholarship; Siqi Chen, Prosser Exhibition; Max Heitmann, Newman Exhibition

Graduate Scholarships
Biao Ma, Phizackerley Senior Scholarship

College prizes

Any subject
Dong Hyun Kang, Prelims Prize
Lauren MacKenzie, Prelims Prize
Jonathan Melia, Prelims Prize
Molly Monks, Prelims Prize
Andrew Shamis, Prelims Prize
Teodora Simion, Prelims Prize
Lucy Weatherill, Prelims Prize
Bryan Xuan, Prelims Prize

Chemistry
Marcos Burger Ramos, Greville-Smith Prize
Jing Yee Kee, Greville-Smith Prize

Classics
Barnaby Thompson, Samuel Dubner Prize (Classics)
Barnaby Thompson, Jenkyns Exhibition

Engineering
Arman Karshenas Najafabadi, Prosser Prize (Engineering)
Philemon Kwok, Kyriacou & Sherwin-Smith Prize (shared)
Andreea Oncescu, Lubbock Prize
Andreea Oncescu, Roger Hall Prize (Science)
William Wathey, Kyriacou & Sherwin-Smith Prize (shared)
English
Robert Chamberlain, James Gay Prize
Dominic Newman, Edwin George Engleby Wright Prize

History and Joint Schools
Bee Boileau, Martin Wright Prize
Bee Boileau, Balogh Prize
Ella Higgs-Sharrock, Kington Oliphant Prize (History)
Jesse Tristram, William Mazower Prize

Law
Nils Deeg, Archibald McDougall Law Prize (proxime accessit)
Stephanie McAnally, Archibald McDougall Law Prize
Stephanie McAnally, A.V. Dicey Prize

Mathematics and Joint Schools
George Cooper, Prosser Prize (Mathematics & Joint School)
Kirsty Land, Prosser Prize (Mathematics & Joint School)
Jesse Sigal, Roger Hall Prize (Science)

Medical and Biomedical Sciences
Francesca Back, Periam Prize
Safia Khan, Wurtman Prize (first prize)
Natasha Larcom, Periam Prize
Natasha Larcom, Roger Hall Prize (Science)
Jonathan Mallet, Periam Prize
Jonathan Mallet, Wurtman Prize (runner-up)
Alex Knighton, Periam Prize

PPE
Amelia Wood, Samuel Dubner Prize (PPE, shared)
Rocco Huesch, Samuel Dubner Prize (PPE, shared)
Jonathan Kabel, James Hall Prize
Millie Prince-Hodges, G.D.H. Cole Prize

Physics and Joint Schools
Aakash Lakshmanan, Ken Allen Prize
Ana Sotirova, Ken Allen Prize
Moyo Tian, Roger Hall Prize (Science)
Non-academic College awards
Sam Field, Bob and Jeanie Heller Prize

Pathfinders Programme awards

Unfortunately because of the COVID-19 pandemic the Pathfinders were unable to travel this year.

University prizes
Mungo Ferner-Robson, De Paravicini Prize for performance in Classics
Hannah Raja, Turbutt Prize in Practical Organic Chemistry 2019/2020 for practical excellence in the 1st-year organic chemistry course
Reuben Steenkamp, Harley Prize for the best all-round performance in the field of Plant Sciences in the final year of Biological Sciences
Orla Supple, Turbutt Prize in Practical Organic Chemistry 2019/2020 for practical excellence in the 1st-year organic chemistry course

For performance in Final Honour Schools
Andrei-Costin Constantinescu, G-Research Prize for best Computer Science project in FHS of Computer Science Part B
Finn Conway, letter of congratulation from the Board of Examiners for Literae Humaniores 2019–20 for an outstanding performance in Finals
Anna Gier, David Gibbs Prize for the best performance in Final Honour School Examination for best submitted work in Special Subject Paper XII in Modern Languages in 2019–20
Barnaby Thompson, letter of congratulation from the Board of Examiners for Literae Humaniores 2019–20 for an outstanding performance in Finals
Firsts and distinctions

Undergraduate degrees

The following results do not include students who opted not to have their results published. A number of exams in Trinity Term were cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, including all first-year undergraduate exams bar Law and Medicine.

Distinctions in Prelims and Moderations

Law: Sulaymaan Khalil

Firsts in Honour Moderations, Year 2

Classics: Mungo Ferner-Robson, Alexander Lamb, Hebe Larkin

Firsts in Public Examinations, Year 3

Computer Science: Andrei-Costin Constantinescu
Engineering Science: Arman Karshenas Najafabadi, Felix Peterken, Shaohong Zhong
Mathematics: Thomas Falezan, André Heycock, William Holdsworth, Elizabeth Thomas
Mathematics and Computer Science: Daniel Rastelli
Mathematics and Philosophy: Benjamin Elliott
Mathematics and Statistics: Jamie Barnes, Yankang Zhu

Firsts in Honour Schools

Biological Sciences: Joshua Jones, Rosanna Larter, Reuben Steenkamp
Cell and Systems Biology: Natasha Fisher-Pearson
Chemistry: Jack Briggs, Jing Yee Kee
Classics: Finn Conway, Barnaby Thompson, Alexander Toal
Computer Science: Shaams Dally
Engineering Science: Andrew MacGowan
English Language and Literature: Emma Jones, Poppy Sowerby, Georgia Watts, Jack Womack
History: Helena Cox-Smith, Harry McGrath, William Neubauer, Jesse Tristram, Josh Willetts, Frederick Lynam
History and Economics: Thomas Laver
History and Modern Languages: Joseph Moss
Law: Mick Yang
Law with Law Studies in Europe: Hannah Williams
Mathematics: George Cooper, Ewan Davies, Kirsten Land
Mathematics and Statistics: Samuel Field
Mathematics and Computer Science: Matthew Hillman
Mathematics and Philosophy: Alexander Gruen
Medical Sciences – Preclinical: Jonathan Mallet
Modern Languages: Anna Gier
Neuroscience: Leah Mitchell
PPE: Rebecca Clark, Rebecca Collins, Sarah Duffy, Daniel Gonzales Pavesio, Timothy Hunt, Michael O'Connor, Ilya Shemmer, Francis Ware
Physics: Alex Hopkins, Thomas Matthews, Ana Sotirova
Physics and Philosophy: George Tsikas
Physics and Philosophy: Xavier Tierney

**Distinctions in Honour Schools**

Mathematical & Theoretical Physics: Robert Ewart, Alexander Gough, Joel Lowther
Medicine – Clinical: Jemima Sneddon

**Distinctions in graduate degrees**

BCL: Eshed Cohen, Jyothsna Gurumurthy, Benjamin Tomasi
BPhil Philosophy: Daniel Kodsi
MPhil Economics: James Maccarrone, James Moberly
MPhil International Relations: John De Bhal
MPhil Modern Middle Eastern Studies: Eirik Kvindesland
MPhil Politics, Political Theory: Leonor Caldeira Sampaio Dos Aidos, Jonathan Carnell
MSc Financial Economics: Rune Nervik
MSc Mathematical and Theoretical Physics: Moustafa Gamaleldin, Arthur Platschorre
MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature: Holly Hunt
MSt Greek and/or Roman History: Chiara Battisti
MSt Modern Languages, German: Vivian Jochens
MJur: Bora Kiliç

**Doctorates of Philosophy**

Ali, Rolf, Law, ‘The Illusive Divide Between Tacit Collusion and Concerted Practices’
Bogue, Russell, Politics, ‘Privacy: A Political Approach’
Calvert, Kieran, Mathematics, ‘Variants of Schur-Weyl Duality and Dirac Cohomology’
Chan, James, Clinical Medicine, ‘An Investigation of the Role of ASPP2 in HIF Signalling and Cancer’
de Souza, Saloni, Philosophy, ‘Part II of the “Parmenides” and Its Reception in “Metaphysics”, Iota: Identity and Non-Identity’
de Souza Dias, Talita, Law, ‘Retroactive Recharacterisation of Crimes and Principles of Legality and Fair Labelling in International Criminal Law’
Deleniv, Sofia, Neuroscience, ‘Investigating Predictive Coding as a Principle of Function in Sensory Systems’
Ellis, Sam, Synthesis for Biology and Medicine (EPSRC CDT), ‘Enantioselective Desymmetrisation Towards the Synthesis of Daphniphyllum Alkaloids’
Farnan, Oliver, Cyber Security (EPSRC CDT), ‘Adversarial Analysis of Internet Censorship Systems’
Field, Jared, Systems Biology (EPSRC CDT), ‘Evolutionary Ecology through the Lens of Adaptive Inactivity’
Ghoshal, Siddartha, Auto Intelligent Machines and Systems (EPSRC CDT), ‘Algorithmic Decision Making in Financial Markets’
Glass, Will, Theory and Modelling in Chem Sciences (EPSRC CDT), ‘Multiscale Molecular Dynamics to Investigate Sodium Ion Channel Oligomerisation’
Guassardo, Giada, Medieval and Modern Languages (FT), ‘Ludovico Ariosto’s Lyric Poetry in the Literary Context of His Time’
Henriksson, Johan, Mathematics, ‘Analytic Bootstrap for Perturbative Conformal Field Theories’
Howell, Max, Theory and Modelling in Chemical Sciences (EPSRC CDT), ‘Development of a Dual Fermion Approach to the fcc Hubbard Model’
Ivanova, Mirela, History, ‘Inventing Slavonic: Cultures of Writing between Rome and Constantinople’
Jia, David, Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics, ‘Computation and Learning: On the Interaction of Short-term and Inhibitory Synaptic Plasticity in Cortical Circuits’
Jian, Jay, Philosophy, ‘The Rationality and Normativity of Intention’
Kurbel, Philipp, Philosophy, ‘Aristotle on Metaphor’
Lea, Andrew, History (HSM and ESH), ‘Computerising Diagnosis: Minds, Medicine and Machines in Twentieth-Century America’
Louvier, Fanny, History (HSM and ESH), ‘A Comparative Study of the Dress, Food and Leisure of Domestic Servants in France and Britain, 1900–1939’
Lucy, Daniel, Cardiovascular Medicinal Chemistry, ‘Targeting GPR84: A Receptor Involved in Regulating Inflammation’
Manwaring, James, Law, ‘Capacity and Culpability’
Muir, Max, Politics, ‘Civil Disobedience: A Reasonable Polemic’
Owens, Dominic, Medical Sciences, ‘Elucidating the Cis-regulatory Logic of Runx1 during Developmental Haematopoiesis’
Paton, Andrew, Environmental Research (NERC DTP), ‘The Role of Interspecific Interactions in the Mitigation of Vector-borne Diseases’
Perez Orozco, Bernardo, Engineering Science, ‘Recurrent Neural Networks for Time Series Prediction’
Peters, Dominik, Computer Science, ‘Fair Division of the Commons’
Potts, Justine, Ancient History (FT), ‘Confession in the Greco-Roman World: A Social and Cultural History’
Robertson, Naomi, Astrophysics, ‘Observing the Dark Universe with Weak Gravitational Lensing’
Roy, Thomas, Industrially Focused Maths Modelling (EPSRC CDT), ‘Preconditioning for Thermal Reservoir Simulation’
Røising, Henrik, Theoretical Physics, ‘Unconventional Superconductivity and Majorana Modes’
Scott, Eleanor, Oncology, ‘Targeting Tumour-Associated Macrophages with Locally Expressed T Cell Engagers’
Shamout, Farah, Engineering Science, ‘Machine Learning for the Detection of Clinical Deterioration on Hospital Wards’
Taylor, Helen, Law, ‘Optimisation Through Innovation: Judicial Exercise of Discretionary Remedial Power to Enforce the State’s Positive Human Rights Duties’
Teoh, Suliana, Oncology, ‘Intensity Modulate Proton Therapy in Lung Cancer’
Teramoto Kimura, Yayoi, Neuroscience, ‘Synaptic Plasticity Models in Brain Development and Neurodevelopmental Disorders’
Thomson, Blake, ‘Population Health, Smoking and Cause-specific Mortality in Large Prospective Studies from Cuba, Mexico, and the United States’
Vladisavljevic, Tomislav, Particle Physics, ‘Predicting the T2K Neutrino Flux and Measuring Oscillation Parameters’
Wechsung, Florian, Ind Focused Maths Modelling (EPSRC CDT), ‘Shape Optimisation and Robust Solvers for Incompressible Flow’
Weil, Pierre, Economics, ‘Essays on Demographics and Heterogeneity in Macroeconomics’
Wesselink, Daan, Clinical Neurosciences, ‘Sensorimotor Hand Representation following Altered Input’
Whitburn, Jessica, Surgical Sciences, ‘The Role of Metabolism in Prostate Cancer Progression and Bone Metastases’
Williams, Thomas, Inorganic Chemistry, ‘Olefin Polymerisation using Group 4 Permethylindenyl Complexes’
Winter, Friederike, Neuroscience, ‘The Role of CNTNAP2 in Cerebellum’
Witherden, Sian, English, ‘Touch in Late Medieval English Theatre’

Other graduate research degrees
Buck, Lisa, MSc(Res) Obstetrics and Gynaecology, ‘Serum Hormone Levels in Women with Chronic Pain’
Gaglione, Stephanie, MSc(Res) Molecular Cell Biology in Health and Disease, ‘Phenotypic Models of Perfect Adaptation by CD8+ T Cells’
Gifford-Moore, Jordan, MPhil Law, ‘Regulatory Competition in Artificial Intelligence’
Jiyani, Mary, MSt Legal Research, ‘Settling Settler Claims: An Analysis of Commissioner Johnston’s Lawn Settlement Program (1892–1893) in the British Central African Protectorate’
Price, Gabrielle, MSc(Res) Oncology, ‘Establishment of a Gastrointestinal Epithelial Organoid Assay to Assess Bowel Toxicity in Response to Chemoradiation Treatment’
Then, Chee Kin, MSc(Res) Oncology, ‘Sequencing of the 16S rRNA Gene of the Gut Microbiota in Mice Treated with a High-fibre Diet as a Potential Endogenous Mechanism of Radiosensitisation’
Van Heerden, Emily, MPhil Law, ‘Rethinking the Standard of Informed Consent Required of a South African Minor for Termination of Pregnancy in Light of Her Constitutional Rights’
Honours, appointments and awards

Resignation Honours 2019

Cressida Dick CBE QPM (1979 and Honorary Fellow), Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service: Dame of the British Empire (DBE) for public service.

Dissolution Peerages 2019

Rt Hon Joseph Johnson, lately Member of Parliament for Orpington and Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation.

New Year Honours 2020

Keith Thomas FBA (1952 and Honorary Fellow): Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour (CH), for services to the study of history.
Simon Stevens (1984 and Honorary Fellow), Chief Executive of the National Health Service: Knight Bachelor, for services to health and the NHS in England.
Peter Freeman (1974), co-founder of development company Argent: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE), for services to housing and communities.
Charles Tannock (1976), lately Member of the European Parliament for London: Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), for political service to International Relations and Human Rights.
Tamara Isaacs (Finkelstein) (1986), lately Director General, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB), for public service.
Lindy Cameron (1991), lately Director General, Country Programmes, Department for International Development: Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB), for services to international development.
Clara Swinson (1993), Director General, Global and Public Health, Department of Health and Social Care: Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB), for services to healthcare policy.
Clive Richards, friend of Balliol, philanthropist: Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE), for services to charity and to the community in Herefordshire.

Other honours

Sudhir Hazareesingh (1981 and Fellow and Tutor in Politics): appointed a Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian
Ocean (GCSK) on the occasion of the National Day Celebrations 2020 in Mauritius.
The Hon Bob Rae PC QC (1969): awarded the Canada Confederation Centre of the Arts’ Symons Medal.

**Honorary degrees**

James Belich (Beit Professor of Commonwealth and Imperial History, and Professorial Fellow): awarded an honorary degree by Te Herenga Waka–Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.
Tyler VanderWeele (George Eastman Visiting Professor): awarded an honorary degree by the Catholic University of America.

**Other awards for Current Members**

Diana Berruezo-Sánchez (Career Development Fellow in Spanish): awarded a John Fell Small Grant for the organisation of an international and interdisciplinary research workshop, ‘From Presence to Action: Black Africans’ Agency in Early Modern Spain’.
Robin Choudhury (Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow and Research Fellow in Biomedical Sciences) and Calliope Dendrou (Sir Henry Dale Fellow and Research Fellow in the Sciences): awarded funding by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative for projects investigating single cell sequencing in inflammation.
Timothy Endicott (Professor of Legal Philosophy, Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in Law, and Vice-Master): appointed to the Vinerian Professorship of English Law in Oxford’s Law Faculty.
Brian Foster (Donald H. Perkins Professor of Experimental Physics and Professorial Fellow): elected an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Physics
Helen Gittos (Associate Professor, Colyer-Fergusson Fellow and Tutor in Early Medieval History) has been awarded a one-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship for a monograph entitled ‘English: The Forgotten Language of the Pre-Reformation Church’.
Derek Moulton (Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics): awarded (jointly) the 2019 Cozzarelli Prize for the top scientific research in Engineering and Applied Sciences in 2019 published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, for his research paper on bivalve shells.
Vicky Neale (Whitehead Lecturer in Mathematics and Supernumerary Fellow): awarded a PGCert Prize 2020 as part of the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford’s Education Awards scheme.

Professor Jin-Chong Tan (Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science): awarded a European Research Council Proof of Concept Grant to develop a revolutionary portable luminescent sensor.

Professor Rosalind Thomas (Dyson-Macgregor Fellow, Jowett Lecturer and Tutor in Ancient History): elected as a Fellow of the British Academy.

Nick Trefethen (Professor of Numerical Analysis and Professorial Fellow): awarded the 2020 John von Neumann Prize by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.


Professor Hagan Bayley (1970 and Honorary Fellow): won the Royal Society Mullard Award.

Professor Deepak Nayyar (1967 and Honorary Fellow): appointed Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Development Studies.

Professor Jane Stapleton (1981 and Honorary Fellow): appointed an Honorary Queen’s Counsel.

**Junior Members**


Arman Karshenas (2017, MEng Engineering Science): awarded a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) at Caltech.


Old Members are invited to send details of any honours, appointments and awards they have received to newsandnotes@balliol.ox.ac.uk for publication in *Floreat Domus*. Select achievements of Old Members are included in ‘The Year in Review’ on “Select honours and distinctions to Balliol Old Members” on page 41.
College Life
Library and Archives

The Library and Archives’ year has, for obvious reasons, fallen into two parts. Until March, it was business as usual, with an average of 148 users a day accessing the Library during term time (had we been open for Trinity Term, our busiest period, the daily average for the year might have been higher still). As always, work spaces in the Library were at a premium, with a hot-desking policy in place to maximise availability of desks. To improve accommodation for students, we also invested in refurbishing the Old Dean’s Room, our graduate study space. The new, more secure bookcases mean that this room can now function as a 24-hour study space, and new carpet, desks and curtains make it a pleasanter place to work. During a period of heating maintenance in Michaelmas Term we introduced a box of blankets, which proved so popular that they became a fixture to help people keep warm in medieval spaces.

Library staff have been active in ensuring that the social environment is as welcoming and supportive as possible. To help us we conducted a survey of Library provision, garnering 155 responses which will inform future policy. We also liaised with the Feminist Society to purchase titles as a basis for informal womens’ reading groups. Our displays have highlighted LGBQT reading, and we mounted two pop-up displays using the historic collections: one for St David’s Day, the other for International Womens’ Day. We also ran our regular JCR and MCR historic collections viewings, Halloween ghost story readings, and Christmas quiz.

Much of this changed during the coronavirus lockdown. In Trinity Term Library staff working from home offered a range of services electronically. These included support with locating electronic resources, ordering e-books, scanning and sending copies of material to students, ordering requests for physical books from suppliers to students’ home addresses, and organising the return of loans from those who could not get back to Oxford.

Over the year the Library extended its teaching support sessions and adapted them to online delivery. These included a full induction programme in Michaelmas Term, with sessions tailored to specific subjects on request, notably Chemistry and Law. In addition, teaching on reference management and plagiarism was offered to fourth-year Chemistry students; and during lockdown, thesis planning sessions were conducted with second-year History and English students, using video-conferencing. The Early Career Librarian ran a session for the OxLibris programme, introducing sixth-formers to using an academic library.
Circulation and purchasing
Borrowing saw 14,392 loans to the end of June, slightly down this year because of our closure during Trinity Term. We rely on help from Fellows and students to ensure that stock retains currency, and we are very grateful for their input: indeed this is a key means of engaging with our members. During the year we purchased 706 titles, of which 293 were requested by Junior Members. We are also offering a model brainstem for medics.
Staffing
College was sad to see the departure of Early Career Librarian, Amy Boylan, who secured a post as Assistant Librarian of Special Collections at Marsh’s Library in her native Dublin, thanks to the valuable training opportunity provided by Balliol. Aishah Olubaji, Cataloguing Assistant at the Pitt Rivers Museum, was selected to replace her, starting in August. We were also pleased to appoint Sophie Floate as Early Printed Books Cataloguer for one day a week. In addition we have offered two periods of work experience, one for an aspiring archivist and one for a young alumna interested in librarianship.

Exhibitions
Our major exhibition for the year, *Dervorguilla & Daughters*, co-ordinated with the College’s celebrations of 40 years of female admissions, and examined women’s often unseen contributions to College life from the foundress onwards. It was supported by a programme of lunchtime talks. As another part of these celebrations the Library also hosted an art installation by Shirin Homann (1990) in the Reading Room, *re mark able women*, revealing the representation of female authors in its collections. In April we mounted our summer exhibition online: *A Load of Old Babel*, which showcased the variety of scripts and languages in the historic collections.

Historic collections
Interest in the historic collections remains high, with 394 enquiries in the year, leading to 92 research visits. Online enquiries continued after lockdown with many people pursuing family history research. We ran teaching sessions using the historic collections for the Uniq and Floreat access programmes, as well as groups from Parmiters School and the Publishing MA at Oxford Brookes. We also facilitated the use of historic items by the English Fellows in teaching sessions covering manuscripts, early printed Bibles, and book history. Displays were mounted for the Oxford Bibliophiles and the Chabad Society, and we had a public opening for *Thinking 3D*, a history of science event. Historic items were also been used to enhance the presentation of the College, delighting a visiting delegation from the Japanese Embassy and supporting a lecture by Sir Drummond Bone (Master 2011–2018) at a conference in Scotland.

To boost access to these valuable assets the Archivist has led on the acquisition and implementation of Epexio, a collection management system. This will streamline management of the archives and form the backbone of an improved online presence. Conservation has seen the restoration of antiquarian books on Jerusalem and on geology, one of our 17th-century
Buttery books and a 14th-century manuscript of Aristotle. Significant purchases have included a spoof publication relating to a character from Grahame Greene’s *The Third Man* and a first edition of poems by Gwyneth Lewis (1985 and Honorary Fellow). Funding was secured from the Friends of the National Libraries to purchase lecture notes on philosophy by John Henry Muirhead (1875). We received kind donations from alumni: Michael Rhodes (1958) gave an entire run of Dickens’ *Household Words*, Derek Delves (1975) donated papers about Balliol’s Refugee Scholarship scheme, Emily Carrington Freeman (2013) presented her artist’s print commissioned for the Bodleian’s whales exhibition, and David Grove (1941) deposited his archive and gave towards its cataloguing and care. We are grateful for all these donations to the historic collections, as we are for the gifts to the library listed overleaf.

