Downing in the Fog
Photograph by Lian Wilkinson.
Highly Commended, Downing Alumni Association Photographic Competition.

Courtesy of Ai Weiwei and Lisson Gallery.
Photograph by Ioana Marinescu.
To purchase these items, please use the enclosed form or visit www.dow.cam.ac.uk/souvenirs
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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2015–2016

President
L H Judd M.A.

Vice Presidents
P Thomson M.A.
J G Hicks M.A., F.R.Eng.

The Executive Committee
The President
The Immediate Past President
K E Storey M.A., LL.M.
The President-elect
The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice (Sir David) Lloyd Jones Q.C., M.A., LL.M.
The Honorary Secretary & Editor
B W Hunt M.A., M.Ed. (Exeter), C.Math., F.I.M.A.
The Assistant Secretary
(College Record)
K McNamara B.Sc. (Aberdeen), Ph.D.
The Honorary Treasurer
N Berger M.A.

Elected Committee Members
J Doolan B.A. (Dunelm), M.Phil., Ph.D.
P A Furniss M.A.

C G Blackmore M.A., Ph.D. (Liverpool)
D J Riddoch M.A., Ph.D.

Ex-officio Committee Members
G B Williams B.A., Ph.D., (Senior Tutor)
G Bennett B.A. (Virginia), (Development Director)
R J Tonkin B.A. (Glamorgan), (Events Officer)
M Bhasin (JCR President) (to 14 February 2016)
T A S Meadows (JCR President) (from 15 February 2016)
N V Soane B.S. (MIT), (MCR President) (from January 2016)

Co-opted Committee Members
J A Bird M.A.
A R Farmer M.A., Ph.D., M.I.E.T.
F Weiss M.A.

Honorary Auditors
M J Mays M.A., Ph.D., F.R.I.C.
R J Richards M.A., Ph.D.
**PRESIDENT’S FOREWORD**

My Presidential predecessors in their forewords to the Newsletter have written eloquently on the considerable changes to the College and in student life and activities since they were up. I can only echo their words.

This past year has seen the completion and opening of the now world-acclaimed Heong Art Gallery and of Battcock Lodge centred on First Court. Both will add materially and culturally to the life of the College and its members. More will be said on these elsewhere.

Keith Guthrie, the then Master, told us, the freshmen of 1965, that we were now and would forever after be members of the College, either in residence or no longer in residence. It is this concept that the Alumni Association promotes. The Alumni Association is there to foster and maintain the links between alumni and with the College.

I have been privileged to have been asked to coach Downing crews every year since 1970. I think I can say that I have had a more continuous association with the College’s student activities and life than most, if not all, of the College’s current Governing Body! Those I coached mainly left academia and entered into varied careers in the wider world. This causes me to speculate on what happens to alumni when they graduate. Was their degree of great significance in what they have achieved? Did they or were they encouraged to take advantage of and benefit from the College’s varied extra-curricular activities so that they have had a more fulfilled life? What do they think now of their time at Downing for good or ill? In essence do they still feel they are members of the College?

The College needs the continuing loyalty of old members. “As the current level of education funding is inadequate, all development depends, in effect, on the recognition by former students of the value of their own College experience, the importance of research and their willingness to ensure that future students can benefit from the same level of individual supervision and pastoral care” (*The Governing Body’s Report 2014/15*).

The successful conclusion of the Catalysis campaign shows that value has been recognised in that manner by many alumni. I understand that of the 9,000 alumni now alive some 36% have given to the College at some point. This is really an excellent result and those involved, particularly the past and present Masters, the Bursar and Gabrielle Bennett and her team, are to be warmly congratulated.

It is important to recognise that those now being admitted to the College should be encouraged to feel the same loyalty to the institution and to have the potential to contribute in the future. The involvement of the Alumni Association through its Alumni Student Fund and other support to current activities is one way in which the current students can be made to feel part of
a wider community spanning all alumni. Naturally those teaching and having care of their charges have a similar responsibility.

In answer in part to the questions I raised above, the Year Representatives’ reports show the wide variety of achievements, activities and personal experiences of alumni. I am sure they are read with interest and possibly amusement by contemporaries. We are grateful to them for providing such good copy!

The Association’s Merchandising Committee led by Kate Dyer works extremely hard in selecting, ordering and selling bespoke items with the profits going to the Alumni Student Fund. Frank Weiss has been a mainstay of this operation for many years and it is a fitting recognition of his great contribution that the Executive Committee are to propose that he be elected a Vice-President of the Association at the AGM. The Fund provides valuable and targeted assistance to individual students to further their studies and lives at Downing.

The Association and its committees is superbly administered by its ever efficient and patient Secretary Barrie Hunt (also Editor of this Newsletter). Norman Berger looks after the finances of the Association with prudence and great care. I am delighted that my predecessor Karen Storey has allowed herself to be co-opted to the Executive Committee to continue in the variety of roles that she has undertaken with the merchandising in the past.

I am very grateful to all of those mentioned above and to all my fellow Executive Committee members for their dedication and support over the year. It has been most rewarding and really enjoyable.

On a personal note, I was extremely honoured and humbled by the most generous gesture of the Segreants, current members of the DCBC and others to have had a rowing eight named “Leo Judd” which was “given” to me at my 70th Celebration Dinner in Hall last September. The boat was named on Segreants Day on 23rd April last. I repeat my sincere thanks to the 153 who kindly donated to the substantial fund which also has enabled another eight and equipment to be purchased.

Lionel ‘Leo’ Judd
Next Year’s President

David Lloyd Jones writes:
The invitation to become President of the Downing College Alumni Association for 2016–17, an invitation which I received and accepted with delight, has caused me to reflect on how much I owe to Downing College. When I first set foot in the College on a dark December evening in 1969 – as a candidate for interview I had got lost and made a very tentative entrance through the back gate from the Downing site – I had no idea what a benevolent influence it would exert over me throughout my adult life.

Over the years I have been lucky enough to play a number of different roles in the life of the College. As a student reading for the Law Tripos and, later, the LL.B., I benefited from Downing’s great tradition in the study and teaching of the law and from the inspirational guidance of John Hopkins and Clive Parry. I also made lifelong friends. I then spent sixteen years as a Fellow in Law at Downing, while also practising as a barrister in London. These were good years for me. Teaching Downing undergraduates proved stimulating and enormous fun. Amongst my colleagues on the Fellowship there was a true spirit of collegiality. During that time I married my wife, Annmarie, our children were born and they were baptised in the College chapel. I also held various College offices. Although I was not a conspicuous success in the role of Dean of College, I did have the rather dubious privilege of being Dean in the year in which the Downing College Boat Club came Head of the River for the first time in its history. By contrast my duties as Praelector were all happy ones and I have very pleasant memories of processing down King’s Parade to the Senate House at the head of the Downing graduands and of presenting them for their degrees.

My long-standing connections with the College have brought me many good friends among Downing alumni. I have taken particular delight in the progress of my former supervisees and in seeing later generations of Downing men and women enter the legal profession and achieve great success and distinction. When I was in practice at the Bar I was in chambers with and appeared with and against many Downing lawyers. Later, a number of my colleagues on the High Court bench were Downing graduates – although not all of them read law – and I now sit in the Court of Appeal with two of my Downing contemporaries.

A lot has changed in the College since I first crept in through that back gate. I have seen, at first hand, the College develop under eight Masters, each
making a unique contribution to the life of the College. Downing now looks very different, as a result of the most munificent benefactions and inspired architectural decisions. The College today enjoys facilities, including its own theatre and art gallery, which were beyond the dreams of those of us who were undergraduates in the 1970s. However, some things do not change, most notably the pursuit of excellence and the search for the truth. It is a great pleasure to see that the College continues to achieve the highest academic standards and that current Downing students achieve distinction in sport, music, drama and many other activities. Moreover, it is clear – not least from the contents of this Newsletter – that Downing alumni in so many different fields continue to make a vital contribution to the life of the nation and the wider world.

Throughout the changes of the last 45 years, I have seen the Alumni Association play an important and influential role in supporting the College and its students. The affection in which the College is held by its old members is particularly apparent in the activities of the Association. I am therefore very glad to be able to play a part in its work. I am honoured to become its President and during my year of office I look forward to meeting once again many of my old friends from so many generations of Downing alumni and to making many new ones.

David Lloyd Jones (1970)
ASSOCIATION NEWS

The main objects of the Association are:
(a) To keep Members of Downing in touch with one another and the College.
(b) To facilitate united action in any matter concerning the welfare of the College and its Members.
(c) To publish and circulate an annual Newsletter.
(d) To hold an annual dinner.

As well as publishing the Newsletter and holding the annual dinner, the Association sells a range of merchandise with profits going towards the Alumni Student Fund.

CONTACT WITH THE ASSOCIATION

The Association welcomes and encourages contacts from its Members.
Some Members tell us that they don’t send in information because they think no-one will be interested in them – they are wrong!! Many Members tell us how much they enjoy reading about their contemporaries with whom they have lost contact.
• Please tell us or your Year Rep about interesting things happening in your family or working life;
• The Editor would be pleased to receive articles that may be of interest to others for publication in the News of Members section – either in the form of a short biographical note or a fuller, reflective article on your career;
• Come to events organised by the College Development Office;
• Think about organising a reunion – the Development Office will be pleased to help with this.

You can contact us by:
• email to Association@dow.cam.ac.uk;
• returning the enclosed form to update personal details and keep us up to date with aspects of your career and/or personal life.

The Association website can be accessed:
• from the College website http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/ followed by the ‘Alumni’ link;
• or directly at http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/dow_server/association/index.html.

To purchase merchandise go to the Association website (above) and choose the option ‘Souvenirs and Gifts’.
The Rules of the Association can be found by going to the Association website (above) and choosing ‘Aims of the Association’.

The Minutes of the 2015 AGM can be found by going to the Association website (above) and choosing ‘News and Coming Events’.

Back copies of the Newsletter (excluding Magenta News) can be found at http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/ followed by the ‘Alumni’ link.

The Development Office website, for College events, is www.downingcambridge.com.

THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 88th Annual General Meeting was held in the Howard Theatre on Saturday 26 September 2015. The following is a brief summary – full minutes are available on the website (see above).

The President reported the sad news of the death of Dr Barry Moore who had been Auditor to the Association since 2010.

She highlighted three new items which had been added to the merchandise portfolio – a watercolour of the College gates (c 1920) painted by Steve Bennett, husband of the Development Director, a tea towel designed by Sir Quentin Blake and A Classical Adventure – a beautiful book of photographs taken by alumnus Tim Rawle and commissioned by the Howard Foundation.

The Association’s interaction with the student body included sponsorship of the production of the WW1 drama The Accrington Pals and the annual Photographic Competition.

Mrs Storey thanked everyone who gave generously of their time to the work of the Association.

The Treasurer reported that, during the past year, the Association had battled against some strong head winds with the Accounts showing a deficit of £117 on Normal Activities and of £2,515 on the Alumni Student Fund. The main cause of the former was a £436 rise in the cost of producing the Newsletter, whilst an increase of £1,686 in grants alongside a steep decline of £1,630 in merchandise sales were the major causes of the latter. Nevertheless the Fund provided grants to 59 students totalling £11,359.

The Balance Sheet at 30 June 2015 showed Net Assets of £34,317 compared with £36,950 in the previous year. The combined current account at Barclays Bank and deposit account at the Cambridge Building Society stood at £19,583 compared with £19,000 last year.

The Treasurer reported that new items had sold very well at recent events and he expected them to boost income during the coming year. He hoped that these new items would reverse the head winds over the next 12 months.
The Chair of the Merchandise Working Group, Dr Kate Dyer (1982), reminded those present that the success of the merchandising function of the Association was dependent on the support of alumni and their family and friends. Sales of merchandise at events in Cambridge and London, as well as online, underpinned the Alumni Student Fund, which was used to provide grants to students who were in financial difficulty.

She noted that, in addition to the merchandise listed by the President, a new range of socks had been introduced and a folding ladies’ umbrella would shortly be commissioned. Dr Dyer concluded by inviting ideas for new products.

The Bursar reported on the continued improvement of Downing students’ academic performance as judged by the Tomkins’ Table.

The successful ‘First Court Development’ comprising postgraduate accommodation and an Art Gallery, would be completed by the end of 2015. It meant that the College would be unique amongst Cambridge colleges in having accommodation for all those undergraduate and postgraduate students who wish to live on site. Similarly, when the Art Gallery is completed, it will be the only college in Cambridge to have a bespoke art gallery and theatre.

She informed the Association of the plan to concentrate on developing the landscaping of the College rather than more new buildings in the immediate future.

The Bursar concluded by thanking the Association on behalf of the College for all the help they give to students.

The Election of Officers resulted in a small number of changes. The President-elect Mr Leo Judd (1965) became President whilst Sir David Lloyd Jones (1970) was elected as President-elect. Mr David Riddoch (1995) was elected as a member of the Executive Committee, replacing Ms Dahlia Verjee (1996), who had reached the end of her term of office. The Secretary stated that, following the death of Dr Barry Moore, Dr Bob Richards had agreed to act as an Honorary Auditor.

It was agreed in principle to amend Rule 3 of the Association by adding “Anyone who, on 1 October 2015, is a Bye-Fellow, Associate Fellow, Fellow Commoner, Virginia Fellow or Keio Fellow of the College or is subsequently admitted to such a position.” to the list of those eligible for life membership. Following some discussion, it was agreed that the wording should be reconsidered, possibly to give those in post prior to 1 October 2015 the option of membership.

It was also agreed to amend Rule 8 by adding “the Development Officer responsible for Alumni Relations” to the ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.
OTHER NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE
During the course of the year the Executive has continued to work hard to increase sales of merchandise to boost the Alumni Student Fund. Sales of the Quentin Blake designed tea-towel, and magenta and black striped socks by Marco John’s have proved particularly strong and, in September, the launch of Tim Rawle’s (1975) new book A Classical Adventure – The Architectural History of Downing College Cambridge also generated good sales. During the current year, it was decided to introduce a redesigned ladies umbrella, a larger wine glass and a tote bag, based on the Sir Quentin Blake (1953) tea-towel design. In addition it was agreed to support the marketing of an Andrew Ingamells’ limited edition print of Downing, sold by Capital Prints, who would give the Association a generous royalty for every print sold.

During the course of the year, Frank Weiss (1950) sadly decided that it was time to call it a day. In view of the outstanding work that he had done in developing the merchandise function over the years, he will be nominated to the AGM for the role of Vice President. This is a role that is used sparingly and reserved for those that have “served the Association with distinction”.

As a consequence of Frank’s retirement the merchandising function has been restructured and Peter Whittington (1962) has joined the team and taken on much of Frank’s work.

At this year’s AGM the Executive will propose Neville Tait (1962) for President-elect and Katherine Fish (2008) and Simon Walker (1975) for the Elected Members role to replace Jennie Doolan (2006) and Penny Furniss (1981), who will reach the end of their four-year terms. It has also been agreed to co-opt Karen Storey (1982) to the Executive Committee to continue in the variety of roles that she has undertaken with merchandising in recent years.

In addition, following the change in rules in 2013, Maria Willetts and Gifford Combs have been elected as Honorary Members of the Association.

During the course of the year, the Association has been working with the College on the development of its website – watch this space!

At the time of writing, the Association is exploring mechanisms for keeping in touch with alumni who had completed their term of office as members of the Executive. As well as keeping such ‘Supporters’ in touch, they have a wealth of experience on which the Association could draw.

THE ALUMNI STUDENT FUND
The Alumni Student Fund was set up in 2005 to help students at Downing to meet some of their day-to-day financial pressures. Using money raised primarily from the sale of Association merchandise, the Fund now provides grants which
are normally between £50 and £250, but can occasionally be as much as £500. This year 68 students have been helped. Most grants are for books or travel to support fieldwork or to attend conferences, but money can also be provided to fund any specific need that will enable a student to pursue their studies more effectively.

The Fund provides a real and immediate way in which alumni can, through the Association, make a real difference to the lives of current students in this increasingly difficult financial climate.

All grants are approved by the Tutors who regard the support which the Fund gives to students as extremely important.

**Downing Alumni Association Photographic Competition**

The competition theme this year was “Within three miles of the Master’s Lodge”. The aim was to show the local area (town or gown) in a different light, perhaps hidden or rarely seen details, unusual views, something abstract, impressionistic or memorable.

The judges this year were Leo Judd (President of the Association), Dick Taplin (Domestic Bursar) and Neville Tait (Executive Committee member). In coming to its decision, the judging panel considered not only how well the image matched the brief but also the technical quality of the image in terms of composition, sharpness and exposure. All images were scored anonymously and the authors’ names only disclosed once the results had been decided.

There was a record entry this year with 66 images from 17 entrants and the overall quality of the images was higher than previous years.

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*An Open Door – Tim Hillel (First prize)*
The judges were very much at one in selecting the top fifteen or so images, but the final order was a matter of lengthy debate. Only seven marks separated the top fifteen and, after the three prize-winners were chosen, the judges went on to select five ‘Highly Commended’ and five ‘Commended’ awards.

The prize-winners were:
First Prize:
Tim Hillel An Open Door

Second Prize:
Richard Thorburn Fleet of Punts

Third Prize:
Luisa Haertel Urban Idyll

The Association Prize
The Association awards an annual prize of £300 to graduating students. This is awarded to the person or persons who have performed best in the end of year examinations. The decision is made by the Governing Body, but invariably the recipient(s) will have come top of their respective class list. Winners are invited to the Association’s Annual Dinner to receive their prize.

Congratulations to this year’s prize-winners:
• Justus Bieber who read History;
• Joseph Young who read Geography;
• Leor Zmigrod who read Psychological and Behavioural Sciences.
College News

The Master Writes:

I once had a joke with a friend. Imagine we are elected as Heads of Colleges and, on retirement, are asked to write accounts of our periods in office. “Excellent ten years, no change to report.” It may sometimes seem that Cambridge does not change, and yet we are changing every moment. The speed of change in society is accelerated in these days of easy communication. Even as we develop, Downing and Cambridge hold true to our target of the highest excellence in education and research.

Our most glorious change in Downing this year has been the refurbishment of Battcock Lodge, with the associated First Court and Heong Gallery. The original Parker’s House served the College well for more than thirty years, but it was time for its reincarnation and reorientation. It has turned its face westwards towards our new First Court, named as the first court on entering the College, and in memory of George Downing, first Baronet, member of the first graduating class at Harvard University in 1642. Thus, a triple ‘first’.

Battcock Lodge boasts superb accommodation for nearly 80 (mostly) graduate students. Its development is part of our review of graduate provision within the Domus, and this in turn has been supported by the appointment of Philip Rubery as our first MCR Liaison Fellow.

The Heong Gallery opened on 5 February with an exhibition of art from the collection of Sir Alan Bowness (1950). This exquisite selection from works deposited by Sir Alan at The Fitzwilliam Museum was greeted with fanfare in the press, and has gained the attention of more than 5,000 visitors. As I write, the Gallery is home to the exhibition of works of the prominent Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, who was himself present at its opening. Four of his extraordinary cubes are displayed in the Gallery against a backdrop of his wallpaper, and eight of his trees in First Court and the main Quadrangle. Please come and see the show, which is open until 9 October.

Many members and friends have donated most generously to this latest building project centred on First Court, and the College is grateful to them for their support. I make special mention of Humphrey Battcock (1973), Gifford Combs, and Alwyn Heong (1979). Our donors are commemorated within the fabric, notably in the windows, bricks, and benches of First Court.

Visitors may have observed some enrichment of the landscape of the College. Lines of sight and access are under review. The existing trees in the Quad continue to attract critical comment, with a spread of views espousing varying degrees of intervention. It was interesting to hear the opinions of the cohort of 1979 over lunch in College recently. They were impressed by the
maturity of the saplings planted in their day, and they denied responsibility for an act of alleged historic vandalism, while owning up to an oddly named “underwear tree”.

Our sixth Catalysis Conference was considered (once again) by many as the most successful such conference yet. The topic was The Grand Tour, during which we perambulated around the College between the Howard Theatre, the Chapel and the Heong Gallery. A lecture by Martin Kemp (1960) entitled The Grand Tour without Touring was followed by a stroll around the College’s architecture guided by Frank Salmon (1981). Andrew Millington (1971) and Johnson Leung (2012) delivered extraordinary recitals on the organ and piano, while Rachel Rose Smith and Jenny Ulph talked about the Bowness exhibition in the Gallery, and Wilkinsiana in the College archives, respectively. An extemporisation by the Downing Dramatic Society was followed by the final talk, in which Tim Knox spoke of the collections acquired within country houses. On Sunday morning, Alice Foxley led a walk through the College landscape.

With this sixth conference, our current development campaign, Catalysis, draws to a successful conclusion with in excess of £20 million raised for College activities and funds since its inception in 2009. We are immensely grateful to our many friends, alumni, staff and Fellows who have donated so freely in support of the College. The fruits of the campaign are omnipresent, in the form of fellowships, buildings, prizes, and student support. Our pockets are not deep, but our friendships are strong. Thank you!

The core activity of the College is the acquisition of degrees. Once again, the academic achievements of the undergraduate and postgraduate student bodies have been very strong, and I congratulate our student members on their results, while leaving the detailed analysis of academic results to the Senior Tutor, later in this volume. This may be the last year of publication of inter-College league tables, since the University is considering the adoption of a policy on dissemination of data that, if enacted fully, will render their compilation difficult or even impossible. Time will tell.

Downing has lived up to its sporting reputation. Our women’s and mixed netball teams won both Cuppers and their Leagues; our men’s and women’s XI hockey won their respective Leagues, and were Cuppers finalists; the men’s squash team reached the semi-final, which was promptly cancelled; there were many highly meritorious results in other sports including tennis and ultimate frisbee, and a number of our members represented Cambridge in Varsity matches. Our women’s first eight rowed over to great applause to retain the Mays Headship. The magenta scarves were waving in the wind of the Women’s Boat Race on the Tideway in March, as the Cambridge eight was rescued from Davy Jones’ locker by the formidable efforts of Zara Goozee (stroke) and Théa Zabell (five).
What is the College if not a changing community of individuals? New cohorts of students replace the older guard on an annual basis, on their journey towards membership of the Alumni Association. Change in the Fellowship is a slower process. We welcome Harriet Groom, Research Fellow in the Natural Sciences, Andrew Holding and Ellen Nisbet, Fellows in Biochemistry, and Ewan Jones, who has joined our team in English. Tobias Grosse-Puppendahl has been elected our second Morgan Fellow.

It is always with sadness that we witness the departure or retirement of Fellows from our small community. Adriana Pesci has contributed enormously to the teaching of Mathematics, but has decided to devote more of her immediate future to research. Mike Housden is departing for Cambridge Assessment, following some years as a Research Fellow. We wish all the best to Dan Alistarh, our first Morgan Fellow, who has moved to a post at the ETH, Zurich.

Perhaps the biggest forthcoming change in College personnel will be that consequent on the retirement of our Junior Bursar. Dick Taplin has been a lynchpin of College operations since his appointment in 2002, and he will be badly missed. His service to the College has been complemented by that to the University, where he has brought distinction in his proctorial role.

We wish all our departing students, staff and Fellows all the very best, and please keep in touch.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the deaths of Lady Butterfield on 1 January and of Peter Mathias on 1 March. Isabel Butterfield reigned in the Master’s Lodge during the tenure by her husband John of the Mastership, and she was widely known and loved, especially by students of the late 1970s.

Alice Fleet, Isabel Butterfield and Rosine Bonay-Grimmett in the Master’s Lodge.
and 1980s. I was very happy to have met her early in my own tenure when, with Alice Fleet, she visited Rosine and me in November 2013.

Peter Mathias joined Downing from Oxford in 1987, and was Master until 1995. Ann and Peter were excellent hosts in the Lodge, and Ann made several lasting contributions to the floral landscape of the College. This was an exciting period of development on the Domus, and Peter oversaw the completion of the Howard Building and the Maitland Robertson Library. He helped to foster strong connections with Japan, and especially with Keio University, and the Japanese Ambassador attended his funeral.

We have lost two economists. Barry Moore, Fellow 1979–2008, was a brilliant teacher and doctoral supervisor, and a prolific author. He was a loyal friend of the College and its members, and is sorely missed. We were shocked by the sudden death on 4 April 2016 of Nigel Allington, Bye-Fellow in Economics. Nigel was a popular, successful, and respected College Lecturer who had taught many generations of our students.

Congratulations are due to Alicia Hinarejos and Michael Blome-Tillman on the birth of Alexander, to Ellen Nisbet and Michael Gifford for Daisy, to Guy and Joana Williams for Emma, to Rob and Katharine Harle for Emily, and to Amy Milton and Jeremy Beanland for Alexander.

Fellows have received a number of significant awards, for which hearty congratulations are offered. Especially worthy of note are the election of David Wales to the Fellowship of the Royal Society, and the appointment of our Honorary Fellow, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach, as the Chief of the Defence Staff.

I make special mention of our visiting professors, Professor Harsha Chelliah of the University of Virginia, and Professor Philip Choi of Pomona College. Howard Jacobson, Honorary Fellow, has kindly returned twice to Downing during the year: firstly in September, to open our new Leavis Room, and secondly in January at the invitation of the JCR to deliver a captivating and provocative Richmond Lecture on the topically entitled “The vitality of offence: mockery and misanthropy in literature”. His lecture touched on the contemporary issues of offence and free speech, perhaps partly in resonance with the tension between the responsibility of the College to support free speech, while at the same time implementing the Government’s “Prevent” strategy to control so-called radicalisation.

So what has changed? The morale of the College is higher than ever, and the sense of culture and physical beauty is strong. The big change is yet to come, with the Fellows striving to retrieve their laurels from the Staff at the annual cricket match later in July.

Please come and see us.
The Senior Tutor Writes:
The role of a Senior Tutor is to assume responsibility for the academic side of College life and the associated support mechanisms, which aim to ensure that all Downing students can get the most that they can from their time in College. Some aspects of our educational operation can be quantified: this year we have used over 110 supervisors and given over 3,500 contact hours of supervision. The College has 44 Directors of Studies (some of whom may be external to the College) and 48 Fellows, of whom eight are Tutors. The academic community is supported by over 30 Bye-Fellows, College Teaching Associates and College Lecturers. These provide the framework in which the undergraduates work, and collectively they have achieved superlatively again this year. For the third consecutive year more than 110 individuals gained first class results, and for only the second time more than 25% of Tripos results were first class or distinctions. Of the graduands, twenty individuals were elected as Foundation Scholars, meaning that they achieved a First Class result for all three years of their Bachelor’s degree.

For those near the top of their Tripos the Governing Body awarded fourteen special prizes and five students were at the very top of their class lists: Ella Belfield (Natural Sciences Part IB), Alex Jones (Economics Part IIA), Justus Bieber (History Part II), Joe Young (Geography Part II), and Leor Zmigrod (Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Part IIB).

