



THE
BRAZEN NOSE



A College Magazine

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The Brazen Nose

2022–2023



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The Brasenose Alumni Society Forms

FROM THE EDITOR

by Professor Simon Palfrey, Tutorial Fellow in English and Fellow Librarian

One of the lesser known glories of Brasenose College is its collection of rare books and manuscripts. Whereas the most venerable manuscripts are held for the College in the Bodleian, the oldest and rarest books have long been kept hidden away, far from the prying eyes and grubby fingers of scholars.

Of course these irreplaceable treasures must be kept safe from harm. But how much better it would be, how truer to the purposes of the College, if these magnificent works could be made available to actual readers, to living breathing students.

This would mean moving the books from their current hidden realm to some other place, somewhere safe and accessible, where these things can be looked after, looked at, even looked in. Maybe a brand spanking Rare Books Room might sit alongside the new Greenland Library and Smith Reading Room, renovated spaces which have so splendidly redeemed the medieval Old Cloisters from the low-ceilinged decrepitude in which it long languished.

With this in mind, the other day I borrowed the menacingly fat key and went on a little reconnaissance mission to visit the books. Let's see what's there, browse the shelves like a real scholar. I negotiated the double-lock and there they all were, looking very cold and stately. Better than hot and sweaty, no doubt, but still a little lonely, a little neglected. Here was a living history of the College, rarely seen, in dire need of human touch.

One of the piquant things about the collection is that nestled among the Cicero and Plutarch and Bibles are books, very celebrated books, written by Brasenose alumni. Three of these in particular caught my attention, being from my own (supposed) period of expertise: multiple editions of John Foxe's *Acts and Monuments* (1563–83), the infamous Book of Martyrs; multiple editions of Robert Burton's obsessive compendium of maladies and morbidities, *The Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621–38); and a single modest copy of the divine Thomas Traherne's *Christian Ethicks* (1675). I felt a tiny vertiginous thrill. These works were reaching across centuries, connecting minds that had walked these very cloisters.

All at once I remembered, as I was browsing these alums' texts, that I had to address present alums in the looming edition of the *Brazen Nose*. I couldn't put it off any longer; there was a global community of Brasenose veterans just waiting on my thoughts! Well, I thought, I have no thoughts, *none at all*, of my own. But here in these tomes were thoughts galore. I considered the three candidates, wondering who might be my proxy, a collegial visionary lending me their sight. The burning martyr? I hope not. The saintly ecstatic? I fear not. Which left the melancholy anatomist. Burton's book fell open exactly to the pages where, long ago, when the book was actually read, generations of anguished post-adolescents had pressed their elbows. I'll leave the rest to the good doctor.

Love of Learning, or overmuch Study. With a digression of the Misery of Scholars, and why the Muses are Melancholy.

After all their pains taken in the universities, cost and charge, expenses, irksome hours, laborious tasks, wearisome days, dangers, hazards (barred interim from all pleasures which other men have, mewed up like hawks all their lives), if they chance to wade through them, they shall in the end be rejected, contemned, and, which is their greatest misery, driven to their shifts, exposed to want, poverty, and beggary...

Now for poets, rhetoricians, historians, philosophers, mathematicians, sophisters, etc., they are like grasshoppers, sing they must in summer, and pine in the winter, for there is no preferment for them...

To say truth, 'tis the common fortune of most scholars to be servile and poor, to complain pitifully, and lay open their wants to their respectless patrons...

So they prostitute themselves, as fiddlers or mercenary tradesmen, to serve great men's turns for a small reward...

Let mariners learn astronomy; merchants' factors study arithmetic; surveyors get them geometry; spectacle-makers optic; landleapers geography; town-clerks rhetoric; what should he do with a spade, that hath no ground to dig; or they with learning, that have no use of it...

Hence it comes that such a pack of vile buffoons, ignoramuses wandering in a twilight of learning, ghosts of clergymen, itinerant quacks, dolts, clods, asses, mere cattle, intrude with unwashed feet upon the sacred precincts...

Meanwhile learned men, graced with all the distinctions of a holy life, and who bear the heat of the day, are condemned by hard fate to serve these men, content perhaps with a scanty salary, buried in some poor benefice or imprisoned forever in their college chambers, where they languish in obscurity...

I closed Burton's book, obscurely humbled by the lesson. I gingerly descended the cold stone stair. How comforting to know that history is progress.

Warm thanks to John-Paul Clough (aka JP) for doing pretty much all the work in bringing this edition to fruition; and thanks once again to David Bradbury for his exact proofreading, enormously appreciated.

Student Clubs, Societies & Activities



JCR REPORT

by Lexi Loizou

It feels weird to sit down and attempt to summarise the 2022-2023 academic year in a report as condensed as this, but I will try my best! Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity Terms were all blurs this year, and absolutely packed with events and activities made by members of the JCR Committee. I am incredibly proud of all that we have achieved this year.

Firstly, I would like to thank my predecessor Jackson Spry, who stepped up to this behemoth of a role during the aftermath of Covid, where things were very much still up in the air and College was attempting to return to some semblance of normality. He always had a smile on his face and would always be happy to listen to student complaints with care and compassion. I distinctly remember the hand-over chat I had with him in Michaelmas. We sat outside a coffee shop and spoke for nearly two hours about what the JCR President role entails (honestly two hours was not enough time). One piece of advice he gave really stood out, whilst being the most obscure: 'the JCR President role is whatever you want it to be.' It's not a curated position, it was up to me to decide what I wanted to address, how I wanted to work with my committee and what type of leader I wanted to be. This may have been delirious rambling, it was really cold and we were talking for ages at that point, but it really stuck with me and prepared me for what was about to come. I am very grateful for his advice and I hope to be as useful to my successor.

Michaelmas began with an incredibly organised and eventful Freshers' Week, thanks to the tireless efforts of Erin Bridgewater and Niamh Gallagher who had a rather intense (but rewarding!) 0th week. Following that strong start, we had a long list of exciting events: Matriculation Ball, the Oxmas and Halloween bops, an inebriated and chaotic rendition of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and, last but certainly not least, an Oxmas Ball. Last year, Jackson's report mentioned the return of the Brasenose Christmas Panto, which Írem had lamented the loss of the year prior. I regretfully have to inform everyone that it did not occur this academic year and I hope my successor can witness the sheer chaos of the Brasenose Panto in the

future. What we did have, however, was an incredible open mic night, where students showed off their singing talents. It ended with the old JCR Exec Committee dressed as Mrs Claus recreating the iconic *Mean Girls* dance to *Jingle Bell Rock* – an image I will never get out of my head.

On the first day of Hilary, the Brasenose community was graced with an absolutely fantastic JCR committee, as listed below. Following the footsteps of our recent successors, we had a team-building karaoke night and as soon as we all began to belt *Breaking Free* from *High School Musical*, I knew this was a group I would be proud to work with. All jokes aside, I am eternally grateful to have had such an incredible committee and they truly blew me away with their passion and motivation to improve the JCR and continue to cultivate Brasenose's strong community.

Hilary was a powerful term for inclusion at Brasenose: our Diversity & Equality rep, Jui Zaveri, held hustings for the new D&E committee and once they were elected they all worked together to introduce some new events like 'DiversiTEA' (an event where students can turn up to discuss D&E matters and eat some snacks), and also continued to honour past traditions like the D&E formal. We had a resounding D&E achievement in Hilary Term, in which the College agreed to fly the Progress Flag during LGBTQ+ History Month UK, the Pan-African Flag during Black History Month and the Transgender Flag during Trans Awareness Week. Also, our women's officer, Lily McDermott, planned the International Women's Day formal – all of the food served was purple and the high table was predominantly filled with women in solidarity of this celebration. Both Jui and Lily have worked relentlessly to make people from any background feel safe and comfortable in the Brasenose Community, and their efforts are being recognised.

There were also some notable entz events throughout this term, the 'Spring Fling', social events like 'Collection Cocktails' and 'Prosecco and Pals' and a variety of bops (the one where we all dressed as *Shrek* characters was a fun experience).

For those in second year, we also celebrated our Halfway Hall in Hilary and it was an incredible night. It was a moment to celebrate our time at BNC so far, and student-voted awards were also given to people to recognise their accolades and achievements.

Trinity was a rather peculiar term for our entz duo, Jess and Pratyush, who had to quickly adapt their events to the College's adherence to

legal requirements: ‘Collections cocktails’, may she rest in peace, is now known as ‘Collection Celebrations’, and now occurs down the bar. Despite the sudden changes, Jess Hazlewood and Pratyush Ghosh continued to plan and host incredible events throughout Trinity – the garden party was a particular success. However, the largest event of Trinity was no doubt the Brasenose Arts Week, which arguably continues to be the greatest arts week in Oxford. Peter Chen and the Arts Committee planned a week absolutely packed with events: a ball, a production of Alan Ayckbourn’s *Round and Round the Garden* directed by Izzy Lever and myself, a ‘zine workshop, pottery painting, life-drawing, a Eurovision screening and much more. Not only this, Academy-Award winning screenwriter and director Kenny Lonergan hosted workshops on acting and storytelling, and Actress J Smith Cameron held a discussion about her role in the TV show *Succession!*

Trinity was also a great term for sports at Brasenose. After a tense match against St Hugh’s, Brasenose FC became the Cuppers Champions of 2022/23. Our sports rep, Jasmine Rooke, also hosted a sports day at the Brasenose sports ground with our Cambridge sister college Gonville & Caius, including a variety of sports like football, ultimate frisbee, netball and a sports day classic, an egg and spoon race. This year’s Summer Eights saw many of us down at the boathouse, cheering on the Brasenose rowers and enjoying the summer heat.

Following the efforts and successes of Maya Sankaran, Erin Bridgewater has hit the ground running with outreach at Brasenose. Alongside Joe Organ and a newly added Ben Holden in College Office, Erin has worked tirelessly to promote the College to provisional and aspiring students: managing school group tours around the College, attending the annual road trip around Yorkshire, allowing students to show their daily lives on the JCR Insta and promoting the June Brasenose Open Days – which, by the way, had the largest number of visitors in Brasenose history! Without a doubt, we will have a similar success in the September one.

Lastly, I would like to give a massive thanks to each person in my exec committee, without all of you my presidency would have been significantly more difficult. VP Domestic Alex Roberts (where do I even begin?) was the backbone of this committee and has an almost encyclopaedic knowledge of all College-related matters. Whenever I had a question or was unsure of how to proceed on a matter, he would

happily brainstorm approaches with me and give advice. Also, being in charge of student accommodation is no small feat, and he made it seem easy. VP Academic Elena Dahan-Reljich offered astute (and often blunt) advice whenever it was needed, whenever I had a seemingly impossible issue, she would solve it with ease. With our new revolutionary online voting system, she had one less task than her predecessors, yet I still found myself waiting with anticipation as she would read out the votes from her phone. Joel was a remarkable Secretary; he worked seamlessly and would reliably send out his emails every week without a hitch. I couldn't imagine a better Treasurer than Ollie Christie; he looked after the JCR bank account with the same level of respect a mother would care for her new-born. He has been instrumental in making events more financially accessible to students and has developed a system that his successor, Ren can follow with ease.

It has been an honour to be on the JCR committee this past year and I could honestly ramble on and on about how incredible the JCR community is here. I cannot wait to see what the next JCR committee will achieve!

JCR COMMITTEE 2022-2023

President: Lexi Loizou	Vice President (Academic and Careers): Elena Dahan-Reljich
Vice President (Domestic): Alex Roberts	Access & Admissions Rep: Erin Bridgewater
Arts Rep: Peter (Yuming) Chen	Charities Rep: Rebecca Woodfield
Diversity & Equality Rep: Jui Zaveri	Environment Rep: Wyatt Radzin
External Entz Rep: Pratyush Ghosh	Internal Entz Rep: Jessica Hazlewood
IT Rep: Elizabeth Berryman	Secretary: Joel Bassett
Sports Rep: Jasmine Rooke	Treasurer: Oliver Christie
Welfare Reps: Emily Jones, Joshua Sneddon, Isobel Tooher	Women's Officer: Lily McDermott

HCR REPORT

by Matthew Buckland, HCR President

The academic year began with a fantastic Freshers' Fortnight, thanks to the incredibly hard work from the HCR President Christian Norton and Social Secretary Rachel Keane, along with the rest of the committee. Freshers' has always been vital to get the new students welcomed and integrated into the college community. I remember Christian saying that he desired a return to the pre-pandemic days where there were always people around in the Common Room, so you felt like it was a place to go to without there needing to be a specific event. I can wholeheartedly state that this has been achieved, and I have personally benefited from the vibrant social life of the HCR.

Following Freshers, we had further HCR elections in a bid to fill the gaps in our committee. Christian made the plea to the new students and several stepped up to help us out. Notably we now had five social secretaries, and what followed was a cascade of social events across the term. As a football fan I must mention the FIFA Men's Football World Cup. Many matches were shown in the HCR, and this brought a lot of people together to celebrate their teams. It should be noted that as the World Cup took place in Qatar there were concerns about human rights, particularly focused on LGBTQ+ and the construction workers for the stadia. There was no easy resolution to this issue for the HCR, and discussions around a boycott of the cup took place. We did not boycott the matches, but instead we passed a motion to write a letter of support to Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International regarding the competition. For me, this highlights the dual role of the HCR both to provide a social setting for and to address issues of concern for the graduate community. Another platform for discussion in the HCR is the series of 'Blurbs' dinners which happen every term and consist of speakers from the HCR and the SCR talking about their research before formal dinners in hall. Dr James Cones (SCR) was a speaker at the Blurbs dinner this term and he gave a powerful talk about racism and the inability for everyone to talk about race and the impact this has on society. Further highlights of the term included the formal exchange dinners with St Anne's, St Edmund Hall, and Pembroke, as well as a Harry Potter marathon where the films were shown daily

in the HCR towards the end of term. As happens every year, a core of students remained over the Christmas vacation who celebrated the holidays together in the HCR.

Hilary Term began once again with a week of activities that felt like a second coming of Freshers' week. The formal exchanges also continued, with dinners at Corpus Christi, Mansfield and Regent's Park. As well as these there was Burns Night formal and Ale Verses as well as a Blurbs dinner with speakers Dr Sonali Nag (SCR) and Katarzyna Kedzierska (HCR) – all in all, a lot of fancy dinners and fun! However, we also continued with the more serious side to the HCR with 'Uncomfortable Oxford' tours, which are guided tours by a company which explore the less-than-desirable aspects of the history of the University. At the end of term, we had HCR elections to establish the new committee for next term.

Trinity Term marked the passing of HCR/JCR member, Ezra Jackson. While I had never met Ezra personally, all of us felt the impact on the College community by the loss. The welfare teams of both Common Rooms worked with College to create a support structure during this difficult period.

Trinity was also my first term as President and as a new committee we quickly found our feet and worked out how it all works. A highlight was Eurovision night which brought a lot of people together in the HCR, much as the Football World Cup and the Harry Potter marathon of Michaelmas had done. There were formal exchanges with Nuffield and our sister college in Cambridge, Gonville and Caius. The home leg of the Oxford-Cambridge exchange was one to remember, with the student band Garfunkel playing out the night in the Amersi Room after the usual second desserts fun in the Old Library. There was another Blurbs dinner with speakers Sneha Krishnan (SCR) and Piotr Sliwa (HCR). The term also marked the installation of gender-neutral lavatories in the HCR where the two rooms for the HCR changed from men's and women's to both now being all-gender. Furthermore, we passed an anti-caste motion in time for a conference at St Anthony's which discussed the impact of the caste system in discrimination outside India. Away from our committee business, a Brasenose Ball committee came into life when Daga Nogal was elected as President for the 2024 Brasenose Ball. The term ended with the annual HCR Garden Party, which this year was organised by HCR Garden Party

Representative Will Brady. It featured plenty of Pimm's, a delicious buffet which included strawberries and cream, and the band Garfunkel made a return appearance. A personal highlight was the nominations at the end of the party where I won 'Most likely to get a BNC tattoo'. While the tattoo is yet to happen, the award itself was a proud moment!

As I'm writing this summary of the year, it is now July and we are in the middle of the long summer vacation. This three-month hiatus from the frenetic Oxford academic year sees students travel, leave, and work on their theses/dissertations. We have kept HCR ticking over with events such as pizza picnics, cinema trips and a free punting scheme for all students. Freshers' Week is on the horizon now, though, and preparations are well under way to meet the new cohort and start the next year. Thank you for taking the time to read my words on this year's HCR.

HCR COMMITTEE 2022-2023

President: Christian Norton	Vice-President (Secretary): İrem Kaki
Domestic Officer: Finley Bettsworth	Steward: Matthew Buckland
Welfare Officer: Robyn Haggis	Welfare Officer: Dana Vuckovic
Social Secretary: Rachel Keane	Social Secretary: Becci Davis
Social Secretary: Maximilien MacKie	Social Secretary: Hannah Stern
Social Secretary: Leah Boyle	Arts Officer: Piotr Sliwa
Environment Rep: Linqing Zhu	Wine & Cheese Rep: Joe Cary
Library Rep: Isabelle St-Hilaire	IT Rep: Shoba Laxmi
Student Union Rep: Yanelle Cruz Bonilla	BAME Rep: Matai Muon
LGBTQ+ Rep: Manal Bougazzoul	Charities Rep: Shyamolie Biyani
Women's Rep: Despoina Vasilaki	Christmas Elf: Matthew Speight

CAREERS REPORT

by Elena Dahan-Reljich

This past year has seen a continuation of many of the usual career events and opportunities Brasenostriils have always enjoyed and made use of in the past. The year began with an evening at the Malmaison Hotel, hosted by Slaughter and May, which gave students the opportunity to meet with some alumni and discuss their career paths. Students I spoke to about this found it very useful, including many who had not previously considered law as a career option, and were encouraged to look further into it following the event. In the future I hope to be involved in the organisation of similar events, reaching out to former Brasenostriils in other fields.

The Brasenose Careers Facebook page has also seen continued use in the past year, with students able to share various networking events, vacation schemes, and talks they have come across. There has been a great sense of community within Brasenose when it comes to careers, with students very willing to help one another with things such as cover letters and CVs. Many of these students are also involved in other societies hosting events, most notably Oxford Women in Business and the 93% Club, in which Brasenose is well-represented. In addition to events where students have been able to meet with professionals and discuss career paths, Brasenose has continued to create opportunities for the development of study skills and helped students build the confidence to pursue these career paths.

In Trinity Term we were lucky enough to have Royal Literary Fund Writing Fellow Kirsty Gunn host a drop-in session, in which students could workshop their writing, prep for exams, and ask for advice on the process of having work published. I hope to continue offering students opportunities like this, with the help of others involved with the College. I also plan to ensure wider representation in careers events by working with other JCR members, such as the Diversity and Equality Rep, Women★'s Rep, and the Access and Admissions Rep, in the hopes of making these events as inclusive as possible.

In the past year, as ever, Brasenose has fostered an environment where students are proactive in seeking out career opportunities, and have developed the confidence, skills and know-how to do so.

A number of current JCR members have taken advantage of vacation schemes across a wide range of fields, either expanding on their topics, or reaching out into new sectors. Amongst graduating students, many are leaving Brasenose with jobs lined up, or places to continue their studies, both in Oxford and elsewhere. I wish all JCR members leaving us at the end of the year the best of luck as they continue, and hope that they have found Brasenose a friendly, encouraging, and inspiring place to have studied.

ALE VERSES

by Arnaud Petit, Sub Dean

Every year on Shrove Tuesday, Brasenose staff and students partake in a very peculiar tradition known as ‘Ale Verses’. This dates back hundreds of years when the College brewed its own ale and members of College would enjoy it together in Hall. Although Brasenose (sadly) no longer brews its own ale, we have kept the tradition alive!

This year again, Ale Verses proved to be an immense success. The event was sustained by a three-course formal meal in Hall. After the plates were cleared away, the diners stood up on the tables and benches. Mugs of warm ale (and non-alcoholic alternatives) were passed around and noise and merriment broke out as staff and students began to sing satirical songs about life in College, set to current popular tunes.

A booklet of 12 songs was produced, reflecting the wide range of musical interest in College, with tunes from, Guns’n’Roses, Burt Bacharach and, this year again, John Denver. The winning verse, by popular acclaim, came from Amanda Li. Her *Sweet BNC*, a variation of *Sweet Caroline* (Neil Diamond), lifted up an enthusiastic chorus. Florence Unwin’s *A Space in the Lib*, ended up a close runner up as a playful variation on *Somebody to Love* (Queen). We are particularly thankful for our musical director, Christian Wilson, and the organ scholars, who just about managed to keep their sanity and us at least partially on tempo and in tune.

BADMINTON

by Jui Zaveri

What a year it has been for Brasenose badminton! As I set up the stall at the BNC Freshers' Fair (i.e. a single A4 poster made on canvas fifteen minutes prior and a tattered Pukka Pad sign-up sheet), I had a good feeling about the future of the beautiful sport. Admittedly, I can't say what exactly gave me that confidence – it certainly wasn't the 35-minute walk (one way!) to our training sessions, nor our performance from the previous year, nor my worrying inability to actually locate the rackets. Nevertheless, after a record number of new additions to our Facebook group, I was pumped. This was it. Time for Brasenose Badminton to make a comeback.

To get it out of the way, here's the stats for the league. Our men's team put up a valiant fight, winning two matches and losing two matches to finish fourth in Division 1. Our women's team had some shining victories as well as some heartbreaking defeats, leaving us a joint second place, also in Division 1. These numbers are not at all reflective of how much of a roaring success BNC badminton has been this year.

From the very beginning, I have emphasised the fact that BNC badminton is for everyone, regardless of experience or racket ownership or anything else as trivial as technical skill. I wanted both people who had never played before, as well as people who had tried it and had been told never to set foot on a badminton court again. As long as you wanted to play and had a good time, BNC badminton would welcome you with open arms. We had some of the biggest fresher turnouts I have ever seen. At times, we had to have six people on each of the four courts, as well as a pair in each channel in between. It was cramped, yes, but it was glorious. Equally incredible was the sense of companionship and camaraderie on the walks to and from badminton. What could easily have been an unpleasant trudge through the suburbs of Summertown became a veritable highlight for many of us. Laughing, talking, singing, making fun of my sense of direction we were a team, but more importantly, we were a family. We even got ourselves a mascot. Badminton Cat, we love you. Around the World

was another joy to take part in, especially when the most innocent and unassuming individuals turned into brutally tactical betrayers.

Watching people who were complete beginners transform into seasoned players made my heart swell with pride. Alex O, Alex M and Alex E didn't make it easy with their identical names but their tremendous dedication and improvement over time made it completely worth it. Though Emanuel Da Silva has had astounding success on the river as part of the Men's Second VIII, I would like to remind everyone that he was a badminton player first, no doubt a huge contributing factor to his rowing abilities. James Perks was ever the professional sportsman – is there a sport this man is not good at? Emma Palmer brightened up the court with her ever-present smile and sunny personality. Even though Miles Johnson overslept and nearly missed his match, he is forgiven on account of his incredible athleticism and enthusiasm on court. Samuel Bealing (my beloved deputy captain), Faye Fallon and Nick Marshall kept the second-year turnout strong, displaying their skill with poise and grace. One of these days, Harish Raghu will actually turn up to badminton. I'm ever the optimist. Finally, on the topic of consistency, I want to thank Josh Harland. Always the man to beat on court and a true pillar of BNC badminton, he actually made more sessions in Trinity Term than I did. I wish him luck as our next captain!

BASKETBALL

by Lukas Seier

After years of basketball deprivation, Hilary Term saw the birth of a Brasenose basketball team. Having captured the attention of many students with the announcement, it was time to get to practice. Immediately we ran into our first problem. Where would we find a court to play on? As luck would have it, New College had just founded their basketball team the previous year and were looking to merge teams for practice and Cuppers matches. What's more, we now had access to the Weston court for practice. Thus, a merger was formed between the two college teams. This turned out to be a huge success.

With consistent player numbers turning up to practice, this resulted in a large turnout for our Cuppers debut against Mansfield. It was a

close game throughout, but after a long-fought battle that went into overtime, we left victorious. Our next opponent was Queen's. It was obvious from the start that they had spent much longer together as a team than we had, which translated into their game. We gave it our all, never giving up until the final buzzer, but unfortunately it was not enough. Having been defeated, it was a time of reflection on the progress we had made since the formation of team. I'm incredibly proud of the effort from everybody and have a firm belief that, given more time, we will develop into a stronger team next year.

BOAT CLUB

by Ella Shalom

2022-2023 has been an excellent year for BNCBC. Michaelmas saw the delivery of two new Stampfli eights for our first boats, thanks to last year's very kind donation from **Howard Brodie (Politics, 1988)**. While our senior squads trained hard through the winter, the club also had one of its biggest novice intakes of recent years and lots of success at the Novice Regattas. Hilary Term bought us boat house upgrades with new racking installed and our first bumps campaign of the year, Torpids 2023, where the men's first boat came into their own. The crew have been training together for almost three years and came away with five bumps and their best performance to date, in what for many of the crew's finalists was their last bumps campaign.

In Trinity Term we were glad to host another annual alumni dinner, which saw many alumni return for an afternoon of rowing, before dinner and speeches in the evening. A notable mention to the reunited 1998 crew, who gave our current men's rowers a run for their money!

The final bumps campaign of the year was Summer Eights, where we saw huge successes across the club, with every boat making bumps and going up the draw by the end of the week. Men's First VIII went +1, Women's First VIII went +2 and Women's Second VIII went +3, but the true stars of the week were our Men's Second VIII who bumped every day, achieving blades. This is the first time a Brasenose M2 boat has achieved blades since 2005, and was a wonderful way to end the year.

CRICKET

by Joseph Cary

With poor weather thwarting our traditional intra-college match, our only pre-season middle practice came against touring side Caterham CC, captained by BNC alumnus **Mathew Owen (Classics, 2005)**. A rusty BNC side feeling the after-effects of May Day didn't do themselves justice, but flashes of individual quality set the standard for the rest of the season.

Poor availability from other teams and a damp April and early May meant a slow start to the league. This combination left BNCCC's first (and only) XI in the unusual position of qualifying for the league quarter-finals without having played a single fixture, facing a strong New College side while low on numbers ourselves. This gave a chance for some new players to chance their arm. Despite brave attempts all round, eventual winners New College proved too good for our fledgling team. No matter, the best was yet to come in a scintillating Cuppers run.

Trinity were the first step on the long and winding path to the Cuppers final. New recruits Milind Khashu and Ambrose Pailing, a pace opening partnership not seen outside of minor counties, struggled to reap just rewards, with spinners Daniel Gore and Freddie Murley finding a more favourable wicket. Trinity set a fearsome 164 to chase, with overseas pro Daniel D'Hotman and Brasenose (at heart) old hand Gus Smith tasked with chasing it down. A tense game with valuable contributions throughout the order came down to the wire, with BNC requiring five off the last two. Fittingly, BNCCC veteran AT (Alex Thomas) delivered his first red inker (28*) of many this season, alongside the flawless hand eye of Ben Rienecker (48*) to see us through.

The second round took us to Marston, where Hertford had prepared their finest cabbage patch for us. Batting in the most challenging conditions since Ahmedabad 2021, BNC managed a feeble 82, recovering from 20-5 inspired by AT's dogged 36*. The bowlers faced a Herculean challenge to defend such a modest total, knowing that their only option was to bowl tight and take ten wickets. No bother – Ambrose's 4-15 and James Driver's metronomic accuracy in the

channel (3-8) helped take us across the line, skittling a Hertford team studded with university level players with 26 runs to spare.

Then came the grudge match. Ever-present scheduling concerns led to bad blood between the mild-mannered BNC captain and the abrasive Merton-Mansfield skipper. The weather gods themselves seemed to take an interest in this box office fixture, set to the backdrop of lingering rain, rumbling thunder, and piercing lightning. The eventual decision to settle the score on Monday of 8th Week at MM's cauldron encouraged finalists (and county products) Ewan Gordon and Ben Brennan out of retirement, who contributed valuably with both bat and ball. Tight bowling from former captain Vikram Mitra and white-ball specialist all-rounder Rob Truell kept a lid on MM's ambitions, leaving a chase of 141. A fired up opening partnership of D'Hotman (46 off 40) and Truell (45 off 25) swung from the hip and took full advantage of the power play. BNC found themselves in the dizzying heights of 78-0 off six overs, knocking the remaining runs off in the fifteenth over. Prime BrasBall – finals day on Thursday of 8th Week awaited.

The big day came. Ahead of us lay the challenge of a semi-final and final all in one day. We hosted Queen's, and BNC groundsman Danny had prepared a pristine wicket, earning the praise from Aussie D'Hotman as 'the only good pitch I've seen in this country'. Queen's batted first on a strip which favoured the batsman: fast, dry, true, our bowlers (inspired by resurgent Josh Griffith) had a tough time against an aggressive batting line-up, but valiantly limited them to 150. What came next will live long in the memory of all those privileged enough to witness the events of the next 90 minutes unfold.

Cometh the hour, cometh the men. D'Hotman and AT sent in, the hopes and dreams of a college resting on their shoulders. The openers put on a show reminiscent of Greenidge and Haynes in their pomp, producing a performance which deserves a place in Brasenose's sporting hall of fame. The pair treated us to a masterclass of crisp and punishing hitting, ticking along just over 7.5 to prolong the enjoyment of the spectators, both carrying their bats through to pile on 152 in 19 overs and sealing our place in the final.

We had just a few hours to recover before a final at the Uni Parks. 12th man Drummond Orr did his level best to keep energy levels up, showing unconditional support throughout the day. The pride of Brasenose took

to the field to take on Balliol's rabble. A faultless performance with the ball backed up by each player throwing themselves at everything in the field kept a capable Balliol side to 145. I asked D'Hotman and AT to go to the well once more. A crowd had emerged, and were treated to the kind of shot that only a batsman who had plied his trade down under could produce – an upper cut over point for four off their opening pacer to set the tone for the innings.

Sadly, some high-class bowling meant this was the high-water mark of our cricket season. Their bowling attack was relentless, and we knew we'd run out of road when their sixth bowler had the quality to open for any other college side. With 34 required off the last over, we watched on knowing that we had done both ourselves and the College proud. Balliol emerged as eventual victors, with BNCCC claiming the moral crown.

The final game of the season was a détente from the travails of the week before. The second annual staff-student fixture offered the chance to settle a score which had been brewing over the course of a year. A game dominated by spin went down to the wire. With two required to win and the prospect of a super over looming, Dr Joe Organ smeared a four through mid-wicket to seal the deal for those on the payroll – until next year.

I never expected to reach the Cuppers final when I took the reins at the start of this year, and I certainly couldn't imagine reaching it with a nicer group of cricketers. I'm very grateful to everyone who pitched in a short notice, scored, got taxis, and helped organise throughout, and I wish the new captain Ambrose the best for next season.

FOOTBALL – MEN'S TEAM

by Drummond Orr

From 2017 to 2021, Brasenose College Football Club was in turmoil. From the lofty height of a heroic Cuppers win in 2016, the club fell through the leagues to the nadir of Division 3. However, the class of 2021 was a crop of first-years who would change BNCFC's fortunes.

Our 2021-22 season was bittersweet. We won Division 3 and secured promotion to Division 2, and we had a chance at silverware in the Reserve Cuppers final on the final day of Hilary Term. The game

ended in disaster. St Catherine's battered our talented yet immature team on a fateful day at Iffley Stadium.

In the new 2022-23 season, BNCFC bolstered its ranks with a few postgraduates who brought class and leadership to the club. The league season began strongly, and in a Round of 16 clash against St Peter's, BNCFC delivered an incredible performance. Mysterious ex-professional footballer Oduma Adelio scored a 40-yard screamer of a free kick, and our clinical Spanish striker Iñigo De La Joya scored a hat-trick as we won the match 6-2. Even defender Ollie Nicholls scored a goal. The club also reorganised the administration by appointing Drummond Orr as Social Secretary and Manager. A succession of enthralling social events off the field allowed the boys to form a strong bond.

The new year began with a crucial Cuppers quarter-final against Worcester. A disciplined 2-0 win in front of an adoring crowd saw us into the semi-finals. Man of the match Simon Cocks exemplified Brasenose's commitment with his bloodied face and sheer work rate. However, the boys faced a larger challenge in the semi-final, a match against Jesus (last year's champions) at their home ground. This team comprised multiple Blues players and was arguably the best team in Oxford. Many people who watched the game claim it was the greatest game of football they had ever watched. The match ended in a 4-3 win to BNCFC in a titanic battle of David versus Goliath as little BNCFC in Division 2 beat the mighty Jesus. Mazen El-Sherbini, a substitute who was unlucky not to start, scored the winning goal in extra time. He is a testament to the strength in depth and commitment of the team.

As the Brasenose fans and players arrived at Iffley for the Cuppers Final against St Hugh's, I thought of that fateful loss one year ago against St Catherine's. I prayed we would overcome St Hugh's, yet I was immensely proud of the bond formed between this team. It was a fine example of people from many backgrounds united in a love for Brasenose College and football.

The game ended in a 1-0 win to Brasenose with Iñigo De La Joya scoring the winner. Simon Cocks played a ball into Iñigo De La Joya who was facing away from goal with a defender behind him near the top of the 18-yard box. The ball bobbed up in the air after what appeared to be a loose touch. Yet Iñigo regained control of the ball with a Bergkamp-esque touch and found a pocket of space behind

the defender. On the half-volley, Iñigo fired the ball, and it hit the underside of the crossbar and bounced into the net. This sent our fans and bench into delirium. As expected, this was our ‘Goal of the Season’ and Iñigo was our ‘Player of the Season’.

Winning Cuppers was the greatest moment in the lives of many of the boys in that team. We were complete underdogs, yet we showed bravery that would make all Brasenose alumni proud.

Also securing a second consecutive promotion that year, and now under the leadership of Morgan Bell, the club is in a strong and secure place in Division 1 and ready for future success in 2023–24 and beyond.

As for the 2022–23 season, every fan and player played a vital role in the club’s success. Yet our fearless and dedicated leader Ezra Sharpe brought the pieces together and constructed an unbreakable jigsaw.

To encapsulate the spirit of this club, I leave you with the final quote from one of my favourite TV shows – *Band of Brothers*: ‘I treasure a remark to my grandson who asked “Grandpa, were you a hero in the war?” Grandpa said “No, but I served in a company of heroes.”’

FOOTBALL – WOMEN’S TEAM

by Amelia Abbott

The 2022–23 season has been an extraordinary season for the Brasenose Women’s Football team. After teaming up with Balliol at the beginning of the season and rebranding as ‘Ballnose’ we have gone from strength to strength, winning all our league games, coming top of our league, and earning a promotion to Division 1.

Having come into the season as the Wrexham FC wildcard equivalent of college football, being the bottom team in the bottom league at the end of the 2021–22 season, this result was definitely not expected, especially having ended on a +23 goal difference!

A highlight of the year was our third place finish in the Cuppers Futsal tournament in Trinity Term, where we knocked out the Premier League winning Foxes team (to whom we narrowly lost by one goal in the cup competition).

These results of course could not have been achieved without our dedicated players, who turned up week after week, rain or shine. Ella Emery Peters and Megan Jeffries controlled our game pace from

midfield, with their skilful footwork and endless stamina allowing them to glide past our opponents. In addition, incoming captains Betty Hughes and Rebecca Jackson led our defence and attack respectively, being the dynamic duo that led to our high scoring matches!

Overall, this season has been really rewarding and it has been great to see all the new Brasenose talent coming up the ranks in women's football. I have full confidence that Betty and Rebecca will continue this streak of success next year!

HOCKEY

by Jasmine Rooke

After starting the previous season in Division 3, and ending in Division 1, fighting it out for the title of champion in the final, Brasenose hockey has certainly had an incredible year. Our first step into college hockey this year was to merge with St Anne's, who brought an excellent wealth of players and enthusiasm to the side. We started in Michaelmas in Division 2, and powered our way through the matches, having an undefeated first half of the season, and rightfully earning promotion into Division 1. We then started Hilary by securing a 1-0 win over Teddy Hall, followed by a tense draw the next week against Merton-Mansfield. Following that, we debuted our new college kit (a first for Brasenose!), allowing us to look as sharp as our play, contributing to us securing a 2-1 victory over a rather overconfident Hertford. Unfortunately, we had to forfeit a few matches nearer the end of the season, but still finished a valiant joint third in the top division – a certain success after starting the league in Division 2. It was setting ourselves up well for the coming Cuppers tournament in Trinity Term.

Our first Cuppers game against LMH/Lincoln was disrupted by an injury forcing the match to be called off halfway through. However, by college hockey rules, the leading team at half-time is considered to have won the match, and so we proceeded to the semi-final. Securing a 2-0 victory against Teddy Hall in the scorching heat of the semi-final meant we went into the final feeling confident. While the first half of the match was incredibly close, in the second half, Merton-Mansfield edged us out and secured the win. Despite this, it was an incredible achievement for Brasenose to reach the final and it was incredibly well-fought.

One of the unusual things about Brasenose in the college hockey league was our outstanding turnout. Many other teams in the league were forced to forfeit their matches due to lack of numbers, and we are glad to say that Brasenose rarely suffered from lack of players! The commitment from our members this year has been outstanding, with an excellent turnout for our Cuppers final, from prelims and finalist students alike, despite their oncoming exams. Our dedication was also seen by certain players who put their bodies on the line for the team, with Sam Hollowood showing an admirable commitment to the College. We've also seen an increase in supporter turnout this year. While other college sports such as football see strong supporter turnouts for most matches, hockey has not usually seen this similar support. However, after a few Facebook campaigns and a promise of some free alcohol, our Cuppers final was well attended, with supporters bringing an excellent energy to the sideline that completely dominated the rather quiet opposition.

Our thanks go to our old hands who have kept the team going – Ella Lord, Josh Griffith, Ollie Nicholls, Rob Truell, Josie Wells, Chessy Pike, Siena Crossley and Rebecca Woodfield; their experience was invaluable, and they brought an excellent energy to the team. We also couldn't have done this without the freshers bringing new blood to the team – thank you to Holly Singleton, Dan Cox and Libby Chrisp, Fin Sheedy and Steven Wood! We would also like to thank everyone who came down to try hockey for the first time, some of whom were very wary, but all picked it up very well and enjoyed the games – so thank you to Matthew Campbell and James Nicholas, our hockey 'freshers'. It can be an intimidating sport, but Brasenose students showed levels of participation and commitment fitting to the College spirit. Huge thanks also go to anyone who stepped up to play in goal, a rather unpopular position – Adam Thompson, Sam Bealing and Miles Johnson, you were all fantastic! I would in particular like to thank my co-captain Elizabeth Berryman, who was away for much of Michaelmas and sadly rusticated at the start of Hilary. However, despite this, she made her way down to Oxford for countless matches, being an invaluable manager, timekeeper, coach, and most importantly, somehow managing to pull together a goalie kit every weekend. It is my greatest pleasure to pass on the captaincy to Elizabeth next year to get a full year on the pitch and I'm confident she can lead Brasenose to that Cuppers victory we deserve!

NETBALL

by Faye Fallon

Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to oversee three A&E trips during my time playing netball at Brasenose. But that is exactly what happened when one of our star players, Mazen El Sherbini, sacrificed his shoulder joints, in heroic spirit, during BNC's fierce battles with Gonville & Caius, Cambridge, on Sports Day, and with Lincoln (our arch nemesis) in Trinity Term. With both ending in a draw, these were two of our most tense matches of the year.

With a new cohort of fresh-faced ballers, BNC netball stormed through weekly Cuppers Matches in Michaelmas term. The College team became ever more strong with the arrival of some skilled players and netball newbies alike. Together, we fostered an inclusive community, whereby players stepped off the courts happier than they stepped on, regardless of the final score or the weather. Enthusiasm remained strong throughout the term thanks to a number of socials organised by the new Social Secs, Nikita Lavender and Kara Gold. A definite highlight was our game of Oú est le Poulet with the Oxford University Powerlifting Society. Rest assured, the chicken had certainly used up all of the tab by the time a group finally found them in a pub which felt too obvious to be true, the Swan and Castle.