*Stewart Tiley (Librarian)*
Gifts of publications by College Members


G. Garrard (1990): (with James Bernard Murphy) *How to Think Politically*, 2019


J. Hole (1959): *Will Shaksper’s Secret*, 2019


D. Keene (1959): *Leaving the Arena: A Story of Bar and Bench*, 2020


D. Satter (1968): *Never Speak to Strangers*, 2020

R. Thomas (Professor of Greek History, Dyson-Macgregor Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History): *Polis Histories, Collective Memories and the Greek World*, 2019


Other gifts

The Chapel

I am very pleased to tell you that Balliol’s Chapel has continued to flourish for another year under the leadership of our Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Bruce Kinsey, and the Pastoral Associates, the Reverend Professor Judith Brown (Emeritus Fellow) and the Reverend Dr Alex Popescu (1994). The Choir was directed by the Senior Organ Scholar, Yasar Cohen-Shah, and the Assistant Organist, Jack Colley. Bruce has been very ably assisted by Sarah Twinn, Chaplain’s and Dean’s Secretary, and I am very grateful to her for helping arranging the readings each week. The Chaplain’s Advisory Committee consisted of the Senior Organ Scholar, the Assistant Organist, myself, Anna Parsons, Jedidiah Andrew, Eloise Hamilton, Harry Burn, Claire Hill, Lois Ogunlana, Reuben Sharp and Lucy Swift.

We began the year with an inspiring sermon from Dr Brett Parris (2016), who preached at the second Evensong of Michaelmas Term on religion and spirituality. A few weeks later, Balliol joined Trinity for our annual All Saints Day service, held in Balliol’s Chapel. Around the middle of term, the College remembered its sons from Britain, the Commonwealth and Germany who gave their lives in both World Wars, in a moving Remembrance Day service, led by the Reverend Dr Daniel Inman, Canon Chancellor of Chichester Cathedral. The (relatively) new tradition of the Choir Formal dinner in the Old Common Room continued, and the dinner was much enjoyed by all who were able to attend. With Dr David Foreman of King’s College London, Alex Popescu gave an interdisciplinary seminar in Chapel entitled: ‘Were the Disciples Mad? A Dialectical Debate on the Relationship between Religion, Meaning, and Mental Health’. At the end of a busy term, with the days growing colder and longer, the College celebrated a magnificent Carol Service which was, as usual, full to capacity with students, Fellows, alumni and guests, and which made a wonderful start to the festive season.

Hilary Term saw the annual Inter-collegiate Evensong at the University Church, which was highly enjoyable. The Choir also sang with Trinity at the Ash Wednesday service, held in Trinity’s Chapel. Late in term we were pleased to welcome back the Very Reverend Father Kevin Alban, O. Carm. (1976), Prior Provincial of the British Province of Carmelites, to preach on the fascinating life and story of another Balliol alumnus, Father Thomas Byles (1889). Father Byles was the Catholic priest who comforted and gave Absolution to trapped passengers aboard the Titanic. He had taken the ship to officiate at the wedding of his younger brother, William, and reportedly turned down two offers to
leave the ship on a lifeboat. In recent years, a movement has grown to canonise Father Byles, which the Catholic Church is considering.

Trinity Term has unquestionably been the strangest term for the Chapel in recent memory. College was almost entirely empty for the whole term. This was of course due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown. No Evensong took place, but the Choir has stayed in touch through the Choir Facebook group and has greatly enjoyed the weekly music recommendations offered by our Senior Organ Scholar. Our scheduled tour of the Channel Islands in late June-early July was unfortunately unable to take place, but we hope it or a similar tour can be organised and held in the future. Whilst we have all been under lockdown and practising social distancing, our Chapel and Choir community has continued to stay active and in touch with one another.

This term marks the end of my time at Balliol and as Chapel Secretary. It has been a great privilege to be a part of the Chapel community and to serve as Chapel Secretary for two academic years. The Choir and Chapel life are as vibrant and active as always, and I am sure that Chapel life will return triumphantly when some measure of normality returns to the College. I will much miss our weekly Evensongs and Choir events, and I look forward to returning at some stage to see old friends.

Finally, I would like to express much gratitude to the Chaplain, the Pastoral Associates, Chaplain’s Secretary, Senior Organ Scholar and Assistant Organist, as well as to the Chaplain’s Advisory Committee, for all their dedication and commitment to Chapel life at Balliol.

Armaan Genomal, Chapel Secretary

The Choir

From the first service of Michaelmas, choral music has thrived in Balliol Chapel this year. The start of the term saw lots of fresh new faces in choir and as the term progressed the sound of the choir went from strength to strength, so that when we reached the Advent Carol Service the singing was superb. As always, the Carol Service was a remarkable occasion and a pleasure to conduct, with highlights including Arvo Pärt’s Bogoroditse Devo and Harold Darke’s In the bleak mid-winter. The following weekend, the choir extended the Christmas spirit by singing carols outside Balliol on Broad Street, in aid of the wonderful homeless charity The Porch.

We have had a number of choral events inside and outside College in addition to our weekly Sunday Evensong. In Michaelmas and Hilary we had joint Mass services with Trinity College – at Balliol for All Saints Day, and at Trinity for Ash Wednesday. Such joint services are a wonderful opportunity to
meet and make music with another choir. In Hilary we also enjoyed singing in
the Intercollegiate Evensong at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin,
where we joined a large number of other college choirs to sing Edward Elgar’s
*The Spirit of the Lord* and Edward Bairstow’s *Blessed City, Heavenly Salem*.

We have been continuing to increase the amount of music we sing by
non-male composers, as part of a movement across Oxford and beyond;
and, although pushing beyond established choral repertoire has presented
challenges, this has been an exciting and rewarding project. Some of our
favourites have been Imogen Holst’s *Hymne to Christ* and Stephanie Martin’s
Canticles in F major. We look forward to continuing this in the future, to help
redress the gender balance of music making at Balliol and to discover hidden
musical gems.

The social life of the choir has flourished over the course of the year. Always
a vibrant community, the choir has only grown in strength, with a healthy
influx of new members from Balliol and beyond joining members who have
been singing with Balliol for years. We have benefited from the Chaplain’s
hospitality in a cheese and wine night at the beginning of Michaelmas and
regular choir lunches during term, allowing us to get to know the new
members. We have also had termly black-tie choir dinners, which are always a
highlight, full of laughter and excellent food in Balliol’s Old Common Room.
Alongside this, upon the appointment of three superb social secretaries, we
have had a number of more informal get-togethers – all of which helps bind
our choir community together and helps us sing as a team.

It has been very sad that we have not been able to meet in Trinity Term:
we have missed what would have been some of the most exciting events of
the year, such as May Day singing from the Salvin Tower, the final service of
the year, and a choir tour to the Channel Islands in the summer. But the choir
community has remained connected under lockdown. We have continued to
benefit – albeit in a virtual form – from free singing lessons, kindly offered by
the College, which have helped individuals learn how to use their voices and
helped get the most out of the wonderful singers we have. We have all kept in
touch, and I have sent out a weekly list of recommended listening of choral
music to help us all to keep engaged in music and seize the opportunity to
listen to more music when we have time on our hands.

My gratitude goes to our stellar Bruce Kinsey – no organ scholar could
hope for a better Chaplain. I would also like to thank the Chaplain’s Secretary,
Sarah Twinn, and the Chapel Committee, especially our Chapel Secretary,
Armaan Genomal, who have helped organise the running of the Chapel and
Choir. Our Assistant Organist, John Colley, has been a joy to work with – a smashing musician as well as an invaluable organiser; I am particularly grateful for his organisation of the choir tour that we were unfortunately not able to go on. My biggest thanks go to the choir themselves: they have made my job an absolute pleasure with their sense of fun, their enthusiasm and their great singing. We will miss those who are leaving us this year. Especially with the Chapel organ being fully refurbished over summer, I look forward to getting back to Balliol and making music again when we all return to Oxford.

Yasar Cohen-Shah, Senior Organ Scholar

Preachers in Chapel

**Michaelmas Term**
The Chaplain
Dr Brett Parris (2016)
Revd Joel Love, Vicar of St Peter with St Margaret, Rochester
The Revd Dr Hannah Cleugh, Senior Chaplain to the Bishop of Ely
Revd Dr Daniel Inman, Canon Chancellor, Chichester Cathedral
Revd Canon Robert Wright, priest painter
Revd Professor Judith Brown (Emeritus Fellow)

**Hilary Term**
Revd Professor Judith Brown (Emeritus Fellow)
Revd Elizabeth Birch, Chaplain, School of St Helen & St Katharine, Abingdon
The Chaplain
Dr Nick Baker, Ordinand, Burbage with Aston Flamville
Very Revd Dr Kevin Alban O. Carm. (1976), Prior Provincial of the British Province of Carmelite Order
Mrs Pauline Cummins, Ordinand, Burbage with Aston Flamville
The Chaplain

*No services were held in Chapel in Trinity Term*

**Marriages**
Zhicheng (Jared) Wang (2016) and Sicen Liu (2016), 10 August 2019
Sam Bumby (2012) and Amy Timmins, 24 August 2019
Kate Kettle (2007) and Henry Moore (2005), 26 October 2019

**Funerals**
Middle Common Room

What a year this has been! For the MCR it’s felt like a strange fusion of tradition and forced innovation. Certainly there won’t be another like it. Yet, throughout, the MCR has remained focused on that which is most important to it: the community. This was also my big focus for the year. In the Freshers’ Week ‘President’s Welcome’, I asked the new faces ‘to get involved and take ownership’, and I can safely say that they did. In my four years as a Balliol grad student, I don’t think so many members of the MCR have ever been so active and involved.

Beyond the general level of engagement, two particular things stand out to me as real achievements. The first is the huge number of living-out members we’ve had attending events. Full credit for this goes to our Living-out Officer, who worked relentlessly to ensure that all our members outside Balliol accommodation felt welcome. The second is that this year saw several events hosted by non-committee people, in particular a pair of very successful cocktail nights and a regular amateur drama club. These events really showed how the MCR is a community for everyone, and all have the opportunity to make of it what they want.

While on the subject of events, I’d like to highlight a couple more which brought community to the forefront. At the end of Michaelmas Term, the MCR came together at the Balliol & Balliol Wine & Cheese exchange – as our social team put it, ‘because why exchange with another college when you could exchange with the best?’ – in a festively decorated Common Room for wine, cheese and carolling before departing for the holidays. The first MCR LGBTQ+ dinner – organised by our LGBTQ+ Officer and open to all whether LGBTQ+ or not – hijacked one of the Tuesday formal tables, transforming it with glitter, bunting and myriad LGBTQ+ flags. The evening was a wonderful celebration of the diversity and openness of the MCR community.

In addition to the packed social calendar, this year saw the launch of a new and improved MCR website, designed by our IT Officer to be easier to use and simpler for future officers to maintain. Alongside this, in a masterful feat of coordination, the Vice-President worked tirelessly to ensure that all 100+ graduate rooms were photographed while empty over the summer so that the very out-of-date online room database could be refreshed.

The MCR also continued its tradition of raising money for charity, through an opt-out charity levy and bop profits. As always, the charities were chosen by a poll of all members. I was delighted to see that the two global charities
chosen were both linked to MCR members: our Women’s Officer has been a frequent volunteer and fundraiser for Care4Calais, and the second, NABIO, was founded by another of our current members.

Amidst all this, it would be remiss not to talk about COVID-19 and the effect it’s had on the MCR. When COVID hit the UK at the end of Hilary Term, the change in atmosphere was fast and dramatic. In the space of a couple of weeks most MCR members left Oxford, and only a handful of graduates remained in residence. Within the graduate complex additional rules had to be created to ensure conformity with government regulations, and before long the Manor had taken on a peaceful ambience, with most students spending the majority of time in their rooms, occasionally appearing in the garden for some socially distanced fresh air.

The MCR adapted in kind, though. Our weekly exercise classes began to be hosted over Zoom, and likewise the weekly welfare tea, with recipes sent out to make up for the deficit of freshly baked cakes. Noting that their
constituency had dramatically increased, our Living-out Officer hosted an excellent living-out pub quiz; and within the graduate complex, to ease the strain on the communal kitchens, one of our General Officers developed a very successful daily lunch delivery scheme in partnership with a local café.

Of course, big thanks must go to the Praefectus, Tom Melham, for his calm and decisive handling of the COVID situation, as well as for everything he’s done for the graduate community throughout the year. This was his last year as Praefectus, and on behalf of the MCR I’d like to thank him for the last ten years, as well as wishing him all the best for the future.

Alongside the Praefectus, I’d like to thank the Assistant Praefecti and many College staff who’ve been vital in keeping the in-residence graduates safe from COVID. Having remained in Holywell Manor during the lockdown, I can say without a doubt that the situation was made so much more liveable thanks to a lot of their work behind the scenes.

Finally, I’d like to thank my incredible committee and the MCR community in general for what has been a wonderful and memorable year. I hope that, even though our year in Oxford was cut short, our year together was a happy one for all, and will lead to many long-lasting friendships in the future.

*Thomas Hancock, MCR President*
Junior Common Room

It has been an eventful year in the JCR to match turbulent times, as students continue to take an active role in College life. On top of our usual jam-packed programme, in Michaelmas the JCR and MCR jointly presented to Investments Committee to encourage the College to divest from fossil fuels. The presentation was the culmination of months of work from the Divestment Group, the Environmental Reps and the previous President. In Trinity, the JCR, MCR and BME Society jointly presented to College Meeting to report on the experience of BME students in Balliol, which resulted in College setting up a new Equality and Diversity Committee. Divestment and the BME report are just the tip of the JCR’s involvement in College; students are also working with Kitchen and Hall staff to reduce food waste; collaborating with Bruce Kinsey (Chaplain/Wellbeing and Welfare Officer) on welfare provision; and with the Development Office and the MCR on building a careers programme. Improving access remains a focus of the JCR; students’ efforts this year included producing a new Alternative Prospectus and adapting to working at Open Days virtually, because of coronavirus.

The JCR’s lively inner life continues. Enjoying our recently renovated space, we have shifted to ensuring the long-term efficacy of our Bar and Pantry, maintaining tradition and adapting to new times. Sadly, Hilary saw the retirement of Denise Hurd, our fantastic, long-serving Bookkeeper, and the end of Pantry breakfasts. Both will be sorely missed. Pantry now has a regular vegan night; the Bar has begun hosting regular gig nights and been dragged by the Lindsay into the technological age with a card machine – and renovation continues. General Meetings remain animated forums for debate: the past year has seen condemnation of behaviour by Prime Minister Boris Johnson (1983), lively discussion on disruption in Hong Kong and an expression of solidarity with striking lecturers.

The University Challenge team is preparing for its appearance this year; the Arnold and Brackenbury Society, restarted after an inactive year, is going from strength to strength; during lockdown the Sports Reps set the JCR up with Zoom yoga. A highlight for the sports clubs was our first joint sports day with St John’s in Cambridge, our sister college, at which both rugby and football won their matches. Balliol’s mixed hockey team also came out of Cuppers with a victory. The recently formed Women’s Sport Club continues to meet regularly for socials and to try different sports. Another new club is the Feminist Society, which runs talks and bar socials, and hosted a formal for
International Women’s Day, organised by the Women’s Officers. The BME Society was seminal in organising the JCR’s reaction to the international BLM movement.

In the wider University, Balliol students remain at the forefront of student journalism, filling spaces on the editing boards of The Isis, Cherwell and Oxford Student, as well as pioneering newer publications, the Oxford Blue and Industry. Members also continue a proud tradition of involvement in Oxford’s student politics and environmental activism, and the JCR itself leads by example and pushes for change in the University community. Balliol is well represented in a variety of Blues squads, including athletics, rowing, hockey and rugby, and in University orchestras, choirs and bands – and in numerous other activities around Oxford.

The Michael Pilch Studio has had another excellent year, featuring many plays produced by Balliol students. Highlights have included the Balliol Charity Musical, a production of Rasputin entirely by Balliol students to raise funds for a series of effective charities, and the Playhouse’s Merrily We Roll Along, directed by Balliol student Sam Woof McCall and featuring several other Balliol members. Balliol also has a blossoming film scene, having won Oxford University Filmmaking Foundation’s film Cuppers two years in a row.

As it always has been, a year in the life of the Balliol JCR is impossible to capture in a single report. Our activities are too varied, our focuses too diverse and our personalities too bright to compress into this short space. As a final note, then, I just would say that, with all its activity and diversity, Balliol JCR is an exciting, welcoming and productive organisation to be part of. Our combination of strong internal community and external awareness is unusual for today’s JCRs. If you find yourself in Oxford, I invite you to step inside the doorway to Staircase XV to see us in action for yourselves. You will find the common room is never empty.

Cerian Richmond Jones, JCR President
Clubs, societies and sports

Arnold & Brackenbury Society

The year got off to an explosive start for Balliol’s comedy debating society with a fantastically well-attended and hotly contested debate on the motion ‘This House would, if it could’. We welcomed many curious first-years to the event, and a few even indicated they might consider returning. The speeches themselves were of a high standard. On several occasions, members of the audience laughed, which is always a good sign.

This success was swiftly followed up with a holiday-themed end-of-term debate on the motion ‘All this House wants for Christmas is you’. The debate was so rousing, the speeches so impassioned, the comedy so side-splitting and the port so bountiful that no-one remembered to vote on the motion at the end. The matter, therefore, remains unsettled, the society’s official stance on Mariah Carey’s bold and controversial 1994 thesis perennially undecided. Nonetheless, a good time was had by all. Highlights of the debate included excerpts from classic erotic fiction, a take-down of Oxford dating culture, and a detailed discussion of modern horticultural techniques.

At the very end of Michaelmas Term, the A&B Society hosted the yearly Nepotists evening of seasonal carols in the Balliol Hall, with mince pies, mulled wine, and a fantastic brass band accompanying. Many thanks to the Hall staff for making Nepotists happen.

Trinity Term was, of course, anomalous in all respects. The A&B committee briefly flirted with the idea of running virtual debates on Zoom, but this was ultimately rejected as being a bit silly. Instead, the society is hosting a written satire competition, with the authors of the best short satirical pieces to be inducted as members. We hope to be running meetings again as soon as circumstances allow. Until then, we wish everyone the best, and remind them to keep laughing. Laughing, after all, is what A&B is all about.

Ilya Shemmer, President

BME Society

In only our second year as a society, the Balliol BME group has thrived. We welcomed a wonderful cohort of first-years who have enriched the society both in numbers and most importantly with their enthusiasm, ideas, and warmth. We have also maintained a connection with society alumni who graduated in 2019, which has only strengthened our cross-year community.

Our Michaelmas formal was the highlight event of the year for the society. An entire evening of delicious food and a lovely atmosphere was a great way
to welcome new members. It was remarked that seeing Hall, ordinarily a predominantly white space, filled with faces of under-represented groups was a poignant reminder of our right to be here too.

Towards the very end of Trinity, the BME Society was crucial in presenting to College concerns regarding racism and micro-aggression at Balliol, along with requests for change to help better the student experience. A co-operative report from the ethnic minority students of Balliol was submitted to the College’s Governing Body as part of a paper from the JCR and MCR. It was a successful endeavour and College agreed to implement all requests made.

It is reassuring to know that for the incoming first-years there is a well-established community of students from ethnic minority backgrounds to support each other throughout their time at Balliol, and beyond.

*Andi Marsh, President*
BCBC at Gloucester Spring Head (above) and Christ Church Ergatta (opposite).
Rowing

Overall Balliol College Boat Club has had a successful year, despite challenging weather and a truncated season due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Michaelmas Term got off to a great start with a large intake of novices on both the men’s and the women’s side of the club. Unfortunately, heavy rainfalls during the autumn and winter resulted in the river being closed off for rowing for large parts of Michaelmas and Hilary Terms. The weather conditions also resulted in the cancellation of close to all regattas on the club schedule: Nepthys Regatta, Christ Church Regatta, Wallingford Regatta, Henley Fours and Torpids. Despite the lack of water time, the club saw a high level of commitment to gym sessions from both the senior and the novice squads. This resulted in a stellar performance at New College Indoor Regatta, with a win for the women’s novice A team and a third place for the senior men. Success continued in the Christ Church Ergatta (held instead of the usual regatta), where multiple squads from both sides advanced to the quarter-finals and finals, and the women’s novice B team won their division.

Despite the challenging weather conditions, the top boats managed to make good progress, training in Abingdon when weather allowed and during weekends away in Swindon. A short weather window allowed the women’s first eight to compete in Gloucester Spring Head at the end of Hilary Term, from which they returned home with a win in their band, having beaten a few other Oxford college crews.
The lockdown, which began shortly after the end of Hilary and continued through Trinity, saw the cancellation of Eights and a focus on fitness work, with the club adopting an at-home training plan and organising remote running time trials.

*Saad Hamid, Men’s Captain, and Mina Bohne, Women’s Captain*

**Bruce’s Brunch**

It has been another successful year for Bruce’s Brunch, with a varied and diverse programme of wonderful talks. We started off the academic year brilliantly with a talk by Professor Julian Savulescu, Director of the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, who spoke on gene editing and the ethics of human enhancement. Other Michaelmas Term speakers included Dr Heidi Maurer, Lecturer in EU Politics, who discussed the future of European foreign policy following Brexit, and Seema Fazel, Professor of Forensic Psychiatry, who spoke on the mental health of prisoners. We were also joined by Dr Sudhir Hazareesingh (1981 and Fellow and Tutor in Politics), speaking on the Gilets Jaunes protests, as well as Dr Catrin Moore, Research Group Leader of Oxford GBD, who gave a somewhat prescient talk on the global burden of antimicrobial resistance.

Hilary Term started off with a fantastic talk by Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, Professor of the Political Economy of Development on inequality in Latin America. Other speakers included Philip Howard (Professor of Internet Studies at the Oxford Internet Institute and Professorial Fellow), who spoke on the impact of social media ‘bots’ on voter suppression and political life, and Rana Mitter, Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China, who gave a talk on the challenges facing China in the upcoming decade.

This year also gave us the opportunity to welcome back several Balliol alumni, including Alistair Fernie (1989), who spoke about his work as an international aid worker, as well his journey to becoming the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Oxford East in the 2019 general election; and Jack Shenker (2004), former Egypt correspondent for *The Guardian*, who spoke on his book *Now We Have Your Attention: Politics, Protest and Crisis in Britain* (Bodley Head, 2019).

We are incredibly thankful to Bruce Kinsey (Chaplain/Wellbeing and Welfare Officer) for his support, guidance, and last-minute help, as well as to Sarah Twinn (Bruce’s Secretary), for her tireless patience – we could not have managed without them! While our programme was cut short after Hilary Term, we are sure Bruce’s Brunch will continue to be a success into
the upcoming academic year, and we wish the best of luck to next year’s convenors.

Jonathan Kabel and Nino Tsouloukidse, Convenors

Drama Society and the Michael Pilch Studio

It has been another busy year for the Balliol College Drama Society, with Balliol’s Michael Pilch Studio continuing to be one of the most popular venues for student drama in Oxford. The last year has seen a wide variety of shows performed in the space, including Balliol’s own Charity Musical Rasputin.

The Pilch saw the première of many pieces of new writing, amongst them Mealspiel’s production of Computer Says No, Continental Entertainment’s Bad Nick and Doghouse Productions’ The Buffa. There were also a number of reimaginings of classics, including 00 Productions’ staging of Noël Coward’s Present Laughter, Nitwit Productions’ All’s Well That Ends Well and Rose on a Rail’s The Crucible. The House of Improv troupe returned with their production Unplanned-ersnatch, an improvised comedy in which the audience chose nightly how the story progressed; GOYA Productions also returned with a revival of Sarah Kane’s experimental play Crave.

The technical renovations to the theatre that began last year have been completed, following the installation of the new lighting system. We are very grateful to Balliol for funding the renovations, and in particular we would like to thank Roland, Jamie and the Maintenance Department for facilitating the installation, and their continued help in keeping the space running smoothly.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has meant that the shows scheduled for Trinity Term could not take place, they will be rescheduled for a later date, and we look forward to re-opening the Michael Pilch Studio when it is safe to do so.

Alice Lavelle, BCDS President

Football

After a somewhat forgettable 2018/2019 season, Balliol College Football Club went from strength to strength in 2019/2020. A strong intake of Freshers helped bolster what was a solid, albeit slightly sparse squad, and the results on the pitch soon followed with convincing early season wins against Keble, Somerville and Brasenose. The culmination of the campaign was one of fine margins: heartbreaking last-minute equalisers from St Hugh’s and Trinity saw the boys in blue and red miss out on promotion by a mere three points, whilst our noisy neighbours were tragically relegated; we send our condolences to
them all. The highlight of the season came in the fabled ‘away day’ at St John’s, Cambridge (Balliol’s sister college), where a clinical 2–0 performance showed those on the other side how the beautiful game can be played.