But these metrics and individual performances, while significant and impressive, do not capture more than a fraction of the richness of the environment that the students and Fellows jointly create in College. There have been innumerable academic events in College over the year but I would like to highlight just two of them. Firstly, the Richmond Lecture, entirely student-organised and run, was given by Howard Jacobson on the “vitality of offence”, a challenge to those who trend towards avoidance of challenge. In the same term – indeed within a week – and due to the generosity of the Oon family, we welcomed Professor Stefan Hell who spoke about his Nobel Prize-winning work on super-resolution microscopy. Both of these events brought together students, the Fellowship and the wider academic community both for the talks and for the subsequent dinners in a way that reached across the College (and broader University) community very successfully. They spoke to what the College provides in terms of academic community.

It is also not possible to numerically record the value provided within the community by the Tutorial support system. One of the central pillars of this support has for 15 years been our Academic Registrar, Jane Perks. She is frequently the first point of contact – and, probably more times than I know, the final solution – for student problems. She has justifiably given Downing’s
Tutorial Office a reputation as one of the friendliest and most approachable in Cambridge, and somewhere that issues can be resolved. She is retiring in November and will be very difficult to replace; there are many alumni who owe as much to her as to their supervisors for their degrees.

We have been very lucky in attracting early career academics into Downing in recent years; these have frequently become some of our most valued teachers. One mechanism for this is the Everitt Butterfield Fellowship, to which we have made our first appointment this year following the generous endowment provided by alumni donations. Dr Priyanka Joshi’s research is into the biochemical mechanisms implicated in the development of dementia. We are looking forward to her joining the Fellowship in October and becoming a part of our community.

There have been some very difficult times this academic year. The sudden and unexpected death of our Director of Studies in Economics, Nigel Allington, in April shocked our community. Nigel was an extraordinary character who was absolutely devoted to his students, frequently going far beyond what might be expected to help them academically and professionally, and also to build and maintain links with alumni. The affection in which he was held is reflected in a comment that I heard from one of the Economics supervisors; when I asked if she felt that the students were being adversely affected by his loss in the run up to exams she replied that she had the sense that they were, at least in part, working for him and wanting his last cohorts to do well (which they did). A memorial service for Nigel will be held in College on 29 October at 1.15pm in the College Chapel and alumni who knew Nigel are very welcome to attend.

This academic year saw the opening of Battcock Lodge and our expansion in our graduate room provision. As a complement to this, Philip Rubery has been appointed as the first “MCR Liaison Fellow” with a remit to involve MCR members more in College by bringing them closer to the Fellowship. The graduate community has responded warmly to this and it is an initiative that we will be extending for next year.

Downing is a place where learning, very broadly defined, is our most valuable currency. It is a privilege to play a part in co-ordinating the efforts of so many talented and motivated people: students, Fellows, academics and staff, all of whom work towards producing the place that we recognize as Downing. The role of a Senior Tutor is, in truth, simply to encourage, enable – and let their excellence show.
The Junior Bursar’s Report

A starting point for these reports is very often to look back to previous years, and then to see how the present compares with past aspirations. This year, I am happy to state that our hopes expressed two years ago have come to fruition in spades, and also that the character of the College has changed considerably as a result of the work on Battcock Lodge (formerly known as Parker’s House).

In retrospect, this should not be so strange. While previous years’ work has usually been to renovate existing buildings, or to build on the extremities (eg Griphon House, Devonshire Road), melding a late 20th century office block into a 19th century College was always going to change the initial impact of the College. Adding 78 student rooms to the existing on-Domus stock of 257 rooms is a considerable increase, and clearly changes the dynamic in terms of the student experience. Further to this operational change has been the work to the aesthetic of the grounds – and specifically those immediately inside our main entrance, driven by the Senior Bursar. The Heong Gallery, created from the former stables/garage/maintenance building and provided as our contribution to Public Art, has transformed this tatty structure with its lean-to sheds into a focus for art in Cambridge, and has acted as the epicentre for a general review of the layout and use of the grounds. These changes to the ‘green environment’ will be as major as those that led to the conversion of Pembroke Leys’ common land into Collegiate parkland in the 1830s. Works are in the pipeline to provide logical routes around the Domus for visitors on foot, while restricting the visibility and impact of supporting vehicular traffic, and will do much to emulate the private gardens of the city-centre colleges.

So, what have we achieved in more prosaic terms? After a considerable last-minute push, Battcock Lodge opened for business early in January 2016, with students moving in from houses we have now sold (eg 25 Parkside to Peterhouse, Devonshire Road to Hughes Hall) or which are currently undergoing a major refurbishment (44, 46, 56 and 58 Lensfield Road). The finish in Battcock Lodge is to the highest standard, and the space and facilities therein are most comfortable. The accommodation includes large bright kitchens, en-suite bathrooms, in-building laundries and even some third floor rooms with balconies and views over the College. Furthermore, the 30 kilowatt-power solar panel installation on its roof makes the building carbon-negative when the sun shines.

At the same time, the Heong Gallery opened and staged its first exhibition (Modern British Art), and we have largely finished the new First Court, and the area behind the Porters’ Lodge. The latter changes were accelerated by the unfortunate – but possibly timely – loss of our tall Metasequoia (Dawn Redwood); ‘unfortunate’ as it suffered from the attention of inattentive
workmen, and ‘timely’ because it was far too large a specimen in this area (it grows up to 150 feet tall!) and it would have given us major problems in the future. As it is, its removal has dramatically opened up this area and helped to integrate First Court visually into the Domus.

Staff displaced by the gallery now operate out of a purpose-built maintenance building/staff room in the Maintenance Yard and – earlier this year – the Head Gardener was relocated into a new office/pavilion at the SE corner of the Paddock, with his larger vehicles garaged at the rear of the Fellows’ Garden.

On the Domus, considerable effort has been put into refurbishing the R/S staircase areas, with a totally revamped MCR room (and new toilets serving it), as well as reopening the corridor between R and S staircases by renovating – and reducing – the MCR office. The five bedrooms upstairs have also been remodelled, providing larger bathrooms and kitchen, and will be allocated to graduate students who will have a personal interest in curbing the noise from the MCR below! There have been further changes in the Porters’ Lodge, with a separate Post Room – reflecting the enormous increase in parcel deliveries brought about by internet shopping – created from the Head Porters’ Office – while she moves upstairs to occupy the space previously taken by the Buildings Department administration. This, again, will help to reduce numbers of vehicles coming into College.
Major refurbishment – aka ‘tearing apart’ – of the four least salubrious Lensfield Road houses started in January as the undergraduates migrated to Battcock Lodge and, as I write, they are being reroofed and having extensions built to create the same kind of community living environment as found in 40/42 Lensfield Road. As well as the internal remodelling, the road frontages are also being drastically tidied up to restore them to pre-war standards. All works must be completed by the start of the academic year 2016/17 and the next influx of students.

What of the future? Projects on the horizon are varied. There is the potential of acquiring a further Lensfield Road house, which would need modernising and integrating into our accommodation plot. We have alumni-sponsored plans to build a rowing tank within our Boathouse, triggering improvements to the changing facilities there. Finally – for the moment – we have outline plans (finances permitting) to convert another of our commercial properties – 90/92 Regent Street – into further student accommodation, while keeping commercial tenants on the ground floor. These works will easily be enough to keep the Buildings Department going for the next two years until we start a new round of refurbishment, which will be in the hands of my successor.

Forget ‘Painting the Forth Bridge’ as a metaphor for never-ending works; ‘Developing Downing’ is a far more potent image!

Dick Taplin

The Development Director’s Report

This academic year saw the College exceed the goal for the Catalysis Campaign. As stated in the 2009 launch brochure, “The Campaign was named Catalysis because it encapsulates the process of change and the interaction of different elements and energy sources that are key to securing the future of Downing. The College’s endowment supplies the stable foundation essential for all our operations: it is the principal source of ‘energy’ that underlies the process of catalysis, enabling us to educate generations of young people, transforming the lives of individuals, and, through their actions influencing the wider world.”

The goal was £20million. In the end 2,482 donors gave £21million. The funds raised in this campaign have had a transformational impact on Downing. Some directly on the fabric of the College. The creation of First Court and Battcock Lodge allows the College to house far more graduate students on the Domus. “By giving more graduate students the opportunity to live on site, Battcock Lodge will increase participation in the life of the MCR.” says John Morgan, a graduate student and former President of the MCR. To raise money for the project, donors could name rooms or ‘buy a brick’. “Through the generosity of alumni like David Pearson, who matched donations of many
young alumni, I was able to name a brick at half the price in memory of my father, who passed away suddenly last year” says Dr Harriet Groom, a young alumna of Downing and current Research Fellow. In addition the spectacular Heong Art Gallery, which is now internationally visible thanks to the current Ai Weiwei exhibition, and the new organ in the Chapel were made possible by funds given during the Catalysis Campaign.

Some of the funds raised secured the financial underpinning for our teaching. The Ferreras Willett Fellowship in Neuroscience, The Angharad Dodds John Fellowship in Mental Health and Neuropsychiatry and the Stephen Peel Fellowship were all funded during this campaign. In addition many alumni supported the Everitt Butterfield Fellowship, a Research Fellowship in Biomedical and Biological Sciences.

Just short of £7million given in this campaign supports students who face financial hardship and enables our graduates to take their studies further through studentships. Another area of significant investment by donors in this campaign is our access programme which encourages students of all backgrounds to aspire to a Cambridge education. “It benefits society as a whole if the University can attract the most academically able young people from all backgrounds” says Louise Arnell (1986) about the support she and her husband Jamie (1987) gave to this initiative.

In addition to funds given, it is important to note that many alumni and friends were moved to remember Downing in their will. During the Catalysis campaign, 102 people have joined the 1749 Society which is the College’s legacy society. This is a 65% increase. As we all know from the College’s founding to the present day, legacies have benefited the College enormously. “Writing my will when my son was born, it seemed only right to put some money aside for Downing. After College has invested so much in me, I’m glad to be giving something back.” says Amy Milton, Ferreras Willetts Fellow of Downing.

As I wrote in the end of campaign brochure which I urge you to look at (go to http://www.downingcambridge.com/document.doc?id=87): “The Catalysis Campaign has substantially increased the College’s financial stability, which was its mission. Two centuries of serious under-endowment cannot be corrected in several years or even decades, but Catalysis has been a significant step towards a more secure future for Downing.” This work will continue.

Gabrielle Bennett
Forthcoming Events

The Heong Gallery is open:
Wednesdays 10am–8pm
Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 10am–6pm.

The current exhibition, Ai Weiwei: Cubes and Trees continues until 9 October 2016. It will be followed by A Collaboration with Kettle’s Yard 5 November 2016–5 January 2017.

Full details of the activities available and an online booking form may be found on the Events link given below. A booking form for the annual Dinner is also included in this Newsletter.

Dates already arranged for 2016–17 include:

- Year Reps’ Meeting and Dinner: Fri 23 September
- Alumni Weekend and Association Dinner: Fri 23 – Sun 25 September
- London Reception: Thurs 10 November
- 1961 Year Group Reunion Lunch: Sat 19 November
- Teachers’ Networking Event: Sat 26 November
- Tailgate Party for the Varsity Rugby Match: Thurs 8 December
- Annual Reunion Dinner (pre 1954/57/67/77/87/97/07): Fri 31 March – Sun 2 April
- Segreants’ Dinner: Sat 22 April
- MA Awards Dinner: Sat 20 May
- Donors Garden Party: Sat 17 June (tbc)
- 1749 Society: tbc

And for 2017–18….

- Year Reps’ Meeting and Dinner: Fri 22 September
- Alumni Day & Association Dinner: Sat 23 September

The information above should be treated as provisional at this stage. Full details and online booking will be posted as they become available on http://www.downingcambridge.com
From the Archivist

The past year has been a busy one for the College Archive, with two new exhibitions in the Maitland Robinson Library (on the History of First Court – see page 28 – and William Wilkins’ Grand Tour) and a permanent archival display for the new Leavis Room, which was opened by Howard Jacobson in September last year.

Work continues on commemorations for the Downing men who died during the First World War and this summer’s centenary of the Battle of the Somme explains the sharp rise in the number of men who died 100 years ago this year. No less than seven Downing men lost their lives in the Somme offensive, including two men who died on the infamous first day of the Battle, when British forces suffered over 57,000 casualties, including 19,240 fatalities. Of special note is Captain John Leslie Green VC (1907), who was one of only nine men who died that day to be awarded the Victoria Cross (and the only Downing man to receive this great honour during the Great War). His obituary, along with those of all the men who died 100 years ago this year, can be found later in this Newsletter. Until a few months ago, it was believed that no images of Green at Downing had survived in the archive but, having happened upon an old album of College photographs belonging to a contemporary of his in the Boat Club, John Hammond (1907), I was amazed to find several photographs featuring Green, including a copy of a (previously lacking) 1907 matriculation photograph and various Boat Club trial photos, plus this fantastic action shot of Downing’s Clinker Four, 1910, with Green rowing at stroke.

The College will be represented at a commemoration service in Captain Green’s memory, being held in his local village of Buckden on 1 July 2016, and an article will feature in the local press, including several images from the College Archive.

Compiling the WWI obituaries highlighted another issue – that even where we do have photographs (and there are significant gaps in the matriculation photos before the Second World War, with only sporadic sports photographs in the archive), sometimes we don’t know who is pictured. I was disappointed that I was not able to find a photograph of all the Downing men listed in the WWI obituaries.
Following on from my appeal in last year’s Newsletter, I was very pleased to receive the reminiscences of Andrew MacTavish (1958), Boat Club Captain (1960–1), about F R Leavis and also his memories of the College Boatman, Bob Biffen, including a photograph of him at work on the oars of the 1st Boat. These are re-printed later in this Newsletter, with Andrew’s permission.

As ever, I would love to hear from anyone who would like to deposit or send electronic copies of photographs (sports teams are particularly sporadic in the archive) or other items relating to the College’s history or share their memories of their time at Downing. In particular, in the run-up to the 40th anniversary of the College’s decision to admit women, in January 1978, I’d love to hear from anyone who was at Downing around this time and any of the first female undergraduates.

Jenny Ulph


In early February, to mark the completion of the First Court project and the opening of the new Heong Gallery, a new archive exhibition was prepared for the exhibition cases in the main foyer of the Maitland Robinson Library. In addition to providing an overview of the First Court project and the history of the Gallery building, the ‘old maintenance shed’ and former Edwardian stable block, the exhibition includes a detailed history of the College’s long battle to build Parker’s House (now Battcock Lodge). Very little research had been done before on this subject or the shops on Regent Street which preceded the building of Parker’s House in the 1980s, several of which had been long-standing and valued College tenants for well over 50 years. This article provides a summary of the archive exhibition, giving an overview of the development of Regent Street which culminated in the building of Parker’s House in the early 1980s, the history of the new Heong Gallery building and First Court’s Harvard connection.

THE LONG ROAD TO PARKER’S HOUSE

19th century Regent Street: Downing’s early tenants

Although it was founded in 1800, Downing College did not admit its first few undergraduates until nearly 20 years later. At this point, the College consisted only of the newly-completed West Range and the unfinished East Range, but lack of funds due to the costly legal battle which had preceded its foundation meant that no further major building work was carried out until the 1870s, other than the building of stables and a Porter’s Lodge. However, as Regent Street developed throughout the nineteenth century, Downing gained a number of
commercial tenants in properties adjoining the Domus. The earliest Regent Street lease in the archive dates from 1816 and the College continued to acquire neighbouring properties as they became available and even built additional shops in the late Victorian period, making use of spare plots of land to provide income-generating commercial properties. This rental income was especially important to Downing given the lack of a large endowment. The engraving of the view from Hills Road shows the comparatively late development of Cambridge south of Downing around this time. The town’s railway station was not built until 1845, which perhaps explains the late development of Hills Road, still an unfinished track in 1820.

"Cambridge from the Hills Road" 1820 – engraving by W. Mason (with permission of Mike Petty)

**J Howes & Sons – 44 Regent Street**
The College’s longest standing tenants in Regent Street – and until very recently a still-familiar name in Cambridge – were Howes & Sons, who opened at 12–13 Regent Street¹ in 1840 as carriage-makers and wheelwrights, going on to specialise as a bicycle shop selling their own ‘Granta’ bicycle and boasting Charles Darwin amongst their customers.

Howes & Sons became tenants of Downing in 1866, after the College was advised to purchase the freehold of 13–18 Regent Street², belonging at that time to Moses Browne and Clement James Drage, to better prevent future ‘nuisances’ from neighbouring tenants. The sale was completed on 23 January 1866.

¹ later renumbered 42–46.
² later renumbered as numbers 44 to 52.
Howes & Sons remained in the same and neighbouring premises on Regent Street until 1980, when they moved further down the street to number 104 at the time of the demolition of the College properties in preparation for the building of Parker’s House, ending a relationship between the two lasting over 114 years. When the family firm finally closed for business at the end of 2013, they claimed to be the country’s oldest cycle shop.

**Late Victorian and early 20th century Regent Street**

The College’s tenants – and their businesses – in Regent Street changed very little in the first 50 years under their Downing landlords. In addition to Howes & Sons’ long occupancy at 12–13 Regent Street: 14 Regent Street remained a stationer and bookseller from the 1860s up to the time of the First World War; 15–16 Regent...
Street was occupied by Frederick Curzon, tailor and robe-maker, from the 1860s until the early 1900s and was still a clothes shop in the 1980s; and 17–18 Regent Street was occupied from the 1870s by Paul Wehrle, watch and clockmaker, and, later, Otto Wehrle, who continued as a jeweller and silversmith from the same premises until 1909.3

In February 1896, William Sindall was engaged to build three double shops on the plot of land owned by the College next to Otto Wehrle’s shop at a cost of £1,915. Once built, the new properties were actually split into five new shops, 18a–18e, with the first tenants including a piano maker and a dealer in caged birds, animals and reptiles! In the first few years of the 1900s, the properties along Regent Street were renumbered, perhaps in an attempt to incorporate these newer properties which had been built between older shops and houses. As a result, numbers 10–18e became 38–62 Regent Street, the properties later to be replaced by Parker’s House.

This postcard shows the College-owned Regent Street shops later replaced by Parker’s House. The shop to the far left of the photograph is 62 Regent Street (H Robinson Ltd, The Raleigh Service Depot, motor engineers) and the current Porters’ Lodge building can just be made out to the right of the tall building and just above the horse and cart in the centre of the road.

3. Telephone and trade directories, Cambridgeshire Collection.
Early plans for Regent Street redevelopment

By the inter-war period, the College’s nineteenth century Regent Street properties were in need of repair and the first plans for redevelopment were drawn up for James Grantham in his early days as Bursar before the Second World War. Archive files on the development of Regent Street date back to the 1940s. A 1970 memorandum by the Bursar explained that his predecessor Grantham ‘had intended for many years comprehensive redevelopment of the Regent Street frontage but shops to the north and south of the entrance were let on leases for 7 to 21 years and tended to fall in at different dates’. From the early 1950s, redevelopment clauses were inserted in some leases when they were renewed to try and rectify this.

1960s plans for a ‘First Court’

The College’s Regent Street development plans took several decades to come to fruition, due to problems of funding the project and delays caused by planning issues. A scheme drawn up in the late 1960s for Bursar Malcolm Fisher combined shopping facilities and a supermarket (Tesco) with offices above. Surprisingly, recent research has found that a variation on the current ‘First Court’ designs was actually first put forward as part this early scheme, which proposed that ‘a new college building would be incorporated on the site of the present stable block to form a new court around the cedar tree and linking with the JCR’.

A formal Regent Street Development Committee was set up in 1969 and, in 1970, the Bursar reported that newly-introduced planning restrictions on commercial developments meant that Downing faced ‘an uphill struggle to get the scheme off the ground’, and external finance was needed to fund the project. However, the College could not ignore the need to redevelop its aged, ‘dilapidated’ commercial properties and safeguard future rental income. The College derived a large part of its endowment income from these properties, but, by the late 1970s, many were reported as being ‘in a very run-down condition’, requiring urgent remedial action ‘to replace a rapidly wasting asset’.

4. Archive ref DCAR/1/3/5.
By this time, Howes & Sons’ original premises at 44 Regent Street were completely derelict and unoccupied, the shop having moved next door.

Architects Hughes and Bicknell were engaged in 1974 to draw up plans for new shops with offices above, replacing the existing buildings at 38–62 Regent Street. The scheme, which also included shops to the north of the entrance gates, incorporated ‘a new residential wing behind the shops and along the line of the existing stables’. The first phase of building work, to redevelop the Regent Street frontage for commercial tenants, was intended to help finance this second phase to provide additional student accommodation inside the Domus. After the outline planning application was refused by the County Council in March 1975, revised plans were finally approved in January 1977 after a public enquiry, and the College then faced another major hurdle in its ‘uphill struggle’ – securing financing for the project.

**Parker’s House, 1980–1984**

In March 1979, the College’s advisers were authorised to grant a building lease of 38–62 Regent Street to a property developer and the College entered negotiations with Miller Buckley & Co Ltd. Revised plans were drawn up by Hughes & Bicknell, dropping the earlier plans for residential accommodation in the courtyard behind, perhaps because the College was, by then, looking at the possibility of building in the West Lodge garden at the rear of the College.

Contracts were exchanged in November 1979 and planning consent was granted for five years from 1 January 1980. In 1981, the Bursar reported that, in readiness for the building work, the College entrance had been altered and the car park moved north into Berry’s garden (roughly on the site of the current library) and the approach into the main quadrangle made a pedestrian walkway. Work finally started on the Regent Street development in 1981–2, with completion expected by autumn 1983. Parker’s House, named in honour of its proximity to Parker’s Piece, was finally completed in early 1984 with tenants

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8. DCAR/1/3/2/2/113.
moving into the new premises gradually over the next year. The College moved swiftly on to several other major building projects, including the new Howard Building and Butterfield Building, plus the redevelopment work on Richmond House north of the entrance gates (along more conservative lines to those first envisaged in the mid-1970s).

The History of the Heong Gallery building
The origins of the new Heong Gallery building, built c.1903, date back to 1885, when the College decided to remove the original Wilkins-designed stable block, which occupied roughly the current site of the Maitland Robinson Library today. It was intended at the time to reuse the materials from the stables to improve the entrance to the College, but the prohibitive cost of demolition at the time meant that the project was postponed indefinitely.

On 1 November 1902, it was finally agreed to push ahead with the removal of the Wilkins block and replace it with a smaller stable building on the east side of College near Regent Street, together with a second, even smaller one near Tennis Court Road.

In March 1903, it was decided to extend the stable block which was being built near the College’s entrance. The Governing Body minutes reported that the Bursar ‘was authorised to arrange for the erection, for the gardener’s use, of a tool shed and open shed and stable, to the North of the stables that are now being erected for the Master’s use’. The College’s Fellows waived their rights to the use of

9. DCPH/6/3.
the new stables, although there is, sadly, very little information on the subsequent use of the building after its completion.

It is not known exactly when the building ceased to be used for its original purpose, although there is evidence that another stable was built for the Master closer to the Master’s Lodge soon afterwards. The building was still referred to as the ‘stable block’ in plans for Regent Street development in the 1970s, but some 1950s alumni remember the building being used, by then, as a bicycle shed. By the late 20th century, it had become the home of the College’s maintenance staff, with store rooms below and rooms for staff on the floor above.

When the College began planning the redevelopment of Parker’s House several years ago, it was originally intended to include an art gallery within the redeveloped Parker’s House building. However, the project’s architects, Caruso St John, identified the ‘old maintenance shed’ in the courtyard behind as a possible alternative – and more publicly accessible – space for the new gallery, as part of a new ‘First Court’ to be created near the College’s entrance. Planning permission for the project was granted in March 2013 and a new Maintenance building in the courtyard behind Regent Street allowed the conversion of the College’s Edwardian stables into the modern, innovative Heong Gallery building.
**First Court and the Harvard connection**

First Court was named by Wilkins Fellow and Harvard graduate Gifford Combs to celebrate the link between Sir George Downing, 1st Baronet, and Harvard University. The 1st Baronet, whose vast wealth was used to found Downing College by his grandson, George Downing, 3rd Baronet, was in the first graduating class of Harvard University in 1642.

As part of the First Court project, a Latin inscription was engraved along the wall outside Battcock Lodge. This is from the second verse of ‘The Harvard Hymn’, by James Bradstreet Greenough (1833–1901). The verse refers to the founding and growth of a college and so was also particularly appropriate to Downing College.

The modern English translation, by Professor Tony Woodman of the University of Virginia, reads:

> Our fathers journeyed to this place
> Directed gladly by your grace,
> And here, on truth as its firm base,
> A college, humble then, they laid.
> It grew in strength by your goodwill
> And love in aftertimes, until
> It proved their hopes, as it does still:
> A regal shrine to learning made.

Jenny Ulph

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Features

Opening of the Leavis Room

In September 2015 the new Leavis Room was opened by Howard Jacobson (1961).

The room, named in honour of the distinguished literary critic and former Fellow, F R Leavis (1895–1978), is used regularly for supervisions and has been installed with a small archival display.

The Master at the opening the new Leavis Room.  
The portrait of F R Leavis is by Peter Greenham.  

Howard Jacobson opening the Leavis Room.

Dr Peter Sharrock (1963), Leavis Society Chair, describes the opening of the room, the importance of Leavis and the activities of the Leavis Society:

“To Downing College”

With these words, Man Booker prize winner Howard Jacobson (1961) opened the F R Leavis room on B staircase in Downing College on 25 September 2015 with the Master, Professor Geoffrey Grimmett. Jacobson was recalling his reading, at the age of 17, the dedication of Leavis’s second book Revaluation, published in 1936: ‘How wonderful that place must be,
I thought to merit a dedication. I imagined a New Atlantis, and vowed to go there if they’d take me,’ said the writer made Honorary Fellow of that ‘wonderful place’ more than 50 years later.

Dr Frank Raymond Leavis was made a Fellow of Downing in 1937 and for the next three decades built Downing English into a powerhouse of literary criticism through the journal Scrutiny (1932–53) and a long series of groundbreaking books that commanded a world audience in the US, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore and China. For generations of students who sat at the master’s feet in thrice weekly seminars, he was, as Jacobson said, ‘...the most passionate of teachers – generous and enlightened, dignified and splendid.’

But the vessel, pushed out gracefully onto the Cam after World War I, was soon perceived more as a battleship by the London literary establishment in Bloomsbury. There, shells came in regularly from Cambridge to the journals grouped around the penthouse office in the Faber and Faber building overlooking Russell Square, where T S Eliot created and edited the rival Criterion (1922–39) until it sank into silence.