Hilary Term brought with it the excitement of Sports Day, when we won against Gonville & Caius by a significant margin. Despite the following mixed match resulting in Mazen's unfortunate shoulder showstopper, the game was good spirited, with a very high turnout and healthy draw by the end of the match. This was followed by a lively game of football rounders. After a great effort from all players during more Cuppers matches and friendlies, we were proud to come third in our division by the end of the term, leaving BNC standing in good stead amongst our fellow colleges when it comes to netball.

The climax of the year has to be the Mixed Cuppers tournament in 8th week of Trinity Term. Just when I thought that we had outdone ourselves at the Women's Cuppers tournament in Third Week, when Mitra Stainsbury was sure to take advantage of the blazing heat by being the first to wear a pair of our new BNC netball shorts to a match, I was blown away by the huge variety of players who came to represent

the College. With ballers from across the JCR and HCR community, we were lucky enough to have the legendary Hannah Kynman seize the courts for one last ever time. Hopefully Hannah's PhD work with a Nobel Prize winning biochemist won't stifle her availability for a 'BNC Ballers' reunion next year.

It has been a privilege to serve as BNC Netball Club Captain this year. My job would have been a lot harder without the help and support of my Vice-Captain, Izzy Lever. I'm excited to hand these roles over to Francesca (Chess) Nightingale and Kara Gold, due to their commitment to matches, and look forward to another year of the funnest (yet surprisingly dangerous) sport in College.

POOL

by Freddie Murley

After a wonderful year of captaincy by BNC pool legend Josh Taylor, 2022-23 turned out to be a wonderful year for Brasenose pool. With the new year came a newly re-felted JCR pool table, which I'm sure hasn't played this well since it was brand new.

The JCR pool table is a cornerstone of undergraduate life, serving both as a staple destination of library breaks and an arena for high-level inter-college contests, and everything in between. The restored pool table, and the freedom to play a game on it whenever, has improved the lives of many a Brasenostriil.

The new felt was swiftly put to the test by the inaugural Brasenose pool tournament, pitting the best pool players in this fine college head-to-head. The following weeks saw displays of excellent pool, and underdog successes aplenty.

Pool Cuppers had excellent Brasenose participation, with plenty of entrants and good participation in later rounds. I look forward to what the next year of Brasenose pool brings.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

by James Nicholas

It has been a busy season for BNCRFC; 2022-23 had some iconic moments throughout that truly showed the spirit with which Brasenose embraces the college rugby scene.

Michaelmas Term began with a friendly against our neighbour and rival Lincoln. A mix of our new and old faces (some of whom were recovering from a half-marathon that very morning) kept the first half close and so we went into the break trailing 5-7, with it all to play for. The second half slipped out of our hands and Lincoln ran 29 unanswered points past us. A consolation try ended the match, where the final 10-36 scoreline didn't truly reflect the tenacious energy that the team displayed. That determination would definitely go on to do us favours later in the season.

A similar fate befell Brasenose rugby a fortnight later however, in the first weekend of Cuppers: Jesus pulled out the stops and ended our campaign before it really started in a crushing 0-43 loss. On paper, a full-strength Brasenose outfit would have certainly handled this Jesus side, and so this loss went on to haunt us until very late in the season, where we were expecting to meet them again in the third division league in Hilary Term.

What is the best way to respond to a Cuppers defeat? Undoubtedly with an emphatic victory in the Bowl competition a week later. Back at full strength with 19 players (the largest turnout to a match all season), Brasenose prevailed over a lively Exeter team in a 47-7 victory. A plethora of tries were scored, but a hat-trick of beautifully liquid ones scored by Ollie Nicholls characterised the match. It was a reassuring end to the teething problems experienced at the beginning of the season and set up a platform for us to continue developing throughout next term in the league.

Hilary Term came around and college rugby came to a halt, a combination of frost and flooding and a lack of players denying us games against Exeter and Queen's. It was the end of January before our match away at Oriel, and the team was hoping to follow up on our win last year. This year however, Oriel boasted a back line with actual set piece moves at their disposal. Quick thinking from Dan Cox

and Iñigo De La Joya kept the scoreboard ticking over in our favour and we entered the final quarter ahead 5-17. It was ours to lose, but by battling through Oriel's relentless onslaught we managed to see the game out for a tight 15-17 victory. Our final game of the league was the rematch against Jesus where (to everyone's surprise) we somehow put together a rare 18-man squad. It was a real upfront battle with plentiful heavy carries from both teams. Although we entered the break a try behind, we quickly made up for it with two well-worked scores and importantly a 12-5 lead. It took until the dying moments of the match before Jesus crossed the line and converted, culminating in a 12-12 draw. Some would have been disappointed with the result, but I would argue the team was unrecognisable to the one that had been convincingly defeated earlier this season, and this match truly showed how much we had developed. Unfortunately, the league remained unconcluded this year.

Over the vacation we all enjoyed watching Brasenose ex-captain Tom Mewes playing in the Varsity match. The Cambridge players found out the hard way what it means to play liquid Brasenose rugby when he beat three defenders to score in the corner. Congratulations to Tom for the achievement.

Our season concluded at the start of Trinity Term with a 10-38 loss to Christ Church ending our Bowl competition run in the semi-final.

I'd like to thank everyone who put in a shift for BNCRFC this season, both the regular players and those who came along with little rugby experience and a lot of love for the College. There were multiple times throughout the season where I wasn't certain we'd have a full team and people pulled through at the last minute. It's rare that we have substitutes once in a season and even rarer for it to happen again and again, and it is a testament to how well people engaged in rugby at Brasenose this year. I also want to thank Ollie Nicholls and Louis Lennon for putting together excellent kits with sponsors Tap Social White House. What an excellent establishment! It's been a pleasure to captain the team this year and I look forward to continuing playing rugby for Brasenose next season.

RUNNING CLUB

by Charlotte Paine

This academic year saw the continuance of Brasenose Running Club's commitment to being relaxed, fun, and inclusive. There was a strong fresher turnout at the beginning of the year, with many becoming regulars on the early morning runs. We ran three runs a week, ranging between 4-10 kilometres in distance. We covered the most scenic spots across Oxford, enjoying the break from the busy life in the centre.

We have taken part in Oxford ParkRuns with the University Cross Country team. Our own Siena Crossley and Ursula Gerhard also ran in the Oxford Town and Gown 10k, finishing with impressive times.

Brasenose Running Club has issued new stash this year, with a wide range of options that Running Club members were quick to snatch up. Brasenose runners were hard to miss on the streets of Oxford in their coordinated t-shirts and jackets!

Overall, Brasenose Running Club this year has had a really lovely inclusive environment, and it has been great to see so many people get involved across different year groups. Next year, Flora Tregear will become Captain. I am sure that she will continue to develop the Club's friendly and welcoming reputation. I am also looking forward to Brasenose Running Club's debut in Paris next year where myself, Siena Crossely, and Ursula Gerhard will be running the Paris Half Marathon during our year abroad.

SQUASH

by Freddie Murley

After the strong year of squash that was 2021-22, with brilliant captaincy by Gus Smith, the anticipation of another excellent couple of terms of it could not have been higher.

Michaelmas Term started well, with fantastic Monday night squash sessions, many of these followed by necessary rehydration down the bar for some crucial team building activity. All in all, these were eight excellent weeks of progress, with everyone from new squash players

to those with more experience growing their skills a lot, and having a great time doing it.

As Michaelmas drew to a close and the New Year passed, anticipation for Cuppers, the highlight of Hilary Term, was growing. With the strong training turnout and consistency of Michaelmas behind us, it was shaping up to be a good tournament run, with our opening match against Harris Manchester.

With the Cuppers dream team, consisting of Daniel D’Hotman, Iñigo De La Joya, James Perks, Lukas Seier, and Chris McKernan assembled, we were ready to serve up some clinical, energetic squash. However, it was not to be – despite fantastic efforts by all involved, it all came down to the last match, and we were out of Cuppers in the first round by the narrowest of margins, a 3–2 loss. I couldn’t have asked more from any member of the team, and they all contributed with some brilliant efforts. With this behind us, I am very excited for next season and how it will shape up. To any current Brasenostriils reading this, please consider giving squash a go – I promise you won’t regret it.

THE ADDINGTON SOCIETY / PPE SOCIETY

by Dan Daly

Over the past year, the Brasenose PPE Society has been able to return to full post-pandemic operations and we have hosted several exciting events for students and alumni.

In Michaelmas Term, we held a number of speaker events, including the Transport Secretary **Mark Harper MP (PPE, 1988)** who joined us on the day Liz Truss resigned as Prime Minister and so was a very exciting and timely event. We were also joined on subsequent events by David Bennett who gave a great insight into the workings of Downing Street from his time as Tony Blair’s chief policy advisor, and finally, in conjunction with Principal’s Conversations, by former British intelligence professional Chris Burrows.

In Hilary Term, we hosted a virtual event with Hilary Benn MP which included a small tour of Parliament and an insight into the parliamentary voting procedure. As former chair of the Brexit select

committee, Hilary was also able to hold a very interesting discussion with both students and alumni about the Brexit process and what it means for the UK. Subsequently, we hosted **Simon Lewis OBE (PPE, 1978)** who gave a fascinating insight for PPE students from his time as communications director for Gordon Brown while he was Prime Minister, and also from his business career.

In Trinity Term, we hosted a panel discussion in conjunction with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office on peacekeeping exits and state building, which was very insightful into the important role of the UN in international politics. The year was rounded off with the Schools dinner for PPE students.

THE ARTS COMMITTEE

by Peter Chen

I will never forget my first meeting as Arts Rep with my predecessor, Liv Francis, in the upstairs seating area of the Pret on the corner of Ship Street and Cornmarket Street: it was the moment which I realised the vast importance of the role that I (somewhat carelessly) signed-up for. The arts rightly occupy a crucial role within the College's communal and social life, and one of my major goals of the year was to make it accessible to *everyone*. Recovering from the pandemic meant that I had the fortune of reshaping many of our treasured traditions, and I was able to build on the outstanding achievements of Liv and make events attractable to all students, regardless of their background or experience.

As usual, Hilary Term started with our annual Arts and Societies Dinner. This year, Hall was packed with undergraduates to hear addresses from Liv, myself, and the extraordinary **Mark Williams (English, 1978)**. Mark's speech was widely praised, not least because he chose a distinctly literature-focused theme, to the surprise of the English students in attendance and to the disappointment of fellow Harry Potter fans. I must thank the Alumni Relations & Development Office for making his visit a possibility; especially to its wonderful Director, Dr Julia Diamantis, who supported me before, during, and after the visit. I must also thank the Senior Tutor for supervising the rousing evening, as well as the College for the generous subsidy which makes attending the dinner accessible to students even during the

difficult cost-of-living crisis and despite the squeeze on the College's budget. I would also be remiss not to note what must now be a tradition of the evening: a student's hair catching fire. Perhaps we will finally retire those candles.

The rest of Hilary Term saw the return of beloved events such as *Drunk Shakespeare* and Open Mic Night, where students sang beloved tunes from *Someone like you* to *Fly me to the Moon*. We were also thrilled to join St Catherine's termly music night, a collaboration that I was particularly proud of due to my strong ties to the college.

Finally, the main course for the year: Brasenose Arts Week 2023 – Daydream was a resounding success. Over 350 attendees participated in over 20 activities in the marquee on New Quad, ranging from life drawing to pottery painting, allowing students to express their artistic passion in various forms. Undergraduates performed *A Poet and a Scholar*, written and directed by our very own Kian Moghaddas (which is now headed for the Edinburgh fringe), as well as a (purposefully) nondescript garden play. The entire JCR came together to ensure a smooth running of the week, which saw collaborations with the Entz team for the Arts Week Ball and Environment & Ethics for the reusable tote bag decorations. I was particularly proud to host the Oxford University LGBTQ+ Society for their weekly *Tuesgays* drinks, a hugely popular evening for the queer community. **Jo Baring (Modern History, 1996)**, Director of the Ingram Collection and our Frankland Visitor for the year, launched the rehangings of the Amersi Room, and I look forward to working with her and our amazing student-led team to transform our newest teaching space in College. Of course, the absolute highlight of the week was the dual visit of our former Frankland Visitor, Kenny Lonergan and his wife, well-known TV and stage actress J Smith-Cameron; J's event alone drew over 80 visitors from across the collegiate university. My deepest gratitude for their time and energy in helping to inspire a new generation of artists.

All in all, I'm proud to say that after two terms of tireless work, more students than ever before participated in an arts-related activity this year. This was our biggest Arts Week yet, and I hope that in the future we will keep investing in our strong arts tradition and promote the arts in and out of College.

THE ASHMOLE SOCIETY

by Joel Bassett

I am very pleased to say that the Ashmole Society has had another enjoyable and eventful year. I would first like to thank the previous President, Yasmin Malik, alongside her committee (Ollie Nicholls, Dan Moloney and Esme Glen) for their advice in running the society. Michaelmas Term began with the traditional welcome drinks for our new and returning members, which was well-attended as ever. Later in the term, our very own Dr Rowena Archer gave a fascinating talk on the Bayeux Tapestry, over an excellent array of cakes provided by the wonderful Buttery team. Students from a range of subjects attended, and even some from our sister society at Christ Church, the S. R. Gardiner History Society. My thanks go to their committee, Leeya Odedra, Faris Firoozye and Thomas Rogers, for their collaboration.

Hilary was perhaps a more eventful term, beginning with a wonderful lecture by Professor Rana Mitter of St. Cross College on the development of Chinese nationalism. This was followed by the annual Ashmole Lecture, this year given by the brilliant Professor Abigail Green on her current research with the Jewish Country Houses project, studying Jewish estates both in Britain and abroad. The subsequent Historians' Supper was highly enjoyable – my thanks again to the Buttery and Kitchen staff for their outstanding service.

The term came to a close with a Principal's Conversation hosted jointly by the Principal and myself, on behalf of the society. Brasenose alumna **Jessie Childs (Modern History, 1996)** discussed her critically acclaimed recent book, *The Siege of Loyalty House*, and her other works with a large audience of current students, fellows and alumni. Many thanks to both the Principal and to Jessie for a pleasurable evening. Throughout the year, we held frequent debate nights with our counterparts at Magdalen College, the Macintyre Society. These were consistently popular and stimulating, and I thank the Macintyre's Presidents, Viktor Říha, Victoria Tayler, Katharine Beverley, and Jonny Taylor, for their assistance in organising and often hosting them.

Trinity began with a talk by Dr Toby Jones, the curator of the Newport Medieval Ship, on its discovery, and the restoration process. Dr Jones was a passionate and engaging speaker, and I highly recommend

visiting the ship itself. Our next event was a talk by another Brasenose alumnus, **Paul Walton (Modern History, 1974)**, a brand consultant by trade, who gave a fascinating lecture on the history of brands and marketing in the United States. Many thanks to Paul for taking the time to return to College and give such an intriguing talk.

The year came to a close with a celebration of the birthday of our namesake, the great Elias Ashmole, complete with afternoon tea, at which we also sent off our finalists before their exams. Congratulations to you all, and the best of luck for your next steps. I cannot thank my committee this year – Vice-President Ed Routh, Secretary Erin Bridgewater, Treasurer Antara Singh, and Caitlin Darby – enough for their tireless work, ensuring our events all ran smoothly. I commend the immense dedication and passion of all our speakers throughout the year, alongside the College staff who made our events possible – Amanda Gooding, Martin Wiseman, and the rest of the Buttery team. The College Librarians, Liz Kay and Joanna Mills, also invited us to several displays of the College’s archives throughout the year, which were captivating. I much appreciate the invitations.

I would like to finally give my utmost thanks to Dr Rowena Archer, whose support and advice throughout the year was invaluable. On behalf of all the College’s historians, I wish her the very best for her retirement, and she will be greatly missed in College.

THE ELLESMERE SOCIETY

by Louis Lennon

This year marked the centenary of the historic Ellesmere Society and once again was a hugely successful year for Brasenose law. As President of the society, it was an honour to welcome over 100 Brasenose lawyers, both past and present, into our hall in celebration of all things Brasenose law for the annual Ellesmere Dinner.

The event was a huge success. We welcomed notable names (and Honorary Fellows) **Alexandra Marks CBE (Jurisprudence, 1977)**, **Martin Forde KC (Jurisprudence, 1979)**, and **Sir Nicholas Bratza (Jurisprudence, 1964)**, former President of the European Court of Human Rights, amongst many others and shared an evening

recounting stories and telling tales of past exploits from Brasenose and the legal world.

We were also honoured to have **Lord Burrows (Jurisprudence, 1975)** as our guest speaker. His wit and passion for law are plain to see and his career is one which our present students would do well to emulate even in part, such is his stature in the legal world.

The Brasenose legal community were also sad to hear of **John Davies's (Law, 1954)** passing in the previous year. He taught many of our alumni, including the aforementioned Lord Burrows, and truly encapsulated all that is great about Brasenose law. His memorial was well attended, and his life well celebrated by a selection of family, friends, and former students.

On a personal note, it has been an honour to represent the society and to continue its relationship with a network of legal minds. We were lucky to have been sponsored by some excellent firms and chambers this year. Our dinner was covered by sponsorship from Fountain Court Chambers, Sidley Austin, Slaughter and May, and Freshfields. We thoroughly enjoyed inviting some members of the firms and chambers into Brasenose to meet and interact with our students, and we hope that the relationships formed will continue to blossom into the future. We also organised firm specific events, including the annual Slaughter and May presentation evening, which is open to all College members, even those who do not yet study law. I look forward to returning to Brasenose for future Ellesmere Dinners and continuing the relationships which have already formed in my three years at the College. Brasenose has an outstanding legal tradition, and I am glad to have carried the torch and represented the society for one small part of its illustrious history.

I leave the society in the very capable hands of Jamie Turnbull, who is deputised by a number of our newest cohort. I am sure they will continue to represent the College incredibly well and will organise an equally enjoyable evening for the next Ellesmere Dinner.

CHINESE STAND-UP COMEDY ON THE RISE

by Demi Hao (DPhil Education, 2020)

Perhaps due to a prolonged influence from binge-watching numerous comedy TV series (such as *Friends*, *The Big Bang Theory*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *Modern Family*, etc.) since high school, I found myself rather interested in stand-up comedy when I first learned about it from *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* and later on *Hacks* (yeah, I learnt everything from TV). Around that time, a Chinese variety show named *Rock and Roast* brought this form of performance to the audience at a national level in China for the first time. It was an intriguing process, observing this art form that originally emerged in the United States in the 1940s adapting to a distinct cultural environment in the east several decades later. As it gained a huge popularity, massive discussions arose on Chinese social platforms as to where is the boundary of making jokes, whether this form of performance should be only about making people laugh or also making people think and so on.

Despite the success of this annual variety show on stand-up comedy, offline performances remain uncommon in most cities in China. Luckily this year, I was able to fly to Shanghai and became part of a live audience in an offline show. Shanghai is often regarded as the birthplace of modern stand-up comedy in China, and there are several comedy clubs and venues hosting regular shows. Since I chose a show from the most popular comedy troupe, it was very difficult to get a ticket from the official platform, and I had to buy it from a scalper. In a large theatre in central city, the show started with a host coming upstage to warm up the audience, doing some improvs and interacting with the audience. He also reminded the audience, in an entertaining way, about the rules on not taping or recording and that the show was not suitable for non-adults. After this, a total of five comedians came upstage with each giving a 15-minute performance.

Five distinct styles of performance really made me understand more about the variety of *the art of language*. Obviously, liking a performance or not is a very subjective opinion, but the audience could see the different levels of skillfulness between the performers. For instance, the first comedian was from Guangzhou where the native language is Cantonese, so his Mandarin had some Cantonese accent. As someone

who also understands Cantonese, I could understand everything he said, but my brain had to process it longer than when hearing Mandarin without an apparent accent. I guess the slightly longer reaction time made the jokes less funny, due to more cognitive loads being a cost to process the language (yep, I study a bit of educational psychology).

What made me love the offline show the most was that the range of topics being covered was significantly wider than that was allowed on TV. There was some swearing, sexual inferences, discussions about death (I did not realise this was not appropriate for TV before), depiction of obscene images, sarcasm on social issues and so on. These contents are not entirely banned from being mentioned on TV, but performers had to do so in a rather subtle way; whereas offline, you could see them being a lot looser and more straightforward to express themselves. At the same time, I saw performers trying not to offend the male audience after making jokes about gender issues, and the audience trying to provide support to the performers even when jokes weren't funny. The whole idea of forming a relationship with the audience and making sense of the ongoing dynamics are also worth exploring. The host ended the show by expressing gratitude and explaining that a successful stand-up comedy show always requires an audience that understands this form of performance and gives appropriate reactions at the right time.

Attending this show was certainly the highlight of my trip to Shanghai. I really appreciated the chance to go on such an inspiring journey (with assistance from the Michael Woods Travel Grant) and be able to put my thoughts down in writing. The formation of Chinese stand-up comedy culture has been on the rise for a few years now, but it is still far from being a mature industry. We, as the audience are also part of this palpable momentum, and I am excited to witness its growth and transformation.

INTERRAILING

by Jui Zaveri (Classics & English, 2021)

On a rather chilly dawn in late August, Sam and James laughed as I struggled to get my rucksack onto my back. 'You're not going to make it through the next three weeks', one of them joked. My dad

laughed too, but I could see the concern in his eyes after he helped me lift it. I would have hit back with a brilliant and witty retort, had I not been wheezing having had a quarter of my own body weight added onto me. Three and a half weeks later, I realised on the train back to London that my bag didn't feel that heavy anymore. I had grown into it. I mean this in a physical sense to some extent but far more in the metaphorical sense – I felt independent and mostly self-sufficient in a way I had never felt before.

Our interrail route took months of talking, planning, debating, rethinking on repeat. Finally, we had a route: Rome, Florence, Milan, Lake Como, Venice, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Budapest, Vienna and Prague. For most of us, this would be the furthest we'd ever been from home. It was exciting and exhilarating, yes, but also deeply terrifying. Some of our fears were more rational than others, but there were plenty of them. What if we missed a train? What if a hostel lost our booking? What if we accidentally committed a crime that we didn't think was illegal and ended up rotting for the rest of our lives in some Slovenian prison? Like I said, some more rational than others. Luckily, none of this happened. Instead, we found ourselves somehow more than capable of adapting to every curveball that was thrown our way. Plus, we got to see some of the most beautiful cities in the world. As a classicist who had never had the means to visit any of the places I had studied for so long, finally seeing the Colosseum, the Forum, the Pantheon, Augustus' Horologium, the Palatine Hill and the Curia Julia left me speechless, at least until someone asked me what that inscription said and I finally had the chance to prove that learning Latin still *did* have its uses. One of my favourite sights was the House of the Vestal Virgins in the Forum. Its quad is lined with the statues of the priestesses chosen to tend the temple and the sacred flame within. They were some of the most powerful women in Rome, enjoying many privileges not afforded to others in an otherwise decidedly patriarchal state. Our day trip to the Vatican City and the visit to St Peter's Basilica was another incredible opportunity. I am by no means religious (in fact I'm staunchly the opposite) but I find myself remembering the undeniable power palpable within its walls. The poetic beauty coupled with a profound awareness of the atrocities committed both in the name of and against it is enough to move anyone to tears, and we spent hours in silent, personal reflection.

The highlight of Florence should have been the Uffizi Gallery, which was no doubt as interesting and full of seminal artists as I could have hoped for; but for Nat, Miles and me it was the little day trip up into the mountainous Tuscan town of Fiesole that took the win. The picturesque views of the city from a height, coupled with the pastel, sunny aesthetics of the sloping houses and local abbeys were an excellent escape from the hustle and hubbub of tourists and holidaymakers. Similarly, the best part of the Milan stint was the chance to take a ferry to Bellagio, away from all the shiny designer shop fronts. However, the breathtaking view from the roof of the Duomo di Milano came a close second, almost stunning enough to make me forget my overwhelming fear of heights. The final leg of our Italian tour – Venice – gave us a chance to see a city unlike any other. Natalia (our resident engineer) found the seemingly waterborne landscape particularly enthralling. My A-level English teacher would have been particularly proud of me, I think, if she knew I sat on the edge of one of the canals and re-read *Othello*, finally being able to fully imagine its scenes in action. I can't finish writing about Italy without a single mention of its cuisine. One word: life-changing. I will never be able to eat a carbonara without pretentiously shaking my head and telling anyone who is listening that it's not as good as the one I had in a random restaurant in a Florentine back alley.

I for one had never heard of Ljubljana until we sat down to find somewhere we could take a train to without an unreasonably long travel time. It was a nice surprise – quaint in a quiet, sleepy way with plenty of interesting history, especially surrounding its castle on the hill. Our time there was a much-needed respite from the breakneck pace of our trip so far. That evening, we sat and sipped the cheapest Aperol Spritzes we had ever experienced as the sunset let loose the full extent of its glorious splendour in hues of tangerine and amber and we said to ourselves – '*this is the life.*' Then we woke up the next morning with bedbugs crawling all over the dorm. The next couple hours were perhaps the most stressful of the whole trip as we tried to find alternate accommodation and the nearest laundrettes but at the end of the day, it's another funny story we can tell for years to come.

Sadly, when we came to Zagreb, we found out that the city was still recovering from the devastating earthquake that hit it three years ago, which meant that most of the churches and national museums were still

closed. However, the city boasts an extraordinarily eclectic collection of alternative museums – we visited the original Museum of Illusions, the Museum of Chocolate and most entertainingly, the Museum of Broken Relationships. The last one was surprisingly touching, at times hilarious; at others utterly heartbreaking. Budapest was one of my favourite cities ever. Bisected by the Danube, the city of two halves is full of culture and colour – there’s music playing every corner you turn. Margaret Island was home to the loveliest park in which we spent an afternoon in idyll, reading, playing cards and judging Miles’ playlist. We made it a point to do a walking tour in every single city we visited and the Budapest one was particularly useful for finding out the best spots for food and drink. I had the best sandwich of my life with a view of the stunning Budapest Synagogue. In the evening, we found a really cool and grungy pub (shout-out to Lampas) with an incredible open mic night featuring local rock and indie artists. Vienna: home of the Habsburg dynasty. The architecture was just as grand as its historical significance as the monarchy’s seat of power. Our tour guide did not shy away from the topic of Nazi Austria – an important acknowledgement of national accountability that seems rare in today’s global political climate. St Stephen’s Cathedral also cut an impressive figure with its Gothic architectural style and massive south tower dominating the Viennese skyline.

Our final stop was Prague which had a very lively atmosphere, especially in the evenings. For those who don’t know, the BNC anthem is *Riptide* by Vance Joy. The five of us couldn’t leave a karaoke bar without introducing them to such a verified banger. Most of the locals were a little confused, but I can guarantee their lives have been changed for the better. A group of Blink-182 fans were our biggest supporters that night, for which I will be ever grateful. Other than the nightlife, Prague Castle had endless opportunities to explore, and near the city centre I accidentally came across the most stunning church I had ever seen. Our tour guide was particularly helpful on the topic of defenestration – an act that repeatedly marked pivotal change in Prague’s socio-politics, especially surrounding the Protestantism of Jan Hus. The Jewish Quarter was also an important place to visit and afterwards, we couldn’t stop noticing the *Stolpersteine* (stumbling stones) embedded in the pavement all over the city. This was an art project by Gunter Demnig that commemorate the fate of the Nazi

victims (murdered, deported, exiled or driven to suicide). The block is placed in front of the building where the victims have the last residence of their choice. The decision to have them on the floor to be stepped over is multilayered – firstly, it reflects the Nazi attitude towards Jewish people; however, it also unchangeably lodges the Jewish existence into the very city of Prague. They cannot and will not be forgotten or erased: the constant footfall polishes the stones and keeps them bright.

Thus concludes our grand tour. I have never learnt so much in such a short time nor had so much fun. Exhausting, yes, but utterly enthralling. I would go back and do it all again in a heartbeat – though maybe without the bedbugs. I'm deeply grateful for the Holyroyd-Collieu-Stelling-Hall Memorial Travel Grant for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, without which I would not have been able to see so much, experience so much and grow so much.

ARCHIVES OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

Yung Au (Info, Comm, & Soc Sci, 2022)

Thanks to the Brazen Arts Fund, my colleague and I were able to present our creative scholarship in the International Communications Association's (ICA) annual conference, the largest communications conference in the world.

We presented *Archives of the Third Millennium* at ICA's first ever creative intervention exhibit in 2022. The project asked: what will our data futures look like? It prods at this nebulous question by embarking on a fictional exploration of what could happen if we continued down a pathway to a hyper-datafied society that values optimisation, quickness, and information above all else. Looking backward from an unspecified future, the piece presents a speculative archive, documenting the emergence of a society unified by a certain way of being – where lives were orientated around 'zeptoseconds', 'data loans', and 'asym pills'. With the help of the fund, we distributed zines, stickers, and posters from the project.

Throughout, we received lots of great feedback. Two versions of this project are now hosted online. First, in the *Sociological Review's* After Progress Exhibit accessible here:

<https://www.after-progress.com/chronicles-of-the-third-millennium>.

Secondly, in *Surveillance & Society* journal's special issue on surveillance stories accessible here: <https://ojs.library.queensu.ca/index.php/surveillance-and-society/article/view/15121>.

We will also be donating a zine to University Art London's zine library.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to everyone who made this project possible and lively. It would not have been what it was without the generous support of the Brazen Arts Fund and the support from the administrators of this fund.

Alumni Activities





The Brasenose Alumni Society

REPORT OF THE BRASENOSE ALUMNI SOCIETY

by Narmada Thiranagama (Modern History, 1996)

*A society that helps its members maintain
a strong connection with the College Community and each other*

This report covers the 12 months up to and including the Society's AGM and dinner in September 2023.

The Brasenose Alumni Society

The Brasenose Alumni Society is Brasenose's alumni association. All matriculated Brasenose members automatically become members of the Brasenose Alumni Society when they go down, as can certain former employees and academic staff of the College. There is no membership fee.

The activities of the Society

The society exists to:

- a. Foster closer relationships between BNC alumni and between alumni and the College community (students, fellows, staff, the Alumni Office and the institution itself).
- b. Hold a President's Summer Party and Society Dinner annually.
- c. Support professional networking with past and present members of the College.
- d. Support and foster social networking with past and present members of the College and encourage special interest groups and societies.
- e. Encourage (but not finance) alumni attendance at or participation in College events.
- f. Bring less-connected alumni and their ideas and skills closer to the College.

Anyone is welcome to apply to join the committee (members are elected once a year at the annual AGM, and an application form is in the *Brazen Nose*). Our aim is to represent all alumni generations and types on the committee. The committee meets three times a year in February, July and September. If you are interested in applying to join and would like to observe a committee meeting, do get in touch with the secretary.

A full copy of the Society's Rules (its name, object/purpose, membership, Committee, general meetings etc) is set out on the College's website at www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/downloads/bnc_society/Brasenose_Alumni_Society_Rules_Oct_2021.pdf

Report on 2022–23 events

The President's Summer Party

On 5 July 2023, The Society hosted an evening Summer Drinks Party at the UNISON Centre in King's Cross, London. The venue is the site of the historic Women's Hospital founded by Dr Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, the first woman to practice as a doctor in the UK. Attendees had exclusive access to a gallery space dedicated to her work and refurbished to its original 1890 appearance. This was a well-attended and enjoyable event with around 89 alumni attending.

Annual Society Dinner and AGM

The Society's Annual Dinner and AGM was held on 16 September at Brasenose and was fully booked for 124 people. Vice Principal Ed Bispham welcomed us in the Principal's absence.

I spoke of the friendship and community that Brasenose and the Alumni Society brings, a community we enter as students, and which sustains us through our lives.

Monthly Drinks

The Society's monthly drinks take place on the first Tuesday evening of most months with an 'R' – October, November, February, March, April, and also, May. They are now held at the Red Lion pub, Crown Passage, London, which has the advantage of being very close to the previous venue (the Oxford and Cambridge Club). All alumni are welcome to come to these; no prior notice is necessary. Details are advertised on the College website and by email. The Society generally puts a small sum of money behind the bar, meaning those who turn up earliest may get a free drink.

September 2023 AGM

The Society's AGM was held in College at 6pm, before the Annual Dinner. Twenty alumni attended.

The AGM gave a profound vote of thanks to Nigel Bird, who had been Society Treasurer for just under 20 years having been elected at the 2004 AGM, and who had decided to step down. Formerly college accountant at Pembroke, Nigel understood the Oxford system very well, and the Society feels it has been very fortunate to secure his guidance, diligence and expertise for so long. In addition, we thanked ex-President Sir Paul Silk, stepping down as an *ex officio* member, for his similarly agreeable committee presence, well-considered counsel, and imaginative and well-remembered venue-finding.

The following officers and Committee members were elected or confirmed at the AGM, to run for the year from September 2023 to September 2024:

- President: Dan Chambers (1988)
- Vice President: Jane Johnson (1987)
- Committee members elected/re-elected:
 - David Bradbury (1981), David Clark (1970), Paul Dawson-Bowling (1962), Rosie Duthie (2016), Drusilla Gabbott (1982), Penny Gilbert (1978), Amanda Holland (1988), Jane Johnson (1987), Alexandra Marks (1977) and Sarah Jackson (1977);
- Treasurer: Amanda Pullinger (1984) – replacing Nigel Bird
- (Committee members not requiring election/re-election:
 - Penny Andrews (1979) Secretary, Nigel Bird (1969) and Rod Clayton (1986); ex Officio College members John Bowers, Principal; Julia Diamantis, Director of Development; Ed Bispham, Academic Representative)

Sarah Williamson Atkins (1984) had decided to step down and the Committee wished her well.

Dr Julia Diamantis gave an update on progress and necessary fundraising for Frewin Hall, showing us the architect's plans.

The accounts were presented, and Drusilla Gabbott briefly explained that the Society has limited funds (closing at £10,080.49 in 2023). These had been raised from previous decades' surpluses on Society social events. These funds are used to underwrite small deficits on the Society Summer Party, which it is increasingly difficult to find a venue for nowadays in London at an affordable ticket price. Apart

from this use, the Society proposes to ‘run down’ its funds slowly with careful strategic expenditure supporting the Society’s social and networking objectives. A spending protocol is shortly to be finalised by the committee. Drusilla circulated examples of two events held by recent graduates which had received such a small subsidy (expanded on below).

Innovations

Ideas for relevant and interesting Society activities

With the Alumni Office we will be sending out a survey in late 2023 or early 2024 to gauge interest in various ideas for alumni events. Do please respond, as your thoughts are very valuable to us. To do so, you will need to log into your alumni account. The Alumni Office can help you with that. The Society welcomes your ideas for new events or improvements to existing ones whether smaller and informal such as local walks, pub meet-ups or curry evenings, or larger ones like BNC career, social or life-stage interest networks.

Subsidies for younger alumni gatherings

In response to a query from Year Rep, Miles Overton (2015), the Society decided at its 28 February and 5 July 2023 meetings to make small sums of money available as ‘starter funds’ for informal social gatherings organised by Year Reps. It was felt these should be focussed on alumni who have recently left BNC to support maintaining ties, since a formal gaudy is not held till seven years after graduation. Also, because those in the first 10 years after graduation are the least likely to have yet established themselves financially, it is felt they may benefit most from the smaller sums we can contribute. Covid-affected cohorts in particular will be approached and prioritised.

We circulated reports from Miles Overton on his Regent’s Park picnic on Sunday 23 June for 25 alumni, which the society had subsidised by around £123, and Rosie Duthie, who had recently held an evening party on her apartment building’s shared roof terrace for her 2016 year group, again receiving a small subsidy. Both Reps felt these events would mean their Year Group stay in closer touch going forward. Applications for similar funding should go to the Secretary.

Walks

The Committee has now arranged four Alumni walks. The most recent in Putney, 17 April 2023, along the Boat Race route; a second to St Margaret's Church, Binsey and The Perch on 17 September, on the morning following the annual dinner. A third, four-day walk for ten alumni is scheduled to take place on 23–27 April 2024 on Hadrian's Wall. David Clark is thanked for his commitment and organisation, as are David Bradbury and Drusilla Gabbott for their administrative and research contributions.

For further information or to volunteer ideas or help, please contact the Society Secretary via the Development Office.

THE YEAR REP SCHEME

by Drusilla Gabbott (English, 1982), Year Rep Co-ordinator

The Brasenose Year Rep scheme has a purely social objective, that is, to encourage year groups to stay in touch regularly. This can be by encouraging groups of friends to get together at events arranged by BNC such as summer parties, the annual dinner or London's monthly Red Lion pub drinks, or at informal ones they have arranged themselves. It is definitely a friend-raising not fundraising function!

BNC intend that every year has a rep. More recent years have two: one HCR and one JCR. There are a few gaps on the list below which we'd love to fill: please do step forward if you see an opportunity or feel your current rep might like help or relief.

We usually ask reps to consider serving for up to seven years, then try to find a successor if they need to move on. Each rep gets a BNC email address link for their year. This makes emailing their group very easy. We ask reps to try to contact their year a minimum of annually to flag up opportunities to get together or pass on news. Some reps also set up social media groups. Year groups are generally pleased to hear from their rep.

This year we say a big thank you to the rep for 1962, Richard Woods, and welcome John Morris, who he kindly arranged as his replacement. Jenny Pagliuca has also joined as HCR rep for 2019.

Events

In 2022-23 it was great for year groups to get back to meeting in person.

Duncan Greenland and Donald Rushton (1966) resumed their long-standing December 'at homes'. These are a highlight of the year for those who attend, and hugely appreciated. George Fisher (1972) continued his thoughtful informal gatherings and John Morris got off to a flying start by starting to arrange a year group lunch at BNC for early 2024.

Alexandra Marks invited years 1976-78 to a party in her London garden on July 17 2023. She received many enthusiastic thank you notes: "there were many whom I had not seen for so long, but used to see a lot of, even after Oxford", "I missed my year's gaudy in March... so it was doubly nice to catch up with a few familiar faces," and "a wonderful party." A generous alumnus donated wine for this gathering.

Alexandra and other reps report that some who don't otherwise attend BNC events come to these informal gatherings. BNC feel this indicates the true value of the rep scheme.

One welcome innovation this year was that the BNC Alumni Society, following an enquiry from the 2015 rep, decided to make very small 'starter' grants available specifically to the most recent year groups of graduates. The objective is to help those years start getting together. Obviously, many recent year groups had their Oxford career disrupted by the pandemic. This either meant they missed time out of BNC itself or went down and didn't meet their friends for some time. In addition, the years after graduation can become a reunion 'gap' because a first gaudy is not held till seven years later.

Reps Miles Overton (2015) and Rosie Duthie (2016) held London events which are covered in the BNC Alumni Society report above. Rosie said: "this was the first substantial get together of my year group, that is, one which was not just four to five people at a time. Post-university gatherings were affected by Covid, which stopped us forming a habit of getting together." At subsequent social gatherings after her party such as birthdays, Rosie observed there were now more BNC people together. Miles Overton wrote of his picnic: "it has been almost five years since graduation for those of us who did three-year courses, so it felt like a perfect time to get together."

Reps David Clark, James Drace-Francis and Drusilla Gabbott arranged a walk from Putney to Barnes on 17 April 2023, finishing

at The Bulls Head pub; alumni from several different years attended. Frances Stobbs (1976) also reports she arranged an Oxford walk taking in The White House pub which BNC owns in Abingdon Road. The routes and walker notes for these have been sent to reps and the Development Office so please feel free to use them.

If walks are not 'your thing', then please suggest other activities to your Rep! We've produced a guide to running a get-together, including inexpensive venue suggestions. Contact drusillagabbott@gmail.com if you'd like a copy of this.

The annual Year Rep meeting at BNC on the day of the 2023 Society dinner, which many reps attended in person and four reps joined on Zoom, was, as usual, a great opportunity to put forward ideas, share experiences, and ask questions about the College calendar.

At the meeting, we discussed the upcoming 50th anniversary of womens' admission. The Rep group, as cohort representatives, potentially have a valuable consultative role: we mentioned we might be in touch with reps to discuss how that might be celebrated and supported. We also intend to circulate a joint DO/BNC Alumni Society questionnaire to scope the general activities their year group are interested in. We may request reps to encourage alumni to respond to this.