Away from inter-collegiate football, BCFC has been represented on the University side of things by Joe Fisher, Josh Goldstein, Ben Elliot and Moustafa Gamaleldin, who all continue to do us proud in the dark blue. Alongside the sporting achievements, we have maintained a strong social community, transforming the squad into a close-knit unit.

The cancellation of Trinity Term saw the unfortunate demise of the futsal Cuppers, but it will just serve to add more fuel to the fire in the bellies of BCFC as we await the new season in Michaelmas Term. We will miss the leaving third- and fourth-years, but with a talented new team taking over the captaincy roles, I have every confidence that the only way is up for Balliol FC.

James Cater, Captain

Hockey

This season has seen a really strong team and amazing levels of commitment. We continued to play in a joint team with University College – making us ‘Baliv’ – but it was a majority Balliol team. This arrangement is a great friendship between colleges that adds strength and numbers to our squad.

We benefited massively from a number of MCR players joining us, which we didn’t have last year. This allowed us to take large squads to most games,
giving us many great performances. In Michaelmas Term there is both a men and women’s league but, like many other teams, we just entered the men’s league and played a mixed gender squad. With strong performances and fantastic commitment, we managed to win the league! This qualified us for Supercuppers, a match against a Cambridge college side on the day of the Blues’ Varsity match. We had a great day playing Supercuppers and watching the Varsity matches. Our match didn’t go as we’d hoped but we kept fighting as we were outplayed by a really talented and well drilled team. We had amazing team spirit and our one goal felt like a win.

This team spirit continued off the pitch with a Christmas social, pub quiz, and sports formal as well as some post-hockey brunch and pub trips. We hadn’t previously had many socials, so the appointment of a social/stash sec is something we will definitely continue. Sport is an excellent way to make friends in different year groups and across both the JCR and MCR.
Unfortunately, the cup competitions were late in starting because of some bad weather and the league running over, so we didn’t get very far into them – but neither did we get knocked out!

Lauren Mackenzie, Captain

Medical Society

As president of the Balliol Medical Society, I saw 2019’s annual BMS dinner as the perfect opportunity to extend the celebrations of 40 years of women studying here at Balliol. After a brief introduction by me, comparing some of the glamorous and high-flying female Balliol alumni with some decidedly less-than-glamorous pictures of myself and fellow third-year medic Safia Khan, we enjoyed two fascinating talks: the first by Dr Mona Mozaffari (2005), about how our eardrums have evolved from those of our fishy ancestors, followed by Dr Inez Cooke (1982), one of the first ever women to matriculate in medicine at Balliol, who spoke about her journey to medicine, her time at Balliol, and her career in obstetrics since. Emeritus Professor Gillian Morriss-Kay gave the dinner speech, on being a pioneering female medic and the first female science Fellow of Balliol College. Finally we celebrated another beloved female tutor by giving Dr Lisa Walker (Fellow in Medical Science) Leoni Loughlin (Medicine, 2017) and Jonathan Mallet (Medicine, 2017) at the 2019 St Catherine’s Dinner.
a framed collage of notes her Balliol students, past and present, had sent in celebration of her 50th birthday.

The Wurtman seminars were perhaps the last semblance of normality this year, when the third-year medics and biomedics took the opportunity to rehearse their viva presentations for their tutors and project supervisors, with Safia Khan taking the top prize for best presentation and Jonathan Mallet the runner-up. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately for them), that was to be the only time they presented their projects, as Trinity went virtual because of the COVID-19 lockdown. Huge congratulations to all the finalists and clinical students who have worked throughout or sat exams in these hugely difficult times!

Leoni Loughlin, President

Musical Society

The Balliol College Musical Society has continued to thrive this academic year. In Michaelmas, we welcomed the Kosmos Ensemble, who performed an exhilarating programme inspired by Gypsy, Greek, Jewish, Japanese, and tango music. Fresh from the Royal Opera House, the soprano Lucy Crowe, accompanied by Anna Tilbrook, then stunned the audience in Balliol Hall with sublime music from Schubert, Strauss, Berg, and English folk music. The term’s concerts ended with the Navarra Quartet, whose moving programme featuring Puccini, Janáček, and Kurtág climaxed with a glorious performance of Schubert’s timeless ‘Death and the Maiden’ quartet.

The first concert in Hilary Term saw the inimitable Endellion Quartet return to College, with a programme of Beethoven, Bartók, and Mendelssohn. This was sadly the quartet’s final visit, and I would like to thank the members of Endellion for their long-standing residency at Balliol, which has been a wonderful part of the society’s seasons for many years. Next, pianist Reiko Fujisawa and narrator Paul Ansdell took us on a fascinating journey through Beethoven’s life, with the composer’s words spoken beside his works and the works of those connected to him, such as Clementi, Schubert, Liszt, and Wagner. The term ended in style with a stunning performance of two piano quartets by Schumann and Brahms by the Mozart Piano Quartet.

As well as these visits by world-renowned performers, the society hosted a termly Members’ Concert, for Balliol students and friends to perform. These have continued to be a delight, with music ranging from Poulenc brass trios to free improvisation, and I would like to thank everyone who has been involved this year.
With Oxford turning to remote learning, unfortunately we missed a term of music at Balliol. In Trinity we were anticipating a visit from the fantastic pianist Sam Haywood and the return of internationally acclaimed guitarist Sean Shibe. We wish these artists the best, and look forward to live music returning to Balliol and beyond as soon as possible.

My thanks go to the committee, who have supported and organised the society, and especially to my predecessor as General Secretary, Ilya Shemmer, for booking a superb season of concerts.

Yasar Cohen-Shah, General Secretary

Netball

The Balliol Netball Club has had a very successful year on both the sporting and social sides of the club. We began the year with a taster session to introduce the new cohort of Freshers to Balliol netball. There were so many people enthusiastic to play, which gave our relatively small club high hopes for putting together a team that could play together regularly.

In the Michaelmas Term league, we played in Division 4 and swiftly began to get used to playing with each other through weekly matches and training sessions. Our team included a lot of talent, and we finished the term undefeated and were promoted into Division 3. Michaelmas Term also saw us travel to Cambridge for the inaugural Sports Day with our sister college, St John’s, Cambridge. We put out two teams to play and, despite losing to our rivals, we enjoyed the chance to play against a team that was much more experienced than us.

We entered the league in Hilary Term with confidence and continued to perform well, beating teams who had in the past beaten us. This term we found the league to be much more hotly contested, but once again we came first in the division and we were promoted to Division 2 for Michaelmas 2020. A remote Trinity Term meant the cancellation of the Netball Cuppers and Mixed Cuppers tournaments, which we had been keen to play. However, we are confident that next year we can continue our success in the league whilst also taking Cuppers in our stride.

Throughout Michaelmas and Hilary, the Netball Club enjoyed numerous social events with other Balliol sports clubs, which fostered a real sense of team spirit and comradery within the Balliol sporting community. This became apparent during the Sports Day at St John’s, where each team turned out to support the others as their matches were played and then celebrated together with a bop afterwards.

Katie Gillespie, Captain
Rugby

The 2019/2020 season was one of mixed success for Balliol College Rugby Football Club.

After a vintage double promotion in 2018/2019 from the depths of Division 4 to the dizzying heights of Division 2, it was going to be a challenge to keep the momentum going. Nevertheless, the season started strongly with league wins over Hertford and University Colleges. Hopes of fewer last-minute cancellations in the new higher divisions were dashed, as the remaining games in Michaelmas were all handed to BCRFC as walkover wins, confirming promotion.

The highlight of Michaelmas was an away-day trip to our sister college at the other place. St John’s, Cambridge, fancied themselves too much to play a proper game but BCRFC ran out proud winners in a touch tournament that was decided in the best way with a boat race.

In Hilary BCRFC faced a tough start to life in Division 1 with a couple of heavy defeats. A drubbing to Oriel in the second round of Cuppers was also tough to take. However, the men of BCRFC did achieve one epic first division win versus St Catherine’s and we overcame Teddy Hall 2s in our Cuppers Plate quarter-final, although a run to Iffley was scuppered by coronavirus.

Further rugby was postponed, as was our eagerly awaited tour to Bucharest. Despite this, the BCRFC social scene remained strong, with the new Fresher cohort replicating strong on-field performances with strong off-field ones.

Our annual Old Boys’ game, dinner and social also had to be cancelled. Nevertheless, if any alumni would like to get involved, please email me at huw.evans@balliol.ox.ac.uk. We also encourage Old Boys to come back and play for us if they have a free weekend.

Tribute must be paid to departing members this year. Some titans of the club are moving on and we will miss them immensely. We can only hope that they will return for the odd run out and, perhaps more importantly, the odd social.

A new season back in Division 2 awaits. Whether or not it will begin in October 2020 remains to be seen, but when rugby does return you can be sure that BCRFC will be as ready as ever.

Huw Evans, Captain
Younger Society

This has been a fantastic year for the Younger Society. The annual Michaelmas dinner was even more special than usual, celebrating Professor Timothy Endicott’s 20th anniversary as a Fellow of Balliol. It was important to all Younger Society members to recognise the extraordinary contribution Professor Endicott (Blanesburgh Fellow and Tutor in Law) has made to generations of Balliol lawyers and to the College as a whole. We are all very grateful for his support and guidance, and immensely proud that he will taking up the Vinerian Professorship of English Law.

To mark the anniversary we held the first Younger Society moot for many years. The moot problem focused on a futuristic scenario in which a populist government passed a bill to abolish the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, with the bill presented as a money bill. Second-year students Vaibhav Manchanda and Anna Brainin mooted against Joanna Valentine (2001), and Rachel Jones (2007). We were extremely privileged to have an esteemed panel of alumni judges: Sir David Keene (1959), Sir Michael Burton (1965), Dr Angela Daly (2003), Dr Hayley Hooper (2008) and Dr Frederick
Wilmot-Smith (2009). Witnessing the oratory skill of the mooters and hearing the reasoning of the judges was invaluable and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We also welcomed Professor Jane Stapleton (1981 and Emeritus Fellow) as our honorary speaker. The opportunity to listen to such a distinguished academic was another huge privilege. Her stories of interactions with the late Lord Bingham (1954, Visitor 1986–2010 and Honorary Fellow 1989–2010) and a certain famous missing clock delighted us all. It was fantastic to have so many YS members together; current students certainly felt a much stronger connection with the society as a result of the event.

In Michaelmas we enjoyed a splendid dinner at the Quod with Slaughter and May, which provided an excellent opportunity to speak to current solicitors. Over the course of Michaelmas and Hilary, we also enjoyed mooting success, reaching the quarter-finals of Cuppers. First- and second-year students participated in the competition, with one round being mooted by a mother and daughter team!

Despite the unusual circumstances of an online Trinity Term we still managed to hold the annual garden party, albeit via Zoom. Students and tutors discussed the best and worst aspects of life in lockdown and shared their ‘top tips’ for studying law, which will be gathered into a guide for Freshers.
We have been very grateful for the continued support to the society of Professor Timothy Endicott and Dr Grant Lamond (Frankfurter Fellow and Tutor in Law), and we are looking forward to the year ahead.

*Katie Bacon, Secretary*
Features
The First Female Fellows

Gillian Morriss-Kay (Emeritus Fellow)

A speech given at Balliol Women: 40 Years On, a celebration weekend marking the 40th anniversary of female students being admitted to Balliol.

It’s a great pleasure to be here on this very happy occasion. I’d like to thank the Master and the organising committee for inviting me to speak, and for all the work they have done in putting this event together. I can only approach the subject of my talk through my own experience of the early years, but I’ll do my best to be relevant.

To put the advent of gender equality in its historical social context, one could start anywhere, but let’s begin with the late 1960s. Homosexuality was decriminalised in 1967, after a long campaign. Intellectual ferment erupted on to the streets of Paris in May 1968, and soon spread to the UK. The women’s movement grew out of the movement for racial equality in the US but was also entwined with these other social upheavals. By the early 1970s it was quite easy to be the first woman to have a role or appointment in some formerly all-male context. The inclusion of women as undergraduates at Balliol in 1979 was part of a general trend towards the recognition that treating women as lesser human beings was illogical and demeaning, to men as well as to women. It was another stage in the historical sequence that began when the first Oxford colleges for women were founded in the 19th century, and degrees at last awarded in 1920.

In the early 1970s, five men’s colleges voted to become mixed and they took their first women undergraduates in 1974. The then Master of Balliol, Christopher Hill (Master 1965–1978), was keen to be part of this change, but the Fellowship was far from unanimously supportive. As described in the catalogue that accompanies the exhibition Dervorguilla and Daughters: 750 Years of Women at Balliol, Oswyn Murray (now an Emeritus Fellow) argued that having some women on the Governing Body first would ‘better meet the needs of female undergraduates’. Well, I don’t know whether that proposal was really a way of bringing some of the opponents on board or just a clever delaying tactic. Given that there were only two teaching Fellows by 1979, I can’t see how the female undergraduate community as a whole benefited, unless they were modern linguists or medical students. Carol Clark was appointed in 1973 as a Tutorial Fellow in Modern Languages, a subject the College had not included until then. Two Junior Research Fellows, the historian Maxine Berg (now an Honorary Fellow) and Connie Veldink, a sociologist, were appointed in 1974 and 1975. I was appointed as the first woman science
Fellow in 1976. Anatomy had not been covered by the College previously, and my appointment was joint with Keble in order to give me enough teaching hours. I suppose it was because of this that I was called a Senior Research Fellow, although my duties were exactly the same as those of a Tutorial Fellow.

Carol Clark and I did contribute one thing to the preparations for the arrival of women: we were asked to tour every staircase and report on the suitability or otherwise of the lavatories and bathrooms. Apart from noticing the general inadequacy of these facilities, we saw a wonderful communal bathhouse in the basement of Staircase XXI with the most enormous baths I have ever seen. It portrayed an atmosphere of communal post-match singing by the rugby club – I’m almost sorry it went (the space is now the communal laundry). I think the most useful thing the first women Fellows did was to get the male Fellows used to having some women as professional equals on the Governing Body, so that when the subject of undergraduates was discussed again the decision to become mixed was passed easily.

I would like to pay tribute to two people who contributed to the change. First, the historian Maurice Keen (Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1961–2000), whose special interest was in medieval chivalry – a fact that, I think, is relevant to his own character. When the subject of opening the College to women undergraduates came back to the Governing Body for the second time, Maurice voted against. However, he was Senior Tutor, and after the vote went against him, he worked flat out to attract able young women from all backgrounds to apply to the College. When I told him how impressed I was by his complete change of attitude, he simply shrugged and said he was
just respecting democracy. The second person I want to remember with real warmth is Christopher Hill, who had been the main driving force for change. He and his wife, Bridget, were enormously kind and welcoming to me, and I remain grateful to Christopher for the inclusive atmosphere he helped to create. His portrait in Hall really encapsulates his character, and makes me smile.

I’d like to say a few things about my own background. I came here from Cambridge, where I did a PhD, and held a Junior Research Fellowship at Girton, a two-year teaching Fellowship at Newnham and a University Demonstratorship in Anatomy. That sounds like a conventional beginning to an academic career, but my earlier background was not conventional Oxbridge by any means. I came from a relatively poor home, and I am grateful to my parents for demonstrating complete equality in their marriage. I went from my all-girls grammar school to what is now Newcastle University (then part of Durham), where I lived in the all-women Ethel Williams Hall. Ethel Williams was the first female doctor in Newcastle in 1896; in 1906 she was the first woman in Newcastle to drive a car, and she was also an active suffragist. So maybe she had some subtle influence on me, demonstrating what women could achieve if we believed in ourselves and were determined to play a full role in society. I think that my background has been important to me in being sensitive to the social insecurities of some of my students, especially in the early years after 1979. Some of the pioneering women undergraduates were overwhelmed by social popularity in the predominantly male environment and they didn’t have an easy time academically, at least at first.

In my first year at Balliol I lived in the Minor building (aka Holywell Minor or the Martin Building) on the edge of the Master’s Field, opposite Holywell Manor. It was only 10 years old at the time but it is now just a huge heap of rubble. This somehow seems symbolic of the fact that I’ve been here for a long time! I then spent two years in the beautiful Fellows’ suite on Staircase XXI, now occupied by the Chaplain. One thing I had to get used to there was those massive dustbins being wheeled out through the archway under my bedroom to the back gate at 6.00am – this was incredibly noisy! Gordoulis late at night were also interesting: in my naivety I imagined that the advent of women would calm down this extraordinary activity until I realised that women were already involved in them, so it wouldn’t make any difference. I married and moved out of College in 1979.

What I found difficult in the all-male Balliol during those first three years before 1979 was nothing to do with gender but the consequence of the public-
school intake that was still strong at that time. I once wanted to go into the Buttery before lunch to get a half-pint tankard of cider from Lionel. A group of tall and very confident young men engaged in loud conversation were occupying the doorway. I’m afraid I was too much of a wimp to ask them to let me pass, and I went into lunch ciderless. In my opinion, the dilution of the upper-tier public-school entry here has had almost as much influence on the ethos of the College as the arrival of women. Sadly, their presence in public life, especially in politics, still dominates our country today.

My tenure as a Fellow of Balliol has not been continuous. Sometimes circumstances become overwhelming, and it needs to be recognised that some people have more difficulties than others and need support. I think the College is better at doing this now than it was in 1990, when I resigned my Fellowship. Basically, problems in the College coincided with the terminal illness of my husband; we had a six-year-old son and I was simply bringing too much stress home. I deeply missed my tutorial teaching, which I loved, but as so often happens in life, when one door closed another opened. By a coincidence, I was appointed as a founder member of the University’s Equal Opportunities Committee. I did one useful thing in that role: I spearheaded a campaign against the complete failure of the University’s promotions system to notice women. On one occasion an outstanding woman Physics lecturer was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Society the day after being turned down for a University Readership. It took the University a few more years to realise how hopeless the system was until finally it abolished ad hominem promotions and replaced them with the current system of promotion in title only.

I was very pleased not only to benefit personally, being awarded one of the first Professorship titles, but also, through the kind intervention of John Jones (now an Emeritus Fellow), who was acting Master at the time, to be brought back to the College as an Emeritus Fellow. My first College event was the Snell Dinner, and I felt incredibly at home, as if I had hardly been away. I love this College and it has been a great privilege to have had some more years of teaching our very bright medical undergraduates.

Balliol’s appointment of a female Master is very welcome indeed, but we still need to increase the proportion of women Fellows. All the undergraduate and graduate students of the past 40 years have made a magnificent contribution towards creating the atmosphere of gender equality that simply seems normal today. But role models are still needed and it is the responsibility of all of us to be role models for those who follow us, and to fight the battles that are still necessary.
Balliol College and Mansfield House University Settlement

Timothy M.M. Baker (Corpus Christi College, 1979)

Balliol’s leading role in the late 19th-century University Settlement movement to ameliorate the lives of the urban poor is well known. T.H. Green (1855), the College’s first lay Fellow, was the movement’s philosopher. Green’s protégé Arnold Toynbee’s (1873) work with Samuel Barnett in Whitechapel inspired the first Settlement, Toynbee Hall, founded in his memory in 1884.

Less well known, perhaps, is the close involvement of Balliol alumni in the third of the Settlements – in some ways the most influential: Mansfield House University Settlement in Canning Town.

Mansfield House was founded in 1889 by Mansfield College, itself newly arrived in Oxford to support Congregationalists who had joined the University when the Church of England’s monopoly was abolished in 1871. The inspiration for Mansfield House was the pastoral work of Frederick Newland (Merton College), minister of the Canning Town Congregational Church.

Canning Town was then only 40 years old. It was an industrial slum, built below high-water-mark on the Essex marshes of West Ham to serve London’s Royal Docks, and numerous shipbuilding, chemical, telegraph, and foodstuffs factories which made Victorian West Ham one of the biggest industrial towns of Britain. Notorious for shoddy housing, bad sanitation, and casual labour, Canning Town was a homogeneously working-class boom town, its population growing fast, a magnet for agricultural and urban labourers seeking new economic opportunities, but also subject to depression, insecurity, exploitation, and want during regular economic downturns. As a densely built port town it had a young and cosmopolitan population and a heavy dependence on pubs for recreation. It was very much London’s ‘Wild East’.

As such, Canning Town was a magnet for evangelising missions from both established and Nonconformist churches. One of the earliest was the Canning Town Congregational Church, founded in the 1850s by my great-great-grandfather, Thomas Perfect. As the Church’s first pastor, Perfect deployed practical charity among the rootless people of Canning Town. His obituarist in 1893 wrote ‘he was a recognised power for the promotion of a higher public morality, and he took part in many movements which affected the well-being of the working classes.’ His daughter Lizzie Perfect wrote ‘he was one of the few people that lived what he preached’.

Newland succeeded Perfect as pastor of the Church in 1884. He had intended to become a missionary in China, but realised there was more
important work to be done in east London. He greatly expanded the Church’s social work, assisted by visiting students from Mansfield College. Mansfield’s first Principal, Andrew Fairbairn, was determined to make the college ‘not a disgruntled outcast among Oxford institutions but a tactful and helpful friend’. The same spirit of tactful helpfulness towards the people of Canning Town underlay Mansfield House. A distinctive feature of the University Settlements was that they aimed not only to help the working classes, but also to educate them to help themselves.

Balliol graduate Percy Alden (1884), who was training for a Baptist ministry at Mansfield College, became Mansfield House’s first Warden in 1890. A scion of the Oxford butchers, Percy had been talent-spotted by T.H. Green and Benjamin Jowett (Master 1870–1893). Alden described Green as ‘a kind friend ... to every young man who ... had a craving for something higher and better than the satisfaction of a few selfish desires’.

The bursar of Mansfield College recorded a vignette of what the Mansfield Settlers were getting into: ‘When ... we began to consider the purchase of the site and buildings of Mansfield House proper, I still remember the vision of the then tenant of the buildings – a certain Mr X – on a certain Sunday morning. He dealt in mineral and other strong waters, and one entered the shop premises straight from the pavement – the bar being at the back of the shop. There was a crowd both in and outside the shop that Sunday morning, and Mr X, whose potations had been copious, was holding the bar against all comers, hurling stone ginger beer bottles with great ferocity at all persons who appeared to be on the offensive. The exact cause of war was obscure – as it so often is – but Mr X was having a royal fight, and I felt that in our dealings with this gentleman we should have to be extremely careful.’

They persevered. Mansfield House opened in a pair of terrace houses in the Barking Road in September 1890. It acquired new purpose-built premises in 1897. T.H. Green’s words were inscribed above its entrance: ‘There is no other genuine enthusiasm of humanity than the one which has travelled the common highway of reason – the life of the good neighbour and the honest citizen.’
Alden described Fairbairn’s frequent visits: ‘He would hold an audience of working men spellbound by the scope and breadth of his learning. They regarded him as a sort of walking encyclopaedia. His speeches, erudite and sympathetic, dictated without notes, appealed very much to the working men of Canning Town, who were no mean judge of either oratory or learning.’ Mansfield House’s educational efforts covered a spectrum of needs: elementary education for people too old to have benefited from the Elementary Education Acts; adult education and university extension lectures for others. Classes covered a broad range of academic and practical subjects. There were Sunday evening lectures on scientific, literary, historical, and social subjects.

Mansfield House had a broader range of pioneering and influential welfare services and social activities than other Settlements. A ‘Local Parliament’ club offered an opportunity to practise debating public and social questions. There was a loan society; a penny savings bank; a sickness benefit society, which was one of the forerunners of the 1911 state-sponsored National Insurance scheme; a ‘Hospital Letter Society’, an early form of medical insurance, giving members access to hospital and outpatient treatments; a coal club for cheap bulk purchase of domestic fuel; old age pensions; men’s and children’s orchestral, choral, dramatic, gymnastic, boxing, cricket, football, cycling, and other sporting clubs; cheap meals; and annual outings to Oxford.