Leavis and Downing English, now synonymous, were challenging, controversial, embattled and abrasive, and the battle was an epic. Leavis, at first helped by Eliot, single-handedly effected a radical revision of the English poetry canon through acute and alive sensitivity to language and context. His new 3-D map began with Chaucer (not Anglo-Saxon) and moved to Shakespeare, the Metaphysical Poets, Pope and Johnson, Blake and the Romantics to Hopkins, Yeats and Eliot. Spurred on by highly innovative research on fiction by his wife and scholarly collaborator, Dr Q D Leavis, he then argued for a canon of novelists from Jane Austen, George Eliot, James, Conrad and Lawrence, later bringing in Dickens as a major omission. His range through all this was expanding from criticism of poetry and the novel to education and culture and eventually to what I would call his philosophy of literature and society and life (though he would have preferred being called an anti-philosopher).

The Leavis/Downing flame burnt on through the revaluation of the great novelists – culminating in his lecture on Anna Karenina as the great ‘European’ novel, a level few English novels attained. Jacobson was there for that and for the flamboyant Two Cultures? debate ignited by an internal Downing Richmond lecture on what Leavis considered the portentous over-estimate of the academia novels of scientist-turned-novelist Sir Charles Snow. Is there only one human culture or is there a humanities culture that is now distinct from a post-Newtonian scientific culture? The explosion went global across all disciplines and was still burning in 2013 when Cambridge University Press reissued the Two Cultures? original text and its sequels with an introduction by Stefan Collini.
Later there were internal Cambridge revisions of the Leavis canon, after funds were raised for the Cambridge Quarterly journal to revive and hopefully enhance the spirit of Scrutiny and bring back the latter’s former editor Harold Mason from Exeter to Cambridge as the F R Leavis Lecturer. Storm clouds were gathering following the long and passionate Two Cultures? debate and Leavis’s heir Morris Shapira was suddenly replaced by the College as Director of English Studies. Leavis-dominated Downing English headed to a rapid demise, while there was a late florescence in York, where Leavis became visiting professor. I experienced this collapse personally and Jacobson was close to it, having gone to work in a Leavis-inspired group in Sydney. In his brief speech in September, pregnant with wit, Jacobson said: ‘Stuff happened at Downing. There was a commotion in the wind. Frights, changes, horrors. And in the wider world, the way Leavis read was not the way to read. More and more the horrified outnumbered the awed. His work was derided, his reputation declined. There was a generation of students that hadn’t heard of him.’ Post-Modern theoretical approaches to literature swept over from Derrida’s Paris of 1968 and engulfed four decades of practical criticism.

Now, another 50 years on, the world of literature and modern studies departments is looking around for what will be its ‘post-theoretical’ phase. Jacobson reflected: ‘Whether the teaching of English will ever again be what Leavis wanted it to be – and that he himself made it – I doubt. But some of the awe is returning...We have a Leavis Society. Downing College is once again mindful, and proud, of its distinguished association with Leavis.’

The last Leavis Society conference at Downing, held with the T S Eliot Society, was on ‘Leavis and Eliot as Literary and Cultural Critics’. It drew in Professors Roger Scruton, Stefan Collini, Michael Bell, Jeremy Tambling, David Ellis, Paul Standish and British Wittgenstein Society President Daniele Moyal-Sharrock. The Leavis Room was opened during the conference. Vice Master Paul Millett expressed the College’s unreserved admiration for Leavis as one of the great intellectuals of the 20th century and Archivist David Pratt lauded the generous
contribution to the burgeoning Downing Leavis archive made by the outgoing Leavis Society chair Dr Chris Joyce.

The next Leavis Society conference will be held on 28–9 September in York University in collaboration with the Centre for Modern Studies. Entitled ‘Leavis and the Confrontation with Modernity’, it will consider Leavis’s impact on literary and cultural criticism between the wars as well as its contemporary relevance. As academics in literature and modern studies look for new, post-theoretical bearings, this is the moment to reconnect with Leavis.

Dr Peter D Sharrock (1963)

MEMORIES OF F R LEAVIS

Andrew MacTavish (1958) reflects on his time as a student of Leavis:
FRL held mass hour-long tutorials twice a week with the Downing English students in each of the three undergraduate years. In turn we gathered in his room in West Lodge, the quicker ones grabbing the chairs and the slower sitting on the floor. We were, of course, all men in those days. I think there were a dozen of us Freshmen in the October of 1958. We were a mixed bag: some had come straight from school; some arrived after two years National Service; some had already graduated from other universities. We sat at his feet – as I said, some of us literally. And he held forth.

I was a commoner. Very quickly I realised the exalted company I was with. “Now when did Q publish the second edition of the Oxford Book of English Verse?” were his opening words at that first seminar. “1928”, eagerly offered three voices. I was with people who knew things. I had thought I was pretty competent after spending two years trying to get into Downing and having covered a huge range of literature, but here were men who knew every last footnote.

FRL spoke with animation, lectured, mused, rambled, digressed in a fascinating manner, often rising to ethereal heights, far above the horizons of some of us. He was exciting. A sudden dart into French literature with untranslated quotations from Balzac: passing references to “Dear” literary figures. “Dear Q”...“Dear Tom was in a bank, you know. Not in the back office. He moved money at the counter” (Tom? Tom? Oh, T S Eliot!). The one that caught us all out was “Dear George” who came to the trenches when FRL was in the Ambulance Unit. (George? George?) It took us some time to realise he was George V.

We never knew what would be the subject matter. Sometimes he would hunt in a corner and produce sheets of prose passages for dating. “Look at passage A. I mean, it’s really not worth discussing, is it? It’s obvious. It’s there, on the page. It shouts at you. Let’s look at B”. And he would cross-examine us
on what we could see in B without revealing who wrote A or when. We never did find out, or, at least, I didn’t; I couldn’t hear the shout. He didn’t give us work to do. He suggested, he encouraged us; other people tutored us. He suggested which lecturer we should attend. There were not a huge number of them, and one or two he was a little disparaging about. It would be unfair to remember them here.

He was always brisk, always purposeful, arriving tieless at a time when everyone always wore ties. We understood he had received doses of gas from the clothing of casualties from the trenches, had an irritated throat and found ties uncomfortable and restricting. He wore his open neck as a badge. He shunned publicity and seemed to be a loner among the Fellows of the College. When we put on “The Winter’s Tale” in the Fellows’ Garden he attended with Queenie. After my brief appearance as 5th Courtier or some similar role, I insinuated myself with my box camera behind a friend in the row along to his rear. At a dramatic moment in the action, my friend shifted back, giving me a chance to capture him. Not a good picture, but I treasure it.

But my warmest memory is of his kindness in my second year. I began to feel that I was losing ground and his twice weekly sessions were beginning to depress me as I was clearly well behind others in my appreciation. After some hesitation, I saw him. I expressed my concerns. I wondered if he would excuse me from his tutorials. Would it be possible for me to have extra one-to-one time with someone. He was immediately sympathetic. He would investigate and let me know.

I was working in my room in College late that evening when there was a knock on the door. I looked up from my books and, to my great surprise, FRL came in. He had walked to Hills Road to see a senior research student who would see me once a week for an hour and would give me extra work. He had walked straight back, located my room, and come to tell me. He stayed chatting for a short time, and went off into the night. I was quite overcome. The extra tuition was a huge success.

In my final year, I was Captain of Boats. We had a new clinker IV built and decided it was time our Doctor Leavis was recognised. I went to him and told him our thoughts. He was clearly pleased, but immediately said he was not really happy that his name should be on the bows. I then explained that we had
guessed this, and wished to name the boat “FRL”, leaving it to be recognised by those who appreciated English literature. This amused him, and he agreed. 

He is as vivid to me today as he was all those years ago.

Andrew MacTavish (1958)

**Remembering the First World War: One Hundred Years Ago**

The College Archivist, Jenny Ulph, has been continuing research for the College’s online Roll of Honour to commemorate the Downing men who died during the First World War. As an Association, we are proud and humbled to record the obituaries of those who died 100 years ago.

We override our convention for alphabetical order to record first:

**John Leslie Green – the College’s only recipient of the Victoria Cross**

John Leslie Green (1907) died in the attack on Gommecourt, 1 July 1916, aged 28, one of only nine men to be awarded the Victoria Cross on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. He studied Medicine.

John Leslie Green was born on 4 December 1888, the son of John and Flora Green of Birchdene, Houghton, near Huntingdon. He attended Felsted School before matriculating at Downing in 1907 to study towards a career in medicine, obtaining honours in Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos (1910) before continuing his medical training at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital. While at Downing, he was a keen member of the Boat Club, rowing in the Lents and Mays between 1908 and 1910. An album of early photographs in the archive includes several images of Green. This photograph, of Downing’s Clinker Four in 1910, shows him seated on the left.

According to the College magazine, *The Griffin*, (Michaelmas 1916) “he became medically qualified (MRCS, LRCP) in 1913, but had not quite fully completed his course for the Cambridge MB when

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on the outbreak of war he obtained a commission for the R.A.M.C. He was at first attached to the 5th South Staffordshire Regiment, then to a field ambulance in France, and lastly to the Sherwood Foresters (5th Battalion, Notts and Derby Regiment), with whom he was serving when he met his death.”

Capt. Green’s battalion, stationed at Fonquevilliers, took part in the attack on neighbouring Gommecourt which formed the northernmost part of the offensive now known as the Battle of the Somme, which began on 1 July 1916 and resulted in catastrophic losses for the British Army, which suffered over 57,000 casualties in just one day. Capt. Green was one of 19,240 British men who were killed on the now infamous first day of the Battle of the Somme. He was awarded the Victoria Cross in recognition of his bravery, described in the London Gazette of 4 August 1916: “For most conspicuous devotion to duty. Although himself wounded, he went to the assistance of an officer who had been wounded and was hung up on the enemy’s wire entanglements, and succeeded in dragging him to a shell hole, where he dressed his wounds, notwithstanding that bombs and rifle grenades were thrown at him the whole time. Captain Green then endeavoured to bring the wounded officer into safe cover, and had nearly succeeded in doing so when he himself was killed”.

He is buried in the Fonquevilliers Military Cemetery (grave ref. III.D.15). His Victoria Cross was given to his widow, Edith, and is now on display at the Army Medical Services Museum in Aldershot.

After Capt. Green’s death, a memorial was erected in the High Street in Buckden by his father, near to the family home, ‘Coneygarth’, in memory of Capt. Green and his brother.

Sydney Garner Bennett (1907) died on 20 July 1916 in the Somme offensive, aged 28.

Sydney Garner Bennett was born in 1888 in Lowestoft, Suffolk, the only son of Henry and Mary Bennett. His father served as a Primitive Methodist Minister at various churches in Suffolk and Norfolk and he was stationed at Cambridge for four years. During this time, Sydney was educated at the East Anglian School, Bury St. Edmunds, and the Higher Grade School, Cambridge. Whilst teaching at
Springfield School, Ipswich, he gained a scholarship, and passed on to Downing College in 1907. According to his obituary in *The Griffin*, he played cricket for the College and also for Suffolk, and was also a member of the Association Football team. On leaving Downing, he secured a teaching position in Egypt.

After war broke out he returned home to volunteer for military service and received his commission mid-1915. He was promoted to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant with the Royal Fusiliers and later served with the 3rd Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. He served several months in the trenches and was killed instantaneously in action by a shell on 20 July 1916.

Lieut. Bennett is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme.

Robert Astley Franklin Eminson (1909) died near Bazentin-le-Petit Wood on 20 July 1916, aged 24. He studied Natural Sciences and Agriculture.

Robert was born in August 1891, the son of Dr Thomas and Mrs Clara Eminson of Gonerby House, Scotter, Gainsborough. He was educated at Epsom before coming up to Downing in 1909. He played in the Freshmen’s Hockey match and was also a prominent member of the College’s Rugby team. He passed Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos and in his third year took the Diploma in Agriculture to complete his degree. After leaving, he was appointed as an assistant entomologist for the British South Africa Company and, in January 1913, was sent to Northern Rhodesia to research the tsetse fly. Returning to England shortly after the outbreak of war to volunteer for military service, he entered the Cambridge University School of Instruction for Officers and was gazetted to the King’s Royal Rifle Corps in June 1915, proceeding to the front in October. In early 1916 he was attached to the Machine Gun Corps and “gained commendation for efficiency on several occasions, especially on the night of 5–6 April [in Loos Crassier], when the Germans had exploded a mine, and he prevented them from gaining the crater” (*The Griffin*, Michaelmas 1916).

In the early hours of 20 July, the 2nd Battalion attacked the German trenches near Bazentin-le-Petit Wood. 2nd Lieut. Eminson was killed while making a third attempt to bring in a wounded man. (According to a letter written to his father by a fellow soldier, Eminson’s bravery was such that he was to be recommended for a Victoria Cross but the death of his Commanding Officer just a few days afterwards prevented this).

He is buried in Becourt Military Cemetery.
Gerald Harmer (1914) died in the Somme offensive on 11 August 1916, aged 21. He studied Medicine.

Gerald Harmer was born in 1895, the only son of Francis and Julia Harmer of Leeds. His father was Headmaster of the Cockburn High School. He entered Downing just after the outbreak of war in 1914 as a Schreiner Scholar, studying Medicine. He obtained his commission with the North Staffordshire Regiment in December 1914. 2nd Lieut. Harmer was killed in action on 21 August 1916.

David Jones Capenhurst Jenkins (1912) died near Hooge on 9 April 1916, aged 22. He studied Law.

David Jones Capenhurst Jenkins was born on 19 June 1893, the fourth son of the Rev. John and Florence Jenkins. He joined Llandovery College as a boarder in 1904, where he went on to show great promise as a rugby half-back. Jenkins came up to Downing in October 1912 to study Law. He played in the Freshmen’s rugby match and was a prominent member of the College XV, also playing for London Welsh, until he suffered a knee injury.

Jenkins’ obituary in The Griffin, states that “after only two terms’ residence, he emigrated to Canada, joining there two of his brothers who had preceded him” to begin a new life as a farmer. At the outbreak of war, David enlisted in the army at Regina, Saskatchewan on 12 August 1914. He joined the 16th Light Horse as a trooper before transferring to ‘B’ Company of the 5th Infantry Battalion, Saskatchewan Regiment, on 3 September 1914. He set off for France with the 1st Canadian Contingent in early 1915 and was promoted to Sergeant on 10 June, serving as a despatch runner. In early April 1916, the Canadian Corps took over the area from St Eloi to Hooge in Belgium and were under constant attack. Sergeant Jenkins was killed instantly on 9 April 1916 by a shell exploding in the midst of his reconnoitring party. In a fitting tribute, he was described by one of his officers as “the most fearless, painstaking and cool man I have ever had under my command”. Two of his three brothers, Morgan and Richard, were also killed in action during the war.

Sgt. Jenkins is buried in the Railway Dugouts Burial Ground in Zillebeke.

George Ernest Howard Keesey (1905) died on 24 August 1916 on the Somme, aged 30. He studied Natural Sciences.

George Ernest Howard Keesey was born in 1886, the eldest son of the Rev. G W and Annie Keesey of Willesden Green. He was educated at St Olave’s...
School, London, before Downing, where he took his BA in 1908, in Natural Sciences, with first class honours.

Before the war he was Assistant Master and OTC Officer at Wellington College and, in 1913, married Violet Marian Swinglehurst. In October 1914, he was gazetted Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade. His battalion (8th) went to the front in May 1915 and he was slightly wounded in June, but was promoted to Captain following his return to the front in September and was mentioned in despatches. Captain Keesey was killed in action taking part in the Somme offensive on 24 August 1916, leaving an infant son.

He is buried in Serre Road Cemetery.

**Alexander James Keith (1912)** died at Trônes Wood on 14 July 1916, aged 23. He studied History.

Alexander James Keith was born in Ireland in 1893, the youngest son of George and Christina Keith. By 1901, the family had moved to St Peter Port in Guernsey, where his father worked for HM Customs. Alexander matriculated at Downing in 1912, studying History, and was a keen sportsman, securing College colours for Hockey, Association Football and Lawn Tennis.

After a preliminary training in the University's OTC following the outbreak of war, he received a commission in the Middlesex Regiment in November 1914. From July 1915, 2nd Lieut. Keith was serving as a machine-gun officer with his battalion at the front. He was killed on 14 July 1916 when he was hit by a shell during the advance on Trônes Wood (part of the Battle of the Somme). He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme.

In 1965 the University was informed by the executors of Alexander's sister Charlotte that she had left the residue of her estate in trust for 'the foundation of a scholarship or studentship in Agricultural Research in memory of her brother, Alexander James Keith'. The Alexander James Keith Studentships are still available to students of Agriculture across the University from the UK and EU.

**John Young Alexander Line (1914)** died of wounds received in action near Neuve Chapelle on 13 March 1916, aged 20. He studied History.

John Young Alexander Line was born in 1895 in Stone, Staffordshire, England. He was the only child of the Rev. John Russell Line, himself a former Downing man, and his wife Emily. He was educated at Oundle School before securing a place at Downing College just before the outbreak of war. He matriculated at Downing in October 1914 with an
Exhibition gained in History. Line was a keen Rugby Footballer and also joined ‘with exemplary zest’ the College Rowing team.

Towards the end of his first term he gained a commission in the N Staffs Regt as a 2nd Lieutenant and was sent to the Front on Christmas Eve 1915. According to his obituary in the May 1916 issue of The Griffin, he “was hit by a sniper [near Neuve Chapelle] on March 12th last while superintending the draining of a trench, and died of wounds the next day... [He had] gained high praise from his superior Officers and admiration from his subordinates. Those of us who have known him will respect his memory, and sympathise with his sadly bereaved parents.”

He is buried in Merville Communal Cemetery in France.

William Haldane Round (1913) died at Gommecourt on 1 July 1916, aged 23. He studied Economics.

William Haldane Round, known as Hal, was born in 1893, the only son of the Rev. W and Mrs Round of New Radford Vicarage, Nottingham. He was educated at St. John’s School, Leatherhead, from 1903. He was Captain of the School, Captain of Cricket and a Sergeant in the OTC, and he gained an Exhibition at Downing in 1913, taking up the study of Economics. In his first year he rowed in the College’s ‘Getting On’ Boat in the Lent Bumps.

On the outbreak of war, Round secured a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 7th (Robin Hood) Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters, and proceeded to France in February 1915. He was rapidly promoted to Lieutenant in July 1915 and again, to Captain, the following month. He was killed in action on 1 July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, attacking Gommecourt to the north. According to his obituary in The Griffin, Capt. Round “saw much service, gained rapid promotion, and was very highly esteemed by his fellow officers and men. His death has evoked the warmest tributes on all hands”.

He is buried in the Foncquevillers Military Cemetery.

The full online Roll of Honour can be seen on the College’s website at (http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/index.php/about/archive/ww1-memorial). Obituaries are published to mark the centenary of each man’s death so the project will continue until 2018.
Cold and Windy Pitches, Thunderbolts and Harsh Tackles – Downing Football Since 1945

Continuing our series on successful College Sports, it is impossible to omit Association Football (or is it Soccer?). The post-war history starts with the late Harry Sunderland (1945), who played at Centre-half for the University, receiving his Blue for three consecutive years from 1945 to 1947. By 1949, the team had been promoted to Division One and two years later they won their first post-war title and reached the semi-final of Cuppers. However, the classic conflict between College and University sport took its toll in 1952 when, with 7 Falcons, the team were relegated, even though they reached the semi-final of Cuppers. In 1956 the team won Cuppers for the first time since 1939, beating Caius 3–0 in the final. The match was reported at length in The Times, which described the team as “a fast and well-balanced side” who successfully “snuffed-out” Caius’ two Blues.

This win was the prelude to further success in the late 1950s, though both League and Cuppers trophies just eluded them. In 1958 they were again in the final, this time against Christ’s. Anticipating the famous 1966 event, the 1958 Newsletter reports “At half-time Christ’s led 2–1, another goal by Downing not having been allowed although photographs subsequently showed the ball well and truly in the net....” Varsity reported “Referee and linesman were both where they should have been, Downing looked shocked, Christ’s relieved...” Christ’s went on to win 3–1.

Terry Oddy (1958) recalls the football and some well known characters:

Memories of Downing College AFC

The invitation in the 2015 edition of the Newsletter to submit reminiscences of Downing Association Football inevitably stirred the memory bank and triggered happy thoughts of being a member of the ‘Soccer’ team between the years of 1958 and 1961. What follows is my selective review of a very enjoyable aspect of my Cambridge life.

My initial impressions of Downing Football were very positive for two reasons. Firstly, the Committee had decided to move on from the traditional heavy, black and magenta quartered shirts, favoured at that time by most school and college clubs, to lighter, slim-line all magenta shirts with black piping. Secondly, plans were well in hand for a tour to Barcelona in January 1959. Clearly, these were sufficient incentives to show enough talent to get into the team, look stylish, and travel.

The core fixture list, as with all winter sports, consisted of the inter-college League matches played in the Michaelmas Term and Cuppers in the Lent Term. Throughout my time in the team, we consistently maintained our Division 1 status but never achieved the ultimate ‘goal’ of winning the title. Cuppers was
always going to be better and we always aspired to achieve more when the Blues returned but it never happened. It is clear that we never achieved our full potential!

In addition to the College matches, there was an extensive list of friendly fixtures against schools and other university colleges. I recall, in particular, travelling to and enjoying playing against City of Norwich and Kimbolton Schools. Downing has an associate relationship with Lincoln College, Oxford and there were annual home and away matches with them – always competitive and always enjoyable. We also travelled to London for matches against the London University colleges.

The 1959 tour to Barcelona had been planned by the 1957/58 Committee and I was fortunate to arrive at the right time to be a part of it. It was timed to take place in January 1959 during the Christmas vacation and, shortly after the New Year, the team (I don’t recall how many were in the party) met at London Victoria and travelled by ferry and train across France and the Spanish border to Barcelona.

We were advertised as the Cambridge University team and consequently, I think, we played two games against opposition of a marginally higher standard and so the results were not too flattering for us. I tend to remember the social aspects of the trip rather better than the match details and these were, of course, immensely good for building team morale! We were honoured to receive a formal reception in the City Hall and taken to see both of the Barcelona football clubs. We saw Espanyol play a Spanish League game and then were taken to the Nou Camp stadium, opened only two years earlier, to watch FC Barcelona play Basle in the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup.

However, the occasion that sticks in the mind was an excursion on the second evening by a small number of the team. There were, maybe, eight of us who wanted to see the bright lights and we eventually found ourselves in a night club on a quiet, January evening where we were entertained by a number of attractive senoritas, for whom we were invited to buy drinks. Suddenly, at a discreet signal, the ladies disappeared and we were faced with an extortionate drinks bill which consumed a significant portion of precious pesetas meant to provide for our needs for the rest of the stay. The cautious members of the team who had declined the invitation of a night out were (a) highly amused at our embarrassment (b) somewhat reluctant to subsidise the personal overdrafts that we had created.

Two men, who subsequently made their careers and names in the world of entertainment, the late Joe Melia (1955) and John Cleese (1960) are very much part of the folklore of Downing Football.

I knew Joe, as a Downing footballer, only by hearsay as he had graduated in 1958 and, hence, had gone down before I arrived. However, his exploits lived on
and there were many tales of him entertaining his teammates during matches. I assume that Joe was a goalkeeper for his contemporaries regaled the 1958 Freshmen with stories of him swinging, monkey-like, from the crossbar whilst, we presumed, the team were at the other end, scoring goals. This must have been whilst Frank Skelton (1957) was away playing for the University. There was an anticipation from the senior members that the 1958/59 season would not be quite as entertaining!

I was surprised to find, on looking at the 1960/61 team photograph, that John Cleese was not included as I have memories of him playing regularly for the 1st XI during that season as he came up to Downing at the start of that year.

John was a footballing enigma! Whilst at rugby-playing Clifton, he had preferred to play soccer and had developed pretty good ball control skills, very much as a solitary player. However, as he had played little competitive football, the art of scoring goals was one that did not seem to concern him. Consequently, after juggling the ball past his full back with consummate ease, rather than go for goal, he preferred to have a further attempt at mesmerising his opponent. In the end, this tended to frustrate his team mates rather more than it did the opposition and certainly did not help to improve our ‘goals for’ total.

The 1959–60 Downing AFC First XI, third in Division 1

Back: Len Baker, John Scampion, Alan Chesters, Howard Maxon, Mike Turnbull, Geoff Burton, Allan Bowers, Tim Cattell; Middle: Brian Birch, Frank Skelton, Frank Wild (President), Alan Arnold, Neil Palmer; Front: Graham Chesters, Terry Oddy.
I think that it is well known that John did not ride a bike which was something of an inconvenience in Cambridge. His means of getting to the relevant college sports grounds was to stretch his long legs and walk. Even at his fairly rapid pace he had to leave the College a considerable time before the rest of us and we would usually pass him well short of our destination. But he never failed to arrive and join the team to entertain and frustrate us in equal measure. We saw the Basil Fawlty walk before the rest of the world!

*Terry Oddy (1958)*

**Postscript:** The photograph of the 1960 team includes Frank Skelton (1957) who was a Blue each year from 1958 to 1960, captaining the Blues in 1960 and Howard Moxon (1960) who was also a Blue for three successive years and Captain in 1963. Following graduation, Howard played for Enfield and received a winner’s medal after playing in front of a crowd of 95,000 at Wembley in the 1967 Amateur Cup Final. He also played for England from 1967 to 1970, including the Olympic team in 1968 for Mexico City. His biggest disappointment was that, at the final qualifying hurdle, the team lost to Spain 1–0 over two legs.

Successes in the period 1956–60 were followed by three quiet seasons (Cuppers in 1963 was victim to the Great Freeze – though the newly created Pools Panel was not called in to adjudicate...). However, College Football burst back into life in the Autumn of 1964 – the team were League champions and runners-up in Cuppers the following Spring. It was the start of a revival that lasted, with a couple of minor lapses, for thirty years.

The team’s post-war record includes:

**Cuppers**

**League**

**VI-a-side**
- Finalists: 1959.
Keith Reynolds (1966), who played in the team that won Cuppers in 1967, recalls aspects of his sporting life fifty years ago:

“A Golden Chapter”

Despite the truth that I became, eventually, a better tennis player than a footballer, the memories of being in a motivated team standout far more distinctly than any individual tennis success and the 1st XI Downing College Football team was certainly motivated!

Longevity has simultaneously denied encyclopaedic recollection of individual detail and in its place supplied a widescreen view and overall sensation of “That Golden Chapter.”

We were a team bound together by unselfish hard work, highlighted by moments of joyous creativeness and vision and a willingness to play right up to the final whistle, no matter the score. The record book also underlined that we were very difficult to beat.

However, what stands out at the forefront of my memory are the cycle journeys to and from the football fields, the battle against the easterly bitter wind of winter and the warmth of victory in many hard fought games followed by the sheer delight of relishing hot water showers or baths followed by a drink and exaggerated claims of match greatness in the pub conversation inquest!