We are particularly keen in 2024 to continue to gather views from the HCR reps on how their role might ideally function. We believe HCR alumni locations and profiles are typically different to those of the JCR, so socialising should fit with that.

Year Reps receive the following benefits:

- A free ticket to any BNC event whenever more than five attend from their year.
- Best available room when staying in College for an event.
- Free accommodation at their gaudy.
- Dining with a guest once per year at High Table (term time only, and subject to availability), courtesy of the Development Office.

To enquire about becoming a rep please contact the Development Office.

CURRENT YEAR REPS

Year	Year Rep	Info
1951 & before	VACANT	
1952	Bill Higman	
1953	John Buckler	
1954-1958	VACANT	
1959	Robert Hawes	
1960	VACANT	
1961	VACANT	
1962	John Morris	
1963	James Edmiston	
1964	Clive Evans	
1965	John East	
1966	Duncan Greenland	(Joint)
1966	Donald Rushton	(Joint)
1967	William Verdon-Smith	
1968	Christopher Moss	
1969	Patrick Ovans	
1970	David Clark	(Joint)
1970	Stephen Smith	(Joint)
1971	Moray Thomas	
1972	George Fisher	
1973	John Bagshaw	
1974	Graham Dransfield	
1975	Liz Annesley	
1976	Frances Stobbs	
1977	Alexandra Marks	
1978	Nicholas Denton	
1979	David Barker	
1980	Angela Boobbyer	
1981	Ceri Hutton	(Joint)
1981	Barry Peden	(Joint)
1982	Drusilla Gabbott	
1983	Tony Murphy	HCR
1983	Sarah Shekleton	JCR
1984	Amanda Pullinger	
1985	Lyndall Gibson	
1986	David Foster	
1987	Jane Johnson	
1988	James Drace-Francis	
1989	Deidre Duignan	
1990	Linus Gregoriadis	

1991	Graham Thomas	
1992	Aman Merchant	
1993	Alastair Dick	(Joint)
1993	Tom Cartwright	(Joint)
1994	Sander Evers	
1995	Simon Borwick	
1996	Marcos Veremis	
1997	VACANT	
1998	Daryush Farshchi-Heidari	
1999	Jessica Drapkin	
2000	Laura Shtaingos	
2001	VACANT	
2002	Ellen Catherall	
2003	Samantika Gokhale	
2004	Rhiannon Williams	
2005	Chris Tudor	
2006	Andre De Haes	JCR
2006	Jen Glennon	HCR
2007	Charlie Furness-Smith	HCR
2007	Lara Gouveia Simonetti	JCR
2008	Elena Netsi	
2009	Christoph Voelk	
2010	VACANT	HCR
2010	James Johnson	JCR
2011	Michael Young	
2012	Zed Kahale	HCR
2012	Rosie Thomas	JCR
2013	Franziska Kohlt	HCR
2013	Sarita Shah	JCR
2014	Isobel Moseley	JCR
2014	Henrik Jacobsen	HCR
2015	Mehroz Ehsan	HCR
2015	Miles Overton	JCR
2016	Rosie Duthie	
2017	Matteo Maciel	HCR
2018	Samuel Chau	HCR
2019	Jennifer Pagliuca	HCR
2020	VACANT	
2021	VACANT	
2022	VACANT	

UPCOMING GAUDIES

Brasenose is delighted to invite each year group back to College around every seven years for their gaudy. This involves a free dinner in Hall and subsidised accommodation in student rooms in College.

‘Save the Date’ invitations will be sent out in advance of your gaudy. If you have recently moved home or changed your email contact details, or for any other reason think we may not have your current email or postal address, please get in touch at alumni.events@bnc.ox.ac.uk. You can find a list of forthcoming alumni events at www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events

Matriculation Year	Date of Gaudy
1963-1966	Friday 21 June 2024
1983-1985	Friday 27 September 2024

THE KING’S HALL TRUST FOR THE ARTS

by Paul Burgess (English, 1993), Chair

The King’s Hall Trust continues to support small-scale projects by BNC students and alumni, as well as students and emerging arts professionals from the wider Oxford community and beyond. Projects we’ve supported recently include *Carte Blanche*, which started in Oxford and then went to this year’s Edinburgh Fringe. Its set and costume designer are both BNC students. We also supported a new film called *Waiting*, written and directed by Brasenose graduate Katie Friedli Walton, and an educational outreach project in London and the South West run by Oxford graduate-led company As If. Closest to home was *A Poet and a Scholar*, written and directed by Kian Moghaddas, and performed in Brasenose New Quad. This was later taken to the Edinburgh Fringe under the new name of *The Museum Trip*.

We’ve noticed, however, that the way arts projects are funded at College and elsewhere is changing, and we have adjusted our funding model to ensure we continue to support innovative arts projects and the people involved in them.

The first change is to ensure that in addition to artistic projects, we can support educational activities that benefit people involved in the arts. Our approach so far has been to support projects that have

an informal educational value, such as those where participants will learn new skills or that will actively encourage new audiences. Now, at the Trustees' discretion, we can support some more formal educational activities, such as sponsorship of a workshop to allow a professional to attend, or funding a round-table discussion on an arts-related subject. We have not extended our support to paying course fees, as limited funds mean that we cannot make a significant difference in this area.

The second change is to allow us as Trustees to identify projects that we believe would benefit from our support. This is in addition to the normal process of receiving applications from potential projects.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions for worthwhile arts projects that we might support. The current trustees are **Rikesh Shah (Mathematics, 1993)** (treasurer), **Nick Herbert (Mathematics, 1993)**, **Joe Strickland (Experimental Psychology, 2012)**, **Mia Bennett (Mathematics, 1993)**, **Charlotte Clemson (Music, 2007)** and **Paul Burgess (English, 1993)** (secretary and chair).

Finally, we'd like to thank **Ellie Keel (Modern Languages, 2010)** and **Stephen Kyberd (Engineering Science, 2010)**, who have recently stepped down, for their contributions to the KHTA's work. If anyone is interested in becoming a Trustee, please get in touch.

To contact us or find out more: khta.org.uk

College Reports



ALUMNI RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

by Dr Julia Diamantis, Fellow, Development Director

As the undergraduates returned from the long vac and the freshers launched into their new Brasenose lives, the start of the academic year 2022-23 was an exciting one for me personally; I was invited to lead on development at Brasenose and the brilliant team of the alumni office. It's been a thrilling and busy year, and I am so grateful for the support of colleagues and the wider Brasenose community. It has been a particular pleasure to chat with so many former students of the College. The commitment to Brasenose of its alumni is striking, and I have enjoyed many conversations of reminiscence of good times and transformational experiences. I have happily been asked a million questions on how things are at College today and how we are facing the challenges of today – from issues of free speech and gender identity, welfare issues, and academic standards (the answer is: pretty well, in my opinion). I have found it inspirational that a few short youthful years at Brasenose can instil a profound commitment and investment in this fine institution. Elsewhere in this edition, you can read the Senior Tutor's thoughts on how Brasenose re-invents itself whilst appearing not to change. This year I have really started to understand that Brasenose is so much more than the people who study and work within its walls at any one time, but is the collected effect of all those who pass through its gates and back out again over decades and centuries. So whilst my every day this year has been very much in the moment, it has also been rooted in the past and the future.

Among other exciting developments, this year saw the construction of the first new quad at Brasenose in decades. In recent years, almost every undergraduate has elected to live in college accommodation for all years of study, taking advantage of subsidised rents and the favourable terms offered by the College (students don't have to take on nine-month contracts and don't get charged when they're not in residence during vacations), which means there has been increasing pressure on space at Brasenose. In response to that pressure, thirty new bedrooms went up opposite Frewin Hall this year. Considerable attention was paid to environmental factors and the building was designed to ensure minimal maintenance in coming years. Despite some delays, especially

as many increasingly-interesting archaeological finds were uncovered on the site, the contractors handed over the completed project in the summer, ready to be kitted out for student occupation in October 2023. However, before the students could take up residence, the very first to test the rooms were a number of alumni of the College who returned for the Brasenose Alumni Society annual dinner in September 2023. Reports were very positive.

With the building nearing completion, our thoughts turn from the new quad to Frewin Hall and the pressing need to renovate and restore the historic hall into a useful student home and amenity space worthy of its historic past. The more I see of it, the more I can see past the 1970s adaptations and the historic features of the Hall start to reveal themselves; it really is a very special piece of history. Although it has held many forms and has been added to and extended up, back and sideways, at its core the Hall has been standing around 900 years and is as old as the first recorded teaching at Oxford. It spent its early years as a grand manor house central to Oxford life. Later it was incorporated into St Mary's College, and a hundred years later survived the fall of the College and eventual destruction of its cloistered quad. Acquired by Brasenose in 1584, Frewin Hall was rented out. It was extended by the eponymous Dr Richard Frewin (1700s) and extended again by Dr Charles Shadwell (1888). It was home to the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) and his tutors when he was a student at Christ Church, and probably also to Erasmus when he stayed in Oxford at the end of the 15th century. It wasn't until the middle of the 20th century that Frewin Hall first housed Brasenose students and later became just one part of the Frewin accommodation annexe. The forthcoming re-imagining of Frewin Hall is the latest exciting phase for this fascinating building and I am looking forward to discussing the plans with many of you in the coming year. It is a big financial commitment for the College and I hope that you'll support us as we strive to nurture the unique history of the College and its buildings.

Thanks to your continued support of the Annual Fund, boosted by the Giving Day in November and the telethon in the spring, over a thousand Brasenose alumni together made a contribution – often through monthly direct debit gifts – of over half a million pounds to the annual expenditure of the College in 2022. It is your support which means that the College can offer subsidized accommodation and meals

to students; can provide a grant to run the JCR; offer hardship funding to those who find themselves in need; offer year-round accommodation for those who have nowhere else to go in vacations; provide equipment for the medics; and book grants for freshers amongst the many other things the College does to support our students.

On occasion, I've been asked why we fundraise for the College – aren't we a rich college? Yes, Brasenose has a substantial and well-managed endowment, some of which dates back to benefactions and legacies of its founding years. We are very much focused on increasing the size of the endowment. The domestic expenses associated with running the College are rising as they are for most of us, most undergrad fees have barely risen in recent years, which means that the contribution from the College endowment forms a considerable proportion of the essential everyday spending of the College. With careful investment – thanks to a very effective group of alumni advisors – we spend down around 3.5% of its total value each year. Around 40% of the full running costs of the College come from the yield of the endowment. Add to that the generous contribution from the alumni community from one-off gifts and gifts to the Annual Fund, half, yes half, of the College's expenditure comes from gifts, ancient and modern. Sometimes I wonder what we wouldn't do – which activities would we not undertake – if it weren't for the generosity of our supporters and those who have gone before them? It's very clear that a Brasenose education would look very different without the generous support of its own. Thank you.

Other areas which have received generous support in recent times include the replacement of the organ which is currently under construction but which we hope will be restored to the Chapel in 2024. We have received support for teaching and fellowships, and graduate scholarships too. Generous gifts have also been given to underpin the financial support we can offer undergraduates, including gifts specifically to support those undergraduates who have experienced a childhood in local authority care, have significant physical disabilities, or are estranged from their families. In future, we'll also need to look for support to preserve and hopefully restore the beautiful Victorian-era painted ceiling of the Chapel, and there are plenty of other exciting projects coming up.

Alumni events were well-attended again this year with waiting lists for some of the more popular ones, especially the Jubilee Lunches, held in the spring for those who matriculated more than 50 years ago. It has been good to get the gaudy cycle back up and running after a two-year interlude. The aim is to invite you to your gaudy every 7-10 years up until around the 60th anniversary since matriculation. Some of our 1509 Society (the Brasenose donor circle) members enjoyed a special private view and tour of the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition by curator and artist, David Remfry RA, organised by Frankland Visitor, **Jo Baring (Modern History, 1996)**, and recent graduates were invited to a reunion in London. The annual Brasenose Alumni Society dinner in September and the summer party in London proved popular as usual, and I am very grateful for the support of our enthusiastic volunteers who made so many networking and year group events in and out of College such a success.

2022-23 saw few changes of staff in the Development Office but a number of promotions. Emilie Messenger stepped up to become Annual Fund Officer, responsible for receiving your gifts, and also fundraising initiatives such as the annual telethon and Giving Day. Emily Reeve joined us in January 2023, brilliantly filling the space Emilie had left. Chloe Bossward was promoted within her role leading on the many alumni events held throughout the year. John-Paul Clough produced a well-received edition of the Brazen Notes in a revised A4 format which I hope you all enjoyed, and also The Brazen Nose with the Editor, Professor Simon Palfrey. George Balkwill returned from a period with the University fundraising team and gathered support for the construction of the new student accommodation quad at the Frewin Annexe. And, of course, I had the honour of being appointed Director of Development in October 2022.

I'm certain that I speak for the whole team when I say that it has been delightful to have met so many former students of the College over the last year, and I look forward to seeing many more in the coming months. Do please persevere with the clunky online booking system (we're working on it!) and come to the events we advertise both in College and elsewhere; catch up with old friends, meet new ones, simply enjoy being back. I look forward to seeing you and welcoming you back to Brasenose.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

by Philip Parker, Bursar

Financial Review for the year to 31 July 2023

In the year to 31 July 2023, the College received income of £14.0m, and spent £14.7m, resulting in a small operating deficit, in line with the planned budget. In addition, the College received £0.7m of donations for the endowment.

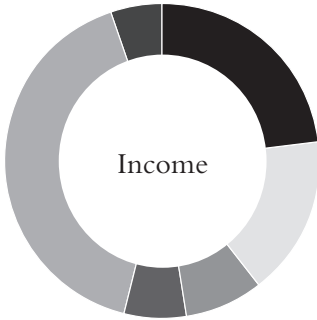
Almost half of the income arises from benefactions, with 40% (£5.7m) drawn from the endowment and a further £0.9m donated in the year for the immediate support of college activities. We also received £3.2m from student fees and £2.3m from student rents and catering purchases. In the vacations we were pleased to be able to build our commercial income from conferences and events to £1.1m, close to pre-pandemic levels.

The College is always looking for opportunities to increase its income as we have to manage the operating expenditure to match the income available. Because of the improvements in donations, endowment income and conference business, we were able to increase our teaching and research costs by £0.5m to £4.8m, and our student support by £0.1m to £0.85m. The inflationary pressures meant that we spent more on our staff across the College, but were not able to meet all our aspirations to develop and maintain our buildings and other support services.

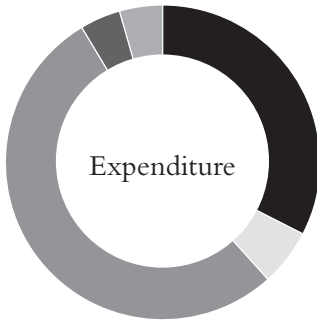
The College also spent £6.5m on capital expenditure in the year, primarily on the completion of the new block of 30 student rooms in Frewin, which was largely financed by a forty-year loan at a fixed rate of 2.62%.

Any increases in income in future years will allow us to expand our support for students. Two particular areas of focus are scholarships for postgraduates of academic excellence, and support for the increasing number of our undergraduates with more challenging backgrounds such as care-leavers and refugees. Extra income would also allow us to develop our facilities further, particularly in Frewin Hall, and to speed up the programme of environmental improvements to our buildings.

The full Trustees' Report and Financial Statements are available on the college website at www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/about-brasenose/official-information.



Income 2022-2023	£000s	income
Academic income (fees etc.)	£3,255	23%
Student rents etc.	£2,300	16%
Conferences	£1,112	8%
Donations (excluding capital)	£895	6%
Endowment transfer	£5,743	41%
Other income	£701	5%
Total	£14,006	100%
Capital donations - to the endowment	£784	



Expenditure 2022-2023	£000s
Tuition and Research	£4,800
Student support	£845
Domestic costs	£7,810
Conference costs	£631
Development and AR	£614
	£14,700
Capital expenditure	£6,507



Looking at the new student accommodation block from the front of Frewin Hall.



One of the new student bedrooms at the Frewin Annexe.



A view of the courtyard from the room.



Brasenose Chapel sans organ.



The Brasenose Chapel organ casing far from home at Orgues De Facto in Belgium. These expert organ technicians are building a new organ into the original casing, which was designed by renowned architect T G Jackson. Jackson was also responsible for the design of New Quad, extension work at Frewin Hall and Oxford's Bridge of Sighs.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES REPORT

by Liz Kay, College Librarian and Helen Sumping, College Archivist

Library

A few of the highlights of the library year:

Basement XII

Keen readers of the *Brazen Nose* may recall that at the end of 2019 and beginning of 2020, around 10,000 books were moved from one of our basement stores to offsite storage. This collection consists largely of bequests, most of which reflect the libraries of former Principals of the College, from the period of the Civil War, the Commonwealth and the Restoration on into the eighteenth century. The subject coverage as established thus far, is diverse including antiquarian learning, law, political and religious pamphlets in addition to both English and European literature.

The original plan was for the books to be away for just three months while remedial work was carried on the outside wall of the storeroom to prevent further ingress of water. However, Covid struck, the project was deferred, and the room then became an interim home for the archives while similar work was carried out on an archive store. Three years and a hefty storage bill later, we started to bring the books back to College. By 3 p.m. on 4 July, after twelve intensive delivery and shelving sessions, all the books were back in place. We were delighted to have them home.

Outreach activities

It has been a wonderful year for outreach and engagement with our special collections. Our Trinity Term rare books display was attended by students of all years and subjects, with items on display including our copy of the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, the most extensively illustrated book of the fifteenth century, published in Nuremberg in 1493.

We have also organised additional events this year. As part of Arts Week we unveiled, for the first time in its entirety, our six-metre long genealogical scroll of Henry VI, created in the second quarter of the fifteenth century. This incredible manuscript filled the Amersi Room, and the event was a huge success, with the room being full for the whole two-hour period. Students, staff and fellows all came to view

a unique piece of history. What is more significant is that this event sparked a summer project for keen Brasenose students. During the summer vacation, twelve student volunteers transcribed and translated the names in this genealogy from medieval Latin, and thanks to their efforts, we now know much more about the scroll and names written all those years ago.

We are also continuing to focus on using rare materials in teaching. Following on from last year's success, we have developed our 'introduction to rare books and handling' sessions, which proves popular for our English and History students.

Library system change to ALMA

Over the summer the 'back end' system that supports key library functions across the university, including circulation and cataloguing, was replaced. Although the impact on users was limited, Bodleian, departmental and college library staff all had a new system to get to grips with. Staff worked tirelessly for months to ensure all aspects worked for all libraries on implementation. However, as librarians get used to the new system ('ALMA'), it is expected that some tweaks and improvements will need to be made. Sophie Floate, our rare books cataloguer, represented the colleges on the special collections workstream and played an important role in flagging problems with the new system that needed be addressed before 'go-live'.

Conservation/preservation

Brasenose has some wonderful books in its collections which are a joy to share with members of college. However, no matter how careful the handling, showing certain items once or twice a year can take its toll; our beautiful thirteenth century Parisian Bible, once owned by our founder William Smyth, is a case in point. This marvellous example of a manuscript Bible has been opened and displayed on many occasions over the years and the effects were starting to show. It was necessary to address this to ensure that it would be around for future generations to enjoy. These days conservation work is understated; no obvious intervention, just subtle and simple fixes to strengthen and prolong the life of books and manuscripts. We knew just the right people to carry out this sensitive work on our precious volume and we are delighted that the treatment by Temple Bookbinders has given the Bible has a

new lease of life. It is thanks to the Delafield Trust that we have been able to do this.

Library reps

We went back to meeting in person once a term and as a result the group feels coherent once more. It was a pleasure for library staff to engage with the students in a manner that, perhaps counterintuitively, felt less formal and freer than online. We look forward to recruiting more reps and aim to build on the positive revival of the reps group. Three of our reps were finalists in 2023 and we were thrilled that they all graduated with distinction (MMaths) or a First Class degree. Thank you to Harry Best, Esme Glen and Gaby Ford for their contributions over the years.

Notable donations

The college was delighted to take delivery of *Antiquitates Romanae*, a rare incunabula to sit with our other books printed before 1500. The work is by Dionysius of Halicarnassus, a Greek historian of the 1st century BC, and was generously donated by alumnus **Martin Gross (PPE, 1972)**. It is a copy of Dionysius of Halicarnassus' most famous work *Antiquitates Romanae* ('Roman antiquities'). This popular work covers the history of Rome from the mythic period to 264 BC. The book bears the bookplate of David Hume, which certainly adds to the interest of this book.

Dudley Harrop (English, 1955), whom some of you may be familiar with having read his Brasenose authors features in several volumes of the *Brazen Nose*, visited Brasenose in August. His purpose was not only to return to College for old times' sake, but also to deliver a fine selection of books written by Brasenose authors. These constituted a healthy addition to our existing collection, and some gaps where we had only one or two titles by a given author have now been filled. I had spoken to Dudley on the telephone on a number of occasions while discussing which titles we did and did not want (his collection held many more books than those he brought to BNC); however, we had not met in person, and it was a delight for Joanna and I to finally meet him. We thoroughly enjoyed showing him around College and listening to stories of his time at BNC over a cup of tea in the Development Office with Julia Diamantis, Emilie Messenger, and Dudley's daughter, Lucy.

Archives

Assistant Archivist, Annaliese Griffiss, left in February 2023. In April 2023 Helen Sumping, College Archivist, returned from maternity leave. Ella Palfrey started as Archives Assistant in July and will be providing much-needed support until the end of the calendar year. We also have student helper, Emma Howes, working with us again for a second year.

As always, we have been busy answering enquiries (141 since the last record), with topics ranging from the standard property and member enquiries, to the more unusual, including one about a dental automaton on the High Street (sadly we could not find any information about this!). We have also hosted quite a number of internal and external researchers.

We recently acquired a new cataloguing system, Epexio, and are currently in the process of transferring all of our data from the previous software. It is hoped that it will be much more efficient and allow us to share more information online.

Emma has been busy helping with several projects, including checking the condition of records that were recently moved back into one of our stores following some building work, in addition to exhibitions and blog posts. Emma recently curated an exhibition on Sir Arthur Evans, which was requested by Professor Christopher McKenna for his economics and business students who were looking at stories behind the College silver collections.

This summer we completed a project to digitise some of our audio-visual material, which was at risk of becoming obsolete. In August we received two photograph albums which belonged to **Cecil Emsley** (m.1908). These contain images of subjects including sports, balls, and College buildings, and are a wonderful addition to the collections.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Presentations to the Library 28th September 2022 – 30th September 2023

Presentations by Members of College – own composition

Ed Bispham

(editor with Daniele Miano)

Gods and Goddesses in Ancient Italy, 2022.

Simon Blond

Art, Agency and the Continued Assault on Authorship, 2022 (2023).

Stephen Childs

Stone Circles Explained: Their Purpose and Evolution, 2020.

Richard Cooper

(editor)

Maurice Scève. Oeuvres complètes. Tome IV Entrée d'Henri II à Lyon, 1548, Dédicaces et Pièces d'Escorte, 2023.

Jonathan Dunne

Seven Brief Lessons on Language, 2022 (2023).

Jenner, Brian

Engage Brain: How to record, retrieve and remember what inspires you (rather than settling for digital oblivion), 2022.

Anthony Murphy

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Elland, 2022.

Alistair Pitty

(editor)

Themes in Geomorphology, 2020. (Originally published 1985)

Jim Reed

(commentary)

Thomas Mann: Frühe Erzählungen 1893 – 1912, 2004

Thomas Mann: Frühe Erzählungen 1893 - 1912: kommentar, 2004

Chris Spring

African Art Close Up, 2009.
African textiles Today, 2012.
South Africa: The Art of a Nation, 2016.
Ted & Ptery, 2022.

Presentations by Members of College**Stephen Bernard**

Nostramo: A Tale of the Seaboard, by Joseph Conrad edited by Roger Osborne, 2023.

Abigail Green

Southern Europe in the Age of Revolutions by Maurizio Isabella, 2023.

Martin Günter

Sein und Zeit by Martin Heidegger, 2006.
Traktat über kritische Vernunft by Hans Albert, 1991.
The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life by Erving Goffman, 2022.
Wenn ich mich nicht irre by Geert Keil, 2019.
Das Kunstwerk im Zeitalter seiner technischen Reproduzierbarkeit by Benjamin Walter, 1977.
Harry Potter: The Complete Collection by J. K. Rowling, 2013.
Über die ästhetische Erziehung des Menschen by Friedrich Schiller, 2022.
W. B. Yeats: A Literary Life by Alasdair Macrae, 1995.
Kritik von Lebensformen by Rahel Jaeggi, 2023.
Philosophische Untersuchungen by Ludwig Wittgenstein, 2003

Dudley Harrop

The Miniaturist by Jessie Burton, 2015.
The Muse by Jessie Burton, 2016.
Meltdown by Martin Baker, 2008.
Version 13 by Martin Baker, 2013.
The 39 Steps by John Buchan, 2011 (originally published 1915).
Sick River Heart by John Buchan, 1941.
Lookaway, Lookaway by Wilton Bernhardt, 2013.
Emma Who Saved My Life by Wilton Bernhardt, 1989.
Kingdom of the Wicked by Helen Dale, 2017.

- The Hand that Signed the Paper* by Helen Darville, 1994.
Lightning Rods by Helen DeWitt, 2011.
The Last Samurai by Helen DeWitt, 2000.
The Hill Station by J. G. Farrell, 1993.
The Spire by William Golding, 1964.
A New Waste Land: Timeship Earth at Nillennium by Michael Horovitz, 2007.
The Demindenko File: Who Said What, Where and When in Australia's Most Inflammatory Literary Debate by John Jost, Gianna Totaro and Christine Tyshing, 1996.
Intimate Strangers by Juliette Mead, 1998.
The Headhunter by Juliette Mead, 1994.
Prague Spring by Simon Mawer, 2019.
The Girl Who Fell from the Sky by Simon Mawer, 2013.
Tightrope by Simon Mawer, 2016.
The Summer of a Dormouse by John Mortimer, 2000.
Summer's Lease by John Mortimer, 1988.
The Culture of Forgetting by Robert Mane, 1996.
The Land of Decoration by Grace McCleen, 2013.
The Professor of Poetry by Grace McCleen, 2013.
The Offering by Grace McCleen, 2015.
Sahara by Michael Palin, 2003.
Himalaya by Michael Palin, 2005.
Hemingway's Chair by Michael Palin, 1996.
Hemingway Adventure by Michael Palin, 1999.
Erebus: The Story of a Ship by Michael Palin, 2018.
This Thing of Darkness by Harry Thompson, 2005.
Anatomy of a Scandal by Sarah Vaughan, 2018.

David Hoyle

- Global Discord: Values and Power in a Fractured World Order* by Paul Tucker, 2022.

Bill Swadling

- Trust Law, 5th edition* by Charlie Webb & Tim Akkouch, 2017.

Presentations by others

Green Templeton College

Tower of the Winds: Works on paper by Weimin He, 2018.

John Hennessy

Emily Jane Brontë and her Music by John Hennessy, 2018.

Luke Hughes

Furniture In Architecture: The Work of Luke Hughes by Aidan Walker, 2020.

Julia Smith

Profitable Wonders. Aspects of Thomas Traherne by A.M Allchin, Anne Ridler & Julia Smith, 1989.

Thomas Traherne Select Meditations edited with introduction and notes by Julia Smith, 1997.

CHAPEL REPORT

by Revd David Sheen, Chaplain

Next year will see the 350th anniversary of the death of the priest, poet, and mystic, Thomas Traherne, possibly the nearest person to a saint that we have in our College history. Until I arrived in post, I had not read many of his writings, but I came across this very early on and it has stayed with me and helps me to reflect on this past year and its changes and challenges. “By an act of understanding therefore be present now with all the creatures among which you live, and hear them in their beings and operations praising God in an heavenly manner; some of them vocally, others in their ministry, all of them naturally and continually... You are never what you ought till you go out of yourself and walk among them” (*Centuries of Meditations*, II.76). It speaks to me, in part, of the importance of immersing oneself within the community, of being open and available, of supporting and celebrating with the community as its chaplain.

This past year has been the first fully open and unrestricted year following the pandemic and its various restrictions. As with every new

year, new students were welcomed to College and to Chapel. During this term we saw the return of the full Chapel community and the numbers at Sunday evening College Prayers return to pre-pandemic levels. It is a joy to worship in Chapel Sunday by Sunday in term, with a full choir with varying weekly attendance of between 45 to 65 (mainly) students, staff, and Fellows. One of the highlights of Michaelmas is the celebration of Oxmas, and on 24 November, *Nearly* Midnight Mass was celebrated with great fun had by all, with 150 students in Chapel. Over the term, our guest preachers offered different insights and thoughtful sermons, with speakers such as the Revd Marcus Walker, Rector of Great St Bartholomew's, London; the Revd Dr Sue Lucas, Team Rector of East Ham (which is one of the College's historic patronages) and Mr Nick Spencer, a senior research fellow at the leading Christian thinktank, Theos; as well as the Revd Dr Hugh Jones, Warden of the College of St Hugh in the diocese of Lincoln. At the end of Michaelmas Term, the College bade farewell to the Revd Julia Baldwin, expressing heartfelt thanks and good wishes to her as she left to take up her new post, having served as chaplain for six years.

In Hilary Term we were grateful to the clergy of the University Church for providing cover for the chapel services for the first two weeks of term, particular thanks to the Revd Sue Stevens, who preached in first week and our first guest preacher of term, the Revd Nicholas Bradbury who preached in second week. Starting just after term had started was not without its challenges but there is a rhythm to college life that is soon picked up. The daily pattern of Chapel life and our wonderful non-auditioned choir singing College Prayers Sunday by Sunday quickly rooted me in college life. Every Hilary Term we have two Sundays that are highlights: the commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day – this year our speaker was Laura Marks CBE, chair of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust – and the annual Runcie Sermon, which this year was given by the Revd Canon Dr Giles Fraser, parish priest, journalist, and regular panellist on the *Moral Maze*. As Lent began, we had a wonderful intercollegiate sung eucharist for Ash Wednesday in the University Church, where Brasenose Chapel Choir and people joined with three other colleges and the congregation of St Mary's. The chaplain of St Edmund Hall, the Revd Dr Zachary Guiliano, preached the sermon.

Trinity Term began and continued at a pace with all members of Chapel enjoying the lighter and warmer days and evenings. We returned to celebrate the Easter journey, and our theme was 'The Roads We Travel' taken from the gospel reading for our first Sunday of term, the well-known story of the Emmaus Road, an accompanied journey and conversation. Again we were blessed with interesting and engaging preachers through the term, starting with the Revd Prof Judith Brown, sometime Beit Professor of Commonwealth History and an emeritus fellow of Balliol College; the Revd Edward Owen, parish priest, community organiser and Franciscan Tertiary; the wonderfully engaging Dr Janina Ramirez, Fellow of Harris Manchester College and author of *Femina: A New History of the Middle Ages, Through the Women Written Out of It*; and the Revd Dr James Siemens (Fr Jacob) an Orthodox priest and scholar. It was a joy to join with Lincoln College on Ascension Day in their chapel for a joint sung eucharist, with the preacher being our very own Dr Dave Leal, Lecturer in Philosophy at Brasenose. This was a fitting end to a busy and fun day of activities, starting with two parishes coming through College to beat the parish bounds, and then going through to Lincoln College for ivy ale and madrigals, through the connecting door that joins the two colleges; this door is only opened once a year on this day.

On the projects side of Chapel life, we very much looking forward to our new chapel organ being installed in Hilary Term 2024; the work is well under way, and we will soon have the new metal spiral staircase to the left-hand side of the organ loft installed, anticipating the return of the refurbished organ housing in early January 2024 and then the new organ. There are ongoing plans for the ceiling restoration, and more general improvement work to the Chapel interior, but these have again been delayed due to a substantial increase in projected cost.

The music life of the Chapel has been richly served by our Director of Music, Christian Wilson, a talented and able musician and Director of Music, who has been able to get the very best out of our wonderful choir, as well as the great concert series he organised each term. Christian announced that he would be leaving Brasenose at the end of August to take up the post of Director of Music at Keble College. We sent him off with our heartfelt thanks and very best wishes for his future work, and some decent wine. This meant that in Trinity term we began the process to recruit a new Director of Music. This led to the

exciting appointment of Polina Sosnina as our new Director of Music. We welcome her and look forward to her work with our choir and as a key member of Chapel life this coming year. I would also like to express my thanks to this year's Bible Clerk, Nishen Menerapitiyage Don and assistant Bible Clerk, Lily Green, as well as the HCR chapel reps, Edward Gifford and William Brady for their energy and commitment to the chapel services and community. Nishen hosted the Choir Tea every Sunday afternoon, and we were served with delicious cakes and tea each week. Thank you also to our organ scholars, Quinn Obbink and Sean Cohen, who provided music on Sundays and Tuesdays, as well as the all the members of our fantastic chapel choir. Many thanks also to Kirsty Jackson for providing such helpful administrative support. And a personal thank you to all the Fellows, staff, and students of Brasenose for making me feel very welcome and so quickly a part of the life of the College. To conclude where I started, with those words of Thomas Traherne, 'You are never what you ought till you go out of yourself and walk among them.'

Chapel and Music People

Bible Clerk – Nishen Menerapitiyage Don

Assistant Bible Clerk – Lily Green

HCR Chapel Reps – Edward Gifford (Michaelmas) & William Brady (Trinity)

Senior Organ Scholars – Quinn Obbink and Sean Cohen

Occasional Offices: October 2022 – September 2023

Services were officiated by the Chaplain and took place in Brasenose Chapel unless otherwise stated.

Weddings

Emily Kerr and Alexander Betts, 17 June 2023.

Sophie-Marie Raeder and Jonathan Perris, 2 September 2023 (the officiant was the Revd Prebendary Anthony Perris).

Funerals

The funeral service of Dr Simon Altmann. Preacher: Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP.

31 October 2022

Articles



SOME TREASURES OF THE BRASENOSE LIBRARY

*by Sophie Floate (Rare Books Librarian)
and Joanna Mills (Assistant Librarian)*

Please refer to photographs in the colour plates section

Founder's Bible (Paris, mid 13th century) (MS 1)

This illuminated manuscript once belonged to William Smith, Bishop of Lincoln and co-founder of Brasenose College, which he gave to the college in the early 16th century. The Bible is written on parchment and was produced in Paris, with elaborate decorative elements including illuminated initials with foliage designs; cartouches are drawn around the catchwords in the form of creatures such as elephants, wild cats and grotesques. The illumination is particularly well preserved, particularly the gold frames and blue and pink grounds.

Genealogical roll of Henry VI (England, second quarter of 15th century) (MS 91)

This six metre-long genealogical roll, which shows the descent of Henry VI from Adam, was probably commissioned to consolidate his frequently unsteady reign (1422-61, 1470-1). The roll is made from parchment and decorated in blue, red, green, and yellow. The most important figures are named in roundels running down the centre of the manuscript, with the names of the archbishops of Canterbury in the left margin and various notes in the right margin (Uther Pendragon and King Arthur are noted in the far right roundels). Genealogical rolls evolved during the 13th century and became increasingly popular in the 15th century to bolster dynastic claims at the centre of conflicts (particularly during the Wars of the Roses, 1455-1487).

Nuremberg Chronicle (Nuremberg, 1493) (UB/S I 18A)

The *Liber Chronicarum*, or *Nuremberg Chronicle*, is one of the most extensively illustrated printed books of the 15th century. The text, written in Latin by Hartmann Schedel, purports to be a universal history of the Christian world from the beginning of time to the early 1490s. The narrative is divided into 11 parts, the so-called 'world ages', and is profusely illustrated with images of biblical and historical events,

mythological creatures, and topographical views of towns and countries in Europe and the Middle East. Many of these images were the first ever maps and illustrations of cities and countries. This Latin edition was printed in Nuremberg by Anton Koberger in July 1493; a German translation followed later that year. In the Brasenose copy, an anti-papist reader has scratched out every instance of the word “papa”; at a later date this was reinstated (in some cases) by writing the word above.

De historia stirpium (Basel, 1542) (UB/S III 36)

Leonard Fuchs compiled this illustrated herbal depicting medicinal plants drawn directly from life. The book details hundreds of plants and has over 500 woodcut illustrations, all of which are hand coloured. Over 100 of the plants in the book were first descriptions. In this copy there are manuscript notes, written in a contemporary hand, under each illustration giving the plants their English common names.

De re metallica libri (Basel, 1561) (Lath D 2.1)

This book, translated as *On the Nature of Metals*, is a treatise on the art of mining, refining, and smelting metals. First published posthumously after the death of the author, Georgius Agricola (1494–1555), the book remained the authoritative text on mining for more than a century since very few works on the subject were printed. German mining technology was considered the most advanced of its time and contributed significantly to the wealth of the country.

John Foxe’s Actes and Monuments

John Foxe (1516–1587), religious historian and Protestant polemicist, was a student at Brasenose, awarded his BA in 1537. Foxe is most famous for his *Actes and Monuments*, commonly known as the *Book of Martyrs*. This seminal and controversial text is a work of Protestant history and propaganda, collating hundreds of accounts of the persecution and sufferings of Protestants in England and Scotland under the Catholic Church. First published early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, only five years after the death of the Roman Catholic Queen Mary I, it was a zealous affirmation of the English Reformation in a period of fraught religious conflict. In 1571 it was decreed that a copy should be placed in every cathedral church in the land. Here at Brasenose, we have at least one copy of each edition of this work printed in the 16th and 17th centuries.

**The first and chief groundes of architecture (London, 1563)
(Lath R 3.20)**

John Shute's book is the first treatise on architecture in English. It has the earliest architectural intaglio prints made in England; these are particularly unusual as they were printed in indigo ink (which has now faded to grey). It describes the classical orders of architecture, together with the requirements for the 'perfecte architecte'. Little is known about Shute, though according to the dedication in the book to his patron the Duke of Northumberland, he travelled to Italy in 1550 to study classical architecture. The book proved very popular, going through several editions; however, it remains very rare, perhaps because it may have been used as a working manual by builders.

Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium (Amsterdam, 1719) (UB/S III 62)

Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717) was a German scientific illustrator and naturalist. On a remarkable journey she undertook from 1699 to 1701 to the Dutch colony of Surinam, she made meticulous studies of the natural history there. Merian's illustrations depict insects in their natural habitats, proving the process of insect metamorphosis when, prior to her work, insects were believed to emerge 'spontaneously' from the mud. The resulting work was the first natural history of Surinam. This copy, printed two years after her death, has hand-coloured illustrations which are in remarkable condition, and was donated in 1889 by S.P. Duval, a student at Brasenose College.

The Holy Land (London, 1842-1849) (UB Centre Case 3)

David Roberts, an artist born in Scotland in 1796, produced this 3 volume work having travelled throughout the Middle East region sketching landscapes, ruins, temples and people. The sketches formed the basis of the lithographs in this remarkable set of prints. The lithographs were made by the Louis Haghe, the most prolific lithographer of the time. Praised by Ruskin, no other work had produced such a comprehensive collection of views of the region and proved to be extremely popular. Copies were often broken up and the plates sold individually but the set here is complete.



Founder's Bible (Paris, mid 13th century)



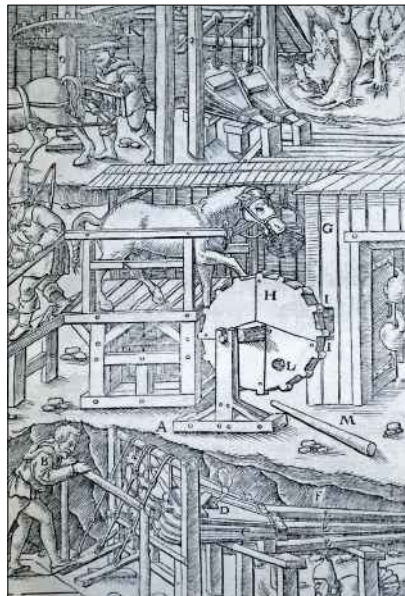
De historia stirpium
(Basel, 1542)



Genealogical roll of Henry VI
(England, second quarter of 15th century)
Uther Pendragon and King Arthur
are noted in the far right roundels.