In 1892 Joseph Grafton Milne (Corpus Christi College) established the Mansfield House Boys’ Club to organise social activities and sport. The involvement of public schools and universities in its football was a pioneering effort at overcoming class barriers. It had reading rooms, games rooms, library, workshops, theatre, gymnasium, tennis court, and temperance bar. Mansfield House organised its work for children in cooperation with the Canning Town Women’s Settlement, encouraging intellectual, cultural, and creative pursuits, country walks, museum visits, and folk-dancing classes which were one of the origins of Cecil Sharp’s English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Newland established the Canning Town Women’s Settlement in 1892, linked to but independent of Mansfield House. It focused in particular on factory girls whose sweated labour made them especially vulnerable to exploitation, unemployment, and injury. Services included employment agency; day nursery; medical and hospital services – also provided to men through Mansfield House; sickness benefit; second-hand clothes markets; clubs, societies, lectures, and discussions. Alden wrote: ‘Into the manifold arras-work of the sufferings and joys of the poor these noble women weave
their own lives, despising none and helping all.’ Alden married one of these ‘noble women’, the Settlement Hospital’s physician, Margaret Pearse. Another was Helen Boyle, who identified in Canning Town the medical profession’s poor treatment of nervous and mental disorders, which were not typically addressed until formal certification of lunacy. Her experience at the Women’s Settlement prompted her later pioneering work at Brighton on preventive treatment of the early stages of mental illness.

In 1890 Alden’s Balliol contemporary Frank Tillyard (1883) became a barrister and began giving free legal assistance at Mansfield House in a weekly evening ‘clinic’, a service which became known as ‘Poor Man’s Lawyer’. Alden quoted a docker: ‘If Christianity means a lawyer what don’t charge nothink, then there’s summum in it.’ Mansfield House’s Secretary Will Reason wrote: ‘Even the originators had but a small conception of the extraordinary amount of trouble and difficulty that might be lifted from the lives of the poor without interference with the practice of those who look on the law as a means of livelihood. ... On Tuesday nights, wet or dry, cold or hot, the committee rooms and staircases are thronged with Poor Man’s Lawyer clients.’ In 1892 there were 600 clients, and by 1897 2,000, mostly from Canning Town, but also from across London. One walked from 42 miles away. Cases concerned landlords and tenants, marital law, employment law, wages, and compensation for accidents. Almost all were settled privately. Other university settlements took up the scheme, which eventually developed into the National Association of Citizens’ Aid Bureaux, established in 1939 to alleviate wartime social disruption, and continued thereafter, since 2003 called Citizens Advice.

Mansfield House ran a lodging house at the docks, providing cheap beds – fourpence a night in a dormitory or sixpence in a 4-bed room – and baths for sailors, dockers, casual labourers, and other homeless people. ‘On one occasion we had an M.A. of Balliol staying with us’, wrote Reason. This was Alden himself, who lived there for a month to experience what it was like.

Alden was the first to involve the university Settlement movement in local government: ‘Mansfield House has from the very first made an endeavour to influence the public life of West Ham.’ He sought to educate not only working people in political action, but also the middle classes to take an interest in the local politics of poor districts: ‘The settlement comes into a district that is chaotic and disorganised, and proceeds to weld into one harmonious whole the broken, and often antagonistic, fragments of local life. ... The settlement can assist in educating the civic conscience in forming and crystallising opinion, in supplying men to initiate and carry out various social reforms.’
Alden became a member of West Ham Borough Council, and Deputy Mayor, promoting public baths, public libraries, parks, recreation grounds, street tree planting, and improvements in sanitary inspection, technical instruction, and poor-law administration. A ‘new Liberal’, a ‘kid-gloved sort of socialist’, and a pioneering advocate of state support for the unemployed, he supported the Independent Labour group in West Ham, which secured its first local council majority in the borough in 1898, and whose first Member of Parliament, Keir Hardie, a member of the Mansfield House Men’s Club, was elected for West Ham South in 1892. Hardie addressed meetings in the Canning Town Congregational Church on several occasions. Another speaker at Mansfield House was Ramsay MacDonald. Alden explicitly linked the Labour group’s politics to non-sectarian religion: ‘I regard the Labour movement as a religious movement, and can honestly say that I have found more unselfishness among working men than among any other class.’ During the ‘extreme distress’ of 1894, when Mansfield House provided food depots, Alden surveyed unemployment in West Ham, and gave evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Distress from Want of Employment. After his retirement from Mansfield House, he became secretary of the Independent Labour Group’s and radical Liberals’ National Unemployed Committee, drawing on his experience in Canning Town, and another period of ‘acute distress’ in 1903–1905, to promote a policy of government intervention to alleviate unemployment and support the unemployed.

The Canning Town Settlements remained active well into the 20th century. H.H. Asquith (1870) presided over Mansfield House’s 21st anniversary celebration in 1911: he was heckled by suffragettes, among them perhaps Daisy Parsons, a leading activist, sweated labourer, and member of the Canning Town Women’s Settlement’s Girls’ Club. Despite financial difficulties the Settlements provided important relief amidst the privations of the First World War’s home front and the post-war decline of industrial West Ham. But social provision became increasingly the responsibility of local authorities. The Second World War and post-war dispersal of Canning Town’s population and industries to new towns, followed by the demise of the docks, destroyed both buildings and social fabric. The Settlements never properly recovered. The Aston Trust took them over. As Aston-Mansfield it continues to support disadvantaged and young people across east London. But the main legacy of Mansfield House, the Canning Town Women’s Settlement, and the Canning Town Congregational Church that spawned them is how they helped shape the fabric of social services that surrounds us today.
Balliol in Norway

Richard Bevan (1962)

The article by Godfrey Fowler and John Jones (‘Norway and the United Kingdom, or more especially Balliol College, Oxford’) in the *Annual Record 2019* tells the interesting and continuing story of the association between the College and the royal family of Norway, in particular King Harald V (1960 and Honorary Fellow) and his late father King Olav V (1924).

Given the interests and aptitudes of the two men as Crown Princes, it’s natural that rowing should form an important part of the narrative. So it seems appropriate to add to that narrative the events of the summer of 1966, when the Balliol First VIII travelled to Norway at the invitation of the then Ambassador, Sir Ian Dixon Scott (1927). Sir Ian had strong Balliol connections, both as an alumnus and through his marriage to Drusilla Lindsay, daughter of Lord (A.D.) Lindsay, Master of the College 1924–1949.

The invitation celebrated the 40th anniversary of King Olav’s final year at Balliol. The focal point of the visit was a race over 1,500 metres against the Norske Studenters Roklub, an Oslo-based rowing club primarily catering to students. But the visiting crew was fortunate to experience other events.

The Balliol First VIII in Norway, 1966.
and entertainment. These included a reception at the British Embassy in Oslo, and the special honour of dinner on the Royal Yacht.

Eleven Balliol men made the trip, led by Garvas Beoku-Betts (1964), President of the JCR, and Richard Fletcher (1963), Captain of Boats. The others in the party were Ben White (1965), Bob Munford (1964), George Halahan (1963), Jarlath O’Neil-Dunne, Mike Craster (1964), Philip Burns (1964), myself, Robin Jones (1965) and Sandy Gray (1964).

The race was rowed in the open water of Oslo Harbour. The BCBC used a borrowed boat equipped with splashboards to cope with the choppy water, although through the generosity of the parents of a crew member we were able to use our own oars. The decisive victory gained by our hosts in no way detracted from the enjoyment of a remarkable visit. Dinner on the yacht, moored south of Oslo, was a delightful event, and of course the highlight. A convivial and engaging King Olav presided, together with an equally welcoming Prince Harald, who had gone down from Balliol only four years earlier.
Following in the Footsteps of Reginald Farrer
Graham Avery (1961)

Reginald Farrer (1898) is best known for his plant-hunting expeditions on the Tibetan border of China in 1914–1916 and in Upper Burma in 1919–1920. The names of no fewer than 29 species bear the epithet \textit{farreri} or \textit{farreriana},\footnote{The names of no fewer than 29 species bear the epithet \textit{farreri} or \textit{farreriana}.} and his introduction of new plants to Britain led to his being described as ‘virtually the patron saint of rock gardening for much of the twentieth century’.\footnote{At his grave in Burma, where he died on 16 October 1920, the memorial reads ‘he died for love and duty in search of rare plants’.} Farrer’s enthusiasm for plant-hunting in Asia was kindled by excursions he made in the Alps in 1899–1913. He first went there during his years at Balliol, in the company of Gerard Collier (1897) with whose family he stayed at Rosenlau in the Swiss Alps in 1899 and 1901. Farrer was already collecting plants, as he reported to his mother: ‘the other day I discovered a long-sought treasure, \textit{Aquilegia alpina}, a wonderful Columbine of the most astounding sapphire blue’. Meanwhile, he continues, ‘the great news here is that Gerard has got his First. Everybody is of course very delighted though hardly surprised.’\footnote{Later, Farrer’s brother Sidney (1907) accompanied him in the Dolomites.} In his writings Farrer expresses vividly his love of the mountains: ‘To be alone in wide, great places is sometimes too terrible a thing for little mundane man. In the high valleys of the Alps, the silence is so vast that it seems as if a single uttered word would shatter the roof of the world,’\footnote{Here is his account of the Passo d’Antermoia:} he writes about an excursion above Arolla in Switzerland.

It is almost impossible to speak up there, so wonderful and awful is that enormous calm in the core of the Dolomites. It seems either as if one’s mortal voice could not be heard among those other tremendous utterances so vocal in the great stillness; or as if one’s chirp would shatter beyond hope of repair something gleaming and holy and incomprehensible. Each soul can render only to itself alone the particular mystery and sacrament it gathers from such a scene; for myself, I know no place where one can draw deeper breaths of enlargement and purification.
than among the crowded presences, the vibrating breathless emptiness of the Antermoja, so full of awe, so unimpeding to the winged expansion of the spirit.  

Such irresistible descriptions of Farrer’s joy in the mountains have led me to follow in his footsteps. When I reached the Antermoia Pass myself in 2012, I read the passage aloud.

Another of Farrer’s joyful moments was his discovery of *Eritrichium nanum* (‘King of the Alps’) in Switzerland. This plant, he wrote, ‘lives high up, so high that, except with luck, the mere walker can rarely hope to meet with it. For years of misfortune had I hunted it, never succeeding in my quest. I am not a mountaineer, to go tight-roping along arêtes, or daring the horrors of the mountain world; I am a mild and modest walker, and will walk anywhere for a plant.’ In the hope of finding *Eritrichium*, he toiled up the path from Meiden to a high pass:

‘At last we reach the top of the shoulder, and our path comes out of shadow into the light of the summit. It is the change from Hell to Heaven. And what a Heaven, fallen in splashes on the earth! One pause, just to make sure of the bliss which is so hard to believe. Yes, this is no delusion, it is *Eritrichium* itself. A calm glory of destiny fulfilled descends upon me.’

In 2014, with my friend Michael Reeve (1960), I followed the same path, and we found the plant in the same spot where Farrer saw it more than a hundred years earlier.

Our quest was not an easy one, for Farrer disguised the plant’s location by saying that it grew on a different pass. This was typical of his fondness for mischief. Dissimulation occurs elsewhere in his writing: for example, in his book on his tour in France and Italy in the summer of 1910, he writes:

‘I mean quite often to be guilty of forgery. For I am going to take you to see some extremely rare and precious plants; I have no intention of making these chapters so plain a guide that unscrupulous depredators may be able to go out and exterminate the species of which I talk. When I come to anything particularly precious I may, perhaps, shroud its habitat in mystery. Nor shall I tell you when I am doing this.’
Farrer disguised several locations and people in the book, creating a series of puzzles which, over the years, I have solved. For example, he writes that in reply to his enquiry where to find *Eritrichium* at Mont Cenis, ‘the man who knew it refused to divulge its exact whereabouts’. Farrer comments sardonically:

‘I do not think my non-informant need have been quite so scrupulous, for really *Eritrichium* is still extremely abundant where it does occur. And that a fellow-collector should refuse information seemed doubly hard. If wolf is going to conceal the whereabouts of the sheep from brother wolf, wherewithal shall the wretched wolves be fed?’

After adding, ‘Be at peace, Mr Tuckett-Brown, if ever you read this passage; I will not divulge the dwelling of your protégé’, Farrer goes on to describe how he found it at the Kirschenjoch. My investigations show that ‘Tuckett-Brown’ was Farrer’s invented name for the botanist H. Stuart Thompson, who had written about the flora of Mont Cenis, and ‘Kirschenjoch’ was Farrer’s invention for Col du Clapier. Alas, though, I have not been able to find *Eritrichium* there.

Writing his amusing and joyful descriptions of plants and places in the Alps was a joy in itself for Farrer. He says to his readers: ‘To write of things one loves for the benefit of those who love them too, is a pleasure beyond most other pleasures. Short of being among the hills themselves, there is no joy
keener than to be taken back to them by memory.”  

And he invites us to follow in his footsteps: ‘I know few pleasures keener than that of offering people the chance of sharing mine. Many have followed in my tracks among the hills, and found there the same peace and ecstasy as I.” It has been my pleasure to be one of them.

3 Letter of 30 July 1901, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Archives GB 235 RJF/2/1/2
4 R. Farrer, Alpines and Bog-plants, Edward Arnold, 1908, page 84
6 R. Farrer, My Rock-Garden, Edward Arnold, 1907, page 249
7 My Rock-Garden, page 259
9 Among The Hills, page 41
10 The Dolomites, page 203
11 The Dolomites, page 7
Milton Friedman

James Forder (Andrew Graham Fellow and Tutor in Political Economy), Palgrave Macmillan, 2019

Joe Perkins (1997)

The subject of economics has an ambivalent relationship with its history. Too much history could be seen to threaten its claims to be a hard science, leaving it jostling for space alongside apparently softer subjects such as sociology or management. Instead, the subject specialises in short potted narratives, easy-reader versions of the past that can be trotted out at the beginning of articles before one gets down to the real business of solving equations. The names of classical economists such as Adam Smith (1740) or David Ricardo become attached to theoretical models of which they could have had no concept, while the label ‘Keynesian’ is an intellectual battleground that has drifted far from its progenitor.

In this excellent book, James Forder explores one of the most frequent modern subjects of such myths, Milton Friedman, whose life and work have served as examples, both positive and negative, for many of his successors. In the process, Friedman has become obscured, requiring the skills of an expert art restorer to scrape away the patina of later commentators, including Friedman himself, to reveal the original. What emerges is often more interesting, and sometimes more creditable to Friedman, than the legends that have grown up around him.

There can be few researchers in any field whose life, output and impact offer such a wide scope for study. In 20th-century economics, perhaps only Friedman’s (non-contemporary) adversary John Maynard Keynes fits the bill. After all, how many academic economists can claim to have been the model for a fictional detective, Henry Spearman, the subject of the first detective novel to be published by a university press (The Fatal Equilibrium, authored by two economics professors under the pen name Marshall Jevons)? Friedman was prodigiously prolific, across popular and scholarly writings: Forder’s references contain more than 17 pages of Friedman’s work, including foundational works.
on economic history, the determinants of household consumption and, most famously if least persuasively, monetary theory and policy.

Forder is not a biographer easily intimidated by a subject’s reputation, and this book does not pull its punches. Forder is rightly scathing about the weaknesses of some of Friedman’s works, including the best known. In particular, there is a warning to economists not to dabble in philosophy, as Friedman did in an (undeservedly) famous methodology essay of 1953. Friedman argued, *inter alia*, that the realism of the assumptions behind an economic theory was irrelevant – indeed, more significant theories are likely to have more unrealistic assumptions. But in a forensic dissection, Forder demonstrates Friedman’s muddled thinking, which often exposed him to the very criticisms he makes of others. It is, he writes, ‘such a poor, muddled, often facile, incoherent essay’ that efforts to find a worthwhile interpretation are inevitably fruitless.

Philosophical incoherence was not Friedman’s only sin. He was, on this account, ‘a slippery debater’, sometimes shifting the basis of his argument to score a point, or constructing straw men to discredit opponents. Most effectively, Friedman helped to construct a sham history, in which economists and politicians used to believe that they could select levels of unemployment and inflation they were comfortable with from a stable menu of options. This belief, so the story goes, was ended only by Friedman’s 1968 article on the subject, which taught the profession the error of its ways by pointing out that workers would adapt to increased levels of inflation, so that the apparently stable trade-off would break down. A neat story. But Forder shows both here and in his earlier book on ‘the Phillips curve myth’ that it was highly misleading; there was barely an economist who believed in a simple trade-off between inflation and unemployment, let alone the overwhelming professional consensus that Friedman claimed to have overturned.

Friedman could also be dogmatic, particularly on monetary issues. As Forder puts it, for Friedman ‘there were cases where [inflation was produced by monetary growth] and cases where the data was wrong’ – though Friedman provided no evidence of data inadequacies. Ideological motivations, or personal animosities, were attributed to researchers who attempted to disagree with him. Indeed, his engagement with the contributions of others was frequently superficial; one comes away with the impression of a man who was too busy writing to read much himself.

Forder is, then, lavish with his criticism. But he is also rightly lavish with his praise. By placing Friedman’s contributions in context, he enables their
true impact and brilliance to be seen. Friedman’s major works on household consumption and the United States’s monetary history are explored in depth. The strengths of the former are shown to lie particularly in Friedman’s marshalling of empirical data, and his genius in finding innovative ways of distinguishing between different theories and understanding their implications. Forder highlights Friedman’s key role in the transformation of economics towards the explanation of data in terms of more or less rational behaviour, rather than through the use of ad hoc psychological presumptions. If the pendulum was later to swing too far in the opposite direction, Friedman cannot be blamed for that.

Forder gives substantial space to some of Friedman’s less well known or more ephemeral work. Like, I suspect, most economists, I knew principally Friedman’s half-dozen or so most famous books and articles, along with his media image as a bastion of monetarism. But Forder draws out the depth and richness of Friedman’s career, and unearths several gems in the process. It is impossible to summarise these here, as they include such varied topics as why there should be negative income taxes (or tax credits), why medical licensing and conscription should be abolished, and how education should be funded.

Two examples will have to suffice. The first, making the case for flexible exchange rates, comes from 1953, based on work Friedman carried out in Paris in 1950. While others, including Keynes, had previously argued for exchange rate flexibility, the idea was deeply unfashionable in policy circles. Friedman showed presciently and clearly the problems of fixed exchange rate systems, including the burdens they place on domestic wages and prices to adjust, the requirement for international coordination, and the risks of ongoing government interventions in the economy to prop up fixed rates. The second is a short note published in 1992, when Friedman was 80 years old. In this, Friedman points out elegantly and devastatingly an elementary statistical error made by the authors of a prominent recent book on American productivity. This old dog still had some old tricks to teach his successors.

Forder also goes out of his way to show that, whatever the weaknesses of Friedman’s own methodological writings, his actual approach to economics demonstrated impressive consistency over a long time period – and his commitment to using empirical work to develop and challenge theory was rare among his contemporaries. If Friedman sometimes gave the impression of using evidence as a crutch rather than a challenge, he was not alone in doing so, and his critics were often much keener to try to demolish his arguments than to enable testing of their own.
Perhaps the most interesting question raised by Forder’s book is why the strengths and weaknesses of Friedman’s work have been so often misunderstood by commentators. Friedman died only in 2006, and his views were amply recorded throughout his lifetime; unlike with Smith or Marx, it is impossible to argue that they are lost in the mists of time or subject to linguistic misinterpretations. Part of the answer lies in Friedman’s self-mythologising, such as his misleading presentation of Phillips curve debates. But part of the answer must lie with the economics profession itself. A full investigation is beyond the scope of this book, but Forder’s excellent analysis should serve as a reminder that, if economists are going to use the history of their subject, they should put more effort into understanding it than is currently common.

This is primarily an intellectual biography. Friedman’s life is treated through the prism of his own writings, including his very partial memoirs, written alongside his wife Rose and published in 1998. Forder highlights several curious omissions. Neither his three sisters nor his mother feature in the memoirs after 1932, when Friedman was 20. His winning of the Bates Clark medal, a prize in some ways more prestigious than the Nobel Prize in economics, is mentioned only in a footnote. Friedman’s long-running participation in British debates over monetarism is barely noted, perhaps because he ultimately retreated from the intellectual battleground with his tail between his legs.

Friedman’s writings also show again his frequent ham-fistedness, at best, when venturing outside economic matters, and his apparent blindness to questions of political freedom if his concept of economic freedom was satisfied. Friedman’s two visits to Pinochet’s Chile did him little credit, and his attempts at exculpation were misleading and sometimes plainly false. Here, as in apartheid South Africa and Greece under the colonels, one gets the impression that Friedman felt that there were, to quote Donald Trump, ‘very fine people on both sides’. Forder points out that, in a newspaper article published less than a month after the Tiananmen Square massacre, Friedman stated that ‘among the most disturbing of the consequences is the heightened inflationary pressure that the massacre will generate’ – and mentioned no other consequences at all.

This is an important book. But those who know James will not be surprised to learn that it is also a wryly funny one. Describing Friedman’s conspiracy theory that the same protestors were following him around the globe, Forder writes, ‘Since all that was required was people to abuse Friedman over Chile, the local Rent-A-Crowd would have offered the Communist conspirators a more economical deal than flying people from continent to
continent ...’ He goes out of his way to cite a perceptive letter to the editor of the Dartford Chronicle by one Margaret Roberts in 1949, and comments, in relation to Friedman’s exaggerated claims of influence on her later career, that ‘Roberts needed no instruction from Friedman, even thirty years before, having married and changed her name, she became Prime Minister.’

Ultimately, Friedman comes across as a hedgehog in fox’s clothing. He was prepared to comment on almost every conceivable subject, but his genius lay in the analysis and interpretation of data and the impact of incentives on behaviour, and he often mis-stepped once he moved outside these confines. Nonetheless, whatever one’s political persuasions, after more than a decade of anaemic growth in developed countries, one might wish now for more prominent economists who are able to criticise monetary and fiscal authorities as acutely as was Friedman. Rather than a few convenient histories with which to begin economics articles, perhaps this is what the profession needs to continue to learn from Milton Friedman.

Disclaimer: the reviewer is hopelessly biased due to his gratitude for James having overlooked the continued non-existence of several tutorial essays.
Imagine trying, in 2019, to warn people about the potential risks of a novel pandemic pathogen. You would have faced big hurdles. People’s attention was elsewhere. Everyone benefits from one nation’s preparedness, but only that nation pays the upfront costs. Politicians with short time horizons, even if they understand the risks, assume they’ll get lucky and a pandemic will be a problem for their successors.

If anyone understands these phenomena, it is Toby Ord, who has in the past advised that governments were not taking sufficient steps to prepare for pandemics. His new book, *The Precipice*, is an important one precisely because the issues it deals with are so hard to comprehend. The language is simple, the arguments clear, concise and grounded. But Ord is inviting us to engage with scenarios that beggar imagination: existential risks.

Ord begins by reminding us of the stakes. Humanity is special, wonderful, and beautiful. Every life and experience is valuable, but beyond this Ord’s book conveys that the possibility that there is any human life at all is even more valuable. It is comparatively easy to love the people in our lives, but Ord’s writing expresses a passionate love of the abstract concept of humanity as a whole which reminds me of the tenderness of Carl Sagan.

We take the possibility of humanity for granted. *The Precipice* came out less than a month before the UK declared mandatory lockdown to control the Covid-19 pandemic. At that point, few people genuinely understood the scale of the catastrophe that was unfolding. Many were warning of imminent danger, but there was a worldwide failure of imagination, a lack of ability to foresee a radically different reality.

In *The Precipice*, Ord describes how the same problem also leads us to neglect systematically the possibility of existential catastrophes. Existential catastrophes, for Ord, are not necessarily human extinction, but more generally the destruction of humanity’s long-term potential. That definition
is also meant to include scenarios like a disaster that leads to only a small remnant of humanity locked in pre-technological situations by a radically depleted environment, or an irreversible technologically enabled dystopia.