The opportunity of playing in such a formidable College team lifted me into the Cambridge Blue’s Varsity squad, a wonderful, lifetime proud experience, which led to two memories which have resisted erosion over the last 50 years.

Firstly the full horror of the realisation, while sitting in the Wembley stadium seats, watching Cambridge come out to play Oxford, that I had relinquished my inside left position because of the fear of academic failure. I took playing for the Cambridge Blue’s Tennis team as both a given and vital, while the combination of being in two Varsity squads, one in winter the other in summer, would have tested my economic studies to the point of destruction.

The second one makes me smile with its absurdity. The end of term, a mountain of dirty football kit in a bag perched on the handlebars and a rucksack full of books, several pints either for the better off or for the worst (personal opinion?) post a good season’s pub celebration, pedalling down an empty Downing street with no lights, a ‘Dixon of Dock Green’ steps out from the shadows into the middle of the road, stands aggressively, just a few feet directly ahead, legs apart, hand on hip and the other raised in a no nonsense ‘STOP’ gesture .... and me with no brakes!!!

The Magistrate didn’t understand the importance of playing for ‘Downing College Football’ nor the zero boundaries of post match victory celebration!!!

Keith Reynolds (1966)
Ian Haynes (1973) recalls the characters, tactics and some good wins from the mid 1970s:


There were two faces to English Football in the 1970s: club teams, notably Liverpool, dominated Europe, while the national side failed to qualify for two successive World Cup finals – a failure heightened by Scotland’s success in reaching both.

My first term was scarred by the 1–1 draw with Poland at Wembley which eventually meant England missed the 1974 finals in West Germany. My long vacation plans were up in smoke. This was the tournament graced by the ‘total football’ of Holland led by the late, great Johan Cruyff, where the outfield players switched positions with bewildering ease.

The only snag with ‘total football’ was that you needed world-class footballers to play it. At Downing, a more straightforward 4–3–3 formation was better suited to our capabilities.

In those days, home matches meant the long haul down to Long Road. Bleak and exposed on the southern edge of the city, but not without attraction for the artistically inclined, as shown by a (possibly apocryphal) story about 2nd XI forward, Robert ‘Ev’ Jones (1973). Towards the end of one home game, Ev allowed a pinpoint pass to go out of play without making any attempt to control it. Questioned by a team mate as to what on earth he was playing at, Ev waved an arm in the general direction of the sky: “Wow – look at the sunset, man!”.

League matches were completed in the Michaelmas term, the various cup competitions in the Lent term. There were friendly matches most Saturdays: hanging around the Porters’ Lodge at Saturday lunchtime, hoping someone had dropped out, was a good way into the 1st XI – well, it worked for me! Either that or become one of the very few students with a car.

The experienced 1973–74 1st XI was captained from midfield by Paul Edwards (1971), supported by future Guardian journalist, Simon Tisdall (1971). Three freshmen featured throughout: Welsh wing wizard, Steve Williams (1973) (also a boxing Blue) plus Colin Paterson (1973) and Duncan Smith (1973). We finished in mid-table and lost to Catz in Cuppers.

One slightly unorthodox highlight was a game of ‘sock football’ in the Maitland Room after the club dinner: with the tables cleared to the side of the room, the game was played in socks with a ball made from a pair of rolled up socks. For a select few, this was followed by a night climbing expedition on the West Lodge roof (participants shall remain nameless).

We were lucky that Bob ‘Rocky’ Dabbs (1971) stayed on for a fourth year to captain the team in 1974–75. His nickname predated the film (1976); hailing from Sheffield, Rocky looked like he’d been hewn from a chunk of Yorkshire gritstone. Think Sean Bean in *When Saturday Comes!*
New recruits included two talented all-rounders: **Mark Worthington (1973)** (from the 1st XV) and **Martin Cornish (1974)** (Tennis Blue). Freshman **Iain Swalwell (1974)** went straight into the Blues’ team, appearing in three successive Varsity Matches at the old Wembley Stadium.

Two other freshmen were 1st XI regulars. At a time when student style consisted of sports jackets and brogues or flared jeans and platform boots, the dress sense of my centre back partner and FDC (Future Downing Captain) **Alan Ratcliffe (1974)** was inspired by Roxy Music’s Bryan Ferry, notably in Ferry’s ‘GI Joe’ phase. From the floppy fringe and pencil moustache to the khaki fatigues and army surplus webbing belt, Alan cut a unique figure striding purposefully across the quad.

I’m sure Alan now lives somewhere exotic but I hope he will forgive the image I have of him today, lounging in a bar in Blackburn (his home town) in Ferry’s 21st century attire of floral dinner jacket and casually undone bow tie.

Another Lancashire lad, **Geoff Atkinson (1974)**, took the goalkeeper’s jersey. Before and after games, Geoff would amuse/annoy his teammates by reciting Monty Python sketches word perfect. No surprise that he became a top TV comedy show producer.

After losing the first two league games, Rocky transformed our fortunes by moving himself from centre forward to midfield dynamo and converting Colin Paterson from speedy winger to hard tackling full back. The fast and skilful **Tom Coskeran (1973)** was promoted from the 2nd XI to form an effective partnership up front with **Charlie Morrish (1971)**.

Charlie was all knees and elbows, and his own fiercest critic. A misplaced pass or a shot ballooned over the bar would be followed by Charlie yelling “GET IT RIGHT!!” to himself, thus rendering any criticism from teammates superfluous.

With this reshaped team, we won 6 and drew 1 of our remaining 7 games to finish as Division 1 runners-up. In Cuppers, we were beaten by John’s in a replay following a hard
fought 1–1 draw: ‘hard fought’ being code for ‘I was booked for a late tackle’, at a time when bookings were rare and sending offs unheard of.

In 1975–76, Rocky and Charlie proved hard to replace, Colin was ‘lost in France’ on his Modern Languages year out, while Mark opted to return to rugby. Our most exciting freshmen – Peter Rees (1975) and Louis Adomakoh (1975) – made the Falcons’ squad and went on to win Blues in later years. Along with Iain Swalwell, it was just a shame that we saw very little of these three very talented players in a Downing shirt.

Newcomers to the 1st XI included author Tim Parks (1974), later to record his experiences as a travelling football fan in Italy in A Season with Verona, and another future Downing Captain, Al Grove (1975).

League matches were a struggle early on as various permutations were tried, but we recovered to finish in mid-table, finishing with a 6–0 win over Queens in our final match. But the highlight of the season, and of my three years at Downing, was a 4–1 Cuppers win over the cup holders and favourites, Trinity.

A snow-covered pitch made it impossible for defenders to turn. Balls played over the top of the Trinity defence dropped dead in the snow, ideal for our fleet-footed forwards to run onto. Williams scored twice and ... ah: error message: insufficient memory to complete task. Does anyone remember who else scored? At the other end, Downing defenders used the conditions to launch sliding tackles the length of a curling rink. There is a tongue-in-cheek reference to ‘total football’ in the College Newsletter but it was one of those rare and memorable games where everyone played well and the team performance was even greater than the sum of the parts. However, in the next round we lost again to Catz, the eventual cup winners. One of their goals was scored by future Sussex and England batsman, Paul Parker.

My final Downing football memory is from exactly 40 years ago – May 1976 – as we celebrated Southampton’s unexpected Cup Final win over Manchester United with a 20-a-side kickabout on the Paddock before Hall!

Footnote
A first draft of this piece prompted midfield general Paul Tregidgo (1974) to recall an end-of-season match at White Hart Lane which Spurs needed to win to stay in the old First Division. “Alfie Conn weaved his magic” and they won, while Paul returned to Cambridge somewhat the worse for wear, in time for a Law exam the next day!

In turn, this reminded me of hitchhiking from Cambridge to Liverpool to watch Second Division Fulham beat First Division leaders Everton on our way to the 1975 Cup Final. The journey to Liverpool was a dream, taking just 4 hours. The return home was a nightmare: 24 hours, including an unscheduled
overnight stay in the gents’ toilets at Manchester Piccadilly station. But that’s another story – perhaps when the Editor does a special on ‘student transport through the ages’?

If anyone from this era fancies getting together to fill in some of the blanks in my memory, do get in touch. We could meet in London, enjoy a couple of pints by the river and take in a match? Sadly, there is plenty of room at Fulham these days ...

Ian Haynes (1973)

In 1989–90, the Downing team achieved the League and Cuppers double under the captaincy of Andy MacDowell (1988). Secretary in that year, Andy Hunt (1989), with some help from his Captain, writes:

**Downing College AFC – Some Memories from the Early 90s**

I have strong and fond memories of three eventful years playing for DCAFC in the early ‘90s. The first is that I arrived at Downing not having played football for a few years – I guess I had been taking a breather during a time when studies and social life dominated. But I was keen to get back into it, and when the trials for the DCAFC second team popped up I merrily ambled along, sans key items like studded boots and shin pads. Well rather quickly I came to realize the value of both, especially the shin pads, as I got a stud raked across my shin so much so that I could actually see my bone! And yes the scar is still there to prove it. Anyway, something must have gone OK as I was asked to play for the first team, and so my first purchase the next day was the right equipment.
From then on it was a life of merrily running around increasingly cold and windy pitches – only those who have had to play a mid-winter game in Cambridgeshire will understand. But we seemed to be doing well, as the chalk-board by the Porters’ Lodge proudly broadcast, winning game after game, and sometimes by quite large margins. Little did I know it, but we were on our way to a League and Cuppers double, and perhaps one of the first 100% records ever (!).

Over that period it is certainly true that DCAFC was lucky to have a strong cast of players joining Downing each year, and we had a string of successful years in the League and Cuppers (although none quite eclipsing that fabulous 1989/90 season!). Indeed I think we had eight individual football Blues (some multiple Blues) in a five year period from 1989 to 1993.

My last game for Downing was the Cuppers final, 1992. The game was at Fenners and I was playing sweeper. Midway through the second half with the game scoreless I somehow got/won the ball inside our half near our penalty box, and set off on a bit of a run. Well a bit like the parting of the sea, things seemed to open up in front of me (helped by some bad tackles I am sure) and I soon found myself bearing down on goal. It is at this point I am reminded why I was flagged as a defender, as rather than commit the keeper and nail the ball effortlessly into the net, I decided that a glory chip from 20 yards was on the cards. At least that is the vision I had in my head. The reality was a rather lame chip straight into the hands of the grateful keeper. From almost hero to out-of-position sweeper in about one second!

Who could forget ‘Wednesday night = footie night’. Down at the Prince Regent we assembled for a couple of hours of drinks, games and singing (a loose term I assure you), resulting in a difficult stagger back to College for bar opening at 8:00. Perhaps I was more gullible at 18 than I am now, but I was sold the line that ‘one of the rules is that you cannot tell anyone else the rules’ and hence in all the drinking games I learned what to do (and not do) the hard way... until that is the drinking fines got the better of me. At least I provided amusement for my team mates.

My other lasting football memory was kicking a ball around in exam term on the paddock after hall one night. The routine was established... just an hour or so and then back to study. But this time as I flew (at least that is my memory) past a certain Andy MacDowell (1988) (yes, he the joint author of this article and always a useful name in ‘drink while you think’!), I was upended and fell flat on my face. But as I fell I reached out a hand and... ended up breaking my wrist. So it was off to Addenbrooke’s for a cast and a few days holding my arm aloft to get the swelling down. Well I ended up taking my exam in College at a desk all by myself as I needed extra desk space. But I also got the requisite
sympathy come May Week – so all in all, and with the benefit of 25 years passing, I can finally say Andy, I forgive you 😊.

Postscript from Andy MacDowell (1988):
Can’t remember Andy’s paddock injury but I’m sure it was just an honest fair challenge ...... For my sins I’m still playing in the Cambridgeshire League against 20 year olds putting in the odd crude challenge and a few crucial goals in our current promotion campaign.

The period between 1987 and 1995 was probably the most successful in the history of Downing Football – winners of Cuppers three times, runners-up four times; League Champions three times, runners-up once. Then suddenly it went quiet – from 1996 to 2009 only six reports appear in the Newsletter and half of those refer to Division 2 and losing in the first round of Cuppers!

But the Club has bounced back – Tom Marsh (2007) reports on an excellent season 2009–10 when the team were League Champions and runners-up in Cuppers:

League Champions Again (and Cuppers Runners Up!)
The 2009/10 season was an extremely successful one for the club, in which the achievements of the 1990 team were almost emulated. In truth, the foundations of our success were laid in 2006 with the implementation of a rather conservative 3–5–2 wingback system, which I believe remained in place until the introduction of a more expansive 4–4–2 in 2012. Our League victory was built on a succession of 1–0 and 2–1 wins, with an unusually high proportion of goals from set-plays. We had a great team spirit and although our style of play may not have always been for the purists, we played some excellent football at times (generally when the back three decided to pass the ball to our more talented central midfielders!). Over the course of the season it was evident that we were stronger, fitter and more organized than every other team in the League and thoroughly deserved our League victory.

Unfortunately the League and Cuppers double just eluded us. It was an exciting run to Grange Road, with the nerve-racking semi-final penalty shoot-out win against Homerton a highlight. Thankfully on that day there were enough calm heads in our line-up to convert a spot-kick.... And so to the

1. For the record, this is believed to be the first emoticon used in the Newsletter.... [Ed]
Cuppers Final against Trinity College. As a result of injuries sustained in our annual Old Boys football game, our preparation to the game was not ideal (ironically a significant proportion of our first eleven had emerged from the annual DCRUFC tour to Portugal the week before unscathed). Nevertheless, with a cunning tactical ploy afoot to introduce an even more conservative 3–6–1 formation to counter the pace on the Trinity wings, we were quietly confident of victory. Alas, despite our best efforts, lady luck was not on our side and despite dominating possession for large parts of the game (as you should with six midfielders!) we lost the game 2–0. Some uncharacteristic lapses at the back and the disappearance of our usual cutting edge in the final third may have cost us on the day – however our spirit and effort could not be faulted. It was a disappointing finale but it was a hugely enjoyable and memorable season and one we all look back on with great pride and fondness.

Tom Marsh (2007)

In contrast to the emphasis on ‘trophies’ in reports of the men’s teams over the years, the key words in women’s football teams appear to have been ‘enthusiasm’ and ‘enjoyment’. There was, nevertheless, some success when they were Cuppers finalists in 1988 and semi-finalists in 1991 and 1996.

Cathy Marston (née Oliver) (1988), now a wine writer and educator living in South Africa, writes:

“A Flourish of Feminism”

My memories of playing football at Downing are fairly vague – it was 25 years ago after all – but what I can remember was very enjoyable. I don’t think women’s football was a big thing when we started playing – one of those things you sign up for in a flourish of feminism rather than, perhaps, true love of the game. Having said that, I did love playing and just wish I’d been taught at a younger age. I remember lots of trouble with the team kit – for a time, we used the white Tatties-sponsored tops belonging to the men until it became too difficult to co-ordinate matches.
We then went searching for a sponsor and it was thanks to the ‘Spread’ that we managed to get our new magenta & black shirts.

Actually, I think they were hockey shirts rather than football ones but either way, they were smart, they were our colours and soon the roles were reversed with the men’s teams wanting to borrow the ladies’ shirts for matches. What else do I remember? Jo the fearless goalie throwing herself into the many, many breaches in the defence, Helen, seemingly the only person in the team to possess a left foot, haring down the wing and emerging as top scorer for both the years I played with her, Craig the coach, putting up with gentle (and sometimes not so gentle) ribbing from everyone for coaching us but doing a sterling job, week in, week out. And I remember the dinners, although it’s more like remembering that the dinners took place as opposed to anything that went on in them. And I think that’s probably all to the good. I credit the Downing women’s team for my ability to hold my own at football against my 10 year old son in the garden and for the knowledge to sound intelligent down the pub for the past quarter of a century. Just wish I’d carried on after I left!

Cathy Marston DipWSET (1988)

It’s good to know that the game continues to thrive in College today. Current Captain, Kirsty Hibbs (2013) writes:

**Women’s Football Today**

Downing Women’s Football is slowly becoming established in the College and on the pitch. In the past we have merged with other colleges, but since these rarely, if ever, produced any extra players, we decided not to merge with anyone for the first time this year. It has been a good season for the team, which seems to grow in popularity with each year, with highlights including qualifying for the quarter-final of Cuppers, beating a Division 1 team 4–1 to do so. Unlike the men’s team, over half our team each year consists of students who have never played before, which makes for interesting (and often quite hilarious) matches. This often means that training sessions are very light-hearted with the main aim of acquiring basic ball control for use in matches. We pride ourselves in being a fun, friendly and welcoming team, providing the girls with some relief from the demands of their courses. In
the 2013–2014 season, **Katie Davyson** played for the Eagles and was Captain of the College team, where she played centre-mid and was a huge asset to the team, scoring numerous goals and organising the middle of the field. In many ways she very much ‘kick-started’ Women’s Football in Downing. **Lauren Carter**, who graduates this year, has been ‘the rock’ of defence for her three years at Downing, and has always played an intelligent strategy of moving wide and passing up the line in her role as centre-back. **Natasha Collett** likewise graduates this year and has played for the team all three years, and a particularly good match for her resulted in her scoring six goals as our right striker. Both players will be very much missed! Presently, we are fortunate to have a Blue’s player, **Sarah Galley**, as our left striker, whose level of commitment to College Football is commendable. We have had some brilliant moments over the past three years, and the highlight of the previous two seasons would have to be qualifying for the Plate semi-final in both years. I look forward to watching the sport continue to grow in the College and to help broaden participation further in the future.

*Kirsty Hibbs (2013)*

Next year, if there is sufficient interest, the Editor is considering a feature on Downing Hockey and would welcome contributions from former Hockey players, male or female! Please send contributions to Association@dow.cam.ac.uk.

**Memories of Wooden Boats**

The *Newsletter* for 1977 recorded the death of Bob Biffen, the College Boatman for 44 years, in October 1976. “He came to the Boat House when he was only 22 and stayed until he was 66, retiring in September 1971. As the *Newsletter* wrote then, he “was an indispensable source of continuity in enthusiasm, sound advice, help in trouble and plain commonsense. His skill and painstaking labours ensured that Downing’s boats were among the best-maintained in the country. He was one of the last generation of classic watermen…”

Bob Biffen was the archetypal boatman. If Chaucer had needed a Boatman for a Canterbury pilgrim, he would have chosen Bob. He lived in his cluttered workroom...
on the left of the old boathouse, heavy with the sweet smells of varnish and glue pots. Boats were his life – proper, wooden boats. Saxe boards, clinker strakes, oar leathers were his vocabulary. When a major catastrophe left an eight with the bows splintered and the canvas shredded, it was Bob who set to and rebuilt it as new. He knew every joint, every splice, every kerfing technique in the ancient boatbuilding canon – not that he had to refer to any manual. Other college boatmen with technical problems came to the oracle to seek his experience. In the Second World War, his skills had been recognised and he had been put to repairing wooden Hurricanes. He was fond of reminiscing that when he finished, the pilot would squash him behind his seat and take him for a circuit of the airfield. It was fun for Bob. He was not worried. He knew he had done a good job.

He had been a younger, lither man then. He would not have been able to squeeze into a plane in the late 1950s. Short, a little portly with a rolling gait and a rather squeaky voice, he would oversee the launching and racking of the boats like a mother hen. We had five clinker eights: “Griffin”, “Jane Patricia”, “Sir George Downing”, “The Whale” …and the fifth? The name is lost in the river mists. We also had a shell “The Lion” which only appeared at Henley: we were not a First Division Mays college until that wonderful bump in 1961 and thus before were condemned to row in clinkers. Bob also watched over a pair, a scull and the tub – plus the bank tub, of course. He regularly varnished the boats, each one a major task. The long vacation was his busiest time and in especially hot summers, he would have boats turned over and filled with water to keep the joints tight. There was so much more to be done with wooden boats. All of them apart from the best two had single action slides which would often not run true. There would be movement in the brass slide beds, and the axles would need attention. Screws in the stretcher beds would work loose. The oars continually needed his efforts. The blades were wooden “pencils” with completely different characteristics from the modern cleavers. Leathers would wear out, and the brass and copper holders come loose. Bob was adept at rebuilding the whole button if needed. The protective copper sheathing at the end of the blade frequently slipped, and reattachment with tiny copper nails was a delicate job. Beautifully made as they were, oars sprung – that is, the hardwood back fillet would crack across the grain and the oarsman would feel as if he were rowing with a stick of rhubarb. Bob would keep these in anticipation of oars being won in the bumps. Some he turned into table lamps or pipe racks; most of the club had them.

The pencil blade had led to two different approaches to rowing: the Orthodox style had evolved from the fixed pins that predated metal swivels. These were probably last seen used by Eton College in the late 1950s – or should one
say “last heard” as the oars clunked back along the shoulder on every stroke. The Orthodox oarsman kept a straight back, slotted the blade into the water, and drew back with a straight swing from the waist. The alternative style had been developed by the Australian, Steve Fairbairn, who coached Jesus. He reasoned that there was too much slippage in the water due to the thinness of the blade. He advocated hitting the water with almost a scoop action, driving in as hard as possible and achieving a “bell note” thud from the partial vacuum formed behind the blade. Jesus crews announced their approach by the heavy thump of the beginnings. In 1958, at the nadir of Downing’s fortunes, the then Captain, Alan Hosking, decided to adopt the style. Bob was unhappy. He was a traditional man. Jesus style didn’t look right and crews looked untidy, and more blades were sprung, but he was loyal to his Captain and his Club and he kept his misgivings to himself. Fairburn concentrated on the beginning of the stroke; Bob was always concerned with the finish – “You’ve got to draw it right up, sir,” he would say, rocking backwards with both hands under his chin. He was somewhat mollified as the club began to succeed; and by the end of the third year, when the first VIII had won its oars and taken the boat into the First Division of the Mays, he accepted that Fairburn might have some value even if the crews did not look tidy. But that last night of the 1961 Mays when we bumped the First Division sandwich boat, he brought us into the raft, almost exploding with happiness. It was one thing to be the eminence gris among boatmen; it was another to be the Boatman of a First Division crew. Downing had arrived at last in his twilight period at the boathouse. Within a few years, he shut his workroom door for the last time, took a root of his magenta peony from the flower bed and returned to his magenta painted house. It was good timing. Composite materials were on the horizon. What would Bob have done with his varnish and glue, and his years of skills with wood and leather and brass – in a world of Kevlar and carbon fibre? Times were moving on. He was the epitome of the old order,...and what an epitome:

“In al this world ne was ther noon him lik...”¹

Andrew MacTavish (1958)

Can you recall any of the other great Downing characters? If so, please send short recollections to the Editor, c/o The Development Office, Downing College, Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1DQ or by email to Association@dow.cam.ac.uk.

¹. Chaucer The Canterbury Tales [Ed]
News of Members

Members’ Recollections

Bob Bunker (1965) writes that he noted our “appeal in the Association news for information about what happens to Downing alumni...

With some 130 members, the Hong Kong ‘chapter’ may be one of the larger overseas groups, and as I seem to have accidentally become the unofficial convener, I thought I would pen a few words.”

The Downing Community in Hong Kong

You may ask how I ended up as a fund manager in Hong Kong with a degree in French and German... Well, I joined a London stockbroker on graduation to work on their European business, then moved into bond-trading, and was posted to Hong Kong in 1979. I ran Asia-Pacific fixed-income trading for a large American bank, and then for many years was a Director of HSBC’s investment management operation. The last years of my career were spent with a private asset-management company, which was full of HSBC ex-colleagues, and was once jokingly described as an “HSBC old folks’ home”.

Now fully retired, I still have a few consultancy roles and disciplinary boards etc., which keep me busy. Meanwhile my wife Sally, having retired as a school Principal, has now established herself as a botanical artist, and is currently...
producing a book of the indigenous trees of Hong Kong along with Hong Kong University (forget the ‘concrete jungle’ myth; nearly half of the territory is national park, and we have some 400 species of indigenous native trees – some ten times more than the UK).

Healthwise, having suffered prostate cancer five years ago, it saddens me to hear of quite a few old chums falling victim to this disease. I seem to have been one of the lucky ones – having no symptoms, the cancer was picked up early in a random PSA test; and, if found early, prostate cancer does seem to be one of the more curable cancers.

I sat for many years on the Listing Committee of the HK Stock Exchange, responsible for vetting the mainland state enterprises wanting to get listed in Hong Kong. Listing mainland Chinese state enterprises in Hong Kong has been a key part in China’s reforms, which have lifted more people out of more poverty than ever before in human history, and it has been a challenge and a privilege to be a small part of this process, even if it was a lot of work alongside my ‘day-job’.

I was also one of the founding fathers of the Hong Kong Securities Institute, set up with support from the regulator to improve standards, and now responsible for training and examination for the whole securities industry.

Downing certainly has a sizeable presence in securities regulation here; besides my modest contribution, we have Ashley Alder (1982) Head of the Securities and Futures Commission, and John Scott (1977) appearing frequently as counsel for the Stock Exchange.

Indeed, the tentacles of “Team Downing” stretch high and wide in the Hong Kong community. For example, David Turnbull (1973) is the retired Taipan of the prestigious Swire group, and the British Consul-General here is Caroline Wilson (1989).

Our alumni list reads like a Who’s Who of Hong Kong, with Downing being represented in almost every field – eminent medics, university dons, barristers, finance directors, CEOs, property developers, bankers, entrepreneurs, hedge fund owners, management consultants, senior partners of accountancy firms, and needless to say law firms (the Hopkins footprint spreads wide!).

We hold lunches occasionally, and we entertain the Master when he visits. Whilst these events are well-patronised by the ‘old-timers’, we are continually seeking ways to reach out more to our younger members, and the ever-helpful team in the Development Office are a great help in updating us on new arrivals in town etc.

The first question people ask about Hong Kong is “What has changed in since 1997?”. Answer: “In many ways, not a lot.”. Under the hand-over agreement, Hong Kong people run Hong Kong, and Beijing is only responsible
for defence and international relations, although HK keeps its own membership of international bodies. That said, strings can and do get pulled behind the scenes, but what would one expect? The fact that there is a continuing lively and noisy debate on whether Beijing is getting too involved or not is in itself a healthy sign.

But Hong Kong remains a remarkably nice place to live; an amazingly beautiful and exciting city, very crime-free and safe, with a benign climate (if a little oppressive in summer), with excellent public transport that runs like clockwork (and never has strikes), first-class medical services, great dining, recreational, and cultural activities, and beautiful countryside (as I said, forget the ‘concrete jungle’ myth). Tax is only 15%, which drops to zero on retirement. In fact a few years ago, the government found it had too much money, and sent every citizen a cheque for the equivalent of GBP500 – a problem many countries would envy.

Interestingly, a very large number of people now retiring are like us opting to stay in Hong Kong rather than return to Blighty!
FOR THE RECORD

AWARDS, HONOURS AND APPOINTMENTS

Ashley Alder (1982), CEO of the Hong Kong Securities & Futures Commission, has been appointed as Chair of the new Board of the International Organization of Securities Commissions.