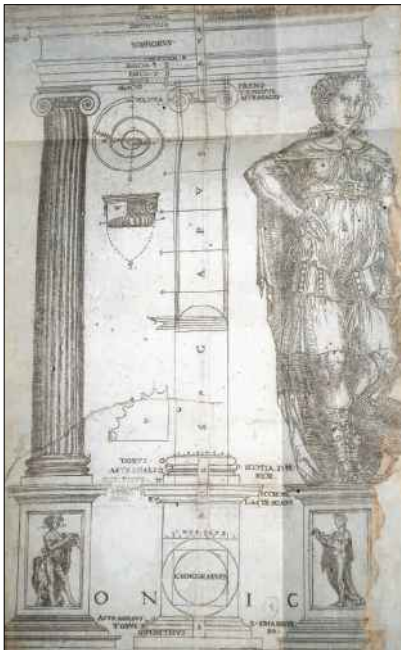
Nuremberg Chronicle/Liber Chronicarum (Nuremberg, 1493)



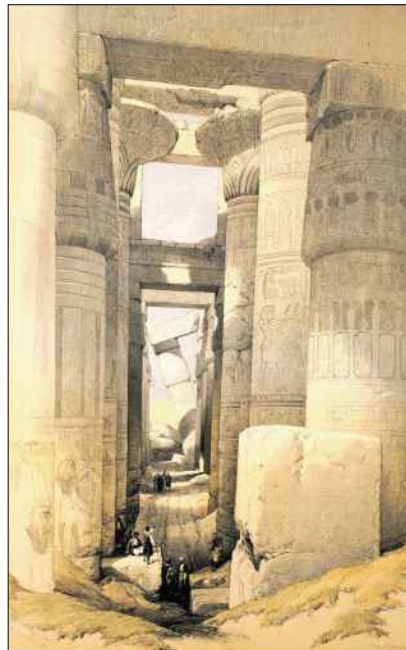
De re metallica libri (Basel, 1561)



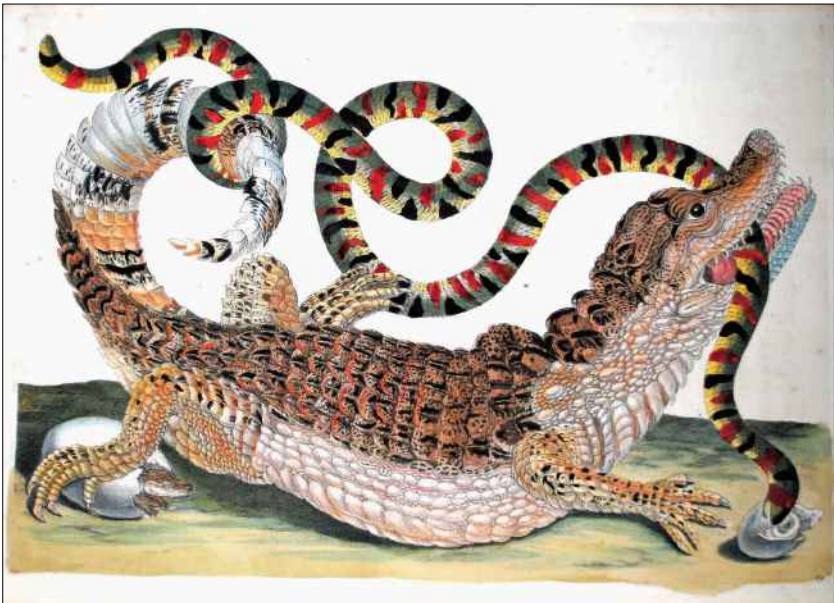
John Foxe's Actes and Monuments.



The first and chief groundes of architecture (London, 1563)



The Holy Land (London, 1842-1849)



Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium (Amsterdam, 1719)

BRASENOSE, TIME, AND HISTORY

by Dr Simon Smith, Senior Tutor

Brasenose is a busy place and it is hard to step back from daily events in order to take a longer-term perspective. Oxford's colleges are popularly perceived as immutable, evolving only slowly. In reality, they are lithe institutions that exhibit a remarkable ability to adapt as well as the capacity to endure. Successful organisations both initiate and regulate change. The interaction between these two elements makes the difference between advancement or a descent into chaos.

The challenge of the pandemic demonstrated how adaptable the colleges are. They reacted more speedily to the crisis than universities generally. Brasenose pivoted from providing teaching exclusively in person to wholly virtual delivery within 30 days over the Easter vacation. Relatively unconstrained by bureaucracy, by the first week of Trinity Term the College had rolled out IT support for all undergraduates identified as needing it. Virtual learning environments were up and running for each subject and staff provided with training in their use.

Barely any aspect of College life remains the same today as it was a decade ago. The chances are, ten years from now, Brasenose will again have transformed itself. Since 2011, there have been significant alterations in Brasenose's undergraduate degree programmes:

- Medicine: reduction in quota to permit Psychology to expand and a new subject to be admitted for (Linguistics).
- Psychology: expansion in quota and election of a Tutorial Fellow (first in the subject).
- Music: subject discontinued, except for potential organ award holders.
- Fine Art: expansion in quota and election of a Tutorial Fellow (first in the subject).
- Modern Languages: reduction in quota.
- Geography: increase in quota and a decision to elect a second Tutorial Fellow.
- Biology: increase in quota and decision to elect a second Tutorial Fellow; shift from BA to MBiol and extension of the degree from three to four years.
- Psychology: increase in quota, first Tutorial Fellow in the subject; shift from BA to MBiol and extension of the degree from three to four years.

Every academic year begins afresh. Students turn over the most rapidly: undergraduates every three to four years, taught Masters every one or two years, research Masters every four years (or so). Turnover among academics, however, is also notable. Of the 61 Fellows listed in the 2011 *University Register*, only 31 appear again a decade later. Of the 73 Fellows listed in 2021, 42 were elected over the previous ten years. But the students shift gear fastest and their total number is up by more than one-tenth.

	Postgraduates research	Postgraduates taught	Undergraduates	Total
2011	132	70	361	563
2022	145	105	380	630

A good illustration of how the student side of College has changed is welfare provision. In May 2009, the Dean and Chaplain of Brasenose presented a proposal to Governing Body to establish the College's first welfare committee. Hitherto, coordination took place at an informal welfare lunch held with the college doctors. There is now a designated budget for welfare, together with an organisational chart, role descriptors for the officers, underpinning policies, training audits, and regular minuted meetings of the committee, which from 2015 has been chaired by the Principal. The welfare lunch continues, but is now a forum for an invited guest speaker and attended by student reps and peer supporters, along with members of the welfare team.

Internal perspectives, no less than external ones, can remain partially oblivious to change. Those closest to the ground are the current members of the College. If asked whether Brasenose has created a new subject in the last decade, quite possibly the majority of respondents would say no. They might then recall that the College opted in 2017 to enlarge Geography in preference to establishing Computer Science. In fact, the College has established a new subject: Linguistics. Moreover, when expanding Geography, it created for the first time a Tutorial Fellow in Human Geography, having previously had only a single Tutor in Physical Geography. Physical Geography is essentially a science (geology), whereas Human Geography is more akin to a social science: a different and, for Brasenose, a novel subject. Likewise, Biology's second Tutorial Fellow in

the biology of infectious diseases represents a new departure.

Recently, the College revisited Computer Science and from 2026 Brasenose expects to admit undergraduates and to elect a Tutorial Fellow. While an exciting development, this is not in fact an example of a new subject. Brasenose previously admitted undergraduates both for Engineering and Computing Science and for Mathematics and Computing Science. It stopped doing so in order to do other things. For a variety of reasons, Computer Science failed to take root earlier in the College's history, but the subject's prospects are now set fair.

In an environment where change is constant, the stories that members of a community tell themselves shape their perceptions. In 2024, Brasenose marks the 50th anniversary of the first women undergraduates. Over the three years preceding the 40th anniversary, 46% of matriculating students were women. A decade on, 54% of new undergraduates since 2020 have been female. Judging from trends in the awarding of the highest grades in sixth-form examinations and in applications, the proportion of women is expected to rise higher and may soon exceed 60%. It will be interesting to see how the celebrations of 2024 differ from those of 2014 and what new narratives emerge from a decade that has witnessed a significant shift in the student gender balance.

To endure, an evolutionary impulse must be tempered by core stability – the twin forces that regulate successful adaptation in any organism. Brasenose will continue to receive proposals that it will need to evaluate. Oxford is an environment where opportunities are presented and quite often lobbied for. The University's 'as earned' budget principle means that a department and a college with resource can decide to do business – very often without troubling a Pro-Vice-Chancellor unduly. In a place where knowledge is constantly being created, there is no fear that the impetus to transform will be lost. But what of the counter-balancing forces – the impetus for stability? Given free rein, the forces of change could rip any organisation apart. Looking back at past governance and strategy reviews, the following elements appear important in keeping the College in one piece as it moves forward.

Oxford's evolutionary psychologist, Robin Dunbar, studied the relationship between group size and social organisation. Brasenose's current structures overlap with several thresholds Dunbar concluded were critical. The undergraduate subjects each admit between 3 to 10

students which fit within the boundaries for effective team size. Each year group falls into the range 105 to 110 – figures in line with the number of close friendships a person maintains at any one time. The total student population is large enough to generate administrative scale efficiencies but below the point at which studies of managerialism indicate that different structures would be required.

For the College to remain both an admitting body and a co-provider of education, the subjects it offers must lend themselves to tutorial teaching. At other UK universities, departments have ceded control over student admissions. Class sizes have grown as the staff to student ratio has deteriorated to combat a fall in ‘the unit of resource’ (the amount of funding allocated per student). Oxford has not followed suit because the colleges have protected teaching and ensured that academics, not administrators, act as selectors. As a result, the differences between the Oxbridge and Russell Group student experience has widened. Orations by Oxford’s Vice-Chancellors exhibit both pride in the uniqueness of tutorial teaching and subtle envy over the measure of control their counterparts exert at other institutions. Beyond teaching, there are other irreducible aspects of academic membership of College which are needed to maintain an interdisciplinary community. To date, it has proved possible to accommodate buyouts (for research) and on occasion secondments without destroying the fabric of Fellowship, although at times the threads have been strained.

Oxford colleges are sometimes described as self-governing communities. This does not mean the governance of all by all, or that each individual is his or her own governor. Rather, self-governance refers to the College’s charter and statutes which set out how Brasenose is governed. In brief, the College is an educational charity with trustees, a majority of whom are academics. The trustees have certain duties and obligations including the holding of the senior officers to account, the approval of the College’s strategic direction, and the assurance of financial and operational health.

The College has many members who are not trustees but who nevertheless contribute to its charitable aims of furthering education, learning, and research. The most important of these are students, who are the charity’s primary beneficiaries. Undergraduates and graduates are, therefore, represented on governance committees. Sometimes the term ‘stakeholder’ is used in relation to an organisation and it is beginning to

appear within Oxford. Virtually anyone connected with a given entity can be presented as a stakeholder. When the net is cast wide in this way, it becomes practically impossible to reach decisions that satisfy all of the stakeholders and their various interests. If managers attempt the impossible, accountability for delivery of agreed goals is lost and time is expended seeking ways to balance stakeholder benefits instead.

Summing up, while studying how other associations organise themselves is valuable, the reverse is also true. No society is an exemplar and the College should always be looking at how it might improve and what it can learn. Yet, as well as being a place of study, Brasenose is also a society worthy of study by others seeking to enhance their own offerings.

BRASENOSE ALUMNI SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL DINNER SPEECH

by Narmada Thiranaqama (Modern History, 1996)

It has been an honour to be the President of the Alumni Society. The Alumni Committee has welcomed me, helped me and befriended me, as has the society at large when we've met. As have the staff – just as they did when I was an undergraduate, they've been unfailingly kind and generous. Last week a member of staff asked me if I was a new Fellow, to my delight. I can have no higher aspiration now.

I will start with a confession: I never thought I'd be standing up here. No one is more surprised than me. I never even really thought about applying to Oxford.

I applied and sat the entrance exam because my teachers asked me to fill in a form on a Friday and bring it back on Monday. I filled in everything except the college I was applying to and my teacher told me to put Brasenose as my top choice.

When I got here for the interview, I was so convinced I didn't want to get in that I packed my bag and left it outside the interview room so that as soon as it was over, I could get the bus to London.

But I walked out a changed person. I enjoyed my interview so much that I remember thinking, "is this what Brasenose is like? Maybe I do want to go here after all!"

And so it proved! For me it meant three years to read, think and write in peace. Especially because when I was getting ready to leave home my father told me something he'd kept a secret. That we were on a terrorist hit list.

Scotland Yard had asked him to tell me since I was leaving home and I would no longer be under their protection. But I felt safer in Oxford, if guilty at leaving my father and little sister behind in danger. I was convinced they'd never be able to get past the Porters' Lodge.

Brasenose was a haven – but I was conscious that for most of my peers it was a springboard into life, which they were just discovering. They were stretching out into the world – I wanted to retreat.

I had already seen too much of the world and my broken past was imprinted with the deep indents of history. I was born in Sri Lanka where my Tamil mother and Sinhalese father got married privately in a friend's house, while communal riots raged outside.

I wasn't able to go to school for months at a time. We were bombed at night and shelled during the day. Our house was searched regularly, I was interrogated by armed men many times. My parents were deeply principled people with great political and personal integrity. This meant we were the enemy of the army and militant groups alike.

I didn't have school and I didn't have electricity, but I did have thousands of books in my home – from Dostoevsky to Dickens, Maupassant to Eliot, Tolstoy to Austen, Chekov to Lorca, Shakespeare to Stendhal. I read them all! Like Brasenose they had not been conceived with me in mind – I had never been the intended audience. But they had room for me. I didn't think I'd have a long life. So I read books, for all the lives and experiences I'd never have or know.

I read my way into an invisible community of learning, crossing a bridge conjured out of the thick air that hung as we waited for the bombers to arrive – a bridge that carried me through the trauma of war, my mother's assassination by terrorists, becoming a child refugee – all the way into this beautiful place.

My peers were exotic to me – no doubt I was the same to them. I was from state school, I was very poor and I'd lived through unsettling events – none of these things were good socially! I didn't make an effort to join in the social life of the College. I thought – all I need is books, not people – yes, I was a silly young person then.

Friendship found me here. They cared for me without me asking, they offered love and kindness when I didn't look for it, I became drawn into the community of this College without realising.

The Catholic socialist activist Dorothy Day wrote, "*we cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other. We know him in the breaking of bread, and we know each other in the breaking of bread, and we are not alone anymore. Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet too, even with a crust where there is companionship. We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community. It all happened while we sat there talking, and it is still going on*".

Because companionship found me here in Brasenose and it happened without me realising. It is companionship that is at the heart of a learning that roots you into a deeper wisdom. This is a lesson that can only come with experience and not just through books.

What better illustration could there be, of this, than our gathering today. We start as students and then enter a community that sustains us throughout our lives. We grow into it, we don't leave it. There's a place at the table even for those who don't look for it.

There was for me.

THE STEWARD, THE ADMIRAL, THE POISONER AND HER LOVER

by David Bradbury (Ancient & Modern History, 1981)

Sir Arthur Mainwaring was the eldest of four brothers who all attended Brasenose in turn late in the 16th or early in the 17th century. I have written before about the second of them, Sir Henry, the pirate, MP, naval administrator and admiral. However, his elder brother Sir Arthur became in his own way just as notorious (or more so, even), as a result of his association with the sensational Overbury murder case, which saw his mistress hanged as a poisoner while the Countess of Somerset, the real mover of the plot, got off with a brief spell in the Tower of London. Like the third brother, George, Sir Arthur is a little difficult to pin down, in the sense that there are references to two other men of

the same name with whom he has sometimes been confused. But in his case, at least, I think I can now clear up the confusion.

To start with two easy cases where no such confusion has arisen, there was another Sir Arthur – our man’s grandfather – and a plain Arthur, his grandson. The former did not go to university (it not yet being fashionable for the sons of gentry to do so) while the latter went not to Brasenose but to Christ Church, by then an altogether smarter place. Nor is there anything surprising about so many Arthurs in the family in an age where Christian names often descended down the generations along with surnames. All three of them in their turn inherited the family manor of Ightfield in northern Shropshire, until the younger Arthur, a minor political and literary figure in the reign of Queen Anne, sold it under pressure of debts partly inherited from his father.¹ Being in each case two generations apart, they flourished in different eras and so are not easily confused. But there are two other men who have been confused with our Sir Arthur, and by reputable historians, too.

Firstly, there was an Arthur Mainwaring who was secretary or steward to Lord Ellesmere. This man was already employed by the then Sir Thomas Egerton before his elevation to the peerage, for we find him submitting accounts for Queen Elizabeth’s 1602 visit to Egerton’s mansion in Middlesex – the so-called ‘Harefield Entertainment’ – and he seems to have remained employed by Ellesmere for the rest of the latter’s life, for he also put in accounts for costs incidental to his master’s promotion in the peerage from Baron Ellesmere to Viscount Brackley very shortly before Ellesmere died in 1617. It is perhaps not surprising that the editor of the 1840 Camden Society edition of the Egerton Papers should have concluded that this man was the same as our Sir Arthur and referred to him as such, for Sir Arthur not only shared an Oxford college connection with the noble lord, they had for a time been related by marriage (Ellesmere’s second wife was Sir Arthur’s maternal aunt). What more likely, then, than on taking his MA from Brasenose in around 1600, he should get a plum post from his uncle by marriage? As Sir Arthur was later MP for Huntingdon in the 1624–26 parliaments (thanks to the patronage of Sir Oliver Cromwell, the uncle of the future Lord Protector), his biography appears in the *History of Parliament* volumes for 1604–29, and this too claims that he had been Ellesmere’s steward.² However, R.C. Bald’s biography of John Donne

(also a relative by marriage of both Ellesmere and Sir Arthur) states that Ellesmere's steward Arthur is not to be confused with Sir Arthur (though both a later footnote and the index *do* confuse them, perhaps because the book was unfinished at the author's death and was prepared for the press by someone else).³

Our first clue that they are actually separate figures comes from the poet John Davies of Hereford (himself not to be confused with Sir John Davies, who is believed to have written the Harefield Entertainment). The Hereford poet was certainly well acquainted with Sir Arthur's brother Henry, who had studied calligraphy with him and for whom he wrote a farewell poem on the eve of a voyage that actually turned into a pirate cruise.⁴ But he also wrote a rather laboured poem for an 'Arthure Maynwarring, Esquire, bearer of the purse before the Lo. Chancellor', in which he seeks to draw a contrast between Ellesmere's purse-bearer, and the purse-bearer of Jesus, namely Judas Iscariot. This effort very clearly relates to Lord Ellesmere's steward, for it says that his purse 'is rich and yet no money stores' (the reference is to the red embroidered ceremonial bag that carried the Great Seal of England, still clearly visible in Ellesmere's portrait above High Table).⁵ This poem was published in the 1610-11 collection *The Scourge of Folly*, but still refers to its subject as plain 'Esquire', whereas Brasenose's Sir Arthur had been knighted as far back as 1603, in the first wave of honours dished out by James I on his accession to the English throne.⁶ In an age obsessed with titles and precedence, the poet would not call a knight of the realm plain 'esquire', and so this lowly steward must be someone else than our Sir Arthur. There is yet another type of evidence to which we can turn: signed documents in the archives. These include a letter of May 1623 to Baron Zouche, signed 'Art. Maynwaringe', which from its content is unquestionably from the Brasenose Sir Arthur. It is a polite reply to a conciliatory letter from Zouche, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, regretting the necessity of dismissing Mainwaring's brother Sir Henry as his deputy.⁷ An earlier document has a rather different tenor: 'Arth. Maynwaringe' is one of three men who in November 1606 witnessed a letter of attorney from Lord Ellesmere relating to the purchase of the manor of Little Gaddesden in Hertfordshire.⁸ Given the subject matter, Ellesmere's property deals, surely it would have been the steward who signed this document. Yet the signatures on these documents are plainly in different hands, with some very different flourishes. Moreover, the

Camden Society report on the Egerton Papers prints Mainwaring's accounts for both the 1602 Harefield Entertainment, at which the future Lord Ellesmere, who was then still plain Sir Thomas Egerton, hosted Queen Elizabeth I on the last of her summer progresses at Harefield, and for the elevation of Lord Ellesmere to Viscount Brackley. In both of these, it gives the signature abbreviated as 'Arth.' not 'Art.' – in other words the same way as the man who signed the letter of attorney.⁹ I think we can take all this as good evidence that Bald is right and the *History of Parliament* is wrong: it was not our Sir Arthur who acted as Lord Ellesmere's steward.

After Ellesmere died, he was replaced first as Lord Chancellor by Sir Francis Bacon, ennobled as Lord Verulam and, after his disgrace, as Lord Keeper by John Williams, Bishop of Lincoln. Arthur Mainwaring the steward seems still to have been serving the latter when in 1622 he got involved in a lawsuit over a case where he had promised to help get a grant of land from the king in exchange for a consideration of £20, and he is probably the Arthur Mainwaring who was buried in Westminster Abbey in July 1624. If so, this sheds light on who he might have been, as the editor of the abbey's burial register believed this man came from the Kermincham branch of the family, a younger son of the Henry Mainwaring who had been Sheriff of Chester in 1575.¹⁰

There was yet another Arthur Mainwaring. In 1620 King James sent a fleet under Sir Robert Mansell to attack the corsair base at Algiers. Its vice-admiral was an Arthur Mainwaring, who flew his flag in the brand new king's ship *Constant Reformation*, and again some historians take this man to be the well-known Sir Arthur. Thus, for example, David Hebb writes of this expedition that 'the other three king's ships were also commanded by experienced men... Sir Arthur Mainwaring was given command of the *Constant Reformation*', adding by way of explanation in a footnote that he was 'the brother of the pirate "admiral"', meaning Sir Henry.¹¹ Of course, having a brother as a distinguished seaman does not confer nautical experience on oneself, and there is no evidence that Sir Arthur ever set foot aboard ship in his life. Ironically, though, the Arthur Mainwaring who was actually given the job seems to have been almost equally inexperienced at sea: one account describes him as 'so seriously searching into the mystery of his new profession, that he would soone have equalled the best Captaine, both for judgement and command', hardly a description one would have used of an old hand.¹²

There are two clear pieces of evidence that we are again talking about different men of the same name. Firstly, the vice-admiral did not survive the expedition – he died in April 1621 at Malaga, and a few years later his executors petitioned the Lord Treasurer over some money promised to him by the crown.¹³ This in itself should be enough to make it clear that he was not the same as the Brasenose man, as it is beyond doubt that he was still alive in the 1620s and 1630s, during which there are a number of references to him in the State Papers Domestic.¹⁴ However, there is another clue – the vice-admiral of the 1620 expedition is always referred to as ‘Captain’, not ‘Sir’. Moreover in one list of the officers involved, despite being second-in-command he appears after several other captains who had been knighted (but ahead of all those others who had not).¹⁵ Again, this is evidence he was not the Brasenose man, who as we have seen had been knighted back in 1603.

If Sir Arthur was not busying himself over Lord Ellesmere’s affairs of business or leading fleets to the Mediterranean, what was he doing? He did in fact enter the household of someone even more important than Ellesmere: Prince Henry, the eldest son of James I. He became carver – one of the servants who waited on him at table – to the prince in 1610 and kept this post till the latter’s sudden death in late 1612. But he also conducted a long extramarital affair, one that threatened to get him in some very hot water indeed. His mistress was one Mrs Anne Turner, whose husband Dr George Turner did not seem to mind his wife’s relationship with Sir Arthur. This might all have gone unnoticed had Mrs Turner not been a confidante of Frances Howard, Countess of Essex, who was trying to get a divorce from the Earl of Essex so she could instead marry the Earl of Somerset, James I’s current male favourite. This is not the place to go into this tangled business, but in short the Countess, finding that Sir Thomas Overbury, right-hand man to her prospective new husband, opposed their liaison, managed in 1613 to get him sent to the Tower where he shortly died, of what was later thought to be poison.¹⁶ This only came to light in 1615, when Mrs Turner was among those arrested, tried and executed for his murder.

At Mrs Turner’s trial, a great deal of evidence was produced to blacken her name. It was alleged that when in 1610 her husband’s death freed her to remarry, she had turned to supernatural means to persuade

Sir Arthur to propose, consulting the notorious quack, astrologer and sorcerer Simon Forman in the hope he could use his powers to that end. It was claimed in court that he had used magical figurines in rituals to attempt that, while Mrs Turner had plied her paramour with a love philtre that Forman supplied, which wrought ‘so violently with [Mainwaring] that through a storm of rain and thunder he rode fifteen miles one dark night to her house.’ Indeed, one wonders whether the plot of Middleton’s *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*, in which Allwit happily plays wittol to Sir Walter Whorehound and Sir Oliver Kix is told to ride for five hours to enable some supposed fertility medicine to take effect was not partly inspired by this sad tale. For that to be true, Sir Arthur’s amours must have been the talk of the town a year or two before they were cited in court, given the date the play is believed to have been written (between 1611 and 1613); but that is not impossible, also given how gossipy London high society was.

Indeed, the affair threatened Mainwaring with another danger: among the rough notes of the great jurist and Lord Chief Justice Sir Edward Coke, who was leading the enquiry into the Overbury case, there survives an *aide-memoire* reminding himself, in a classic instance of ‘no smoke without fire’, that at the time of Prince Henry’s death his carver Mainwaring had been living with a known poisoner. The implication is clear: presumably Coke intended to reopen the investigation into the prince’s death, which had earlier concluded his body showed no signs of poison. It was probably just as well for Mainwaring that some cooler heads, including that of Lord Ellesmere, were appointed to join Coke in his enquiry.

After this unwelcome notoriety died down, it is hardly surprising that Mainwaring lived more obscurely for a time. While his younger brother Sir Henry, the reformed pirate, became Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to the king, Sir Arthur only got the equivalent position in Prince Charles’ household, much inferior to the one he had held in Prince Henry’s court.¹⁷ He returned more to notice when elected to Parliament and when appointed as Lieutenant of Windsor Castle and Forest in 1628, though this latter also involved him in a certain amount of administration. For example, when Jesus College, Oxford, asked the king for a stag from the forest for a college feast, Mainwaring is recorded as having given them a warrant for this. During the Civil War he went back to his native Shropshire where he was for a time named by the King on

the county's Commission of Array. So perhaps it is not surprising that he complained that his 'fair mansion house' at Ightfield had been burnt down by the Parliamentarians. His will, made the day before he died, is dated 28 December 1648 and he was buried at Chertsey.¹⁸ He had seemingly outlived his earlier scandal, but no doubt it was that very notoriety that meant later historians coming across the name of Arthur Mainwaring took it to mean him, even though that wasn't always the case.

Endnotes

- 1 H.G.C. Matthew and Brian Harrison (eds.), *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, 2004, vol 37, p 610.
- 2 J. Payne Collier (ed), *The Egerton Papers*, Camden Society, London, 1840, p 342; Andrew Thrush and John P. Ferris, *The House of Commons 1604-1629*, vol 5, Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp 206-9.
- 3 R.C. Bald, *John Donne: a Life*, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1970, pp 97, 148 and 613.
- 4 Alexander B. Grosart, *The Complete Works of John Davies of Hereford*, vol 2, Edinburgh University Press, 1878, 'A Proper Appendix' in *The Muse's Sacrifice*, p 91.
- 5 Grosart, *op cit*, 'To Worthy Persons' in *The Scourge of Folly*, p 55.
- 6 John Nichols, *The Progresses, Processions and Magnificent Festivities of King James the First*, vol 1, London, 1828, p 115; William A. Shaw, *The Knights of England*, vol 2, London, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 1906, p 106.
- 7 The National Archives, SP 14/144, f. 10.
- 8 Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies, AH 1137.
- 9 This document is not without its problems – it contains a reference to a performance of *Othello* at Harefield that was undoubtedly forged by its Victorian editor – but there seems no reason to reject this particular part of it.
- 10 The National Archives, C2/JasI/M9/48; Joseph Lemuel Chester, *The Marriage, Baptismal and Burial Registers of the Collegiate Church or Abbey of St Peter*, Westminster, London, 1876, p 123.
- 11 David D. Hebb, *Piracy and the English Government 1616-1642*, Aldershot, Scolar Press, 1994, p 82.
- 12 John Button, *Algiers voyage in a iournall or briefe reportary of all occurrents hapning*, London, 1621.
- 13 John Button, *op cit*; Kent History and Library Centre, U269/1/OE485.
- 14 For example, *Calendar of State Papers Domestic*, 20 and 26 November 1628; April (undated) 1630; 20 March and 1 November 1638.
- 15 Historical Manuscripts Commission, *Westmoreland Manuscripts*, HMSO, 1885, p 385.
- 16 For a good account, see Anne Somerset, *Unnatural Murder: Poison at the Court of James I*, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1997.
- 17 The National Archives, LC 2/6, ff. 37 and 69.
- 18 *Calendar of State Papers Domestic*, 20 November 1628; James Howell, *Epistolae Ho-Ellicanae*, London, 1653, p 153; Surrey History Centre, LM/COR/5/31; The National Archives, PROB 11/207 ff. 260-1.

Obituaries



DEATHS NOTIFIED

October 2022 – September 2023

The editor welcomes correspondence concerning any members of Brasenose who have passed away; personal reminiscences are welcome. Please do let us know if you would like to provide an obituary by contacting: development.office@bnc.ox.ac.uk, or call +44 (0) 01865 287275.

* denotes full obituary

Name	Matriculated
Margaret Ackrill	
D Richard Thorpe*	
John White*	
Geoffrey A Weeks	1939
William J H Leckie	1946
Peter G Philpott*	1946
Vincent Marks*	1948
James M Swallow	1948
Christopher G Barlow	1949
John H S Blaxter	1949
Malcolm Hodgkinson*	1949
Brian Raymond Judd*	1949
J Michael Rountree	1949
Richard L Sarson	1949
Roderick A W Stevens	1949
Arthur B Holloway	1950
Trevor J Tarring	1950
Alan Maurice Bold	1951
Patrick G Lowe	1951
Michael G Flint	1952
Alastair D S Fowler	1952
Dennis W J Russell*	1952
C Nicholas Walter	1952
Charles C Bastin	1953

Michael R Lee*	1953
Rodney Loudon*	1953
Michael H Millyard	1953
Brian Norman	1953
Roger N R Peers	1953
Benjamin Philip Rabinowitz*	1953
D Garry Robertson	1953
Alexander William Baylis Thomson	1953
Terence A A Adams	1954
David Norman Baldock	1954
J Alastair Carruthers	1954
Michel Treisman	1954
John R Bartlett*	1955
Roger A Bowles	1955
John S Burn	1955
David R Hegan	1955
David H R Huxtable	1955
Adam Kellett-Long	1955
Alan M Moses	1955
Tony B Read	1955
Julian R Story	1955
Robin A Arnold	1956
John F McPartlin	1956
Ian Philip Sinnott	1956
John R C Brown*	1957
Charles G Hill	1957
Norman L Jones	1958
Peter A Rawley*	1958
John Bayley Fox*	1959
Malcolm J Swinburn*	1960
Richard J Allen*	1961
Robert J O'Neill*	1961

William N Roberts*	1961
Ian K J Perrin	1962
David A Brennand-Roper*	1965
Christopher R Holden	1965
Ian D Murdoch*	1969
Mark H W Roberts*	1969
Philip A Thomas	1969
Paul Koronka	1973
Martin F D Baker	1976
George P Landow	1977
Alexandra H Allan	1986
Terry Cleaver	1987
Basil S Markesinis	1999
Justin R Ehrenwerth*	2002
Ezra Jackson	2019

Richard John Allen (Physics, 1961)

by Michael Allen

Richard specialised in semi-conductor technology on leaving Oxford, initially joining Ferranti in Oldham (1963 to 1966) where he worked on the precision production and doping of silicon crystals. He joined the ‘brain drain’ to California in 1966, working on semi-conductor assemblies at Signetix (1966 to 1978).

Atmospheric pollution in Silicon Valley led to the family moving to Portland, Oregon, where Richard joined Tektronix to work on the production of test and measurement equipment. He later moved to nearby Triquint where he specialised in quality control over high performance wireless communication equipment.

This focus on quality control led to Richard being selected as an examiner for the Baldrige Performance Excellence Award, the US equivalent of ISO 9001, for several years until he retired to Dallas, Oregon, in 2010.

**Revd. Canon Professor John Raymond Bartlett
(Theology, 1955)**

by Canon Ginnie Kennerley

First published in The Irish Times, reused with kind permission

The noted biblical scholar, churchman and educator, John R. Bartlett, who has died aged 85, began his teaching and writing career at the Divinity School of Trinity College, Dublin in 1966, after serving his Church of England curacy in Nottinghamshire at the busy parish of St Giles', West Bridgeford. Ordained in 1963, he brought with him a lively interest in biblical archaeology, having worked with Kathleen Kenyon in Palestine while studying at Brasenose College, Oxford and Lincoln Theological College.

He quickly established himself in Dublin despite a background that was entirely English. Born in Prestwich, Lancashire, where his father Ronald Bartlett was a research chemist with ICI, he attended Bury Grammar School, then in his mid-teens moved with his parents and younger siblings, Michael, Florence and Eleanor, to a farm in Kent. He had little awareness of Ireland until a clergy colleague in Nottingham spotted the advertisement for the Trinity College lectureship, saying, "John – I think this has your name on it!" John had recently married a teacher named Janet Brown, who sacrificed her career to relocate with him in Dublin. They established their new home near Taney church in Dundrum, where John assisted the Revd. Walter Burrows on Sundays, and Jan gave birth to their three daughters, Penny, Jessica and Helen.

John started as a junior lecturer under the aegis of Divinity professors Vokes and Woodhouse and quickly established himself as an expert in both Old Testament and Inter-Testamental studies, rising to lecturer and then associate professor of Biblical Studies over a number of years. He continued as a key member of Professor Sean Freyne's new non-denominational department in Trinity College from 1981. Always relating texts to the culture of their time, he enabled a thoughtful interpretation of scripture for today's world. His 1990 title, *The Bible: Faith and Evidence*, exemplified this gift. However, biblical archaeology remained a passion, as shown by his *Edom and the Edomites* (1989) and *Cities of the Biblical World: Jericho* (1982), and he continued to travel to biblical sites whenever opportunity allowed.

Another enthusiasm was sacred music and choral singing. Always regretful that his father had not allowed him to learn the piano, the young lecturer quickly joined the college choral society, and later was invited to the select 'Wednesday Group' hosted by cathedral singers Jean and Eric Finch, a weekly commitment he continued until shortly before his death. His musical ability led to him being appointed precentor in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, in 1988, having been awarded a canonry there in 1986. In this cathedral, he found his spiritual home, rejoicing in its classic choral tradition and its refined liturgy.

This academic and cultural comfort might have continued indefinitely had it not been for the invitation in 1989 to transfer to the Church of Ireland Theological College (CITC) as its principal. Leaving Trinity College, where he was now a Fellow with the added distinction of being a member of the Royal Irish Academy, was a social and financial sacrifice; but John Bartlett's sense of duty was such that he could not but respond to the call. After the relative calm of Trinity College, he found in the Theological College considerably more tension between rival ways of understanding both gospel and culture, given the number of ordinands from a more decidedly 'Protestant' background in the North.

However, the new principal took over smoothly enough, moving with his wife Jan into the principal's flat in the main CITC building in Braemor Park, and establishing a ground floor office in the student block for availability in working hours. The routine of morning and evening prayer with a weekly eucharist each Wednesday continued as before, and marked improvements were made to the appearance of both the chapel and the student dining room, along with its menu. Teaching for the new B.Th. degree took place both in Trinity College and in Braemor Park, according to subject, and further study options were developed for those who already had an equivalent qualification.

John Bartlett continued as principal for twelve years until retiring in 2001 after a punishing triple heart bypass nearly ended his life. His wife Jan had predeceased him in 1998 and at the end of 2000 he had remarried – his bride being Olivia Shaw, a childhood friend of his sister Florence. The pair moved to the period home which John had bought earlier in Dalkey. But retirement was not really in the Bartlett genes. John now turned to research in a new field, that of biblical geographical exploration in the Middle Ages as exemplified in the 13th century work

of Burchard of Mount Sion's *Descriptio Terrae Sanctae*. From dozens of manuscripts around Europe, John Bartlett produced a scholarly edition of the work, published by Oxford University Press in 2019. That done, this ever-energetic scholar began to relax at last, but not to rest. Over the ensuing three years he completed his engaging *The Gospels in Iambic Verse*, a project rooted in the enjoyment he found in versifying the gospel of the day on his return from the cathedral each Sunday. He continued from a distance to watch over the Society for Old Testament Studies, the *Palestinian Exploration Quarterly* and *SEARCH – A Church of Ireland Journal*.

John Raymond Bartlett was born on 13 March 1937 and died on 8 August 2022

An additional tribute to John Bartlett examining his time as editor of PEQ and his later scholarly work is available via Taylor & Francis Online at www.tandfonline.com/10.1080/00310328.2022.2136847

A farewell poem from SEARCH's former chairman, Canon John R Bartlett, FTCD MRIA, whose funeral took place in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin on 23rd August.

I am a liberal heretic,
Believing what I can;
I'm not a spiky catholic,
Nor yet a puritan.

I'm not a liege man of the Pope,
His ring I cannot kiss:
Some other churches offer hope;
But few bring me much bliss.

The fundamentalistic thought
Requires Enlightenment
(Perhaps in decency I ought
To praise its high intent).

But I prefer theology
To have a thoughtful base,
And I make no apology
For wanting to sing bass:

Soprano, alto, tenor, bass
Are best for hymnody;
The organ too has pride of place,
But drums wreck harmony.

For worship one needs sound and sense,
And beauty with deep thoughts,
For holiness is quiet, intense,
Oft sought in cloistered courts.

Yes, choirs and incense aren't enough,
And books alone won't do;
Religion's made of sterner stuff,
Needs deeds to words rung true.

Yet words and music do provide
A route to heaven above,
To faltering feet an aid and guide.
At best, they lead to love.

25 March 2021, Annunciation of the BVM

Dr David Andrew Brennand Roper
(Physiological Sciences, 1965)

by Stephen Brennand Roper

Born on 22 August 1946 in South Normanton, Derbyshire, my brother grew up in Guernsey in the Channel Islands after my parents moved there in 1947, in order for my father to join a medical practice as a GP. David attended local schools for a while, but then went to Port Regis Preparatory School and then onto Bryanston in Dorset, where he studied sciences despite a strong interest in music. He was very keen on sport, particularly cricket, being able to excel as a batsman and wicket keeper. He was not so keen on running around the field! He also played squash, was a strong swimmer and enjoyed participating in other sports, as he was competitive in nature.

He did the university entrance exams and went up to Brasenose in 1965 to do a degree in Physiological Sciences as part of his pre-clinical training in Medicine. He made many friends at College and in the University, sharing lodgings with the university rugby and hockey captains, and making best use of everything that College life had to offer. He went onto Guy's Hospital, London to do his clinical training, and subsequently gained his Oxford medical degrees and then membership and subsequently fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians. He became interested in general medicine and cardiology in particular, being appointed a consultant in cardiology at Guy's and Dartford Hospital in 1982. He subsequently moved to St Thomas' Hospital when the cardiology department moved there from Guy's after the merger into the King's Hospital Group. He was very adept at interventional cardiology, being in charge of the catheter laboratory at St Thomas' and was known for teaching the trainee cardiology registrars. He had also taken a research interest at Guy's in nuclear medicine in the investigation of cardiac disorders and early scanning techniques. In his later years, having retired from St Thomas', he worked with GP practices in Dartford, seeing patients and referring them for high resolution CT scanning rather than interventional catheters, which was more invasive. This was part of a government initiative at the time to use consultants in the general practice setting.

Whilst he did not play cricket as much subsequently, he was a keen golfer, enjoyed his garden and growing his own vegetables. He became

a very proficient cook, especially making bread and desserts. On being invited to dinner, he was asked to bring his baguettes rather than wine!