One might think that it would be self-evident that the end of humanity is a bad thing, but Ord presents three arguments to reinforce this point. The first is simply the incredible death and suffering any such catastrophe would cause as it happened, which would dwarf those caused by any catastrophe humanity has experienced so far. The second is to acknowledge the value that future generations have, which would be curtailed by the end (or drastic reduction) of humanity. The last looks backwards at the aspirations and hopes for the future of the generations before us, to whom we owe so much, and notes that allowing an existential catastrophe would derail those aspirations forever.

One of the biggest reasons most people will not have given the issues of this book much thought is an implicit belief that existential catastrophes are incredibly unlikely, and that there is little one could do about them anyhow. Fortunately, a considerable portion of the book catalogues a number of known risks and attempts to quantify the scale of risk they pose.

Quantifying very rare risks is extremely hard. But it is not impossible. For example, the UK’s National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies in 2015 estimated that the probability of a pandemic that killed more than 650,000 British people happening by 2020 was between 5% and 50%. I’m not certain that any government in the world has been behaving as though it took those numbers seriously. Partly, political leaders fall prey to short-termism, unwillingness to take ‘weird’ stances, and the sense that it is unfair for their country to invest much more than anyone else. Partly, however, their inaction is based on a healthy dose of scepticism, rounding down to the lower end of the range, maybe dividing by ten to account for the doom-and-gloom mindset of the sort of person who winds up making these calculations, and then we’re left with only half a percent. At this stage, most people will probably put that number in the mental bucket labelled ‘too small to worry about’ and move on with their lives.

The trouble, as Ord reminds us, is that when the stakes are sufficiently high, probabilities that are too small to worry about in normal life become critically important. So he attempts to estimate some of the risks of extinction.

For several naturally occurring risks we have fairly reliable evidence. We have an extensive geological record, for instance, which helps us bound the probability of things like supervolcano eruption. NASA has recently done a detailed survey of near-Earth objects which lets us conclude that the risk of
asteroids or comets is moderately low for now. Ord puts the total existential risk from natural causes at something like one in 10,000 over the next century (acknowledging substantial uncertainty). In my day job, I research approximate Bayesian methods, so I was hoping to pick holes gleefully in Ord’s statistics. Sadly for me but thankfully for readers, he makes reasonable assumptions and his calculations add up.

Novel risks are harder to estimate. Ord points out that even ‘naturally occurring’ pandemics are quite unlike their prehistoric forebears, because of the deep connections between modern civilisation and the spread of pathogens. But he makes an attempt, by considering the past record of pandemics extinguishing other species, and concludes that the risk of human extinction is comparatively low, perhaps another one in 10,000 over a century.

Here, and when considering climate change, is where Ord’s analysis is most obviously focused on the consideration of existential risk. He is not considering whether some catastrophe will be devastating, but rather whether it could permanently curtail humanity’s potential. So for climate change, he tries to estimate to what extent the Earth’s climate might become genuinely unlivable. At certain temperatures, for example, sweat stops being able to cool the body and people rapidly die. He concludes that the existential risk from climate change might be as high as one in 1,000 over the next century, again with tremendous uncertainties.

By necessity, the work is at its most speculative in considering risks from completely unprecedented sources including nuclear war, engineered plagues, unaligned artificial intelligence, and unforeseen risks. Here, Ord mostly just explains how the risks emerge and then offers his gut impression of their scale.

I don’t think he could do much better; quantifying unprecedented risks is extraordinarily hard. But a core thesis of the book is that humanity is just now entering a distinctive period – which he calls the Precipice – where existential risk is greatly heightened and which will end relatively swiftly, either because we die or because we learn how to manage the risks. His discussion of the risks of new technologies (especially nuclear weapons, genetic engineering of viruses, and artificial intelligence) leaves little doubt that we are indeed in the process of creating new risks for humanity that never existed before. But I would have liked more grounding for the assessment that the risk is now orders of magnitude higher than it was a century ago.

Assuming we are in a state of greatly heightened risk, can we do anything about it? Here, Ord offers several concrete suggestions, framed within an
overall strategy. That strategy is to act over the next century or so to reach what he calls existential security – a state where the main risks are pushed to a sufficiently low level. Humanity could then spend time understanding which vision of humanity would best realise its potential, before acting on that deliberation.

Despite the potential for gloom, *The Precipice* is deeply optimistic. Ord’s pragmatic suggestions for international collaboration on risk reduction are sensible. He also proposes ‘differential technological development’ – deliberately pushing technologies that are likely to manage risk rather than create it. Perhaps most useful of all is his list of things *not* to do, including premature regulation, unilateral irreversible action, and exaggeration of the risks.

I’m less sure about this overall strategy after the existential security part. It seems to me somewhat implausible that people will choose to use their security for a period of long civilisational reflection, and that imagining this somewhat underestimates the chaotic processes internal to civilisation. Moreover, I’m unsure that any amount of reflection could lead to a consensus about where humanity’s potential ought to lie. But these are quibbles that I’m happy to settle with Ord after we’ve achieved existential security.

Having been presented with some estimate, however uncertain, of the risks facing humanity at the moment and over the coming century, we are left with a choice. We could treat the number as too uncertain, or too small, to warrant any action. If we were thinking about the chance that it rains on your birthday, that would be the right thing to do. But the whole of humanity’s potential is absolutely vast. At the end of his book, Ord tries to remind us once more how incomprehensible the potential value at stake is. When there is so much life, so much flourishing, on the table, we owe it to ourselves, to our parents, and to unborn generations to take appropriate steps to mitigate even very unlikely risks. Many will probably treat such risks as someone else’s problem. But if Ord is right, the future of humanity depends on us making them *our* problem.
Resurgent Asia: Diversity in Development

Deepak Nayyar (1967 and Honorary Fellow), Oxford University Press, 2019

David Vines (Emeritus Fellow)

This is a thought-provoking book with a fascinating backstory. In 1968 Deepak Nayyar was a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol, working towards a DPhil in Economics. Gunnar Myrdal’s magnum opus *Asian Drama: An Inquiry into the Poverty of Nations* had just been published, to much acclaim. (Myrdal was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics soon afterwards.) The book was controversial – and it was much discussed in the Balliol Common Room. So Nayyar took himself to Blackwell’s and obtained the three volumes (for 25 shillings), and then proceeded to read all 2,300 pages over the course of the next six months. Myrdal was very pessimistic about Asia’s future, not just because its initial economic position was a very depressed one. He also thought that the ‘soft states’ in Asia lacked the institutional capacity and political strength to defeat vested interests and entrenched elites and to bring about the necessary change. In retrospect, Myrdal turned out to be spectacularly wrong. In the 50 years since 1968, the Asian miracle has created something without precedent in human history.

After his time at Balliol, Nayyar returned to India for a long and distinguished career, both as Professor of Economics at Jawaharlal Nehru University and as Vice Chancellor of Delhi University. He has also spent significant periods in government service, including the post of Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India and Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. Internationally, he has been a Distinguished University Professor of Economics at the New School for Social Research in New York, and he has served as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) in Helsinki.

But Myrdal’s *Asian Drama* has continued to haunt him – and eventually it provided the stimulus for a major intellectual undertaking. In his Prologue to *Resurgent Asia: Diversity in Development* Nayyar describes how he has continued to return to the pages of *Asian Drama*, becoming increasingly puzzled as to why Myrdal was so mistaken. By chance, quite recently, he realised that the 50th anniversary of the book’s publication would arrive in 2018. This realisation prompted a research project which Nayyar organised at WIDER, in which a number of international scholars explored just what it was that led
Myrdal to be so badly misled. This book is the outcome of that collaborative research project.

The book is magisterial in scope, providing a broad overview of the Asian experience, except for that of Japan, which had already industrialised by the 1960s, as well as a detailed study of four sub-regions and 14 countries. It combines a wealth of empirical data with numerous tables and charts, and a compelling storyline underpinned by a clear analytical framework. In addition Nayyar has an easy facility with the English language that makes the book a pleasure to read.

The title of the book – emphasising resurgence – draws attention to the fact that the Asian miracle has actually returned Asia to its historical importance in the world economy, something which is too easy to forget for those of us outside the region. In 1820, Asia had 65 per cent of the world’s population and accounted for 56 per cent of world GDP, with around half of the world’s manufacturing activity. Clearly, something extraordinary happened in the century and a half after that time.

That something was the Industrial Revolution. European powers rose to an economic and geopolitical dominance which gave them the military wherewithal to conquer Asian lands and pursue their own commercial and strategic interests. But for their colonies, the result was deindustrialisation and impoverishment. Even for China, not formally colonised, something similar happened. The result was what has become known by economic historians as ‘the great divergence’: for over a century, and despite two world wars, the gap between European and Asian income levels kept on widening. This happened because the terms of Asia’s integration with the rest of the world economy were dictated by the needs of the colonial powers. Those nations extracted Asia’s resources in order to accumulate capital, and, in doing so, flooded Asia’s markets with their industrial products. This caused Asian countries to concentrate on exporting primary commodities to pay for their imports. The prices of many of these commodities steadily declined over the period, and the prices of all of them were very volatile. The outcome was a prolonged period of very slow Asian growth compared with growth in advanced countries. Despite the fact that by 1960 Asia still had around half of the world’s population, its share of world income fell from 50 per cent in
1820 to 15 per cent a century later, while the manufacturing share was cut from 50 to 6 per cent. By the mid 20th century, Asia had become the world’s poorest continent.

Since then, Asia has outperformed both industrialised and developing countries. The relatively better growth record has significantly increased Asia’s share of world GDP, of manufactured merchandise and services exports, and of foreign exchange reserves. In 1970, Asia’s per-capita GDP was 16 per cent of that of the whole world. By 2016, Asia’s per capita GDP was a little over a half of that of the whole world – slightly above the proportion in 1820.

Here is my summary of Nayyar’s account of why this has happened. Of course, I must be brief, but there is a wealth of detail in Nayyar’s book. I see five factors at work in his account.

First, industrialisation played a central role in the process of Asia’s economic growth, just as had happened in Europe two centuries earlier. Manufacture of steel, cement and automobiles has been central to this industrialisation process. Asia’s industrialisation has relied on the very rapid migration of workers from the countryside to cities, a decline in the role of agriculture in economic output and employment, and the growth of economic activities in city-based industrial sectors, and – more recently – in service sectors. This economic transformation has underpinned a major social transformation, with falling infant mortality rates and rising literacy and life expectancy as key indicators of the way in which population wellbeing has increased.

Second, Asia’s rapid industrialisation has been financed by a very high level of domestic savings, rather than by foreign borrowing. For China the levels of saving are extraordinary: a third of all output was saved in 1971, while by 2015 the figure was 45 per cent. In 2015, the savings rate in nearly all major Asian countries was in the high twenties; for Indonesia it was 34 per cent and for India 33 per cent. Such saving for the future is quite outside the range of European experience. It is this high level of savings which has made possible the investment that is necessary for rapid industrialisation. Nayyar notes that the countries which saved most are the ones that grew most rapidly – including of course China.

Third, Asia has shown that, with the right policies and institutions, latecomers to industrialisation can catch up with the first industrialisers in Europe and the US. Nayyar argues that, to offset the adverse initial conditions of scarce capital, unskilled labour and lack of entrepreneurship and technological capabilities, state intervention is of fundamental importance. Capable states and well-functioning economic markets are complements, he argues, not
substitutes; the two institutions must adapt to each other in a cooperative manner over time. Finding the right balance between them is, he says, a key factor in explaining the success of the ‘developmental states’ of South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore, which adopted the Japanese model of the state being either the catalyst or the essential enabler of the industrialisation process.

Fourth, the liberalisation of international trade has been essential for such industrialisation. It has enabled firms to produce at large scale for the world market, and not to be hindered by the size the domestic market. What has happened in China has been the most obvious example of this. But China’s export-led growth model was laid down in the 1980s by the Asian Tigers: Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. And this model is now being followed by Vietnam and other countries.

The fifth strand of the argument, as presented by Nayyar, is that such openness has worked as a development model only because it has been combined with strategic coordination of trade and industrial policies. This has involved tariff protection of infant industries in the early stages of industrialisation, state support to emerging industries and state-guaranteed access to credit at concessional rates of interest. The Asian miracle is not a free-trade story.

The pattern and sequence of industrialisation and rates of growth have varied considerably across different regions of Asia and Nayyar clearly illuminates these differences. East Asia is the star performer – including not just China but also especially Korea and Taiwan. South Asia – dominated by India – is the laggard, even though India’s growth has increased markedly since the early 1990s as a result of policy reforms there. Southeast Asia lies in between, with the stories of Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia being the most remarkable. The record of individual countries is even more varied, as strikingly illustrated by the comparison between China and India. Differences in political leadership, in policy frameworks, and in the quality of governmental regulation provide likely explanations for the remarkable difference between these two countries. The best book by far on why the Indian growth process has been so troubled, and why so many difficulties lie ahead for that country, is by another Balliol alumnus, Vijay Joshi (1960). I reviewed his masterful book *India’s Long Road: the Search for Prosperity*, in the *Annual Record 2017*.

Finally, I return to the big picture with which we began. Why is it – the reader will ask – that Myrdal turned out to be so mistaken? His view – that states in Asia lacked the necessary institutional capacity and political strength – now appears to have been just plain wrong. All the five parts of my summary
of Nayyar’s narrative turn on the existence of capable government processes that work alongside individuals and organisations in the private sector, so as to bring about remarkably rapid change. Although Nayyar does not say this explicitly, the success stories which he documents seem to contradict conventional economic views in both the US and Europe. In the US, the ideology has favoured a detached approach by the state to the market – in the face of ever-present pressure from financial markets – except through subsidies often obtained by means of dubious political deals. In Europe, by contrast, we have seen a much more supervisory relationship between state and market as a result of the complex processes of European social democracy. The genius of Asia seems to have involved figuring out practical ways of making make the state a useful guide and facilitator of economic policy rather than a passive spectator or an omnipotent overseer.

Yet, just as Myrdal’s pessimism in 1968 was confounded by Asia’s unprecedented growth over the following 50 years, so too might the current general optimism prove misplaced over the next half century. Despite a massive poverty reduction by 1.1 billion people, 500 million Asians are still stuck in absolute poverty. To turn optimistic long-term forecasts into reality, Asian states still have to overcome the major challenges of mass poverty, jobless growth, and rising inequality. Many scholars see the risks of a ‘middle-income’ trap: it is very hard to move from being a poor country – achieving rapid increases in living standards through export-led growth – to being a mature economy with high average incomes in which there is a much wider range of economic and social activities. To achieve this transition, countries will need to continue to improve their productivity through better managerial capabilities, through technological learning and through R&D-based innovation. And they will need, as Nayyar notes, to do this at a time when the world is necessarily moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy. None of this will be easy.
In Memoriam
Deaths

Professor Stefano Zacchetti (Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professorial Fellow), 29 April 2020
Professor Jasper Griffin (1956 and Emeritus Fellow), 22 November 2019
Professor Wilfred Beckerman (Emeritus Fellow), 18 April 2020
Professor Malcolm Green (Emeritus Fellow), 24 July 2020
The Rt Hon Lord Brian Hutton (1950 and Honorary Fellow), 14 July 2020
Professor George Steiner (1950 and Honorary Fellow), 3 February 2020
Sir Eric Anderson (1957 and Honorary Fellow), 22 April 2020
Professor Oladipo Akinkugbe (1962 and Honorary Fellow), 15 June 2020
Professor Bryan Magee (Lecturer in Philosophy 1970/1971), 26 July 2019

Professor Leonard Hamilton (1939), 29 June 2019
Professor Donald Russell (1939), 9 February 2020

Keith Stephens (1940), 13 May 2020
Paul Olsen (1941), 8 October 2019
Bill Smith (1941), 4 January 2020
Professor Julius Gould (1942), 4 December 2019
David Royle (1942), May 2020
Kenneth Paget-Brown (1944), 16 July 2019
Professor Brian McGuinness (1945), 23 December 2019
The Revd Timothy Forbes Adam (1946), 22 March 2019
John Lucas (1947), 5 April 2020
Anthony Platt (1948), 13 February 2020
The Revd Canon Kenneth Whittam (1948), December 2019
Derek Nightingale (1949), 4 April 2020
Roger Peren (1949), 10 February 2020
Harold Seaman (1949), 29 June 2020

Professor Kenneth Keniston (1951), 14 February 2020
Professor Tom Arie (1952), 24 May 2020
James Jensen (1952), 19 March 2020
John Poole (1952), 18 May 2020
Angus McDougall (1953), 14 March 2020
George Thompson (1953), 20 March 2020
Christopher Gardner (1954), 13 June 2019
Joseph Lehrer (1955), 8 November 2019
The Rt Hon Lord Robert Maclennan (1955), 18 January 2020
William Wilkie (1955), 17 January 2020
Gilbert Lewis (1956), 13 January 2020
Bob Plumb (1956), 16 April 2020
Steffen Riisager (1956), 11 September 2019
Christopher Riley (1956), 18 August 2019
Iain Buchan (1957), 8 November 2019
Bryan Keeping (1957), 9 June 2020
Michael Goitein (1958), 3 August 2016
The Revd Alastair Ramage (1958), 30 September 2019
Jonathan Foster (1959), 21 May 2020

Peter Bleasby (1960), 24 April 2019
David Easton (1960), 27 March 2020
Tom Gledhill (1961), April 2020
Professor Thomas Campbell (1962), 27 June 2020
Professor Douglas Gifford (1963), 28 June 2020
Professor Guy Aston (1965), 31 October 2018
Heriberto Cuanalo de la Cerda (1965), 2020

His Excellency Beni Agarwal (1973), 4 February 2019
Professor Peter Pierce (1973), 4 September 2018
Mark Wilson (1973), 16 September 2017
Graham Catterwell (1974), 18 November 2019
Stephen Simpson (1975), 4 June 2020
Peter Wood (1975), 1 February 2019
Kenneth Been (1977)

Audrey Crowe (1981), 16 October 2019
Danny Trueil (1982), 30 September 2019

Robert Frome (2011), 8 September 2019
Professor Stefano Zacchetti (1968–2020)

Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies and Professorial Fellow
John-Paul Ghobrial (Associate Professor, Lucas Fellow and Tutor in History)

Stefano Zacchetti died suddenly on 29 April 2020 at the age of 52. His passing came as an incredible shock to all those who had grown so fond of him during the eight years he spent at Balliol as the Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies.

Long before coming to Oxford, Stefano achieved an international reputation as one of the world’s most distinguished scholars and teachers in the field of Buddhist Studies. His interests ranged widely across Buddhology, Sinology, the history of translation, the practice of philology, and textual hermeneutics. Behind all of this there lurked an enduring interest in the philological, textual, and linguistic practices through which the Buddhist tradition established itself in China. Stefano’s research on this subject was coloured by his distinct belief in the transformative and creative powers of translation.

His scholarship was intensely personal. He had developed, for example, a consuming interest in the earliest Catholic missions to China and, in particular, in the Jesuit scholar Matteo Ricci, who was one of the first missionaries to travel to China. He was impressed by the sophisticated register of literary Chinese used by Ricci in his translations of canonical Christian works. This approach was, as Stefano would say, ‘not what the Buddhists did’. Instead, when Buddhism was rendered into Chinese, it was done in such a way as to make it clear to readers that the Buddhist canon had come to China as translations that had previously circulated in the Indic traditions. This method – using a 16th-century translation to understand the Buddhist tradition – was characteristic of the gusto with which he was prepared to go down rabbit holes he encountered during his studies, no matter where they led.

That vividness of character was also central to his work as a teacher, especially in the energy he devoted to the consolidation of Buddhist Studies at Oxford. In his short time at Oxford, he breathed new life into the community of Buddhologists not only through formal coursework but also in reading groups,
online seminars, and a form of sociability that edified and enlivened students and colleagues alike. In these exchanges, Stefano combined a seriousness of purpose with a reverence for the special conviviality of scholars who share mutual interests.

Nor did he shy away from the range of responsibilities associated with membership of this scholarly community, even when it came to the administrative work that swallowed up so much of his time. He served a memorable stint as Chair of Graduate Examinations in Oriental Studies, a post that required him to ensure conformity of all the Faculty’s exam papers with the standard conventions of the Grey Book. This meant that Stefano had oversight of hundreds of papers relating to dozens of Master’s courses offered across Oriental Studies. He embraced that labour with the same meticulous attention to detail that one encounters in his scholarship, sending a string of polite queries to colleagues on papers they had set across a range of subjects – anything from Hebrew to Korean to Cuneiform. That his suggestions were accepted with little resistance reveals something of the humility, integrity, and earnestness with which he carried out his service to the Faculty.

He was normally amused, sometimes bewildered, but always intrigued by life in Oxford. From the moment of his arrival in 2012, he armed himself with the finely tuned observational skills of an anthropologist. His insights helped even ‘old hands’ to see Oxford in new ways: sometimes critical, sometimes apologetic, but always with affection and respect for the peculiar habits on display in Oxford. He expressed a persistent fascination with different models of ‘leadership’. A timely intervention during a committee meeting, a funny joke made at a particular moment of tension, an endearing compliment amid a noisy dinner: more than just white noise, Stefano regarded such moments as the real treasures of daily life in Oxford.

He threw himself into the social life of the College, bringing kindness, wit and charm to those around him. Rarer still was that this charisma was coupled with incredible erudition. A conversation about Dante could suddenly turn to a consideration of Italian fascism in the 20th century. For those closest to him, these exchanges were rigorously intellectual but also animated by friendship, mutual understanding, and a deep sensibility to human emotions. Although he was in many ways a private man, he was openly moved by many subjects. This meant that the discussion of a philological problem on which he was working often blurred into recollections of his childhood reading, thoughts about faith, and moving reflections on the uncertainty of contemporary politics. He had a habit of sending short notes afterwards – with the subject
line ‘un pensiero’ – which meant these conversations would reverberate with friends for a long time.

His coming to Oxford did not mean losing his presence in the international Republic of Letters in which he thrived. On the one hand, he continued to receive invitations to speak around the world: Princeton, Berkeley, Leiden, Paris, to name just a few. While at Oxford, he also travelled regularly to China to teach Buddhist Studies, often returning with praise and admiration for the excellent students he encountered there. On the other hand, he brought the world to Balliol in the form of a constant stream of guests. The College was never for him simply a venue in which to host a guest but rather a theatre ideally suited for the combination of intellectual exchange and sociability that he relished. Burrowing into a corner of the SCR, perched on a bench in the gardens, or in the small room in Staircase VI that he regarded as his private palace: here he could be found in the heart of the College spending hours in conversation with friends, colleagues and students punctuated (for those lucky enough to hear it) by his marvellous laugh and the delight he took in telling good stories.

In the weeks before his death, the completion of his book manuscript was marked by a flurry of emails and online discussions with colleagues around the world. As the pandemic put an end to daily life in College, Stefano spoke of the joy and contentment of working at home with his wife nearby while looking out his window at the sight of his two sons playing in the garden. At the same time, he worried about his students and the impact the pandemic would have on their studies and progress. This enduring concern for others was a testament to his vital role in a community of scholars that transcended boundaries of geography, language, and generations.

Like the Renaissance scholars who inspired him, Stefano’s intellectual cosmos was formed around virtues of hard work, a sense of shared purpose, and civility. He often said he felt lucky to be in Oxford. Be that as it may, we were the ones who were fortunate to have had him with us, if even only in an incomplete and unfinished way.

Chris Minkowski (Boden Professor of Sanskrit and Professorial Fellow)

Stefano had become a fixture of the College, even though he was a Fellow for only eight years. Often one of the first to arrive for lunch in the SCR, he dutifully attended the annual cycle of dinners for students. He served stints on Academic Committee and Executive Committee. A statutory professor,
he fulfilled the duties of a Tutorial Fellow on behalf of the Balliol cadre of students in Oriental Studies, when it came to admissions, advising, and pastoral care. Most will remember Stefano as one of the College’s best-dressed Fellows, distinctive in a dark suit with waistcoat, but with his flowing hair and bow tie resembling not so much a banker as an Italian composer of the era of Puccini, as one member of his Electoral Board remarked after the interview.