Martin Baker (1985) and Andrew Millington (1971) have been awarded Honorary Fellowships of the Royal School of Church Music for their outstanding contributions to church music.

Nigel Clifford (1978) has been appointed Chief Executive of the Ordnance Survey.

Stuart Hancock (1994) won the British Composer Award in December 2015 in the Community or Educational Project category for his work Snapshot Songs.

Mark Harper (1989) has been appointed Queen’s Counsel.

Mathew Leung (2006) was a member of Assemble, the London-based 2015 Turner Prize-winning collective. Assemble work across the fields of art, design and architecture to create projects in tandem with the communities who use and inhabit them.

Dr Xerxes Mazda (1985) has been appointed Director of Collections at the National Museum of Scotland.


Professor John Oldfield (1973), Director of the Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation at the University of Hull, received a Queen’s Anniversary Prize in November 2015. These Prizes are awarded to universities and colleges who submit work judged to be beneficial for the institution and for people and society generally.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach (1996) has been appointed as the next Chief of the Defence Staff. Sir Stuart is an alumnus of Downing College, having studied here for an MPhil, and was made an Honorary Fellow in 2013.

David Peregrine-Jones (1960) was elected Master of the Worshipful Company of Management Consultants for 2015–16.

Keith Reynolds (1966) was presented with an Aegon Lifetime Achievement Award from the LTA at the O2 Arena in November 2015. The Award was for his “exceptional contribution to developing coaches and coach education over many years of his career”.

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Paul Ritchie (1980) was made a CMG in the New Year’s Honours list for “enhancing diplomacy and national security”.

Paul Roberts (1980) has been appointed as Sackler Keeper of Antiquities at the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology at Oxford University.

Christopher Rowe (2012) won the History of Parliament’s annual Undergraduate Dissertation competition, for the best undergraduate dissertation presented in 2015 on a subject relating to British or Irish parliamentary history before 1997. The title of his dissertation was ‘The Liberal Party, Free Trade and the 1841 Election’.

Quintus Travis (1983) was appointed Chief Executive of Cambridge-based charity, Red Balloon, in May 2014. The charity supports young people who self-exclude from school and are missing education because of bullying or other trauma.

Ian Walker (1988) won the 2016 Yachtsman of the Year award. In 2015 he became the first British skipper to win the Volvo Ocean Race.

Publications


Tom Priestly (1957), From Phonological Analysis at My Desk to Linguistic Activism with Slovene in the Austrian Alp (Oxford, MS, 2014).


MARRIAGES AND ANNIVERSARIES

Francis Creed (1965) married Eileen in February 2016.
Laura Davenport (2006) married Vartan Tamizian (Clare) in Downing Chapel.
Max Fayers (2008) and Catherine Mousdale (2008) married this summer at Downing.
Farzana Hakim (2001) is married to James Haskell.
Lachy Low (2003) married Pri earlier this year.
Craig Manson (1988) is married to Helen.
Aarthi (née Uthayakumar) Radhakrishnan (2008) has recently married.

Births
Stephen Bailey (2003) a daughter, Cecilia, aged one.
Rachel Barnes (née Jenkins) (2002) two children, Jacob (5) and Amy (nearly 3).
Matthias Fahrenwaldt (1994) a second son, Conrad.
Simon Harding (1985) three children, Naomi (20), Sophie (18) and Jack (9).
Ed Lam (2001) a son, Oscar.
Kat Lewis (née Bryce) (1995) recently had a son, Theo.
Freya Morgan (née Lodge) (2001) a daughter, Cosima, sister to Isca.
Brad Richardson (2002) and Ellie (née Hargreaves) (2002), a son, Jude.
Annie Rigby (1998) two daughters, Nina (2½) and Cora (10 months).
Ben Skinner (1994) two sons, Charlie (3½) and Jack (1).
Beatrice Stedman-Jones (née Riley) (2003) has a daughter.
Obituaries

We receive notification of deaths of Members from a variety of sources. Some are accompanied by obituaries or eulogies from relatives or friends. Where we receive no such material and we find a published obituary we may use extracts from that with the publisher’s permission which has never been withheld. There are some Members for whom we have only the basic facts sent to us by solicitors. Overall we try to include information which will be of interest to the contemporaries of the deceased as well as matters which may be of wider interest.

Roderic Walter Adam (1949) has died. He read Natural Sciences and worked for the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

Derek John Bailey (1952) died on 5 May 2016, aged 84, following a prolonged period of vascular dementia. He read Natural Sciences. His family write:

Derek was born in Birmingham and grew up in Stratford-upon-Avon. He attended King Edward VII School and was Head Boy in his final year there. He came up to Downing following National Service in the Royal Air Force, where he was commissioned as a Pilot Officer. He spent three very happy years at Downing and enjoyed his leisure time there playing both rugby and cricket.

After graduation Derek joined Unilever as a Management Trainee when he veered away from the sciences and worked towards an accountancy qualification. His career started in Unilever’s Audit Department and he subsequently moved on to join the newly formed Computer Department where he was part of a team which had been set up to computerise the Unilever payroll. Unilever was one of the first large UK based companies to do this and at the time it was an exciting and pioneering project to be involved with.

Whilst working for Unilever he met Pauline, his wife of 58 years. In December 1960 Derek was asked to take up a post in Ceylon working for Lever Brothers (Ceylon) Ltd following the country’s recent independence. His task was to assist in training a local management team to take over from the existing European management team following Ceylon being granted its independence and later changing its name to Sri Lanka. The family (following the birth of two children born in Ceylon) returned to the UK in mid 1963 when Derek returned to a position in Unilever’s Finance Department. During that time he travelled extensively particularly to South America and also to Nigeria. He subsequently moved to Research Bureau Ltd (Unilever’s Market Research Company) where he stayed until 1974. He then moved to Roche Products
Ltd based in Welwyn Garden City where he continued to work in a financial role as the Company Treasurer. This position involved regular visits to Roche Pharmaceuticals Head Office based in Basle over a period of 20 years until he retired in 1993. Afterwards he continued to serve as a Pensioner Trustee of the Roche Pension Fund for several years. He also joined and became an active member of the Winchmore Hill Probus Club.

He was a regular attendee at the annual Downing Association Dinners every September when he greatly enjoyed meeting and catching up with his contemporaries. In his last few years he was dependent on full-time care, but he was able to stay at home thanks to the dedication and constant attention of Pauline. Derek was a kind and conscientious man of great integrity who will be missed by friends and family. He leaves his wife, three children and four grandchildren.

Dr William James ‘Bill’ Ballantine QSO, MBE (1955) died on 1 November 2015, aged 78. He read Natural Sciences. His sister, Elizabeth, writes:

Bill was, according to the New Zealand Minister for the Environment, ‘the father of marine conservation in New Zealand’. His lasting legacy will be the concept and creation of ‘no-take’ marine reserves. These were pioneered in New Zealand and, following a relentless battle, the Marine Reserves Act (1971) enabled the establishment of the world’s first ‘no-take’ reserve at Goat Island, Leigh, in 1975. There are now 40 ‘no-take’ reserves in New Zealand and the Goat Island reserve continues its focus on research and education receiving over 350,000 visitors annually attracted by the variety and abundance of its marine life.

Bill was the first and longest serving Director of the University of Auckland’s Leigh Marine Research Laboratory and continued to promote marine conservation in his retirement. His publications and lectures caught the attention of policy makers around the world and in 1996 he was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for Islands and Island Nations. His most recent publication (2015) made recommendations to combat the continuing loss of biodiversity in the world’s seas through overfishing. Just before he died Bill attended the launch of New Zealand’s latest marine sanctuary of 620,000 square kilometres around the Kermadec Islands.

Bill’s goals were achieved through steely determination, enthusiasm and unflagging energy though his opponents often described these attributes in less flattering terms. He claimed never to have lost an argument and could certainly talk endlessly without the apparent need to take a breath. He was
a passionate lecturer – equally at home talking to students, primary school children, community groups, fishermen or Ministers – and was mentor to generations of marine sciences’ students. At home he was a welcoming host to scores of international visitors.

Bill’s career as a marine biologist did not have an obvious start, being born in Leicester far from the sea. However, his biology master at Wyggeston Boys School (also the alma mater of David Attenborough) initiated his interest in natural sciences. After Cambridge, most of his doctoral studies for a PhD at Queen Mary College, London, were field based at the Marine Biological Association, Plymouth, and at Dale Fort Field Centre. His thesis covered the population dynamics of limpets but he is probably better known for his 1961 publication ‘A biologically defined exposure scale for rocky shores’, which is used by students today.

As a freshman at Downing, Bill made an epic journey on a child’s scooter from Cambridge to Oxford. As reported in The Times he was the only one of a trio (the others on a tricycle or roller skates) to complete the 80 mile journey. Less frivolous was his participation as the zoologist on the Cambridge Botanical Expedition to Ethiopia in 1957. The expedition, led by Colin Leakey, brought back 1,300 plant specimens for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Bill’s contribution was a collection of animal species, including possible mollusc vectors of bilharzia, for the Natural History Museum. Members of the expedition were each presented with a commemorative medal during an audience with His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I.

Bill’s wife, Dulcie (Hollindale) died in 1996 but he is survived by his son Michael, daughter Mary, and 7 grandsons.


John came up to Downing on a Royal Naval scholarship and after he went down, with a First, he returned to naval life. He gained a Master’s degree in Underwater Acoustics at Manchester University in 1976. After 34 years of service, he retired from the Royal Navy with the rank of Commander. He saw action in the Falklands, and spent his last two jobs in the Royal Navy as Naval and Air Attaché in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Unfortunately he suffered a serious head injury in 2008. Although he made a very good recovery, considering the injury, his memory was badly affected. He and his wife Christine lived in South Yorkshire near children and grandchildren.

George Frederick Bilson (1953) died in May 2016, aged 81. He read Classics followed by Moral Sciences.

Brian Ronald Buckley (1951) died in November 2015, aged 85. He read English.

The Reverend Kenneth Poyser Bullock (1948) died on 19 December 2015, aged 88. He read Theology.

Donald Geoffrey Butler (1949) died on 5 August 2015, aged 87. He read Classics and Theology.

Dr Jayarajan Chanmugam (1949) died on 4 April 2016, aged 89. He studied for a PhD in Physical Chemistry. Jayarajan was born in Colombo in 1926 and graduated from the University of Sri Lanka in 1948. He won a scholarship to Downing and obtained his PhD in 1952. He initially worked as a Process Technologist with Shell Oil before spending three years as a Lecturer at Princeton University. In 1960 he moved to Washington where he worked firstly as an Engineer for the International Finance Corporation and then as Senior Engineer at the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development until his retirement in 1991. He was the founding President of the Sri Lanka Association of Washington DC in 1975.

He is survived by his wife, June, his three children, Teruni Rosengren, Tamara and Arjun Chanmugam and stepdaughter, Sonali Kumarakulasinghe.

Dr John Kirker Coulter (1946) died on 17 March 2016, aged 90. He studied for a Diploma in Agriculture.

Richard Borman Crowson CMG (1949) died on 11 April 2016, aged 86. He read Modern Languages (French and German). His wife, Judy Turner-Crowson writes:

Richard Crowson had a long career in HM Diplomatic Service, after having initially served before independence in Uganda (from 1955–1962) in what was then HM Colonial Service. His role was to help small farmers in the provinces develop cooperatives to market their produce; in his travels, he occasionally encountered exotic wild life at close range.
He joined the Diplomatic Service in 1962 and was posted to Tokyo, where his work concerned bilateral trade relations. From 1968 to 1970, he served as Deputy British High Commissioner in Bridgetown, Barbados, serving concurrently as First Secretary (Commercial) for Granada, St Vincent, St Lucia, Dominica, Antigua and St Kitts.

After two tours of duty in London, dealing first with the Far East (1970–1972) and then Hong Kong and the Indian Ocean (1972–1974), he was posted to Jakarta with responsibility for co-ordinating the British Aid Programme to Indonesia, then worth about £10,000,000 per year.

From 1977–1982, he established and ran an office in the British Embassy in Washington, DC, dealing with bilateral trade relations between the Hong Kong government, the US and Canada. In 1983, he became Deputy to the British Ambassador in Berne, Switzerland, with responsibility for managing the Embassy and facilitating political, economic and cultural relationships.

From 1985–1989, he served as High Commissioner in Mauritius and concurrently as non-resident Ambassador to the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros, one of the poorest and most turbulent countries in the world. In Mauritius, he was credited with improving bi-lateral relationships and helping to double British exports. He also managed to persuade the UK government to re-establish the much-loved British Council which had been closed as an efficiency measure.

Upon retirement in 1996, drawing on his knowledge of and affection for Uganda, he became Chairman of the UWESO UK Trust, a charity set up to develop sustainable agriculture projects to help families who were providing for some of the hundreds of thousands of orphans there. In 1986, he was made Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George (CMG), an order traditionally used to recognise distinction in the Diplomatic Service.

**Professor Richard John Davis OBE (1968)** died on 2 May 2016, aged 66. He read Natural Sciences and became Professor of Astrophysics and Head of Technology at Jodrell Bank. His brother, Christopher Davis, and former colleague, **Sir Francis Graham-Smith (1941)**, write:

Richard Davis was the first born son of Hugh and Thelma Davis and grew up in March in Cambridgeshire. From 1960–1967 he attended March Grammar School for Boys, now the Neale-Wade Academy, and in 1968 he won a scholarship to read Natural Sciences (Theoretical Physics) at Downing College. No small feat for a railwayman’s son from a small fenland town, Richard went on to study at the University

Professor Davis had worked at Jodrell Bank since arriving in 1971 as a postgraduate research student and had been a member of academic staff since 1978. Developing the ideas in his thesis, he was one of the first scientists to design and construct electronic systems for the developing new science of interferometry at Jodrell using the Mk II and Mk III telescopes. This technology made Jodrell one of the major centres of radio astronomy worldwide and he was also project scientist for MERLIN, the 32m Cambridge Telescope and the Lovell Telescope that stands today at Lords Bridge, west of Cambridge, working perfectly as a testament to his considerable achievements.

Most recently his work had focused on the Planck spacecraft – an international space mission to study the Cosmic Microwave Background, the remnant radiation from the Big Bang. He was the United Kingdom’s Principal Investigator for the Low Frequency Instrument (LFI) on board Planck. He led the team, which designed and built the 30 and 44 GHz space-qualified cryogenic radio receivers, the most sensitive radio astronomy receivers to date in these bands. The spacecraft was launched in May 2009 and continued operations until the end of its scheduled mission in October 2013 providing the most accurate measurements of several key cosmological parameters.

At the time of his death, Professor Davis was leading the UK’s LFI Post-Launch Support phase of the mission, which involved monitoring and analysis of the spacecraft instruments and remote in-flight tuning to optimise their performance. Before he was taken ill, Professor Davis had travelled to Paris and then on to Italy where he became unwell and was hospitalised for a number of weeks before returning the UK. Up until his death on 2 May, he was being cared for at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital in Sheffield.

In 2011 Professor Davis’ remarkable career was recognized, when he was awarded an OBE for services to science in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List.

In a manner that was typical of his modesty, on receiving his OBE he commented:

“Of course this is a great honour for me personally but I must say that this work has only been made possible through the efforts of a first-rate group of colleagues and friends here at Jodrell Bank. It is a pleasure to work with them. I would also like to thank the University and the Science and Technology Facilities Council for their continued funding of this research.”

Over the course of his career, Professor Davis had published more than 150 papers in scientific journals, a number which would undoubtedly have increased rapidly as the results from Planck begin to appear.
In addition to his research, Professor Davis had for many years been an enthusiastic teacher of physics in the University’s School of Physics and Astronomy. He had taught courses across a wide range of physics and astrophysics and supervised many undergraduate and postgraduate students.

A proud fenman, Professor Davis is survived by his sons William and Anthony who live in Macclesfield and his mother, Mrs Thelma Carter who lives at her home in March. Richard’s architect brother, Christopher, lives in Cambridge.

The information above draws on a fuller obituary describing Professor Davis’ scientific contribution to Jodrell Bank written by Professor Clive Dickinson. It may be found at http://www.jb.man.ac.uk/news/2016/RichardDavis/

The Reverend Richard William Dent (1952) died on 17 April 2016, aged 84. He read Law and had been the 1952 Year Rep until 2012. Ian Deane (1952), a contemporary at Downing and subsequently a life long friend, writes:

Richard Dent (or Dick or Dickie Dent for most of us at that time, occasionally ‘the dashing Dickie Dent’ for some) was born in Cambridge on 16 February 1932. In 1943 he entered The Perse School as a scholarship boy but was quickly recognised for his sporting talent. He was a good cricketer with both bat and ball and was picked for the school 1st XI when he was only fourteen and then went on to be Captain of Cricket for two years. He was also a member of the Rugby 1st XV. He became a Prefect, remembered for his kindness to his juniors. He left in 1950 to do his stint of National Service in the Royal Signals. In 1952 he went up to Cambridge at Downing College along with other Old Perseans, David Owen and Norman Berger, where he read Law as well as playing cricket and rugby for the College first teams and also hockey which led to his pulling an oar in the Hockey Boat in the Mays. He played a very full role in College and University life including the College Chapel, the Amalgamation Club (he became President), and I remember him turning up once to vote in a CUCA election. He also founded the Downing College Croquet Club before going down with a degree in Law in 1956 having missed a year through illness.

In 1957 he married Ruth in Cambridge and then, after completing his articles as a solicitor, came down to Bristol in 1966 to work in a small solicitor’s practice. Subsequently he opened his own successful practice, Richard Dent Solicitors, which eventually merged with Amery Parkes sometime in the mid 1980s.

The seeds of Richard’s church career were sown and already taking shape long before he left the law. In his legal work he had tried always to act as a good Christian should. He became a lay preacher and was ordained deacon (1977) and priest (1978) and worked as a non-stipendiary Minister from 1981–
85. Then, following Ruth’s untimely death, and after an interval and a new marriage to Ann, he took on the Highworth group of parishes in rural Wiltshire in 1985 as full-time vicar for some six years, returning then to an urban parish in Bristol for two years before finally serving as a chaplain at Frenchay Hospital and retiring in 1997. He then moved to Wrington in North West Somerset where he continued to help considerably in the local church until moving to Clevedon and a quieter life, where he died suddenly on 17 April last.

An appreciation of Richard’s life shows us a man of more parts, some hidden, some unsuspected, than the bare bones of his career would suggest. Accomplished sportsman, successful lawyer, minister of religion in a variety of roles, family man with three children and two granddaughters, for whom he was a great source of support as he worried over their lives, much travelled, always approachable to others, great company and a good friend. He was a strong advocate of human rights and instigated the on-call solicitor scheme in Bristol Police stations, which lets a prisoner see a solicitor at any time of day or night. This system has now been adopted across the country and is of national significance. In court he became a notably persuasive advocate for his clients cases. He helped set up a drug rehabilitation hostel in Bristol and only dropped out of that when it was taken over by the City Council Social Services. He came across, almost by chance, ACAT UK (Action by Christians against Torture), became the UK chairman and represented it at a number of international conferences. He helped it internationally by writing a paper on the theological view of torture and was highly thought of for his clear thinking and ability to express his thoughts succinctly and with a deep understanding of the problem. He wrote countless appeals for prisoners experiencing ill treatment or awaiting the death penalty and supported them in prayer and sometimes even, financially. His legal practice was motivated to an extraordinary and rarely seen degree, by his Christian principles yet he always felt he was not doing enough and that troubled him as he strove to make the world a better place.

I am indebted to many others for much of what is written here but it is borne out by my own experience of Richard over more than 60 years. He was genuinely a gentleman, interested in me and mine, always a good listener, concerned for us all, wherever we were, at home or abroad, however long it might have been since we had last met. He was unique, a ‘one off’ who spent his life caring about others, especially the downtrodden. Socially a great asset at all levels and someone with whom we could talk about anything. There was never quite enough time, but that did not prevent Richard in his later years setting up his second Croquet Club, in Wrington Vale, because he could and it was needed. He will indeed be missed.
Professor Emeritus Ronald Beresford Dew (1938) died on 17 March 2016, aged 99. He read Law.

Professor Emeritus Ronald Beresford Dew died on 17 March 2016, just a few weeks short of his hundredth birthday. He regularly attended meetings of Downing College alumni, and was proud to have become one of its oldest living members.

He was born near Manchester on 19 May 1916. He was sent away to school at Sedbergh, noted for long runs over the fells, followed by cold baths. He took a degree in Law at Manchester University in 1936, followed by an MA at Downing College, delighting in dinners at the Middle Temple, intending to become a barrister. He married at the start of the war and, after five years in the Navy, qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He became the Production Manager of a huge bakery and then spent some 16 years as a management consultant. As a Director of Production Engineering Ltd he was responsible for their assignments in the North West, working mainly with large engineering firms needing to improve their productivity in the post-war recovery.

After giving a series of lectures in Manchester College of Technology, (now a faculty of the University), he was invited to become a Visiting Professor. This rapidly led in 1963 to a new, full time, chair as the Professor in charge of the Department of Industrial Administration, a potentially controversial appointment of an outsider without an academic career.

He was passionate about the need for management education, and fought for the establishment of the Manchester Business School. His own department grew rapidly, and became the largest in the country, with 20 professors and an outstanding reputation.

Finally the Bar Association relaxed the rules excluding holders of other professional qualifications, preventing members of the Bar from holding another professional qualification and he was at last called to the Bar but, perhaps fortunately, never practiced.

In 1980 he retired to Norfolk and continued to be extremely active, spending some 10 years as a Governor of Gresham’s School and chairing the local Conservative Party. He kept bees, painted watercolours, and pursued his other many interests which included archaeology, art, birdwatching and local history. Visitors to galleries would often be drawn into a small group which he lectured with enthusiasm, never losing his passion for telling stories and sharing his considerable knowledge. For some years he was the sole carer of his beloved but latterly disabled wife, and never complained or took a break. He remained fit, seen out jogging in his hi-viz jacket until his late 90s and
socialising in the local pub telling stories of his great grandfather who had been the local harbourmaster. His grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren gave him great delight.

Edward Herbert Drake (1946) died on 11 February 2016, aged 94. He read English. His wife, Annette, writes:

Edward Drake, who died recently, had many connections with Cambridge – it was his home, his school and his University.

He came to Downing after he had been wounded in the war and much enjoyed his time there. Afterwards, he did all the advertising for Cadburys and was well known in the media world. After early retirement, he was Director of the Red Cross for the West Midlands and was very well known in our local village. He will be much missed after his 94¾ years of life!

The Reverend Keith Forecast (1956) died on 11 May 2016, aged 80. He read Theology.

After graduation he went on to Western College in Bristol to train for the ministry. He served in a number of very different parts of the country, including London, Cardiff and Plymouth. During an 11-year spell at Palmer’s Green in North London he was elected as Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church for 1989–90. In 1992 he became Moderator of the North Western Synod.

A full tribute by the Revd David Cornick, URC minister and General Secretary of Churches Together in England, may be found at https://www.urc.org.uk/media-news/2036-keith-forecast.html. In this tribute his pastoral ministry is described as “inspiring” and he was “unable to resist new challenge”. Whilst he “served the Church he loved .... on occasion he was prepared to criticize”.

He retired to North Wales, where he spent five years as Training Officer for the Synod of Wales.

He had four children by his wife Frances, who predeceased him in 1997.


Malcolm Glegg (1969) died on 20 January 2013, aged 88. He was a University staff member, who was awarded MA status.
Dr John Gough (1953) died on 18 September 2015, aged 80. He studied Medicine. His wife Lee writes:

John was born in Cardiff in 1935. He came up to Downing in 1953 to study Medicine. In 1956 he went on to the Middlesex Hospital for a further three years of clinical training.

It was during this time that John and I met. We were married in 1960, and after house jobs in London we moved to Manchester where our three children were born, and where John began his training in Histopathology.

John then worked in the Pathology Department in Bristol, taking a year out helping to set up and run the newly formed Pathology Department in Stanford, California. In 1972 he returned to Cardiff, where he worked until his retirement in 1998.

I am very grateful to Professor Geraint Williams who has written a separate account of John’s work during these years.

Outside of medicine John had many interests, including classical music – he played the piano and the organ. Besides being a lifelong supporter of Welsh Rugby, his sporting interests included tennis and squash. He spent much time in the garden he had created and loved walking. He particularly enjoyed the coastal paths of Wales and Devon, and the Lake District fells.

In retirement, John became an Area Visitor for the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, and acted as Medical Referee for the local Crematorium. He was also the Gift Aid Secretary for our local church. He gave to these activities the conscientious and meticulous care that was characteristic of him.

His life was underpinned by his commitment to his profession, his Christian faith and his family, including his seven grandchildren.

Many of the tributes we received to him spoke of his expertise, his care and concern for the profession, and for his colleagues, trainees and students. He was most generous in the help he gave to his younger colleagues, as he was to his family and friends. Many also spoke of him as a kind and gentle man, who never gave less than his best in anything that he undertook.

His colleague Geraint Williams, Professor of Pathology at Cardiff University, writes:

John spent most of his professional career as a diagnostic histopathologist in Cardiff, first as a Clinical Senior Lecturer in Pathology at the (then) Welsh National School of Medicine from 1972-88 and subsequently as an NHS Consultant in Llandough Hospital until he retired in 1998. John established
a special interest in haematopathology that was born out of his previous research into basic mechanisms of lymphocyte transformation in Manchester and a clinical fellowship at Stanford, California. A founder member of the British Lymphoma Pathology Group, he was instrumental in developing, with his haematologist colleague Dr Jack Whittaker, a specialised clinical service for patients in South East Wales with malignant lymphomas. Lymphoma diagnosis has always been regarded as one of the most challenging areas of histopathology and John’s expertise quickly ensured that he was the person in Wales to consult on difficult lymph node biopsies by consultant colleagues throughout the Principality and beyond.

Despite being one to shun the limelight, John was well known to all of the Welsh pathology community, not only as a skilled diagnostician but also as a kind, friendly and honourable man who was immensely popular with colleagues of every rank and seniority. He cared particularly for the welfare of trainees who in return rated him highly both as a mentor and role model. For many years he organised the pathology teaching of undergraduate medical students in Cardiff and chaired the Welsh postgraduate training committee in pathology, successfully nurturing a generation of consultants. He examined for two Royal Colleges (Pathologists and Surgeons), was an inspector for Clinical Laboratory Accreditation, and for 10 years was the Regional Adviser for Wales to the Royal College of Pathologists (1981–91) with responsibility for, inter alia, the approval of training posts and recruitment of consultants.