David died on 10 July 2023 from cancer after three years of treatment, which he bore with great fortitude, particularly having to travel on his own for hospital treatment during Covid. He is survived by his wife Jane, his two daughters Tanya and Anneka from his previous marriage, and his sons Alex and Giles. A private cremation service was followed a week later on 1 September by a memorial service in Guy's Hospital chapel, which was attended by many of his friends and former colleagues.

John Robert Campbell Brown (Modern Languages, 1957)

by Peter Berg (Chemistry, 1956)

John and I first met at Thorpe House Preparatory School at Gerrards Cross in Buckinghamshire in 1946 – I have a form photograph where John sits, cheery and chubby, in the front row – and we shared many childhood adventures on the commons and in the woods around that leafy part of outer suburbia.

We remained friends when John went off to Bradfield College, later spending a year at Westminster School, Simsbury, Connecticut in the USA. On his return, it was a pleasant surprise to find that he was also headed for BNC, reading Modern Languages, coming up the year after I did. His degree in French and Spanish led him in due course to work for the English Tourist Board, with postings to Paris and Stockholm, where he became a good friend of one of my cousins. Later he worked as director of tourism for the City of York, developing a very successful celebration of the 800 years since the city received its charter. He then became the first director of the Black Country Tourist Board, quickly altering the name to the rather more appealing Heart of England Board. After this he decided to set up his own business, ably supported by his wife Joanna, based in a former butcher's shop and barn near Worcester, working as a tourism consultant for some years and then setting up and running the Museums and Heritage Show, as well organising international motor rallies, the field in which he will probably be best remembered.

Back in 1958, whilst still an undergraduate at BNC, John started taking part in car rallies, soon winning his first national rally in

December 1959 in a Morgan Plus 4 driven by John Rippon. He also became one of the organisers of the Oxford University Motor Drivers Club's annual *Targa Rusticana* rally, for which he was Clerk of the Course between 1961 and 1973.

In 1961, he became the rallying editor of *Motoring News*. Later that same year he was co-driver for the Swede, Erik Carlsson, in a works SAAB 96 on the RAC Rally, which they won outright. John thus became the event's youngest ever winner at the age of 22 years and 232 days!

Many other successes followed, until the 1990s when he started concentrating on organising long distance and historic rallies, notably, in this country, LE JOG, the Land's End to John O'Groats Reliability Trial. Later events took participants rather farther afield, starting with London to Cape Town in 1998 – on that occasion a Russian Antonov transport aircraft had to be hired at short notice to move the cars past skirmishes over the Eritrean border. Further events were organised under the banner of HERO, the Historic Endurance Rallying Organisation, including the Inca Trail in 2001, starting and finishing in Rio, via Peru and the southernmost tip of Chile – this last, supervised from his sickbed at home in England as he recovered from heart surgery.

John also found time to compete in vintage trials and hill-climbs, first in a 1925 Trojan – not the £10 car we shared many years earlier – and later in a superb 1920 30/98 Vauxhall in which he took us for terrifying drives around the lanes of Worcestershire.

In conclusion, I'd like to quote from a tribute published in the *Old Stager* magazine by Ian Shapland and John Davenport, fellow rally enthusiasts: "As well as being a talented co-driver who really understood events with a long list of impressive successes, he was one of a small group of truly innovative and forward-thinking organisers and event planners who possessed the required single-mindedness to get things done – and had the intelligence and skill to put them into action".

John's wife, Joanna, died only a few months after he did, and they are both interred together with his parents at St James' Church, Gerrards Cross. He leaves a daughter, Alex, a son, William and three grandchildren.

John Robert Campbell Brown was born on 30 March 1939 and died on 11 November 2022

Justin Ehrenwerth (PPE, 2002)*by Brendan Jones*

Justin Ehrenwerth, an internationally recognized expert on coastal policy known for leading the Baton Rouge-based Water Institute, died on 11 May 2023 at his home in New Orleans. His wife, Dana Dupré, said that he had been struggling with mental illness, and that he died by suicide. He leaves behind two sons – Louis, three, and Charles, five. With his charismatic manner and deep intelligence, Justin was known for his interest and love of people, as well as the environment. His move to New Orleans, his adopted home away from Pittsburgh, was a natural transition – and it helped that he married a beautiful woman from Opelousas. Appointed the second President of the Water Institute in 2017, Justin committed himself to protecting the Gulf and its waterways, cultivating relationships with thought leaders in Singapore, the Netherlands and France – as well as by more local moments delivering soup when employees fell ill. He loved his wife and two children more than anything in the world, and devoted himself to creating a joyous home for them. “Justin’s passing touches so many people who knew him well and respected his intellect and boundless enthusiasm for his work,” said Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards. “He embodied the essence of what service to one’s state, community and neighbours is all about and made a powerful and positive impact on Louisiana and the entire Gulf coast. His presence and his work will be sorely missed.” Justin adored New Orleans, riding in Hermes for Mardi Gras, religiously attending Jazz Fest, joining the Touro Synagogue as well as the board of the Anti-Defamation League, where he was an active voice on the Civil Rights Committee. He loved walks with his boys on the levee near his house discovering batture encampments, red wine at Friday lunches at Galatoires, and sharing his love of Trombone Shorty and Jazz Fest with Charles and Louis. He read avidly, works by F. Scott Fitzgerald, James Salter, and never turned down adventure – traveling to Bhutan, Morocco and across Europe. He often pushed off in a kayak to explore Louisiana, taking solo trips on the local bayous. A black and white photo of Ernest Hemingway continues to rest on the mantelpiece of his study, alongside an obituary of his mother, Charlene “Kandy” Ehrenwerth, a Pittsburgh litigator and activist who died in a car crash when Ehrenwerth was 13. Ehrenwerth was a virtuoso on the

harmonica, often traveling with a number of the shined instruments in various keys, and rooted passionately for the Steelers (last year he hosted a group from New Orleans when the Saints football team visited Pittsburgh). Before arriving in New Orleans, Ehrenwerth served as Assistant Counsel to President Barack Obama, where he took the lead on *Deepwater Horizon* litigation for the White House working with the Department of Justice. He also served as a member of the Oversight and Litigation group representing the White House in congressional investigations and advising federal agencies on oversight matters. Prior to joining the White House, Ehrenwerth served in the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of General Counsel. He received NOAA's Award for Excellence for work in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in April 2023. "Justin had a tireless approach to working for a better Louisiana, a more resilient Gulf coast, and bringing those lessons to communities around the country," said Kevin Reilly, chairman of the Water Institute board of directors. "His vision for the Water Institute is realized in the work the Institute does every day and his legacy will live on into the future." Justin Reid Ehrenwerth was born on 5 September 1978, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended Shady Side Academy – his yearbook page shows a shaggy-haired senior class president, and quotes Bob Dylan and Monty Python. "Ah yes but what else floats on water?" His father, David H. Ehrenwerth, worked in a law firm. Along with his wife and two children, Justin is survived by his father and his younger sister, Lindsey Ehrenwerth Herman, a clinical social worker in Pittsburgh. Ehrenwerth attended Colby College in Maine, where he competed for the Colby Woodsmen, throwing double headed axes at targets from 15 feet, and met his future wife Dana on the first day of school. He graduated *summa cum laude* in 2001. He travelled overseas to Brasenose College, Oxford, as a Marshall scholar. At Oxford he joined the boxing team and read PPE. He returned stateside to attend law school at the University of Pennsylvania, where he developed a passion for civil rights law and public interest. Following his success on national political campaigns, and as a member of Barack Obama's White House legal team, Ehrenwerth became the inaugural Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. The Council was created in the aftermath of the BP *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill and charged with distributing billions of dollars in penalties to restore the Gulf Coast's economy. He then took on leadership at the Water Institute. "Justin and

Dana have been friends of mine for decades,” said US Congressman Garret Graves. “From the oil spill to the Restore Council to the Water Institute, Justin fell in love with coastal Louisiana... While I’ve lost a long-time friend, colleague and advocate, Justin’s foundation and legacy will be impactful for generations. He will be missed.” At bedtime with his boys, Justin spun up stories of the old pirate Captain Jack and his wild adventures. He and Dana loved Molly’s Irish Pub, a dim bar in the French quarter with a pool table, darts, and words behind the bar of the W.B. Yeats poem *Under Ben Bulbin*. “Cast a cold eye, On life, on death. Horseman, pass by!”

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John Bayley Fox Jr. (Modern History, 1959)

Submitted by Julia Fox

John Bayley Fox Jr. ’59, who helped open Harvard’s doors to women and people of color from 1967 until he retired in 2007, died Nov. 27, 2022, after a long illness. He was 86.

Beginning as director of the Office of Career Services, a position he held until 1971, Fox went on to serve as assistant dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences from 1971 to 1976; dean of Harvard College from 1976 to 1985; administrative dean of the Graduate School Arts and Sciences from 1985 to 1992; and, finally, secretary of the Faculty and then senior adviser to the dean of the Faculty until his retirement.

A towering presence at 6 feet, 8 inches (“as tall as the trees”, Thomas Bisson, the Henry Charles Lea Professor of Medieval History emeritus, would remember), Fox stood out for his work to make Harvard more inclusive – what Marlyn McGrath, who served as assistant dean of Harvard College under Fox, called “the broadest accomplishment of his tenure as dean.”

“His conviction that Harvard College’s commitment to racial integration required specific institutional support drove many of his efforts including, notably, the establishment of the Harvard Foundation. That latter came at a time when many other colleges were encouraging, or at least tolerating, structural as well as cultural separatism. John was never afraid to defend Harvard’s distinctive institutional choices. He knew that Harvard was not just any place,” McGrath added.

Fox joined the Office of Career Planning at the beginning of the Vietnam war, “when graduates were anxious not to serve in the military,” he later wrote. “This resulted in a combination of trying to help young people who were draft dodgers, and at the same time seeking to find a place for themselves in the nation’s military establishments. This provoked, amongst other things, the Dow Chemical and CIA demonstrations at Harvard, which landed me in the national spotlight as an interpreter of the gilded, if deeply conflicted, Harvard students of that era. It wasn’t an easy position to be in. If you were in the establishment in 1967, the students did not like you.”

In the 1970s, Fox was instrumental in reorganizing Harvard’s House system. The “Fox Plan” eventually moved all first-year women and men into dorms in Harvard Yard, and incorporated the former Radcliffe Quad dorms into the House system.

In 1985, Fox stepped down as dean of the College to assume the role of administrative dean of the Graduate School Arts and Sciences. Here Fox proposed and created a graduate centre.

“I am particularly grateful for his role in the creation of a graduate center for our students, which has grown to become the GSAS Student Center in Lehman Hall,” said Emma Dench, now dean of GSAS. “That our students have a place to gather and engage with one another outside of their academic work is due in no small part to Dean Fox’s efforts.”

As secretary of the Faculty, Fox took pleasure in collaborating on the redecoration of the Faculty Room in University Hall, and in identifying and recruiting the artist who would paint the first portrait of a female professor to hang there, astronomer Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin. He is remembered in that position for his “deep knowledge of Harvard and strong, thoughtful ideas about how it should function,” according to Susan Lively, who now fills the post.

“Almost nothing escaped his attention as he worked with both devotion to the institution and a critical eye to making it better,” said Thomas Dingman, whom Fox hired in 1976 to be director of the Harvard-Radcliffe Parents Association and assistant to the dean of Harvard College.

Born in Cambridge to John Bayley Fox ’28, a dean at Harvard Business School, and Eunice Jameson Fox, a prize-winning sculptor, Fox was educated at Harvard and Oxford Universities. On his return to the States, Fox joined the Commonwealth Fund of New York City,

where he managed the Harkness International Fellowship Program, bringing 60 scholars a year to US universities.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Julia “Judy” Garrett Fox; two children, Sarah Cleveland Kreckel, Ed.M. '97 of Göttingen, Germany, and Thomas Bayley Fox '95 of Chestnut Hill, Mass. and their spouses; two grandchildren, Hannah Grace Kreckel and John Alexander Fox, and two step-grandchildren Anika Maris Kreckel and Maximilian Bellone Kreckel.

Henry Malcolm Hodkinson (Clinical Medicine, 1949)

*First published by the British Geriatric Society,
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Malcolm was born on 28th April 1931, the son of Charles (a master butcher) and Olive Hodkinson of Stalybridge, Cheshire. He was educated at Manchester Grammar School, where he gained a Somerset Thornhill scholarship to Brasenose College, Oxford. It was around this time that he began his life-long interest in Judo. His medical education was completed at the Middlesex Hospital, London and he qualified in December 1955.

His training posts were mostly at the Central Middlesex and St. Stephen's, Hospitals in London, which both had high reputations for the quality of their clinical teaching. Eventually he was senior registrar to Dr Abdullah, the geriatrician, at the Central Middlesex, and finally senior registrar to Dr Norman Exton-Smith at the Whittington Hospital, London.

Malcolm embarked on a series of clinical and professorial appointments of increasing importance. Between 1962 and 1970 he was consultant physician in geriatric medicine at the North Middlesex and St. Ann's Hospitals. Here he 'turned round' a sluggish geriatric department. Some nurses were so aghast at the very idea of getting chronically sick patients out of bed that they resigned. His enthusiasm for writing blossomed, which was to lead to a formidable list of publications. It began, not with a clinical subject, but with 'Judo' co-authored with R. Bowen and published in 1963. It detailed the sport's history and emphasised it as a means of physical and mental training.

In 1970 he was appointed consultant physician in geriatric medicine at the newly built Northwick Park Hospital, Harrow, which included

the Clinical Research Centre (part of the Medical Research Council). Once again, he set up a new department and produced a flow of research papers. He introduced Her Majesty the Queen to the geriatric ward when she opened the hospital.

His growing reputation resulted in being head hunted by Professor Keith Peters to set up yet another new geriatric department at the Hammersmith Hospital, initially as senior lecturer in 1978 and then professor in 1979. He remembered his inaugural lecture. He went early to the theatre to prepare but found the projection room locked. When it was opened, he found that the projector lamp required replacing. He now found there was no direct connection between the projectionist and himself so slide changes were initiated by hand signals!

In 1985 he succeeded Norman Exton-Smith as Barlow Professor of Geriatric Medicine at University College, London, where he continued research. He retired in 1991.

Malcolm published extensively. He authored or coauthored over 130 papers, wrote several books many of which were translated into a wide range of languages, and contributed chapters to over 30 books. In 1975 he was awarded Doctor of Medicine (Oxford) for work based on his evaluation of biochemical results in older people.

He strongly encouraged his junior medical staff to research and become geriatricians. helped to organise special weekend training programmes for geriatric senior registrars at the King's Fund, London. The aim was to teach the wide-ranging administrative aspects of being a consultant: i.e., 'all the things you were never taught at medical school'. All this was a new venture for the Fund whose founding ethos was to train hospital managers.

He was extensively involved with other organisations. He was advisor in geriatric medicine to St. Bartholomew's Hospital 1964-1979, was Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Anniversary Research Fellow 1971, was elected RCP Fellow in 1974, Deputy Editor of *Age and Ageing* 1972-1981 and Editor 1981-1988. He was an RCP examiner for the Conjoint, Membership and Diploma of Geriatric Medicine examinations. He was a member of the Executive of the British Geriatrics Society and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries.

Malcolm served on many governmental and non-governmental committees, including the Department of Health Committee on the

Medical Aspects of Food 1987-1991, and was chairman of its working parties on Fortification of Fats and Nutrition of the Elderly. He was a member of the research staff of the Carnegie Inquiry into the Third Age 1991-1993 and was a Governor of Research into Ageing. In 1968 he declined an invitation to give a medical opinion on the dying Portuguese dictator, Dr Salazar.

In retirement he forged a new career: law. He had been long fascinated by law and became immersed in medical expert witness work. He took a graduate diploma in law at Westminster University, completed a full-time bar course and was called to the bar in 2001, going on to pupillage, tenancy and practising medically related law. In 2009 he became a non-practising barrister because bar work diminished while requests for expert witness involvement steadily increased.

That Malcolm was a polymath is shown by his wide interests outside work. These included judo, antique glass and glass blowing. He was a skilful repairer of Staffordshire pottery and a maker of jewellery. As his early skill in Judo increased, he was one of the select few who received a highly prized invitation to train with Trevor Leggett, renowned Judo trainer. Malcolm achieved his 1st dan in 1955. He became editor of 'Budokwai quarterly bulletin - Judo' until 1962 when he became the Kano Society Club's Chairman until 1967.

He also had a long-standing interest in Baroque music. This culminated in 2017 with his funding a new Dutch built 5-stop chamber organ for Brasenose College, his alma mater. It was described as: 'the most exquisite instrument of this type currently residing in Oxford'.

He was a striking compact figure with a warm smile and well-trimmed beard. He often had firm views, particularly about modern geriatric medicine, which did not always endear him to others. His health in later life was marred when he nearly died from a burst aortic aneurysm, which was successfully treated at the Hammersmith Hospital.

He died on 7th November 2022. He is survived by his second wife Judith, (his first having ended in divorce), four daughters and nine grandchildren.

Professor Henry Malcolm Hodkinson 1931-2022

Brian Raymond Judd (Physics, 1949)

by Brian Judd and Josephine Gridley

Dr. Brian Raymond Judd, a resident of the Blakehurst community in Towson, died peacefully on 8 April 8 2023 at 92 years old. He was born on 13 February 13 1931 in Chelmsford, England to Harry and Edith Judd. Survivors include his wife, Josephine Anne Gridley, and brother, Colin Judd.

A lifetime's interest in classical music was engendered by being taught piano from an early age. He attended Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1949, where he read mathematics and physics. He took a year's leave of absence from a research fellowship at Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1957-58 to act as an Instructor at the University of Chicago, where he met his future wife. As a chemist at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in Berkeley, he applied mathematics to the properties of the rare-earth elements, a topic he developed for his book *Operator Techniques in Atomic Spectroscopy* while a Professeur-Associé at the University of Paris (1962-1964). What no one knew at the time of his research was that one day rare earth doped materials would play a crucial role in fibre optic communications and make it possible to produce miniaturized electronic components for everything from laptop computers and mobile phones to hybrid cars and lasers.

He joined the faculty of the Johns Hopkins University in 1966, and acted as Chairman of the Physics Department for six years (1979-1984). His various articles and three more books led to the 1988 Spedding Award (sponsored by Rhone-Poulenc) for rare earth research. Judd was a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and an Honorary Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford.

Michael Radcliffe Lee (Medicine, 1953)

by John Harvey and Stephen Lee.

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Michael Radcliffe Lee went to Manchester Grammar School and Brasenose College, Oxford, where he was Somerset Thornhill scholar

and Beit Memorial fellow. He published his first book, *Renin and Hypertension*, when a research fellow with George Pickering. Michael worked for Weddel Pharmaceuticals and became managing director, but industry was not for him. He moved to Leeds as senior lecturer, where he studied renal dopamine. In 1984 Michael was appointed to the chair of clinical pharmacology in Edinburgh. With typical modesty he titled his autobiography *Stood on the Shoulders of Giants*. In retirement Michael wrote about plant toxicity and therapeutics. He was appointed a fellow of the Linnean Society. Michael leaves Judith, his wife of 62 years; a son; a daughter; and five grandchildren, one of whom trained as a vet and wrote her undergraduate thesis on lead poisoning of sheep in Wales. Her toxicologist grandfather was proud.

Michael Radcliffe Lee MA, D.Phil (Oxon), DM, FRCP, FRCPE, FRSE, was born in 1934 and died on 14 April 2023.

Rodney Loudon (Physics, 1953)

by Professor David Tilley

Professor Rodney Loudon was a world-renowned physicist best known for his work on light and quantum optics. He helped found the Physics Department at the University of Essex and received numerous international awards for his outstanding work.

Rodney was born in 1934 in Prestwich, Lancashire, and passed away on Christmas Day 2022 in Ipswich Hospital. After school in Bury he gained admission to Brasenose College, Oxford, where he graduated with double First Class Honours in Physics in 1956. After his first degree he continued with research at the university physics laboratory, the Clarendon Laboratory, obtaining his Ph.D in 1959. His Ph.D supervisor was a young lecturer called Roger Elliott, who later attained considerable fame in posts including President of the Royal Society and Chairman of the Oxford University Press.

When Rodney started his Ph.D the laser had just been invented. The intense, monochromatic beam opened the door for the experimental study of the weak process of inelastic scattering of light. Here, inelastic means a slight frequency shift on scattering. With Roger's guidance, Rodney found all of the scattering processes that would occur, and indeed those that would not occur, in crystals of various symmetry. A detailed account of these and later results is given in Rodney's famous

book with Bill Hayes, *Light Scattering by Crystals* (Oxford University Press, 1978). The results were of lasting value, and indeed the book is still on research workers' desks today.

After Oxford, Rodney took up a postdoctoral position for a year at Berkeley, University of California. This was a happy time, not least because he met and married his wife of 62 years, Mary. Having completed his postdoctoral time, Rodney returned to this country in 1960 to take up a post at the Royal Radar Establishment (RRE) in Great Malvern. This was the era of the big industrial and government research laboratories, and Rodney's work was of sufficient applied interest that he often collaborated with colleagues in research laboratories.

Rodney left the RRE in 1965 to work for a year at the highly prestigious Bell Telephone Laboratories, New Jersey. He was then recruited in 1966 to set up the theoretical side of the Physics Department at the new University of Essex. He started as a Reader, but after a year, in 1967, he was promoted to Professor, a post he held for the rest of his life. He continued to pursue his interest in light scattering in crystals, notably extending his work to magnetic crystals during a sabbatical period in 1970 at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. He continued to develop his interest in the interplay between the wave and particle properties of light, and made the results accessible in successive editions of his book *Quantum Theory of Light* (Oxford University Press, 1973, 1982 and 2000).

Rodney and Mary created a very full and satisfying life for themselves in the village of East Bergholt, where they were able to buy an excellent plot of land and build a lovely house to their own specification. Here, over the years, Mary designed and developed a beautiful garden. By the time they moved into their house, they had two children, Ann and Peter, whom they brought up there.

Rodney's illustrious achievements in research could easily be allowed to obscure his distinction as a university teacher, but that would not be right because he was an excellent lecturer and teacher at all levels. I remember on more than one occasion warning undergraduates that just because Rodney made something look easy in lectures they might not themselves find it that easy. Allocating lecture courses as Chairman is rather like placing the field in an old-fashioned cricket team: the more portly fielders have to be placed somewhere rather remote where the ball might hit them and thus avert a boundary. Rodney, by contrast,

was the sprightliest member of the team and was always entrusted with the most important courses.

Rodney's human qualities shone through in the compassionate and thoughtful way in which he always treated his friends and colleagues. I shall never forget the words of comfort he spoke to me when my father died unexpectedly in 1968, which in fact was not long after Rodney's own father had died.

By the mid-1970s the focus in condensed-matter physics was increasingly on confined volumes, particularly films and other systems with surfaces and interfaces, and Rodney extended his previous research work in both light scattering and quantum optics to include surfaces explicitly, something that had not been done before and was of considerable importance.

Rodney's increasing eminence led to the award of a number of prestigious prizes, notably the Institute of Physics Young Medal (named after the early 19th century polymath Thomas Young, often described as the last man to know all there was to know) in 1987, the Max Born Award of the Optical Society of America in 1992 and the Humboldt Research Prize of the German Physical Society in 1999. In recognition of his achievements he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1987, and in fact he was one of three founding members of the Physics Department to be thus recognised.

Although Rodney's heart was in physics and physics research, he was sought after for various committees concerned with the organisation of physics, notably as a member of the Institute of Physics Council. His most important work of this kind was with the Opto-Electronics Group of Rank Prize Committee, on which he served for a lengthy period from 1988 to 2011. The Rank Prize is awarded annually at a week-long meeting in Grasmere, Cumberland, for an outstanding piece of research. For many years the Rank meeting has been right at the forefront of condensed-matter research, and it was the guidance of committee members like Rodney that ensured that it kept this position.

Away from physics, Rodney enjoyed woodwork and singing in choirs, both offering a break from the cerebral nature of his professional work. Visitors to the house in East Bergholt could not fail to be impressed by the beautiful harpsichord, the splendid dining table and the remarkable library steps that Rodney so carefully and exactly constructed. For many years he sang as a bass with the University of Essex choir and the

East Bergholt Church choir, indeed until advancing years and frailty made him retire. Rodney always enjoyed classical music concerts and as a ‘cultured gentleman’ he was knowledgeable on a range of topics, including literature, painting, good food and wine and particularly church architecture.

Rodney’s funeral was held at East Bergholt parish church on 8 February 2023. Many friends and former colleagues gathered to say farewell to one of the kindest and gentlest people we have known.

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Vincent Marks (Physiological Sciences, 1948)

by Alexandra Marks (Jurisprudence, 1977)

A pioneer in clinical chemical pathology and non-diabetic hypoglycaemia who became a world-famed expert witness in alleged insulin murder cases.

Against all expectations, in 1948 Vincent – the son of a North London publican – won a scholarship from Tottenham County School to Brasenose College to read Natural Science (on condition that he first acquire the necessary qualification in Greek or Latin!).

After clinical studies at St Thomas’s Hospital, Vincent graduated in 1954. His interest in biochemistry led him to clinical pathology. After various research and clinical posts, in 1970 he was appointed Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Surrey, later becoming the first dean of the University’s new Postgraduate Medical School.

Vincent wrote several hundred publications and books on hypoglycaemia including a popular book, *Insulin Murders*, about cases in which he had appeared as an expert witness. Most notably, his evidence led to the overturning of the wrongful conviction of Claus von Bülow for attempting to kill his wife, an American heiress – a story later made into an Oscar-winning film called *Reversal of Fortune* starring Jeremy Irons as von Bülow.

Professor Vincent Marks MA (Oxon), DM, FRCP, FRCPath, was born on 10 June 1930 and died on 6 November 2023.

A festschrift and celebration of Vincent’s life take place at 16:00 on Saturday 13th April 2024 at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street W1G 0AE, followed by a drinks reception.

Apart from brief addresses by members of the family, there will also be short (and plain English!) talks by a few of Dad's scientific, medical and academic colleagues and an address on assisted dying (a cause close to Dad's heart) by The Rt. Hon. the Lord Falconer of Thoroton. There will be a drinks reception from around 6pm. Vincent's wife of 66 years Averil, a distinguished sculptor, my brother Lewis Marks (KC) and I (who both studied law at BNC) would welcome anyone interested in attending. Please contact me at alexandra.marks@linklaters.com for further details.

Ian David Murdoch (Modern Languages, 1969)

by Susan Murdoch

Ian and I moved to Vienna, Austria in the summer of 1985, where we have lived ever since. Ian was able to make full use of his Oxford Modern Languages studies in Vienna, working mostly full-time in German and occasionally also in English, French and Russian. Over the years he gained significant experience in Central and Eastern Europe, and indeed internationally, travelling to a vast number of countries around the world on behalf of his clients. From the early 1990s he was a Director of PricewaterhouseCooper (as the two companies Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand merged to become in 1998). He was PwC Austria finance company director and European Leader for the Forest, Paper and Packaging Industry Group. He was also a PwC Global Forestry, Pulp & Packaging Steering Committee Member. From 2013, he has appeared in *Who's Who* as a VIP member having demonstrated exemplary achievement and distinguished contributions to the international business community.

Since his retirement in 2015 he worked as a part-time financial consultant. He was on the board of directors of the Austro-British Society, and worked as a board member for the UKCA (UK Citizens in Austria) during the Brexit period.

Ian's great interests in opera and classical music were lived to the full in Vienna. Indeed he led an opera group for PwC and introduced many employees to the delights of the opera. His other great interest was golf, his superb ball-timing and understanding of tactical play obviously learnt early from his prowess as a cricketer! He loved walking, with Austria offering endless possibilities and choice. Ian died suddenly and

very unexpectedly on a golfing holiday with friends in Alvor, Portugal. A sad but somehow fitting end to a most successful and fulfilled life.

Ian David Murdoch was born on 18 August 1950 and died in 2022.

Edward W. Norrish (Classics, 1953)

by John Weeks (1967)

I entered King Henry VIII Grammar School in Coventry in 1960, a week after my 11th birthday. Ted was my first form master, and it was Ted who taught me Latin. He had a short temper. My fellow pupils and I quickly learned that irritating him was perilous. He was, though, an excellent teacher. In those early years I had no idea of the literary riches which a command of Latin could unlock. What appealed to me then was the way those declensions, conjugations, moods and tenses fitted together so well to make meaning. I owe Ted much, for through his teaching I came to love Latin.

I am indebted to him even more for jolting me out of complacency. I drifted through that first year of secondary school, putting no great effort into any subject. I was shocked when, at the end of the year, Ted made plain how disappointed he was in me. He said he could see I had ability, but I had to decide whether I was going to continue coasting or whether I would use that ability and strike ahead in some deliberate direction. I chose the latter path.

Later on, it was Ted who suggested I should apply to Brasenose. I was the first in my family to go to university and I had never heard of Brasenose College.

Ted gave his time without stint. He was the motive force behind the school's cross country running, putting in long hours after school and at weekends to conduct training and to attend competitions. It was very much down to him that the school achieved so much success in that field. He was too a pioneer in introducing orienteering into English schools.

In lessons, Ted would occasionally veer off from the curriculum to talk about ancient Egypt or his travels in Afghanistan. It became clear to us that those extempore lectures covered that fact that he had not had time the evening before to mark the work we had submitted. Those talks, a welcome interlude to us boys, were always fascinating.

Once he told us of trekking through Afghanistan. In a remote village he was pleased to find a post office. He bought postcards and stamps. Having written them all and affixed the stamps, he handed them over to the postmaster. A short while later, after resuming his trek, he realised he had left something behind on the counter. He returned to the village. Re-entering the post office he found the postmaster, kettle in hand, steaming the stamps from all his postcards. With experience of our own of Ted's wrath, we did not envy the postmaster.

Another time he set us a problem. 'Imagine,' he said, 'that you are travelling alone in a Land Rover across a vast area of desert. Your vehicle sinks into the sand up to its axles. You have a spade, but you cannot dig the Land Rover out on your own. The landscape is flat and barren, with neither a boulder nor a tree in sight. So, how do you get it out and continue on your way?'

We came up with several fanciful ideas, none of them likely to work. Finally, Ted revealed what he had done. He unbolted the spare wheel from the bonnet. Some way in front of the vehicle, in a patch of firmer ground, he used the spade to dig a deep hole. Attaching a long rope to the spare wheel, he buried it in the hole. The other end of the rope he fed into the winch mounted on the front bumper of the Land Rover. Drawing on the buried spare wheel as an anchor he was able to winch the Land Rover out of the sand.

That is not to say, however, that Ted ever neglected the curriculum. On the contrary, he taught with rigour and his expectations were high. In the feedback he wrote on our Latin Prose compositions his handwriting expressed the man – neat, concise, accurate and at times peppery.

There was more to Ted than Latin Prose and running shoes. One evening, for instance, he gathered half a dozen of us, uncultured boys, in his tiny flat and took us through a performance of Richard Strauss' *Elektra* on a succession of long-playing records.

In short, Ted Norrish was an accomplished Latinist, a fine teacher, a dedicated sportsman, and one who made a difference to those around him.

Robert John O'Neill (PPE, 1961)

by Peter Edwards

*This article first appeared in The Interpreter,
published by the Lowy Institute, Sydney*

www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/robert-o-neill-war-strategy-history

Robert O'Neill was a towering figure in three fields, summarised in the title of the 2016 festschrift in his honour: *War, Strategy and History*. These three fields – the conduct of military operations, especially counter-insurgency; national, regional and global strategic studies; and military history, especially its diplomatic and strategic aspects – were intertwined throughout his stellar career and well into his retirement.

As a young officer in one of the first Australian battalions in Vietnam, O'Neill led the development of a distinctive style of counter-insurgency operations, focusing on winning hearts and minds rather than kill ratios and body counts. His letters to his wife Sally were later collated and edited into the book *Vietnam Task*. Like *Vietnam Vanguard*, the book he co-edited decades later based on accounts of his colleagues in the battalion, it remains a valuable resource on Australia's Vietnam War. This was also the start of a lifelong contribution to the study of insurgency and counter-insurgency, a topic on which many American military thinkers valued his advice and support.

As shown by his appointments as Director, and later Chairman, of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), until then a predominantly transatlantic body, O'Neill was one of the few Australians who were regarded globally as leading authorities in the new, and often controversial, field of strategic studies. Earlier, having left the Australian Army to enter academic life in the 1960s, he had been appointed Director of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre (SDSC) at the Australian National University, where his credibility in academic, military and policymaking circles and his diplomatic and fundraising skills helped to establish the Centre as Australia's first significant think tank in the field.

Even while holding senior positions in strategic studies, military history remained his first love. O'Neill's first book, on relations between the Nazi Party and the German Army in the 1930s, based on the doctoral thesis he had written as a Rhodes Scholar in Oxford, was

published while he was serving in Vietnam. His German was good enough not only to read documents but to interview retired German generals and even establish a rapport with one or two. The book remains a classic in the field.

While heading the SDSC, he was appointed Australia's official historian of the Korean War, where his major contribution was to see that the diplomatic and strategic aspects of Australia's involvement (including the negotiation of the ANZUS Treaty) were more significant than the strictly military. His two volumes not only constituted a history of lasting value but also marked a crucially important development in the tradition of Australian official war histories. Its continuing relevance is demonstrated by the recent publication of Craig Stockings' volume on the East Timor commitment.

O'Neill's thesis on Nazi Party-Wehrmacht relations in the 1930s was supervised by Norman Gibbs and examined by Michael Howard. In the 1980s, O'Neill succeeded Howard, who in turn had succeeded Gibbs, as Chichele Professor of the History of War at Oxford, perhaps the most distinguished academic position in the field. Like Howard, O'Neill kept contact with leaders in military and strategic affairs, constantly fostering discussion on the relevance of the recent and distant past to the present and possible futures.

During his time at Oxford, O'Neill had a profound and enduring influence through his lectures and seminars and, perhaps most notably, as supervisor of more than 50 doctoral theses. Many of his students went on to senior academic, military or government positions and remained in close contact with O'Neill long afterwards.

O'Neill was a strong supporter of many institutions in his fields of interest, whether established and venerable or new and vulnerable. While in the United Kingdom, in addition to his time as Chairman of the Council of the IISS, he also served as Chairman of the Trustees of the Imperial War Museum; Chairman of the Council of the Centre for Defence Studies at King's College London; Chairman of the Sir Robert Menzies Centre for Australian Studies at the University of London; a member of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission; a Governor of the Ditchley Foundation; and a Rhodes Trustee. He was still in London when Prime Minister Paul Keating and Foreign Minister Gareth Evans appointed him as a member of the Canberra

Commission on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, joining a highly distinguished body of global political and military leaders.

Michael Howard's description of O'Neill as 'a chairman made in heaven', with the 'air of easy authority that immediately inspires confidence and marks him out as the obvious person to take charge of any enterprise to which he has set his hand', was as evident in Australia as it was in the United Kingdom and the international circles in which he moved. When he returned to Australia in 2001, supposedly in retirement, he played a major role in the establishment of three new thinktanks – the Lowy Institute, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (as foundation chairman) and the United States Studies Centre.

While making a huge contribution in the study of war, strategy and history, O'Neill earned the confidence, trust and admiration of all who worked with him, from senior policymakers to nervous postgraduate students. In that, as in every other aspect of his extraordinary life and career, he had constant and strong support from Sally.

Robert John O'Neill (PPE, 1961)

Eulogy by Kate O'Neill

My father was born in Melbourne on 5 November 1936, the only child of Harry and Janet (née Grant) O'Neill. Harry worked for the Melbourne Tramways Board, Janet was fiercely proud of her Scottish roots. He attended Scotch College in Melbourne and in 1954, at age 18, he joined the Australian Army. He graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon into the Signals Corps, and in 1958 he gained a bachelor's degree in electronic engineering with First Class Honours at Melbourne University.

In 1961, he became the Australian Army's first Rhodes Scholar. At the University of Oxford he studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Brasenose College, immediately followed by a DPhil in History in 1965. While there, he rowed for the Brasenose College First VIII.

At Oxford in 1965 Bob married Sally, a history graduate from Adelaide. In 1966, soon after they had returned to Australia, he deployed to Vietnam, serving most of his tour of duty as an Intelligence Officer in the 5th Royal Australian Regiment. During this time, he wrote his second book, *Vietnam Task* (published 1968, recently revised and republished in its third edition) – an enduring primer in

counterinsurgency tactics that is a large part of his legacy, notably carried on by his graduate students. On leaving the Army in 1969 he was appointed to the Australian National University as a Senior Fellow in International Relations, becoming head of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre in 1971.

In 1982 the family moved to London when Bob took on the Directorship of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. After five years of extending the Institute's reach to Asia and North America, he moved to All Souls College, Oxford, as Chichele Professor of the History of War. In 1988 he was made Officer of the Order of Australia. He held many prestigious board chairs and directorships over this time – including the Imperial War Museum and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. In 1995 the Australian government appointed him to the Canberra Commission on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. He was, like many soldiers, committed to peace and disarmament.

Retirement brought Bob and Sally back to Australia in 2001, to Long Gully – the bush land out past Rylstone, NSW, they bought and where they built their home – a wild and magical place. Bob remained active, with frequent trips to the US, for board meetings, and in Sydney and Canberra, helping to establish the Lowy Institute and the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. He was equally active in their local community, including the Rylstone District Environment and Historical Societies.

In 2014, Bob and Sally moved to Blackheath here in the Blue Mountains. He loved being one of the leading voices in the Blackheath History Forum and being part of the Friday morning discussion group on world affairs that became the Parliament of Owls. *Vietnam Vanguard*, which he co-edited with Ron Boxall, was his last significant work.

He passed away peacefully at around mid-day on 19 April 2023 in Katoomba Hospital, NSW, with Sally by his side. We love you, Bob. Thank you for everything you gave us.

Postscript by Sally O'Neill

17 August 1996: Bob is standing on a ridge line overlooking a glade at the head of a narrow gully. Golden wattle-ringed clearing, tall eucalypts, tawny cliffs above. Long Gully. 1000 acres for sale. Half an hour later we were having lunch with my sister Sue and brother-in-law Mike in their mudbrick round house, blue wrens flying in and

out of the windows, wallabies grazing outside. Mike asked, “Are you thinking of buying some land?” I think Bob looked at me before he said “Yes, we’re buying Long Gully”.

That was the genesis of the Long Gully Project that brought us back to Australia and to our Australian roots. Bob designed and Mike built the mud brick house with the long veranda that faced south to the sentinels of the valley, Elephant Mountain and Lion Mountain. We installed a solar electric system, water tanks, an orchard and chooks – and computers. We were ‘Off grid but on line’. Kangaroos, wallabies, wombats, echidnas, goannas roamed, grazed, fought, mated, dozed in the clearing below the house as if the building had always been there. There were some interactions with us as human interlopers: the goanna that clambered on to the screen door of the study and scared the life out of the computer technician working inside. The wombat who kicked out the sensitive documents we had buried in what we thought was a completely deserted burrow. He came next day to reclaim his territory.

Our memories? Bob’s memories? From the veranda: looking down the narrow valley: storm clouds surging, eagles circling, sunset and moonset above the crouching ridgeline of Lion Mountain. The Milky Way streaming above our roof top, mirroring the curve of the valley floor. The pulsating brilliance of the stars. He loved the stars.

Peter George Philpott (Chemistry, DPhil, 1946)

by Rob Philpott and Jen Maclaren

Alleyn’s school captain 1942–43, officer Royal Engineers, DPhil Chemistry Brasenose, Peter died peacefully at home in Welwyn Garden City on 13 December 2022, aged 98. Peter was the beloved husband of Joanie for 70 years, devoted father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Born on 3 July 1924, son of George (DCI, City of London Police) and Mabel Philpott of Dulwich, Peter was fortunate enough to gain a bursary to Alleyn’s aged 9. Peter writes in detail in his *Memories of Alleyn’s in the 1940s* of his educationally disruptive but thoroughly rounding experiences during the war years with the senior school having been initially evacuated to Maidstone in 1940, then to Rossall School in Fleetwood in January 1941 after the senior and junior schools were ‘reunited’.