The Numata Chair had been fully endowed not long before Stefano arrived in Oxford. Much remained to be done to build out the role of the professor within the University’s system. Stefano created the MPhil course in Buddhist Studies, an intricate programme that combined training in Buddhist canonical languages with the study of doctrine, social history, and philology. Stefano led this course, teaching and supervising all students, and developing the complex customs of interaction necessary for its smooth functioning, between Oriental Studies and Theology, and the Centre for Buddhist Studies, on whose board he sat. Stefano inaugurated a twice-termly seminar series, inviting speakers from centres overseas. He built relationships with external funders, especially in China and Japan. Their support enabled him to maintain the scale of activity in Oxford he envisioned, to invite scholars for longer research visits, and to offer student scholarships.

All of this took considerable academic-political skill. It is no small matter for anyone to fathom Oxford’s unusual way of doing things administratively. To add to the challenge, Stefano had never been in Oxford for any length of time before taking up the post. Past research and stints at the International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology at Soka University in Tokyo (four years), Ca’ Foscari in Venice (seven years), UC Berkeley (one year), as well as his lengthy research trip to Chengdu while a student (two years) and his sojourns in Leiden, gave him a flexible and adaptive approach to entering strange academic settings with their obscure politics.

One source of support as he entered Oxford life was his far-flung network of colleagues in the study of early Mahayana Buddhism. He was in regular contact with at least a dozen prominent figures, participating in online reading sessions with them for hours every week, his resonant voice booming through the door of his Institute study. With this group he developed a new approach to the study of early Mahayana, the second wave of the Buddhist movement, especially the early transmission of Buddhist texts into China, in the second to fourth centuries CE. Stefano worked on the ‘Perfection of Wisdom’ literature, rendered into Chinese repeatedly in those centuries, together with commentaries that survive in Chinese even when Sanskrit originals
do not. Translation, the interaction of text and commentary, the very idea of a Chinese Buddhist canon, and what he called the ‘floating’ nature of Perfection of Wisdom texts were topics of sustained interest. He had sent off a completed version of a monograph, *The Da Zhidu Lun and the History of the Larger Prajñāpāramitā*, in the week before his death. An article on the same topic based on a chapter from his undergraduate thesis came out in 2015. It shows the continuity of thought throughout; and in its title, ‘Mind the Hermeneutical Gap: A Terminological Issue in Kumārajīva’s Version of the *Diamond Sutra*’, it reflects the influence of his stay in Britain.

The Buddhist order taught monks to develop a collective identity within the sangha, while at the same time undermining the very idea of identity. Though Stefano created many societies and participated fully in more, he was, paradoxically, neither joiner nor careerist. He had a talent for ambivalence and chiastic argument. For all his enthusiasm for Oxford he retained a healthy scepticism, one that usually develops only in veteran insiders. A committed Europeanist, no blow fell harder than the outcome of the Brexit vote. It was the Dolorous Stroke, the wound impossible to heal. He blamed Balliol for it, in that the College produced a prominent advocate. Surrounded by examples of architecture inspired by Ruskin’s love of Venice, Stefano remained rather unpersuaded by Oxford’s putative architectural splendour, at first deeming it kitsch. The Schools building, he noted on one occasion while leaving an exam, reminded him of an Italian post office. The Latin spoken on ceremonial occasions, as for instance when a Balliol Fellow was sworn in as Proctor, made him think of centurions on Hadrian’s Wall. Only when the Master did her part at that event in a recognisably Roman pronunciation did he admit to comprehending anything.

And yet Stefano had been readied since childhood to become a don, and one at Balliol at that. His mother had been friends since school days in Aosta with Marilda Musacchio. When Marilda married Oliver Wrong and moved to Britain, Stefano got an English uncle, in effect, who spent many holidays in Italy with Stefano’s family. Oliver, an Oxford graduate and academic nephrologist, was a grandson of A.L. Smith (Fellow of Balliol from 1882 and Master 1916–1924) through Smith’s daughter, Rosalind. Oliver was also the son of a Fellow of Magdalen. Stefano was thus nurtured from youth in the idea of Oxford and Balliol. He remained friends with the Wrong family, especially with Oliver’s daughter, Jessica, while in Oxford. And he maintained his connection to his native region of Italy, owning a house in Spert, in the Alpago district; there he would spend a month every summer with his family,
and sometimes Christmas. On the wall of his office he kept a poster of an event in Consiglio that celebrated Momigliano, a native of that place, with whom he therefore felt a bond.

Elena Lombardi (Professor of Italian Literature, Paget Toynbee Lecturer in Italian Medieval Studies, Fellow and Tutor in Italian)

Stefano was a philologist, whose main interest was translation. This speaks to many of his intellectual and human qualities: depth and clarity, patience and openness, rigour and fluidity.

He would often ascribe his love for philology and his intellectual discipline to his early training at the Rosmini College in his native Stresa, a beautiful town on Lake Maggiore, and then at Liceo Classico in Novara – a very traditional Italian type of training, heavy on classics and literature, and structured by history. Latin, Greek, and Italian remained for him a frame on which his future learning of many languages and cultures was built, and also a source of continuous interest.

Philology was for him more than the art of reconstructing ancient texts, although he maintained a sharp interest in the technical aspect of this strange discipline, half science and half fiction, well beyond the scope of its use in Oriental Studies. For instance, he was fascinated by the philology of the Italian Humanism and the immense cultural change that it brought about. But more than that, philology was for Stefano, quite etymologically, the ‘love for words’, the ‘love of discourse’, the relentless fascination with the multiple meanings a text would produce, the love of text itself, in its protean manifestations. Philology was for Stefano the pleasure, so simple and so difficult to explain, of sitting with a book for hours. His rigour, as we all know, was not disjoined from a cheerfulness and a great sense of humour, also notably the gifts of the good philologist.

Stefano was a traveller. A real one. One that does not fret about destination but loves the journey itself. He would often share fond memories of the sailboat trips he took with his family on the Mediterranean in his youth, of perfectly still starry nights on the immensity of the sea. Sometimes, lingering in the garden after a Consilium dinner, he would relish the brisk beauty of a clear winter night, only partly lit by the lights of the Library. If ever there was a port for Stefano, it was Balliol.
He loved air travel. Tall and imposing as he was, he didn’t mind being cramped in a seat for hours and hours to reach China, Japan or the US: in those moments of suspension, disconnection, lightness, he found, he used to say, instances of real happiness. Even the days he spent on crowded trains in rural China in the 1990s in order to visit his soon-to-be wife were a source of fun for him. It might have been his love for travel that led him to pursue Oriental Studies (an unusual choice of degree in Italy in the 1980s and 1990s). He studied at Ca’Foscarì in Venice, a city whose adventurous beauty Stefano understood profoundly. It is not hard to picture him as a young man staring out of the San Marco basin towards the East, towards the life that led him to so many continents, places, and experiences: Chengdu, Tokyo, back to Venice and Padua, San Francisco and then Oxford. The largest part of this journey was travelled with his beloved wife, Yang Kan, and then with his children, Giulio and Livio.

Often, when talking about fabulous places in which the texts he studied were preserved – ancient libraries brought to light by sheer chance, carvings on the bed of rivers, fragments in remote archives – Stefano would call himself ‘viaggiatore in poltrona’ (one who travels from his armchair); and indeed his intellectual curiosity, his relentless desire for knowledge, his ways of thinking and processing that always pointed forward were true forms of journeying.

Stefano was a bibliophile. Over the years he put together an amazing collection of books from both the East and the West. Some of these are rare books, many are printouts of microfilm, or any other artefact he could find. Others are ‘simply’ his books. Many are annotated in his fine hand, in multiple languages. Together, they make a unique collection, which I hope will not be dismembered. Such a collection ‘reads’ as that of an inimitable intellectual, a true humanist, a polyglot, and a book lover.

But more than that, if you think about it, did you ever see Stefano without a book, an article, a student’s essay, a piece of paper in his hand? Isn’t the most common memory of Stefano at Balliol that of him sitting on ‘his’ bench, with a pipe, black beret, paper in one hand and pen in the other, annotating a text, while taking in the peaceful surroundings? It almost felt as though the printout or the book was Stefano’s natural continuation.

Stefano was a family man. One who was not wary of talking about love and loss – he lost his mother before he was 20, and a sister before he turned 30. One who shared at all times the unending love he had for his own family,
the beautiful Yang Kan, the extraordinary companion of his journey, and their children: Giulio, in whom he admired the independent, inquisitive spirit, and Livio, his little one, whose sweet intelligence he always extolled. Stefano also understood and practised the wider sense of family, where family means friends, and a community like that of the College, and, more broadly, being familiar with the human, with its flaws and beauty. Being stranger to no one.

At his funeral, I read Dante’s ‘canto of Ulisse’, a text that he loved, and that we had read together not long ago, in our Dante reading before Consilium dinner with Emeritus Fellows Denis Noble and Diego Zancani. A witness to his love of journey and desire for knowledge.

Il canto di Ulisse (Inferno 26, 97–126)

... l’ardore
ch’i’ ebbi a divenir del mondo esperto
e de li vizi umani e del valore;
ma misi me per l’alto mare aperto
sol con un legno e con quella compagna
picciola da la qual non fui diserto.
L’un lito e l’altro vidi in fin la Spagna,
fin nel Morrocco, e l’isola d’i Sardi,
e l’altre che quel mare intorno bagna.
Io e’ compagni eravam vecchi e tardi
quando venimmo a quella foce stretta
dov’Ercule segnò li suoi riguardi
accio che l’uom piu oltre non si metta;
da la man destra mi lasciai Sibilia,
da l’altra gia m’avea lasciata Setta.
‘O frati,’ dissi, ‘che per cento milia
perigli siete giunti a l’occidente,
a questa tanto picciola vigilia
d’i nostri sensi ch’e del rimanente
non vogliate negar l’esperienza,
di retro al sol, del mondo sanza gente.
Considerate la vostra semenza:
fatti non foste a viver come bruti,
ma per seguir virtute e canoscenza.
Li miei compagni fec’io sì aguti,  
con questa orazion picciola, al cammino,  
che a pena poscia li avrei ritenuti;  
e volta nostra poppa nel mattino,  
de’ remi facemmo ali al folle volo,  
sempre acquistando dal lato mancino.

… the fervour that was mine to gain experience of the world and learn about man’s vices, and his worth. And so I set forth upon the open deep with but a single ship and that small band of shipmates who had not deserted me. One shore and the other I saw as far as Spain, Morocco, the island of Sardegna, and other islands set into that sea. I and my shipmates had grown old and slow before we reached the narrow strait where Hercules marked off the limits, warning all men to go no farther. On the right-hand side I left Seville behind, on the other I had left Ceüta. ‘O brothers,’ I said, ‘who, in the course of a hundred thousand perils, at last have reached the west, to such brief wakefulness of our senses as remains to us, do not deny yourselves the chance to know – following the sun -- the world where no one lives. Consider how your souls were sown: you were not made to live like brutes or beasts, but to pursue virtue and knowledge.’ With this brief speech I had my companions so ardent for the journey I could scarce have held them back. And, having set our stern to sunrise, in our mad flight we turned our oars to wings, always gaining on the left. (Translation by Robert Hollander.)

At the end of the service, Bruce Kinsey (Chaplain) showed me the stained-glass windows of the Chapel where his body lay: it portrayed a sailboat guided by an angel. *Buon viaggio*, Stefano, *amico nostro.*
Jasper Griffin was born in 1937, the elder son of a pair of civil servants who worked in the Post Office. His mother was a great lover of poetry, and she recited poems to him while he was in her womb, in the hope that he would grow up with a love of literature and perhaps become a poet himself. The procedure proved all too effective. As a seven-year old, at a birthday party, Jasper recited ‘The Lady of Shallott’, all 191 lines of it. ‘O Jasper, you are a bore,’ his mother said, when she collected him.

At the age of 11 Jasper won a scholarship to Christ’s Hospital. The school gave him an excellent education in Greek and Latin. It also dressed its scholars in a striking period uniform. In later life Jasper told people he was grateful for that, because it gave him early practice in being stared at and regarded as odd.

In 1956 Jasper was awarded a Domus Exhibition to Balliol, which was to be his academic home for the whole of his life, except for a one-year Visiting Fellowship at Harvard. In an Edwardian phrase, much hated by later generations, Balliol men are supposed to exhibit effortless superiority. Jasper’s undergraduate career might appear to present an example of it. Between 1956 and 1960 he obtained a first in Mods and a first in Greats and won every possible classics prize. The superiority was undeniable but it was not effortless. It was only at the third attempt that he won the Hertford Scholarship and the Ireland Scholarship. A Balliol contemporary, Ved Mehta (1956), calculated that as an undergraduate Jasper sat for 225 hours of written examinations.

Another contemporary remembers Jasper as a popular undergraduate. In those days, he told me, the students did not divide into left-wing and right-wing, but into swots and swells, and Jasper was a favourite with both groups.
He was active in undergraduate literary and debating societies. He did not engage much with societies outside the College: he spoke once or twice at the Union but only, as he put it, ‘to add a touch of polish to the floor’. In 1961 he was elected to a Junior Research Fellowship at Balliol, and after holding that for two years he was promoted to the Tutorial Fellowship in Classics which he held until his retirement 41 years later.

As an undergraduate Jasper had attended a seminar on Euripides given by the fearsome Professor Fraenkel. An American student from St Anne’s joined the group: Miriam Dressler, a graduate of Barnard College. The two of them were quickly attracted to one another, and they were married in 1960. In 1962 Jasper’s younger brother Geoff was diagnosed with bone cancer just after taking Mods, and died at the age of 22. His death had a lasting effect on Jasper who henceforth became shy of any public demonstration of emotion. Fortunately, the gap in his life was filled shortly after by the birth of his children: Julia the next year, followed by Miranda and Tamara.

In 1964 I became a colleague of Jasper’s. I taught philosophy to Greats pupils while he taught language and literature, and Russell Meiggs (Fellow 1939–1970, Honorary Fellow 1970–1989) taught ancient history. We both revered Russell and thought him a model of what a tutor should be. I quickly discovered that Jasper was an intellectual giant, but I learnt also that he was a gentle giant. He could be fearsome in exposing any false pretensions among his colleagues, but he never used his learning to bully his less gifted pupils. Perhaps because he was such a fastidious stylist, he published little in his early years, but his learning was often at the service of less talented writers. I found that he was capable of deep affection and strong dislikes, both concealed beneath a veil of epigrammatic courtesy.

My wife Nancy and I treasure memories of holidays with Jasper and Miriam’s family in Italy and Sicily where the three Griffin girls and the two Kenny boys played happily together. It was a delight to listen to Jasper teasing his daughters with garbled versions of famous verses – some of which, they tell me, are now more familiar to them than the originals. For instance:

Then answered Arthur slowly from the barge
There’d be more room if you were not so large

Or, immediately afterwards:

I didn’t never see ’im coming, Sarge
Other memories from that period are of Jasper taking part, along with our Greats pupils and our children, in play readings of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *The Tempest*. He refused, however, to join us for *Titus Andronicus*. ‘Last year you asked me to be Caliban,’ he said, ‘and the year before that it was Bottom. I’m tired of being type cast.’ He once joined a reading party which we gave in the chalet on Mont Blanc that belonged to F.F. ‘Sligger’ Urquhart (1890 and Fellow 1896–1934). Sadly, he had no love of the mountains. ‘If you’ve seen one Alp,’ he told me, ‘you’ve seen them all.’

Jasper was much beloved by his pupils, who valued his wit and generosity, and who delighted in teasing him, at school dinners, as a kind of pet elephant. Many of them went on to conspicuously successful careers. They included not only a number of prolific classicists, but also several very distinguished diplomats, and our present Prime Minister, Boris Johnson (1983), who paid a moving tribute to him in the *Daily Telegraph*. Jasper played a full part in College societies such as the Leonardo, the Arnold and Brackenbury, and the Vic Soc. He was always ready to share whatever undergraduate entertainments were on offer. For many years he was Steward of the Senior Common Room, a post in which he endeavoured to promote standards of gentlemanliness among its members. A gentleman must never enter the common room via the kitchen, and more importantly he should never be unkind to ladies. So when the College eventually decided to admit women as well as men, despite his initial more traditional views, he welcomed them with conspicuous gallantry.

Jasper was uncomfortable with the Marxist tendencies of the then Master, Christopher Hill. When Hill retired he wanted him to be succeeded by the imperial historian Jack Gallagher, who had earlier held the Beit Professorship at Balliol (1963–1970). Jasper wrote to the great man asking him to stand. Jack had not been comfortable with the left-wing atmosphere of the SCR. He replied that he regarded Balliol as Siberia and he had no intention of returning there. So Jasper settled for a second best and campaigned energetically for my election as Master.

At no time in his life did he think it was part of the job of a Fellow of Balliol to make life easy for the current Master. At a handover briefing Christopher said to me, ‘What shall we do about the Jasper problem?’ ‘There is no Jasper problem,’ I said. ‘He’s fine as he is.’ But in due course my file, like Christopher’s before me and like that of my successors after me, became full of Griffin missives expressing outrage at things we had done or failed to do. In particular he thought that successive Masters were trying to divert endowment funds from classics to parvenu subjects such as chemistry.
Jasper thought that the Senior Members of the College were too indulgent to the Marxist antics of the JCR. Having had a father who was a member of the Communist Party, he had a robust contempt for latter-day Trotskyists. I have a vivid memory of seeing him one day leaning out of an upper window to heckle, at the top of his voice, a revolutionary speech being delivered in the quad by Christopher Hitchens (1967).

After a late start Jasper produced a number of books much admired by the classical fraternity. Unkind friends said that he was motivated by conjugal competitiveness, since he only began to publish after Miriam (Fellow and Tutor in History at Somerville, 1967–2002) had won applause for her scholarly works. Others will speak with competence about his professional publications. I will mention only his 1982 Book of Snobs. I will quote one story from the chapter on academic snobbery. Master Jenkins of Balliol slipped and fell on the snow in the Broad. Two undergraduates rushed to help him up. ‘Stop!’ he said; ‘I see two Masters of Arts approaching!’

In 1986 Jasper was elected to the British Academy. In 1992 he was promoted to a Professorship and in the same year became the University’s Public Orator – a role which fitted his talents perfectly. His eulogies were models of elegant Latin, and the English oration in alternate years gave him an opportunity to ruminate on the steady decline of important elements of culture and society. His pupil and successor Richard Jenkyns (1967) would do full justice to his performance in this office.

Jasper retired in 2004. Collin Lucas (Master 1994–2001) records that after they had both retired he and Jasper lunched together in the SCR. Colin remarked that it was sad that he did not know half of the current Fellows. ‘The really tragic thing’, Jasper said, ‘is that half of them do not know who we are.’ That story brings out what one might call the Eeyore element in Jasper’s character.

After we had all retired, Jasper and Miriam and Nancy and I took several more holidays together. It was on one of them that I came to realise that he had begun to suffer bad memory loss. When I first knew him, Jasper had the most capacious memory of anyone I have ever known: he seemed to have an almost total recall of the literature of half a dozen languages. In his last years it was tragic to see that he could not remember what he had ordered for lunch five minutes previously. I was tempted to interpret this in the most materialistic of terms. His hard disc, I felt, had been so crammed with information that it could no longer accept any new data.
But even in the years of dementia, he remained the old dear Jasper, kind and gentle and courteous. At his 80th birthday party he welcomed and charmed the old friends and pupils who greeted him, and to his dying day he won the hearts of his carers, Monika and Janka. Even flashes of the old wit recurred. When he asked me, for the fifth time, what was the name of the new Master of Balliol, I told him it was Helen Ghosh. ‘What a strange name,’ he said. ‘In all my years as a Homer scholar I never thought of Helen as gauche.’

While Jasper’s memory faded Miriam was diagnosed with terminal cancer. She had a long remission that defied medical expectations. After her death in 2018 Jasper declined both emotionally and physically, even though he was lovingly cared for by his daughters.

I last saw Jasper two days before his death. Nancy and I had been entertaining one of his star pupils, the Irish diplomat Philip McDonagh (1970). I walked Philip up to the John Radcliffe Hospital to see Jasper on his deathbed. ‘Oh Jasper,’ Philip said, ‘Thou art cabin’d cribbed, confined.’ In a muffled voice Jasper capped the quotation. It was just what he would have done any time in the previous 70 years.

Epitaph for Jasper Griffin
Geoffrey Plowden (1947)

Discipuli comitesque tui te flemus ademptum, Jasper, ut implevit pectora nostra dolor. carmina Maenidae qui Vergiliique docebas, nunc cum Maenide Vergilioque iaces.

We, your pupils and friends, weep for your loss, Jasper, since grief has filled our hearts. You, who used to teach the poetry of Homer and Virgil, are now at rest with Homer and Virgil.”
Jasper and Christ’s Hospital

Geoffrey Cannon (1958)

‘We owe to others who we are,’ said Goethe. The original benefactor of Jasper’s education was Nicholas Ridley, who in 1552 encouraged the boy-King Edward VI to create Christ’s Hospital (CH) in the City of London on the site of a monastery looted by Henry VIII, as a refuge and school for foundlings. Edward died the next year. In 1555 in the reign of Queen Mary, Ridley was burned at the stake in Oxford, as commemorated by the Martyr’s Memorial by the side of Balliol.

Moved in 1902 near Horsham in Sussex, ‘the religious, royal and ancient foundation’ of CH continued to be supported by more benefactors, the London City Guilds, as a public school for children of impoverished parents. It retained its ‘Blue Coats’ with clerical-style bands, breeches and orange stockings, adapted from 16th-century dress.

Jasper, whose parents were Cockneys who left school at the ages of 14 and 15, was in Peele A house, named after an Elizabethan playwright who might have co-written Titus Andronicus and who died of the pox age 40. Jasper told his friend Ved Mehta (1956) that public boarding school life was ‘like being put on a ship and sent off to sea . . . It was the most intense experience one had’.1

Jasper’s immediate benefactors at CH were the headmaster H.L.O. Flecker and the senior classics master Derrick Macnutt (compiler of the fiendish Ximenes crossword for The Observer), co-authors of the Concise Latin Grammar used as a standard textbook at CH. Jasper’s was the last year when 11-year-olds were started not in Latin but Greek. Senior boys marked out as scholarship candidates to Oxford or Cambridge became ‘Grecians’ and from the age of 17 wore special coats with 14 big buttons and velvet cuffs. It is likely that Derrick Macnutt, who was deeply learned and ferociously demanding, maintained contact with Russell Meiggs (Fellow 1939–1970 and Honorary Fellow 1970–1989), also an Old Blue (a CH alumnus). But Jasper did not need any special support to achieve his Domus Exhibition in 1956.

I knew Jasper at CH because I also was in Peele A, arriving at the same time as his brother Geoffrey, who like Jasper became a Classics scholar, and later my best friend at Oxford. Boys in different houses and of different years did not mix, and my own experience of Jasper was limited to his inquisitions in Dining Hall. He was already grand and orotund; when he spoke everybody else was silent. He once identified me as ‘oleaginous’, to which I had no reply,
not knowing what the word meant, and he also called me a ‘pseudo-intellectual’, which was prescient, for in 1972 I was named Private Eye ‘Pseud of the Year’. But he was also kind. When I arrived to take the Balliol scholarship at the end of 1957, he welcomed me with sherry in his College rooms.

Geoffrey died of cancer aged 22. Much later, I sent Jasper from my father’s library a leather-bound 17th-century version of Caesar’s Commentaries in Latin. In his note of thanks, he told me of a recent dream in which Geoffrey had appeared, and in the dream he had exclaimed ‘Oh, you are not dead!’ and Geoffrey smiled and shook his head, and disappeared. While Jasper has now died, he lives on in those he taught and touched. So many!