As his career matured, John played an increasing role in pathology affairs UK-wide. Always a stalwart supporter of the Association of Clinical Pathologists, an organisation committed to pathology education and the welfare of pathologists, John successively held the offices of Chair of the Histopathology Committee, President of the Cambrian branch, Education Secretary and national Vice President. In recognition of this outstanding service, he was awarded the Association’s Marshall medal.

Denis James Green (1952) died on 6 October 2015, aged 94. He read Modern Languages.

Raymond Peter Harrison (1965) died on 30 May 2015, aged 68. He read History.

He came up to Downing from Queen Elizabeth’s Grammar School, Blackburn and upon leaving, he joined the Royal Regiment of Artillery, rising to the rank of Major.

Ralph Graham Hodgson (1950) died on 10 October 2015, aged 92. He studied at Downing as part of the 2nd Devonshire Colonial Service Course.

Edwin Hoover graduated from the University of Denver and, following ordination to the priesthood, served at various churches in the USA. In 1961 he was admitted on a James Mills Fellowship as a mature, one-year, Research Student studying Ethical Philosophy.

From 1963 to 1972 he served as Chaplain at Memphis State University, where he oversaw the building of a new Episcopal Student Centre. He then served as Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Muskogee until his official retirement in 1986.

Thomas Alfred Howe (1944) died on 2 December 2013, aged 87. He came up from Reigate Grammar School as an RAF Cadet and studied on a one-year Short Course in Arts.

Gordon David Humphreys (1954) died on 22 January 2016, aged 81. He read Archaeology and Anthropology.


As reported in the 2015 Newsletter, Robert Tudor Jones (1950) died on 18 August 2014, aged 85. John Gower (1950), with help from Bob’s wife, Celia, writes:

At Downing he read English under F R Leavis. After graduation Bob took a position with the British Council in Rio, teaching English, and then went to South Africa, where he joined Christina van Heyningen’s English Department at the University of Pietermaritzburg well-known for opposing apartheid. Subsequently he returned to Brazil to the University of Bahia. In 1965 he moved back to England as a Lecturer in the newly founded University of York where he remained as Senior Lecturer until his retirement in 1996. Many South African students followed Bob to York. Having taught Bob, Leavis too came to York in the 1970s, where he enjoyed teaching. The English Department became a leading centre for Leavis studies.

Bob edited Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, wrote on George Eliot, Shakespeare, Jane Austen, poetry in general and edited Kipling’s poetry.

Born on a hill farm in North Wales, Bob retained his Welsh speaking identity and loved the literature and song of Wales.

Bob is survived by his wife Celia, two sons, two daughters, and several grandchildren.
As reported briefly in the 2015 Newsletter, Dr Henry William Antti Kinch (1982) died on 11 October 2014, aged 53. He was a postgraduate student for the MB BChir. His brother, Andrew, writes:

Henry Kinch died peacefully in the company of his beloved extended family following a short but brave six month battle against bowel cancer. He transferred from Dundee University Medical School to Downing College as a postgraduate student for the MB BChir. This was an immensely proud moment for Henry, his Irish father Billy and his Finnish mother Marjatta – even more so as he was brought up in Fulbourn and attended the Cambridge and County High School for Boys (“the County”). Upon graduation as a doctor he began training as a surgeon, though he sacrificed his career for a family life and became a GP, practising in the seaside resort of Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. He had two children, Ed and Hollie, by his first wife Karen and lived to see Ed almost complete his law degree and Hollie begin her psychology degree. His surgical skills led Henry to lead the practice in “minor ops” and his photographic memory led him to become a member of the Royal College of GPs, a trainer of GPs and a wonderfully knowledgeable, humane, empathic and obsessional GP. The huge number of his former patients at his funeral were testament to that.

Away from medicine, following the breakdown of his first marriage, he found happiness in his later years with his widow Debi and became a surrogate father figure to her own two children, Tom and Talia. Debi and his family remain distraught. He was naturally athletic and won virtually all the year’s races at the County every year which led as an adult to 17 marathons and multiple gold medals at long distance amateur cycling competitions including the equivalent of the amateur’s Tour le France. His other hobbies included nature and wine. He is still dearly missed, a powerful man whose life and the lives entwined was cut short by the fickle hand of fate.

Peter Bryan Charles King TD (1928) died on 20th May 2016, aged 107. He read Engineering. His son-in-law, Anthony Jones, writes:

At 107 Peter King was one of the oldest people in England and until a few weeks before his death he remained in fine mental and physical condition. Always independent, he lived alone, cooked for himself, did his own laundry and went for a walk each day without a stick. His memory and intellect remained sharp to the end. Born in the reign of King Edward VII he lived through 5 Sovereigns and 20 Prime Ministers. Once asked which
PM he thought the best, he replied saying none of them! A measured and reserved man, he dealt with life as it came. Always courteous and polite, he was a modest English Gentleman with patient manners. He had a quiet sense of humour with a hint of mischief and he missed nothing!

Peter was born in Kent in 1909 with an older sister Joan and a younger brother Maurice two years his junior. He and Maurice were particularly close attending the same schools and Cambridge University where Maurice was at Emmanuel (1930). His father was the Managing Director of the family shipping line Bullard King that dated back to the age of clippers primarily routing between England and South Africa.

He recalled the outbreak of World War I and from July 1916 he remembered being rushed down to the cellar of a holiday hotel in Hunstanton when a Zeppelin flew overhead. Of course he remembered the end of the War. Aged 9 in his second year at Wellesley House Prep School he recalled the Headmaster announcing the Armistice at morning assembly. There was no cheering and they quietly filed off to lessons.

Starting at Rugby in 1923 his enthusiasm was not for sport or academics but the carpenter’s shop and the metalwork shop. In turn this led him to read Engineering going up to Downing in 1928 where his Tutor was Donald Portway (1906). He felt it no great issue that the limited accommodation of the time denied him rooms in College and his digs were in Guest Road. Hall was enjoyed most evenings with good memories of the food. He joined the Cavalry Squadron of the OTC obtaining a Certificate of Military Training qualifying him for a commission in the Cavalry. He said that he did this to ‘get a bit of riding’. He joined the University Car Club and motor racing became his lifelong passion.

After graduating in 1931 his interest in motorcars continued with ownership of many fine vehicles during a very significant period in the development of cars and their performance. A Salmson at Cambridge, was followed by a Frazer-Nash Super Sports, Bentley Speed 6 and his favourite, an Aston Martin Le Mans. Racing at Brooklands provided him with thrill and success.

In 1932 he drove the Frazer-Nash in an international relay race at Brooklands as part of the Cambridge Motor Club team. The event was marked 60 years later by a commemorative race at Silverstone in 1992 where he whistled round...
the circuit in an Aston Martin again. This led him back to his youth and he immediately bought a 1932 Aston Martin International followed by a 1924 Bentley 3 Litre which he drove into his 90s.

Following Cambridge he pursued an engineering career starting at Vickers in Barrow working on submarine diesel engines before transferring to Dartford to work on experimental anti-aircraft sights. Along with driving fast cars he had taken up flying so moved into the aircraft industry which took him to Reading with Phillips & Powis and then Miles aircraft. He had his own Miles Hawk and by 1939 had a completed 131 hours recorded in his logbook. He used to keep his aircraft at Marshall’s Airfield flying down to Brooklands to pick up his Bentley Speed 6 to head for parties at the Savoy. He was noted as a very fine dancer!

With war imminent his expertise in gun sights led him to a commission in the Territorials. He joined the 78th AA Regiment Royal Artillery, being mobilised just before the outbreak of war. Whilst on duty in Rotherham in the winter of 1940 he saw that volunteers were invited to serve in Malta, Gibraltar, Sierra Leone and the Far East. He later said that he broke the cardinal rule of the Army and volunteered! He selected the Far East joining the 2nd AA Regiment of the Hong Kong & Singapore Royal Artillery in Singapore. He was fairly philosophical about his war. He acknowledged that they enjoyed a grand colonial life in Singapore during 1941 while the home front was fairing badly. In December 1941 Japan entered the war at Pearl Harbour and swiftly launched an invasion of Malaya which led to the greatest disaster in military history, the fall of Singapore.

Following nine months incarcerated in the foul overcrowded conditions in Changhi Barracks (he once commented quite matter of factly that he was the messing officer and cook in a small house shared by 20 officers) he was taken in a box-truck to Bangkok then to various jungle camps and put to work on the notorious Burma-Siam railway. During this time he suffered from Malaria, Dysentery, Jaundice and Beriberi. It was once suggested to him that it must have caused great despair to have seen British power in the Far East destroyed and to be treated in such a fashion with no realistic prospect of it ending. He said that he was lucky which meant not being in one the camps that was wiped out by cholera; he always believed that he would make it home. He once told the story of a fellow prisoner who spoke Japanese and was made to work in the Commandant’s office. He read a Japanese report concerning the prisoners across South East Asia:

“The Dutch are poor workers, but they give little trouble. The Australians are excellent workers, but give a lot of trouble. The British remain proud and arrogant and continue to believe in victory.”

He recalled how they were on the move sitting in a cattle truck playing cards in 1945 when a Thai train driver coming the other way waved a poster
emblazoned with the words “To Britain and US is V”. The next thing was a long march to the next camp before the Americans arrived. The Japanese Camp Commandant handed over to the Senior British Officer with the words “Good, now that it is all over, we can be friends again....” He always attributed his salvation to the Atom Bomb. He was transported to Bangkok and flown by Dakota to Rangoon in a matter of days. From there he embarked by ship for the long passage home. He said that the greatest pleasure was to sink into a bath for the first time in four years.

His return was to a very different life from what had gone before and farming occupied him for the rest of his life. In 1952 he married Orinda Coates and in the 55 years of their marriage they had sons Richard (1953), who predeceased him, and Tom (1955) and daughter Ann (1958). He carried on farming until 1987 when at the age of 88 he handed over the reins.

When Peter became a Downing centenarian, Gwyn Bevan (1948) managed to coax a few biographical details out of him. Peter King never talked about himself, so without this interest his story would have been unknown. His relationship with Downing brightened his last years. Visiting when his Grandson Harry Jones went up in 2011 he marvelled at the changes since he last saw Cambridge in 1932.

Many people asked him what was the secret of his longevity. He always said luck. He went for a walk every day and his diet was consistent: porridge for breakfast, and a hearty lunch usually of red meat and suet pudding washed down with a glass of wine. He never once touched salad.

Graham John Leech (1957) died on 2 June 2016 aged 77. He read Mechanical Sciences. His wife Mary has submitted the following based on a tribute at his funeral, given by Dr Stephen Brecker, Chief of Cardiology at St George’s Hospital:

He came to Downing from the City of London School with an Exhibition, and read Mechanical Sciences, opting for Electronics in Part II. Always enthusiastic and good-humoured, he took part in the University Air Squadron and the Rover Crew, and was Junior Treasurer of the Scout and Guide Club.
Graham started his professional life as an engineer and worked firstly for Cambridge Instrument Co in Cambridge before moving to the USA and working for the American subsidiary of the same Company in New York State. When he returned to England in 1972 he began to work with the famous cardiologist Dr Aubrey Leatham at St George’s Hospital on recording heart sounds, then known as phonocardiography and subsequently ultrasound. He was soon at the forefront of the first cardiac ultrasound department in the UK, and became instrumental in ensuring that St George’s Hospital developed an international reputation.

In the years that followed, he became the UK’s premier leader on the physics of cardiac ultrasound and did ground breaking research. He wrote the chapters on the physics of ultrasound in several textbooks, and spoke at very many international conferences. Passionate about teaching echocardiography he developed several teaching courses, including teaching how to scan the heart from a probe – trans-oesophageal echocardiography. He was one of the first non-physicians to undertake this examination and in so doing championed the role and careers of cardiac physiologists.

By 1990 it became clear that there had to be a professional body of echocardiologists and he joined a small group as founding members of the British Society of Echocardiography: he proudly held a membership card numbered 001! There are now over 2,600 members. In 2012 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award. Thus for over 20 years, the British Society of Echocardiography was a major part of his life. During these years he held all of the key positions including those of Secretary, Treasurer and President.

Few will have had the impact professionally, touched the careers of so many or helped as many patients as Graham did.

Graham and his wife Mary enjoyed an active retirement spending many happy days and weeks navigating the English canal network in their narrowboat exploring little known parts of rural England. Their home is in the tiny village of East Clandon, Surrey; Graham’s funeral was in the little parish church in the heart of this village they have grown to love.

**Professor Peter William Linder (1955)** died on 4 July 2015, aged 83. He studied for a PhD in Physical Chemistry.

On completion of his PhD, Peter Linder joined the Department of Chemistry at University of Cape Town, where he held the Chair of Physical Chemistry from 1987 to 1994 and was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science for several years.

His research dealt with the fundamentals of gas-solid absorption and later he specialised in solution thermodynamics. He was elected a life member of the South African Chemical Institute and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.
He is survived by his wife, Fay, daughters Lornie and Morea, and son Tom. His wife, Fay, adds:

Peter and I were married for 45 years, during which time we had two daughters and a son (plus Nicholas from his first marriage). Peter was always a loving and devoted family man, a dedicated scientist and teacher, and a gentleman.

He enjoyed listening to music, reading and long distance running. He left his family and friends with a multitude of happy memories.

A fuller account of his academic life may be found on the University of Cape Town website http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/?id=9251.

Michael Kane MccGwire, OBE (1947), died in Dorset on 26 March 2016, aged 91. He studied for a Certificate of Competence in Russian. His son Rory (1979) writes:

In summary, my father was a foreign policy analyst known for his work on Cold War geopolitics and Soviet naval strategy. His experience at the coal face of British intelligence, combined with a depth of research and analysis that had never been attempted before, gave him unique insights into Russian thinking. ‘The MccGwire Thesis’ is that the Soviet military build-up during the Cold War was largely due to fear of attack, and was thus a defensive measure. Although dismissed by the political and military establishments at the time, this analysis has since become widely accepted by experts in the academic world. (See his Wikipedia page for details.)

He attended the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth from age 13 and graduated top of his term in 1942, winning the King’s Dirk which was presented to him by George VI.

He saw extensive action in the war, first on HMS Rodney (including Operation Pedestal, the successful Malta relief convoy in which 13 British ships were sunk), then in Motor Torpedo Boats, joining the 30th MTB Flotilla as a First Lieutenant. The 30th Flotilla was a close-knit group of men, many of whom stayed in touch until the end of their lives.

1947 found him on a frigate in the Mediterranean on the Palestine Patrol, which involved leading boarding parties and taking control of the ships that were illegally carrying Jewish immigrants to Palestine.

In September that year the Royal Navy sent him to Cambridge, to learn Russian along with seven others including the later defector George Blake. At Downing he played rugby (at prop), won his oar in the rugby boat, and held the record for drinking the fastest ‘sconce’ in formal hall.
Having returned to the Royal Navy, with many spells at sea and a period on loan to the Australian Navy, he joined GCHQ. This led to him later becoming a British assistant naval attaché in Moscow in 1956–8. Under constant surveillance, he still managed to travel within the USSR and provided various military intelligence before modern satellite data was available. He started building up his knowledge of Soviet geopolitics.

Promoted to Commander in 1958, he undertook further study in the UK and USA. As a ‘war planner’ he worked in the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT) in the US. It was his time in the US, working on a multinational staff, that opened his eyes to what one can achieve when unconstrained by deeply ingrained service deference and loyalties. At that point he realised that he wanted to join an international organisation such as the UN.

But before leaving the Navy, he wanted to head up the Soviet Naval Intelligence Section in the British Defence Intelligence Staff, which he felt needed serious restructuring. The UK was twenty years into the Cold War, yet when he got this job he was the first head of the section to know the language, to have worked in Russia, to have had experience of another agency and to be well acquainted with the Americans. He completely reshaped the intelligence effort to ask new questions. His aim was not simply to assess the military threat — how many ships the Soviets had — but to understand what the Soviet Navy was for.

It was for his contribution to British naval intelligence that he received his OBE in the 1968 New Year Honours. In the words of his successor as Head of the Soviet Naval Intelligence Section, Commander Peter Kimm, “it is my sincere belief that he [McCwire] has succeeded in contributing something tangible to the security of the country and to the stability of the world in a way which is not given to many of us to do.”

His colleagues were surprised when he quit his promising naval career and retired in 1967 aged 42. His aim was to work in the Third World as a Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme.

In fact a new national quota system later thwarted his hopes of joining the UN, but meanwhile he had got a degree at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. So he became a lecturer in the postgraduate Strategic Studies programme there in 1969 and a year later he became Professor of Maritime and Strategic Studies at Dalhousie University, Canada. He stayed there for nine years, playing the leading role in founding the modern study of Soviet naval power.

In 1979 he became a Senior Fellow of the Brookings Institution, the highly respected think-tank in Washington DC, USA.

It was here, at a time when the ‘second Cold War’ was underway, that McCwire wrote Military Objectives in Soviet Foreign Policy. This was a seminal work, as it focused on the Soviet viewpoint and way of thinking, based on
extensive analysis of Russian sources of information; whereas Soviet policy was usually analysed in terms of Western interests. It was published in January 1987, the same month as Gorbachev’s famous speech pushing glasnost and perestroika.

He challenged the Reagan military build-up as provocative, unnecessary and counter-productive. He was a well-known critic of nuclear deterrence theory and a frequent public commentator, including a televised debate against the leading neoconservative Richard Perle.

He semi-retired in 1990, joining the University of Cambridge as a visiting professor for three years in their Global Security Programme. He continued publishing and commenting on world affairs, notably arguing against the UK replacing Trident.

He leaves behind his wife Helen and five children: Scarlett, Lucinda, Katrina, Rory and Patrick.

Dr Hugh Miller Melville (1950) died on 4 July 2015, aged 85. He read Natural Sciences followed an MB BChir. His son, Andrew, writes:

Hugh Melville was born into a medical family, in Luton. He studied at Oundle prior to Downing College, where he studied Medicine. National Service followed, where he served in Northern Ireland.

Two Junior Doctor placements were undertaken at the Luton & Dunstable Hospital and Cheltenham Hospital, prior joining the family general practice of Dr Melville & Partners.

Married in 1960, they brought up three boys, who all went on to find success in differing fields, home and abroad.

Tragically, his wife passed away the summer of 1985. However, life did move on for Hugh, forming a lovely long term partnership in his latter years.

Always a rugby man, he played at Downing prior to retiring through injury. He was a keen Bedford club supporter and visitor to Twickenham for various internationals.

A single figure handicap golfer, he played at South Beds prior to moving to Ashridge. He relished his annual Niblicks tournament on the East Coast, once or twice coming back with the silverware.

The practice supported Luton Town FC, by providing medical support during the season, much to the delight of the boys. This was during the days when Luton Town FC were in the top flight.
One of the founding members of the Chiltern Rotary Club, many a weekend would be supporting various charities plus ‘meals on wheels’.
A true professional, who never missed a day in his life.
A proud husband, father, grandfather and partner.
A lovely man, a thoughtful and considerate man, a true gentleman.
Forever in our hearts.

As briefly reported in the 2013 Newsletter, Alfred Rodney Howard Monk (1956) died on 6 July 2012. His friend Roger Hennessey (1958) now adds a fuller tribute:

Alfred Monk (A R H Monk, known to his family as ‘Rodney’) was a loyal member of Downing, often returning to the College and watching developments there.

He was partly a Kentish Man, but only just, born in Snodland on the west bank of the Medway. He was educated at Sir Joseph Williamson’s Mathematical School, Rochester. He was also a part-settler in Cornwall where he had a flat in Fowey as well as a house back in Kent. The common factor of the two was his passion for sailing, variously on the Rivers Fowey and Medway. After school, Alfred read English at Downing, under F R Leavis. He did his National Service thereafter, attending an Army Russian course at Bodmin. Later, Alfred did postgraduate training as a teacher, involving a year as an English Assistant at a school in Lyons.

His teaching career took him to the Tiffin School, Kingston upon Thames, and a comprehensive school in Midhurst. Appointed an HMI in 1973 he specialised in the inspection of English teaching and, in later years, European Schools.

His many extra-curricular interests, as well as sailing, embraced allotment gardening, horse riding (for a short while, curtailed by an accident), cricket and music. After the death of F R Leavis, Alfred assisted F R’s widow, Queenie Leavis, in organising gatherings in Cambridge. He kept many of us in touch with College developments which he followed closely. A man of parts, greatly missed.

His friend and former pupil, Roger Kirk, writes:

I first encountered Alf, when I was an 11 year old pupil at Tiffin Boys’ School, Kingston and Alf was a newly-joined member of the English Department. Alf had been heavily influenced by his Cambridge mentor, F R Leavis, a controversial and powerful figure in English studies. Alf’s two years of English teaching leading up to O Level were a revelation. Lessons often began not with a text book but a lively debate sparked by a carefully-worded question designed to get us pupils thinking. Then would come a freshly-typed extract from a famous novel printed on a spirit duplicator and the lesson would begin. Alf’s teaching was characterised by a passionate commitment to his pupils as individuals, to the power of creative thinking and to a deep love of English as language and literature. He believed in teaching the language through literature and encouraged his pupils to read
widely and deeply. How much we looked forward to his lessons, shining lights amidst the routine and tedium of much else that we faced each day. He would sit on the edge of a desk and gesture eloquently as he spoke or read.

Alf’s influence on me and on thousands of other pupils cannot be exaggerated. What began as a pupil-teacher relationship turned into a lifelong friendship. Here was a man of great principle, of remarkable integrity and significant intelligence. He was generous, kind and loyal. Family meant a great deal to him and he cared for his parents until the end and then retained an important relationship with the nursing home they finally retired to. Whenever we met, he wanted to know about our children and what we were currently reading or listening to or had seen at the theatre. He loved to share his own ideas and read voraciously to the last.

Christmas presents to us were always carefully chosen books, always hard-backed, often first editions of newly-published works, neatly inscribed and dated inside. It is with huge poignancy that what I now know was his final present to me was Julian Barnes’s *The Sense of an Ending*. Alf had a huge appetite for life, there was a touching almost boyish delight in him when telling us of his latest exploits.

We mourn a great friend, a scholar and a gentleman, an inspiration and an outstanding human being.

*The Master, Fellows and Scholars wish to acknowledge the generosity of Alfred Monk who was a member of Downing’s 1749 Society and benefited the College in his will.*

**Allan Michael Chester Morris (1949)** died on 24 January 2015, aged 88. He read English. His son, Stephen, writes:

Allan’s life fell into a number of distinct sections, and having been born near Purley in Surrey, the family moved to Chenies on Harpenden Common when he was aged 10. As a child he nurtured a love of steam trains that stayed with him for all of his life.

He went to St Albans School, in Hertfordshire and volunteered and joined the Army in 1943 aged 17. Whilst he rarely spoke of his time in the Armed Forces, we do know that at one point, he was the youngest Sergeant in the Army. His service involved time in North Africa, Egypt, the Middle East and the Mediterranean arenas.

On his return from the Army, Allan went up to Downing College. He was a Half-Blue for rowing and rowed in the Goldie boat. He rode a Rudge Special motorcycle, and that actual motorcycle is now in the Shuttleworth Collection at Old Warden. Allan graduated from Cambridge and embarked on his career in Civvy Street.
Initially he worked within the National Health Service and from there he joined Vauxhall Motors in Luton where he made an impression by being the only employee who was not driving a Vauxhall. Allan had acquired a Rolls Royce as his daily transport!

Allan had two sons and in the early sixties changed career and entered the world of computers, working for McCorquodale’s where he spent a number of years.

Always looking to advance his career, Allan changed jobs and joined Cossor Electronics, part of the huge Raytheon Corporation. Raytheon also owned Data Logic, based on the Marylebone Road, to where he transferred and was responsible for their numerous buildings and premises including moving the whole office building to new premises in Soho Square.

In the late 1970s Allan entered what is best describe as being the golden era of his life. He met his beloved Cherry and they were married in 1980. They travelled the world, including visiting New Zealand to see Allan’s relatives and to Australia too.

Allan never lost his passion for steam trains and fulfilled many a schoolboy’s ambition when he designed and built his own narrow gauge railway track in his garden not once or twice but four times in four different gardens. He built his own rolling stock and had live steam locomotives. He even had an opening in his shed/workshop to allow him to shunt the trains back into their sidings inside. He derived as much pleasure in building the infrastructure as he did running the locomotives.

Allan became Bursar at St Georges School in Harpenden where he remained until he retired. This was the role that gave him huge pleasure and played to his strengths. Coupled with a wonderful family life with Cherry – it truly was his golden era and no less than he deserved.

Allan suffered a stroke in 2002 but with his usual indomitable spirit, Allan recovered the greater part of his abilities and still enjoyed a full life, albeit slightly less active than before.

Allan touched so many lives and had a positive impact on all those that he knew, a true role model.

Allan Morris – A Good Life, Well Lived.

Alexander Kininmonth Murray (1948) died on 14 July 2015, aged 90. He read Agriculture followed by a Diploma in Agriculture.

John Noton (1951) died on 4 April 2016, aged 88. He read for a Diploma in Agricultural Science. His son, Andrew, writes:

Brought up in the market town of Oakham, Rutland, John was fortunate enough to attend Oakham School where, not only did he excel academically
being the only pupil in his year to be offered an Oxbridge place, but also on the field of play where he received colours in five different sports. Thereafter he attended Leeds University obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture also captaining the First XV Rugby team and represented English Universities at scrum half. John then attended Cambridge University, residing in Downing College, where he obtained a Diploma in Agricultural Science and then went on to serve in the Navy for 5 years. He then moved to Derby (where he lived for the rest of his life) and worked for the Butterley Company for a number of years before joining Shell Chemicals where he had a long and successful career retiring as the Head of Marketing Training for Shell UK Fertilizers. During this period he played Rugby for Leicester Tigers, Nottingham, Derby and Derbyshire Gentlemen and was Secretary and President at Derby RFC for many years. He had a number of interests including the Arkwright Society and the Charolais Society. He will be remembered as a tremendous character with a great sense of fun, and as a kind and generous man. He is survived by his sons Andrew, Christopher and Paul.

Jason Phelps (1994) died on 15 May 2016, aged 44. He studied for an LLM. He was a partner in the Real Estate Bristol team for Michelmores solicitors.

James Plumpton (1957) died in Berlin, Vermont, on 18 February 2015, aged 78. He read Economics.

Whilst at Downing he was Captain of Basketball and Tennis and a Griffin. The following is reprinted courtesy of The Valley Reporter.

James Plumpton, was born in Sunderland, England, on October 29, 1936, the son of James and Laura (Heatherington) Plumpton. He earned a Master’s degree in Economics at the University of Cambridge.

James was a veteran of the Royal Air Force. In 1960, he married the love of his life, Joyce Brown. Joyce and James moved to New Jersey in 1978 and in 1987, moved to the Mad River Valley area.

James had worked in the laminate manufacturing business in England, India and in New Jersey for Formica Corporation, where he was President. James and his wife, Joyce, owned and operated the Hamilton House Bed and Breakfast in the Mad River Valley for many years.