As a keen and gifted sportsman as well as an academic, Peter also describes how, in his *Memories of Alleyn's*, he represented the School at all sports activities (apart from cricket for which his role was the 1st XI scorer.....), and his most memorable school sporting moment being a football match against an RAF team from Blackpool, where, playing as left full back, Peter had a 'very busy and frustrating time trying to cope with the wizardry' of Sir Stanley Mathews.

During his final term at Alleyn's in 1943, Peter was awarded the Thomas Wall Scholarship to BNC and he noted that due to the disruption in his schooling during the war years, he struggled to re-learn enough French and Latin to get through the Oxford Responsions exams. However, succeed he did, only to discover that he would not be allowed to read Chemistry as intended but would have to read Physics because of the wartime need for physicists. Being adamant that chemistry was his chosen path, he therefore delayed taking up the scholarship until after the war in October 1946.

During the latter war years and after leaving Alleyn's, Peter joined the Royal Engineers and soon took up an officer role with his specialist command unit building Bailey bridges. Having become seriously ill a few days prior to a posting in India, he was instead posted to Palestine on his recovery, where he served for the remainder of the war.

After being demobbed in 1946, Peter matriculated as an undergraduate at BNC and spent the next six years studying Chemistry and carrying out research in Oxford. By a quirk of fate, his decision to delay his studies enabled Peter to meet his future wife at Oxford through his friendship with Ray Moxley, a fellow sapper officer and the son of one of the Oxfam founding committee. Ray had introduced Peter to Joan Hockett, a Moxley family friend who was studying English at Somerville, in late 1946. It was love at first sight, and Peter and Joanie became unofficially engaged during the Commem Ball at BNC in June 1947. As a Scholar, Peter recalled that he needed the permission of the Principal and Fellow to get married at the time, which was duly granted 'in view of his age and past military service'. Peter and Joanie married in Doncaster in August 1949, the beginning of a 70-year long happy marriage.

After gaining his BSc in Chemistry in 1950, Peter went on to study for his DPhil which he completed remotely in 1954 after writing his thesis on *The Synthesis of some Indene Derivatives of potential Pharmacological*

interest. In 1952, and despite having senior managerial role offers from multiple pharmaceutical companies, Peter chose to remain in the laboratory initially and joined the Swiss company, Roche Products, as a research chemist in its early days based in Welwyn Garden City. Spending some years in the laboratory before moving into research management, he had several publications co-authored with Basil Heath-Brown on various research activities they carried out. Peter loyally remained at Roche for his entire career before retiring in 1989.

Peter was hugely intelligent, had a wonderful sense of humour, and his memory for detail spanning his entire 98-year life was second to none. He could recall π to 54 decimal places, knew the periodic table end to end, and would often recite vast chapters from *Alice in Wonderland*, *Through the Looking-Glass*, and Edward Lear nonsense verse from memory, much to the delight of his regular family audiences.

Peter and Joanie led selfless lives and devoted their entire 73 years together, before Joanie's death, to helping and supporting many others, not least their own large family of five children. Throughout his life, Peter continued his love of sport with regular cycling, tennis tournaments at home, and well into his eighties, swimming, squash and dancing. In his later years, he was kept fit and active by his then extended family of six grandchildren and more recently six great-grandchildren.

Peter died peacefully at his home of 70 years, as was always his wish, leaving a lasting legacy of kindness and support to all.

Benjamin Rabinowitz (Jurisprudence, 1953)

by Dennis Davis

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Benjamin Philip Rabinowitz – a life committed to freedom, equality and dignity

Benny Rabinowitz was no ordinary man, whether in business, philanthropy, politics, culture, devotion to community or friendship. His daughters Susan and Lesley, whom he loved dearly, have asked me to pay tribute to their remarkable father. It is an honour to do so, but given the magnitude of the task, I approach it with a considerable measure of trepidation.

Mercifully our Jewish tradition provides a framework within which to guide an approach to such a eulogy; that is to examine the *parsha* (the portion of the Torah reading) for the week.

In significant part, the weekly portion sets out Judaism's conception of a society based on social justice. For example, it recognises private property but steadfastly prohibits stealing, unfair exchanges or seizing of another's property by cheating or moving boundaries without payment. It is thus aware that private property and the market can lead to inequality and the creation of a permanent underclass. It therefore prohibits the taking of interest on loans, and calls on family to help individuals to avoid falling into poverty. It envisages a sabbatical year in which all people, be they free or slaves, are released from the structural obstacles which prevent them from vindicating their dignity. It mandates that in the sabbatical year land should not be cultivated but its produce should be thrown open to those in need to come and take. In the seventh year private ownership is effectively suspended.

It is beyond the scope of this eulogy to develop these complex themes any further. Suffice it to say that the *parsha* promotes a vision of a society which embraces freedom, equality and dignity. Not for nothing has the distinguished economist Martin Wolf written a recent book (*The Crisis of Democratic Capitalism*) in which he seeks to advance the case for democratic capitalism (or social democracy if you wish to use that phrase). In effect its contents represent a modern-day version of that which we read in this week's portion of the torah.

The relevance of this to Benny's life should be obvious to all of us gathered here to pay tribute to him. Let me give but a few examples.

He represents a shining light for those with resources to promote a society based on social justice.

Benny was a very early, committed supporter of the Progressive Party and the candidature for the Sea Point constituency of Colin Eglin, however imperfect that vision was of the time. He did this when the vast majority of his own community supported the reactionary United Party and its candidate, Jack Basson. At the same time he was a steadfast opponent of capital punishment. Many years later, when his own political party pondered whether to support capital punishment, Benny was outraged, being steadfast in his commitment to its abolition, which as the Constitutional Court has reminded us, is based on the

notion of dignity, such that so arbitrary a system of punishment can never be supported.

Benny's vision went beyond the idea of a society predicated on formal democracy for all South Africans. He also saw the importance of freedom of expression. Not everyone knows that he was a critical figure in saving the *Weekly Mail* (which became the *Mail and Guardian*) when it was in financial difficulty. Very few, if any, within the business community other than Ben were prepared to stand up to provide finance for this important newspaper to continue to expose the atrocities of apartheid.

When developers sought to replace the Sea Point swimming pool (the Pavilion) and exploit all manner of development on the beachfront, denying ordinary people the right of access to open spaces and thus the benefits of an environment, it was Benny who stood up against greedy developers.

The same held true when there was an attempt to exploit the mountains beyond Camps Bay for development. The Oudekraal case which saved Table Mountain was, in significant part, due to Benny's intervention to ensure that legal representation opposed the naked exploitation of our natural resources.

In his commitment to culture and the arts he helped ensure that the Cape Town orchestra was saved for future generations. Many other South African art forms, particularly in the Cape Town area, survived due to this commitment. And then there is the generation of pupils from disadvantaged communities who were the benefit of Ben's commitment which ensured that they were able to obtain tertiary qualifications and enrich their lives. The right to education was vitally important to Benny's vision for a just world.

For many years Ben supported the Press Club which ensured robust debates within the Cape Town community. I can go on. Suffice it to say that if members of the private sector, many of whom are even better resourced than Ben, would have made a commitment of 10% of that which Benny had throughout his life, South Africa would be a very different and better place than it is today. He represents a shining light for those with resources to promote a society based on social justice.

But that was only part of Ben. There was his extraordinary gift of friendship to so many of us gathered here today. How can one forget those wonderful dinners at San Marco where the politics of the day, the

latest gossip (Benny was a fine expert in the art thereof), and the fortunes of various sporting teams were all discussed on evenings which remain for me some of the most joyous and stimulating occasions of my life.

And then was the rugby box at Newlands, when not only the difficulties of rugby were interrogated but so were politics and law. Who among us can forget Benny at cricket at his beloved Newlands cricket ground presiding over a group of people whom he had invited to watch, whether an international or provincial match? He was keen on telling us that he and I should have been in the Wisden cricket annual for having one test wicket. South Africa were playing England and Graeme Hick clearly had been run out. There was initially no appeal. In those days the only referral to a television empire was for run-outs. Benny and I loudly implored Hansie Cronje to review the decision, which he ultimately did and Hick was given out. Benny claimed that was our wicket.

The Torah portion to which I referred also speaks of a commitment to family and community. Ben loved his two daughters and was a truly committed brother to Jack, His was a remarkable gift of promoting friendship. I remember the first time that Claudette and I were invited to his home for one of his famous parties. We were at least a decade younger than the balance of guests and knew nobody, but Ben, without any fuss, introduced us to certain guests with whom he thought we would have a significant connection, which indeed proved to be true. He was a remarkable host, of a kind I have rarely met.

Ben, if you are listening to this, I want to tell you that the existential angst that you always felt that no one really cared for you was so manifestly misplaced. As this gathering shows, you were truly admired by so many and justly so for your political, social and personal deeds.

Indeed as I stand here today I cannot help but long for just one further occasion where we could all meet at one of your famous dinners and discuss the turbulent world in which we live. Sadly, that will never be again. But we have the memories and we draw inspiration from your life.

To Susan and Lesley, you have lost a beloved father, Jack a dedicated brother, the rest of us a friend of a unique quality, and the community one of its very finest. We all will draw strength from the memories of a life led to the absolute maximum. And as Ben would now have said if he were here: let's all go off and have a good lunch.

Peter Rawley (English, 1958)*by Betty Kaplan*

The skies over Puerto Rico are dark and heavy with rain. They are crying over the passing of our beloved husband and friend and colleague. He was a groundbreaker in everything he touched, producing, financing, representing, and opening markets and hearts to film all around the world. He recently made a beautiful film based on an award-winning Puerto Rican book, *Simone*, that was picked up by a prestigious company. He was very proud of it. He loved Puerto Rico and his friends here and all over the world. We shall all miss him dearly, friends, family, colleagues, and our cats.

Peter Rawley was born in 1938 and died in 2023.

Mark Howard Wakley Roberts (Zoology, 1969)*by Daphne Roberts*

Mark Roberts was born in Bradford and attended Bradford Grammar School, studying the sciences. He had a fascination for the natural world and was knowledgeable about all kinds of obscure creatures. It was one of the great disappointments of his life that he was unable to learn to dive, because he had severe asthma from an early age. He went up to Brasenose to read Zoology, matriculating in 1969.

After a year in which he found fieldwork rather trying, because his asthma held him back, he switched to the brand-new degree of Human Sciences, the first new degree in Oxford for many years. He took papers in animal behaviour; human genetics and evolution; human ecology; demography; sociological and social anthropological theory; social, developmental and personality psychology, and advanced quantitative methods. He was left to find his own tutors at least for the first year of the course. He chose to take three years over it, although some other pioneers completed the course in two, and he graduated with a Class II in 1973.

He spent his time in Oxford making the most of the numerous available cultural offerings of music, film, theatre and art, while also frequenting the local hostelries, playing darts in the Buttery, going punting and playing cricket and squash with friends, mostly from other colleges. He met his future wife of fifty years on the first day. He

had a very severe asthma attack in early 1973 and almost died, which proved to be a turning point in his life, as he formed the notion that he would study medicine and learn to look after his own health. Although his father was a GP and Mark had thought about medicine before, he declined to study it straight from school. After a couple of years in which he thought hard about it, he enrolled at the University of Leeds Medical School in 1975. He graduated in 1980 and stayed in Leeds for house officer, senior house officer and medical registrar jobs (nowadays all called something different).

His career took him to Southampton in 1986 for a research post leading to a DM awarded for a thesis entitled *Disablement in a Community Survey of Multiple Sclerosis* (MS). From there he went on to work in North Wales as a senior registrar in geriatric medicine, before finding his lifetime's vocation as a consultant in rehabilitation medicine in Cumbria. He was appointed in 1992 as a single-handed consultant and served both the Cumberland Infirmary in Carlisle, where he was based, and the West Cumberland Hospital, caring for patients with acquired brain injury, neurological conditions such as MS and others, many of whom were profoundly disabled, while also acting as clinical director of the wheelchair and artificial limb services. He was utterly dedicated to the NHS and to public service and built up a comprehensive inpatient and outpatient service for rehabilitation in North Cumbria, in collaboration with many valued colleagues in all disciplines.

When he retired in 2010, he took up vegetable gardening, stained glass work and travel. He was delighted to acquire at long last a VW campervan and he and his wife spent many wonderful holidays exploring Europe until the pandemic put paid to such things.

Deteriorating health made the last few years more trying for Mark, but he retained his sense of humour (more than one person has recalled how funny he was including one who said that he was "one of the funniest people [he] ever met"). He made the most of life and took great pleasure in the exploits of his children and more recently his little granddaughter, Martha, born in 2022. He died after a short acute illness in June this year and is much missed by his wife Daphne, daughter Felicity, and son Luke.

Mark Howard Wakley Roberts was born on 7 October 1950 and died on 10 June 2023.

William Norman Roberts (Physics, 1961)

by Sebastian & Maximilian Kaupp-Roberts

*Known, in turn, as Norman in childhood,
Bill as a student and Angus thereafter.*

Born and raised in Manchester into an Anglo-Italian family with roots in the English north-west and Lombardy on 17 November 1942, Bill went up to Brasenose to read physics in the autumn of 1961. It is difficult to convey quite how profoundly this moment shaped him, a grammar school boy raised amidst post-war austerity in a family of modest means – save to say that it remained the defining experience of his adult life. He carried his love for Brasenose, both in the physical sense – its quadrangles, halls and lawns, as well as its metaphysical meaning – a place of scholarship and learning, with him throughout his life, remaining active within the alumni community up until his final year, including acting as the 1961 year rep. His time at Oxford was a happy one, flourishing both academically and on the running track – winning a half-Blue for his efforts in 1962. The accompanying blazer was given to the Achilles Club in 2017.

Not satisfied with truncating his academic career following the conclusion of his undergraduate studies, he embarked on a Masters degree in mathematics at the University of Birmingham in 1967, supported through his then employer at the East Midland Gas Board. His subsequent career led him into the field of operations research and IT consulting, working in turn for a number of global multinationals including the Mars Corporation, Rank-Xerox, Hoffinan-La Roche and Glaxo-Wellcome.

In 1967 he married Elizabeth Taylor, a union that yielded four children – Victoria, his eldest child, the twins Alexander and Cecilia, and finally the youngest, Felicity. Liz and Bill's relationship was not to last – the couple separating amicably in 1980. The children, whilst remaining with their mother, were nonetheless his pride and joy, and he made every effort to stay as present within their lives as possible, especially throughout her successful battle with breast cancer and her subsequent untimely death from a ruptured cerebral aneurism in 1995.

By this point his career had taken him to Düsseldorf, Germany, and a blossoming new relationship with Martina Kaupp, a social worker

originating from the Black Forest. The couple married in July 1988, swiftly followed by three children – Sebastian, Maximilian and finally Alicia, the latter born in Switzerland – the latest European country the family had relocated to as a result of Bill's work. By this point he had become deeply committed to the European ideal, and his desire to see his youngest three children educated in their German mother tongue and cultivate their multinational identity led him to settle in Oxford once more – conveniently close to the now closed European Union School at Culham.

The passion for education and science that had been fostered at Brasenose, alongside his firm desire to give back to society, ultimately led Bill to make a late change in his career, leaving the corporate world at the ripe age of 60 to retrain as a teacher. Upon completing a PGCE at Oxford Brookes University he subsequently taught maths and physics at D'Overbroeck's College, Oxford, until his final retirement in 2012. Returning to the subject of his undergraduate studies provided him immense joy, and he delighted in imparting his own love for science to his students, delaying his retirement as long as possible and continuing to tutor private students well after he had stepped back from full-time employment.

This late career shift into education serves as a poignant reminder of the value he placed in the pursuit of knowledge and the transformative nature of the academic path; the ideal that understanding the world leads to an understanding of the self, a continuous journey yielding not simply material, but also metaphysical advancement.

His passion for learning was mirrored by his profound commitment to social justice. He abhorred violence and injustice in all its forms, and was vocally dedicated to the virtues of fairness, kindness and tolerance. He actively supported numerous charitable causes fighting for a fairer world and universal human rights, and even late into his final months with his own health waning continued to promote those organisations battling for the freedoms and rights of others less fortunate than himself.

His final passion, carried through from his schooldays on the rugby pitch and his university achievements on the track, was sport. He lived the mantra of *mens sana in corpore sano*, excelling at skiing and dinghy sailing, and continuing to cycle and swim until his final year.

Alas, despite his lifelong devotion to physical exercise, despite vociferously shunning the twin vices of smoking and alcohol, he could

not outrun the physical manifestations of an ageing body. In June 2022, six weeks following a sudden illness, he was diagnosed with glioblastoma multiforme – a rare, spontaneously arising and untreatable brain tumour. Ever the pragmatist, he opted for a short course of palliative radiotherapy, and to then allow the disease to run its course. He was cared for at home with exemplary devotion and love by his wife and children in his final year, even managing to celebrate his 80th birthday in November 2022. He passed away peacefully at Sobell House Hospice, less than 36 hours after his admission there, on 10 September 2023. In accordance with her family tradition, his spouse Martina led the family's final farewell over his body with a recitation of Dietrich Bonhoeffer: „*Von guten Mächten wunderbar geborgen erwarten wir getrost was kommen mag*“

Bill himself was not a religious man – as anyone who knew him could attest, he was a proud atheist deeply sceptical of organised faith. As such he saw little value in a funeral. In his own bluntly pragmatic words: ‘when I’m dead I’m dead’. Instead of an occasion for ritual mourning, he instead chose to turn his death into a final practical gift to the causes of science, learning and education by donating his body to medical research – a legacy which his family have been proud to honour.

He leaves behind his wife, his seven children, and ten grandchildren.

Dennis Russell (Greats, 1952)

by Stuart Russell

My father, Dennis Russell, was born in Portsmouth on 27 February, 1934, to William John Russell and Ivy May Russell, née Payne. He was an older brother to Michael, born in 1947.

His was not a wealthy family, but his parents instilled in him a love of reading, learning, and music. When not playing football or cricket on the common, he served as head chorister at Portsmouth Cathedral, earning the princely sum of 5/- for weddings and 10/- for funerals. During the nightly bombing raids that laid waste to Portsmouth, he would sing songs for the families waiting out the night in the air raid shelters, until, fortunately, he and his mother were evacuated to Keyhaven.

After the war, he attended Portsmouth Grammar School. He was a good athlete, playing on the football, rugby and cricket teams, and an excellent scholar. He was also a very good chess player. With his lifelong friend John Brown, he shared first prize in the Sir William Dupree chess tournament—the then-astronomical sum of £100 (twenty times his weekly wage of £5 pounds as a deckchair attendant on Southsea seafront).

In 1952 he became the first in his family to go to university: he won a scholarship to Brasenose College, Oxford, where he read Greats. He joined the Oxford University Air Squadron, based in Kidlington, and learned to fly, so that he could do his National Service in the Royal Air Force.

In the summer of 1953 he met Averil Davies, also of Portsmouth, and soon after that he asked for her hand in marriage. She politely declined but gave him permission to ask again in six months. She accepted the second proposal, and Dennis and Averil were married at St Simon's, Southsea, in July 1956.

After Oxford, he joined the RAF as a pilot, initially at Middle Wallop and then at Hullavington. Soon after completing his National Service, he and Averil moved from Portsmouth to London, buying their first house in Southgate, North London. They embarked on their careers, Averil as designing coats for Feminella and Dennis working for the advertising agency S.H. Benson. There followed in quick succession three children: Nicholas in 1960, Stuart in 1962, and Louise in 1964.

Dennis moved from advertising into product management and marketing for Nabisco, Cerebos, and Rank Hovis McDougall, where he was general manager for sales and marketing. During this time, he managed the Shredded Wheat and Scott's Porage Oats brands and introduced Ritz biscuits, Mary Baker cake mixes, and several new breakfast cereals for which his children were the guinea pigs, with samples in mysterious top-secret plain white boxes. His responsibilities also included Sharwood's, in which role he cornered the world ginger market.

The family moved to Harpenden in Hertfordshire in 1962, and then to Petersham in south-west London in September 1965. In 1967, the family bought a little cottage in Seaton, Devon, where they spent most summers and many weekends. Dennis bought his first boat, a Skipper,

which he also sailed on the Thames, removing the mast and sails to pass under each bridge.

In 1971, Dennis was headhunted to be marketing director and then managing director (or CEO) of Crown Paints and Wallcoverings, based in Darwen in Lancashire. The family moved to a seventeenth-century farmhouse in the tiny hamlet of Bryning-with-Kellamurgh, near Lytham St. Anne's. Dennis set up Crown's international operations and was often abroad setting up partnerships and export deals.

In 1974 Dennis and his family emigrated to Toronto, where he held a senior position with Reed Decorative Products (North America) and ran Reed National Drapery. Finding Toronto far too cold, in those days before global warming, they returned in 1977, with Dennis becoming CEO at Harrison Beacon in Birmingham. Dennis also bought his first house in Salcombe in Devon, where he and the family would stay for the next forty years.

At Harrison's, Dennis created Mr Plumber, the first line of DIY plumbing products. He decided to buy it out and set up as a separate company in Tamworth, Staffordshire – a family business. Averil did the accounts and Nicholas was the travelling salesman.

In 1988 Dennis bought a larger house in Salcombe, 'The Eyrie', close to the beach with a view of the sea, with the intention of retiring there. Dennis closed Mr Plumber and he and Averil moved to Salcombe in 1990. Retirement plans were put on hold, however: Dennis had explored some part-time consulting opportunities through the InterExec agency, who instead hired him as regional director. Averil, not to be outdone, became a professional headhunter. In 1992, Dennis became a partner and co-owner in the Praxis Interim Management Agency, which was sold to Ernst and Young in 1999.

Meanwhile, Dennis had been writing, first, a business book on interim management, published by Butterworth Heinemann, and then several novels, including one, *Carew*, that dramatized the plight of a Plymouth family during the English Civil War and was described by the *Bristol Evening Post* as "the pick of the summer's reading". Dennis founded Aveton Books to publish the novels, and soon the house was overflowing with boxes of books, packing envelopes, address labels, and so on. Some of the novels can still be bought on Amazon.

Meanwhile, Dennis enjoyed travelling around Europe and visiting his children in California, sailing his Silver Streak dinghy in Salcombe

Estuary, playing chess for Kingsbridge Chess Club, and playing bridge with a large group of friends in Salcombe. He started the Salcombe Investment Club and became chairman of the South Hams Conservative Association. Rather optimistically, he planted a vineyard in his back garden, although it never quite produced enough grapes to make wine.

Averil passed away in 2011. In 2016, while on holiday in Cyprus, Dennis met Sally Butcher and on 29 April 2017, they were married in Salisbury. They moved to Christchurch and so began a new, happy phase in Dennis's life. Sadly, it was cut short by prostate cancer, and Dennis passed away on 7 December 2022. He is survived by his wife Sally, his brother Michael, his three children (Stuart of Berkeley, California; Nicholas of Westhope, Herefordshire; and Louise of Mill Valley, California) and six grandchildren.

Malcolm John Swinburn (Physiological Sciences, 1960)

by Peter Sunderland (Engineering Science, 1960) and James Swinburn

Mick, as he was known both here and in Australia, was born on 16 November 1937 in Canungra, Queensland, the second son of Dr Robert Swinburn and Edeline Louisa Blanche Argles. They lived in the Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade residence, a beautiful heritage building in Appel Street, which still looks pretty much the same now. Mick's father was in the Army at the time, and Mick was the first baby to be born in the newly built Canungra Military Hospital. He was christened at St Luke's, Canungra.

At the beginning of 1939 the family moved to the industrial town of Lithgow, in the central highland of New South Wales. Dr Swinburn had a very busy practice at Lithgow. To give him and his family some respite he bought a secluded sea front property 'Fyrish' at Lovett Bay, near Church Point accessible only by boat. Mick recounted fond childhood memories of boating, swimming, and fishing whilst on holiday there.

In 1947, Mick's parents travelled to England for twelve months so that his father could advance his studies in general surgery, which he undertook at the Royal College of Surgeons in London and the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh. For a year Mick, aged nine, and his elder brother Doug, aged ten, were enrolled as boarders in Junior House at Sydney Church of England Grammar School, known as Shore. His

younger sister, Edeline, attended Queenwood, also in Sydney. Whilst the family moved around, Mick completed his school education at Shore.

At school, Mick was already showing athletic promise. Following winning the 100 yards and placing second in the 200 yards at a St Joseph's College Carnival he was trained for three weeks for the Sydney Schools championships with future Olympian Marjorie Jackson by coach Jim Monaghan. He was Captain of Athletics in 1955 and completed the rare 'triple' winning the 100 yards in 10 seconds, the 220 yards in 22 seconds and the 440 yards in 50.3 seconds. Fifty years later this unrepeated achievement was recognised with athletics badges presented to him at the school assembly. Mick also represented the school at the highest level in tennis, cricket and rugby union, and was school captain in 1955.

Mick graduated from school in 1955, having completed the leaving certificate in 1954 and again in 1955, where he achieved honours in all six subjects including maths, physics and chemistry. After this he followed his father into medicine and after a distinguished first three years in the Faculty of Medicine at Sydney University, he postponed his main medical studies to carry out research in the Department of Physiology and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1960. At Sydney University he was the 440-yard champion and captained the Athletics Club in 1960, having won his blue the previous year. He was also chairman of the Sports Union Ground Committee.

In 1960 Mick was selected as a Rhodes Scholar to attend Oxford University and matriculated in October 1963 at Brasenose, reading Physiological Sciences. Mick was awarded a half-Blue for athletics, running in the 440 yards against Cambridge in 1963. He was a regular in the college athletics and rugby teams, including those that won the college Cuppers in 1961. The aftermath of the Cuppers Dinner for these was reported in the *Oxford Mail* with the headlines 'Ran wild after BNC victory', with disturbances in the bar and yard of the Mitre Tavern, resulting in the Proctors phoning the Mitre to ask that no undergraduates in evening dress be served. These Cuppers successes, together with that of the hockey team, were celebrated again in 2021 when 13 survivors gathered at the college for lunch, Mick being one of the ten apologising for their absence.

After leaving Oxford, Mick returned to Australia in 1963 to complete his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Sydney. In his final year, Mick met his wife, Meryl Elizabeth Evans, who was in the same cohort studying medicine at University of Sydney. They both graduated in 1964 and married in August of that year. They had three children, Elizabeth, John and James, nine grandchildren, and remained together until Meryl's passing in May 2021.

Mick became a fellow in Cardiology in 1971 and worked as a consultant cardiologist in Sydney, specialising in pediatric cardiology, initially at Prince Henry and Prince of Wales Hospitals. Other roles include visiting lecturer in medicine at Queen Mary Hospital Hong Kong (1974), medical representative on the Board of New South Wales Masonic Hospital, VMO at Sydney Private Hospital and Strathfield Private Hospitals. After a long and distinguished career, Mick retired in 2016 to spend more time with Meryl and pursue his favourite pastime, watching his grandchildren's sport.

As well as his medical involvement, Mick was a president of Shore School Old Boys Union, Old Boys representative on Shore School Council, and a member of St Paul's College Council, Sydney University. He was President of the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools of New South Wales and Chairman of the New South Wales Fellowship of Rhodes Scholars. A committed Christian, he was a lay assistant, sub deacon and intercessor at St James' Church, King Street, Sydney.

He and Meryl lived in Greenwich, Sydney, and in retirement enjoyed spending time at their holiday house in Gerringong, on the NSW south coast. At both places they welcomed family and friends from England and around the world, and helped children of fellow alumni travelling in Australia. Mick's generosity and Christian values were exemplified by inviting home for Christmas lunch a homeless stranger he had met standing outside church on Christmas Day in 1995. This act of kindness was recounted to their English visitors at the time and recalled by one of his sons at the funeral service on 2 February 2023.

Meryl died in May 2021 just over a year before Mick who died on 23 January 2023 after having been admitted to hospital in mid-December for surgery on an oesophageal infection. Mick is survived by his siblings, Doug and Edeline, children, Elizabeth, John and James,

nine grandchildren and the recent arrival of a first great-grandchild in July 2023.

D RICHARD THORPE (SCR Member)

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When the former foreign secretary Lord Hurd of Westwell was asked to nominate the best five political biographies over the past 150 years, he mentioned two by Richard Thorpe, biographies of Harold Macmillan and Anthony Eden. The Macmillan book, *Supermac* (2010), won the 2011 Marsh Biography Award, co-presented by the English-Speaking Union.

Thorpe also wrote highly regarded biographies of Selwyn Lloyd (1989) and Alec Douglas-Home (1996). When asked why he specialised in Conservative figures, he replied that his politics were Conservative. Few could match his range of contacts. Readers might have been surprised to learn that his degree was in English not history, and that he was employed not in a university but as a schoolmaster in English for 30 years at Charterhouse in Surrey.

His first book was on the “nearly men” of British politics. *The Uncrowned Prime Ministers* (1980) dealt with the careers of Lord Curzon, Austen Chamberlain and RA Butler (“Rab”), all of whom came close to but failed to reach the top. The book was inspired by his chance meeting with Chamberlain’s daughter. When he visited Macmillan’s home at Birch Grove in 1975 and explained why he was interviewing him, the former prime minister smiled and cast aspersions on their academic qualifications. When he later visited Butler, again for the book, Butler’s wife, Mollie, who was not reconciled to her husband missing out on No 10, answered the door. Aware that Thorpe had already talked to Macmillan, she announced that Macmillan “was evil”. During the interview Butler asked how Macmillan had been and which part he had played. “Was he the duke’s son-in-law or the crofter’s great-grandson?”

His biographies of Lloyd, Eden, Douglas-Home and Macmillan shed new light on the politics of the postwar period. The reputations of Lloyd and Eden, largely because of Suez, were under a cloud and Thorpe’s books did something to restore their standing.

They had done little before embarking on a political career, attended public school (three at Eton) and Oxbridge and three had unsatisfactory first marriages (Home's was the exception) David Richard Thorpe was born in Huddersfield in 1943 to Cyril Thorpe, an accountant and keen amateur cricketer, and Mary (née Avison). Cyril died in an accident in 1946, shortly before being demobbed from the Royal Navy. Mary later married Lewis Myles and they moved to Renfrewshire. In 1956 Richard started at Fettes College, Edinburgh, and thrived. He took part in plays and encountered Eric Anderson, an inspirational English teacher. Anderson was later headmaster and then provost of Eton College. Thorpe dedicated his Douglas-Home book to Anderson and his wife, Poppy.

In 1962 he went to Selwyn College, Cambridge, to read English and continued with his acting. A high point was appearing in a production of *Ivanov* with some of the Cambridge luminaries of the time, Richard Eyre, Michael Pennington and John Shrapnel. After graduating he taught for a term at Gordonstoun and assisted Anderson in producing *Henry V*, with the future King Charles in the cast. He then joined Charterhouse, where he taught English, history and some politics to the sixth form. He enjoyed the ambience and community that the school provided and contributed to it by putting on plays and coaching a school football team. As a member of the senior common-room team he played weekly football matches against one of the boys' houses.

His books were lengthy, the one on Macmillan ran to nearly 900 pages and on Eden to nearly 800. Reviewers often commented on the books' readability and the thoroughness of the research.

Although all had been the subject of earlier biographies he managed to uncover new material in public and private files and in interviews. The Eden bibliography covered 30 closely typed pages, 25 for Macmillan. He was helped by the relaxation of the 30-year rule to the public records as well as interviews, combining what he called "historical" and "contemporary" approaches.

The mystery was to explain how he combined his prolific output with teaching, not least because he took time to be comfortable with using a computer. He was noted at Charterhouse for "blasting away" with writing in the summer holiday. An archive fellowship for a term at Churchill College, Cambridge, to work on Selwyn Lloyd helped, as did a later fellowship at St Antony's and membership of Brasenose

College, Oxford. He donated Lloyd's 500 boxes of public and private papers to the Churchill College archive.

In 1990 Douglas-Home, who had become a friend in the course of interviews, invited him to write his biography. A year later Eden's widow, the Countess of Avon, invited him to write an official biography of her late husband. He accepted but on condition that it would wait until he had finished his book on Douglas-Home. Lady Eden was dissatisfied with an earlier book on her husband by Robert Rhodes James that she had also commissioned. He took on the Macmillan project even though a significant two-volume biography by Alistair Horne had been published some 20 years earlier. Thorpe maintained good relations with the two "displaced" authors.

His biographies brought him spells of residence in the great houses of the titans of postwar politics, such as the Hirsell for Douglas-Home. The families felt comfortable in his company and made available hitherto private material. He enjoyed working on archives at one end of the Hirsell and retiring to have supper or drinks with Douglas-Home at the other end. Having won the trust of his subjects' families he kept in touch with them until he died. He liked to quote Samuel Johnson's requirement that "Nobody can write the life of a man, but those who eat and drunk and lived in social intercourse with him".

Thorpe was a private and self-sufficient man, although he was also sociable. He generally stayed clear of political controversy in public, but in 2007 wrote a letter to *The Times* challenging the view of its political editor that Gordon Brown was a better prime minister than Eden; he suggested that Eden was a giant compared with Brown.

Thorpe took early retirement in 1997 and settled in Banbury, Oxfordshire, with his widowed mother to concentrate on writing and also allow time for his other great passion: golf. He had been taught to play the game by his stepfather, a scratch golfer at Carnoustie. At Charterhouse he was a member of the nearby Worpleston Golf Club. He also loved opera, and in his later years went on opera tours with friends and former colleagues.

His stock of gossip made him an enjoyable companion and a guest at lunch, who was wont to recite Shakespeare. He enjoyed writing obituaries for *The Times*, usually about public school heads, politicians and golfers.

Thorpe was a friend of Kenneth Rose, the royal biographer and Daily Telegraph gossip columnist. Over the years he had appointed a number of people to edit his papers before finally settling on Thorpe. Rose had accumulated some six million words of diaries, starting in the 1940s up to his death in 2014. They were stored in nearly 400 boxes. Entrusting the material, including the gossip with royalty and the good and great, he relied on Thorpe to edit his diaries for what he hoped would be his legacy.

Thorpe distilled the six million words into half a million in two volumes of *The Journals of Kenneth Rose*. The first was *Who's In, Who's Out* (2018) and the second *Who Loses, Who Wins* (2019). Some reviewers were critical of Rose's blatant snobbishness. AN Wilson described a volume as "tittle-tattle about the titled".

By late 2020 Thorpe began to show signs of dementia and in March 2021 he entered a care home. Friends who had always enjoyed his fund of indiscreet anecdotes were saddened by the loss of his formidable memory. Perhaps aware of the problem, he had already told a friend that his writing days had finished and that he was "putting away his golf clubs".

DR Thorpe, historian and schoolmaster, was born on March 14, 1943. He died of undisclosed causes on February 2, 2023, aged 79.

He won the trust of his subjects' families and kept in touch with them.

John White (St John's College)

by Ian Gentle and Elliot Gilbert.

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Vale John White

Leader in neutron scattering

Emeritus Professor John White, AO CMG FRS FAA FAIP FRACI CChem, passed away suddenly at home in Canberra on 16 August 2023. John was a very well-known and highly regarded member of the international scientific community, and his death has deeply saddened his colleagues, ex-students and friends around the world.

John's spirited presence and polite and warm manner, coupled with seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm, were known to all who interacted with him. John was a major contributor to RACI, having been President from 2000 to 2002, and recipient of the H.G. Smith Memorial Medal in 1997 and the Leighton Memorial Medal in 2005.

John was originally from Newcastle and studied chemistry at the University of Sydney, receiving the Dixon Prize for Chemistry, a first-class Honours degree and an MSc. He won an 1851 scholarship, which took him to Oxford University in 1959, where, supervised by Rex Richards, he worked on the new technique of nuclear magnetic resonance, which was being pioneered for chemistry. Even before finishing his DPhil, he was elected an ICI Fellow in Lincoln College, and in 1963 a fellow of St John's College Oxford, where he remained for 26 years. It was in this period in the 1960s that John began his long and distinguished career in neutron scattering when many exciting developments were taking place.

During this time, John met Ailsa Vise, a microbiologist, who had also won a research scholarship to Oxford, and they married in 1966. This was to be an enduring lifelong partnership. John and Ailsa even published an article together in the *Australian Journal of Chemistry* in 2011 on the discovery of the neutron as a legacy of the Curie family's work.

Within 10 years, he had risen to the top of the leadership in the field, serving as Neutron Beam Coordinator at Harwell and then Director of the Institut Laue-Langevin in Grenoble, France, where he proposed and led the 'deuxième souffle' renewal program from 1978.

In 1985, John and his family returned to Australia where he was appointed Professor of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry at the Australian National University. His return greatly benefited Australia, as he was largely responsible for introducing the new experimental techniques of small-angle scattering and reflectometry to the Australian chemistry, biology and physics communities.

John was the most politically influential and effective advocate for neutron scattering in Australia through his roles as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, President of RACI and President of the Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering.

Under the heading of 'Small Country Big Science', he organised a crucial access deal for Australian scientists to the ISIS Neutron &

Muon Facility in the UK. Over 20 years, this provided Australian researchers with access to the most powerful spallation neutron source, with scattering techniques unavailable in Australia. The growth of new scientific and engineering uses of neutrons in Australia through ISIS access provided a sound basis upon which the case for a replacement research reactor at ANSTO was developed, which was ultimately commissioned as OPAL in 2006. John was also instrumental in the development of the neutron scattering capabilities at the OPAL reactor, participating on the Beam Facilities Consultative Group (1997–1998), Beam Instruments Advisory Group (2000–2004) and the Bragg Institute Advisory Committee (2004–2010). He was also a major driver in building an Asia–Oceania neutron scattering community as a founding executive member and then President of the Asia–Oceania Neutron Scattering Association (AONSA).

John was a key figure in the international scientific community for more than five decades. Over the course of a long and distinguished career, through a combination of advances in experimentation and choice of paradigm examples, his work demonstrated how neutron scattering data could be analysed to provide precise details of molecular structure and dynamics for a wide variety of chemical systems.

He was awarded fellowships of the Royal Society of Chemistry (1982), RACI (1986), the Australian Institute of Physics (1986), the Royal Society of London (1993) and the Australian Academy of Science (1991). He was a visiting Fellow at Argonne National Laboratory in 1984. Among his many other awards, including the RACI awards mentioned above, are the David Craig Medal and Lecture of the Australian Academy of Science (2005), the Archibald Liversidge Medal of the Royal Society of New South Wales (2010) and the AONSA Prize (2015). He was awarded the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1981 and the Centenary Medal in 2001 and appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2016.

John had a long involvement at the faith–science interface from his days at Oxford with the Research Scientists’ Christian Fellowship to being a key player in the establishment of the Institute for the Study of Christianity in an Age of Science and Technology in 1987 and serving as President from 1992 to 2006. It was his vision to establish the biennial Conference on Science and Christianity series, which began in 1997 and continues today. Among John’s extraordinary list of achievements

and contributions, perhaps most significant for many, is that through a combination of his exemplary science and his promotion of scattering techniques, John has been responsible for launching the careers of a great many scientists across the globe. University departments and scattering facilities throughout the world are populated with John's former students, postdocs and others whom he formally and informally mentored over more than five decades. The legacy of his leadership will be felt in Australia, the Asia–Oceania region and beyond for many years to come. He is survived by Ailsa, children Sarah, Catherine, David and Rachel and their families, including seven grandchildren. John was farewelled in the church of St John the Baptist, Reid, Canberra, on 22 August 2023, where John and Ailsa were long-standing and enthusiastic members. He will be sadly missed.

REMEMBERING ALASTAIR FOWLER

Alastair David Shaw Fowler
(English Literature, DPhil, 1952, Fellow)

by Tom Corns (English, 1968)

Alongside Brian Miller, who taught the Old and Middle English parts of the English degree, he was only the second academic I had ever met. Coincidentally, the first was also a distinguished Milton scholar, C.A. Patrides, who had interviewed me at York and strongly suggested I should go to Oxford if they would have me. I recollect my interview with Alastair and Brian somewhat imperfectly, though the latter seemed chiefly concerned that I should understand I would have to study Old English and the former endeavoured to assure me that I should not be too discouraged by that. The interview ended in a discussion about Dylan Thomas, during which Alastair posed a question that puzzled me then and puzzles me now.