1 There is a celebration of Jasper at CH and Balliol by Ved Mehta in his *Up at Oxford* (John Murray, 1993)
For Jasper

John Davie (1972)

plangite, Pierides consanguineaeque Camenae,
nam iacet, heu! Jasper; nenia vestra sonet.
patria erat Balliol, Miriam sed semper amabat
necon tres filias, plus oculis a! suis.
magnus erat Jasper, magnumque capaxque cerebrum,
pectora sed inerant mollia et apta comi.
adice Maconiden Anchisiadaceque poetam;
exposuit melius scripta ea nullus homo.
vitam tot hominum excoluisti, care sodalis;
tecexcipient vates, sole lucente suo.

Shed tears, Muses of Greece, and your kindred of Italy,
for Jasper, alas! is dead. Let your funeral song ring out!
Balliol was his spiritual home, but Miriam the woman he always loved,
as he did his three daughters, more than his own eyes.
Jasper was a large man, with a brain large and spacious,
but within beat a heart that was gentle and suited to a kind person.
Consider, too, Homer and the poet who sang of Aeneas:
no one on earth expounded better what they wrote.
You enriched the lives of so many people, my dear old friend;
The poets will welcome you, as the sun that is theirs sheds its light.
Professor Wilfred Beckerman (1925–2020)


I knew Wilfred as an economist and as a friend for more than half a century. Wilfred has been such a fixture in my life for so long and been so full of life that I almost believed him to be indestructible. His wonderful shock of hair that age had hardly touched, his dietary foibles, his sharp-edged wit, his intellectualism, his inability to ‘suffer fools gladly’, and the breadth of his interests and passions – the loss of all of these leaves an unimaginably large hole.

Writing this obituary pulls at the emotions for another reason. I owe Wilfred a great deal. It was Wilfred’s move to the senior Chair at University College London (UCL) in 1969 which created the vacancy at Balliol for which I applied, and, though I only learnt this many years later, it was his view that clinched my appointment. My first published work was a chapter in a book he edited. And in 1985, when Nicky Kaldor formed the Kaldor Group advising Neil Kinnock, it was Wilfred who suggested my name.

Given all this, you must allow me a small degree of bias. Nevertheless, my description of Wilfred on the occasion of his 80th birthday as a ‘political economist extraordinaire’ fully stands the test of time.

For Wilfred’s record is remarkable. It stretches from an article in *Economica* in 1951 to a book on economics as applied ethics published in 2017. Even more impressive is the extraordinary range of topics covered: world income inequality, foreign trade multipliers, growth, welfare, pollution, development, inflation, wage rigidity, the environment, intergenerational equity, the measurement of poverty, national income analysis, social security – on and on the list goes. Few ideas have been more prescient or had more of an impact on economic policy.
than Wilfred’s on the subject of export-led growth, which he first laid out in his *Economic Journal* article of 1962.³

At the centre of everything lay Wilfred’s deep commitment to empiricism. I particularly recall – how could anyone present ever forget? – his Inaugural Lecture at UCL.⁴ *Limits to Growth*⁵ had just been published and in a coruscating – and ruthlessly witty – attack Wilfred tore into the authors for their entirely fact-free analysis. As he put it, ‘[Their approach] exhibits a failure to understand that logical mathematical analysis by itself - i.e. without any empirical content – is quite unable to tell us anything about the behaviour of the real world.’

Throughout his life, this engagement with the real world was at the core of Wilfred’s concerns. He completed his doctorate at Cambridge in 1950 (under the supervision of Piero Sraffa), had two years as a Lecturer at the University of Nottingham, and then joined the OEEC (precursor to the OECD, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), where he rose to become Head of the National Accounts Division. In 1961, on leave from the OECD, he led the team at the UK National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR), charged with preparing estimates of what the UK economy might look like in 1975. In the mid ’60s he was Economic Advisor to the government of Greece.

From the NIESR Wilfred moved, in 1964, to Balliol, first as a Senior Research Fellow and then as Tutorial Fellow. Three years later, in the autumn of 1967 he took leave from Balliol to become economic adviser to the President of the Board of Trade, Anthony Crosland. This was followed in 1969 with his appointment as Head of the Department of Political Economy and Professor of Political Economy at UCL – the second oldest chair in political economy in the UK. 1970 saw Wilfred becoming a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. At various points in Wilfred’s career, he carried out consultancy work for, *inter alia*, the International Labour Organisation, United Nations, Food and Agriculture Organisation and World Bank.

None of these achievements came about because Wilfred started life advantageously. As his son, Stephen, recounts,⁶ ‘Wilfred was born in Croydon, and shunted around from school to school as his parents moved as part of the struggle to make ends meet during the Great Depression (his Dad was the archetypal little Jewish tailor).’ Secondary schools included Ealing Grammar (in Wilfred’s words ‘a very, very good school’) and, after a further move, a grammar in Cambridge. There, much to the horror of Wilfred’s teachers, his parents forced him to leave, aged 15, in order to get a job and, as Stephen
puts it, ‘help finance his mother’s fondness for the gin bottle’. Stints as a rat catcher, a railway porter, and work in a local aircraft parts factory followed.

So how did Wilfred make it from this inauspicious start to doctoral work at Cambridge? The answer lies in the War and in his drive. Conscripted in 1943, Wilfred joined the Navy and quickly rose to become an officer, serving mainly in the North Sea, on the destroyers *Venomous* and *Oribi*. I recall his description of the occasion when *Oribi* was sent to Copenhagen to help bring about the surrender of two German battlecruisers. Once this was achieved, his orders were to take control of a German tanker, the *Nordmark*, and take it to the Firth of Forth. Wilfred was 19 at the time.

When he was demobbed in 1946, the government scheme for ex-officers gave Wilfred the chance to apply for university. However, he had left it almost too late; so, armed only with his chutzpah, he walked into one Cambridge college after another, asking to be admitted. Three colleges turned him down immediately (as Wilfred told it to Keith Tribe, even in naval uniform his working-class background would have been immediately obvious). Trinity College did not!

Wilfred’s multiple appointments at Balliol – he was elected to a Fellowship three times – were also not exactly standard. The first, in 1964, was when Balliol advertised the P.D. Leake Senior Research Fellowship in accountancy. Following a worldwide search, Wilfred was chosen. One can’t help but speculate on the accountancy profession’s surprise at discovering Wilfred’s speciality was the National Accounts. A few months later a Tutorial Fellowship fell vacant and, it being immediately obvious to everyone in Balliol that Wilfred was the outstanding candidate, he was elected for a second time. Wilfred’s third election was in 1975. The election committee had completed the full paraphernalia – applications, references, shortlisting, and interviews – and were about to discuss the candidates when the then Master, Christopher Hill, announced that there was someone else who had not been interviewed but whom he wished the committee to consider, namely Professor Beckerman, then holder of the Chair in Political Economy at UCL. After a few moments of consternation amongst the faculty representatives, the committee voted unanimously to elect Wilfred.

I have many memories of Wilfred as a colleague and Balliol Tutorial Fellow. In interviews for PPE, he would sometimes pretend to be a tiger and ask applicants how they would persuade us this was not the case. If the candidate replied that he had seen a tiger and Wilfred did not look like one, he would
follow up with ‘You do generalise from a single instance, don’t you.’ Our philosophy colleagues suspected this was partly a tease of them.

Conversations were both stimulating and varied, moving from why is heating regarded as a necessity, when air-conditioning is seen as a luxury, to a study he had been doing of paintings of the Annunciation. So many exist, he said, that it would be worth conducting a statistical analysis recording whether the Virgin is seated or kneeling, on the left or the right, how many angels, and so on, and then investigating what the correlations might suggest. The only impediment, according to Wilfred, was that some of the paintings were so beautiful, he would just gaze at them and forget to count.

Another situation was a semi-regular recurrence. Week 4 or 5 of Michaelmas Term would arrive and a knock on my door would reveal a second-year student, declaring that Wilfred terrified them and they wished either to drop economics or to be taught by me. I developed two complementary strategies. One was to urge the student to stick with it, and, over the Christmas vacation, to re-write the essay which Wilfred had torn limb from limb and send it to him with a polite note asking if he could possibly glance at it again. Quite often, a term later, Wilfred would say to me, ‘There was a stage when I really wondered why we admitted X, but they are really not bad at all.’ The other was to choose my moment to suggest to Wilfred that students found him scary. The wonderful thing is that whenever I did so, Wilfred always expressed great surprise. And he was such a rational person (about everything) that he immediately agreed to change his behaviour, and so he did – at any rate for a term or so.

Wilfred, as friends and foes alike know, was wickedly mischievous. Tim Jenkinson (Professor of Finance, Saïd Business School), speaking at Wilfred’s 90th, reminded us of two instances. The first was when he and Wilfred were making the argument that it was the fall in commodity prices that had reduced inflation and not unemployment that had done the work. This of course challenged the conventional view, encapsulated in the Layard/Nickell model. They duly received a hostile referee report. Wilfred, convinced that Layard was the referee, wrote to the editor saying, ‘We would like to challenge the views of Referee 1, who for convenience we will refer to as “Layard”.’

The other was the occasion of an earlier debate about free will and determinism. Wilfred had been in discussion with the Archbishop of York and wrote: ‘His Grace says that “one of the conditions for being free has to be the belief that one is”’. Now I suppose it is true that a necessary condition of his being an Archbishop is the belief that he is one. But I’m afraid it
is not a sufficient condition. There are many in lunatic asylums who hold similar beliefs.’ Wilfred also never dressed anything up. Having read *A Path from Rome*, the autobiography of the then Master, Anthony Kenny, he greeted him with the words, ‘Tony, why did it take you so extraordinarily long to see that Catholicism was a load of nonsense?’

He was equally quick at the put-down. In the early 1980s, he visited South Africa. Margaret Thatcher was in power and Wilfred was appalled at the unemployment she had created. He was in full-flood criticism at a seminar when the voice of another Visiting Professor broke in: ‘Professor Beckerman, what you have just said is unbelievably ignorant!’ Wilfred, I am told, allowed a minuscule pause, lifted an eyebrow, allowed one of the small smiles that anyone who knew him will recall, and replied, ‘If you knew me better, it wouldn’t be unbelievable.’

Looking back over the whole of Wilfred’s life, what stands out for me? First, he was a phenomenally good quantitative economist. At the Board of Trade, he made some back-of-the-envelope estimates of the ‘effective protection’ rate of the UK (this being the rate which takes account of the multiple interactions because outputs from one industry are inputs to others). If I recall correctly, Wilfred’s estimates showed the rate to be somewhere between 21 and 22 per cent. However, the civil servants still insisted it be done properly on a computer. In those days, the largest model of the UK economy was on a giant machine in Cambridge. After grinding away for a week, the computer revealed its conclusion: 21.5!

The second lies in his unwavering commitment to the importance of economic growth (driven, I suspect, by his childhood experience of the Depression and of the polarisation of political views which accompanied the unemployment). In particular, there was his sustained criticism of those who argued that, to save the environment, growth had to be sacrificed. Here, I am sure he was right. As he said in his Inaugural Lecture, ‘The alleged conflict between growth and the environment is not really about the growth problem at all; it is about the allocation of resources at any moment of time between alternative forms of consumption.’

Wilfred was also totally on target when he emphasised, time and time again, that if only we would tax pollutants, there would be a double gain: the reduction in pollution and the gain to whatever the tax revenue was used to provide. Where, in my view, Wilfred did make a rare error of judgment was in the apparent insouciance he displayed towards global warming. When concerns about global warming first hit the agenda in the 1970s, there were
many reasons to be sceptical. The difficulty, as I see it, was this. Even though in Wilfred's later works he did agree that climate change was happening, his earlier dismissal of it, and the almost too clever way in which he discussed it, meant that far too many of his very good observations about the environment were lost. Even more of a pity is that his careful and important warnings about the many adverse distributional effects that can arise from policies intended to reduce climate change have been heard too little – other than by climate change deniers.

In a different domain, I have always been conscious of Wilfred’s predominantly very happy personal life. He was married twice. First to Nicole Ritter, an elegant Parisian with whom he had two daughters, Debbie and Sophia, and a son, Stephen. As Stephen put it to me, ‘Wilfred was smitten by Nicole, especially when she dazzled him with talk of French philosophers such as Sartre.’ Indeed, Wilfred’s move to the OEEC was undoubtedly heavily Nicole-related and her death from cancer at the age of only 50 hit him extremely hard.

In 1991, Wilfred married the Polish philosopher, Joanna Pasek. The Berlin Wall had only recently come down and I recall Wilfred saying he had to skulk at midnight outside a building in Poland to receive the papers that proved her divorce. Wilfred was very fond of his stepdaughter, Agnieszka, aged six when she first came to England; and he and Joanna had a further daughter, Beatrice, another source of intense pleasure to Wilfred. Joanna and Wilfred were very different in age but equals in argument, and when Wilfred retired from Balliol, they published together and taught together at UCL, running two courses. One was on ‘Environmental Economics and Ethics’. The other, called ‘Ethics in Applied Economics’, was taught as a dialogue between a philosopher and an economist – which they were still delivering when Wilfred was 94. UCL’s obituary states ‘both of these modules were among the most popular and intellectually stimulating modules ever taught in UCL economics’.

Wilfred was, indeed, an inspiring teacher. The quality and quantity of his many students is, in many ways, his largest legacy. We see in Wilfred’s books his ability to write succinctly and argue rigorously – his textbook on National Income Analysis remains the best in the field. His many students attest to similar qualities in his tutorials. Despite his scariness to some, if a student made an effort, Wilfred was both patient and highly popular. Most important of all, he got his students to think for themselves. Wilfred took delight in disagreement. It is, as they say, no chance that, amongst the many students who were in touch with Wilfred right until the end of his life were two who
take polar opposite views on climate change and the environment. But they are united in their admiration and respect for Wilfred. They hold him in high regard, they view him with much affection and they miss him.

They are part of a large throng. I am with them.

5 Denis Meadows et al, Limits to Growth (Potomac Associates – Universe Books, 1972)
6 Email to Andrew Graham, 27 May 2020
Professor Oladipo Akinkugbe CON (1933–2020)

Denis Noble (Emeritus Fellow)

Oladipo Olujimi Akinkugbe, who passed away on 15 June 2020 at the age of 86, was already into his second year as a DPhil student under the Regius Professor of Medicine, Sir George Pickering FRS, when I arrived in the College as a Fellow and Tutor in Physiology in 1963. I remember him then as a quiet and conscientious student. He was researching one of Pickering’s major fields, the causes of high blood pressure, specifically the role of a hormone, angiotensin, and the kidney in the regulation of blood pressure. This is an area of great clinical significance, since high blood pressure is a major cause of ill health worldwide. Oladipo Akinkugbe was to make this his major research focus for the rest of his life. At the age of 35, he became Professor of Medicine at Ibadan University, the first professor of medicine to be appointed at any African university. Hypertension was becoming increasingly important in Africa, largely because of changes in diet and lifestyle, particularly in the big cities.

Oladipo rose quickly to national fame, soon becoming the Dean of Medicine at Ibadan in 1970. His international accolades include being Visiting Professor of Medicine at Harvard 1974–1975, Oxford 1981–1982, as a Visiting Fellow of Balliol, and Cape Town in 1994. He received the Searle Distinguished Research Award, and the Boehringer Ingelheim Award of the International Society of Hypertension. Further national and international honours include the Nigerian National Order of Merit and the Honour of being appointed Officier de l’Ordre National de la République de la Côte d’Ivoire. He became the Atobase of Ife (Physician to a Royal Household in Nigeria).

He greatly enjoyed his year as a Visiting Fellow of the College, particularly the life of the SCR, and was always proud of his Balliol career and connections.

I came to know him as a great colleague in international scientific and medical affairs when he was elected to the Council of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) in 1993. In fact we both became members of Council in same year: I was appointed as Secretary-General of the Union at the same time. It was a difficult time for the International Union since four years previously the General Assembly had voted for the USSR to host the 1997 World Congress in what was then Leningrad. By the time we joined the Council, the Soviet Union no longer existed and, although we did not learn this crucial fact until much later, the Russian Academy of Sciences (successor...
to the Soviet Union Academy of Sciences) was effectively bankrupt and unable to honour the commitments of the former Soviet Academy. The Congress, held in the magnificent city that reverted to its old name of St Petersburg, was a scientific success, particularly for the besieged and poor Russian scientists. In the early years after the fall of the Soviet Union, the sciences fared very badly. World Congresses are the Olympics of scientific endeavour, and like the Olympics the host country underwrites the finance. But on this occasion, as a Union we took a big financial hit. Effectively we had to subsidise the Russian Congress to an unprecedented degree. This became the world’s contribution to scientists working in a then economically devastated nation.

Oladipo, with his huge experience of Africa, knew well the difficulties of researchers working with very limited resources and was a colleague I could always rely on in dealing with the fallout from the St Petersburg Congress. Moreover, the Union has always been a great supporter of outreach work internationally and particularly in Africa, organising many educational workshops there. In 2016 I was honoured with being asked to be President of the Congress of the African Association of Physiological Sciences held in Lagos. Yet again, I was confronted with young scientists at an international Congress who were clearly managing with very few facilities and poor

Professor Akinkugbe receiving his NHEA 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from Noimot Salako-Oyedele, deputy governor of Ogun state, at the 6th Nigerian Healthcare Excellence Award. Photograph courtesy of the NHEA Awards.
financial support. I knew Oladipo would have expected me to play the role of encouraging the young and for a year or two afterwards I mentored some of the research students. I got to know some of the young Nigerian medical scientists who would be following in Professor Akinkugbe’s footsteps.

His legacy in Africa lies in the research and education that he fostered all through his life. In an interview with a Nigerian newspaper he championed education in a plea in which he argued that until the country has a well-educated electorate, Nigeria will not experience good leadership. Outspoken as always, he went on:

They are the ones to decide whether a leader is performing well or not after all, and whether to remove him as a result. That is the power of the masses, you see. The people must be educated to understand the power they possess. You will find that if you sat some members of the leadership down, and took them through major issues of the day, many would be found wanting in the real understanding of issues.’

In another interview he said, ‘As a medical man, I view corruption as cancerous, a kind of societal cancer. But as you know, as I also said at a time, the things that fuel corruption are the two extremes of poverty and greed.’

Balliol has lost a great and distinguished Honorary Fellow from Africa.
Professor George Steiner (1929–2020)

Balliol 1950 and Honorary Fellow 1995

Oswyn Murray (Emeritus Fellow)

When we elected George Steiner to an honorary Fellowship in 1995 we felt we were righting a historic injustice, for the English Faculty had rejected his DPhil thesis at the first attempt on the grounds that it was outside their subject area. That was a version of surely his most famous book, *The Death of Tragedy* (1961). He arrived in Balliol as a Rhodes scholar in 1950 already a polyglot in French, German and English; and according to George his tutor (John Bryson, Fellow 1940–1976), ‘an honest man’, announced at their first meeting that he had no interest in George’s topic, but that since someone had to take some responsibility, he would put aside the small sum he received for the tutoring, and at the end of the year would take George out for a nice dinner. This duly occurred. But the lack of tuition scandalised Humphry House, tutor at Wadham, who came to his rescue when his thesis was referred.

While employed on *The Economist*, in his first published book, *Tolstoy or Dostoevsky* (1959), the young George took up the theme of Isaiah Berlin’s essay on Tolstoy (*The Hedgehog and the Fox*, 1953) and broadened it into a vast canvas of two responses to human experience, the epic and the tragic. It ends with the vision of Dostoevsky’s Grand Inquisitor, pointing ‘to the tawdry cheapness of mass culture, to the pre-eminence of quackery and slogans over the rigours of genuine thought, to the hunger of men – a hunger no less flagrant in the West than in the East – after leaders and magicians to draw their minds out of the wilderness of freedom’. This was a demonstration of the seriousness of literary studies; he may not have invented comparative literature, but he made it intellectually respectable.

George was never interested in traditional academic boundaries: his father had tricked him into reading Homer in Greek as a child (he collected translations of Homer all his life and made a book of them), and he always

Photograph courtesy of the Steiner family.
thought of Classics as one of the more serious disciplines, and certainly much more worthwhile than English literature, which he regarded as a very trivial pursuit lacking in gravitas; he was immensely proud of his daughter Deborah’s career as a professional classicist. He succeeded Edmund Wilson as chief literary critic on the *New Yorker* and took his stance as a European, serving for many years as Professor of Comparative Literature in Geneva, and in Oxford as the first Weidenfeld Professor of European Literature in 1994 with a lecture series on the sirens; Extraordinary Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge, he lived in the town most of his life, but never held a formal university post.

His interpretation of the European tradition was philosophical and moral, based on the belief that the Holocaust had changed the human condition: he recalled that he was one of only three survivors from his class in wartime Paris. He described ‘my astonishment, naïve as it seems to people, that you can use human speech both to love, to build, to forgive, and also to torture, to hate, to destroy and to annihilate’. When in 1977 the news came that his son David had been offered a place at Balliol to read PPE, his first response was to go in search of his rather moth-eaten Balliol scarf and place it around his neck, remarking ‘another defeat for Hitler’.

With *After Babel* (1975) he started the whole modern industry of translation studies: beginning from the difficulty of understanding Shakespeare, he showed that all forms of reading involve translation and how lying is a fundamental aspect of human speech; all communication is a compromise that partakes of falsification: ‘philology leaves its objects as inert as it found them. The letter kills the letter. It is transformational readings, misprisions ... which ensure their vital immediacy.’ Translation is what has created European culture.

I reviewed *Antigones* (1984) in the *TLS*: in his account of the transformations of the myth he showed how one ought to study the reception of antiquity, a lesson that has been lost on modern ‘reception studies’. For him ‘a mythology crystallises sediments accumulated over great stretches of time’; the mythology of the modern age resides in psychoanalysis, existential philosophy, the ideology of left and right, all attempts to create unity in the world in the ancient manner.

People sometimes regarded him as a poseur, because they were ignorant and he knew so much more than it seemed possible to know; they mistook his provocations as superficial understandings. These provocations were famous. In 1989 George and I were the only two English contributors to the famous
French *nouvelle vague* film-maker Chris Marker’s television series on *The Legacy of the Owl*, still the best account of the meaning of ancient Greece. In it George remarked that ancient Greece and modern Greece had nothing in common, ‘c’est une parodie, ça n’existe même pas’. This led to a fascinating discussion among the Greek participants about the meaning of ‘nostalgie’ for the homeland in the age of the Colonels, ‘belle mais étrange patrie’ (Elytis). But despite the fact that many of them echoed George’s sentiment the financial backers, the Onassis Foundation, took offence, and for 20 years refused to allow the series to be distributed, until the Otolith Group obtained a copy from Chris Marker and presented it illegally as part of their finalist’s entry for the Turner Prize in 2010. He loved indeed to be paradoxical, to connect ideas that had never been connected before. to show that beauty could exist alongside evil, that morality and literature were intricately imbued with thought and language, that translation could be more interesting than the original. Above all he might be outrageous, but he was never boring.

His last books became ever more provocative; he had always understood the wisdom of Lear. In *Lessons of the Masters* (2003) he establishes the essentially sexual element in every transmission of ideas, a deliberate subversion of political correctness designed to enrage both feminists and old-fashioned protagonists of the tutorial system. *My Unwritten Books* (2008) was an exercise in negativity in which he compared Joseph Needham on China with Proust as a work of fiction, revealed his distaste for zionism and defence of the wandering Jew, his sense of ‘invidia’ or envy as a critic rather than a creative writer, his delight in the polyglot language of sexual intercourse, his love of pets especially rescued ones: above all he castigated the barrenness of modern education and asserted his lifelong distaste for the cultural banality of democracy and pride in the profession of the intellectual: ‘Stalin and Hitler made of the glorious noun “cosmopolitan”, with its promise of the inalienable, a murderous sneer.’ ‘Simplification, levelling, watering down, as they now prevail in all but the most privileged education, are criminal. They condescend fatally to the capacities unbeknown within ourselves.’ Silence is better: ‘Mendacious, imprecise and politically prostituted language, that vast noise of the media, the monstrous amplification of the trivial, are set against the decencies, the cognitive and moral cleanliness of silence.’