James enjoyed being active in his community. He was a founding member of the Mad River Cricket Club and Vermont Festival of the Arts.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce of Waitsfield; three sons, Richard Plumpton of Asbury, NJ, Jonathan Plumpton of Oakland, CA, and Simon James Plumpton of Burlington; one sister, Susan Perry of England; and two grandchildren, Charlotte and Andrew Plumpton. He is predeceased by his brother, Alfred Plumpton.
Neil Purnell (1953) died on 10 December 2015, aged 82. He read Natural Sciences.

Dr Edward (“Ted”) Graham Richards (1951) died on 21 May 2015, aged 83. He read Natural Sciences followed by a PhD. His wife Dallas writes:

After attending Oundle School, Ted came to Cambridge (Downing College) in 1951 where he studied Chemistry. While at Downing he rowed for the College and spent much time fiercely discussing such topics as philosophy and religion, and perhaps less time studying than he should have, since he obtained a 2.2 degree. He then spent 2 years doing National Service, in the RAF (1954–1956) before returning to Cambridge and obtaining a PhD degree in Colloid Science in 1960, under the supervision of Paley Johnson. He next spent a post-doctoral period as a Research Associate in Princeton University, New Jersey until 1963, working with Jacques Fresco on polynucleotides, before moving to King’s College, London where he worked first for the Medical Research Council and then as a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer for King’s from 1964 to 1987. There he wrote a textbook on the Thermodynamics of Macromolecules in Solution, and his research included electrophoresis of RNA, a contribution of which he was proud. He was side-tracked into administration (as Maurice Wilkins’ acting Head of Department among other things), before taking early retirement in 1987.

Since that time he did some part-time teaching, and also briefly returned to scientific research, taking a research sabbatical in Princeton, again with Fresco. But during the years between 1987 and 2015 he also did many other quite different things. He was a true polymath. He conducted massive genealogical research for family and friends, before the days that it could all be found on the internet – and, already an assiduous reader of everything from novels to philosophy, he took up more serious reading of history, to research the social background of the families he was tracing. This led to membership of a very large number of libraries and the like, as well as much correspondence with experts; indeed there is, for example, a reference to him in the Dictionary of Members of Parliament, for the research he did on one MP. The genealogy research which he did for his own families and for friends, led to finding long-lost relations and making new friends. Having programmed computers from the time that they occupied the size of a room, he readily wrote genealogy software, which he sold until the fashion led to much more glossy products. History and genealogy teach you that there are often issues over dates, which
led to calendar conversion software and calculation of the date of Easter and then to his writing the Millennium book *Mapping Time*, and an article in a supplement to the *Astronomical Almanac*. He also wrote another book, *Counting and the Art of Arithmetic*, which he was still polishing when he died.

Ted’s more practical interests included carpentry and cooking, in which he took a serious scientific interest (colloids and more) but never wrote the book that he had envisaged on that topic. Ted’s predilection for challenging any and all assumptions and beliefs was legendary, and led to many a fiery argument over dinner. He will be much missed by many friends as well as family.

**John Trevelyan Robertson (1948)** died on 7 July 2015 in Dornoch, Sutherland, aged 89. He read Economics. His friend and neighbour **Mike Ross (1963)** writes:

John Trevelyan Robertson (1948) died peacefully on 7 July 2015 in Dornoch, Sutherland, aged 89. His life was celebrated at a service at the Dornoch Cathedral on the 17 July when all of his family were present. John had served as an elder at the Cathedral for many years.

When he was at Downing, John studied Economics and was also Secretary of the College Rugby Club. After holding directorships with different organisations John formed his own business advisory consultancy in Scotland.

An article about John and his two brothers, Vernon (1949) and James (1946) was included in the Features section of the 2012 Downing Association Newsletter. The article highlighted the fact that the three brothers were all at Downing following WW2 in the late 1940s.

The obituaries of Vernon and James also appeared in the 2012 magazine – both of them died in April 2012.

While at Downing, John agreed to invite a blind date as his partner to a Downing May Ball. Very romantically, John married (his date) Betty in 1951 and they were very happily together for 64 years.

Earlier this year (2016) John and Betty’s daughter, Kate, was diagnosed with a terminal illness and tragically died on 27 March 2016. On 10 April 2016 three days after Kate’s funeral Betty quietly slipped away at a hospital near Dornoch, aged 89, bringing an end to the senior Robertson generation and to their proud and happy Downing connections. Her funeral service was at Dornoch Cathedral.
John and Betty are survived by their sons Andrew and James, Kate’s husband Guy and their respective families.

**John Rump (1944)** died on 15 February 2016, aged 89. He read Mathematics.

John Rump came up near the end of the war from the City of Norwich School to read Mathematics. On graduating in 1947 he undertook two years National Service, receiving his initial training at Britannia Barracks in Norwich before joining the Royal Engineers at Ripon. After various postings in the UK, overseas postings followed in the Canal Zone, Fayed and Bitter Lakes. Work on water supply was undertaken and, in the summer of 1949, he was demobilised.

After twelve years as a male nurse at the Norwich St Andrew’s Hospital he then changed his profession to teach mainly Mathematics at the Lakenham Secondary Modern Boys School. As part of a reorganisation, this became part of the Hewett School, a comprehensive where he remained until retirement in 1985.

He leaves a wife, Margaret, whom he married in 1952, a daughter, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Terence Joseph Sayles (1942)** died on 26 December 2015, aged 91. He read Geography, completing his first year in 1943, before returning in 1947. **Don Hitchcock (1946)** writes:

Terry came to Downing in 1947 to read Geography along with what seemed to earlier entrants, half of the RAF, no longer required for service following the end of World War II.

After school at Wath-upon-Dearne, Terry joined the RAF and trained as a navigator. He flew 14 ops in Lancasters, mainly over Germany where the casualty rate was some of the highest of all war theatres. Like most of the returning servicemen, he said little about his experiences which could have been dismissed as normal for a committed and dour Yorkshireman. He was stationed at RAF Waddington south of Lincoln, close to where his future wife Marjorie lived.

Although not massive like modern bulked-up players, Terry soon made his way into the 1st XV as a scrum half. He held that position in the ‘Cuppers Semi’ against St John’s where his opposite number was A Dorwood, one of several internationals in the side. Later, Terry played in the 1st XV for Harrogate. He left Downing with a 2.1 in Geography and, in 1951, entered Saltley College to take a PGCE.

Terry’s first post in 1952 was at King James’s School in Knaresborough as a geography teacher. This he found so agreeable that he remained there until 1982. Marjorie and Terry married in 1958 and had two children, Meg and Nancy. Later, two became five grandchildren.
Apart from rugby, Terry was a vigorous outdoor enthusiast for which he was well suited, living as he did in the heart of the Yorkshire Pennines. He began rock climbing on Dow Crag above Coniston, went on walking tours in Scotland and Scandinavia, and continued to climb with colleagues from school as the opportunity arose.

Later in his life, Terry’s health failed and he retreated from contact and was also restricted by developing arthritis. My final memory of him and Marjorie was at a Downing garden party when, with the sun pouring down, we were joined by Tony Williams to witness a balloon attempting to take off.

**Geoffrey John Sleddon (1951)** died on 4 April 2016, aged 85. He read Natural Sciences. **Tony Pike (1945)** writes:

I first met Geoff in 1972 at the Welwyn Garden City headquarters of the Plastics Division of the late-lamented ICI plc – although it took a couple of years for us to discover that we were both alumni of Downing. Fellow Downing alumni at Welwyn at that time included the late Denis Sandiford (1942) and Mike Gibbons (1967).

Geoff came up to Downing in 1951 (after 2 years service in the RAF) from Preston Grammar School (where he was Head Boy) to read Natural Sciences. At soccer (“football”) he was an excellent centre-half, captaining the College team in 1953/54 and being awarded a Blue in 1953 when the annual match against Oxford was played for the first time at Wembley Stadium, resulting a goalless draw – due to a doughty display by the Cambridge centre-half. He joined ICI plc initially in their Nobel Division at Ardeer in Scotland, moving later to their Plastics Division.

After his retirement in 1986 he and his wife Kathleen spent many happy years in Norfolk but sadly she pre-deceased him in 2012. They had two daughters, Bridget and Vicky and four grandchildren.

**Professor Donald Hugh Stedman (1961)** died on 16 April 2016, aged 73. He read Natural Sciences. His wife, Hazel (Newnham, 1961) writes:

Don was born on 8 February 1943 in Dundee, Scotland, youngest son of Dr Ralph Eliot Stedman, a high-level civil servant, and Helena Margarettta Underhill Stedman, a kindergarten teacher. After WWII, the family moved to London where Don was educated at Highgate School. In 1961, he won a scholarship to Downing College, where he read Natural Sciences – Chemistry. While at Cambridge he met his wife, Hazel Cooke (Newnham College, 1961) and they were married after graduation. Don continued
his studies at the University of East Anglia earning MSc and PhD degrees. His eldest son, Kenneth, was born in Norwich, UK. Don then pursued post-doctoral work in atmospheric chemistry in the USA at Kansas State University, where his younger sons, Roy and Ian, were born. After a brief period at the Ford Motor Company research laboratories Don entered academic life at The University of Michigan where he rose to the rank of Professor. In 1983 he was awarded the Brainerd Phillipson Chair of Environmental Science at the University of Denver, from which he retired in 2008, remaining a research professor until the time of his death. While at Denver, the University honored him as University Lecturer and as John Evans Professor, their highest award.

Don’s research interests included the effects of aerosol can gases and space shuttle flights on the ozone layer. He considered his major contribution to mankind to be serving on the committee which recommended banning smoking on airplanes. This sparked the movement to restrict smoking in many public places. He was also very proud of his life-saving nickel carbonyl detector.

His research came down to earth at the University of Denver where, with his associate Dr Gary Bishop, he invented and developed instruments for measuring the components of exhaust gases from motor vehicles in real time under real driving conditions. He demonstrated these instruments in many countries worldwide. Don received many awards and commendations for his work including the Haagen-Smit lifetime achievement in atmospheric chemistry honor, which will be presented posthumously.

Don holds 32 patents for scientific instruments: his major joy in life was inventing things. He delighted in his post-graduate students, shepherding more than 40 through their MSc and PhD degrees. He also enjoyed singing, hiking, watercolor painting, woodworking and travel.

Although a lifetime ‘never smoker’, Don succumbed to lung cancer on 16 April 2016 at his summer home in Portland, Oregon. As a final gift he willed his body to medical science and education. There were no services, by his request. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, his brothers, Mark and Michael, his three sons and their wives/partners, Barbara, Alison and Cristin, and two granddaughters, Sophia and Helena.

Matthew John Milburn Thompson (1948) died on 28 January 2016, aged 90. He read Estate Management.

Matthew Thompson came to Downing after his National Service in the Army. He was successful academically, winning the title of Exhibitioner in June 1950 and Scholar in June 1951. He was also Captain of the Rugby Football team in Michaelmas term 1950 and won a Blue in the same year. He went on to work in the firm of Edwin Thompson LLP as a Chartered Surveyor in the firm set up by his father, also a Downing alumnus from 1919.
Dr Michael James Toop (1972) died 14 October 2015 aged 62. He read Medical Sciences.

James Julian Wates (1958) died on 14 March 2016, aged 77. He read Natural Sciences. His friend, John Bates (1958), with the help of his wife, Jean, writes:

James Julian Wates was born on 26 July 1938 in Ormskirk. His father was a teacher and his mother a physical education instructor. He was an only child.

He was educated at Newcastle Royal Grammar School and then did National Service in the Royal Navy. He came up to Downing in 1958 and read Natural Sciences, graduating in 1961. During his time at Cambridge, Julian was an active member of the University Liberal Society and he was also Chairman of the Cambridge Society for the Study of Religions. Both of these activities would become relevant to his later life in the politics of the multicultural and multi-faith community of Luton.

He took up a lecturing post at North Herts College, lecturing in both statistics and computing, and was eventually responsible for supervising the courses at three of the North Herts sites.

From his first marriage he had two children, Martyn and Veronica. In 1980 he met his second wife, Jean. They were married in 1981.

Julian was very heavily involved in local politics over several years but also found time to do voluntary work for both the War Memorial Committee and as Chairman of the local Allotment Society, a project very close to his heart.

After retirement from lecturing, he worked in the membership department at the Liberal Democrat headquarters in London for five years and also became an active member of the Royal Naval Association, of which he became Treasurer. The RNA provided a guard of honour at his funeral as a mark of their esteem for his life and service.

Julian served as a Councillor in Luton between 1996 and 2007. In 2005–2006 he was Deputy Mayor, after which he became Mayor of Luton for the following year. His involvement in local activities and charities was much appreciated.

He took a great interest in many causes, including the RSPB, the Woodland Trust and the Royal Horticultural Society, and he was passionate about the preservation and conservation of natural habitats.

When visiting Ghana, where Jean was born, Julian embraced her culture entirely, participating fully in family activities. Back in the UK he attended many events organized by the Ghanaian community. He was also very proud of his Irish ancestry through his grandmother and often went to gatherings at the local Irish Social Club, even taking Gaelic lessons at the Irish Forum.
He was an easy-going, generous, kind hearted, non-judgemental person who always put others before himself. His colleagues have described him as a man who was never riled or raised his voice. He passed away peacefully at home, in his sleep, on 14 March 2016 at the age of 77.

Paul Edmond Weir (1957) died on 7 October 2015, aged 78. He read English.

Peter Lawrence Wood (1944) died on 11 February 2016, aged 90. He read English. His friend, Ciaran Madden, writes:

Peter Wood the theatre director, who died on 11 February, first practised his craft at Downing College where he was an undergraduate between 1944 and 1950.

He was a gifted youth from a humble background. His father was a basket-weaver and his mother a lace-maker in Colyton, Devon. But he got into Cambridge thanks to the efforts of his maternal grandfather, the manager of a locomotive works in Derby, who recognized the boy’s intelligence and ensured that he went to Taunton Grammar School. A lifelong love of steam engines was the result. “He had a road-map of my personality before I had even formed it,” Peter said later.

At Downing he studied under the famously controversial F R Leavis, whose inspiration he never forgot and who developed in him an extraordinarily subtle and acute approach to the interpretation of text. It was a skill that actors found both stimulating and intimidating. At Downing he discovered his love of directing and of 17th-century English poetry.

Wood did his national service with the RAF, and tours to North America gave him the chance to see theatre on Broadway. During vacations he would take temporary jobs as dishwasher and waiter in one of the best restaurants on the French Riviera in order to improve his cooking skills.

Along with his namesake Peter Hall, Wood was the first in a line of distinguished theatre directors to come out of Cambridge. He was best known for bringing to the stage the plays of his friends Tom Stoppard and Peter Shaffer. He also directed the first of Harold Pinter’s plays, but the two men did not see eye to eye. His classical work for the National Theatre, the RSC and in the West End was highly acclaimed, and critics agreed on his particular genius for Restoration Comedy, including celebrated revivals of Congreve.
Wood was a great lover of music and later in his career directed many operas in Amsterdam and Vienna. He also made several films.

A full account of Peter Wood’s work in the theatre may be found in his obituary in the Guardian at https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2016/feb/18/peter-wood-obituary.

**Glynn Jones Scholarships for Business and Management Education**

Members of the Downing Alumni Association are reminded that they are eligible to apply for Glynn Jones Scholarships. These valuable scholarships are for those wishing to further their education for careers in the business and management fields. Any who have already embarked on such careers are welcome to apply if they consider that further education and training are likely to improve their career prospects. Typically, scholarships have been awarded to help fund MBA or equivalent courses in this country or abroad, but the awards are not restricted to such courses. Scholarships of up to £10,000 per annum, for courses of up to two years’ duration, have been made in the recent past. For further information about the awards and application process see www.dow.cam.ac.uk/index.php/about/forstudents/finance/280-studentships.
Visiting Cambridge

Visiting Downing

People who have been undergraduates or graduates at Downing are now known as Members Out of Residence and are most welcome to visit Downing at any time when it is open. Limited parking is available and to make arrangements please telephone the Porter’s Lodge on 01223 334800.

Disabled Access

While many of the older College rooms are not easy to access, those with mobility problems should note that both the Howard Building and the Howard Theatre are fully accessible at all levels to those in wheelchairs. The Hall, SCR and West Lodge public rooms may be reached by ramps from the Howard Court and suitable bedroom accommodation is available in both Howard Lodge and Kenny A. It is possible to get to all these locations from the Porters’ Lodge along made-up roads and paths, apart from a short (5m) stretch of gravel by the Howard Building. The Porters’ Lodge has wheelchair access via a ramp at the rear of that building.

Dining in College

Downing members in the categories below who are out of residence are welcome to dine at High Table twice in each full term and may bring with them their spouse or partner.

On the first occasion, dinner will be free of charge for the alumnus, although guests’ meals will be charged for. On the second occasion, both meals will be charged for.

You are eligible to dine at High Table if you meet one of the following criteria:

• you have a Cambridge BA or any other Cambridge postgraduate degree, and 19 terms have passed since you matriculated at Cambridge
• you have a Cambridge MA
• you have a Cambridge postgraduate degree or qualification and have reached the age of 24 years.

Places at High Table may be booked through the Catering Office, by telephone on 01223 746709 or by email to dining@dow.cam.ac.uk.

Permission to bring a guest other than a spouse or partner may occasionally be given, but must be sought prior to booking from the Fellows’ Steward, Professor Chris Haniff.
**Staying in College**

Alumni who wish to stay in College may book guest rooms, subject to availability, by telephoning the Accommodation Office on 01223 762063 or by contacting them by email at accommodation@dow.cam.ac.uk.

If you would like to hold business or private meetings in College, please visit the Conference Office’s website, http://www.downing-conferences-cambridge.co.uk, for further information.

**Visiting Other Colleges**

The CAMcard is issued free of charge by the Cambridge University Development and Alumni Relations Office to all alumni who have matriculated and studied at Cambridge. It identifies you as a member of the University, allowing you and up to three guests to visit most of the Cambridge colleges on the Backs and King’s College Chapel, when they are open, without paying an entrance fee.

In addition to giving you automatic membership at the University Centre, the CAMcard entitles you to various discounts, including those on accommodation charges in some local hotels, money off at local restaurants and bars and 20% off at the Cambridge University Press Bookstore.

For further information telephone or write to the Development and Alumni Relations Office, 1 Quayside, Bridge Street, Cambridge, CB5 8AB. Tel. 01223 332288, email contact@alumni.cam.ac.uk or visit http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/benefits/camcard.

**Editorial Acknowledgements**

This publication, combining *The Association Newsletter*, *Magenta News* and *The College Record*, is built on contributions from students, past and present, Fellows, and College staff. Ken McNamara (Fellow), Assistant Editor, *The College Record*, collects contributions from current students and the Fellowship as well as, with the College Secretary, compiling the list of the Fellowship which changes from year to year. From the College departments Jane Perks, Manager of the Tutorial and Admissions Office, with her colleagues, gives us the list of joining students, examination results, academic awards and the Colours and Blues. Claire Varley, Donna Thomas and Susan Esden from the Development Office have kept us in touch with the alumni database and edited *Magenta News*. An Editorial Committee of Leo Judd (1965), David Lloyd Jones (1970), Karen Storey (1982), John Hicks (1955), Peter Thomson (1953) and Gabrielle Bennett, Development Director advise on content. Karen Storey (1982) has helped with proof reading.
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<td>Prof N Coleman</td>
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<td>Dr M Biberauer</td>
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<td>Dr I James</td>
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<td>Music</td>
<td>Dr C Valenti*</td>
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<td>Natural Sciences (Biological)</td>
<td>Dr H Groom</td>
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<td>Dr M Correia</td>
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<td>Dr Z Barber</td>
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<td>Prof C Haniff</td>
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<td>Dr R Jennings*</td>
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<td>Rev’d Dr K Eyeons</td>
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<td>Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Mrs J Pearson*</td>
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**College Lecturers**

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<td>Dr R Omitowoju</td>
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<td>Dr X-S Yang</td>
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<td>Mr M A Carter</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Dr I Sabir</td>
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<td>Dr M Buda</td>
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**College Teaching Associates**

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<td>Cell Biology</td>
<td>Dr W Schafer</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
<td>Dr A Anger-Kraavi</td>
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<td>Dr I A Bucklow</td>
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<td>Dr A Cockburn</td>
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<td>Mr H Yan</td>
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<td>Mrs K Crowe</td>
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<td>Pharmacology</td>
<td>Dr N Farahi</td>
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Obituaries

We were sorry to learn of the sudden and unexpected death of Dr Peter Mathias, Master of the College from 1987 to 1995, on 1 March 2016, at the age of 88.

Emeritus Fellow, Professor Richard Smith writes:

Peter Mathias was born on 10 January 1928 in Freshford, Somerset where he lived with his mother and grandparents since his father was on active duty abroad in the Navy and did not return to Britain until Peter was two. In 1932 when his father was retired from the Navy, the family moved to Bristol where his father took up a clerical position in the local building society. Peter won a scholarship in 1938 to Colston’s Hospital, a local charity school, and at that time a direct grant grammar school. As a boarder he remained at Colston’s until 1946 and supplemented some of what he always regarded as poor teaching at Colston’s with attendance at some classes in Bristol Grammar School. He gained an Exhibition at Jesus College, Cambridge but was called up to do National Service in the Summer of 1946 which he had to complete before taking up his college place in 1948 since the College insisted that National Service was undertaken before starting an undergraduate career.

In Jesus he struck up a strong relationship with his mentor Charles Wilson who was an economic historian of some distinction and it was to that branch of the subject that he gravitated. He was elected to a Research Fellowship in Jesus in 1952 and in 1955 he was appointed to an Assistant Lectureship in the History Faculty and moved to a Fellowship at Queens’ College. There he progressed eventually to Lecturer and by the time he left Queens’ in 1968 Peter has established a very prominent position in his historical sub-discipline. While he did not complete a PhD after excelling in the History Tripos in 1951, he undertook a major research project that resulted in the publication of his very well received The Brewing Industry in England 1700–1830 published in 1959 and revealed his skills as a business as well as economic historian since he mastered the multitude of papers in the possession of many longstanding brewing families that still dominated the industry at that date. Interests in business organization and evolution underwrote another highly significant contribution, focused on the history of multiple retailing companies that fell under the umbrella of Unilever which appeared as Retailing Revolution in 1967.
Ventures into business history did not deflect Peter from a central interest in the history of industrialisation in Britain which resulted in the publication of a highly influential text that because of its lucidity continues to be read widely by students, *The First Industrial Nation* (1967 and subsequent re-printings and a new edition in 1983). While at Queens’ Peter developed a strong and enduring working relationship that lasted for a further 25 years with Michael Postan, then Professor of Economic History and became his assistant in the editing of the most influential journal in his field internationally speaking, *The Economic History Review*. He also took on the role of informal secretary of the newly emerged International Economic History Association which Postan was developing with Fernand Braudel. Peter’s subsequent career as one of the most internationally-oriented of economic historians through the enormous network of contacts that he has cultivated might be said to have started with that early collaboration.

In 1968 John Habbakuk resigned the Chichele Chair of Economic History and associated Fellowship of All Soul’s College, Oxford to move to be Master of Jesus College, Oxford. Peter was elected as his replacement at the relatively young age of 40. He was to hold that position until 1987. The chair of Economic History in Cambridge became vacant in 1970 as the then occupant David Joslin died suddenly. Peter clearly would have been a leading candidate as his replacement but thought it entirely inappropriate to make himself a candidate given his very recent departure to Oxford but he always regretted that he did not occupy the Cambridge chair to lead a group of economic historians which at that time was larger and more distinguished than that in Oxford and promoting economic history through its central place in the Cambridge History Tripos. His time in Oxford was nonetheless very productive. He was the Editor of the distinguished multi-volume *Cambridge Economic History of Europe* which he brought to a successful conclusion and his interests branched out into new areas such as the history of taxation and medical and scientific history, always linked to issues that were central to the functioning of the economy.

He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1977 and was its Treasurer from 1980–89. His international activities burgeoned. He was President of the International Economic History Association from 1974–1978 and helped to found the *European Journal of Economic History*, was part of the Directorate of the International Institute of Economic History Francesco Datini, Prato, visiting professor at innumerable universities in Asia, North America, Europe and Australia. One international link that was forged in this period was his association with Japan. He had supervised a number of Japanese graduate students in Oxford and his association with their country was well
and truly consolidated when he became research supervisor of the Crown Prince of Japan who came to Oxford for two years in 1983. He was awarded a CBE in 1984.

In 1987 he left Oxford on being elected Master of Downing College, a post he held until 1995. He had no previous connection with the College and succeeded the charismatic John Butterfield whose association with the College had been forged while a Professorial Fellow prior to his election as Master. Peter had to accommodate himself to the sizeable shift from what was a wealthy College without students to one that was certainly not rich and with an active undergraduate community that was the focus of the College. His wife Ann rose to the challenge of creating the Lodge as a centre of entertainment and as a keen gardener she made notable contributions to the College’s floral landscape. During his period he inherited the first stages of a project that had been initiated by John Butterfield with the generous support of Alan Howard resulting in the Howard Building and the completion of Howard Court. Similarly he saw through the completion of the striking Maitland Robinson Library.

On retirement Peter continued to sustain a remarkable assemblage of international roles and interests. His links with Japan were developed as an international advisor to Keio University, the institution with which Downing College has longstanding links that pre-dated Peter’s period as Master. He was President of the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and for his considerable contributions to furthering Anglo-Japanese relations he was granted the Order of the Rising Sun with Gold Rays in 2003. He became acquainted with George Soros through his role as Head of the Advisory Board of the Central European University which was part of the institution that Soros had so generously endowed. Well into his eighties he continued to lecture on economic history at the Institute of Philosophical Studies in Naples and many of the lecture series that he delivered have been published in Italian.

Peter remained intellectually active until a very advanced age although life was in part blighted by severe mobility problems which proved a heavy cross to bear for a man who had been one of the most active of academic travellers for almost 60 years. This imposed immobility was exacerbated by the sudden death of his beloved wife Ann in January 2013. However, he continued to welcome visitors and nothing gave him more pleasure than getting and giving updates of the host of colleagues and associates with whom he had worked both in the UK and abroad.

His former colleague, Nigel Allington, writes:

Born 18 March 1941 in Ruskin College, Oxford where his mother had been evacuated from London during the war, he died 18 August 2015 in Italy. Educated at the London School of Economics (BSc (Econ) 1965 and MSc (Econ) 1968), Barry began his academic career in 1968 as research assistant to Professor Lord Peston at Queen Mary College, University of London. He moved to Cambridge in 1970 as Senior Officer and later Senior Research Officer in the Department of Applied Economics (DAE) before switching to Land Economy as Assistant Director of Research. In 2003 he was promoted to University Reader. He was a Fellow of Downing College from 1979 (Emeritus from 2008).