Alastair was appointed to his Brasenose fellowship in 1962 after a glittering early career, as an undergraduate at Glasgow and Edinburgh, a doctoral student at Pembroke, Oxford, a junior research fellow at Queen's, Oxford, and a lecturer at Swansea, where Kingsley Amis was a colleague. By the time I matriculated a substantial and controversial monograph on Spenser had appeared and the great work – or at least the first great work – was already in press, his edition of *Paradise Lost* for the Longman Annotated Poets series. John Carey, who would later be my doctoral supervisor, contributed the edition of the shorter poetry. Though they worked within agreed editorial principles, they worked very largely independently of each other, and indeed subsequently the two parts of the volume were published separately.

The edition of *Paradise Lost* acquired and retained a certain notoriety for its numerological interpretations, drawing on a way of reading Alastair had developed in his work on Spenser. But that was merely a part of a much larger project, of interpreting early modern literature in general and Milton in particular by drawing on a profound understanding of and familiarity with the high culture and recondite learning of a larger continental Renaissance. In a sense, Alastair always came at Milton through Spenser. But he reflected, too, what was certainly a golden

age of Milton studies at Oxford, with Christopher Ricks at Worcester and Dennis Burden at Trinity, as well as Carey at St John's and Alastair himself. Ricks certainly influenced the way in which Alastair glossed Milton, teasing out multiple readings available to early-modern readers. Burden he drew on as he assiduously engaged in a running footnote campaign directed at the cleverest and most challenging reading of Milton to date, William Empson's *Milton's God*, a book which he admired greatly though he thought it to be fundamentally flawed. In Empson he found a worthy antagonist. Another objective of the edition was the elimination from the editorial tradition of scores of alleged 'Latinisms', words borrowed from Latin and used in Latin rather than English senses. Alastair recurrently demonstrated that, as one would expect with loan words, they remained close to their Latin meanings in common usage in the early period after their adoption.

What was Alastair like as a tutor? A little bit scary, in that he actually listened carefully to one's weekly essay, making notes on a little clipboard, after which some shrewd questioning would follow. At that time, two Milton papers were required elements of English Prelims. It was intellectually stimulating to work with someone who was pushing the frontiers in those fields in which his students were taking their first steps. Over much of my subsequent academic career, our paths would cross at conferences and seminars. When giving a paper, I would see him, in that same slightly hunched and attentive pose, still taking notes, still a little bit scary, and I knew there would be some more shrewd questioning coming my way.

I spent the academic year 1970-71 as an exchange student in Munich, and when I returned he had left for the Regius Chair of Rhetoric and English Literature at Edinburgh, a prestigious appointment that almost seemed like his destiny. Numerous major publications followed, mostly on early modern poetry, and to his ways of reading he added or perhaps rather developed a fascination with genre theory and history, from which came his *Kinds of Literature* and, by way of an example of the approach, his edition of country-house poems. In due course Longman commissioned a second edition of *Paradise Lost*, in which he massively revised the footnotes and introduction. Empson no longer figured so prominently, for there were new errors to engage. By then I had become an assiduous exorcist of ghost Latinisms, and I do find my way into a few of his new footnotes. It may prove an immortality

of sorts. He retained an infectious enthusiasm for the processes of literary research. When last we met, for lunch in Edinburgh in 2014, he was excited about his new project on pictorial titlepages. After its publication we exchanged letters – Alastair eschewed email – in which I tried to argue that dustjackets are the modern equivalent and he argued they are not.

What is Alastair's academic legacy? Of course, there is a mighty oeuvre of scholarship that remains of abiding importance in early modern literary studies. But he played another and equally important role in the discipline we shared. From early in his career until long after he stepped down from the Regius Chair, he taught and researched at leading US institutions, among them Princeton, Columbia, and Virginia; indeed Virginia was his final academic affiliation. British approaches to literary studies into the early 1960s still had a belletrist air, as though this were a pastime for lady and gentleman amateurs. Alastair was among those that effected the transformation to ways of working reflective of American practices, approaches that were more rigorous, scholarly, and professional – three epithets which well represent the spirit of Alastair himself.

ALASTAIR FOWLER

by Bernard Richards (*English*, 1959)

Alastair Fowler was the much-loved Fellow in English at Brasenose from 1962 to 1971. His learning and scholarship were prodigious, and he became a leading figure in the field of numerology, exemplified in *Spenser and the Numbers of Time* (1964), *Silent Poetry: Essays in Numerological Analysis*, (1970) and *Triumphal Forms* (2010). With this approach, if Charles I is in the middle of the 120-line poem by Andrew Marvell, *An Horatian Ode upon Cromwell's Return from Ireland*, it means he retains his central place in the political memory.

He was born in Glasgow in 1930 and was educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he gained an MA in 1955 and a DPhil in 1957. He also studied in Oxford with C.S. Lewis and was awarded a DLitt in 1962. He edited Lewis's *Spenser's Images of Life* (1967). He left Brasenose to become Regius Professor at the University of Edinburgh.

Alastair produced for the Longman Annotated English Poets an edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost* (1968). It is a most impressive piece

of work, and sits alongside John Carey's edition of *Milton's Poems* (1968). He was critical of some later trends in literary scholarship, including 'New Historicism'. In 2005 he published in the *TLS* an extremely critical review of Stephen Greenblatt's *Will in the World*. John Sutherland described the quarrel as 'Godzilla versus King Kong'. What some of us used to say was that 'New Historicism is Old Historicism writ large.' His range was very broad – as one can see in his *Kinds of Literature* (1982) and *A History of English Literature* (1987). *Renaissance Realism* (2003) is a sumptuous volume. He has also published volumes of poetry. He was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the 2014 New Year Honours for services to literature and education.

Alastair was my tutor when Ian Jack left for Cambridge. Ian's tutorials were somewhat dry and uninspiring; Alastair was completely different, and very engaged. He was very well informed. The Inkling Hugo Dyson said of him that he was the sort of person who 'went into hospital with a broken leg and came out with a degree in medicine.' I once told him in a tutorial that computers could be programmed to do criticism. His response: 'But we've got brains, laddie!' The day we finished Finals he gave us a party in his room, and told us we would never know as much about English Literature as at that moment – which proved true, the mental processes since have been not much more than a sleep and a forgetting.

Alastair loved the bizarre, and some of the stories about him were bizarre. One Saturday afternoon a colleague whose marriage was coming apart came round to Alastair's house to receive comfort. Alastair continued watching the wrestling on television. 'But I turned the sound down,' he said. When he was visiting New York, he was walking along the street with some American friends and there were piles of garbage on the sidewalk. He picked up a typewriter and thought about bringing it back to the United Kingdom. The friends lagged behind, not wishing to be associated with him. 'Almost all the keys worked,' he told me. On another occasion he fished out a newspaper from a bin, and started to read it on the bus. He became aware that the people behind were looking over his shoulder to read it too, but when he turned a page a fried egg slipped down the page into his lap. 'The people behind leant back in their seats,' he reported. When I was a research lecturer at Christ Church I invited him to lunch, and he got

into conversation with Roy Harrod. Alastair: ‘You can’t found a new university by setting up some potty little tin sheds in a field.’ He was thinking of Keele University. Harrod: ‘Come, come Fowler, I was involved in setting it up.’ His taste for the bizarre was well satisfied in his *Literary Names: Personal Names in English Literature* (2012) – the dentist called Dentith, the Chairman of the Marriage Guidance Council called Sanctuary – that kind of thing.

Alastair was the general editor of the *Longman Annotated Anthologies of English Verse*, an ambitious scheme to provide selections of heavily footnoted works. He persuaded me to do *English Verse 1830-1890* (1980). He mapped out the editorial principles, and kept a close eye on what I was doing. I was always impressed by his prodigious expertise and the generous way in which he shared information. There were to be six volumes, but, alas, alas, the only ones finished were by myself and John Burrow. I suppose the other contributors in the found it too demanding. He also collaborated with Christopher Butler (1959) on *Topics in Criticism* (1971).

He died on 9 October 2022.

ALASTAIR FOWLER

by David Thomas FBA (*English*, 1968)

From 1968 to 1971 I had the privilege of reading English as an undergraduate under Alastair Fowler, or Dr Fowler as we always addressed him and invariably referred to him. In the fifty years since that time, and having moved from English to Theology and Islamic Studies, my memories are not so much of his academic expertise, though that is beyond dispute, as of his politeness and gentleness, his preciseness in the ways he acted and spoke, and his keen sense of humour.

A reminder of his humour came at the beginning of lockdown a few years ago. With so much time before me, I decided to read some of the English classics I had not touched for years. My first thought was Milton, and I started on Dr Fowler’s edition of *Paradise Lost*, which had been published the year I went up to Oxford and has remained a standard. The abundant notes that accompany the text are not only erudite and informative but also now and then smile-provoking. The example I remembered best and looked forward to reaching on my re-read comes in Book VI on lines 482–491, where in preparation for

their attack on heaven the fallen angels make breech- and muzzle-loading firearms. In his note to this passage (p. 751 in the 1968 edition), Dr Fowler comments that the wit Milton shows in this description, 'which is ... *charged* with ambiguity', has gone unnoticed by critics 'even of the highest *calibre*'. He does nothing to draw attention to these puns but moves on. How many more does the scholarly apparatus contain, one wonders.

Dr Fowler was known, of course, for his uncovering of number symbolism in Renaissance poetry, appropriate for a scholar who had started as a mathematician. This enthused me immensely and for a time drove me to look for numerological significances in everything I read. I do not remember him encouraging me particularly in this fad, though in the three years I studied with him I came to enjoy his flashes of wit as much as I admired his insights or dreaded his criticisms of my weekly essays. It was his ability to sum up a point briefly that has remained with me, even though I have forgotten the generous hints he would offer about getting to the core of an author and their work. But from this distance it was not from a tutorial that I recall his most incisive and succinct summing up. During an evening when he had my year of Brasenose English students to his home, one of us discovered a frisbee on the floor by his chair. Dr Fowler must have brought it back from his recent sabbatical in Tennessee. None of us had seen one (the first models were only patented in 1964) and we had to ask what it was. His reply, in characteristically precise terms betraying his mathematical background, was that this was 'an oblate concave spheroid'.

Dr Fowler never ceased to impress me with his conscientiousness. Once, when I asked him how he had approached the task of editing a poem as immense as *Paradise Lost*, he explained that he had set himself to cover an average of fifty lines a day, no matter what else lay before him. I have no doubt that he kept to this. On another occasion when I appeared for a tutorial he uncharacteristically stopped me at his door and apologised that he could not see me. He went on to explain that he had been in a car crash on the way to work that morning and had injured his wrist (it was serious enough to be strapped up in hospital) and in addition he had to prepare for a DPhil *viva voce* examination that day. But he still took my essay, and two days later he placed it in my pigeonhole duly read and commented on.

As I progressed through my second year, Dr Fowler must have seen that my heart was not in the academic study of English literature, much as I have continued reading it. Without pressing me too hard, he nevertheless led me to appreciate approaches to study that I would only come to acknowledge years later in my career as a historian of Christian-Muslim relations, when his training helped me to situate isolated texts in their historical and intellectual contexts. It was during my time at Brasenose that my Christian faith was kindled and my vocation to the Anglican priesthood was realised. When I told him about this (it is indicative of his accessibility that although I only ever saw him for an hour's tutorial each week, we developed a friendship), he received it respectfully and, more than that, referred me to a paperback that helped me to clarify my way ahead.

When I graduated in 1971, I went as a Voluntary Services Overseas teacher of English in a secondary school in the Sudan. During most of this time, I kept in touch with Dr Fowler, mainly discussing with him what I was teaching. One reply he sent has stayed vividly in my memory through fifty years, as the supreme example of the wit and preciseness of expression for which I remember him. These days he neither could nor would write what he did, but in those less sensitive times it came as something to savour. I had written to him about the difficulties in teaching Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* with its mists and rain to boys who lived in a desert climate. His reply was: 'This difficulty presumably arises from the dampness of the moors' (or did he write 'Moors?'). I have never heard a better pun.

EULOGIES FOR EZRA

Ezra Jackson (Classics with Oriental Studies, 2019)

by Benedict Jackson and Katharine Jackson

Ezra, like the dots on a die when you roll a 5, you are the middle child, the centre, the heart.

We grieve almost as much for the mental torment you have been through as for you leaving us but we take comfort in your final words which were for us ALL.

“Please know that this is no one’s fault, so many of you gave me such precious moments of joy and love that I truly treasure.”

All of you here – most especially the students and young people are now bound by this tragedy and by your love of Ezra – when you are down, please talk and ask for help, do not cut yourself off or allow yourself to be cut off.

Take Ezra with you and EAT LIFE.

You have the choice. You have the possibility. Go out with our fervent hopes for all of your futures, with our blessing from the Hebrew, *Timshel*, Thou Mayest.

Ezra

by Elena Trowsdale (English Language & Literature, 2019)

Many of us have memories of Ezra from first year. It was a magical time in which they shone like a loud, silly beacon of light. Ezra was always true to himself, and taught us to be unashamedly passionate about our interests. ‘Friends, Romans, countrymen...’ was a particularly memorable speech of theirs, often performed loudly and in full character – such as the first time they met J in the alleyway to the Turf Tavern. Ezra’s performing brought many of us together. From drag, to *Dungeons & Dragons* dungeon-mastering, to impersonating Gollum down the bar, to sword fights in Sherwood Forest, to all the piggy-back races, to ‘Theoden’s Battle Speech’ – many of us have memories of Ezra’s dynamism, energy and booming voice. Now I’d like to honour them with a rousing speech from *The Lord of the Rings* – though it’s spoken by Aragorn and not Boromir (Ezra’s favourite character) I’m sure they would forgive us:

'Sons of Gondor! Of Rohan! My brothers, I see in your eyes the same fear that would take the heart of me. A day may come when the courage of men fails, when we forsake our friends and break all bonds of fellowship, but it is not this day. An hour of wolves and shattered shields when the Age of Men comes crashing down, but it is not this day! This day we fight!'

Beyond this moment

by Florence Unwin (English Language & Literature, 2020)

I'm reading a poem today that I wrote in the process of my own grieving, a couple of days after Ezra passed. *Beyond this moment* was my way of getting down on paper what I wish I could've said to them on their final afternoon, if given the chance. So, while I hope it provides some comfort for other people who also loved them, I'm really speaking directly to Ezra here. I've had a tendency to do that recently – I miss their warmth, and their brilliance, and their laugh. I miss how animated they were when they spoke about what they loved, and how safely you could fold into one of their hugs. Ezra was my friend, and I loved them, and I still do. These words are meant gently. This is to you, Ez.

Beyond this moment

I know the quiet certainty
That ending now is right
Has settled in your stomach and
Compressed you into stone

I know you feel much smaller
Than the turning of the earth
And think to slip just underneath
Tomorrow's open hand

But you are layered gossamer
You don't ever really end
You are the years and weeks and seconds
That pulse with light behind your eyes

You are every smiling love
That has held you in its hands
And laughed at almost nothing
And your wicked, funny mind

And we want to be there with you
In your complex, gorgeous life
We are spun all in your silks
That burst from every step

Your past is pressed right in you
And you bloom from every side
I love you,
I will miss you so,
Please just get through this night.

Ezra Jackson

by Simon Shogry and Ezra's tutors

I've gathered from Ezra's tutors some brief but heartfelt thoughts on them. We all had much more we could have said. Jonathan commented, "I sometimes felt I was in the presence of a much older person with powers of insight beyond Ezra's actual years. I know now, thinking back over fifty years, that I would have considered myself privileged to have such a person as a friend when I was myself a student." Ed: "Ezra was always confident in their own person, socially, sartorially, and intellectually. Beyond their own gifts, Ed will remember what they gave unstintingly to others: their time, understanding and compassion." Sophie: "Ezra's charisma drew everyone into their orbit, while they themselves always seemed to be pulled towards the vulnerable whom, without fail, they would stand up for. Their literary intuitions left a deep impression on me." Llewelyn's abiding memory is Ezra entering the office for a termly meeting in gender-defying clothing and make-up, and looking both utterly stylish and utterly at one with themselves. My own observation is that Ezra radiated authenticity. Playful, candid, and unfailingly kind, they enlivened our College community with their intellectual curiosity, graceful wit, and fearless self-expression.

Here, finally, are some words from the Roman philosopher Seneca (Letter 99.4-5):

“Believe me: the people we have loved remain with us in large part even after misfortune has taken them away. The time that is past is ours; nothing is more secure than what has already been. Our hopes for the future make us ungrateful for what we have already received, forgetting that even if that hoped-for future ever comes, it too will swiftly become the past. They who delight only in the present moment put too tight a restriction on their enjoyment of life. Both the future and the past have pleasure to give, the one in expectation, the other in memory; but the future is contingent and may never be, while the past cannot fail to have been. What folly it is, then, to allow the most secure of all your possessions to slip from your grasp. Let us find contentment in what we have already drawn from the well—provided our minds are not leaky sieves that let everything drain right through them.”

Ezra Jackson

by John Bowers KC, from his spoken eulogy at Ezra's memorial service

A college is a small intense institution and when we lose someone, we grieve. When someone is as popular as Ezra was, we grieve all the more. When someone was an exceptional talent and taken from us far too early, it only magnifies the grief further.

Ezra was loved by many; a close circle of friends gathered around them and they have been devastated by the loss. The book of condolence here in Chapel is exceptionally moving and testament to this clear fact.

I turned to the Book of Ezra for some solace and found at 10:4:

Arise; for this matter belongeth unto thee: we also will be with thee: be of good courage, and do it.

Ezra was very much part of the College family; our family is diverse and Ezra themselves symbolised part of that diversity, and a wonderful individuality.

The extraordinary tributes speak of a colourful strong presence, passionate, resilient, loyal, funny. Many of them pay tribute to their kindness and the plays acted in.

The Revd Julia Baldwin (our former chaplain) said ‘hugely talented and extraordinarily kind.’ Someone else said ‘You are the sun shining down in true dark times.’

As an institution, our hearts go out to the whole Jackson family whom we welcome on this sombre day. But we are not only an institution; we are also a family at Brasenose at one with you with a beating heart, and you are part of that family.

Horace in ancient Rome said in his *Odes*, “I shall not altogether die”; Ezra will likewise not altogether die; because their spirit will remain in our Brasenose family and in our hearts of our community.

As we say in my own Jewish tradition, may Ezra’s life always be a blessing to the family and to the wider community.

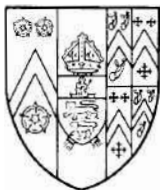
I return to Ezra 10:1:

Now when Ezra had prayed, and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men and women and children: for the people wept very sore.

So I suggest you can shed tears because they have gone or you can smile because they have lived; we are doing a bit of both at this memorial.

Records





THE KING'S HALL AND COLLEGE OF BRASENOSE

Tierced in pale: (1) Argent, a chevron sable between three roses gules seeded or, barbed vert (for Smyth); (2) or, an escutcheon of the arms of the See of Lincoln (gules, two lions of England in pale or, on a chief azure Our Lady crowned seated on a tombstone issuant from the chief, in her dexter arm the Infant Jesus, in her sinister arm a sceptre, all or) ensigned with a mitre proper; (3) quarterly, first and fourth argent, a chevron between three bugle-horns stringed sable; second and third argent, a chevron between three crosses crosslet sable (for Sutton)

The present foundation, dating from the 16th century, has a direct and unbroken connection with Brasenose Hall, which existed at least as early as 1262. The college was founded in 1509 by William Smyth, Bishop of Lincoln, and Sir Richard Sutton of Prestbury in Cheshire.

It was one of the first colleges to admit women as well as men and is open to graduates as well as undergraduates. Generous gifts and bequests over the centuries enable the college to offer scholarships and other awards for undergraduate and graduate study.

The corporate designation of the college is 'The Principal and Scholars of the King's Hall and College of Brasenose in Oxford'.

Note on symbols

ρ Former Rhodes Scholar.

‡ Holder of a statutory professorship or readership.

* Deceased (within the academic year)

A date in the left-hand column indicates the year of election to the current fellowship (or other position) held.

Visitor

The Bishop of Lincoln

Principal

2015 Bowers, John Simon, KC, BCL MA Oxf

Fellows

- 2022 Akinsete, Rotimi, MSc Greenwich *Supernumerary Fellow*
- 2009 Archer, Rowena Elizabeth, BA Brist, MA Oxf, FRHistS
Supernumerary Fellow in History
- 2013 Ardakov, Konstantin, MMath Oxf, PhD Camb *Tutor in
Pure Mathematics*
- 2017 Baldwin, Julia Clare, BA Oxf, DD Cantuar *Chaplain*
- 2016 Bano, Masooda, BA MBA Pakistan, MPhil Camb, DPhil
Oxf *William Golding Senior Research Fellow*
- 2017 Betts, Alexander Milton Stedman, BA Durh, MSc Brist,
MPhil DPhil Oxf *William Golding Senior Research Fellow*
- 2017 Bird, Geoffrey, BSc PhD UCL *Tutor in Psychology*
- 2020 Birkby, Jayne Louise, MSci Durh, PhD Camb *Tutor in Physics*
- 1999 Bispham, Edward Henry, MA DPhil Oxf § *Tutor in Ancient
History, and Vice-Principal*
- 2015 Bortoletto, Daniela, BSc Pavia, MSc PhD Syracuse *Nicholas
Kurti Senior Research Fellow*
- 2010 Bourne-Taylor, Carole Juliette Angélique, MA Oxf, PhD
Grenoble *Supernumerary Fellow in French*
- 1986 Burd, Harvey John, MA DPhil Oxf, CEng, MICE *Tutor in
Engineering Science*
- 2022 Chekulaeva, Marina, MS Moldova, MS Russia, PhD
Heidelberg *Tutorial Fellow in Biochemistry*
- 2001 Davies, Anne Caroline Lloyd, MA DPhil Oxf ‡ *Professor of
Law and Public Policy*
- 2020 de Ferra, Sergio, Laurea Sapienza, MSc MRes PhD LSE *Tutor
in Economics*
- 2022 Demir, Banu, BSc MET, MA Bilkent, MPhil DPhil Oxf
Tutorial Fellow in Economics
- 2005 Dennis, Paul David, BA BM BCh BSc Oxf *Supernumerary
Fellow in Medicine*
- 2022 Diamantis, Julia, BSc PhD Sussex *Supernumerary Fellow and
Director of Development*

- 2020 Durcan, Julie, BSc Sheff, MSc RHUL, PhD Aberystwyth
William Golding Junior Research Fellow
- 2022 Dustin, Michael, BA Boston, PhD Harvard ‡ *Kennedy Trust
Professor of Molecular Immunology*
- 2022 Earp, Brian David, BA MA MPhil PhD Yale, MPhil Camb,
MSc Oxf William Golding Junior Research Fellow
- 1995 Edwards, Anne, MA Oxf, MRCP *Supernumerary Fellow and
Diversity and Equality Officer*
- 1997 Eltis, Sos Ann, MA MPhil DPhil Oxf *Tutor in English*
- 2022 Fisher, Chloe, BA MSCi Camb, PhD Bern *Nicholas Kurti
Junior Research Fellow*
- 2006 Foster, Russell Grant, BSc PhD Brist, FRS *Professor and
Supernumerary Fellow in Circadian Neuroscience*
- 2022 Friedrich, Matthias, BA MSci PhD Munich *Nicholas Kurti
Junior Research Fellow*
- 2006 Gaffney, Eamonn Andrew, BA PhD Camb *Tutor in
Mathematical Biology*
- 2014 Goldberg, Paul Wilfred, BA Oxf, MSc PhD Edin *Nicholas
Kurti Senior Research Fellow*
- 2007 Goulder, Philip Jeremy Renshaw, BA MB BChir
Camb, MA DPhil Oxf, FMGEMS, FRCPCH, MRCP,
*MRCPCCH Professor of Paediatrics and Supernumerary Fellow in
Clinical Medicine*
- 2000 Green, Abigail Frances Floretta, MA Oxf, PhD Camb *Tutor
in Modern History*
- 2020 Grist, James Timothy, BSc UCL, PhD Camb *Nicholas Kurti
Junior Research Fellow*
- 2001 Groiser, David Simon, BA Sus, MA DPhil Oxf *Tutor in
Modern Languages*
- 2016 Häcker, Birke, MA DPhil Oxf, Dipl-Jur Bonn ‡ *Linklaters
Professor of Comparative Law*
- 2017 Hamnett, Gillian, BA Newc, MA MSt Oxf *Supernumerary Fellow*
- 2001 James, William Seward, BSc Birm, MA DPhil Oxf *Professor of
Virology and Tutor in Medicine*
- 2002 Jones, Jonathan Alcwyn, MA DPhil Oxf *Professor of Physics
and Tutor in Physics*
- 2009 Kennard, Christopher, MB BS PhD Lond, FMedSci, FRCP,
MRCP, MRCS *Supernumerary Fellow*

- 2016 Kiaer, Ian Leslie Sonne, BA UCL, MA PhD RCA *Tutor in Fine Art*
- 2003 Krebs, Thomas, LLB Kent, BCL MA DPhil Oxf *Ellesmere Tutor in Law*
- 2018 Krishnan, Sneha, BA Madras, MSc DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Human Geography*
- 2021 Lakhali-Littleton, Samira, BSc UCL, DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Pre-Clinical Medicine*
- 2022 Langrognet, Fabrice, MA Paris, PhD Camb *William Golding Junior Research Fellow*
- 2019 Larson, Greger John, BA CMC California, DPhil Oxf *Nicholas Kurti Senior Research Fellow*
- 2007 Lewis, Owen Thomas, MA Oxon PhD Leeds *Tutor in Zoology and Tutor for Graduates*
- 2022 Lythgoe, Katrina, BA Oxf, MSc Imp, PhD Edin *Tutorial Fellow in Biology (Infectious Diseases)*
- 2000 McKenna, Christopher Davis, BA Amherst, MA PhD Johns Hopkins, MA Oxf *Tutor in Management Studies*
- 2018 Maiolino, Perla, BSc MSc PhD Genoa *Tutor in Engineering Science*
- 2021 Mason-Brown, Lucas, BSc Brown, MSc Dub, PhD MIT *Nicholas Kurti Junior Research Fellow*
- 2022 Mathur, Varsha, BSc PhD British Columbia *Nicholas Kurti Junior Research Fellow*
- 1997 Morgan, Llewelyn William Goronwy, MA Oxf, PhD Camb *Reynolds Fellow and Tutor in Classics*
- 2017 Nag, Sonali, BA MA Hyderabad, MPhil Bangalore, PhD Port *Supernumerary Fellow in Education and the Developing Child*
- 2005 Palfrey, Simon David, BA ANU, MA DPhil Oxf *Professor of English Literature, Tutor in English and Fellow Librarian*
- 2010 Parker, Philip Christopher Liam, MA Camb, ACMA *Bursar*
- 2020 Payne, Andrew, BA Camb, MPhil DPhil Oxf *William Golding Junior Research Fellow*
- 2015 Perry, Adam Drew, BCL MPhil DPhil Oxf *Garrick Fellow and Tutor in Law and Dean*
- 2017 Posada-Carbó, Eduardo, BA Bogotá, MPhil DPhil Oxf *William Golding Senior Research Fellow*

- 2011 Purcell, Nicholas, MA Oxf, FBA ‡ *Camden Professor of Ancient History*
- 2021 Rastinejad, Fraydoon, BA Northwestern, PhD Pennsylvania *Nicholas Kurti Senior Research Fellow*
- 2020 Rechter, David, BA MA Melbourne, PhD Hebrew *William Golding Senior Research Fellow*
- 2021 Rigopoulou, Dimitra, MPhys Ioannina, MSc PhD QMUL *Nicholas Kurti Senior Research Fellow*
- 1992 Robertson, Jeremy, MA DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Organic Chemistry*
- 2014 Ruggeri, Andrea, BA Genoa, MA PhD Essex *Tutor in Politics*
- 2022 Sheen, Rev'd David, BSc Cov, BA MA MSc Card *Chaplain*
- 2017 Shogry, Simon, BA Claremont, MA PhD Berkeley *Tutor in Ancient Philosophy*
- 2011 Smith, Simon David, MA PhD Camb *Senior Tutor and Tutor for Admissions*
- 2011 Strathern, Alan Leiper, MA DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Early Modern History*
- 1997 Swadling, William John, BA CNAAL, LLM Lond, MA Oxf *Tutor in Law*
- 2005 Thun, Eric, AB PhD Harvard *Peter Moores Fellow and Tutor in Chinese Business Studies*
- 2007 Timpson, Christopher Gordon, BA BPhil DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Philosophy*
- 2016 Todd, John, BSc Edin, PhD Camb *Jeffrey Cheah Fellow in Medicine*
- 2013 Walsh, Edmond Joseph, BEng PhD Limerick *Supernumerary Fellow in Engineering*
- 2004 Wiggs, Giles Frederick Salisbury, BSc PhD Lond *Tutor in Geography*
- 2016 Willan, John, BA Camb, BM BCh DPhil Oxf, FRCP (Lond), MRCP *Supernumerary Fellow and Tutor in Clinical Medicine*
- 2007 Wilson, Mark, MA DPhil Oxf *Tutor in Theoretical Chemistry*
- 2019 Winkel, Matthias, MA Oxf, PhD Paris VI *Supernumerary Fellow in Mathematics*

Emeritus Fellows

- 1998 Birch, Bryan John, MA PhD Camb, MA Oxf, FRS
- 2010 Bogdanor, Vernon Bernard, CBE, MA Oxf, FBA

- 2015 Bowman, Alan Keir, MA DLitt Oxf, MA PhD Toronto, FBA
2012 Boyd, Charles Adam Richard, BM Lond, BSc MA DPhil Oxf
2001 Cook, Peter Richard, MA DPhil Oxf
2016 Cooper, Richard Anthony, MA DPhil Oxf
2011 Courakis, Anthony Stylianos, BA Manc, MA Oxf
2017 Daniel, Ronald William, BSc Brun, MA Oxf, PhD Camb,
CEng, MIEE
2010 Evans, Robert John Weston, MA PhD Camb, MA DPhil Oxf
2021 Garman, Elspeth Frances, BSc Durh, DPhil Oxf
2001 Gasser, Robert Paul Holland, MA DPhil Oxf
2014 Haydon, Richard Geoffrey, MA PhD Camb, MA Oxf
1992 Hockaday, Thomas Derek, MA DPhil Oxf, FRCP
2020 Houlsby, Guy Tinmouth, MA DSc Oxf, PhD Camb,
FICE, FEng
2011 Ingram, Martin John, MA DPhil Oxf
2009 Knowland, John Sebastian, MA DPhil Oxf
2003 Peach, John Vincent, MA DPhil Oxf
2017 Poplewell, David Arthur, MA Oxf, PhD Sus
2003 Proudfoot, Nicholas Jarvis, MA Oxf, PhD Camb, FRS
2008 Richards, Bernard Arthur, BLitt MA DPhil Oxf
2008 Richards, William Graham, CBE, MA DPhil DSc Oxf, FRS
2004 Rowett, John Spencer, MA DPhil Oxf
2010 Solymar, Laszlo, MA Oxf, PhD Budapest, FRS

Honorary Fellows

- 2006 Allen, Katherine Susan, BA Oxf
2017 Amersi, Mohamed, BA Sheff, MA Oxf
2003 Baker, the Rt Hon Sir (Thomas) Scott (Gillespie), PC
2010 Barton, Dominic Steven, BA MPhil Oxf ρ
2010 Beatson, the Rt Hon Sir Jack, LL D Camb, DCL Oxf, FBA
1989 Blundell, Sir Tom Leon, BA DPhil Oxf, FRS
2013 Brand, Andrea Hilary, MBiochem Oxf, PhD Camb,
FMedSci, FRS
2011 Bratza, Sir Nicolas, MA Oxf
2015 Burrows, the Rt Hon Andrew Stephen, Lord Burrows,
Hon KC, LL M Harvard, MA DCL Oxf, FBA
2006 Cameron, David William Donald, the Rt Hon Lord Cameron
of Chipping Norton, BA Oxf

- 2011 Cashmore, Roger John, CMG, MA DPhil Oxf, FRS
- 2016 Cheah, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey, AO
- 2018 Coyle, Diane, CBE, BA Oxf, MA PhD Harvard, FRSA
- 2010 Crook, Joseph Mordaunt, CBE, MA DPhil Oxf, Hon DLitt Lond, FBA, FSA
- 2019 Del Favero, James, MBA, MA Oxf, MS
- 2020 Forde, Martin, KC, BA Oxf
- 2004 Gill, Sir Robin Denys, KCVO, MA Oxf
- 2018 Greenland, Duncan Taylor, CBE, BA Oxf
- 2022 Harford, Tim, OBE, BA Oxf
- 2022 Helm, Sir Dieter, CBE, BA Oxf
- 2013 Hill, Catharine Bond, MA Oxf
- 2018 Jackson, the Rt Hon Sir Peter Arthur Brian, Rt Hon Lord Justice Peter Jackson, BA Oxf
- 1999 Janvrin, Robin Berry, the Rt Hon Lord Janvrin, CB, KCVO, MA Oxf
- 2013 Johnson, Michelle Denise, MA Oxf
- 1983 Judd, Brian Raymond, MA DPhil Oxf *
- 2017 Kosterlitz, John Michael, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf
- 2022 Lewis, Simon, OBE, BA Oxf
- 2018 Marks, Alexandra Louise, CBE, BA Oxf
- 2003 Mellor, Dame Julie Therese, DBE, BA Oxf
- 1990 O'Neill, Robert John, AO, BE Melbourne, MA DPhil Oxf, FASSA ρ*
- 2003 Palin, Sir Michael Edward, KCMG, CBE, FRGS, BA Oxf
- 2019 Rose, the Rt Hon Dame Vivien Judith, Rt Hon Lady Justice Rose, DBE, BCL Oxf
- 1998 Saville, Mark Oliver, the Rt Hon Lord Saville of Newdigate, BA BCL Oxf
- 2015 Smith, Gerald Thomas Edwards, BPhil Oxf, MA St And
- 2021 Stratton, Sir Michael Rudolf, BA Oxf, MB BS Guys, PhD Hon DSc Lond, FRCPath
- 2013 Tucker, William Guise, BA Oxf, RA
- 2018 Turnbull, the Hon Malcolm Bligh, BCL Oxf, BA LLB Sydney
- 1997 Vallance, Iain David Thomas, Lord Vallance of Tummel, Kt, MSc Lond School of Business Studies, MA Oxf, FRSA

- 2010 van Heerden, the Hon Mrs Justice Belinda, LLB Stellenbosch, MA Oxf
1993 Wates, Sir Christopher Stephen, BA Oxf, FCA
2010 Wiggins, David Robert Priestly, MA Oxf, FBA
2013 Wightman, Nigel David, BA MPhil Oxf

Lecturers not on the Foundation

- Altshuler, Daniel, BA UCLA, PhD Rutgers *Linguistics*
Bocksberger, Sophie, BA MA Lausanne, DPhil Oxf *Classics*
Buckland, Matthew William, MMath Oxf *Mathematics*
Burkert-Burrows, Stefanie, Staatsexamen Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, PGCE Manc Met *German*
Carroll, Ian, MPhil Oxf *Politics*
Christoforou, Panayiotis, MPhil DPhil Oxf, MA St And *Ancient History*
Clement, William D M, BA Durh, MSt DPhil Oxf *History*
Colyer, Greg, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf *Physics*
Czepiel, Maria, BA MSt Oxf *Spanish*
Dorigatti, Marco, Dott Lett Florence, DPhil Oxf *Italian*
Edwards, James, MA Camb, BCL DPhil Oxf *Law*
Ferbrache, Fiona, BA PhD Plym, MRes Exe *Geography*
Formentini, Andrea, BSc MSc PhD Genoa *Engineering*
Gittos, Helen Beverley, BA Newc, MSt DPhil Oxf *History*
Grabowska-Zhang, Ada, BA DPhil Oxf *Biology*
Grant, David, BM BCh Oxf *Medicine*
Harker, Anthony Henry, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf *Solid State Physics*
Harrison, Pegram, BA Yale, MBA Lond Business School, PhD Camb *Management*
Heathcote, David, MChem DPhil Oxf *Chemistry*
Horton, Sophie, BSc Durh, MSc Otago *Geography*
Jackson, Justin, MA Birkbeck, MSt Dip Camb, MA MPhil Oxf *Politics*
Jones, Polly Alexandra, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf *Russian*
Katz, Jonathan Bernard, MA DPhil Oxf *Classics*
Kosir, Urska, MSc Yale, DPhil Oxf *Psychology*
Kosmidis, Spyros, BA Panteion, MA PhD Essex *Politics*
Kuznetsov, Vladimir, MSc PhD Moscow *Inorganic Chemistry*
Lamb, Edward, BA Camb, MA PhD UCL *Philosophy*
Lau, Henry, MA DPhil Oxf *Engineering*
Leal, Dave, BA PhD Leeds *Philosophy*

- Manganis, Charis, BM BCh Oxf, MRCP *Medicine*
Maroney, Owen, BA Camb, MSc PhD Lond *Philosophy*
Marton, Agota, BA MA Babeş-Bolyai, DPhil Oxf *English*
Middleton, Anthony N, MA Oxf *Physics (Mathematics)*
Moharrami, Arghavan, BA Tehran, MA Shahid Beheshti *Middle Eastern Languages*
Morton, John, MA Camb, DPhil Oxf *Engineering*
Orr, Alva, MPhys Oxf *Physics*
Oswald, Lucy, MSci Camb *Physics*
Ozarowska, Lidia, BA Warsaw, MSt DPhil Oxf *Ancient History*
Pakpoor, Julia, BM BCh Oxf *Medicine*
Palano, Silvia, MA Oxf *Economics*
Parker, Eleanor, BA MPhil DPhil Oxf *English*
Pinon, Carmen, BSc PhD Rio de Janeiro *Psychology*
Pokorny, Fabian, BSc MSc Innsbruck, PhD Stockholm *Physics*
Roberts, Mark Andrew James, MBiochem DPhil Oxf, PGCAP Lond, SFHEA *Biochemistry*
Robinson, Damian Jason, BSc PhD Brad, MA Oxf *Classical Archaeology*
Robinson, George, BA MMath Camb *Mathematics*
Romer, Stephen, MA PhD Camb, FRSL *French*
Sekita, Karolina, Magister Warsaw, DPhil Oxf *Classics*
Shanmugam Senga, Sasi, MB BS Dalian Medical, MSc ANU, MSc QMUL *Medicine*
Sillett, Andrew James, BA MSt DPhil Oxf *Ancient History*
Struwe, Weston, BSc Wisconsin, PhD New Hampshire *Biochemistry*
Tsuji, Hayato, BEng Tokyo IT *Chemistry*
Vogel, Christopher, BE Auckland, DPhil Oxf *Engineering*
Weatherseed, Miles, MMath Oxf *Mathematics*

STAFF 2022–23**Accommodation**

Ryan Shaw	Accommodation Manager
Gill Walker	Head Housekeeper
Gabi Nacheva	Deputy Housekeeper – College and St Cross
Emma Gomez-Gil	Deputy Housekeeper – Frewin and Hollybush
Toyin Atalabi	Scout
Maria Bura	Scout (<i>until June 2023</i>)
Bobby Cox	Scout
Suchada Dekowski	Scout
Rabie Deliallisi	Scout
Ezequiel Dos Santos Gusmao	Scout
Magdalena Fennouh	Scout (<i>until January 2023</i>)
Justyna Grochowska	Scout (<i>until September 2023</i>)
Debra Hall	Scout
Mindaugas Jocas	Scout
Kristina Jocience	Scout
Monika Kaczkowska	Scout
Julie Lee	Scout
Sofiane Lehama	Scout
Val Mack	Scout
Sheila Mobbs	Scout
Clair Moss	Scout (<i>from April 2023</i>)
Emil Nachev	Scout
Maria Nheu Felgueiras	Scout (<i>until June 2023</i>)
Renata Pacholec	Scout
Desislava Paneva	Scout
Leandro Pereira	Scout
Laura Ratkiene	Scout
Kana Sawazaki	Scout (<i>from April 2023</i>)
Kathleen Sheehan	Scout (<i>until March 2023</i>)
Joanne Simms	Scout
Eugenia Soares	Scout
Salvador Soares de Costa	Scout (<i>from February 2023</i>)
Patricia Spencer	Scout (<i>until Febuary 2023</i>)