His final book, *The Poetry of Thought* (2011), returns to his first; once again it is about the interplay between imagination and thought, literature and science, poetry and philosophy. It contains the best account of the purpose of Plato’s dialogues that I know; chapter four takes up the theme in the dialogues of
Abelard, Galileo, Hume and Valéry: the range is typical of Steiner. The next chapter praises the extraordinary literary talents of Karl Marx, whom he had earlier held responsible for the death of tragedy and along with Hitler for ‘the descent of Europe and of Russia into barbarism between 1914 and 1945’.

His whole work is a threnody for the underlying structures of 20th-century Western culture at its best and its worst; and his death, ‘the necessary outrage of the death we carry within us’, has provoked me to read and reread everything he has written and to recognise its intrinsic unity. Perhaps his own literary genius is already foreshadowed in the poem presented to Balliol in his application dossier of 1947; as a sample of his work at the age of 17 he had submitted ‘Sonnets of the Globe: Thirty-four sonnets to the plays of Shakespeare’. The last of these is:

The Tempest

My exile is some endless world where sing
Sweet instruments beneath the morning breeze,
And where the land is pregnant with each spring,
And where I chart the myriad stars. For these
Are truths eternal on this earthly stage,
Which break the chains of our uncertain rhyme,
Which lift their wings above the passing age
And ever cross the boundaries of time.
Conjure them, Ariel, in your magic flight,
Pursue them on the wings of bats at night,
Oh seize them: Spirit them unto this pearl,
Unto this island in the dancing swell,
Fly: Form a rainbow, let them unfurl,
In my soul’s paradise, carved out of hell!
Sir Eric Anderson (1936–2020)

Balliol 1957 and Honorary Fellow from 1989

Seamus Perry (Professor of English Literature, Massey Fellow and Tutor in English)

Sir William Eric Kinloch Anderson, who died on 22 April 2020 aged 83, was, besides being one of the most noteworthy educationalists of his time, a literary scholar of repute, whose edition of Walter Scott’s *Journals* (originally published by the Clarendon Press 1972 to coincide with Scott’s bicentenary) remains the standard text. Reviewing its reissue by Canongate in 1999, the eminent scholar Alastair Fowler welcomed the ‘fine edition’ as ‘easily the best’: ‘Its biographical commentary is so indispensable, so generously helpful and well informed, that it deserves a place on the shelves of every reader of literature.’ The things Fowler saw to praise in the book’s achievement were closely related to the genius of Eric Anderson’s own personality, generous and widely interested as it was, in which it resembled Scott’s own: the *Journal* is full of a fascinated curiosity in people and events, animated by the innate goodness of what Scott himself once called ‘a heart, a kindly feeling’. Scott was also driven by the most tremendous work ethic: during most of the period he kept the journal he was toiling with unostentatious heroism to dig himself out of immense debts (incurred through no fault of his own), and Eric was certainly a great believer in the virtues of application.

He was born in 1936 and educated in Edinburgh. After a distinguished performance at St Andrews, where he met his wife Poppy, he came as a graduate scholar to Balliol in 1957 to study Scott for his MLitt, something which included supervisions with the formidable Mary Lascelles of Somerville – one of the most terrifying experiences of his life, he once told me. He chose not to stay in academia, nor to join the family kilt-making business, but to become an English master. His first job was at Fettes College in Edinburgh, where he was Tony Blair’s housemaster: Eric would recall the young Blair in a friendly way as genuinely clever if a little persistent; and Blair would remember him warmly, singling him out in a 1997 teacher recruitment campaign entitled ‘No-One Forgets a Good Teacher’. After Fettes Eric moved on in 1961 to Gordonstoun, where he found among his pupils the young Prince Charles: among the distinctions of Eric’s career was his casting of Charles as the regicide Macbeth, in which role apparently he did very well. The two men remained friends, and, through Charles, a close relationship with the royal family began, including long conversations of reminiscence with the Queen.
Mother and, reportedly, some crash tutorials in English history for Princess Diana.

After posts as head at Abingdon and Shrewsbury he moved to Eton in 1980 where he was a headmaster of remarkable effectiveness, reforming in a judiciously liberal spirit many aspects of the school, placing due emphasis on academic achievement, and raising millions of pounds to support scholarships. Among his charges were David Cameron and Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson (1983), about both of whom he has left some wry anecdotes of telling schoolboy errancy. He came back to Oxford in 1994 as Rector of Lincoln College, which is where I, elected to a Junior Research Fellowship in 1995, came to know him. Working alongside Poppy, he was an effective and well-liked head of house, bringing all his genial authority and open sociability to the task, keen to enhance the college’s academic standing while warmly encouraging the wider life. Partly through his own extensive contacts, but also through Poppy, who was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company’s Board of Directors, a string of writers and actors and public figures came to the college, especially to the guest nights on Sunday, over which Eric presided with avuncular grace and an obvious pleasure in the fact of hospitality. It was not all plain sailing. I remember being posted in the chapel one Sunday afternoon so that I would ‘happen’ to be there to add my weight when a small party including Princess Margaret passed through. (‘She is very keen on young men,’ Eric had assured me, though I am not sure I did much for her.) Margaret was spending the weekend with friends in Oxford and, for some relief, Eric had kindly offered to show her Lincoln, a very pretty college in which she was very dimly interested. Only when the chaplain gamely pointed out that the figure of Moses in the 17th-century windows was reputedly based on King Charles did she whip out her instant camera, something about which, later and in private, Eric was hugely amused.

After six years at the college, in 2000 he returned to Eton as Provost, a sort of constitutional monarch presiding over the school: he obviously enjoyed being back very much, finally stepping down in 2009. Meantime, he had served as Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund (1998–2001) and as an active trustee of Scott’s house, Abbotsford; he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1985, and became a Knight of the Order of the Thistle in 2002. Balliol elected him to an Honorary Fellowship in 1989.

Eric Anderson was an immensely engaging and likeable person, self-deprecatingly modest, scrupulous, active; he was very kind to my young, largely unsocialised self when he had a lot else to do. His voice retained a Scots
edge – as Hazlitt said of Wordsworth, he spoke with a slight northern burr like ‘the crust on wine’ – which he put to good use, for he was an excellent anecdotalist, though not a show-off. (He was on one occasion persuaded to recite ‘Tam o’ Shanter’ during a rare light moment at the Wordsworth Summer School, which he did splendidly and from memory, requiring Poppy’s prompt just the once.) My favourite story was the one about his running the car into a deer on a dark and remote Scottish road, and waking next morning with the half-memory that such a thing needed to be reported, as such creatures belonged to the Crown or somesuch. He duly went to the local police station and confessed that he had, unfortunately, almost certainly killed a deer the previous night. The duty officer gazed at him with some perplexity and then, light dawning, said: ‘Oh no, sir, that’s only in the south. In Scotland we regard them very much as verrr-min.’ He found that very funny about Scottishness. He was, of course, a figure of impeccable Establishment credentials, but he was not a reactionary: his politics were, I suspect, almost exactly the same as those of Walter Scott, a devout Scot who loved the Union, a humane and tolerant person who believed in the importance of order and personal rectitude. It was the impression Eric unthinkingly gave of complete integrity that must have made him such an effective fundraiser. Above all, he had a strong moral belief in the good that can be done by institutions, especially educational institutions. When I was Vice-Master we asked him to speak to our new and untested Campaign Board about how they might get over the embarrassment of asking people for money: he looked round the table in honest bemusement and said, ‘But who would not be honoured to be asked to give to Balliol?’

Obituaries will be published in next year’s Annual Record for:


The Rt Hon Lord Brian Hutton (1950 and Honorary Fellow 1988–2020)
Old Member obituaries

Paul Olsen (1941)

The Olsen family and Mike Moran

Paul Olsen was an outstanding educator who made an immense contribution as a headteacher in the Archdiocese of Birmingham. A clear educational vision and strong sense of mission were underpinned by his personal faith and commitment to Catholic social teaching.

One person he inspired was Lord Patten of Barnes (1962); a history pupil of Paul’s at St Benedict’s, Ealing. In his memoirs, Lord Patten credits his decision to study history at Balliol to Paul’s guidance. The great inspiration of Paul’s leadership lay in his ability to unlock the potential of young people, no matter their background, who would be the first in their family to access higher education.

Paul was born in Walworth, London, in 1923; his twin sisters two years later. A close, loving family, the Olsens lived in a tenement building. His Danish father worked as head chef on cruise liners, so could be absent for months. Paul won a scholarship to the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Barnet, where he excelled in academic studies and all sports. He was only able to take up his place at Balliol with help from charitable grants.

War interrupted Paul’s time at Oxford. As an officer in the Royal Navy, he survived combat in the Mediterranean, followed by Motor Torpedo Boat duties in Lagos and then taking his own command in the North Sea and Orkneys. He was on D-Day escort duties in 1944. Returning to Balliol, he studied history under Dick Southern (1929, Fellow and Tutor in Modern History 1937–1961 and Honorary Fellow).

Paul had always wanted to teach because *a good education was the key to a better life*. He ‘cut his teeth’ in both state and independent schools around London. He became the first Catholic Lay-headteacher in the UK, founding the brand-new St Thomas Aquinas Grammar School, Kings Norton in 1963. The school rapidly established itself as high achieving, opening up employment and educational opportunities to many students from working-class backgrounds. In 1974, Paul took the reins at the fledgling St Augustine’s Comprehensive
School, Redditch. Both schools continue as beacons of his educational values. During this time he and his wife, Mary, were also bringing up their seven children.

Paul ‘semi-retired’ to Burnham-on-Sea in 1982, where he and Mary took over Southleigh Kindergarten. They continued to support their growing family as well as taking a full part in the Christian communities around the town. Paul died on 8 October 2019.

Professor Julius Gould (1942)
David Gould

Balliol gave Julius Gould a successful academic career in the Social Sciences and a lifelong fascination with politics. The grammar-school educated son of a Latvian-born immigrant tailor, Gould won a senior Classics scholarship in 1942. His time in Oxford was interrupted in 1944 by wartime service at Bletchley Park, where he translated Japanese diplomatic intercepts. After the war he changed courses, and graduated in PPE in 1949. He always spoke fondly of Balliol and of the many lifelong connections he made there.

After a brief spell at University College Swansea, he joined the London School of Economics as a lecturer in Sociology (1950–1964); catching the wave of his subject’s rapid expansion, he became the first Professor of Sociology at Nottingham University (1964–1986). He enjoyed both the teaching and the delicate negotiations that accompanied his work as Head of Department and eventually, Dean of Faculty. He also taught in the US, spending time at Harvard, Berkeley and Cornell.

Gould joined the OU Labour Club in the 1940s, but slowly drifted rightwards, stimulated by his hatred of Communism, suspicion of the student revolts of the 1960s and disillusion with Labour under Harold Wilson. By the mid-1970s he was working closely with Keith Joseph and Margaret Thatcher (then in opposition) to formulate education policy.

He was an accomplished book reviewer and a sought-after contributor, but his own books were few. He was joint editor of A Dictionary of Social
Sciences (1964), which remained a standard work for decades. In 1977, he made waves with The Attack on Higher Education, which suggested that some university courses gave undue prominence to Marxist interpretations. This slim report attracted wide press coverage and a venomous assault from the left, which took him aback: a naturally modest and taciturn man, Gould preferred to keep below the radar. But his strengthened profile as a right-wing academic led to appointments at several conservative think tanks such as the IEA, the Centre for Policy Studies and the Social Affairs Unit.

He was an observant Jew, and was active in the community, among other things serving on the Board of Deputies and setting up the research unit at the Institute of Jewish Affairs.

Julius married June Salters in 1954. This lifelong and happy union was the centre around which his life revolved. They had two sons: Russell, a sound archivist, and David, a business consultant.

**Brian McGuinness (1945)**


Brian McGuinness was born at Wrexham in 1927, educated at Mount St Mary’s College in Chesterfield and won an exhibition to Balliol in 1945. Having obtained a First in classical moderations he won a First in Literae Humaniores in 1949.

After serving in the Royal Artillery on National Service from 1949 to 1951 he returned to Balliol and obtained his B Phil, after which he was elected a tutorial fellow of the Queen’s College, Oxford.

A year later McGuinness took leave to spend a year as a junior fellow in the Council of the Humanities at Princeton. While in the United States he met Rosamond Ziegler. They married in 1957, and went on to have a son and three daughters.

McGuinness’s research interests focused on Ludwig Wittgenstein and the circles to which he belonged. In 1959 he published, with David Pears, a translation of Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, designed to replace the 1921 translation by C.K. Ogden. The next major publication he edited was in German, Wittgenstein und der Wiener Kreis (1967). This appeared in English two years later as *Wittgenstein and the Vienna Circle*. Later he was responsible for the publication of an extensive series of volumes of writings of the major figures of the Vienna Circle.
In 1968 there appeared an edition of Paul Engelmann’s correspondence with Wittgenstein, along with a memoir. This was followed in 1971 by Prototractatus, an edition and translation of an earlier version of the Tractatus that McGuinness had translated with Pears.

In 1970 he married Elizabeth Groag, by whom he had a second son.


McGuinness held visiting professorships in Seattle, Beijing, Leyden, Rome, Graz and Stanford. In 1988 he left Queen’s for a post at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study. In 1990 he found his final home as a Professor at the University of Siena, where for three years he was director of the faculty of social sciences and philosophy.

In his last decades he wrote many essays and vignettes on Wittgensteinian themes. His final contribution to Wittgenstein studies was his edition of the philosopher’s family letters (translated by Peter Winslow) in 2018.

McGuinness’s third marriage, in 2008, was to Giovanna Corsi. She took care of him during his final illness.

A most meticulous scholar, with a great sense of humour, McGuinness will be long remembered by all those who knew him.

This is a shortened version of an obituary that was first published in *The Daily Telegraph*, reproduced with permission.

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**Tom Arie (1952)**

Sam Arie (1993)

My father, Tom Arie, died on 24 May 2020, at the age of 86 and after fighting cancer for several years.

others who later became towering Balliol figures. He was Secretary of the JCR and a classicist, but after a first in Mods, abruptly switched to medicine – something perhaps few would have attempted even then. In 1963, he married Eleanor, a medical student at Somerville, whose father Sir Robert Aitken, a New Zealander and a Rhodes Scholar, was at Balliol (1924), as were her brother (Peter Aitken, 1956, who died in 2018), uncle (Dan Aitken, 1926) and cousin (James Aitken, 1966) – so a large Balliol family, all told.

My father went on to pursue a distinguished career in the NHS. He qualified in Oxford; trained in psychiatry at the Maudsley; took a first job in Social Medicine with Jerry Morris at the London Hospital; then in the 1970s took over the psychiatric service for older people at Goodmayes, a former Victorian mental hospital in East London. His success against the odds at Goodmayes became the platform for an international teaching career and a Foundation Professorship at the University of Nottingham, where he led the Department of Health Care of the Elderly for two decades. He retired in 1995, having made a huge personal contribution to the establishment of Old Age Psychiatry as a new medical specialty, within the NHS and internationally.

My family and I are hugely proud of our Dad, who came to the UK from Prague, in August 1939, with his parents, and his wits about him, but little else. They were fleeing Nazi persecution on one of the last trains out of Central Europe before war began, and he must be one of the last few among us to have carried those memories with him through life. But in the end he left us with a moving letter titled ‘Counting Blessings’ in which he singled out his time at Balliol as a treasured experience in his life.

A small Zoom funeral was held during the lockdown in May, and we plan a stone-setting ceremony in Oxford in 2021, if circumstances allow it.

Graham Bond (1961)

Monique Bond

Born on 5 May 1937, in Wondai Qld, Graham represented Australia in gymnastics at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and studied at the University of Queensland (BE Mining, First Class Honours 1959). In 1960 he represented Australia at the Rome Olympics. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford, where he read PPE at Balliol. Through PPE, he developed a long-lasting interest in economics, particularly in the gaps between the rich and the poor. Graham made many lifelong friends in Britain, including a French girl whom he met whilst visiting an Australian friend. They kept on meeting each
other and after finishing their final exams in 1963 Monique Nalder Béliard (Somerville, 1960) and Graham Bond were married in London and sailed to Australia.

In 1964 Graham captained the Australian gymnastics team for the Tokyo Olympics, and he and Monique had their first child. His PhD on mine ventilation networks led him to consultancy work. In 1969, Graham, Monique and their three children went to England, where Graham worked with PA Consultants. Life was interesting at work – Graham enjoyed solving problems, especially those which needed mathematics – and at home there were interesting trips, making furniture for the children and visiting Monique’s relations in France, Italy and Switzerland.

In 1975 Graham suggested returning to Australia to spend time with his parents. In 1976, the family set off via Munich to Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. They had some tricky moments but Graham’s calm attitude and the friendliness of the children gained them warm welcomes almost everywhere.

In Brisbane, Graham joined QCOM, a computer company, and spent many years solving problems, building IT programs and developing as the industry itself developed. Ten acres in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, fondly called ‘Bondage’, gave Graham and Monique a great deal of satisfying physical work to do as they cleared lantana and planted native timber and wildlife habitat trees.

But age caught up with Bondy and Bondage was sold in 2011. That meant more focus on the choir, Songlines. Graham and Monique both enjoyed singing at gigs such as Sorry Day, rallies for refugees and Stop Domestic Violence Week. In his last days, Graham liked to sing with anyone who was there. On 17 August 2018, as family members welcomed in the dawn with a favourite song, Graham quietly left this world.
Tom Gledhill died on 16 April 2020 in Oxfordshire, aged 78. Parkinson’s Disease had taken much from him and COVID-19 took away the last of his breath.

The son of classics teacher John ‘Joe’ Gledhill (University College, 1928), Tom was educated at Boston Grammar School, Lincolnshire. He excelled academically, winning the Parry Gold Medal before heading to Balliol in 1960 to read physics. Years later he would regale friends with stories of the peak of his sporting prowess during his university days: playing shove ha’penny with Crown Prince Harald of Norway (1960 and Honorary Fellow) in the Balliol JCR.

Tom’s focus at Balliol was on his understanding of physics and his scientific pursuits led him onward to Nottingham University, where he completed his PhD in thermonuclear magnetic resonance. Armed with a foundational understanding of science and driven by a desire to teach, Tom left the UK to assist those bringing education to developing nations, teaching first at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria during the Biafran War, then at Ankara University in Turkey, before heading back to Africa – this time to Uganda and Makere University, Kampala, under Idi Amin’s regime.

Constantly searching for a greater understanding than he had gained through science, Tom grew in his Christian faith, preaching regularly in Kampala before returning to the UK in 1976 to retrain at Trinity College, Bristol, in Greek, Hebrew, and Old Testament studies. There he met Serena Holroyd and the two married at All Souls Langham Place, London. Jobs in theology overseas were hard to come by for the couple, so after he obtained a BD from London University, Tom’s next step was to Malawi, teaching physics at Chancellor College, Zomba, and embarking on a journey of fatherhood with a daughter, Sheona, and son, Stephen. From Malawi to Kenya at the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology (now Africa International University); then a return to Bristol in 1991, eventually finding a teaching post
at the Evangelical Theological College of Wales, Bridgend, in 1993 before a well-earned retirement in 2006 in Wantage, Oxfordshire.

Many aspects of Tom’s life reflect the way encouraged at Balliol: he had an analytical and intellectually rigorous mind balanced with humility and social conscience. Which also brought him adventure, from galloping on a thoroughbred down a dry Nigerian riverbed with local dignitaries, to an arrest for ‘loitering’ in Cairo. A gentle man with quiet intellect and good humour, Tom lived a full life.

Danny Truell (1982)

Nick Moakes (1982)

Danny Truell died in September 2019 after long, brave battle with a degenerative disease.

Danny came up to Balliol to read Literae Humaniores but quickly changed to PPE. Politics always loomed large in his life. As a teenager, he flirted with the Communist Party, but at College he contented himself with vociferous, active involvement in Left Caucus. He remained a member of the Labour Party throughout his life.

Danny joined the National Coal Board (NCB) after leaving Oxford. He was proud of having spent time down a mine in South Wales. However, the NCB wisely decided that his talents would be put to better use elsewhere and moved him to the pension fund, where he was a natural. He was fascinated by financial markets until he died.

Danny moved to Hong Kong in 1992 to join SG Warburg and wrote some startlingly original investment research. His ability to see unconventional angles was always a hallmark of his thought process. He returned to London in 1996 to re-join the Coal Board’s pension fund, which was promptly bought by Goldman Sachs.

Danny retired in 2005 to settle in Devon and concentrate on Pension Insurance Corporation, a business he started with his brother, which has since grown into a multi-billion-pound company.

His semi-retirement did not last long, and he joined Wellcome Trust as CIO in 2005. Danny was always keen on disrupting the status quo. However uncomfortable, the major changes he introduced at Wellcome enabled it to navigate the 2007–2008 Global Financial Crisis and subsequently grow into a top-tier global endowment. At tense times during the crisis, as the financial
system looked as though it might implode, Danny was at his best: calm, focused, confident and decisive.

He was passionate about giving young people early responsibility and was instrumental in Wellcome initiating a graduate recruitment scheme. He chaired the charity Debate Mate, which aims to improve social mobility by building communication skills.

Danny was reticent about his personal life, especially towards the end, when his illness became more acute. However, he spoke about his father, George and mother Mary, with pride, love and affection. He married Naomi Price in 1998, although they had been together for a long time before that. Sadly, the marriage ended a decade later, which was a torrid time for them both after an intense twenty-year relationship.

Danny was often irascible and sometimes infuriating. But he was loyal, generous to a fault, always stimulating and often charming. It was a privilege to count him as a dear friend and a brilliant colleague.

Audrey Crowe (née Screen) (1981)

Lionel Crowe

Audrey Crowe, who died on 16 October 2019, was a PGCE student at Balliol for the year 1981/1982. She later went on to teach at Wallingford School 1982–1983 and at Larkmead School 1983–2019, where she taught geography (and a range of other subjects) and became a Director of Learning, responsible for the academic development and wellbeing of students. She kept up her connection with Oxford University through working with Department of Education in Norham Gardens, overseeing geography PGCE students placed at Larkmead School. Audrey was the first in her family to go to university and she used this fact to motivate disadvantaged students to believe that university was something that they could aspire to.

Audrey was hugely proud to have attended Oxford and Balliol College in particular. Whilst at Balliol she was introduced to rowing and quickly moved from the novices boat to the Ladies First VIII, a boat that included Cressida Dick (1979). That year, 1982, the Ladies First VIII was the College’s most successful crew and Audrey took great pleasure, along with her colleagues, in being served champagne by the Master. She kept a photograph of the First VIII in her office for the last 37 years.
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Elizabeth Killick, Ross Beaton, Amal Bhaimia, Sam Brown, Alice Cave, Daniel-Konrad Cooper, Richard Eschwege, Christian Hansen, Laura Harbridge, James Holloway, Rebecca Gibson, Harry Jones, Ramona Erriah-Jones, Laura Kimmel, James Kitchen, Edward Knapp, Tom Lane, Jamie Lee, Ilana Levene, Ian Marsh, Antonia Orr, Catherine Sebastian, Henry Tufton, Matthew Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Craig Abrahams, Justin Accomando, Robert Apsimon, Zara Asif-Rahman, James Doree, Tracy Dorée, Kamaljeet Gill, George Grumbar, Gang Hu, James Hume, Andrew James, Martin Kelly, Lettie Kennedy, Phil Killingley, Megha Kumar, Justin Lewis-Oakes, Jonathan Lok-Chuen Lo, Simon Lord, Sarah Majumdar, Stephen Matthews, David McConkey, Alice McDaniel, Robert Newton, Emma O’Hanlon, Emma Windham, Michael Pitcher, Laura Sheen, Christopher Skillcorn, Nicholas Thomas-Peter, Lisa Villeneuve, and 2 anonymous donors</td>
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