In the DAE, Barry joined the Cambridge Economic Policy Group led by Professor Wynne Godley and Francis Cripps that published articles on economic management of the UK economy, producing regular economic forecasts and evaluations of economic policy. Later research included regional policy, the EEC and global problems of growth and international balance. Barry, and co-author John Rhodes, contributed to the Group’s first publication and went on to author a long sequence of papers on regional policy, including seminal papers in the *Economic Journal* and *Economica*. Their innovative paper on the decline of the manufacturing sector presaged later intense debate on the deindustrialisation of the UK economy. Their work was characterised by meticulous assembly of data, the early use of econometric techniques and penetrating analysis. Funding for the Group was terminated by the Thatcher government, but research grants and income from Barry’s consultancy, Public and Corporate Economic Consultants, allowed the work to continue and expand into new areas including the funding of university research and technology transfer. In 1988 he co-founded the Centre for Business Research with Professor Alan Hughes in the Judge Business School. He was an advisor to the OECD, National Economic Development Council, Department of Trade and Industry, various HM Treasury inquiries and several Select Committees.

Barry was a brilliant teacher and doctoral supervisor, attested by the legions of students that kept in contact with him over many years. He was a prolific author, including government reports that earned the admiration of public officials. Throughout his career he remained receptive to new ideas and took on new challenges with enthusiasm. An habitué of the Soho creative community, where
he mixed with the artists Bacon and Freud, as well as playwrights, musicians and authors, he was a member of Groucho’s and the Savile. He was a connoisseur of fine wines and art and a loyal friend to a great many people whose lives were the richer for having known him.

Nigel Allington, Bye-Fellow and College Lecturer in Economics, died on 4 April 2016, aged 65 years. John McCombie writes:

The untimely death of Nigel Allington deprived the College of a dedicated and inspirational teacher of Economics. For the last decade Nigel was a Bye-Fellow of the College, and acted as a Director of Studies and College Lecturer in Economics. During his time at Cambridge, he also initially held a post in Economics at Cardiff University and then later was a part-time Professor of Finance and Economics at the Grenoble École de Management in France, both of which involved extensive commuting. He also found time to teach welfare economics in the Department of Land Economy, where he was an Affiliated Lecturer. It is difficult to place Nigel in any one of the narrow specialisms of economics, but he would probably have considered himself to have been a macroeconomist. However, he also published in the areas of the history of economic thought and politics. His last work, a co-edited book entitled From Hubris to Disgrace: The Philosophy, Politics and Economics of Finance in the 21st Century, stands as a testament to his wide interests in research. But his research did not displace his commitment to teaching. His greatest reward was the high esteem in which all his students held him and the way they kept in contact long after they had graduated.

The College learned with sadness of the death of Dr John Marks (1948) in April 2016, at the age of 92. John Marks was educated at Latymer School and The Middlesex Hospital Medical School and admitted to Downing in November 1948 as a graduate, proceeding to his MA in Feb 1949 by virtue of his departmental position as University Assistant Pathologist at Addenbrookes. He was Director of Studies in Medical Studies from 1949 up to 1977 before leaving to take up a post at Girton.

Dr Marks held the role of Senior Treasurer of the Cambridge University Boat Club from 1986 to 1997 and from 1998 to 1999.

We also learned with regret of the death of Professor Jeffrey O’Connell, Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow from Virginia in 1989.
Members and friends of the College will be deeply saddened by the death on New Year’s Day of Lady Butterfield, widow of Lord Butterfield, our Master between 1978 and 1987.

Isabel Butterfield died peacefully in Charing Cross Hospital at the age of 91.

Lord and Lady Butterfield contributed greatly to the sense of balanced collegiality in Downing during their occupation of the Master’s Lodge, and they are remembered with warmth by students, fellows and staff from that period.

Their association with Downing will be commemorated in perpetuity through the Everitt Butterfield Research Fellowship in the biological and biomedical sciences.

**News of the Fellowship**

**Bill Adams** enjoyed his third and final year as Head of the Department of Geography. As well as innumerable emails, he wrote a few papers, including: ‘Fencing elephants: The hidden politics of wildlife fencing in Laikipia, Kenya’ in the journal *Land Use Policy*. He also published some poems, in *Contappaso Magazine*.

**David Feldman**’s year has been dominated by teaching responsibilities. With Professor Tony Smith, he launched a new LLM paper on Legislation, a key legal instrument but too rarely subjected to systematic study and research, and also prepared a new series of lectures on key elements on constitutional law which will inform a book to be written over the next 12 months. On the administration and governance front, he has been finishing his term as Chairman of the Faculty Board of HSPS and chairing the University Research Ethics Committee and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Management Committee, both of which have opened his eyes to important aspects of the University’s activities. Outside the University, he took part in September 2015 in a fascinating meeting in London between judges of the Supreme Courts of the UK and the USA, and will be travelling to Philadelphia and Washington for the return leg in September 2016. Research has focused on constitutional fundamentals (including the relationship between municipal law, public international law and EU law).
Geoffrey Grimmett, the Master, spent the New Year in Hong Kong interviewing candidates for Jardine studentships at Oxford and Cambridge. He was delighted to have a Chinese dinner with a number of our alumni/ae based there, including with the first Jardine scholar ever, Kelvin Inge. He has spent his time between meetings and dinners doing mathematics. In addition to teaching and examining, he is making good progress on a problem in the field of statistical mechanics.

Harriet Groom joined the College as a Henslow Research Fellow in October after a period of maternity leave following the birth of her daughter, Alice. She researches interactions of the host cell with viruses, and is most interested in how the cellular environment influences HIV infection (the virus that causes AIDS). She published her most recent article on the subject in *PLoS Pathogens* in October and, since being back at Downing, has presented her findings at the Recently Independent Virology Researchers meeting and the Microbiology Society Annual Conference. She has enjoyed getting to know the first year students through supervising Biology of Cells and more recently the wider Natural Sciences community in College through acting as Director of Studies in Dr Milton’s absence.

Ken McNamara, the Dean, has spent another busy year as Director of the Sedgwick Museum, the world’s oldest geological museum. A good deal of time was spent producing an exhibition to mark the 200th anniversary of the publication of William Smith’s great geological map of England and Wales. The highlight was the unveiling of one of these huge (8 feet by 6 feet) maps – the only one to be on permanent display in a public museum in the world. Sabbatical leave during Michaelmas Term enabled a visit to Australia, to undertake research on fossil brittlestars and give a number of lectures, and to California, as the Pomona College Exchange Fellow. Research there centred on studying the annotated copy of Dr John Woodward’s (1667–1728) own book on the history of the Earth published in 1665. Conveniently this now resides in the library at Pomona. Woodward’s geological collection forms the basis of the Sedgwick Museum’s collection, and Ken is currently writing a book on Woodward.

Amy Milton has continued her work on exploiting the process of memory reconsolidation to treat mental health disorders, publishing proof-of-principle studies focusing on the treatment of alcoholism (Schramm et al., 2016) and the reduction of flashbacks in post-traumatic stress disorder (James et al., 2015). The latter paper, which was a collaboration with researchers in Professor Emily
Holmes’ group at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, was featured on Radio 4’s Today programme last August. She has also recently received a Seed Award in Science from the Wellcome Trust to determine whether memory reconsolidation treatments might also be developed to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder, in collaboration with Professor Trevor Robbins’ research group. In College, Amy was very pleased to return to her DoS duties for the Natural Sciences and Psychological & Behavioural Sciences Triposes for two terms before she started her second period of maternity leave in May 2016, with the birth of her second son, Alexander.

Brigitte Steger worked mainly on developing a new research project: ‘Timing Day and Night: “Timescapes” in Premodern Japan’. Based on the first international workshop for this project in April, she is currently co-editing a special issue for the journal Kronoscope. At the ‘Deutschsprachiger Japanologentag’ in Munich in August 2015 she participated in the opening panel discussion on acceleration and deceleration in contemporary Japan with a short keynote lecture. The lecture was subsequently published in the Journal of the Austrian Association of Japanese Studies (AAJ) as: ‘Entschleunigung als Zeichen von Depression oder Gewinn von Lebensqualität?’ In October 2015, Brigitte was invited back to her native Austria as a speaker at the Austrian Science Day, where the topic of time was approached from interdisciplinary perspectives. She presented a lecture ‘Landschaften der Zeit: Tages- und Nachtstunden im vormodernen Japan’, which will be published in the conference volume Zeit in den Wissenschaften (Böhlau) in early autumn 2016. At SOAS, University of London, she presented ‘When did the Japanese become punctual? Time use and time consciousness in Japanese history’ in January 2016.

Brigitte continues to present and publish her work on social and cultural aspects of sleep, in particular her research on inemuri (dozing). In December, she was invited by Yamaguchi University in the southwest of Japan to present her research (in Japanese) both at an academic workshop and at the annual public lecture of the Research Institute for Time Studies of the University. She participated in a symposium accompanying an exhibition on sleep at the University of Kyoto via a video link and presented her research on sleep at a number of smaller events, both for academic and general audiences. Her article ‘The Big Sleep’ in the alumni magazine CAM 77 (Lent 2016) was later published on the BBC World Service webpage in May 2016 as ‘The art of (not) sleeping’; it proved very popular with about half a million individual browser accesses within a month. It was subsequently translated into many languages, including Albanian, Chinese, Farsi, Hausa, Indonesian, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Vietnamese and also introduced in Azeri, Dutch, French,
Georgian, Greek, French, Italian, Japanese and others. Two book manuscripts on sleep (one from a historical perspective, one from a socio-anthropological perspective) will hopefully be ready to send to the publisher by the end of the summer.

Having been elected Secretary General of the Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS), an international association of researchers studying Japanese society, Brigitte was involved in helping organise an international Japanese Studies conference in Istanbul in September 2015 and in advising on the launch of the Turkish journal Global Perspectives on Japan. She continued to be involved in consultancy work for marketing research on various subjects including motherhood and hygiene and has become a member of the Ipsos Cultural Insight Network. She is external examiner for the BA in Japanese Studies at SOAS, University of London. At the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Brigitte is subject convener in Japanese Studies and organised the public event ‘Sights and Sounds of Japan: Old Traditions in New Contexts’ in March 2016. At Downing she has been involved in negotiating a student exchange agreement with Keio University.

Marcus Tomalin has published several journal articles this year in the related fields of linguistics, literature, and speech technology. He contributed a chapter on ‘Ecological Horology: The Nature of Time in the Romantic Period’ to the volume Dewey W. Hall (ed.), Romantic Ecocriticism: Origins and Legacies (Lexington, 2016), and his latest monograph, The French Language and British Literature, 1756–1830 (Routledge, 2016), appeared in March. The latter book examines the many ways in which British intellectuals, novelists, essayists, poets, playwrights, translators, educationalists, politicians, businessmen, travel writers, and philosophers brooded about the merits and demerits of the French language. As part of his ongoing involvement with the EPSRC-funded Natural Speech Technology project, Marcus has continued building Text-to-Speech systems designed to produce synthetic voices that can handle speech disfluencies (e.g. filled pauses) in a more natural and human-like manner. As a form of respite from all of this, he has continued to give regular lute recitals, the most recent being a Downing College Music Society concert in the chapel during the Easter Term. This consisted of French, Italian, and English lute duets from the Renaissance (performed with the lutenist Anna Langley).

Graham Virgo had two books published during the year: The Principles of the Law of Restitution (3rd ed., 2015)(OUP) and The Principles of Equity and Trusts (2nd ed., 2016). He has also been conducting research on different interpretations of conscience and unconscionability in the law. In the second year of his time
as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education he has been focusing on developing and delivering various strategies, including for sport throughout the University and digital education. He has also been engaged in University projects involving responding to sexual assault and harassment; reviewing student workload; providing funding for graduate students and widening participation activities. He is also dealing with the impact of the Higher Education and Research Bill which will have the most profound impact on universities for a generation, including the introduction of the Teaching Excellence Framework, which does at least help him to ensure a renewed focus on the quality of education throughout the collegiate university.

New Fellows

Downing College has welcomed four new Fellows at the start of this new academic year, pictured here with the Master.

Dr Ewan Jones, Fellow in English, joins the College from Trinity Hall, and will be Director of Studies for Part II of the English Tripos. His first book, entitled Coleridge and the Philosophy of the Poetic Form, was published last year by Cambridge University Press. His current research includes work on the concept of rhythm in the nineteenth century. He is also a Research Associate at CRASSH.

Dr Ellen Nisbet, Fellow in Biochemistry, studies the evolution of the malaria parasite, Plasmodium falciparum. She has held previous positions at Darwin College and Fitzwilliam College, and remains an Adjunct Senior Lecturer at the University of South Australia.
Dr Harriet Groom studied Natural Sciences at Downing College as an undergraduate, then remained here for her PhD on the effects of HIV proteins on viral translation. She now returns as a Research Fellow in Natural Sciences, carrying out further work on a protein which inhibits HIV replication.

Dr Andrew Holding has already been a Bye-Fellow of Downing since 2013 and is now a Fellow in Biochemistry. He is a Senior Research Associate at the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute, where he investigates the processes that govern the oestrogen receptor in breast cancer tumour cells.

New Honorary Fellows

In July 2015 the College elected three Honorary Fellows who are distinguished in cinema, music and art.

Michael Apted (1960) is a prominent film director.

He worked in television after graduation in 1963, with productions including the Up Series and Coronation Street. Amongst his best known works for the cinema are The Triple Echo, Coal Miner’s Daughter, Gorky Park, Enigma, and The World is not Enough. He has won seven BAFTA awards.

Martin Baker (1985) is a leading organist and choirmaster.

He graduated from Downing in 1988, and has subsequently held positions at St Paul’s Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, before returning to Westminster Cathedral as Master of Music in 2000. He was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal School of Church Music, and he delivered the inaugural recital on our new organ in February 2015.

Stephen Chambers was Artist in Residence at Downing for the year 1998/99.

He has worked extensively in many media including oil painting, etching, woodcut and lithography. In 2005 he was elected a Royal Academician as one of the nine RA Engravers, Printmakers and Draughtsmen. Recent exhibitions of his work have been held at the Royal Academy in 2012 and the Ten Art Gallery in Milan in 2013.
Awards, Honours and Appointments

Dr Zoe Barber has been promoted to be a Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, taking effect on 1 October.

Professor David Wales has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

The Heong Gallery has been shortlisted for the annual award given by the Royal Institute of British Architects for buildings in the east of the country.

Professor Trevor Robbins has been awarded the Robert Sommer Medal by the Robert Sommer Research Society, in recognition of his outstanding research in the field of schizophrenia. The medal is jointly awarded to his wife, Professor Barbara Sahakian.

Dr Rob Harle, Fellow in Computer Science, has been awarded a Pilkington Prize for excellence in teaching.

Professor Adam Ledgeway has been awarded an honorary PhD by the University of Bucharest.

Dr Cathy Phillips, R J Owens Fellow in English, has won the Modern Language Association of America’s Morton N. Cohen Award for a Distinguished Edition of Letters. The prize is for The Collected Works of Gerard Manley Hopkins, volumes 1 and 2: Correspondence, published by Oxford University Press.

College Clubs and Societies

Sports Teams Results 2015–16

Basketball
1st Men’s team, Captains Karan Chadda and Euan Godbold: 3rd in Division 5; Cuppers – did not qualify.
1st Women’s team, Captains Ryta Kamarova and Sarah Weeks: 8th in Division 1, having moved up from Division 2 in Lent Term; Cuppers – did not participate.

Boat Club
Men’s Captain Charles Slater; Men’s 3rd VIII Captain Colin Munro; Women’s Captain Izzy Edwards.
Men’s 1st VIII: Lent Bumps – started 2nd, finished 2nd; May Bumps – started 5th, finished 7th.
Men’s 2nd VIII: Lent Bumps – Division 2 started 9th, finished 13th; May Bumps – Division 2 started 13th, finished 13th.
Men’s 3rd VIII: May Bumps – Division 4 started 13th, finished 17th.
Women’s 1st VIII: Lent Bumps – Division 1 started 4th, finished 2nd; May Bumps – started Head of The River, finished Head of The River.
Women’s 2nd VIII: Lent Bumps – Division 3 started 16th, finished 16th; May Bumps – started 17th in Division 2, finished 1st in Division 3.

**Cricket**
1st team, Captain Aayush Sonthalia: Cuppers – knocked out in Group stage.

**Football**
1st XI, Captain James Lawrence: 6th in Division 1; Cuppers 1st Round; Plate quarter-finalists.
2nd XI, Captain TK Egenti.
3rd XI, Captain Bradley Tapper.
Women’s 1st XI, Captain Kirsty Hibbs: Relegated from Division 2; Cuppers quarter-final.

**Hockey**
Men’s 1st XI, Captains Richard Thorburn, Ian Gibson: League A Champions, played 6, won 5, lost 1, GD 23; Cuppers semi-final – lost to Emmanuel 6–5.
Women’s 1st XI, Captains Livvy Probert and Tabby Adams – League A Champions, played 4, won 4, GD 16; Cuppers semi-final – lost to Homerton 7–0.
Mixed XI, Cuppers quarter-final – lost to Jesus 3–2.

**Lacrosse**
1st Mixed X, Captain Gail Sucharitakul: 4th in Division 2; Cuppers – lost in Group stage.

**Netball**
Ladies 1st VII, Captain Francesca Thornton: League 1 Champions; Cuppers winners.
Ladies 2nd VII, Captain Harriet Carter: 2nd in Division 3; Cuppers – participation was noted.
Mixed 1st VII, Captain Amy Larsen: League 1 Champions; Cuppers winners.
Mixed 2nd VII, Captain Euan Godbold: 4th in Division 1; Cuppers quarter-final.

**Rugby**
1st XV, Captain Tom Reimer: 3rd in Division 1; Cuppers 1st Round; Plate finalists (lost to St. Cats).
Squash
Men’s 1st team, Captain Krishna Ramesh: 3rd in Division 1; Cuppers semi-final.
Men’s 2nd team, Captains: Alex Fellows/Thomas Sheat: 4th in Division 4.

Swimming
Captain Naill O’Keeffe: Cuppers – participated.

Tennis
Women’s Captain Tanya Li, Men’s Captain Aayush Sonthalia.
Women’s 1st team: reached semi-finals of Cuppers (lost to Newnham).
Women’s 2nd team: Cuppers – currently in semi-finals of consolation draw.
Men’s 1st team: Runners up in Division 1 of Michaelmas League; Cuppers – currently in finals of Plate.

Volleyball
Captain Tom Perkins: Mixed Cuppers final position 10th.

Water Polo
Captain Naill O’Keeffe: Cuppers 3rd place.

Reports

Chapel Choir
The Choir year has whizzed by and, in addition to singing the weekly Evensongs at Downing, has included many visits to other spectacular locations around the UK.

The year began north of the border with a weekend tour to Edinburgh in September 2015. This included a concert at St. Patrick’s Church and singing High Mass at St. Mary’s Metropolitan Cathedral.

In December, a few days after the stunning Advent Carol Service in Downing, the choir sang an Evensong at St. Stephen’s, Rochester Row, London, for Downing College Alumni.

In February, the choir set off for a weekend at Lincoln Cathedral. Here we sang the Saturday Evensong, Sunday Eucharist, Matins and

Downing College Chapel Choir at Lincoln Cathedral, February 2016
Evensong services. The weekend was thoroughly enjoyed by all and climbing the hill to the Cathedral for each service made a pleasant change from the Cambridgeshire landscape!

On a sunny Saturday in April, the choir sang Evensong at Ely Cathedral, concluding the year’s tours within the UK. The choir is now looking forward to an international tour to Toronto in July.

We have been extremely fortunate to have had Christopher Robinson as a mentor to the Organ Scholars throughout this academic year. Christopher was formerly the Director of Music at St. John’s College, Cambridge, in addition to many other national and international roles. His guidance has been invaluable and we are very grateful for all of his advice.

**Cricket**

Downing Cricket had an exceptionally good year, attracting several new players to the team. The two Cuppers matches played in Easter term were a great experience for all the players, and team was very positive despite losing both matches (against St. John’s and Girton). The Club has its eyes set on growing even more next year, hopefully with a slightly easier Cuppers group!

**Danby Society**

Another successful and enjoyable year for the Danby Society saw a plethora of stimulating talks. Speakers came from far and wide, from Charles Streuli on his research into breast cancer at the University of Manchester to Colin McCulloch talking about his experiences teaching undergraduates in the heart of North Korea. The year was concluded with the Danby Dinner, including a talk from Prof Bill O’Neill on his research into laser technologies with the Department of Engineering. The year was also sprinkled with the now well-established social gatherings, including the Danby Garden Party and annual Society Quiz, where the notable lack of success in the final round – building spaghetti & marshmallows towers – perhaps leaves little faith for any future structural engineers from Danby... but fun was had by all involved and the Committee look forward to next year’s events!

**Women’s Football**

Downing Women’s Football is slowly becoming established in the College and on the pitch. In the past we have merged with other colleges, but since these rarely produced any extra players, we decided not to merge with anyone for the first time this year. It has been a good season for the team, which seems to grow in popularity each year, with highlights including qualifying for the quarter-final of Cuppers, beating a Division 1 team 4–1 to do so, and a 5–1 league
win at the beginning of the year. The level of dedication shown by the girls, most of whom were new to the sport and to the team, has been very impressive. It is the first year we have had a Blues player, Sarah Galley, who has made many valuable contributions as our left striker. Zara Patel became our regular goalkeeper, and improved greatly during her first season of football. Likewise, great improvement was seen in this year’s Freshers: Ashna Khagram, Georgie Joseph, Natasha Thomas, Sophie Fallen and Keemia Azvine. Harriet Carter, Emma Davies, Beth Evans and Mary Gilson were regulars on the pitch and played well all season. This year we are sad to see Lauren Carter and Natasha Collett graduate, as both have played for three years and have been a solid foundation on which the team was built each year. We wish them the very best for the future.

**Hockey**

The Downing College Hockey Club has enjoyed a successful season with both the Men’s and Women’s teams this year. The men were unlucky not to regain their title of Michaelmas Champions, but managed to clinch the title this Lent. The Downing Women also fought their way to a top-table finish in the Lent League, despite having had only seven people and no goalie on the pitch during some games. Both teams progressed through the stages of Cuppers. DCHC men lost a hard-fought match against Emmanuel in the semi-finals and the women also narrowly missed out on a Cuppers final spot. Downing were also the only college to enter two teams to the annual Oliver Wyman tournament in Easter Term. A fun day was had by all, with one team coming third.

**Music Society**

This academic year has been a resounding success for the Downing College Music Society (DCMS). The year began with a series of recitals making use of the Master’s Lodge, Music Room and Chapel. These included both an excellent Freshers’ concert, in which we were introduced to the fabulous array of new musical talent joining the College this year, and a stunning organ recital from
ex-Downing organ scholar David Pipe who was until very recently Assistant Director of Music at York Minster. Lent term saw a rather eclectic mix of recitals including renaissance polyphony in the Chapel, a baroque evening in the Masters’ Lodge and was rounded off by a performance of late 20th century piano music, many pieces of which were new to the majority of the audience. Another exciting project has been the continuation of the joint Pembroke, Peterhouse and Downing Orchestra (PPDO), which goes from strength to strength with a membership of just over 30. The orchestra performed concerts in both Michaelmas (Howard Building) and Lent terms with repertoire ranging from Beethoven’s Egmont Overture to the Star Wars theme! But perhaps the most successful element of this year has been the establishment of a regular Thursday night ‘Bar Night’ series in which we have enjoyed a fantastic selection of Cambridge’s best student bands, acapella and jazz ensembles. A special recognition should go to Daniel Duffy for his continued technical prowess in helping the bands with amplification equipment. Thanks are due to the whole Committee for a fantastic year and to Dr Tomalin, the Revd Dr Eyeons and the Master for their continued support.

**Pool Club**

2015 saw the re-entry of Downing College into the Pool League after a number of years absent. Despite some close fought matches going to the final black on the final frames, Downing finished bottom of Division 3 in this year’s Pool League. Our greatest achievement this year was with Tom Perkins who represented Cambridge University in the Varsity Snooker match. It is hoped next year the Club will continue to grow and improve on this year’s League performance.

**Table Tennis**

It has been a challenging year for Downing Table Tennis, seeing the loss of the valued Martin Rohland and Michael Lu, who – alongside current captain, Alfie Wright – fought their way to Cuppers victory last year. Nevertheless, three teams were entered into the League this year, all of which had several bouts of success throughout the season. At the top, the 1st team’s match against Jesus College 1st (ending in a draw) was a particularly exciting affair, with a guest appearance from Tom Holroyd proving valuable. Sid Chandra’s effort against Fitz is also of note – a fantastic battle. In the lower leagues, most entertaining was the Downing seconds vs Downing thirds match. A joyous affair, ending in a 7–3 victory to the seconds. Honourable mentions go out to Max Crean and Joe Moneim for their captaining of the second and third teams, respectively. We look forward to another enjoyable year of table tennis next year, with Chidera Egbujor looking to step up as Captain.
**Men’s Tennis**

Downing tennis had another strong year with several additions to our growing squad. We finished second in the annual Michaelmas College League, repeating our performance from last year. Unfortunately, the team was knocked out of Cuppers in the first round. However, that gave us the chance to compete in the intercollegiate Plate – the young team has now reached the final and will hopefully win the final during May Week!

**Whitby Medical and Veterinary Society**

The Whitby Medical and Veterinary Society has had an active year, with members enjoying the wide variety of social and clinical events on offer. Our year started off with our famous cocktails evening, where we welcomed the Freshers and introduced them to the rest of the students and supervisors. Throughout the year, we have hosted journal clubs and clinical conundrums, led by scientists and clinicians who are experts in their fields. Our most popular events have been our termly speaker-dinners, with our Easter Term Annual Dinner being a particular highlight of the year, attended by over 80 people, including alumni. We have recently expanded our Committee to include a vet rep, clinical rep and two welfare officers, to ensure that we cater to all of our members’ needs.

**Griffins Endowment Fund**

The Fund exists to support and encourage talented University sports people to play at a higher level than College, by providing them with financial support for kit, travel expenses and training costs. To support the Fund, cheques can be sent to the Development Office, Downing College, Cambridge, CB2 1DQ. Please make a note it is for The Griffins Fund. Otherwise, to set up a monthly or annual standing order or direct debit or make a one-off donation online, please go to https://www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online

In the field entitled Designation, please enter ‘Other’ and use the space provided to enter ‘The Griffins Fund’.
To purchase these items, please use the enclosed form or visit www.dow.cam.ac.uk/souvenirs
Downing in the Fog
Photograph by Lian Wilkinson.
Highly Commended, Downing Alumni Association Photographic Competition.

Courtesy of Ai Weiwei and Lisson Gallery.
Photograph by Ioana Marinescu.