Malcolm Thomas	Scout (<i>until March 2023</i>)
Fernando Tjing	Scout
Brigida Valente	Scout
Darren Watts	Scout
Steven Yousaf	Scout

Alumni Relations and Development Office

Julia Diamantis	Development Director
George Balkwill	Senior Development Officer
John-Paul Clough	Development Officer (Alumni Communications and Database)
Amanda Sharp	Development Officer, Annual Fund (<i>until October 2022</i>)
Emilie Messenger	Annual Fund Officer (<i>Annual Fund Manager from August 2023</i>)
Chloe Bossward	Events and Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Emily Reeve	Development Assistant (<i>from January 2023</i>)

Bursary

Philip Parker	Bursar
Matthew Hill	Domestic Bursar (<i>Until September 2023</i>)
Kris Sadler	Interim Domestic Bursar (<i>from September 2023</i>)
Kirsty Jackson	PA to Bursar, Domestic Bursar and Chaplain
Nicholas White	Estates Manager (<i>from September 2023</i>)

Buttery

Nathan Pyle	Butler
Martin Wiseman	Steward
Becky Dandridge	Assistant Steward
Mara Iavarone	Assistant Steward (<i>from April 2023</i>)
Victor Martinez	Assistant Steward (<i>until March 2023</i>)
Aneta Nowakowska	SCR Assistant (<i>until May 2023</i>)
Yeva Basarab	SCR Assistant (<i>from June 2023</i>)
Kim Smith	SCR Assistant
Shauna Curtin	Hall Assistant

Olivia Newbold	Hall Assistant
Nikita Subba	Hall Assistant (<i>from November 2022</i>)
Penny Smith	Hall Assistant (<i>from January 2023</i>)
Marito Bernardino	Plate Room Assistant (<i>until May 2023</i>)
Geoff Geer	Plate Room Assistant
Tallulah Morris	Plate Room Assistant (<i>from September 2023</i>)

Chapel

Julia Baldwin	Chaplain (<i>until January 2023</i>)
David Sheen	Chaplain (<i>from January 2023</i>)
Christian Wilson	Director of Music (<i>until September 2023</i>)
Polina Sosnina	Director of Music (<i>from September 2023</i>)

College Office

Simon Smith	Senior Tutor
Henry Jestico	Academic Administrator
Bronwen Tomkinson	Graduate Administrator (<i>maternity leave from March 2023</i>)
Eliza Flindall	Graduate Administrator (<i>from March 2023</i>)
Felicity Shelley	Admissions Officer
Joe Organ	Head of Undergraduate Access and Retention
Benedict Holden	Outreach and School Liaison Coordinator (<i>from November 2022</i>)
Rachel Bell	Academic Assistant (<i>until September 2023</i>)
Amelia Woodhouse	Academic Assistant (<i>from September to November 2023</i>)

Conferences & Events Office

James Hellyer	Head of Accommodation and Conferences
Norman Meyer	Conference and Events Manager (<i>until February 2023</i>)

Alex Moore	Conference and Events Manager <i>(from June 2023)</i>
Alice McCormack	Conference and Events Coordinator <i>(until January 2023)</i>
Amanda Gooding	Events Coordinator
Denise Rees	Conference and Events Administrator

Finance Bursary

Gillian Chandler	Finance Director
Goshia Czarna-Adams	Financial Controller
Neil Gould	Payroll Manager
Laurence Guntert	Finance Assistant – Accounts Payable
Kerry O’Callaghan	Assistant Accountant
Alexander Wilson	Finance Assistant
Grahame Smith	Project Accountant <i>(until December 2022)</i>

Human Resources

Julia Dewar	Director of Human Resources
Holly Richards–Morris	Human Resources Manager
Paula Bracher	Human Resources Adviser <i>(until January 2023)</i>
Megha Anand	Human Resources Assistant <i>(until May 2023)</i>
Sasha Merrell Brown	Human Resources Administrator <i>(from September 2023)</i>

ICT

John Kinsey	IT Director
Garrith Blackhall	ICT Infrastructure Manager
Bekki Tordoff	ICT Officer
Mona Beiraghdar Ghoshun	ICT Officer <i>(until June 2023)</i>
Sol Young	ICT Officer <i>(from June 2023)</i>
Ali Nuheili	ICT First Line Support Officer <i>(until December 2022)</i>

Kitchen

Lorraine Watkins	Head Chef
Erik Poslusny	Sous Chef
Henry Crowther	Deputy Sous Chef
Chris Alexa	Third Chef
Tom Johnson	Third Chef (<i>until March 2023</i>)
Matthew Ware	Senior Pastry Chef
Siraj Bayaa	Chef de Partie (<i>from December 2022</i>)
Boniface Odhiambo	Chef de Partie (<i>from May 2023</i>)
Hayden Whiting	Chef de Partie (<i>until June 2023</i>)
Carl Tano	Junior Chef de Partie
Toufik Ferkoun	Commis Chef (<i>from October 2023</i>)
Miriam Vargiu	Severy Assistant
Zoe Organ	Severy Assistant (<i>until June 2023</i>)
Kamrunnaher Beauty	Servery Assistant (<i>from July 2023</i>)
Fakrul Islam	Head Kitchen Porter
Olivio Assuncao	Kitchen Porter
Pedro Ribeiro	Kitchen Porter (<i>from April 2023</i>)
Luis Silva	Kitchen Porter (<i>until February 2023</i>)

Library and Archives

Simon Palfrey	Fellow Librarian
Liz Kay	College Librarian
Sophie Floate	Antiquarian Cataloguer
Helen Sumping	Archivist
Annaliese Griffiss	Assistant Archivist (<i>until February 2023</i>)
Joanna Mills	Assistant Librarian

Porters' Lodge

Andy Talbot	Security and Safety Manager
Omer Tariq	Lodge Manager
Roy Creighton	Lodge Porter (<i>from July 2023</i>)
Mark Eastley	Lodge Porter
Ray May	Lodge Porter
Carol Rix	Lodge Porter (<i>until May 2023</i>)
Adam Tarnet	Lodge Porter
Nicholas Jones	Night Lodge Porter
Mel Fontaine	Night Lodge Porter

Derek Musto
Damien Thomas

Night Lodge Porter
Night Lodge Porter

Principal's Office

John Bowers KC
Anna Malkin
Kate Roberts

Principal
Principal's Personal Assistant
Principal's Deputy Personal Assistant

Welfare

Kinneret Milgrom
Sebastian Petzolt
Arnaud Petit
Adam Perry

College Nurse
Student Support Advisor
Sub-Dean and Study Skills Supervisor
Dean (*from September 2022 until August 2023*)
Dean (*from September 2023*)
Junior Dean
Junior Dean (*until August 2023*)
Junior Dean (*until August 2023*)
Junior Dean (*from September 2023*)

Simon Shogry
Arthur Disegna
Charlotte Lee
Sunjuri Sun
Bessie O'Dell

Workshop

Clifford Jones
Mike Rochford
Danny English
Billy Burnell
Rob Walker
Matthew Hewitt

Clerk of Works
Workshop Manager
Groundsman
General Maintenance
Facilities and Maintenance Assistant
Carpenter and General Maintenance (*until February 2023*)
Carpenter and General Maintenance (*from May 2023*)
Project Manager/Plumber and General Maintenance (*until February 2023*)
Plumber and General Maintenance
Plumber and General Maintenance (*from June 2023*)

John McNamee
Ryan Allen
Julian Drake
Simon Jones

CLASS LIST

Final Honour School 2023

NB: Students who did not want their names to be on public pass lists have been emailed for permission to be included in The Brazen Nose, and names have been removed if students have confirmed that they do not want to be listed, or if no response has been received.

BIOCHEMISTRY

- I Thomas Haygarth
- II.1 Olivia Bourne
- II.1 Hannah Kynman

BIOLOGY

- I Thomas Stone

CHEMISTRY

- I Caroline Conder
- I Evan Edwards
- I Joshua Mitchell
- II.1 Georgia Ofiaeli

CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY & ANCIENT HISTORY

- I Olivia Francis

ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT

- I Ben Brennan
- I Quinn Obbink
- I Deepesh Patel
- II.1 Yorke Christy-Parker
- II.1 James Duffy
- II.1 Ewan Gordon
- II.1 Aran Kavan
- II.1 Lucy Reynolds

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

- I Jake Watson
- II.1 Iñigo De La Joya Peletier
- II.1 George Drayson
- II.1 Benjamin Rienecker
- II.1 Jonathan Routley
- II.2 İrem Kaki

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

- I Iris Bowdler
- I Yii-Jen Deng
- I Grace Dowling
- I Lily Finch
- II.1 Kira Atanasiu
- II.1 Krisha Hirani
- II.1 Jasmine Sayer
- II.1 Macy Stasiak
- II.1 Florence Unwin

EUROPEAN & MIDDLE-EASTERN LANGUAGES

- II.1 Daniel Millard

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

- I Amy Howard

FINE ART

- I Haozhe Liang
- I William Lowry
- II.1 Skye Seipp
- II.1 Emer Sukonik

GEOGRAPHY

- I Philippa Chapman
- I Lucas Evans
- I Harriet Piggott
- I Ezra Sharpe
- II.1 Isabel Beggs
- II.1 Felicity Elvidge
- II.1 Georgina Jenkins

II.1 Damayanti Sankaran

II.1 Hannah Warbey

HISTORY

I Yasmin Malik

II.1 Daniel Blyth

II.1 Lily Green

II.1 Nicholas Johnson

II.1 Daniel Moloney

HISTORY & ECONOMICS

I Esme Glen

HISTORY & POLITICS

II.1 Dylan Bilyard

II.1 Zachary Sutcliffe

JURISPRUDENCE

I James Bishop

I Tsing Grace Cheng

I Dominic Curry

I Luca Williams

II.1 Josh Griffith

II.1 Mia Hynes

II.1 Sadia Kamaly

II.1 Louis Lennon

II.1 Charmaine Yuen

LAW WITH LAW STUDIES IN EUROPE

II.1 Eleni Petropoulou

LITERAE HUMANIORES

I Benedict Griffin

II.1 Shreyasi Banerjee

II.1 Oliver Kroboth

II.1 Matthew Schaffel

MATHEMATICAL & THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Distinction Daniel Gore

Distinction Jordan Penn

MATHEMATICS

Distinction	Harry Best
Merit	Samuel Anoyrkatis
Merit	Robin Newby

MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS

Distinction	Jung Eun Huh
Merit	Carissa Cullen

MEDICAL SCIENCES

I	Dillon Lim
I	Helen Robertson
I	Laura Stirling-Barros
II.1	Jackson Spry

MODERN LANGUAGES

I	Jamie Bowden
I	Gabrielle Ford
I	Rachel Zerdin
II.1	Jasmine de Braganca

MODERN LANGUAGES & LINGUISTICS

I	Elin Donnelly
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PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS & ECONOMICS

I	Riognach Theakston
II.1	Francesco Coppola
II.1	Daniel Daly
II.1	Julian Danker
II.1	Struan Hancock
II.1	Isobel Holland
II.1	Krishan Tait
II.1	Adam Thompson
II.2	Tess Lovejoy

PHYSICS (BA)

II.1	Daniel Bostic
II.1	Kristiyan Popov

PHYSICS (MPHYS)

- I Ewan Murphy
I Jessica Tedd

PHYSICS & PHILOSOPHY

- I Joseph Cary

PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY & LINGUISTICS

- I Jacob Dawson
II.1 Isabella Vale

GRADUATE DEGREES**DPhil**

Tansy Branscombe	DPhil Archaeological Science	Michaelmas 2017
Paul Buckley	DPhil Molecular and Cellular Medicine	Hilary 2018
Matthew David Burton	DPhil Engineering Science	Michaelmas 2018
Sage Goodwin	DPhil History	Michaelmas 2012
Felix Homma	DPhil Interdisciplinary Bioscience (BBSRC DTP)	Michaelmas 2017
Estella Kessler	DPhil Classical Languages and Literature	Michaelmas 2013
Dimitrios Kolokouris	DPhil in Interdisciplinary Bioscience (DTP)	Michaelmas 2018
Harry Moore	DPhil Theology and Religion	Michaelmas 2019
Aneyn O'Grady	DPhil Education	Michaelmas 2017
Arcadio Rubio Garcia	DPhil Clinical Medicine	Michaelmas 2014
Shamara Wettimuny	DPhil History	Michaelmas 2018

Miriam Zachau Walker	DPhil Engineering Science	Michaelmas 2016
Di Yang	DPhil Biochemistry	Michaelmas 2017
Nikita Aggarwal	DPhil Law (Part-time)	Michaelmas 2017
Luisa Elisabeth Kapp	DPhil History	Michaelmas 2017
Moritz Philipp Schwarz	DPhil Geography and the Environment	Michaelmas 2019
Benjamin Joseph Sutherland	Theory and Modelling in Chem Sciences (CDT)	Michaelmas 2018
Andres Mauricio Guiot Isaac	DPhil Area Studies (Latin America)	Michaelmas 2018
Matthew Adam Griffith Speight	DPhil in Interdisciplinary Bioscience (DTP)	Michaelmas 2015
Indra Rudiansyah	DPhil Clinical Medicine	Michaelmas 2018
Alexandra Maria Bisia	DPhil Chromosome Biology	Michaelmas 2018
Olive Jiheon Jung	DPhil Biomedical Sciences: NIH-OU	Michaelmas 2019
Joel Douglas Butler	DPhil History (Part-time)	Michaelmas 2016
Shipeng Zhang	DPhil Environmental Research (NERC DTP)	Michaelmas 2017
Urvi Khaitan	DPhil History (HSM and ESH)	Michaelmas 2019
Charlotte Louise Lee	DPhil Primary Health Care	Michaelmas 2019
Samuel James Miller-McDonald	DPhil Geography and the Environment	Michaelmas 2016
Megan Bunce	DPhil History	Michaelmas 2019

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

Hugo Astley	Pass
Michael Diamond	Pass

BCL

Ferdinand Botha	Pass
Celeste Chan	Merit
Alfred Crowley-Rata	Distinction
Katherine Edgeley	Distinction
Sanjana Gunasekaran	Distinction
Rose Smith	Merit
Psymhe Wadud	Merit
Marianne Wood	Merit
Allison Wu	Pass

Magister Juris

Silvan Bennett-Schaar	Distinction
Paraskevi Georgaki	Merit
Krzysztof Riedl	Merit

Master of Fine Art

Dilara Koz	Merit
Cherry Song	Pass

Master of Public Policy

Shyamolie Biyani	Merit
Courtney Howard	Pass
Jane Hutchings	Merit
Fatima Murchal	Pass
Caroline Turner	Merit
Margareth Velazco Loza	Merit

MPhil

Victor Deboutte	MPhil Biodiversity, Conservation and Management	Merit
Laura Jones	MPhil Classical Archaeology	Pass

Shem-Raz Idrees	MPhil Classical Archaeology	Merit
Mia Simovic	MPhil Development Studies	Merit
Drummond Orr	MPhil Economics	Distinction
Beertje Jacoba Emma Gerritsen	MPhil Global and Area Studies	Merit
Isabelle Sturt	MPhil Global and Area Studies	Pass
Thyra-Lilja Altunin	MPhil Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature	Merit
George Hill	MPhil Greek and/or Roman History	Merit
Astrid Jenkins	MPhil International Relations	Distinction

BPhil

Anna Golova	BPhil Philosophy	Distinction
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MSc

Tim Den Boer	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Distinction
Cameron Englman	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Merit
Thi Bao Tien Ho	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Merit
Marta Makukh	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Pass
Brendan Sargent	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Distinction
Ye Wo	MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience	Merit
Gwendolyne Brown	MSc Economics for Development	Pass
Robert Selvey-Clinton	MSc English Local History	Distinction
Simon Cocks	MSc Environmental Change and Management	Merit
Leah Boyle	MSc Global Health Science and Epidemiology	Merit

Ruan Spies	MSc Global Health Science and Epidemiology	Merit
Pierce Jones	MSc History of Science, Medicine and Technology	Distinction
Winnie Mwebia	MSc International Health & Tropical Medicine	Merit
Emma Classen-Howes	MSc Latin American Studies	Merit
Robert Youngs Do Patrocinio	MSc Latin American Studies	Merit
Jack Baldwin	MSc Law and Finance	Distinction
Olorunseun Braimoh	MSc Law and Finance	Merit
Katelyn Ewart	MSc Law and Finance	Merit
Jessica Lee	MSc Learning and Teaching	Distinction
Isabella Porter	MSc Learning and Teaching	Pass
Richard Wing	MSc Learning and Teaching	Distinction
YaoYue Zhang	MSc Learning and Teaching	Merit
Maximilien MacKie	MSc Mathematical Sciences	Distinction
Jan Ondras	MSc Mathematical Sciences	Distinction
Yanelle Cruz Bonilla	MSc Migration Studies	Merit
Gabrielle Plowens	MSc Nature, Society and Environmental Governance	Merit
Ella Williams	MSc Neuroscience	Merit
Temesgen Gebrehiwet	MSc Refugee and Forced Migration Studies	Pass
Alexander Goyal	MSc Statistical Science	Distinction
Irshaad Kathrada	MSc Sustainability, Enterprise and the Environment	Distinction
Alexander O'Shea	MSc Theoretical and Comp Chemistry	Pass

MSt

Samuel Harvey	MSt Creative Writing	Distinction
Toby King	MSt Creative Writing	Distinction
Madeleine Lamm	MSt Creative Writing	Merit
Emily Hope	MSt English	Merit
Niharika Thakur	MSt Global and Imperial History	Merit
Marina Paschalidou	MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature	Distinction
William Brady	MSt Jewish Studies	Merit
Oduma Adelio	MSt in Modern Languages	Distinction

PGCE

Isabella Caro	Pass
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MBA

David Abrams	Pass
Collin Gaskill	Distinction
Hannah Stern	Distinction
Chi Ping Tan	Pass
Jiacheng Zhang	Pass
Nijia Zhou	Pass

EMBA

Daniel Owen Hopkin	Distinction
Mohamed Soliman	Pass

MATRICULATIONS 2022-23

David Abrams, *Stanford University*; **Oduma Adelio**, *Eberhard-Karls University*; **Divya Agarwal**, *Columbia University*; **Alina Alexander**, *St Paul's Girls' School*; **Harriet Altaparmakova**, *Saffron Walden County High School*; **Joseph Andrews**, *Ardingly College*; **Santhakumar Arjunan**, *Bexley Grammar School*; **Amina Aziz**, *Wycombe High School*; **Jack Baldwin**, *Queensland University*; **Finn Barber**, *Abbeygate Sixth Form College*; **Holly Bartlett**, *Madras College*; **Bodoo Batnaran**, *University College London*; **Natalya Battiwalla**, *Greenhead College*; **Genevieve Beaufoy**, *University of Leeds*; **Silvan Bennett-Schaar**, *Humboldt University, Berlin*; **Amelie Berz**, *Ruprecht-Karls Universitat Heidelberg*; **Shyamolie Biyani**, *Columbia University*; **Iona Blair**, *St Mary's Catholic High School*; **Sumrit Bola**, *Imperial College London*; **Sophie Booth**, *Meden School*; **Ferdinand Botha**, *Stellenbosch University*; **Jonathan Bouwer-Davies**, *King's College London*; **Leah Boyle**, *Otago University*; **Morgan Brady**, *University of East London*; **William Brady**, *University of Manchester*; **Olorunseun Braimoh**, *Lagos State University*; **Gwendolyne Brown**, *University of Southampton*; **Nathan Buchan**, *Peterhead Academy*; **Oliver Cadogan**, *Winchester College*; **Sophie Cardin**, *Colorado College*; **Benjamin Cariss**, *University College London*; **John Robin Carlyon**, *City of London School*; **Isabella Caro**, *Bristol University*; **Oliver Cashmore**, *Stoke-On-Trent Sixth Form College*; **Won Yauu Celeste Chan**, *University of Hong Kong*; **Yuming Chen**, *Crean Lutheran High School*; **Mae Chester-Jones**, *London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*; **Elizabeth Chrisp**, *The Royal Grammar School*; **Emma Classen-Howes**, *McGill University*; **Simon Cocks**, *Durham University*; **Veronica Corielli**, *Westminster College*; **Tess Cottin**, *Dr Challoner's Grammar School*; **Daniel Cox**, *Dr Challoner's Grammar School*; **Alfred Crowley-Rata**, *Cambridge University*; **Isaac Cusworth**, *Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College*; **Isobel Davies**, *St Aidan's and St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form*; **Tim Den Boer**, *University of Maastricht*; **Onur Deniz**, *Istanbul Technical University*; **Curtis Douglas**, *Bexley Grammar School*; **Lucy Dwight Beaumont**, *Greenhead College*; **Imogen Edmundson**, *Darrick Wood Secondary School*; **Alexander Elliott**, *Bramcote College*; **David Evans**, *Queen Elizabeth's Hospital School*; **Katelyn Ewart**, *University of Tasmania*; **Freddie Finlay**, *Barton Peveril College*; **Samuel Gaines**, *The Royal Grammar School*;

Collin Gaskill, *University of Texas at Austin*; **Temesgen Gebrehiwet**, *Zambian Open University*; **Paraskevi Georgaki**, *Athens University*; **Nathan Gibson**, *Camborne Community College*; **Matthew Goldberg**, *Monash University*; **Kara Goldsmith**, *Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham*; **Sophie Goodman**, *Monkton Combe School*; **Alexander Goyal**, *Universite De Lausanne*; **Elin Grählert**, *University of Edinburgh*; **Ethan Grant**, *St Bede's School, Redhill*; **Delphine Greco**, *James Allen's Girls' School*; **Matthew Grigg**, *Godalming College*; **Natalie Groves**, *Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College*; **Martin Gunther**, *Humboldt University, Berlin*; **Aylin Gurleyen**, *The Abbey School, Reading*; **Arbion Halili**, *Whitmore High School*; **Peter Hallsworth**, *Cardiff University*; **Cyrus Hariri**, *Hills Road Sixth Form College*; **Joshua Harland**, *Clitheroe Royal Grammar School*; **Erin Heaton**, *Ecclesbourne School*; **Nicholas Herbert**, *Kwazulu-Natal University*; **Thi Bao Tien Ho**, *Asian University for Women*; **Emily Hope**, *University of Newcastle Upon Tyne*; **Courtney Howard**, *University of Liverpool*; **Esme Hubbert**, *Varndean Sixth Form College*; **Joshua Huckle**, *University College London*; **Jane Hutchings**, *Queen's University, Ontario*; **Tuyen Ngoc Huynh**, *AU Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology*; **Emily Jackson**, *Alleyns School*; **Samuel James**, *Hereford Sixth Form College*; **Megan Jefferies**, *Gordano School*; **Emily Jenkinson**, *Greenhead College*; **Finlay Johnston**, *Dulwich College*; **Laura Jones**, *Durham University*; **Rebecca Kalu**, *Loreto College, Manchester*; **Irshaad Kathrada**, *Cape Town University*; **Milind Khashu**, *Canford School*; **Dilara Koz**, *University College London*; **David Kozak**, *Colorado School of Mines*; **Jordan Kramer**, *Georgetown University, Washington*; **Aditya Kulkarni**, *Abhinav English School*; **Matilda Lambert**, *Barton Peveril College*; **Keith Larney**, *Harvard University*; **Nikita Lavender**, *Westminster School*; **Shoba Laxmi**, *SG Nanyang Technological University Singapore*; **Anne-Sophie Lee**, *Wycombe Abbey School*; **Cassie Lee**, *Homeschooled*; **Joseph Levine**, *St Andrews University*; **Amanda Li**, *Hunter College High School*; **Haoran Luo**, *Columbia University*; **Sijie Ma**, *International School Luxembourg*; **Maximilien MacKie**, *University of Warwick*; **Marta Makukh**, *Lviv Danylo Halytsky State Medical University*; **Alex Massie**, *Brighton Hove & Sussex Sixth Form College*; **Claire Matthews**, *Mount Holyoke College*; **Halcyon Matthews**, *Minster School*; **Emanuel Mavares Da Silva**, *Greenhead College*; **Lily McDermott**, *Pates Grammar School*; **Elliot McLeod**, *Beechen Cliff School*; **Purav Menon**, *Westminster*

School; **Marianne Morgan**, Wycombe High School; **Matai Muon**, University of Nairobi; **Winnie Mwebia**, University of Nairobi; **Lauren Neville**, King Edward VI College; **Hui Ng**, Hwa Chong Institution; **Miles Nicholson**, Altrincham Boys Grammar School; **Francesca Nightingale**, Camden School for Girls; **Paul Norris**, Cambridge University; **Ludovico Oddi**, Università degli Studi di Roma 'La Sapienza'; **Miles Oleksak**, The Bermuda High School for Girls; **Jan Ondras**, Cornell University; **Scarlett O'Shaughnessy**, Windsor Girls School; **Alexander O'Shea**, King's College London; **Adrian Oudmaijer**, Horsforth School; **Ambrose Pailing**, Horsforth School; **Ananya Parakh**, Sishya School; **Luke Parker**, Durham University; **Nikita Parmar**, King Edward VI Camp Hill Girls; **Marina Paschalidou**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; **Linqi Peng**, Chengdu No.7 High School; **Tia Percy**, Heanor Gate School; **Sanika Pherwani**, Indo Scots Global School; **Gabrielle Plowens**, British Columbia University; **Jacob Potter**, Camden School for Girls; **Harish Raghu**, Reading School; **Jonathan Ratcliffe**, University of Nottingham; **Krzysztof Riedl**, University of Warsaw; **Jan Riemersma**, Leiden University; **Henry Rose**, Eton College; **Husayn Sacranie**, Langley Grammar School; **Brendan Sargent**, University of Edinburgh; **Eryk Schumacher**, Jumeirah College; **Avinandan Sengupta**, The King's School, Peterborough; **Finbarr Sheedy**, Reading School; **Alexander Sherwood**, Hills Road Sixth Form College; **Chiara Simpson-Gregory**, Alderbrook School; **Holly Singleton**, Beverley Grammar School; **Sarah Skinner**, United States Naval Academy; **Ramy Alesi Slama**, University College London; **Chloe Smith**, John Leggott College; **Rose Smith**, Monash University; **Qingyu Song**, University College London; **Jiya Soomal**, Townley Grammar School for Girls; **Ruan Spies**, Cape Town University; **Hannah Stern**, University of New South Wales; **Isabelle St-Hilaire**, Cambridge University; **Eugenie Sumkoska**, Tiffin Girls School; **Tailun Sun**, Priestley Sixth Form College; **Benjamin Surguy**, Vyners School; **Chi Ping Tan**, Nanyang Technological University; **Joel Thacker**, Brookfield Community School; **Niharika Thakur**, University of Rochester; **Angharad Thomas-De Paul**, Carmarthenshire College of Technology & Art; **Poppy Thomson**, Sherborne School for Girls; **Poppy Thornton**, Kingdown School; **Flora Tregear**, St Olave's Grammar School; **Lilian Trickey**, Backwell School; **Darren Trisno**, Raffles Junior College; **Caroline Turner**,

United States Naval Academy; **Grace Ubaka Farsides**, *St Marylebone C.E. School*; **Aditi Upmanyu**, *Delhi University*; **Margareth Velazco Loza**, *Universidad del Pacifico Peru*; **Psymhe Wadud**, *University of Dhaka*; **Barney Wakefield**, *Greenhead College*; **Fengquan Wang**, *Peking University*; **Julia Wang**, *University of Toronto*; **Susannah Weidmann**, *Beaumont School*; **Lola Wendon**, *University of the Arts*; **Ella Williams**, *Durham University*; **Freya Williams**, *Ilkley Grammar School*; **Sacha Wilson**, *Stratford On Avon Girls GR School*; **Ye Wo**, *McGill University*; **Marianne Wood**, *King's College London*; **Steven Wood**, *Woking College*; **Allison Wu**, *London School of Economics*; **Yingting Yan**, *Cambridge International Centre of Shanghai Normal University*; **Jingyi Yang**, *Minzu University of China*; **Robert Youngs Do Patrocinio**, *University College London*; **Jiacheng Zhang**, *Emory University*; **Jinghua Zhang**, *Pennon Education Group*.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PRIZES 2022-23

Undergraduate University Prizes

James Bishop (Law): Slaughter and May Prize in Contract Law

Daniel Bostic (Physics): Gibbs Prize (shared) for Group Project Presentation

Ben Brennan (Economics & Management): Saïd Foundation Prize for Best Performance in Strategic Management

Tsing Grace Cheng (Jurisprudence): Law Faculty Prize in Criminology & Criminal Justice

Caroline Conder (Chemistry): proxime accessit for Inorganic Chemistry Part II Prize

Lucas Evans (Geography): Dissertation Prize from the Digital Geographies Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society

Benedict Griffin (Literae Humaniores): Congratulatory First and Gibbs Prize for the best performance in Philosophy in Greats

Jung Eun Huh (Mathematics & Statistics): Gibbs Statistics Prize for FHS Mathematics and Statistics Part C

Mario Marcos Losada (Mathematics): Gibbs Prize for performance in Part B exams

Felix Mountford (Physics): Practical Prize

Miles Oleksak (Philosophy & Modern Languages): Claude Massart Prize for best performance in French Literature, (jointly) Marjorie Countess Of Warwick Prize for best performance in French by a female candidate, and (jointly) Mrs Claude Beddington Modern Languages Prize awarded for best performance in French

Ezra Sharpe (Geography): Dissertation Prize from the Carceral Geographies Working Group of the Royal Geographical Society

Jessica Tedd (Physics): Scott Prize for the best performance in the MPhys

Luca Williams (Jurisprudence): 3 Verulam Buildings Prize in Commercial Law

Rachel Zerdin (Modern Languages): Congratulatory First, LIDL Prize for best performance in German by a non-German sole student, and proxime accessit for Gibbs Prize for best performance in Modern Languages

Undergraduate College Prizes

First in Finals:

Thomas Haygarth (Biochemistry); **Thomas Stone** (Biology); **Caroline Conder** (Chemistry); **Evan Edwards** (Chemistry); **Joshua Mitchell** (Chemistry); **Olivia Francis** (Classical Archaeology & Ancient History); **Ben Brennan** (Economics & Management); **Quinn Obbink** (Economics & Management); **Deepesh Patel** (Economics & Management); **Jake Watson** (Engineering Science); **Iris Bowdler** (English Language & Literature); **Yii-Jen Deng** (English Language & Literature); **Grace Dowling** (English Language & Literature); **Lily Finch** (English Language & Literature); **Amy Howard** (Experimental Psychology); **Haozhe Liang** (Fine Art); **William Lowry** (Fine Art); **Philippa Chapman** (Geography); **Lucas Evans** (Geography); **Harriet Piggott** (Geography); **Ezra Sharpe** (Geography); **Yasmin Malik** (History); **Esme Glen** (History & Economics); **James Bishop** (Jurisprudence); **Tsing Grace Cheng** (Jurisprudence); **Dominic Curry** (Jurisprudence); **Luca Williams** (Jurisprudence); **Benedict Griffin** (Literae Humaniores); **Daniel Gore** (Mathematical & Theoretical Physics); **Jordan Penn** (Mathematical & Theoretical Physics); **Harry Best** (Mathematics); **Jung Eun Huh** (Mathematics & Statistics); **Dillon Lim** (Medical Sciences); **Helen Robertson** (Medical Sciences); **Laura Stirling-Barros** (Medical Sciences); **Jamie Bowden** (Modern Languages - French); **Gabrielle Ford** (Modern Languages - French); **Rachel Zerdin** (Modern Languages - French & German); **Elin Donnelly** (Modern Languages - Spanish & Linguistics); **Riognach Theakston** (Philosophy, Politics & Economics); **Ewan Murphy** (Physics); **Jessica Tedd** (Physics); **Joseph Cary** (Physics & Philosophy); **Jacob Dawson** (Psychology, Philosophy, & Linguistics)

First Class or equivalent in interim examinations:

Miles Johnson (Biology, Part IA); **Emily Jones** (Biology, Part IA); **Jude Tyrrell-Broad** (Chemistry, Part IA); **Zitong Wu** (Chemistry, Part IA); **Amelia Abbott** (Chemistry, Part IB); **Joshua Greig** (Chemistry, Part IB); **Padraig Meehan** (Chemistry, Part IB); **Kartikeya Kaushal** (Engineering Science, Part A); **Nishen Menerapitiyage Don** (Engineering Science, Part B); **Zilin Liu** (Mathematics, Part A); **Mario Marcos Losada** (Mathematics, Part B); **Jonathan Medcalf** (Mathematics & Philosophy, Part B); **Felix Mountford** (Physics,

Part A); **James Nicholas** (Physics, Part A); **Lukas Seier** (Physics, Part B); **Luke Hayward** (Physics & Philosophy, Part A); **Antoine Levie** (Physics & Philosophy, Part B); **Alexander Roberts** (Physics & Philosophy, Part B)

Distinction in Mods/Prelims:

Joseph Andrews (Ancient & Modern History); **Megan Jefferies** (Biochemistry); **Scarlett O'Shaughnessy** (Biochemistry); **Oliver Cashmore** (Chemistry); **Finlay Johnston** (Chemistry); **Hui Ru Ng** (Economics & Management); **Alexander Sherwood** (Engineering Science); **Imogen Edmundson** (English Language & Literature); **Aylin Gurleyen** (Experimental Psychology); **Matilda Lambert** (Experimental Psychology); **Emily Jackson** (Fine Art); **Lola Wendon** (Fine Art); **Cyrus Hariri** (Geography); **Holly Singleton** (Geography); **Barney Wakefield** (Geography); **Harriet Altaparmakova** (History); **David Evans** (History); **Halcyon Matthews** (History); **Yuming Chen** (Jurisprudence); **Sanika Pherwani** (Jurisprudence); **Lilian Trickey** (Jurisprudence); **Joel Thacker** (Mathematics); **Miles Oleksak** (Philosophy & Modern Languages - French); **Sophie Goodman** (Physics); **Emanuel Mavares Da Silva** (Physics); **Iona Blair** (Psychology and Linguistics)

Graduate College Prizes

Distinction in Graduate Exams:

Oduma Adelio (MSt in Modern Languages)
Jack Baldwin (MSc Law and Finance)
Silvan Bennett-Schaar (Magister Juris)
Alfred Crowley-Rata (Bachelor of Civil Law)
Tim Den Boer (MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience)
Katherine Edgeley (Bachelor of Civil Law)
Collin Gaskill (Master of Business Administration)
Anna Golova (Bachelor of Philosophy)
Alexander Goyal (MSc Statistical Science)
Sanjana Gunasekaran (Bachelor of Civil Law)
Samuel Harvey (MSt Creative Writing)
Daniel Hopkin (Executive Master of Business Administration)
Astrid Jenkins (MPhil International Relations)
Pierce Jones (MSc History of Science, Medicine and Technology)

Irshaad Kathrada (MSc Sustainability, Enterprise and the Environment)

Toby King (MSt Creative Writing)

Jessica Lee (MSc Learning and Teaching)

Maximilien MacKie (MSc Mathematical Sciences)

Jan Ondras (MSc Mathematical Sciences)

Drummond Orr (MPhil Economics)

Marina Paschalidou (MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature)

Brendan Sargent (MSc Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience)

Robert Selvey-Clinton (MSc English Local History)

Hannah Stern (Master of Business Administration)

Richard Wing (MSc Learning and Teaching)

Graduate University Prizes

Katherine Lucinda Edgeley (Law): Law Faculty Prize in Private Law and Fundamental Rights

Sanjana Gunasekaran (Law): Law Faculty Prize in Private Law and Fundamental Rights; Law Faculty Prize in Law

Maximilien MacKie (Mathematics): OMMS Mathematical Prize

Krzysztof Władysław Riedl (Law): Law Faculty Prize for Commercial Negotiation and Mediation

ELECTIONS TO SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS, 2022-23

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TO AN OPEN SCHOLARSHIP

Nathaniel Downham, formerly of King Edward VI School, Stratford-upon-Avon

IN BIOCHEMISTRY

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Joshua Dow, formerly of Altrincham Boys Grammar School

TO AN OPEN EXHIBITION

Maisey Barrow, formerly of Launceston College

IN CHEMISTRY

TO AN OPEN SCHOLARSHIP

Amelia Abbott, formerly of Farnborough Sixth Form College

TO AN OPEN EXHIBITION

Jude Tyrrell-Broad, formerly of Brighton, Hove & Sussex Sixth Form College

Zitong Wu, formerly of Shanghai World Foreign Language Academy

IN CLASSICS & ENGLISH

TO AN OPEN SCHOLARSHIP

Jui Zaveri, formerly of Henrietta Barnett School

IN ENGINEERING

TO AN OPEN SCHOLARSHIP

Kartikeya Kaushal, formerly of Christ Church Grammar School, Claremont

IN ENGLISH

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Alice Lock, formerly of Camden School for Girls

Florence Unwin, formerly of Brighton, Hove & Sussex Sixth Form College

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Ursula Gerhard, formerly of Saffron Walden County High School

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Amy Belben	Half Blue	Dancesport
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The Brasenose Alumni Society

Forms Overleaf



The Brasenose Alumni Society

A Society that helps its members maintain a strong connection with the College Community and each other

Committee Nomination Form 2024

The Brasenose Alumni Society is Brasenose’s alumni association.

All matriculated Brasenose members automatically become members of the Brasenose Alumni Society when they go down, together with certain former employees/academics of the College. The term “alumni” in relation to the Society thus includes all these individuals.

There is no membership fee.

The Society has a management committee. New candidates who would like to offer active help are welcomed for election. Every year the committee elects a new President and Vice President from among the Alumni or Fellows. The commitment to meetings is not onerous: usually three a year, two in London and one in Oxford.

I _____ Matriculation Year _____

being a member of Brasenose,

and I _____ Matriculation Year _____

being a member of Brasenose,

nominate _____ Matriculation Year _____

for election to the Brasenose Alumni Society Committee at the Society AGM in September.

*I, _____ (name of nominee), _____

being a BNC alumnus and member of the Brasenose Society, consent to the above nomination.

I should like to stand for election because *(please state your reasons in no more than about 60 words)*.

Signatures

_____ (Proposer) Date _____ 2024

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* Complete only if nominee is neither Proposer nor Seconder. Once completed, please return this form to The Alumni Relations and Development Office, Brasenose College, Oxford, OX1 4AJ no later than 31st July 2024.

If you are considering putting yourself forward for the committee, please contact the Alumni Relations & Development Office (+44(0)1865 287275, development.office@bnc.ox.ac.uk) who can put you in touch with a current member to discuss the various roles available and the nature of the Committee.



Keep in touch

Help us to stay in touch with you and keep our records up to date by updating your information. You are invited to sign up for our online community where you can update your contact details, stay in touch with your peers, and book for College events at www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/alumni. Alternatively, return this form to The Alumni Relations & Development Office, Brasenose College, Oxford OX1 4AJ, or send an email to development.office@bnc.ox.ac.uk

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Updates for 2023–2024

Please tell us of any news you would like us to consider for publication in the next Brazen Nose (or Brazen Notes) in the period October 2023 to September 2024, including marriages, births, honours, achievements, distinctions, etc. (please note that we cannot include anything we consider promotional).

Your news

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The College encourages the networking of alumni through the use of Year Reps. Year Reps are alumni volunteers who will contact their year group with a view to inform them of events and encourage participation. Reps now use a secure emailing system, and we do not pass on your contact details without permission. If you would NOT like to receive messages from your Year Rep, please let us know by returning this form and ticking this box.

If at any time you have any queries about the use of your personal data or wish to change the fact of, or extent of, use of your personal data, please contact the Alumni Relations & Development Office.

